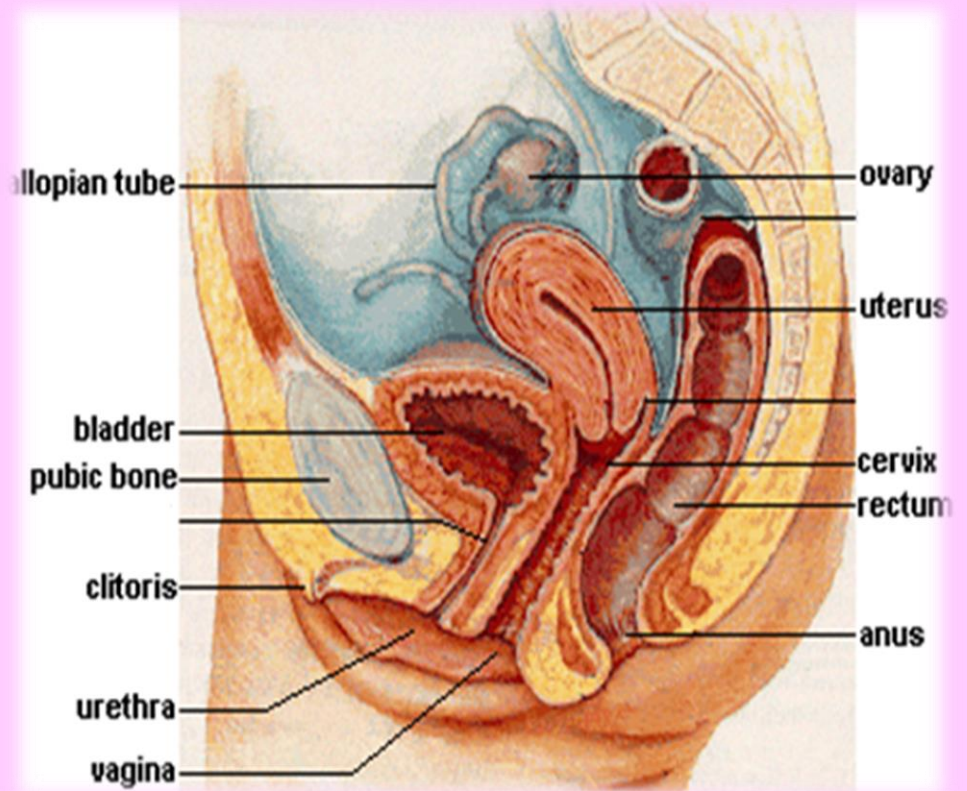
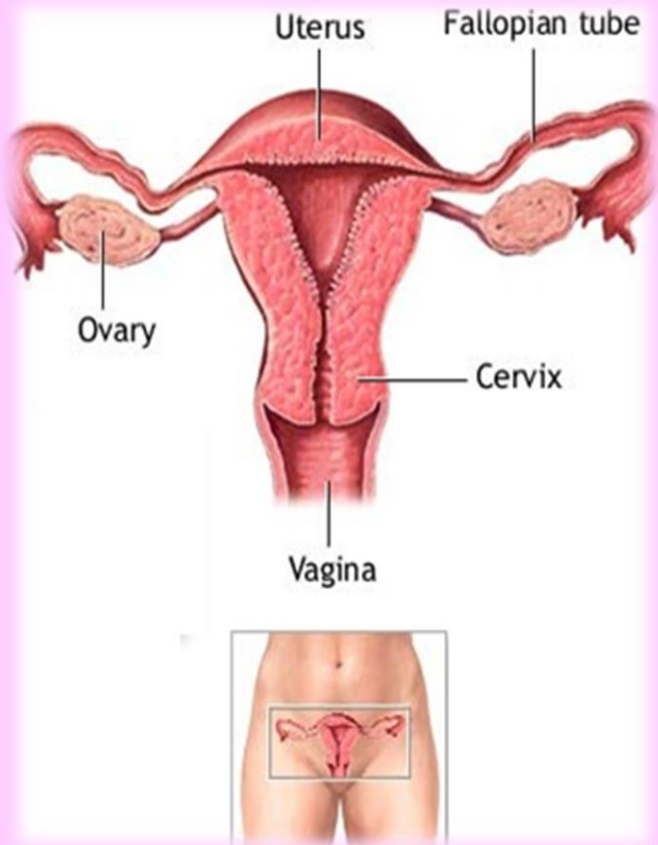




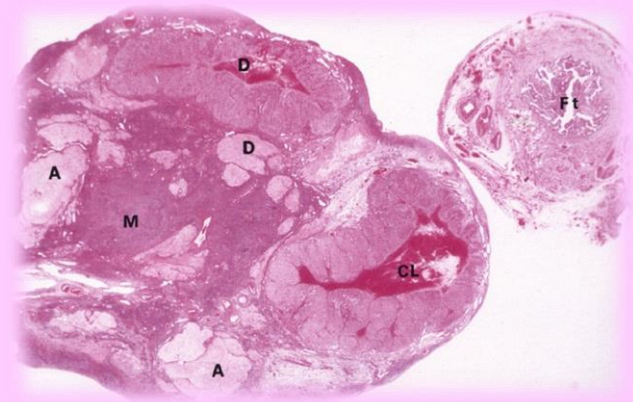
FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

General view



From the inside to the outside

OVARY

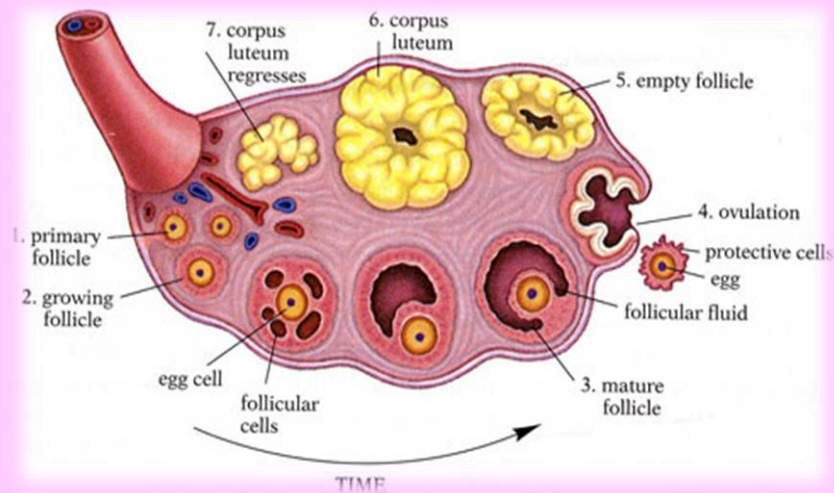


- The gamete-producing organ.
- They develop and expel an ovum each month.
- A woman is born with approximately 400,000 immature eggs called **follicles**.

- During a lifetime a woman release @ 400 to 500 fully matured eggs for fertilization.
- The follicles in the ovaries produce the female sex hormones, progesterone and estrogen.
- These hormones prepare the uterus for implantation of the fertilized egg.

Inside the ovary

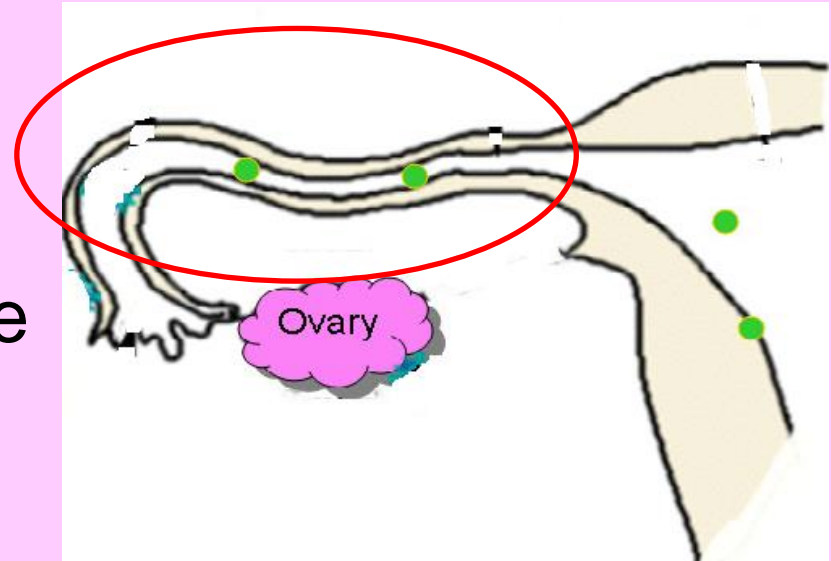
- **Follicle:** Layer of cells that surrounds a immature egg.
- **Ovule (ovum):** mature egg that retains most of the cytoplasm, which provides nutrients during the early stage of development.



- **Corpus luteum:** the structure that forms from the ruptured follicle in the ovary after ovulation. It secretes hormones.
- **Hormone:** Substance that is secreted by cells that help in the regulation of body activities.

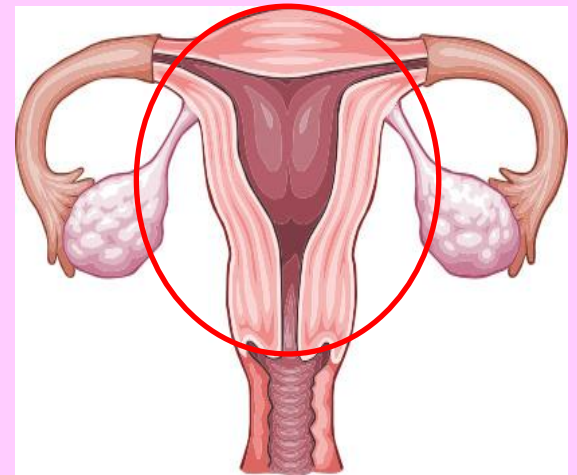
OVIDUCT

- Serve as a pathway for the ovum to the Uterus.
- Are the site of fertilization by the male sperm.
- Often referred to as the oviducts or uterine tubes
- Fertilized egg takes approximately 6 to 10 days to travel through the fallopian tube to implant in the uterine lining

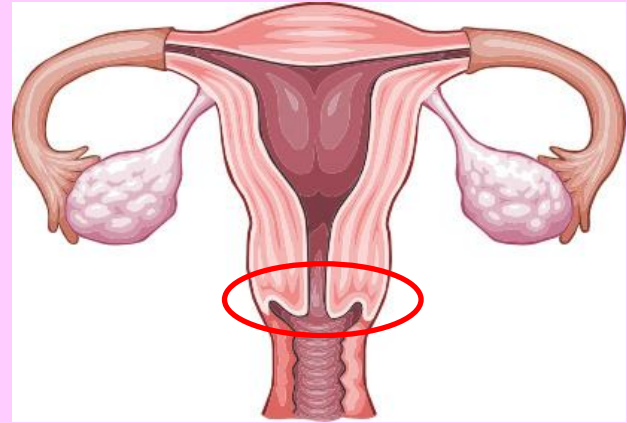


UTERUS

- Commonly referred to as the womb.
- A pear shaped organ about the size of a fist.
- It is made up of the **endometrium** (blood-enriched tissue that sloughs off each month during menstrual cycle).
- The powerful muscles of the uterus expand to help a growing fetus and push it through the birth canal.

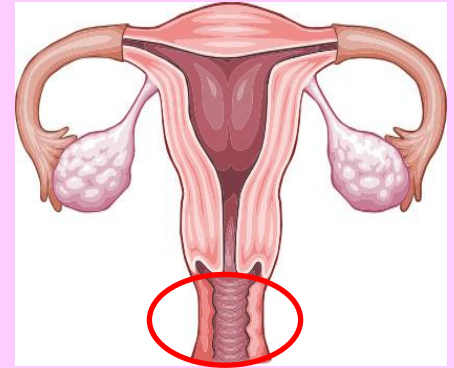
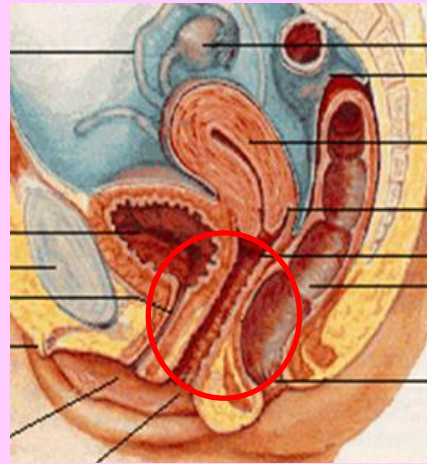


CERVIX



- Connects the uterus to the vagina.
- The cervical opening to the vagina is small.
- This acts as a safety precaution against foreign bodies entering the uterus
- During childbirth, the cervix dilates to accommodate the passage of the fetus.
- This dilation is a sign that labor has begun.

VAGINA



- Connects the cervix to the external genitals.

Its functions :

- As a passageway for the menstrual flow.
- For uterine secretions.
- As the birth canal during labor.
- With the help of two Bartholin's glands becomes lubricated during sexual intercourse.

VULVA

Refers to those parts that are outwardly visible

The vulva includes:

- Mons pubis
- Labia majora
- Labia minora
- Clitoris
- Urethral opening
- Vaginal opening
- Perineum

