

Introduction

The skeletal system has 6 important functions:

- Provides support
- Protects the internal organs (brain, heart, etc.)
- Assists body movements (in conjunction with muscles)
- Stores and releases salts of calcium and phosphorus
- Participates in blood cell production (hemopoiesis)
- Stores triglycerides in adipose cells of yellow marrow

Structure of Bone

A long bone consists of several parts:

- Diaphysis (bone shaft)
- 2 epiphyses (both ends of the bone at the joints)
- 2 metaphyses (region between diaphysis and epiphysis)
- Articular cartilage covering both epiphyses
- Periosteum (connective tissue surrounding the diaphysis)
- Medullary cavity (hollow space within diaphysis)
- Endosteum (thin membrane lining the medulary cavity)





Histology of Bone

Bone contains 4 types of cells:

- Osteoprogenitor cells (bone stem cells able to differentiate into the other types of cells)
- Osteoblasts (bone-building cells that secrete matrix)
- Osteocytes (mature bone cells)
- Osteoclasts (remodel bones and cause them to release calcium)









Periosteal arteries (accompanied by nerves) enter the diaphysis through Volkmann's canals. They are accompanied by **periosteal veins**.

A **nutrient artery** enters the center of the diaphysis through a **nutrient foramen**. **Nutrient veins** exit via the same canal.

The metaphyses and epiphyses also have their own arteries and veins.





Bone Formation

Ossification (osteogenesis) is the process of bone formation.

Bones form in 4 situations:

- During embryological and fetal development
- When bones grow before adulthood
- When bones remodel
- When fractures heal

Bone Formation

Ossification takes place in 2 forms: Intramembranous and endochondral.

Intramembranous ossification occurs in flat bones when a connective tissue membrane is replaced by bone.

















Bone Growth and Remodeling

Interactions Animation:

Bone Growth and Remodeling

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

Bone Remodeling and Rescription

Interactions Animation:

Bone Dynamics and Tissue

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Fracture and Repair of Bone

A fracture is a break in a bone. Many different types of fractures may occur. The healing process involves 3 different phases in 4 steps.

- The **reactive phase** is an early inflammatory phase.
- The **reparative phase** includes formation of a fibrocartilaginous callus first and a bony callus second.
- The **bone remodeling phase** is the last step as the bony callus is remodeled.











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Bone's Role in Calcium Homeostasis

Bones store 99% of the body's calcium. The parathyroid gland secretes **Parathyroid hormone (PTH)** when calcium levels drop. Osteoclasts are stimulated to increase bone resorption and calcium is released. PTH also stimulates the production of **calcitriol** by the kidneys to increase calcium absorption in the intestines.



Aging and Bone Tissue

From birth through adolescence, more bone is produced than is lost during remodeling. In adults, the rates are the same. Older individuals, especially post-menopausal women, experience a decrease in bone mass when resorption outpaces deposition.



End of Chapter 6

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