

Level: master				
Course title: REPRODUCTIVE ENDOCRINOLOGY				
Status: obligatory				
ECTS: 5				
Requirements: -				
Learning objectives The learning objective is to obtain knowledge on complex and interrelated mechanisms of reproductive function control, on potentially negative effects of stress and endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) on reproductive function.				
Learning outcomes Upon successful completion of pre-examination and examination tasks, the students should: master the knowledge on control mechanisms of reproductive function; understand protocols of ovarian stimulation; be introduced to potentially negative effects of stress and EDCs; follow and understand the results and directions of current research in this field.				
Syllabus <i>Theoretical instruction</i> Regulation of the activity of GnRH-neurons and hypophyseal gonadotropes. Prolactin and reproduction. Endocrine regulation of spermatogenesis. Testicular endocrine activity, regulation of Leydig cell activity. Endocrine ovarian function, steroid-producing cells, control of folliculogenesis and ovulation. Neuroendocrine control of menstrual cycle. Control of GnRH neuron activities and onset of puberty. Fertilisation, implantation mechanisms and placenta formation. Endocrinology of pregnancy. Hormone control of labour, lactation, maternal behaviour. Stress and reproduction. EDCs and possible mechanisms of action on reproductive function. <i>Practical instruction</i> Student research: experimental model – primary cultures of granulosa cells; examination of gene expression and production of steroid hormones under different experimental conditions; keeping laboratory diaries.				
Weekly teaching load				Other: -
Lectures: 2	Exercises: -	Other forms of teaching:-	Student research: 3	