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EXOCRINE GLANDS

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EXOCRINE GLANDS

Two principal types of glands exist: exocrine and endocrine. The key difference between the two types is that, whereas exocrine glands secrete substances into a ductal system to an epithelial surface, endocrine glands secrete products directly into the bloodstream .

DEVELOPMENT OF EXOCRINE GLAND

- ***The initial manifestation of exocrine gland formation is epithelial budding resulting from a complex interaction between mesenchymal and epithelial cell populations.***
- ***This initial period of ingrowth is influenced by fibroblast growth factors, most notably FGF10 and cadherin-2.***
- ***Other transcription factors that have been shown to contribute to epithelial budding include HlxB9, Isl1, LEF-1, Msx1/2, Pbx1, Pdx1, and Tbx3.***
- ***A large role exists for cell adhesion molecules such as lamininand cadherins.***

EXOCRINE GLANDS AT CELLULAR LEVEL

- ***Exocrine glands are comprised of an acinus and a duct with different cell types, respectively.***
- ***Typical cell types within the acinus include serous, mucinous, or sebaceous.***
- ***Serous cells secrete an isotonic fluid that contains proteins such as enzymes.***
- ***Mucinous glands secrete mucus, a typical example being Brunner glands in the duodenum.***

DEFECTS IN EXOCRINE GLANDS

- ***Sjögren's syndrome-*** ***an autoimmune disorder that demonstrates decreased lacrimal and salivary gland function.***
- ***Cystic fibrosis-*** ***a mutation of the CFTR protein,CFTR is involved in the production of sweat, mucus, and digestive fluids, the mutation causes a direct effect.***
- ***Acne vulgaris-*** ***disorder affects the pilosebaceous unit, of which sebaceous glands.***

MCQ

QUESTION

Meconium ileus is associated with:

- ***A: Cystic fibrosis***
- ***B: Infant of diabetic mother***
- ***C: Hypothyroidism***
- ***D: None of the above***
- ***ANS-A***