

Module 3 LO2

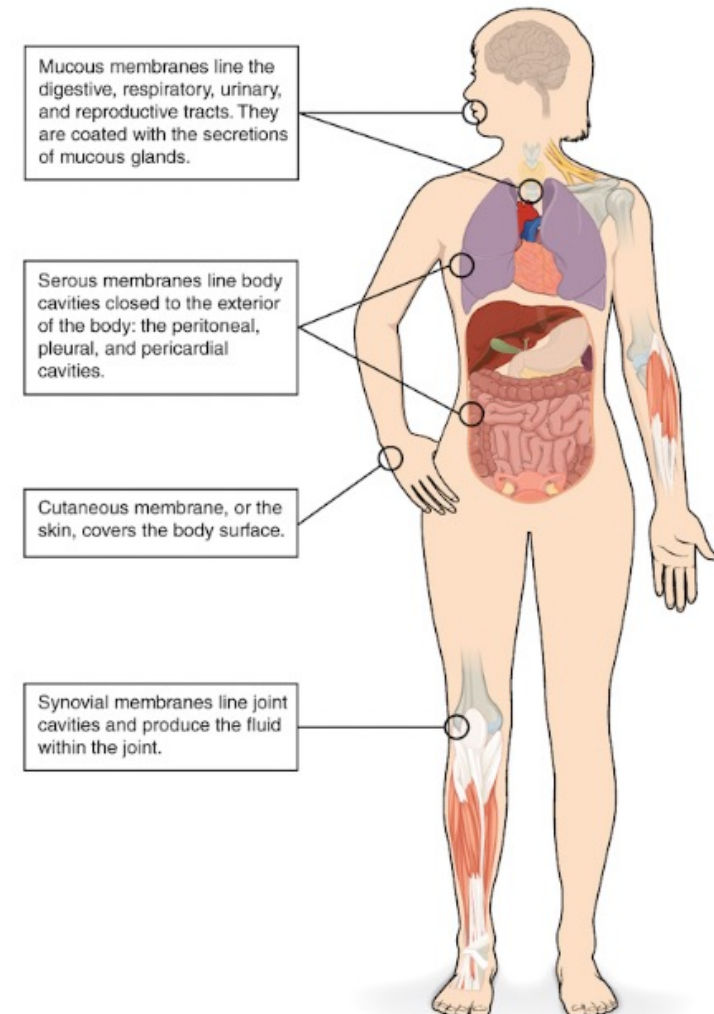
Skin Functions and Structures

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2. Skin Functions and Structures

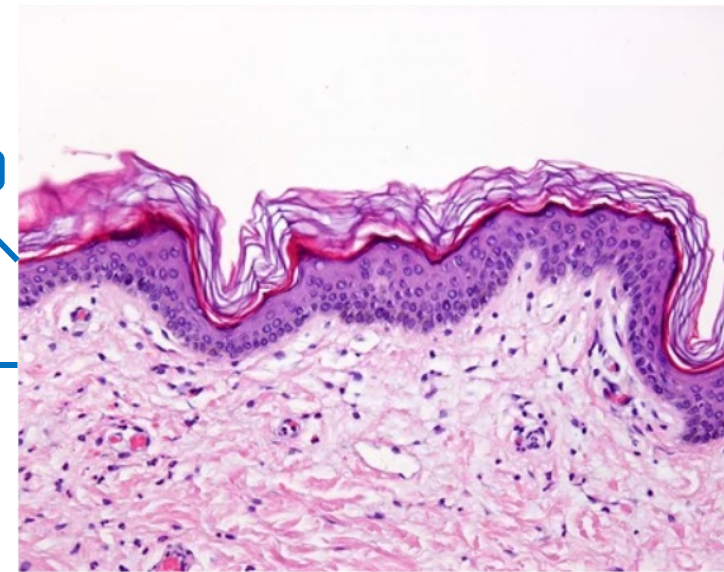
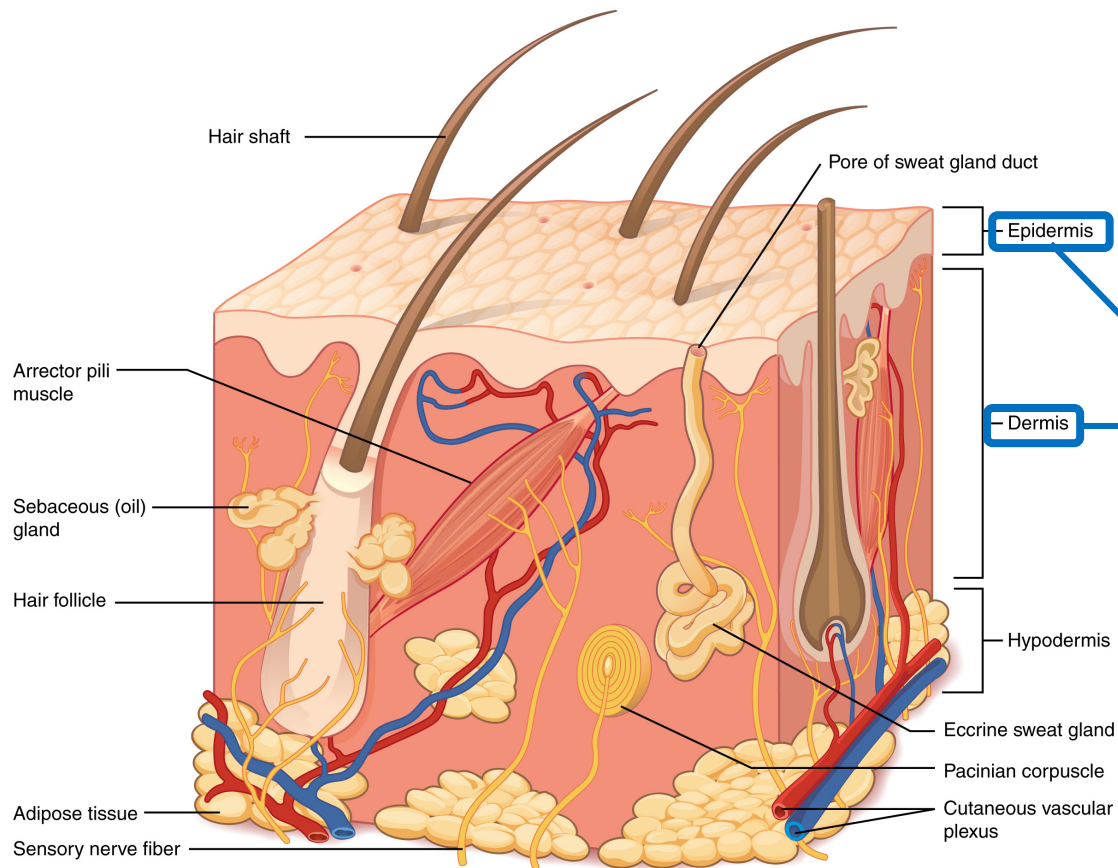
- Termed cutaneous membrane
- Covers the external surface of the body
 - Largest organ of the body in weight (10–11 lb, which is about 7% of body weight)



Skin Structures

- Consists of two major layers:
 - Epidermis
 - Dermis
- Subcutaneous (subQ) layer (also called hypodermis)
 - Not part of the skin
 - Consists of areolar connective and adipose tissues
- Skin + subcutaneous layer = integument

Epidermis and Dermis



Skin Functions

1. Epithelial layers – stratified squamous epithelium
 - Protects against potential damage
2. Reduces water loss
3. Dermis – responsible for tissue strength

