Cutaneous Glands

• The skin contains both cutaneous **sweat** and **oil** glands.



Cutaneous Glands

Cutaneous glands are all exocrine glands
Release their secretions to the skin surface via ducts

- Two groups of cutaneous glands:
 - Sebaceous (oil) glands
 - Sweat glands
- Formed by the epidermal cells of the stratum basale
 - Push into the deeper skin regions and ultimately reside almost entirely in the dermis



Sebaceous (Oil) Glands

• Sebaceous (oil) glands

- Located all over the skin EXCEPT for palms of the hands and soles of the feet
- Produce sebum (oil)
 - ✓ Mixture of oily substances and fragmented cells
 - Lubricant that keeps the skin soft and moist
 - Prevents hair from becoming brittle
 - ✓ Kills bacteria preventing infection of the skin
- Most have ducts that empty into hair follicles; others open directly onto skin surface
- Glands are **activated at puberty**



sebaceous gland (100×)

Sweat (Sudoriferous)Glands

- Sweat (sudoriferous) glands
 - Widely distributed in skin
 - More than **2.5 million per person**
- Two types of sudoriferous glands
 - Eccrine glands
 - Apocrine glands



Sweat (Sudoriferous) Glands

- Eccrine glands
 - Open via duct to sweat pores on the skin's surface
 - Produce acidic sweat
 - Clear secretion with pH of 4-6
 - Water plus salts, vitamin C, traces of metabolic waste, and lactic acid
 - Inhibits growth of bacteria
 - Function in **body temperature regulation**
 - Supplied with nerve endings that cause them to secrete sweat when body temperature is too high
 - Far more numerous and found all over the body



Sweat (Sudoriferous) Glands

Apocrine glands

- Ducts empty into hair follicles in the armpit and genitals
- Begin to function at puberty
- Release sweat that also contains fatty acids and proteins (milky or yellowish color)
- Play a minimal role in **body temperature regulation**
- May act as sexual scent glands
- Activated by nerve fibers during pain and stress and sexual arousal

- The skin is richly supplied with cutaneous **sensory receptors**, which are part of the **nervous** system
 - Respond to stimuli arising outside of the body



• Free nerve endings

Detect many types of sensations: pain, light touch, and temperature



Merkel disks

- Attach to Merkel cells in the stratum basale
- Detect sustained touch and pressure



Meissner Corpuscle

- Found in the dermal papillae
- Detects changes in texture and slow vibrations



• Lamellar (Pacinian) Corpuscle

- Found in the deeper dermis
- Detects deep pressure and fast vibrations



Krause End Bulb

- Located only in the eyes, lips, tongue, and genitals
- Detects cold temperatures



Ruffini Endings

Detects sustained pressure and stretching



Hair Follicle Receptors

- Found wrapped around the hair follicle below the sebaceous gland
- Detects light touch and hair movement

