

Relevant Anatomy

In the bull, the scrotum is located between the cranial parts of the thighs. On the cranial face of the scrotum are small, rudimentary teats that vary in number and spacing. Externally, the median or scrotal raphe divides the scrotum into roughly equal left and right halves.

The scrotum contains the testicles, the distal components of the spermatic cord, the cremaster muscles, and the epididymis. There are four primary layers of the scrotum: the outermost skin and associated connective tissue, the smooth muscle of the tunica dartos, the loose connective tissue of the scrotal fascia, and the innermost parietal vaginal tunic.

The testes are comprised of parenchyma encapsulated by a fibrous layer, the tunica albuginea. Most of the parenchyma consists of seminiferous tubules. The remaining interstitial tissues are comprised of Leydig cells, blood vessels, lymphatic vessels, and immune cells.

The head of the epididymis is attached to the dorsolateral surface of the testicle and terminates in a coiled tail at the posterior end. The ductus deferens continues from the epididymis with the spermatic cord, which runs from the testicles to the vaginal rings. The spermatic cords contain the ductus deferens, testicular artery, pampiniform plexus, lymph vessels, nerves, and smooth muscle, which are all enclosed by the parietal layer of the vaginal tunic.

