

**The Development of the Corpus Luteum:
a Review.**

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THE present paper is the result of an attempt to collect together and give an account of the literature of the formation of the corpus luteum, during the last ten years, that is, since the publication of Sobotta's first paper on the corpus luteum of the mouse.

Of the three original hypotheses put forward to explain the mode of formation of the corpus luteum, and the origin of the lutein cells, that of Paterson, who regarded the structure as derived from the blood coagulum left in the cavity of the Graafian follicle after its discharge, gained few or no adherents among subsequent investigators. The other two theories, those of von Baer and Bischoff, on the other hand, have each received a considerable amount of support. Von Baer supposed the corpus luteum to be a connective-tissue structure, in the formation of which the membrana granulosa or follicular epithelium had no share; while Bischoff concluded that the lutein cells were formed by the hypertrophy of the epithelial cells of the undischarged follicle. Among the principal supporters of von Baer's view appear the names of Leuckart, His, Kölliker, Slavjansky, Gegenbaur, Benckiser, Schottländer, and Minot. Those who have adopted the alternative theory of Bischoff include Pflüger, Waldeyer, Call and Exner, Beigel, and Schulin.

