



# Avoid the Rat Race!

Carolina's Perfect Solution® Rat Dissection

# The Per•fect Contest! \per-fikt\ adj.

## To enter:

1. Take a pic of yourself wearing your **Perfect shirt**.
2. Post and tag Carolina on social media by the end of the conference.
3. Winners will be chosen after the show via social.

**Bonus points for creativity!**



@CarolinaScience



Carolina® Science

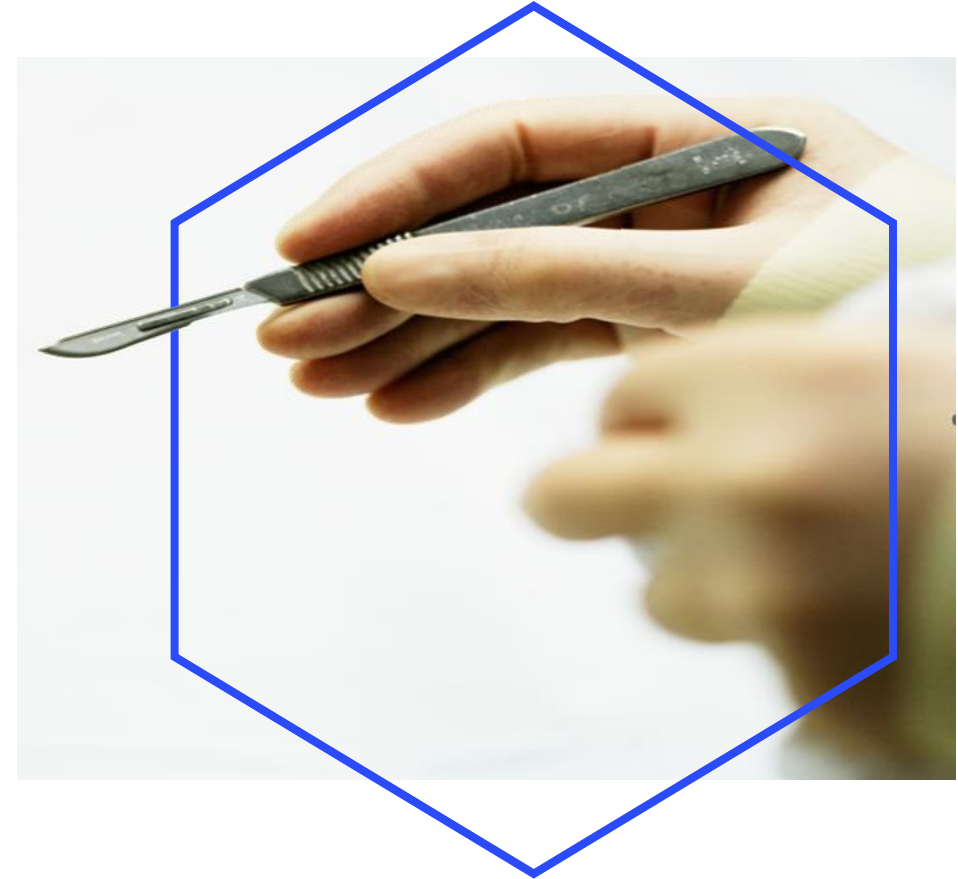


@carolinascience



# Objectives

- **Conduct a rat dissection.**
- **Examine rat anatomy while relating structure to function.**
- **Experience Carolina's Perfect Solution<sup>®</sup> specimens.**



# Building Toward TEKS Science Concepts

## TEKS

- **112.42.C.12.A:** Analyze the interactions that occur among systems that perform the functions of regulation, nutrient absorption, reproduction, and defense from injury or illness in animals.

[Explore Dissection Resources](#)

# Carolina's Perfect Solution<sup>®</sup> Specimens

## Quality

**Superior  
preservation**

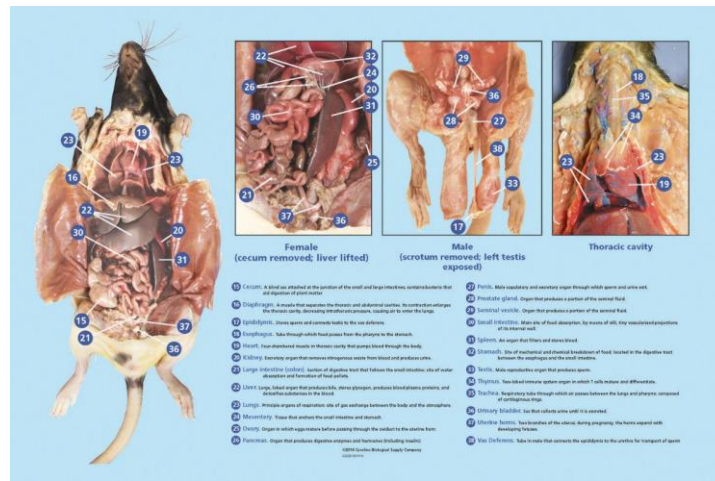
**Superior  
tissue color  
and texture**

## Safety

**No  
dangerous  
off-gassing**

**No formalin  
odor**

**CAROLINA**  
UNLEASH LEARNING™



- PLEASE DO NOT  
TAKE THESE MATS!**

We need these for future workshops.

# Dissection Preparation Tips

- **Organize your dissection area:**

- Take out your dissection tray
- Put blue absorbent pad under the dissection tray
- Lay out your instruments
  - Scissors

- **Use appropriate personal protective equipment:**

Apron, gloves, safety goggles



# Safety Issues

- **Personal protective equipment**  
Apron, gloves, safety goggles
- **Dissection tools**  
Be diligent with sharp tools



**Safety Tip**  
If you are not  
using an  
instrument,  
set it down!



# Teacher Tip

1. At the anterior of the specimen, locate an area where there is excess plastic.
2. Force any fluid out of the area to prevent spills.
3. Cut a small hole in the excess plastic. This will allow the fluid to drain to the bottom of the bag.
4. Continue to cut around the anterior of the specimen until you can easily remove the specimen from the bag.
5. Keep bag upright until we come over to collect the fluid and bag.

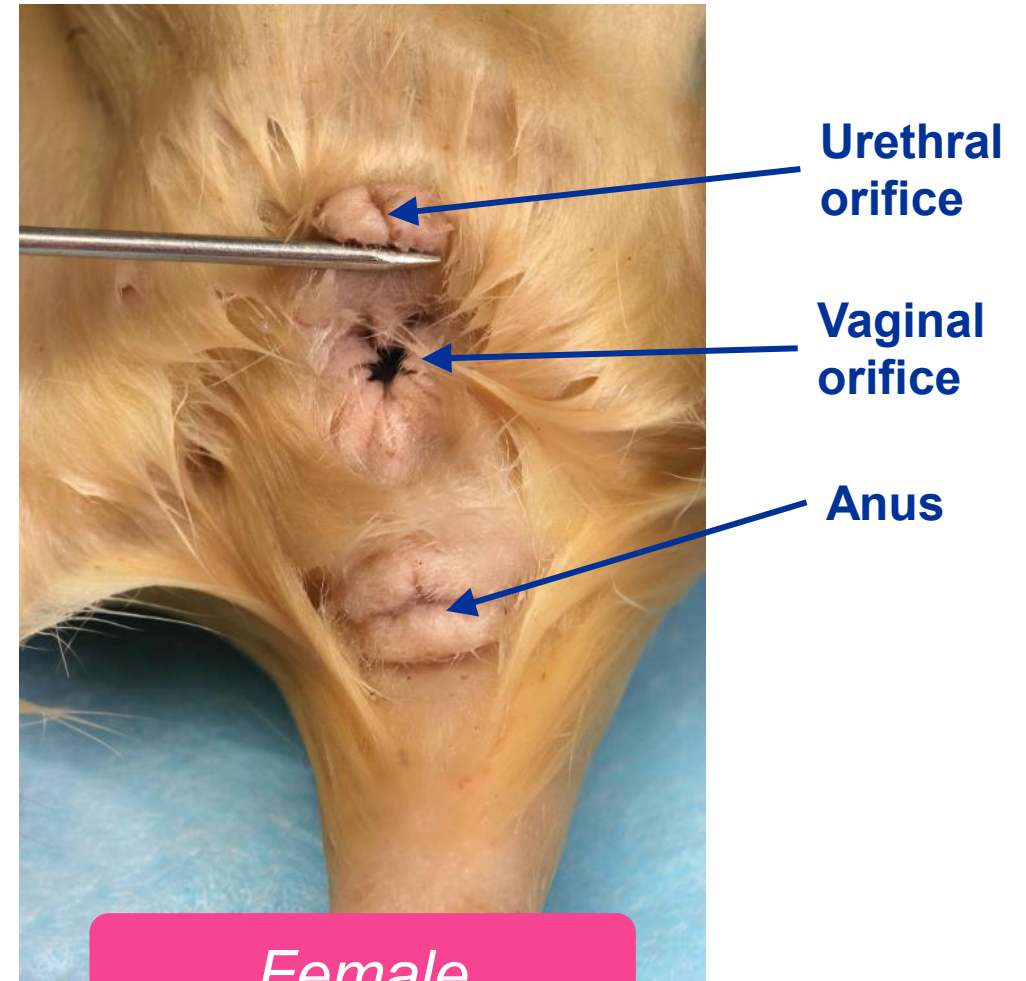
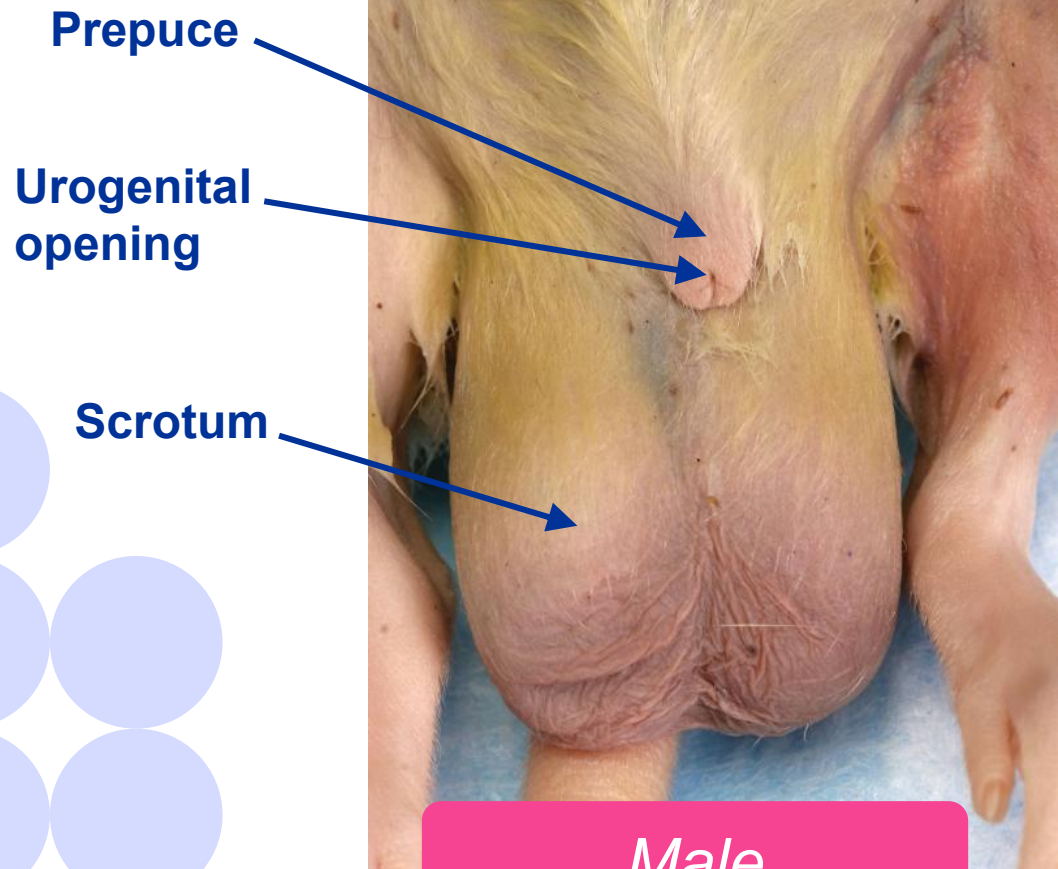


# Phenomenon: The Lab Rat



# External Anatomy

Determine the sex of your specimen.



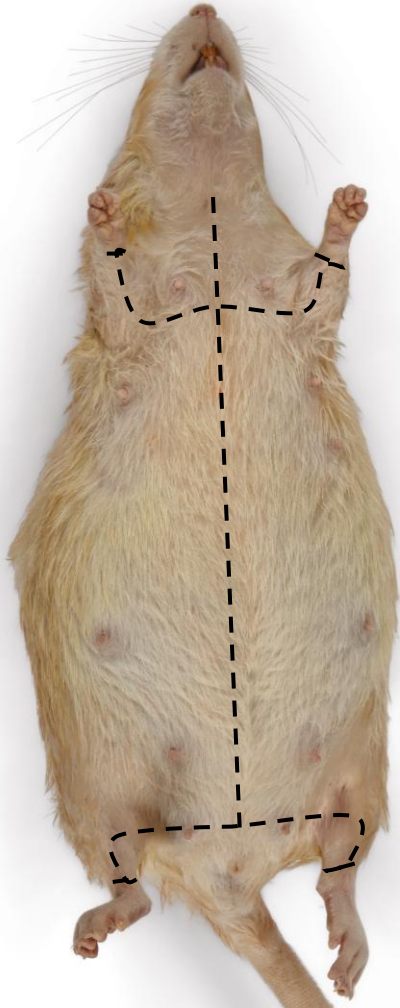
# External Anatomy

Locate the structures below on your rat specimen.

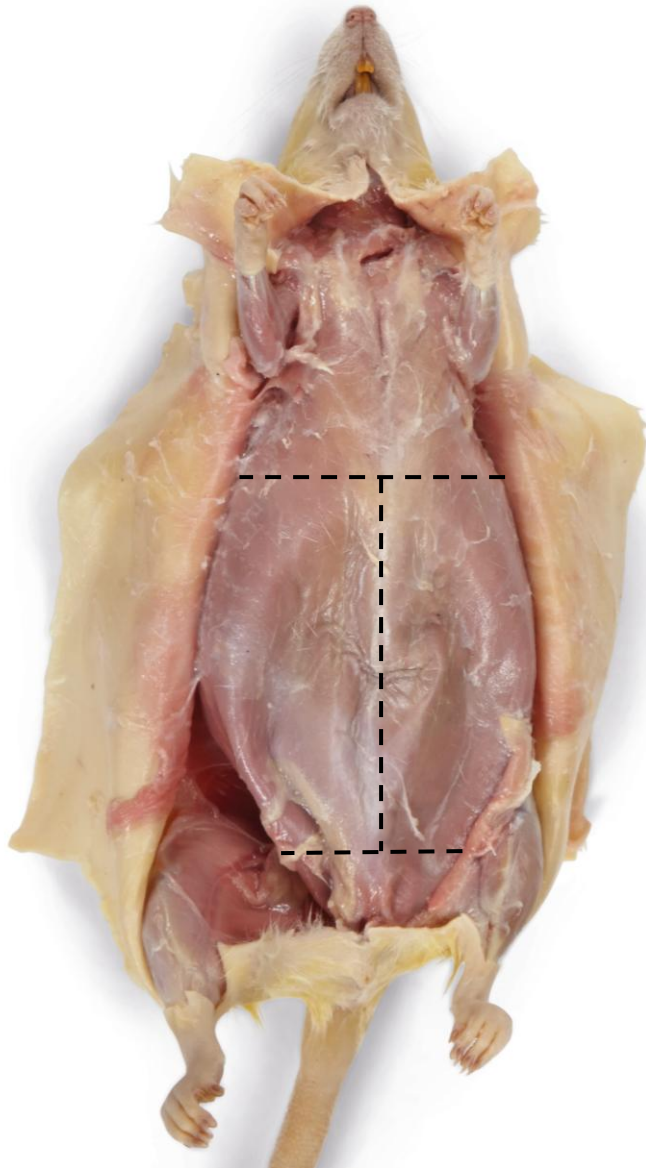


# Love the Skin You're in!

Use your scissors to make the incisions indicated by the dotted lines.  
**Cut through the skin ONLY.**



# Opening the Abdominal Cavity



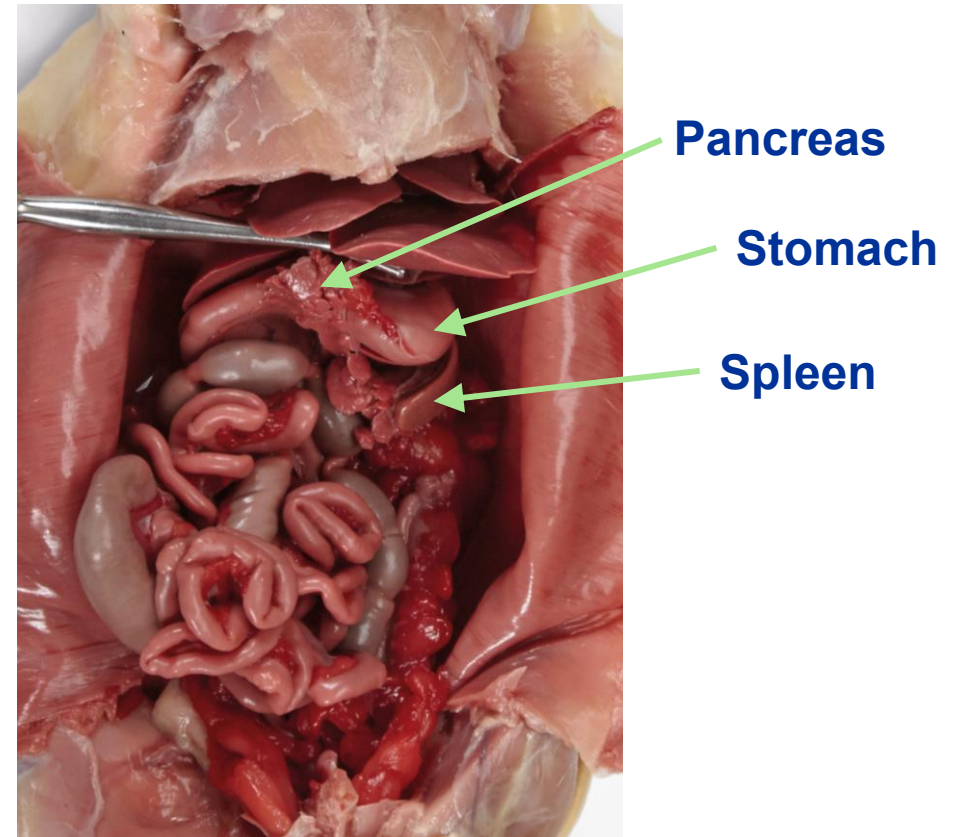
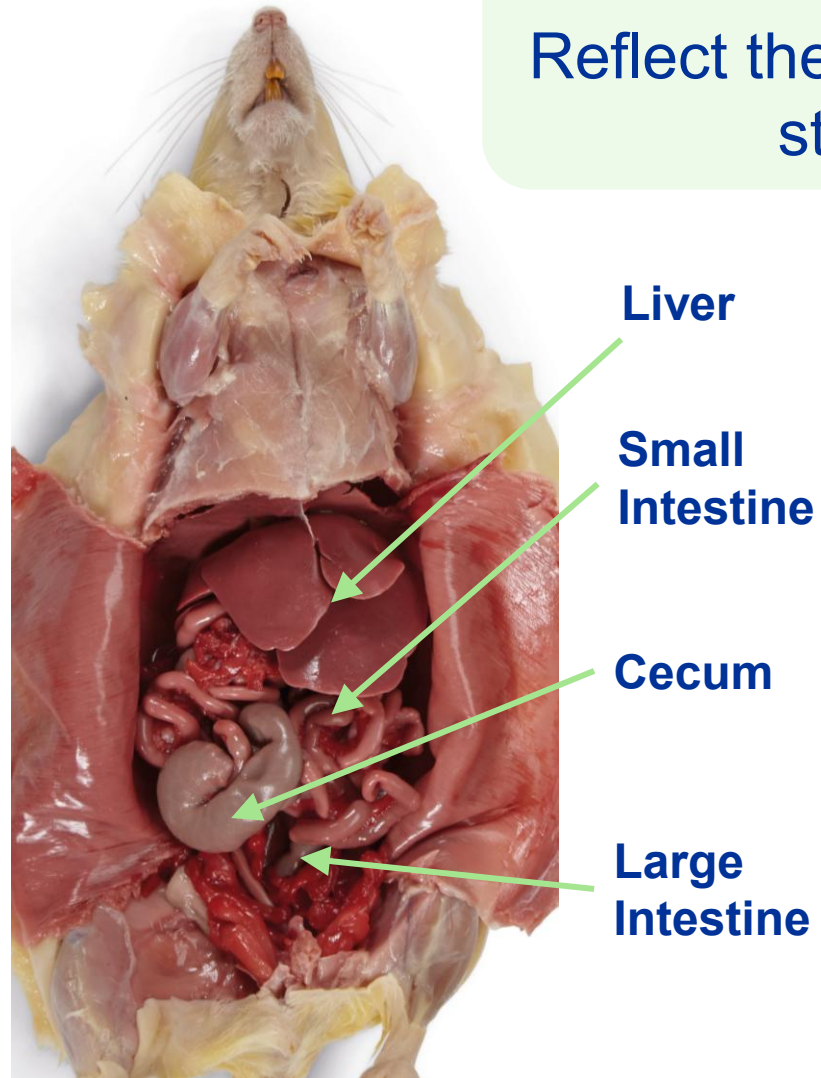
Make the incisions indicated by the dotted lines.

Begin the mid-sagittal incision near the urogenital opening and stop at the rib cage.

Finish with the lateral incisions.

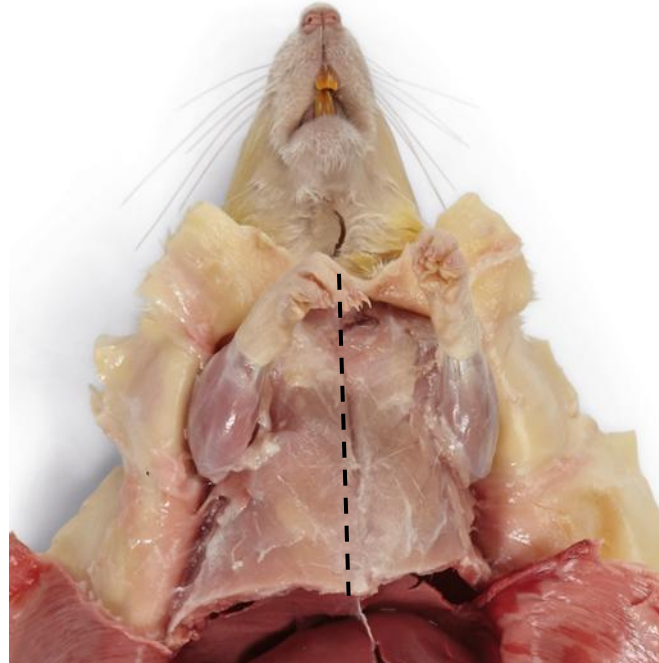
# Internal Anatomy

Locate the following structures  
Reflect the liver to locate the pancreas,  
stomach, and spleen.



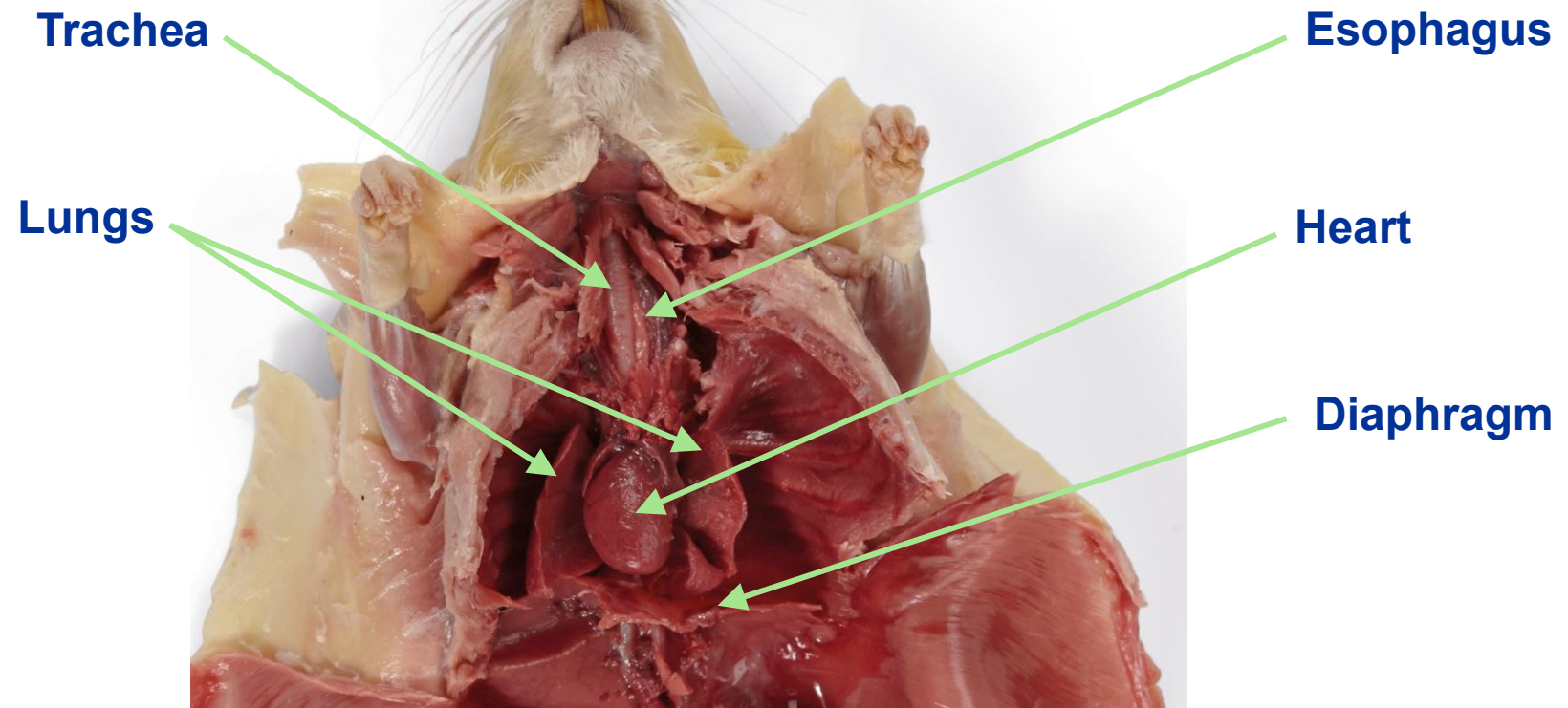
# Opening the Thoracic Cavity

Complete the mid-sagittal incision from the diaphragm to the mid-neck.  
Gently spread open the rib cage with your hands.



# Internal Anatomy

Locate the structures below.



# No Guts, No Glory

Remove the digestive and accessory organs from the abdominal cavity:

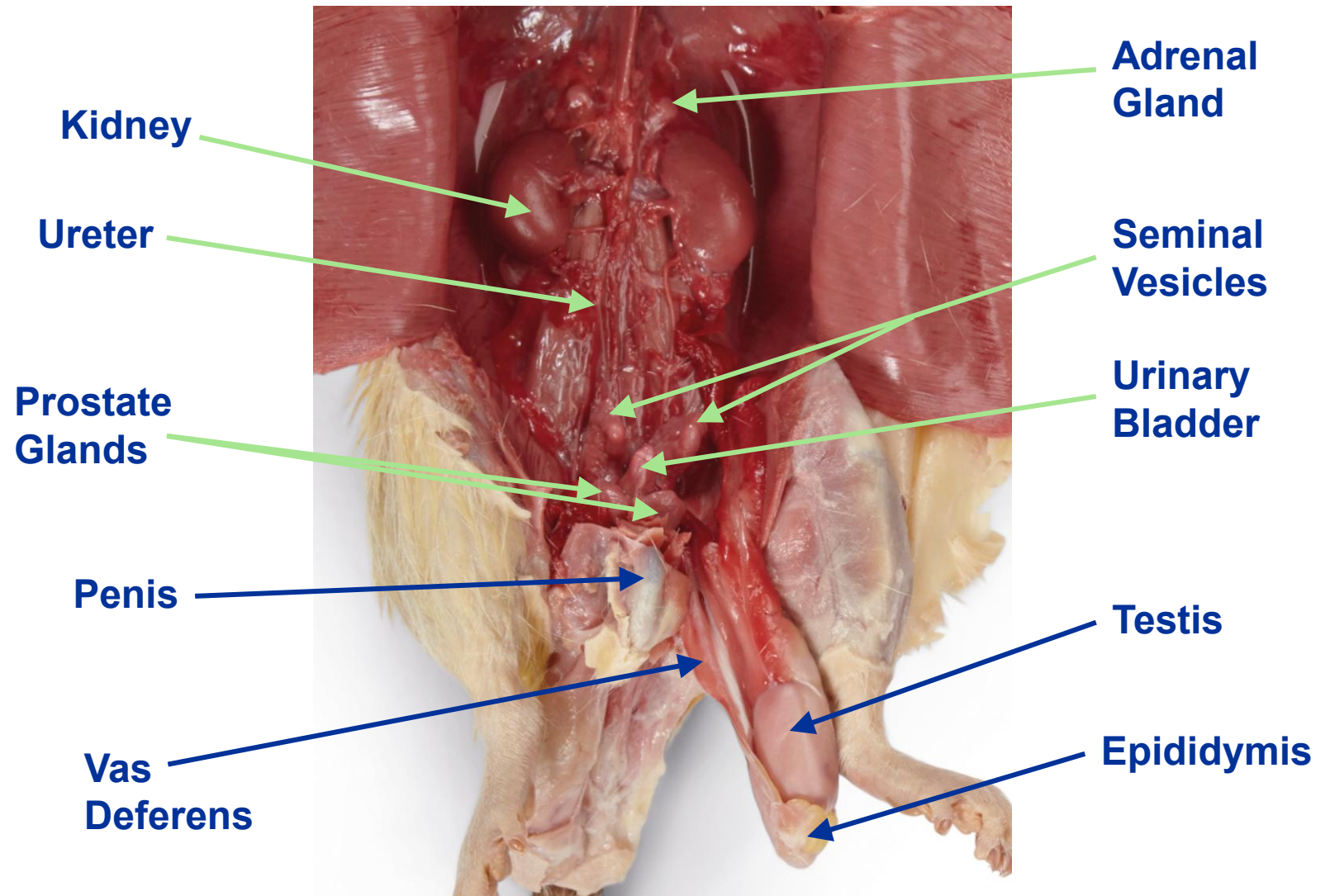
- Liver
- Stomach
- Pancreas
- Intestines
- Spleen

Carefully cut the mesentery holding the intestines together and stretch out.



# Internal Anatomy: Male

Remove the skin from the scrotum to expose the underlying structures.



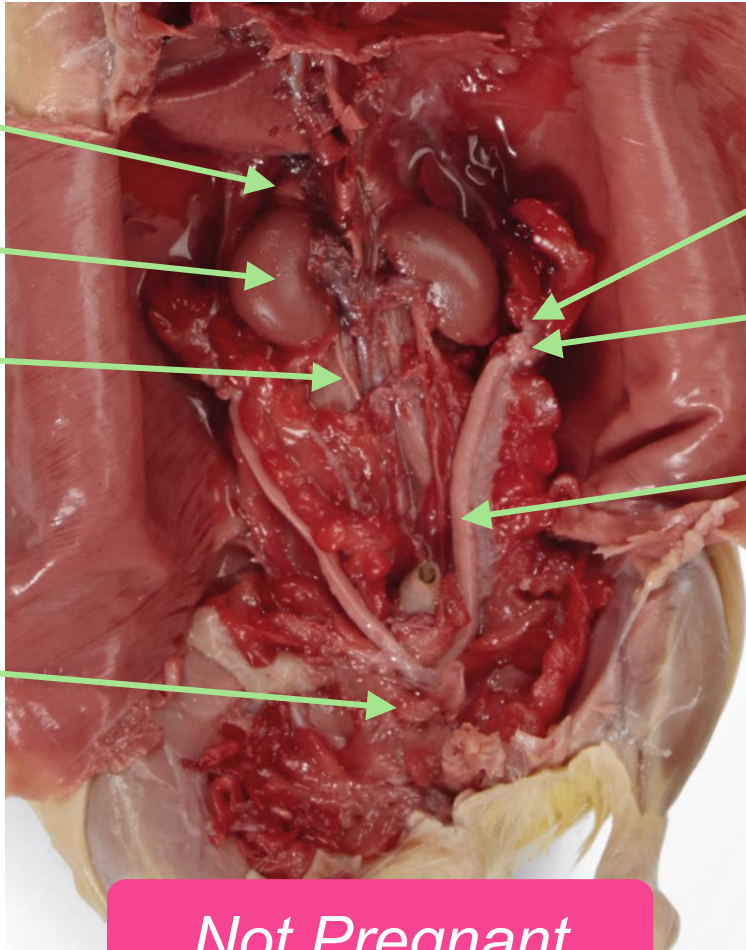
# Internal Anatomy: Female

Adrenal  
Gland

Kidney

Ureter

Urinary  
Bladder

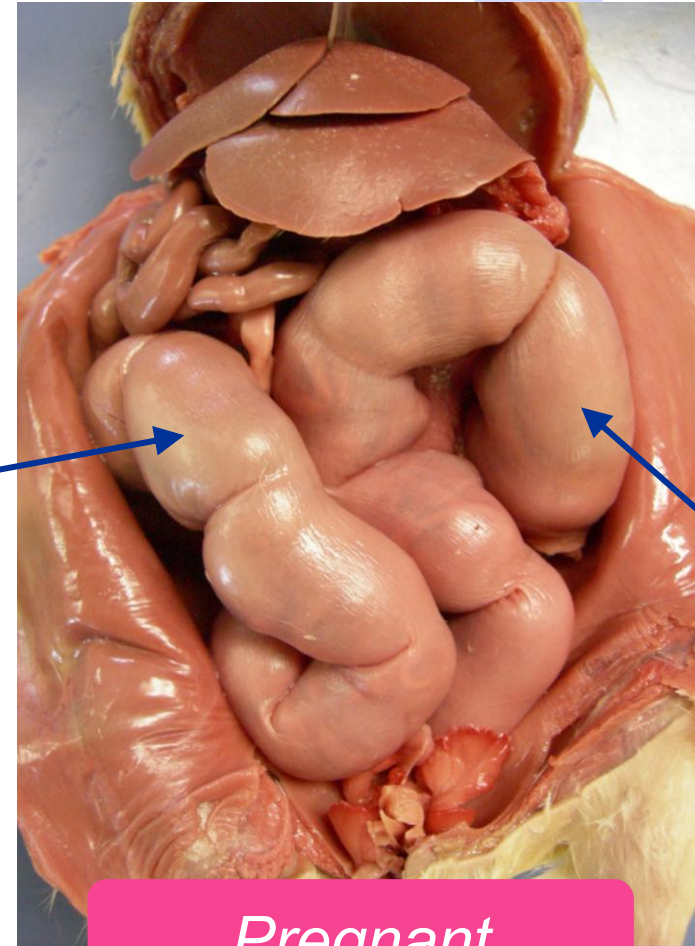


*Not Pregnant*

Ovary

Oviduct

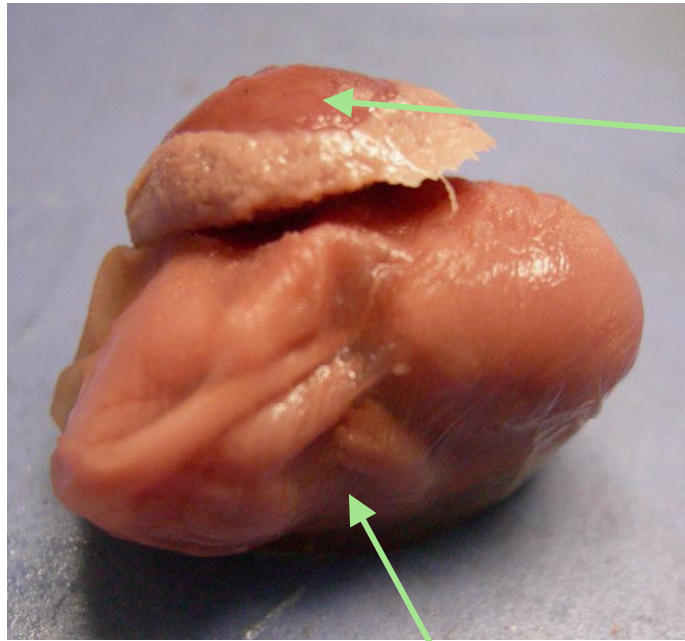
Uterine  
Horns



*Pregnant*

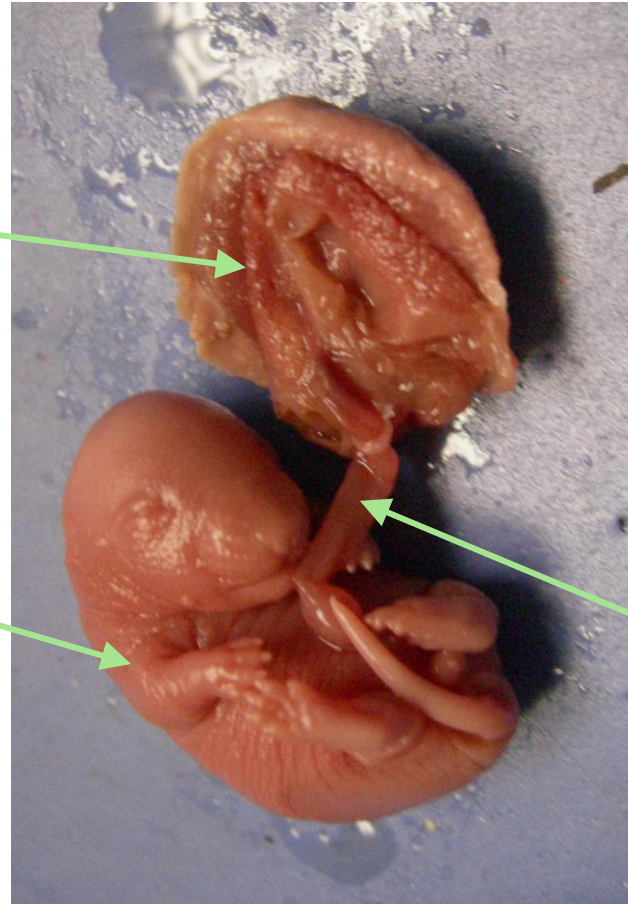
Embryo

# Rat Embryo



**Amniotic Sac**

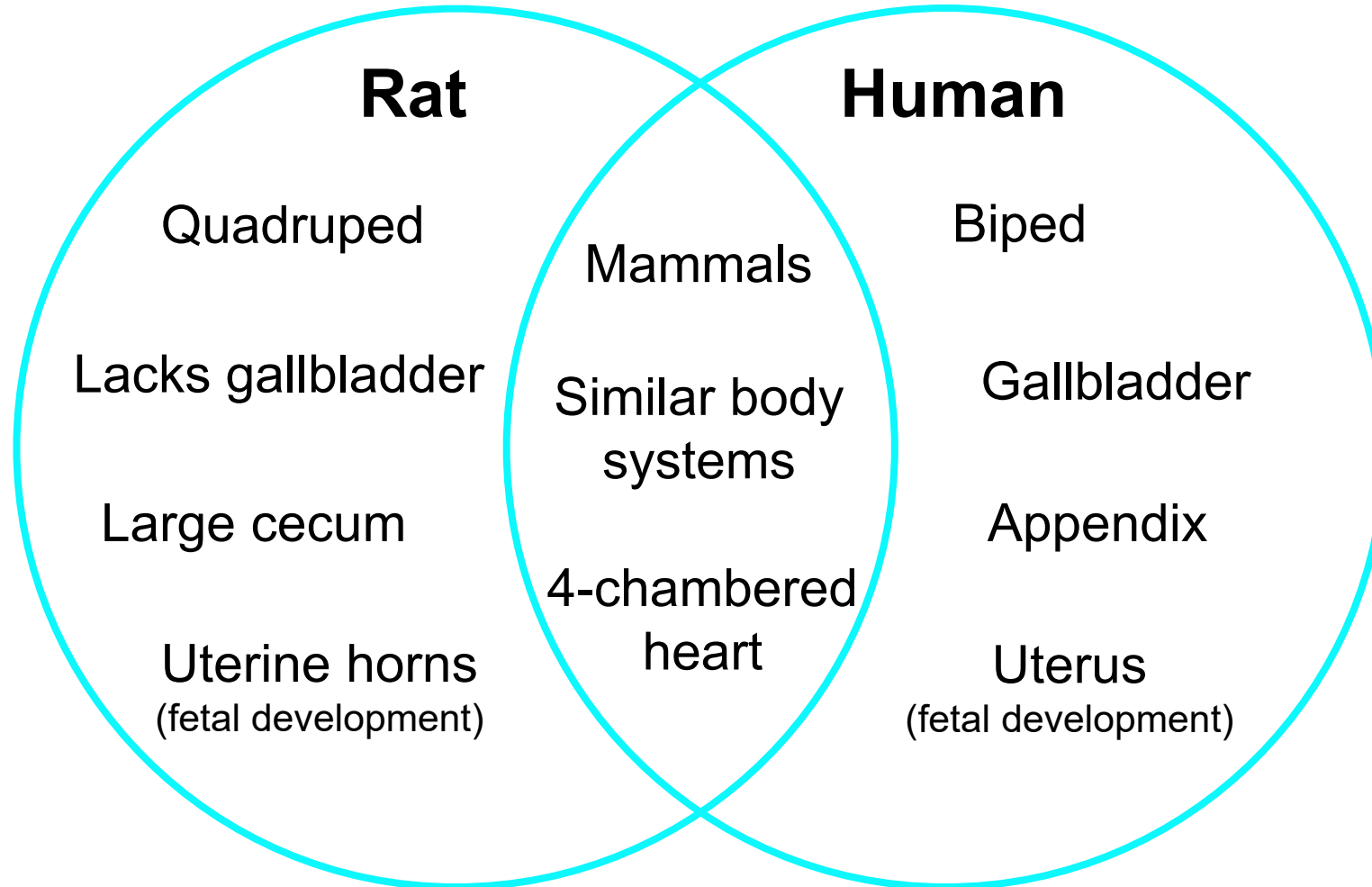
**Placenta**



**Embryo**

**Umbilical  
Cord**

# Student Artifact & Assessment



# Cleanup Instructions

**STOP!**

- **KEEP GLOVES ON!**
- **Separate trash from animal material/waste.**
- **Carolina employees will come and collect ONLY animal waste. Place in buckets.**
- **All other trash goes in trash bags.**
- **Wipe off tools, mats and tables.**



# Join us on social media to stay up to date with new kits and free lessons!

 **YouTube** @CarolinaScience

 @CarolinaScience

**LinkedIn**  Carolina<sup>®</sup> Science

 @carolinascience