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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; Contributors; Preface; 1. The normal human ovary part I: reproductive and endocrine functions; Introduction; General principles; Gonadotropin (endocrine) and follicle-dependent (intracrine) factors determine follicle "destiny"; "The molecular players": extrinsic and intrinsic factors in ovarian cycle functions; The major "intrinsic" follicle regulators (Fig. 1.3); The TGF- superfamily; Intra-ovarian roles of TGF- superfamily members; Anti-Mullerian hormone; Inhibin/activin system; Integration of the activin/inhibin system in follicle development (Fig. 1.4); Growth factors Insulin-like growth factors (IGF-1 and IGF-2)The intrinsic IGF system in follicle development and function; Steroids; Estradiol; Progesterone; Conclusion: intrinsic factors at work; Extrinsic factors (Fig. 1.7); The Kisspeptin/GPR54 (KISS1 receptor) system; Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH); Anterior pituitary gonadotropin secretion; The intracrine role of activin/inhibin system gonadotropin release patterns; Regulatory mechanisms of gonadotropins controlling follicle growth,

differentiation, and readiness for ovulation [35]; Gonadal formation and folliculogenesis

The development of the ovary Primordial germ cells; Transition of oogonia to oocytes and formation of primordial follicles; Formation of primordial follicles; Dormancy and survival of mammalian primordial follicles; Follicle development from arrest to early antral formation; Activation of arrested primordial follicles and transition to primary follicles; "Reactivation" from arrest: reversal of inhibition; TGF-superfamily promotion of primordial to primary follicle transition (Fig. 1.10); Theca/stroma-derived BMPs; Oocyte-derived TGF- ligands [67,68]

Pregranulosa cell inhibition by anti-Mullerian hormone Growth factors and cytokines (Fig. 1.10); A "fixed oocyte endowment" versus oogonia stem cell "reserve"; Progression of primary follicles to early antral stage (Fig. 1.11) [2,3]; TGF- superfamily regulators [76]; Oocyte-derived GDF-9 and BMP-15; Theca cell participation; Granulosa cell activin/inhibin; TGF- from oocyte and theca cells; AMH; Growth factors; FSH; Follicle development from antral stage to ovulation; The emergence of FSH dependence: the feedback system and puberty; The feedback system; The hypothalamus and anterior pituitary Ovarian steroids The ontogeny of the hypothalamic-pituitary-ovarian axis (Fig. 1.12); Leptin; Puberty; The menstrual cycle: from arrest to ovulation; Follicle development: selection of the dominant follicle; The FSH-dependent stage (3); The stimulatory phase: rising FSH; Phase of FSH decline (Fig. 1.15); Ovulation; Mechanisms of ovulation; LH; Progesterone; Endocrine effects of progesterone; Intra-follicular effects of progesterone; Acceleration and completion of meiosis 1; Prostaglandins; The role FSH; Summary: the importance of H-P-O synchrony in ovulation; The corpus luteum The transformation of the dominant follicle to a corpus luteum

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## Sommario/riassunto

Disorders of the ovary can lead to a wide range of endocrinologic and malignant conditions, many of which are linked with fertility. This comprehensive, yet succinct book presents a multidisciplinary approach to address the major issues in diagnosing and managing ovarian disorders. Beginning with the complex functioning of the normal ovary, the editors address many of the major issues in women's health. New chapters on ovarian cysts, menopause, the aging ovary, early detection and risk assessment of ovarian cancer, screening, stage I ovarian cancer and many other topics have been added to this third edition. Assisted reproductive techniques, diagnostic imaging modalities, minimally invasive surgery, and chemotherapy have advanced dramatically and the chapters have been updated accordingly. This well-documented volume has been fully updated with contemporary references and chapters written by current leaders in their field. A must-read for gynecologists, oncologists, obstetricians, pathologists and researchers in human reproductive sciences.

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