

**Integumentary System** – the skin and its derivative appendages; maintains boundaries

**Skin Layers:**

*Epidermis* (most superficial)

*Dermis* (deepest)

*Hypodermis* (deeper still; not technically part of skin; mostly adipose; stores fat, anchors, cushions, and insulates)

**The Epidermis** – a keratinized, stratified squamous epithelium with 4 distinct cell types and 4-5 layers (p.150-152)

**Cells of the Epidermis**

*Keratinocytes* (make protective *keratin*)

*Melanocytes* (synthesize *melanin* pigment)

*Epidermal Dendritic (Langerhans) Cells* (star-shaped, phagocytic immunoactivators)

*Tactile (Merkel) Cells* (attach to nerves to form sensory *Merkel discs*)

**Layers of the Epidermis**

*Stratum Basale* (basal layer; deepest; a row of keratinocytes and 10-25% melanocytes)

*Stratum Spinosum* (spiny layer; pre-keratin filaments; spiky desmosomes)

*Stratum Granulosum* (cells flatten & form *keratohyaline granules* & *lamellated granules*)

*Stratum Lucidum* (clear layer; only visible in thick skin)

*Stratum Corneum* (horny layer; most superficial; 20-30 layers of dead, keratinized cells)

Waterproof due to glycolipids from lamellated granules

Abrasion-resistant due to keratinization from keratohyaline granules

**The Dermis** – strong, flexible connective tissue underlying the epidermis (p.152-155)

**Characteristics of the Dermis**

Your living “hide”

Highly innervated, vascularized, and lymphaticized

Typical connective tissue proper

Houses derivative appendages

2 Layers: *papillary layer* and *reticular layer*

**Papillary Layer of the Dermis**

Mostly areolar tissue

Phagocytes wander freely

Nerve endings and touch receptors

*Dermal papillae* (“nipples”) extend upwards

Dermal/epidermal ridges = friction ridges = fingerprints

**Reticular Layer of the Dermis**

Mostly dense, fibrous connective tissue

Underlying *cutaneous plexus*

Adipose pockets

Mostly parallel bundles of collagen (form *tension lines*, pic on p.154)

**Skin color** – differential absorption and reflection of light caused by three pigments: *melanin*, *carotene*, and *hemoglobin*

**The Pigment Melanin**, manufactured in the skin’s melanocytes  
a polymer of tyrosine

ranges from yellow → tan → reddish-brown → black

more sun = more melanin production and retention = darker skin  
(immediately *and* genetically)

## Ch. 5 – The Integumentary System

### **The Pigment Carotene**, found in carrots & co.

accumulates in fat of hypodermis and in stratum corneum

yellow-orange

seen in palmar and plantar regions

### **The Pigment Hemoglobin**, found in red blood cells

causes pinkish hue of skin low in melanin

causes pinkish hue when skin is cold, hot, or excited

### **Apparent hemostatic imbalances of the skin**

- Cause: Overexposure to sun overwhelms melanin's protective ability

Effect seen: *sunburn, rash, peeling, skin cancer*

- Cause: Embarrassment, fever, hypertension, inflammation, allergy

Effect seen: *Redness (erythema)*

- Cause: fear, anger, stress, anemia, low blood pressure

Effect seen: *Pallor, blanching, paling*

- Cause: liver disorder causes; yellow bile builds up in bloodstream

Effect seen: *Jaundice (yellow cast)*

- Cause: Addison's disease or pituitary gland tumor(s)

Effect seen: *Bronzing*

- Cause: Blood escapes from circulation and is trapped, clotted, under the skin

Effect seen: *Hematomas (bruising, black-and-blueness)*

**Appendages of the Skin:** nails, sweat glands, sebaceous glands, hair follicles, and hair, all formed from *epithelial buds*

**Sudoriferous (Sweat) Glands** – secretory cells associated w/ nerve-activated myoepithelial cells

**Eccrine Sweat Glands:** your typical sweat glands w/ Simple tubular structure

Found everywhere, esp. . .

Sweat: H<sub>2</sub>O, NaCl, wastes, pH 4-6, influenced by genetics

Sympathetic autonomic regulation

Heat-induced or stress-induced

## Ch. 5 – The Integumentary System

**Apocrine Sweat Glands** – function uncertain; may be vestigial sexual scent glands

**Ceruminous glands** (make “cerumen,” aka earwax)

**Mammary glands** (detailed in Ch. 27)

**Sebaceous (Oil) Glands:** simple branched alveolar structure; produce oil (sebum)

Softener

Bactericide

Holocrine secretion

### Hairs and Hair follicles

Hair structure – root and shaft portions, both composed of. . .

Central medulla

Cortex

Outer cuticle

Hair color

Hair types: *Vellus* hairs and Terminal hairs

Hair follicles

Inner epithelial root sheath

Hair bulb

Highly vascular and innervated

Arrector pili muscles

Hair growth

Life span of hair= hair length

Longer follicular resting periods = thinner hair (*alopecia*)

**Functions of the Integumentary System:** protection, body temp. regulation, sensation, metabolism, storage of blood, excretion

**Protection:** maintaining chemical, physical, and biological boundaries

**Chemical protection:** the *acid mantle*, *defensins*, and *cathelicidins*

**Physical/Mechanical protection:** continuity and hardness

**Biological protection:** dendritic epidermal cells, macrophages, melanin, DNA

**Body Temp. regulation:** *insensible* and *sensible* perspiration, dermal blood vessel constriction

**Cutaneous sensation:** Meissner's corpuscles, pacinian corpuscles, tactile discs, hair follicles

**Metabolism:** Vitamin D synthesis, keratinocytes convert chemicals

**Storage of blood:** holds 5% of total blood volume, can release it when needed elsewhere

**Excretion through sweat:** some ammonia, mostly H<sub>2</sub>O and NaCl

**Homeostatic Imbalances of the Skin:** skin cancer, burns, and conditions

**Skin Cancer:** strikes 1 in 5 Americans

Most are benign (phew)

More UV exposure = higher risk

Fas proteins cause damaged cells to suicide

A "healthy tan?"

New lotions w/ liposomes can help repair DNA

3 types of Skin Cancer: *basal cell carcinoma*, *squamous cell carcinoma*, and *melanoma*

**Basal Cell Carcinoma:**

Least malignant, most common (80%)  
Stratum basale cells invade dermis and hypodermis  
forms shiny, dome-shaped nodules w/ pearly, beaded edges  
slow-growing, easily noticed, easily removed

**Squamous Cell Carcinoma:**

Second most common, often on head and hands  
Arises from keratinocytes of stratum spinosum  
Forms scaly reddened *papule*  
Grows and *metastasizes* rapidly; easily removed if noticed early

**Melanoma:**

Cancer of the melanocytes  
Least common, most dangerous  
Appear spontaneously, 1/3 from existing moles  
Forms a spreading brown or black patch  
Metastasizes rapidly to lymph and blood vessels  
Early detection for survival: **A**  
**B**  
**C**  
**D**  
**(E)**

**Burns** – tissue damage from intense heat, radiation, or corrosive chemicals causing protein denaturation and cell death

**Threats from Burns**

Fluid loss (rule of nines)  
  
Caloric deficiency  
  
*Sepsis* after 24 hrs

**Burns: First, Second, and Third Degree**

***First Degree Burns:*** involve epidermis only  
  
localized pain, redness, and swelling  
  
heals naturally in 2-3 days (ex: sunburn)

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**Second Degree Burns**, aka **partial thickness burns**: involve epidermis *and* upper dermis

blistering occurs

heals in 3-4 weeks if infection is prevented

critical if over more than 25% of body

**Third Degree Burns**, aka **full thickness burns**: involve all layers of skin

critical if over 10% of body, or if over face, hands, or feet

appears gray-white, cherry red, or blackened

temporary covering and grafting usually necessary

Autografts

Synthetic skin + Cultured epidermis

### **Skin conditions (p.168)**

*Dermatology*: the study and treatment of skin conditions

*Albinism*

*Boils and Carbuncles*

*Cold sores (fever blisters)*

*Contact dermatitis*

*Decubitus ulcers*

*Eczema*

*Epidermolysis bullosa (EB)*

*Impetigo*

*Porphyria*

*Psoriasis*

*Rosacea*

*Vitiligo*

## **Developmental Aspects of the Integument**

### **Embryonic Development**

Epidermis develops from ectoderm

Dermis and hypodermis develop from mesoderm

### **Fetal Development**

Downy *lanugo coat*

Waxy *vernix caseosa*

White *milium*

### **Childhood**

Skin thickens, fat accumulates

Sweat glands activate

### **Adolescence**

Sebaceous glands activate

More hair follicles activate

### **Adulthood**

Acne subsides, skin reaches “optimal” appearance

### **Old Age**

Mitosis slows, skin thins

subcutaneous fat layer diminishes

sebaceous glands and hair follicles deactivate

melanin production slows