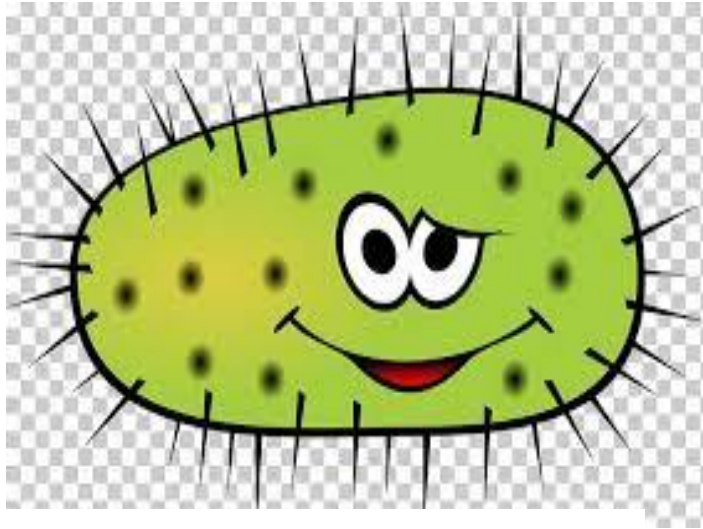
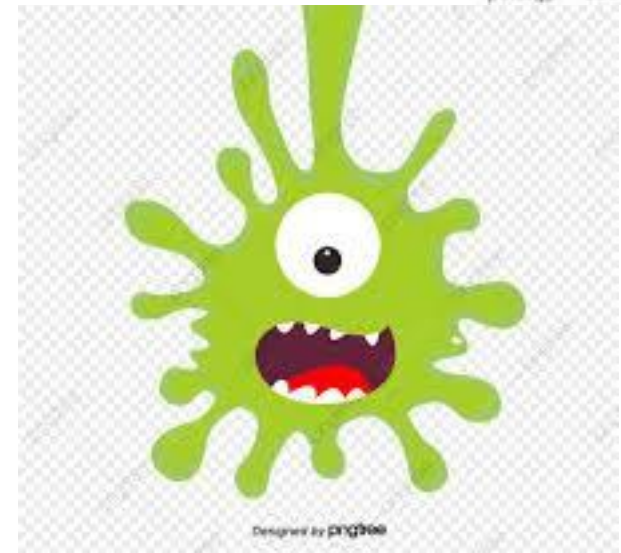


# Cells surface modifications



*Dr Shahab*  
*Associate Professor*  
*Anatomy KGMC*



## LATERAL SURFACE FEATURES

- Tight junctions
- Desmosomes
- Gap junctions

## APICAL SURFACE FEATURES

- Microvilli
- Cilia
- Flagellum

## BASAL SURFACE FEATURES

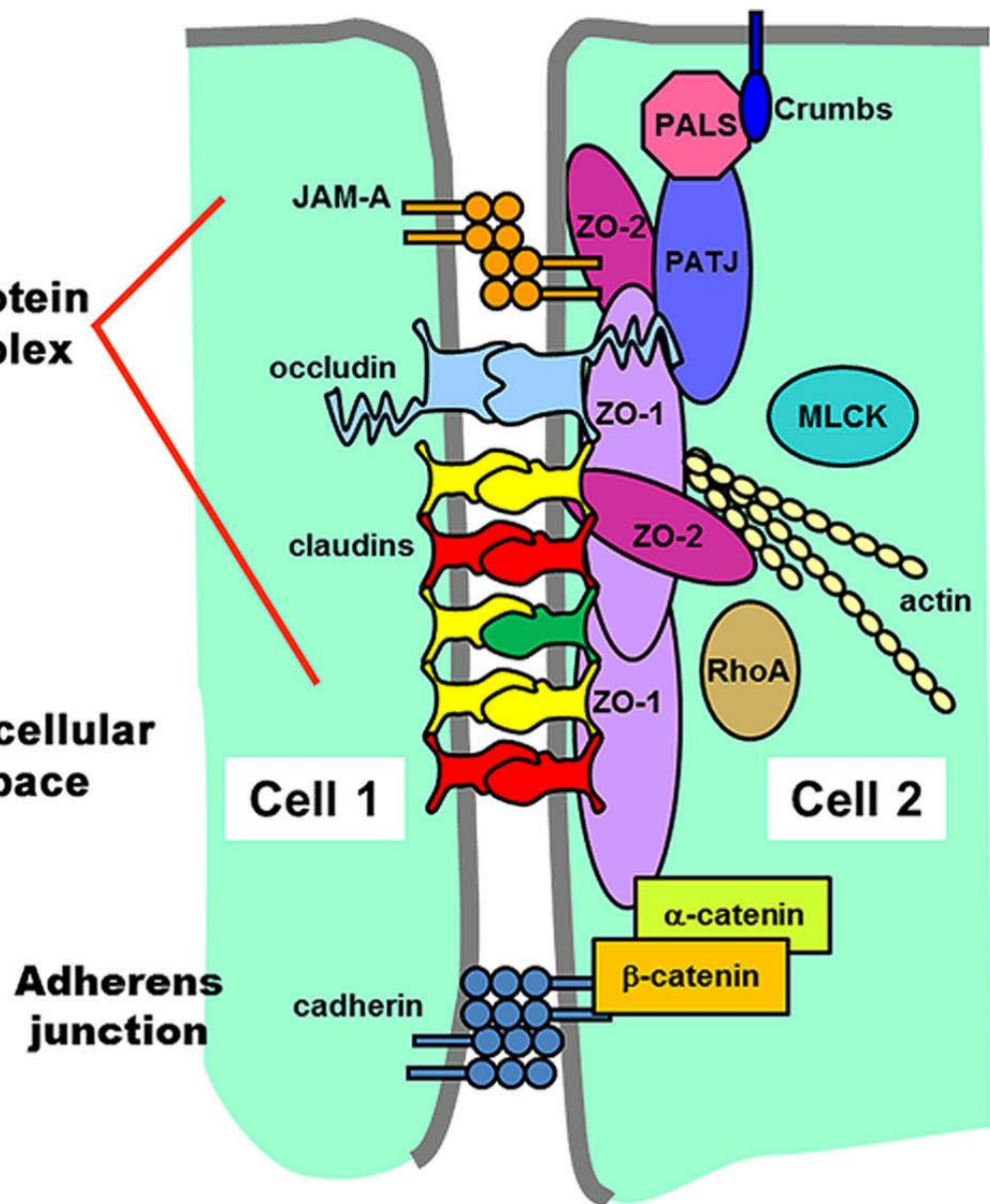
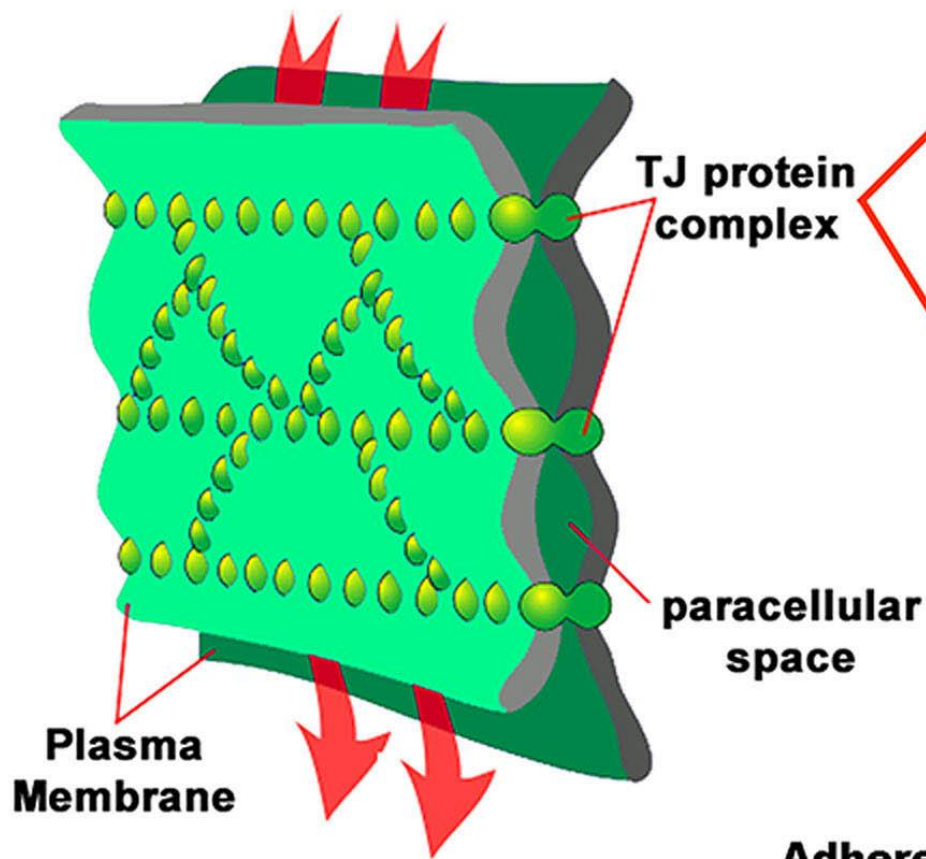
- Basement membrane
- Basal lamina

## GLYCOCALYX

Rich in polysaccharides, act as receptor site for hormones and enzymes

## 1. Tight Junction (Zonula occludens)

- Integral proteins of adjacent cells fuse together
- Completely encircle the cell and form an adhesion belt.
- Form an impermeable junction.
- Common near apical region
- Prevent molecules from passing between cells of epithelial tissue.



## 2. Desmosomes (Macula adherens)

- Two disc-like plaques connected across intercellular space
- Plaques of adjoining cells are joined by proteins called *cadherins*
- Proteins interdigitate into extracellular space
- Intermediate filaments insert into plaques from cytoplasmic side

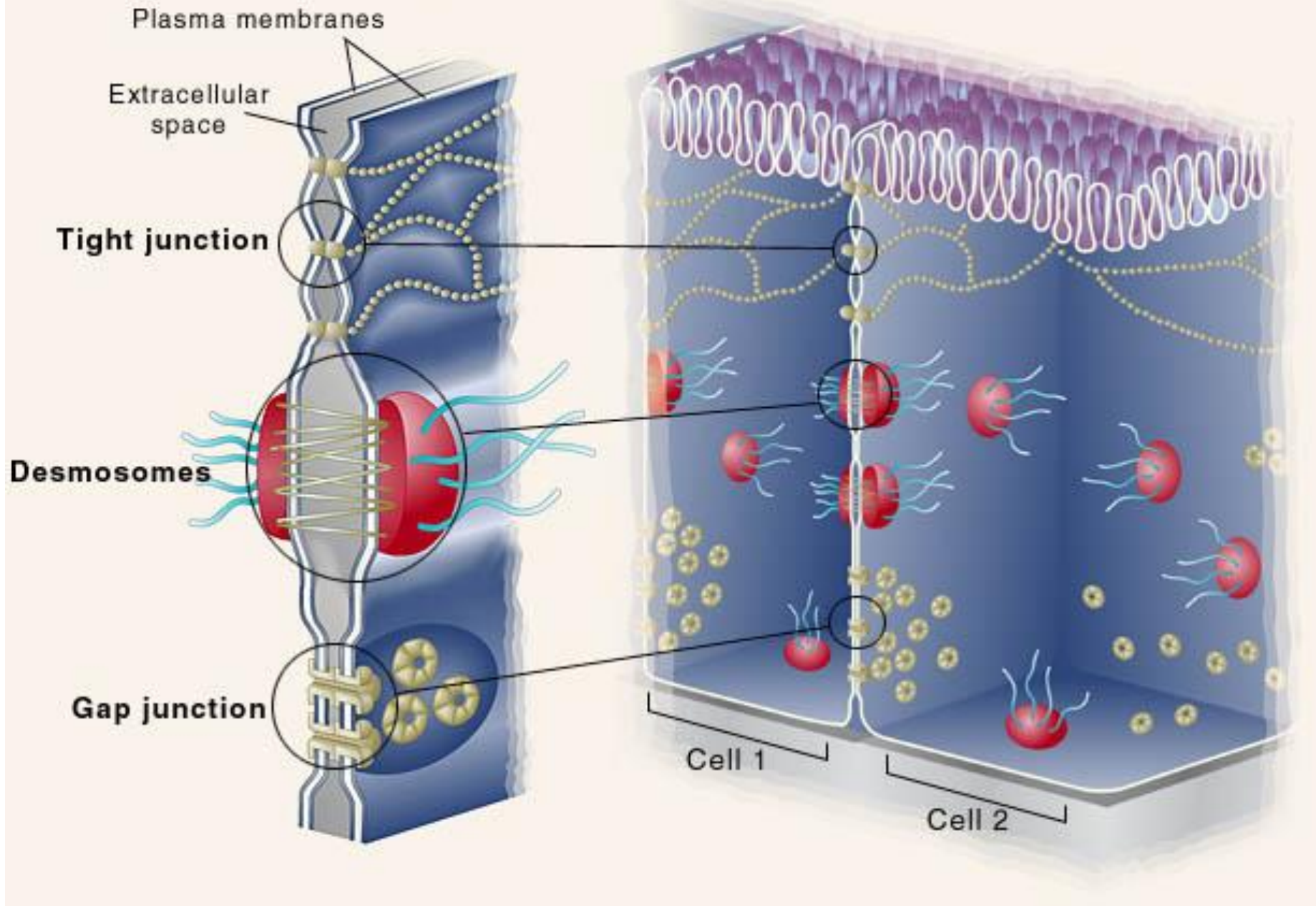
## Membrane Junctions: Desmosome

Linker proteins extend from plaque like teeth of a zipper. Intermediate filaments extend across width of cell.

- Common in superficial layers of skin; skin peels after a sunburn
- Reduces chance of tearing, twisting, stretching



# Specialized cell junctions



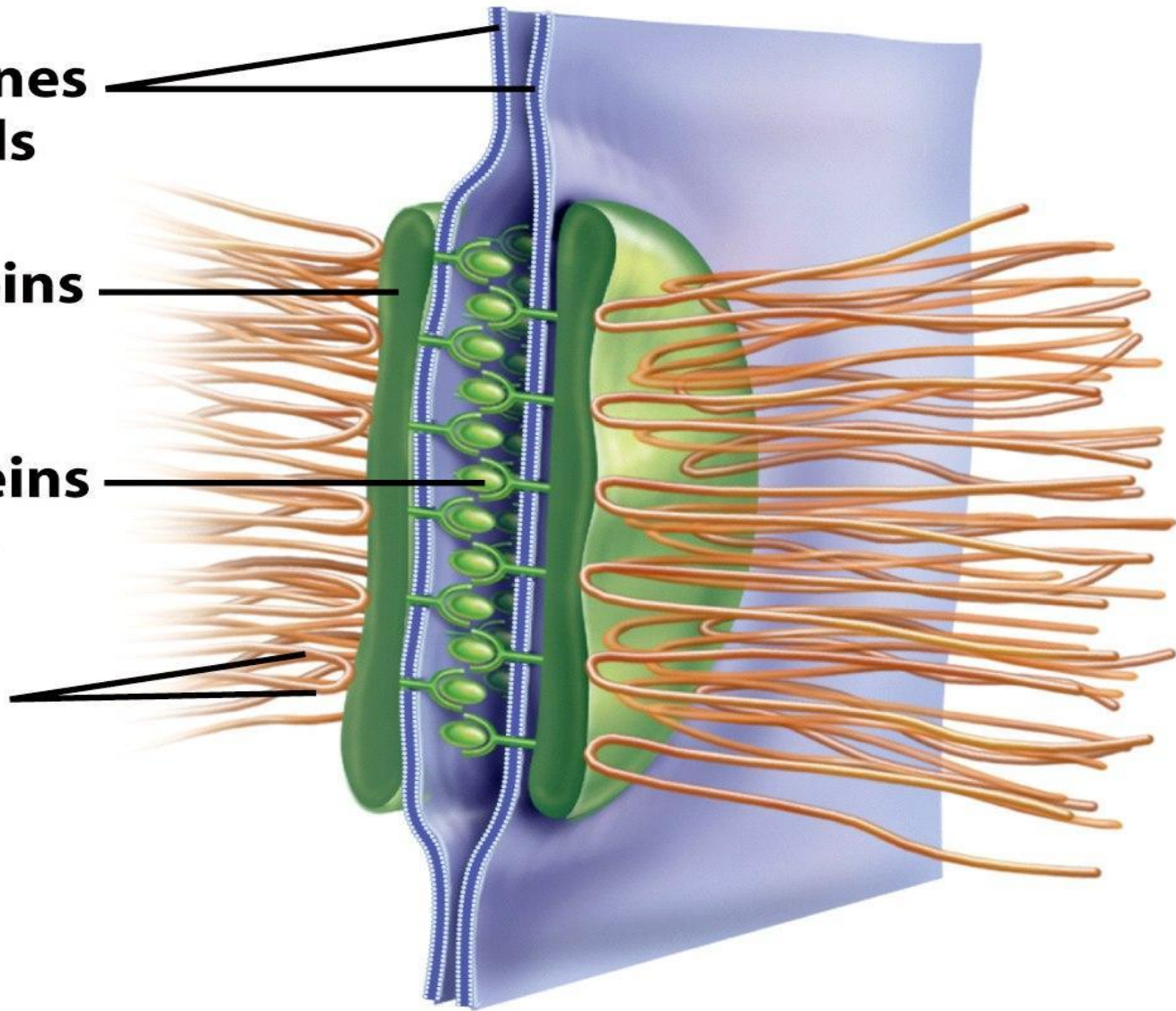
# Three-dimensional view of desmosome

Plasma membranes  
of adjacent cells

Anchoring proteins  
in each cell

Membrane proteins  
that link cells

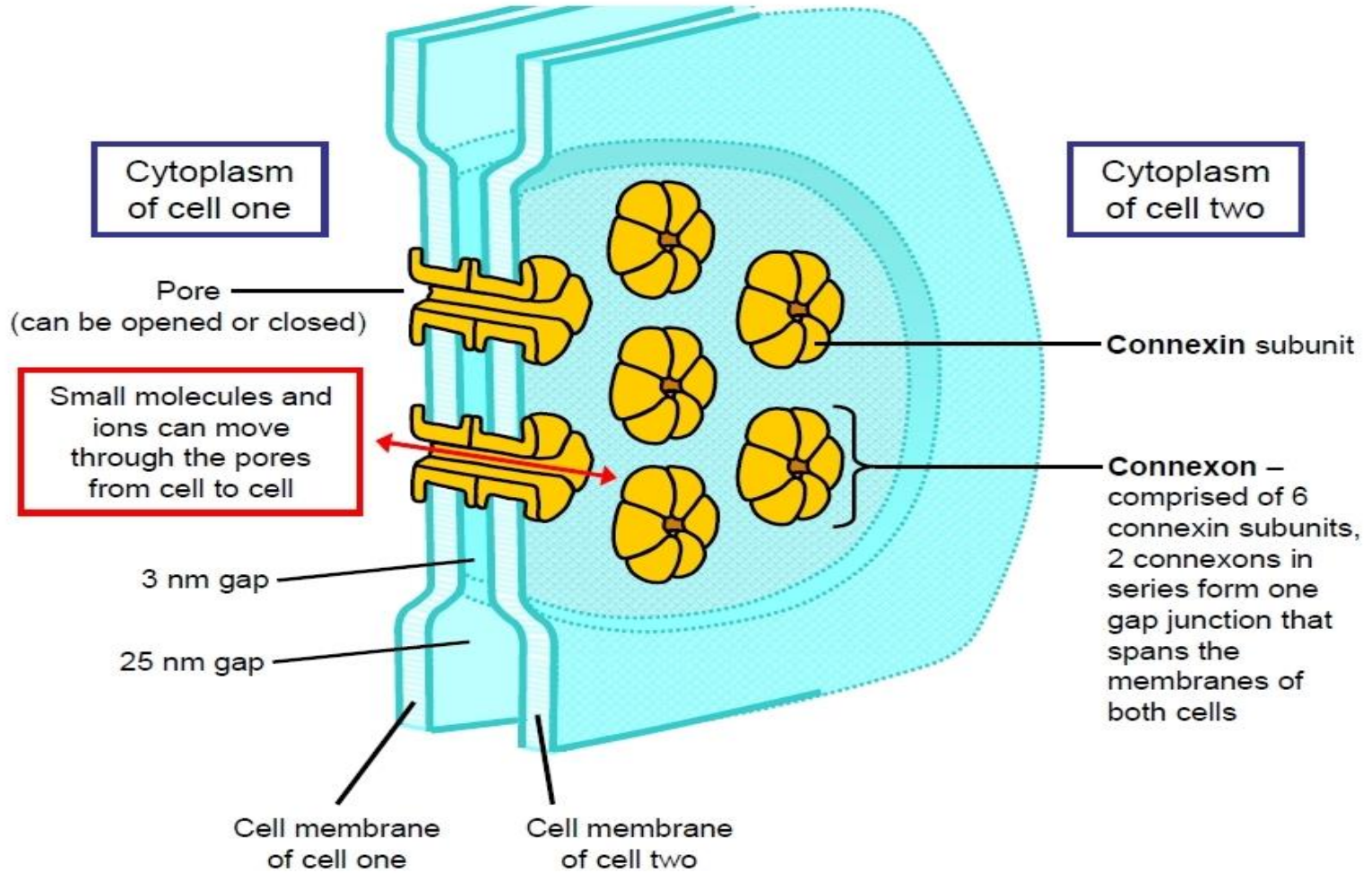
Intermediate  
filaments





### 3. Gap Junction (Nexus)

- *Connexon* proteins are trans- membrane proteins.
- Present in electrically excitable tissues (heart, smooth muscle)



Above: gap junctions connecting the cytoplasm of two neighbouring animal cells

# Gap junctions create gaps that connect animal cells.

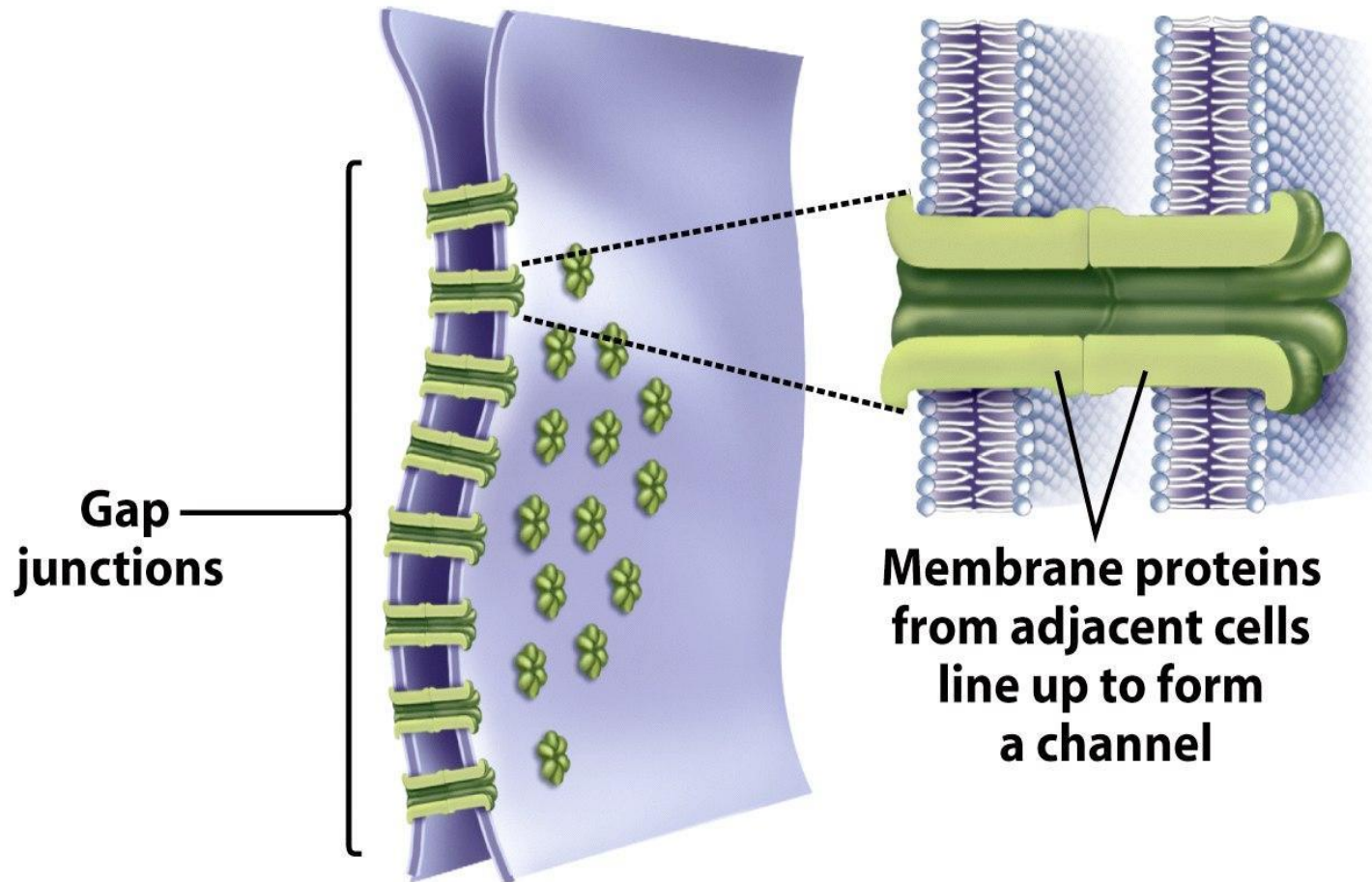


Figure 8-13b part 2 Biological Science, 2/e

# Intercellular Junctions

## Tight junctions

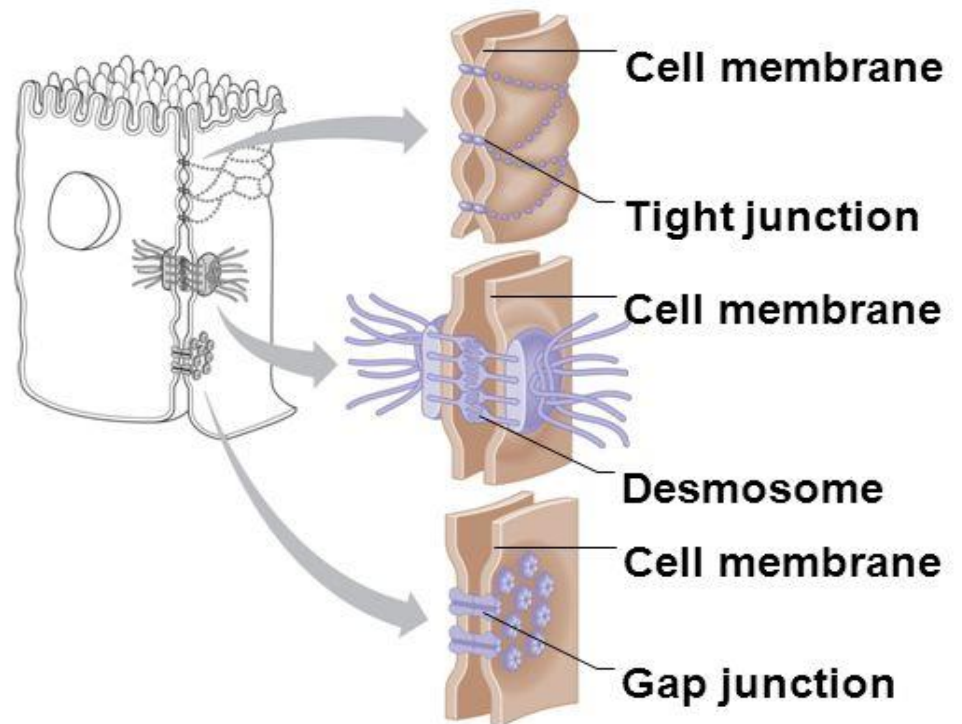
- Close space between cells
- Located among cells that form linings

## Desmosomes

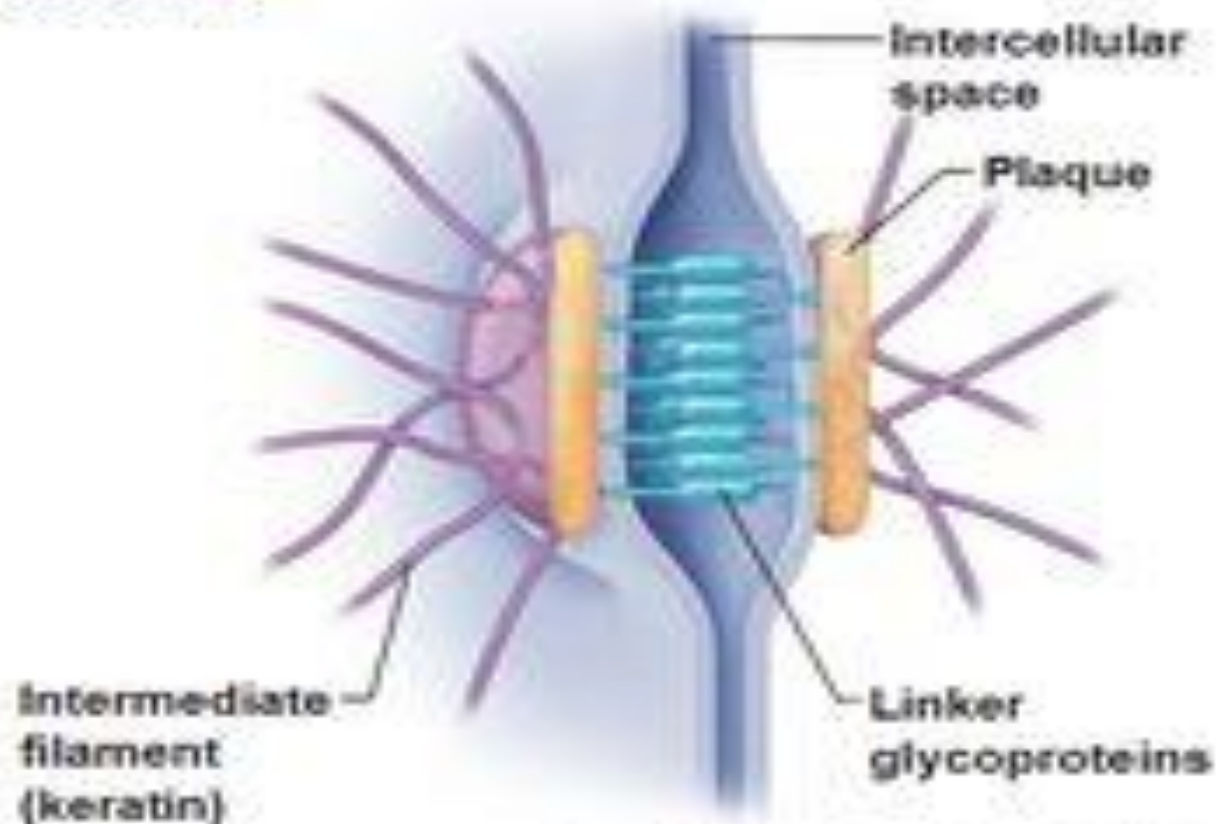
- Form anchors between cells
- Located among outer skin cells

## Gap junctions

- Tubular channels between cells
- Located in cardiac muscle cells



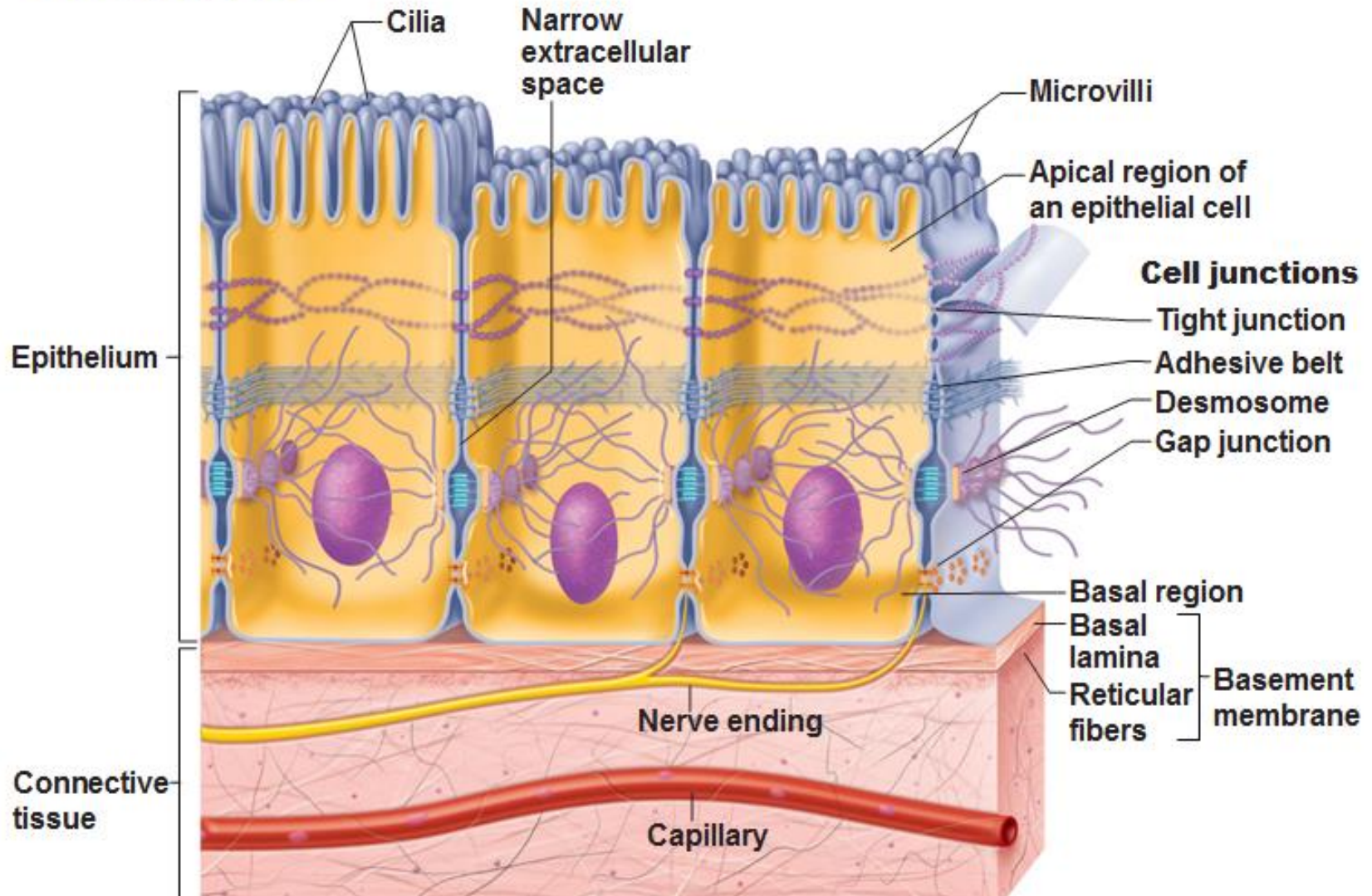
## Desmosome



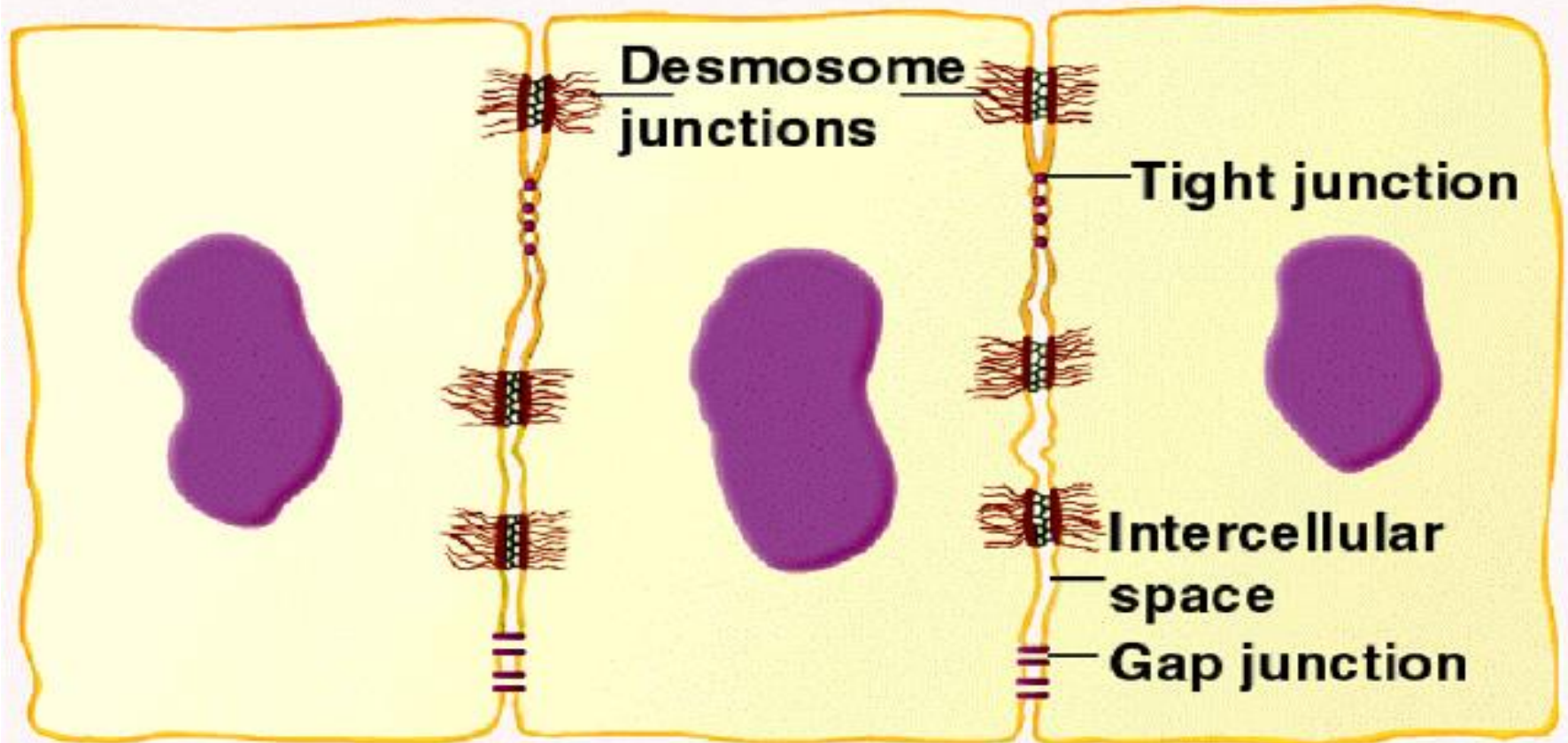
**(b) Desmosomes:** Anchoring junctions bind adjacent cells together and help form an internal tension-reducing network of fibers.



# Special Characteristics of Epithelia-Cell Junctions



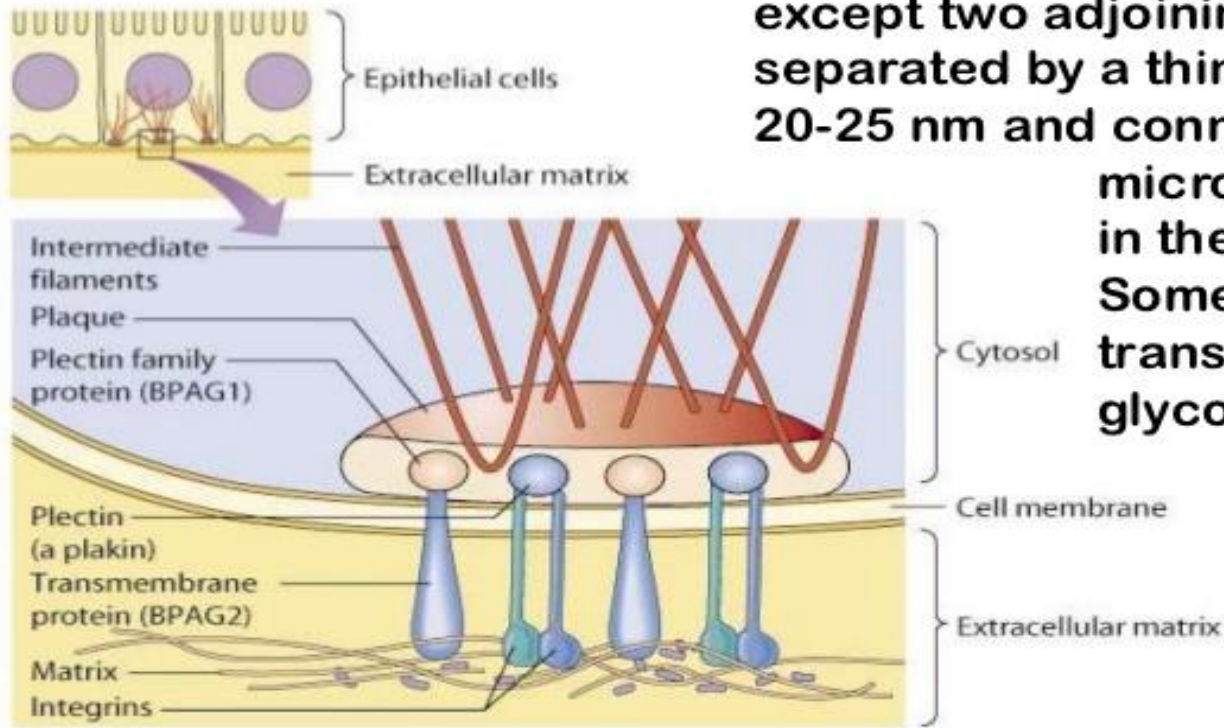
# Animal Cell Junctions (1)





**HEMIDESMOSOMES** connect a cell, through a plaque, to the basal lamina (ECM) by integrins. As in desmosomes, hemidesmosomes interact with tonofilament intermediate filaments. Adherens junctions resemble desmosomes

except two adjoining cells are separated by a thin space of 20-25 nm and connect to actin microfilaments in the cytoplasm. Some of the transmembrane glycoproteins are cadherins.



(c) Hemidesmosome

## Desmosomes and hemidesmosomes

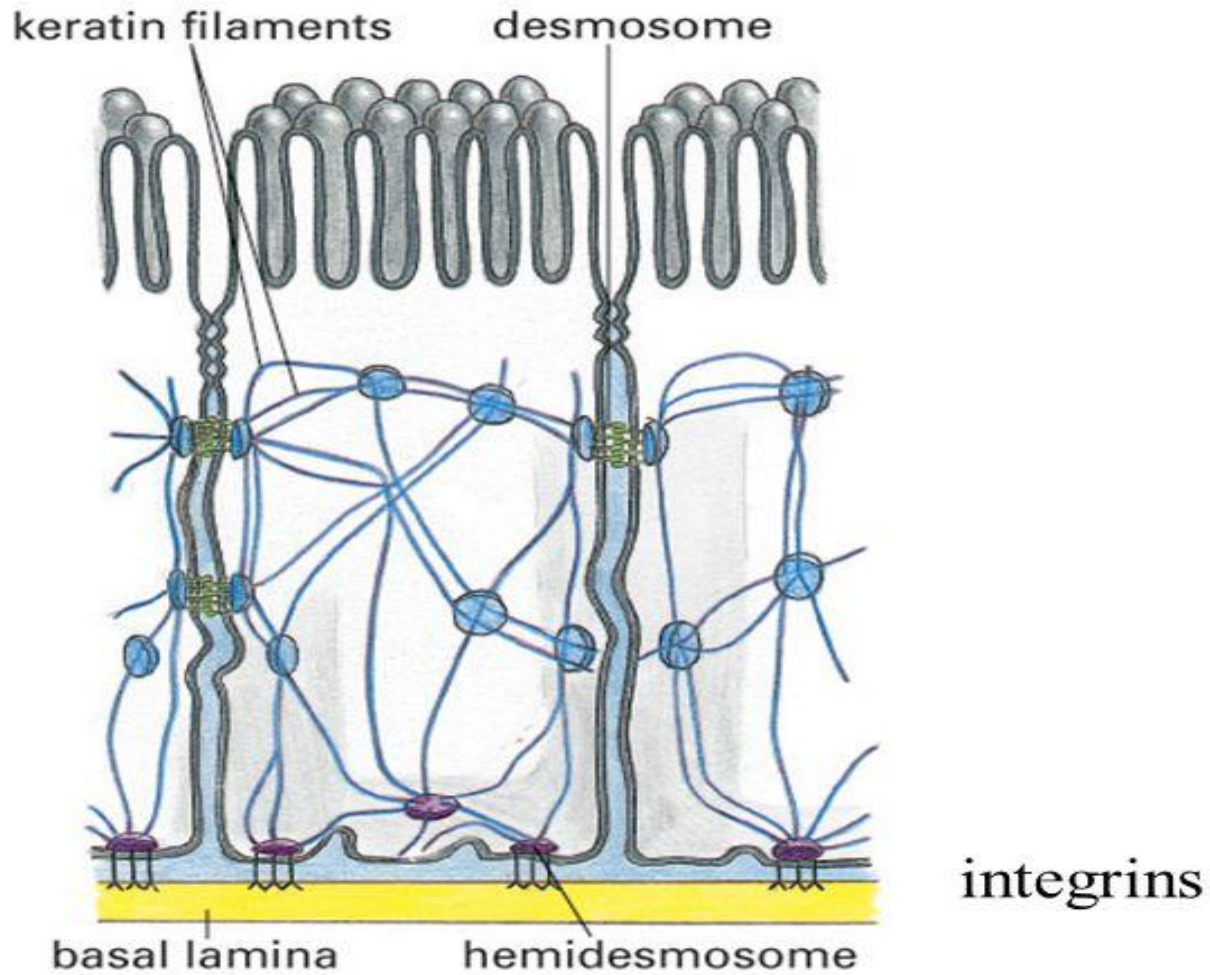


Figure 19–13. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

# HEMIDESMOSOMES



Figure 10.17 part 1  
Biology: How Life Works  
© 2014 W. H. Freeman and Company

## Hemidesmosome:

Anchors epithelial cells to basal lamina  
Integrins are the cell adhesion molecules

## Hemidesmosome

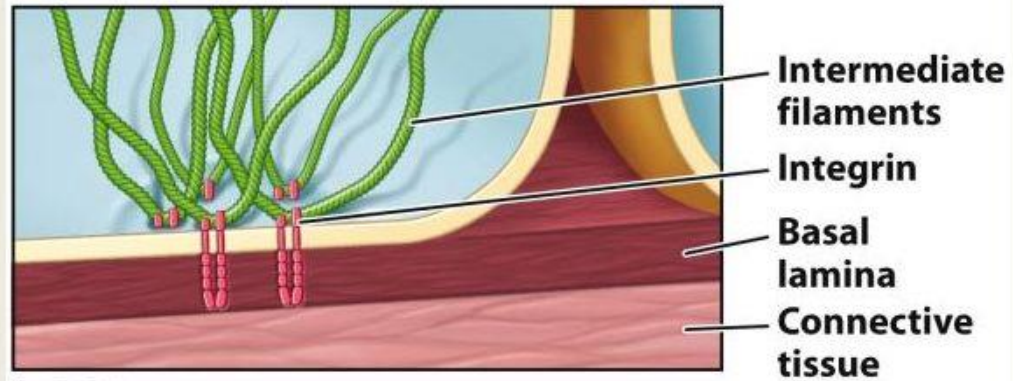
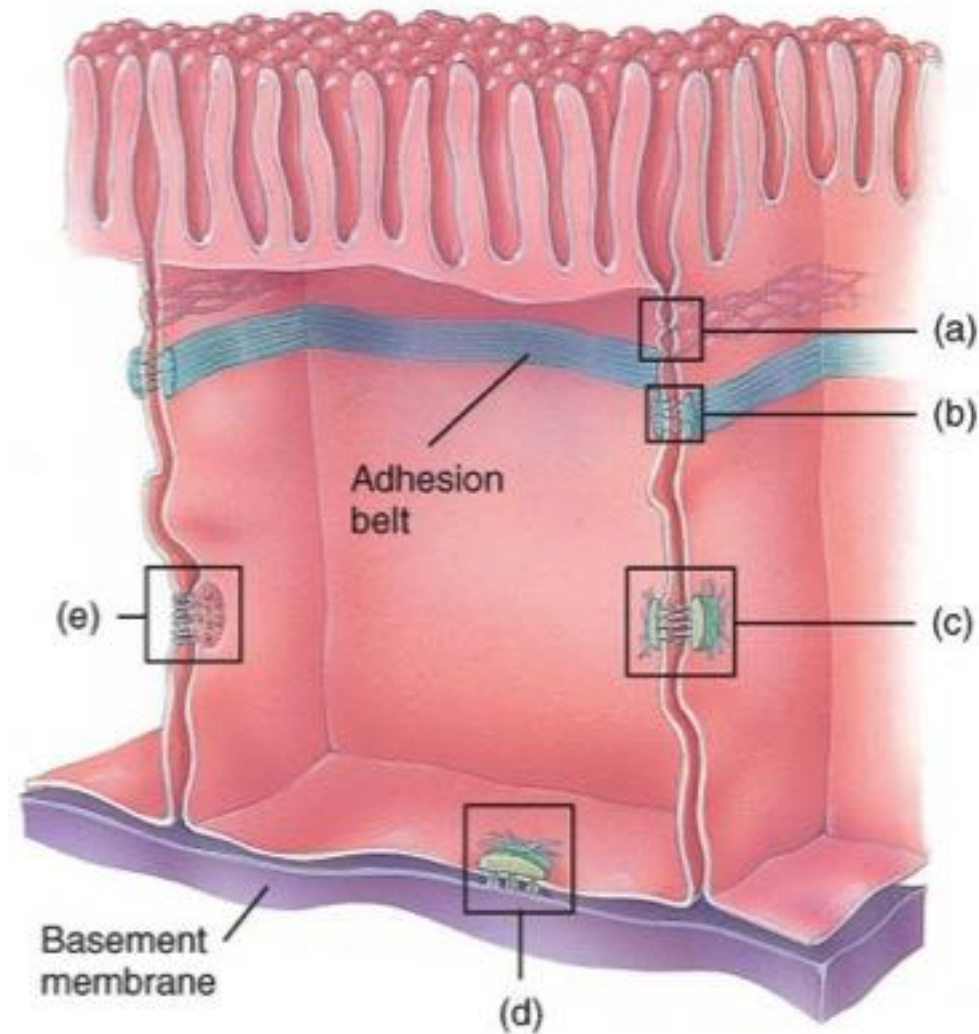


Figure 10.17 part 5  
Biology: How Life Works  
© 2014 W. H. Freeman and Company



## Cell Junctions

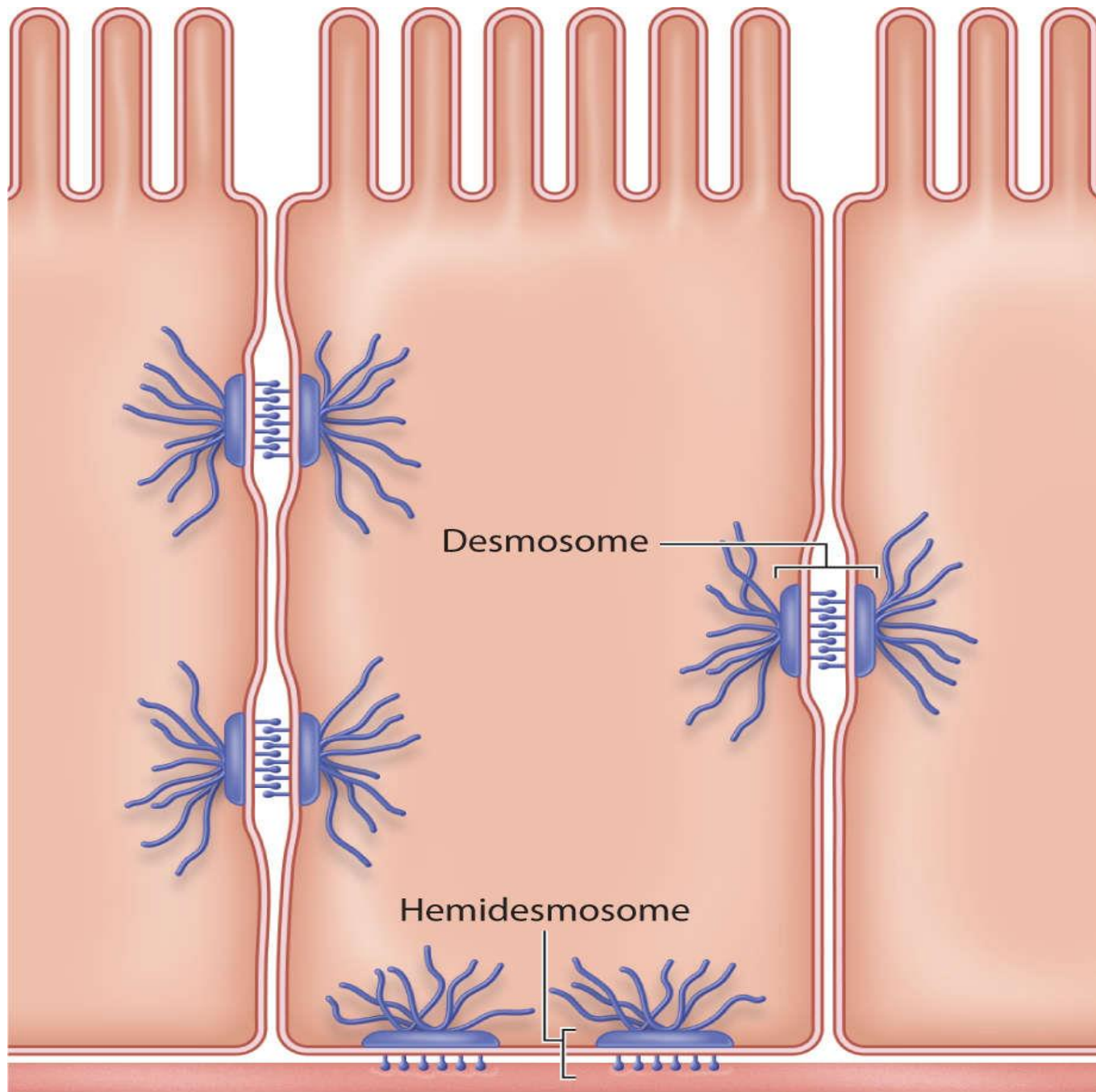
- A. Tight junctions
- B. Adherens junctions
- C. Desmosomes
- D. Hemidesmosomes
- E. Gap junctions



Hemidesmosomes link the cell to the basal lamina and, through additional extracellular molecules, to the rest of the extracellular matrix.

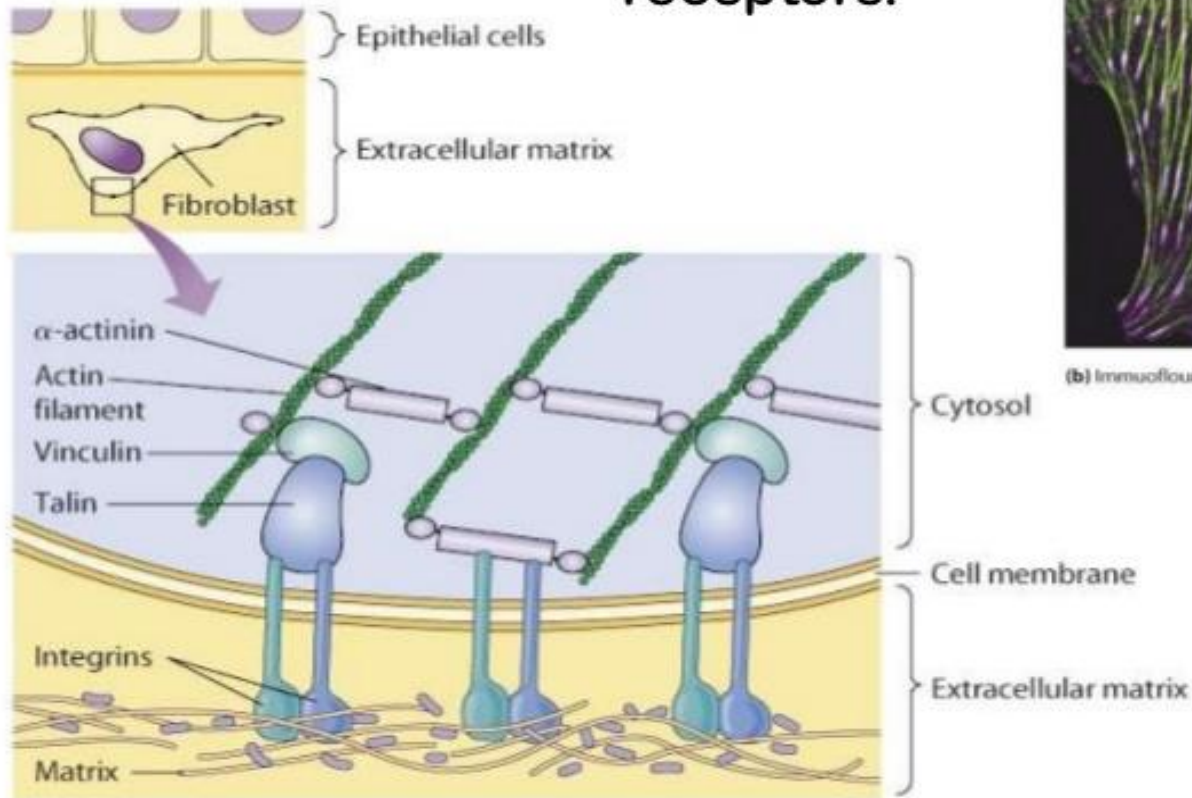
Significance: Several types of epidermolysis bullosa, a blistering skin disorder, have been shown to be caused by mutations of the genes for various desmosomal, hemidesmosomal, and intermediate filament proteins. In addition, some forms of the disease are caused by mutations of the genes for extracellular matrix proteins involved in cell-matrix adhesion. Pemphigus vulgaris and pemphigus foliaceus, blistering diseases of the oral mucosa and skin, respectively, are caused by autoantibodies to desmoglein-3 and desmoglein-1, the cadherin in desmosomes.



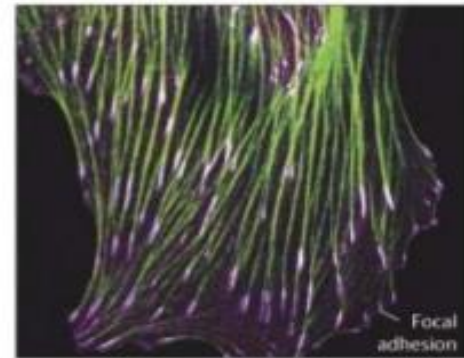




Adherens junctions called **FOCAL ADHESION** can join a cell to the ECM, primarily through fibronectin receptors.



(a) Focal adhesion

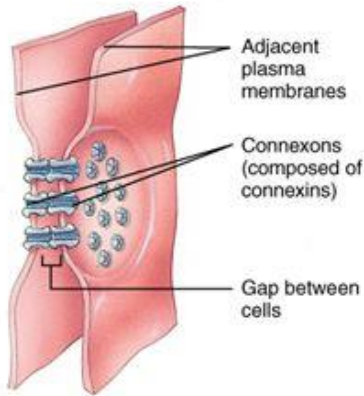


(b) Immunofluorescence

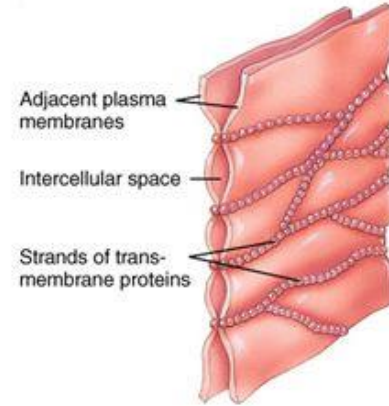
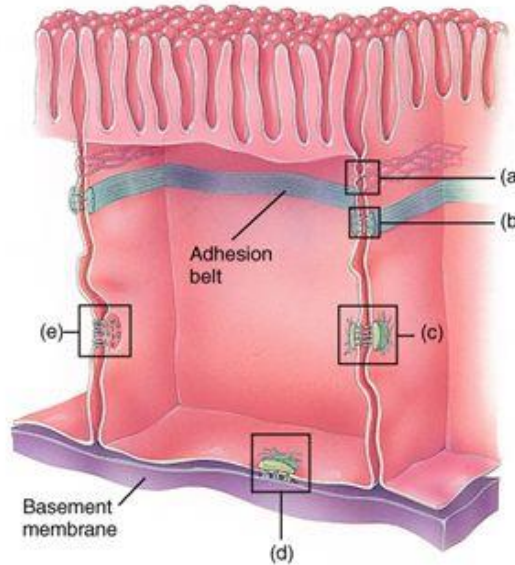
20 μm



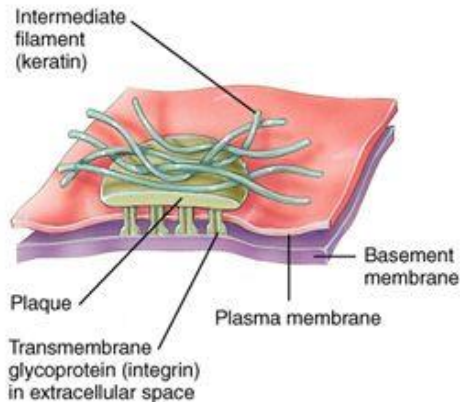
# Cell Junctions



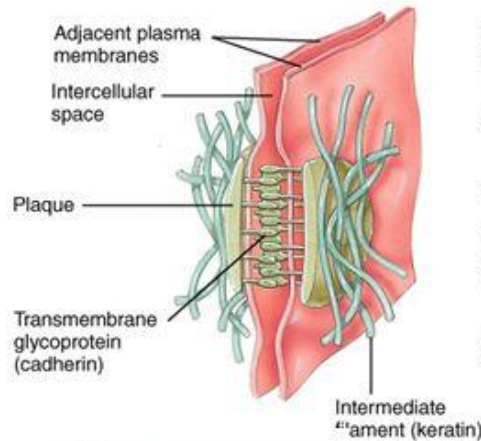
**Gap Junction**



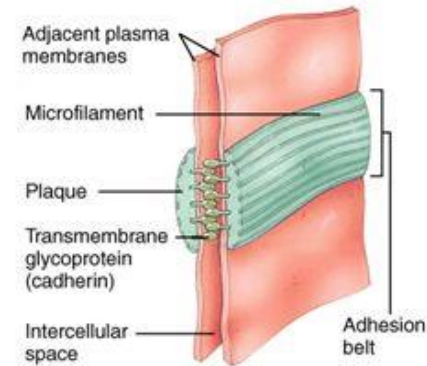
**Tight Junction**



**Hemidesmosome**

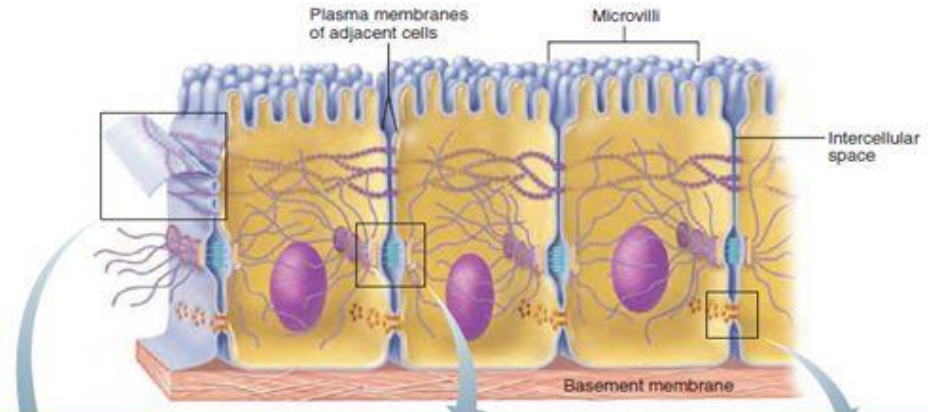


**Desmosome**



**Adherens**

# Cell Junctions



Tight Junctions	Desmosomes	Gap Junctions
<p><b>Impermeable junctions</b></p>	<p><b>Anchoring junctions</b> bind to adjacent cells like Velcro</p>	<p>Allow for <b>intercellular communication</b></p>
<p>Prevent molecules from passing through intercellular space</p>	<p>Form internal tension-reducing network of fibers; plaques on surface of membrane attach to protein filaments</p>	<p>Allow ions and small molecules to pass through channels formed by <b>connexon</b> protein cylinders</p>
<p><b>Example:</b></p>	<p><b>Example:</b></p>	<p><b>Example:</b></p>
<p>Lining of the digestive tract</p>	<p>Found in tissues subject to stress like skin; heart muscle</p>	<p>Found in electrically excitable tissue (heart; smooth muscle) to synchronize</p>

## Epithelial Surface Features

- Apical surface features

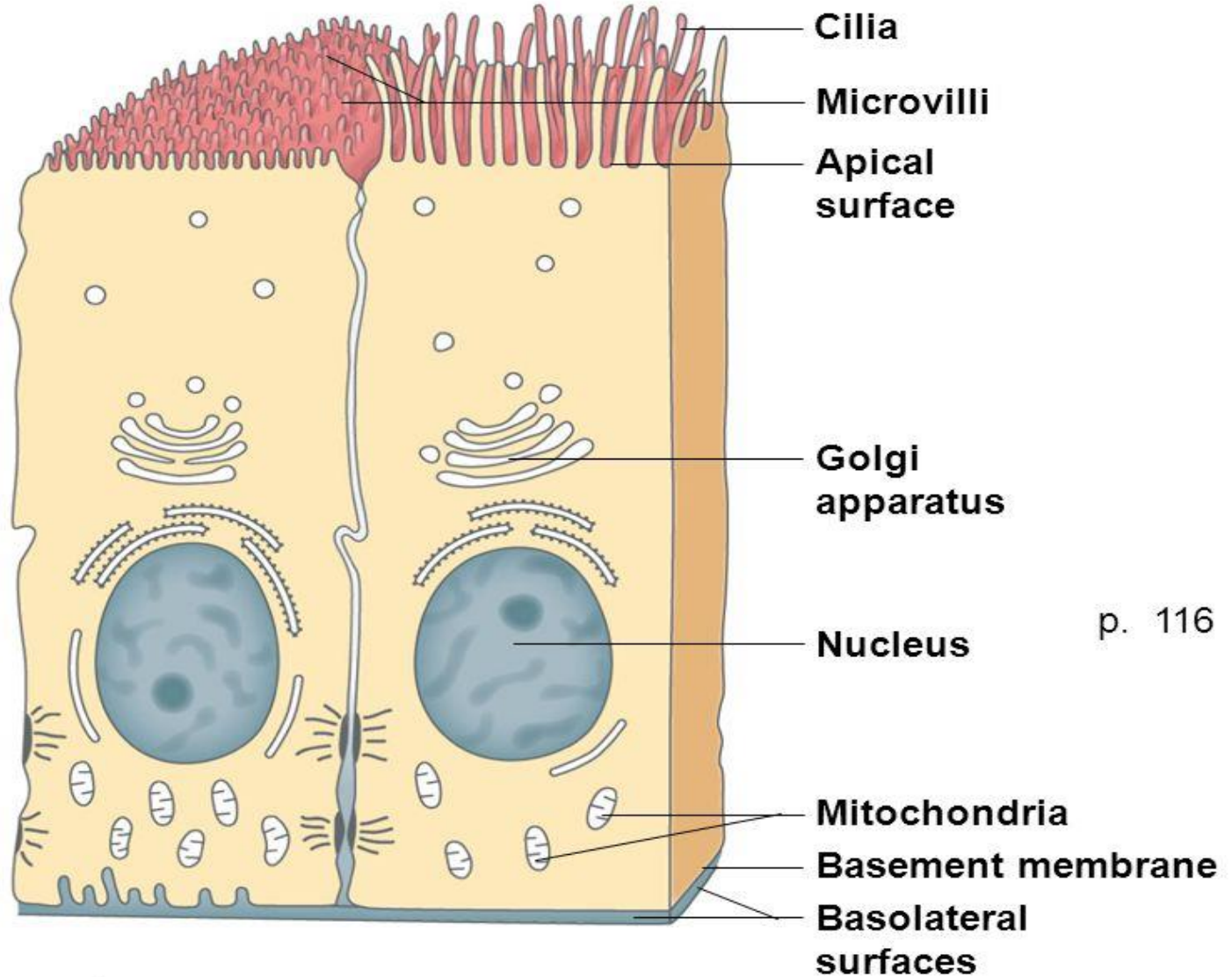
**Microvilli** – finger-like extensions of plasma membrane

- Abundant in epithelia of small intestine and kidney
- Maximize surface area across which small molecules enter or leave ,helps in absorption and secretion.

**Cilia** – whip-like, highly motile extensions of apical surface membranes

- Movement of cilia – in coordinated waves.
- Move substances over the surface of cells.

Figure 4-1 The Polarity of Epithelial Cells



- They are both microscopic, hair-like structures that are found lining cells in your body, but that's where their similarities end.
- **Microvilli**, plural of microvillus, comes from the Greek word *mikros*, meaning "small," and the Latin term *villus*, meaning "hair." They are folds of the cell membrane that extend outward from the surface of certain cells. Microvilli are found in areas of the body which are specialized for absorption, such as the digestive tract or kidneys.
- They function by increasing the surface area of the cell membrane, thus allowing for more materials to be absorbed into the cell at a quicker rate. Unlike cilia, microvilli do not move.



**Cilia**, plural for cilium, is the Latin word for "eyelashes." They also resemble tiny hairs on the surface of certain cells. Many cilia move in a rhythmic, sweeping motion and serve to move particles or cells in your body.

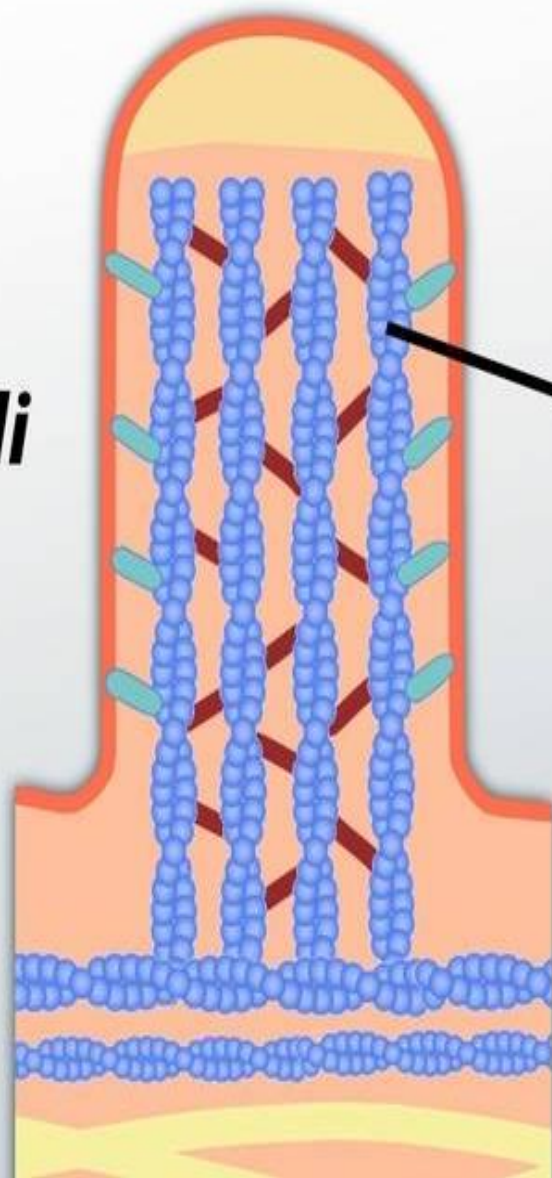
For example, the cilia lining your respiratory tract brush your airways free of mucus, dust, and dirt, helping you to breathe easier.

# Comparing Structures

- Both microvilli and cilia consist of protein fibers that extend outward from the cell and provide shape for the structures.
- These protein fibers are covered by extensions of the cell membrane that serve to protect them. However, the type and arrangement of the protein fibers differ between cilia and microvilli.
- Cilia are composed of larger, hollow tubes called **microtubules**. The microtubules are arranged in a circle and are anchored to the cell by a structure at the base of the cilium referred to as a **basal body**.

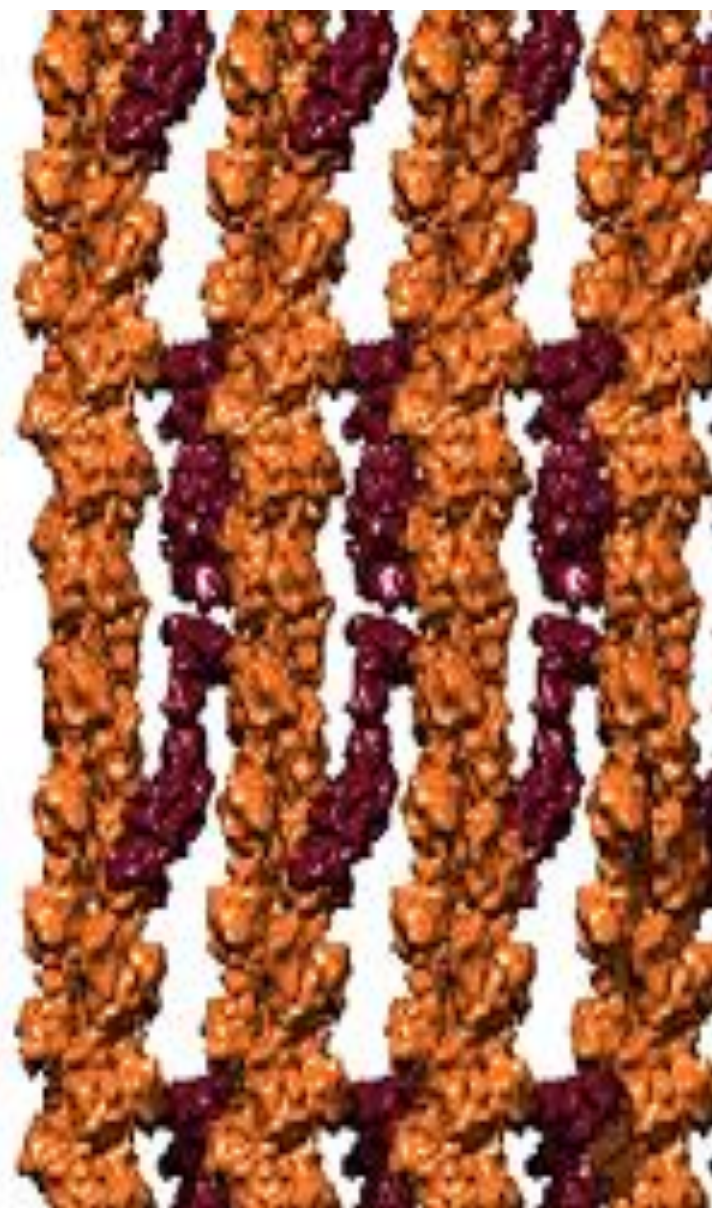
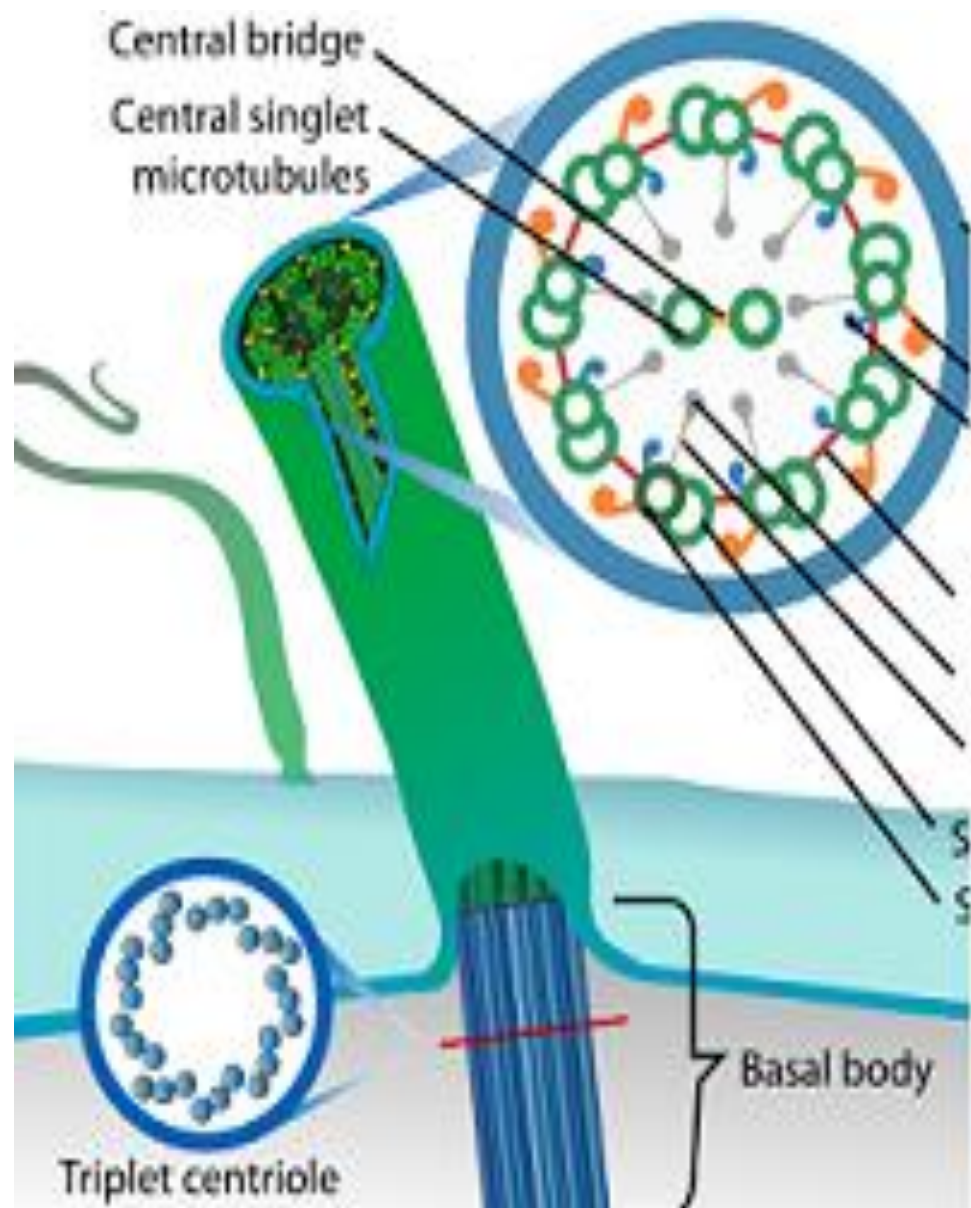
- Microvilli contain tiny fibers called **actin filaments** that extend parallel to each other down the length of the microvillus. The filaments are attached to each other and to the cell membrane by bundles of protein that run perpendicularly across the actin filaments.
- Let's more properly visualize this. Take a look at the image. On the left, you can see that the cilia have microtubules anchored to the basal body. On the right, you can see the microvilli run parallel to each other and are connected by villin.

*microvilli*



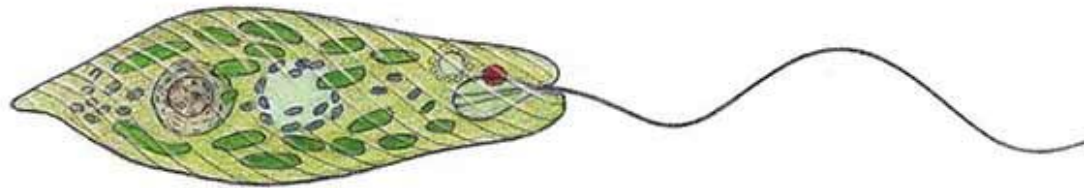
**actin filaments**

*tiny protein fibers*



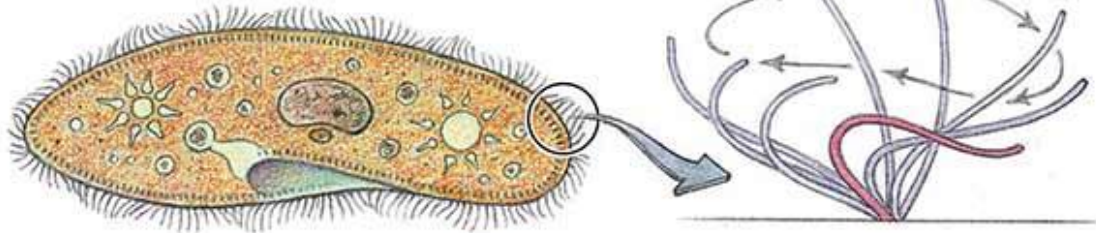


Direction of motion



**(a) Flagella**

Direction of motion



**(b) Cilia**

# Microvilli, cilia, flagella

**Microvilli**= surface extensions that increase surface area

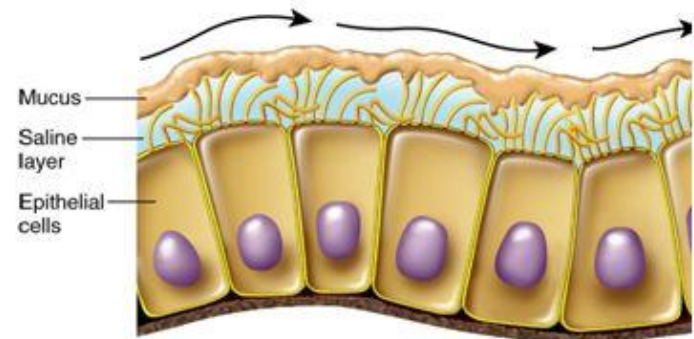
- Specialized for absorption (15-40x in intestinal tract, kidneys); sensory (taste buds, inner ear)
- Brush border= dense 'fringe' (mucus membrane)

**Cilia**= hairlike projections, nonmotile (more common) & motile (respiratory tract & uterine tubes)

- Beat in waves to sweep mucus, oocyte, embryo
- Beat w/in saline @ cell surface (w/ mucus floating on top)

**Flagella**= whiplike structure much longer than cilia

- tail of sperm





## Difference between microvilli & cilia

	<b>Microvilli</b>	<b>Cilia</b>
<b>appearance</b>	<b>Small and short</b>	<b>Big and long</b>
<b>observation</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LM/EM</b>
<b>Surface</b>	<b>Cell-membrane</b>	<b>Cell-membrane</b>
<b>Axes</b>	<b>Cytoplasm</b>	<b>Cytoplasm</b>
<b>Composition</b>	<b>Microfilament</b>	<b>Microtubule</b>
<b>Basal portion</b>	<b>Terminal web</b>	<b>Basal body</b>
<b>Function</b>	<b>Increase surface area</b>	<b>Movement</b>

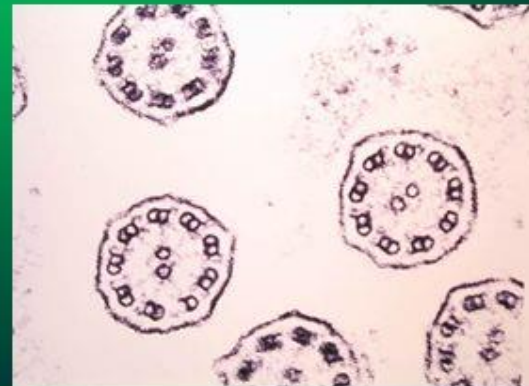
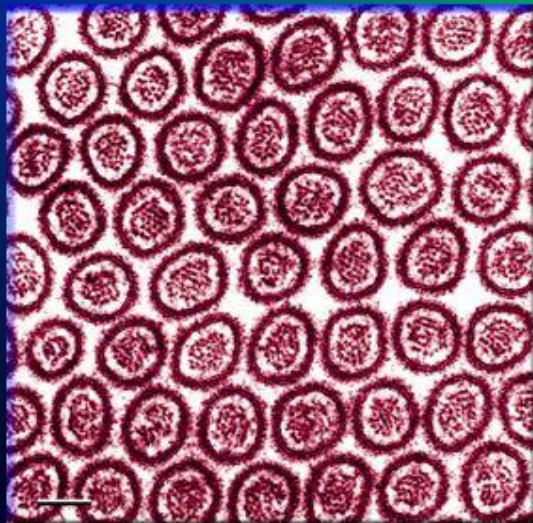




# Microvilli contd

- When in cross section do not confuse with cilia – cilia have TUBES inside them in the special arrangement, while microvilli have roughly 50 actin filaments in a bundle

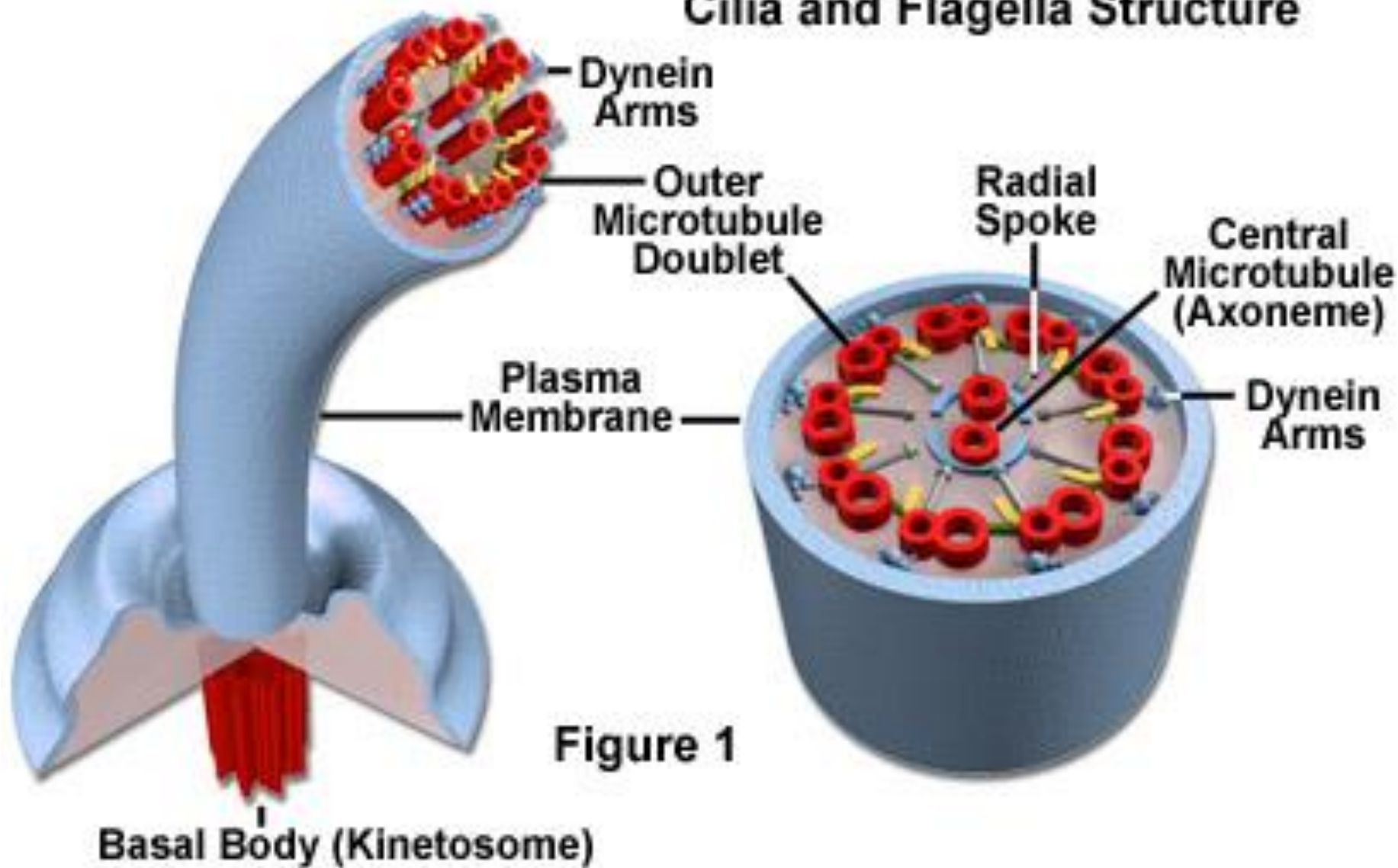
microvilli



cilia



## Cilia and Flagella Structure



Thank you

