### NAME: OMODELE MORAYO

### MATRIC NUMBER: 18/MHS01/295

# **DEPARTMENT: ANATOMY**

# COURSE CODE: ANA 212

# With the aid of diagram, discuss the gross anatomy of the female external genitalia

The vulva (pudendum) refers to the external female genitalia. Its functions are threefold:

- Acts as sensory tissue during sexual intercourse
- Assists in micturition by directing the flow of urine
- Protects the internal female reproductive tract from infection.

#### Structures of the Vulva

The vulva is a collective term for several anatomical structures:

- Mons pubis a subcutaneous fat pad located anterior to the pubic symphysis. It formed by the fusion of the labia majora.
- Labia majora two hair-bearing external skin folds.

-- They extend from the mons pubis posteriorly to the posterior commissure (a depression overlying the perineal body).

- -- Embryologically derived from labioscrotal swellings
- Labia minora two hairless folds of skin, which lie within the labia majora.

-- They fuse anteriorly to form the hood of the clitoris and extend posteriorly either side of the vaginal opening.

-- They merge posteriorly, creating a fold of skin known as the fourchette.

- -- Embryologically derived from urethral folds
- **Vestibule** the area enclosed by the labia minora. It contains the openings of the vagina (external vaginal orifice, vaginal introitus) and urethra.
- **Bartholin's glands** secrete lubricating mucus from small ducts during sexual arousal. They are located either side of the vaginal orifice.
- Clitoris located under the clitoral hood. It is formed of erectile corpora cavernosa tissue, which becomes engorged with blood during sexual stimulation.
- Clitoral hood Clitoris Clitoris Vestibule (Urethral and vaginal openings) Forchette Posterior commissure Anus
- --Embryologically derived from the genital tubercle