Chapter 13: Female Reproductive System

This chapter will cover the female reproductive system.

Chapter Learning Objectives

By the end of this chapter, you should be able to do the following:

• Identify the primary factor behind sex determination.
• Identify which embryonic structures form the tubular genitalia for males and females.
• Compare and contrast the histological structure of each stage of follicular development.
• Identify the differences between ovarian structure in different species.
• List the layers forming the following structures: Uterine tube, uterus, cervix, vagina, and vestibule. What the composition of the innermost aspect of these structures.
• Contrast the cytologic changes in vaginal mucosa during each stage of the estrus cycle. Outline the structures forming the avian reproductive tract.
• Describe the structure of the mammary gland.
Review Questions

By the end of this chapter, you should be able to answer the following:

- What’s the difference between a primary oocyte and a primary follicle?
- What’s the difference between a secondary oocyte and a secondary follicle?
- List the structural differences between the primary, secondary and tertiary follicle.
- Identify the following structures: Granulosa cells, theca interna, theca externa, cumulus oophorus, and corona radiata.
- What are the segments of the female genital tract?
- What are the segments of the uterine tube? What is the order from ovary to uterus?
- What are the layers of the uterus? What are the individual layers of the endometrium called?
- List (in all species) the types of surface epithelium which lines the: uterine tube, uterus, cervix, and vagina.
- What are the species differences in cervical structure?
- What are the various changes which take place in the canine vaginal mucosa during estrus?
- List the structures in the female avian reproductive tract.