

ADRENAL GLAND HISTOLOGY REFERENCE

ZONE

CELLULAR MORPHOLOGY

PRIMARY SECRETION

Zona Glomerulosa

Small, polyhedral cells arranged in ovoid clusters or arches. Dark nuclei.

Mineralocorticoids (Aldosterone)

Zona Fasciculata

Large, pale cells (Spongiocytes) arranged in straight vertical cords. High lipid content.

Glucocorticoids (Cortisol)

Zona Reticularis

Small, acidophilic cells in branching, irregular networks. Contains lipofuscin pigment.

Androgens (DHEA / Androstenedione)

Chromaffin Cells

Large, pale-staining epithelioid cells. Arranged in clusters near venous sinusoids.

Catecholamines (Epinephrine & Norepinephrine)

Histological Identification Guide & Pathological Reference Sheet [Date: 2024]