

Construction of the lip

Lip

The lip is a richly vascularized and nerve-supplied organ that externally lines the oral cavity. It applies to food intake and articulation.

The largest volume inside the lip is occupied by the striated muscle *musculus orbicularis oris*. On its surface there is a connective tissue and above it the squamous epithelial tissue of the skin. The epithelium on the surface of the lip is of three types:

1. **on the outer side of the lips** - stratified squamous epithelium cornified; contains whiskers and adjacent glands.
2. **on the side facing the oral cavity** - multi-layered squamous non-keratinizing epithelium; there are tiny salivary glands in the connective tissue below.
3. **at the transition between these two zones** - red lip transition zone; it contains richly blood-filled ligamentous papillae, thanks to which the blood that shines through gives this part of the lips a typical red color.

Skin part of the lip

- thin skin type
- epidermis – stratified squamous keratinized epithelium
- dermis – skin adnexa (hair follicles, sweat and sebaceous glands)

Red lip area

- stratified squamous non-keratinizing epithelium – will increase significantly in this area (eleidin)
- fibrous papillae extending into the epithelium – vascular supply – capillary network at the top of the papillae – translucent blood in the capillaries
- nerve endings – bare nerve fibers between epithelial cells
- Meissner corpuscles

Mucous part of the lip

- mucosa vestibulum oris
- epithelium – stratified squamous non-keratinized
- lamina propria mucosae – sparse collagen tissue
- submucosa – connection of the mucous membrane to the muscle fascia, ggl. glands. labiales = mixed seromucinous salivary glands
- muscle – *musculus orbicularis oris* (transversal band. skeletal muscle)

Links

References

- The oral cavity

References

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