



BLOCK RRS-209

Respiratory - Renal System

Lecture Respiratory System

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Learning objectives

After this lecture, students should be able to:

Know the different classifications of the respiratory tract: - Conducting and respiratory portions.

- Correlate functions of the conducting & respiratory portions with histological structure.

- Discriminate the type of the lining epithelium of the respiratory system

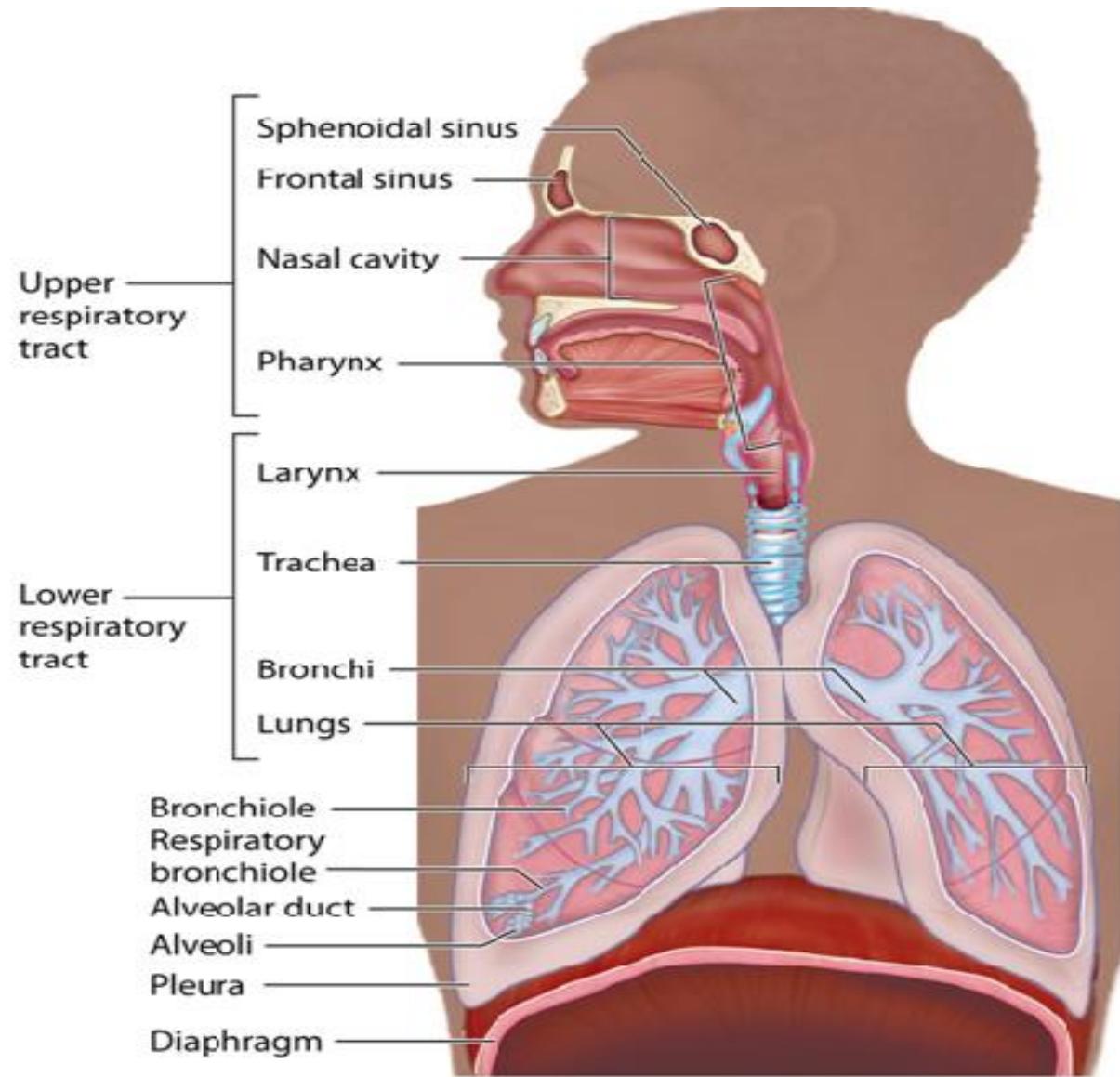
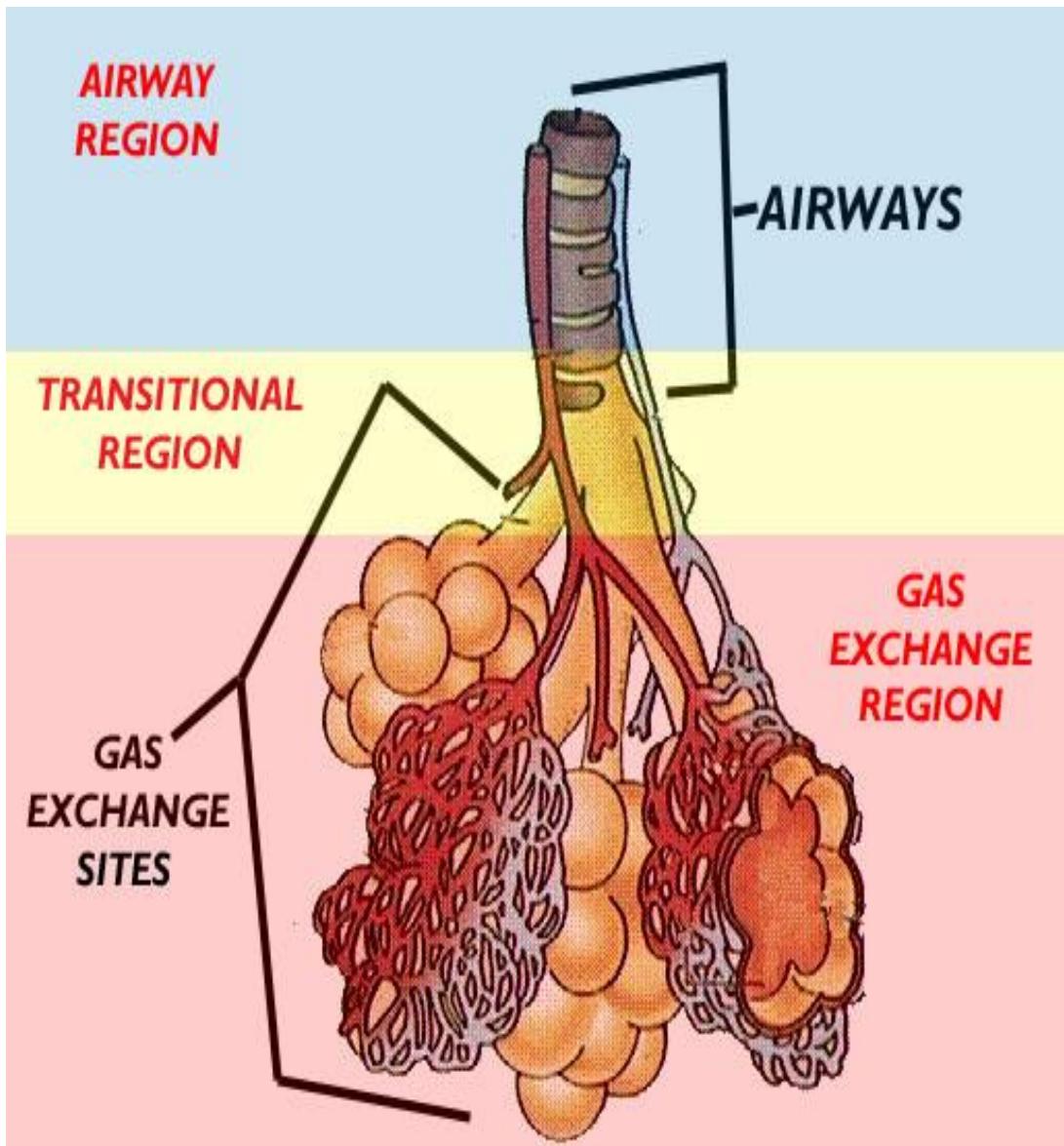
- Compare between the histological structure of the trachea, bronchi, bronchioles, alveoli and discriminate the type of their lining epithelium.
- Describe the histological structure of Clara (club) cell and identify its function

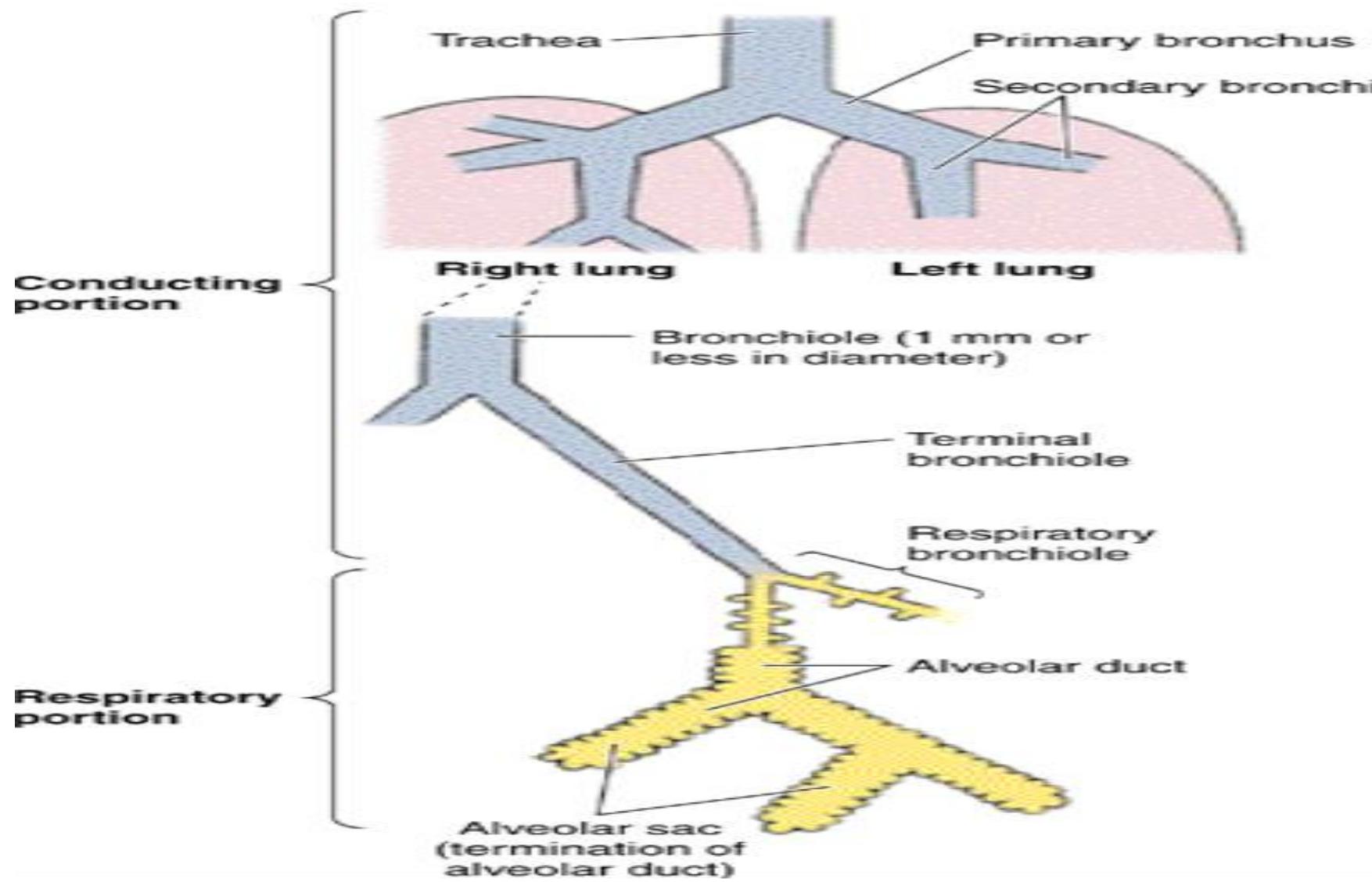
Conducting & respiratory portions of the Respiratory tract

• **The conducting portion:**
{does not participate in gas exchange} consists of nasal cavity, paranasal sinuses, nasopharynx, larynx, trachea, bronchi and bronchioles that further divide into terminal bronchioles.

The respiratory portion:
(Lung parenchyma), participates in gas exchange consists of respiratory bronchioles, alveolar ducts, alveolar sacs and alveoli.

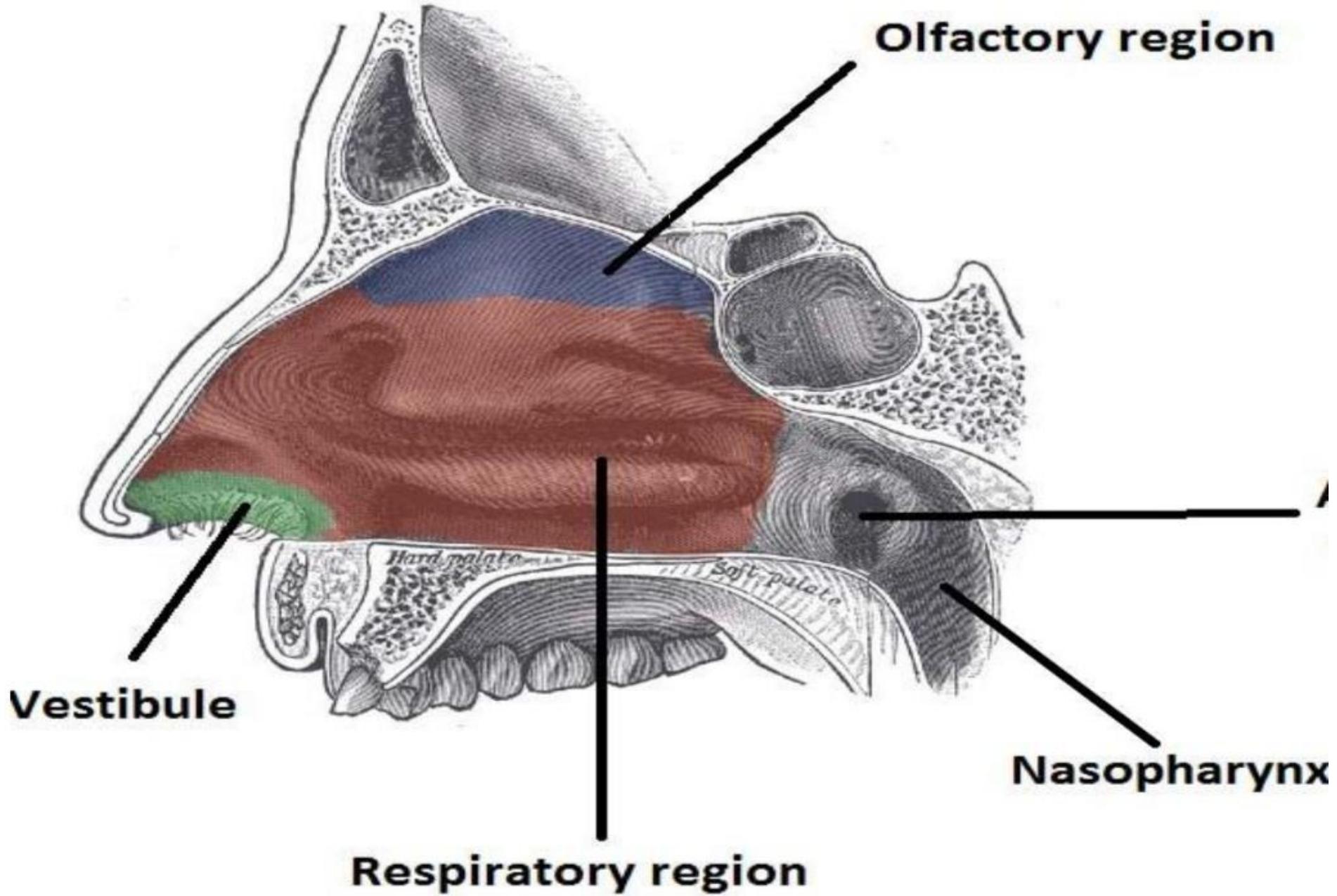
	Conducting portion	Respiratory portion
Functions	<p>Warm, humidify and filter air. {The activity of the <u>cilia</u> and the mucous secretion of <u>goblet cells</u> make up the “mucociliary escalator”, which is important in removing the inhaled particles}.</p>	<p>Gas exchange. {The lungs are the only place in our body where blood capillaries come into direct contact with the outside air, as a result of the fusion of the type I alveolar cells with the pulmonary capillary endothelium}.</p>

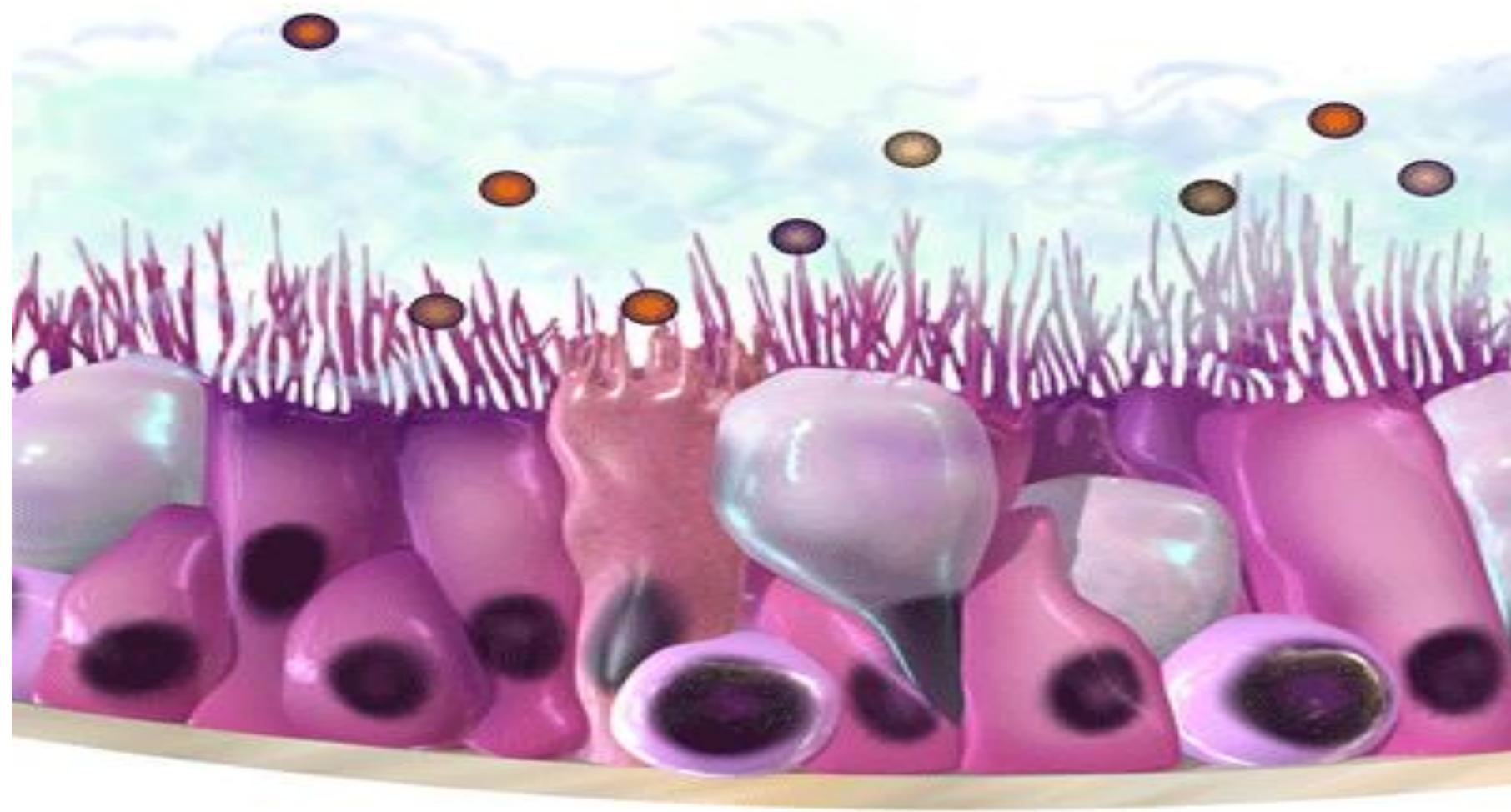




Nasal Cavity

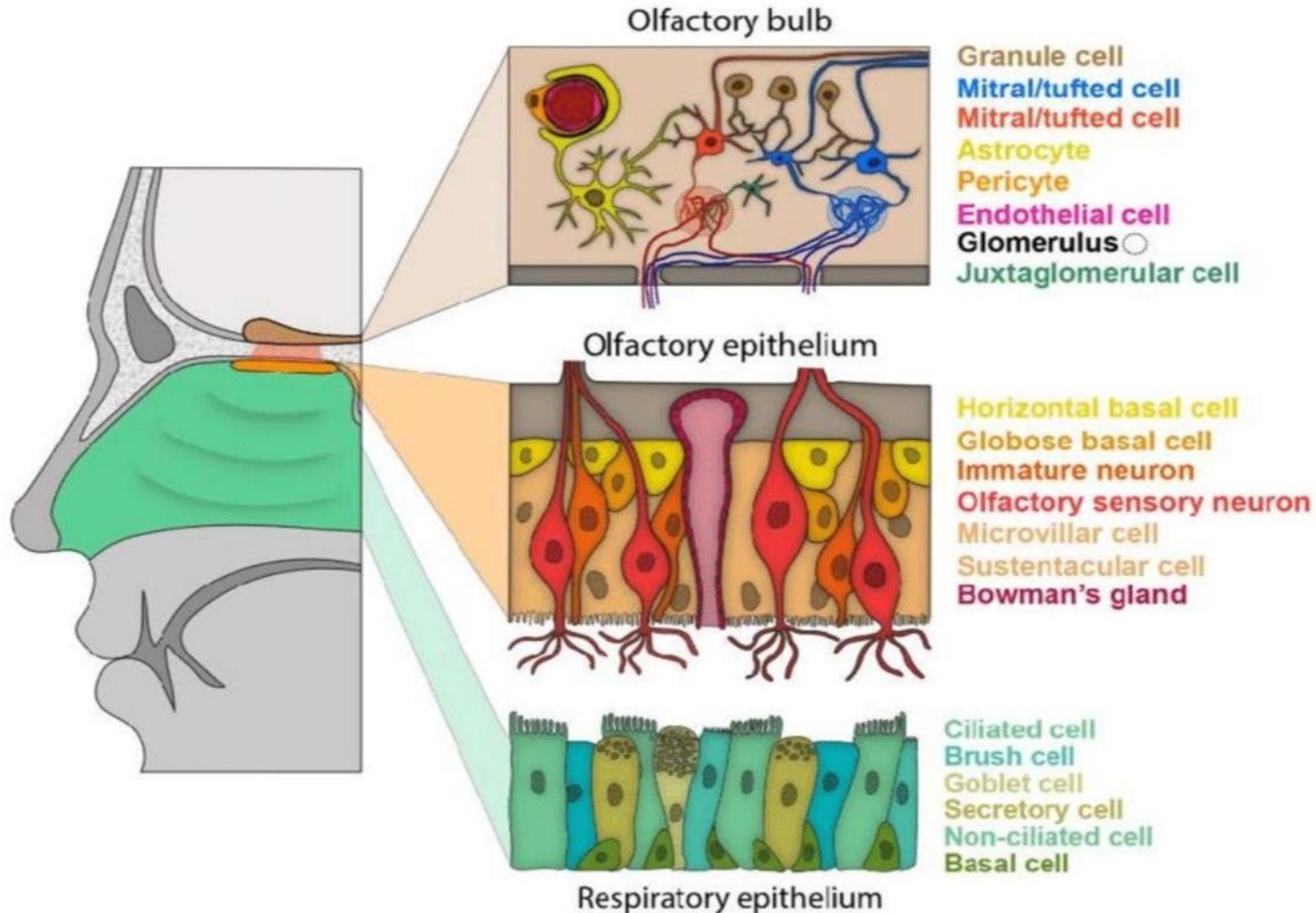
- The nose **moistens, warms inhaled air & preventing particulate matter from entering the airways**. It is playing an important role in the **sense of smell**.
- The left and right nasal cavities each have two components: **the external dilated vestibule and the internal nasal cavity**.
- Air enters the nose through the **anterior nares (nostrils)**, passing the 3 anterior nasal hairs (**vibrissae**); these trap and prevent inhalation of larger foreign particles.
- The epithelial lining changes shortly after entering the nose **from keratinized to respiratory epithelium**.
- **Olfactory epithelium**, possess receptors that bind **specific odorants**, is found in the **upper regions of the nasal airway** above the superior conchae and is specialized for **the detection of smell**

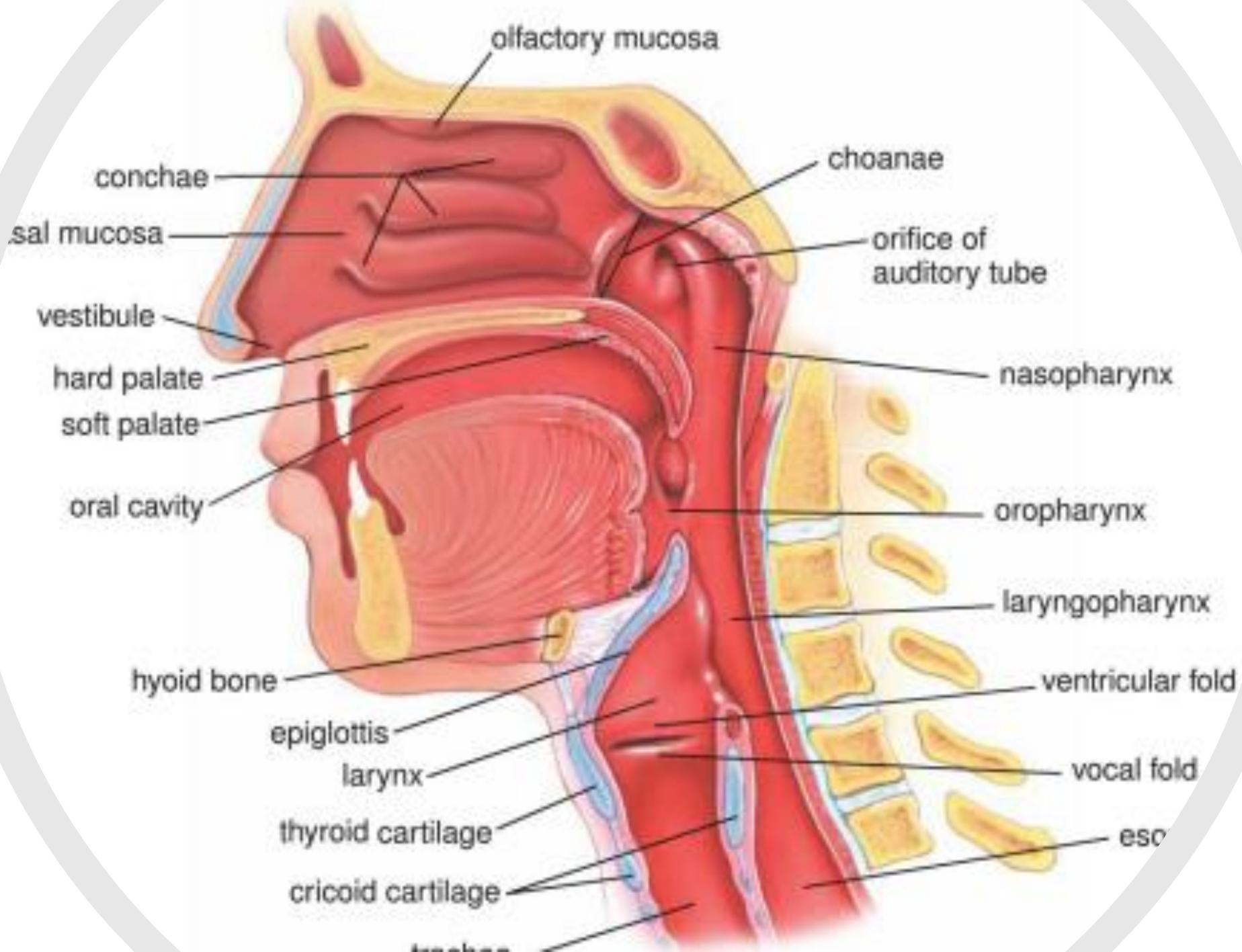




1- NASAL CAVITY

- **Anterior portion of the nasal cavity (vestibule):**
The vestibule is **lined with skin** and has **vibrissae**; short stiff hairs that prevent larger particles from entering the nasal cavity. The dermis contains **numerous sebaceous and sweat glands**.
- **Posterior portion of the nasal cavity:**
- Except for the vestibule and olfactory region, the nasal cavity is lined by **pseudostratified ciliated columnar epithelium**, frequently called **respiratory epithelium**.





- The **subepithelial C.T.** (Lamina propria) is richly **vascularized**. It has many **seromucous glands** and abundant lymphoid elements, including occasional **lymphoid nodules**.

- **Olfactory region of the nasal cavity:**

- **Site:** it is located in the **roof of the nasal cavity**, the superior aspect of the nasal septum and the superior conchae.

- **Olfactory epithelium:**

- It is **yellow** in the living person (due to the presence of pigment in the epithelium) and **responsible for perception of odours**.

- Olfactory epithelium is composed of **3 types of cells: olfactory, sustentacular and basal cells**.

Olfactory epithelium:

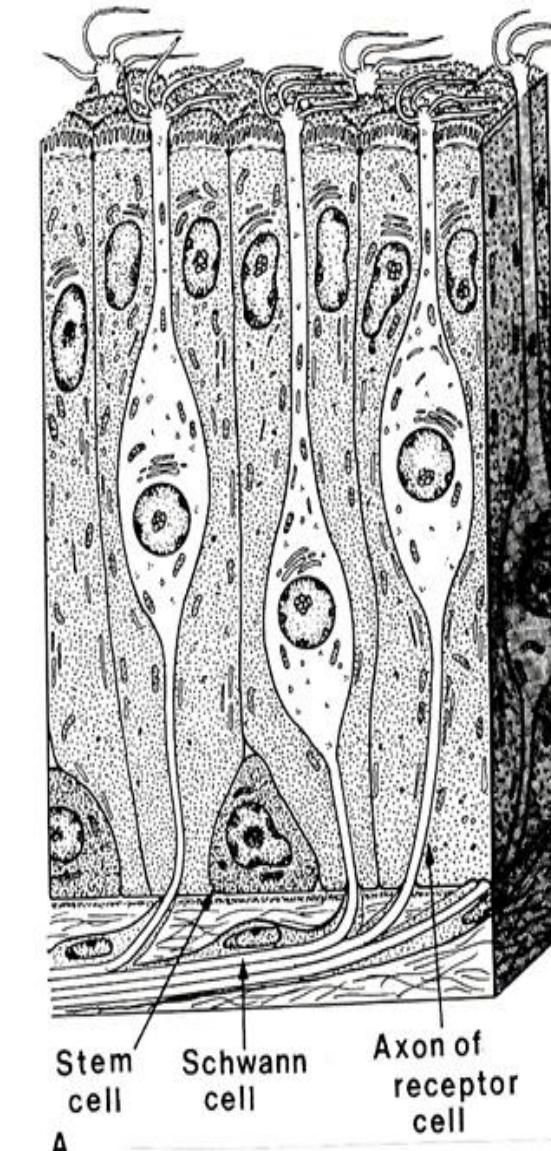
- Supporting cells:

- LM: They are tall columnar cells with fine yellowish granules in their cytoplasm that responsible for the yellowish color of the mucosa.
- The nucleus is oval and situated at the superficial portion of cytoplasm.
- Their free cell surface presents microvilli that covered with a thin film of serous fluid produced from the Bowman's glands.
- They joined with adjacent olfactory cells by junctional complexes to prevent separation of the cells and access of secretion.
- They have a supporting and nourishment function for olfactory cells.

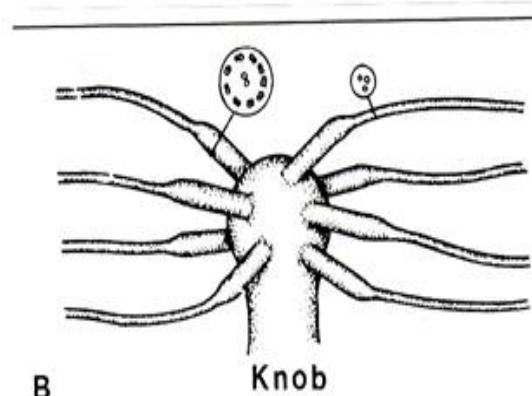
- b. Olfactory (chemoreceptor) cells

- They are **bipolar neurons** which lie in-between the supporting cells.
- They have **oval or rounded cell body** contain spherical nucleus, apical **dendrite** and basal **unmyelinated axons** directed to the olfactory bulb.
 - **The nucleus** is roundish and present in the widest part of the body.
 - The **cytoplasm** is more electron lucent than that of the other types of cells, and contains moderate **RER**, and moderate **supra-nuclear Golgi**.
 - Most of **organelles** are close to the nucleus. The apical **dendrite** is modified to form a roundish **olfactory vesicle** projecting above the surface of sustentacular cells.

- Long, non motile (lacking the dynein) olfactory cilia (6-8 cilia) extend from the **olfactory vesicles** which act as receptors.
- They are stimulated by **odoriferous substance** dissolved in serous secretions bathing olfactory cilia.
- The **axon of olfactory cells** penetrates the basal lamina and join together to form bundles of **nerve fibers**.
- The **nerve fibers** penetrate the **cribriform plate** of ethmoid in the roof of the nasal cavity to synapse



Olfactory mucosa showing the 3 cell types.
A: basal cells, B: supporting cells, C: olfactory cell

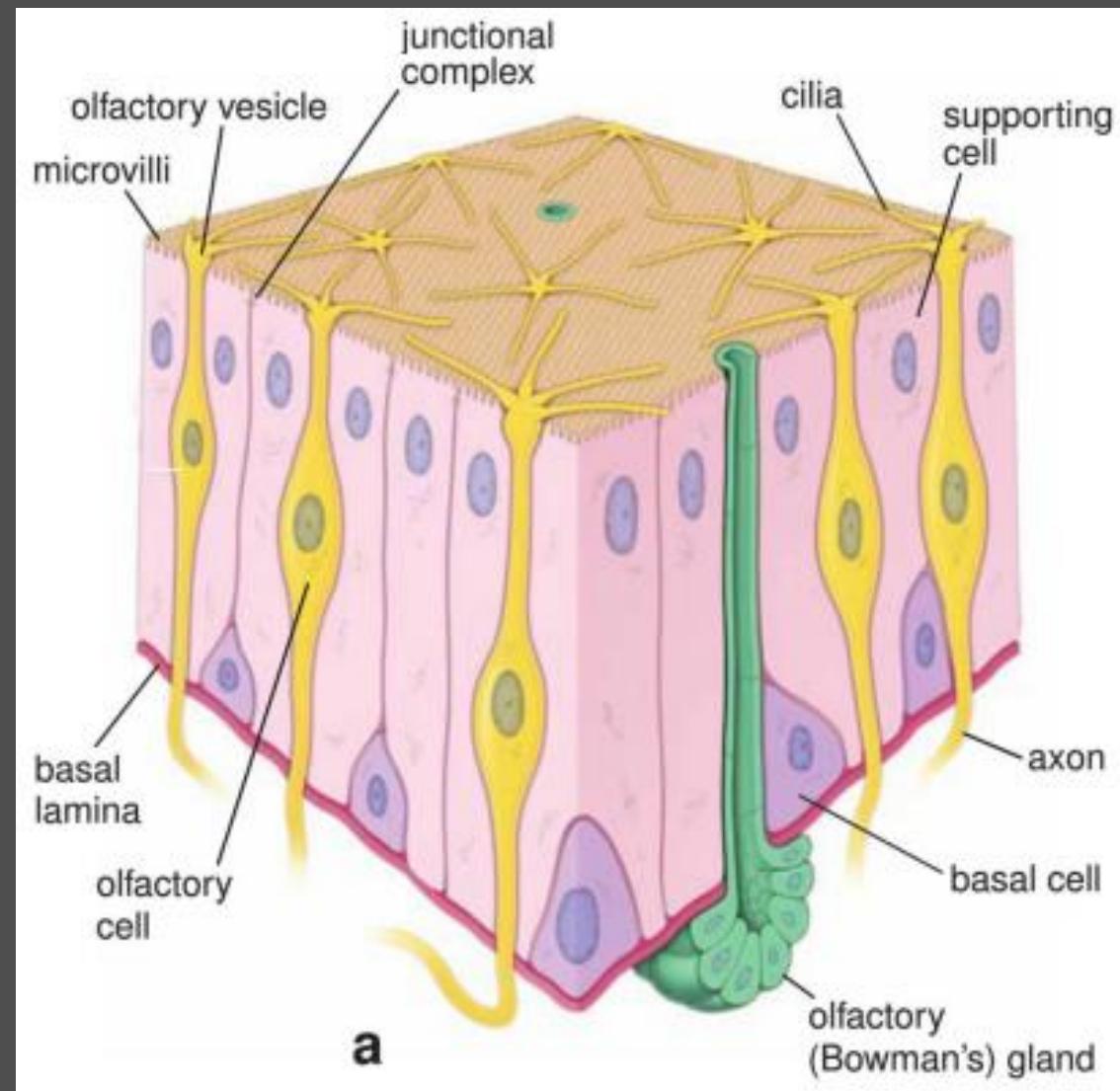


c. Basal (reserve or stem) cells

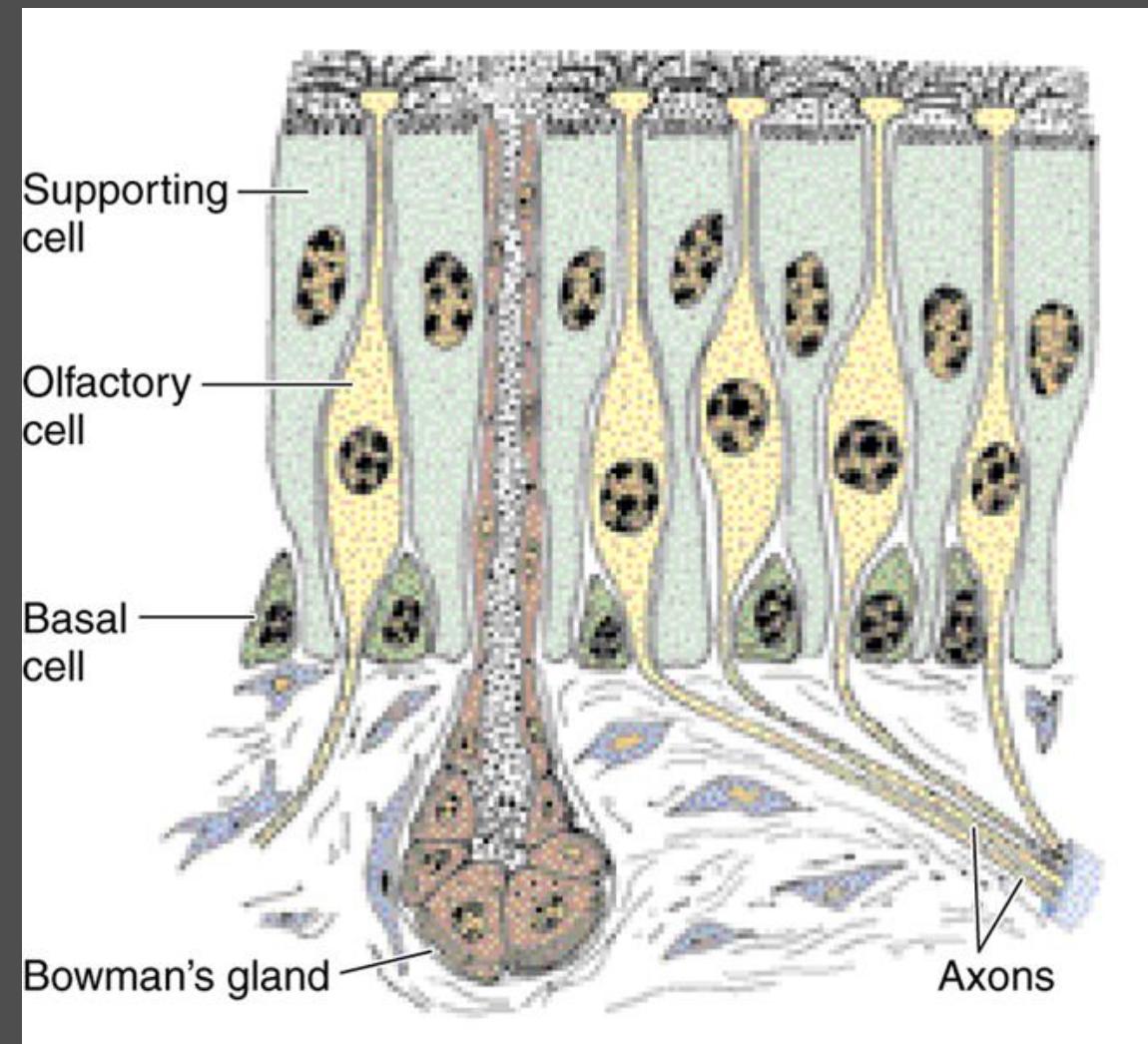
- They are **small rounded cells** located close to the basal lamina.
- Their **nuclei** are small darkly stained frequently invaginated.
- It lie **on the basement membrane** forming a **single layer** at the base of the epithelium.
- The **cytoplasm** contains **few organelles**, a feature consistent with their role as reserve cell.
- They can be **differentiated to form olfactory or sustentacular cells** (during prenatal life).
- The **neurons are not replaced at postnatal life.**

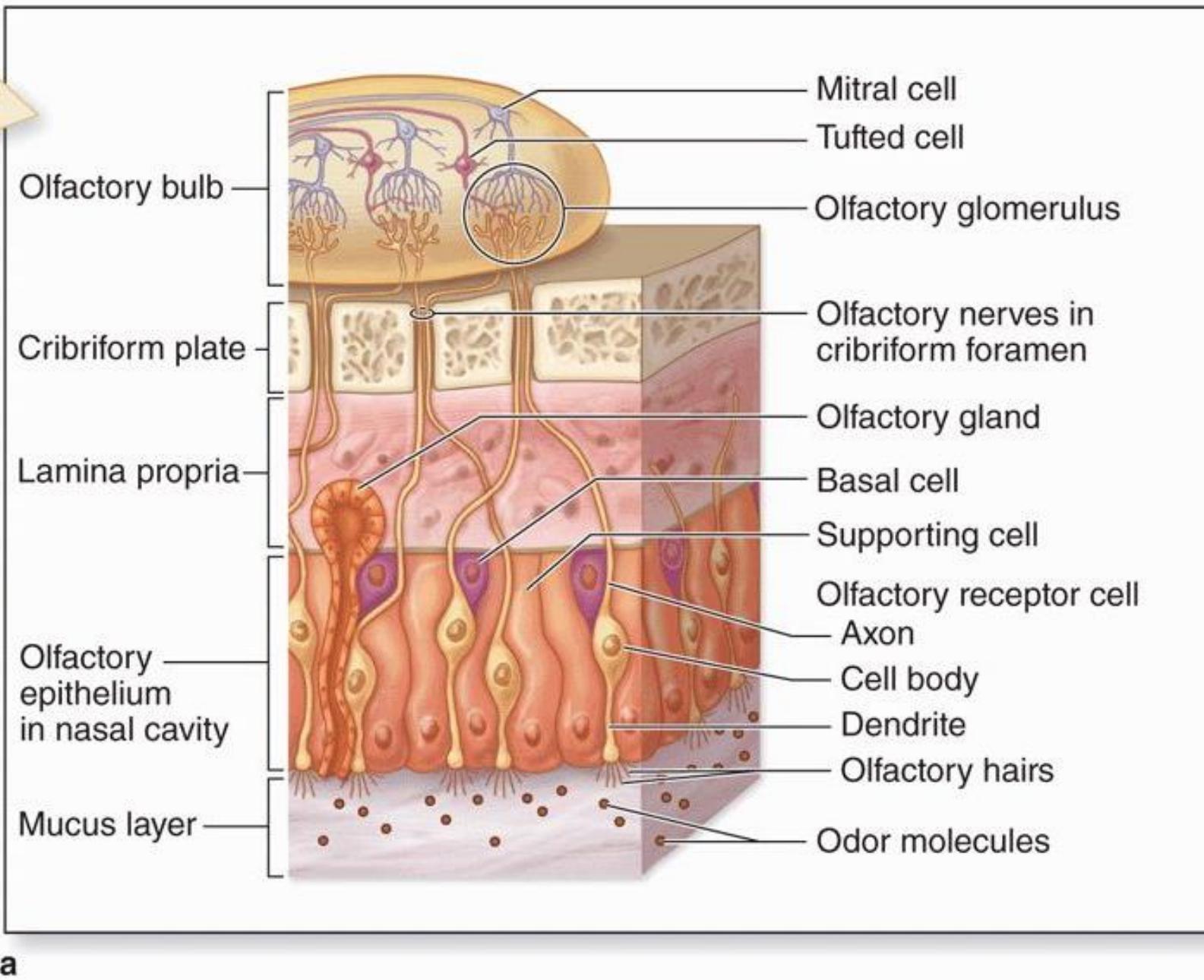
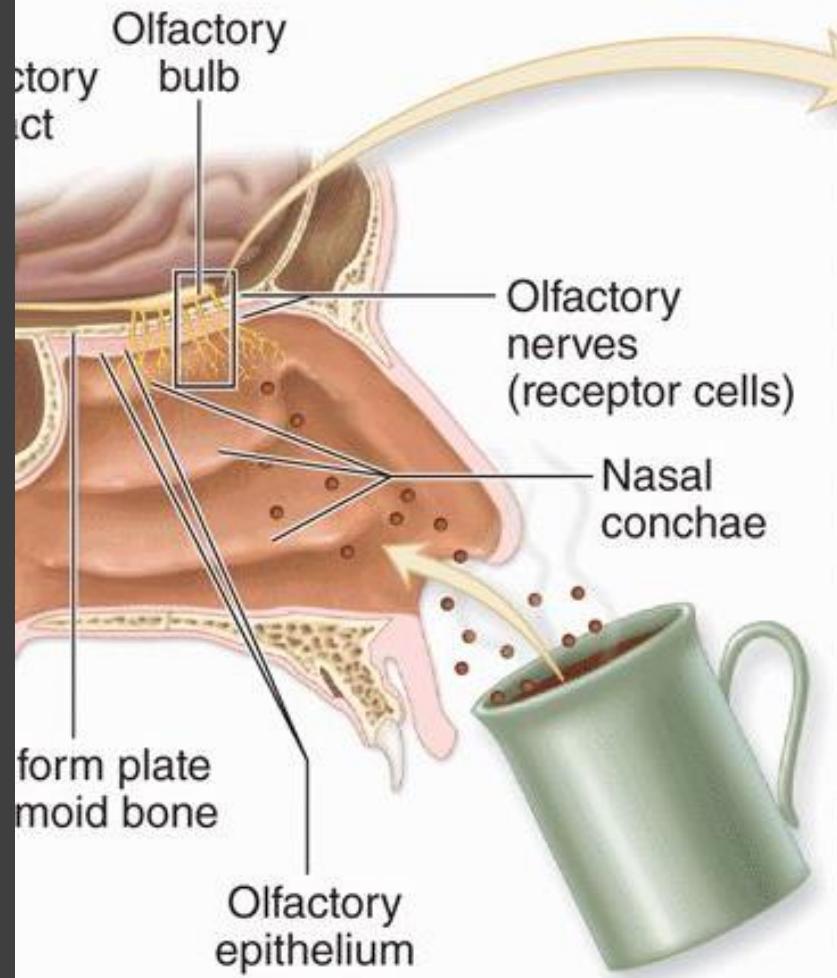
- b. **Lamina propria:**

- ► Formed of **dense fibro-elastic connective tissue** that contains serous glands (**Bowman's glands**).
- Their secretion covers **the olfactory cilia to clear them** and thus allow perception of new odorous substances.



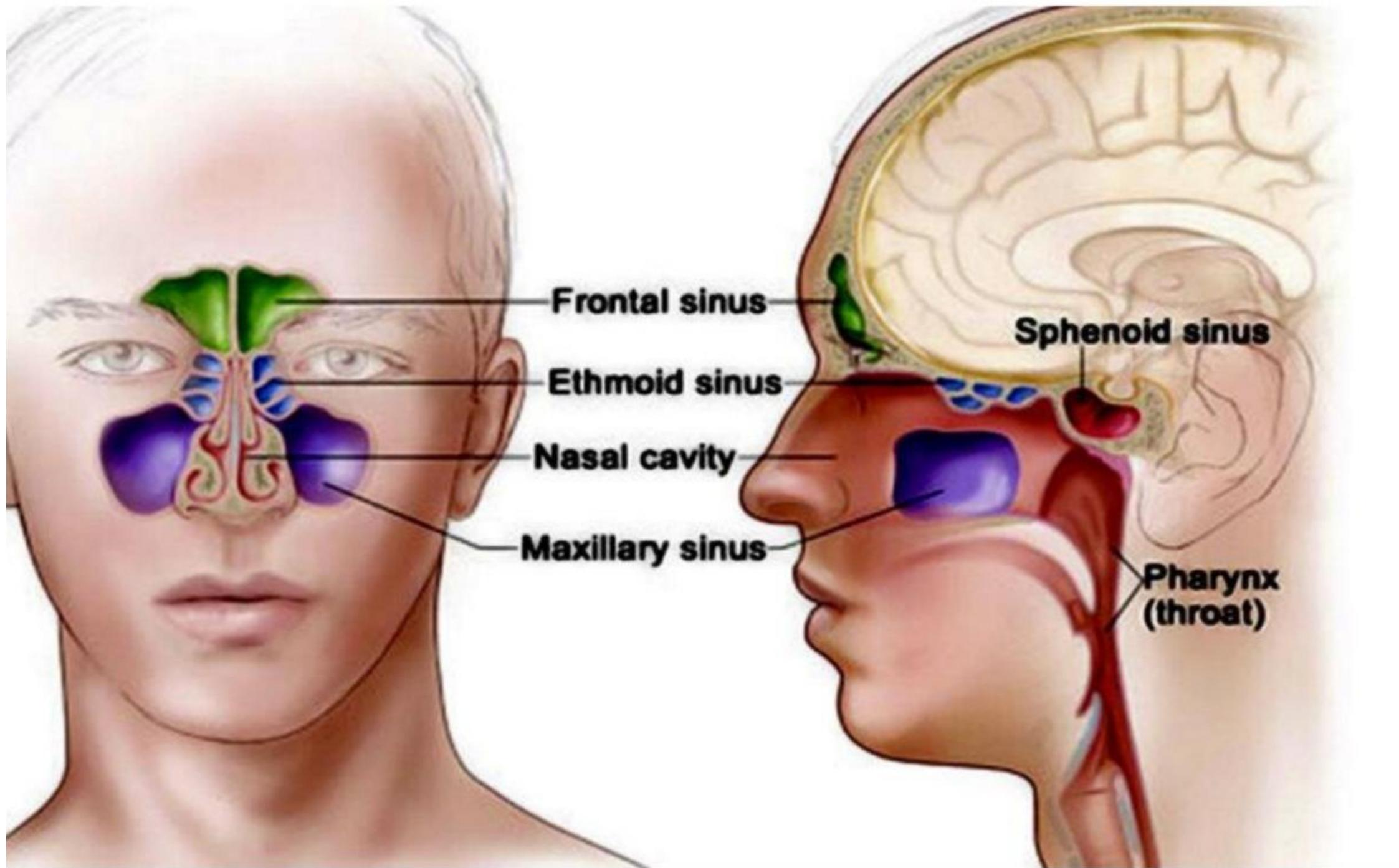
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PARANASAL SINUSES

- Ethmoid, sphenoid, frontal and maxillary bones of the skull contain large **paranasal sinuses** which **communicate with the nasal cavity**.
- They are **lined with a thin mucous membrane**, the epithelium of which is **pseudostratified columnar ciliated epithelium with goblet cells**.
- The **cilia sweep** the mucous layer toward the nasal cavity.



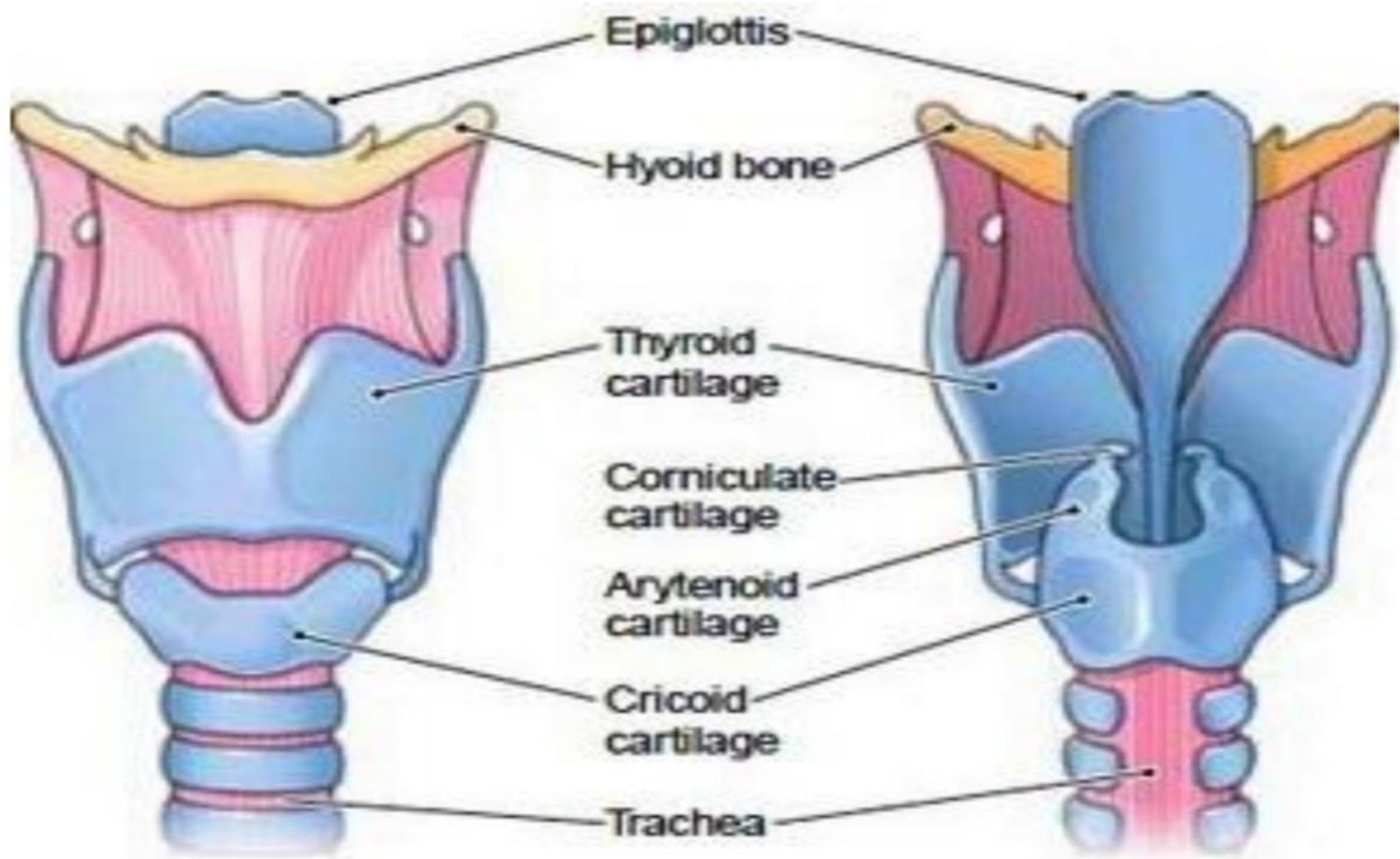
3- NASOPHARYNX

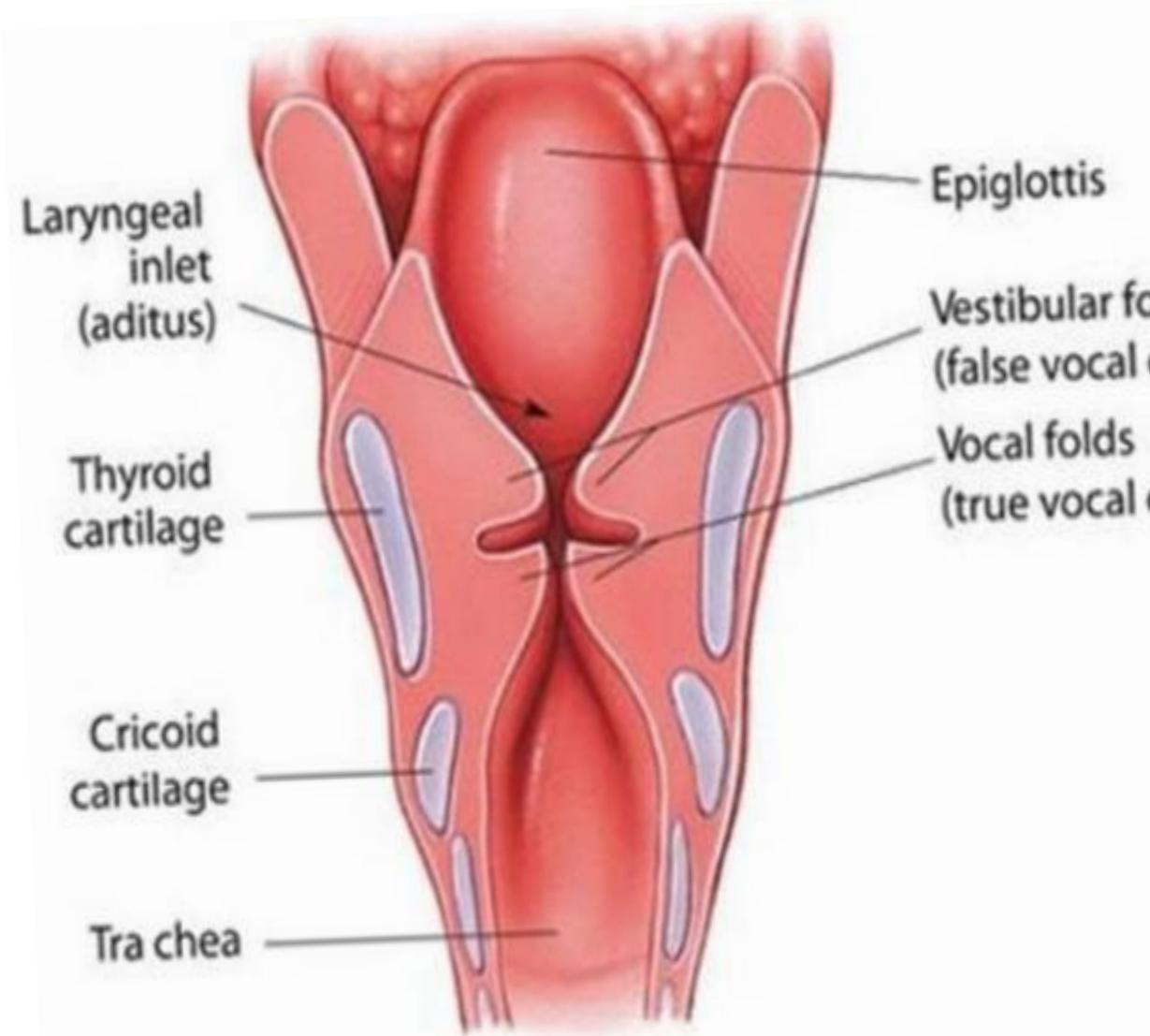
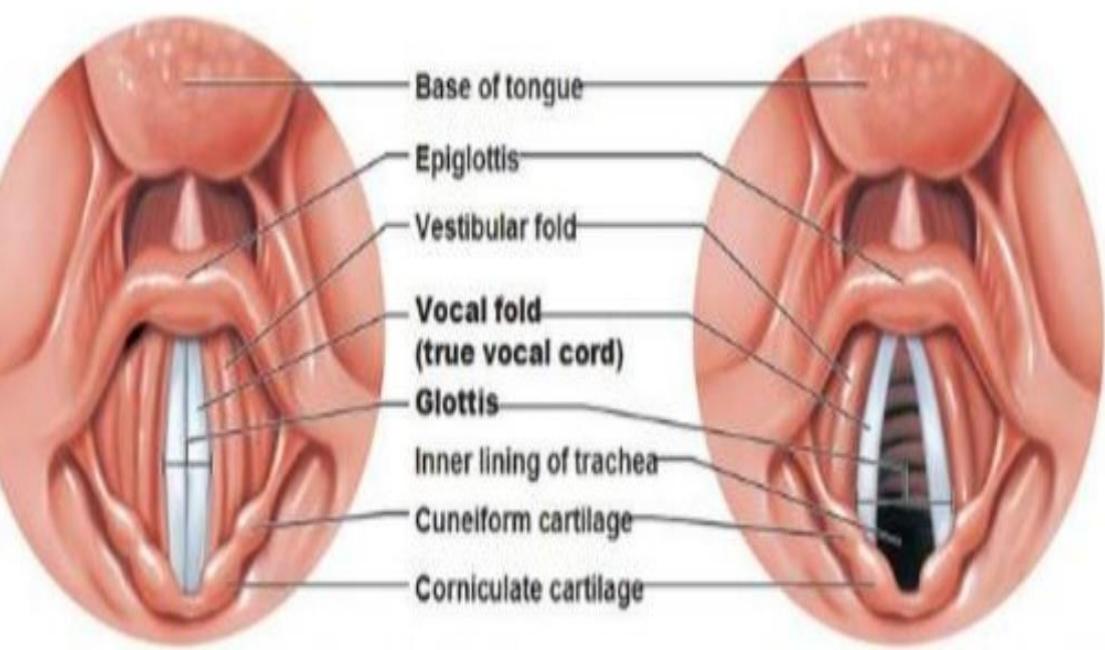
- The nasopharynx is **the area behind the nose and above the soft palate.**
- Its **nasal side is lined by a respiratory epithelium.**
- Its **oral surface is lined with stratified squamous epithelium.**
- It is protected from the regurgitation of food during swallowing by the soft palate rising upwards and closing it off from the rest of the pharynx.
- **The lamina propria** of the posterior aspect of the nasopharynx contains the pharyngeal tonsils.
- **The pharyngeal tonsil** (a collection of lymphoid tissue commonly known as the adenoids) is found in **the posterior wall and roof of the nasopharynx.**
- **The eustachian tube**, a **conduit with the middle ear**, enters at the level of the floor of the nose on the lateral walls. This explains the common concurrence of throat and middle ear infections.

4- LARYNX

- It is a **musculocartilaginous** structure situated between the pharynx and the trachea, acts as an airway sphincter during swallowing and contains **the vocal cords** which are responsible for sound (vocalization).
- The laryngeal **wall is composed of** a mucosa, cartilages and striated muscle fibers in C.T. sheath.
- Its wall is **reinforced by cartilages** (thyroid, cricoids, epiglottis, and paired corniculate and cuneiform arytenoids) with **ligaments and muscles** that regulate the size of the laryngeal inlet.

- The thyroid, cricoid and lower parts of arytenoids are hyaline cartilages.
- The epiglottis, corniculate, cuneiform and vocal processes of arytenoids are elastic cartilages
- The epiglottis is an elastic flap of cartilage, which lies behind the tongue and forms the entrance to the larynx. It serves to prevent swallowed food or fluid from entering that passage.
- The mucosa of the anterior surface of epiglottis & vocal cords is nonkeratinized stratified squamous epithelium while the rest of the larynx is lined with





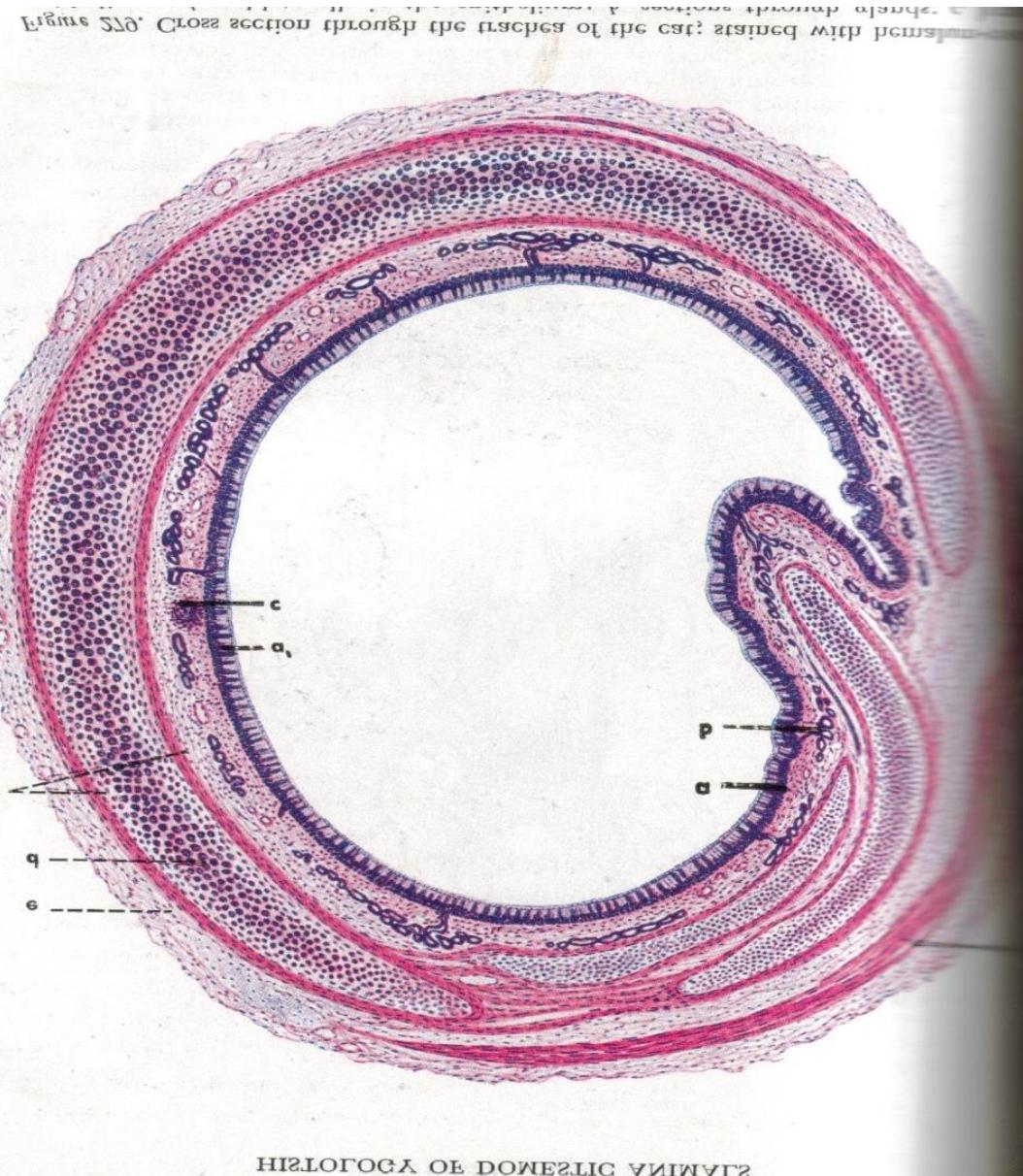
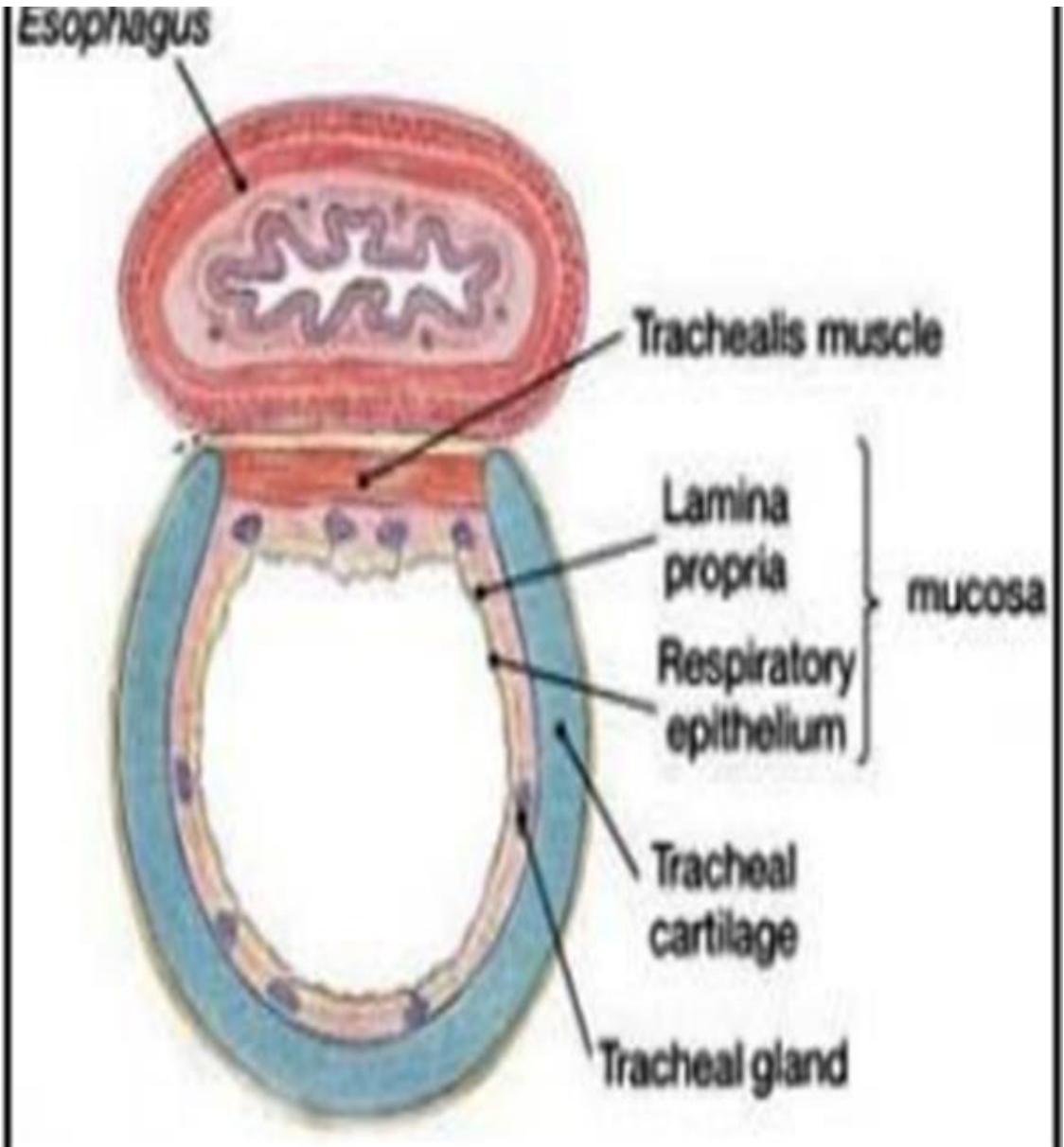
Posterior view



Trachea

The trachea is a tube lies between the larynx and main bronchi of the lungs. It has a series of 20 C-shaped hyaline cartilage rings that keep the tracheal lumen open with a band of smooth muscle (trachealis muscle) over the cartilage-deficient area posteriorly (i.e. against the esophagus)

The trachea is lined with respiratory epithelium, which acts as an escalator, wafting particulate matter in the mucus upwards, away from the lower airways. The elastic fibers in the lamina propria prevent excessive distention of the lumen. The lamina propria contains numerous seromucous (mixed) glands.



- The wall of the trachea consists of 3 definable layers:

- 1. Mucosa:

A- Epithelium: Respiratory epithelium (pseudostratified columnar ciliated with goblet cells). **six types of cells** could be recognized: ciliated columnar cells, goblet cells, basal cells, brush cells, serous cells and kulchitsky (K) or small granule cells.

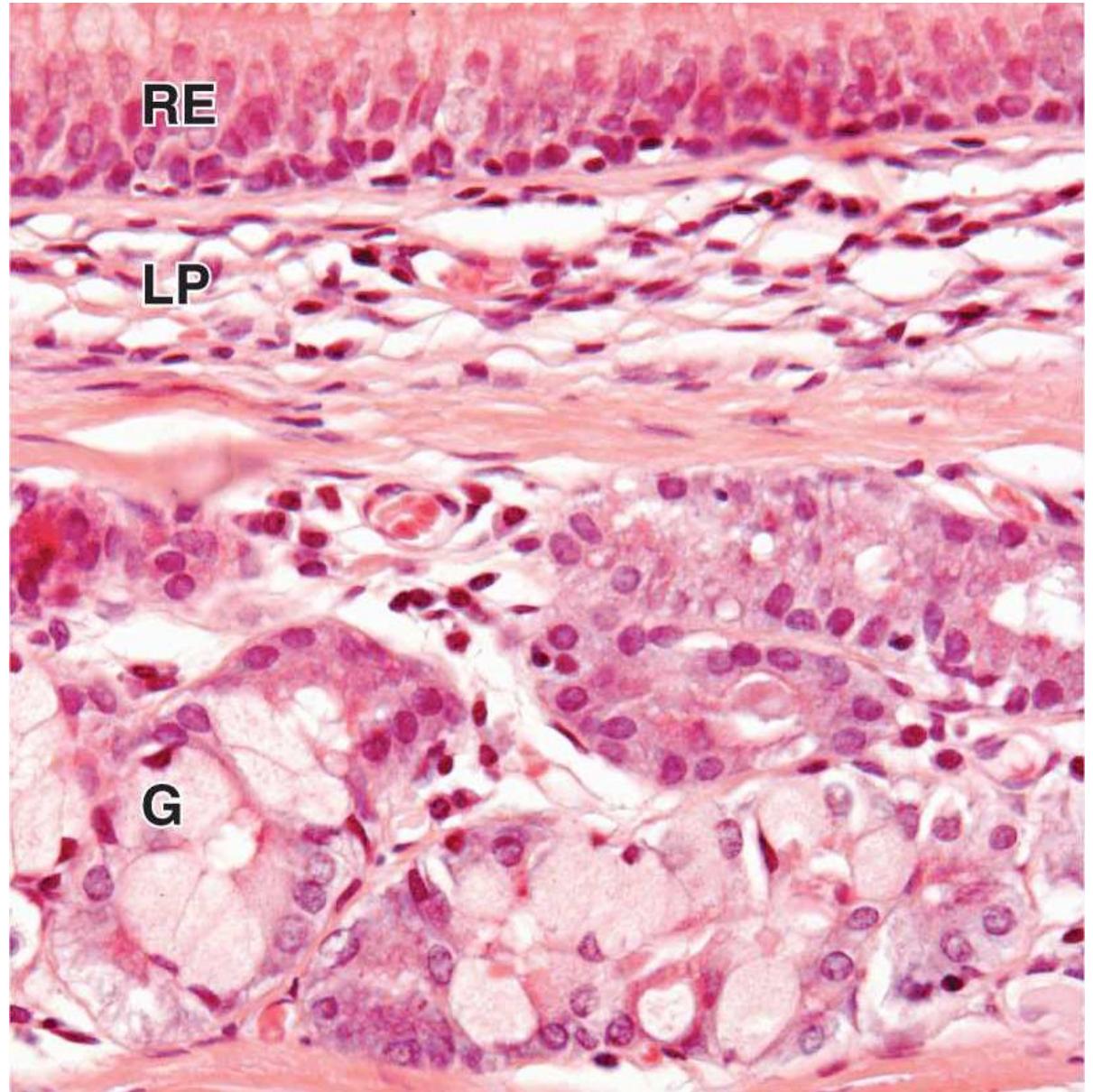
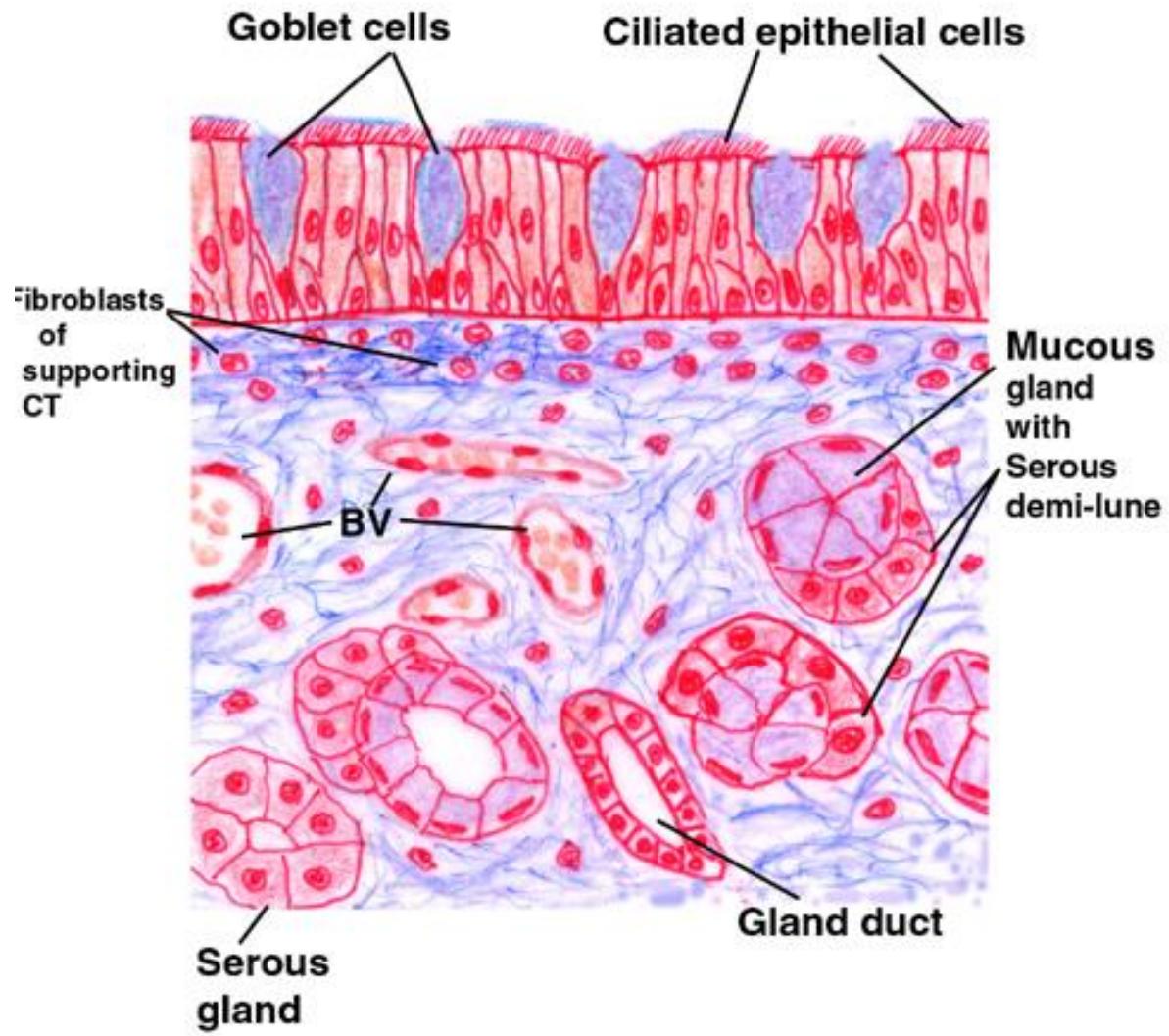
B- The lamina propria: Loose fibroelastic CT rich in elastic fibers, lymphocytes, and lymphatic nodules.

C. Lamina elastic interna: The elastic fibers are condensed to form an **elastic membrane** separating the lamina propria from the submucosa. It is responsible for **elastic recoil of the trachea after expiration.**

- 2. Sub-mucosa: CT layer which contains **mixed glands**. Their **ducts** pass through the elastic membrane to open onto the surface.

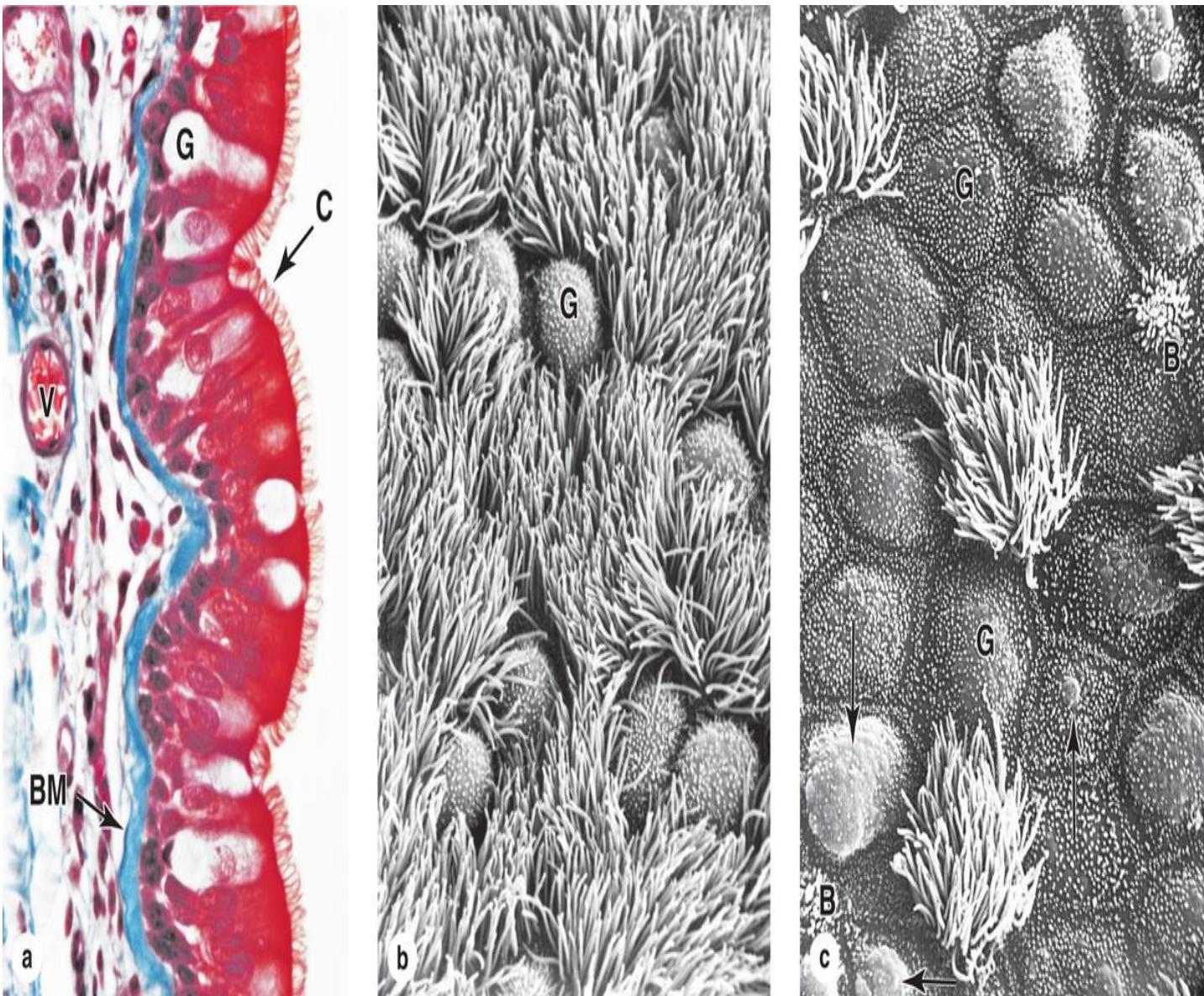
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- 3- Fibro-cartilagenous layer: Fibroelastic CT containing **20 C-shaped hyaline cartilaginous rings** located anteriorly and laterally, but incomplete posteriorly. **Posteriorly**, the wall of the trachea contains a thick band of transversely arranged bundles of **smooth muscles**.



Respiratory epithelium

- It is characteristically **pseudostratified columnar ciliated with goblet cells.**
- • This epithelium has **five major cell types:**
 - 1- Ciliated columnar cells.
 - 2- Goblet cells.
 - 3- Basal cells.
 - 4- Brush cells.
 - 5- Pulmonary neuroendocrine cells

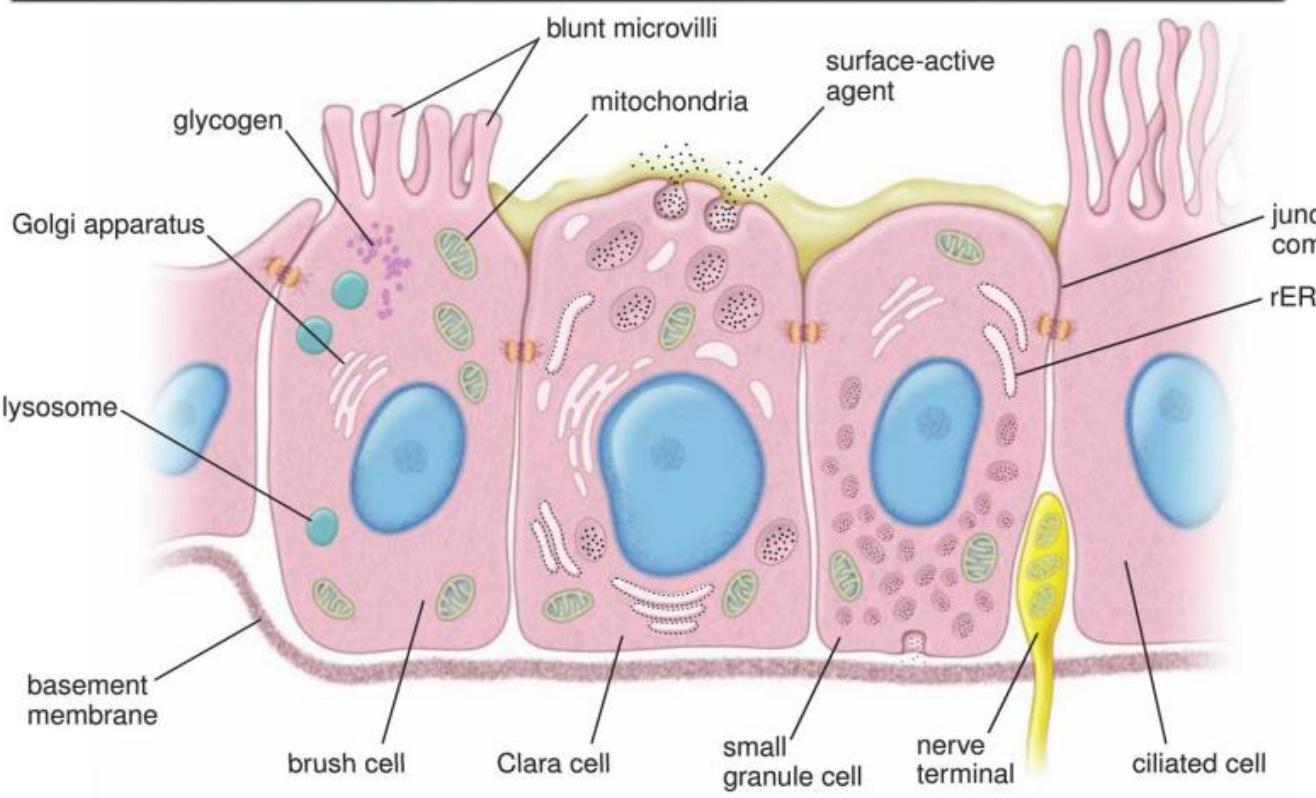
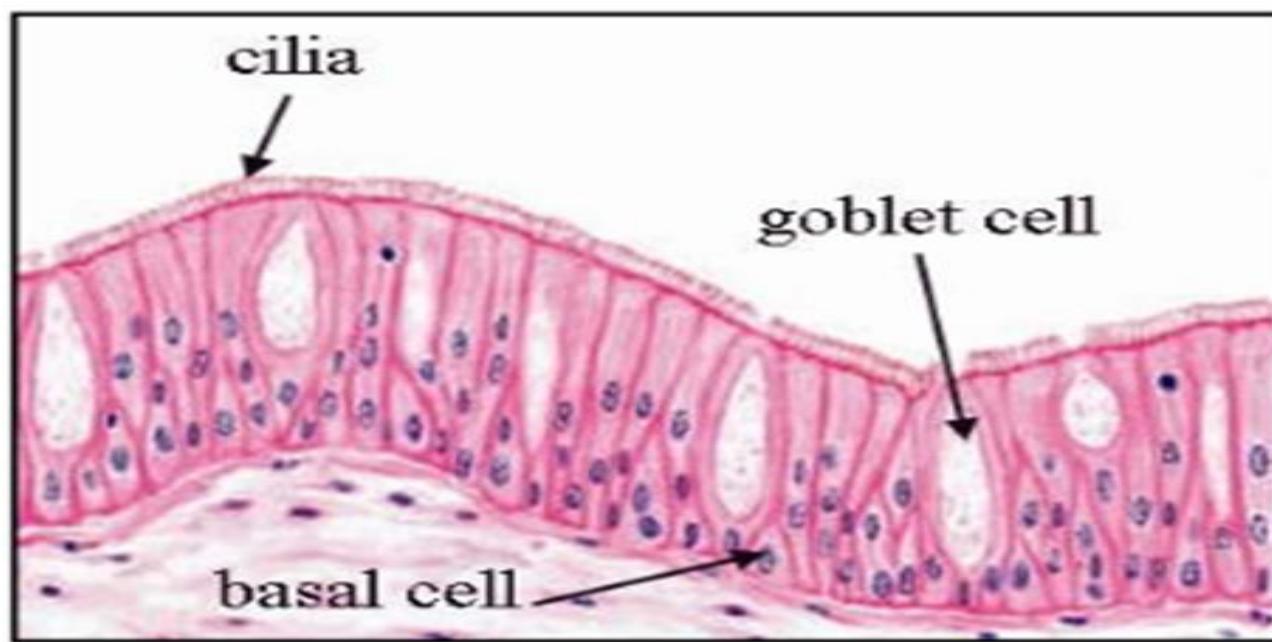
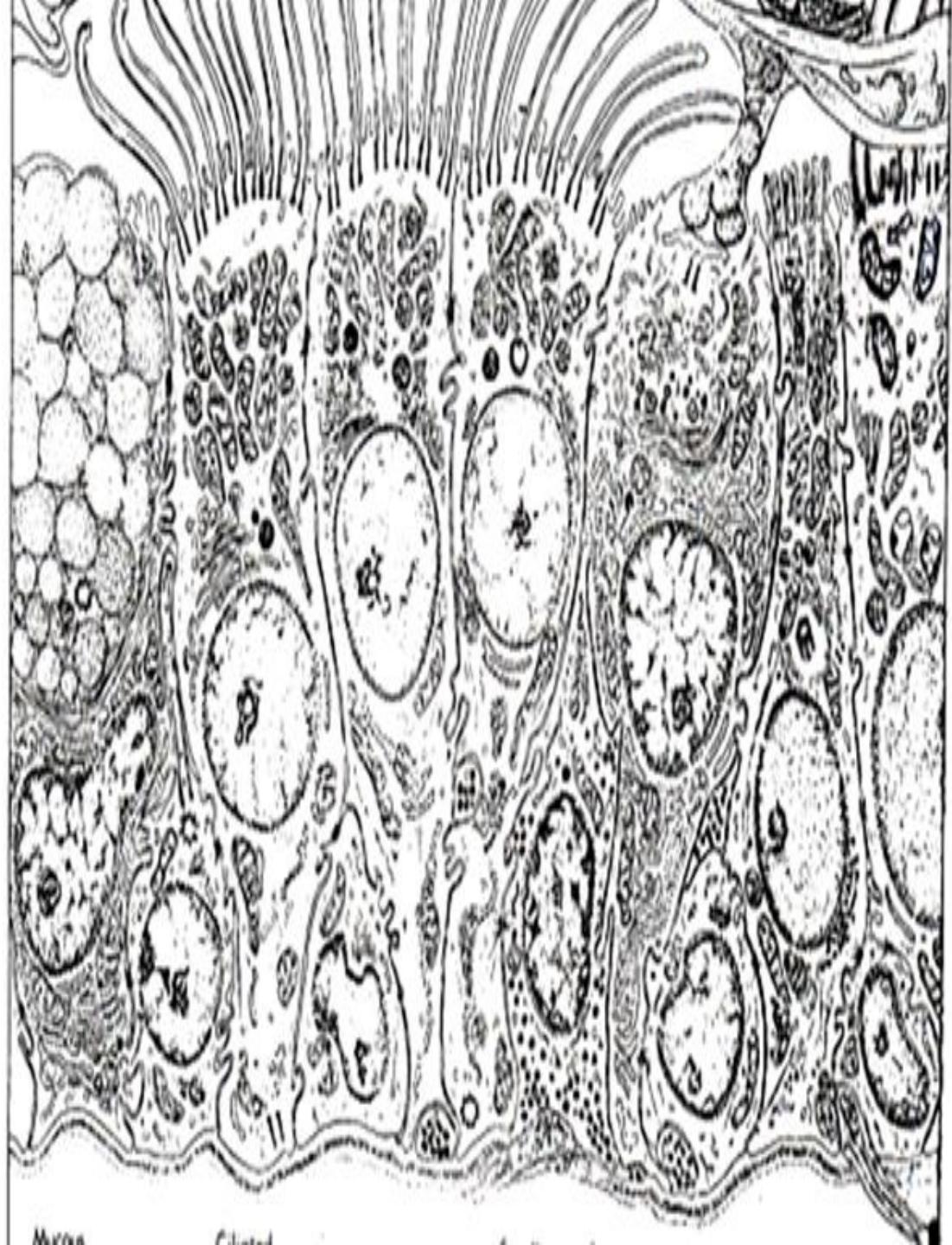


Respiratory System

- **Ciliated columnar cells and Goblet cells** The beating motion of the cilia and the mucous secretion of the goblet cells make up the “**mucociliary escalator**” which is important in removing the inhaled particles. This is an

Pulmonary neuroendocrine cells (PNECs) or Kulchitsky (K) or small granule cells

- They are **argentaffinlike** cells, resemble the **enteroendocrine cells** of GIT.
- They have **neuro-endocrine function**, secrete peptides and endocrine factors that may play role in **sensing low tissue oxygen and inducing lung growth and repair**.
- PNEC **hyperplasia** lead to **small cell lung cancer**, is thought to be induced by **nicotine**.





I love Histology!



REFERENCES:



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ELSEVIER'S INTEGRATED
HISTOLOGY (2007) 1ST EDITION.

QUIZ

Choose the correct answer

1- T.S. of the trachea reveals:

- a. Multiple plates of cartilage.
- b. No cartilage.
- c. C-shaped elastic cartilage rings.
- d. Compact bone.
- e. C-shaped hyaline cartilage rings.

2- The smooth muscle fibers of the trachea are present:

- a. In the submucosa.
- b. Between the cartilage ends.
- c. In the mucosa.
- d. Over the cartilage-deficient area anteriorly.
- e. Around the lumen