

Chapter 27, The Male Reproductive System

“Apply What You Know” Answers

- p. 1038—No, because the whole idea of the blood-testis barrier is to isolate the germ cells from the circulatory system. If there were blood capillaries in the tubule wall, T cells or antibodies would attack the germ cells and cause sterility. This trait (vascularization of the seminiferous tubules) would not persist for long in the gene pool!
- p. 1043—Castration is followed by a rise in FSH and LH levels because of the sudden absence of negative feedback inhibition of the pituitary by the gonads.
- p. 1051—If the corpus spongiosum engorged as much as the corpora cavernosa, it would compress the urethra and interfere with ejaculation.