UTERUS

1_Uterus is a hollow,thick and pear shaped muscular organ situated in the pelvic cavity.

2_ The weight of the uterus is 30_40g.

3_ The length of uterus is 7.5cm and width is about 5cm.

3_ It may be considered as one of the most important organs of the female reproductive system as the fertilization,implantation and development of foetus during pregnancy takes place in it.

4_ The Uterus is positioned with the urinary bladder in front and rectum behind.

Parts of uterus

1_Fundus

2_ Body

3_ Cervix

(i) **Fundus :** Fundus is the most superior portion of the uterus. It acquires the shape of a dome and lies above the fallopian tubes.

(ii) **Body :** The body is the central portion of the uterus. The hollow region of the body is termed as the uterine cavity. It is in the body of the uterus that the fertilized ovum is implanted and ultimately develops into a foetus.

(iii) **Cervix :** Cervix of the uterus represents the narrow region. The internal hollow region of the cervix is termed as cervical canal. This cervical canal is the connecting link between the uterus and the vagina. Its opening into the uterine cavity is called internal os while that in vagina is called the external os.

Layers of uterus

1_ Perimetrium: It is the outer serous layer of the uterus

- It is composed of simple squamous epithelium and connective tissue.

- the serous layer secretes a lubricating fluid that helps to reduce friction.

2_ Myometrium: It is the middle land thickest layer of the uterus .

- It is made up of mostly of smooth muscles.

3_ Endometrium : It is the inner layer that lines the uterus.

- It is made up of glandular cells that make secretions.

(ii) It is the route for the flow of menstrual blood.

(iii) Initially, it helps in the implantation of the fertilized ovum.

(v) It is the site for the accommodation of foetus during pregnancy i.e., it carries the foetus.

(v) Uterus helps in the expulsion of foetus through the vagina during labour by inducing uterine contractions.