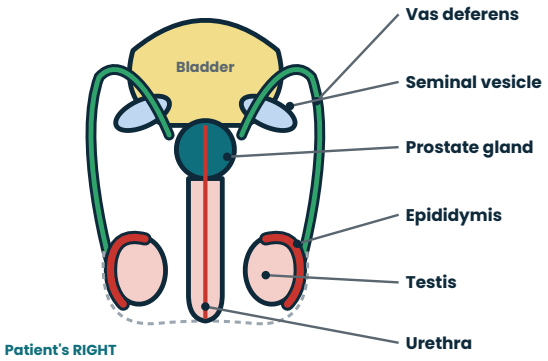
Male Reproductive System

Study Sheet · Learn It with Prof. Melanie



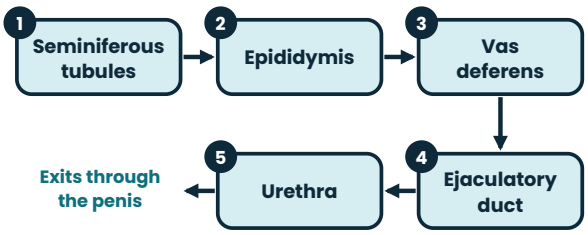
1 Anatomy



2 Key Structures

- **Testes:** sperm + testosterone
- **Scrotum:** keeps testes 2–3 °C cooler
- **Epididymis:** sperm mature and are stored
- **Vas deferens:** cut in a vasectomy
- **Seminal vesicles:** most of semen volume
- **Prostate:** below bladder, around urethra
- **Bulbourethral glands:** lubricate urethra
- **Urethra:** urine and semen

3 Path of Sperm and Hormones



Hormone	Job
GnRH	Releases FSH and LH
LH	Leydig cells → testosterone
FSH	Sertoli cells → sperm
Testosterone	Sperm, voice, hair, muscle

SEVEN UP: Seminiferous tubules, Epididymis, Vas deferens, Ejaculatory duct, (Nothing), Urethra, Penis

4 Prostate Conditions

- **BPH:** benign enlargement; weak stream, nocturia; TURP
- **Prostatitis:** pelvic pain, painful urination
- **Prostate cancer:** most common non-skin cancer in men; age, family history, Black race
- **PSA** can rise with all three

5 Testicular and Penile

Torsion	Sudden severe pain; emergency
Testicular cancer	Ages 15–35; painless lump
Cryptorchidism	Undescended; orchiopexy
Hydrocele	Fluid; painless swelling
Varicocele	Enlarged veins; fertility
Phimosis	Foreskin won't retract
Hypospadias	Opening on underside

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6 More Conditions

Condition	Key facts	Condition	Key facts
Epididymitis	Often STI in younger men	**Erectile dysfunction**	No ED meds with nitrates
Orchitis	Inflamed testis; mumps	**Priapism**	Emergency after about 4 hr
Paraphimosis	Foreskin stuck back; emergency	**Oligospermia**	Low sperm count

7 Infections and STIs

Infection	Key facts in men	Infection	Key facts in men
Chlamydia	Bacteria; often silent	**Herpes**	Virus; painful blisters
Gonorrhea	Bacteria; yellow-green discharge	**HPV**	Virus; warts, cancers; vaccine
Syphilis	Bacteria; painless chancre	**HIV**	Virus; antiretrovirals, PrEP

STI NAAT: first-catch urine · **HPV vaccine:** boys and girls, routine at 11–12; follow current schedule

8 Screening and Exams

PSA, 55–69	Individual decision (USPSTF)
PSA, 70+	Not routinely recommended
DRE	Provider feels the prostate
Hernia check	Standing; turn head, cough
Semen analysis	2–5 days abstinence; body temp; within 1 hr

Follow the provider's orders; guidelines change.

9 Procedures and MA Role

- **Vasectomy:** confirm no sperm afterward
- **TURP:** for BPH · **Prostatectomy:** often cancer
- **Circumcision:** removes foreskin
- Explain, gown and drape, chaperone per policy
- Ask about nitrates and ED medicines
- Teach testicular self-awareness

10 Word Parts

Part	Meaning	Part	Meaning	Part	Meaning
orchi/o, test/o	Testis	**balan/o**	Glans penis	**crypt/o**	Hidden
prostat/o	Prostate	**andr/o**	Male	**olig/o**	Few
vas/o	Duct, vessel	**sperm/o**	Sperm	**-pexy**	Fixation

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