

Ossification.—The inferior nasal concha is ossified from a single center, which appears about the fifth month of fetal life in the lateral wall of the cartilaginous nasal capsule.

Articulations.—The inferior nasal concha articulates with *four* bones: the ethmoid, maxilla, lacrimal, and palatine.

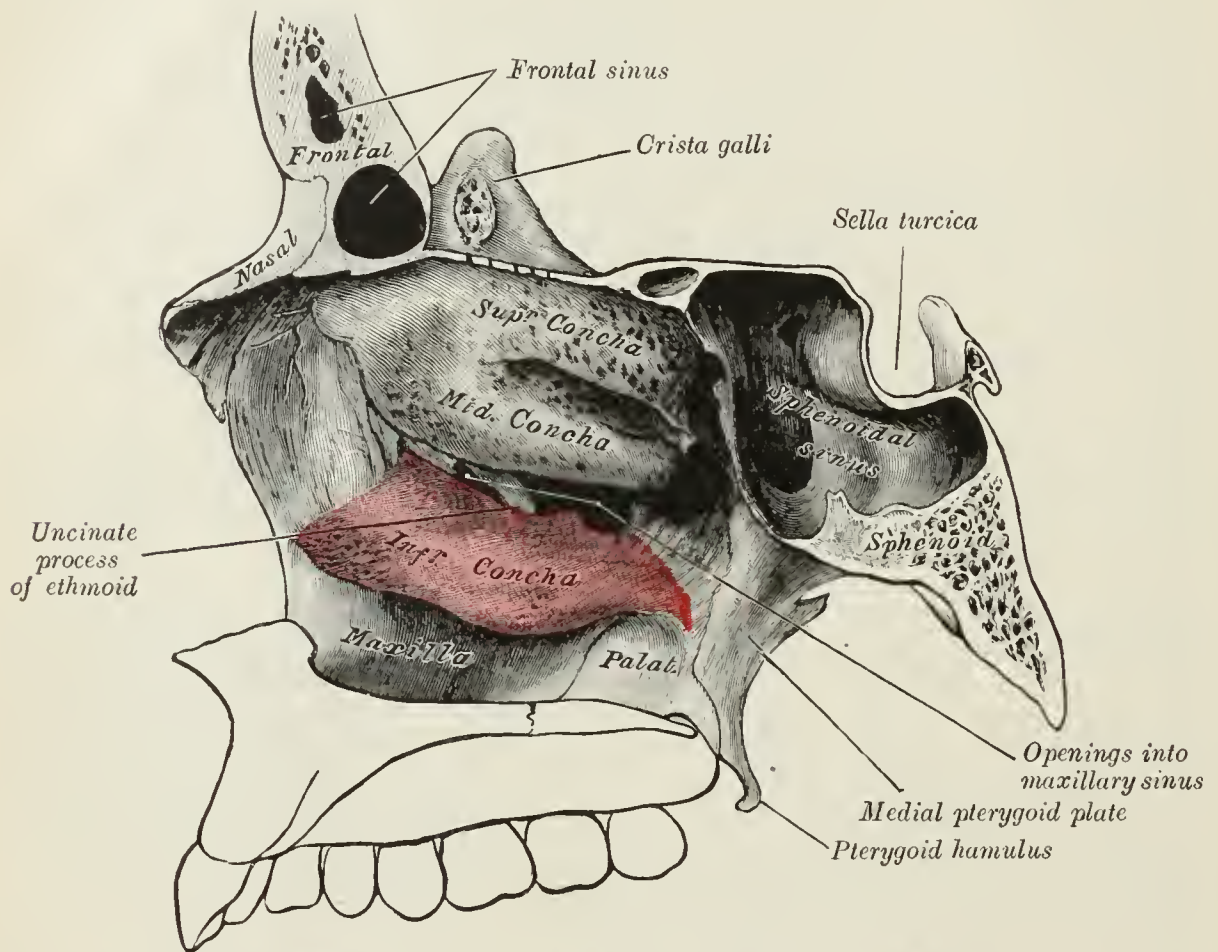


FIG. 170.—Lateral wall of right nasal cavity showing inferior concha *in situ*.

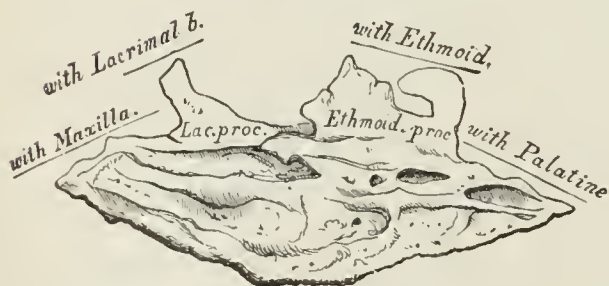


FIG. 171.—Right inferior nasal concha. Medial surface.

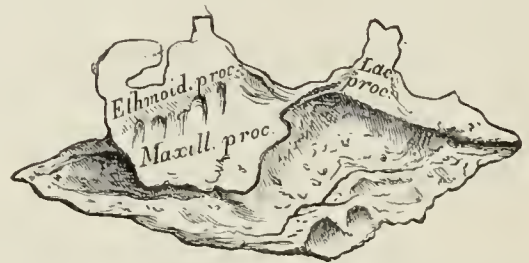


FIG. 172.—Right inferior nasal concha. Lateral surface.

The Vomer.

The **vomer** is situated in the median plane, but its anterior portion is frequently bent to one or other side. It is thin, somewhat quadrilateral in shape, and forms the hinder and lower part of the nasal septum (Fig. 173); it has two surfaces and four borders. The **surfaces** (Fig. 174) are marked by small furrows for blood-vessels, and on each is the **nasopalatine groove**, which runs obliquely downward and forward, and lodges the nasopalatine nerve and vessels. The **superior border**, the thickest, presents a deep furrow, bounded on either side by a horizontal projecting ala of bone; the furrow receives the rostrum of the sphenoid, while the margins of the alæ articulate with the vaginal processes of the medial pterygoid plates of the sphenoid behind, and with the sphenoidal processes of the palatine bones in front. The **inferior border** articulates with the crest formed by the maxillæ