

# THE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

Shelby Harcher

10% Time

Anatomy Y band

The reproductive system is a group of organs that allow humans to reproduce. Unlike other systems in the body, gender determines what kinds of fluids and organs are present in the reproductive system.

Because men and women have different reproductive systems, they each have a different job. The male reproductive system's main job is to produce sperm which is to be delivered into the female's reproductive tract to impregnate her. The female reproductive system's main job is to produce what is needed to become pregnant but also be capable of holding a developing fetus for 9 months.

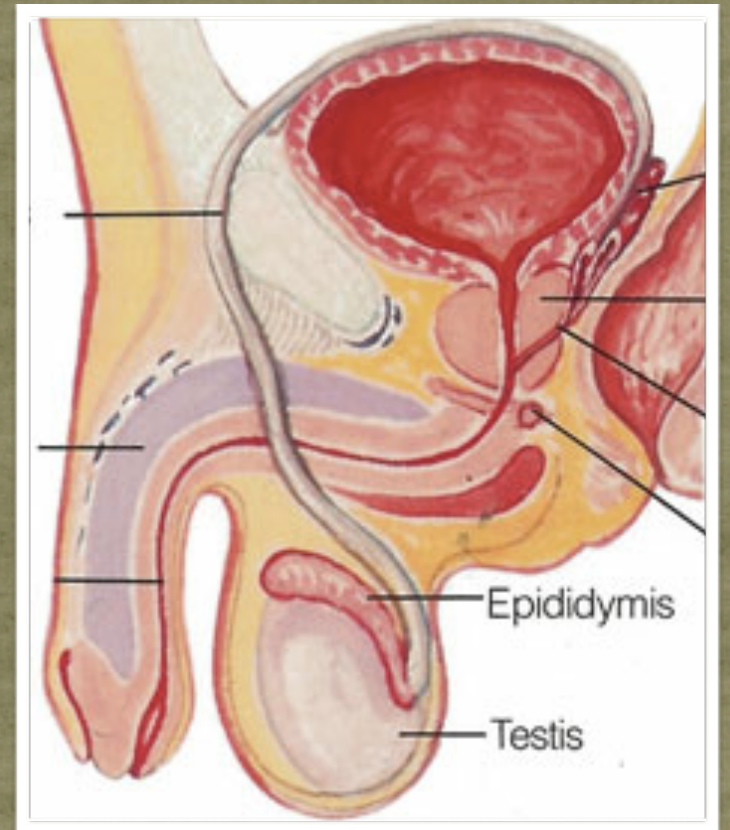


# MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

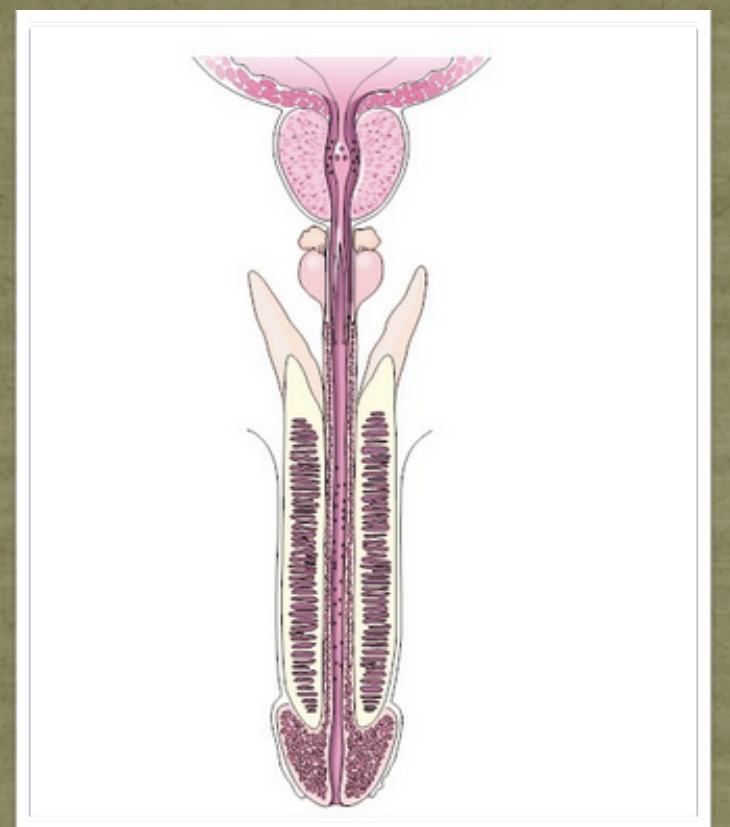
## Internal Genitalia

The main organ in the male's reproductive system are the testes. The testes have two functions, to produce sperm and to produce testosterone. There are two testes which are 4 cm long and 2.5 cm wide. The tunica albuginea surrounds each testis. This capsule divides the testes into lobules. In each lobule, there are seminiferous tubules which produce sperm.

Once the sperm is made, it travels to the epididymis which is in the duct system. The epididymis hugs the external surface of the testis and is used for a storage site for immature sperm. The sperm travels through the epididymis for 20 days until they mature and develop the ability to swim. The ductus deferens propels live sperm from their storage sites into the urethra. When a male ejaculates the muscles in the walls squeeze the sperm forward, causing it to shoot out. The male urethra carries both urine and sperm to the exterior of the body and is where the sperm travels through last. Sperm and urine never pass through the urethra at the same time, in fact, the urinary tract is blocked off when a male is about to ejaculate so sperm cannot get into the urinary system and urine cannot get into the urethra while sperm is in there. Seminal vesicles produce semen which is produced to dilute sperm. Without semen, the sperm mobility can be impaired and sperm would not be able to survive in the acidic like environment produced by the female's reproductive tract.



Male Reproductive System



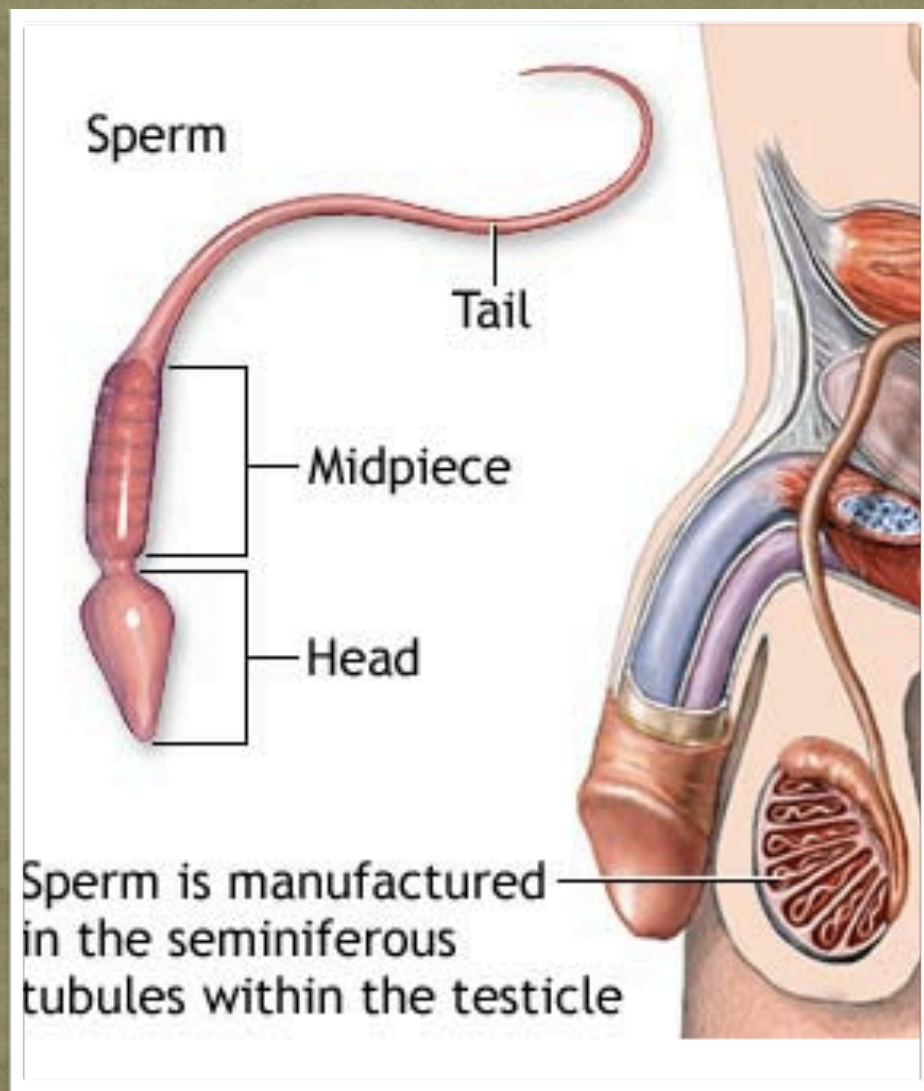
Male Urethra



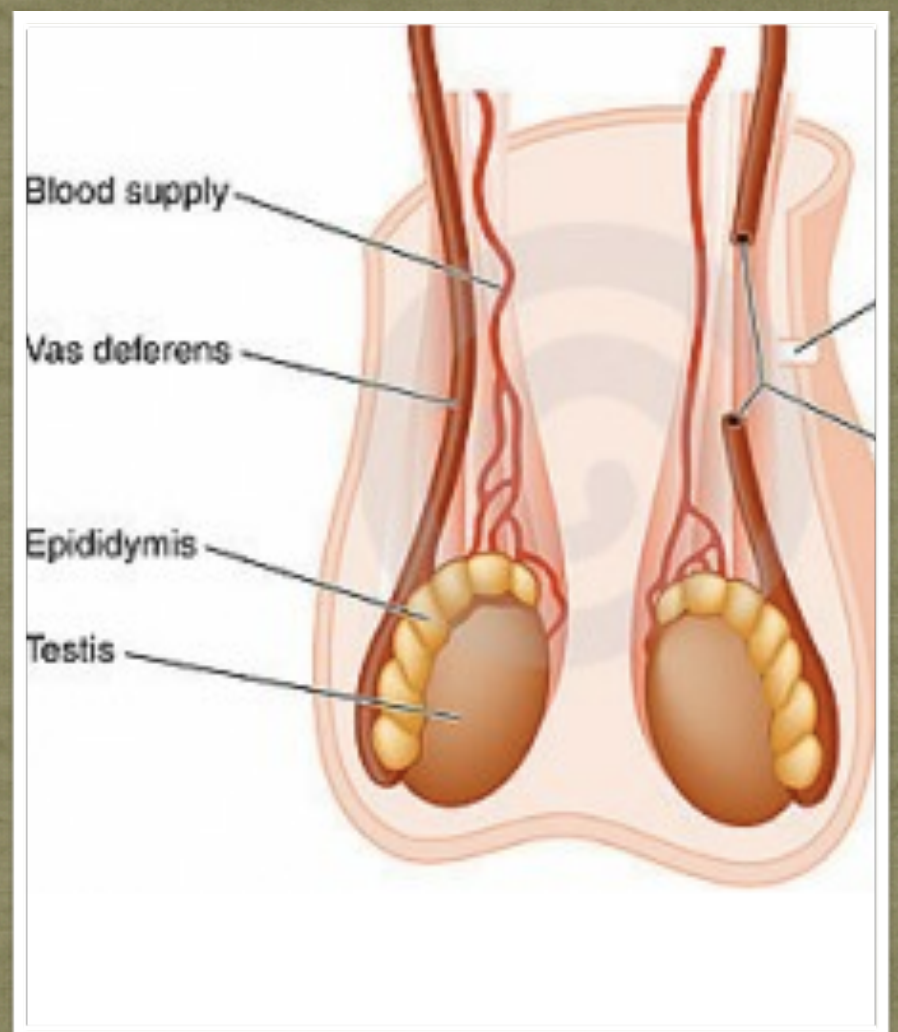
# MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

## External Genitalia

The external genitalia of the male reproductive system includes the penis and scrotum. The scrotum is a sac of skin that is located between the legs and the root of the penis. The scrotum allows the testes to be at a temperature lower than the body's. Sperm cannot be produced at body temperature, so the scrotum allows sperm to be produced. Sperm begins being produced during puberty. The penis is used to deliver sperm into the female reproductive tract in order to reproduce. When engaging in sexual activity, the penis becomes enlarged and hardened which allows it to become a penetrating organ to deliver semen to the female's reproductive system.



Sperm



Scrotum

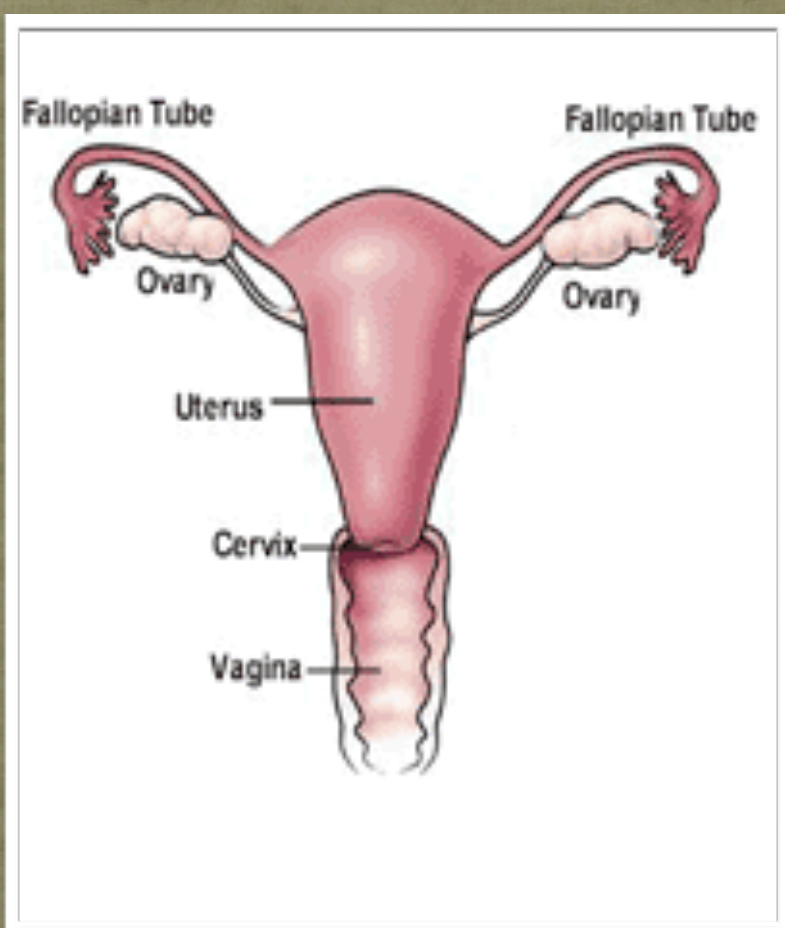


# FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

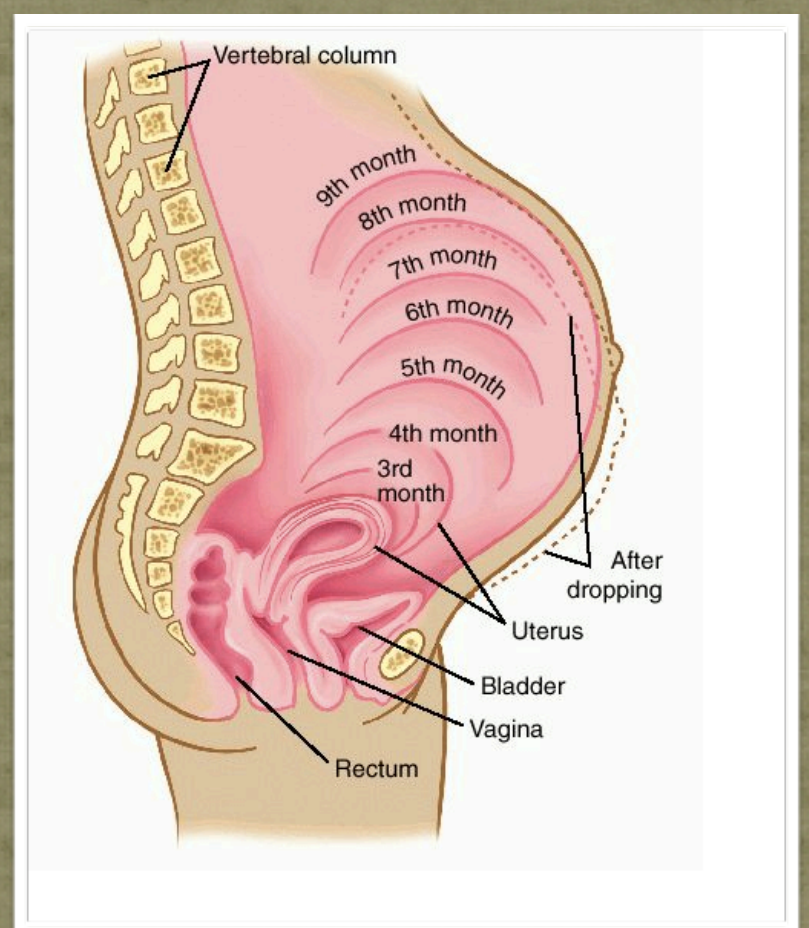
## Internal Genitalia

Ovaries play a major role in the female reproductive system. Ovaries contain follicles that each hold an immature egg. As the egg matures, the follicle enlarges and the egg is ready to be ejected from the follicle where it stays for 24 hours to be fertilized by sperm. This process is called ovulation. This occurs about every 28 days in a female.

The fallopian tubes are a part of the duct system. Each tube is 10 cm long and extend from an ovary to the uterus. These tubes allow a place for fertilization to occur. The egg travels through the tubes to get to the uterus. It takes about 2 to 3 days for the egg to reach the uterus. During intercourse, when a male ejaculates, the sperm travels through the tubes to reach the uterus to fertilize the egg. The uterus is located between the urinary bladder and rectum. The job of the uterus is to receive, retain and nourish a fertilized egg. The vagina is an 8 to 10 cm long tube that lies between the bladder and the rectum and extends to the cervix. The vagina is where the infant passes through during delivery. The vagina also provides a way for the menstrual flow to leave the body and is also where the penis penetrates during sexual intercourse.



Ovaries



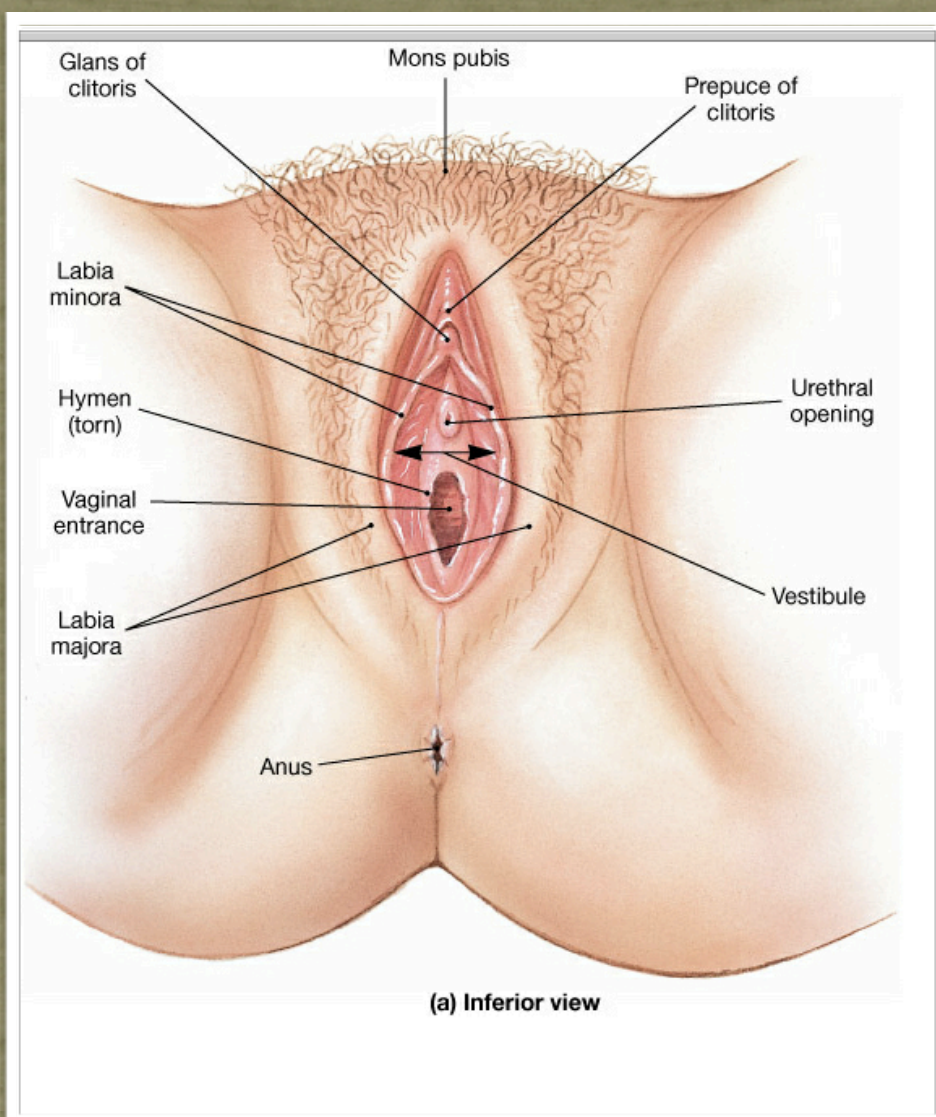
Reproductive System During Pregnancy



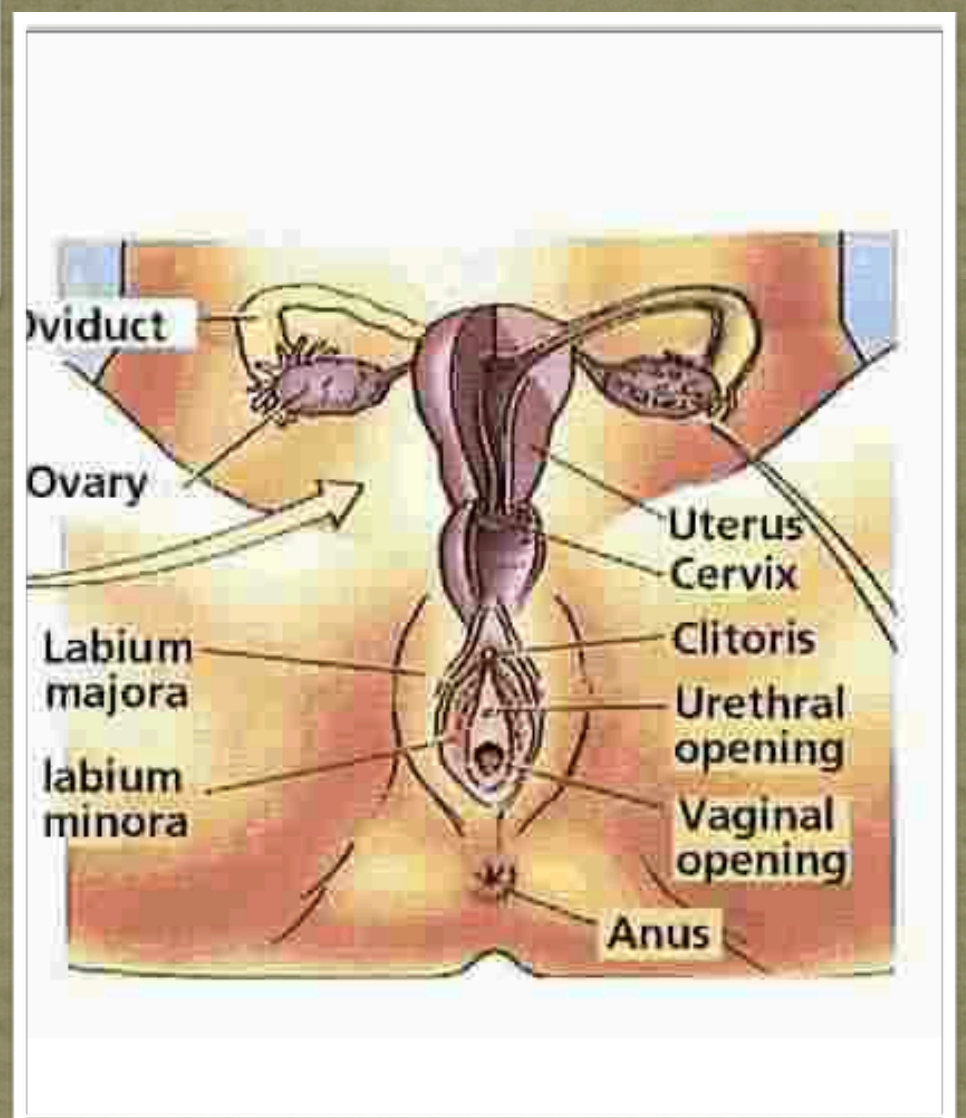
# FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

## External Genitalia

The external genitalia includes the mons pubis, labia, clitoris, urethral and vaginal orifices, and greater vestibular glands. The clitoris is similar to the male's penis. During sexual intercourse the clitoris becomes filled with blood which makes it swell up.



External Genitalia



External Genitalia



# SOURCES

[herbalgranny.com](http://herbalgranny.com)

[smartdraw.com](http://smartdraw.com)

[mucmn.com](http://mucmn.com)

[ovariancancerosw.org](http://ovariancancerosw.org)

[cancerlive.net](http://cancerlive.net)

[iupucbio2.iupui.edu](http://iupucbio2.iupui.edu)