# RELEVANT ANATOMY OF THE TEAT

There are five primary layers to the lining of the teat: the inner most layers of mucosa and submucosa, a layer of highly vascularized conjunctive tissue, the muscularis, and then the outer most layer of skin. Proximally, the glandular cisterna collects the milk–gathering ducts. A narrowed portion of the cisterna, the annular relief, separates the glandular portion from the more distal papillary part. The papillary part of the cisterna is comprised of longitudinal folds of mucosa that allow the cistern to expand to accommodate increases in volume. At the distal extremity of the teat, the internal opening of the papillary duct, called the Furstenberg rosette, probably functions to close the papillary duct in between milking and may also play an immune role in preventing infection. The papillary duct, or teat canal, is the last portion of the mammary gland’s excretory system that is held closed by a muscular sphincter.

The primary blood supply to the mammary gland of the cow is the pudendal artery, which enters the mammary gland through the inguinal canal and runs longitudinally down the teat. The artery divides into a large mammary artery that course’s ventrocranially and a smaller mammary artery that runs caudally. The pudendal vein drains the mammary gland and arises as a plexus from a vein encircling the sphincter and terminates at the base of the teat

