Chapter 6: The Skeletal System

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Function
 - 1. Provides support and allows us to move
 - 2. Protects the soft body parts, produces blood cells, and acts as a storage unit for minerals and fat
 - 3. There are 206 bones in the adult skeleton, along with cartilage, ligaments, and joints.

II. BONE

- A. Although bones are composed of nonliving minerals such as calcium and phosphorous, they are very much alive.
- B. The word *skeleton* comes from the Greek, meaning "dried up body."

	Bones	Description
1	Long	Bones are longer than they are wide
2	Short	Equal in width and length
3	Flat	Thinner and can be either flat or curved
4	Irregular	Odd in shape and include the hipbone

C. Classified according to their shape

- D. Basic Bone Anatomy-ex. long bone
 - 1. Periosteum
 - a. Outer covering of tough fibrous connective tissue
 - b. Contains blood vessels, lymph vessels, and nerves
 - c. Acts as anchor points for ligaments and tendons
 - 2. Epiphysis and Diaphysis
 - a. Both ends of a long bone increase in size to form the epiphysis.
 - b. The region running between two epiphyses is called the diaphysis.
 - c. The diaphysis is hollow (called the medullary cavity). It acts as a storage area for the yellow bone marrow.
 - i. Red marrow makes red blood cells.
 - ii. Yellow marrow has a high fat content and can convert to red marrow in an emergency.

	Bone Tissue	Description
1	Compact	 a. Dense, hard tissue normally composing the shafts of long bones; found as the outer layer of the other bone types b. Mature bone cells form concentric circles around blood vessels. c. The area around the bone cells is filled with bone matrix.
2	Spongy	a. Arranged in bars and platesb. Irregular holes give the bone a spongy appearance and make the bone lighter in weight.

F. Surface structure of bones

- 1. Bone is not perfectly smooth.
- 2. Projections act as points of attachment for muscles, ligaments, or tendons.
- 3. Grooves and depressions act as pathways for nerves and blood vessels.
- 4. Projecting structures and depressions can work together as joining or articulation points to form joints, such as the ball-and-socket joint in your hip.
- G. Bone growth and repair
 - 1. Ossification: formation of bone in the body
 - 2. Types of cells involved in bone formation and growth: (osteoprogenitor cells, osteoblasts, osteocytes, and osteoclasts)
 - 3. Bone development and growth bone development begins when you are an embryo through ossification.
 - 4. Bone repair
 - a. Hematoma forms; inflammation
 - b. Soft callus forms (cartilage)
 - c. Bony callus forms
 - d. The bone is remodeled until the fracture is nearly undetectable.

III. CARTILAGE

- A. Cartilage is a special form of dense connective tissue that can withstand a fair amount of flexing, tension, and pressure.
- B. Made up of cells called chondrocytes. They exist in holes in a gel-like matrix.
- C. Location and functions
 - 1. The flexible part of your nose and ears are cartilage.
 - 2. Makes a flexible connection between bones, as between the ribs and sternum, allowing chest flexion during deep breathing
 - 3. Cartilage acts as a cushion between bones; articular cartilage is located on the ends of bones and acts as a shock absorber, preventing the ends from grinding together during movement.

IV. JOINTS

A. When two or more bones join, an articulation or joint is formed.

- B. Many joints must be held together, yet still be movable, which is accomplished by special connective tissue called ligaments.
- C. Tendons are cordlike structures that attach muscle to bone.
- D. Joints can be classified by function or structure.
 - 1. Function
 - a. Immobile
 - b. Move a little
 - c. Move freely
 - 2. Structure
 - a. Fibrous: bones joined by short connective tissue strands
 - b. Cartilaginous: bones united by cartilage
 - c. Synovial: bones united by fluid filled joint cavity
 - i. Pivot joint—turnstile movement in the neck and forearm
 - ii. Ball-and-socket joint-hip and shoulder
 - iii. Hinge joint—allow up and down movement in the knees and elbows
 - iv. Gliding joint-wrists and ankles
 - v. Saddle joint—shaped like a saddle found in the thumb
 - vi. Ellipsoidal joint—oval-shaped bone end fitting into an elliptical cavity in the other bone so there is movement from one plane to another but no rotation –fingers and toes

	Types of Joints	Description/Examples
i	Pivot joint	Turnstile movement in the neck and forearm
ii	Ball-and-socket joint	Hips and shoulders
iii	Hinge joint	Allow up and down movement in the knees and elbows
iv	Gliding joint	Wrists and Ankles
v	Saddle joint	Shaped like a saddle found in the thumb
vi	Ellipsoidal joint	Oval-shaped bone end fitting into an elliptical cavity in the other bone so there is movement from one plane to another but not rotation - fingers and toes

E. Movement classification

	Movement	Description
1	Flexion	Decreasing the angle of joint
2	Extension	Increasing angle of a joint
3	Plantar Flexion	Pointing toes down
4	Dorsiflexion	Bending the foot up toward the body
5	Abduction	Moving away from the body's midline

6	Adduction	Moving toward the midline of the body
7	Inversion	Turning the foot inward toward the other foot
8	Eversion	Turning the foot outward away from opposing foot
9	Circumduction	Circular arm movement

V. BONES OF THE SKELETON

- A. Two main divisions of the skeleton
 - 1. Axial skeleton—bones of the thorax, spinal column, hyoid bone, bones of the middle ear, and skull. They protect the body organs and are composed of 80 bones.
 - a. The Skull—many bones forming brain case and facial structures
 - b. The Thorax—ribs and sternum, protects thoracic cavity
 - c. The Spinal Column
 - i. Also called vertebral column; houses the spinal cord; the superhighway for information coming to and from the central nervous system
 - ii. The individual bones or vertebrae are numbered and classified according to the body region where they are located.
 - 2. Appendicular skeleton—these are the bones of your arms, legs, hips, and shoulders and are comprised of 126 bones
 - a. The appendicular region consists of the arms and legs.
 - b. Half the bones in the body are located in the hands and feet.

VI. COMMON DISORDERS OF THE SKELETAL SYSTEM

- A. Aging affects the cartilage and bones; although a natural process, it can sometimes be slowed.
 - 1. Composition of cartilage changes as we age, becoming more brittle and yellow due to calcification; this can lead to arthritis, an inflammatory process of the joints, reducing flexibility and decreasing range of motion.
 - 2. Bone mass decreases with age. Beginning in our 50s the breakdown of bone is greater than the buildup.
 - a. Osteoporosis: light, weak, porous bones. More common in women, but can be diagnosed in men.
 - b. Treatment and prevention of osteoporosis
 - i. Even though bone loss is a natural aging process, it can be slowed by a healthy lifestyle.
 - ii. Proper calcium intake during the formative years and through adulthood decreases the risk of osteoporosis.
 - iii. Vitamin D is important because it allows the body to absorb ingested calcium from the digestive tract.
 - iv. Exercise, especially weight-bearing, plays a vital role in developing, and maintaining strong bones.
 - v. Drink less coffee.
 - vi. Quit smoking.
 - vii. Medication

B. Bone fractures

- 1. A hairline fracture looks like a piece of hair on the x-ray. It is a fine fracture that doesn't completely break or displace the bone.
- 2. Simple or closed fracture—a break with minimal displacement and no tear in the skin
- 3. Greenstick fractures are incomplete breaks often found in children
- 4. Spiral fracture—caused by a twisting motion to the bone
- 5. Comminuted fracture—when the bone fragments or splinters
- 6. Compound or open fracture—when the bone protrudes through the skin, with the potential of infection from exposure.

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Multiple Choice:

1. A 2. D 3. B 4. C 5. D 6. A

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Multiple Choice:

1. D 2. B 3. D 4. B 5. A 6. A

Test Your Knowledge 6-4 Page 138

Multiple Choice:

1. D 2. C 3. C 4. D 5. B 6. B

Review Questions:

Multiple Choice:

1. A **2.** B **3**. B **4**. D **5**. B **6**. B

Short Answer

- 1. Tendons attach muscle to bone. Ligaments attach bone to bone.
- A cartilage model is first surrounded by a bone collar. This causes the deterioration of cartilage inside the bone. Periosteal bud invades, bringing blood vessels and cells. Medullary cavity forms, as does primary ossification center. Bone continues to replace cartilage. Secondary ossification center forms in epiphysis.

3. Joints can be classified functionally as immovable, slightly movable, or freely moving. Joints can be classified structurally as fibrous (united by connective tissue strands), cartilaginous (united by cartilage), or synovial (united by fluid filled joint cavity).



