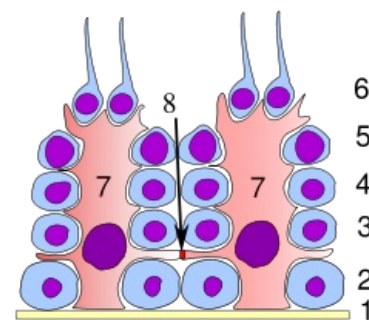


# Sertoli cells

**Sertoli cells** are **pyramid-shaped cells** with an elongated to triangular nucleus with a low volume of heterochromatin and a prominent nucleolus.

They arise from the surface epithelium of the gonads. It is located in the **testicles**, more precisely in the **germinal epithelium** of the **seminiferous tubules**. They attach to the basal membrane and their **protrusions** extend between the individual developmental stages of the sperm, often protruding into the lumen of the seminiferous tubule. They are **connected to each other** by tight junctions and nexus. **Their main functions** are nutrition and protection of spermatogenic elements (they are the only ones in contact with blood - the hematotesticular barrier), the ability of phagocytosis, the production of testicular fluid and anti-müllerian hormone.



Scheme of spermiogenesis in the testis. 1-basal lamina, 2-spermatogonia, 3-spermatocytes of the 1st order, 4-spermatocytes of the 2nd order, 5-spermatid, 6-mature spermatid, **7-Sertoli cell**, 8-zonula occludens

## Links

### Related Articles

- Leydig cells
- Gametogenesis
- Testicles
- Male Reproductive System
- Sperm

### References

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