Chapter 7

Skin Structure, Growth, and Nutrition

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"The happiest life is that which constantly exercises and educates what is best in us."

- Hamerton







Objectives

- Describe the structure and composition of the skin.
- List the functions of the skin.
- List the classes of nutrients essential for good health.







Objectives (continued)

- List the food groups and dietary guidelines recommended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- List and describe the vitamins that can help the skin.







Anatomy of the Skin

- Dermatology
 - The medical branch of science that deals with the study of skin and its nature, functions, diseases, and treatment
- Dermatologist
 - A physician engaged in the science of treating the structures, functions, and diseases of the skin

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Anatomy of the Skin (continued)

- Cosmetologist
 - One skilled in the cleansing, beautification, and health preservation of the skin
- Esthetician
 - Specializes in cleansing, beautification, and health preservation of the skin

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Skin Specifics

- Largest organ of the body
- Covers two square yards
- Weighs about nine pounds
- Protects muscles, bones, nerves
- Barrier against environment
- Thinnest skin on eyelids
- Thickest skin on soles of feet
- Continued pressure causes callus

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Healthy Skin

- Slightly moist
- Soft and flexible
- Smooth and fine-grained
- Possesses slightly acid reaction
- Reacts quickly to touch

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Appendages of the Skin

- Hair
- Nails
- Sweat glands
- Oil glands

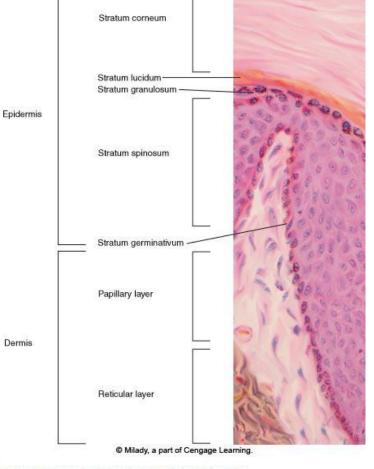
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Divisions of the Skin

- Epidermis
- Dermis



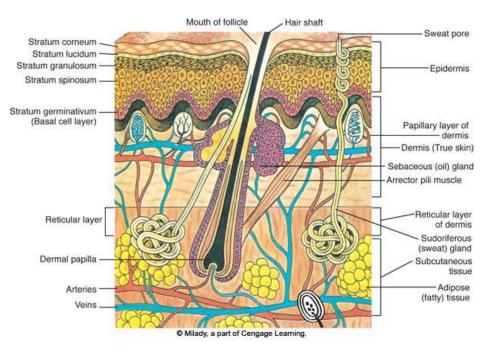
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Epidermis

- Stratum corneum: horny, outermost layer
- Stratum lucidum: clear, transparent layer
- <u>Stratum granulosum:</u> granular layer
- <u>Stratum spinosum</u>: spiny layer
- <u>Stratum germinativum:</u> deepest layer



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Dermis

Dermis is the underlying, inner layer of the skin.

- Papillary layer: outer layer beneath epidermis
- Reticular layer: deeper layer of dermis
- Subcutaneous tissue: fatty layer below dermis

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How Skin Is Nourished

- The blood supplies nutrients, molecules from food such as protein, carbohydrates, and fats, to the skin.
- Nutrients are required for cell life, repair, and growth.
- Lymph bathes skin cells, removes toxins and cellular waste, and has immune functions.

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Nerves of the Skin

- Motor nerve fibers: cause goose flesh
- Sensory nerve fibers: send messages to brain
- Secretory nerve fibers: regulate perspiration







Sense of Touch

- Nerve endings found in the papillary layer.
- They register sensations:
 - Touch
 - Pain
 - Heat
 - Cold
 - Pressure

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Skin Color

- Depends primarily on melanin
- Melanin: tiny grains of pigment in stratum germinativum
 - Pheomelanin: red to yellow in color
 - Eumelanin: dark brown to black in color
- Heredity: Skin color varies among races (dark skin contains more melanin).

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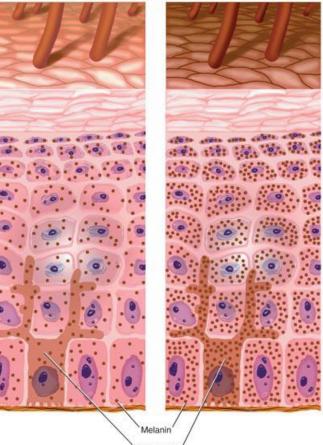




Skin Color (continued)

Light skin

Dark skin



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Strength and Flexibility of Skin

Collagen and elastin give strength, form, and flexibility to skin.

•Collagen: a fibrous protein allowing skin to stretch and contract

•Elastin: a protein base that forms elastic tissue; gives skin elasticity

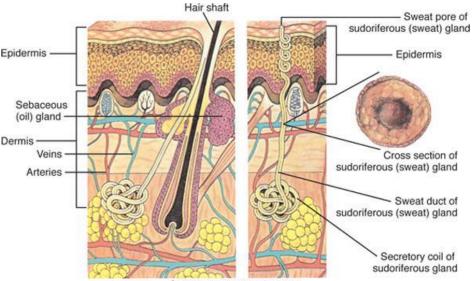
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Glands of the Skin

- Sudoriferous (sweat) glands: regulate body temperature and help eliminate waste; excretion of sweat is controlled by nervous system
- Sebaceous (oil) glands: secrete sebum that lubricates skin and preserves softness of hair



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Sebaceous Gland Secretions

- Acne: chronic inflammation of sebaceous glands
- Papule: small, round elevation on skin; contains no fluid but may develop pus
- Pustule: inflamed pimple containing pus

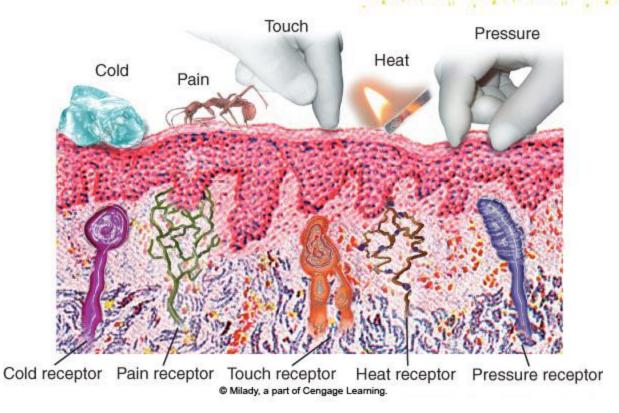
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Functions of the Skin

- Protection
- Sensation
- Heat regulation
- Excretion
- Secretion
- Absorption



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Nutrition and Maintaining Skin Health

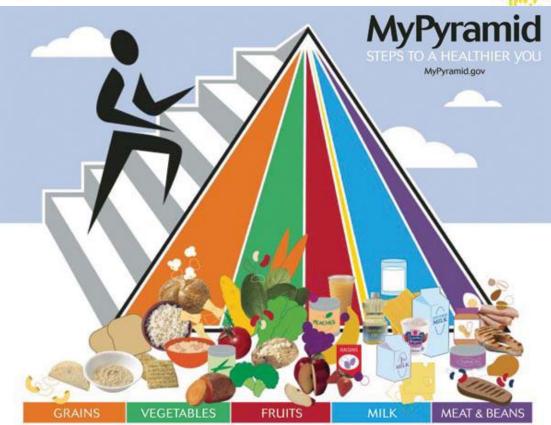
- Essential nutrients
 - Carbohydrates
 - Fats
 - Proteins
 - Vitamins
 - Minerals
 - Water

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Food Pyramid Groups



Courtesy of U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

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Dietary Guidelines

- Eat a variety of foods.
- Eat fruits, vegetables, and grains.
- Eat moderate salt and sugar.
- Drink appropriate amount of water.
- Minimize alcohol intake.
- Exercise appropriately.
- Maintain/improve body weight.

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Maintaining Skin Health

We are what we eat!

- Vitamin A: improves elasticity and thickness
- Vitamin C: accelerates healing process
- Vitamin D: enables absorption of calcium
- Vitamin E: protects against sun's rays
- Food supplements: should not replace healthful eating

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Water and the Skin

- Comprises 50 to 70 percent of body's weight
- Sustains the health of cells
- Aids in elimination of toxins and waste
- Helps regulate body temperature
- Aids in proper digestion

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Water Benefits

- Mild dehydration slows metabolism by 3 percent.
- Drinking water reduces hunger pangs.
- Water reduces cracked skin on feet and lips.
- Dehydration causes fatigue.
- Drop in body water of 2 percent can cause fuzzy, shortterm memory.

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Summary and Review

- Define *dermatology*.
- Briefly describe healthy skin.
- Name the main divisions of the skin and the layers within each division.

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Summary and Review (continued)

- List three types of nerve fibers found in the skin.
- Name the two types of glands contained within the skin and describe their functions.
- What are collagen and elastin?

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Summary and Review (continued)

- Explain how collagen and elastin can be weakened.
- What are six important skin functions?
- What are six classes of nutrients the body needs and how are they obtained?







Summary and Review (continued)

- What are the five basic food groups?
- Can the skin be nourished with cosmetics?
- Name four vitamins than can help the skin and describe how they help
- What is the one essential item that no person can live without, and why is it essential to the skin and body?

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Congratulations!

You have completed one unit of study toward course completion.

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