



Figure 4-51. Gap junctional complexes that interconnect granulosa cells are dispersed during the preovulatory period. Light photomicrographs along the top are from follicles collected before (left) and after (middle) the initiation of the surge of LH. A high-power view of the follicular wall near ovulation (right) indicates thecal extravasation of cells. Transmission electron photomicrographs below demonstrate (left-to-right) the preovulatory dissipation in surface contact points between adjacent granulosa cells.