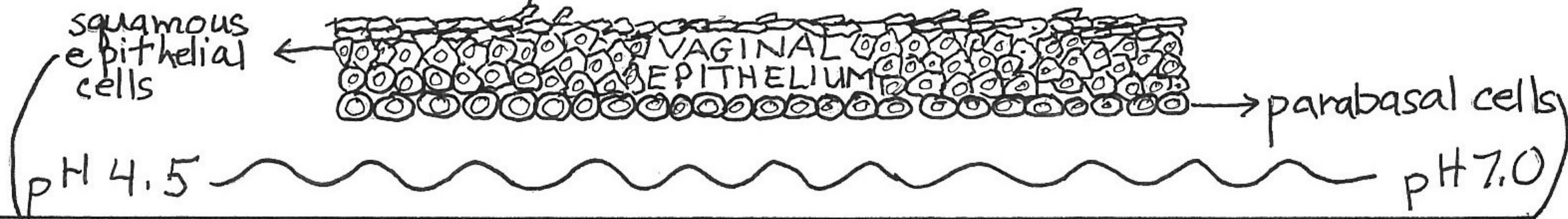


VAGINAL pH and MICROSCOPY

1. Determine pH.
2. Look down the graph to see links between pH and microscopy.



Normal Hormonal Influences	<p>Estrogen present Estrogen absent</p>
Red blood cells	
Misleading artifact	
Candida (pseudohyphae and budding spores)	
Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) (clue cells, absent LB)	
Trichomonas	
Desquamative Inflammatory Vaginitis (DIV)	

Note: ● Elevated pH meaningless without microscopy. ● WBC's should be in 1:1 ratio with epithelial cells. ● Candida prefers low pH but can grow in any pH. ● WBC's and lactobacilli absent with BV. ● Mobiluncus and other bacteria possible with BV. ● Subtle DIV possible in low pH. ● Always look for mixed conditions. WBC's = ○ ○ ○ Lactobacilli = \ / \ Mobiluncus = ? ? Use yeast cultures!