What is the Female Reproductive System?

Worksheet

The female reproductive system releases an egg from an ovary each cycle, transports it through the fallopian tube, and prepares the uterine lining to receive a fertilized egg - or shed it as menstruation if fertilization doesn't occur.

Questions

1. Where does fertilization of an egg normally take place?

A) Ovary
B) Uterus
C) Fallopian tube
D) Cervix

2. What hormone surge directly triggers ovulation?

A) Estrogen
B) Progesterone
C) Luteinizing hormone (LH)
D) FSH decline

3. What happens to the endometrium if pregnancy does not occur?

A) It thickens permanently
B) It is shed as menstrual bleeding
C) It turns into the corpus luteum
D) It travels to the ovary

4. What structure becomes the corpus luteum?

A) The unfertilized egg
B) The ruptured ovarian follicle
C) The endometrium
D) The cervix

5. A woman has a 28-day cycle starting on Day 1. On which day does ovulation typically occur, and what triggers it?

6. If a released egg is not fertilized within about 24 hours, what happens over the following two weeks?

7. Trace the path an egg takes from release to potential implantation.

8. Define: Where are eggs produced and stored?

9. Define: Where does fertilization normally occur?

10. Define: What is the endometrium?

Answer Key

1. C) Fallopian tube - Sperm typically meets the egg in the fallopian tube.

2. C) Luteinizing hormone (LH) - A sharp LH surge causes the mature follicle to release its egg.

3. B) It is shed as menstrual bleeding - Falling hormone levels cause the uterine lining to shed as the period.

4. B) The ruptured ovarian follicle - After releasing an egg, the follicle transforms into the corpus luteum, which secretes progesterone.

5. Ovulation typically occurs around Day 14 in a 28-day cycle It is triggered by a sharp surge in luteinizing hormone (LH) The LH surge causes the dominant follicle to rupture and release its egg The egg then enters the fallopian tube

6. The unfertilized egg disintegrates within ~24 hours The corpus luteum keeps producing progesterone for about 14 days Without pregnancy, the corpus luteum degrades and progesterone/estrogen fall The drop in hormones causes the endometrium to shed as menstruation, restarting the cycle

7. 1. Released from a mature follicle in the ovary (ovulation) 2. Swept into the fallopian tube by fimbriae 3. Fertilization, if it occurs, happens in the fallopian tube 4. The egg/embryo travels to the uterus over ~5-6 days 5. Implants in the thickened endometrium

8. In the ovaries, which contain follicles holding immature eggs from birth.

9. In the fallopian tube (oviduct), usually in its outer third.

10. The inner lining of the uterus that thickens each cycle to support a pregnancy and sheds as the period if none occurs.