



Trace the Flow of Blood to the Female Reproductive Tract with a 3D Model

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify each bolded term, including organs, mesenteries, and vessels.
2. Describe the flow of blood from the heart to the ovaries and uterus and back to the heart, including the collateral circulation.
3. Discuss the consequences of failing to clamp off or close off (ligate) each component of this collateral circulation when surgically removing the ovaries and uterus (ovariohysterectomy).

Instructions: Read through these instructions carefully. Make sense of each step before proceeding with the action.

PART 1 - Caudal Abdominal Organ & Vessel Image:

1. Familiarize yourself with the Caudal Abdominal Organ & Vessel Image. Determine caudal and cranial, left and right, and dorsal and ventral.
2. Identify each organ/structure on the image from the list of bolded terms below. Identify the location of each mesentery.

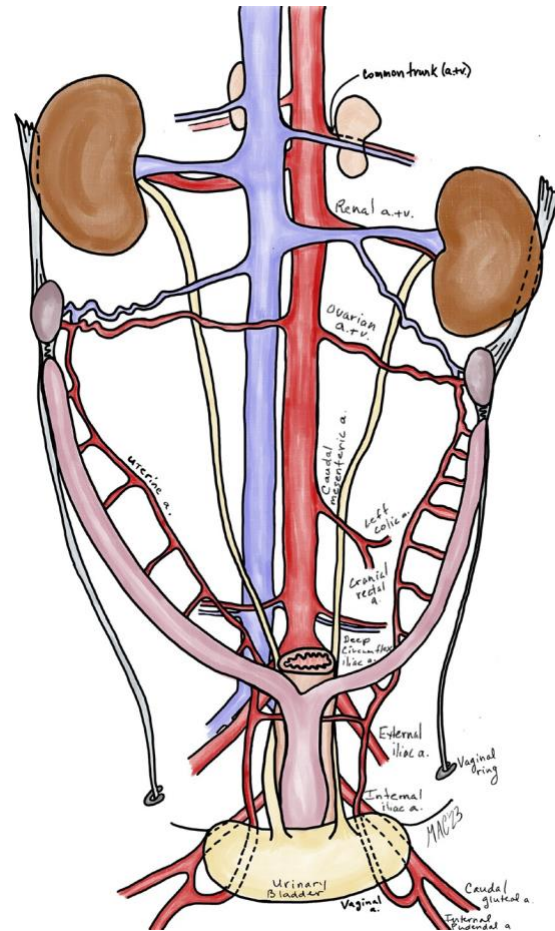
| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adrenal glands | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaginal rings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kidneys | <input type="checkbox"/> Broad ligament |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ureters | <input type="checkbox"/> Mesovarium |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urinary bladder | <input type="checkbox"/> Mesometrium |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Descending colon (caudal portion) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ovaries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suspensory ligaments of the ovary | <input type="checkbox"/> Uterine horns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proper ligaments of the ovary | <input type="checkbox"/> Uterine body |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Round ligaments of the uterus | <input type="checkbox"/> Cervix |
3. Identify each vessel on the image from the list of bolded terms below.

| | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abdominal aorta | <input type="checkbox"/> Ovarian arteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caudal vena cava | <input type="checkbox"/> Ovarian veins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renal arteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Caudal mesenteric artery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renal veins | |
4. Identify each vessel on the image from the list of bolded terms below.

| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> External iliac arteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Internal pudendal arteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internal iliac arteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaginal arteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caudal gluteal arteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Uterine arteries |
5. Follow the flow of blood from the heart to the ovaries and to the uterus and back to the heart. Use the image to observe the collateral circulation.

PART 2 - Arterial Blood Flow Model

1. Identify each vessel in the system.
 - ☐ Abdominal aorta
 - ☐ Ovarian arteries
 - ☐ Internal iliac arteries
 - ☐ Caudal gluteal arteries
(artificially connected for model only; supply blood to each hindlimb)
 - ☐ Internal pudendal arteries
 - ☐ Vaginal arteries
 - ☐ Uterine arteries
2. Follow the flow of blood from the abdominal aorta to the ovaries and to the uterus, noting the collateral circulation.
3. Simulate proper clamping or ligature placement at relevant sites by using the forceps provided.
 - ☐ Proper ligament of the ovary
 - ☐ Ovarian artery and vein within the mesovarium
 - ☐ Uterine arteries (and veins) and proper ligament of the ovary
 - ☐ Uterine arteries (and veins) and uterine body



Focus on one side (left or right) of the reproductive tract but recognize that you would need to ligate both the left and right sides during an ovariectomy.

Terms of Use:

Creative Commons License (BY-NC-SA)

This license enables re-users to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format for noncommercial purposes only, and only so long as attribution is given to the original creator(s). If you remix, adapt, or build upon the material, you must license the modified material under identical terms. CC BY-NC-SA includes the following elements:

BY: credit must be given to the original creator(s).

NC: Only noncommercial uses of the work are permitted.

SA: Adaptations must be shared under the same terms.