

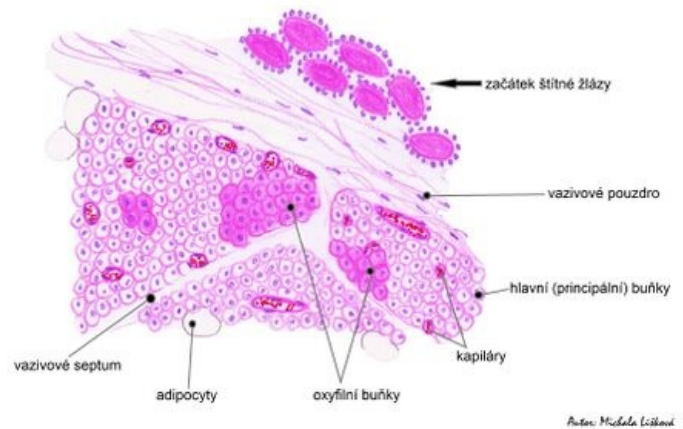
# Glandula parathyroidea (histological slide)

The **glandulae parathyroideae** (parathyroid glands) are four small endocrine glands located behind the thyroid gland.

## Histological description

On the parathyroid glands we recognize:

- **Fiber Case**
  - forms the envelope of the corpuscles and sends a fibrous septa to the interior of the gland
- **Chief Cells**
  - have a polygonal shape and vesicular cores
  - the specimen is stained pale
  - contain acidophilic cytoplasm that contains granules of irregular shape
  - secretory granules of principal cells contain **parathormone**
- **Oxyphilic cells**
  - have a polygonal shape
  - compared to the main cells, they are larger
  - it turns dark on the specimen
  - there is an acidophilic granule in the cytoplasm
  - the function of these cells is unknown
- **Adipocytes**
  - they replace secretory cells with age, in older people they can make up over 50% of the gland's volume



## Links

### Related Articles

- Parathyroid gland (SFLT)
- Glandula thyroidea (SFLT)

### References

- JUNQUIERA, L. Carlos – CARNEIRO, José – KELLEY, Robert O.. *Základy histologie*. 1. edition. Jinočany : H & H 1997, 1997. 502 pp. ISBN 80-85787-37-7.