
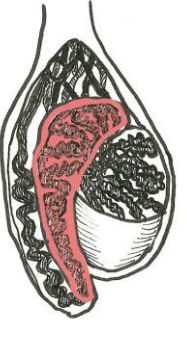


	<p><b>THE TESTIS / TESTICLE</b></p> <p>The male gonad.  The structure where sperm are produced.  The main location where testosterone and other male hormones (androgens) are produced.  (Some male and female hormones are also produced by the adrenal glands located just above the kidneys)</p>
	<p><b>THE SEMINIFEROUS TUBULES</b></p> <p>The tubules inside the testicles.  It is in the walls of these tubules that the sperm are produced.</p>
	<p><b>THE EPIDIDYMIS</b></p> <p>After the sperm leave the testicle they first spend some time in the epididymis. Here they become more mature and ready to carry on the task of fertilization.</p> <p>The sperm will eventually leave the epididymis via the vas deferens.</p>
	<p><b>THE SPERMATIC CORD</b></p> <p>The spermatic cord is a somewhat rope-like structure that contains not only the sperm-carrying-tube (the vas deferens), but also blood vessels and other structures.</p>
	<p><b>THE VAS DEFERENS</b></p> <p>The vas deferens refers strictly to that structure (inside of the spermatic cord) which consists of a hollow tube that carries the sperm from the testicle and epididymis to the urethra.</p> <p>A vasectomy is a form of birth control in which the vas deferens is cut to prevent the sperm from getting to the urethra and leaving the male body.</p>