





### <u>What are epithelia</u>?

A. simple definition - "a layer of cells with a free surface"

B. better definition - single or multiple layers of cells characterized by,

1. a layer or layers composed of closely aggregated, polyhedral cells

2. one side of cell layer(s) has a free surface

3. little intercellular substance between cells

4. cells cohere (stick) strongly to each other

5. cells form a sheet that covers a surface

In embryonic terms we can say that epithelia are derived from all 3 major germ layers, i.e. ectoderm, mesoderm, endoderm.

# **Functions of Epithelia**

A. Covering and lining surfaces (a barrier) and Protection

Examples:

a. skin

b. epithelial cells (endothelium) lining blood vessels,c. mesothelium of peritoneal cavity (coelom)

### Functions of epithelia

B. Regulation of materials and sensory information passing between, into, or out of organs/tissues

- 1. absorption (e.g. tall columnar epithelium of intestine)
- 2. secretion (e.g. epithelial lining of glands)
- 3. sensation (e.g. sensory cells, neuroepithelium taste buds)
- 4. lubrication (e.g. mucus secreting epithelium of digestive tract)

C. In some cases contractility (e.g. myoepithelium - often associated with glands such as sweat and mammary glands)

# **Basement Membrane**





# **Classification of Epithelia**

Epithelia mainly classified into 2 sorts: **Covering epithelia : Cells arranged like membrane** Localization: covering the outer surface of the body and the inner surface of the cavities ,Sacs or ducts within the body. Function: Protection. **Glandular epithelia :** Function- Secretion

# **Covering epithelia**

Principles of the classification:

Shape of the cells: Squamous epithelia Cuboidal epithelia Columnar epithelia

Layers of the cells: simple epithelia stratified epithelia



### Squamous



### Cuboidal



### Columnar





	Simple	Stratified	
Squamous			
	Simple squamous epithelium	Stratified squamous epithelium	
Cuboidal			
	Simple cuboidal epithelium	Stratified cuboidal epithelium	Pseudostratified
Columnar			
	Simple columnar epithelium	Stratified columnar epithelium	Pseudostratified columnar epithelium

### Simple squamous epithelium

**Description:** Single layer of flattened cells with disc-shaped central nuclei and sparse cytoplasm; the simplest of the epithelia.



**Function:** Allows passage of materials by diffusion and filtration in sites where protection is not important; secretes lubricating substances in serosae.

**Location:** Kidney glomeruli; air sacs of lungs; lining of heart, blood vessels, and lymphatic vessels; lining of ventral body cavity (serosae).





**Photomicrograph:** Simple squamous epithelium forming part of the alveolar (air sac) walls (125x).

# Localization

endothelium : heart, blood vessles lymphatics

squamous

epithelia

Simple

mesothelium : Pericardium, pleura peritoneum

others : alveoli of the lungs, glomeruli in the kidney, etc

### Endothelium



### Endothelium





## Mesothelium





## Simple cuboidal epithelium

**Description:** Single layer of cubelike cells with large, spherical central nuclei.



**Function:** Secretion and absorption.

**Location:** Kidney tubules; ducts and secretory portions of small glands; ovary surface.





**Photomicrograph:** Simple cuboidal epithelium in kidney tubules (430x).

Spherical, large nuclei

#### LUMEN

Apical surface 🗡

Basement

**Cuboidal Cell** 





Thyroid gland



Ovary

### Simple columnar epithelium

**Description:** Single layer of tall cells with *round* to *oval* nuclei; some cells bear cilia; layer may contain mucussecreting unicellular glands (goblet cells).



**Function:** Absorption; secretion of mucus, enzymes, and other substances; ciliated type propels mucus (or reproductive cells) by ciliary action.

**Location:** Nonciliated type lines most of the digestive tract (stomach to anal canal), gallbladder, and excretory ducts of some glands; ciliated variety lines small bronchi, uterine tubes, and some regions of the uterus.





**Photomicrograph:** Simple columnar epithelium of the stomach mucosa (860X).



FIGURE 19.13 
Uterus: secretory (luteal) phase. Stain: hematoxylin and eosin. Low magnification.



#### CHAPTER 19 – Female Reproductive System 393

### **Uterus**





IGURE 19,9 🔳 Uterme tabe: mucosai foids (early promerative phase), stain, increatory in and eosin, might magnimized





Wall of the gallbladder. Stain: hematoxylin and eosin. Low magnification. FIGURE 14.9

### **Stratified squamous epithelium**

**Description:** Thick membrane composed of several cell layers; basal cells are cuboidal or columnar and metabolically active; surface cells are flattened (squamous); in the keratinized type, the surface cells are full of keratin and dead; basal cells are active in mitosis and produce the cells of the more superficial layers.



**Function:** Protects underlying tissues in areas subjected to abrasion.

**Location:** Nonkeratinized type forms the moist linings of the esophagus, mouth, and vagina; keratinized variety forms the epidermis of the skin, a dry membrane.





**Photomicrograph:** Stratified squamous epithelium lining the esophagus (285x).



#### Str squamous (1-Non Ker: vagina, 2- Ker: thin & thick skin)







### **Stratified cuboidal epithelium**

#### FIGURE 2.10 🔳 Stratified Cuboidal Epithelium: Excretory Duct in Salivary Gland

Stratified cuboidal epithelium has a limited distribution and is seen in only a few organs. The larger excretory ducts in the salivary glands and in the pancreas are lined the stratified cuboidal epithelium. This figure illustrates a high-power photomicrograph of a large excretory duct of a salivary gland. The luminal lining consists of two layers of cuboidal cells, forming the stratified cuboidal epithelium (1). Surrounding the excretory duct are collagen fibers of the connective tissue (2,7) and blood vessels (3, 5) that are lined by simple squamous epithelium called endothelium (4,6).



FIGURE 2.10 🔳 Stratified cuboidal epithelium: excretory duct in salivary gland. Stain: hematoxylin and eosin. 100×



Sweat gland duct



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anatomyandphysiology\_Stratified cuboidal epithelium:

Stratified cuboidal epithelium has a limited distribution in the body, largely seen in larger size exocrine gland ducts. This example above is the duct of a sweat gland (blue dotted line). Notice that the secretory

### **Stratified columnar epithelium**



#### **Pseudo-stratified columnar epithelium**

**Description:** Single layer of cells of differing heights, some not reaching the free surface; nuclei seen at different levels; may contain mucussecreting cells and bear cilia.



Function: Secretion, particularly of mucus; propulsion of mucus by ciliary action.

**Location:** Nonciliated type in male's sperm-carrying ducts and ducts of large glands; ciliated variety lines the trachea, most of the upper respiratory tract.





Photomicrograph: Pseudostratified ciliated columnar epithelium lining the human trachea (570x).

membrane

### **Pseudo-stratified ciliated columnar epithelium**



**Description:** single layer of cells of differing heights, but some don't reach the free surface. Nuclei are seen at many different levels. They contain goblet cells and cilia.

Function: secretion & propulsion of mucus

Locations: I the trachea & most of the upper respiratory trac

	5.9	00/20
Core of a villus	Epithelium Goblet cell	the start
	Brush border	

- Shapes vary in height
- Nuclei at different levels appear stratified, but aren't.
- All cells reach basement membrane; only a few reach the surface





FIGURE 2.6 Pseudostratified columnar ciliated epithelium: respiratory passages (trachea). Stain: hematoxylin and eosin. High magnification.



### **Transitional epithelium**

**Description:** Resembles both stratified squamous and stratified cuboidal; basal cells cuboidal or columnar; surface cells dome shaped or squamouslike, depending on degree of organ stretch.



**Function:** Stretches readily and permits distension of urinary organ by contained urine.

**Location:** Lines the ureters, urinary bladder, and part of the urethra.





**Photomicrograph:** Transitional epithelium lining the urinary bladder, relaxed state (360X); note the bulbous, or rounded, appearance of the cells at the surface; these cells flatten and become elongated when the bladder is filled with urine.



- several layers of epithelial cells
- the shape of the cells of the top layer changes from dome-shaped to squamous-like depending of the degree of organ stretch

▼ STRATIFIED TRANSITIONAL EPITHELIUM

# **Special structure of apical surface**



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#### 1. microvilli( Brush border)







FIGURE 16.3 Kidney cortex: juxtaglomerular apparatus. Stain: periodic acid-Schiff and hematoxylin. Medium magnification.



### 2.stericilia



#### 3. cilium







# **Glandular epithelium**



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FIGURE 2.13 Colled tubular exocrine glands: sweat glands. (A) Diagram of gland. (B) Cross section. Stain: hematoxylin and eosin. Medium magnification.



FIGURE 2.14 Compound acinar exocrine gland: mammary gland. (A) Diagram of gland. (B) During lactation. Stain: hematoxylin and eosin. (A) Low magnification. (B) Medium magnification.











# **Myo-epithelial cells**





## **APUD cells**

(amine precursor uptake and decarboxylation)



Simple squamous epithelial tissue



# Where in the body would you find this tissue?

lungs

Simple squamous epithelial tissue (superior view)



Simple cuboidal epithelial tissue



Where in the body would you find this tissue?

Kidneys (tubules)

The lining of the kidney glomerulus (sing.)/glomeruli (pl.) is simple squamous epithelial tissue

Simple columnar epithelial tissue



Where in the body would you find this tissue?

small intestine

#### Pseudostratified (ciliated) columnar epithelial tissue

"false layered"; it looks like more than one layer, but it is not



#### Where in the body would you find this tissue?

trachea lining

#### What kind of tissue does this represent? Stratified squamous epithelial tissue



Where in the body would you find this tissue? mouth lining

Stratified cuboidal epithelial tissue



#### Where in the body would you find this tissue?

salivary glands, sweat glands

#### What kind of tissue does this represent? Transitional epithelial tissue



Where in the body would you find this tissue?

empty bladder

Transitional epithelial tissue



Where in the body would you find this tissue?

distended (full) bladder

