

The development of the palatine tonsils begins during the fourteenth week of gestation. Mononuclear wandering cells soon migrate into the mesenchyme. Crypts proliferate into the connective tissue and are infiltrated by T-lymphocytes at week 16. The developing palatine tonsils are considered the first B-cell regions in fetal lymphoid tissue. This series of developmental steps for the palatine tonsils arises from the 2nd pharyngeal pouch.