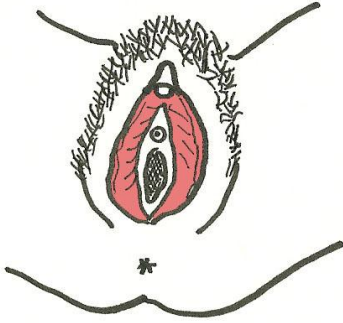
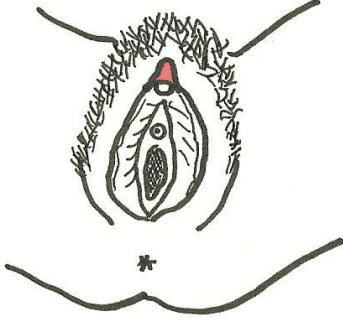
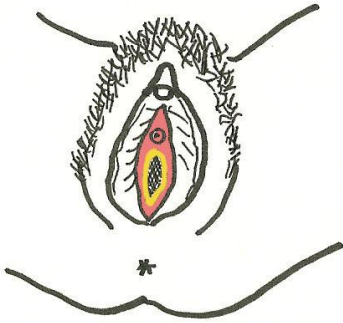
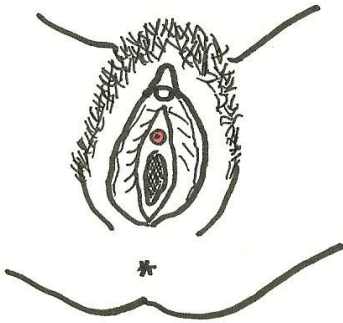
	<p>THE LABIA MAJORA The major (larger) outer “lips” are continuous with the mons veneris. Like the mons veneris, the labia majora are also well endowed with internal fat, and hair (after puberty) growing from the surface.</p>
	<p>THE LABIA MINORA The minor (smaller) inner “lips” are hairless flaps of skin. They are richly endowed with blood vessels and nerve endings. The space between the two labia minora is called the vestibule.</p>
	<p>THE PREPUCE also known as the CLITORAL HOOD The prepuce covers the shaft of the clitoris as well as some or all of the head of the clitoris. In some cultures “female circumcision” also known as “female genital mutilation” involves making a cut in this hood. In some cultures female circumcision (female genital mutilation) involves something much more drastic...</p>
	<p>THE VESTIBULE AND THE HYMEN The vestibule is the space that is located between the labia minora. It is within the vestibule that you can find the openings of the urethra and vagina (and the membrane along the edges of the vaginal opening which is called the hymen) THE HYMEN The hymen refers to the membrane that is located around the edges of the hole that leads to the vagina. The hymen does NOT completely cover the opening to the vagina. The hymen normally has a decent-sized opening in its center.</p>
	<p>THE URETHRAL OPENING The urethra is the tube that carries urine from the storage area of the bladder to the outside of the body. The opening of the urethra is located within the vestibule. It is not always easy to see. Nurses have to get good at locating it in order to put a plastic tube called a catheter inside when someone has difficulty getting urine out – such as a woman during childbirth whose urethra is being held shut by the pressure of the baby’s head in the vagina nearby.</p>