

Parts Of The Integumentary System

- ☞ Skin
- ☞ Sweat glands
- ☞ Sebaceous glands
- ☞ Hair
- ☞ Nails
- ☞ Subcutaneous tissue

Age-Related Changes

- ☞ Thin skin & smaller elastin fibres
- ☞ Collagen loss → wrinkles - weaker & saggier skin
- ☞ Less melanin → pale skin & grey/white hair
- ☞ Reduced blood supply to skin → harder to regulate body temp
- ☞ Longer skin repair time

Skin

Functions

- ☞ 1st defense line
- ☞ Maintains fluid balance
- ☞ Protects organs & structures
- ☞ Sunlight → Vitamin D
- ☞ Houses sensory receptors
- ☞ Regulates body temp

Layers

- ☞ Main skin layers: epidermis & dermis
- ☞ Subcutaneous tissues (not skin)

Subcutaneous Layer

- ☞ Aka hypodermis (underneath the dermis)
- ☞ Not part of the skin, mainly made of connective & adipose tissue
- ☞ Rich blood supply
- ☞ Insulates body and sits between skin & underlying structure

Epidermis

- ☞ Top skin layer
- ☞ Made of keratinocytes
- ☞ No blood supply - gets O₂ & nutrients from dermis

Keratinisation: Keratin protein deposited into cell

Melanocytes: Releases melanin & has arm-like projections to protect keratinocytes from UV light

Main Layers

Stratum Corneum	Stratum Germinativum/Basale
☞ Top layer of epidermis	☞ Bottom layer of epidermis
☞ Dead cells rubbed off & replaced	☞ Continuously divides, older cells die & keratinise ↑ layers

Skin Colour

- ☞ Determined by 3 pigments:

Melanin

- ☞ Darkening pigment from melanocytes
- ☞ More melanin → darker skin colour

Carotene

- ☞ Carotene → Vitamin A for healthy eyes, skin, vision etc.
- ☞ Found in orange-coloured veggies
- ☞ Too much carotene → yellow/orange skin

Haemoglobin

- ☞ Bright red
- ☞ Dilated blood vessels → increased blood flow → increased haemoglobin → blushing/redder skin
- ☞ Poorly oxygenated blood → decreased haemoglobin → cyanosis

Dermis

- ☞ Underneath epidermis
- ☞ Tough & elastic

Connective Tissue

Collagen Fibres	Elastin Fibres
☞ Gives strength & elasticity → young appearance	☞ Allows stretchy skin

Dermis Parts

- ☞ **Blood Vessels:** Blood to sweat, sebaceous glands, hair follicles & dermis tissue
- ☞ **Lymph Vessels:** Lymph & immune cells to dermis
- ☞ **Sensory Nerve Endings:** Nociceptors (pain), thermoreceptors (temperature), mechanoreceptors (pressure)
- ☞ **Hair:** Maintains heat, grows from hair follicles
- ☞ **Arrector Pili:** Contracts to raise hair & skin

☞ **Sebaceous Glands:** Creates & releases sebum → prevents dry/cracked skin

☞ Sweat Glands:

Eccrine Glands	Apocrine Glands
☞ Clear & watery sweat	☞ Sweat + bacteria → body odour
☞ Opens directly onto epidermis	☞ Opens into hair follicles
☞ Regulates body temp	

Nails

- ☞ Made of tightly packed keratinized cells
- ☞ Protects toe & finger tips
- ☞ Made of nail plate & nail root