

# HUMAN REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

## Key Concepts

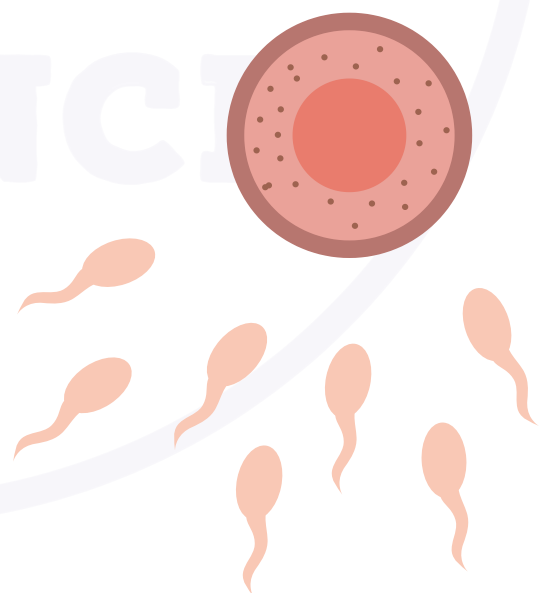
- The male and female reproductive systems produce sperm and eggs.
- Fertilisation is when a sperm cell joins an egg cell.
- Humans develop from a fertilized egg into a baby over about 9 months.

## Key Facts to Remember

- The main male reproductive organs: testes (which produce sperm and testosterone) and the penis (which delivers sperm to the female reproductive system).
- The main female reproductive organs: ovaries (which produce eggs and hormones like oestrogen), the uterus (where a fertilised egg develops into a baby), and the vagina (which serves as the birth canal and receives sperm during reproduction).
- Fertilisation happens in the fallopian tubes when a sperm cell meets and fuses with an egg cell.
- The fertilised egg implants in the uterus and grows into an embryo, supported by the placenta, which provides nutrients and oxygen.
- The fallopian tubes are lined with tiny hair-like structures called cilia that help move the egg towards the uterus.
- The placenta also removes waste products from the baby's blood.
- Hormones like progesterone play a crucial role in maintaining pregnancy.
- The umbilical cord connects the baby to the placenta, allowing nutrient and oxygen exchange.

## Quick Questions

1. Where does fertilisation occur?
2. What do the ovaries produce?
3. How long is human pregnancy?
4. What organ supports a developing baby?
5. What is the function of the testes?
6. Where does the fertilised egg implant?
7. Which organ produces sperm?
8. What connects the uterus to the ovaries?



## Fun Fact

**A baby's heart starts beating about 3 weeks after conception!**