## Histological Features of Cells and Identifying Epithelia

#### What we'll talk about...

- Preparation of samples for histological analysis
- Identifying key cellular features and structures
- Classification of epithelia
- Identifying features of epithelia

Preparation of samples

# Samples for histological analysis are often obtained by biopsy.



Fixation of sample prevents degradation and preserves structure of cells and tissues.



#### Tissue sample are embedded in wax and sliced into thin sections.



## Samples mounted on slides and then stained with specific dyes.



## Hematoxylin and eosin are the dyes most commonly used in histology.



#### Feature you can see in most histological images

Nuclei are often the most visible and easily recognizable structure.



Nuclei can have different shapes and localize to different regions of cells.



## The amount of heterchromatin and euchromatin indicate the transcriptional activity of a cell.



## The number of mitotic cells indicates the rate of cell division.



# The number of nuclei indicate the density of cells in a tissue.



Other organelles visible in histological samples

## A prominent nucleolus indicates a cell synthesizing a lot protein.



## A lot of rough ER indicates a cell that is actively secreting protein.



Secretory granules indicate a cell that participates in regulated secretion of material.



Red blood cells provide a convenient cellular ruler to measure the size of objects.



Classify epithelia in histological images

#### An epithelium is a sheet of polarized cells that rests on a basement membrane.



## Epithelia are classified based on the shape of its cells and the number of layers of cells.



## Simple squamous epithelia contain a single layer of flat cells.



### Simple cuboidal epithelia contain a single layer of squarish cells.



# Simple columnar epithelia contain a single layer of tall cells.



Microvilli are short, finger-like extensions of the apical membrane supported by actin filaments.



Stratified squamous epithelia contain multiple layers of cells with outer layer having flat cells.



Some stratified squamous epithelia contain a layer of keratin on their apical surface.



Cilia are long extensions of the apical cell membrane that generate wave-like motion.



Pseudostratified epithelia appear stratified but every cell contacts the basement membrane.



Stereocilia are long, branched extensions of the apical cell membrane and are supported by actin.



## Transitional epithelia change appearance when stretched.



## All epithelia attach to a basement membrane via interactions along their basal surface

