

o Uterus

- The uterus is described as a hollow, muscular, pear-shaped organ.
- It is located at the lower pelvis, which is posterior to the **bladder** and anterior to the rectum.
- The uterus has an estimated **length** of **5 to 7 cm** and **width of 5 cm**. it is **2.5 cm** deep in its widest part.
- For non-pregnant women, it is approximately **60 g** in weight.
- Its function is to receive the ovum from the fallopian tube and provide a place for implantation and nourishment.
- It also gives protection for the growing fetus.
- It is divided into three:
 - ✓ The body
 - ✓ The isthmus
 - ✓ The cervix
- The **body** forms the bulk of the uterus, being the uppermost part. This is also the part that expands to accommodate the growing fetus.
- The **isthmus** is just a short connection between the body and the cervix. This is the portion that is cut during a cesarean section.
- The **cervix** lies halfway above the vagina, and the other half extends into the vagina. It has an internal and external cervical os, which is the opening into the cervical canal.

➤ External Structures

o Mons Veneris

- The mons veneris is a pad of fat tissues over the symphysis pubis.
- It has a covering of coarse, curly hairs, the pubic **hair**
- It protects the pubic bone from **trauma**.

o Labia Minora

- The labia minora is a spread of two connective tissue folds that are pinkish in color.
- The internal surface is composed of mucous membrane and the external surface is skin.
- It contains sebaceous glands all over the area.

o Labia Majora

- **Lateral** to the labia minora are two folds of fat tissue covered by loose connective tissue and epithelium.
- Its function is to protect the external genitalia and the distal **urethra** and vagina from **trauma**.
- It is covered in pubic hair that serves as additional protection against harmful bacteria that may enter the structure.

o Vestibule

- It is a smooth, flattened surface inside the labia wherein the openings to the urethra and the vagina arise.

o Clitoris

- The clitoris is a small, circular organ of erectile tissue at the front of the labia minora.
- The prepuce, a fold of skin, serves as its covering.
- This is the center for sexual arousal and pleasure for females because it is highly sensitive to **touch** and temperature.