

Chapter 5

THE FUNDAMENTAL UNIT OF LIFE

Shape and Size of Cells:

Cells are very greatly in their shape, they may be disc-like, polygonal, columnar, cuboid, thread like or even irregular. The shape of the cells may vary with the function they perform. Cells differ greatly in size.

Mycoplasmas are smallest cells ranging from 3 - μm . The largest isolated single cell in the egg of an ostrich. Human RBC are about $7.0 \mu\text{m}$ in diameter. Nerve cells are some of the longest cells.

