

REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM. EMBRYOLOGY

The reproductive system is the combination of organs and tissues associated with the process of **reproduction**.

The female reproductive system consists of the ovaries, **Fallopian tubes**, **uterus**, **vagina**, and **vulva**. In females, **ova** are produced by the ovary from the puberty period to **menopause**, that is, the end of the **fertile period**. Fallopian tubes are **hornlike** and serve as **natural ducts** for the ovum to **penetrate into** the uterus.

The uterus is a **pear-shaped** organ between the urinary bladder and the rectum. The uterus or **womb** is the place where the **embryo** and then **fetus** develop. **Placenta** is a **sponge-like vascular** organ which develops during pregnancy in the **uterine wall**. The functions of the placenta are to **provide** the embryo (fetus) **with nourishment**, **eliminate** its **wastes**, and **exchange respiratory gases**.

The male reproductive system includes the testes, **prostate gland**, **seminal vesicles**, **urethra** and **penis**. The male gonads (testes) are composed of a large mass of the **seminiferous tubules**. They contain cells which **manufacture spermatozoa**. **Semen** is a combination of spermatozoa and a thick fluid secreted by the prostate gland.

Embryology is the study of growth and development of the embryo and the fetus from **fertilization** of the ovum until birth. Ova are produced in the ovaries. Each ovary contains numerous follicles. The ova develop inside of follicles, but only a small proportion of them **reach maturity**. The mature female sex cells are considered to be the ova or egg cells.

After fertilization (the fusion of a spermatozoon and an ovum) rapid changes take place in the membrane of the ovum. The cells begin to **multiply** and the embryo is formed. In humans the term embryo refers to the **products of conception** within the uterus up to the eighth week of development. During this time all the main organs are formed.

The fetus is a **mammalian embryo** during the later stages of development within the uterus. In humans it refers to an **unborn child** from its eighth week of development till birth.

Modern embryology is an **advanced science**. Now doctors are able to examine the embryo or fetus during the first 12 weeks of **pregnancy** by means of **ultrasonic waves** or **fiberoptic endoscope**. Access to the **fetal circulation** may be **obtained** through the instrument and **direct visualization** of the embryo **enables** to diagnose possible **malformations**.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY

reproduction

відтворення, розмноження

Fallopian/uterine tubes

фалопієві/маткові труби

uterus/womb

матка, жіноче лоно

vagina

піхва

vulva

вульва, зовнішні статеві органи

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| menopause | менопауза, клімактеричний період |
| fertile period | здатний до розмноження; плідний період |
| hornlike | рогоподібний |
| natural duct | природний канал, протока |
| to penetrate into | проникати всередину |
| pear-shaped | грушоподібний |
| embryo | ембріон |
| fetus | плід |
| placenta | плацента |
| sponge-like | губкоподібний |
| uterine wall | стінка матки |
| vascular | судинний |
| to provide with | постачати, забезпечувати |
| nourishment | живлення |
| to eliminate wastes | видаляти продукти розпаду |
| to exchange respiratory gases | виконувати газообмін |
| prostate gland | простата, передміхурова залоза |
| seminal vesicles | сім'яні міхурці |
| urethra | сечовипускальний канал, уретра |
| penis | пеніс, чоловічий статевий член |
| seminiferous tubule | сім'яний каналець |
| to manufacture | виробляти, продукувати |
| spermatozoon (<i>pl.</i> - a) | сперматозоїд |
| semen | сім'я, сперма |
| fertilization | запліднення; запилення |
| to reach maturity | досягати зрілості |
| to multiply | розмножувати(ся), множити |
| product of conception | продукт зачаття, запліднення |
| mammalian embryo | ембріон ссавців |
| unborn child | ненароджена дитина |
| advanced science | передова наука |
| pregnancy | вагітність |
| ultrasonic waves | ультразвукові хвилі |
| fiberoptic endoscope | волоконно-оптичний ендоскоп |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| fetal circulation | кровообіг плоду |
| to obtain | одержувати, отримувати, здобувати |
| direct visualization | пряма візуалізація, просвічування |
| to enable | уможливлювати, створювати можливість |
| malformation | неправильне утворення, порок, каліцтво |

II. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. What is the function of the reproductive system? The reproductive system is responsible for reproduction.
2. What does embryology deal with? Embryology deal with growth and development of the embryo and the fetus from fertilization of the ovum until birth.
3. What organs does the male reproductive system include? The male reproductive system includes the testes, prostate gland, seminal vesicles, urethra and penis.
4. What organs does the female reproductive system include? The female reproductive system consists of the ovaries, Fallopian tubes, uterus, vagina, and vulva.
5. When does the placenta develop? Placenta develops during pregnancy in the uterine wall.
6. What functions does the placenta perform? The functions of the placenta are to provide the embryo (fetus) with nourishment, eliminate its wastes, and exchange respiratory gases.
7. Where are ova produced? Ova are produced by the ovary.
8. What changes occur in the ovum after fertilization? After fertilization (the fusion of a spermatozoon and an ovum) rapid changes take place in the membrane of the ovum.
9. What is the role of the Fallopian tubes? Fallopian tubes serve as natural ducts for the ovum to penetrate into the uterus.
10. Where are spermatozoa manufactured? Spermatozoa are manufactured in the testes.
11. What is the difference between the embryo and fetus? The fetus is a mammalian embryo during the later stages of development within the uterus.
12. What methods of examination does modern embryology use? Modern embryology use ultrasonic waves or fiberoptic endoscope.
13. What is the purpose of ultrasonic examination of the fetus? Access to the fetal circulation may be obtained through the instrument and direct visualization of the embryo enables to diagnose possible malformations.

BIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF HEREDITY

Heredity includes all the factors that are present in the organism at birth. **In other words**, it is the **sum total of inborn individual traits**.

Heredity has two aspects – biological and psychological. Biologically, it means the sum total of biological traits that are present in the fertilised ovum. Psychologically it means the traits, **innate** tendencies, and **capacities** that **resemble** between the parents and the child.

Biological heredity according to general **observation** is that **like begets like**. It means that cow begets cow, horse begets horse, dog begets dog, and human beings beget human being. There is no **exception to this rule**.

It is a common observation that children are alike their parents. A child **takes after** his parents in size, **appearance**, colour of the skin, colour of the eyes, strength of muscles etc. **Identical twins** resemble each other at birth in every respect. **Fraternal twins** resemble in majority of the traits. **Siblings** resemble in many characteristics. Certain biologists explain that children are bound to resemble their parents closely because of the continuity of the germ plasm.

There are 5 major theories **regarding** the mechanism of heredity: Weisman's, Galton's, Mendel's, Darwin's, and Lamarck's theory. The discussion of the various theories has led to the following generalizations. In short they are as follows:

1. Like begets like.
2. Law of variation.
3. Law of regression.
4. **Transmission of acquired traits.**

Heredity is the **property** of one generation to convey to the other the signs of structure, physiological properties and the specific nature of individual development. **Variability** is a change in hereditary **potentialities**. Variability in manifestation of potentialities arises in the process of the organism development when interacting with the external environment. New properties of the organism appear only due to variability, but it only plays a role in evolution, when the **manifestation** of variability persists in **succeeding generations**, i.e. is inherited. But variability is limited by the law of regression. The law states that "In successive generations variations tend to move towards the average of the species of which they form a part."

The study of heredity and the variation of inherited characteristics is called Genetics. Genetics is of great importance for Medicine. The **issues** how genetic information is **replicated** and transmitted from cell to cell and organism to organism are studied by Biology.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| hereditary | спадковий |
| in other words | іншими словами |
| sum total | загальна сума, підсумок |
| inborn | вроджений, спадковий |
| individual trait | індивідуальна риса |
| innate | уроджений, природний, властивий |
| capacities | можливості, здібності |
| to resemble | бути схожим, мати подібність |
| observation | спостереження, дослідження |
| to beget (begot, begotten) | породити, породжувати |
| like begets like | подібне породжує подібне |
| exception to the rule | виняток з правила |
| to take after | бути схожим |
| appearance | зовнішній вигляд |
| identical twins | однойайцеві, монозиготні близнята |
| fraternal twins | двойайцеві, дизиготні близнята |
| sibling | єдинокровний брат або сестра |
| to regard | вважати; розглядати; мати стосунок |
| transmission | передача |
| acquired traits | набуті риси |
| property | властивість |
| variability | мінливість |
| potentialities | потенційні можливості |
| manifestation | прояв |
| succeeding generations | наступні покоління |
| to inherit | успадковувати |
| issue | питання, проблема |
| to replicate | повторювати (копіювати) |

III. ASK QUESTIONS TO THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES BEGINNING WITH THE WORD IN BRACKETS:

1. Heredity includes all the factors that are present in the organism at birth

What does heredity include?

2. Heredity has biological and psychological aspects

How many aspects does heredity have?

3. Psychological aspect means the traits, innate tendencies, and capacities resembling the parents and the child

What does the psychological aspect mean?

4. A child takes after his parents in many features

(Who does a child take features after?)

5. Identical twins resemble each other at birth in every respect

When do identical twins resemble each other?

6. Children are bound to resemble their parents closely because of the continuity of the germ plasm

Why do children have to be very reminiscent of their parents?

7. There are 5 major theories regarding the mechanism of heredity

How many basic theories are there about the mechanism of heredity?

8. The signs of structure, physiological properties and the specific nature of individual development can be conveyed from generation to generation

How can the signs of structure, physiological properties and the specific nature of individual development be conveyed ?

9. Variability arises in the process of the organism development when interacting with the external environment

When does variability occur?

10. New properties of the organism appear only due to variability

(How do new properties of the organism appear?)

11. But variability is limited by the law of regression

(What is the variability limited by?)

12. Genetics is of great importance for Medicine

(What is genetics important for?)

13. The discussion of the various theories of heredity has led to the certain generalizations **(What has the discussion of the various theories of heredity led to?)**