

# HISTOLOGY OF THE OVARY IN NEW ZEALAND RABBIT AGED 9 DAYS TO 30 WEEKS

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The rabbit is one of the most commonly used animal species for scientific purposes. Oogenesis begins only after birth in the rabbit, making it a unique model for studying ovarian development. Knowledge of ovarian histology is crucial for understanding normal development and provides morphological benchmarks for identifying and analyzing potential abnormalities.

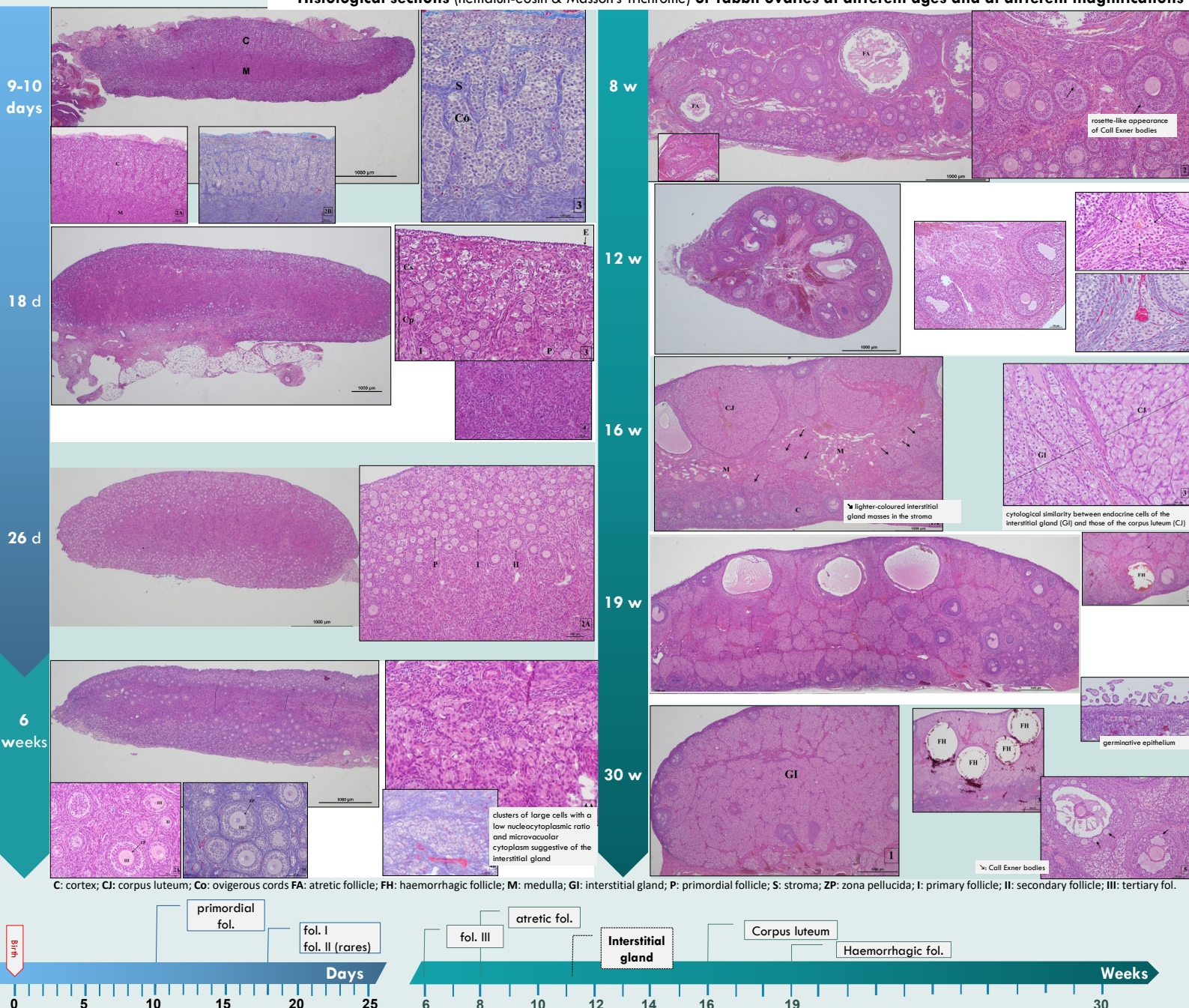
## Material and Methods

Ovaries from New Zealand rabbits (n=58) aged 9-10, 18, 26 days and 6, 8, 12, 16, 19, 30 weeks were obtained from public and private research centres. Animals were used for practical training in ovariectomy or were supernumerary. After fixation and conventional histological technique in paraffin, the stained (hemalun-eosin; Masson's trichrome) ovary sections were analysed by a histologist. A qualitative assessment was carried out, focusing on the overall histological structure, stages of follicular development, distribution of follicular cells and interstitial gland.

## Results

This study involved 115 ovaries (57 right and 58 left).

**Histological sections (hemalun-eosin & Masson's Trichrome) of rabbit ovaries at different ages and at different magnifications**



## Discussion and conclusion

This work is intended as a complementary contribution, seeking to consolidate and update existing information. Its primary aim is to provide detailed illustrations, highlighting the successive changes in ovarian structure and follicle maturation, with a particular focus on the evolution of the interstitial gland. It represents an up-to-date database of the histology of the ovary in the New Zealand rabbit from birth to puberty.