

Male reproductive Hormone (Testosterone and Other Male Sex Hormones)

1. Testosterone

- Testosterone is formed by the *interstitial cells of Leydig, which lie in the interstices between the seminiferous tubules.*
- Leydig cells are almost nonexistent in the testes during childhood when the testes secrete almost no testosterone, but they *are numerous in the newborn male* infant for the first few months of life and in the adult male any time after puberty; at both these times the testes secrete large quantities of testosterone.

Functions of Testosterone

- In general, testosterone is responsible for the distinguishing characteristics of the masculine body.
- Even during fetal life, testes are produce testosterone
- Newborn animals the testes are not produce testosterone
- Then testosterone production increases rapidly under the stimulus of anterior pituitary gonadotropic hormones at the onset of puberty and lasts throughout most of the remainder of life,

I. Functions of Testosterone During Fetal Development

- 1 Fetal testes is responsible for the development of the male body characteristics, including the formation of a penis and a scrotum rather than formation of a clitoris and a vagina.
- 2 Also, it causes formation of the prostate gland, seminal vesicles, and male genital ducts, while at the same time suppressing the formation of female genital organs.

II. Effect of testosterone on development of adult primary and secondary sexual characteristics

