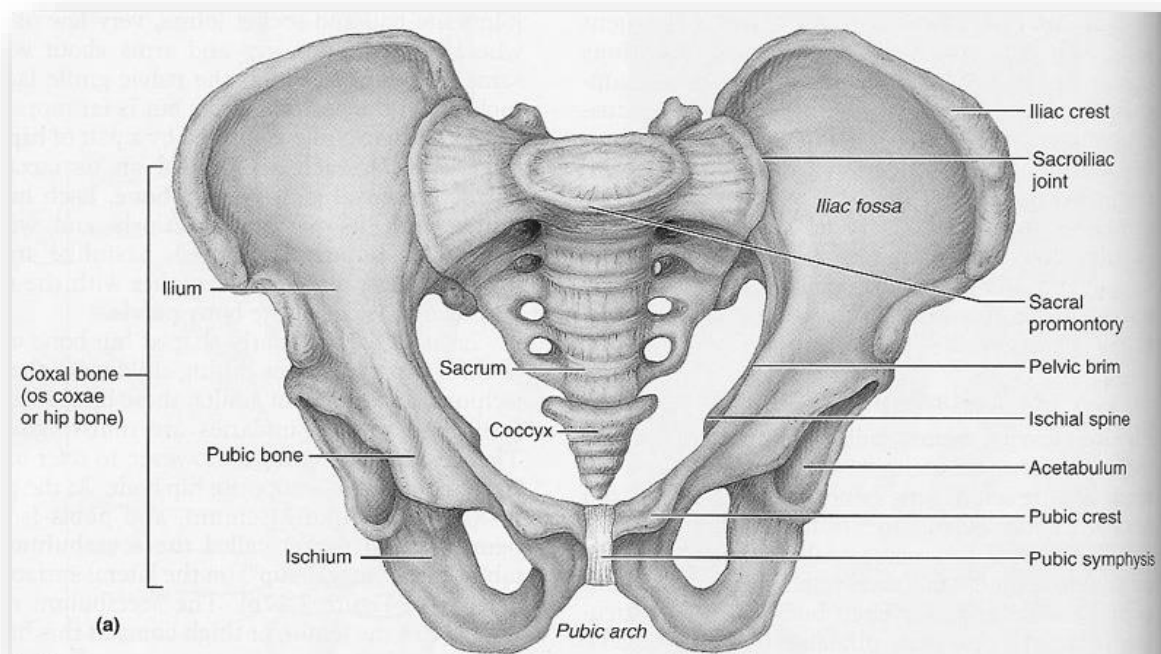


Anatomy of the Female Reproductive System



I. Bonny Pelvis

A. Pelvic Bones:

The pelvis is composed of (4) bones:

1. Two hips or innominate bones
2. One sacrum
3. One coccyx

1. Hip or innominate bones:

These are two large at the sides and front of the pelvis, each contains three parts:

- i. Ilium
- ii. Ischeium
- iii. Pubis

2. *Sacrum:*

It forms the posterior wall of the pelvis and suspended between the two hipbones at the sacro-iliac joints. It is composed of five sacral vertebrae

3. *Coccyx:*

A small bone situated below the sacrum. It consists of four rudimentary coccygeal vertebrae. It joins the sacrum at the sacrococcygeal joint.

B. *Pelvic Joints:*

There are four joints:

1. *Sacro-iliac joints:*

These are two; each of them lies on each side of the sacrum and joins it with the Ilium of the hipbone.

2. *Sacro-coccygeal joint:*

Between the fifth sacral and first coccygeal vertebrae.

3. *Symphysis pubis:*

Between the two bodies of the pelvic bone

C. *Pelvic Ligaments:*

There are six ligaments:

1. *Sacro-tuberous ligaments:*

There are two running from the sides of the sacrum to the ischial tuberosity.

2. *Sacro-spinous ligaments:*

There are two running from the sides of the sacrum to the ischial spines.

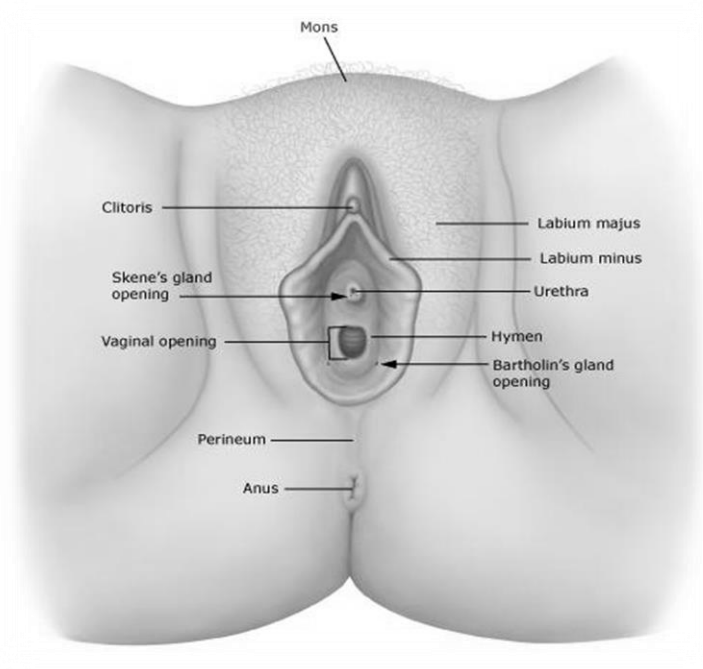
3. *Sacro-iliac ligaments:*

There are two joining the sacrum's sides with Ilium.

II. Soft Tissues

A. External genitalia:

1. Mons verneris
2. Labia majora
3. Labia minora
4. Clitoris
5. Hymen
6. Skene's glands
7. Bartholin's glands
8. Pelvic floor



B. Internal genitalia:

1. Ovaries:

i. Size & Shape:

Two almond shaped organs of 2-4 cm long and 1.5 cm thick.

ii. Location:

They lie in the upper part of the pelvic cavity, embedded in the broad ligaments and on both sides of the uterus below and behind the fallopian tubes.

iii. *Structure:*

Each consists of three main layers:

- ❧ **Surface epithelium**
- ❧ **Cortex**, which is filled with connective tissues along with the primordial follicles
- ❧ **Medulla**, which is mainly supportive muscle fibrous & blood vessels

iv. *Function:*

The ovaries have two main functions:

- a. Production of female hormones; estrogen & progesterone
- b. Production of the mature ovum

2. *Fallopian tubes:*

i. *Size & Location:*

These two tubes enter the uterus at each top corner. It is about 10 cm long with the thickness of a pencil. The outer ends open into the peritoneal cavity and thus connect this cavity via the uterus to the vagina and exterior.

ii. *Parts:*

Each tube is divided into four parts:

- a. **Interstitial part**, that is inside the uterine wall.
- b. **Isthmus**; that is the thin portion just beside the interstitial portion.
- c. **Ampulla**; that is the wide position in which fertilization takes place
- d. **Fimbria**; that is the fimbriated end that opens close to the ovary

iii. *Structure:*

Each tube has a muscular wall lined by ciliated columnar epithelium. The cilia are hair-like processes projecting from the top of the cells. They wave in one direction and have the function of propelling the ovum from the ovary to the uterus.

iv. Functions:

They have two main functions:

- a. It collects and conveys the ovum from the ovary to the uterus. Both the cilia and the peristaltic movements do this.
- b. It is the place where fertilization takes place.

3. Uterus:

i. Size & Shape:

A pear-shaped organ is flattened anteroposteriorly. It is 5-7 cm long, 2.5 cm breadth, and 1.5 cm anteroposteriorly.

ii. Parts:

It has two main parts:

- a. **Cervix;** 2.5 cm long & projects into the vagina. It has an internal OS, a canal, and an external OS.
- b. **Body;** 3.5 cm long, roughly like an inverted triangle with the internal OS at the apex. At each corner, a fallopian tube enters. Between the points of the entrance of the tubes, the top of the uterus is called the fundus.

iii. Location:

It is related in front to the bladder and behind to the rectum; from which it is separated by Douglas pouch.

iv. Position:

It is one of the anteversion-antiflexion

v. Structure:

The uterine wall is composed of three layers:

- a. Endometrium (the inner)
- b. Myometrium (the middle)
- c. Perimetrium (the outer)

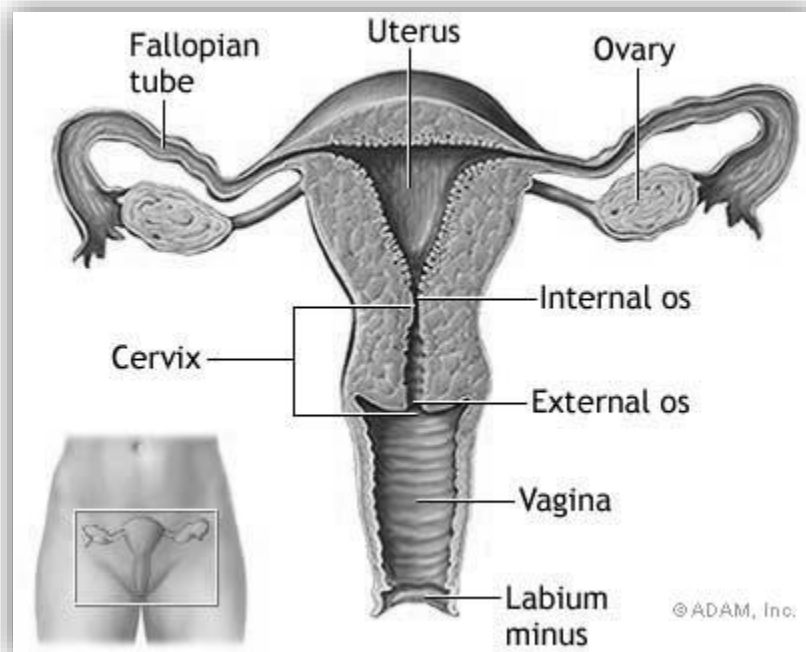
vi. *Support:*

The uterus is supported by:

- a. Round ligaments
- b. Broad ligaments
- c. Pelvic floor muscles
- d. Cardinal muscles
- e. Utero-sacral ligaments
- f. Pubo-cervical ligaments
- g. Vaginal canal

vii. *Functions:*

- a. It is the baby's house
- b. It is the place for menstruation



4. *Vagina:*

i. *Location & position:*

It is an elastic muscular tube connecting the vaginal introitus and the cervix. It lies between the bladder and urethra anteriorly and the rectum posteriorly.

ii. *Size:*

The length of the anterior wall of the vagina is 6-7 cm, while that of the posterior wall is 8-9 cm.

iii. Structure:

The upper portion of the vagina is called the vault, in which part of the cervix is hanging. This vault has four fornix; the anterior, posterior, and two lateral ones on each side.

iv. Functions:

- a. It is the female sex organ.
- b. It is the pathway for menstrual blood as well as the baby & its accessories.

Pelvic Organs

