

**NAME:NNAMA EBERENNA**

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## **SEMEN**

Semen, also known as seminal fluid, is an organic fluid that contains spermatozoa. It is secreted by the gonads (sexual glands) and other sexual organs of male or hermaphroditic animals and can fertilize the female ovum. In humans, seminal fluid contains several components besides spermatozoa: proteolytic and other enzymes as well as fructose are elements of seminal fluid which promote the survival of spermatozoa, and provide a medium through which they can move or "swim". Semen is produced and originates from the seminal vesicle, which is located in the pelvis. The process that results in the discharge of semen is called ejaculation. Semen is also a form of genetic material. In animals, semen has been collected for cryoconservation. Cryoconservation of animal genetic resources is a practice that calls for the collection of genetic material in efforts for conservation of a particular breed.

## **TESTOSTERONE**

Testosterone Is an Anabolic Steroid Hormone Secreted by the Leydig Cells of the Testes. Testosterone is formed from cholesterol in amounts ranging from 2 to 10 mg/day. In the blood, testosterone is carried in association with albumin or is tightly bound to sex hormone-binding globulin. The hormone is removed from the blood within 30 to 60 minutes of secretion by fixation to target tissue cells or degradation to inactive compounds. It is metabolized to *dihydrotestosterone* (the biologically active androgen) in target tissues and to estrogen in adipose tissue.

Testosterone Has Effects on Reproductive and Nonreproductive Organs. Testosterone is required for stimulation of prenatal differentiation and pubertal development of the testes, penis, epididymis, seminal vesicles, and prostate. Testosterone is also required in adult men for maintenance and normal function of the primary sex organs. Testosterone has effects on bone, stimulating growth and proliferation of bone cells,

resulting in increased density of the bones. Testosterone affects the liver, causing synthesis of clotting factors and hepatic lipases. Under the influence of testosterone, blood high-density lipoprotein levels decrease and low-density lipoprotein levels increase. Haematocrit and haemoglobin concentrations are elevated because of the effect of testosterone to stimulate production of erythropoietin.