

Male Reproductive system

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What are the external male reproductive structures?

Most of the male reproductive system is located outside.

The external parts of the male reproductive system include

- the penis
- the scrotum and
- the testicles.

STRUCTURE OF THE PENIS

The penis can be anatomically divided into three parts:

- **Root**
- **Body**
- **Glans**

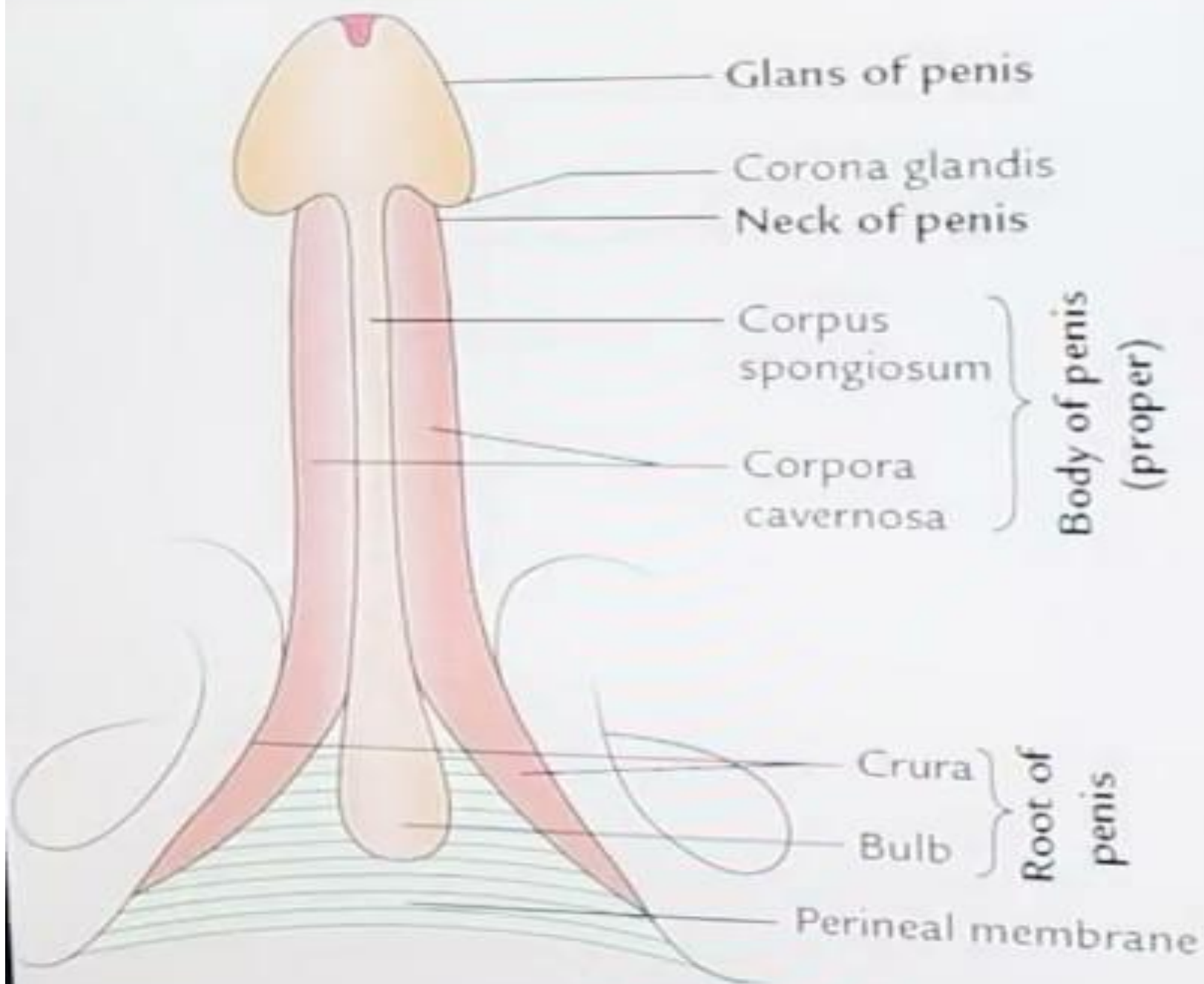
Root – the most proximal, fixed part of the penis.

- It is located in the superficial perineal pouch of the pelvic floor, and is not visible externally.
 - The root contains three erectile tissues (two crura and bulb of the penis), and two muscles (ischiocavernosus and bulbospongiosus)

- **Body** – the free part of the penis, located between the root and glans. It is suspended from the pubic symphysis. It is composed of three erectile tissue – two corpora cavernosa, and the corpus spongiosum
- **Glans** – the most distal part of the of penis. It is conical in shape, and is formed by the distal expansion .

This contains the opening of the urethra, termed the external urethral orifice

This skin is sometimes removed in a procedure called **circumcision**



Scrotum

- The scrotum is a fibromuscular cutaneous sac, located between the penis and anus. It holds the testes as well as many nerves and blood vessels.

The scrotum protects testes.

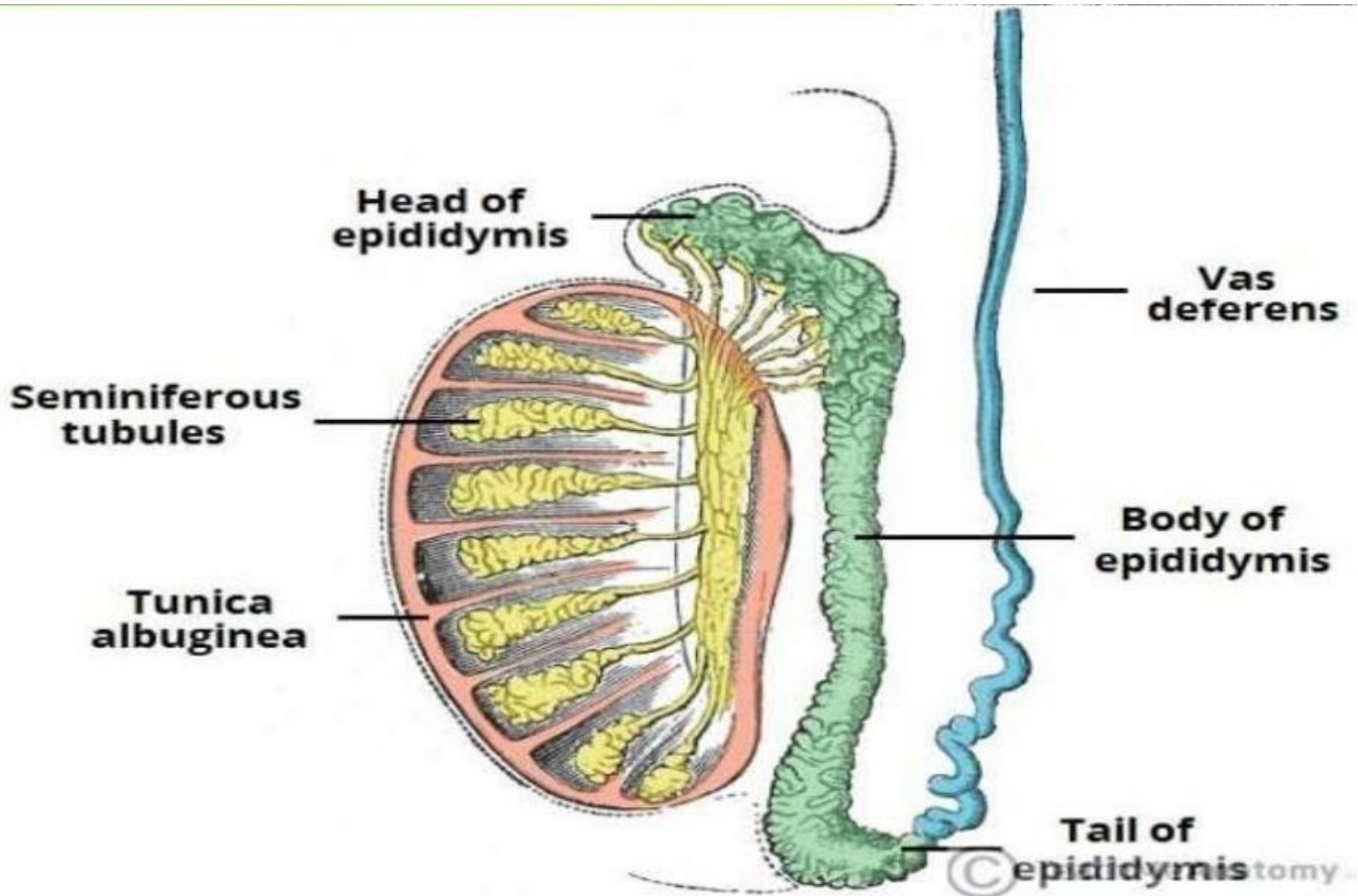
For normal sperm development the testes must be at a temperature slightly cooler than the body temperature..

Testicles (testes)

The testes are oval organs lie in the scrotum. Most men have two testes.

The testes are responsible for making testosterone, the primary male sex hormone, and for producing sperm. Within the testes are coiled masses of tubes called seminiferous tubules.

These tubules are responsible for producing the sperm cells through a process called spermatogenesis.



Structure of the testes and epididymis

Epididymis

The epididymis is a long, coiled tube that rests on the backside of each testicle. It carries and stores sperm cells that are created in the testes. It also brings the sperm to the epididymis for maturity — the sperm that emerge from the testes are immature and incapable of fertilization.

During sexual arousal, contractions force the sperm into the vas deferens

What are the internal male reproductive organs?

These organs include :

Vas deferens: The vas deferens is a long, muscular tube that travels from the epididymis to the urethra in preparation for ejaculation. The vas deferens transports mature sperm to the urethra in preparation for ejaculation.

Ejaculatory ducts: These ducts are formed by the fusion of the vas deferens and the seminal vesicles. The ejaculatory ducts empty into the urethra

Urethra: The urethra is the tube that carries urine from the bladder to outside of your body and expelling (ejaculating) semen .When the penis is erect during sex, the flow of urine is blocked from the urethra, allowing only semen to be ejaculated .

Seminal vesicles: The seminal vesicles are sac-like pouches that attach to the vas deferens near the base of the bladder and helps with the sperms ability to move (motility). The fluid of the seminal vesicles makes up most of the volume of your ejaculatory fluid .

Prostate gland: The prostate gland is a walnut-sized structure.

Located below the urinary bladder in front of the rectum.

The prostate gland contributes additional fluid to the ejaculate.

Prostate fluids also help to nourish the sperm.

The urethra, which carries the ejaculate to be expelled during orgasm, runs through the center of the prostate gland.

Bulbourethral glands: The bulbourethral glands are pea-sized structures **located** on the sides of the urethra just below the prostate gland.

These glands produce a clear, slippery fluid that empties directly into the urethra. This fluid serves to lubricate the urethra and to neutralize any acidity .