

The Female Reproductive System

- Primary reproductive organs of female are **ovaries**.-
- Main function of female reproductive system is to produce egg cells, or ova. It also prepares the body to nourish a developing embryo.

Female Reproductive Structures

- At puberty, ovaries have 400,000 primary follicles, which helps an egg mature for release.
- Other structures include the fallopian tubes, uterus, cervix, and vagina.

Menstrual Cycle

- One ovary is produced and released one ovum every 28 days or so.
- **Menstrual Cycle** :regular sequence of events involving the ovaries, lining of uterus, and endocrine system.
- Menstrual cycle is regulated by hormones produced by hypothalamus, pituitary, and ovaries.
- During the cycle, egg develops within a follicle and is released. The uterus prepares to receive fertilized egg.If egg is fertilize, development begins and cycle ceases. If its not, it is discharged, along with the lining of uterus.