MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM
scrotum
testis
interstitial (Leydig) cells

- Produce testosterone
- Located in the connective tissue between seminiferous tubules
seminiferous tubules

Where sperm is produced

Cross section
epididymis

Allows sperm to mature and stores them before ejaculation
spermatic cord

Contains vas deferens, blood and lymph vessels and nerves
vas (ductus) deferens

Muscular tube where sperm travels from the epididymis to the ejaculatory duct
seminal vesicle

Contributes about 60% of the fluid in semen
ejaculatory duct

Where the vas deferens and the duct of the seminal vesicle meet and empty into the urethra
prostate gland

Secretes a thin, milky fluid that makes up about 30% of the semen
prostatic urethra
Membranous urethra
bulbourethral (Cowper’s) gland

Produces a clear slippery fluid that lubricates the head of the penis.

The fluid also neutralizes the acidity of residual urine in the urethra that can be harmful to sperm.
penis
penile urethra
corpus cavernosum

2 cylindrical erectile tissues located on the dorsal side of the penis
Each corpus cavernosum diverges toward the inside of the body like the arms of a Y.

Each arm is called a crus.
corpus spongiosum

A single erectile body that passes along the ventral side of the penis and encloses the penile urethra
The corpus spongiosum terminates internally as a dilated bulb.
glans penis
prepuce

Also called foreskin
sperm
head
A lysosome in the form of a cap that contains enzymes used to penetrate the egg
DNA – 23 chromosomes

Located within the nucleus in the head of the sperm
midpiece
tail
Spermatogenesis

Seminiferous tubule (in the testis)

2N spermatogonium

Mitosis

daughter cell type A spermatogonium

2N spermatogonium

Growth & differentiation

daughter cell type B spermatogonium

Primary spermatocyte

2N

Meiosis I

1N 2 secondary spermatocytes 1N

Meiosis II

4 spermatids

Spermiogenesis

4 spermatozoa

Lumen of tubule
diploid vs. haploid

- Diploid: contain 2 sets of chromosomes (46)
- Haploid: contain 1 set (half of normal) 23