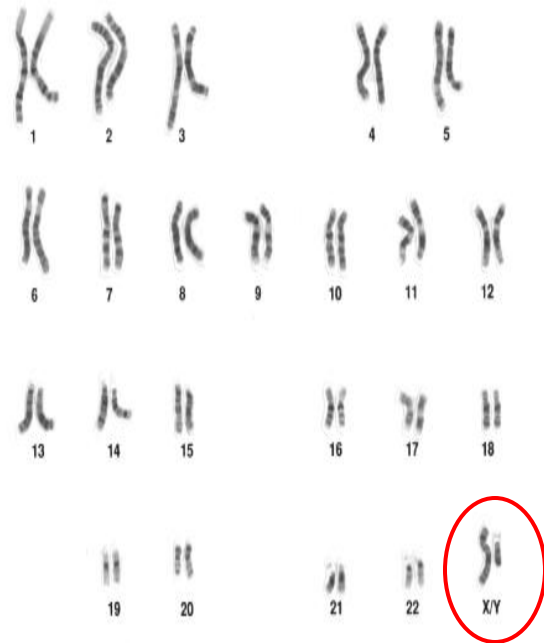
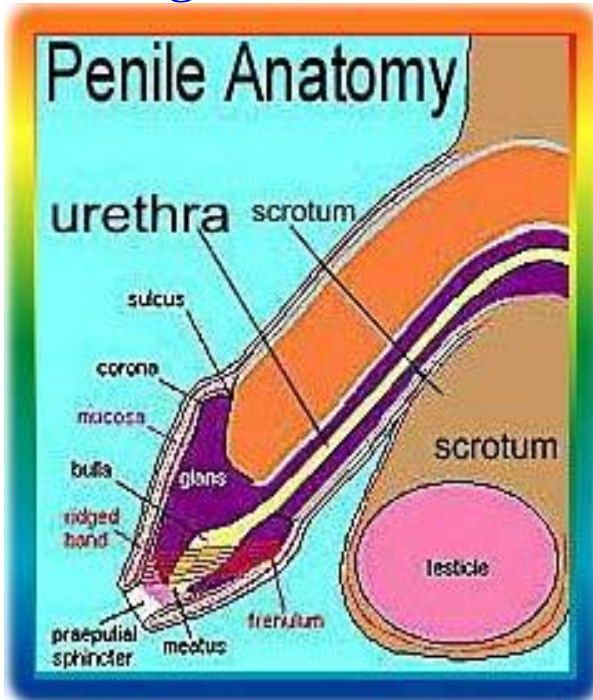


The Main Male Sex Hormone - Testosterone

A) Function Of Testosterone:

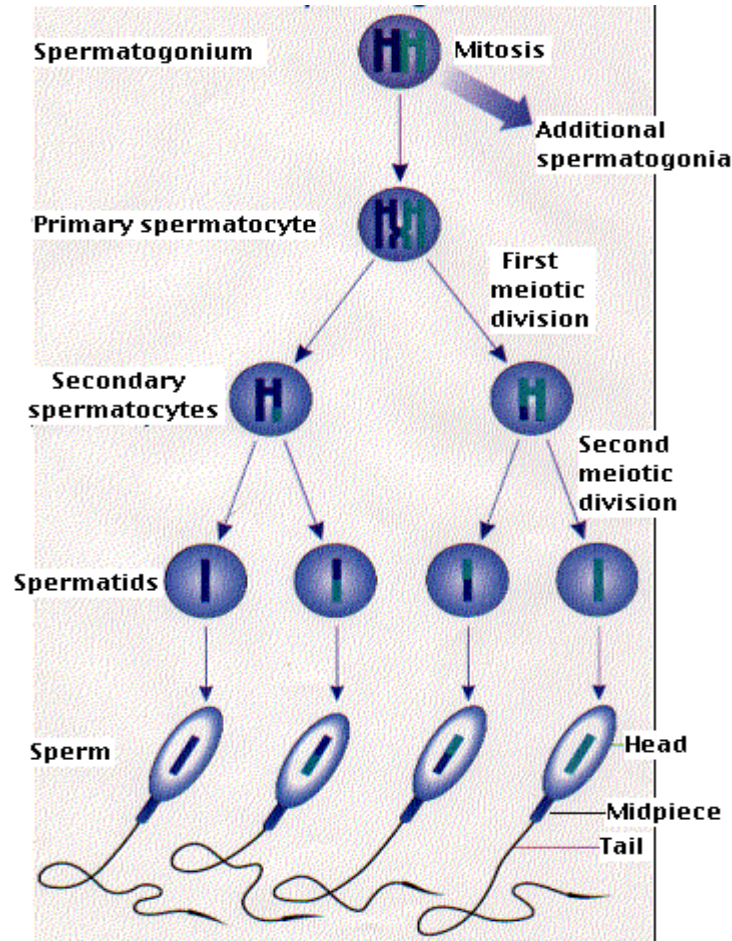
1. Essential for **development of primary sex organs (Penis and Testes).**





Around 20 Weeks into pregnancy

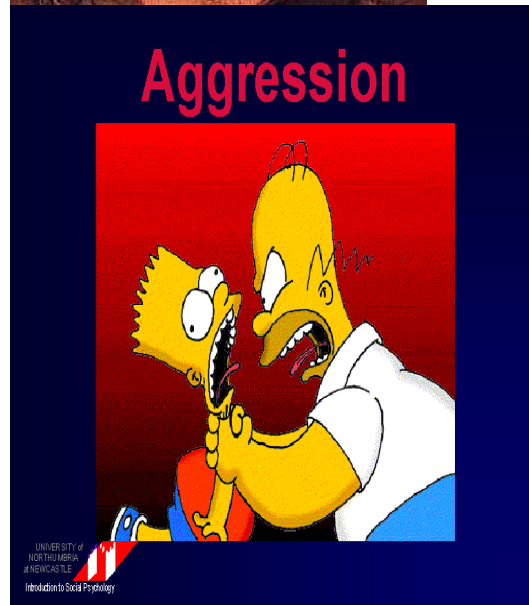
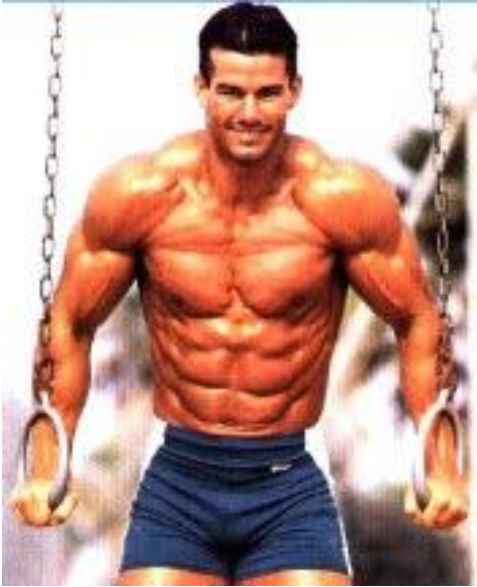
2. Essential for the development of sperm
-Spermatogenic cells take up testosterone which stimulates their activity.



3. Increase testosterone concentration at **puberty causes maturation of Penis and Testes.**

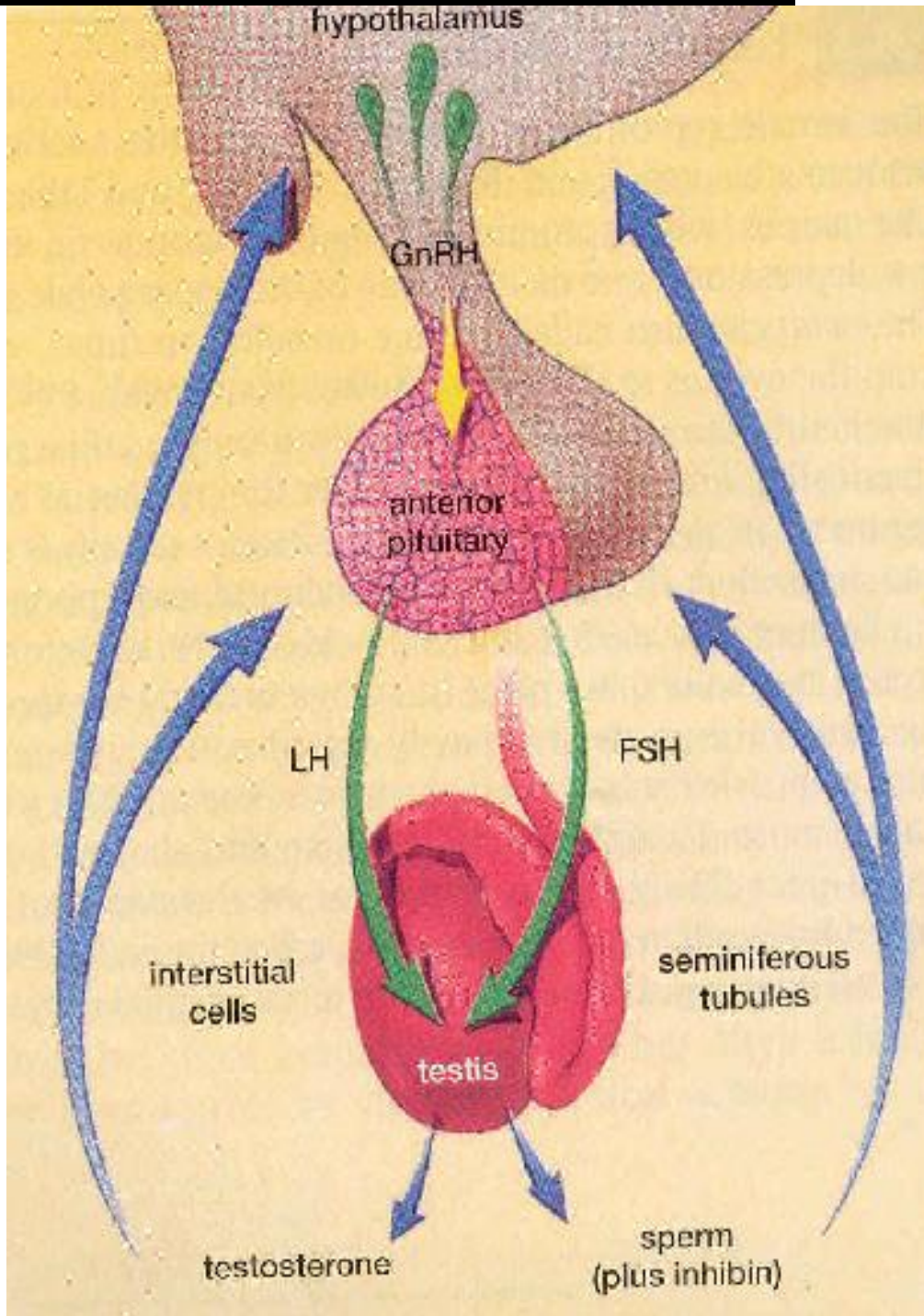
4. Secondary Sex Characteristics:

- facial hair
- larynx expands (voice changes)
- armpit (axillary) hair
- Increase muscular strength
- pubic hair
- aggression
- oil and sweat glands secrete –Body Odour
- Increased sex drive.



NOTE: Side effect is baldness if genetically predisposed. A waste product of testosterone builds up and causes hair to fall out.

B) Hormonal Control of Testosterone:



-Hypothalamus releases GnRH (Gonadotropic releasing hormone)

-GnRH stimulates specific cells in the anterior pituitary to release two (2) gonadotropic hormones:

A) FSH (Follicle stimulating hormone)

-promotes spermatogenesis in the seminiferous tubules

B) LH (Leutenizing Hormone)

-promotes production of testosterone in interstitial cells.

Each Hormone Operates by →NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

- Increased level of testosterone in the blood causes the anterior pituitary to make less LH, therefore less testosterone is produced.

- Decreased level of testosterone in the blood causes the anterior pituitary to make more LH and therefore more testosterone is produced.

- Increased concentration of stored sperm causes an increase in production of a hormone called “Inhibin” this hormone decreases production of FSH, therefore production of sperm decreases.

- Decreased concentration of stored sperm causes a decrease in production of inhibin, which causes more FSH to be released which results in more sperm being produced.

