



Cancer Care and Body Part Terminology

CANCER CARE AND BODY PART TERMINOLOGY

NUNATUKAVUT EDITION

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FOREWORD

The cancer care journey is a complex one. NunatuKavut has been a proud, dedicated and committed partner in *A Journey in the Big Land*. Through this project as partners we have aimed to improve cancer care for Labrador patients. The following terminology is intended to provide a general understanding of some terms generally used by medical personnel. We believe that this cancer care glossary makes it clearer and easier for everyone to understand as they go through their journey.

Darlene Wall
Manager, Social Sector
NunatuKavut Community Council

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This work is based on two previously-published documents: the *Inuit Cancer Care* prepared by *Pauktuutit* Inuit Women of Canada in 2013 and the *Innu Medical Glossary* 2014. Permission was granted by *Pauktuutit* Inuit Women of Canada to reproduce their list of Cancer Care terms with the Labrador Inuktitut translations, supplemented with additional cancer terms from the *Innu Medical Glossary* for Labrador. The body part diagrams from the Innu glossary were used as well, with some additional diagrams and terms added. Information on the work and people involved in these two books can be found in the books themselves.

Kaggutik: Inuit Cancer Glossary published by *Pauktuutit* Inuit Women of Canada, 2013; pdf version available at: <http://pauktuutit.ca/kaggutiq/>.

Innu Medical Glossary Marguerite MacKenzie, Robin Goodfellow-Baikie, Elizabeth Dawson and Laurel Anne Hasler (eds.) Sheshatshiu, NL: Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, 2014; pdf version available at <http://www.innu-aimun.ca/modules.php?name=specializedvocab> and free apps available through iTunes and Google Play.

The Innu Language Project (ILP), Department of Linguistics, Memorial University, was contracted to prepare the database and to format and print four versions (Nunsiavut Inuktitut, Sheshatshiu Innu-aimun, Natuashish Innu-aimun, NunatuKavut) with lists of cancer terms, body part terms and body part diagrams with labels in English and each of the Aboriginal languages.

The diagrams of body parts and systems were prepared by Behak Rueentan, a member of the ILP team. She created new illustrations, updated existing versions (published previously in the *Innu Medical Glossary* and the *Innu Body Part Diagrams* booklet), and added colour to select diagrams. The earlier versions were created by Behak Rueentan, Jeannie Nemagoose, and Erin Piatt, and include original drawings as well as reproductions from the *Cree Medical Dictionary* of Fort Severn with the permission of the Sioux Lookout MenoYa Win Health Centre.

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PREFACE

The Cancer Care Program of Newfoundland and Labrador, administered by Eastern Health, delivers general cancer treatment across the province as well as some specialized cancer treatments in St. John's. For First Nations, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) residents in small or remote coastal communities in Labrador, a cancer diagnosis has obvious health implications but also social, financial and interpersonal challenges. Individuals residing in Labrador must leave their homes to seek health services in unfamiliar surroundings. For FNIM patients in Labrador, language barriers and a misunderstanding of cultural practices and beliefs can make communication difficult. When a first language is not English there can be communication breakdown between patients and health care providers.

In March 2014, work began on a three-year initiative funded by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, entitled *A Journey in the Big Land*. This initiative is aimed at enhancing the cancer care journey for First Nations, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) patients in Labrador. As part of the proposal-planning phase of this initiative, a forum with stakeholders including Mushuau and Sheshatshiu Innu First Nations, Nunatsiavut Government, NunatuKavut Community Council, Labrador-Grenfell Health, Eastern Health, Canadian Cancer Society, Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Care Foundation, and cancer patients and caregivers from Labrador was held in Happy Valley-Goose Bay in October 2013. The purpose of the forum was to identify gaps in service and priorities for service delivery. The Forum participants clearly identified three priority areas for the three-year initiative.

These priority areas include:

- Enhancing **Transitions in Care** between hospital and community settings;
- Enhancements to the **Tele-oncology** model for improved consultation between oncology specialists and Labrador-Grenfell physicians, nurses in community clinics and patients themselves;
- Enhancing **Cultural Safety** through employee training programs, information packages in the languages of Labrador FNIM groups and placement of Labrador imagery at the Dr. H Bliss Murphy Cancer Clinic.

Inuit and Innu interpreters have been working at the hospitals and medical clinics in Labrador, St. Anthony and St. John's for many decades with little support or training. This glossary, with its list of cancer terms, body part terms and diagrams, will serve as a much needed tool for both interpreters and health professionals in their daily work.

This English-only version is for the use of health professionals who work with members of NunatuKavut predominately residing on the south coast of Labrador. NunatuKavut communities include: Black Tickle, Cartwright, Charlottetown, Lodge Bay, Mary's Harbour, Mud Lake, Norman Bay, North West River, Paradise River, Pinsent's Arm, Port Hope Simpson, St. Lewis and Williams Harbour. Further information about these communities and the health services available to residents can be found in another resource developed through this initiative: *Community and Clinic Profiles*. Copies can be requested through the Provincial Cancer Care program.

GLOSSARY OF CANCER TERMS

BLOOD AND LABORATORY TESTS

Blood chemistry

Tests to measure levels of substances in the blood that can tell a doctor whether or not various organs are healthy and functioning properly during treatment.

Blood glucose

Sugar that is transported through the bloodstream to supply energy to all the cells in our bodies. The sugar is made from the food we eat.

Complete blood count (CBC)

A test to evaluate overall health and detect a wide range of disorders including anemia, infection and leukemia. It measures several things in the blood including red blood cells, which carry oxygen.

False negative

A test result that indicates that a person does not have a certain disease when the person in fact does have the disease.

False positive

A test result that says a person has a certain disease when the person actually does not have it.

Fecal occult blood test (FOBT)

A test that looks for blood in the stool that cannot be seen with the eyes.

Helicobacter pylori (H. pylori)

A type of bacteria that causes inflammation and ulcers in the stomach and small intestine.

Liver function

How well the liver works.

Occult blood

Blood that is hidden or invisible to the eye. Commonly tested for in the feces.

Platelet

A type of blood cell that helps blood to clot.

Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test

A test to measure the level of PSA in a man's blood; this level is often high in men with prostate cancer.

Stool test / Stool sample

A small amount of feces taken to be examined for problems with the stomach, intestines or other parts of the digestive system.

Transfusion, blood

Putting blood or blood products into the body through a vein with an IV.

Urinalysis

A test of the urine to find out its contents and describe what it looks and smells like.

Urine culture

A test that checks if there is bacteria in the urine.

Urine cytology

A test of the cells that are shed by the lining of the bladder into the urine.

CANCER

Adenoma

A tumour that grows on a gland, not cancerous; gland gives off too many hormones, causing illness.

Antibody

Something (a protein) found in blood that helps the body fight disease.

Antigen

Something that gets into or on a person's body and causes it to make antibodies.

Benign growth

A growth (tumour) that is not cancerous or a disease that is not dangerous and may not need to be treated. Opposite of malignant.

Bile duct cancer

An abnormal growth in the bile duct.

Bladder cancer / Bladder tumour

An abnormal growth in the bladder.

Bone cancer

An abnormal growth, a tumour in a bone.

Brain tumour, cancerous

An abnormal, malignant growth in the brain.

Brain tumour, non-cancerous

A growth in the brain is not abnormal or malignant.

BRCA gene

One of 2 genes that normally help stop cell growth. If they are abnormal they increase

the risk of getting breast cancer or other cancers.

Breast cancer

An abnormal growth in the breast.

Cancer

Abnormal growths in the body.

Cancer in situ

A cancer stays in the original place where it began and does not spread to other parts of the body.

Cancer survivor

A person who is still living after being diagnosed with cancer.

Cancerous growth

Abnormal cells that grow in or on the body.

Carcinogen

Anything that causes cancer.

Carcinoma

The most common type of cancer that grows on the surface of organs or on the inside lining of an organ.

Cell

The most basic, smallest unit of all living things.

Cervical cancer

An abnormal growth on a woman's cervix.

Colorectal cancer

An abnormal growth in the colon or rectum.

Congenital

When something abnormal is present in the body at birth.

Diagnosis

A description of the disease a person has and what is causing the disease.

Early detection and screening

Looking for cancer before a person has any symptoms. This can help find cancer at an early stage when it may be easier to treat.

Grade

Describing a tumour based on how different the cancer cells look from normal cells, how quickly the cancer cells are growing and dividing, and how likely they are to spread.

Hodgkin's disease / Hodgkin's lymphoma

A cancer that begins in the white blood cells and spreads from one lymph node to another.

In situ cancer

A cancer stays in the original place where it began and does not spread to other parts of the body.

Inoperable

A disease or tumour that cannot be treated with an operation.

Invasive cancer

A cancer that spreads beyond where it begins.

Leukemia

A cancer of the bone marrow (the spongy, red material found inside the bones that makes the blood cells).

Liver cancer

An abnormal growth in the liver.

Localized cancer

A cancer stays in the original site or place and does not spread to other parts of the body.

Lung cancer

An abnormal growth in the lungs.

Lymphoma

A cancer that begins in the lymph nodes. There are several different types.

Malignant

Cancerous.

Melanoma

A cancerous growth on the skin, a type of skin cancer.

Metastasis

The cancer spreads from where it begins to another part of the body.

Nasopharyngeal cancer

An abnormal growth in the nose.

Non-melanoma

A growth on the skin is not cancerous.

Oncology

The study of cancers, including development, diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

Oral cancer

An abnormal growth in the mouth.

Ovarian cancer

An abnormal growth in a woman's ovaries, the small sacs which contain her eggs.

Pathology

The study of disease, including causes, development and effects on the body.

Precancerous

A growth in the body which could become cancer.

Prognosis

The chance of recovery or of a disease coming back.

Prostate cancer

An abnormal, malignant growth in a man's prostate gland.

Recurrence

A disease that has come back after a period of time when there were no signs or symptoms of disease.

Remission

A period of time when the signs and symptoms of a disease get better or go away.

Sarcoma

A cancer that develops in soft tissue (cartilage or muscle), usually first as a painless lump.

Screening and early detection

Looking for cancer before a person has any symptoms. This can help find cancer at an early stage when it may be easier to treat.

Skin cancer

An abnormal growth on the skin.

Spinal cord tumour

An abnormal growth in the spinal cord.

Stage

The amount of cancer in the body, including the size of the tumour, whether

there are cancer cells in the lymph nodes and whether the disease has spread from where it started to other parts of the body.

Stomach cancer

An abnormal growth in the stomach.

Teratogen

Anything that can harm a baby before it is born.

Terminal cancer

A cancer that causes death.

Testicular cancer

An abnormal growth in a man's testicles.

Throat cancer

An abnormal growth in the throat.

Toxin

A poison made by something living, such as a plant, animal, fungus, bacteria, virus or other micro-organism.

Tumour

An abnormal growth that can be harmless (benign) or cancerous (malignant).

Tumour marker

A substance in the body that may suggest the person has a certain type of cancer.

Uterine cancer

An abnormal growth in a woman's womb or uterus.

Vagina or vulva cancer

An abnormal growth in or around a woman's vagina.

COMORBIDITIES

Blood pressure, high

The blood runs too fast.
Also called: Hypertension

Blood pressure, low

The blood runs too slowly, and not enough flow of blood to the body's organs can cause strokes, heart attacks, and kidney failure.
Also called: Hypotension

Bowel obstruction

Blockage of the colon or small intestine so that waste cannot pass out of the body.

Cirrhosis of the liver

A serious disease caused by scarring of the liver, with no cure.

Depressed / Depression

A feeling of sadness and hopelessness that is greater than normal.

Diabetes

A disease in which the pancreas does not make enough insulin which causes elevated levels of glucose (sugar) in the blood.

Dysplasia

Cells that are changing their size, shape and organization within tissue and are likely to become cancer cells.

Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)

A virus that causes a highly infectious disease that may cause cancer.

Esophagitis

Inflammation of the esophagus (food pipe) that can make it hard to swallow.

Fibroids

A benign (not dangerous) growth of fibrous tissue, usually in the wall of the uterus.

Hepatic encephalopathy

A condition that affects the brain because the liver does not work properly.

Hepatitis

A disease which causes inflammation of the liver.

Human papillomavirus (HPV)

A virus that causes warts and cancer.

Hypertension

The blood runs too fast.
Also called: Blood pressure, high

Hypotension

The blood runs too slowly.
Also called: Blood pressure, low

Infertility

Not being able to have children.

Inflammation

The body's response to irritation or injury, including signs of heat, redness, and pain.

Inflammatory bowel disease

When the lining of the intestines becomes inflamed, the intestinal walls become swollen and ulcers develop.

Jaundice

A yellowness of the skin and the white part of the eyes from a build-up of a yellow chemical (bile) in the blood.

Mole

A tan, brown or flesh-coloured growth on the skin.

Osteoporosis

When bones become weak and easy to break.

Pneumonia

Infection of one or both lungs caused by bacteria, viruses or fungi.

Polyp

A small growth on the lining of an organ or body part, such as the colon, bladder, uterus, vocal cords or nose and can interfere with a person's normal actions.

Ulcer

An open sore on the skin or in a thin, moist layer of tissue in the body.

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

Computed tomography scan (CT scan or CAT scan)

A scan which shows details of internal organs that cannot be seen in conventional X-rays.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

A procedure that produces a picture of internal organs on a computer using a magnetic field.

Mammogram

An X-ray of the soft tissue of the breast used to check for cancer.

Positron emission tomography scan (PET scan)

An imaging test that helps reveal how your tissues and organs are functioning, using a radioactive drug (tracer) to show this activity.

Ultrasound

A test which uses sound to give a picture of things inside the body.

X-ray

A picture of any inside part of the body.

GENETICS

BRCA gene

One of 2 genes that normally help stop cell growth. If they are abnormal they increase the risk of getting breast cancer or other cancers.

Familial

Happening in or affecting more members of a family than would be expected by chance.

Family history

The medical history of a person's family, including mother, father, brothers, sisters and grandparents.

Gene

Something which is inherited from our parents, such as hair colour, skin colour, height, etc.

Gene mutation

A permanent change in a gene.

Genetic consult or referral

A health service that provides information and support to people who have, or may be at risk for, genetic disorders. During a consultation, a genetics professional meets with an individual or family to discuss genetic risks or to diagnose, confirm, or rule out a genetic condition.

Genetic testing

Looking at someone's DNA to see if there is a permanent change in a gene that may mean the person has a higher risk for getting a disease.

Hereditary

Passed or capable of being passed from parents to their children through information in genes.

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Family physician / Family doctor

The doctor who regularly sees a patient and the family.

Gynecologist

A doctor who specializes in women's diseases that affect the breasts, the uterus, fallopian tubes, ovaries and vagina.

Nurse, registered

A nurse who has graduated from a college's nursing program or from a school of nursing and has passed a national licensing exam.

Oncologist

A doctor who treats cancer.

Pain and symptom management

A branch of medicine employing an interdisciplinary approach for easing the suffering and improving the quality of life of those living with pain.

Pharmacist

A health professional qualified to prepare and give out medicinal drugs.

Social worker

A professional who helps individuals, families, groups and communities to improve their individual and collective well-being.

LIFESTYLE AND/OR RISK FACTORS

Asbestos

A material commonly used for fireproofing or insulating buildings that causes cancer.

Healthy living

Making positive choices that enhance your personal physical, mental and spiritual health.

Indoor tanning

Using tanning beds or sun lamps that give off ultraviolet radiation (UVR) to tan the skin.

Occupational exposure

Coming in contact with chemicals or other materials at work that can cause cancer.

Physical activity

Any type of movement or exercise that makes your heart beat faster and makes you breathe harder than when you're resting.

Prevention / Preventative measures

Actions to stop something from happening.

Risk factor

The chance of getting a disease.

Second-hand smoke

Smoke from the burning end of a cigarette, cigar or pipe, or breathed out by a smoker.

Smoking cessation

Stopping smoking.

Sunscreen

A cream, lotion or gel applied to the skin to help protect it from the harmful rays of the sun.

Ultraviolet radiation

Invisible rays of light that are part of the energy that comes from the sun or that are made by sun lamps or tanning beds.

Weight

How much a person weighs.

MEDICATION

Acetylsalicylic Acid (ASA)

Non-prescription medication used to relieve minor pain and reduce fever.

Also called: Aspirin

Analgesic

A medicine that helps stop pain (Aspirin, Tylenol, codeine, Demerol, and morphine).

Antibiotics

Medications that attack germs and fight infection.

Anti-cancer drugs

Drugs used to stop cancer growth.

Anti-emetic drug

A drug that prevents or stops vomiting.

Anti-inflammatory drug

Drug used to reduce swelling and inflammation, e.g. Ibuprofen.

Aspirin

Non-prescription medication used to relieve minor pain and reduce fever.

Also called: Acetylsalicylic acid (ASA)

Birth control pill

A drug that women take by mouth to prevent pregnancy.

Diuretic

Any drug or substance that causes the body to make more urine.

Dose

The amount of a drug or radiation given at one time.

Enema

Putting liquid into the colon and rectum through a tube into the anus.

HPV vaccine

A vaccine that helps prevent infection from Human papillomavirus (HPV).

Injection

Being given a needle.

Intravenous (IV)

Inside a vein.

Narcotics

Drugs that make someone think or feel differently from normal and that can be addictive, e.g. morphine, heroin or Demerol. Often used for pain management.

Steroids

Special hormones that the body makes or that can be given as medicine.

Vaccine therapy

A treatment that uses an antigen to trigger the immune system to make antibodies that fight a disease.

NUTRITION

Dietary fibre

The part of fruit, vegetables, beans and grains that the body cannot break down but that helps the body move and digest food.

Dietician

A health care professional that focuses on food and nutrition.

Fluids / Hydration

Drinking water or other fluids, which sometimes helps to reduce the concentration of toxic substances in the body.

Nutrition

Eating foods that are good for the body so it can work normally.

PAIN

Abdominal pain

Pain in the belly, in the part of the body that lies below the chest and above the pelvis.

Acute pain

Very bad pain that happens suddenly or gets worse quickly.

Burning pain

A kind of pain that is often related to nerves, but which could have many other causes. Injuries, natural wear and tear, infections, and autoimmune disorders could all cause nerve damage and pain.

Chronic pain

Pain that happens slowly, lasts a long time or gets worse over time.

Cramping

The sudden and painful tightening of a muscle. Used to describe sharp pains that come and go in the stomach, leg, hand or any other body part.

Neuropathic pain

Pain from an injury to or problem with nerves, the spinal cord or the brain.

Pain

The physical feeling caused by disease, injury, or something that hurts the body.

Pain diary

A record that people with chronic pain keep to track when pain is greatest during the day and the amount of medicine or other treatments that make the pain go away.

Painless

No pain.

Phantom limb pain

Pain, numbness, tingling or itching that someone feels where a removed limb used to be.

Rating pain

Describing the strength of pain based on a scale. For example, 1 to 10 where 1 means no pain or very little pain and 10 is the worst pain.

Sharp pain

Sudden and severe pain.

Sinus pain

A headache or pain in the upper part of the face caused by infection or pressure in the sinuses.

Somatic pain

Pain from an injury to or problem with the skin and deep tissues.

Visceral pain

Pain in any organ in the chest or belly.

PATIENT INFORMATION

Advanced health care directive

A legal document, also called a living will, personal directive, advance directive, or advance decision, in which a person says what actions should happen if they are no longer able to make decisions for themselves because of illness or incapacity.

Advanced health care planning

An ongoing process in which patients, their families and health care providers reflect on patient's goals, values and beliefs, discuss how they inform current and future medical care to accurately document future health care choices.

Code status

A code is called when a patient goes into cardiac or respiratory arrest. Code status refers to the level of medical interventions a patient wishes to have started if the heart or breathing stops.

Do not resuscitate (DNR)

An order not to attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in the event a patient suffers cardiac or respiratory arrest.

Donor

Someone who gives blood, cells, tissues or an organ to be used in another person.

Goals of care

Designations are used to describe, communicate and document the general focus of care for the patient.

Informed consent

When a person learns the potential risks, benefits and limits of a procedure, treatment, clinical trial or test before deciding to participate.

Medical history

A record of someone's risk factors, symptoms and past medical events and problems.

SURGERY AND COMMON PROCEDURES

Ablation

Removing or destroying cells, tissues or organs.

Amputation

An operation to remove an arm, leg, finger or any other body part.

Anesthesia, general

The condition of 'being put to sleep'.

Anesthesia, local

A temporary loss of feeling by drug injection in one part of the body, usually for a surgical procedure.

Angiography

A test that takes an X-ray of the blood vessels using a dye that is injected into the body.

Also called: Arteriography

Arteriography

A test done to see if there is a problem with the blood vessels going to a certain part of the body.

Also called: Angiography

Biopsy

A test in which tissue is taken out of a living body and looked at under a microscope.

Bone marrow biopsy

The removal of soft tissue from inside a bone.

Bowel re-section

An operation to remove part or all of the large bowel.

Breast conserving surgery

An operation to remove a tumour and some healthy tissue around it so that most of the breast remains.

Breast self-examination

A screening method used to detect early breast cancer; the woman herself looks at and feels each breast for possible lumps, distortions or swelling.

Bronchoscopy

A test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look at or treat the windpipe, airways and lungs.

Clinical breast exam (CBE)

A physical exam of the breasts and nearby lymph nodes.

Colectomy

An operation to remove part or all of the colon.

Colonoscopy

A test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look at or treat the colon, large bowel or anus.

Colostomy

An operation to make an opening from the colon to the outside of the body through the belly to release waste.

Colposcopy

A test that uses a lighted magnifying tool to examine the vulva, vagina and cervix.

Cone biopsy

Removing a cone-shaped piece of tissue from the cervix to look at the cells under a microscope and check for cancer.

Cystectomy

An operation to remove part or all of the bladder.

Cystoscopy

A test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look at or treat the bladder and urethra.

Digital rectal examination (DRE)

The examination through the rectum with gloved finger, e.g. of the cervix during labour, or the prostate gland in men.

Endoscopy

Any test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look at or treat organs or structures in the body.

Excisional biopsy

Removing all of the tumour or abnormal tissue, along with some normal tissue around it, to look at them under a microscope.

Gastrectomy

An operation to remove part or all of the stomach.

Hepatectomy

An operation to remove part or all of the liver.

Hysterectomy

An operation to remove the uterus.

Ileostomy

An operation to make an opening from the last part of the small intestine to the outside of the body through the belly.

Incisional biopsy

Removing a small sample of the tumour or abnormal tissue to look at it under a microscope.

Invasive

A test or tool that breaks the skin or enters a body cavity. A disease that grows into surrounding tissue.

Laparoscopy

A test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look at or treat organs inside the belly.

Laryngectomy

Surgical removal of the larynx or voice box.

Lobectomy

An operation to remove part or all of a lobe from an organ or gland.

Lumpectomy

An operation to remove a lump or a tumour without removing large amounts of surrounding tissue.

Mammogram

An X-ray of the soft tissue of the breast used to check for cancer.

Mastectomy

An operation to remove a breast.

Mastectomy, modified radical

The removal of the breast and lymph tissue.

Nasal endoscopy

A test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look at or treat the inside of the nose and the sinuses.

Neck dissection

An operation to remove some or all of the lymph nodes or other tissues in the neck.

Non-invasive

A test or tool that does not break the skin or enter the body cavity. A disease that is only in one place.

Operable

A disease or tumour that can be treated with an operation.

Pap test / Pap smear

A test that scrapes cells from the cervix and looks at them under a microscope.

Pelvic examination

A physical exam that checks for changes in a woman's reproductive organs, including the uterus, cervix, ovaries and vagina.

Pneumonectomy

An operation to remove part or all of a lung.

Polypectomy

The removal of a polyp.

Prosthesis

An artificial device used to replace a part of the body removed because of injury or disease.

Punch biopsy

Removing a round piece of skin or other tissue using a sharp, hollow tool to look at it under a microscope.

Reconstructive surgery

An operation to a part of the body to help it work or look better, or to help heal a wound.

Re-section

An operation to remove part or all of an organ.

Rhinectomy

An operation to remove part or all of the nose.

Shave biopsy

Removing the outermost layer of skin to look at it under a microscope.

Sigmoidoscopy

A test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look at or treat the colon and rectum.

Skin exam

A physical exam that checks for changes in or problems with the skin.

Skin flap

A piece of skin with its own blood supply that is used to cover or fix an injury at a nearby place on the body.

Skin graft

A piece of skin taken from a donor or another part of the body and used to replace diseased or injured tissue.

Skin surgery

An operation to remove moles, cysts, skin cancer and other skin growths.

Surgery

An operation which involves cutting through the skin to take out or fix the damaged part of the body.

Thoracotomy

A cut to open the chest wall.

Trachelectomy

An operation to remove the cervix and the pelvic lymph nodes.

Tracheostomy

An operation to make an opening in the windpipe.

**Upper gastrointestinal (GI)
endoscopy**

A test that uses a hollow tube with a light and camera to look inside the mouth, down the throat and esophagus to the stomach and upper part of the small intestine.

Upper gastrointestinal (GI) series

A test that uses X-rays to make a series of pictures of the upper gastrointestinal (GI) tract, including the esophagus, stomach and duodenum.

Wide local excision

An operation to remove a tumour along with some normal tissue around it.

SYMPTOMS / SIDE EFFECTS

Adverse reaction

An unwanted, bad or harmful response to a drug or other therapy.

Allergic reaction

An unexpected or unwanted reaction to an allergen; a mild reaction may include sneezing, watery eyes, a stuffy nose, diarrhea, etc.

Anaphylaxis

A very bad, possibly deadly, allergic reaction.

Anemia

Not enough healthy red blood cells.
Also called: Low blood

Anxiety

An uneasy feeling, tension, worry, distress.

Ascites

A buildup of fluid in the abdomen.

Asymptomatic

Having no signs or symptoms of a disease.

Bacteria / Bacterial infection

Tiny, single-celled living things (microorganisms) that can live in or on the human body. Some bacteria can cause diseases such as pneumonia, but others can help with activities like digesting food. The plural of bacterium.

Bladder spasm

A sudden tightening of the bladder muscle that causes a need to urinate or urine to leak from the bladder.

Bone marrow suppression

A serious side-effect of chemotherapy making the person more likely to catch an infection.

Constipation

Difficulty having a bowel movement.

Coughs

Expels/pushes out air from the lungs with a sudden sharp sound.

Dehydration

Losing too much water from the body.

Depressed / Depression

A feeling of sadness and hopelessness that is greater than normal.

Diarrhea

Having loose, watery bowel movements again and again.

Dry eye syndrome

Having fewer tears than normal.

Dry mouth

Having less saliva than normal so that it is hard to chew, swallow or talk.

Dysuria

Having trouble or pain when urinating.

Esophagitis

Inflammation of the esophagus (food pipe) that can make it hard to swallow.

Fatigue / Fatigued

Feeling very tired or not having enough energy.

Fecal occult blood

Blood (hidden) in the stool.

Fever

A higher than normal body temperature.

Fibroids

A benign (not dangerous) growth of fibrous tissue, usually in the wall of the uterus.

Fluid retention

A buildup of fluid in the body.

Hair loss

Balding or loss of hair from the scalp or body.

Hematuria

Blood in the urine.

Hemoptysis

Coughing up blood.

Hoarse voice

An abnormally deep, rough voice.

Incontinence

Not being able to control urination (pee) or bowel movements.

Indigestion

Feeling uncomfortable after eating a meal; may include heartburn, nausea, gas, cramps or burping.

Inflammation

The body's response to irritation or injury, including signs of heat, redness, and pain.

Insomnia

Difficulty falling or staying asleep or not getting enough good sleep.

Jaundice

A yellowness of the skin and the white part of the eyes from a build-up of a yellow chemical (bile) in the blood.

Loss of appetite

Losing interest in food and not eating.

Lump

An abnormal mass in the body.

Lymphedema

Swelling of an arm or leg caused by a buildup of fluid in tissues.

Nausea

Feeling sick to the stomach or wanting to vomit.

Neutropenia

Not enough white blood cells that help the body fight bacteria, viruses and fungi.

Nosebleed

Bleeding from the nose.

Numbness

A loss of sensation or feeling in a part of your body, often with other changes, such as a pins-and-needles feeling, burning or tingling.

Occult blood

Blood that is hidden or invisible to the eye. Commonly tested for in the feces.

Phlebitis

Inflammation of a vein causing redness, swelling and pain.

Radiation sickness

Symptoms caused by large doses of radiation.

Shortness of breath

Difficulty breathing or being unable to take full breaths.

Side effect

An unwanted, bad or harmful reaction caused by a medical treatment or procedure.

Skin change

An abnormal change in the skin that may be the sign of a disease such as cancer.

Skin reaction

The skin has an unexpected or unwanted reaction to an allergen.

Swollen lymph nodes

When lymph nodes become larger than normal.

Symptom

Something that a patient notices which means that something may be wrong.

Treatment-induced menopause

The permanent end of menstruation that happens when the ovaries are removed or they are damaged by chemotherapy or radiation therapy.

Virus

A very small germ that can be spread from one person to another to infect cells and cause disease.

Vomit

Throwing up the contents of the stomach through the mouth.

Wheezes / Wheezing

Difficulty breathing that causes a whistling sound because the airways are narrowed.

TREATMENT

Active surveillance

Using tests and exams on a regular basis to watch for changes in a person's health.

Adjuvant therapy

A treatment plan used after the standard treatment to reduce the risk of cancer coming back.

Alternative therapy

A treatment used instead of the currently accepted and widely used treatment.

Biological therapy

A treatment that uses natural or artificial materials to kill, control or change the way cells behave.

Chemoradiation therapy

A treatment that gives chemotherapy during the same time period as radiation therapy.

Chemotherapy

A treatment that uses drugs to kill or destroy cancer cells.

Clinical trial

A research study that tests new ways to prevent, detect, treat or manage a disease in people.

Combination therapy

A treatment plan that uses more than one type of treatment at the same time.

Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM)

A variety of treatment approaches used along with or instead of currently accepted conventional treatment.

Conventional therapy

The currently accepted and widely used treatment for a disease.

Cryotherapy

A procedure to freeze off cancer cells.

Drug therapy

A treatment that uses medical drugs to treat a disease.

Experimental drug

A drug that is being tested to find out if it works and is safe, but that is not yet approved for use.

Follow-up

Keeping track of a person's health for a period of time after treatment to watch for problems or for signs that the disease has come back.

Hormonal therapy

A treatment that adds, blocks or removes hormones in the body to treat a disease.

Internal radiation

A piece of radioactive material is placed inside the body for a short time in order to damage or destroy cancer cells.

Neoadjuvant therapy

Treatment given as a first step to shrink a tumour before the main treatment. Examples include chemotherapy, radiation therapy and hormone therapy.

Palliative care

Looking after someone and keeping them comfortable at the end of their life.

Photodynamic therapy

A treatment that uses drugs that react to light to treat a disease.

Radiation treatment

The use of high-energy rays or particles, such as X-rays, to damage or destroy cancer cells.

Rehabilitation

Helping a person get better through physical therapy, massage and exercise.

Surgery

An operation which involves cutting through the skin to take out or fix the damaged part of the body.

Targeted therapy

Any treatment that mainly kills cancer cells with little or no effect on normal cells.

Transplant

Moving tissue from one place in a person's body to another. Moving tissue or an organ from a donor to another person.

Treatment

An action to cure or relieve a disease or disorder.

VITAL SIGNS

Blood pressure

The force of blood pushing on the walls of blood vessels.

Body mass index

A measurement used to tell if people are underweight, overweight, obese or in the normal weight range for their height.

Pulse

A heartbeat. A rhythmical throbbing of the arteries as blood is propelled through them, typically as felt in the wrists or neck.

Respiration

Breathing; the act of respiring; inhalation and exhalation of air.

Temperature

The degree of internal heat of a person's body.

Weight

How much a person weighs.

PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES

Aden-, Adeno-

Gland

Angio-

Blood vessel

Anti-

Against

Audio-

Hearing

Auto-

Self

Carcin-, Carcino-

Cancer

Cardio-

Heart

Cerebri-, Cerebro-

Brain

Cervic-, Cervico-

Neck (of the body or uterus)

Col-, Colo-

Colon, large intestine, bowel

Coron-, Corono-

Heart

Denti-, Dento-

Teeth

**Derm-, Derma-, Dermo-, Dermat-,
Dermato-**

Skin

Dys-

Difficulty or trouble

-ectomy

Removal

-emia

Blood

Gastr-, Gastro-

Stomach

Glyc-, Glyco-, Gluc-, Gluco-

Sugar, sweet

-gram

Record, measure

Gravid-, Gravido-

Pregnant

Hemi-

Half

**Hem-, Hema-, Hemo-, Hemat-,
Hemato-**

Blood

Hepat-, Hepato-, Hepati-

Liver

Hyper-

Excessive, above, beyond

Hypn-, Hypno-

Sleep

Hypo-

Under, deficient, beneath

-itis

Inflammation, infection

Macr-, Macro-

Large, big

-meter

Measure

Micro-

Small

My-, Myo-, Myos-, Myoso-

Muscle

Neur-, Neuro-

Nerve, nerves, or nervous system

-ology; -ologist

The study of something; the person who studies something

-oma

Tumour

Orth-, Ortho-

Straight, normal position

Or-, Oro-

Mouth

-osis

State or condition

Oste-, Osteo-

Bone

-ostomy

Surgical opening

Ot-, Oto-

Ear

Ox-, Oxi-, Oxo-

Oxygen

Patho-, -pathy

Disease

Ped-, Pedo-

Child

Pharm-, Pharmi-

Medicine, drug

-phobia

Abnormal fear or intolerance, sensitivity

Photo-

Light

-plasty

Surgical shaping or formation

Pneum-, Pneumo-

Lungs or breathing

Psych-, Psycho-

Mind

Pulmo-, Pulmono-

Lungs

Quadr-, Quadri-

Four

-sclerosis

Hardening

-scopy, -scopic

Act of visually examining

Thromb-, Thrombo-

Clot

Tox-, Toxi-, Toxo-, Toxic-

Toxin or poison

TERMS FOR BODY PARTS

Abdomen

The part of the body which lies below the lungs and above the pelvis.

Abdominal muscle

One of three sets of muscles that cover the front of the trunk of the body.

Achilles tendon

The strong string-like cord above the heel that connects the calf muscles to the heel bone.

Adam's apple

The larynx which sticks out at the front of the throat of males.

Adenoids

The two gland-like things found at the top of the throat (behind the nose area).

Adipose tissue

The fatty tissue under the skin and around the organs.

Also called: Fatty tissue

Adrenal glands

The glands above each kidney that produce hormones.

Afterbirth

A round organ found in pregnant women which brings food and oxygen to the baby and brings the baby's waste to the mother so that she can get rid of it.

Also called: Placenta

Alveoli

Tiny sacs (at the ends of the bronchioles) within our lungs that allow oxygen and

carbon dioxide to move between the lungs and bloodstream.

Amniotic fluid

The liquid in the sac around a fetus.

Amniotic sac

The sac that attaches to the placenta and goes around the growing baby.

Ankle

The joint between the leg and the foot, which lets us move our foot.

Ankle bone

Also called: Talus

Anus

The last part of the digestive tract.

Aorta

The body's largest blood vessel, arising from the top of the heart.

Appendix

A closed tube located near where the small and large intestines join.

Areola

The reddish or brownish area around the nipple on the breasts.

Armpit

Also called: Axilla

Artery

The blood vessel which carries blood away from the heart to all the different parts of the body.

Artery, common carotid

The artery in the neck.

Artery, pulmonary

The blood vessel which brings blood to the lungs.

Artery, renal

The blood vessel which brings blood to the kidneys.

Atrium, left

The small upper chamber in the heart that receives blood full of oxygen and pumps it into the ventricles.

Atrium, right

The small upper chamber in the heart that receives blood with no oxygen in it and pumps it into the ventricles.

Axilla

Also called: Armpit

Axillary nodes

The lymph nodes in the armpit.

Bartholin's glands

The small glands in the lips of the vagina.

Belly button

Also called: Navel, Umbilicus

Biceps muscle

The muscle in the front of the upper arm that forms a bump when the elbow bends.

Bicuspid tooth

The tooth next to the canine tooth.

Bile duct

A small tube that carries bile from the liver and the gallbladder to the duodenum.

Birth canal

Also called: Vagina

Bladder, urinary

The bag where pee is kept.

Blood vessels

Arteries, veins, arterioles, capillaries and venules which carry blood around the body.

Bone marrow

The soft tissue inside the bones.

Bowel

The part of the intestinal tract that goes from the small intestine to the anus.

Also called: Colon, Large intestine

Brain

Also called: Cerebrum

Brain stem

The bulge at the top of the spinal cord.
Also, the lowest part of the brain.

Breast tissue (dense)

Tissue in the breast that has more connective tissues, glands and milk ducts than fatty tissue.

Breastbone

Also called: Sternum

Bronchial tubes

The hollow air passageways branching from the windpipe to the lungs.

Bronchioles

The tiny branches of the bronchi that spread throughout the lungs.

Bronchus

One of the two main branches of the windpipe (trachea) that go into the lungs.
Plural form: Bronchi.

Bum

Also called: Buttock

Buttock

Also called: Bum

Calf muscle

The large muscle at the back of the lower leg which pulls up the heel.

Canine tooth

One of the four sharp, pointed cone-shaped teeth that tear and shred food.

Also called: Cuspid

Capillaries

One of the tiny thin blood vessels which connect arterioles to venules.

Cardiovascular system

The organ system that includes the heart and blood vessels.

Carotid arteries

The four main arteries found in the neck which bring blood with oxygen in it to the head.

Carotid artery, common

The artery in the neck.

Cartilage

Flexible connective tissue found in parts of the body (e.g., nose, ear, joints) that helps protect bones from rubbing against each other and wearing away.

Cell

The most basic, smallest unit of all living things.

Central nervous system

The brain and spinal cord.

Cerebellum

The part of the brain which is a clump of tissue at the top of the spinal cord.

Cerebral cortex

The outside layer of the biggest part of the brain.

Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)

The clear fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord.

Also called: Spinal fluid

Cerebrum

Also called: Brain

Cervical nodes

The lymph nodes in the neck.

Cervical spine

The part of the spine commonly referred to as the neck.

Cervix

The narrow, lower end of the uterus which is at the top of the vagina; it is the neck of the uterus.

Cheekbone

Also called: Zygomatic arch

Chest

Also called: Thorax

Circulatory system

The system of organs that keeps blood continuously moving around the body.

Circumcision

The removal of the foreskin of the penis.

Clavicle

Also called: Collar bone

Clitoris

A female sexual organ that is small, sensitive, and located on the outside of the body in front of the opening of the vagina.

Coccyx

The small triangular bone at the bottom of the spine.

Also called: Tailbone

Cochlea

The snail-shaped organ found deep inside each ear, behind and slightly below the eyeball.

Collarbone

Also called: Clavicle

Colon

The longest part of the intestine that goes from the small intestine to the anus.

Also called: Bowel, Large intestine

Common carotid artery

The artery in the neck.

Connective tissue

Ligaments or tendons.

Cranium

All of the bones of the head, except the jawbone.

Also called: Skull

Crown of head

The top of the head.

CSF (Cerebrospinal fluid)

The clear fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord.

Also called: Spinal fluid

Cyst

A fluid-filled sac found inside the body.

Deltoid muscle

The muscle that forms the top of the shoulder.

Diaphragm

The band of muscle under the lungs that helps with breathing.

Digestive system

The parts of the body that help to digest food.

Disc, spinal

The spongy, round sac found between each of the 33 vertebrae of the spine.

Also called: Intervertebral disc

Duct

A tiny tube in the body for carrying a secretion (milk, tears, bile, saliva, semen, Bartholin's fluid) from a gland.

Duodenum

The first part of the small intestine.

Ear canal

The tube-like hole that runs from the outer part of the ear to the middle ear.

Eardrum

A thin piece of tissue that separates the ear canal from the middle ear.

Elbow

The joint between the forearm and the upper arm.

Embryo

An unborn human in its first two months of growth.

Epiglottis

The flap of tissue which covers the entrance of the trachea (airway).

Esophagus

The hollow tube that goes from the throat to the stomach.

Ethmoid sinus

Pocket of space located close to the tear ducts of the eye.

Eustachian tube

The narrow tube which connects the middle ear with the throat.

Eye socket

The area of bone around the eye.
Also called: Orbit

Eyelash

One of the many hairs that grows on the edge of the skin which surrounds the eyeball.

Face

The front part of the head from the forehead to the chin.

Fallopian tube

One of the two tiny, hollow tubes that go from each ovary to the uterus.

Fat

The greasy, yellow material underneath the skin of an animal or mixed in with its flesh.

Fatty tissue

The fatty tissue under the skin and around the organs.
Also called: Adipose tissue

Femur

Bone of the part of the leg above the knee.
Also called: Thigh bone

Fetus

A baby growing in the uterus is called a fetus from eight weeks after the egg has been fertilized until it is born.

Fibula

The outside, smaller bone of the lower leg.

Finger, index

The second finger.
Also called: Forefinger

Finger, pinky

The last, smallest finger.
Also called: Baby finger, Little finger

Finger, ring

Also called: Fourth finger

Fontanel

The soft spot on top of a baby's head.

Foot, sole of

Bottom of foot.

Forearm

The lower part of the arm.

Forearm muscle

The lower part of the arm.

Forefinger

The second finger.
Also called: Index finger

Foreskin

A fold of skin which covers the head of the penis.

Fourth finger

Also called: Ring finger

Frontal sinus

Pocket of space located behind the brow ridge.

Genitals

The private parts of a man or woman.

Gingiva

Also called: Gums

Gland

The clump of tissue which makes and gives off a special fluid.

Glands, adrenal

The glands above each kidney that produce hormones.

Glands, Bartholin's

The small glands in the lips of the vagina.

Glands, salivary

Glands around the mouth that create saliva.

Gland, prostate

The gland found at the bottom of the bladder in men.

Gland, thymus

A gland, located behind the breastbone (sternum), that produces cells for the immune system.

Gland, thyroid

The large gland found in the middle of the neck at the front of the windpipe (trachea).

Gluteus maximus muscle

The main muscle of the buttocks.

Gonads

Testes in a man or ovaries in a woman.

Groin

The area of the body between the insides of the thighs and the lower abdomen.
Also called: Inguinal area

Gum socket

A hollow in the gum ridge that a tooth fits into.

Gums

Also called: Gingiva

Hair, pubic

The hair growing in the groin area of a person.

Head, crown of

The top of the head.

Heart

The muscular organ that expands and contracts to move blood through the arteries and veins.

Heel

The back part of the foot.

Hip

The area below the waist on each side of the body around the hip joint.

Hip joint

The place where the head of the thighbone/femur attaches to the pelvis.

Humerus

The bone of the upper arm.

Immune system

The cells and organs that defend the body against infection, disease and other materials that enter the body.

Incisor tooth

One of the front teeth.

Index finger

The second finger.
Also called: Forefinger

Inferior vena cava

A large vein carrying blood from the lower body to the heart.

Inguinal area

The area of the body between the insides of the thighs and the lower abdomen.
Also called: Groin

Inguinal nodes

Glands between the insides of the thighs and the lower abdomen (groin).

Intervertebral disc

The spongy, round cushion found between each of the 33 bones of the spine.

Also called: Spinal disc

Intestine, large

The part of the intestinal tract that goes from the small intestine to the anus.

Also called: Bowel, Colon

Intestine, small

The part of the intestine between the stomach and the large intestine.

Iris of eye

The coloured part of the eye that circles the black part of the eye (pupil).

Iron

A chemical element which is important to the body because it is used to make hemoglobin which brings oxygen to the tissues through the blood.

Jaw, lower

The part of the skull from which the teeth grow.

Also called: Mandible

Jaw, upper

The part of the skull from which the teeth grow.

Also called: Maxilla

Joint

The place where two or more bones meet.

Kidney

One of a pair of organs that filters waste products, chemicals, and unneeded water from the blood.

Knee

The joint between the thigh and the lower leg.

Kneecap

Also called: Patella

Knuckle

The joint of a finger.

Labia

The inner and outer folds of the vulva, at either side of the vagina.

Labial

Of or relating to the lips.

Lactation

The making of milk by the breasts.

Large intestine

The part of the intestinal tract that goes from the small intestine to the anus.

Also called: Bowel, Colon

Larynx

The voice box; contains the vocal cords which give sound to the voice.

Left atrium

The small upper chamber in the heart that receives blood full of oxygen and pumps it into the ventricles.

Left ventricle

One of the two lower spaces found in the heart. The left ventricle pumps blood to the body.

Lens

A part of the eye. The lens is round and found just behind the black part of the eye (pupil).

Ligaments

The strong, string-like material that connect bones to each other.

Little finger

The last, smallest finger.
Also called: Pinky finger, Baby finger

Liver

A large organ that cleans the blood and produces bile.

Lobe

A clear division or extension of an organ that can be seen without a microscope, for example in the brain, lung or kidney.

Lobule (breast)

A very small division of a lobe in the breast that produces milk for breast-feeding.

Lower jaw

The part of the skull from which the teeth grow.
Also called: Mandible

Lumbar spine

The lowest section of the spine, with five vertebrae.

Lymph nodes

Glands that trap germs that pass through them.

Mandible

The part of the skull from which the teeth grow.
Also called: Lower jaw

Marrow

The soft material inside bones.

Maxilla

The part of the skull from which the teeth grow.
Also called: Upper jaw

Maxillary sinus

Pocket of space located to the side of the nasal cavity, below the eye.

Meninges

A thin layer of tissues that cover the brain.

Metacarpals

The five bones of the hand that the fingers attach to.

Metatarsals

The five bones of the foot that the toes attach to.

Molar tooth

One of the flat teeth located at the back of the mouth, used for grinding food.

Mole

A tan, brown or flesh-coloured growth on the skin.

Muscle

One of many tissues in the body that can tighten and relax to produce movement.

Muscle, abdominal

One of three sets of muscles that cover the front of the trunk of the body.

Muscle, biceps

The muscle in the front of the upper arm that forms a bump when the elbow bends.

Muscle, calf

The large muscle at the back of the lower leg which pulls up the heel.

Muscle, deltoid

The muscle that forms the top of the shoulder.

Muscle, forearm

The lower part of the arm.

Muscle, gluteus maximus

The main muscle of the buttocks.

Muscle, pectoral

One of the four large paired muscles that cover the chest and assist with movement of shoulder and arm.

Muscle, quadriceps

The large muscles at the front of the thigh which straighten the knee.

Muscle, trapezius

One of two large back muscles extending from the bottom of the skull along the spine. It helps to move the shoulder blade and to support the arm.

Muscle, triceps

The muscle in the back of the upper arm which helps to straighten the arm.

Nail

A fingernail or toenail.

Nasal cavity or passage

A large space above and behind the nose.

Navel

Also called: Belly button, Umbilicus

Nerve

A string-like bundle of nerve fibers which carries messages to and from the brain.

Nerve, optic

The nerve that goes from the back of the eye to the part of the brain which allows us to see.

Nipple

The dark part of the skin which sticks out from the breast and through which milk is supplied to a baby.

Nostril

One of the two holes in the nose.

Optic nerve

The nerve that goes from the back of the eye to the part of the brain which allows us to see.

Oral cavity

The mouth, including the lips, gums and teeth, cheeks, roof of the mouth, floor of the mouth and the tongue.

Orbit

The area of bone around the eye.
Also called: Eye socket

Ostomy

The opening from inside the bowel to the outside of the body through the belly.

Ovary

The small sac which contains a woman's eggs.

Ovum

Egg.

Palate

The roof of the mouth.

Palm

The inside part of the hand from the wrist to the base of the fingers.

Pancreas

The long, leaf-shaped gland found just below and to the back of the stomach.

Patella

Also called: Kneecap

Pectoral muscle

One of the four large paired muscles that cover the chest and assist with movement of shoulder and arm.

Pelvis

Circle formed by the hip bones and the sacrum (triangular bone at the bottom of the spinal column) and all the tissues contained within.

Peritoneum

The thin lining covering all of the organs in the abdomen, such as the stomach, intestines, liver, etc.

Pharynx

Also called: Throat

Pinky finger

The last, smallest finger.

Also called: Baby finger, Little finger

Placenta

A round organ found in pregnant women which brings food and oxygen to the baby and brings the baby's waste to the mother so that she can get rid of it.

Also called: Afterbirth

Prostate gland

The gland found at the bottom of the bladder in men.

Pubic hair

The hair growing in the groin area of a person.

Pulmonary artery

The blood vessel which brings blood to the lungs.

Pupil of eye

The black part of the eye in the middle surrounded by a coloured circle (iris).

Quadriceps muscle

The large muscles at the front of the thigh which straighten the knee.

Radius

The shorter and thicker bone in the lower arm (forearm), on the same side as the thumb.

Rectum

The place where solid waste (feces) is kept until it is ready to leave the body through the anus.

Renal artery

The blood vessel which brings blood to the kidneys.

Reproductive system

The organs in the body involved in reproducing children. In women, the reproductive organs are the ovaries, fallopian tubes, uterus, cervix and vagina. In men, they are the testicles, prostate and penis.

Reproductive system, female

The organs in the body involved in reproducing children. In women, the reproductive organs are the ovaries, fallopian tubes, uterus, cervix and vagina.

Reproductive system, male

The organs in the body involved in reproducing children. In men, they are the testicles, prostate and penis.

Retina

A part of the eye found at the back of the eye ball.

Right atrium

The small upper chamber in the heart that receives blood with no oxygen in it and pumps it into the ventricles.

Right ventricle

One of the two lower spaces found in the heart. The right ventricle pumps blood to the lungs.

Ring finger

Also called: Fourth finger

Root

The part of the tooth, nail, hair, etc. that is under the skin.

Sacrum

The big triangle-shaped bone at the bottom of the spine.

Saliva

The slippery, watery fluid produced inside the mouth.

Also called: Spit

Salivary glands

Glands around the mouth that create saliva.

Scalp

Skin covering the top of the head.

Scapula

Also called: Shoulder blade

Scrotum

The sac of skin containing a man's testes (balls).

Semen

Whitish liquid that comes out of the tip of a man's penis and contains sperm.

Seminal vesicle

A tube-like gland which makes most of a man's semen and is located behind the bladder.

Shin

Front of lower leg.

Shin bone

The inner and larger bone of the lower leg.
Also called: Tibia

Shoulder

The part of the body where the arm joins the body, between the neck and upper arm.

Shoulder blade

Also called: Scapula

Sinuses

Four pairs of air spaces in the bone around the nose area.

Also called: Sinus cavities

Sinus, ethmoid

Pocket of space located close to the tear ducts of the eye.

Sinus, frontal

Pocket of space located behind the brow ridge.

Sinus, maxillary

Pocket of space located to the side of the nasal cavity, below the eye.

Sinus, sphenoid

Pocket of space located on the top of the nose cavity, above the nasopharynx.

Skeleton

All the bones of the body.

Skin

The covering of the body.

Skull

All of the bones of the head, except the jawbone.

Also called: Cranium

Small intestine

The part of the intestine between the stomach and the large intestine.

Sole of foot

Bottom of foot.

Sperm

A cell produced by the male sexual organs and that combines with the female's egg to form an embryo.

Sphenoid sinus

Pocket of space located on the top of the nose cavity, above the nasopharynx.

Sphincter

The circular band of muscles that control an opening, e.g. anal sphincter.

Spinal cord

The round, white cord of nerve tissue found inside the hollow of spine bones (vertebrae) and joined to the brain.

Spinal fluid

The clear fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord.
Also called: Cerebrospinal fluid

Spine

Also called: Backbone

Spleen

A purple, fist-sized organ that lies in the upper left abdomen towards the back ribs and behind the stomach.

Sputum

Phlegm that is spit up.

Sternum

Also called: Breastbone

Stomach

A sac-like organ in the body where food begins to be digested.

Stomach lining

The thin, moist lining of the stomach that makes juices to help with digestion and mucus to protect the stomach.

Superior vena cava

A large vein carrying blood from the upper body to the heart.

Swollen lymph nodes

When lymph nodes become larger than normal.

Tailbone

Also called: Coccyx

Talus

Also called: Ankle bone

Tendon

A strong cord that joins muscle to bone or muscle to muscle.

Testicle

One of two egg-shaped things in the sac of saggy skin under a man's penis.
Also called: Testis

Thigh

Top part of the leg.

Thigh bone

Also called: Femur

Third molar tooth

Also called: Wisdom tooth

Thoracic spine

The part of the spine in the upper back.

Thorax

Also called: Chest

Throat

Also called: Pharynx

Thymus gland

A gland, located behind the breastbone (sternum), that produces cells for the immune system.

Thyroid gland

The large gland found in the middle of the neck at the front of the windpipe (trachea).

Tibia

The inner and larger bone of the lower leg.
Also called: Shin bone

Tissue, adipose

The fatty tissue under the skin and around the organs.
Also called: Fatty tissue

Tissue, breast (dense)

Tissue in the breast that has more connective tissues, glands and milk ducts than fatty tissue.

Tissue, connective

Ligaments or tendons.

Tissue, fatty

The fatty tissue under the skin and around the organs.
Also called: Adipose tissue

Tonsils

Clumps of tissue on both sides of the throat that help fight infections; part of the lymphatic system.

Tooth, bicuspid

The tooth next to the canine tooth.

Tooth, canine

One of the four sharp, pointed cone-shaped teeth that tear and shred food.
Also called: Cuspid

Tooth, incisor

One of the front teeth.

Tooth, molar

One of the flat teeth located at the back of the mouth, used for grinding food.

Tooth, third molar

Also called: Wisdom tooth

Trachea

Also called: Windpipe

Trapezius muscle

One of two large back muscles extending from the bottom of the skull along the spine. It helps to move the shoulder blade and to support the arm.

Triceps muscle

The muscle in the back of the upper arm which helps to straighten the arm.

Ulna

The longer and thinner bone in the lower arm (forearm), on the same side as the little finger.

Umbilical cord

The cord that goes from the baby to the placenta.

Umbilicus

Also called: Navel, Belly button

Upper jaw

The part of the skull from which the teeth grow.
Also called: Maxilla

Ureter

One of the two tubes that carries urine (pee) from each of the kidneys to the bladder.

Urethra

The tube that brings urine (pee) from the bladder to the outside.

Urinary bladder

The bag where pee is kept.

Urinary tract or system

All the parts of the body involved in making pee.

Uterus

The organ in a woman's body that holds and nourishes the baby during pregnancy.
Also called: Womb

Uvula

The small, soft piece of flesh that hangs down from the back part of the roof of the mouth.

Vagina

An opening through which babies are born.
Also called: Birth canal

Valve

A flap of tissue that allows blood to flow in only one direction, e.g. heart valve.

Vas deferens

A tube which carries sperm from a testicle towards the penis.

Vein

The blood vessel which brings blood towards the heart.

Vena cava, inferior

A large vein carrying blood from the lower body to the heart.

Vena cava, superior

A large vein carrying blood from the upper body to the heart.

Ventricle, left

One of the two lower spaces found in the heart. The left ventricle pumps blood to the body.

Ventricle, right

One of the two lower spaces found in the heart. The right ventricle pumps blood to the lungs.

Vertebra

One of the bones that make up the spine.

Vertebrae

The 33 bones that make up the spine.

Vertebra, lumbar

One of five bones at the bottom of the spine.

Vocal folds / Vocal cords

Voice box; thin bands of smooth muscle on opposite sides of the airway which extend from the front to the back of the larynx.

Vulva

The parts of the female sexual organs that are on the outside of the body.

Windpipe

Also called: Trachea

Womb

Also called: Uterus

Wrist

The part of the body where the hand joins the lower arm.

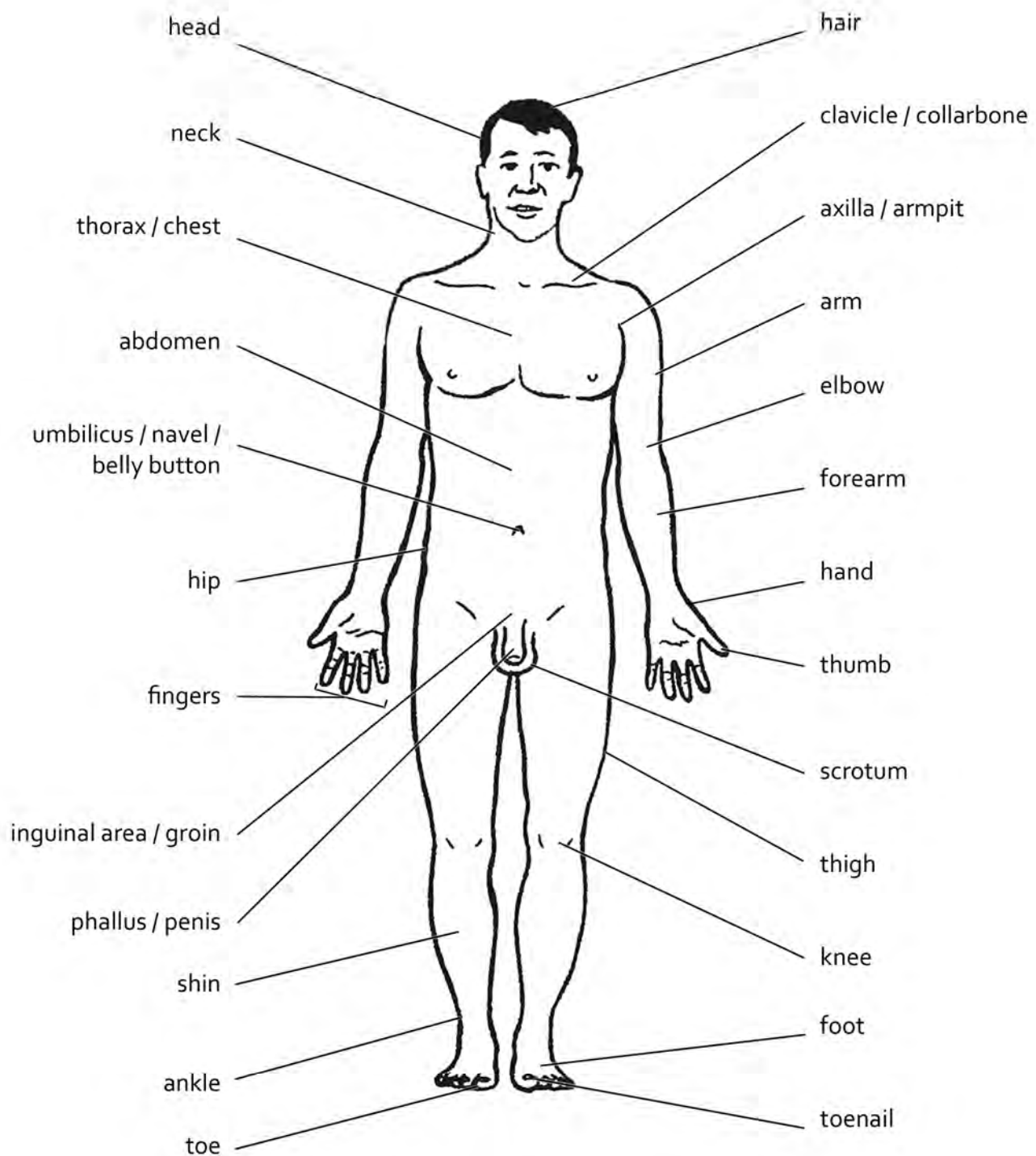
Zygomatic arch

Also called: Cheekbone

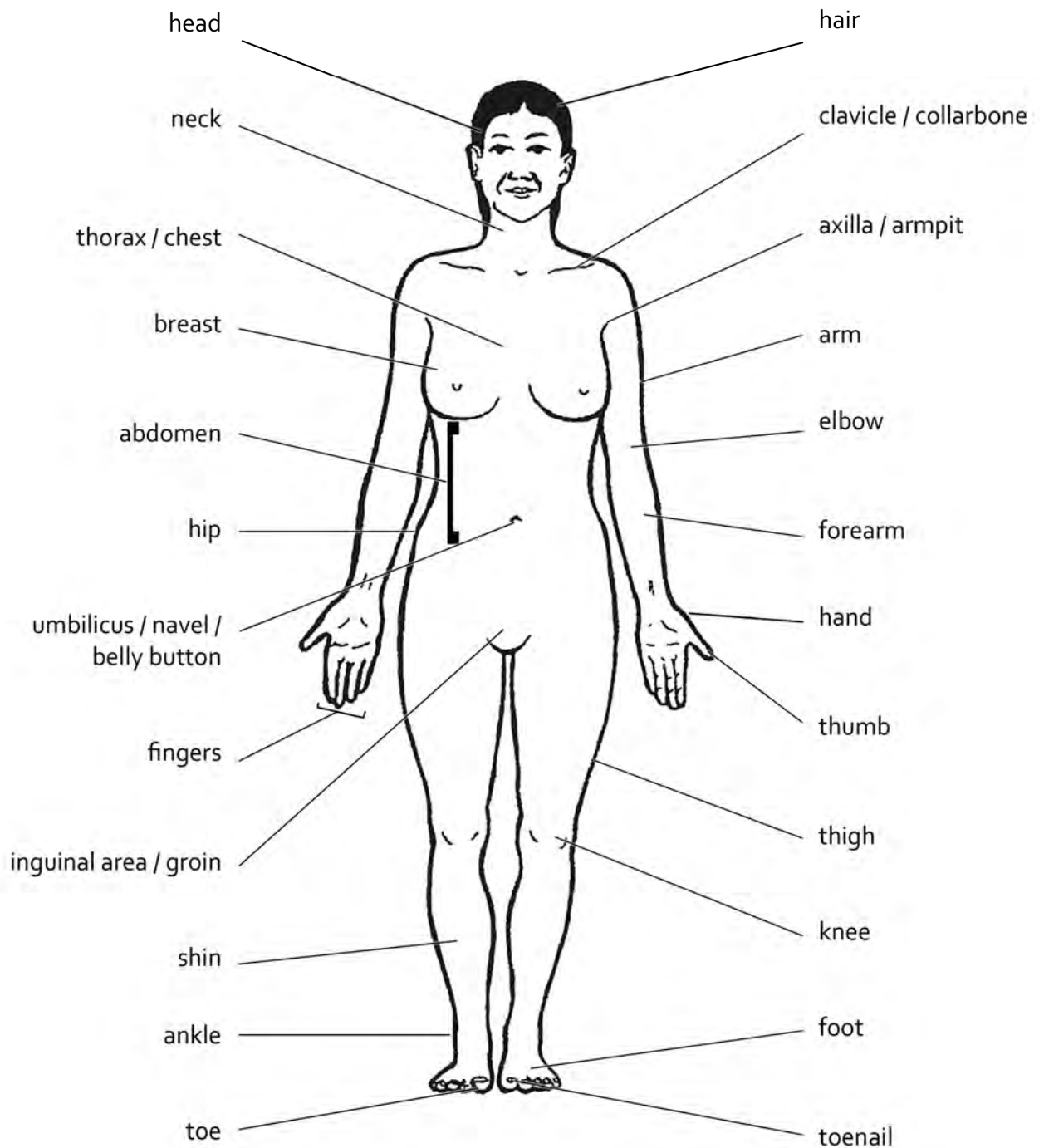
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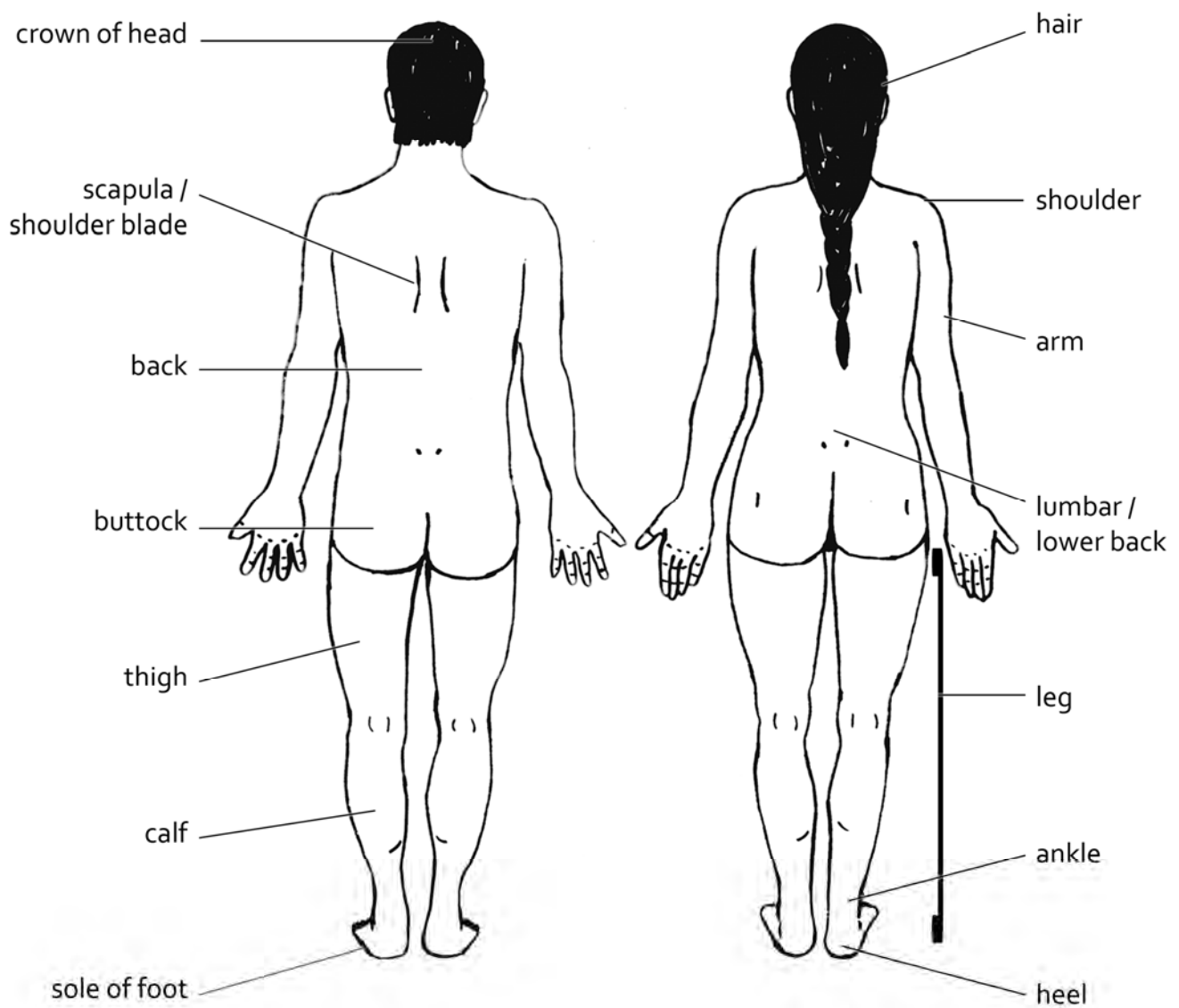
BODY (MALE)



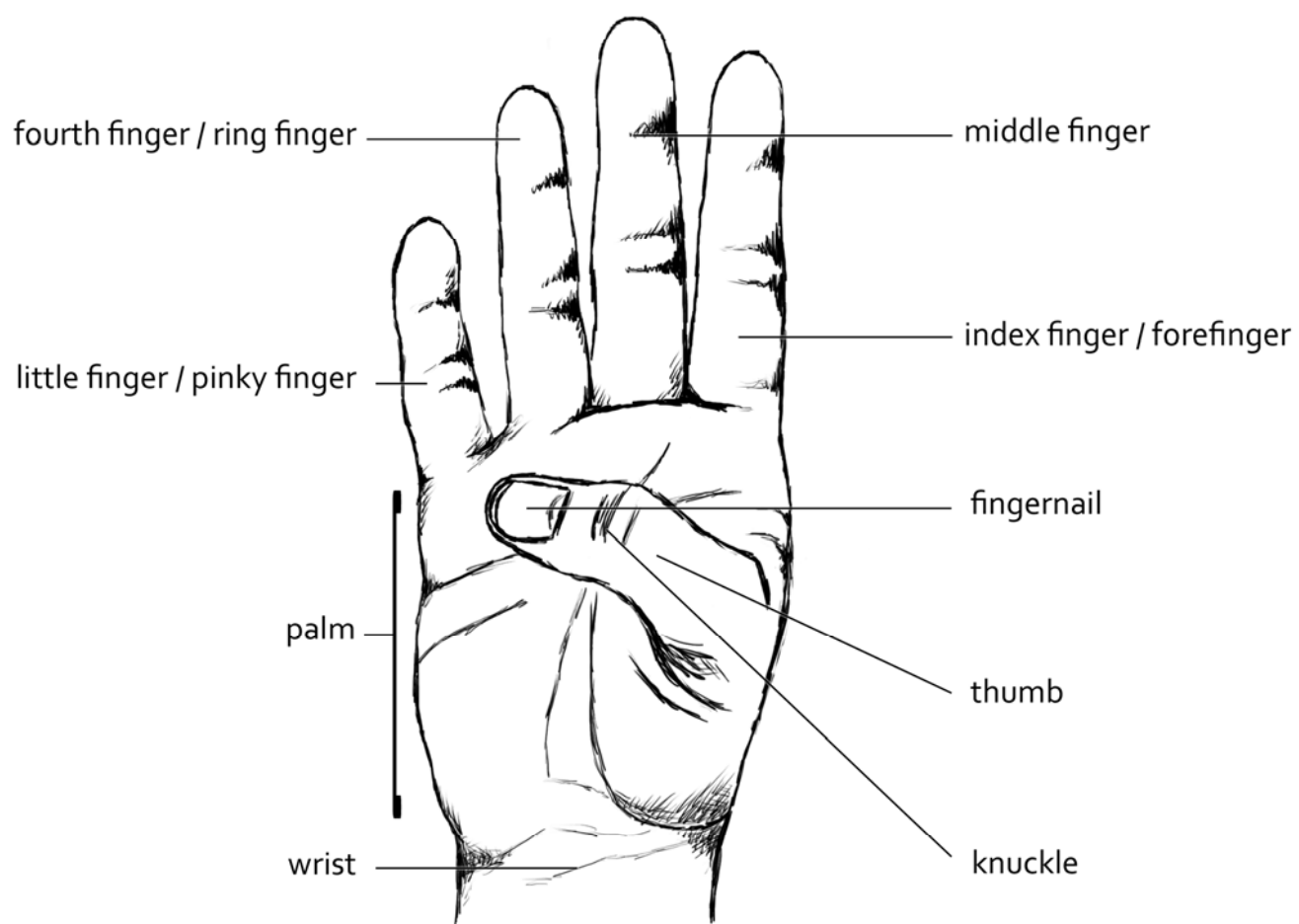
BODY (FEMALE)



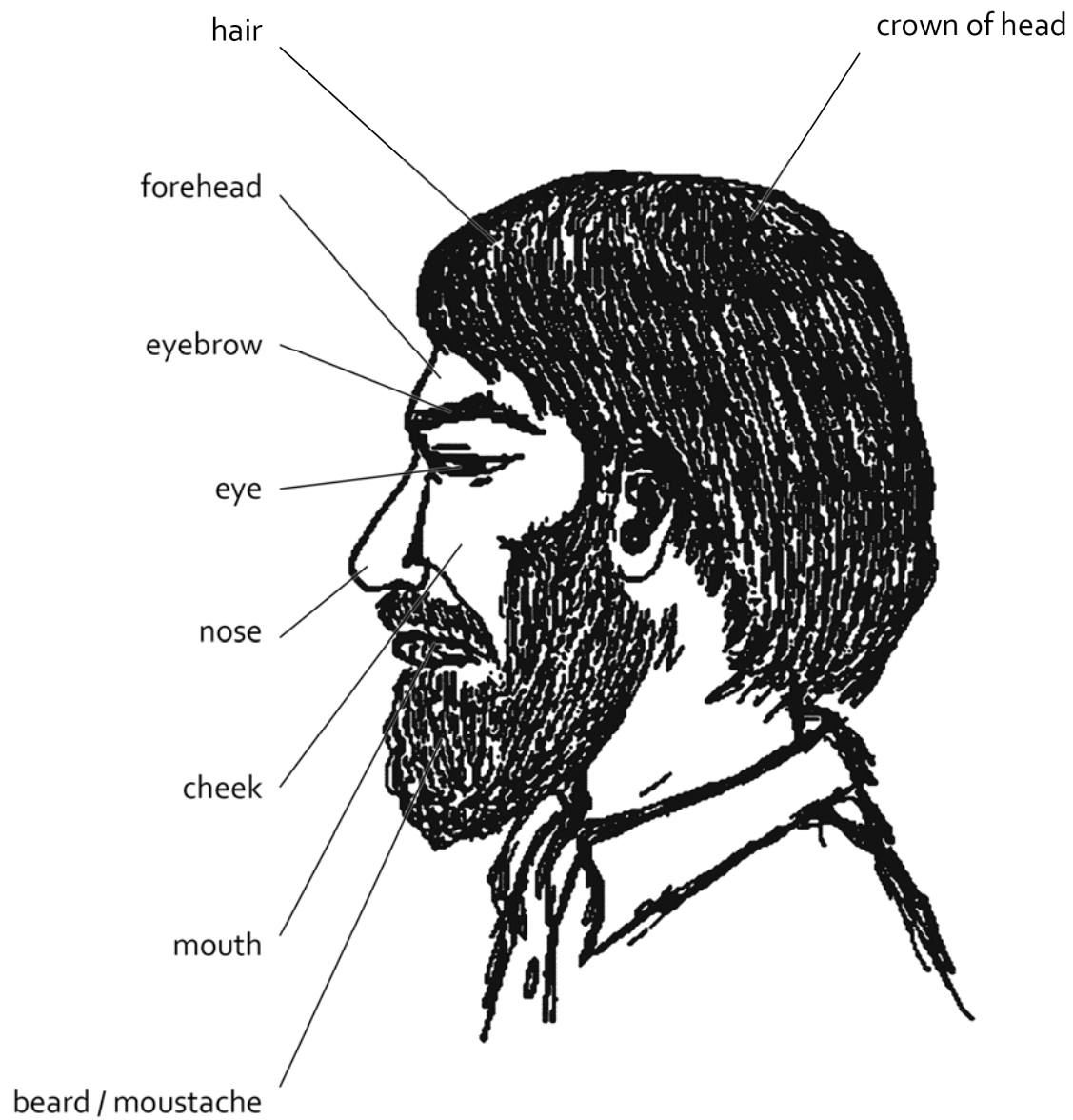
Body



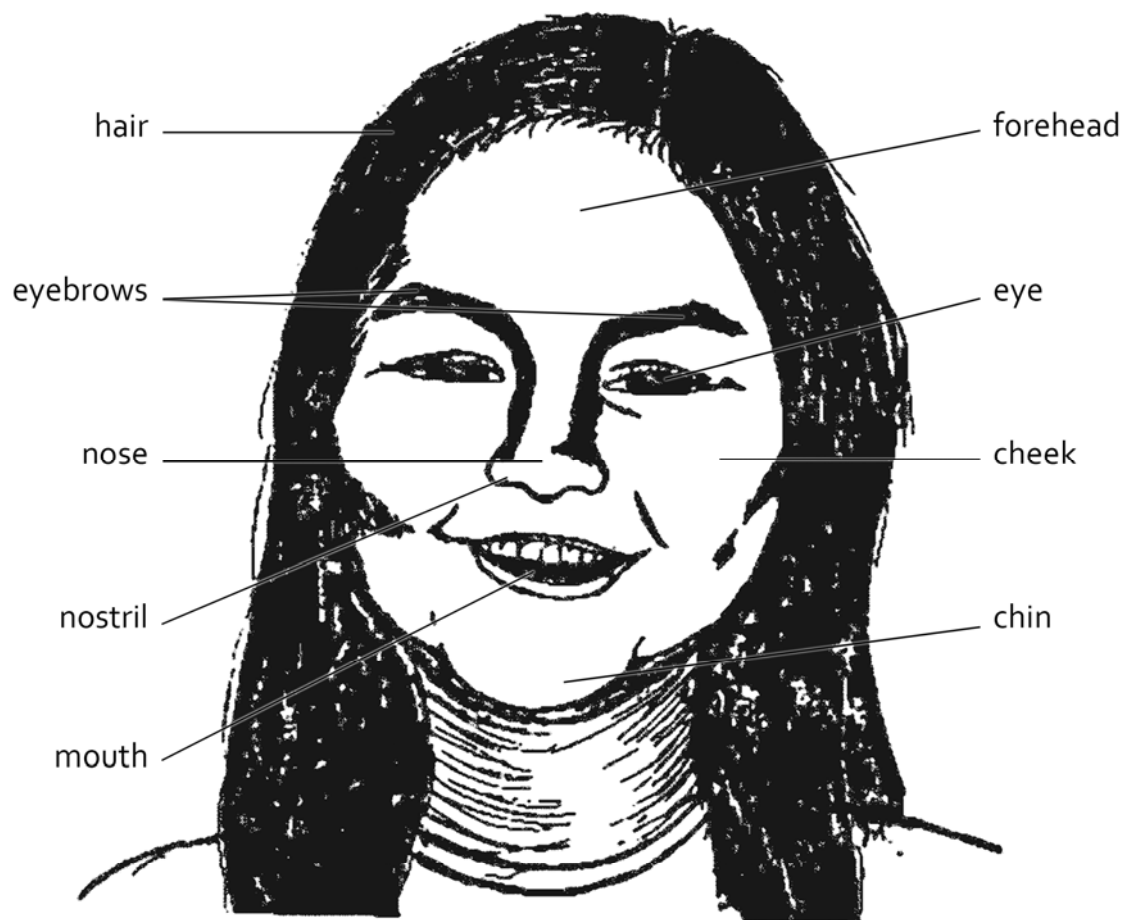
HAND AND FINGERS



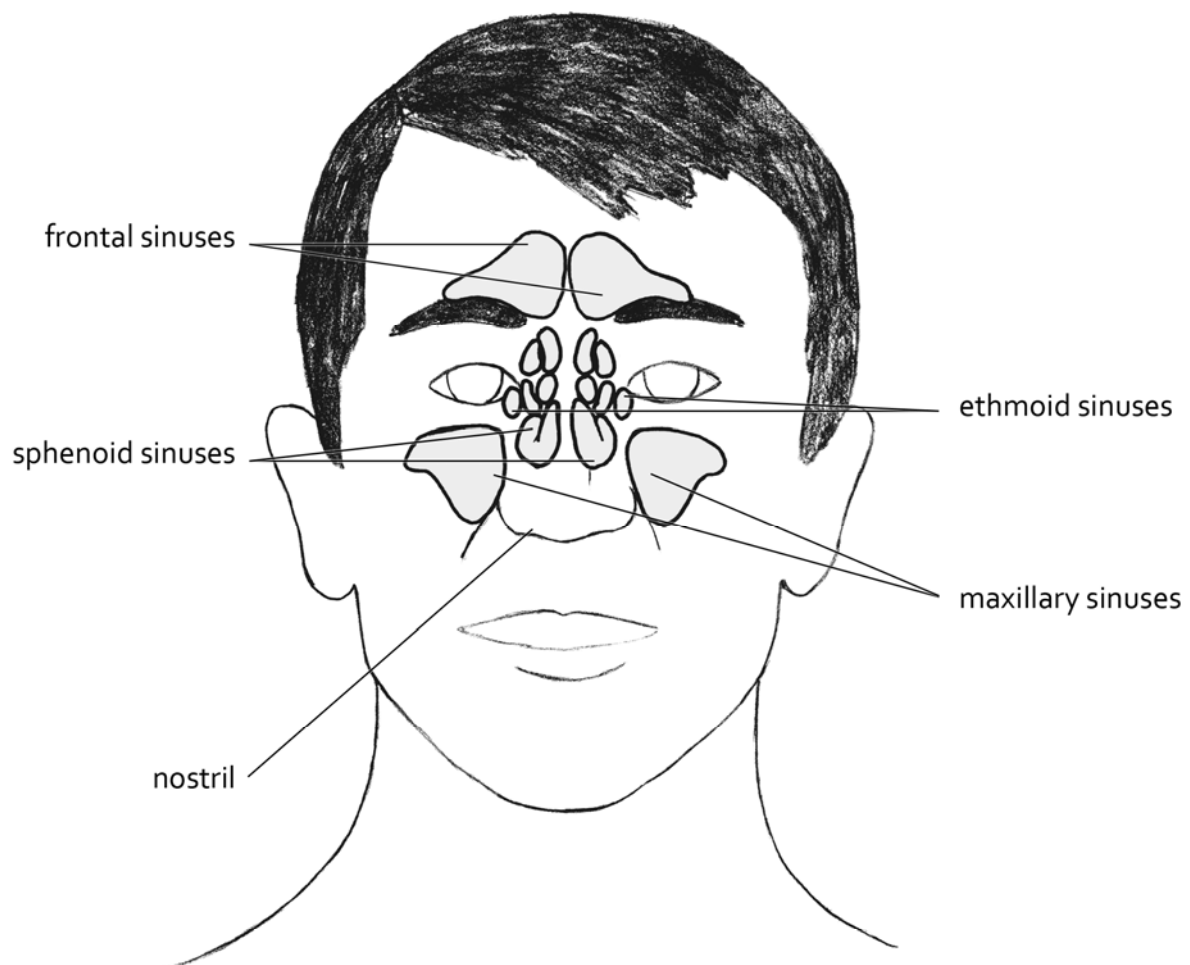
FACE (MALE)



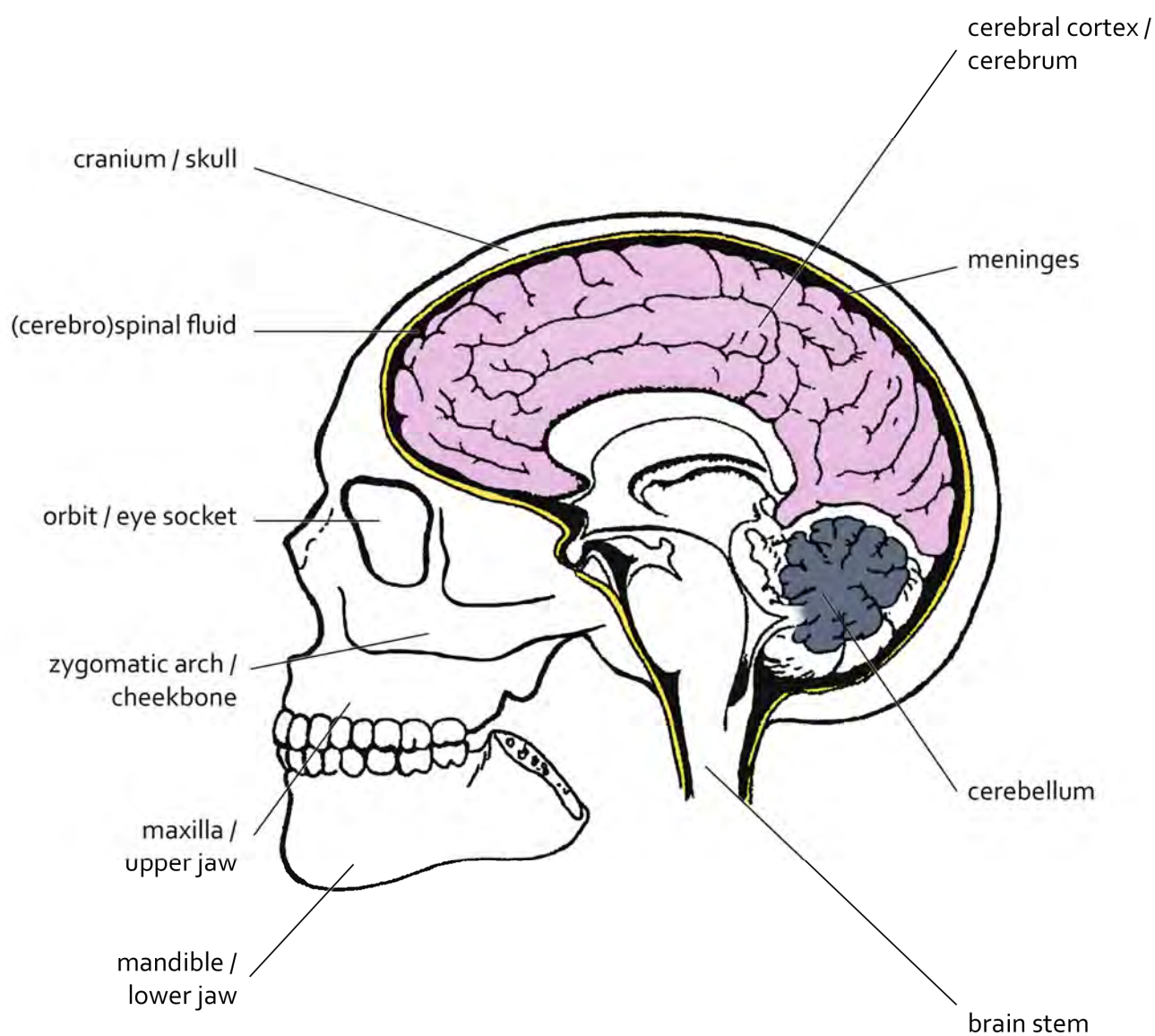
FACE (FEMALE)



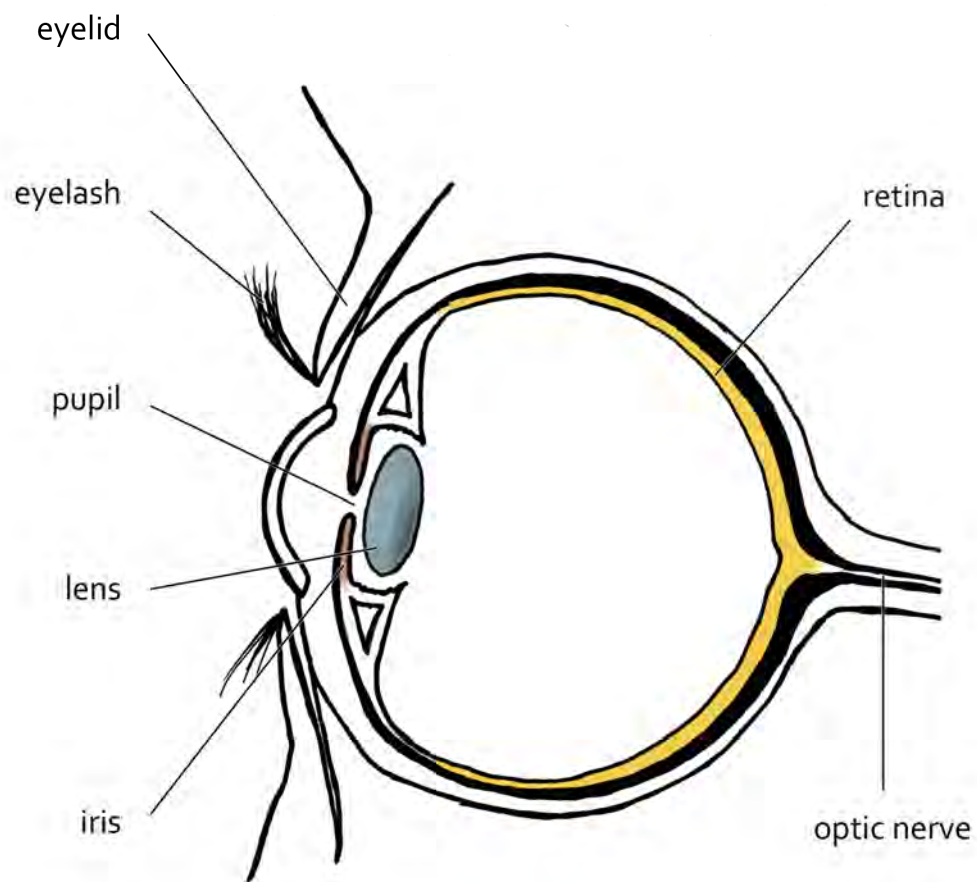
SINUSES



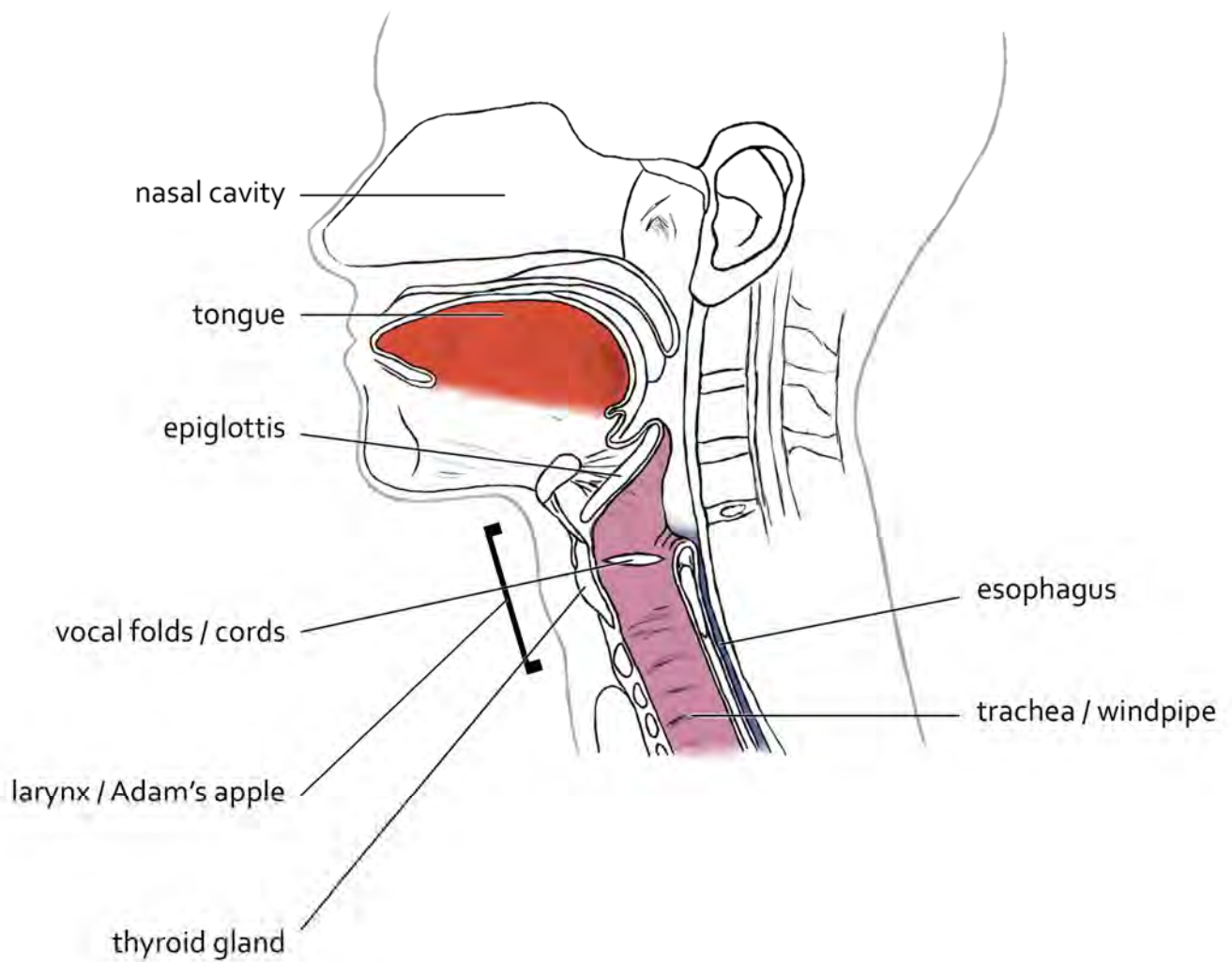
BRAIN AND SKULL



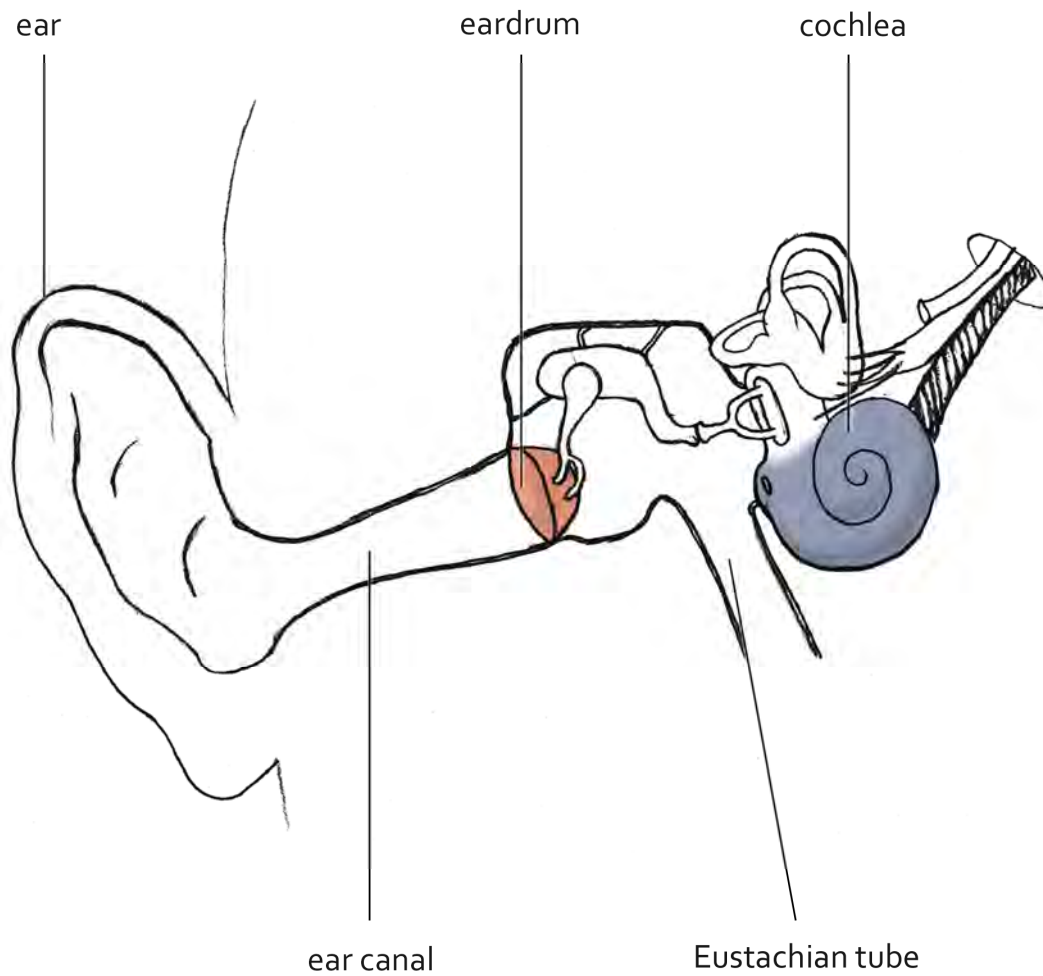
EYE



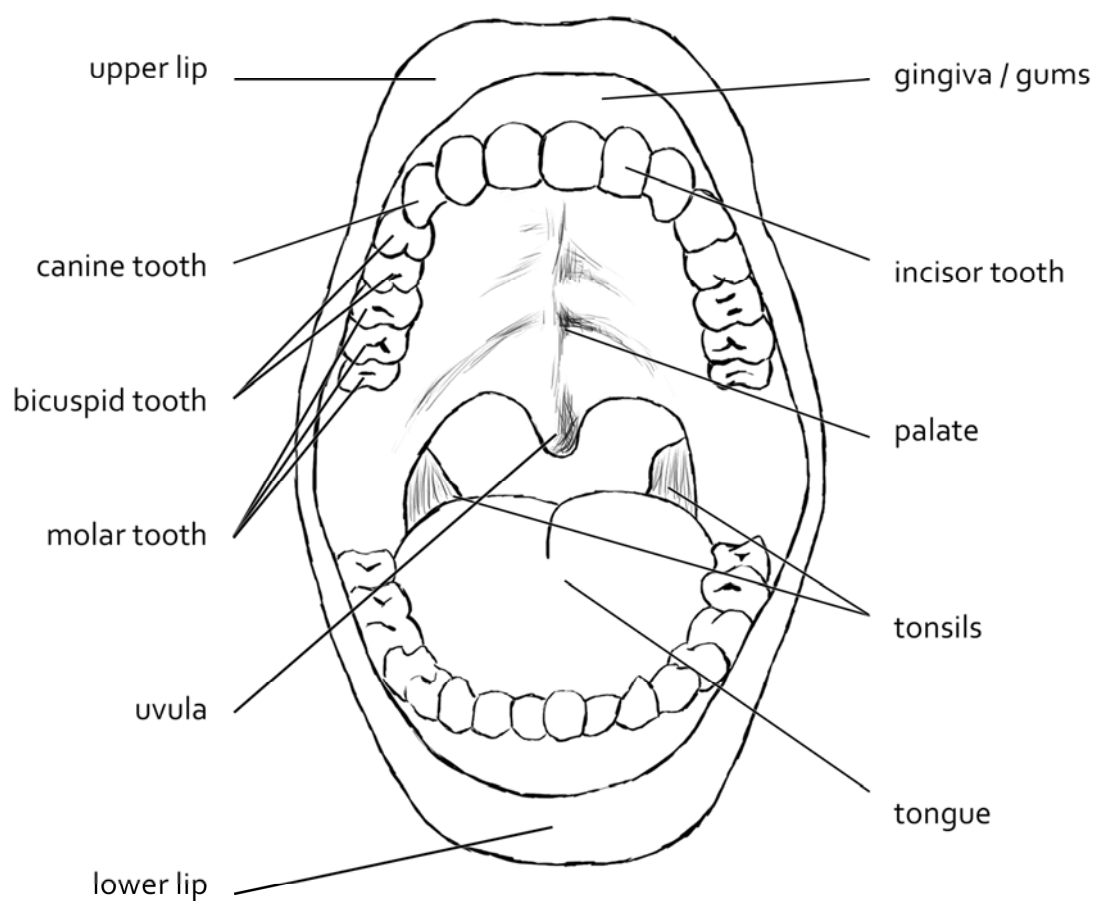
PHARYNX / THROAT



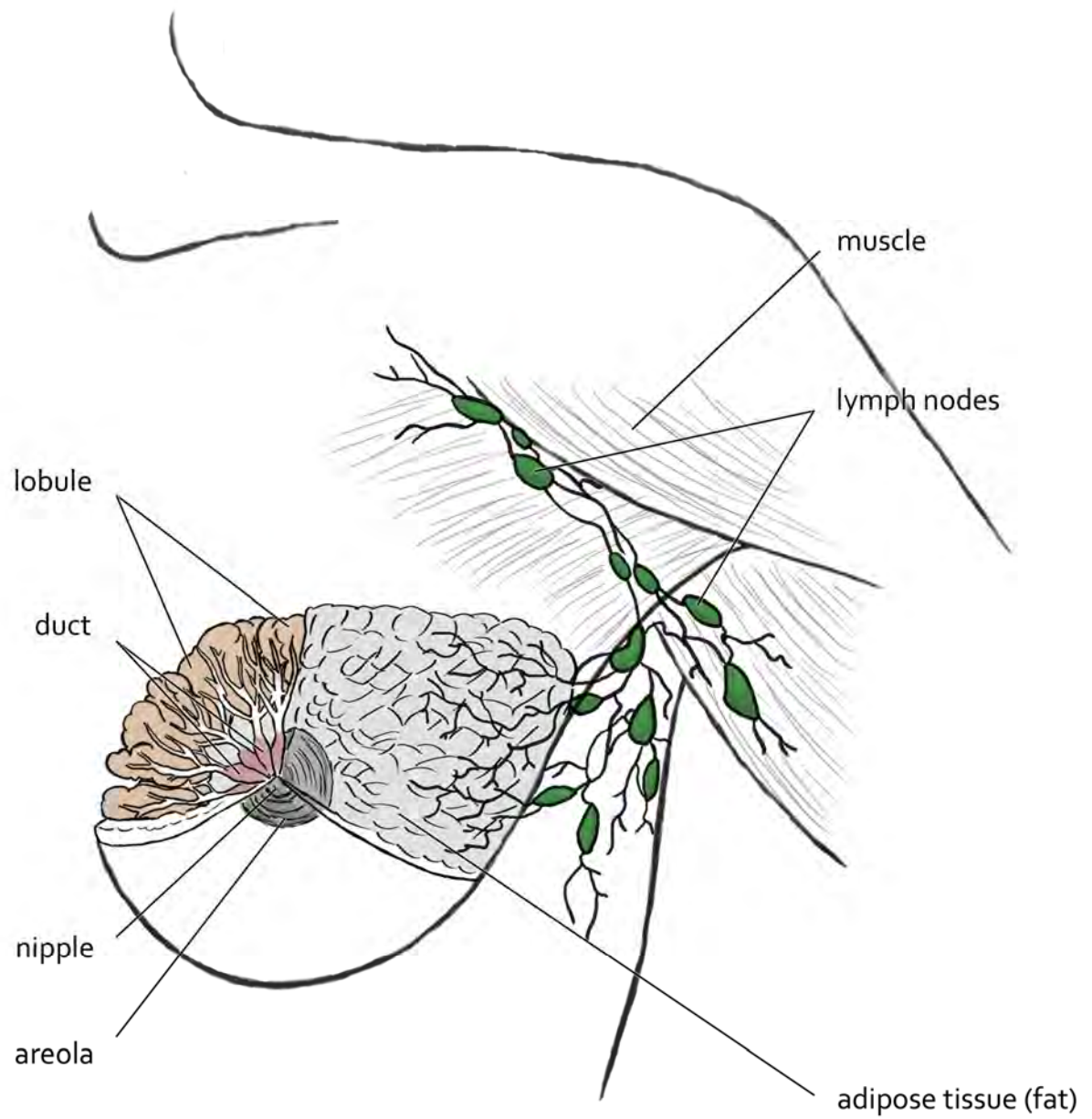
EAR



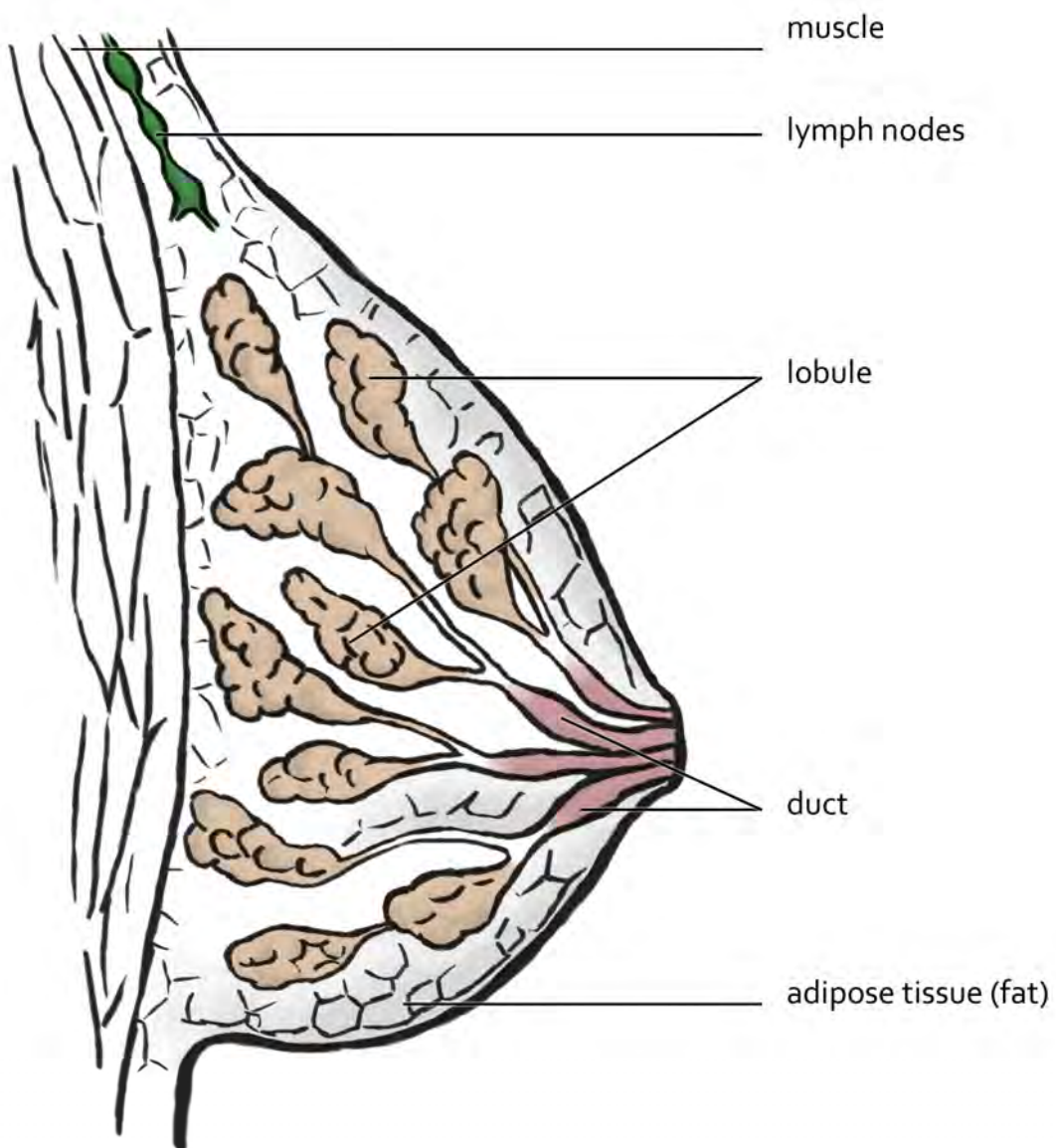
ORAL CAVITY / MOUTH AND TEETH



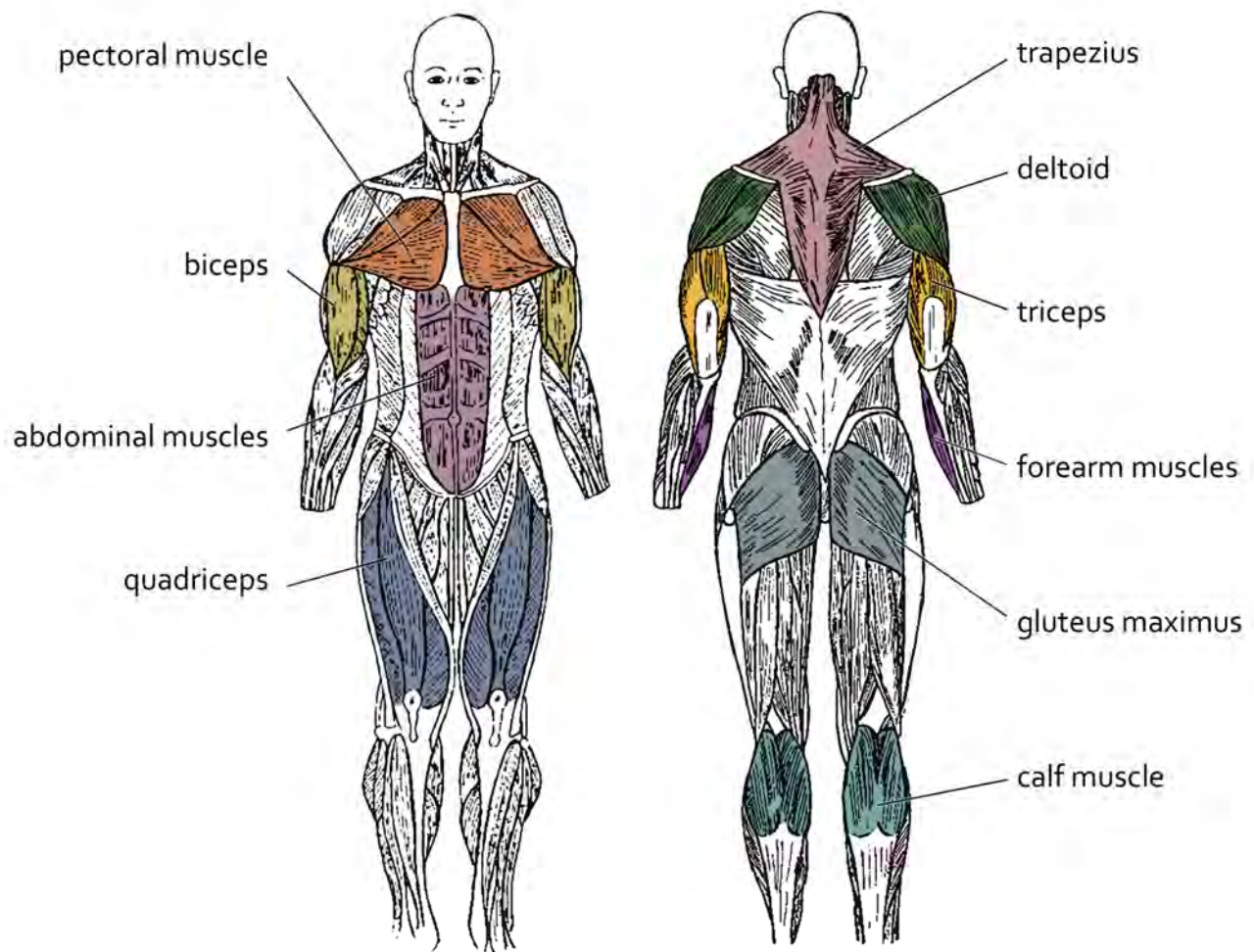
BREAST (FRONT)



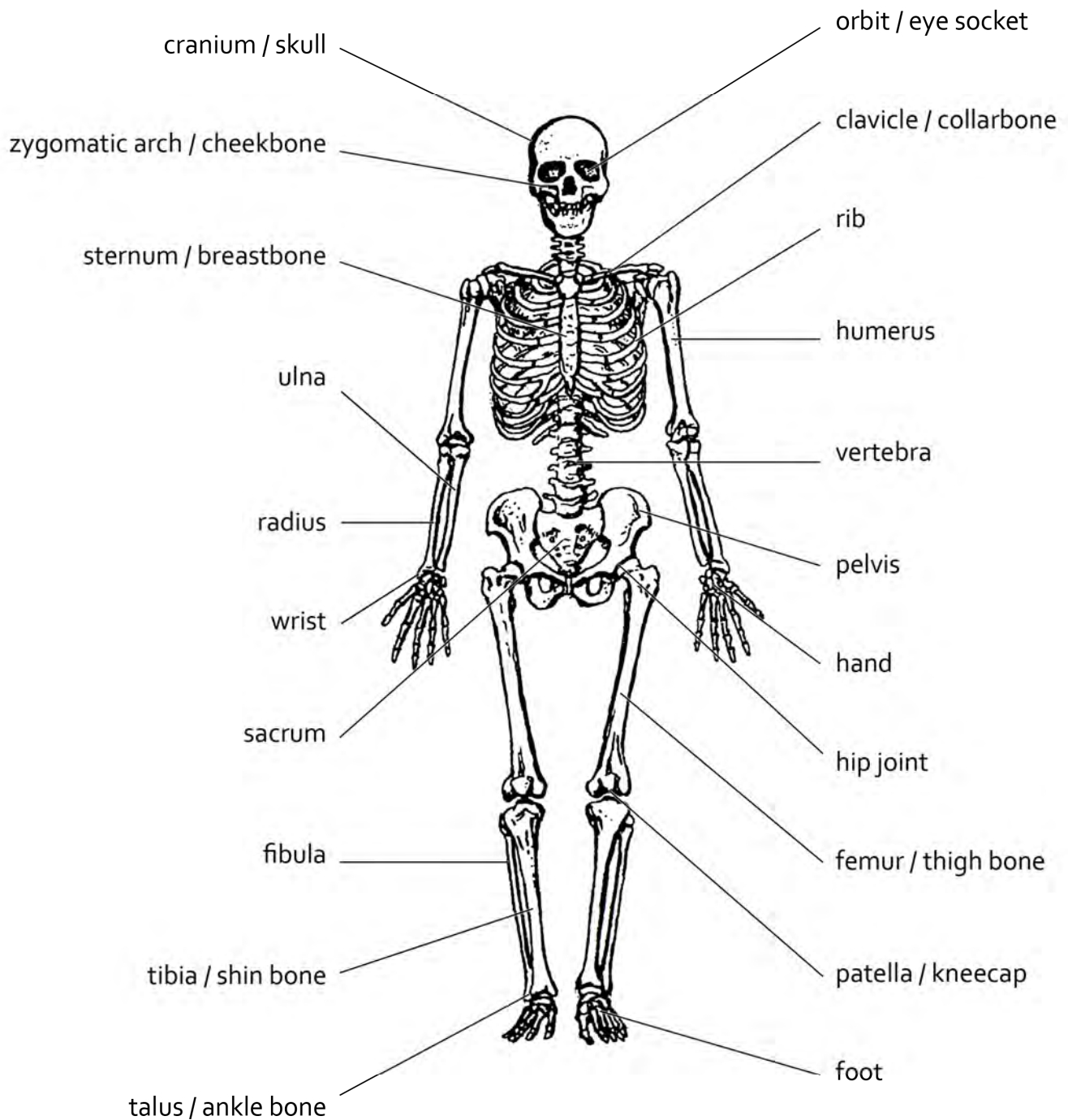
BREAST (SIDE)



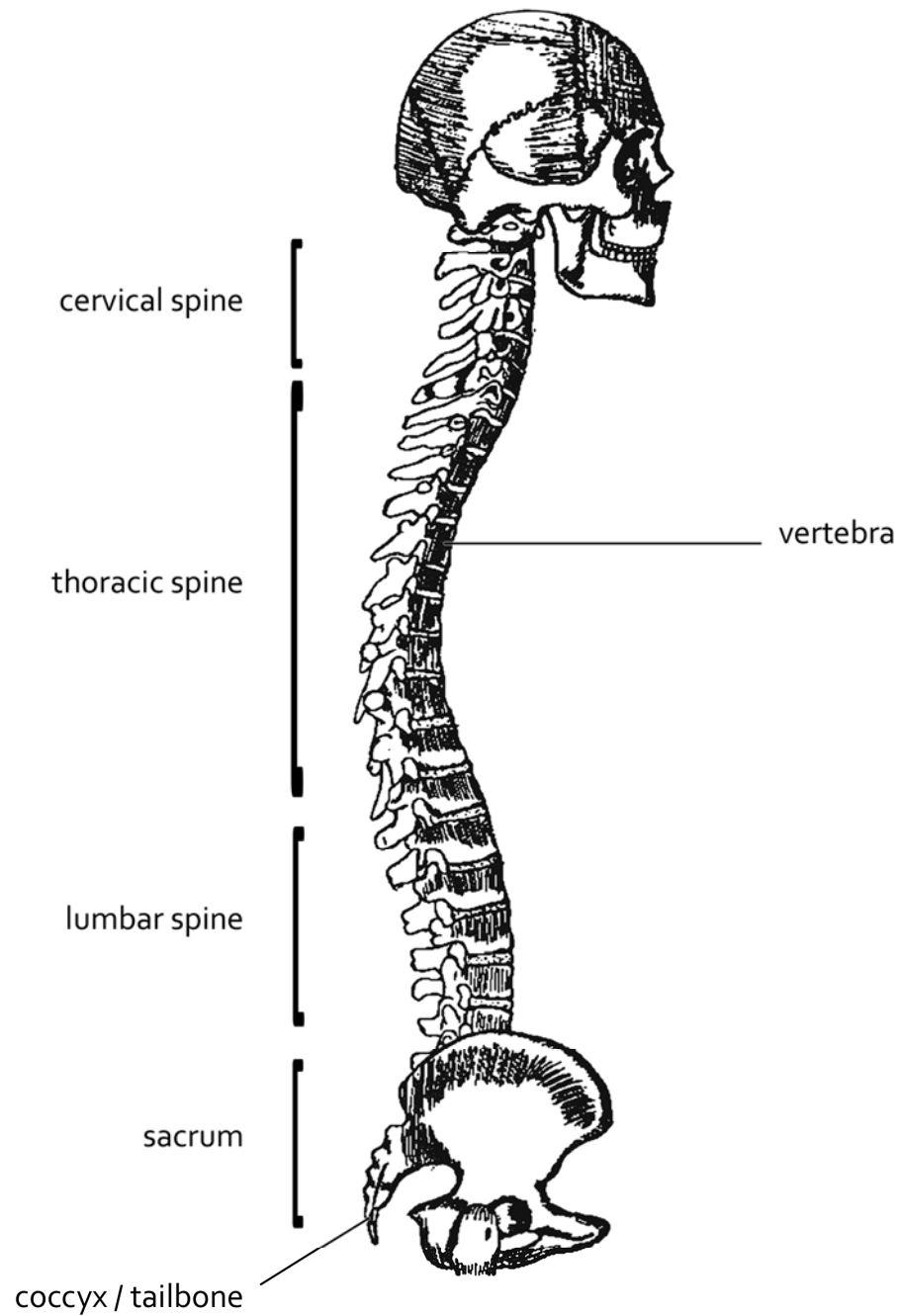
MUSCLES



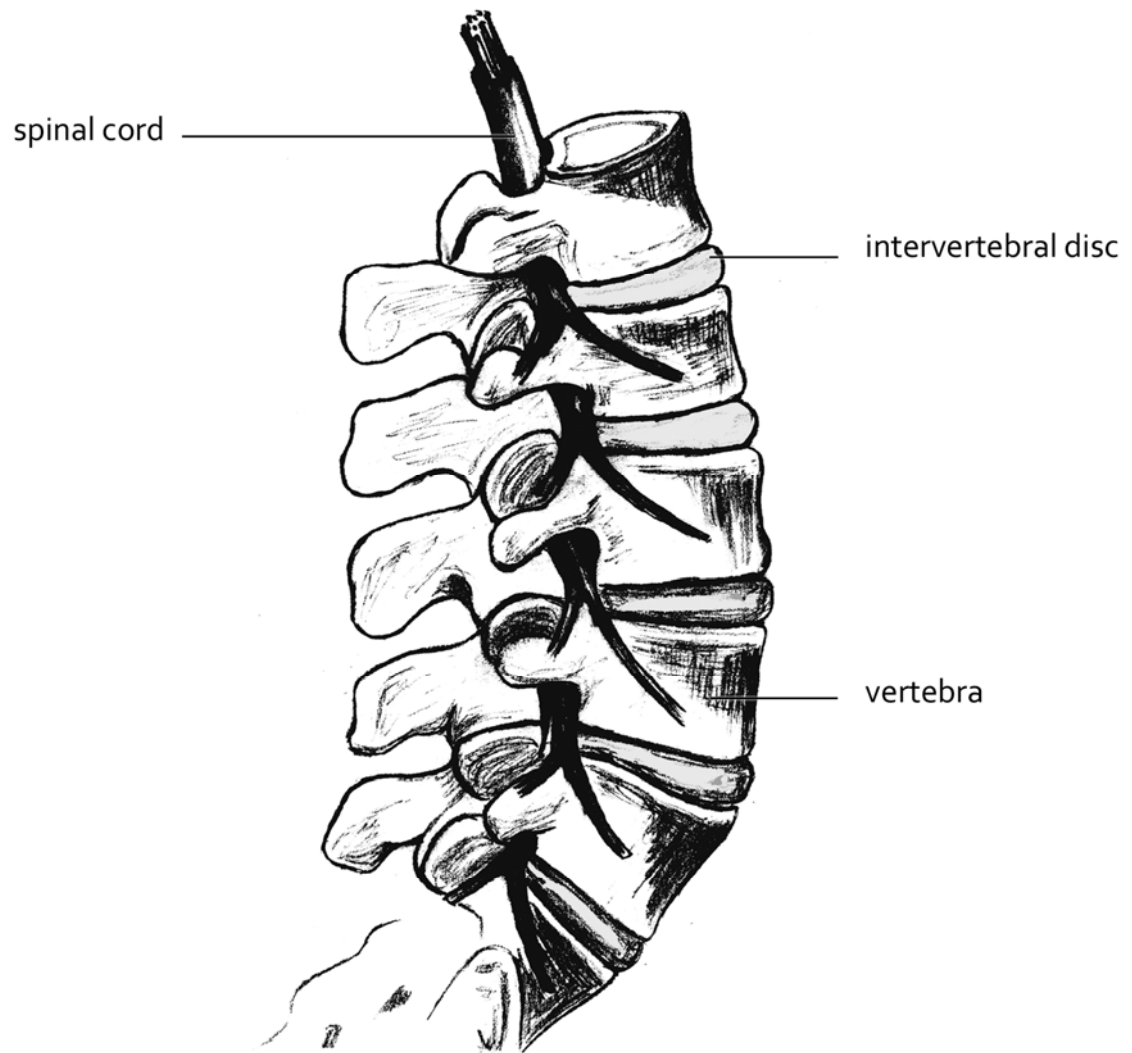
SKELETON



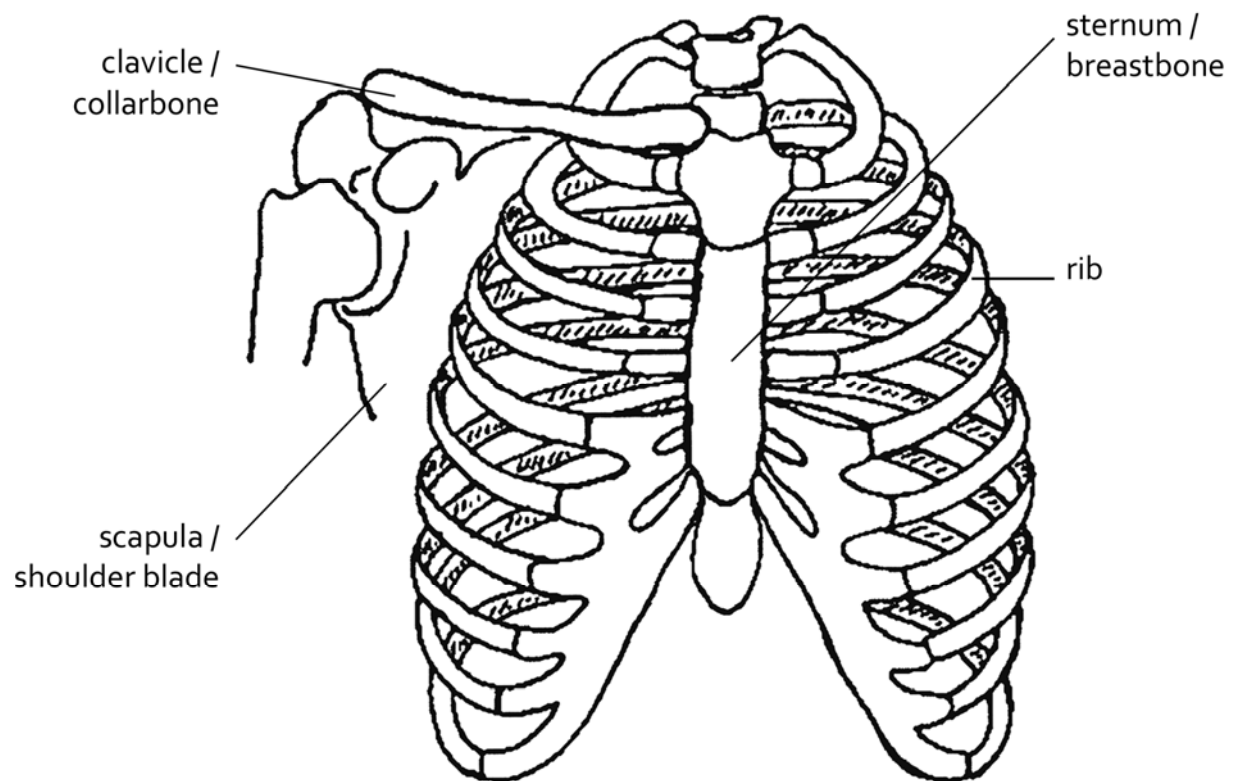
SPINE / BACKBONE



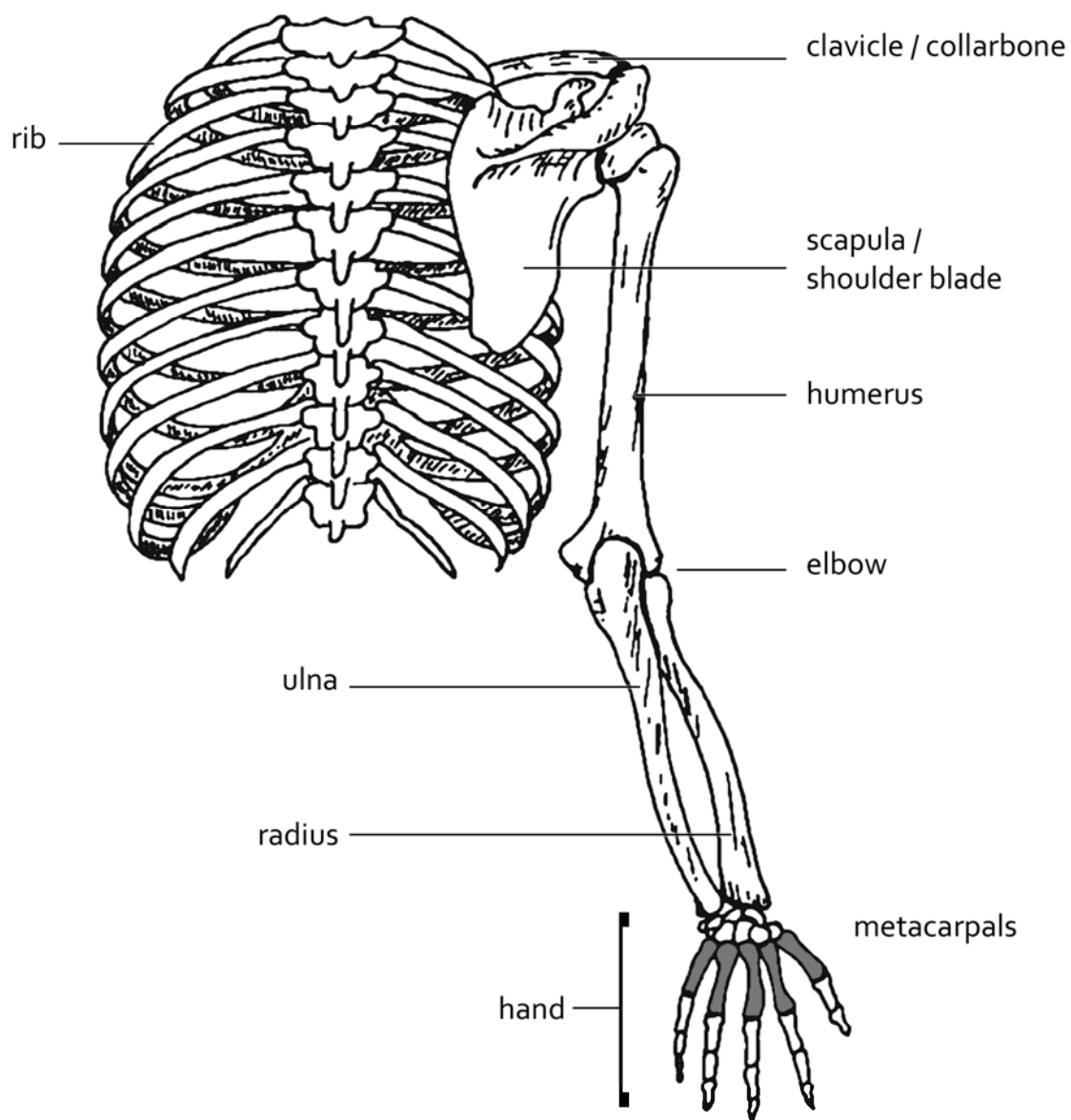
VERTEBRAE



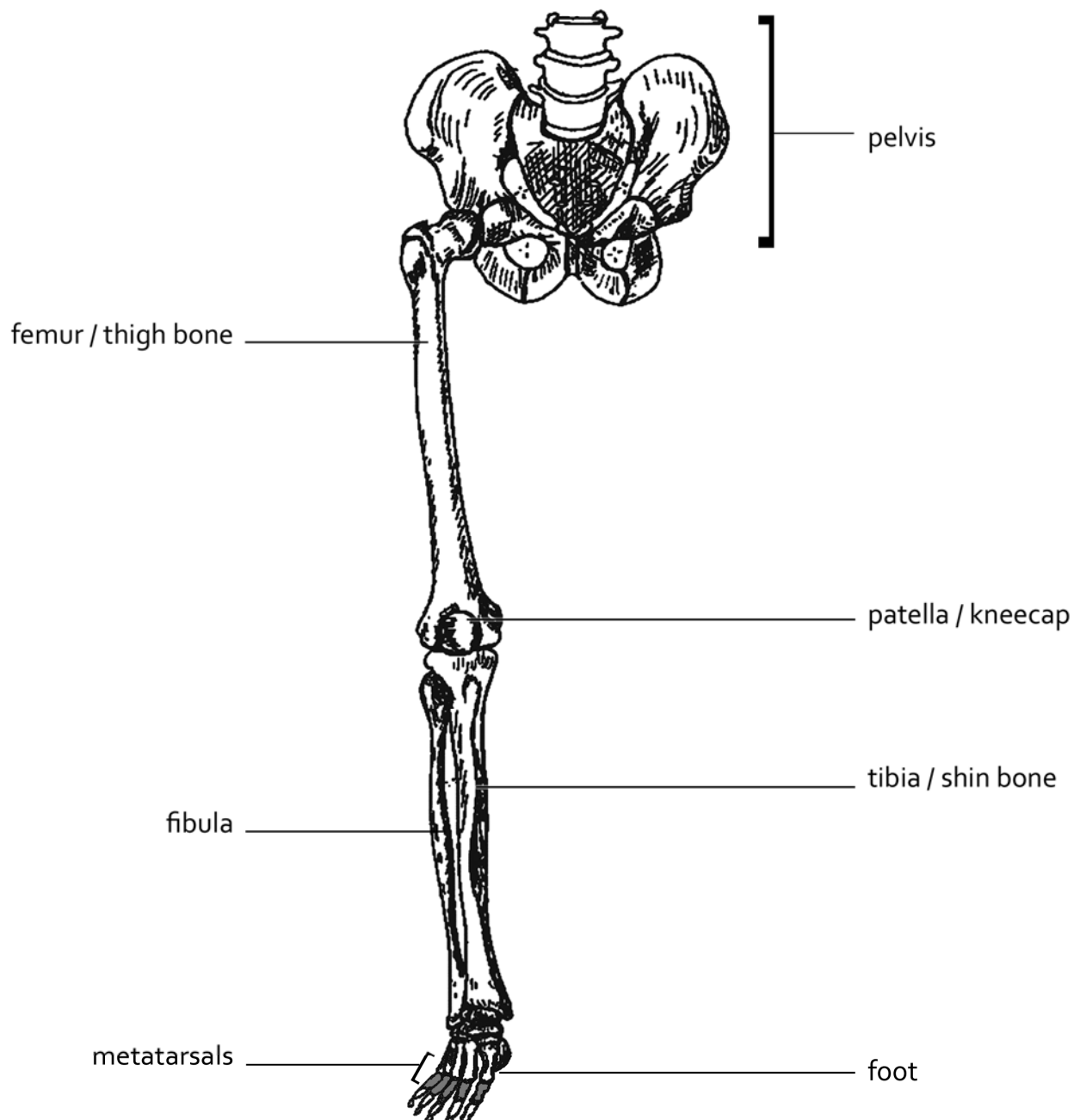
RIB CAGE (FRONT)



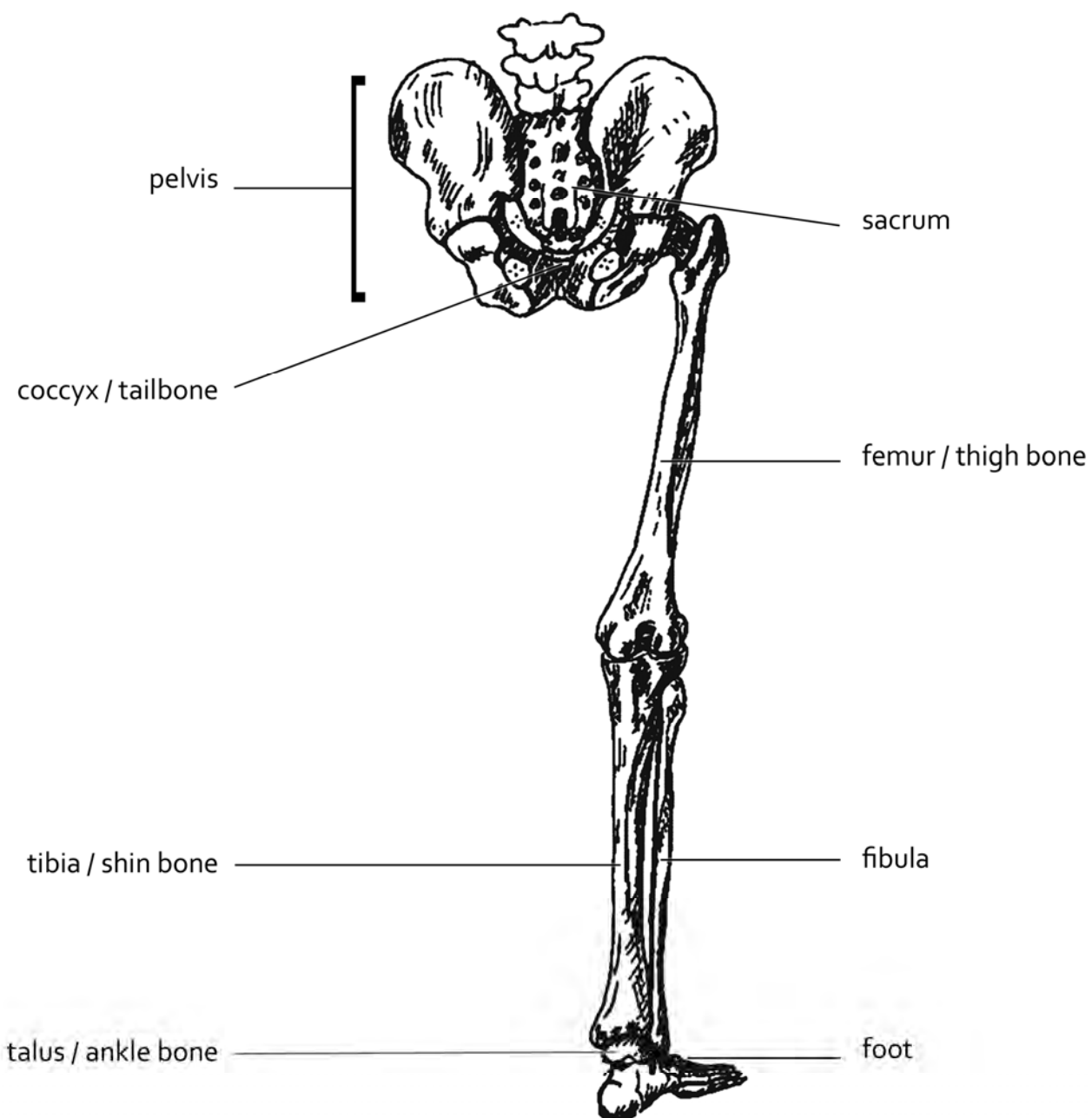
RIB CAGE AND ARM (BACK)



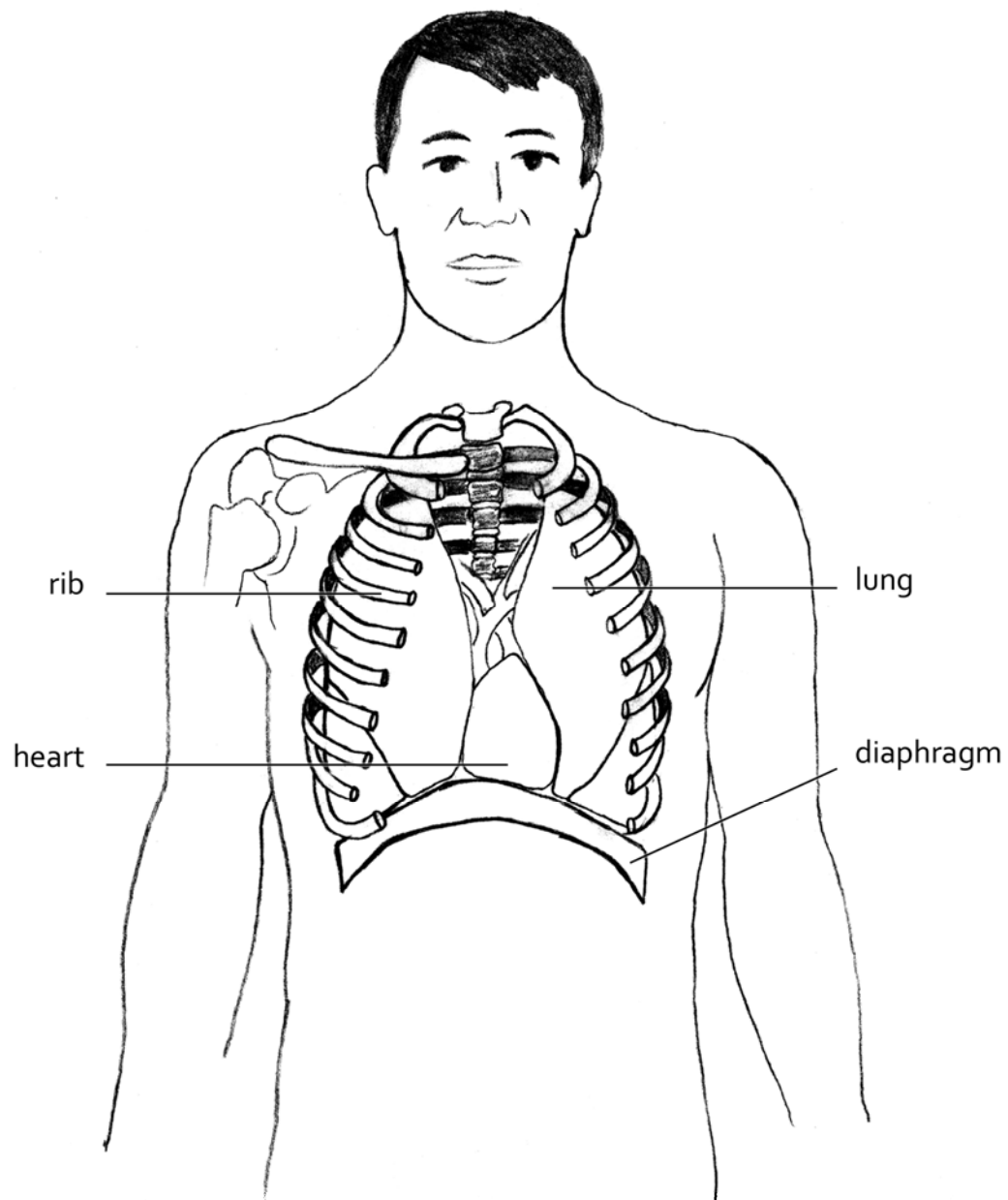
PELVIS AND LEG (FRONT)



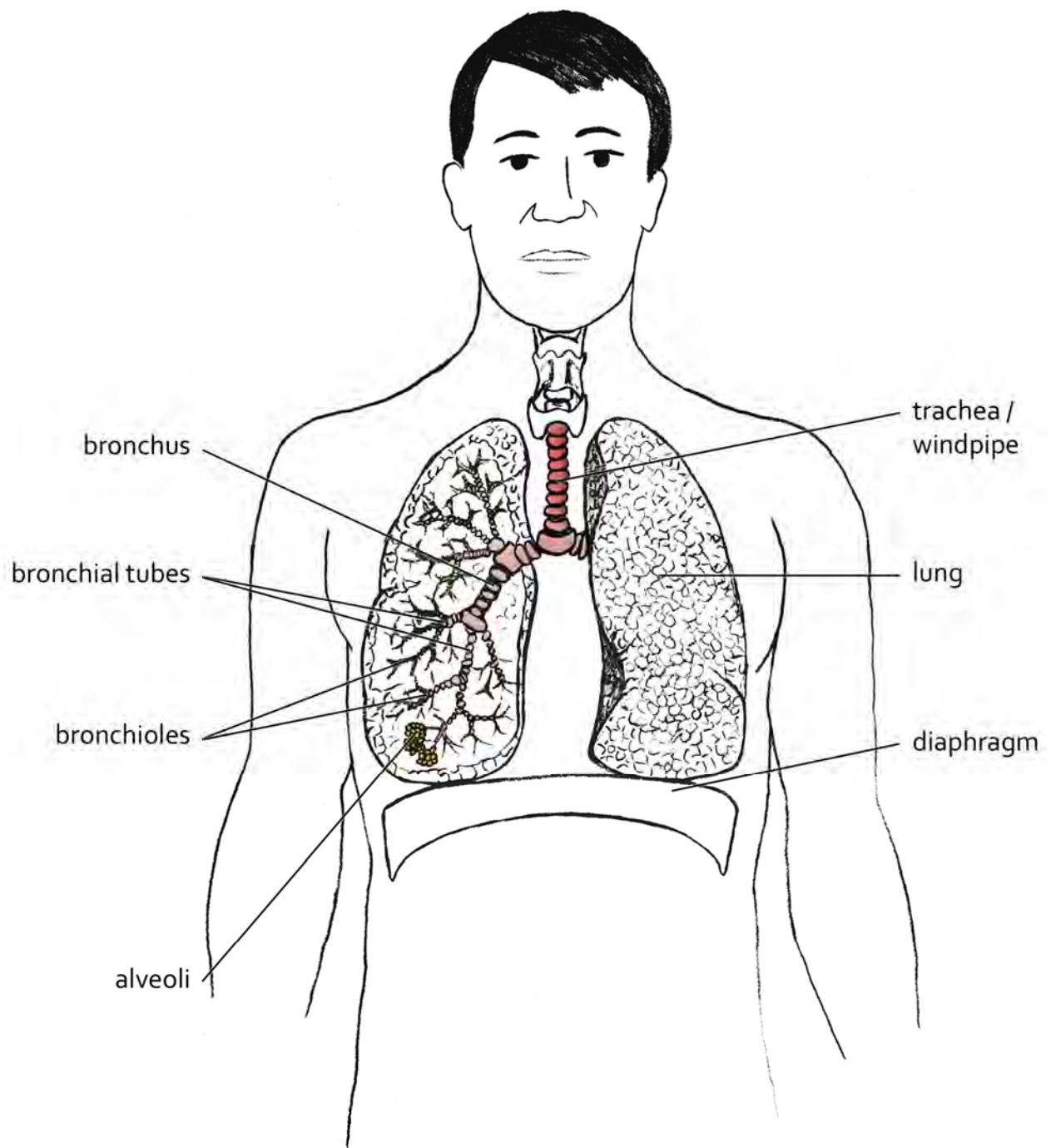
PELVIS AND LEG (BACK)



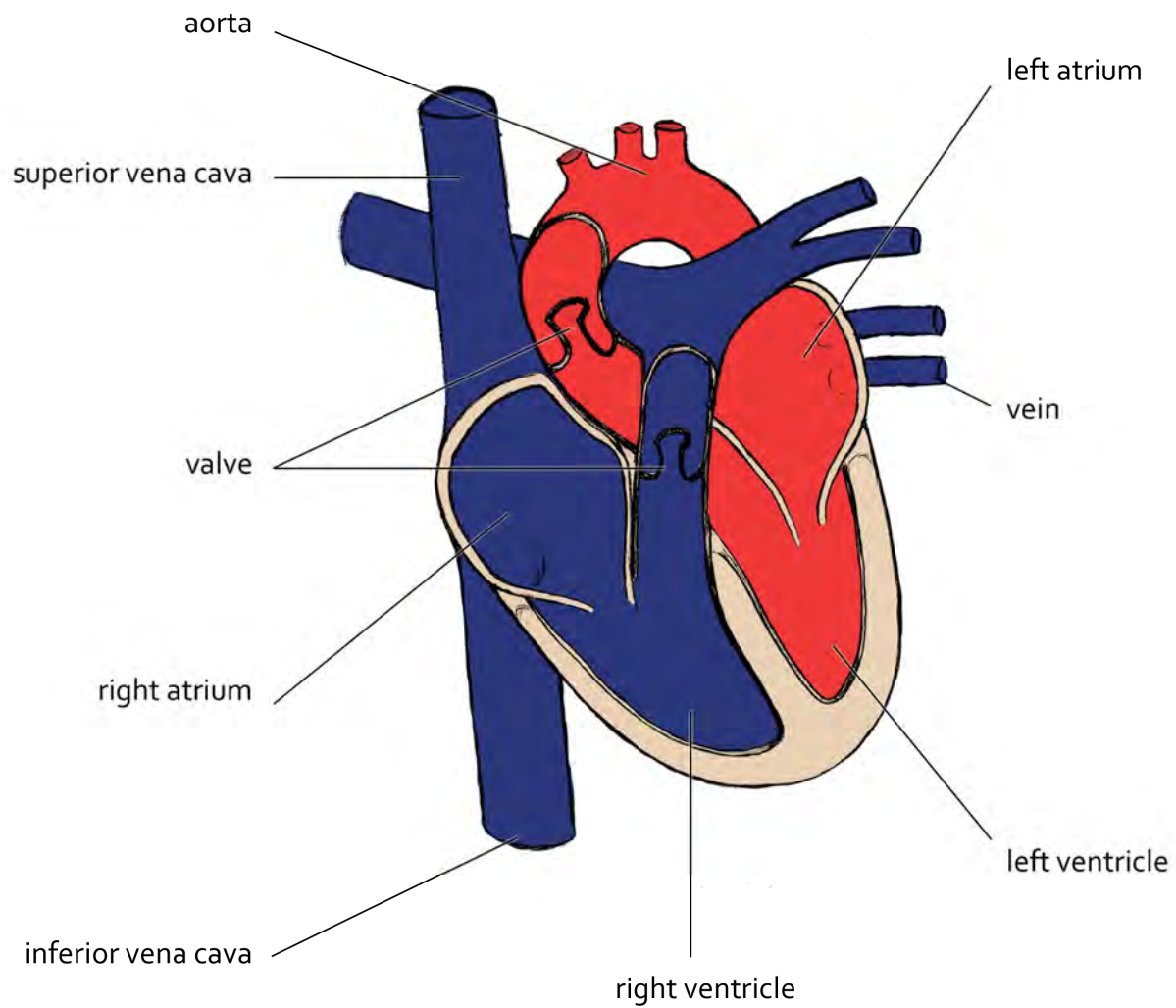
THORAX / CHEST



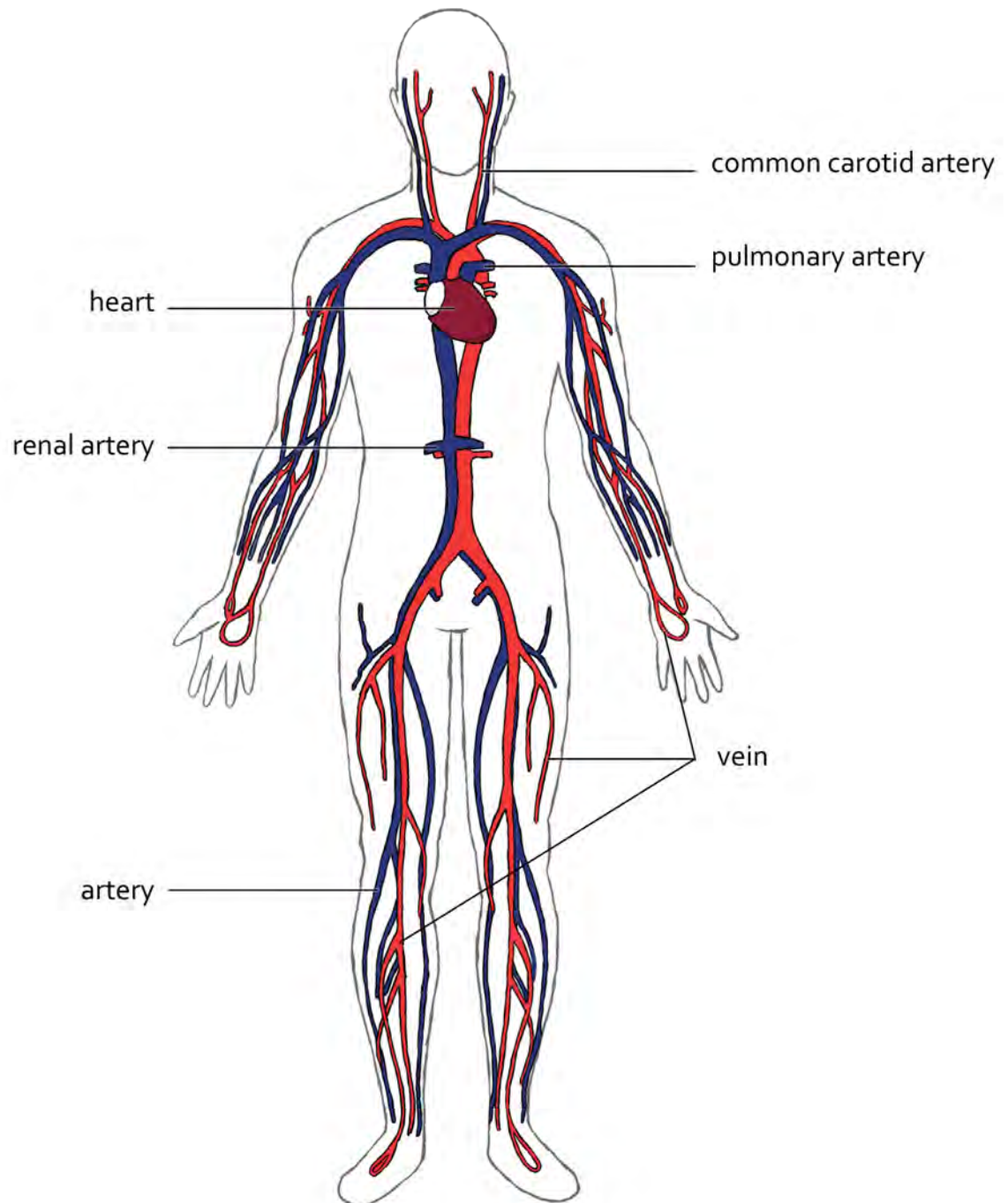
LUNGS



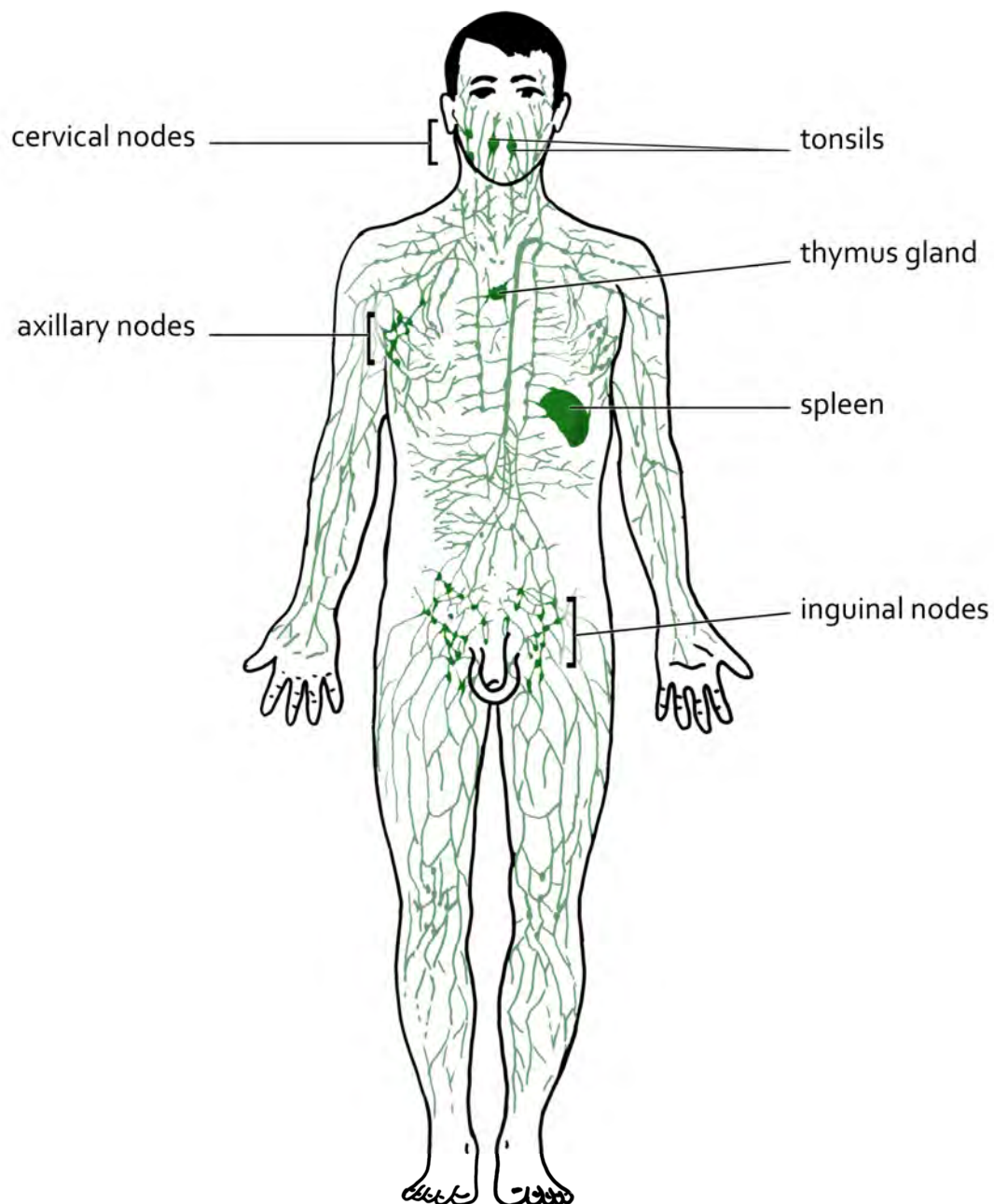
HEART



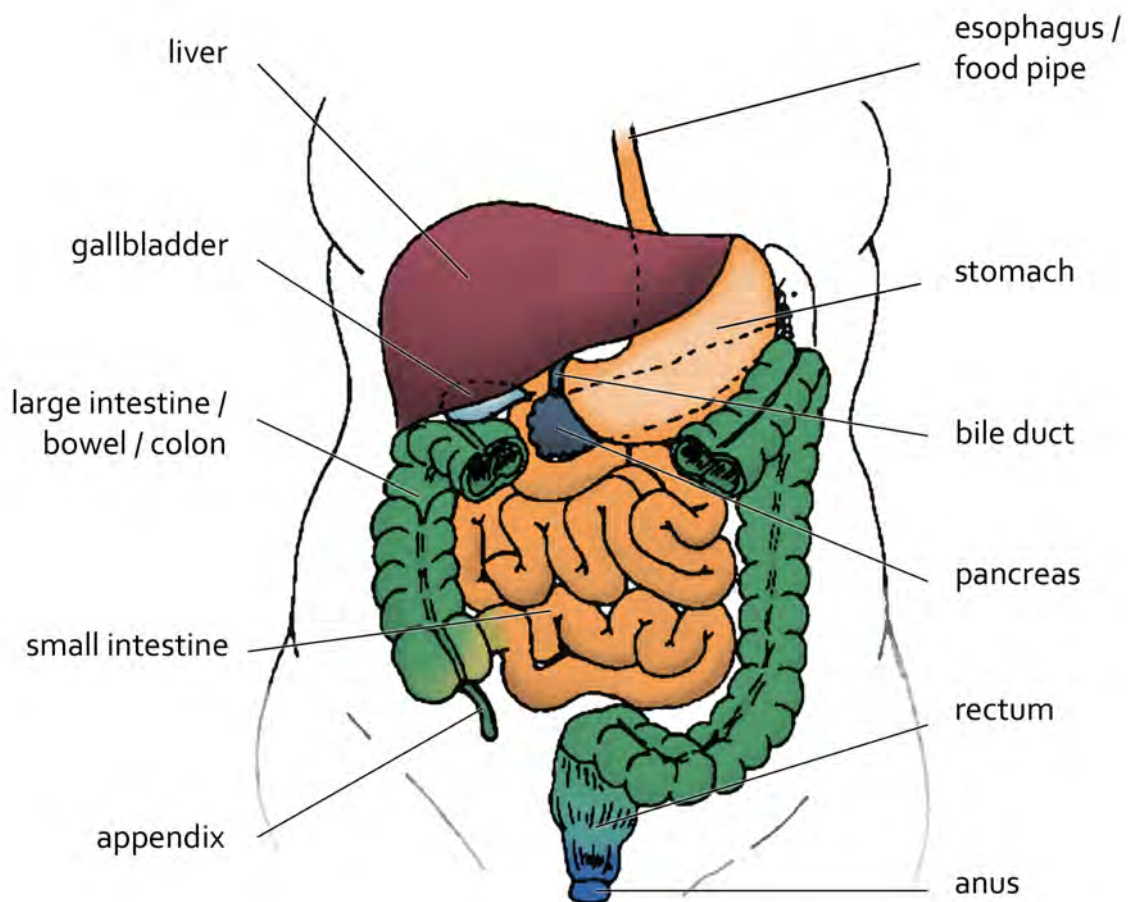
CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM



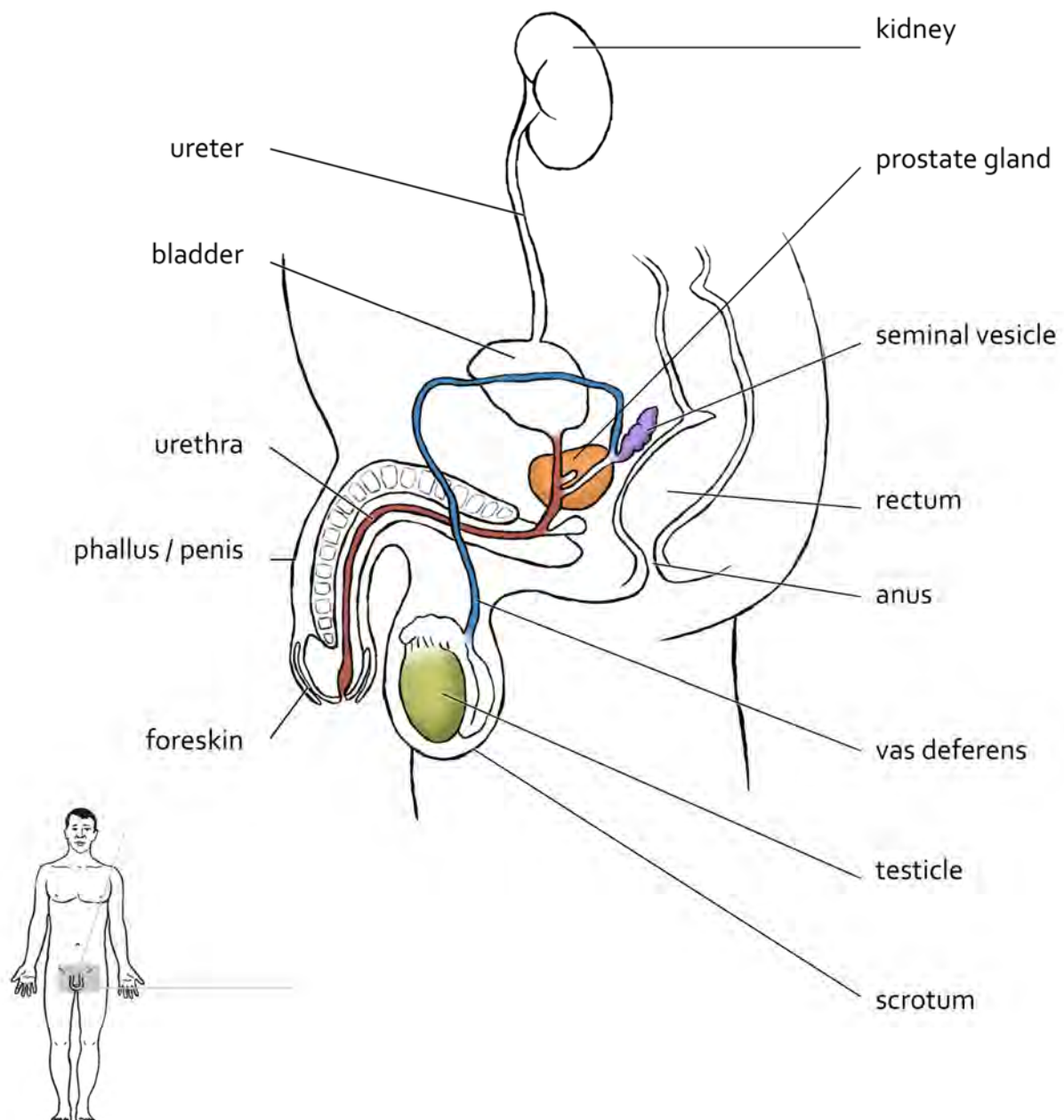
LYMPHATIC SYSTEM



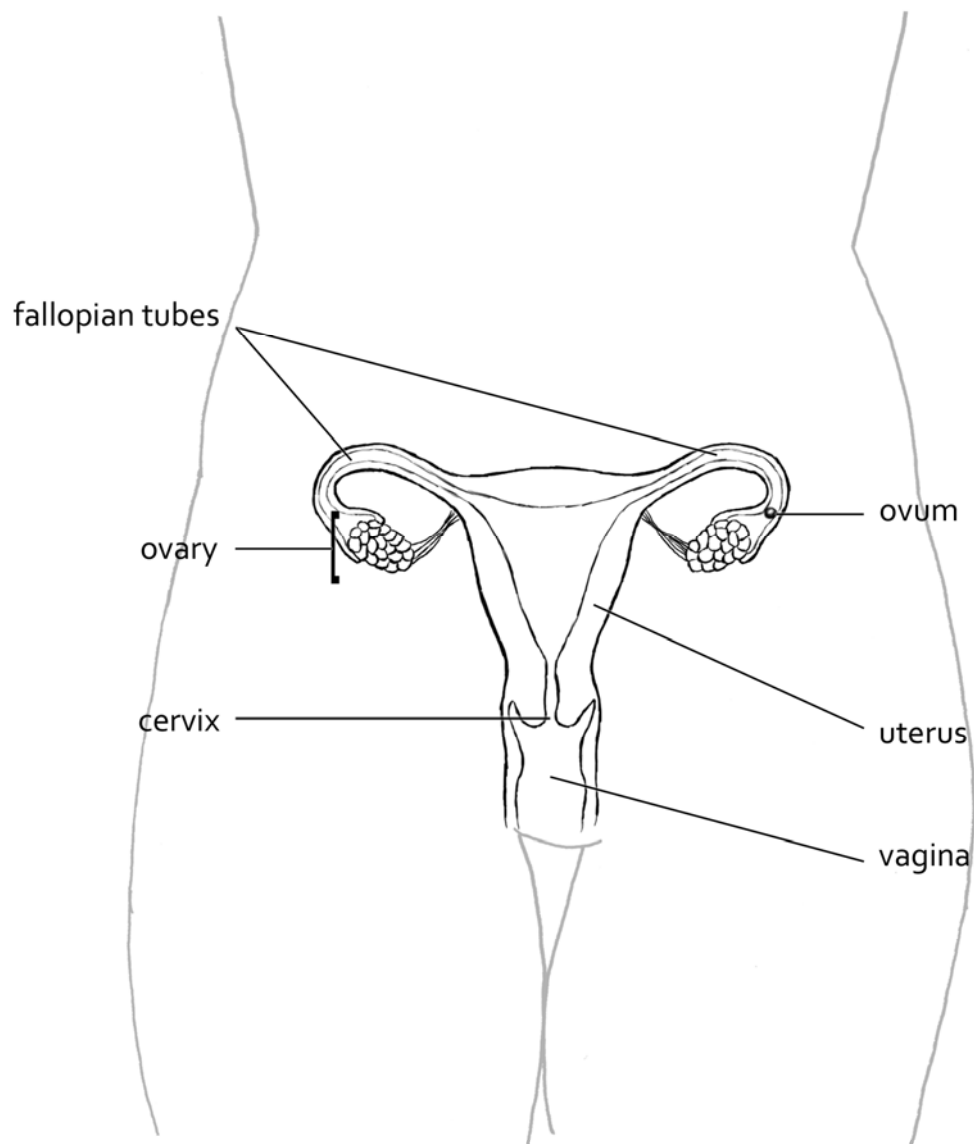
DIGESTIVE SYSTEM



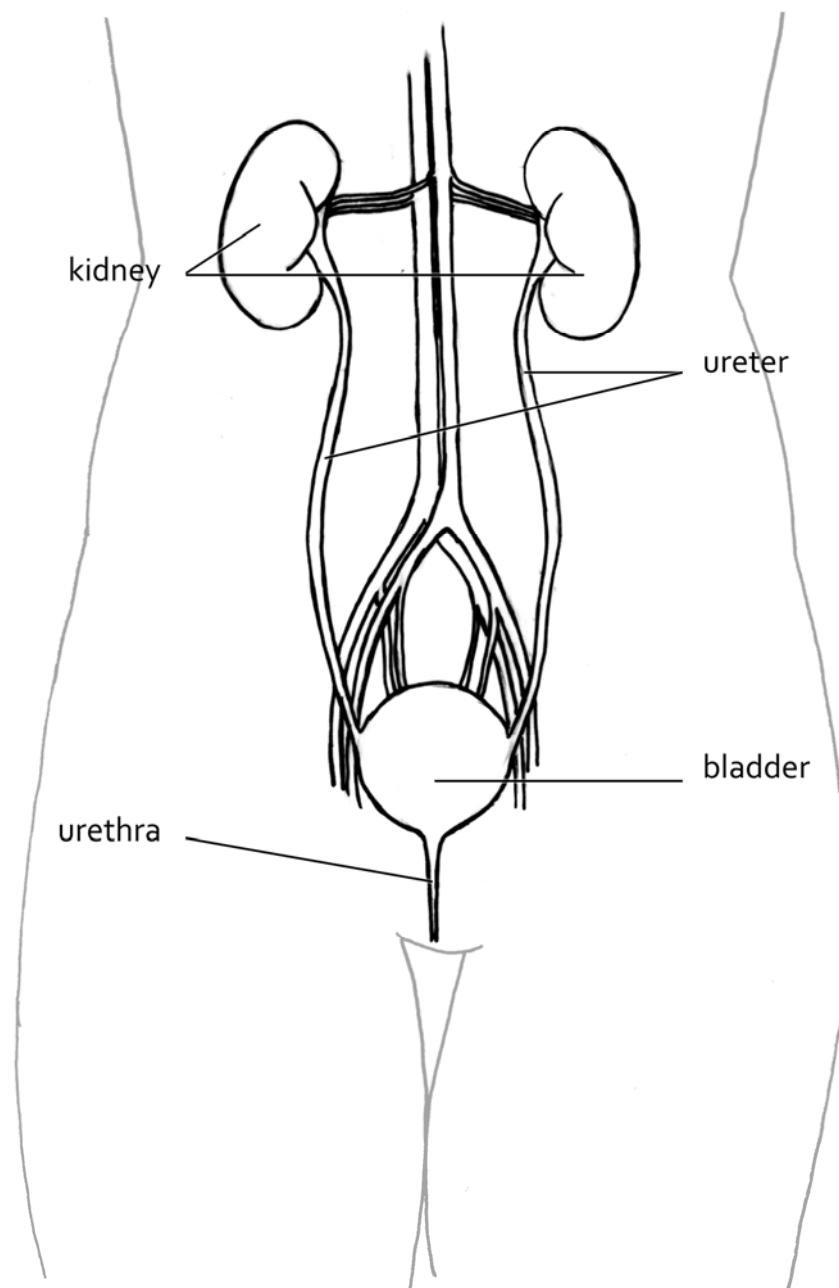
REPRODUCTIVE AND URINARY SYSTEMS (MALE)



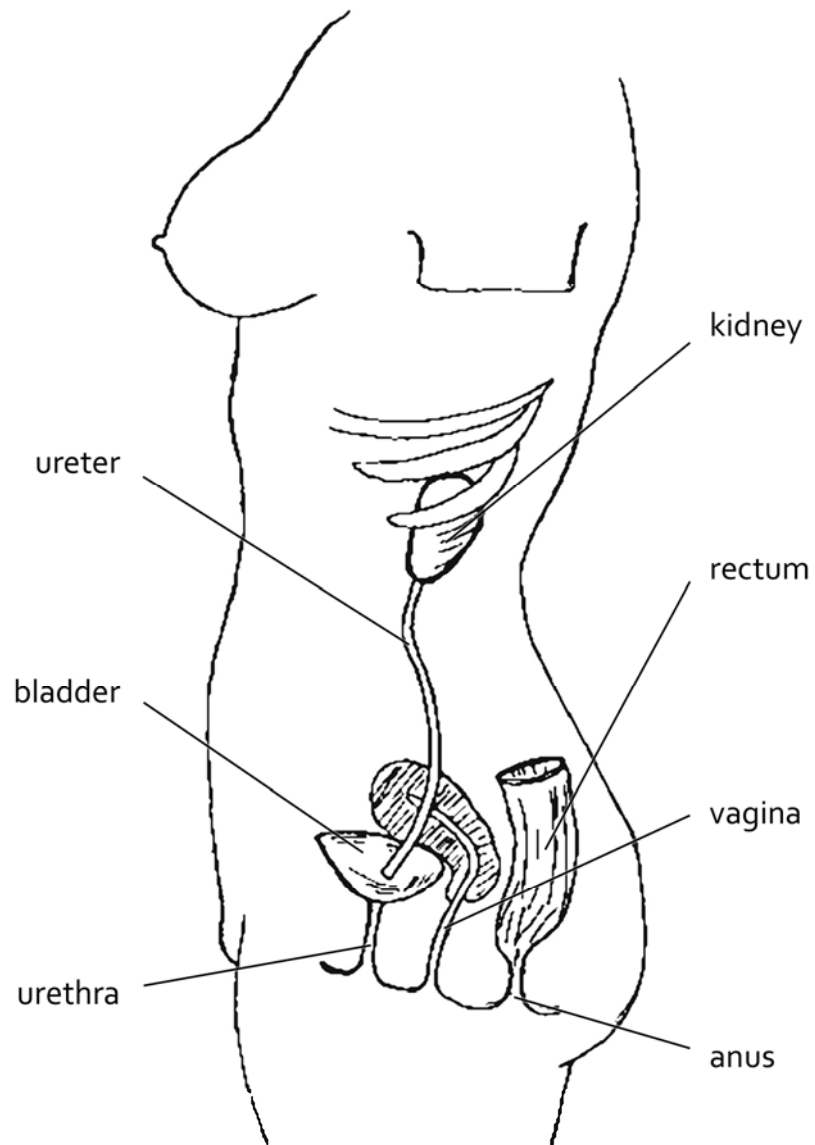
REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM (FEMALE)



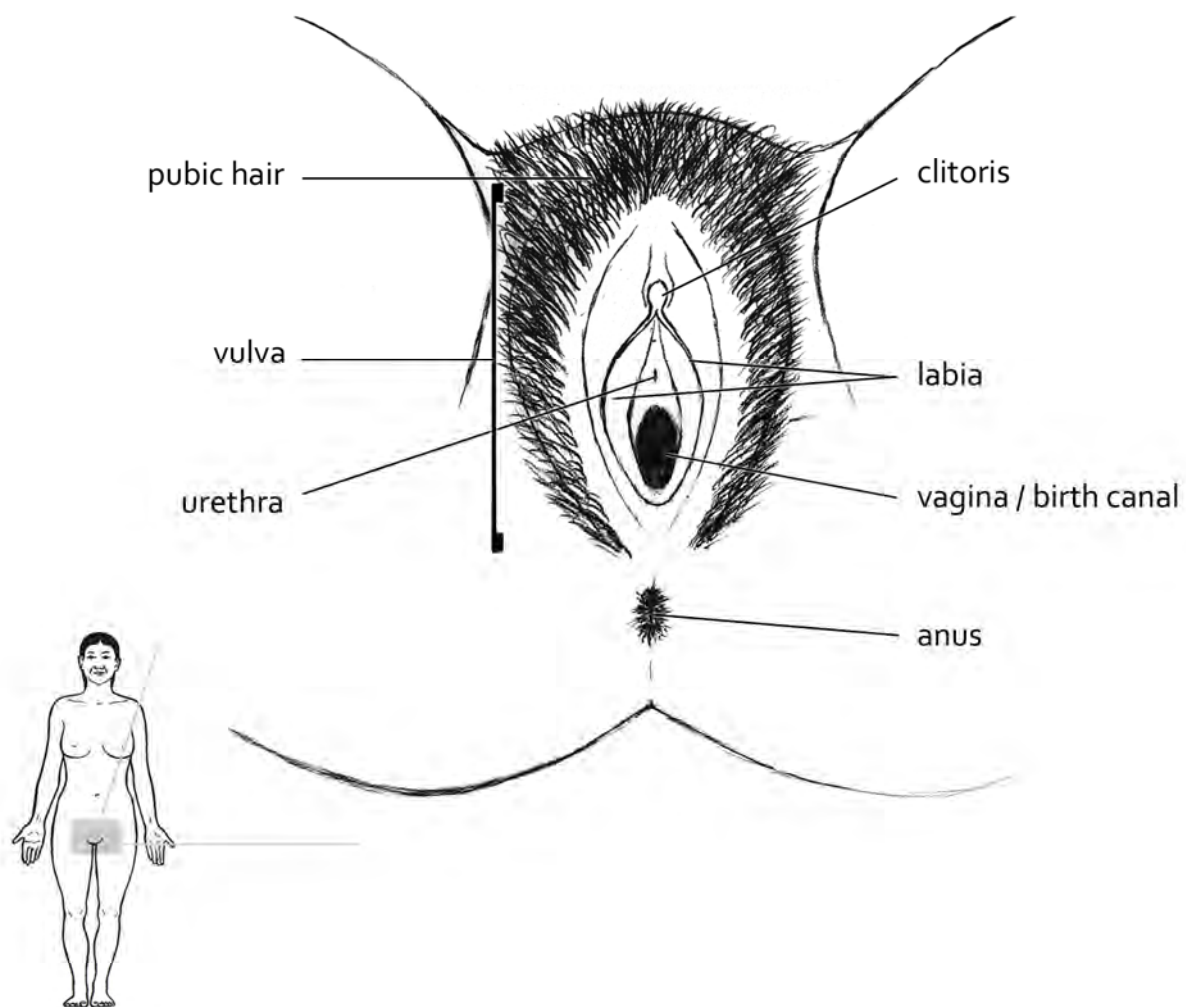
URINARY SYSTEM (FEMALE, FRONT)



URINARY SYSTEM (FEMALE, SIDE)



FEMALE GENITALS



PREGNANT ABDOMEN

