

(1)

FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

Female reproductive System consists of many parts which are followings: —

1. Ovaries: — Ovaries are a pair of small, oval organs. These are situated in the lower part of abdominal cavity.
 - Ovaries of female produce ova/egg. There are 1000 of immature ova in each ovary, at the time of birth. Every 28 days, one of the ovaries releases a mature egg / ovum.
2. Fallopian Tubes / oviducts → The fallopian tubes or oviducts are a pair of thin tubes
 - These are connected from ovaries to uterus.
 - Each tube has a funnel shaped structure at its last end, near to ovary. It is lined by cilia.
 - Help in receiving egg.
 - It is the site where does fertilisation occur.
3. Uterus → The uterus/womb is a hollow, pear shaped elastic muscular bag like structure. Its upper portion is broader and lower portion is narrow.
 - A fertilized ovum (zygote) develops into a baby inside uterus.

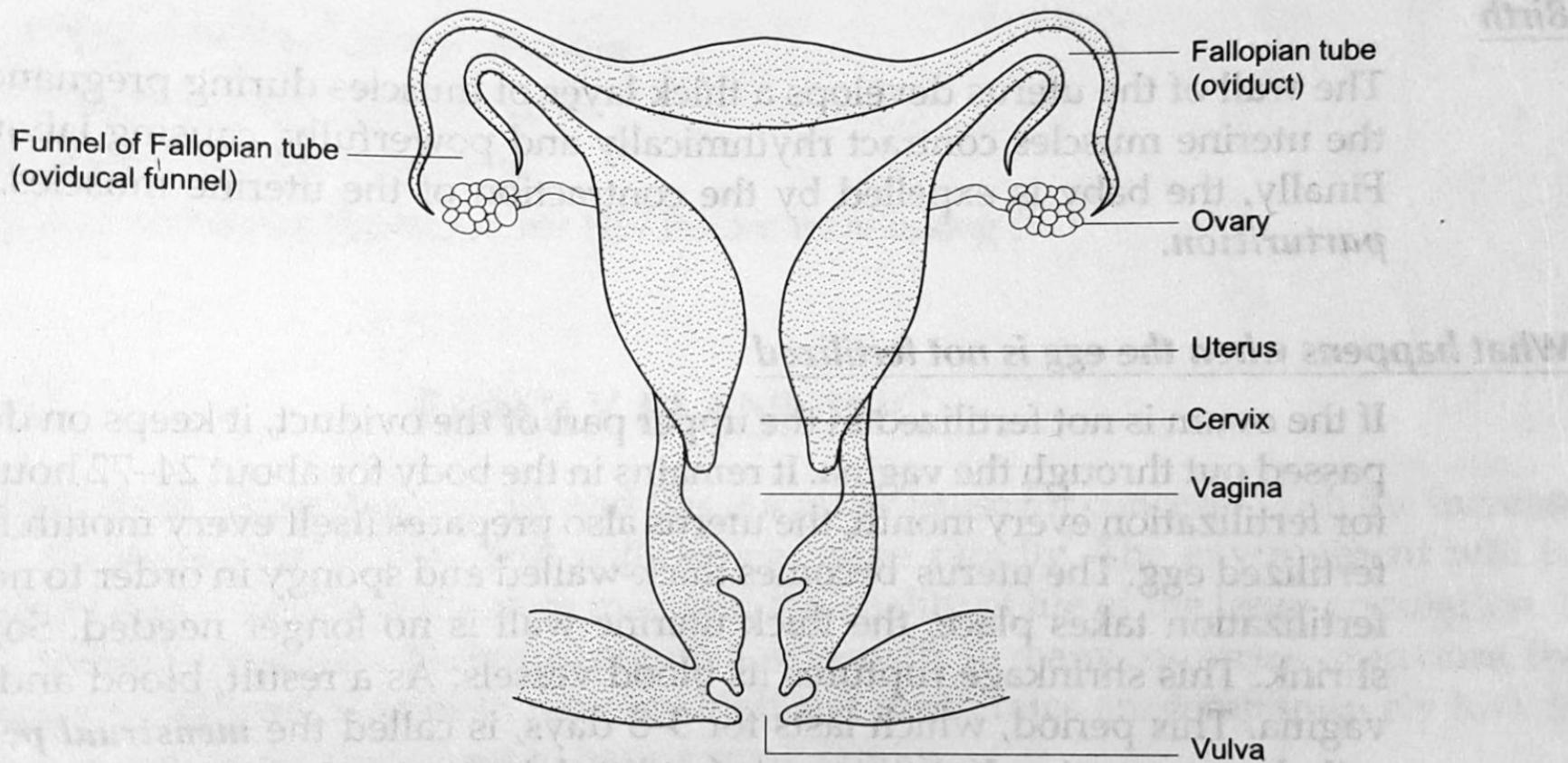


Fig. 6.11 Human female sex organs

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4. Cervix → It is the narrow upper portion of uterus which act as a passage.

5. Vagina → It is a tube, below to cervix.
It opens outside the body by an opening called vulva.

- It receives male gametes.
- It is also called birth canal.

Fertilisation.

It is the process of fusion of male and female gamete. In Human it takes place in Fallopian tube. When male gametes are discharged into female genital tract, start moving up and finally reaching the Fallopian tube, if it meets the ovum fertilization occur.

- More no. of male gametes are discharged, but only one sperm enters the ovum.
- Life span of male gamete / sperm in fallopian tube is about 12 hours.

Post fertilisation processes.

1. Implantation → It is the phenomenon of settling / fixing the zygote / fertilised egg into uterus. Here it stays for the time completed to convert into complete organism.

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2. Gestation / Pregnancy → Phenomenon of developing an embryo into an adult is called Gestation. The embryo gets embedded in the wall of Uterus. Embryo gets nourishment from mother's blood flowing in the uterine wall.

- This time period vary animal to animal.
- It is about 280 days, or 9 months, in Human.

3. Parturition → It is the phenomenon of birth of a baby. This takes place after completion of gestation period.
This phenomenon takes place under influence of hormone called progesterone, released by ovary.

Placenta:

Placenta is a disc like organ in the lining of uterus. Placenta is highly vascular / provided with blood vessels. From this a cord develops, connected with embryo. It helps in transfer of glucose and oxygen to pass from mother's blood to embryo. This cord also receive CO_2 from developing baby, released into mother's blood.