



Glossary

Term	Meaning
Breast	A type of gland that produces milk in women and is surrounded with fatty tissue.
Cofactors	It is an inorganic ion that temporarily associates to the enzyme surface and induce a chemical reaction.
Consensus Sequence	A nucleotide or amino acid sequence that is found in different organisms.
Coregulatory proteins	Proteins that interact with transcription factors to either activate or suppress the transcription of specific genes.
Corpus luteum	The tissue of the ovary that is formed after ovulation. It secretes progesterone.
endometrium	This is another term for the lining of the womb. It becomes thicker with increased blood supply in the later stages of the menstrual cycle.
Follicle	A small area i.e cavity or sac where the egg cell is formed.
Follicle Stimulating hormone	A hormone produced in the pituitary gland and stimulates the maturation of the follicles in the ovary.
Genome	The complete gene composition of a cell.
Glycogen	A large molecule consisting of glucose monomers. It is found in muscle and liver cells.
Growth hormone	A hormone produced in the pituitary gland. It promotes the growth of the long bones and produces proteins.
Histone deacetylases (HDAC)	They are enzymes that remove acetyl groups from an amino acid lysine on a histone protein. This allows the histones to wrap the DNA more tightly and increase gene expression.
Homodimers	A protein that consists of two identical polypeptide sequences.
Homology	A similarity in the structure and development of organisms.
Hormone	A chemical messenger that travels via the blood to target cells.
Insulin Growth Factor	They are proteins whose main role is to mediate the growth hormone which promotes cellular growth and differentiation and apoptosis. Its availability is influenced by insulin-like growth factor binding proteins (IGFBPs).
LH	It is a protein made of a sugar molecule and protein (glycoprotein). It is produced in the pituitary glands in both males and females. In males, it facilitates the production of testosterone that is produced in the testes. In females, it helps release the egg into the uterus as part of the menstrual cycle. LH is also involved in producing steroid hormones in the ovaries.
Luteal	This occurs between ovulation and the first day of period of the 28-day menstrual cycle. Day 15 to Day 28.



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Menopause	The phase where a woman's ovaries cannot produce egg cell every 4 weeks nor undergo menstruation. This commonly occurs between the ages 45-55.
Menstrual cycle	It is the release of an egg from the ovaries every 28 days and changes in the thickness of the womb lining.
Menstruation	The discharge of blood and fragments from vagina. The cause is shedding of the endometrium when fertilization does not take place
microRNA	They are small non-coding RNAs. They regulation the steps after transcription of genes especially cellular growth, differentiation, development and apoptosis.
Oestrogen	A type of steroid hormone controls female sexual development of characteristics, growth, pregnancy and period.
Ovaries	The main female reproductive system which produces egg cells and hormone.
Ovulation	The phase where the egg is release from the matured follicle and travels down the fallopian tube to the womb.
prognosis	Assessment of the outcome and of a patient's disease and
Response elements	The recognition sites of transcription factors Most of them are situated 1 kilobase (kb) from the site where transcription occurs.
RNA	A single strand of nucleotide
Steroid	A lipid/fat molecule with a chemical structure containing four carbon rings containing. Its main role is a hormone.
Synergy	A group of things that work together that initiate power than working separately.
Transcription	The process of using DNA as a template to make an RNA molecule.
Transcription factor	A protein that helps transcribing genes by affecting RNA polymerase.