HISTOLOGY OF CARTILAGE & BONE

Dr AMAL ALBTOOSH

CARTILAGE

- Modified connective tissue
- Forms skeletal basis of some parts of body
- Matrix is firm giving it the characteristic consistency
- Resists compression
- Avascular (nutrients diffuse through matrix)
- Perichondrium is rich in blood vessels



PERICHONDRIUM

- Dense irregularly arranged fibrous tissue
- Ensheaths the cartilage
- Composed of cells & matrix
- Matrix consists of fibres & ground substance
- Houses the blood vessels that nourish chondrocytes
- Present in most of the hyaline & elastic cartilage
- Absent in fibrocartilage



CHONDROBLAST

- Mesenchymal (embryologically)
- Progenitor of chondrocytes
- Lines border between perichondrium and matrix
- Produce the intercellular matrix and collagen fibres
- Cells which become imprisoned within this matrix become chondrocytes.



CHONDROCYTE

- Mature cartilage cell
- Reside in a space called the lacuna
- Isogenous cell group
- Basophilic
- Clear areas = Golgi and lipid droplets



CHONDROCYTE

- Chondrocytes completely fill their lacunae
- RER and euchromatic nuclei
- Synthetically active, secrete matrix
- Synthesize type II collagen, proteoglycans and chondronectin.



MATRIX

(chondroitin

- Provides the rigidity, elasticity, & resilience
- FIBERS
 - Collagenous and elastic
- GROUND SUBSTANCE
 - Glycosaminoglycans sulfates & keratan sulfate)
 - Proteoglycans
 - Water
- Basophilic
- Territorial matrix
- Interterritorial matrix



TYPES OF CARTILAGE

• HYALINE

• ELASTIC

• FIBROUS



HYALINE CARTILAGE

- **Sites:** Tracheal rings, nasal septum, larynx, costal cartilage & articular surfaces of joints
- **Cartilage cells:** Present singly or in groups of 2 or 4 cells inside lacunae
- Cartilage Matrix: Collagen type II
- Ground substance: Homogenous, clearly basophilic
- Functions: supportive



ELASTIC CARTILAGE

- **Sites:** Auricle, ext. auditory meatus, auditory tube, epiglottis, apices of arytenoid cartilage
- Cartilage cells: larger, more numerous, packed more closely
- Cartilage Matrix: elastic fibres, Collagen type II
- Ground substance: Rich in elastic fibres
- Functions: supportive with resilience
- Elastic fibers stain with orcein.



FIBROCARTILAGE

- Sites: intervertebral discs, arytenoid cartilage (except apices), pubic symphysis, manubriosternal joint, articular disc of TM joint.
- **Cartilage cells:** fewer, smaller, scattered singly or in rows
- Cartilage Matrix: collagen type I & II
- Ground substance: acidophilic
- Functions: supportive with tensile strength



Intervertebral disc

BONE

- Modified connective tissue
- Highly vascular mineralized connective tissue consisting of cells and dense intercellular organic matrix impregnated with inorganic salts.
- Provide support & protection to the vital organs
- Forms skeletal framework

COMPOSITION

- Cells:
- a.Osteogenic cells
- **b.Osteoblasts**
- c.Osteocytes
- d.Osteoclasts
- Fibers: collagen type I
- Ground Substance: Proteoglycans & glycoproteins



The <u>matrix</u> of bone is a mixture of organic (collagen) and inorganic (calcium phosphate)

90% of bone is matrix, with the remaining 10% made of osteocytes.

MICROSCOPIC ANATOMY OF BONE



LAMELLAR ARANGEMENT

Lamellae

- Rings around the central canal Sites of lacunae
- Lacunae
 - Cavities containing bone cells (osteocytes)
 - Arranged in concentric rings



LAMELLAR ARANGEMENT

Canaliculi Tiny canals Radiate from the central canal to lacunae Form a transport system



COMPACT BONE

- The morphofunctional unit of the bone is osteon, or Haversian system.
- Lamellar pattern of compact bone:
- i. Haversian system
- ii.Interstitial lamellae
- iii.Circumferential lamellae







Compact Bone & Spongy (Cancellous Bone)





Dark spots are called '<u>lacunae</u>' and would contain osteocytes in living bone



<u>Central canal</u> containing an artery, vein, lymph vessel and nerves