

Contents

A. Methods of Obtaining, Preparing, and Interpreting the Endometrium . . .	1
1. Indications for Curettage	1
2. Selection of the Proper Time for Curettage	2
3. Procedures for Obtaining Endometrial Tissue	4
4. Preparation of the Endometrial Specimen	7
a) Fixation	7
b) Embedding	10
c) Orientation	10
d) Staining	11
e) Immunocytochemistry with Monoclonal Antibodies	15
f) Quantitative and Experimental Methods	16
5. Components of Curettings and Their Diagnostic Value	17
6. Statistical Analysis of the Histological Results	23
 B. The Normal Histology of the Endometrium	 25
1. The Individual Structures	25
a) The Glandular Epithelium	25
b) The Superficial Epithelium	29
c) The Stromal Cells	29
d) The Reticulum Fibers	36
e) The Ground Substance	36
f) The Vessels	39
g) The Nerves	41
2. Histochemical Localization of Enzymes; the Reciprocal Action Between Enzymes and Hormones	42
3. Structural Changes Induced in the Endometrium by the Physiological Action of the Ovarian Hormones	45
a) Molecular Biology of Steroid Hormones	45
b) Endometrial Steroid Receptors	48
c) Estrogen	50
d) Progesterone	51
e) Relaxin	51
4. Changes in Structures in the Endometrium During Nidation	53
5. The Endometrium Before Puberty	54
6. The Normal Menstrual Cycle and Its Possible Variations	55
a) The Normal Proliferative Phase	57
b) The Normal Secretory Phase	64
c) Menstruation	77
d) Regeneration	84

e) Possible Variations in the Endometrium During the Normal Cycle	84
7. The Endometrium in the Climacterium and After the Menopause	86
C. The Histopathology of the Endometrium	93
1. Morphological Effects of Circulatory and Coagulation Disturbances	94
a) Edema	94
b) Chronic Passive Hyperemia; Hemorrhage Caused by Extragenital Diseases	96
2. Functional Endogenous (Hormonal) Disturbances	99
a) Atrophic Endometrium from Non-Functioning Ovaries	99
b) Resting Endometrium Resulting from Inadequate Ovarian Function (Ovarian Insufficiency, Hypofolliculinism)	101
c) The Endometrium Associated with a Persistent Follicle	102
α) The Anovulatory Cycle	103
β) Glandular-Cystic Hyperplasia	108
γ) Adenomatous Hyperplasia	120
δ) Special Forms of Hyperplasia (Focal Hyperplasia, Polyps, Glandular, and Stromal Hyperplasias)	129
d) The Deficient Secretory Phase Associated with Deficiency or Premature Regression of the Corpus Luteum	136
e) The Endometrium Associated with a Persistent Corpus Luteum	143
α) Irregular Shedding	143
β) Dysmenorrhea Membranacea	148
γ) Secretory Hypertrophy	149
f) The Endometrium Associated with Infertility	149
g) Functional Disturbances During the Climacteric	156
h) The Effect of Hormone-Producing Ovarian Tumors on the Endometrium	157
i) The Functional Disturbances of the Endocervical Mucosa	158
3. Exogenous (Iatrogenic) Changes of the Endometrium	158
a) After Hormonal Therapy	158
α) Estrogens	159
β) Gestagens	161
γ) Both Hormones	165
δ) Oral Contraceptive Agents	166
ϵ) Gonadotropins	186
ζ) Clomiphene	186
b) After Intrauterine Contraceptive Device	190
c) After Intrauterine Instillation	197
d) Regeneration after Curettage	198
e) With In Vitro Fertilization	200
4. Endometritis	200
a) Acute Endometritis	201
b) Chronic Non-Specific Endometritis	203
c) Tuberculous Endometritis	205

d) Specific Endometritis Caused by Rare Microorganisms	208
e) The Foreign Body Granuloma	212
f) Endocervicitis	213
5. Metaplasias and Related Changes	214
a) Epithelial Metaplasia	214
α) Squamous Metaplasia, Morules, and Ichthyosis	215
β) Mucinous (Endocervical) Metaplasia	216
γ) Serous Papillary Metaplasia	219
δ) Ciliated Cell Change	220
ϵ) Clear Cell Change	222
b) Stromal Metaplasia	222
6. Neoplasms	223
a) Benign Tumors	223
b) Carcinoma of the Endometrium	226
α) Carcinomas with Endometrial Differentiation	232
β) Carcinomas Which Originate from Pluripotent Müllerian Epithelium	238
γ) Histochemical Results	245
δ) Precursors of Endometrial Carcinoma	254
ϵ) Etiological Concepts	259
ζ) Progesterone Treatment of Endometrial Carcinoma	272
c) Sarcoma of the Endometrium	275
d) Malignant Mixed Mesodermal Tumors	283
e) Metastatic Tumors	291
f) Primary Carcinomas of the Ecto- and Endocervix as Components of Curettings	294
D. The Diagnosis of Normal and Pathologic Pregnancy from Curettings	298
1. The Early Intrauterine Pregnancy and Its Disturbances	298
a) Therapeutic Abortion (Induced Abortion)	298
b) Spontaneous Abortion	300
α) Causes	300
β) Microscopic Changes	304
c) Partial Hydatidiform Mole	315
d) Complete Hydatidiform Mole, Invasive Mole, and Choriocarcinoma	317
e) Placental Site Trophoblastic Tumor	323
f) Late Endometrial Changes Following Intrauterine Abortion	324
2. The Endometrium Associated with Extrauterine Pregnancy	328
3. The Postpartum Endometrium	331
References	337
Subject Index	403