**Practical work in Animal Biology . Folliculogenesis**

**Introduction**

Folliculogenesis begins in the 7th month of pregnancy with the formation of primordial follicles. At birth, there are an average of 1 million primordial follicles per ovary. From birth to puberty, folliculogenesis is blocked, causing 60% of the initial stock of primordial follicles to degenerate. At puberty their number drops to 400,000 per ovary. From puberty to the menopause, once a month around twenty primordial follicles continue folliculogenesis. Usually, only one follicle reaches term and the others degenerate.

**Goals**

At the end of the session, the student will be able to identify the different evolutionary stages of follicles in a mammalian ovary. The student will also be able to recognise the cells of (the granulosa, the external and internal theca, the antrum, the corona radiata, the cumulus oophorus, the oocyte).

**Work to be carried out**

Microscopic observations of histological sections of the ovary.

The students must identify, draw and label the follicles at different stages of development. There will be a total of 5 drawings:

-Drawing of primordial follicle

-Drawing of primary follicle

-Drawing of secondary follicle

-Drawing of tertiary follicle

-Drawing of De Graaf follicle with cumulus oophorus and oocyte