EMBRYOLOGY LECTURE 1

Development of the nose and Palate

- General information to keep in mind:
 - We have **3 layers** :
 - Endoderm gives lining epithelium, ex: GI,RS lining.
 - Mesoderm gives bone, cartilage, muscles, blood and lymph.
 - Ectoderm gives outer layers like skin.
- Keep these locations in mind (picture on the left)

Development of the nose

- At the end of the fourth week, facial prominences consisting primarily of neural crestderived mesenchyme and formed mainly by the first pair of pharyngeal arches appear
- The frontonasal prominence, will give a septum formed by proliferation of mesenchyme ventral to the brain vesicles, constitutes the upper border of the stomodeum
- On both sides of the frontonasal prominence, local thickenings of the surface ectoderm, the nasal (olfactory) placodes, originate under inductive influence of the ventral portion of the forebrain

Terms to know:



- **Otic placode** : beginning of the **ear**.
- Lens placode : beginning of the eye.
- Stomodeum : related to oral cavity (extra info: depression in the ectoderm develops oral cavity
- Prominence: eminence
- Frontonasal prominence: from frontal bone descending to the nasal cavity, to form the septum of the nose).
- Nasal placode makes nostrils.
- Maxillary prominence (upper jaw), grow toward the midline, participates in forming the upper lip.





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Levels of sections B

Medial and lateral

nasal prominences



Nasal pit

- During the fifth week, the nasal placodes invaginate to form nasal pits (nostril), then Invagination of cells gives vestibule.
- \circ In so doing, they create a ridge of tissue that surrounds each pit and forms the nasal prominences.
 - The **prominences** on the **outer edge** of the **pits** are the **lateral nasal prominences**; **those** on the **inner edge** are the **medial nasal prominences**
 - The lateral nasal placode will give the lateral wall of the nose
 - The medial nasal placode will gives the septum and anterior wall of the nose

• During the following 2 weeks, the maxillary prominences continue to increase in size

- Simultaneously, they grow medially, compressing the medial nasal prominences toward the midline
- o Subsequently the cleft between the medial nasal prominence and the maxillary prominence is lost, and
 - the two fuse
 - Medial nasal prominence gives:
 - 1-tip of the nose.
 - 2-septum.
 - 3- medial part of upper lip.
 - Maxillary prominence gives lateral part of upper lip.
 - If fusion fails to occur between medial nasal prominence and maxillary prominence, cleft will be formed.
 - Philtrum: vertical depression of the upper lip
- \circ The nose is formed from five facial prominences
 - 1. Frontal prominence: gives rise to the bridge; and nasal septum
 - 2. merged Medial nasal prominences: provide the crest and tip
 - 3. Lateral nasal prominences: form the sides (alae)
 - 4. Maxillary prominence
 - 5. Mandibular prominence
- Olfactory pit forms the nostril and then becomes deeper to form a blind sac (the vestibule), [so

Olfactory pit -> invagination of **mucosa -> vestibule**].

Summary:

TABLE 15.2 Structures Contributing to Formation of the Face

Prominence	Structures Formed
Frontonasal ^a	Forehead, bridge of nose, medial and lateral nasal prominences
Maxillary	Cheeks, lateral portion of upper lip
Medial nasal	Philtrum of upper lip, crest and tip of nose
Lateral nasal	Alae of nose
Mandibular	Lower lip

^a The frontonasal prominence is a single unpaired structure; the other prominences are paired.



Nasal Cavities

1. During the sixth week, the nasal pits deepen considerably, partly because of growth of the surrounding nasal prominences and partly because of their penetration into the underlying mesenchyme, [nasal pit deepen the mucosa -> cavity].

The oronasal membrane in the picture that it is in the position of the hard palate which separates the oral cavity from the nasal cavity.



2. At first the oronasal membrane (floor of the nose) separates the pits from the primitive oral cavity by way of the newly formed foramina, the primitive choanae

Firstly, **oronasal membrane rupture**, when **formation** of the **septum**(1ry palate) **begins**, which will **separate both cavities**.

These choanae lie on each side of the midline and immediately behind the primary palate.

3. Later, with formation of the secondary palate and further development of the primitive nasal chambers

the **definitive choanae** will **lie** at the **junction** of the **nasal cavity** and the **pharynx** (**nasopharynx**).

Remember : conchae, which is extension of bones in the lateral wall of the nose where the superior and middle are from ethmoid bone, and inferior are from maxilla.

Paranasal air sinuses



- Paranasal air sinuses develop as diverticula of the lateral nasal wall and extend into the maxilla, ethmoid, frontal, and sphenoid bones.
- They reach their maximum size during puberty and contribute to the definitive shape of the face.
 - Each sinus has a duct opening in the lateral wall of the nose.
 - In the development, the proliferation begins from the opening of lateral wall of nasal cavity.
 - Proliferation of cells → duct formation → continues through the cranial bone forming a cavity → sinus formation.
 - Sinus is very small in shape at the beginning, but with the development of the face at puberty, Paranasal sinuses reach its maximal size.

Primary palate

- As a result of **medial growth** of the **maxillary prominences**, the **two medial nasal prominences merge** not only at the surface but also at a **deeper level**.
- o The structure formed by the two merged prominences is the intermaxillary segment
- It is composed of :

(a) a **labial component**, [coming from the nasal part, completed by the intermaxillary segment] which **forms** the **philtrum** of the **upper lip**;

(b) an upper jaw component, which carries the four incisor teeth;

(c) a palatal component, which forms the triangular primary palate, 1ry palate from

Intermaxillary segments form maxillary prominence [the part labeled by laser in the picture].

The intermaxillary segment is continuous with the rostral portion of the nasal septum, which is formed by the frontal prominence.





Secondary Palate

- The main part of the definitive palate is formed by two shelflike outgrowths from the maxillary prominences.
- These outgrowths, the palatine shelves, appear in the sixth week of development and are directed obliquely downward on each side of the tongue
 - The Palatine shelves which are outgrowths from the two sides of the maxillary prominence, grow medially and directed above the tongue to form the hard palate (secondary palate).
 - Secondary shelves meet in the midline.
 - Logically: secondary palate is formed above the tongue.
 - There is a fusion between primary and secondary palate in midline.
 - Incisive foramen will be formed between 1ry & 2ry palates :
 - forming connection between oral cavity and nasal cavity
 - formed due to fusion between primary and secondary palate
 - Septum of the nose is descending downwards (which meets and fuses with the secondary palate at the midline).



- In the seventh week, however, the **palatine shelves** ascend to attain a horizontal position above the tongue and fuse, forming the **secondary palate**
- Anteriorly, the shelves fuse with the triangular primary palate, and the incisive foramen is the midline landmark between the primary and secondary palates
- At the same time as the palatine shelves fuse, the nasal septum grows down and joins with the cephalic aspect of the newly formed palate
 - If 1ry & 2ry palate fusion fails -> cleft (unilateral or bilateral).
- 2 folds grow posteriorly from the edge of the palatine process to form the soft palate and the uvula.
- \circ The union of the 2 folds of the soft palate occurs during the 8th week



- The 2 parts of the uvula fuse in the midline during the 11th week (failure of this fusion would result in a cleft formed between uvula, uvula appears as it is divided into 2 parts)
- Unilateral cleft lip can extend to the nose, (a cleft lip might be unilateral or bilateral / complete or incomplete)



Respiratory System

Primitive gut

- Development of the **primitive gut** and its **derivatives** is in **four** sections:
 - (a) The pharyngeal gut/pharynx, extends from the buccopharyngeal membrane to the tracheobronchial diverticulum



(b) The foregut lies caudal to the pharyngeal tube and extends as far caudally as the liver outgrowth(Mid duodenum).



(c) The midgut begins caudal to the liver bud and extends to the junction of the right twothirds and left third of the transverse colon in the adult.



(d) The hindgut extends from the left third of the transverse colon to the cloacal membrane, (ends at Upper half of the anal canal)



buds

Respiratory diverticulum

- When the embryo is approximately 4 weeks old, the respiratory diverticulum (lung bud) appears as an outgrowth from the ventral wall of the foregut
 - Proliferation of cells makes the lung bud [which represents the beginning of trachea formation]



- The location of the bud along the gut tube is determined by signals from the surrounding mesenchyme, including fibroblast growth factors (FGFs) (stimulates cells for proliferation) that instruct the endoderm
- The epithelium of the internal lining of the larynx, trachea, and bronchi, as well as that of the lungs, is entirely of endodermal origin.
- The cartilaginous, muscular, and connective tissue components of the trachea and lungs are derived from splanchnic mesoderm surrounding the foregut.
 - •Remember that Mesoderm has 2 types (splanchnic [lining]& somatic)
- o Initially the lung bud is in open communication with the foregut
- When the diverticulum expands caudally, two longitudinal ridges, the tracheoesophageal ridges, separate it from the foregut
- Subsequently, when these ridges fuse to form the tracheoesophageal septum, the foregut is divided into a dorsal portion, the esophagus, and a ventral portion, the trachea and lung



• The respiratory primordium maintains its communication with the pharynx through the laryngeal orifice

- Larynx originate from 4,6 pharyngeal arches.
- The inlet of the larynx connects between the GI and RS.



Esophagus

- o At first the esophagus is short
- $\circ\,$ But with descent of the heart and lungs it lengthens rapidly
- The muscular coat, which is formed by surrounding splanchnic mesenchyme, is striated in its upper two-thirds and innervated by the vagus the muscle coat is smooth in the lower third and is innervated by the splanchnic plexus (autonomic).

Anomalies of the trachea and esophagus

Tracheoesaphageal fistula (TEF)

- Abnormalities in partitioning of the esophagus and trachea by the tracheoesaphageal septum result in esophageal atresia with or without tracheoesaphageal fistulas
- These defects occur in approximately in 1/3000 births, and 90% result in the upper portion of the esophagus ending in a blind pouch and the lower segment forming a fistula with the trachea
- Predominantly affect male infants

The case in the picture having **proximal atresia (blind-end)** and **distal fistula** is the **most common case** representing **90% of cases.**



Baby with Tracheoesaphageal fistula will have :

1-**Vomiting** while **breast feeding**, because the blind end, the Esophagus is blocked, food can't reach the stomach.

2-**abdominal distension**, **while crying**, air can reach the stomach by the distal part of the Esophagus which is connected to the trachea.

3-**pneumonia**, gastric contents travel to trachea to lungs, through the distal part of the Esophagus which is connected to the trachea.

4-**polyhydramnios** (extra amniotic fluid before birth), [oligohydramnios is the opposite world], normally amniotic fluid travel to the oral cavity to GI tract and leave with urine, but fistula impedes this pathway.

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 Isolated esophageal atresia and H-type TEF without esophageal Atresia each account for 4% of these defects.



- \circ Other variations each account for approximately 1% of these defects.
- \circ TEF is the most common anomaly in the lower respiratory tract
- These abnormalities are associated with other birth defects, including cardiac abnormalities [Falot's tetralogy & atrial, ventricular septal defect], which occur in 33% of these cases.

• Complications with tracheoesophageal fistula:

- In this regard TEFs are a component of the VACTERL association (Vertebral anomalies, Anal atresia, Cardiac defects, Tracheoesophageal fistula, Esophageal atresia, Renal anomalies, and Limb defects)
- a collection of defects of unknown causation, but occurring more frequently than predicted by chance alone.

Tracheal atresia (Rare) and stenosis

- $_{\odot}$ Are uncommon anomalies and usually associated with one of the verities of TEF
- In some case a web tissue may obstructs the airflow (incomplete tracheal atresia)

Larynx

• The internal lining of the larynx originates from endoderm, but the cartilages and muscles originate from mesenchyme of the fourth and sixth pharyngeal arches

• As a result of rapid proliferation of this mesenchyme, the laryngeal orifice changes in appearance from a sagittal slit to a T-shaped opening



(at the beginning of larynx formation the shape changes)

• Subsequently, when mesenchyme of the two arches transforms into the thyroid, cricoid, and arytenoid cartilages, the characteristic adult shape of the laryngeal orifice can be recognized



- After larynx cartilage formation-> proliferation of mesenchymal cells which
- fill the larynx -> canalization-> cavity which has 2 ventricles and a saccule
- At about the time that the cartilages are formed, the laryngeal epithelium also proliferates rapidly resulting in a temporary occlusion of the lumen.
- Subsequently, vacuolization and recanalization produce a pair of lateral recesses, the laryngeal ventricles

- These recesses are bounded by folds of tissue that differentiate into the false and true vocal cords.
 - Remember: Above the ventricle we have the false vocal cord, and below it the true vocal cord.
- Since musculature of the larynx is derived from mesenchyme of the fourth and sixth pharyngeal arches, all laryngeal muscles are innervated by branches of the tenth cranial nerve, the vagus nerve
- The superior laryngeal (gives external laryngeal nerve) nerve innervates derivatives of the fourth pharyngeal arch (cricothyroid), and the recurrent laryngeal nerve innervates derivatives of the sixth pharyngeal arch

Anomalies of the larynx

Laryngeal atresia

- Laryngeal atresia is a rare anomaly and cause obstruction of the upper fetal airway
- Also known as congenital high airway obstruction syndrome (chaos)
- Distal to the atresia or stenosis the lung are enlarged (to compensate the obstruction) and capable of producing echoes (echogenic)
- Also the diaphragm (instead of the copula) is flattened or inverted and fetal ascites (fluid in abdominal cavity)and hydrops (accumulation of serous fluid) is present
- o Prenatal ultra-sonography permits diagnosis. Eco test