

Reproductive Body Parts and Functions

Human growth and development is dependent on certain anatomical parts and physiological functions. Understanding how these parts and functions work together is an important piece of understanding pregnancy. Key body parts have been defined below in regards to their role in pregnancy.

Part	Definition
Cervix	The lower part of the uterus that opens into the vagina. It stays closed during pregnancy and opens (dilates) during birth.
Egg (Ovum)	A cell from the ovaries. Pregnancy can begin if an egg is fertilized by a sperm.
Ejaculation	The release of semen from the penis.
Embryo	The early stage of development after fertilization.
Fallopian Tubes	Tubes near the ovaries connecting to the uterus. Fertilization typically happens here.
Fertilization	The process where a sperm and egg join to form a new cell.
Fetus	The stage of development after the embryo, as it continues to grow in the uterus.

Additional Information about Reproductive Anatomy & Pregnancy

Reproductive Body Parts and Functions continued

Part	Definition
Hormones	A body's chemical messengers that help control processes like ovulation, menstruation, and pregnancy.
Implantation	When a fertilized egg attaches to the lining of the uterus and begins to grow.
Ovary	An organ that stores and releases eggs and produces hormones.
Ovulation	The release of an egg from an ovary.
Penis	An external body part that can release semen during ejaculation.
Placenta	An organ that develops during pregnancy to provide oxygen and nutrients from the pregnant person to the fetus.
Semen	The fluid that contains sperm.
Sperm	A reproductive cell that can join with an egg during fertilization.
Uterus	An organ where a fertilized egg can implant and develop during pregnancy.
Vagina	A muscular canal that connects the uterus to the outside of the body.
Vulva	The external or outside genital parts of someone with a vagina that includes the opening of the vagina.

Additional Information about Reproductive Anatomy & Pregnancy

Sources

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