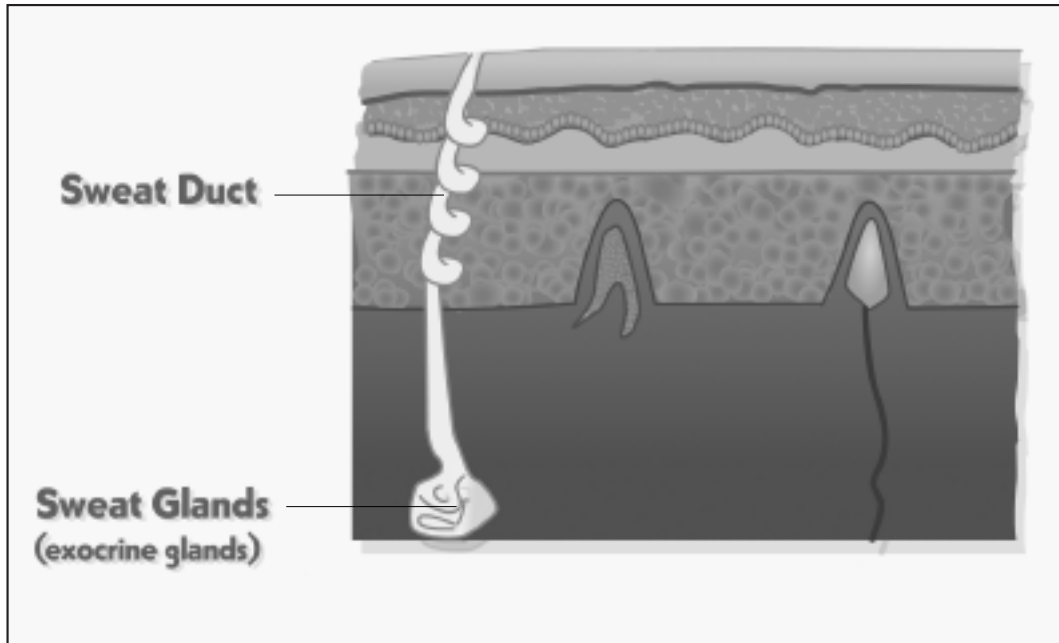


## Deodorant



### Sweat Duct

A narrow tube, which goes to the surface of the skin

### Sweat Glands (exocrine glands)

These are coiled exocrine glands, which secrete sweat. There are two types of sweat gland: apocrine and eccrine. The two glands differ in size, the age that they become active and the composition of the sweat that they make. Compared to apocrine glands, eccrine glands are smaller in size.

# BAREFACTS

## **Eccrine**

- eccrine glands are the most numerous type, which are found all over the body, particularly on the palms of the hands, soles of the feet and forehead;
- they are smaller;
- active from birth (apocrine glands become active only at puberty);
- produce a sweat that is free of proteins and fatty acids.

## **Apocrine**

- Apocrine glands are mostly confined to the armpits (axilla) and the anal-genital area. They typically end in hair follicles rather than pores.
- The sweat from apocrine glands also contains proteins and fatty acids, which make it thicker and give it a milkier or yellowish colour. This is why underarm stains in clothing appear yellowish. Sweat itself has no odour, but when bacteria on the skin and hair metabolise the proteins and fatty acids, they produce an unpleasant odour. This is why deodorants and anti-perspirants are applied to the underarms instead of the whole body.

## **Sweat Composition**

Sweat consists of water, salts and urea, which enters the gland from cells and capillaries.

## **Fun Fact**

Did you know that the lining of your outer ear has modified apocrine glands called ceruminous glands? These modified sweat glands produce earwax. Earwax is thought to prevent foreign material, including insects, from entering your ears!