

# EPITHELIAL TISSUES

# Tissues and Histology

- **Tissues** are group of cells that are similar in structure and function
- **Histology** is the study of tissues
- The four primary tissue types are
  - Epithelial tissue
  - Connective tissue
  - Muscle tissue
  - Nervous tissue

# Embryonic Tissue

- Primary tissue types are derived from the embryonic germ layers
  - Endoderm
    - Forms the lining of the digestive tract and its derivatives
  - Mesoderm
    - Forms tissues such as muscle, bone, and blood vessels
  - Ectoderm
    - Forms the outermost layer of skin and the nervous system
- Gives rise to all tissues of the body

# 4 Fundamental Types of Tissues:

## 1. Epithelial tissue

- covers body surfaces and lines hollow organs, body cavities and ducts

### Functions:

- a. protection
- b. absorption
- c. filtration
- d. secretion

## 2. Connective tissue

- protects and supports the body and organs
- Bone, ligaments, adipose tissue

### 3. Muscle Tissue

- generates physical force need to make the body structure move

### 4. Nervous Tissue

- reception of stimuli and transmit impulses that coordinate body activities

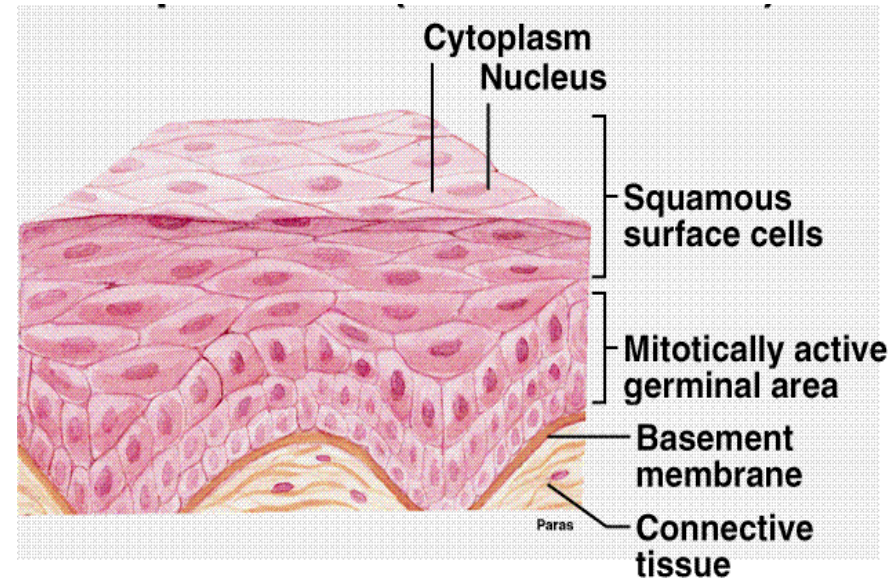
# Characteristics of Epithelial Tissue:

- Cells are compactly arranged in one or more layers
- Form continuous sheet
- Single layer or Multiple layers

Simple epithelium - cells are attached to the basement membrane

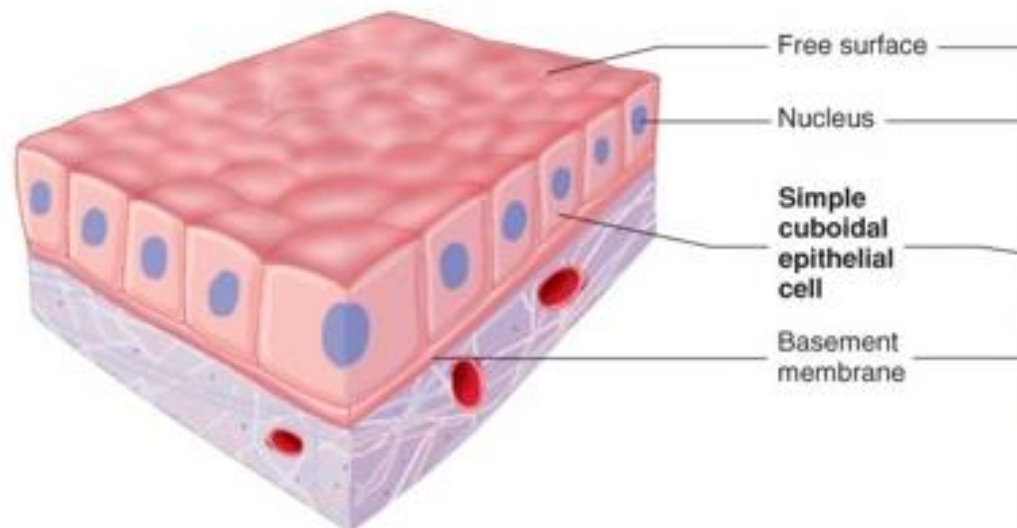
Stratified epithelium – only basal cells are attached

- Basement membrane
- Avascular
- Nourished by connective tissue
- With specialized contacts/junctions



# Characteristics of Epithelial Tissue

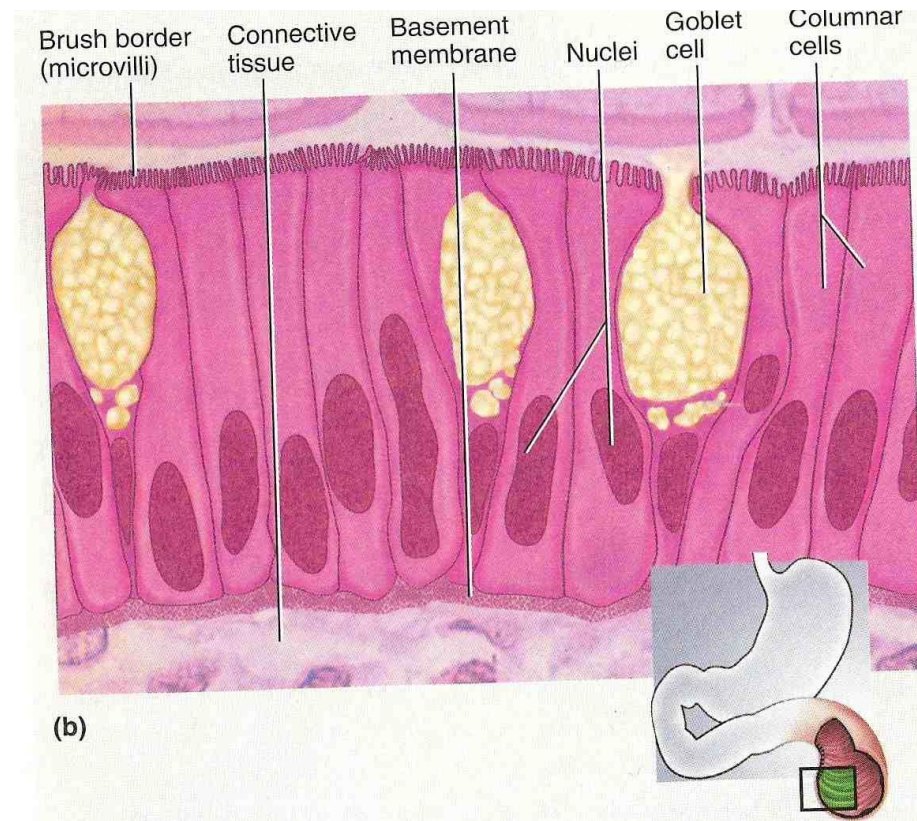
- Epithelial cells
  - Have a free, or apical, surface (not attached to other cells)
  - A lateral surface (attached to other cells)
  - A basal surface (attached to the basement membrane)



# Special Features of Apical Surface of Epithelial Cells:

## ◆ Microvilli: (eg.) in small intestine

- Finger-like extensions of the plasma membrane of apical epithelial cells
- Increase surface area for absorption
- Temporary or permanent
- $1\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  : height
- $0.8\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  : width

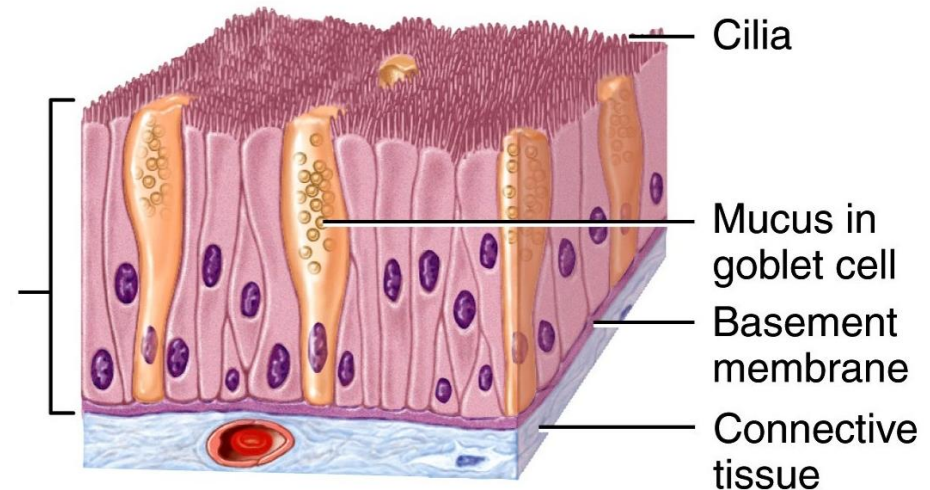




# Special Features of Apical Surface of Epithelium

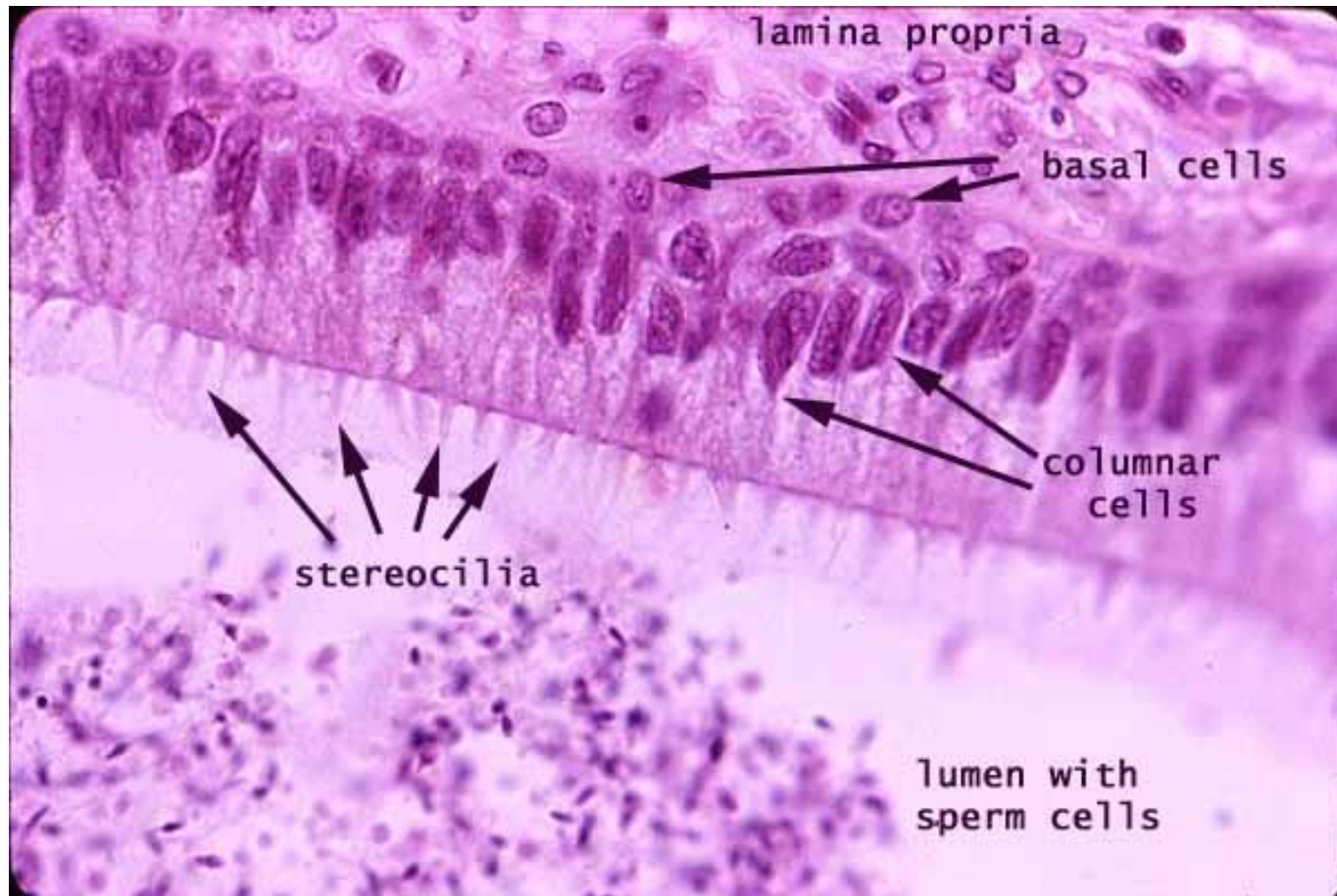
## ◆ **Cilia:** (eg.) respiratory tubes

- short hair like extensions
- move materials over the epithelial surface
- Move mucus over epithelial surface
- 5-10  $\mu\text{m}$  : length
- 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  : diameter



## ◆ Stereocilia (eg.) epididymis & ductus deferens

- Longer but less motile than microvilli
- Branched



# CELL JUNCTIONS

- **Tight junctions** bind adjacent cells together and form a permeability barrier
- **Desmosomes** mechanically bind cells together
- **Hemidesmosomes** mechanically bind cells to the basement membrane
- **Gap junctions** allow intercellular communication

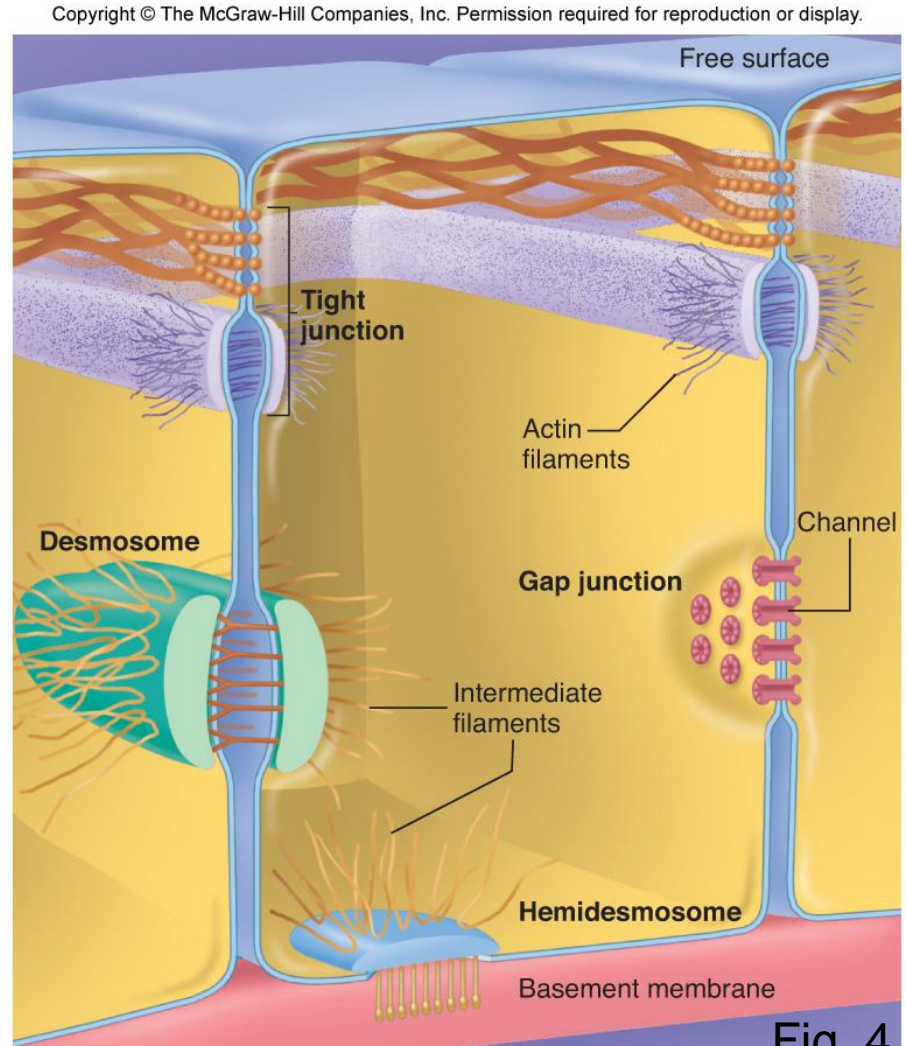
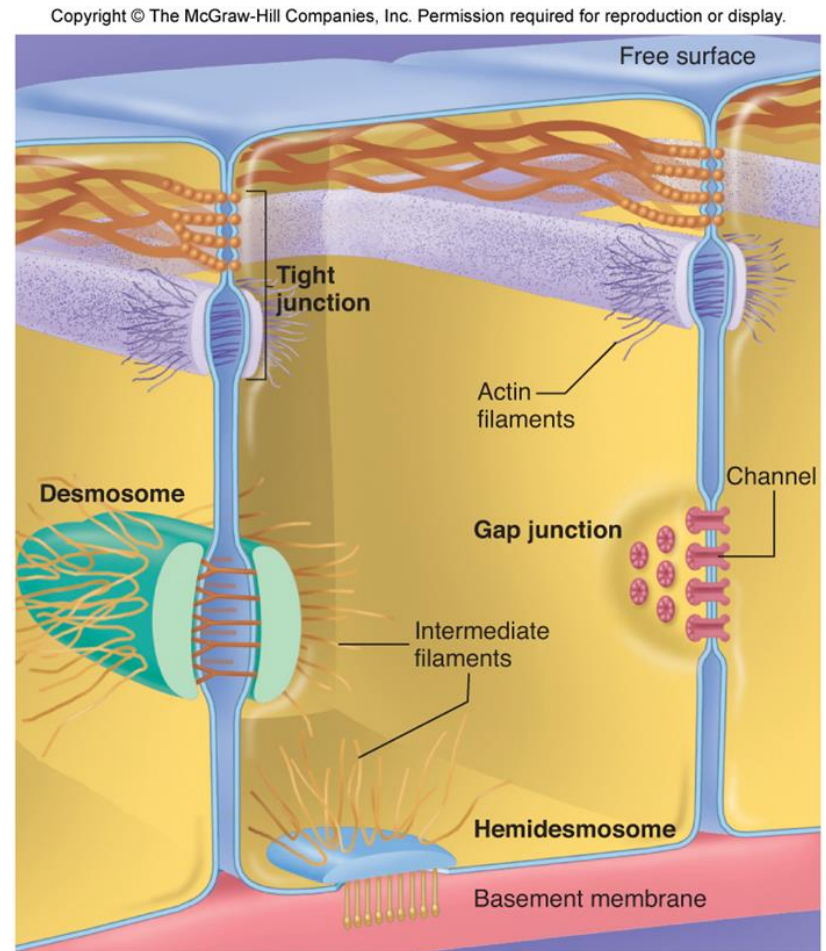


Fig. 4.2

# ZONULA OCCLUDENS

- Most apical of the junctions
- Aka “tight” junction
- Belt-like structure that encircles the entire circumference
- OCCLUDIN





# DESMOSOME

- Aka macula adherens
- Resembles spot-weld but does not form a belt around the cell
- Found along the lateral cell membrane
- CADHERIN
- Helps to resist shearing forces

## Three-dimensional view of desmosome

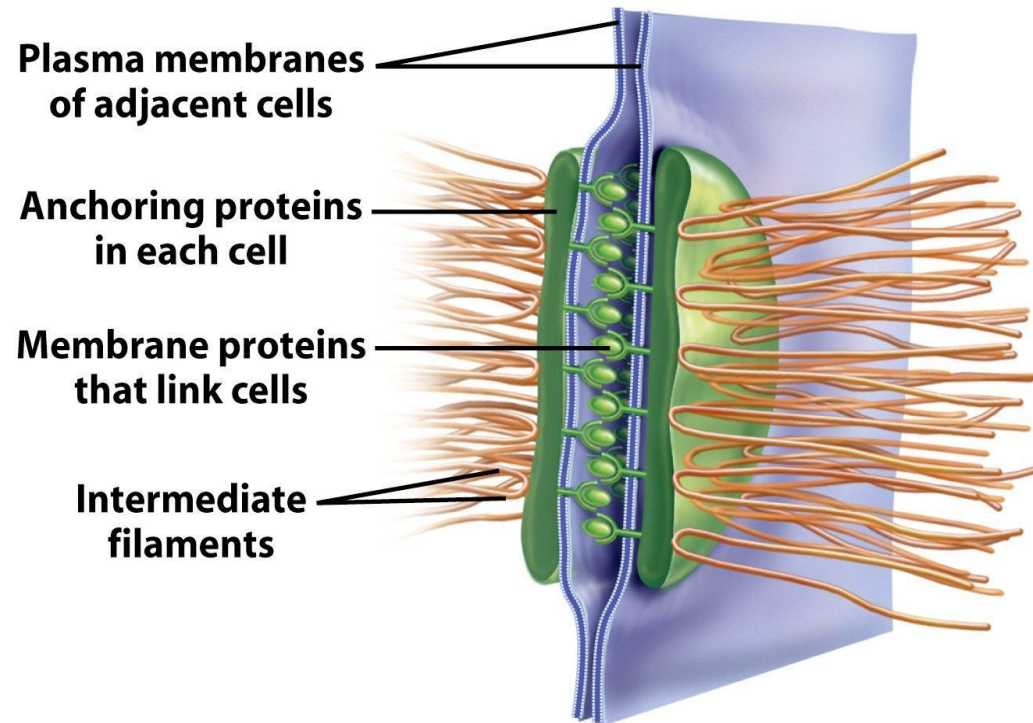
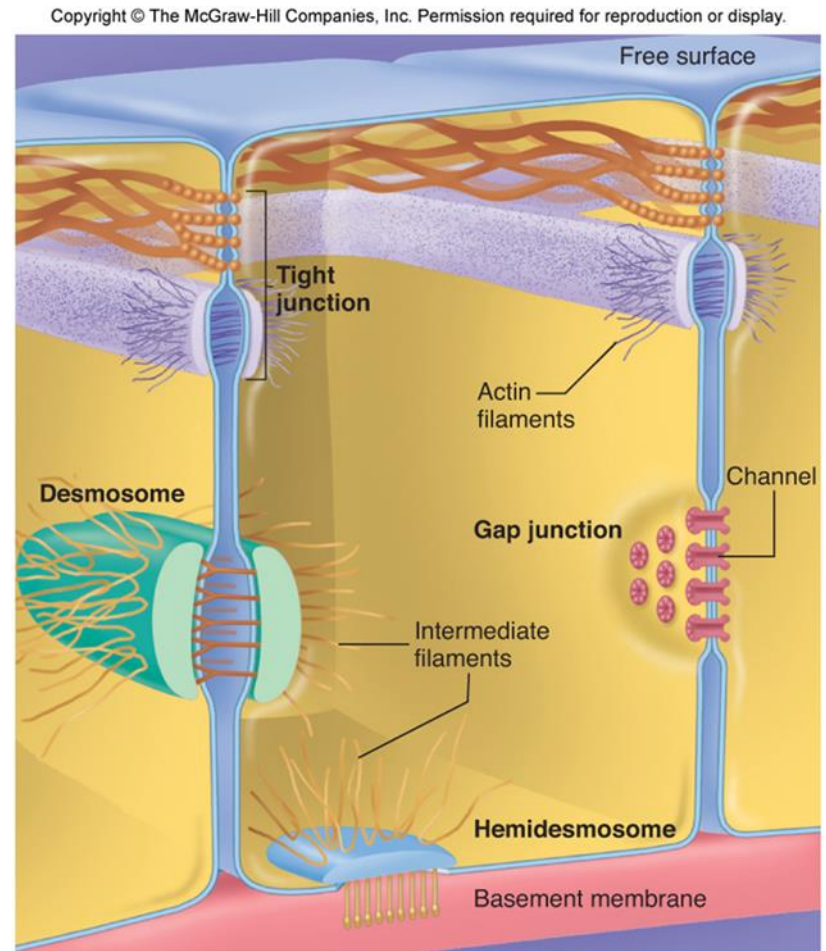


Figure 8-10b Biological Science, 2/e

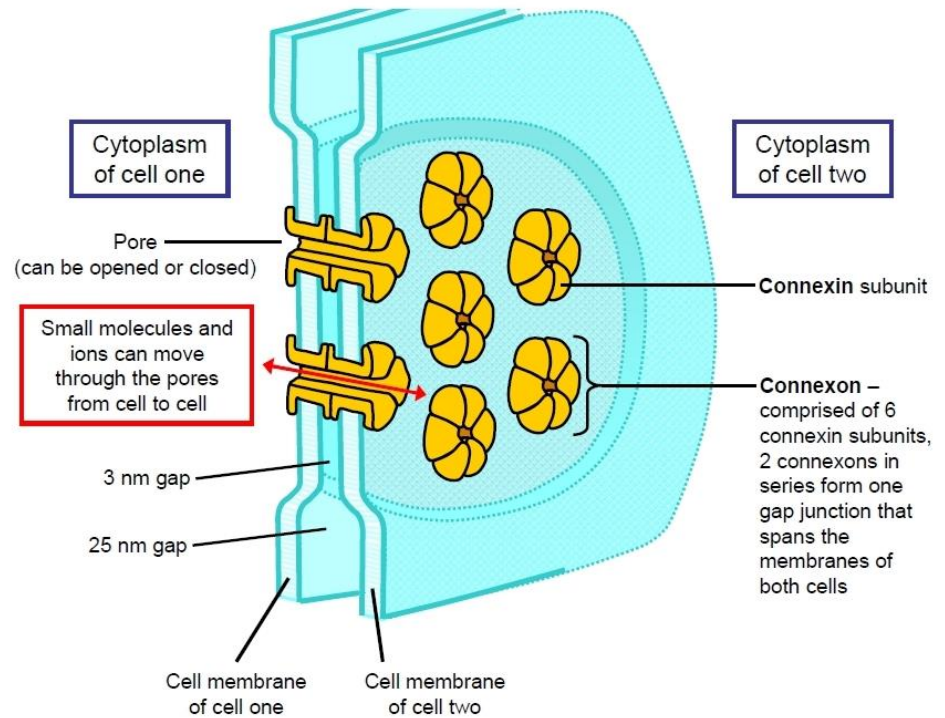
# HEMIDESMOSOME

- Resembles half-desmosomes
- Bind the cell to the BL
- Contains integrins



# GAP JUNCTION

- Aka: communicating junction
- Connexin:
- aqueous pores from the plasma membrane thru the intercellular space
- Connexons: hexameric complexes



Above: gap junctions connecting the cytoplasm of two neighbouring animal cells

# Functions of Epithelial Tissue

## ■ Protection

- Skin protects from sunlight & bacteria & physical damage.

## ■ Absorption

- Lining of small intestine, absorbing nutrients into blood

## ■ Filtration

- Lining of Kidney tubules filtering wastes from blood plasma

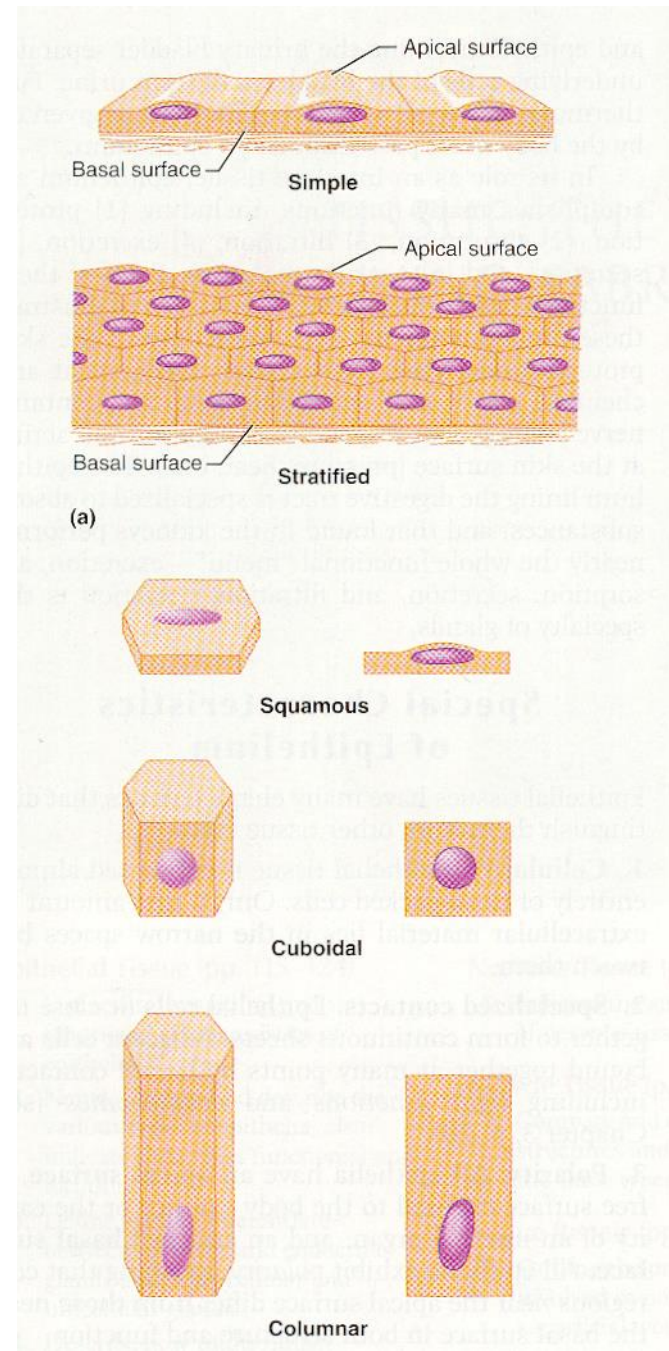
## ■ Secretion

- Different glands produce perspiration, oil, digestive enzymes and mucus

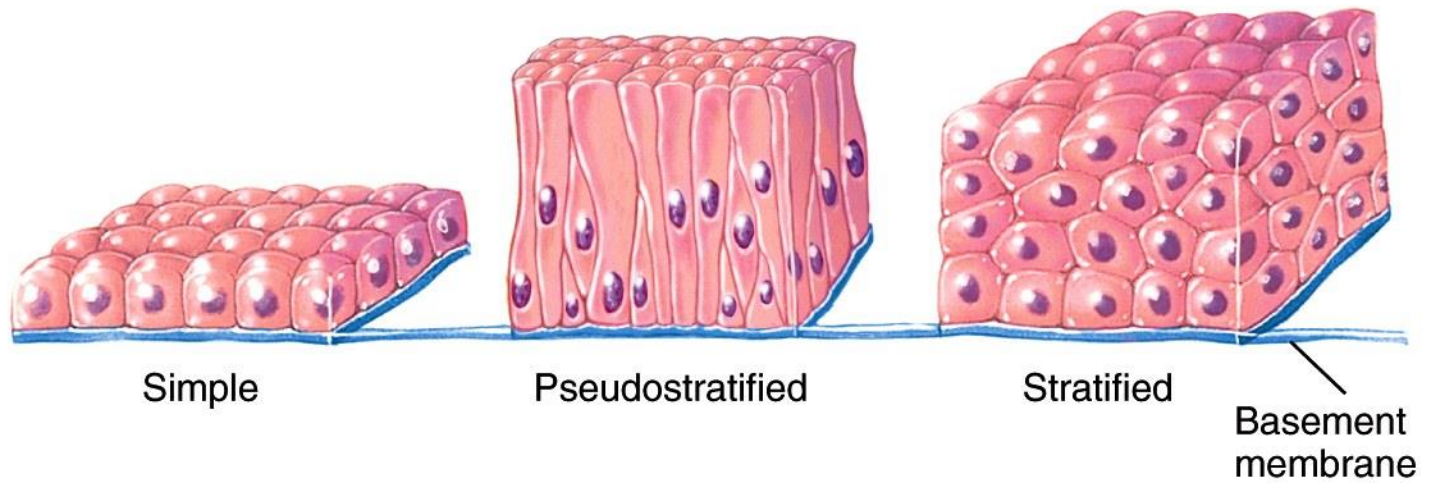


# BASES OF Classification of Epithelial Tissue

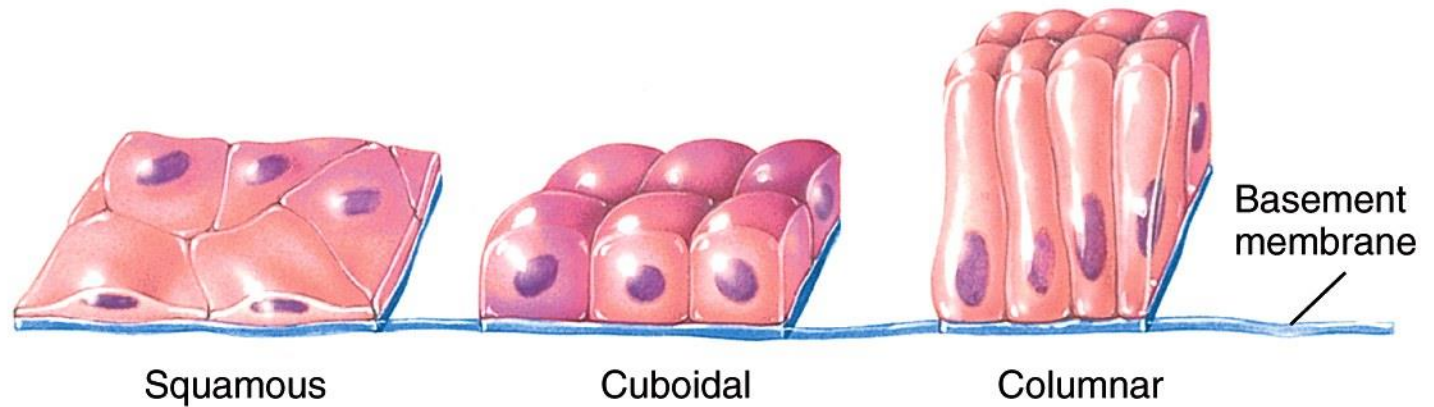
- Cell Shape
  - Squamous – flattened like fish scales
  - Cuboidal - cubes
  - Columnar - columns
- Cell Layers
  - Simple (one layer)
  - Stratified (many layers)
    - Named for the type of cell at the apical surface.



Arrangement  
of layers



Cell shape



### Simple squamous

- Lines blood vessels and air sacs of lungs
- Permits exchange of nutrients, wastes, and gases



### Stratified squamous

- Outer layer of skin, mouth, vagina
- Protects against abrasion, drying out, infection



### Simple cuboidal

- Lines kidney tubules and glands
- Secretes and reabsorbs water and small molecules



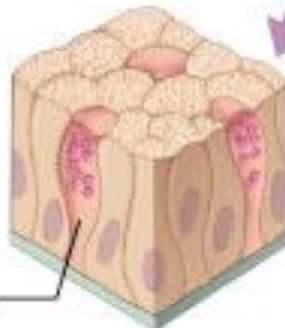
### Stratified cuboidal

- Lines ducts of sweat glands
- Secretes water and ions



### Simple columnar

- Lines most digestive organs
- Absorbs nutrients, produces mucus



### Stratified columnar

- Lines epididymus, mammary glands, larynx
- Secretes mucus



Goblet cell

Basement membrane

(a) Most epithelial tissues line or cover surfaces or body cavities

# CLASSIFICATION

- EPITHELIAL  
MEMBRANE(COVERING AND  
LINING EPITHELIUM
- EPITHELIAL GLANDS

# EPITHELIAL MEMBRANE



### Simple squamous

- Lines blood vessels and air sacs of lungs
- Permits exchange of nutrients, wastes, and gases



### Stratified squamous

- Outer layer of skin, mouth, vagina
- Protects against abrasion, drying out, infection



### Simple cuboidal

- Lines kidney tubules and glands
- Secretes and reabsorbs water and small molecules



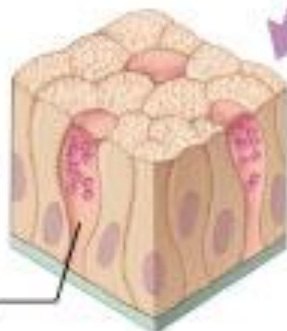
### Stratified cuboidal

- Lines ducts of sweat glands
- Secretes water and ions



### Simple columnar

- Lines most digestive organs
- Absorbs nutrients, produces mucus



### Stratified columnar

- Lines epididymus, mammary glands, larynx
- Secretes mucus

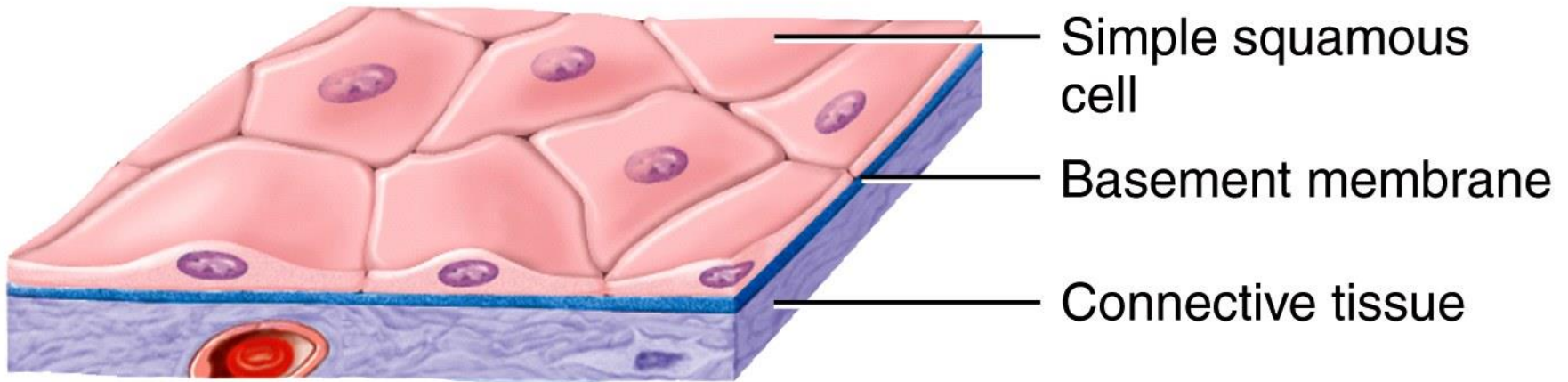


(a) Most epithelial tissues line or cover surfaces or body cavities

# Simple Squamous Epithelium

- Structure
  - Single Layer of flattened cells
- Function
  - Absorption, and filtration
  - Not effective protection – single layer of cells.
- Location
  - Walls of capillaries, air sacs in lungs
  - Form serous membranes in body cavity
  - “pavement epithelium”

# Simple Squamous Epithelium

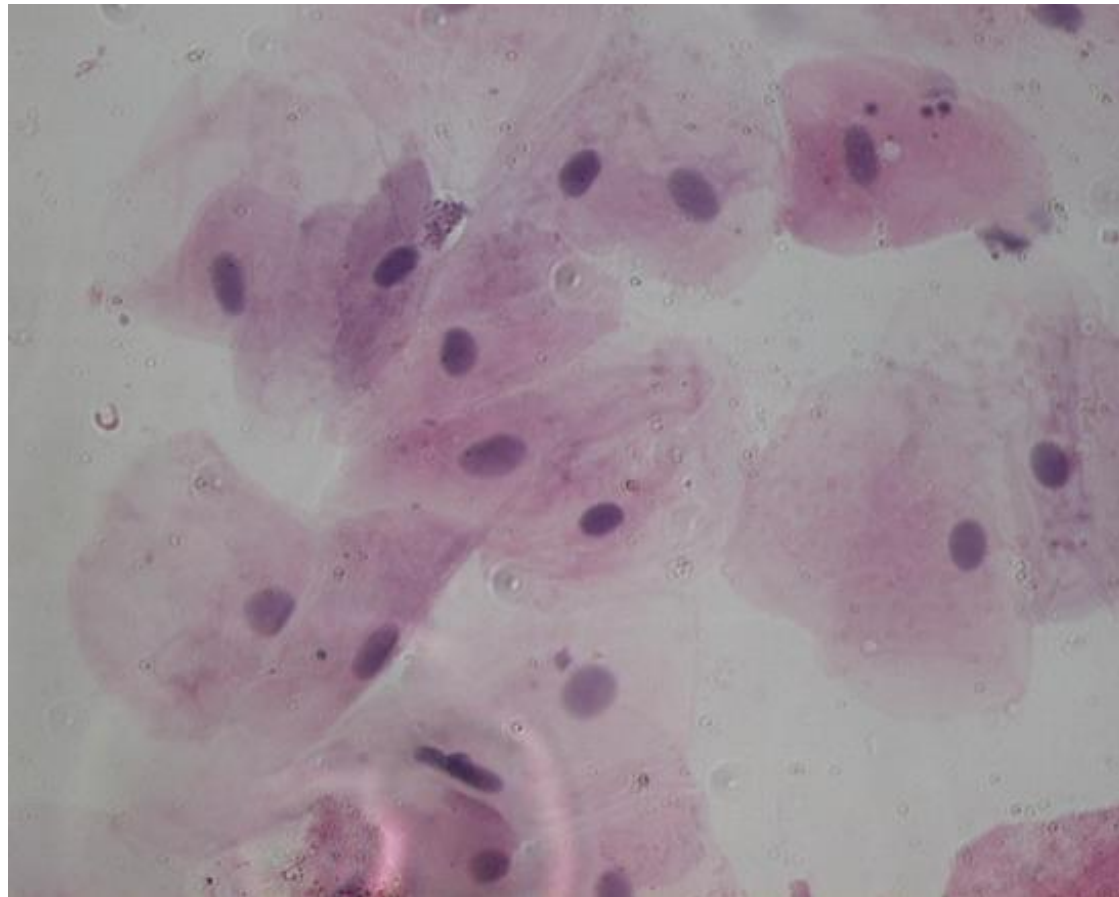


Simple squamous epithelium



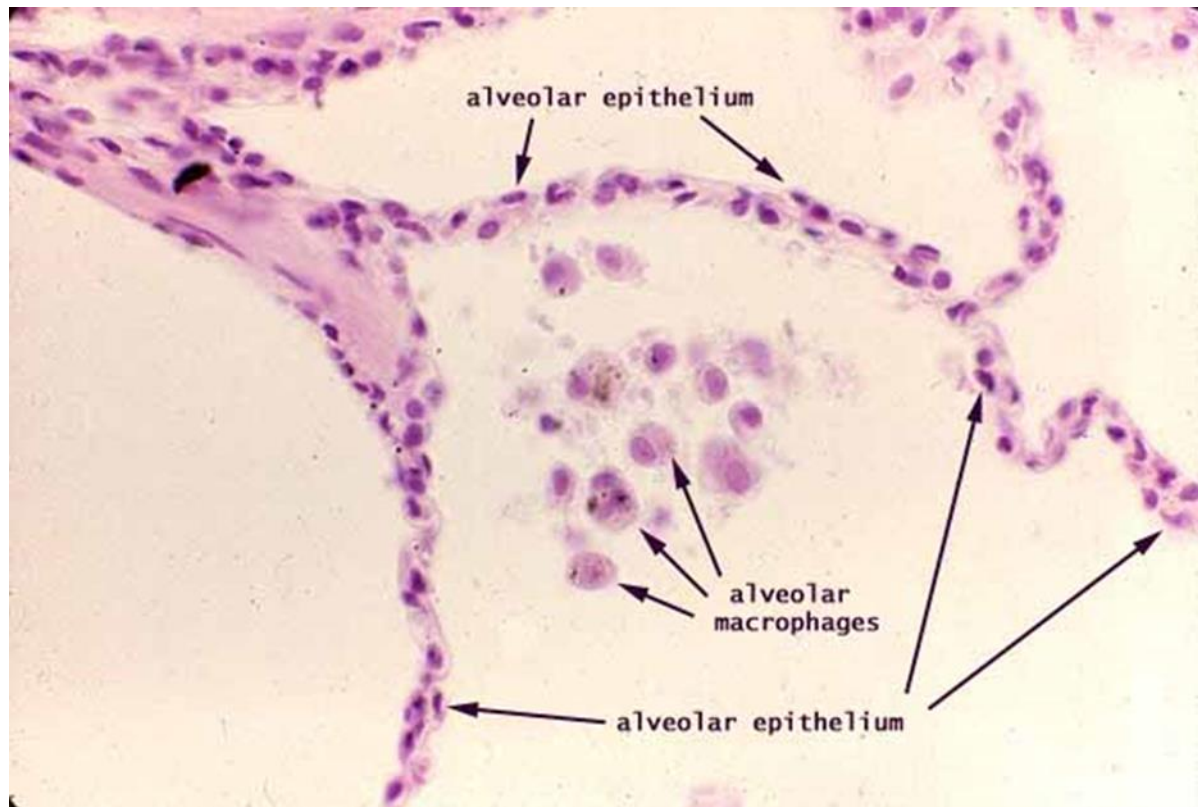
# Simple Squamous Epithelium

Source: Inner cheek scrapings



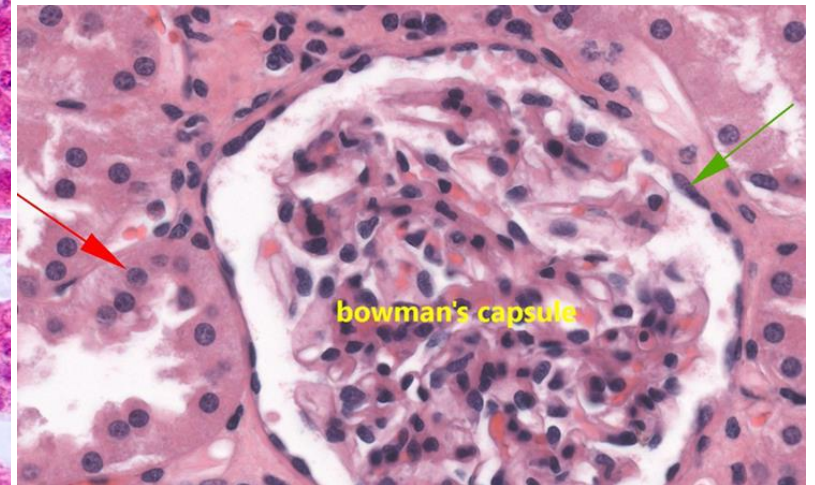
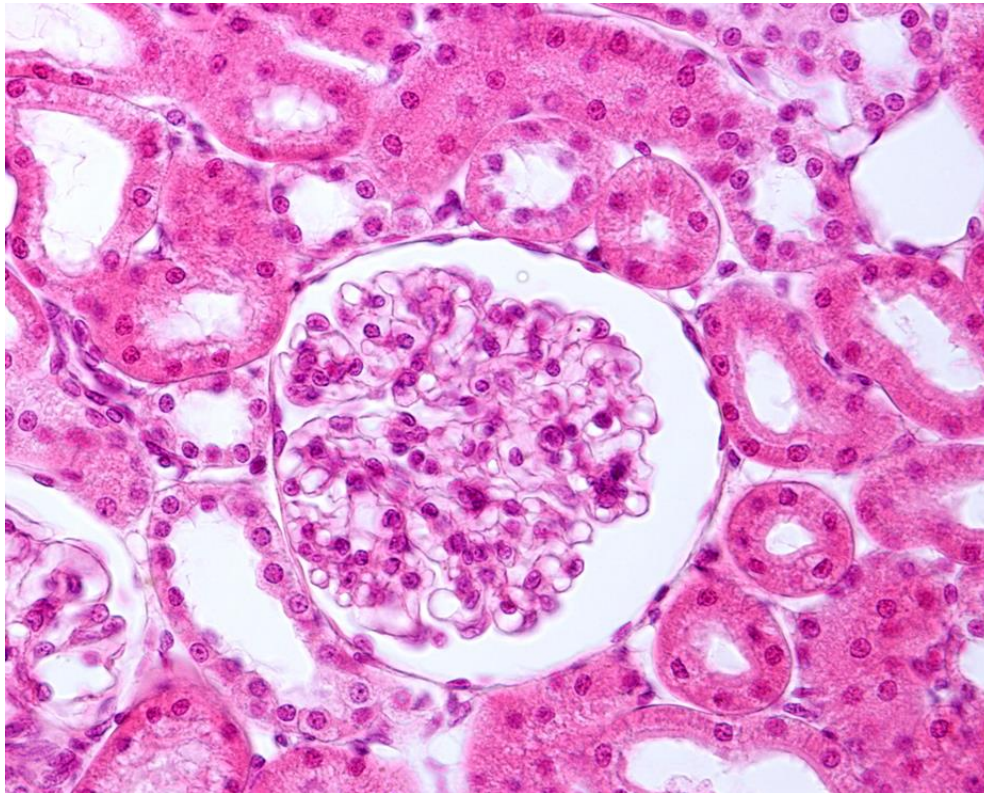
# Simple Squamous Epithelium

Tissue source: Alveolar wall (lungs)



# Simple Squamous Epithelium

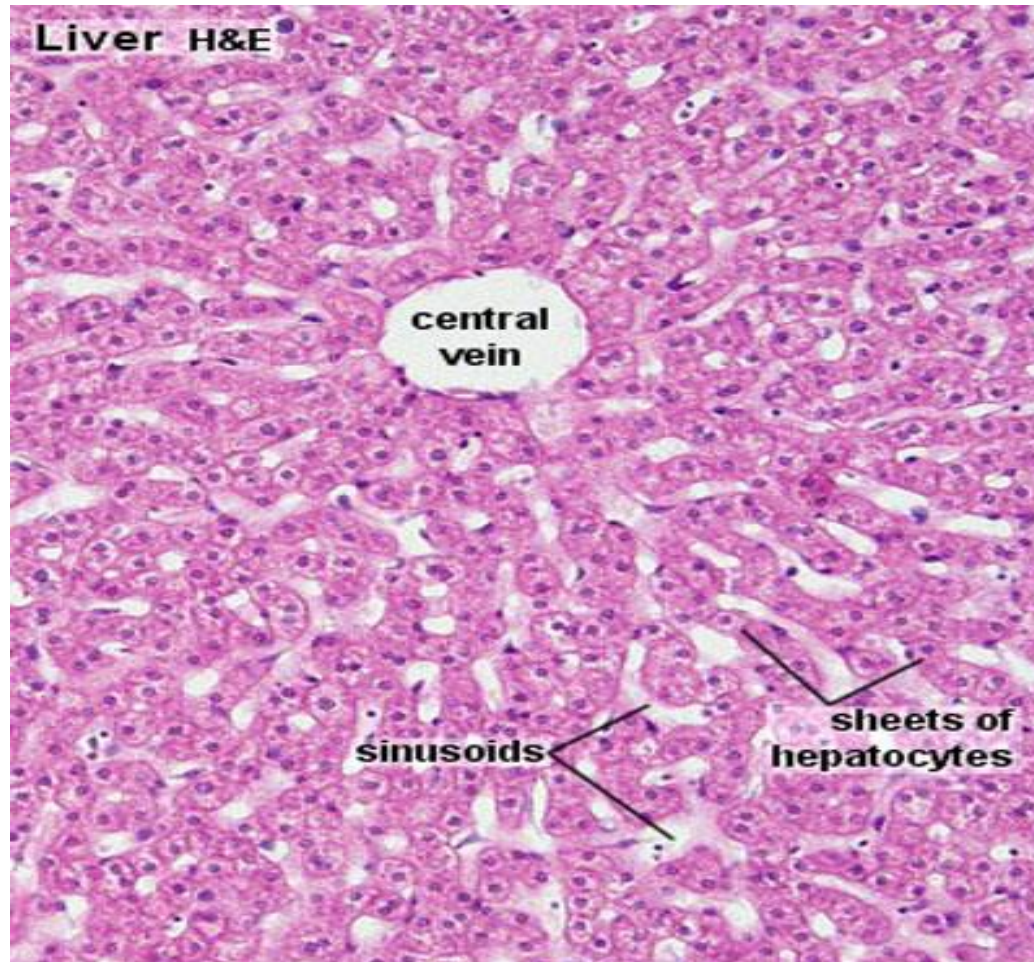
Tissue source: Bowman's capsule of kidney





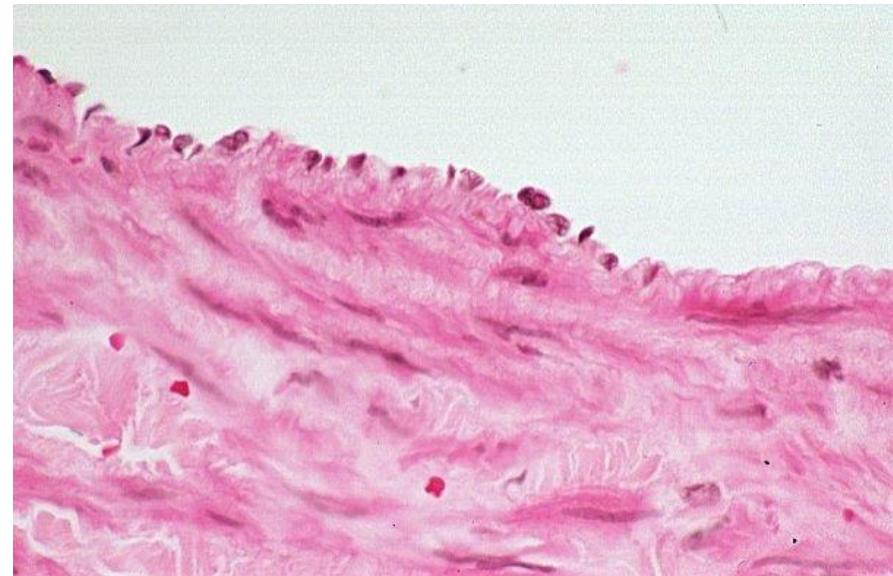
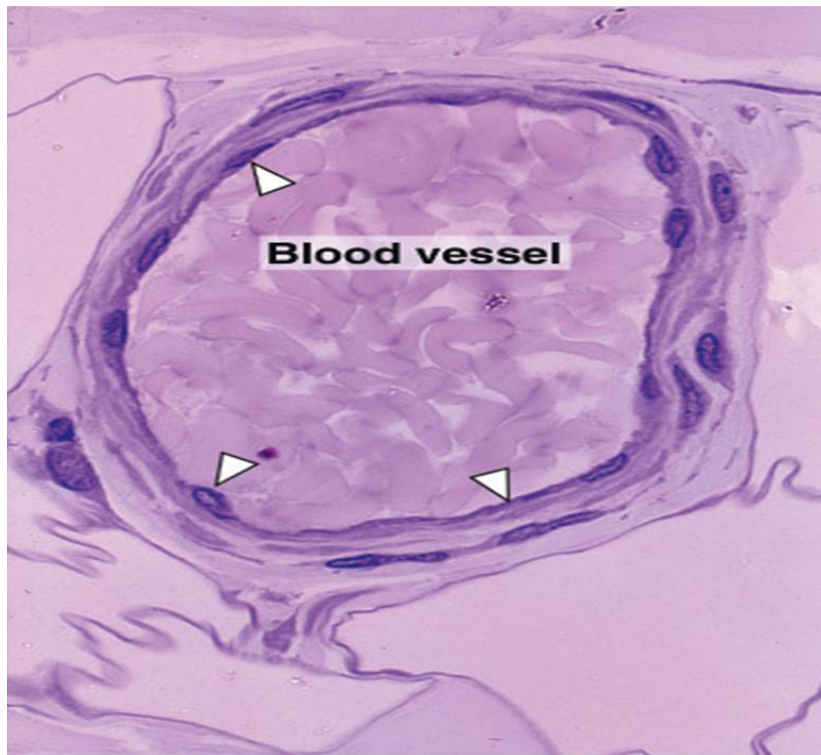
# Simple Squamous Epithelium

Tissue source: sinusoids of the liver



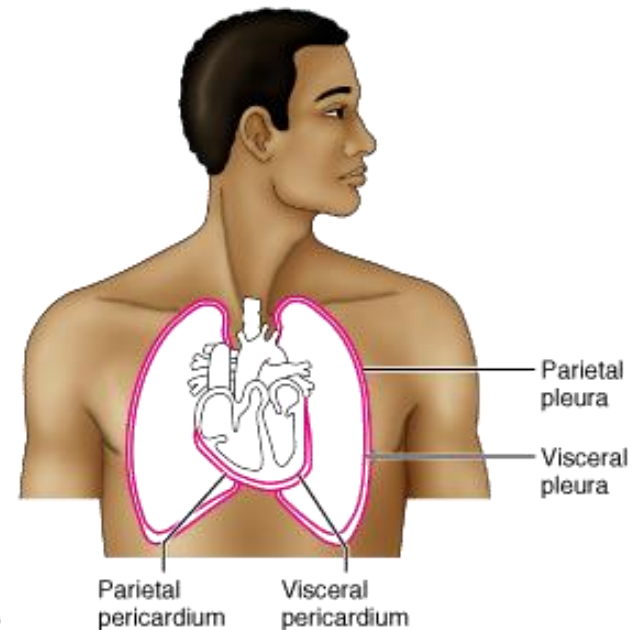
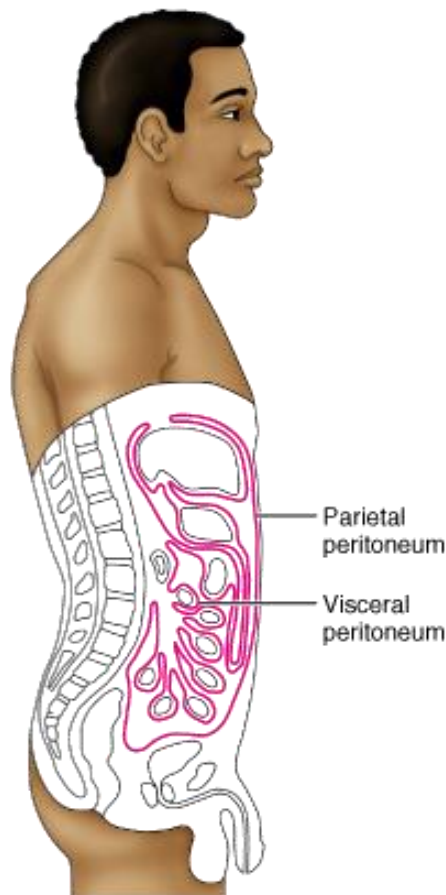
# Simple Squamous Epithelium

Tissue source: **endothelium** of blood vessels



# Simple Squamous Epithelium

- mesothelium

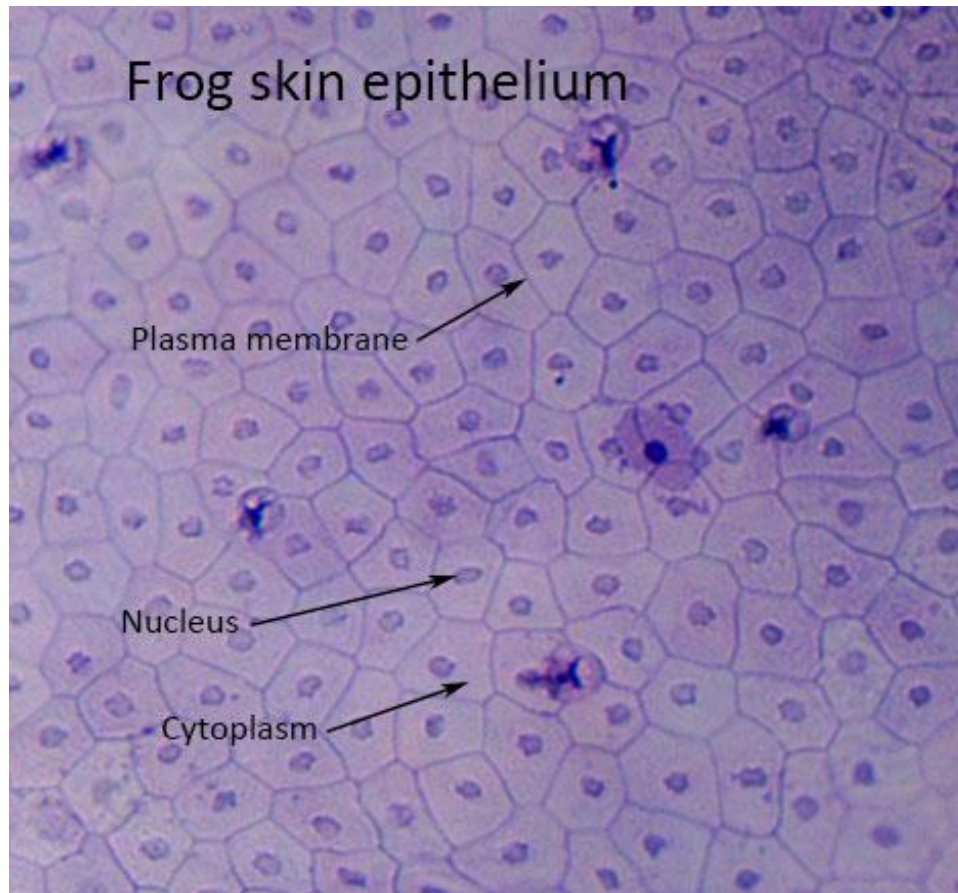


(c) Serous membranes



# Simple Squamous Epithelium

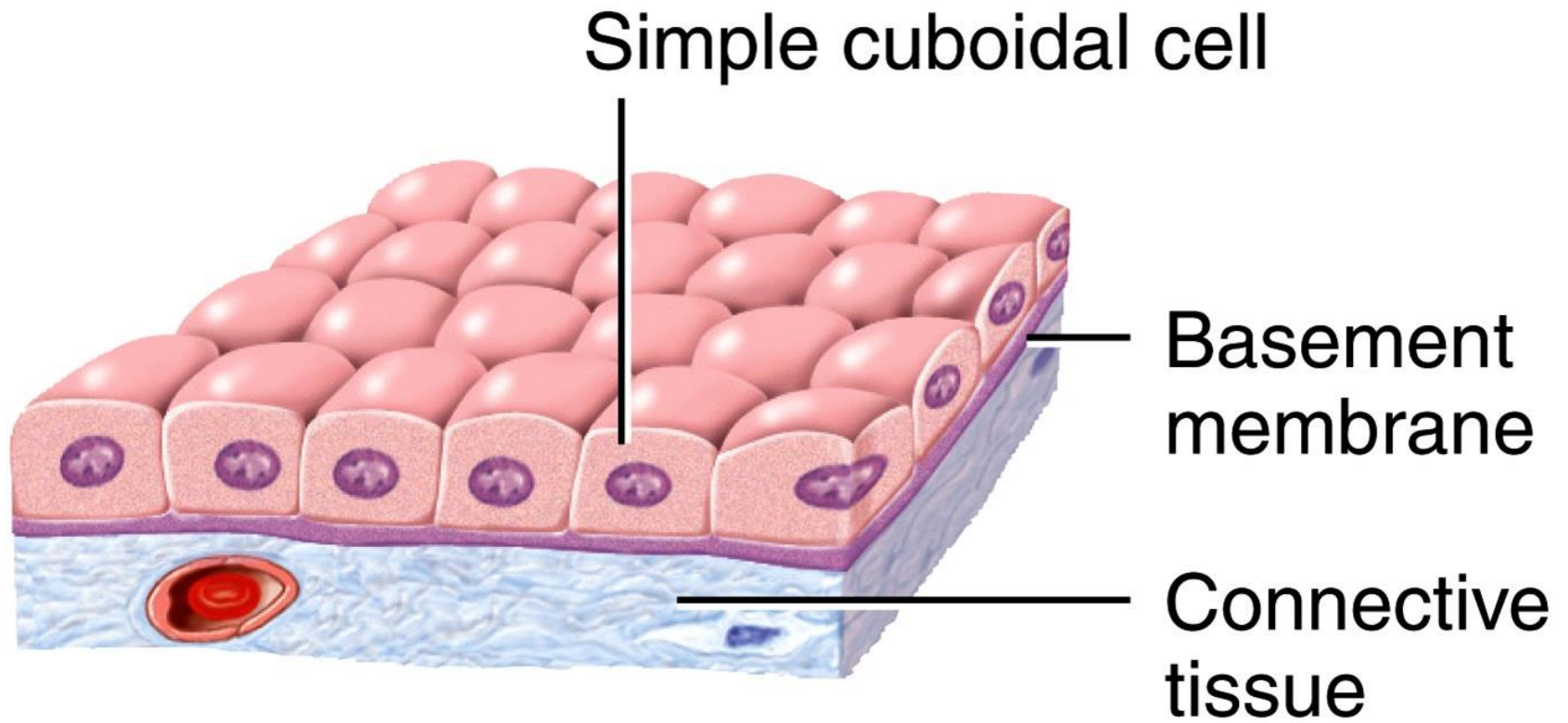
Tissue source: frog skin



# Simple Cuboidal Epithelium

- Structure
  - Single layer of cube shaped cells
- Function
  - Secretion and transportation in glands, filtration in kidneys
- Location
  - ducts of pancreas, kidney tubules, surface of ovaries

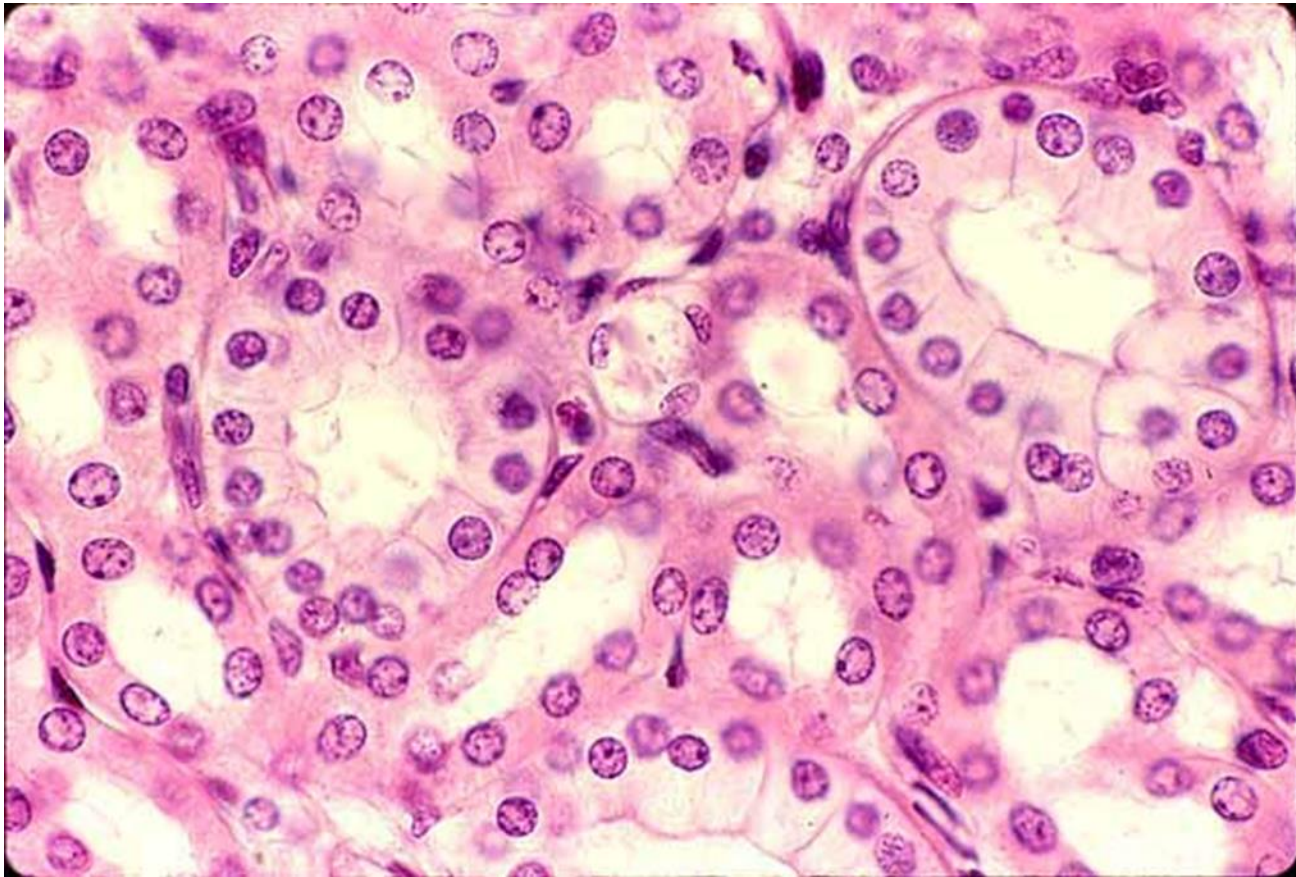




## Simple cuboidal epithelium

# Simple Cuboidal Epithelium

Tissue source: kidney tubules



# Simple Cuboidal Epithelium

Tissue source: interlobular duct of pancreas



Sectional view of simple cuboidal epithelium of intralobular duct of pancreas

# Simple Columnar Epithelium

- Structure
  - Elongated layer of cells with nuclei at same level
- Function
  - Absorption, Protection & Secretion
- Special Features
  - Microvilli, bumpy extension of apical surface, increase surface area and absorption rate.
  - Goblet cells, single cell glands, produce protective mucus
  - Cilia (uterine tubes, oviduct)
- Location
  - Linings of entire digestive tract, fallopian tubes, uterus (ciliated)



**Table 4.1** Simple Epithelium—Continued

**(c) Simple Columnar Epithelium**

**Structure:**

Single layer of tall, narrow cells; some cells have cilia (bronchioles of lungs, auditory tubes, uterine tubes, and uterus) or microvilli (intestines)

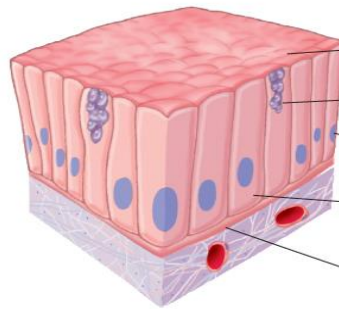
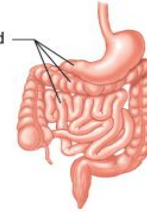
**Function:**

Movement of particles out of the bronchioles of the lungs by ciliated cells; partially responsible for the movement of oocytes through the uterine tubes by ciliated cells; secretion by cells of the glands, the stomach, and the intestine; absorption by cells of the intestine

**Location:**

Glands and some ducts, bronchioles of lungs, auditory tubes, uterus, uterine tubes, stomach, intestines, gallbladder, bile ducts, ventricles of the brain

Lining of stomach and intestines



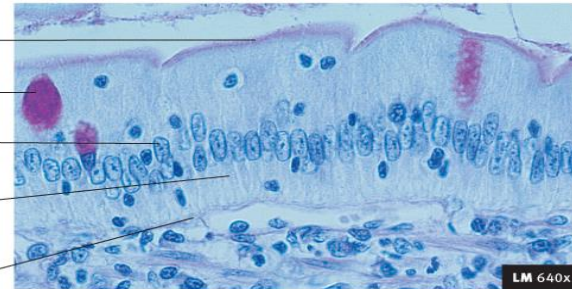
Free surface

Goblet cell containing mucus

Nucleus

Simple columnar epithelial cell

Basement membrane



© Victor Eroschenko

## Description:

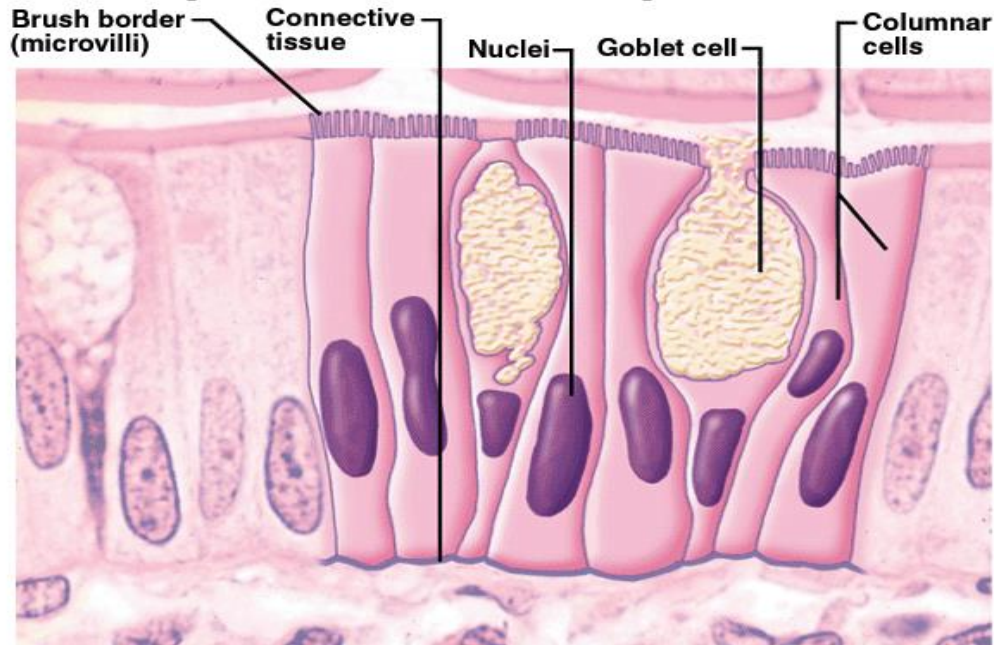
- single layer of columnar shaped cell
- Goblet cells – secrete mucus for lubrication
- nuclei near the base of the cell

## Location:

- lines the entire length of digestive tract (stomach to the anus), oviduct, uterine tubes

© The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Permission required for reproduction or display.

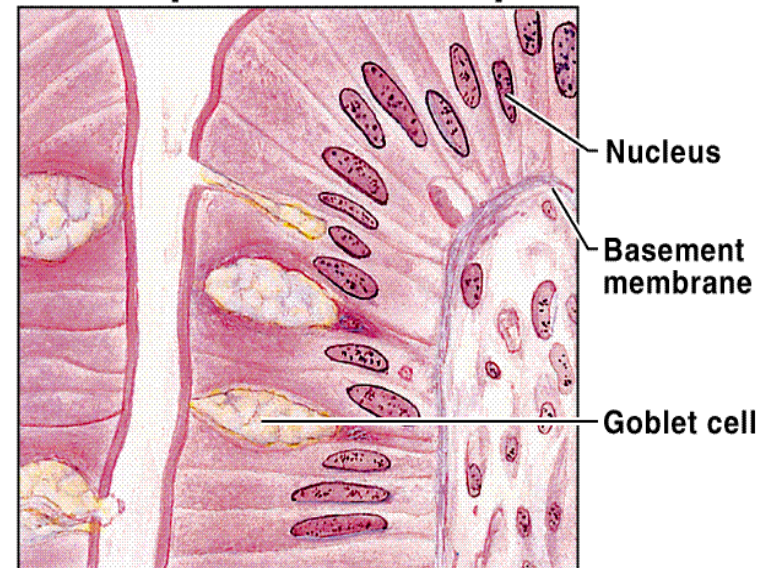
## Simple Columnar Epithelium



Goblet cells - epithelial cells whose sole function is to secrete mucus

Stuart Ira Fox, *Human Physiology*, 6e. Copyright © 1999 The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

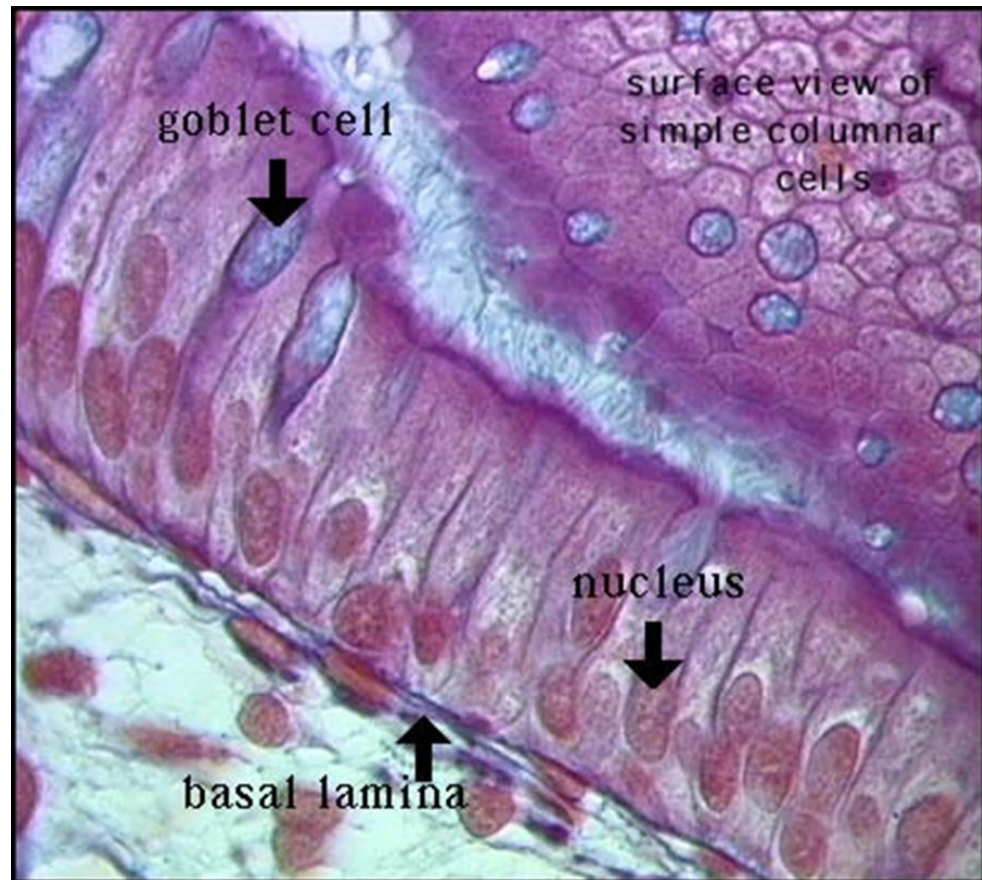
## Simple Columnar Epithelium



# Simple Columnar Epithelium

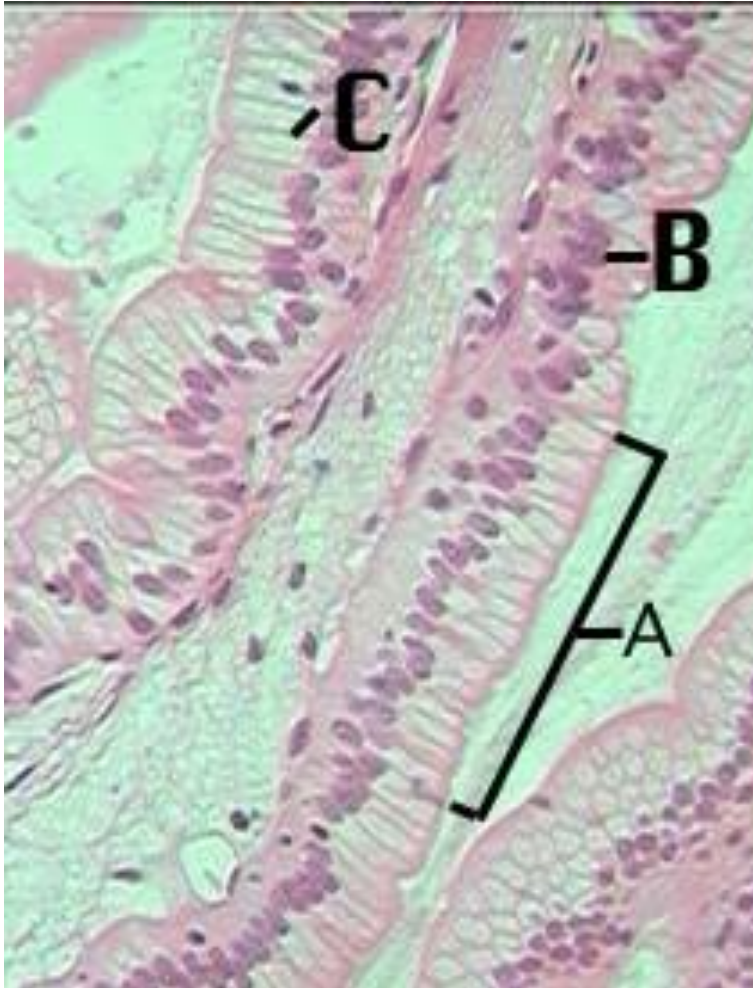
Tissue source: ileum of small intestine

- Goblet cell
- microvilli





# Simple Columnar Epithelium



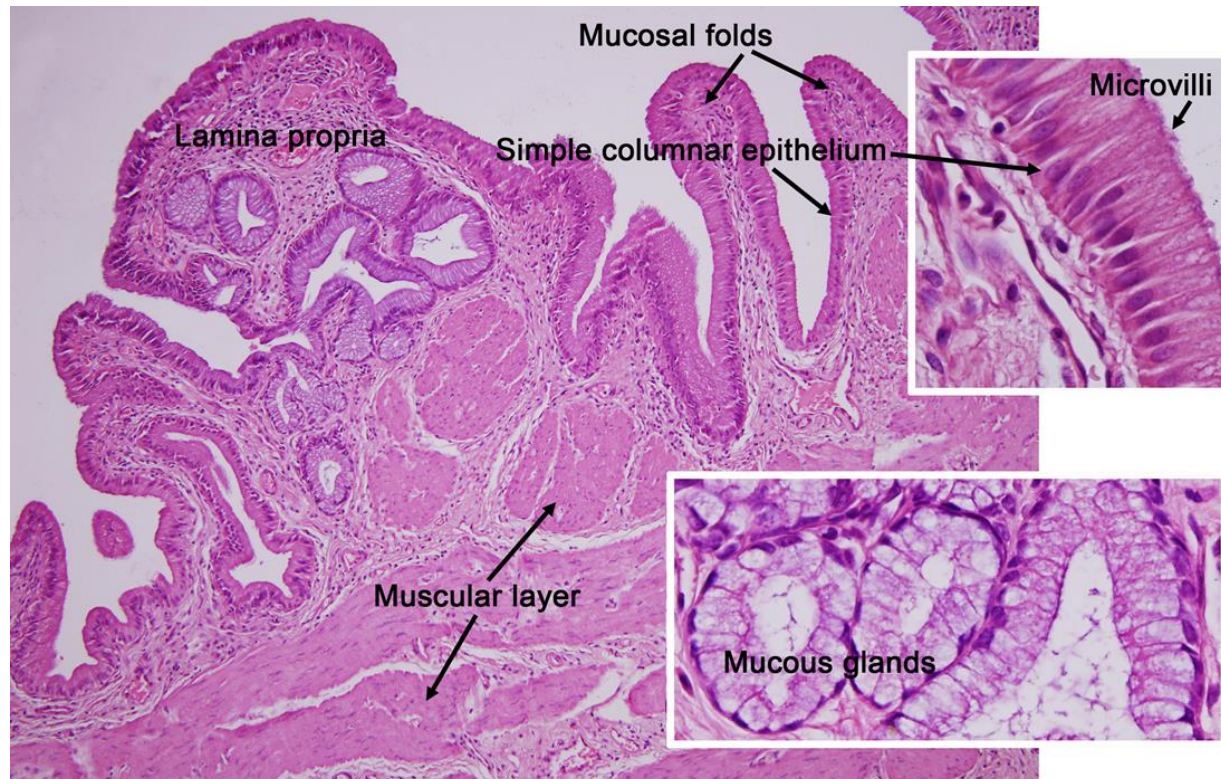
- Cells (**A**) are not as wide as they are tall
- **nuclei (B)** located at the base of the cells.
- cell membranes (**C**) are very thin but easily identified.

cross section of small intestine



# Simple Columnar Epithelium

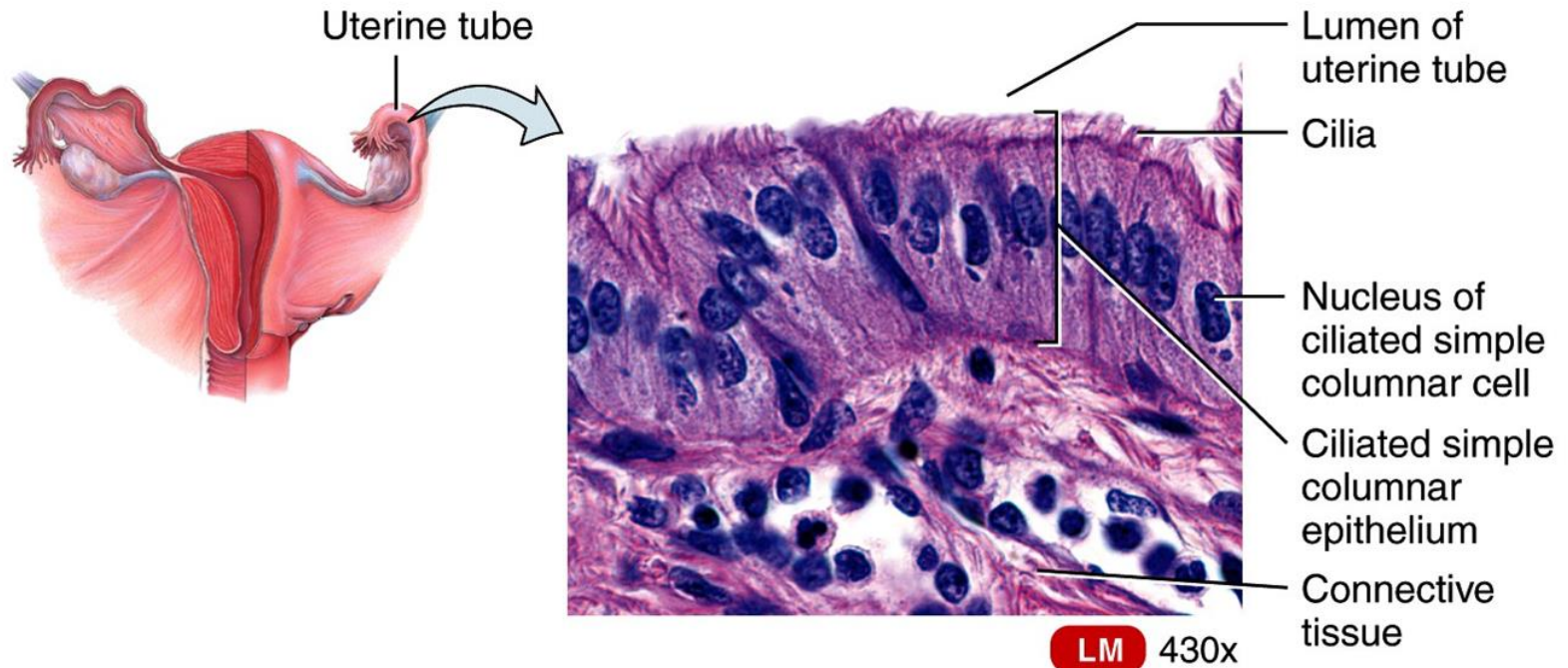
Tissue source: gallbladder



Gallbladder - Vesica Fellea, Stain: HE

# Simple Columnar Epithelium

Tissue source: uterine tube, oviduct ( with cilia)



Sectional view of ciliated simple columnar epithelium of uterine tube

# Pseudostratified Epithelium

- Structure
  - with nuclei at different levels
  - All cells reach basement membrane
- Function
  - Absorption and Secretion
  - Goblet cells produce mucus
  - Cilia (larger than microvilli) sweep mucus
- Location
  - Respiratory Linings & Reproductive tract

**(d) Pseudostratified Columnar Epithelium****Structure:**

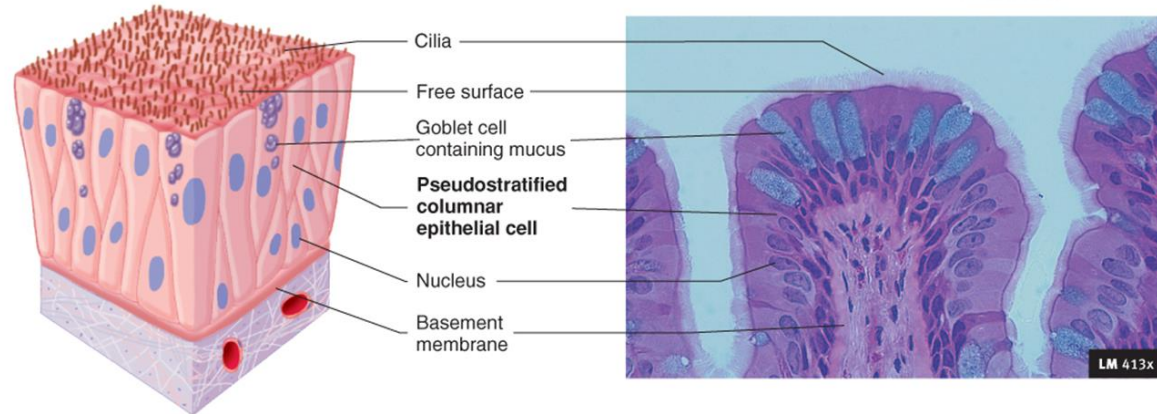
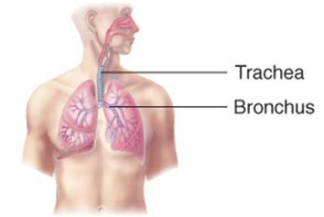
Single layer of cells; some cells are tall and thin and reach the free surface, and others do not; the nuclei of these cells are at different levels and appear stratified; the cells are almost always ciliated and are associated with goblet cells that secrete mucus onto the free surface

**Function:**

Synthesize and secrete mucus onto the free surface and move mucus (or fluid) that contains foreign particles over the surface of the free surface and from passages

**Location:**

Lining of nasal cavity, nasal sinuses, auditory tubes, pharynx, trachea, bronchi of lungs



© Victor Eroschenko

**Description:**

- not a true stratified tissue
- some cells are shorter, nuclei of the cells are at different levels
- all the cells attached to the basement membrane
- Cilia- propel debris and dust laden mucus

**Location:**

- Lining of respiratory tract **“respiratory epithelium”**

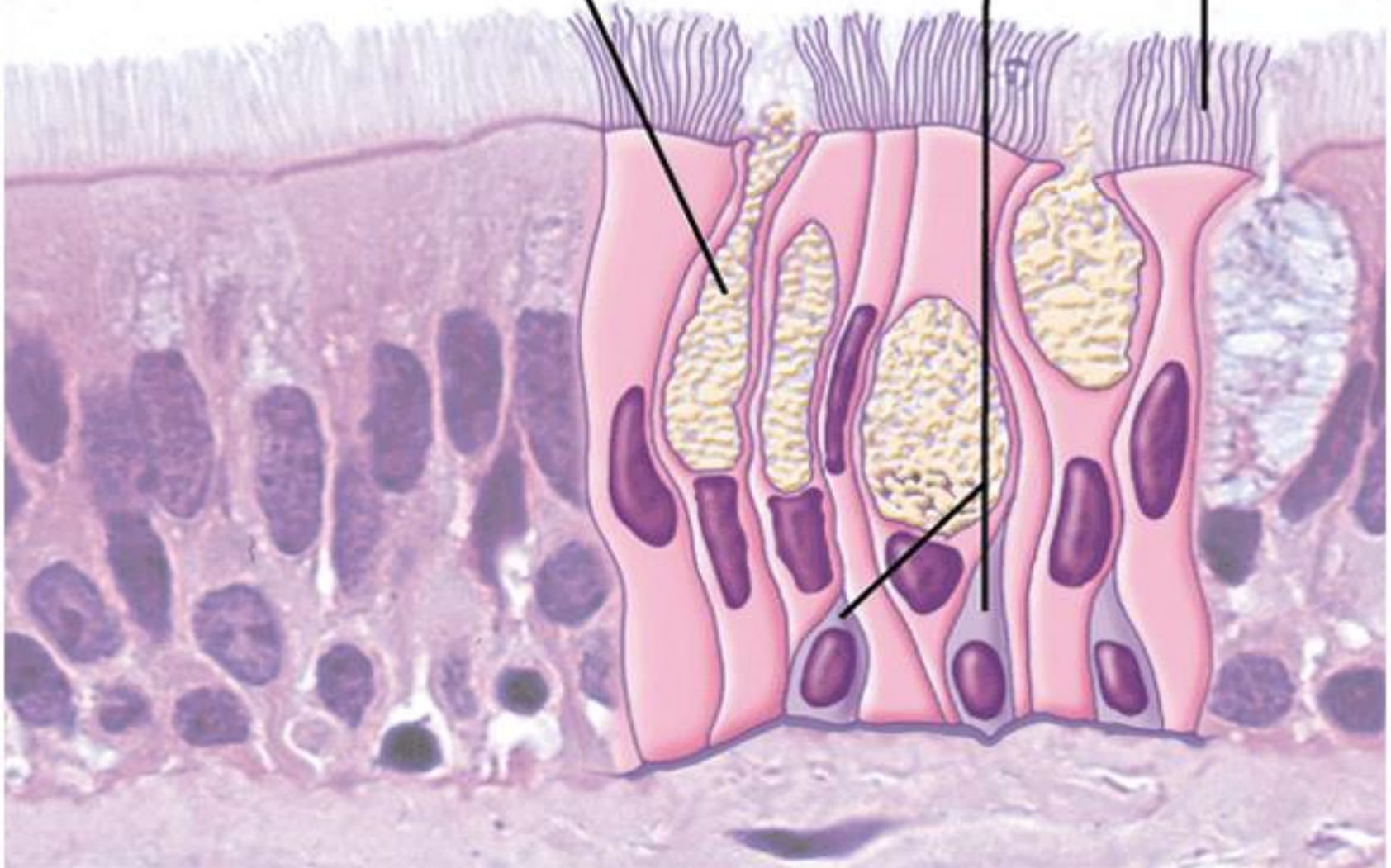


# Pseudostratified Epithelium

Goblet cell

Basal cells

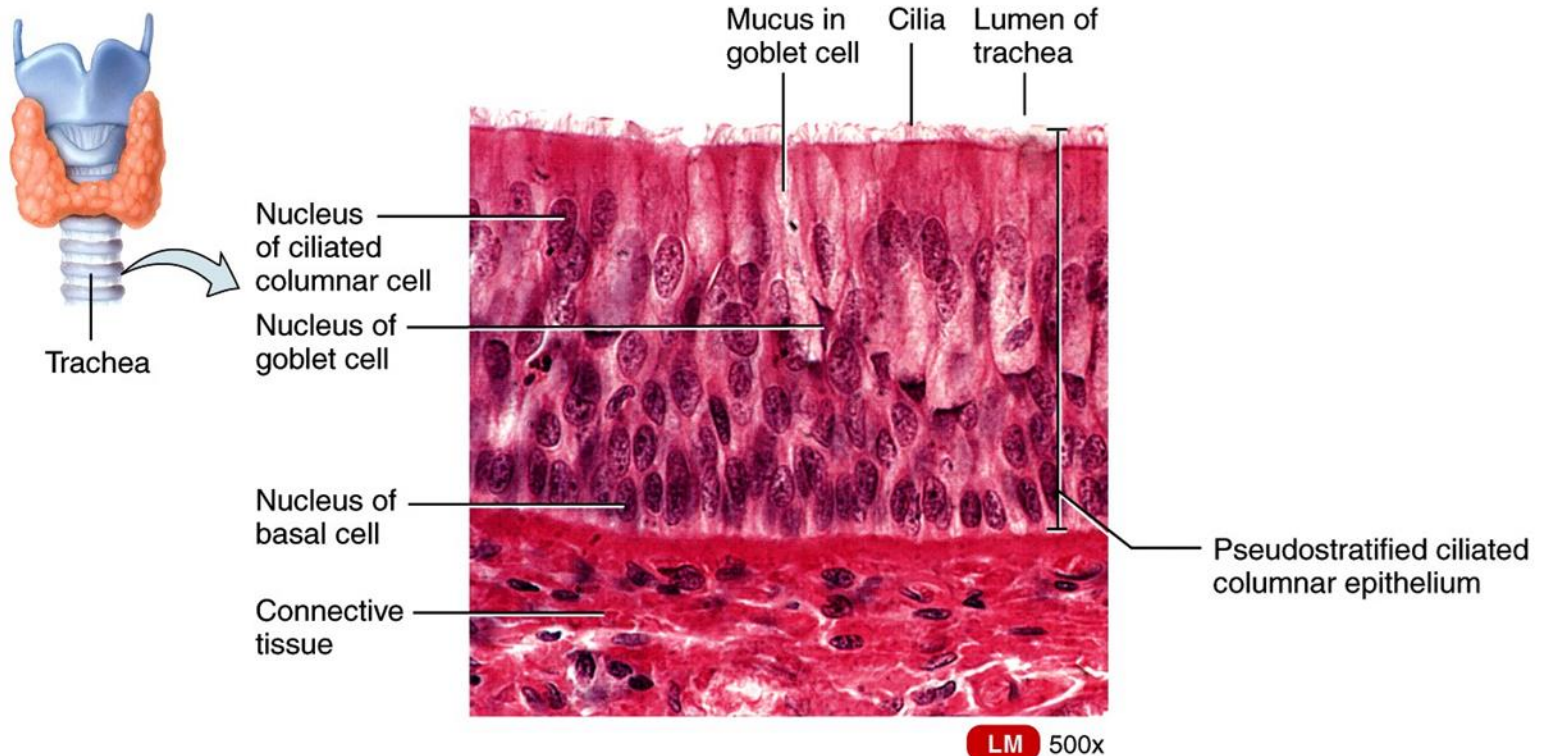
Cilia





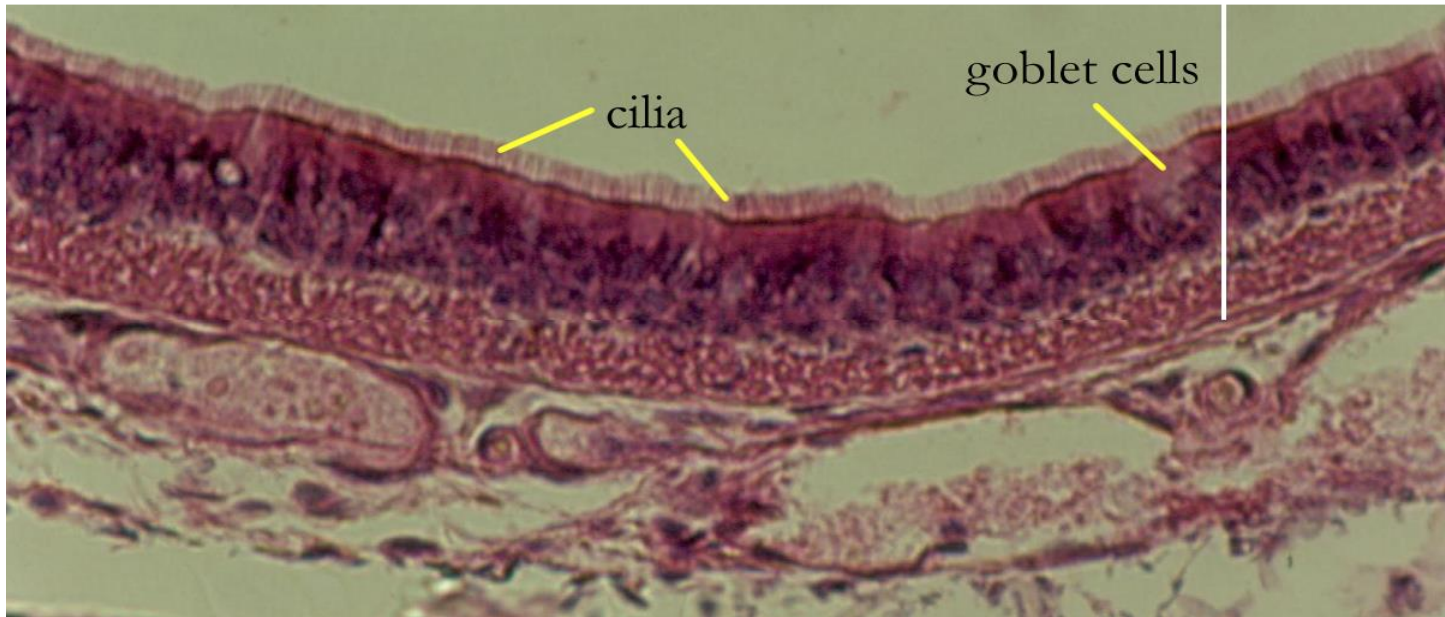
# Pseudostratified Columnar Ciliated Epithelium

Tissue source: Trachea



Sectional view of pseudostratified ciliated columnar epithelium of trachea

# Pseudostratified Columnar Ciliated Epithelium

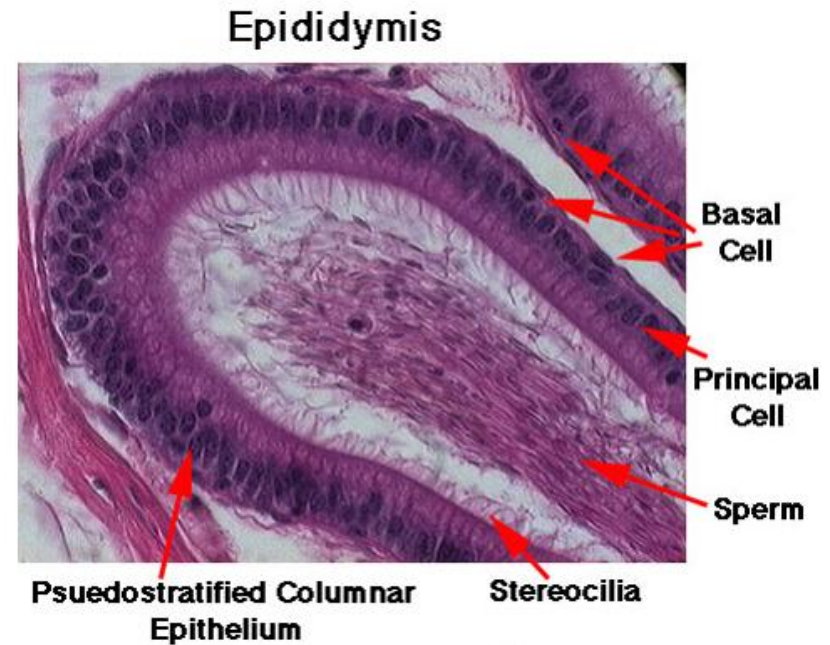
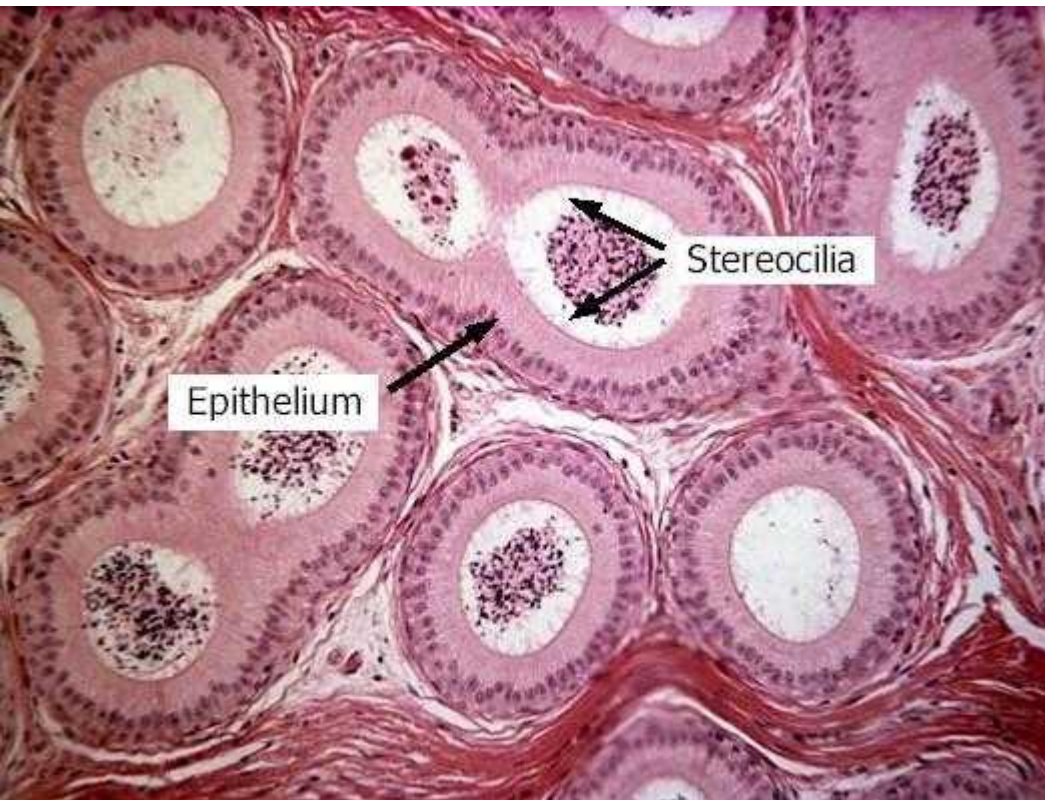


## Tissue source: trachea

- **columnar cells** all begin at the basement membrane; only a few reach the surface.
- **nuclei** appear at various levels giving the tissue a stratified appearance.
- **cilia** (yellow arrow)

# Pseudostratified Columnar Epithelium (with stereocilia)

Tissue source: epididymis





# STRATIFIED EPITHELIUM

- two or more layers of cells
- more durable and gives better protection to underlying tissues
- name of specific kind of stratified epithelium depends on the shape of the cells in the apical layer

### Simple squamous

- Lines blood vessels and air sacs of lungs
- Permits exchange of nutrients, wastes, and gases



### Stratified squamous

- Outer layer of skin, mouth, vagina
- Protects against abrasion, drying out, infection



### Simple cuboidal

- Lines kidney tubules and glands
- Secretes and reabsorbs water and small molecules



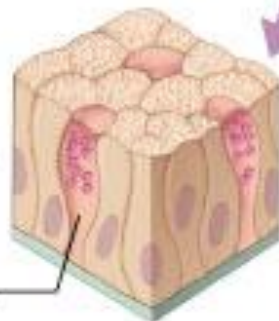
### Stratified cuboidal

- Lines ducts of sweat glands
- Secretes water and ions



### Simple columnar

- Lines most digestive organs
- Absorbs nutrients, produces mucus



Goblet cell

### Stratified columnar

- Lines epididymus, mammary glands, larynx
- Secretes mucus



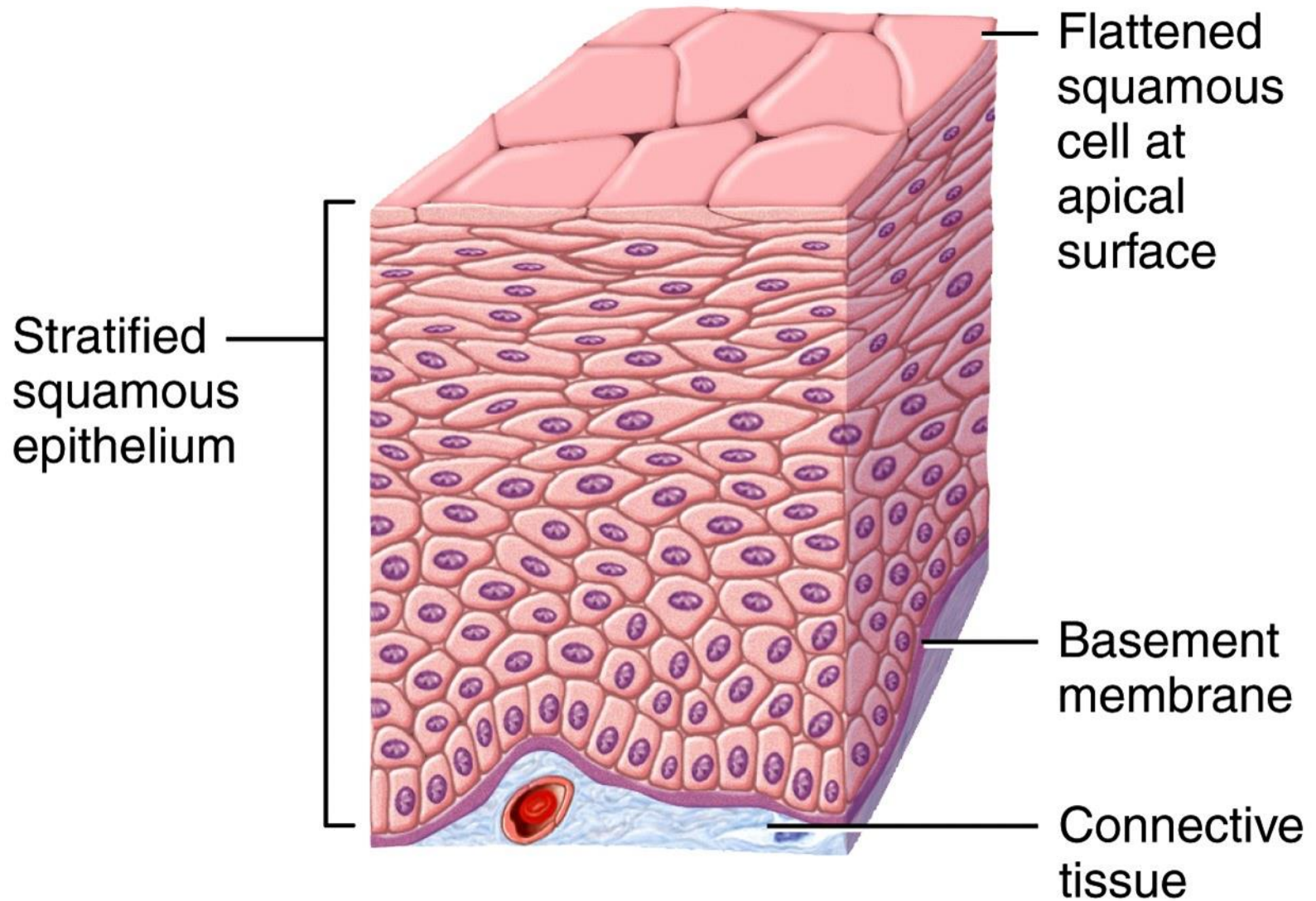
Basement membrane

(a) Most epithelial tissues line or cover surfaces or body cavities



# Stratified Squamous Epithelium

- Structure
  - Many layers, stronger than simple
- Function
  - Protection (Stratified Squamous Epithelium keratinized)
  - Keratin (protein) is accumulated in older cells near the surface – waterproofs and toughens skin.
- Location
  - Skin (keratinized)
  - esophagus, vagina (non-keratinized)



Stratified squamous epithelium

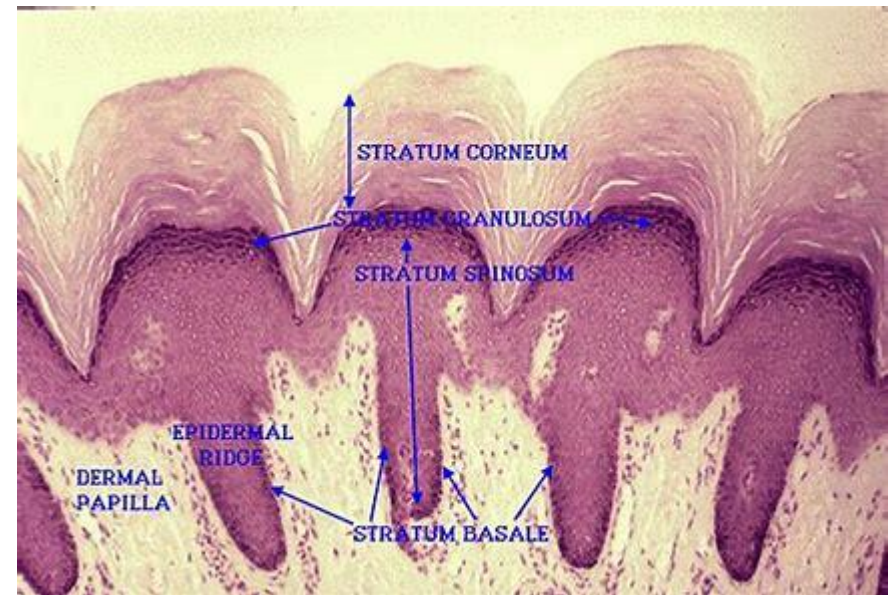
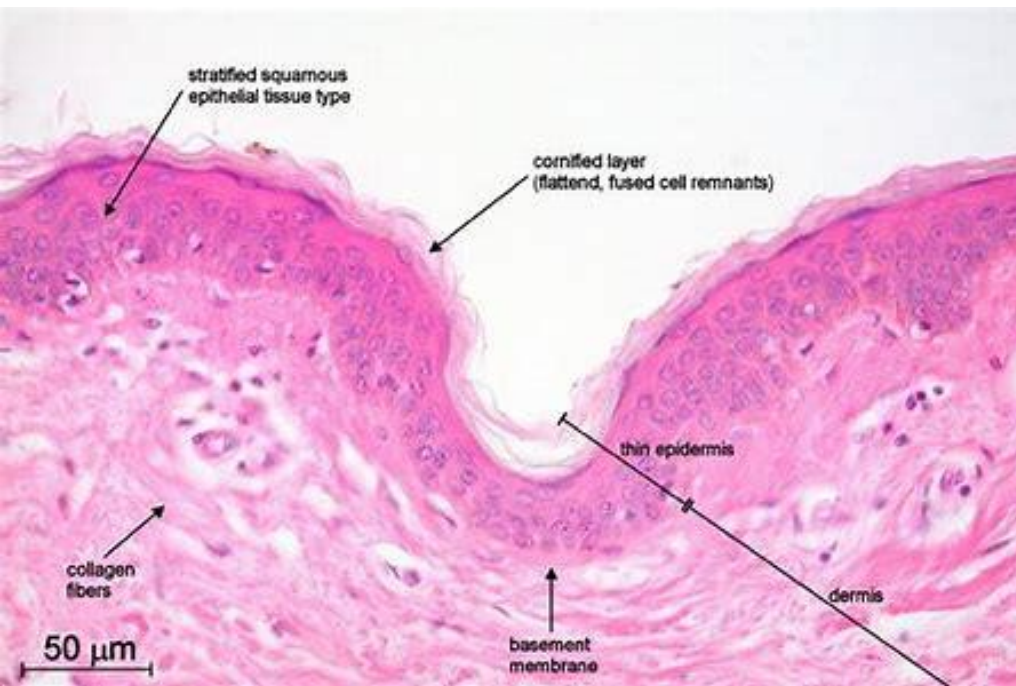
# Stratified squamous epithelium (keratinized)

Tissue source: Human skin

Top layer: dead flattened cells

Middle layer: polyhedral cells

Basal layer: cuboidal or columnar cells





# Stratified Squamous epithelium (non-keratinized)

Tissue source: esophagus



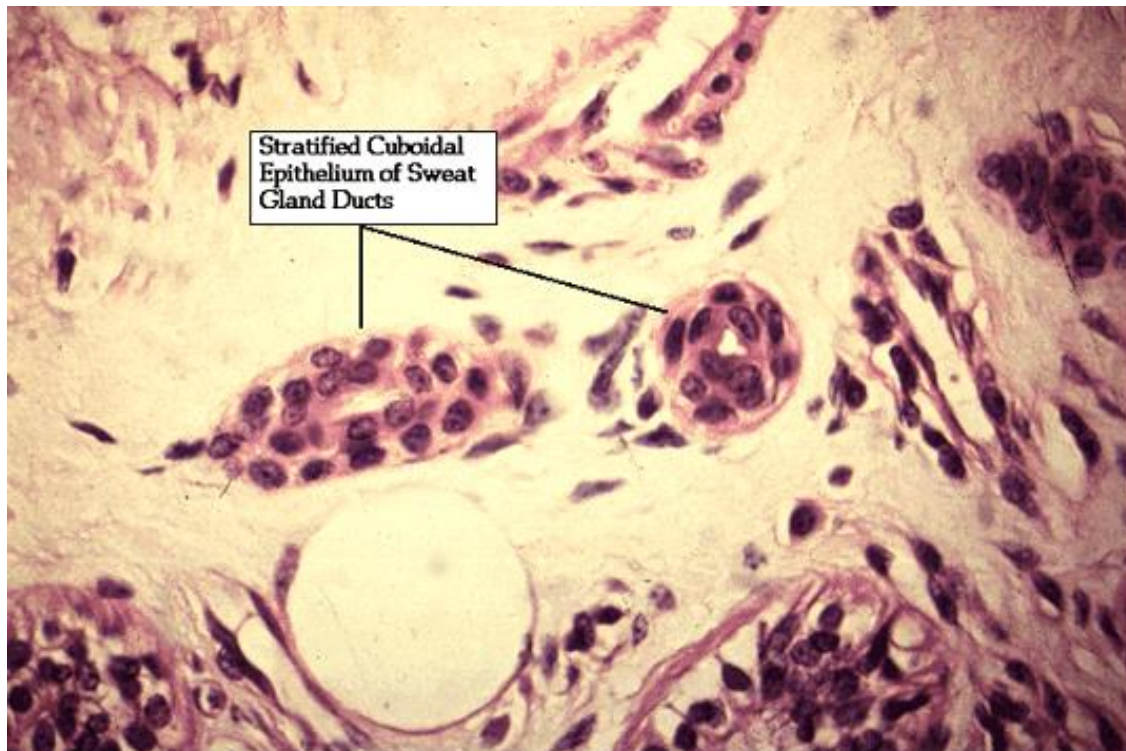
# Stratified Cuboidal Epithelium

- Structure
  - Many layers, stronger of cube shape cells
- Function
  - Secretion
  - Absorption
  - Protection
- Location
  - Ducts of sweat glands
  - Ducts of salivary glands



# Stratified Cuboidal Epithelium

- Tissue source: interlobular ducts of submandibular gland
- 2- 3 layers of cuboidal cells



# Stratified Cuboidal Epithelium

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Permission required for reproduction or display.

**Table 4.2** Stratified Epithelium

**(b) Stratified Cuboidal Epithelium**

**Structure:**

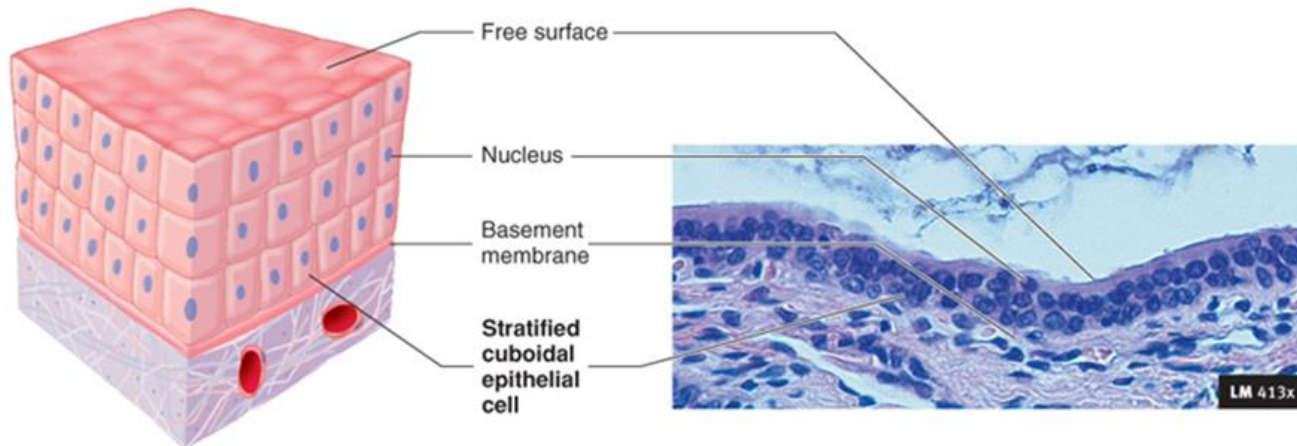
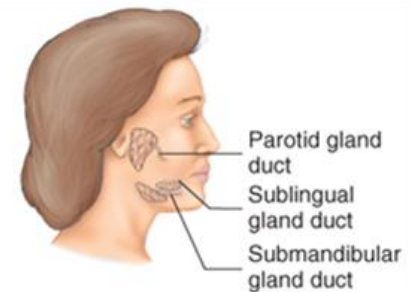
Multiple layers of somewhat cube-shaped cells

**Function:**

Secretion, absorption, protection against infection

**Location:**

Sweat gland ducts, ovarian follicles, salivary gland ducts



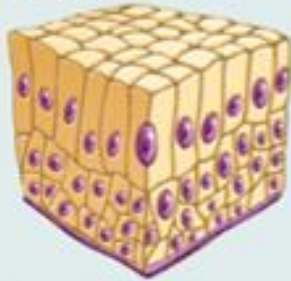
# Stratified Columnar Epithelium

- Structure
  - Many layers, cells at the apical layer are columnar in shape
  - Basal cells are cuboidal in shape
- Function
  - Secretion
  - Protection
- Location
  - Epiglottis
  - Conjunctiva of the eye
  - anal mucous membrane
  - part of male urethra

# Stratified Columnar Epithelium

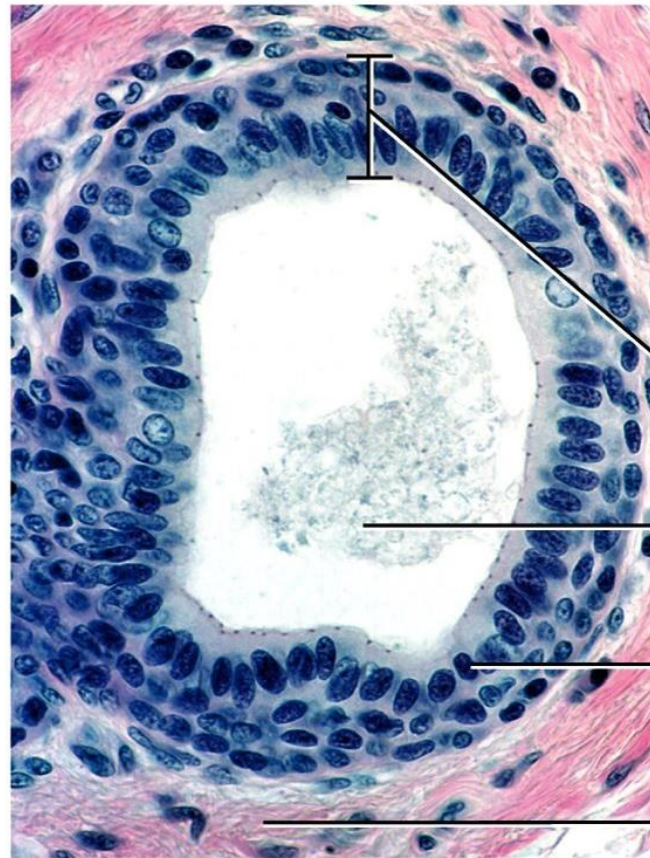
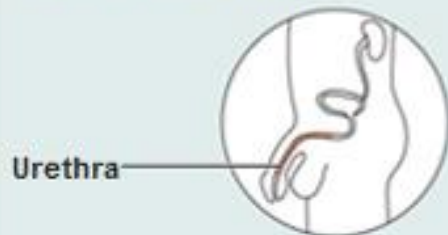
## (g) Stratified columnar epithelium

**Description:** Several cell layers; basal cells usually cuboidal; superficial cells elongated and columnar.



**Function:** Protection; secretion.

**Location:** Rare in the body; small amounts in male urethra and in large ducts of some glands.



Stratified columnar epithelium

Lumen of duct

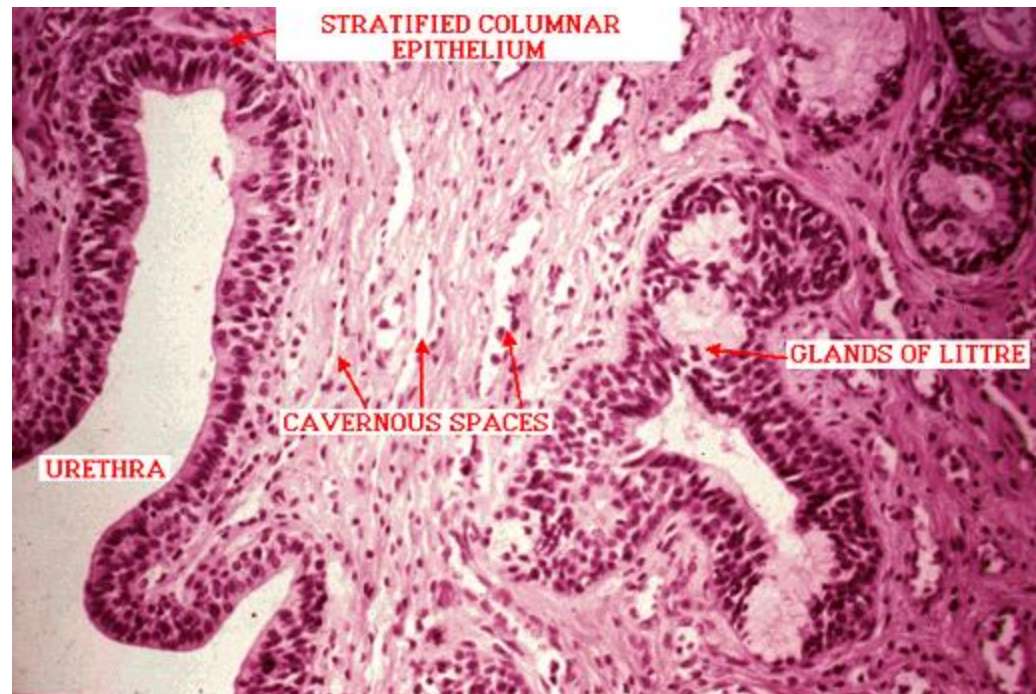
Nucleus of stratified columnar cell

Connective tissue



# Stratified Columnar Epithelium

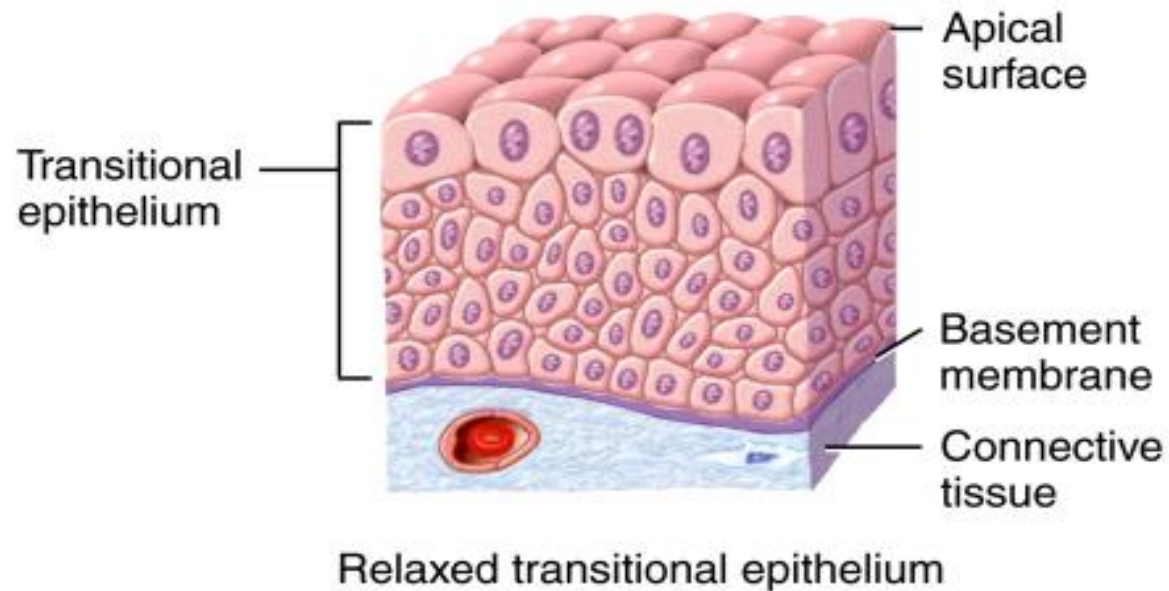
- Tissue source: male urethra
- Top layer: columnar cells
- Basal layer: cuboidal cell





# Transitional Epithelium

- Structure
  - Many layers
  - Very specialized – cells at base are cuboidal or columnar; at surface are umbrella shaped.
  - Change between stratified & simple as tissue is stretched out.
- Function
  - Allows stretching (change size)
- Location
  - Urinary bladder, ureters & urethra
  - “Urothelium”



Copyright © John Wiley & Sons, Inc. All rights reserved.

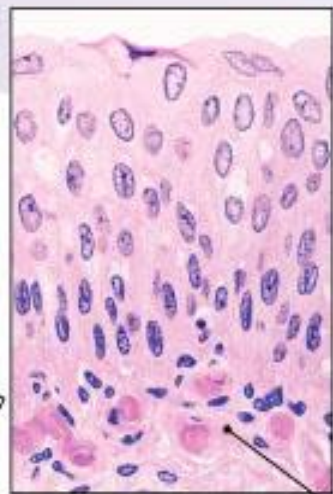
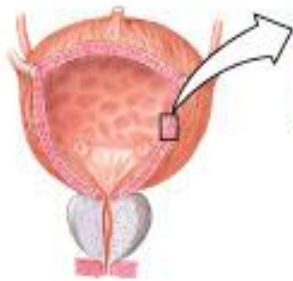
## Description:

- basal cells are cuboidal or columnar or polyhedral in shape
  - appearance is variable/change in shape (transitional)
  - unstretched – cells are balloon, umbrella shaped or dome shaped
  - stretched/distended – cells change to squamous shape

## TRANSITIONAL EPITHELIUM

**LOCATIONS:** Urinary bladder; renal pelvis; ureters

**FUNCTIONS:** Permits expansion and recoil after stretching



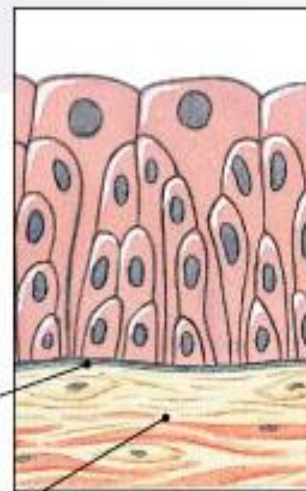
LM  $\times 394$

Epithelium (relaxed)

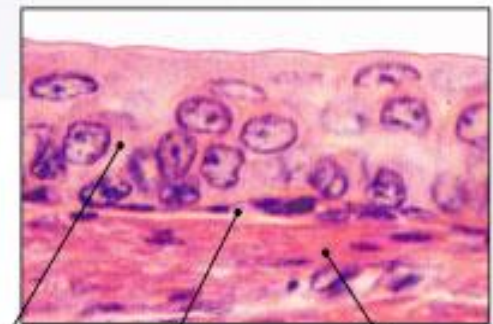
Basal lamina

Connective tissue and smooth muscle layers

EMPTY BLADDER



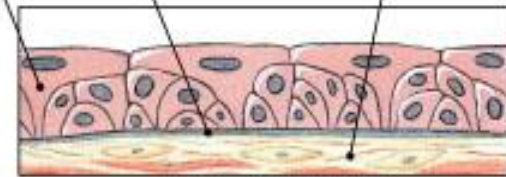
(c) Urinary bladder



Epithelium (stretched)

Basal lamina

Connective tissue and smooth muscle layers



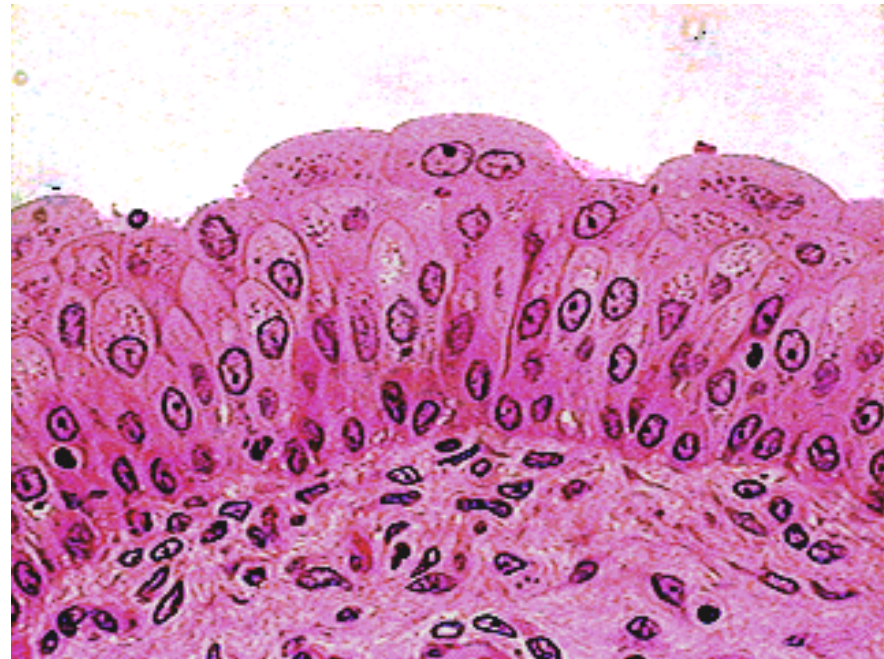
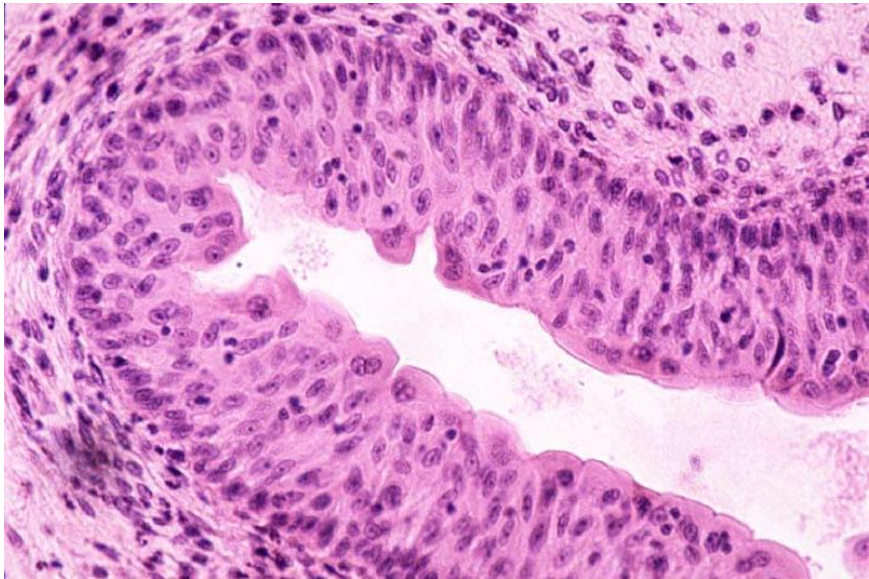
FULL BLADDER

# Transitional Epithelium

Tissue source: urinary bladder

Top layer: balloon shaped cells

Basal layer: columnar or polyhedral cells





# Glands

- One or more cells that make and secrete a product.
- Secretion = protein in aqueous solution: hormones, acids, oils.
- Endocrine glands
  - No duct, release secretion into blood vessels
  - Often hormones
  - Thyroid, adrenal and pituitary glands
- Exocrine glands
  - Contain ducts, empty onto epithelial surface
  - Sweat, Oil glands, Salivary glands, Mammary glands.

# Glandular Epithelium:

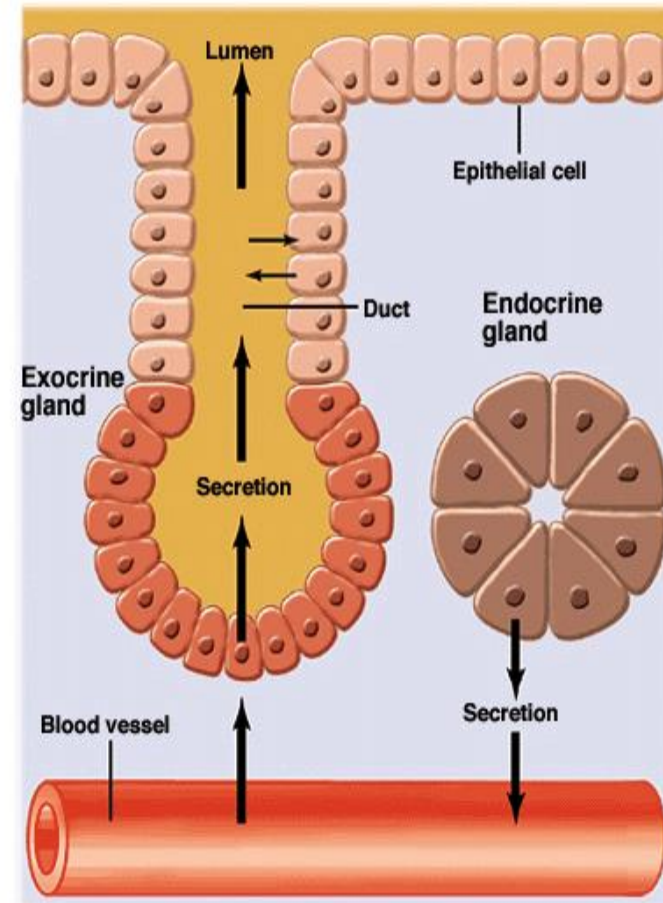
- consists single or group of cells that secrete substances
  - a. into a surface (covering and lining epithelium)
  - b. into the blood

Classified as:

## A. Exocrine gland

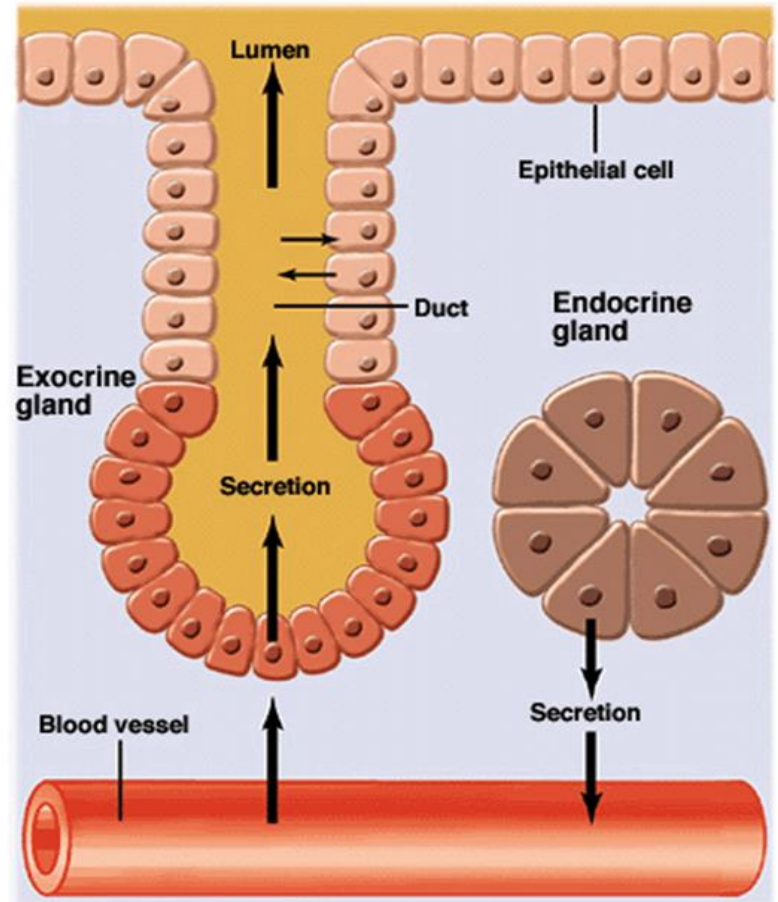
- secretions flow by way of tube-like duct and empty into the surface of a covering or lining epithelium
- exocrine secretions reach the skin surface or the lumen of a hollow organ

ex. Sudoriferous gland  
mammary gland  
sebaceous glands



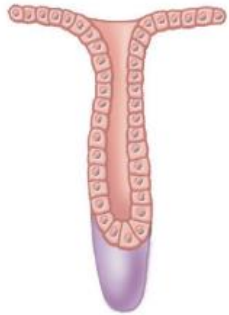
## B. Endocrine gland

- secretes their products into the bloodstream
  - ductless gland
  - hormones
- ex. thyroid, pituitary

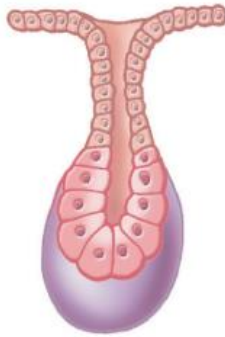


# Types of Exocrine Glands

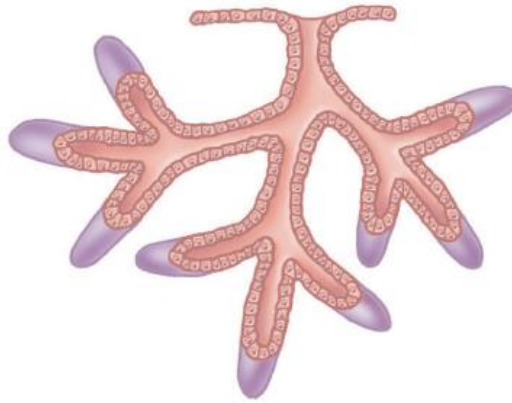
- Structure of Exocrine Glands
  - Simple: have one duct
  - Compound: have ducts that branch repeatedly



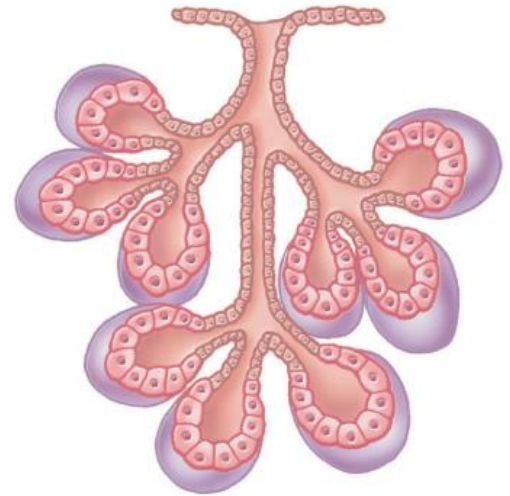
(a) Simple straight tubular  
(glands in stomach  
and colon)



(b) Simple acinar or alveolar  
(sebaceous glands  
of skin)



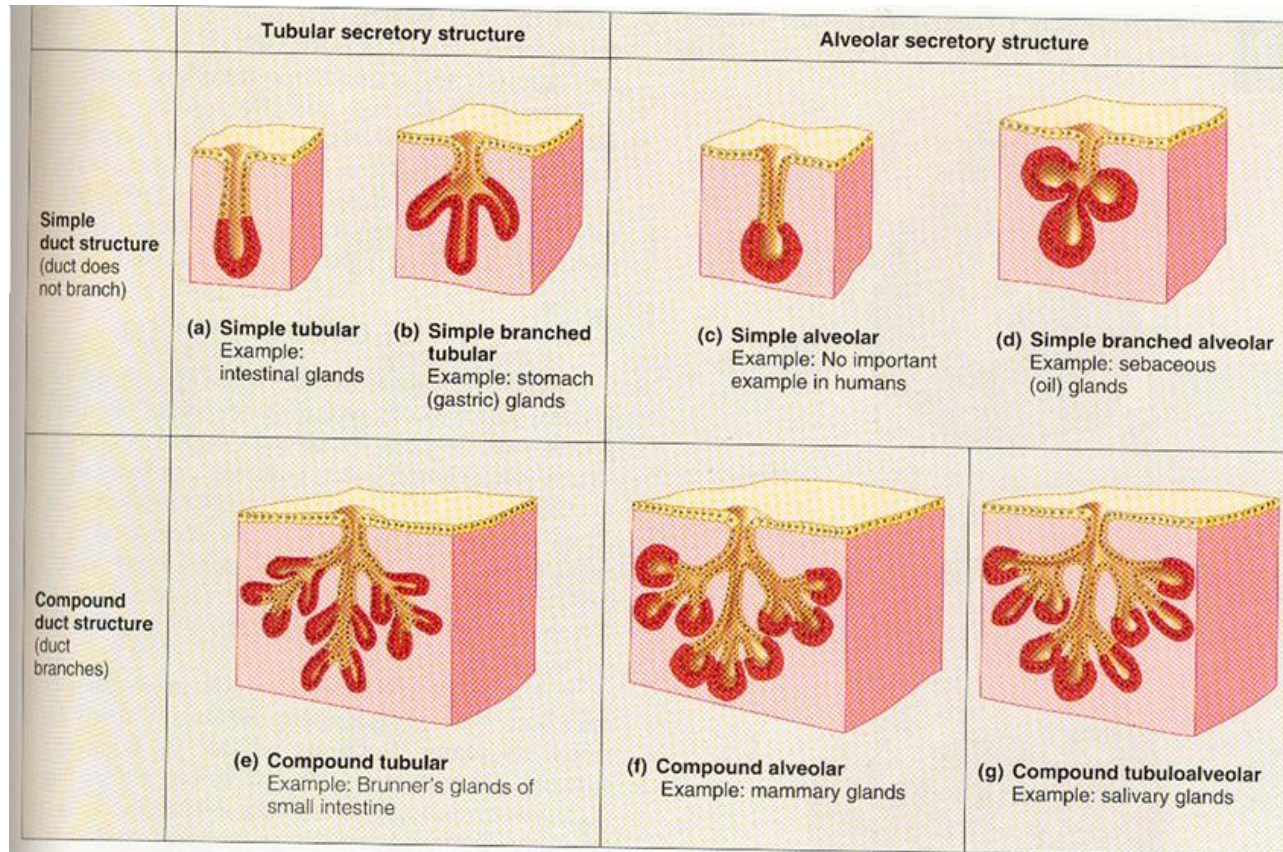
(c) Compound tubular  
(mucous glands of duodenum)



(d) Compound acinar or alveolar  
(mammary glands)



- Shape of duct end/secretory portion:
  - Tubular – shaped like a tube
  - Alveolar – shaped like flasks or sacs
  - Tubuloalveolar – has both tubes and sacs in gland



Key:  = Surface epithelium  = Duct  = Secretory epithelium

# Epithelial Tissue Glands

- Exocrine Glands and Secretion Types
  - Merocrine – no loss of cellular material (Ex. sweat glands)
  - Apocrine – part of the cell pinches off (Ex. mammary glands)
  - Holocrine – entire cell is shed (Ex. sebaceous glands)

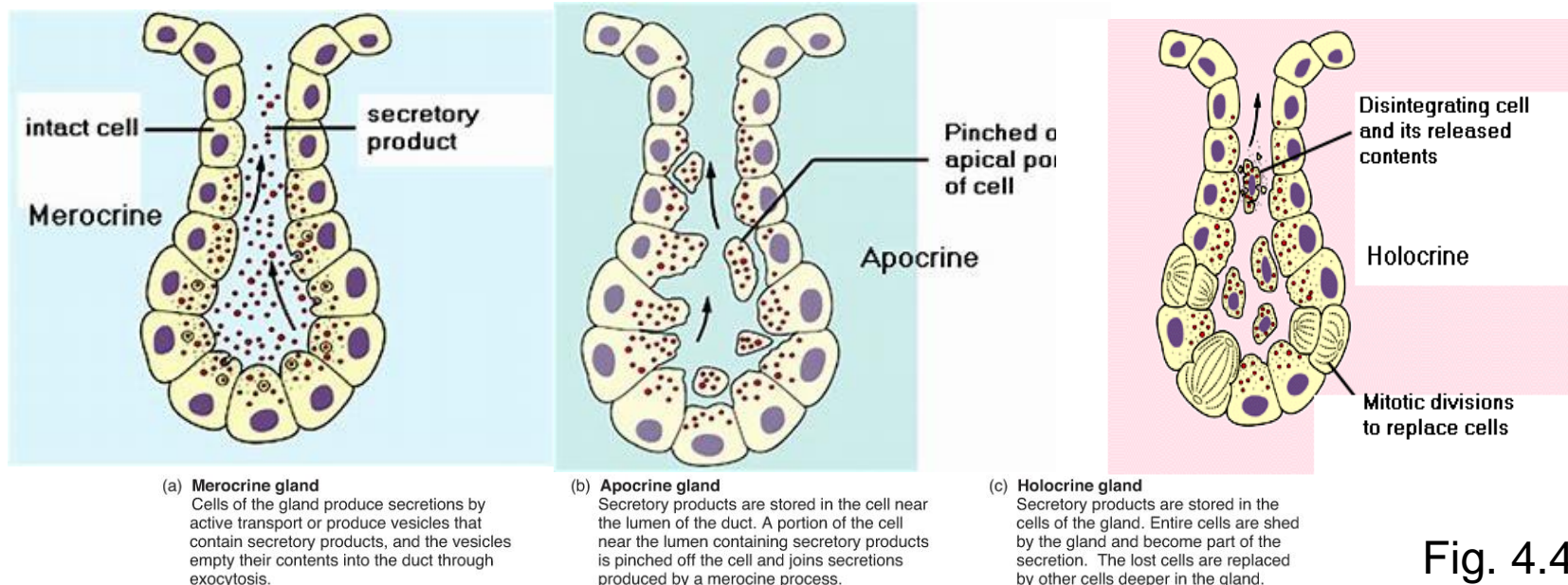
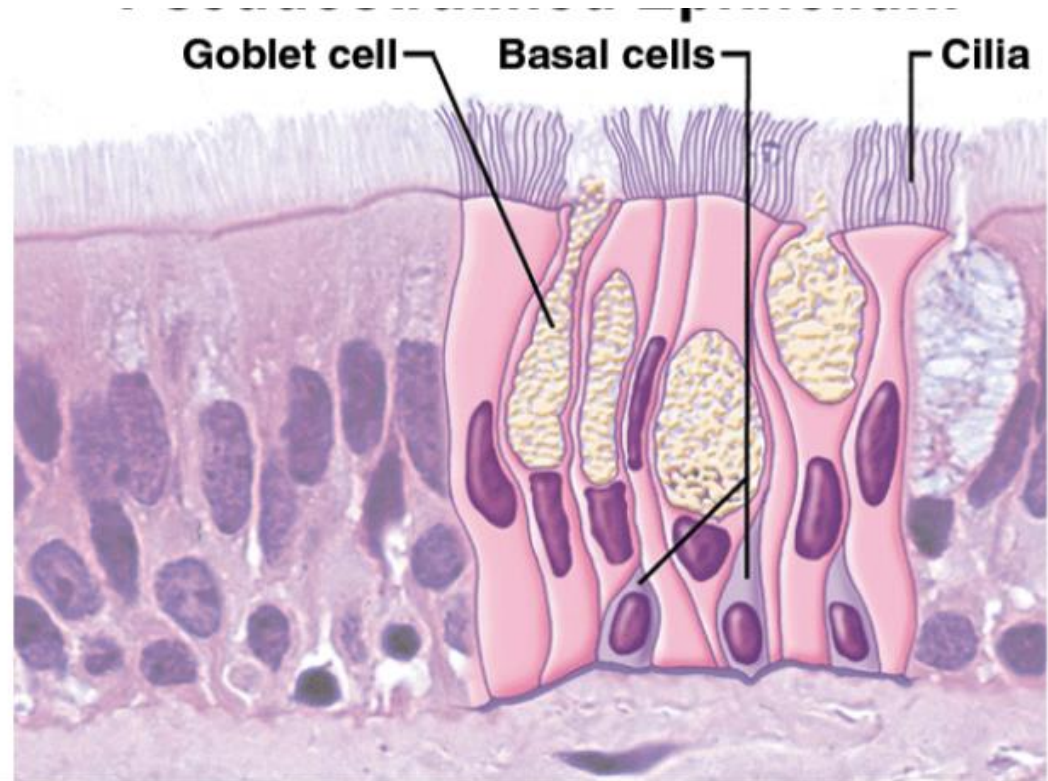


Fig. 4.4

# Exocrine Gland

- Goblet cells
- single cell gland
- produce protective mucus



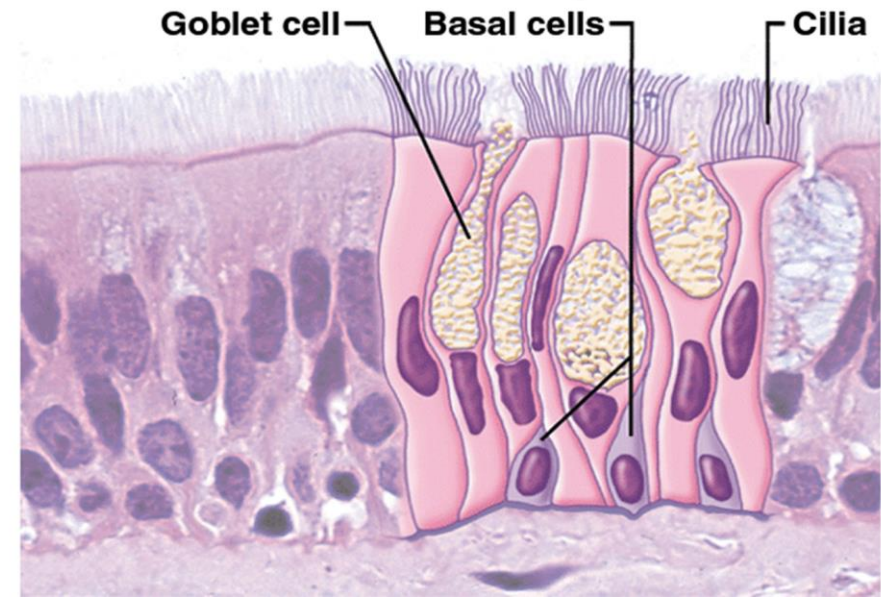


# Exocrine Glands (Goblet cells)



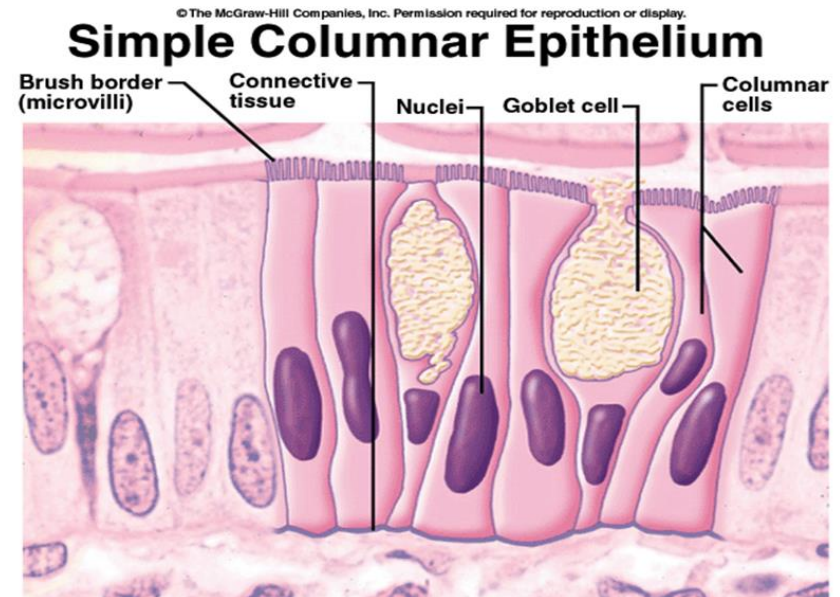
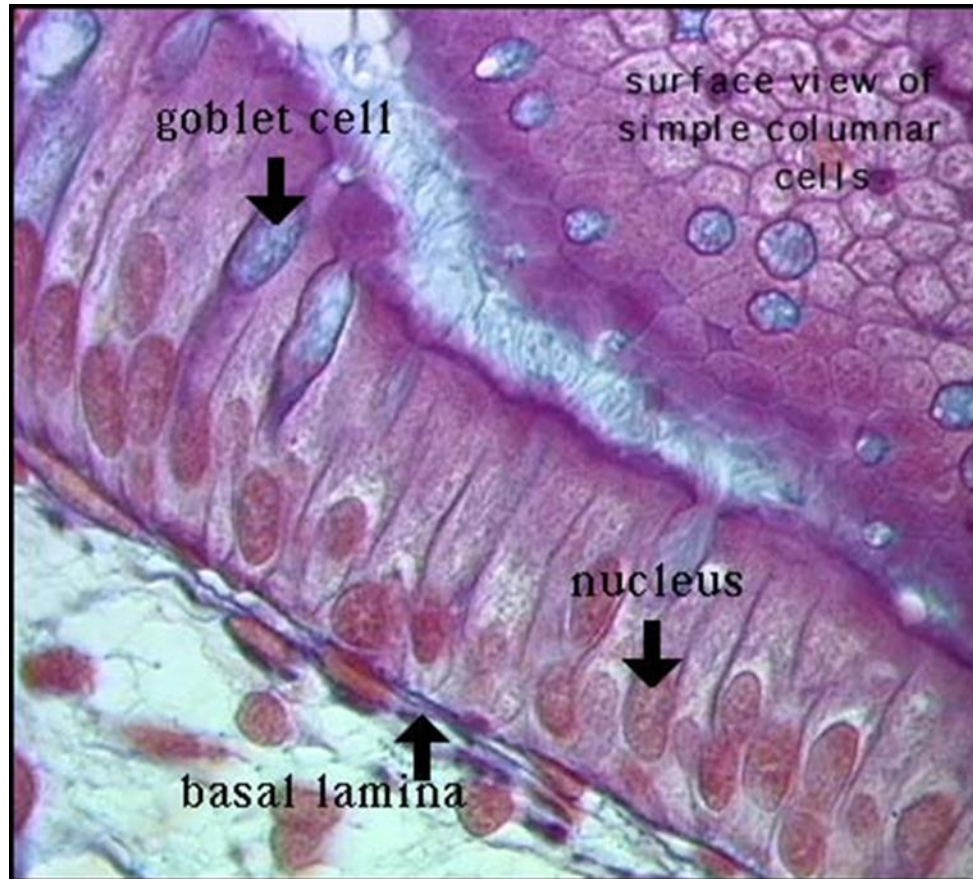
© The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Permission required for reproduction or display.

## Pseudostratified Epithelium





# Exocrine Glands (Goblet cells)



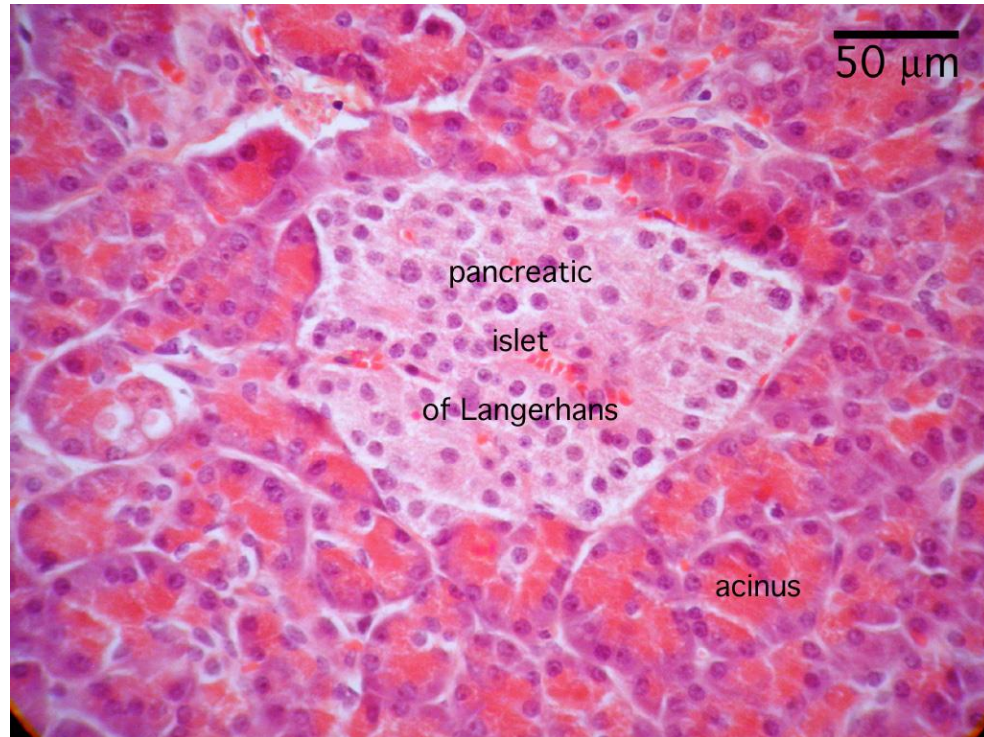
# Endocrine Gland

Tissue source:  
pancreas (islets of Langerhans)

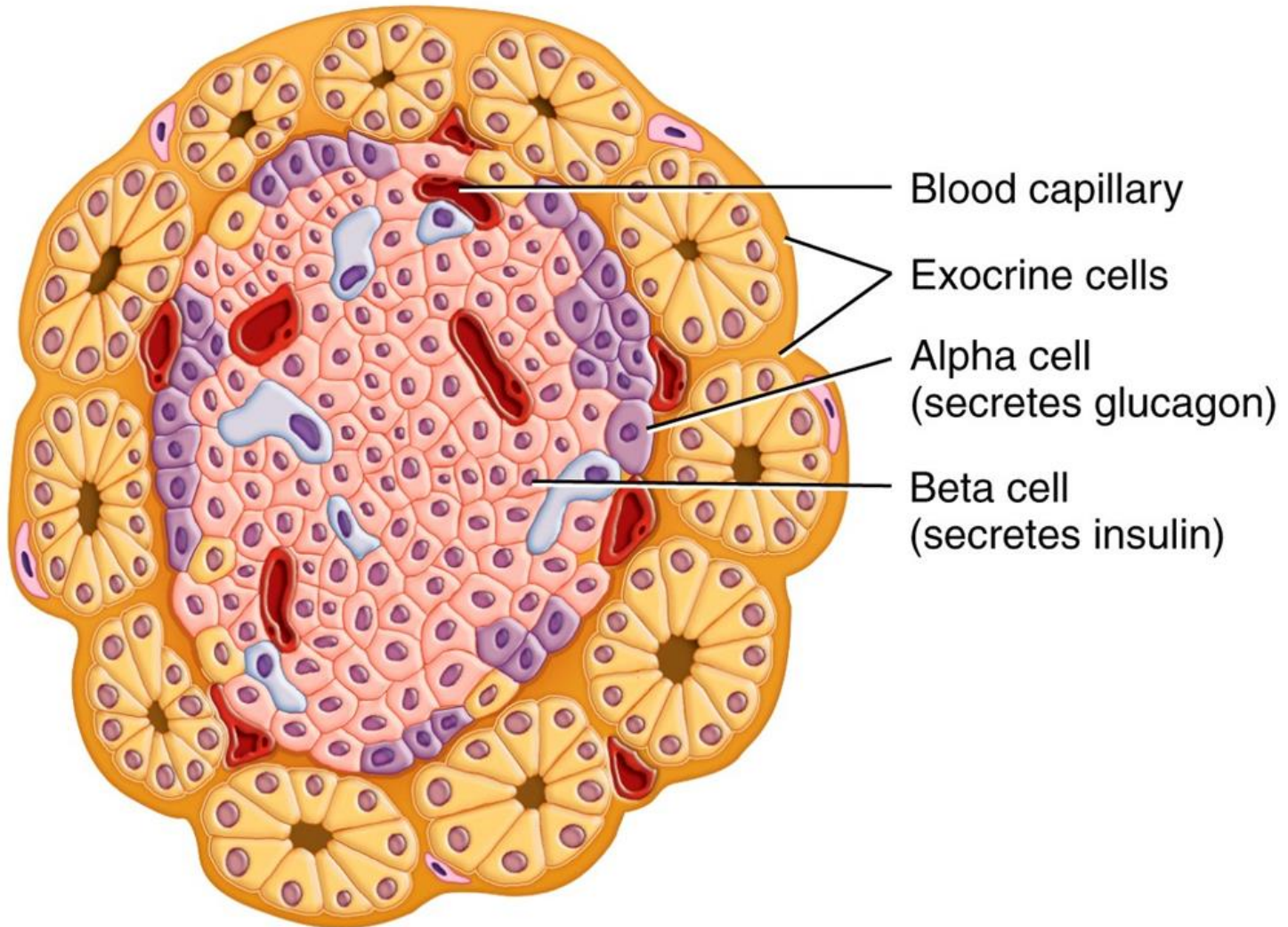
- Cell Types

Alpha cells- glucagon

Beta cells - insulin







Pancreatic islet and surrounding acini

# Exocrine Gland

Tissue source: (pancreatic acini cells)

