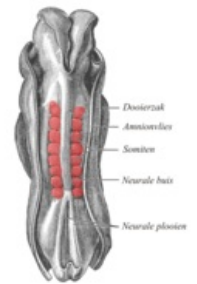


Development of the spine

The **Spine** is formed in the embryonic period from the **somites**, which are partly adjacent to the chorda dorsalis - the **sclerotomes**. **Sclerotomy** surrounds the chord and the medullary tube and differentiates into individual parts of the spine - vertebrae and intervertebral plates. During development, the material of the vertebral somites moves towards the *myotomes* that form the basis of the muscles. For this reason, muscles go from one vertebra to another and not from one end of a vertebra to the end of the same vertebra. This allows the movement of the spine. Then there is a shift of the developing vertebra by half a segment as a result of the division into cranial and caudal parts. Another shift of half a segment is created by the enlargement of the cranial part and its transformation into a vertebral body. The cranial part pushes the caudal part, which gives rise to the **intervertebral disc**. The nucleus pulposus of the intervertebral disc is formed from the chorda dorsalis.



Somite

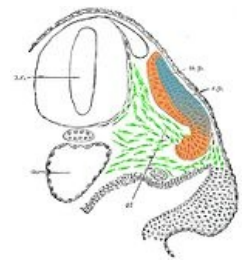
Links

Related Articles

- Vertebrates
- Spine connection
- Notogenesis

References

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Transverse section of a four-week-old human embryo.