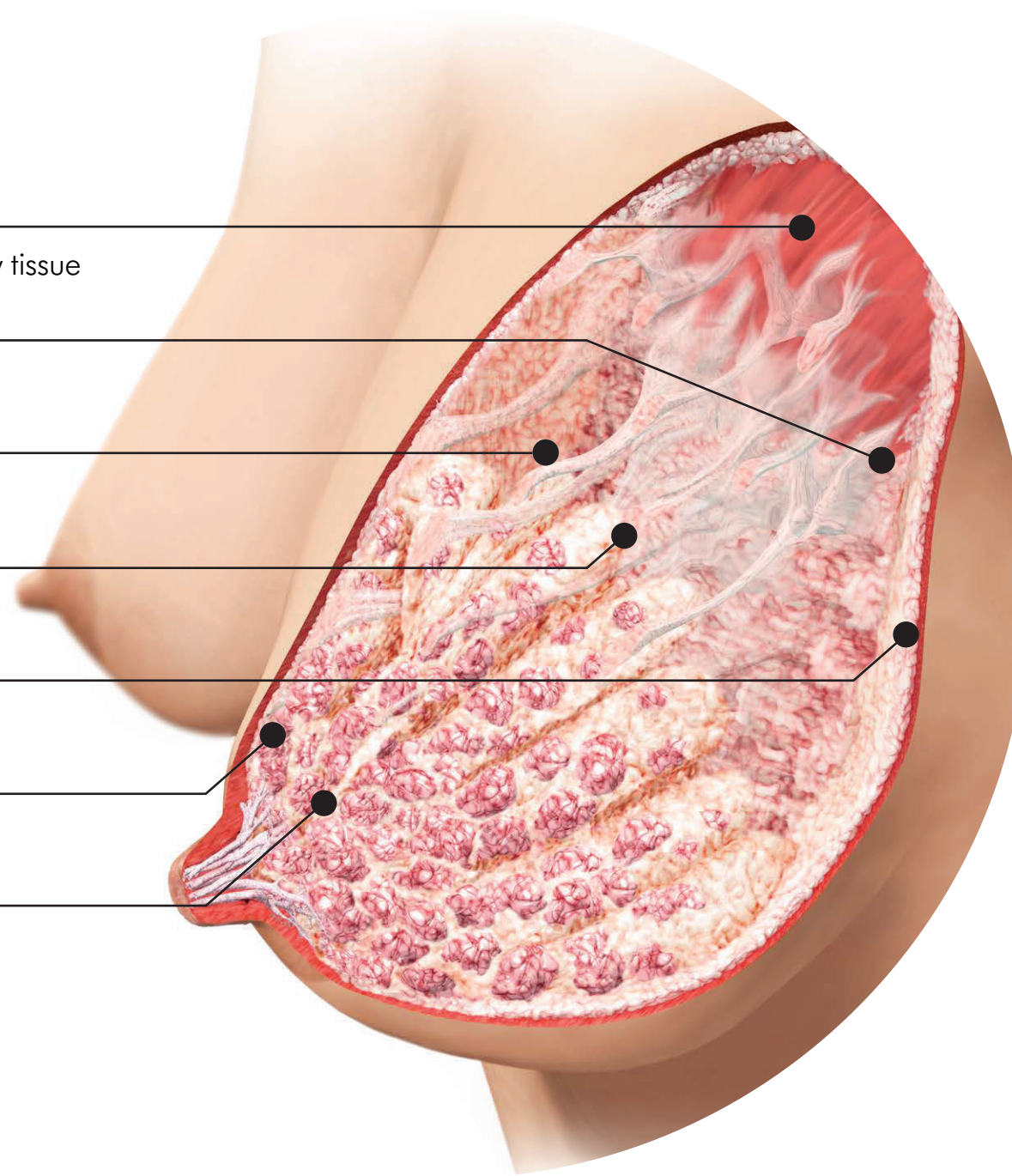
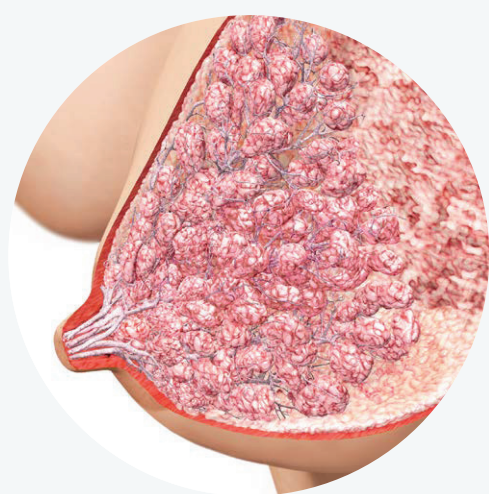


Anatomy of the Lactating Breast

- 1. Cooper's Ligaments** — Provides support and a frame work for the glandular and fatty tissue
- 2. Retromammary Fat** — Fat pad at the back of the breast, at the chest wall
- 3. Glandular Tissue** — The part of the breast that makes the milk
- 4. Intraglandular Fat** — Fatty tissue that is intermingled with the glandular tissue
- 5. Subcutaneous Fat** — Fatty tissue that lies just under the skin
- 6. Main Milk Duct** — The milk ducts that lead into the nipple
- 7. Milk Duct** — The ducts throughout the breast that transport the milk from the glandular tissue to the main milk ducts

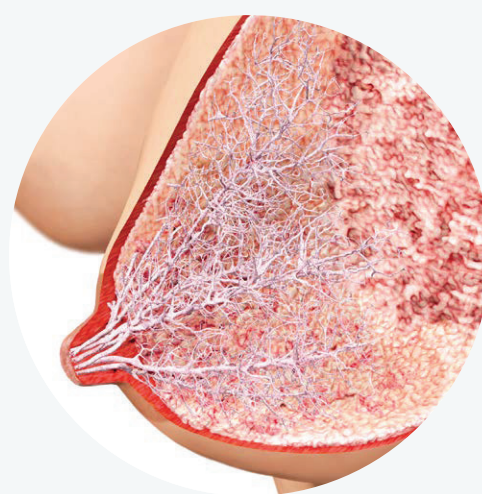


Glandular and Fatty Tissue



- The ratio of glandular to fat tissue in the lactating breast is 2:1
- 65% of the glandular tissue is located in a 30 mm radius from the base of the nipple
- Fatty tissue is found in three areas:
 - Retromammary
 - Intraglandular
 - Subcutaneous
- The intraglandular fat is mixed with the glandular tissue and is difficult to separate
- Subcutaneous fat is minimal at the base of the nipple

Ductal Network



- The ductal anatomy is similar for each breast but can vary greatly between women
- The main function of the ducts is the transport, not storage, of milk
- The ductal network is complex and the milk ducts are not always arranged in a radial or symmetrical pattern
- Resting duct diameter can differ greatly between women (range 1–4.4 mm)
- The ducts expand in diameter at milk ejection (average 58%)

Main Milk Ducts



- The main milk ducts at the base of the nipple are:
 - Approximately 2 mm in diameter
 - Superficial
 - Branching close to the nipple
- The conventionally described lactiferous sinuses behind the nipple do not exist
- The range of milk ducts exiting the nipple is 4–18