

Introduction

The organs of the integumentary system include the skin and its accessory structures including hair, nails, and glands, as well as blood vessels, muscles and nerves.

Introduction

The integumentary system:

- Maintains the body's integrity
- Maintains temperature
- Converts inactive vitamin D to its active form
- Provides sensory information
- Maintains homeostasis.





Structures of the Skin

The skin has 3 major layers:

- The outer is called the epidermis
- The inner is called the dermis
- The subcutaneous (subQ) layer (also called the hypodermis) is located underneath the dermis.











The Epidermis

Keratinocytes produce keratin - a tough fibrous protein that provides protection.

Melanocytes produce the pigment melanin

- Intraepidermal macrophages are involved in the immune responses.
- Tactile epithelial cells function in the sensation of touch.

The Epidermis

The epidermis is composed of four layers in thin skin, and five layers in thick skin. They are (from deep to superficial):

- The stratum basale
- The stratum spinosum
- The stratum granulosum
- The stratum lucidum (only present in thick skin)
- The stratum corneum



The Epidermis

Types of skin:

- Thin (hairy) skin covers all body regions except the palms, palmar surfaces of digits, and soles.
- Thick (hairless) skin covers the palms, palmar
- surfaces of digits, and soles.





Skin Pigments

 Albinism is a congenital disorder characterized by the complete or partial absence of pigment in the skin, hair, and eyes due to a defect of an enzyme involved in the production of melanin.

The Epidermis

Skin Pigments

 Vitiligo is a chronic disorder that causes depigmentation patches in the skin. The precise cause, is not known, but is most likely a combination of genetic factors coupled with a disorder of the immune system (autoimmune disease).

The Dermis

The dermis is composed of **connective tissue** containing collagen and elastic fibers.

It contains two regions:

- The papillary region lies just below the epidermis
- The reticular region consists of dense irregular connective tissue

The Subcutaneous Layer

The **subcutaneous layer** is also called the **hypodermis**, and it attaches the skin to underlying tissues and organs.



Sensory Receptors

The skin contains different types of sensory receptors found in different layers:

- Superficially
 - Type I cutaneous mechanoreceptors, free nerve endings, corpuscles of touch and hair root plexuses
- Deep
 - Lamellated corpuscles







Hair

Present on most surfaces except the palms, anterior surfaces of fingers, and the soles of the feet.

Composed of dead, keratinized epidermal cells.

Genetics determines thickness and distribution.











Skin Glands

The skin contains 4 types of glands.

- Sebaceous (oil) glands are connected to hair follicles.
- Eccrine sweat glands are the most numerous.
- Apocrine sweat glands are located mainly in hairy skin.
- Ceruminous glands are modified sweat glands located in the ear canal.



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Nails

Made of keratinized epidermal cells

Nail structures include:

- Free edge
- Transparent nail body (plate) with a whitish lunula at its base
- Nail root embedded in a fold of skin



(a) Dorsal view





The Integumentary System

Anatomy Overview:

The Integumentary System

You must be connected to the Internet and in Slideshow Mode to run this animation.







Development of the Integumentary System

The epidermis develops from the ectoderm.





Aging

The integumentary system changes with age:

- Wrinkles develop.
- Dehydration and cracking occurs.
- Sweat production decreases.
- A decrease in the numbers of functional melanocytes results in gray hair and atypical skin pigmentation.
- Subcutaneous fat is lost, and there is a general decrease in skin thickness.
- Nails may also become more brittle.

Aging

With age, there is also an increased susceptibility to pressure ulcers ("bed sores").



Pressure ulcer on heel

Skin Cancer

Excessive exposure to ultraviolet light (from the sun or tanning salons) is the most common cause of skin cancer. The three major types are basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma and malignant melanoma.



(b) Malignant melanoma

Burns

A **burn** is tissue damage caused by excessive heat, electricity, radioactivity, or corrosive chemicals that denature (break down) the proteins in the skin cells.

Burns are graded according to their severity.

Burns A first-degree burn involves only the epidermis (sunburn). Breather is (sunburn). Breather is (sunburn).









End of Chapter 5

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