Saunders Group

Impacts of steroid hormone ligands and receptors on reproductive (and general) health

- Sex steroids are ‘master regulators’ of health and of disorders including cancer and endometriosis
- Sex steroid receptors function as ligand-activated transcription factors
- Fine-tuning of steroid hormone action is regulated by local (enzyme) metabolism within tissues (intracrinology)
- The endometrium is a sex-steroid dependent tissue that provides a model organ in which to study
  - Inflammatory processes/immune cell phenotypes
  - Differentiation and transdifferentiation of stem/progenitors (MET/EMT)
  - Mechanisms of scarless tissue repair
  - Drugs that target steroid receptors

![Diagram showing endometrium and phases of the menstrual cycle with steroid hormone receptors and Aromatase enzyme.](image_url)