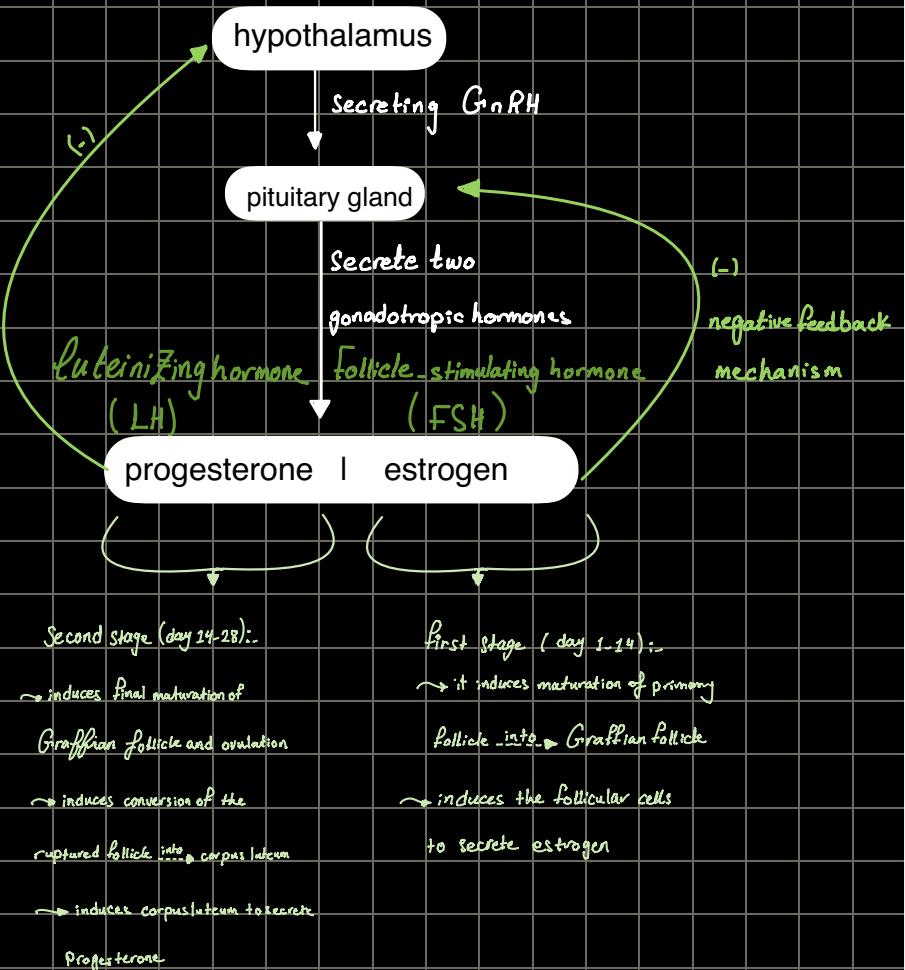


## hormonal control:-



## The Ovarian cycle

### Preovulatory "follicular" phase

→ The anterior lobe of pituitary gland secretes FSH → it stimulates a number of primordial follicles

→ Only one primordial follicle reaches maturity → secretes

**Estrogen** → inhibits secretion of FSH by pituitary gland → stimulates

secretion of LH hormone → degeneration

of the remaining follicles to become << atretic follicles >>

### Ovulation

→ stimulating Collagenase → for digestion

of collagen fibers surrounding the mature **Graffian follicle**

→ increasing prostaglandin → ovarian contraction

→ rupture of mature **Graffian follicle** on the surface of the ovary → releasing **Secondary oocyte + corona radiata + Zona pellucida**

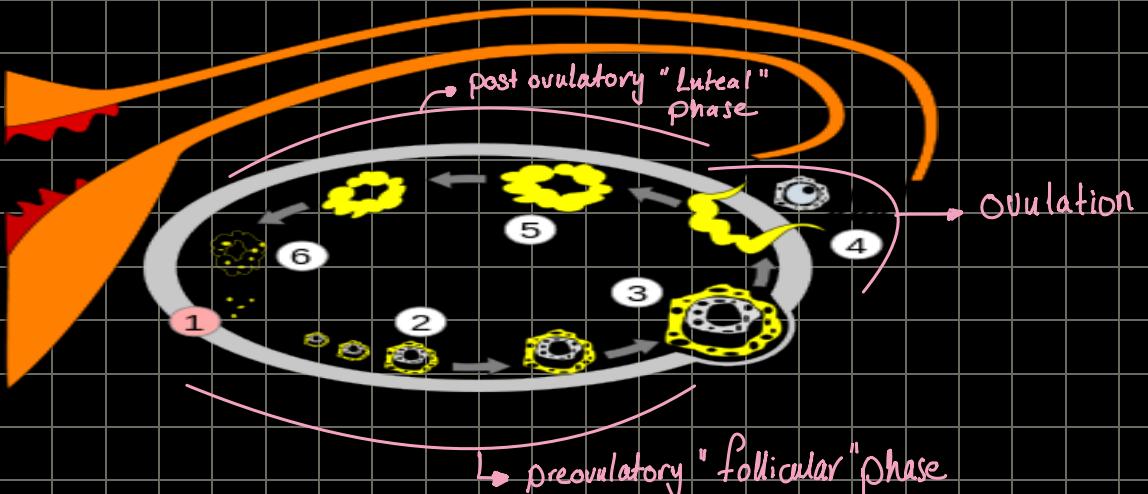
### Post ovulatory "luteal" phase

→ under effect of **luteinizing hormone**:

(membrane granulosa + theca interna) are changed to the **luteal cells** to form corpus luteum

→ Corpus luteum secretes **progesterone hormone** → responsible for **secretory phase of uterine cycle** & inhibits LH

**Estrogen** is responsible for **proliferative phase of uterine cycle**.

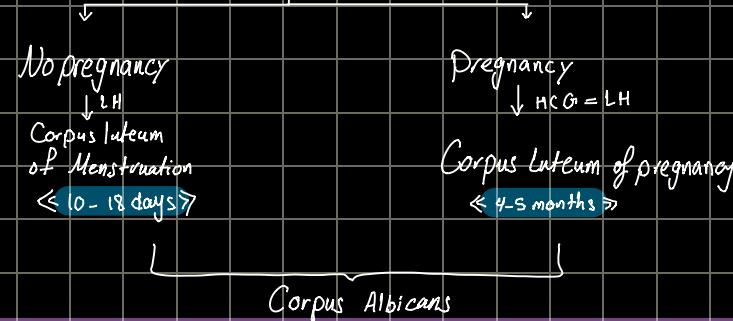


## Fate of corpus luteum :-

If fertilization doesn't occur:-

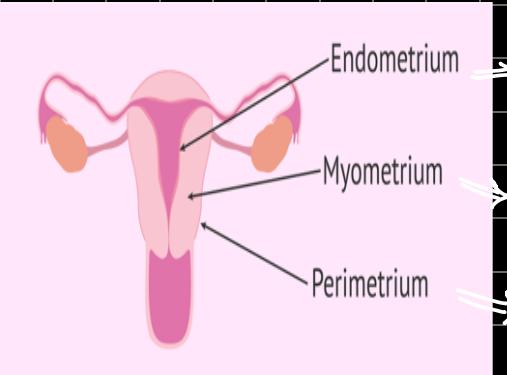
→ the corpus luteum degenerates  
after 9 days from ovulation and  
becomes corpus albicans  
→ leads to decrease progesterone  
level in blood

## Fate of corpus luteum :-



If fertilization occurs:-  
The corpus luteum changes into "corpus luteum of pregnancy"  
→ first 4 months of pregnancy is maintained by Chorionic gonadotropin hormone secreted from the embryo  
→ After that → placenta will secrete progesterone

\* Layers of the uterine wall :-

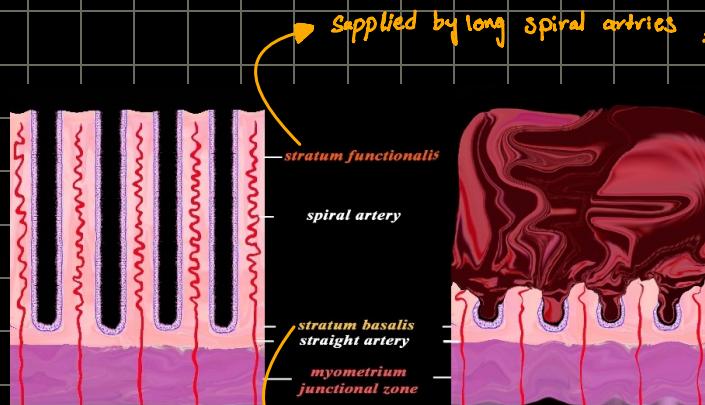


→ inner mucosa

→ Thick layer of smooth muscle

→ Layer of peritoneum, covers the external aspect of the uterus

## Endometrium :-



Supplied by long spiral arteries, which are dilated by progesterone  
→ Shed at menstruation

Supplied by its own short straight arteries and it doesn't shed during menstruation

→ it forms regenerative layer of the endometrium which is responsible for reformation of the uterine glands after menstruation

of the uterine glands after menstruation

## Uterine "Menstrual" cycle

→ occur in the endometrium every 28 days  
during the fertile period of the non-pregnant female.  
→ it's affected by the ovarian cycle & ovarian hormones.

### Menstrual phase (3-5 days)

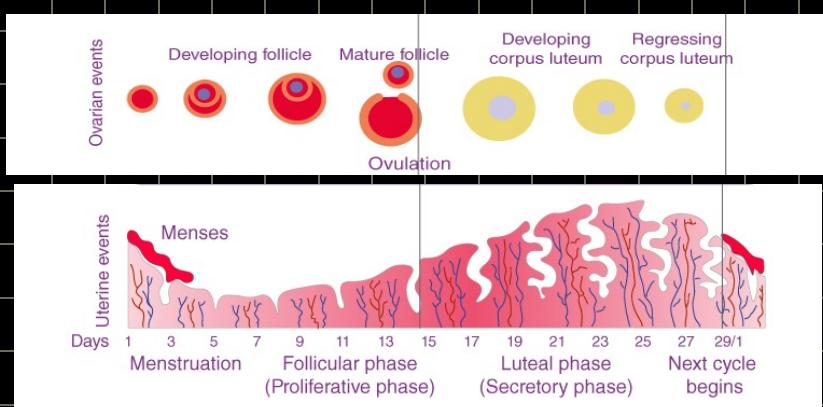
- it corresponds to the beginning of the pre-ovulatory phase
- Causes decrease progesterone level & estrogen level at the end of the luteal phase of ovarian cycle

→ constriction of spiral arteries

→ The superficial part of endometrium degenerates and expelled with "mucus + unclotted blood" because of the presence of proteolytic enzyme

→ At the end of it 3. The endometrium is reduced in thickness

→ The basal layer isn't affected.



### Proliferative phase (estrogenic or post-menstrual) (5-15)

- The last 10 days of the pre-ovulatory phase of ovarian cycle
- under the effect of estrogen secreted by developing follicle
- The endometrium gradually thickens
  - blood supply for it increases
  - its mucus gland enlarge
- regeneration and repair of endometrial glands & their spiral arteries

### Secretory phase (premenstrual or progestational) (15-28)

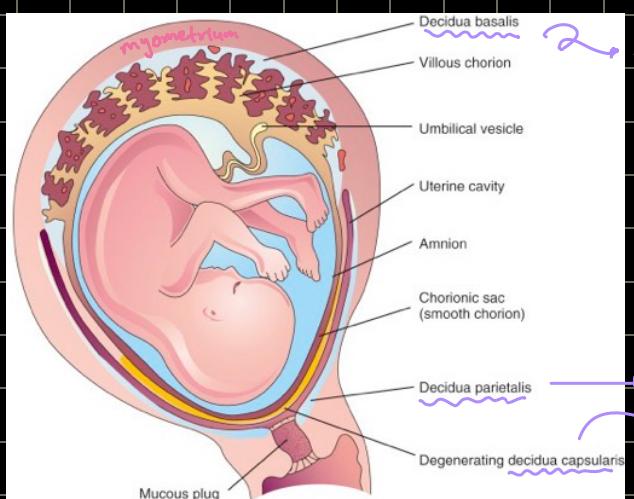
- post-ovulatory phase of the ovarian cycle
- under the effect of progesterone from corpus luteum
- estrogen less extent
- the thickness of the endometrium increase
- The arteries become spiral & the mucus glands become long, tortuous & distended with secretion

→ preparation of the endometrium for the reception and nourishment of blastocyst if fertilization occurs

↓  
if fertilization doesn't occur

- The corpus luteum degenerates
- drop in the progesterone
- lead to vasoconstriction of spiral arteries, leading to ischemia of the functional layer of the endometrium
- Shedding with bleeding

↓  
if fertilization occurs -  
→ corpus luteum of pregnancy continues to secrete progesterone  
→ The uterine endometrium is transformed into (decidua of pregnancy) to receive the blastocyst, that reaches the uterine after 6 days after fertilization



↓  
between the fetus and myometrium  
⇒ forming the maternal part of placenta

↓  
lines the uterine cavity  
covers the rest of the foetus.