

The Child with Gastrointestinal Dysfunction

Cheryl C. Rodgers, Kristina D. Wilson



Distribution of Body Fluids

The distribution of body fluids, or total body water (TBW), involves the presence of intracellular fluid (ICF) and extracellular fluid (ECF). Water is the major constituent of body tissues, and the TBW in an individual ranges from 75% (in term newborns) to 45% (in late adolescence) of total body weight.

The ICF refers to the fluid contained within the cells, whereas the