

perceptions of labial appearance, and labial procedures. The goal is to understand the mechanism and purpose of the evolution of the LM and its effects on anatomical and sexual function.

**Methods:** We reviewed journal articles from 1988 to 2023 concerning labial anatomy, physiology, pathology, piercings, tattoos, and labial procedures such as labiaplasty, genital mutilation, episiotomies. We also reviewed cultural perceptions of its structure, its role in sexual function and its composition and function in the transgender population.

**Results:** The LM is highly neurovascular and engorges with blood with sexual stimulation. The structural changes are influenced by hormone levels. Perception of normal appearance varies by cultural and societal norms, influencing procedures performed in the area. Due to the histological composition of the LM, it has many manifestations of dermatological diseases. The LM is also susceptible to infectious, neoplastic, drug-induced, inflammatory, autoimmune and other systemic diseases. Limited information exists on LM piercing and tattoos. The size discrepancies of the LM may cause psychological distress, with conflicting research on its impact on sexual sensitivity or function. Labial procedures such as labiaplasty may enhance sexual satisfaction while female genital mutilation may reduce sexual satisfaction. There is a lack of comprehensive documentation of techniques of LM creation in transgender women and a lack of long-term follow-up studies post-vaginoplasty. The lymphatic structure within the LM is poorly understood, emphasizing the need for further research.

**Conclusions:** The labia minora is important for arousal and sexual function and its changes over time is dependent on hormone levels. The appearance and structure drive the kinds of labial procedures that are conducted and significantly affects sexual health. There is a need for further studies of the labia minora to understand its complexities and evolution.

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## (136) LABIA MINORA: A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

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**Introduction:** The labia minora (LM) is a part of the external female genitalia that varies greatly in form and appearance, and changes at each developmental stage of a woman. Its highly neurovascular nature and proximity to the clitoris allows it to play a vital role in sexual function. Along with the labia majora, it helps to protect the opening of the urethra and vagina. The perception of a normal LM is dependent on cultural and social context and influences the kinds of procedures that are done on the LM.

**Objective:** This study aims to comprehensively review labial anatomy, development, pathology, its role in sexual function,