

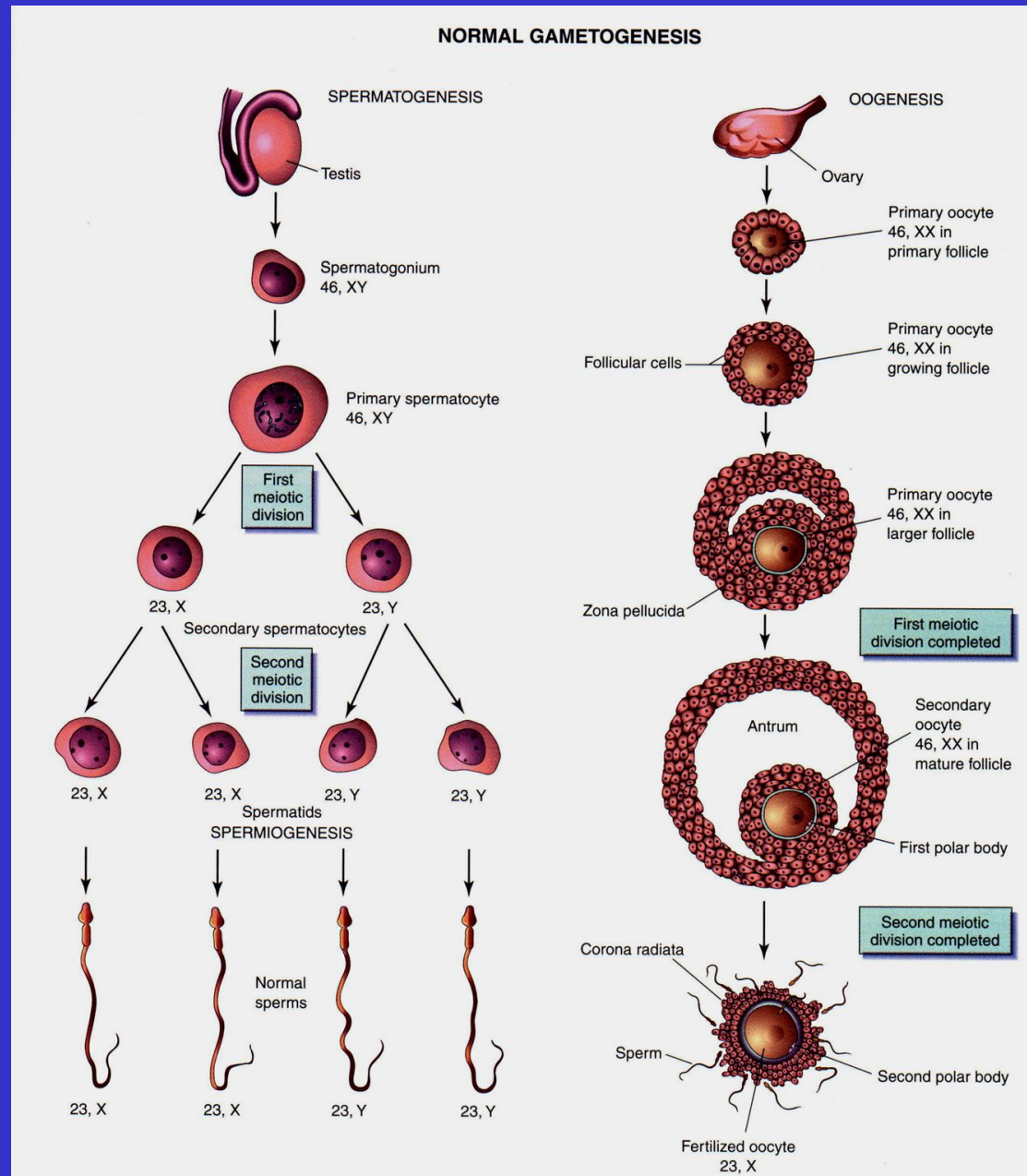
# The Beginning of Human Development

C.L. Chien, 2002

Gametogenesis  
(gamete formation)  
gametes—sperms and oocytes

Spermatogenesis  
(Sperm formation)

Oogenesis  
(Oocyte formation)



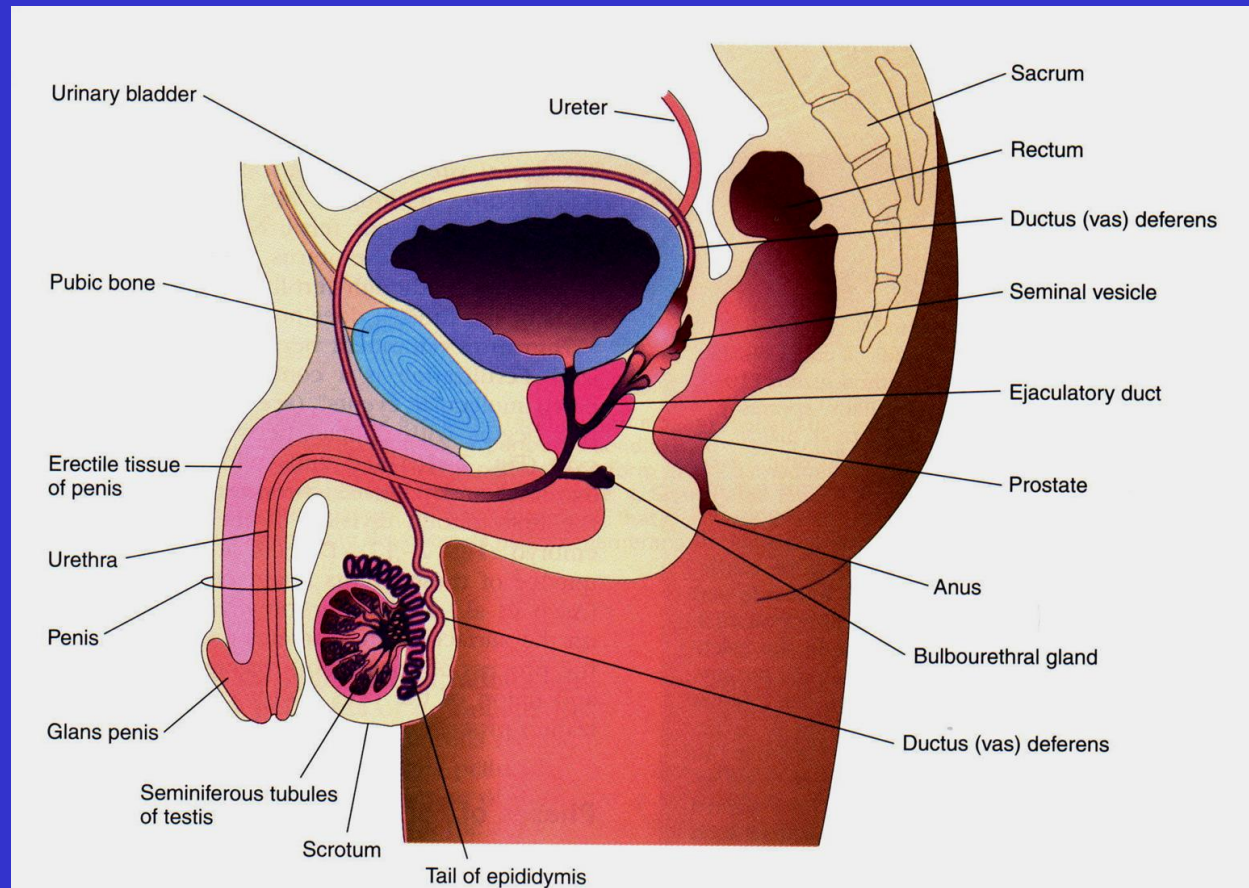
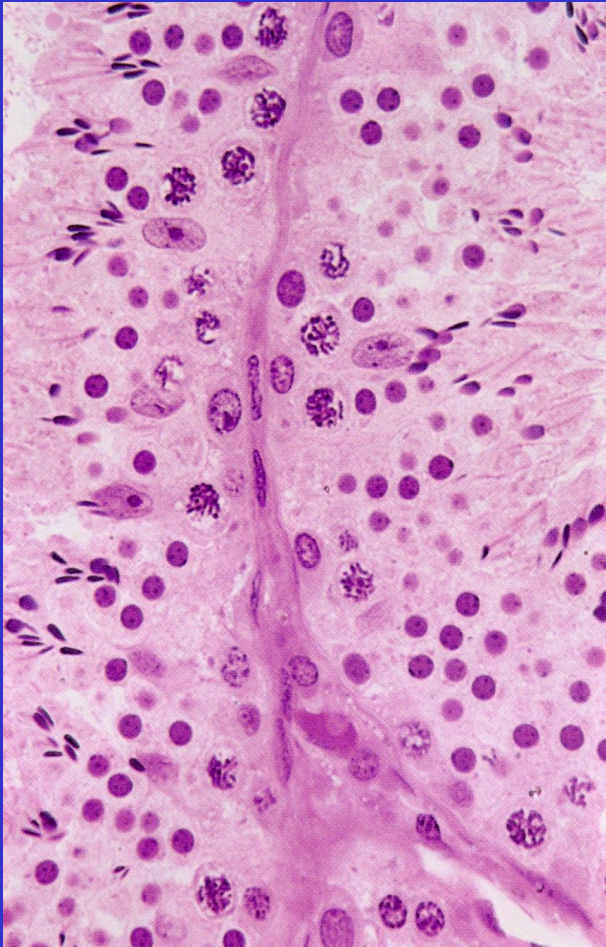
# Spermatogenesis

## Sertoli cells

- support and nurture the germ cells
- regulation of spermatogenesis

## Mature sperm

- a free-swimming, actively motile cell
- enter the lumina of seminiferous tubules
- epididymis (store and become mature) → ductus deferens → urethra



■ **Figure 2-15.** Sagittal section of the male pelvis primarily to show the male reproductive system.

# Spermatogenesis

mitosis

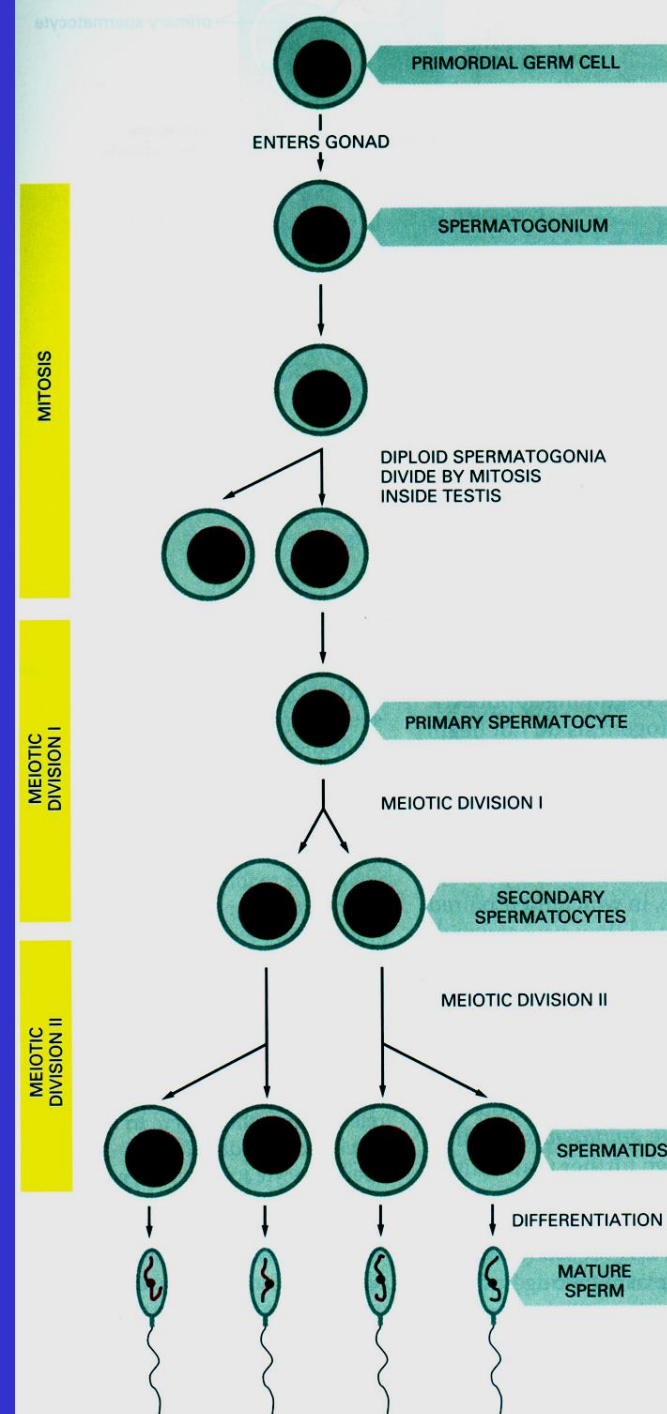
spermatogonia ----- primary spermatocyte (46, XY)

meiosis I

----- secondary spermatocytes (haploid; 23, X; 23, Y)

meiosis II

----- spermatids (haploid, x4) → **spermiogenesis (transformation)** → sperms (x4)

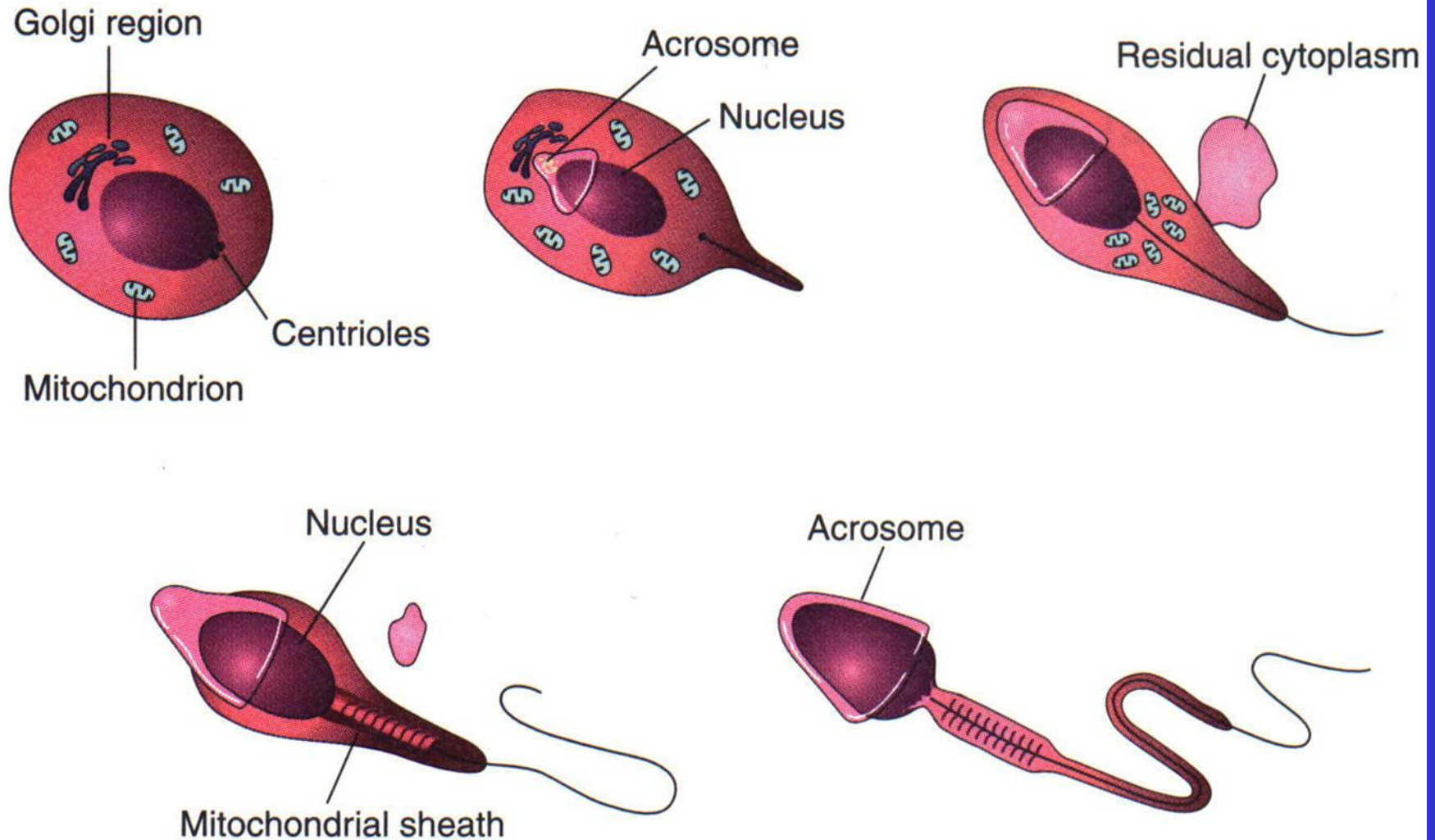




# Spermiogenesis (transformation)

## Mature sperm

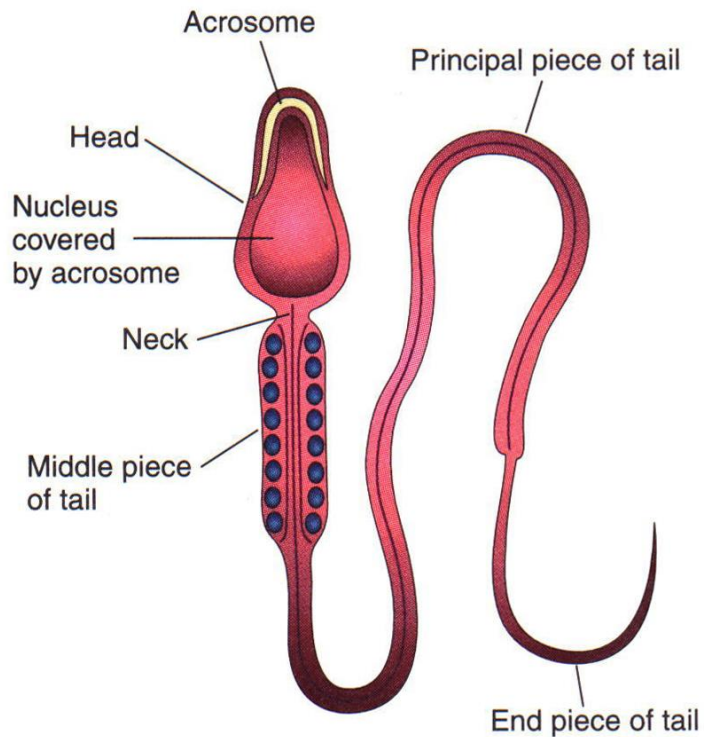
-- a free-swimming, actively motile cell



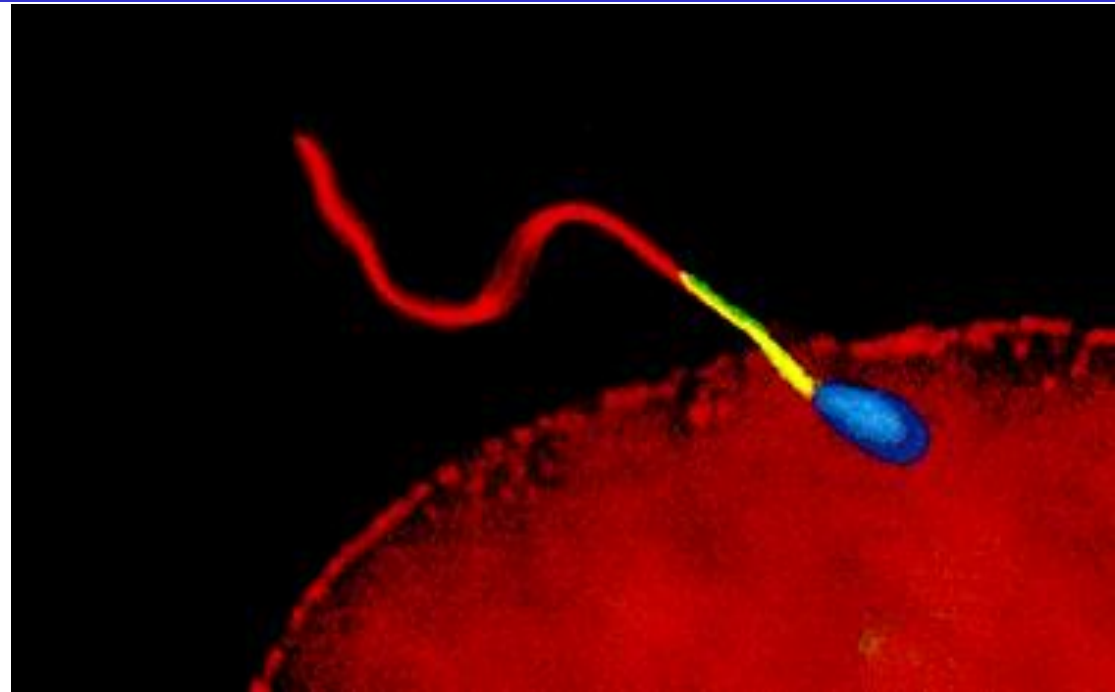


# Structure of mature sperm:

- a *head* contains haploid nucleus
  - acrosome (acrosin, one of the enzymes); produced by Golgi apparatus
  - facilitate sperm penetration of corona radiata and zona pellucida during fertilization
- a *tail* contains three segments:
  1. middle piece (mid-piece): contains mitochondria
  2. principle piece
  3. end piece: provides the motility of the sperm



A



B

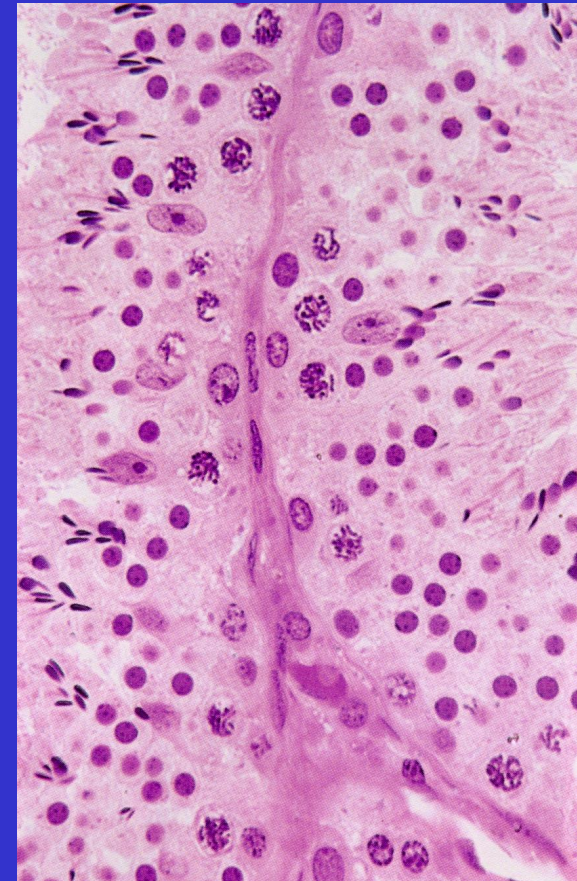
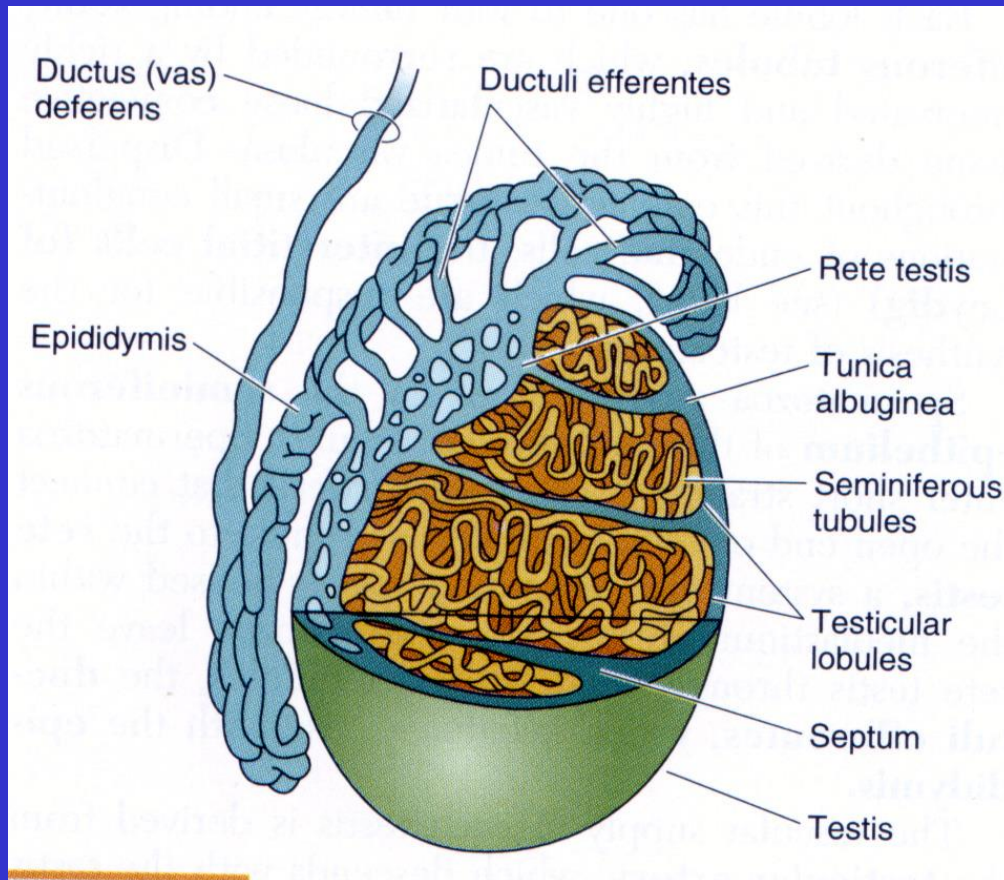
C

# Xenogenic spermatogenesis

referred to the possibility of transplantation of spermatogonial stem cells across species  
*e.g: rat to mouse*

## ENU mice

Mutagenesis of mouse spermatogonia by injection of **N-ethyl-N-nitrosourea (ENU)**  
**Mouse models for human diseases**



## Oogenesis: Oogonia → mature oocytes

## ***Prenatal maturation of oocytes***

mitosis                                          meiosis I

oogonia ----- primary oocytes (before birth) ----->

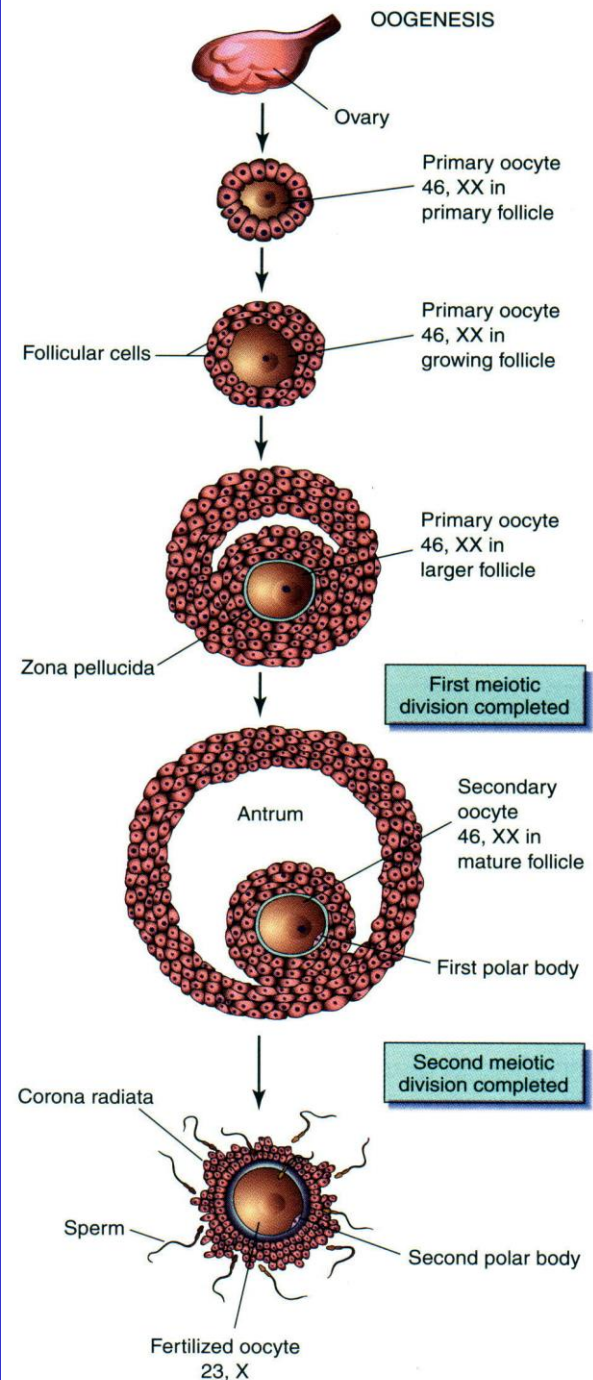
----- primordial follicle (primary oocyte + follicular epithelial cell)

→ primary follicle (primary oocyte + cuboidal to columnar epithelial cells)

→ secondary follicle [primary oocyte surrounding by zona pellucida + cuboidal follicular cells ( $> 1$  layer)]

→ oocyte maturation inhibitor (**OMI**); to keep the meiosis arrested)

→primary oocytes remain in suspended prophase I  
(dictyotene核網期)





## ***Postnatal maturation of oocyte***

- no primary oocytes form after birth
- long duration of meiosis I → nondisjunction may occur (in older ladies)

## ***Primary oocyte (46+ XX)***

1. increase in size (in primary follicle → growing f. → larger f. → mature f.)
2. completes the 1st meiotic division, shortly before ovulation
3. about 2 million in newborn female infant

## ***Secondary oocyte (23+ X)***

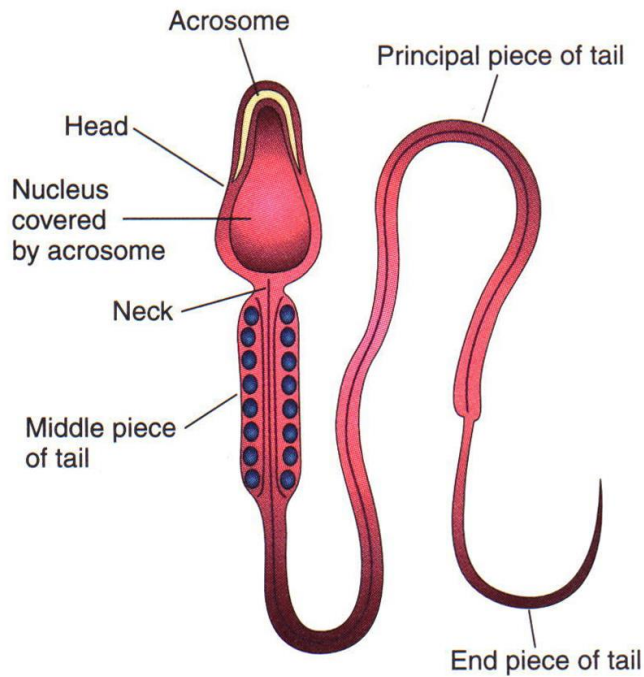
- begins the 2nd meiotic division (metaphase)
- 1st polar body (later on, degeneration)
- *if fertilization occurs*, the 2nd meiotic division is completed ⇒ fertilized oocyte; the 2nd polar body (later on, degeneration)

## ***The number of primary oocyte:***

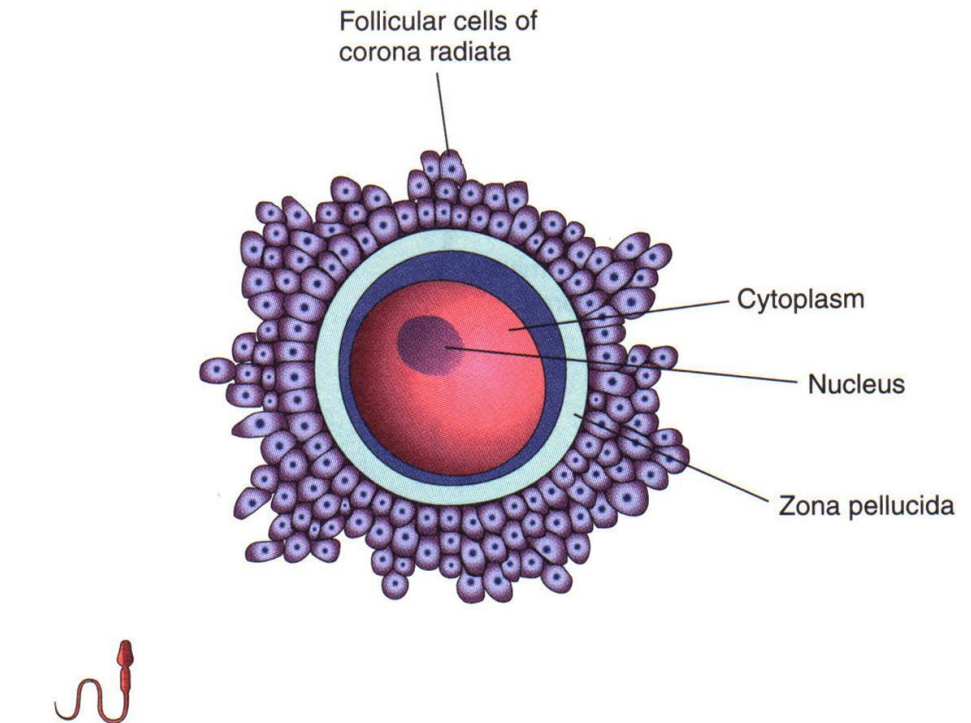
1. newborn female infant: about 2 million
2. adolescence: less than 40 thousand
3. about 400 → secondary oocytes (expelled at ovulation)

# Comparison of male and female gametes

|                        | Sperm         | Secondary oocyte               |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Size                   | small         | large                          |
| Motility               | motile        | immotile                       |
| Cytoplasm              | sparse        | abundant                       |
| Chromosome             | 23+X; 23+Y    | 23+X                           |
| Unique characteristics | head and tail | corona radiata, zona pellucida |



A



B

C

# Female reproductive cycles: Ovarian cycle

Development of the ovarian follicle

1. growth and differentiation of a primary oocyte
2. proliferation of follicular cells
3. formation of zona pellucida
4. development of the theca folliculi (Gr. *Theke*, box)
  - 4-1. theca interna: vascular and glandular layer
  - 4-2. theca externa: connective tissue
5. formation of antrum (filled with follicular fluid)  
secondary follicle → mature follicle (with cumulus oophorus)

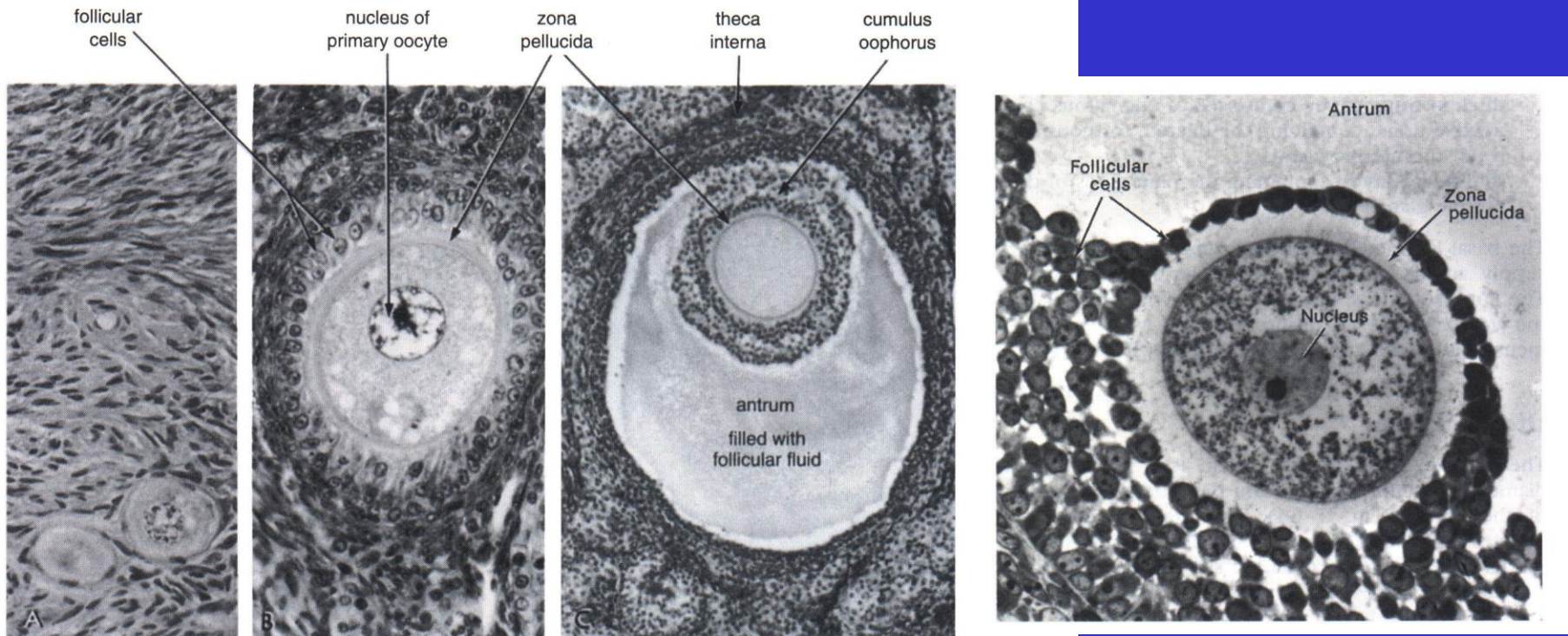


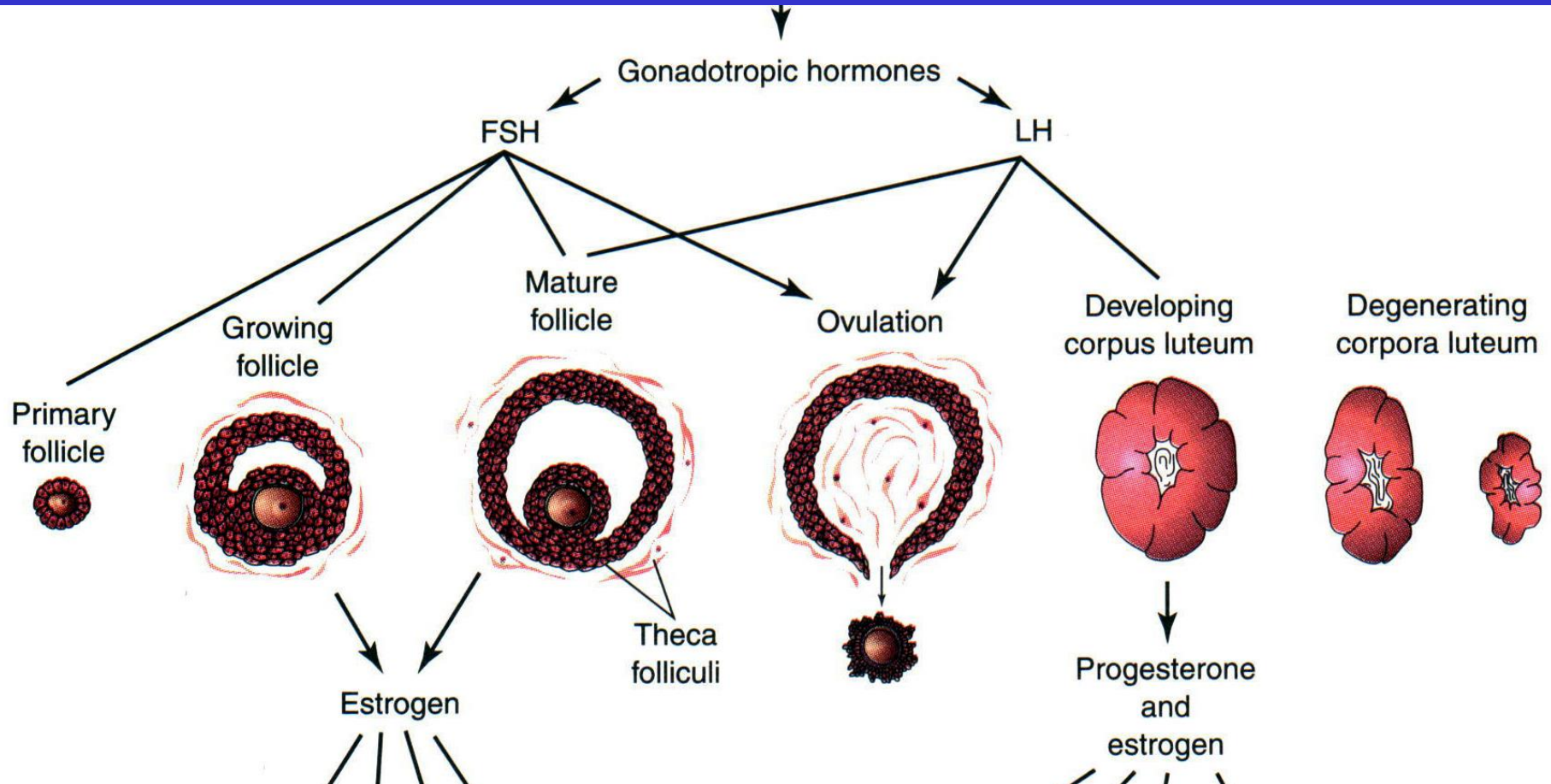
Figure 2-8. Photomicrographs of sections from adult human ovaries. A, Ovarian cortex showing two primordial follicles



**FSH:** stimulates the development of ovarian follicles

**FSH + LH:** maturation of follicular cells

**Estrogen:** produce by growing follicles and theca interna & interstitial glands of ovary



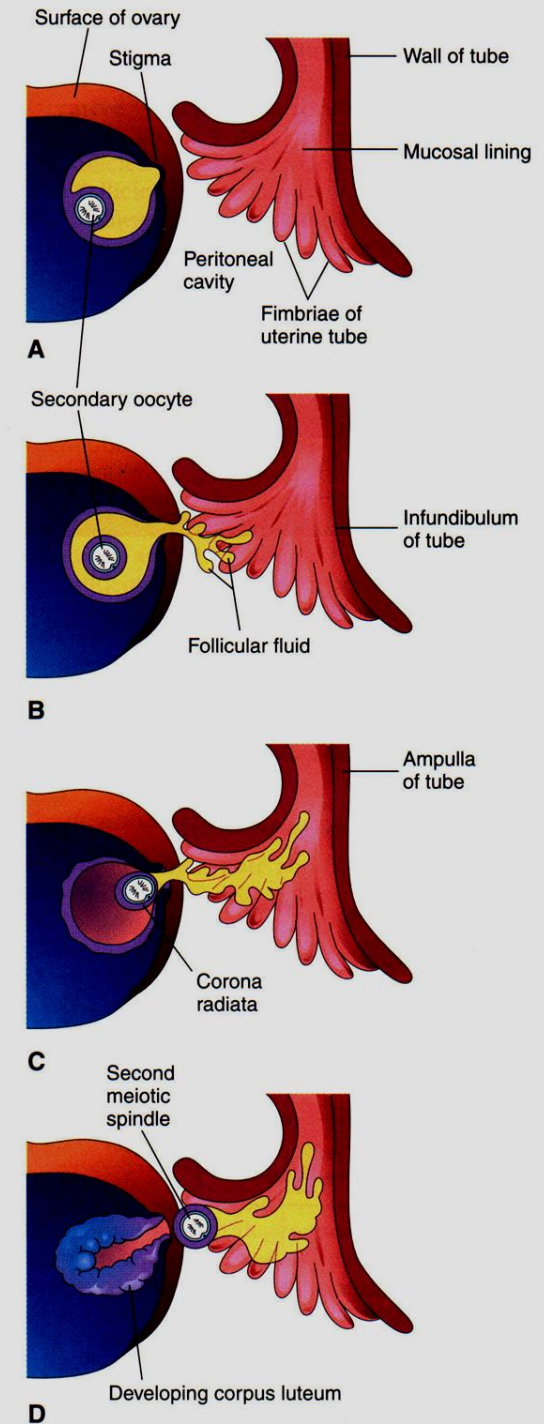
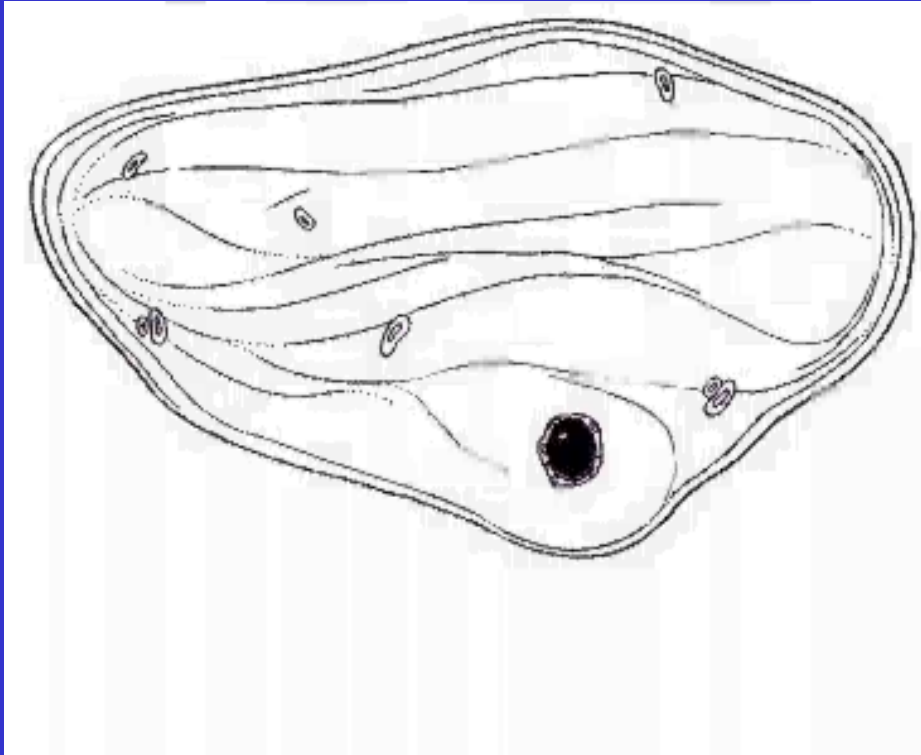
# Ovulation

is triggered by a surge of LH production: **LH surge**

**stigma** – avascular spot on the surface of ovarian follicle; secondary oocyte expels from this spot under the LH surge

**Cause of expulsion of oocyte:**

1. intrafollicular pressure
2. contraction of smooth muscle in the theca externa
3. enzymatic digestion of follicular wall

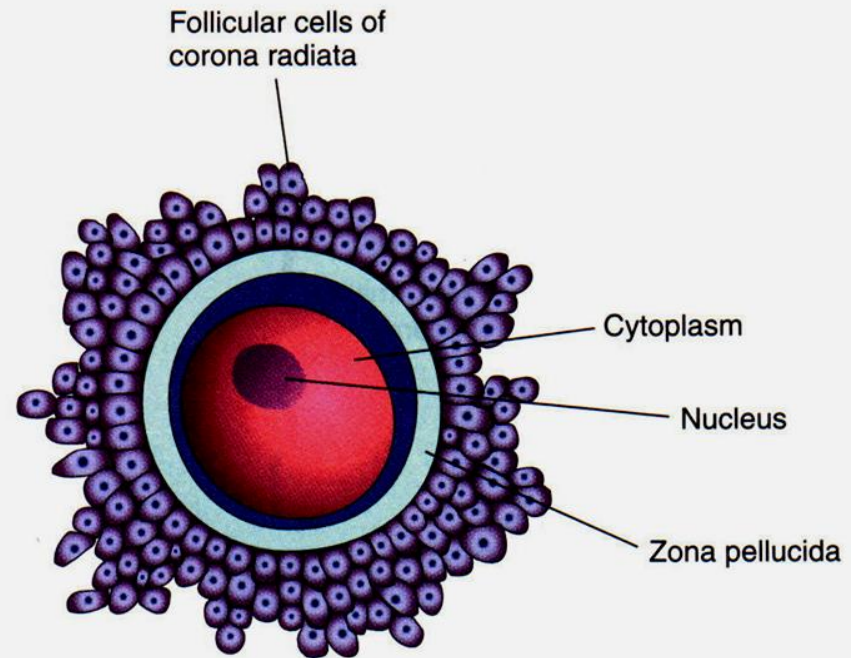
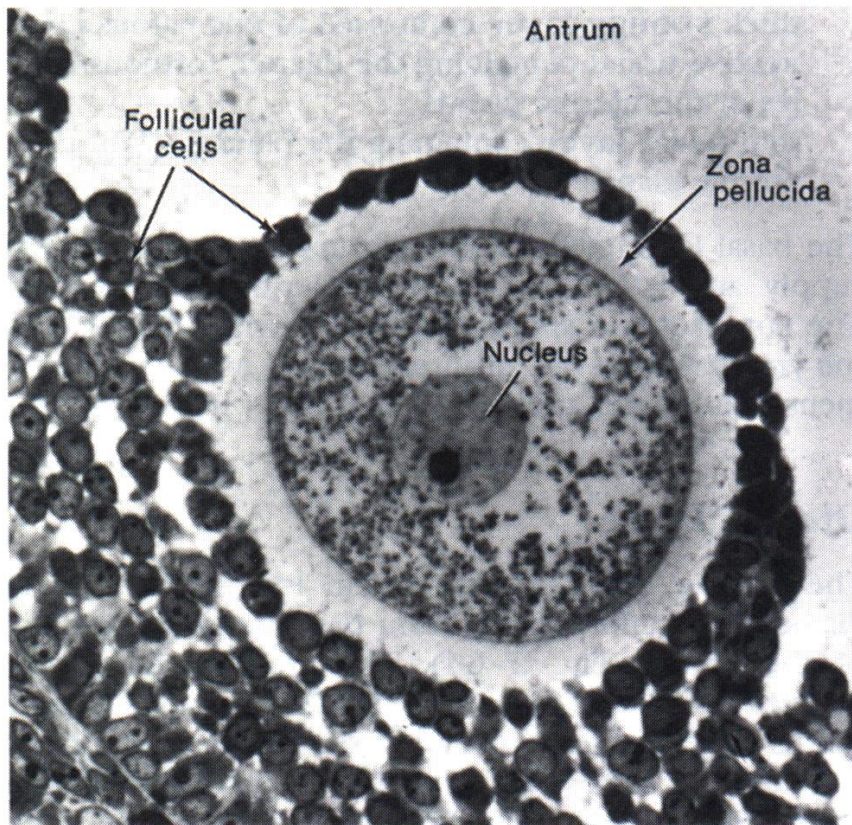




## *Structure of expelled secondary oocyte:*

surrounding by:

1. zona pellucida
2. corona radiata
3. cumulus oophorus



c



# Corpus luteum

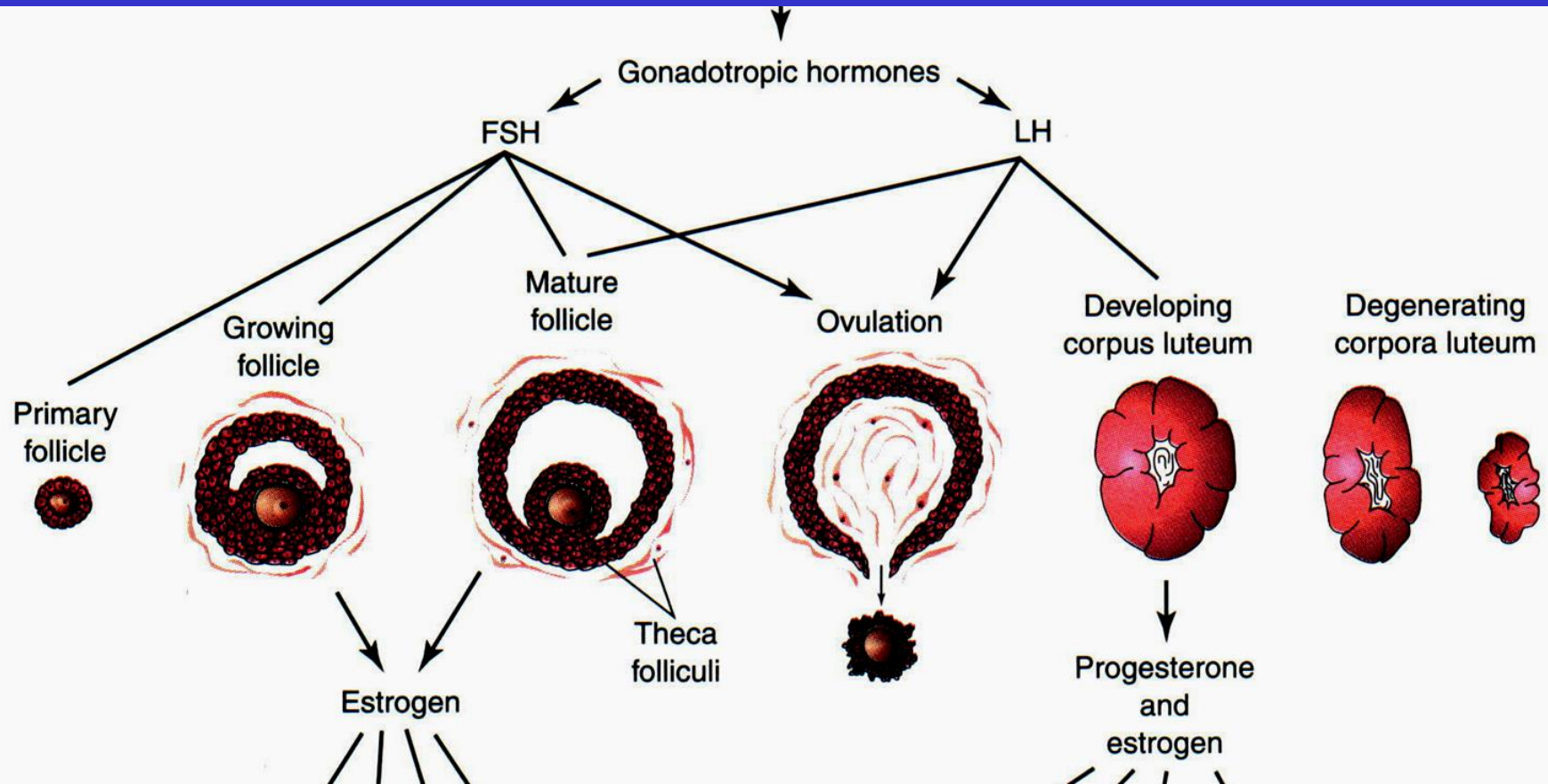
*after ovulation*: ovarian follicle  $\Rightarrow$  corpus luteum  $\rightarrow$  progesterone (mainly) & estrogen  
 $\rightarrow$  prepare the endometrium for implantation of blastocyst

## **\*fertilized: corpus luteum**

$\Rightarrow$  corpus luteum of pregnancy (for the first 20 week of pregnancy)

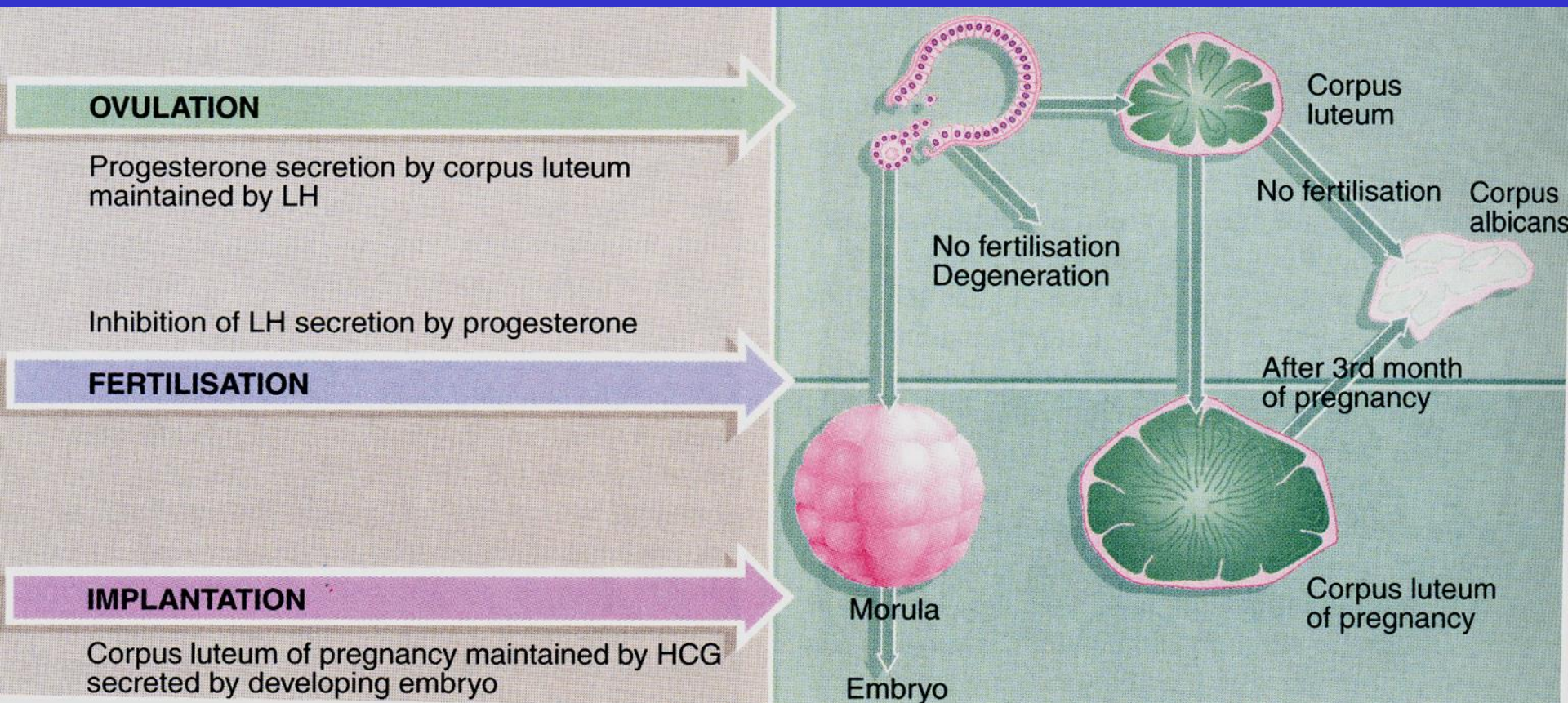
**hCG** -- secreted by syncytiotrophoblast of chorion

-- can prevent the degeneration of corpus luteum of pregnancy



**\*\*Not fertilized:**

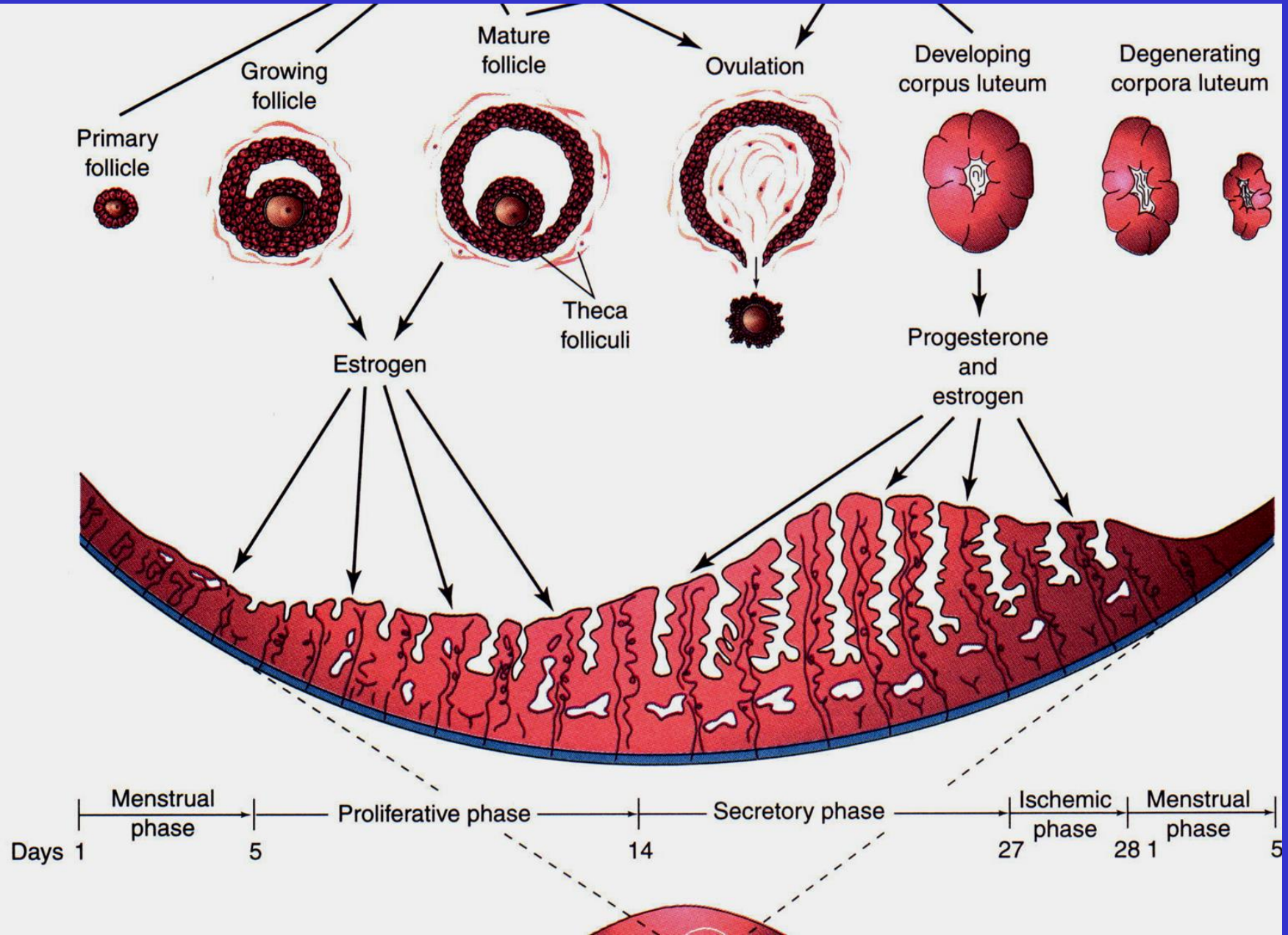
corpus luteum → involute degenerate (about 10 ~ 12 days after ovulation)  
→ corpus luteum of menstruation → transformed (white scar) → corpus albicans (atretic corpus luteum)





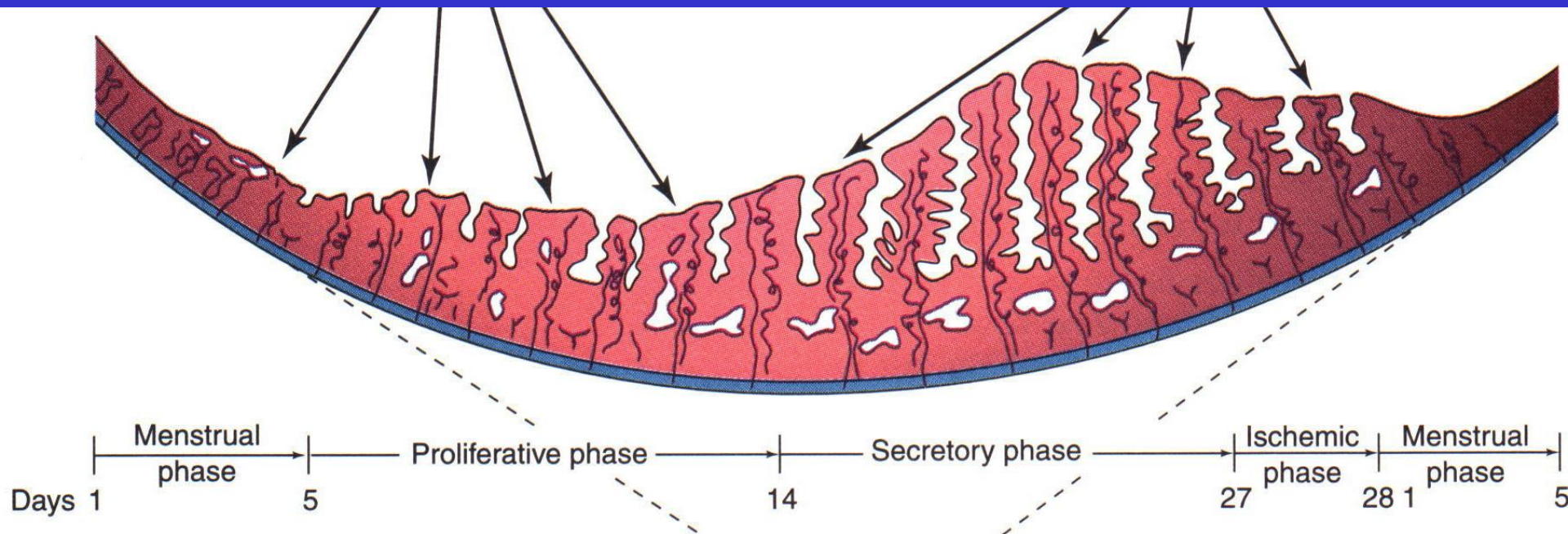
# Menstrual cycle

-- the length of menstrual cycle: 23– 35 days, average 28 days





# Menstrual cycle



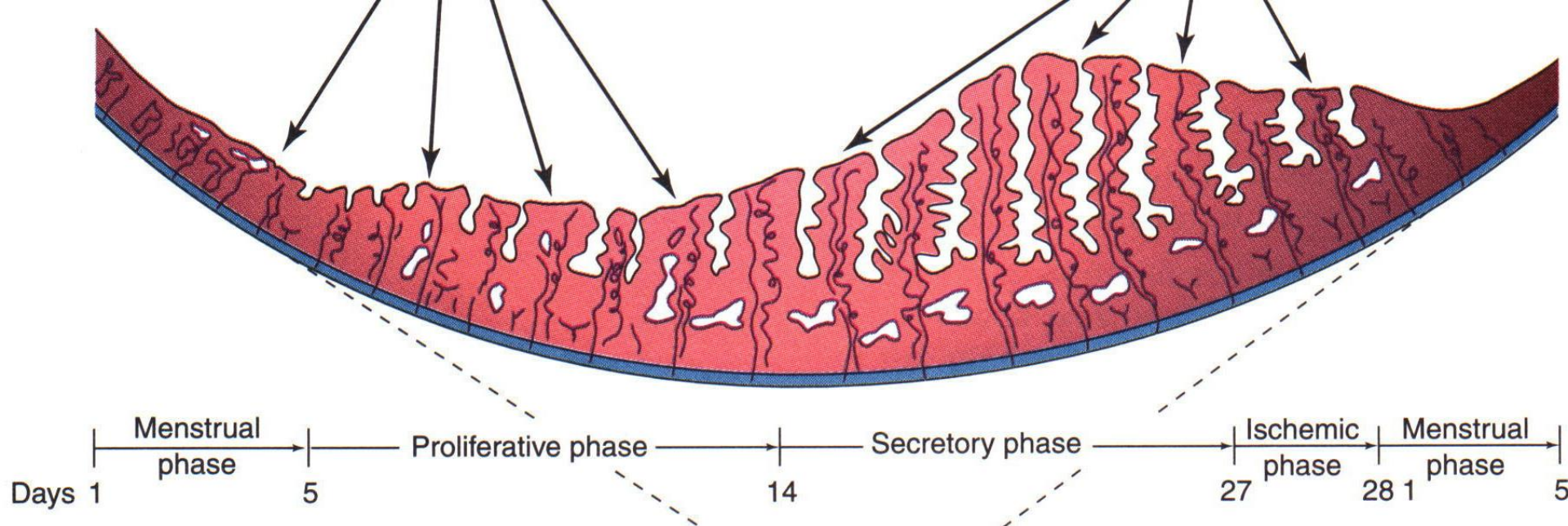
## Phases of menstrual cycle:

*Menstrual phase* -- lasts 4 – 5 days

- functional layer of uterine wall → sloughed off and discarded with menstrual flow
- eroded endometrium ⇒ thin

*Proliferative (estrogenic) phase* -- lasts about 9 days

- coincides with growth of ovarian follicles
- controlled by estrogen
- endometrium ⇒ thick;  
glands increase in number and length; spiral arteries. → elongates



**Secretory (progestational) phase** -- lasts 13 days

- coincides with the formation and growth of :
  - *corpus luteum* → progesterone & estrogen
  - endometrium → thick
  - spiral a.a. → reached to the superficial layer, coiled
  - venous network → lacunae ⇒ *direct arteriovenous anastomoses*

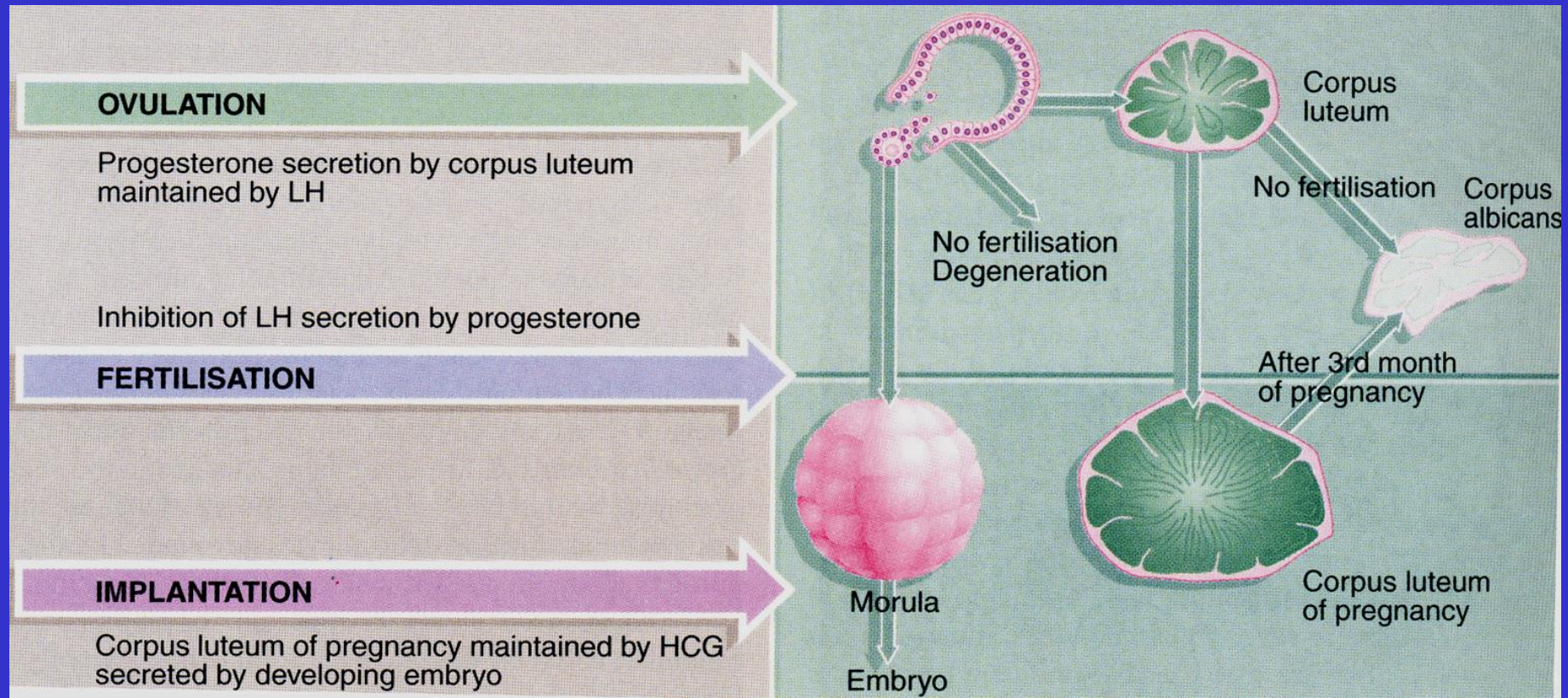
**If fertilization and pregnancy do not occur:** ischemic phase

- corpus luteum degenerates
- estrogen and progesterone decrease; secretory endometrium → ischemic phase
- menstruation occurs
- reproductive cycles normally continue until menopause



## If fertilization and pregnancy occur:

- cleavage of zygote and blastogenesis occur
- implantation of blastocyte
- endometrium (about 6th day of the secretory phase; day 20 of a 28-day cycle)
- syncytiotrophoblast → *hCG*
- corpus luteum of pregnancy → progesterone and estrogens
- secretory phase continues and menstruation does not occur
- endometrium → pregnancy phase
- \*\* with termination of pregnancy
- the ovarian and menstrual cycles resume (usually 6-10 weeks)

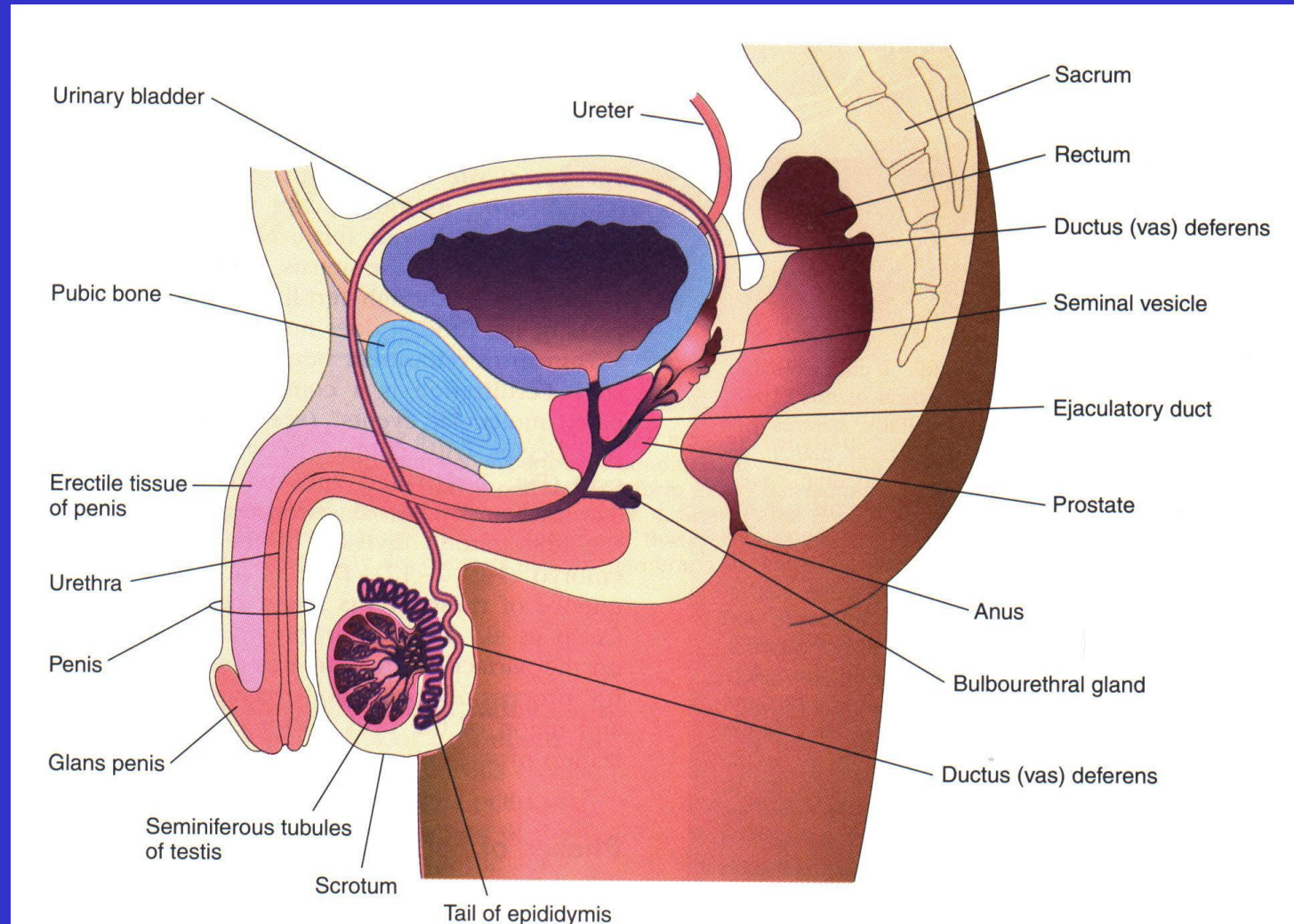




# Transportation of gametes

## Mature sperm

- a free-swimming, actively motile cell
- enter the lumina of seminiferous tubules
- epididymis (store and become mature) → ductus deferens → urethra



■ **Figure 2-15.** Sagittal section of the male pelvis primarily to show the male reproductive system.

# Maturation of sperms

**Capacitation:** a period of conditioning in the female reproductive tract, lasting ~7 hr

Major events occur during capacitation:

1. a glycoprotein coat and seminal proteins are removed from the surface of the sperm's acrosome
2. the membrane cholesterol/phospholipids ratio and membrane potential → altered

\* **Capacitated sperms:** more active

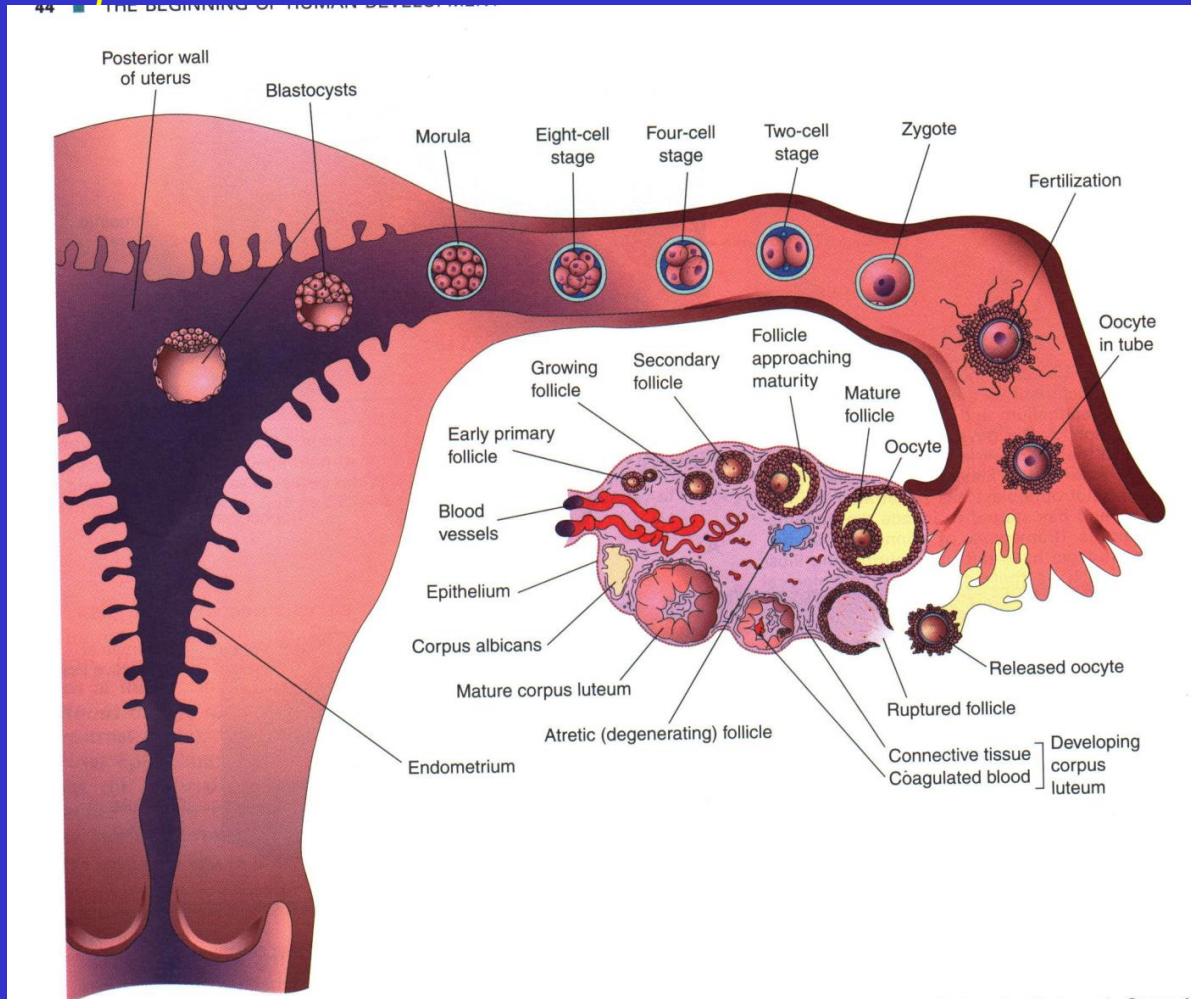


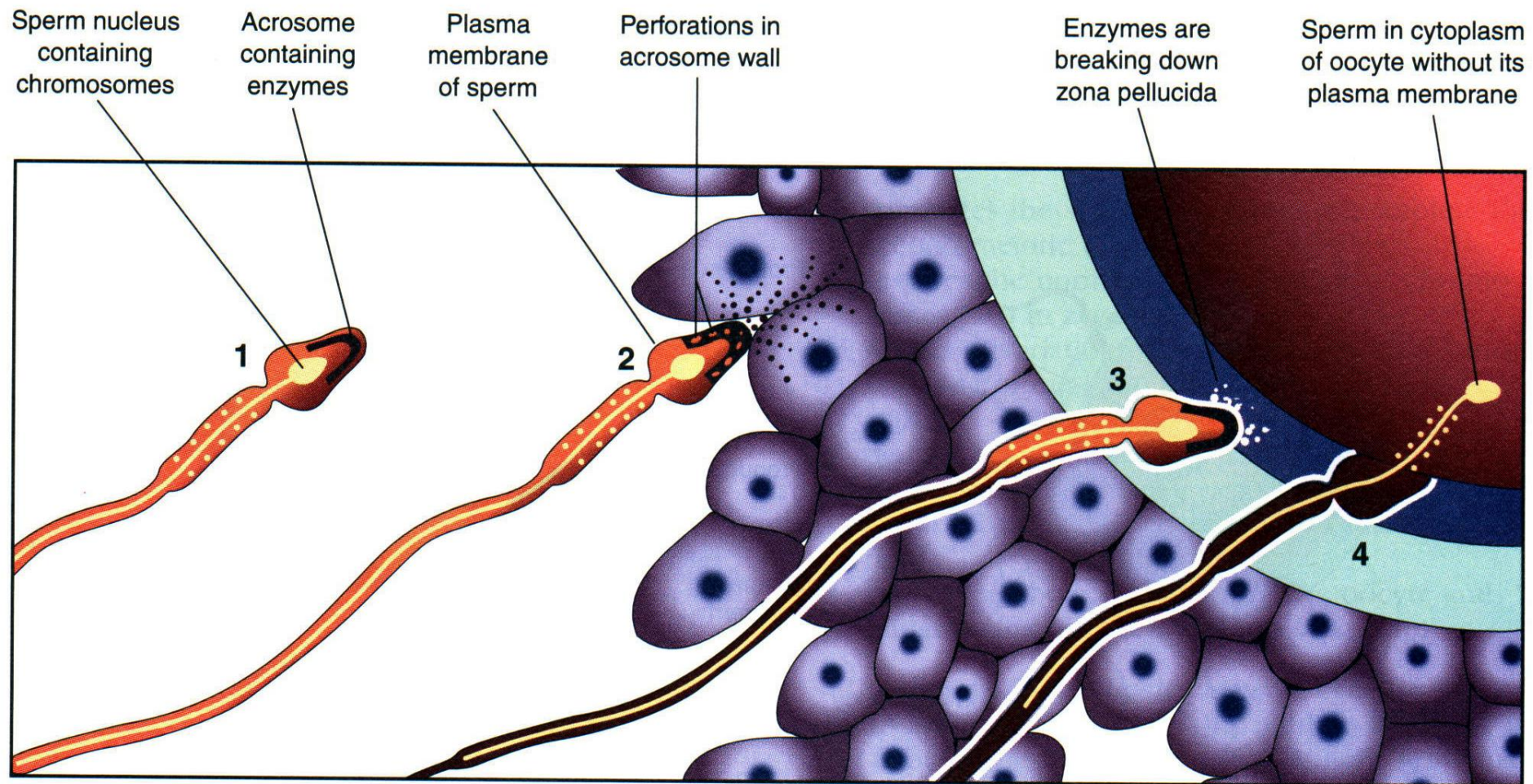
Figure 2-24. Diagrammatic summary of the ovarian cycle, fertilization, and human development during the first week. Stage 1 (days 1 to 2) comprises the follicular phase. Stage 2 (days 2 to 3) comprises the ovulatory phase. Stage 3 (days 3 to 4) comprises the luteal phase. Stage 4 (days 4 to 5) comprises the menstrual phase.



Completion of capacitation  $\Rightarrow$  acrosome reaction occurs

## Angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE)

- present in the acrosome of the sperm
- involved in inducing acrosome reaction and fertilization process
- acrosome reaction must be completed before the sperm can fuse with the oocyte
- enzyme associated with the acrosome reaction: hyaluronidase and acrosin





# Viability of gametes

human oocyte: retain the ability for fertilization within 12 hr after ovulation

in vitro study: within 24 hr

human sperms: do not survive for more than 48hr in female genital tract

frozen semen: many years

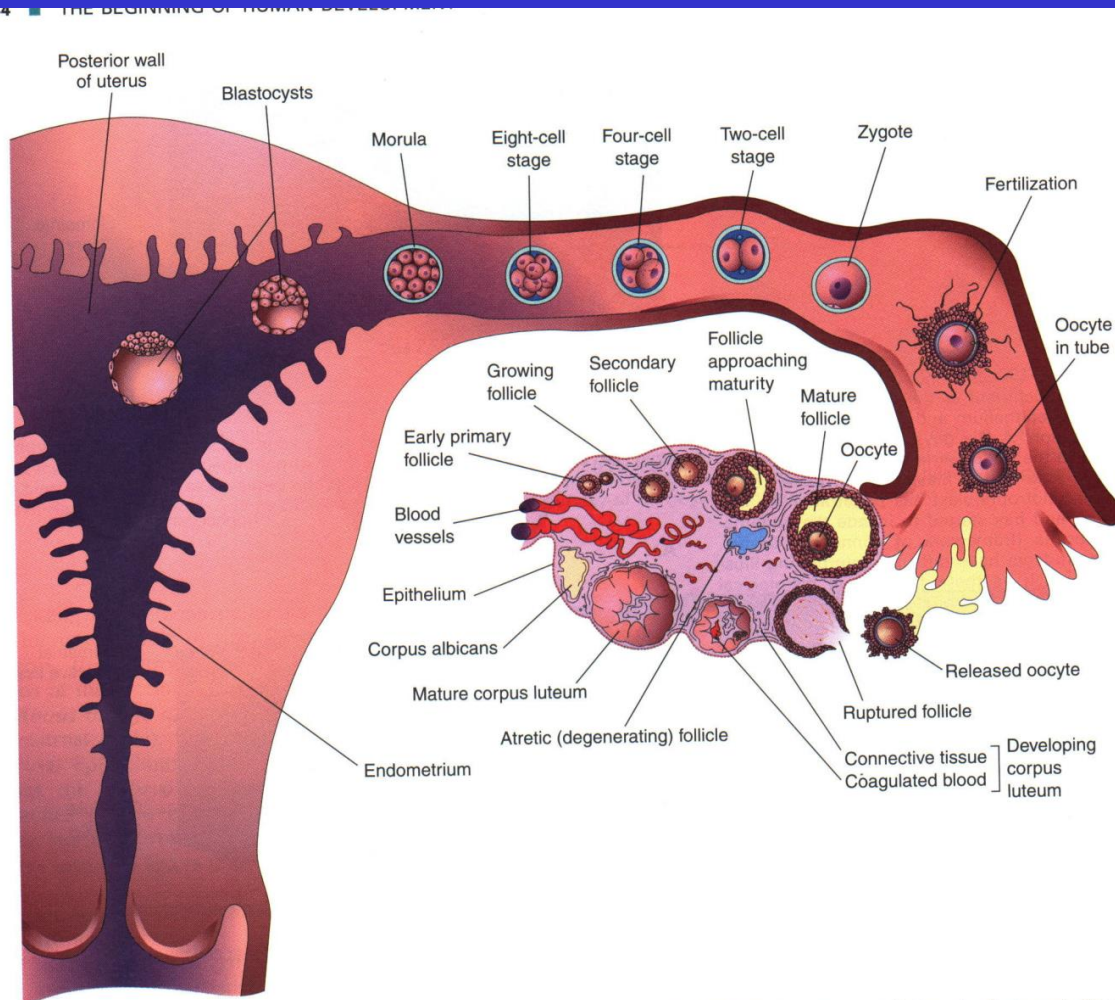


Figure 2-14. Diagrammatic summary of the ovarian cycle, fertilization, and human development during the first week. Stage 2 (days 2 to 3) comprises the

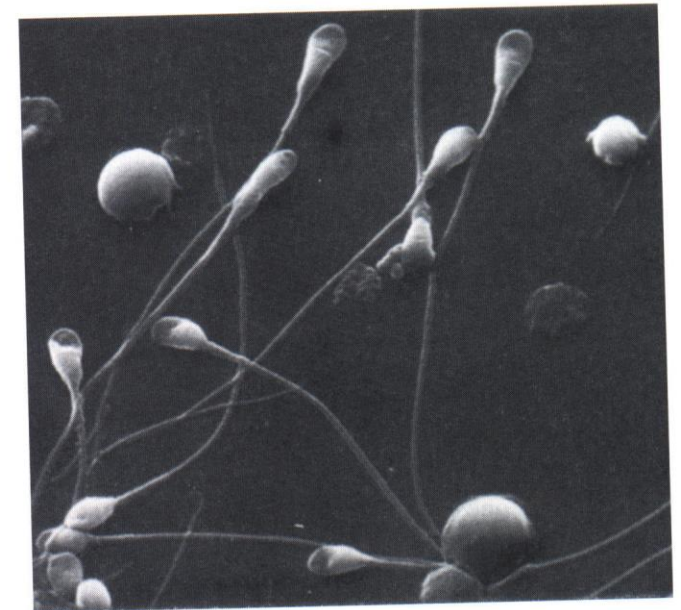
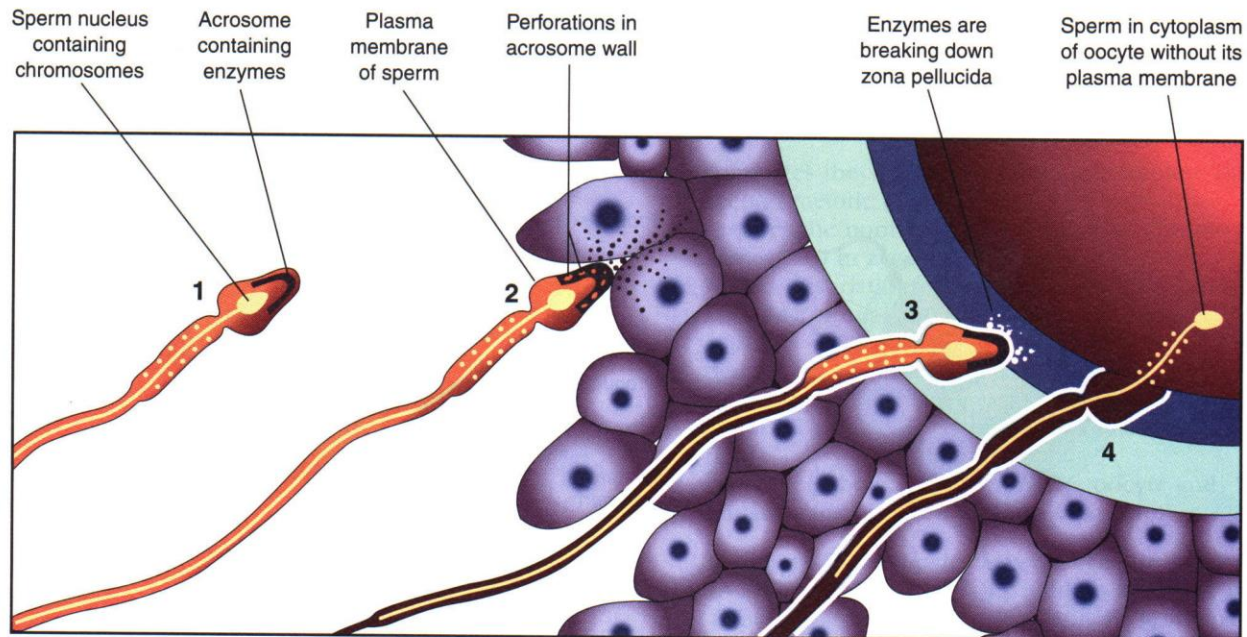
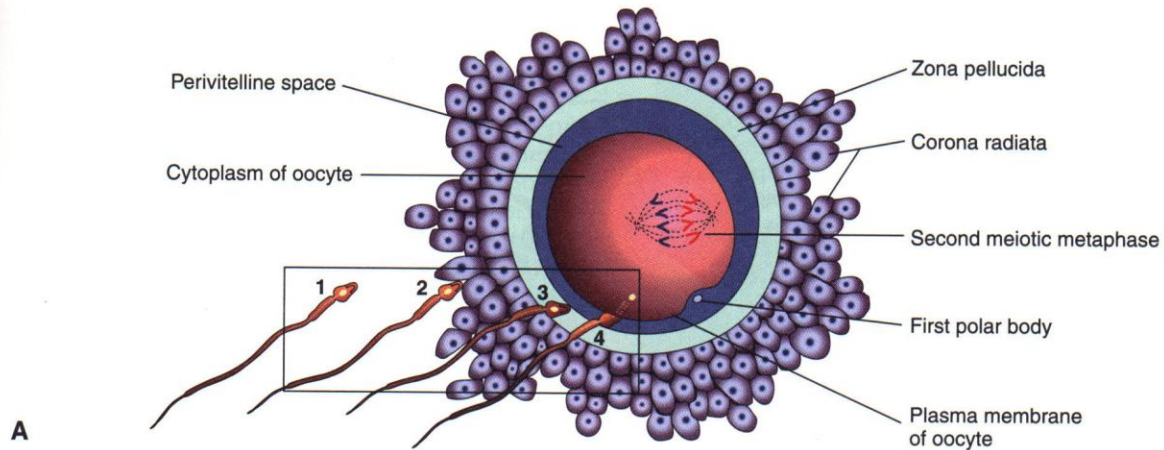


Figure 2-14. Scanning electron micrograph of human



# Fertilization: (usual site: at the ampulla of uterine tube)

Passage of sperm: through corona radiata surrounding the zona pellucida of an oocyte

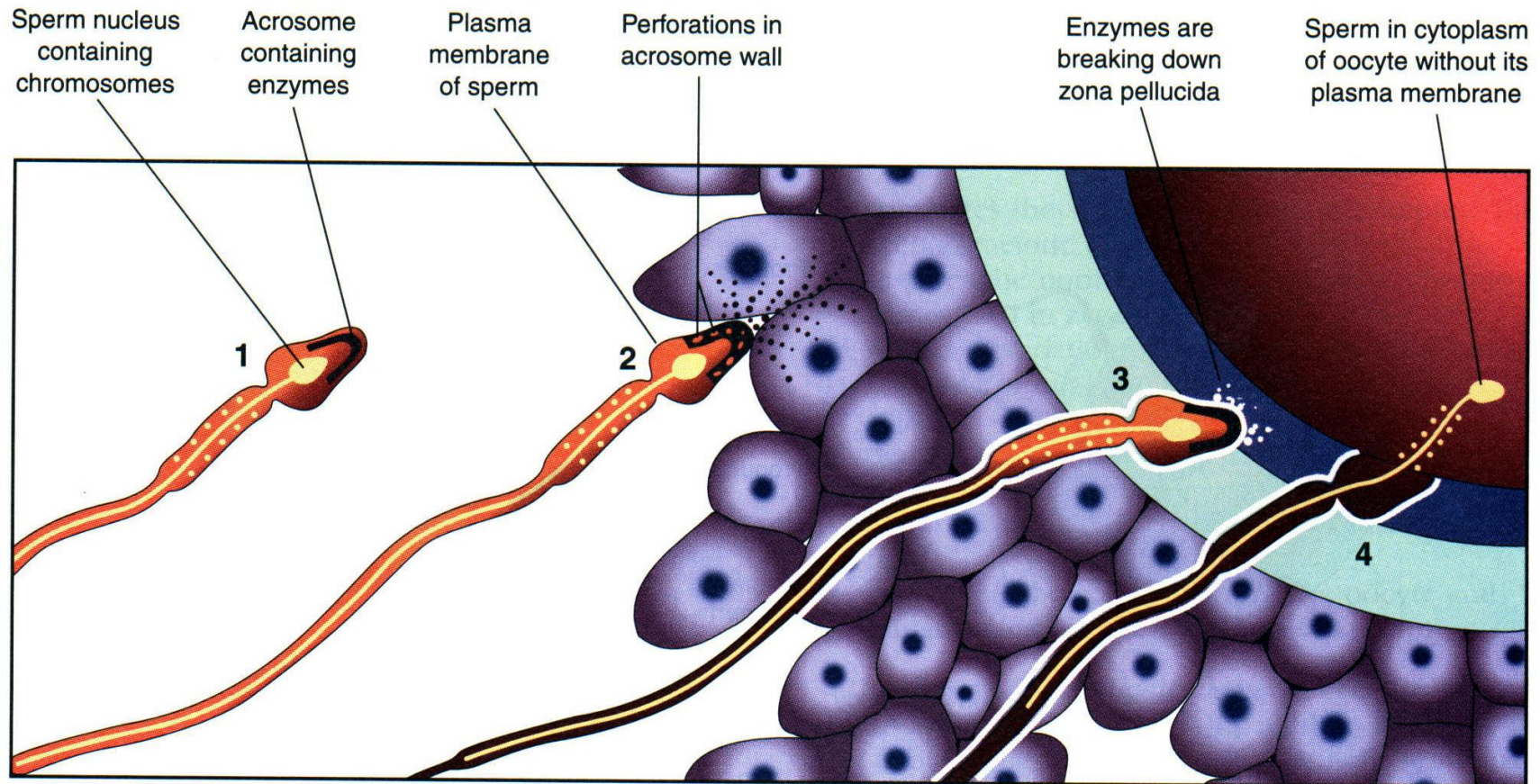


## **Possible mechanisms:**

1. by hyaluronidase and tubal mucosal enzymes
2. movement of tail of the sperm

## **Penetration of zona pellucida surrounding the oocyte**

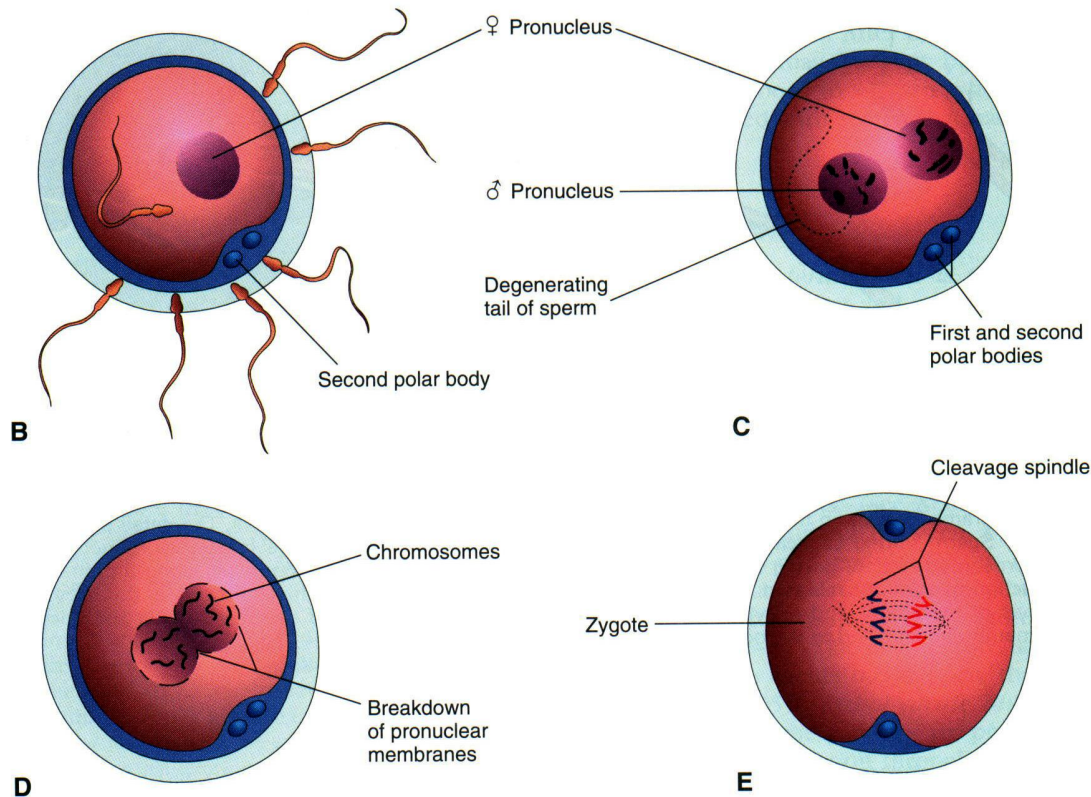
- enzymes associated with lysis of zona pellucida:
- acrosin (mainly), esterases and neuraminidase
  - forming a path for the sperm → enter the oocyte
- in human: normally only a single sperm is allowed to penetrate the oocyte





## **zona reaction:**

- following the penetration of the sperm in the zona pellucida, an amorphous (glycoprotein) layer forms in this zone prevent the entry of other sperms
- this reaction is believed to result from the action of lysosomal enzymes released by **cortical granules** near the plasma membrane of oocytes
- the contents of these granules also cause changes in the plasma membrane of oocyte that make it impermeable to sperms



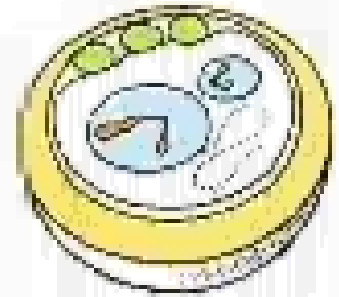
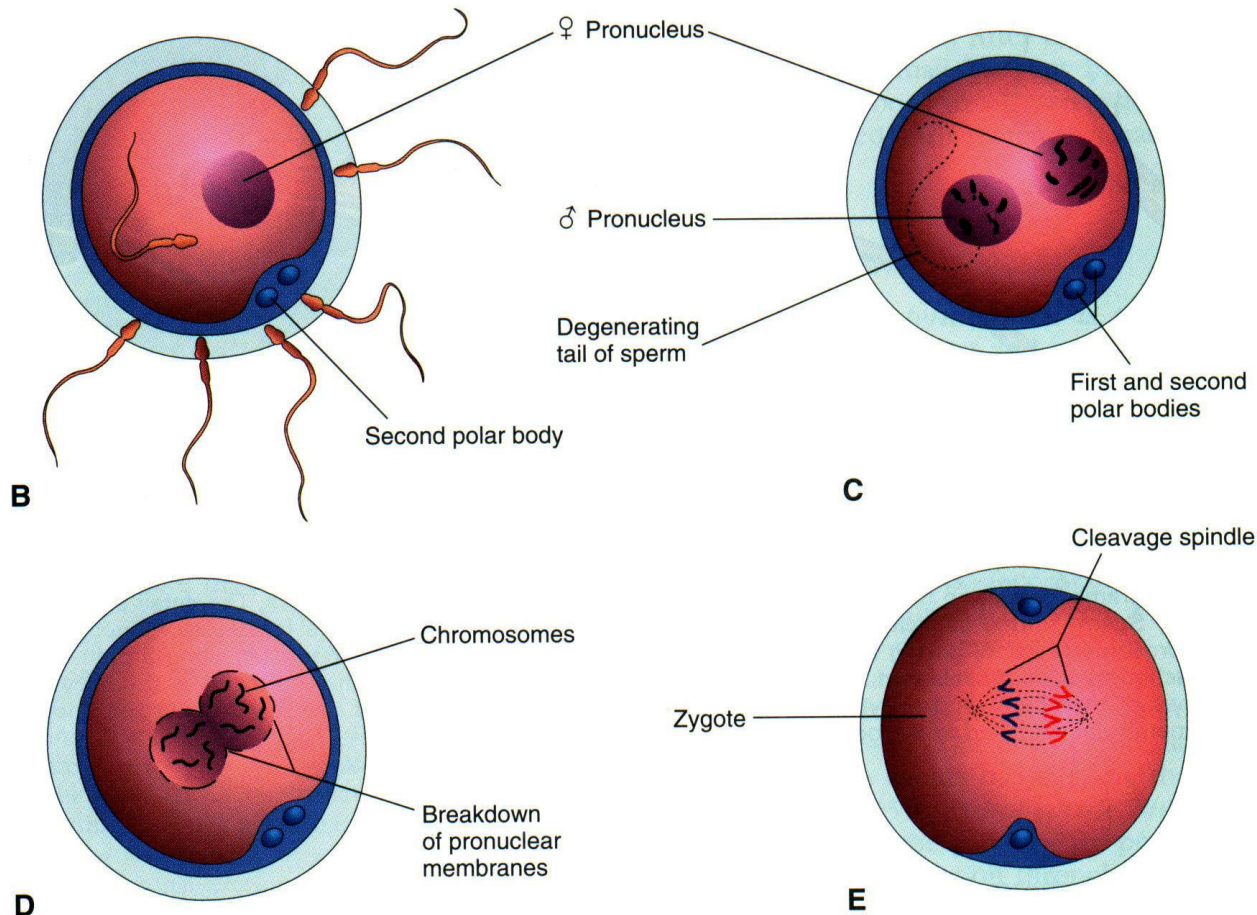
# Fusing of plasma membranes of the oocyte and sperm

Completion of 2nd meiotic division of oocyte and formation of female pronucleus

Formation of male pronucleus (from sperm)

## **Early pregnancy factor:**

- appears in the maternal serum within 24 to 48 hr after fertilization
- used for pregnancy test during the first 10 days of development
- is an immunosuppressant protein and secreted by the trophoblastic cells





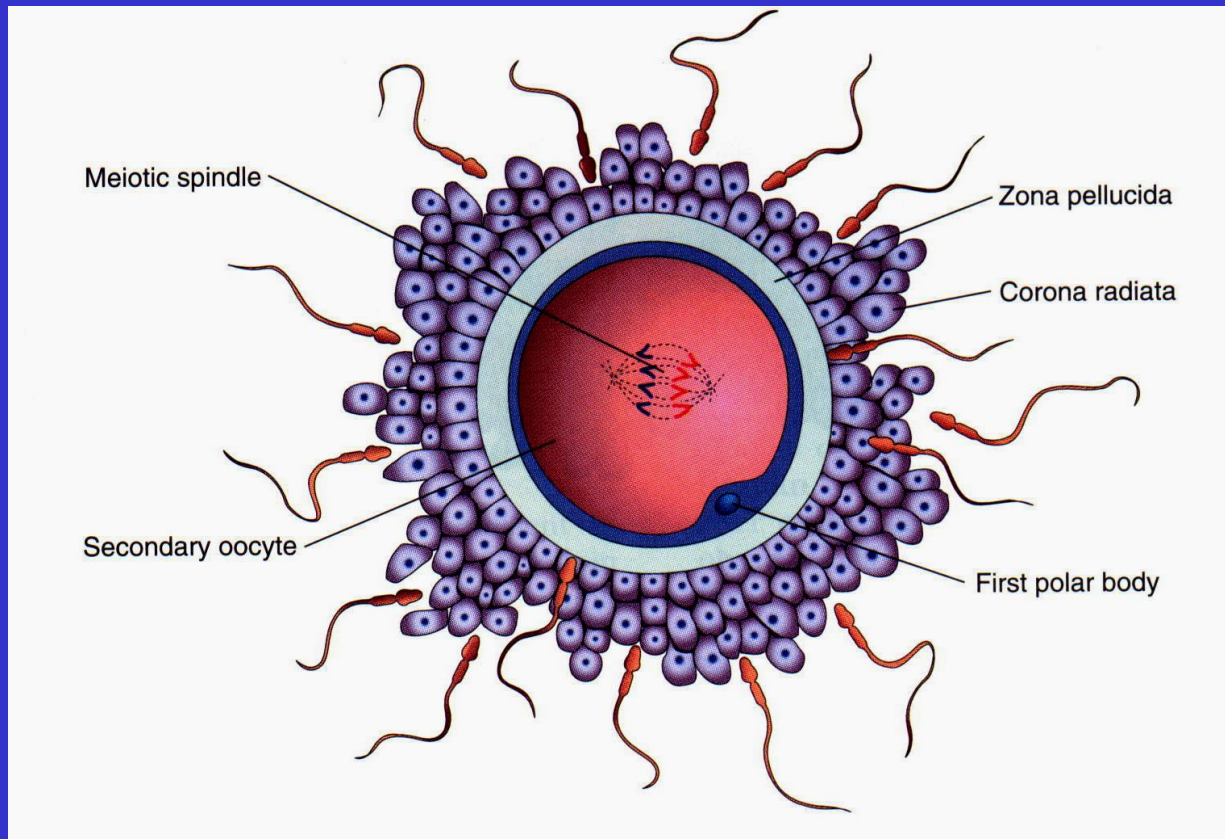
# Results of fertilization

## *Fertilization:*

- stimulates the secondary oocyte → complete 2nd meiotic division
- restores the normal diploid number of chromosomes in zygote
- results in variation of human species
- determines chromosomal sex of embryo
- causes metabolic activation of the oocyte and initiates cleavage

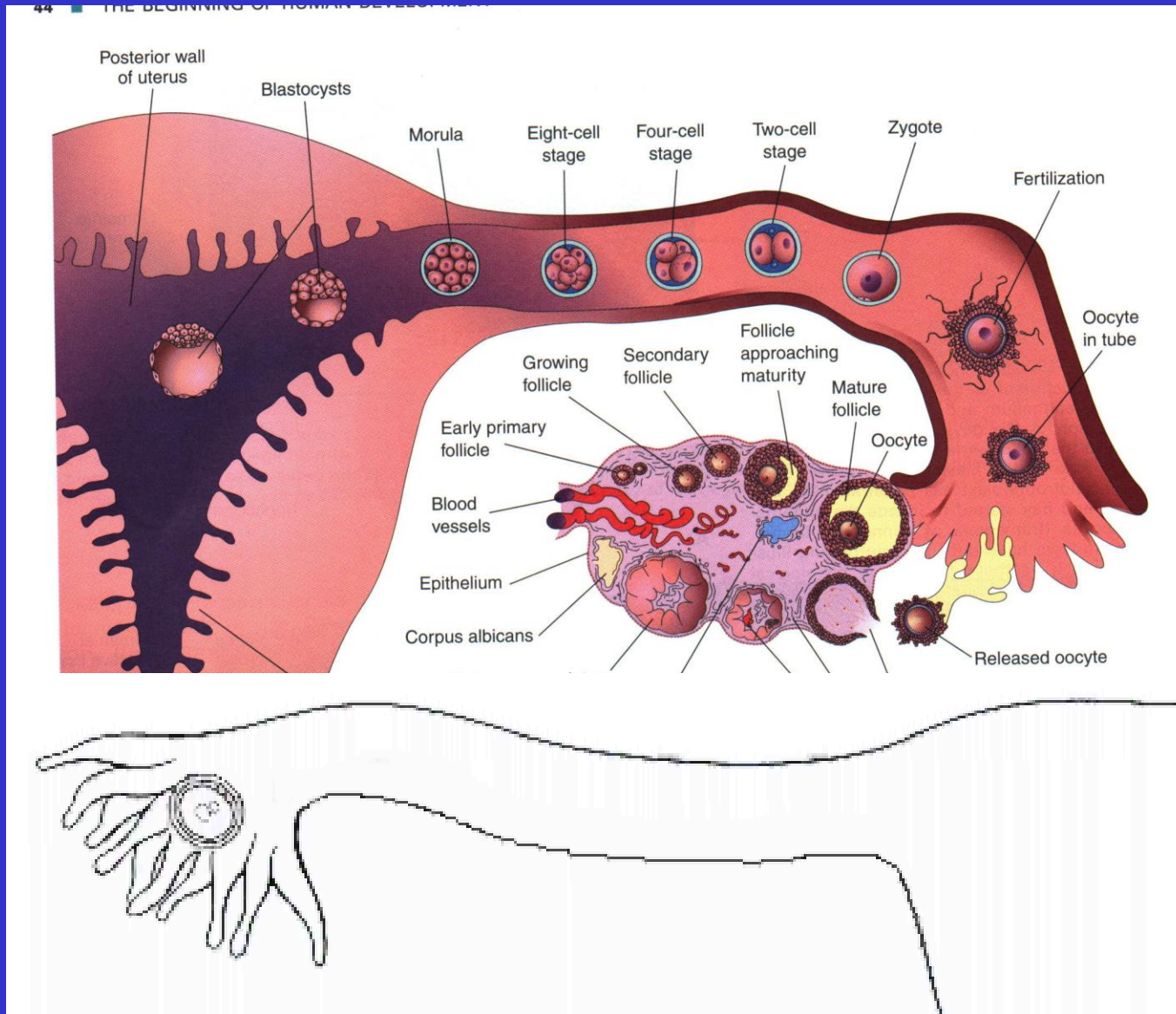
Zygote is genetically unique:

- a recombination of chromosomes from cells of either of the parents



# Cleavage of zygote

- begins with repeated mitotic divisions of the zygote and ends with a blastocyst
- site of occurrence of cleavage: from uterine tube toward the uterus
- about 30 hr after fertilization: zygote → blastomeres





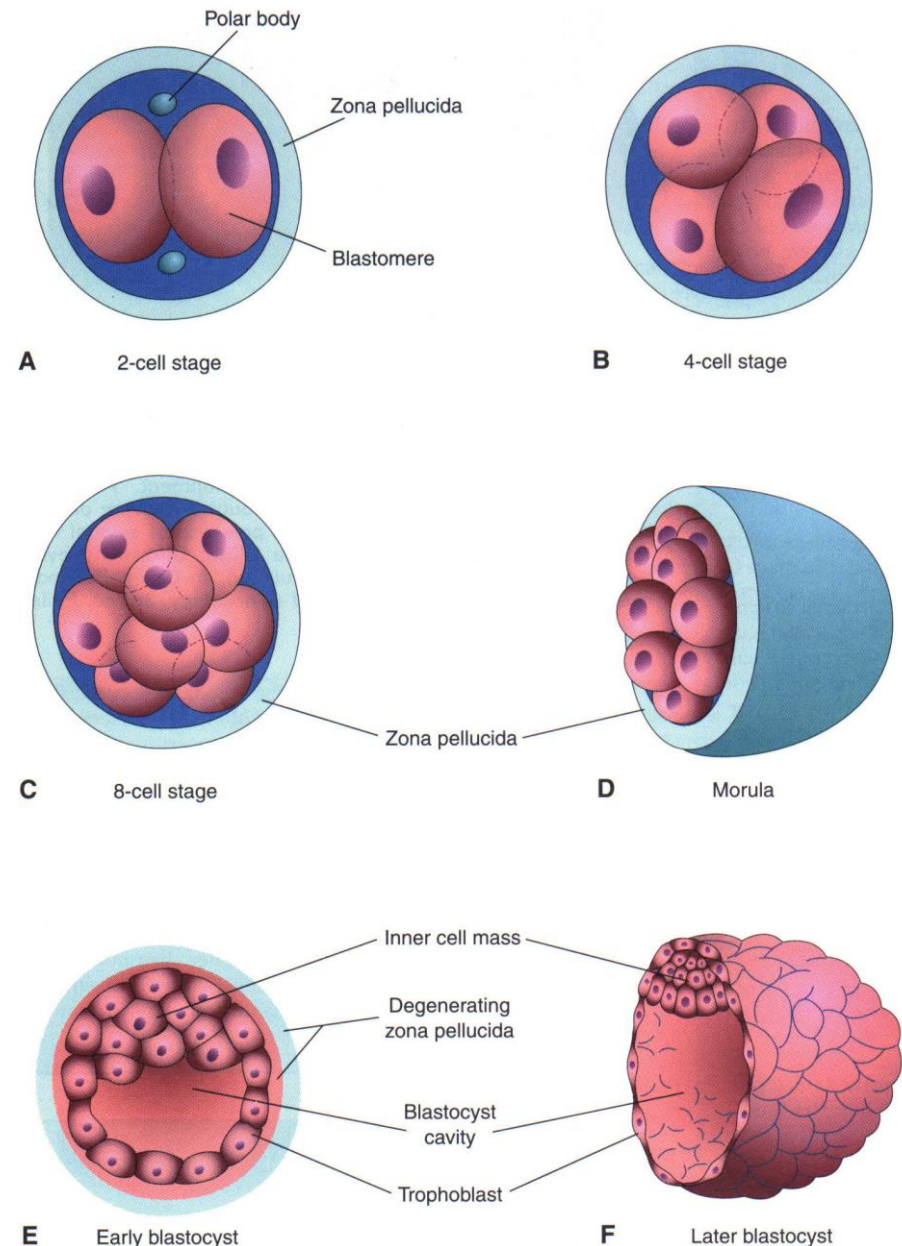
# Compactation:

-- after nine-cell stage:  
blastomeres → shape changed →  
tightly align themselves against each  
other ⇒ compact ball

-- probably mediated by cell surface  
adhesion glycoproteins

-- permits greater cell-cell interaction  
and is a prerequisite for segregation  
of the internal cells ⇒ **inner cell  
mass (embryoblast)**

morula — when the blastomeres up  
to 12-15 in number



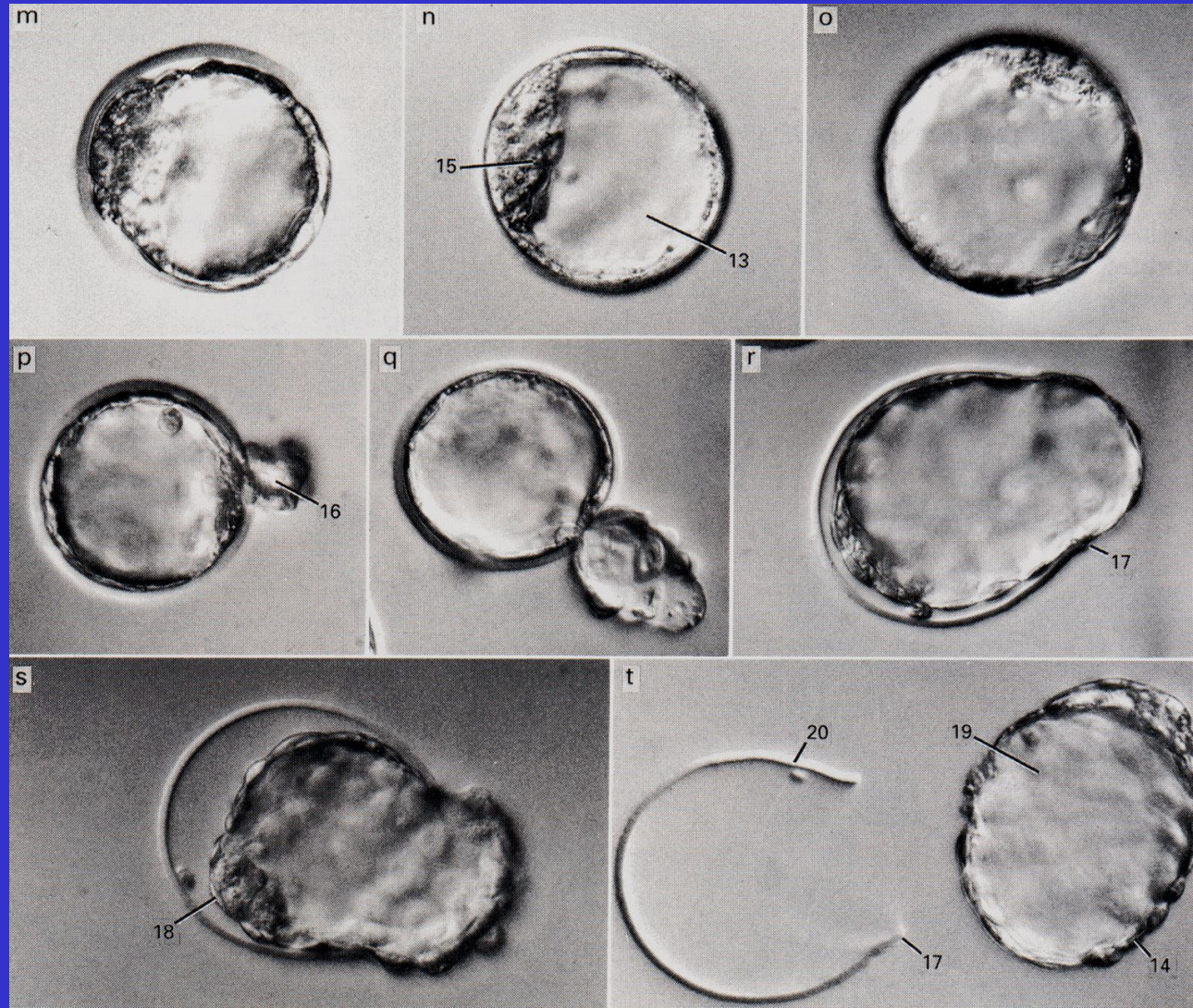


# Formation of blastocyst (Blastogenesis)

\*morula → uterus (about 4 days after fertilization) → formation of blastocyst cavity (blastocoel)

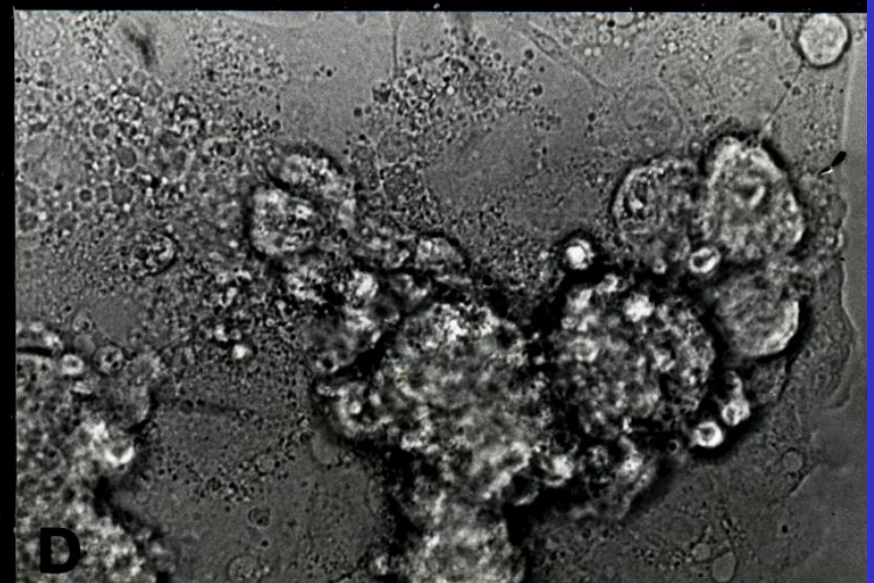
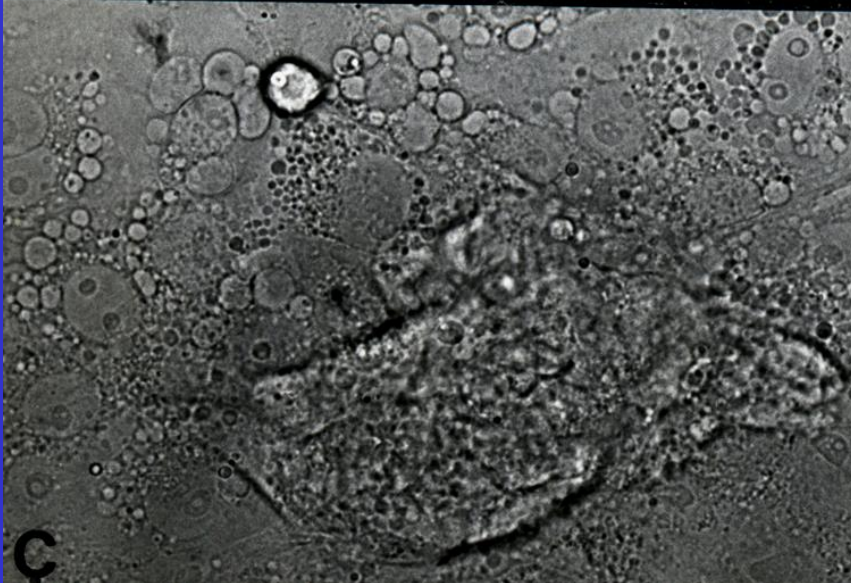
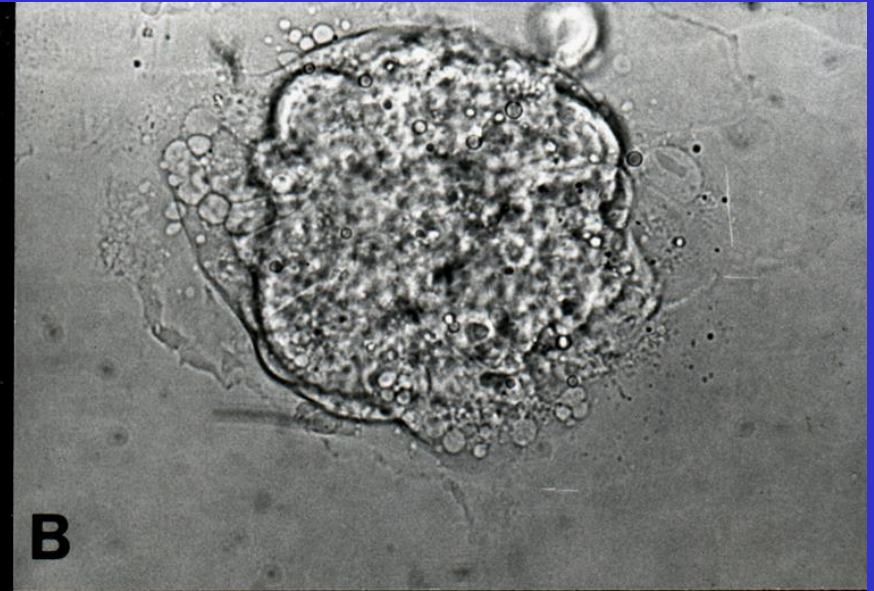
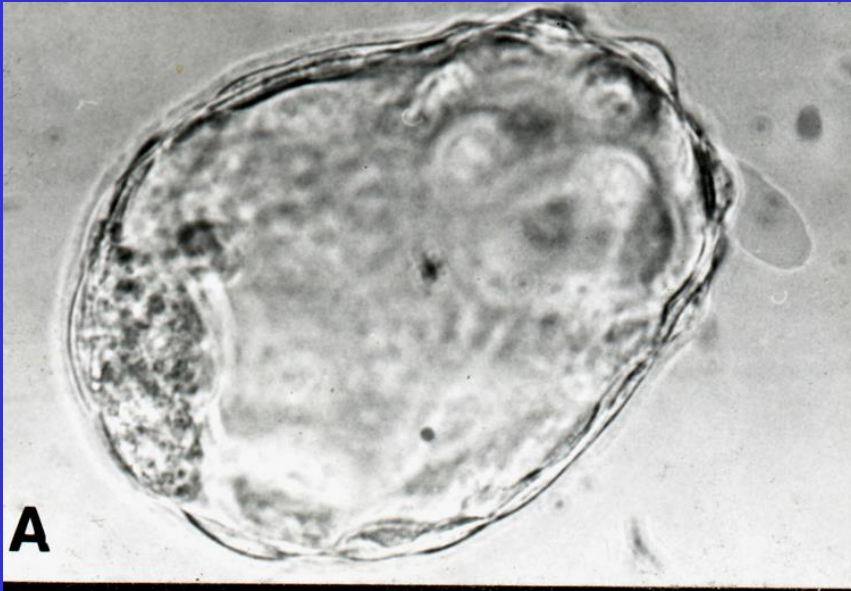
-- outer layer → trophoblast → embryonic part of placenta

-- inner layer → **inner cell mass (or embryoblast)** → embryo





# Blastocyst hatching out and implantation





# Human Embryonic Stem (ES) cells: derived from inner cell mass

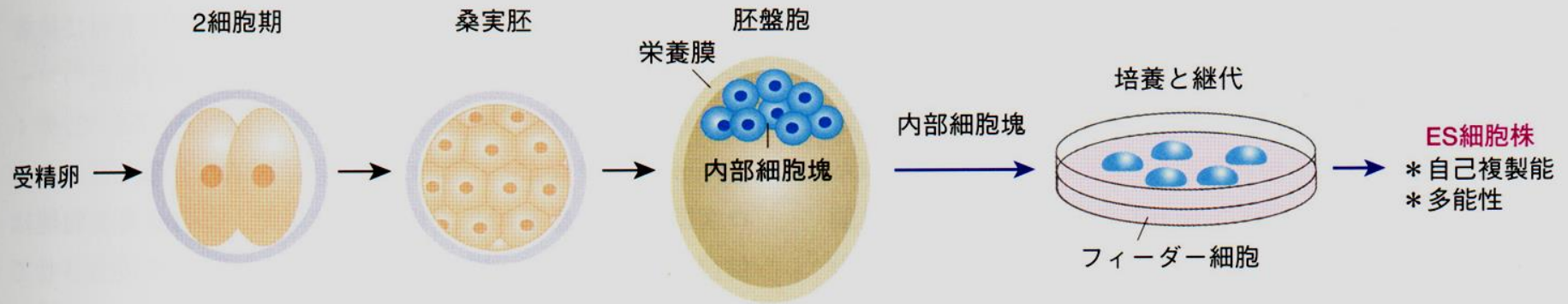
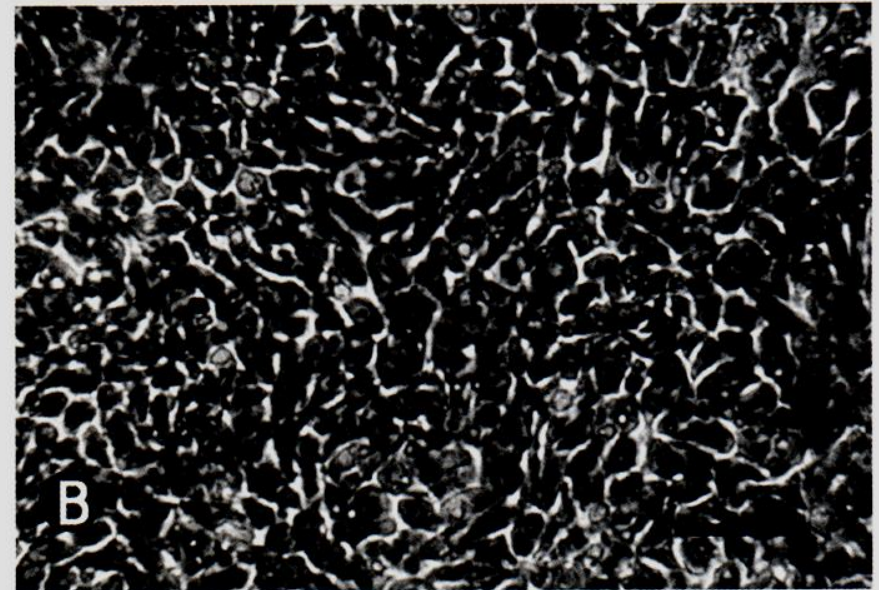
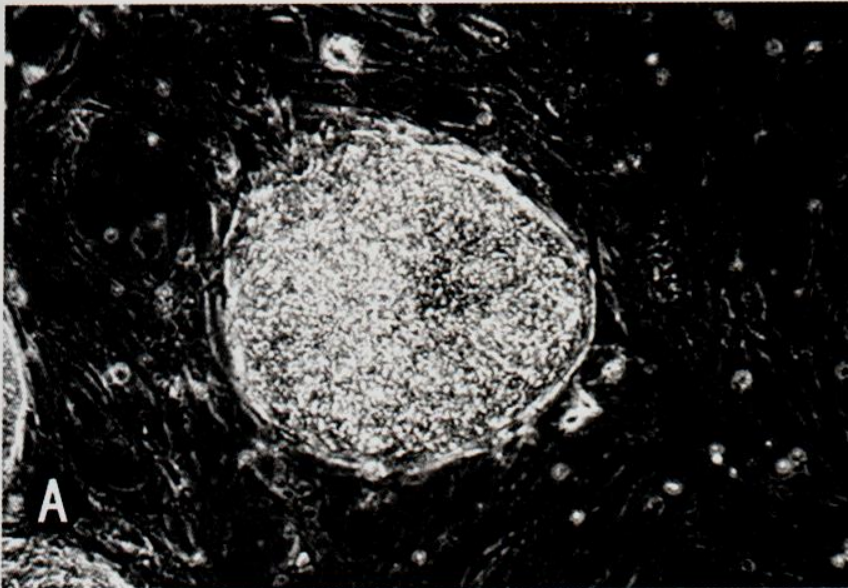
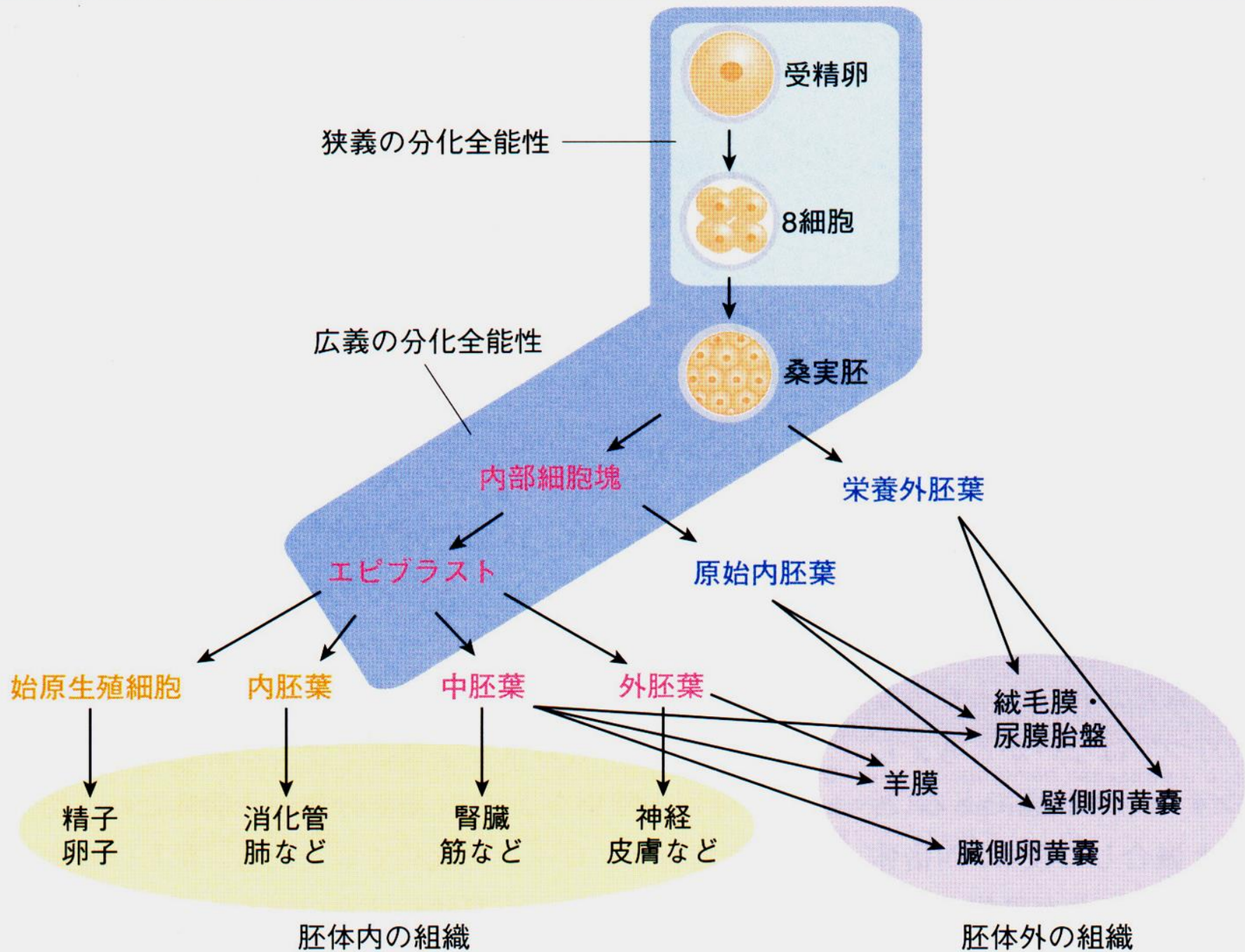


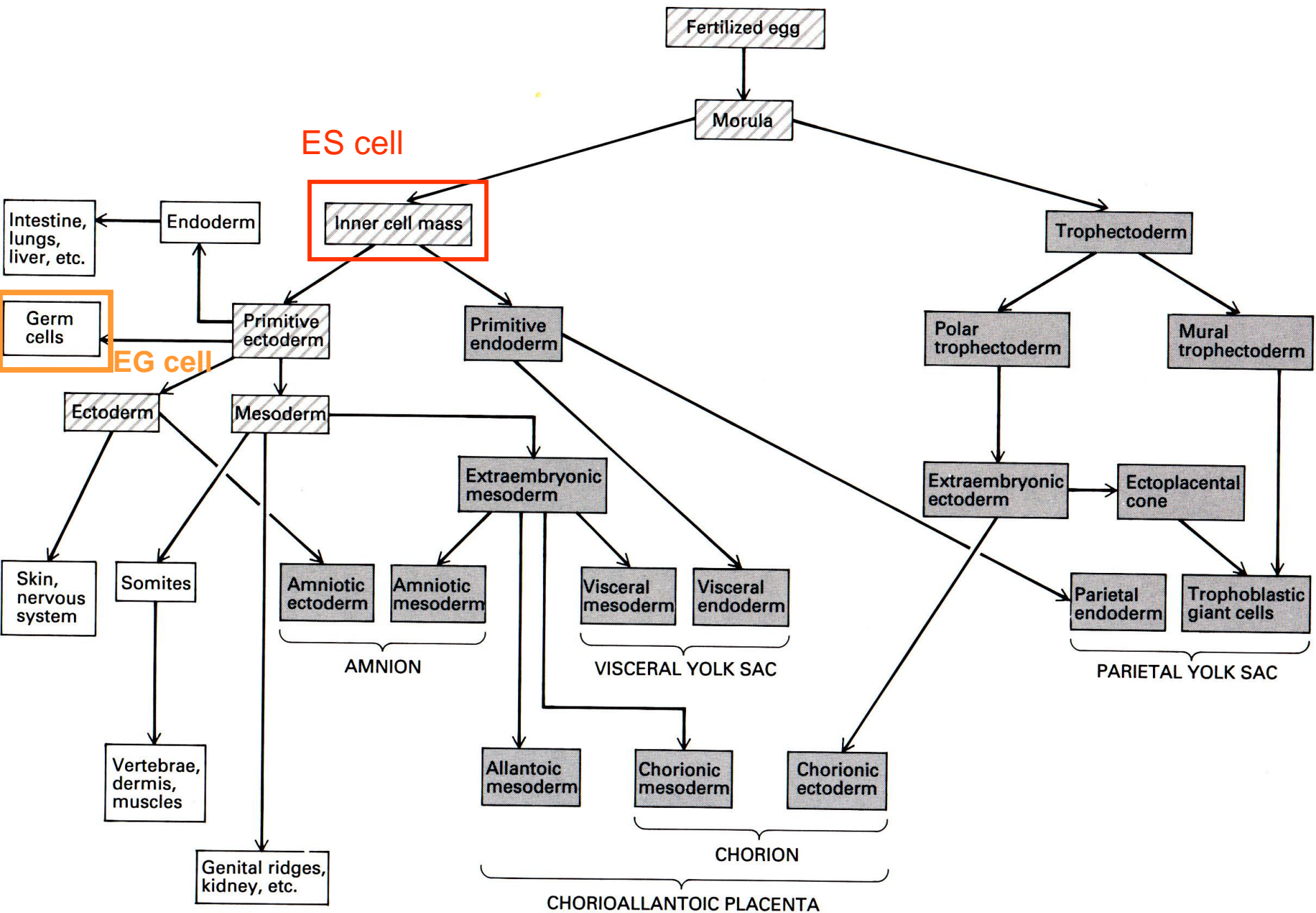
図1. ヒトES細胞の樹立法

胚盤胞から分離した内部細胞塊をフィーダー細胞（マイトマイシンCや $\gamma$ 線などで不活性化したマウス胎仔線維芽細胞）上で培養し、未分化細胞を選抜しながらフィーダー細胞上で継代培養を続けることにより樹立される。











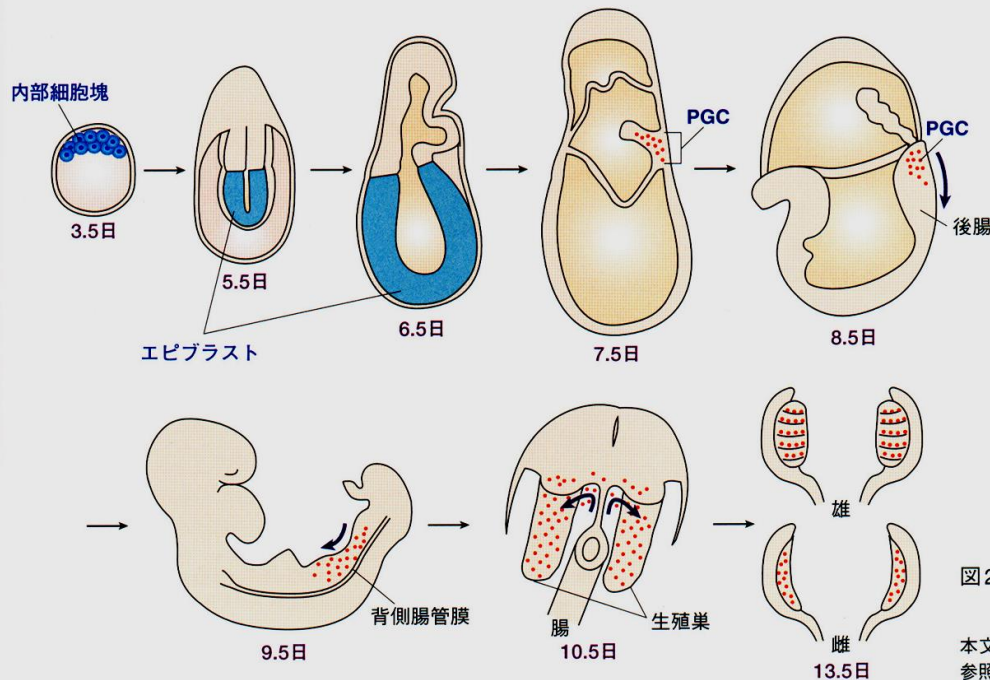
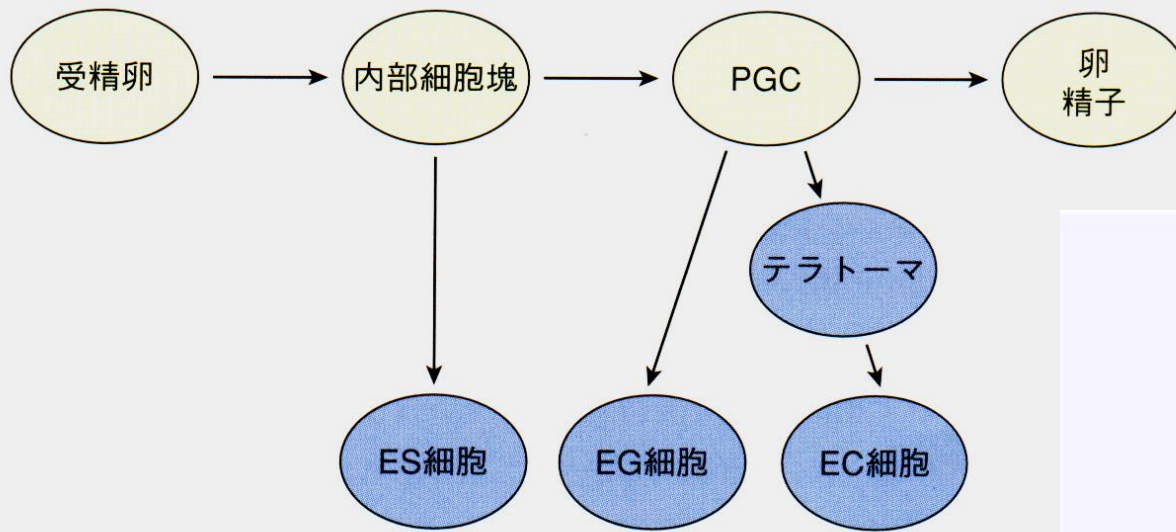
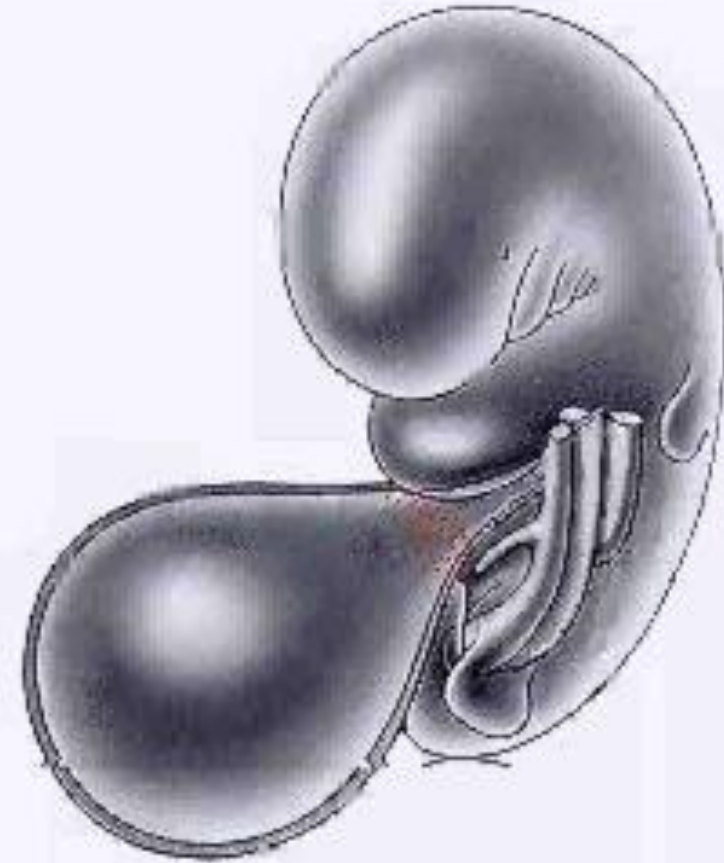


図2. マウス発生における分化多能性細胞とPGC

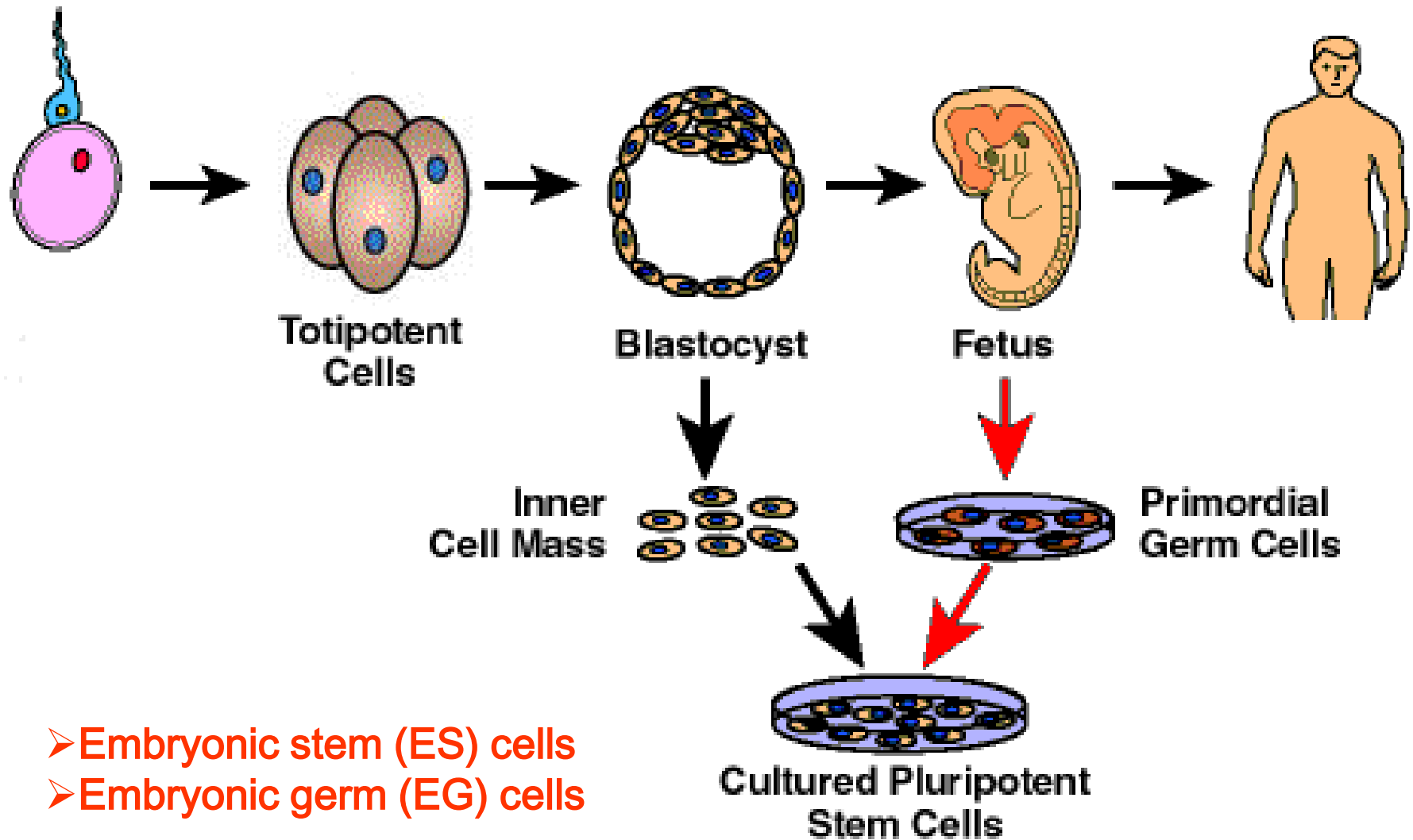
本文「I. 始原生殖細胞 (PGC)」参照。



動し、そこで雌雄それぞれの生殖細胞として分化を開始する。

### Ⅲ. EG細胞とPGC

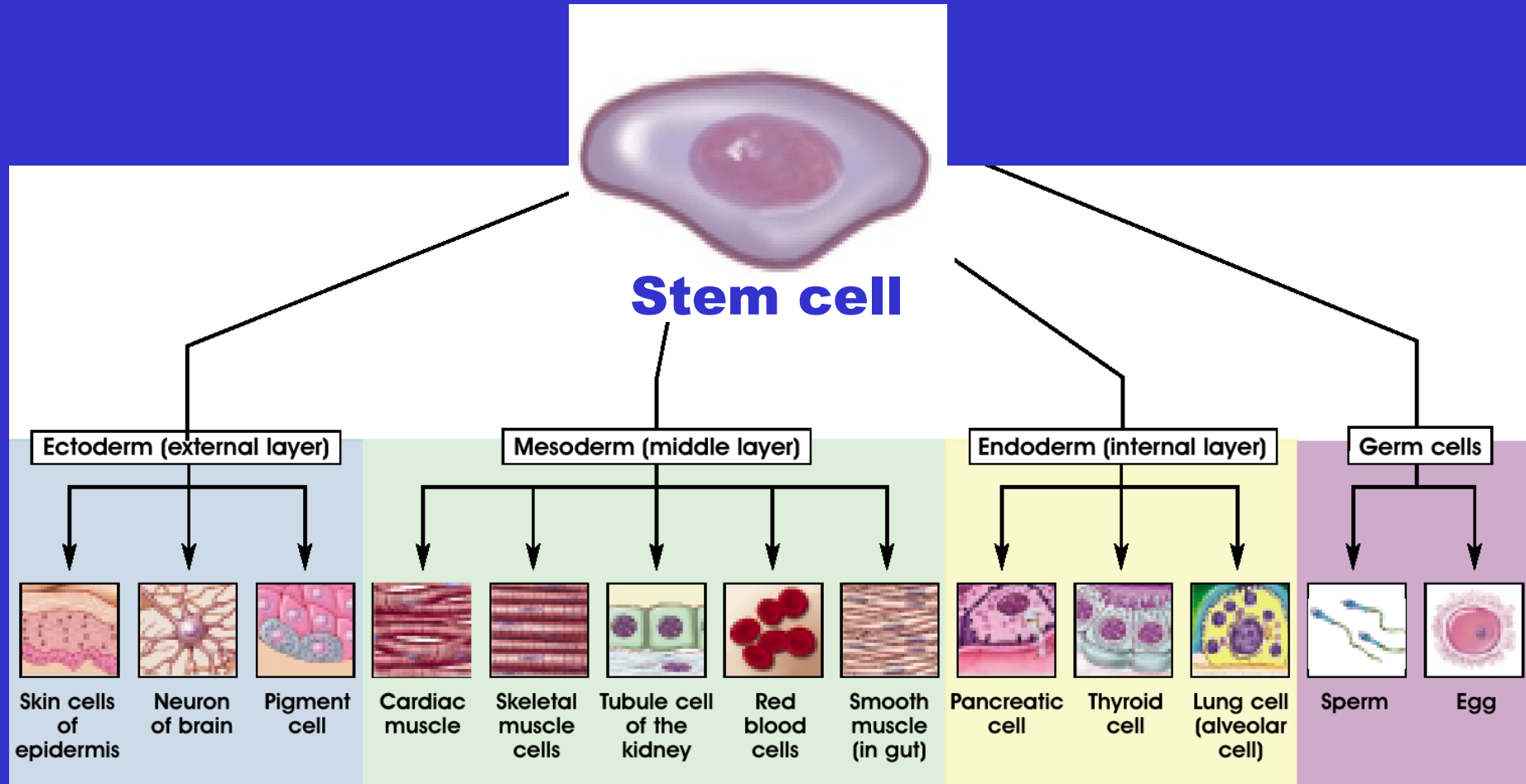
# Pluripotent stem cells





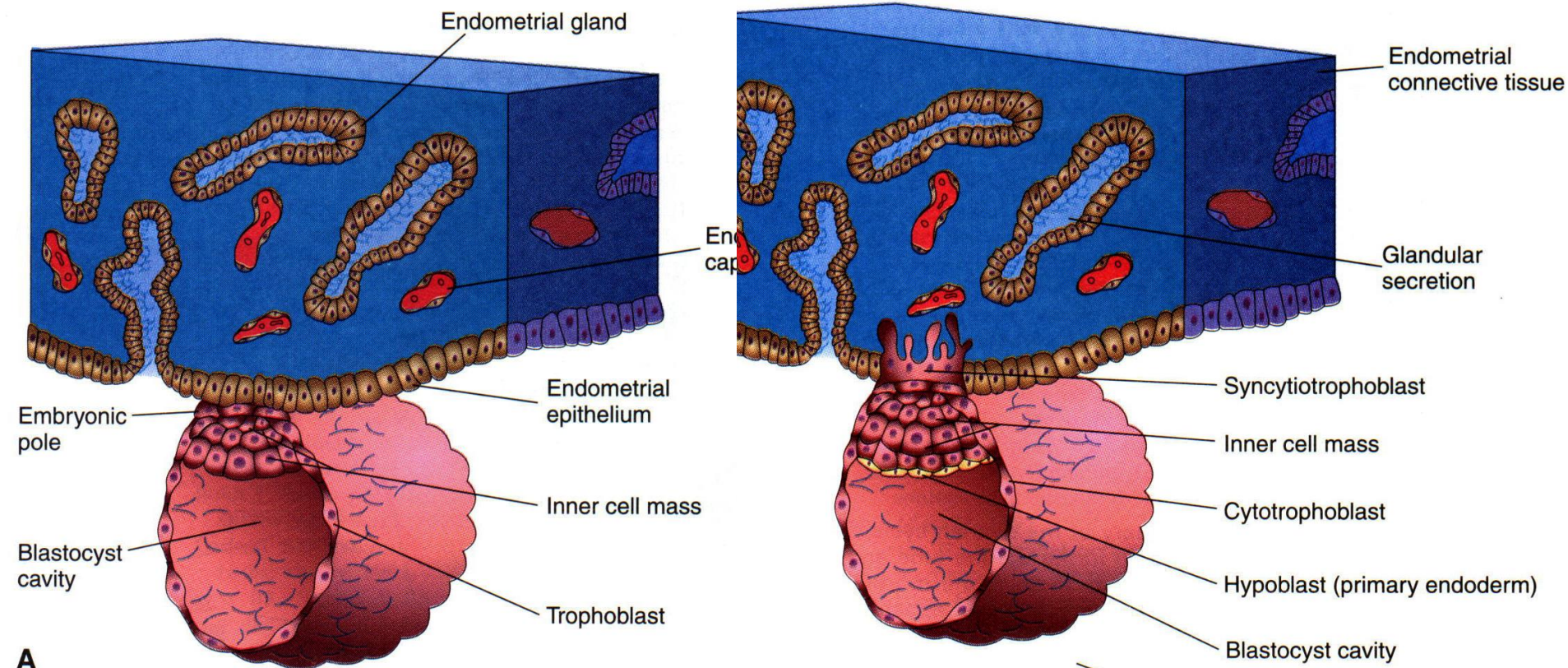
# Cell differentiation

With combination of growth differentiation factors



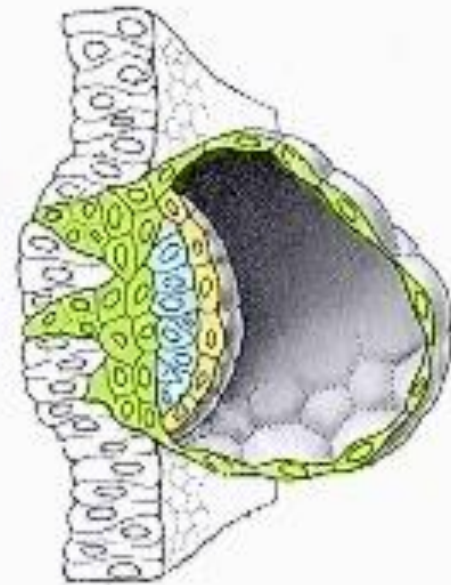
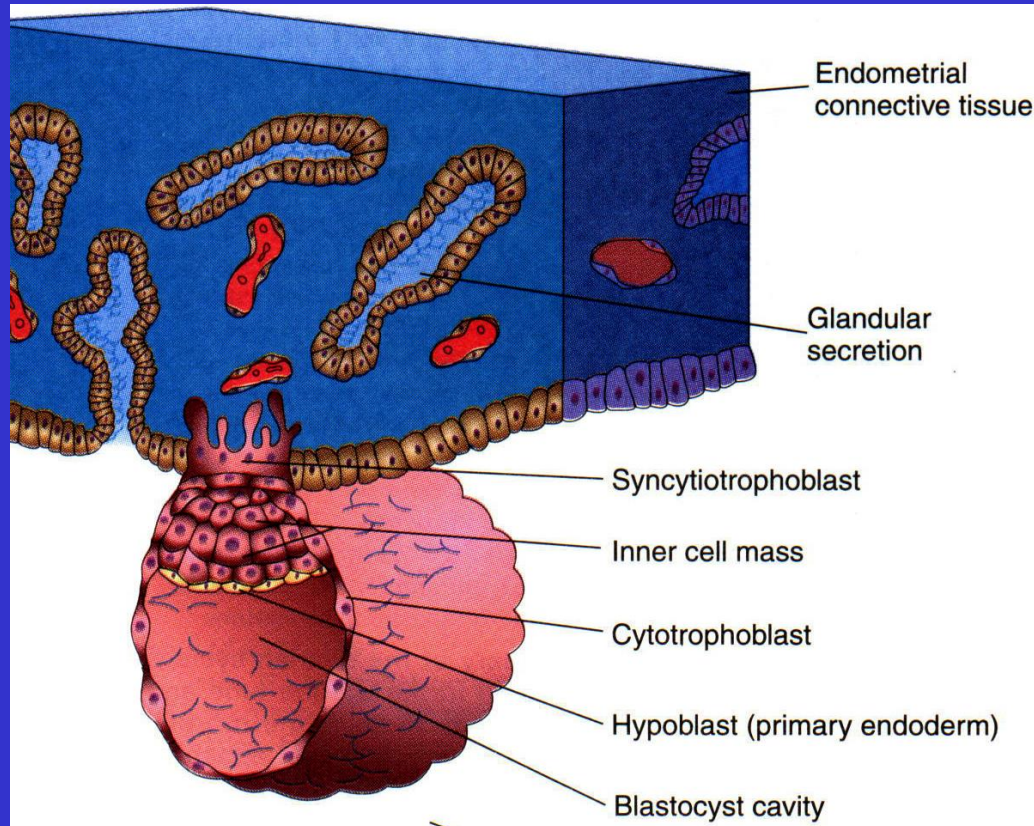
# Implantation:

- begins about 6 days after fertilization and is completed by end of the 2nd wk
- blastocyst* → embedded in endometrium (embryonic pole)
- *cytotrophoblast* (inner layer)
- syncytiotrophoblast (outer layer) ⇒ proteolytic enzymes → proteolysis





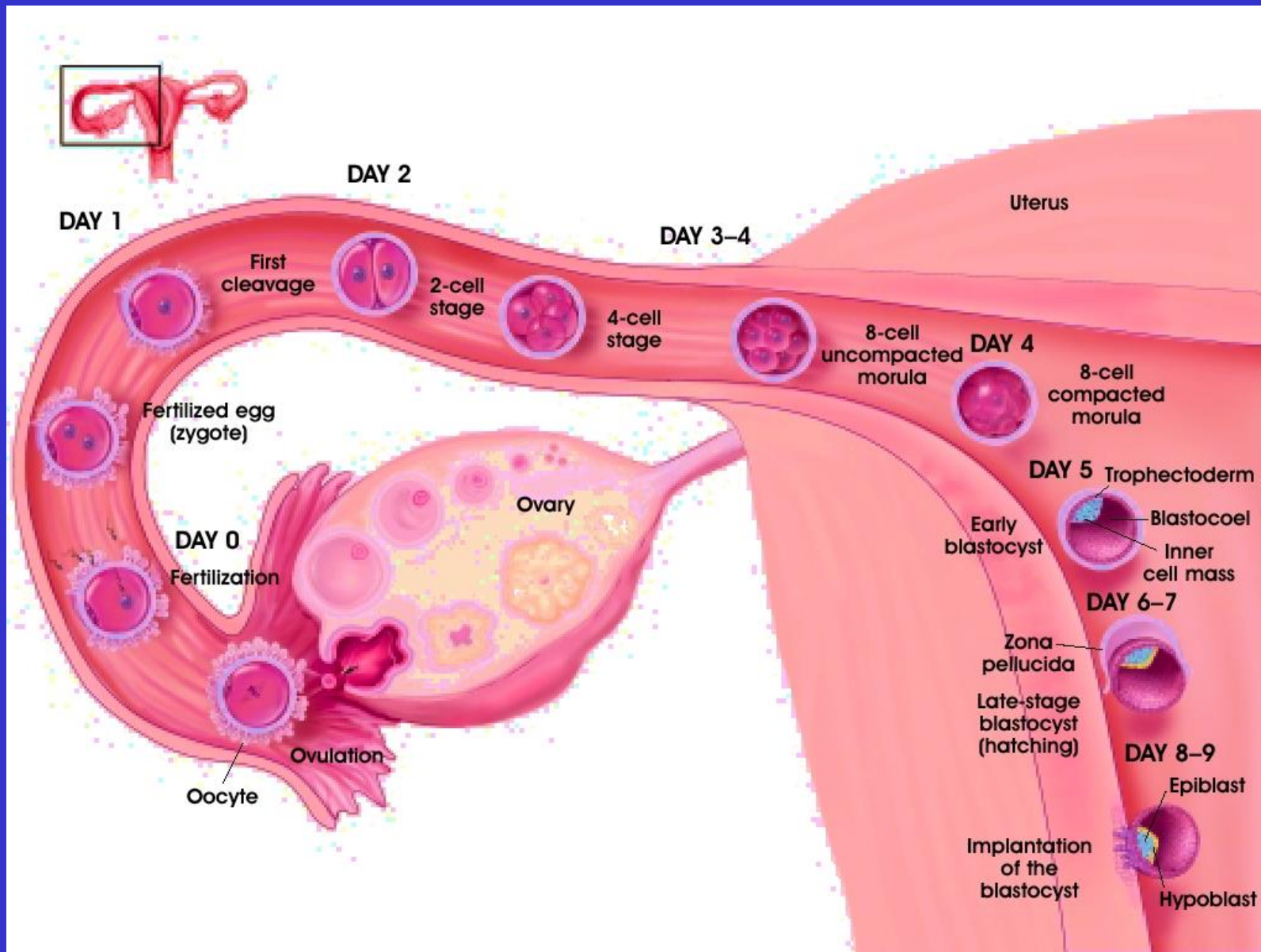
- stromal cells surrounding the implantation site  $\Rightarrow$  *decidual cells*
- *hypoblast*: appears on the surface of the inner cell mass facing the *blastocyst cavity*
- hormone (*hCG*): -- produced from the syncytiotrophoblast
- maintains the activity of corpus luteum during pregnancy and forms the basis for pregnancy test



# Site of implantation

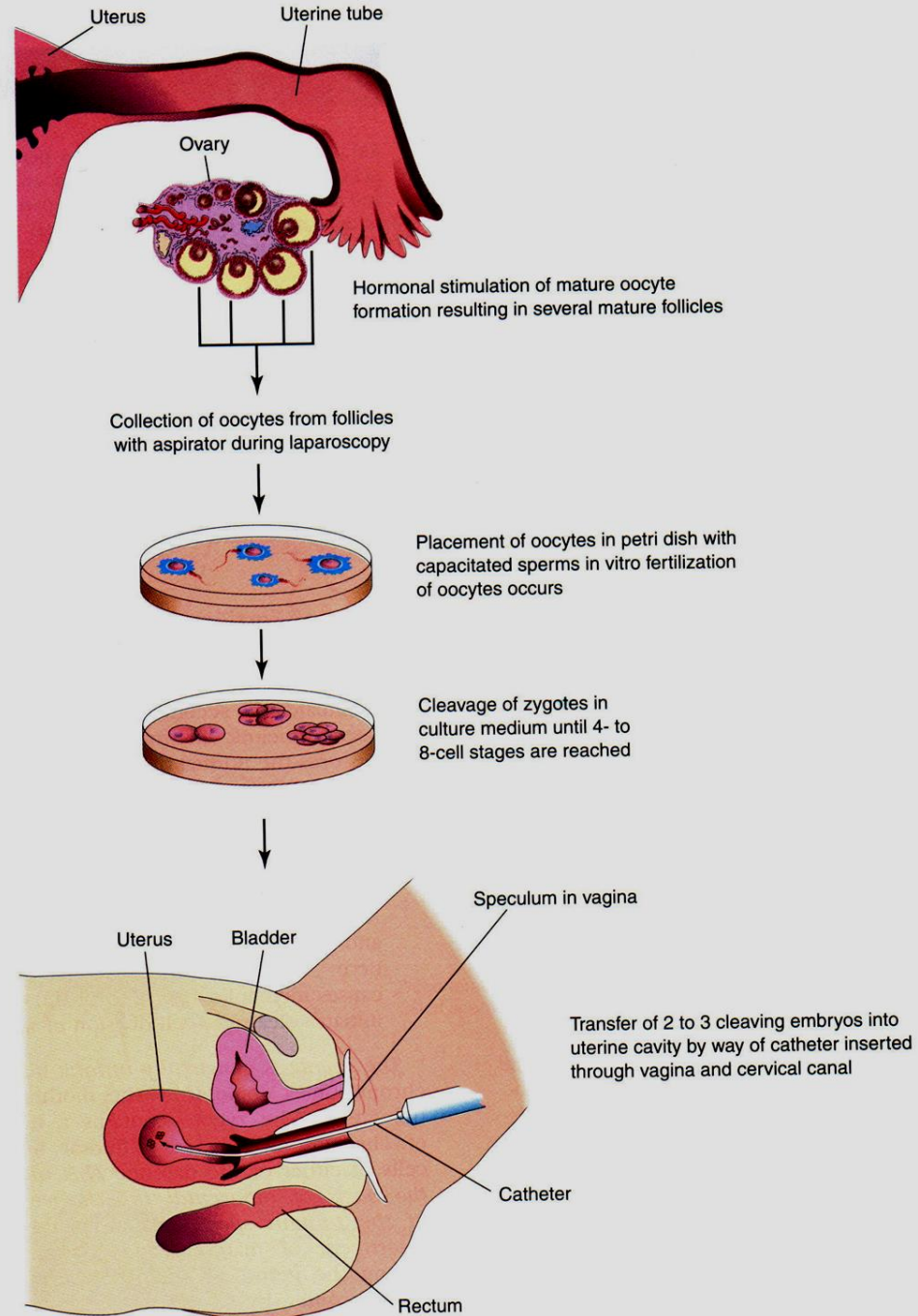
Upper part of posterior or anterior wall of body of the uterus

\* Abnormal implantation sites: Extra-uterine or ectopic pregnancy



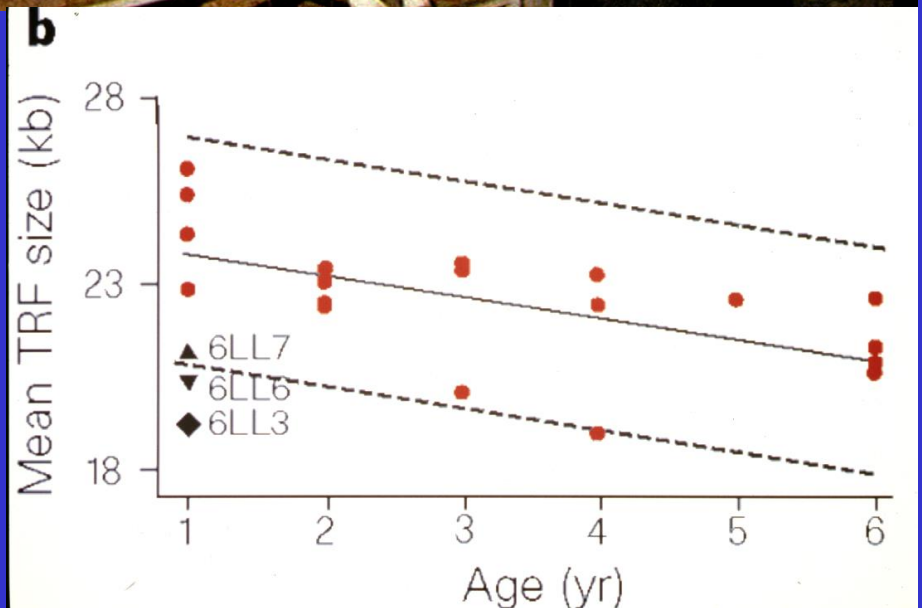
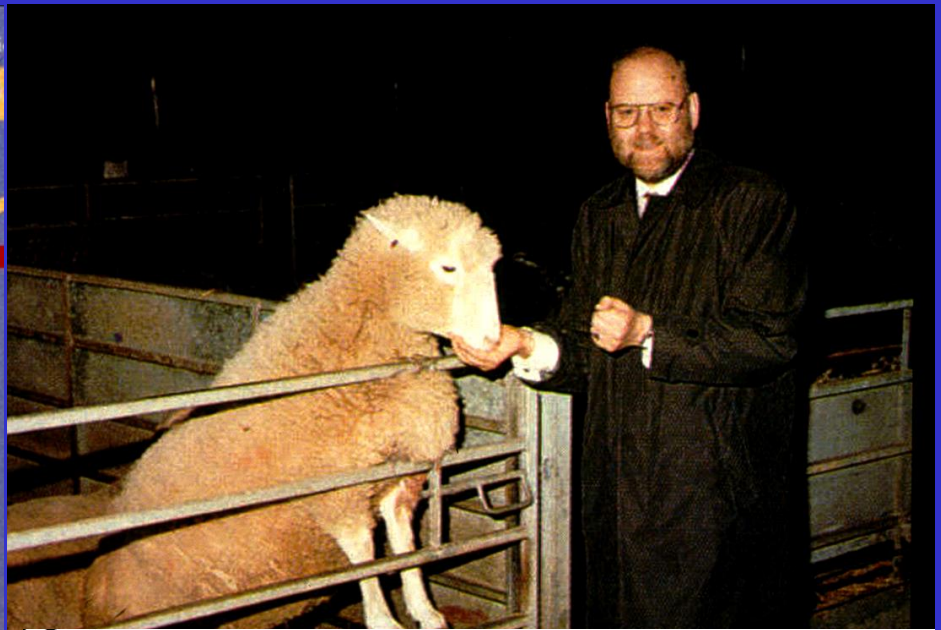
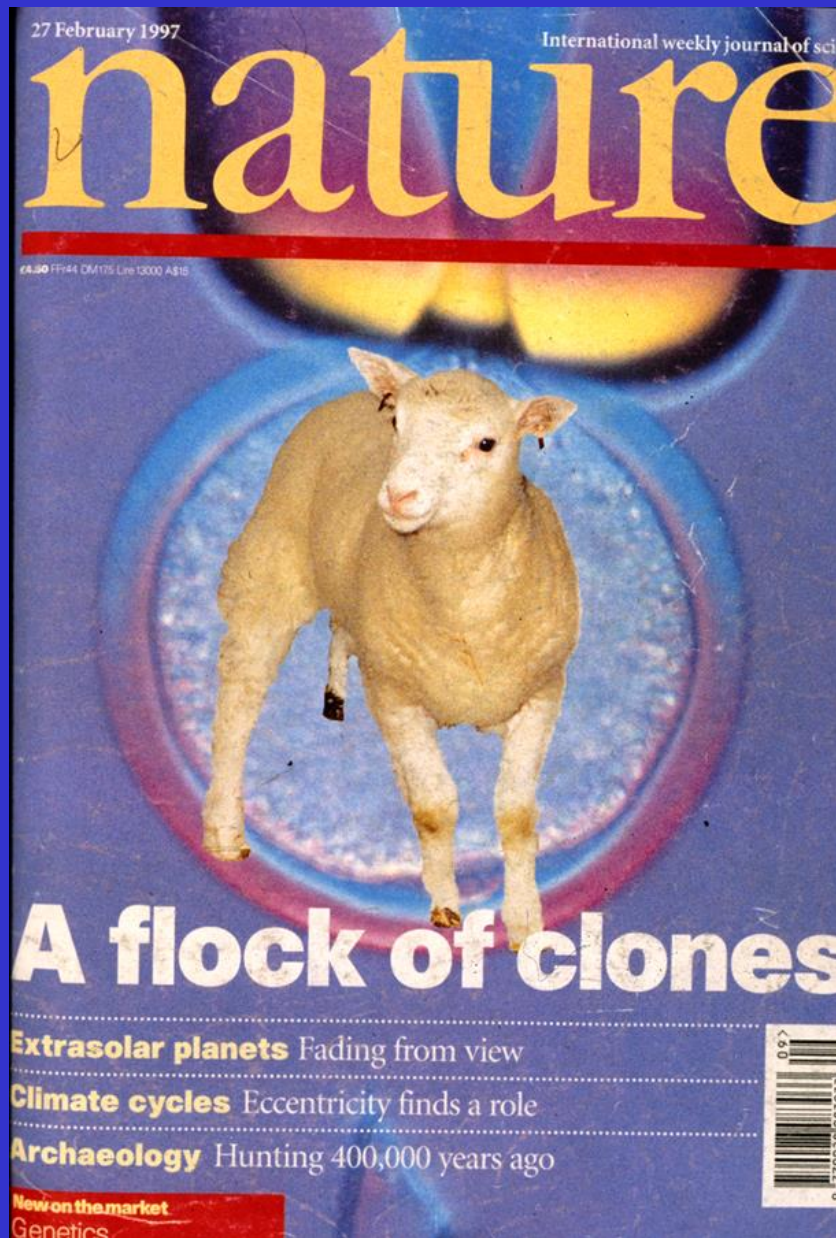


# IVF (In Vitro Fertilization) and Embryo transfer



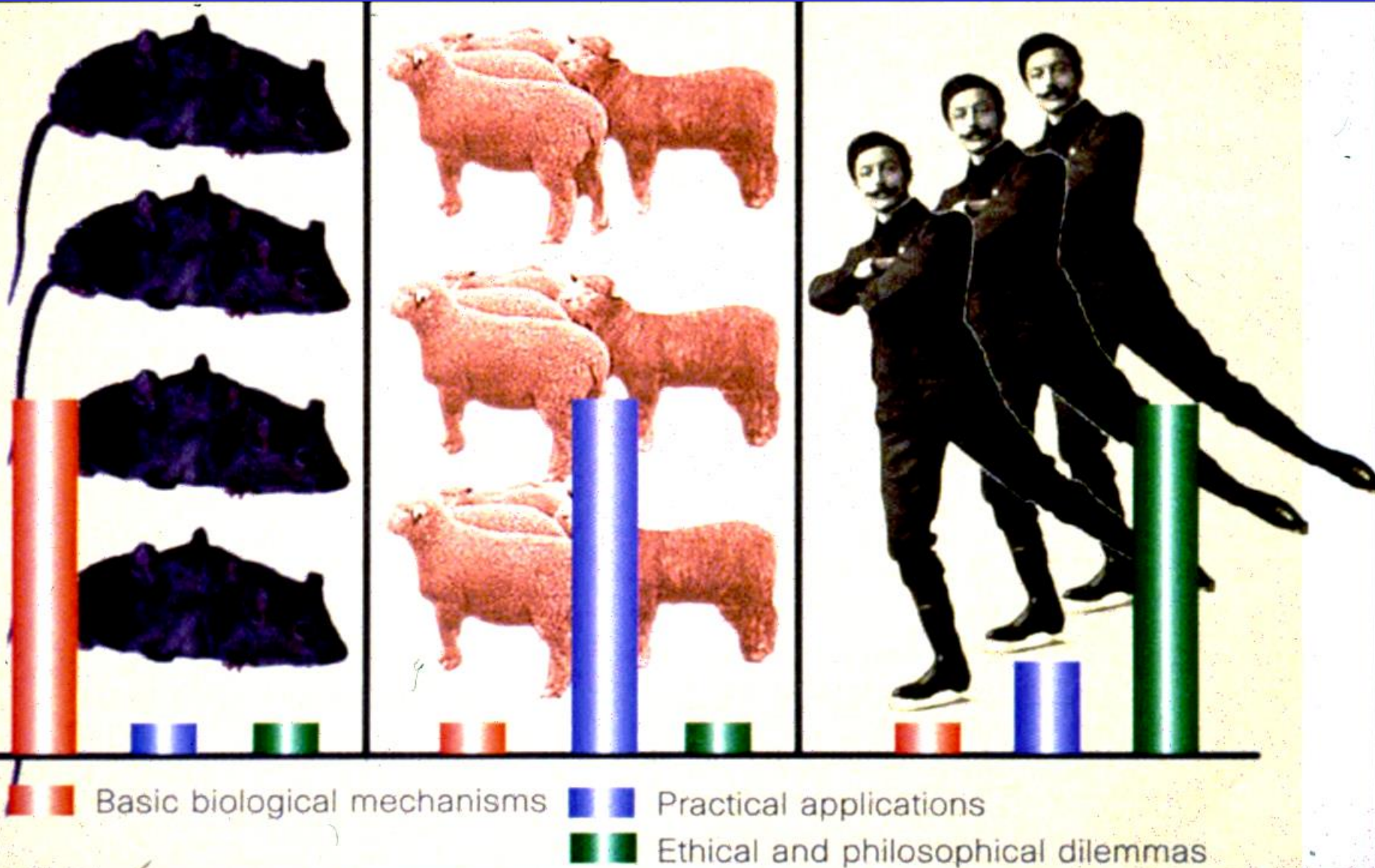
■ **Figure 2-18.** In vitro fertilization and embryo transfer procedures.

# 複製羊 "桃莉" (Nature 385: 810-813, 1997)



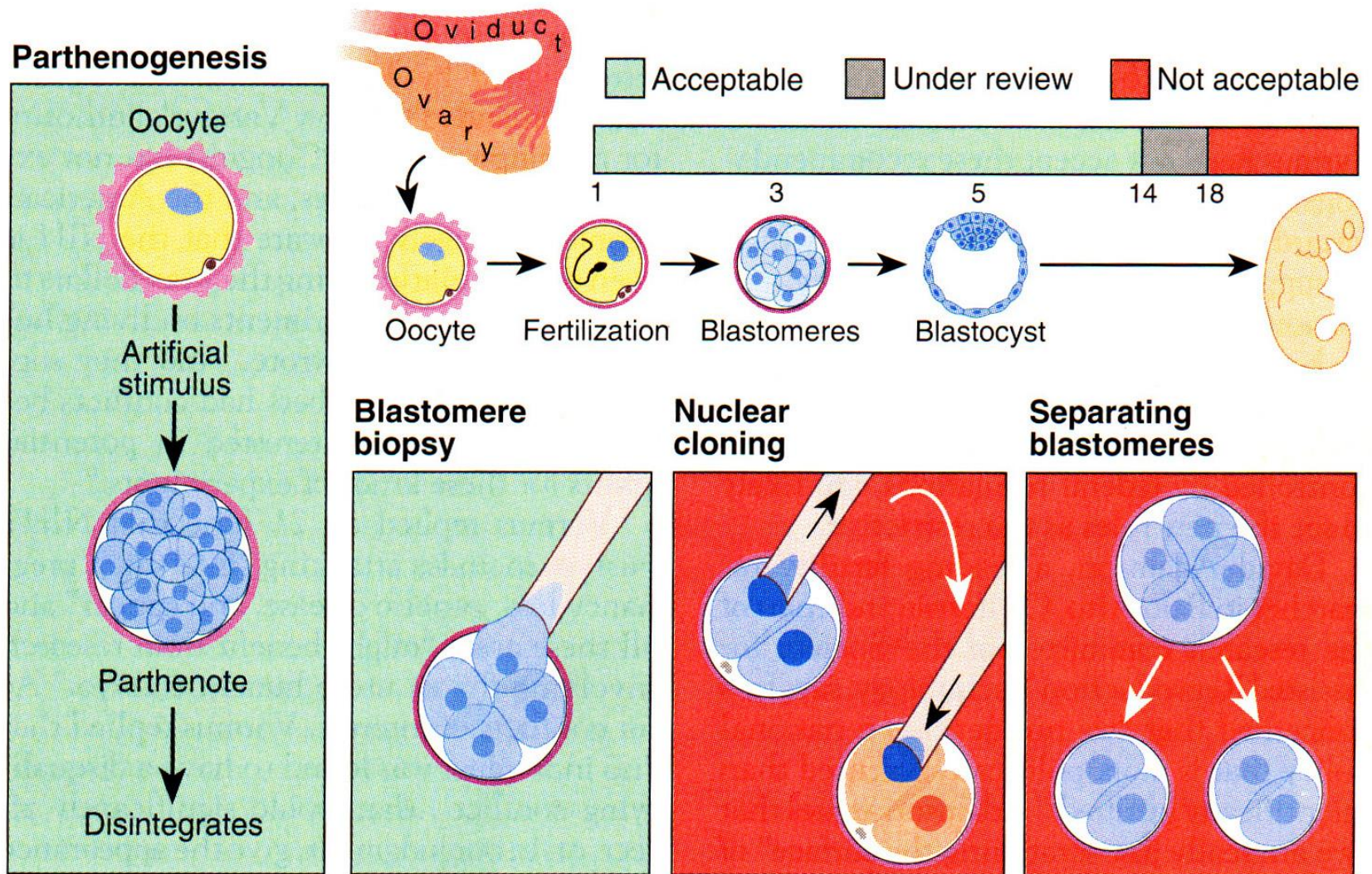


# 人類基因與胚胎轉殖的可行性與相關道德倫理及法律問題





# 美國國家衛生研究院(NIH)對人類胚胎研究規範



**Fertile grounds for debate.** The NIH panel's decisions were based on timing with respect to fertilization (*above*) as well as on general ethical considerations (*below*); as a result of the latter, "twinning" by separating blastomeres was ruled out along with some other procedures.



# MULLER PANEL'S GUIDELINES—IN GESTATION

## FUND NOW, WITH NIH CASE-BY-CASE APPROVAL

- Research on existing, unused in vitro embryos, up to 14th day
- Limited creation of in vitro embryos for baseline data, but only for “compelling” research
- Cell extraction (blastomere biopsy) from embryos before implantation
- Derivation of cell lines from existing unused embryos
- Maturing unfertilized eggs (parthenotes) for research

## NEEDING FURTHER CONSIDERATION

- Use of fetal oocytes to create embryos for research only
- Research on existing embryos beyond 14th day to neural tube closure
- Cloning by blastomere or blastocyst separation, research only
- Use of existing embryos for research when one progenitor was an anonymous gamete donor who received monetary compensation, or cannot be located to give explicit consent



# NIH Muller Panel's Guidelines – in Gestation

## NOT ACCEPTABLE

- Transfer of human embryos to animals for gestation
- Transfer of research embryos or parthenotes to humans
- Research on embryos beyond neural tube closure (18th day)
- Twinning (separation of blastomeres) for gestation
- Cloning of embryos by nuclear transplantation
- Creation of human-human or human-animal chimeras
- Creation of embryos strictly for research material, e.g., stem cells
- Cross species fertilization with human gametes, except clinical testing of sperm penetration (with hamster eggs)
- Transfer of embryos to cavity other than uterus
- Sex selection of embryos, except to prevent x-linked diseases
- Use of sperm, eggs, or embryos from donors who did not give explicit consent to research
- Use of sperm, eggs, or embryos for which donors received more than reasonable compensation