Hair Production

Hair bulb) where hair production begins. It is surrounded by hair papilla-a peg of connective tissue containing capillaries and nerves.

Hair matrix) layer of epithelia cells in contact with the hair papilla.

Medulla) or core of the hair where hair genes split to create hair.

Cortex) an intermediate layer that lies further from the center of the hair matrix. Those edges of the hair matrix form the cuticle.

The Hair Growth Cycle

Hair grows and sheds according to the hair growth cycle. Hair in the scalp grows for about 5yrs at 0.33 mm per day.

Club hair) the term for a hair that has stopped growing and becomes inactive. It is a recycling and production of new hairs just in skin reproduction. We typically loose about 100 hairs a day.

Types of Hairs

Lanugo) fine unpigmented new hair. They are replaced by 1 of 2 types of hair, vellus hairs- are fine “peach fuzz” hairs located over most of the body surface (examples are armpits, pubic area, and limbs until puberty) or terminal hairs - are very more deeply pigmented and sometimes curly (the hair on the head including the eyelashes).

Hair Color

Differences in structure and variations in the pigment produced by melanocytes at the hair matrix are what produce hair color.

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Sebaceous glands and sweat glands are exocrine glands found in the skin

Sebaceous Glands

Sebaceous glands or oil glands holocrine glands that discharge an oily lipid secretion into hair follicles. This requires the rupture of secretory cells.