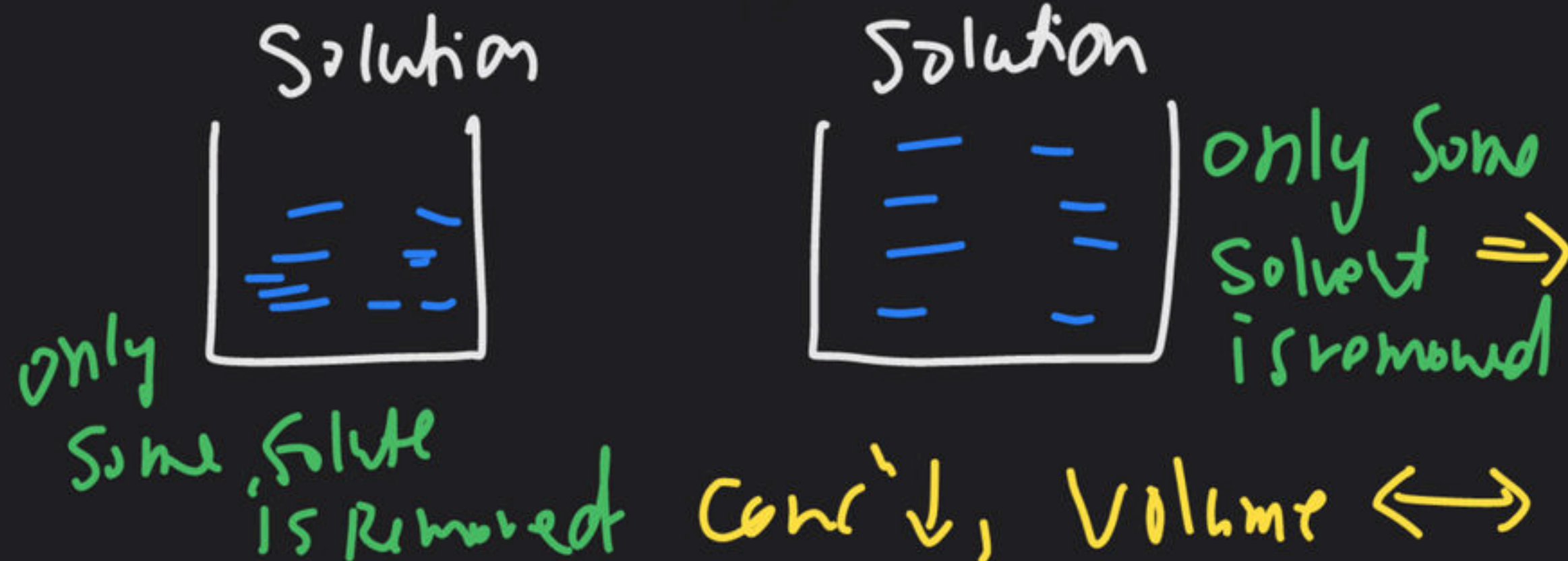


Solute \uparrow & Conc. \uparrow

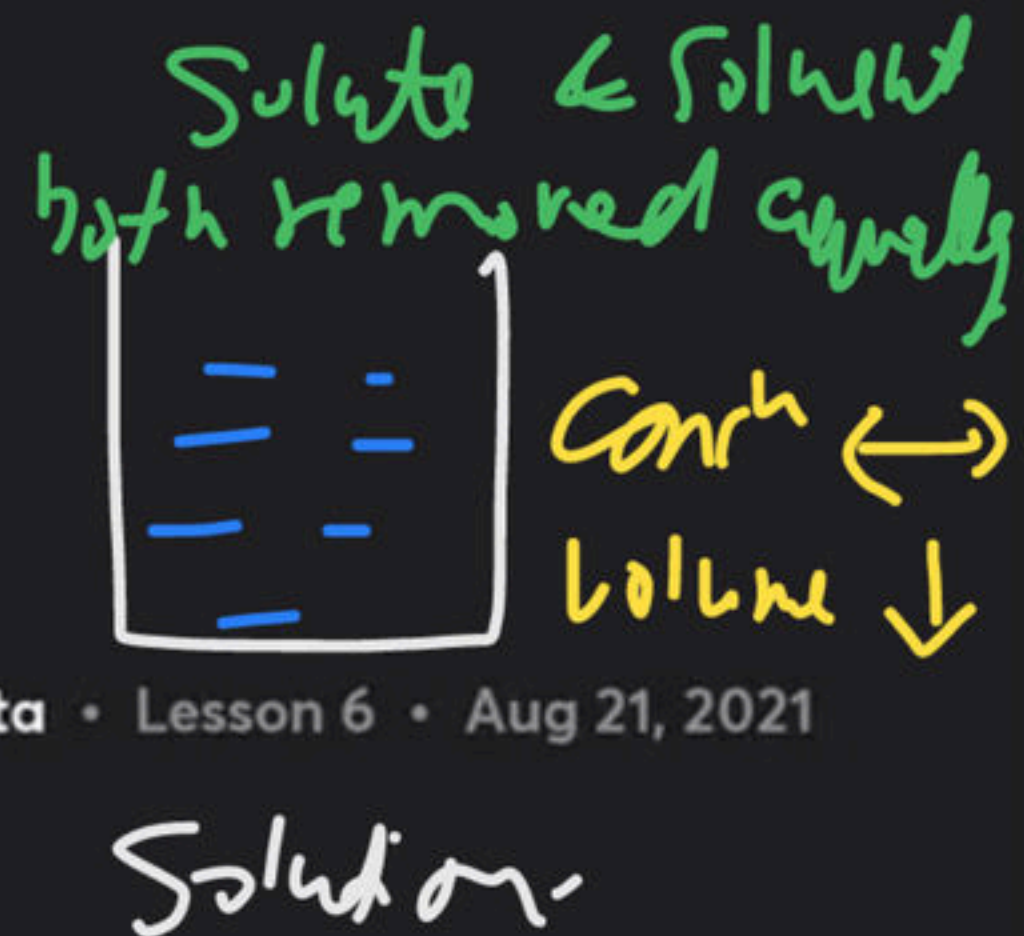
Solvent \uparrow & Volume \uparrow
Conc. \downarrow

Excretory Products & their Elimination - V

Course on Human Physiology: Excretory Products & their Elimination



Conc. \uparrow
Volume \downarrow



normal urine wrt. Plasma (300)

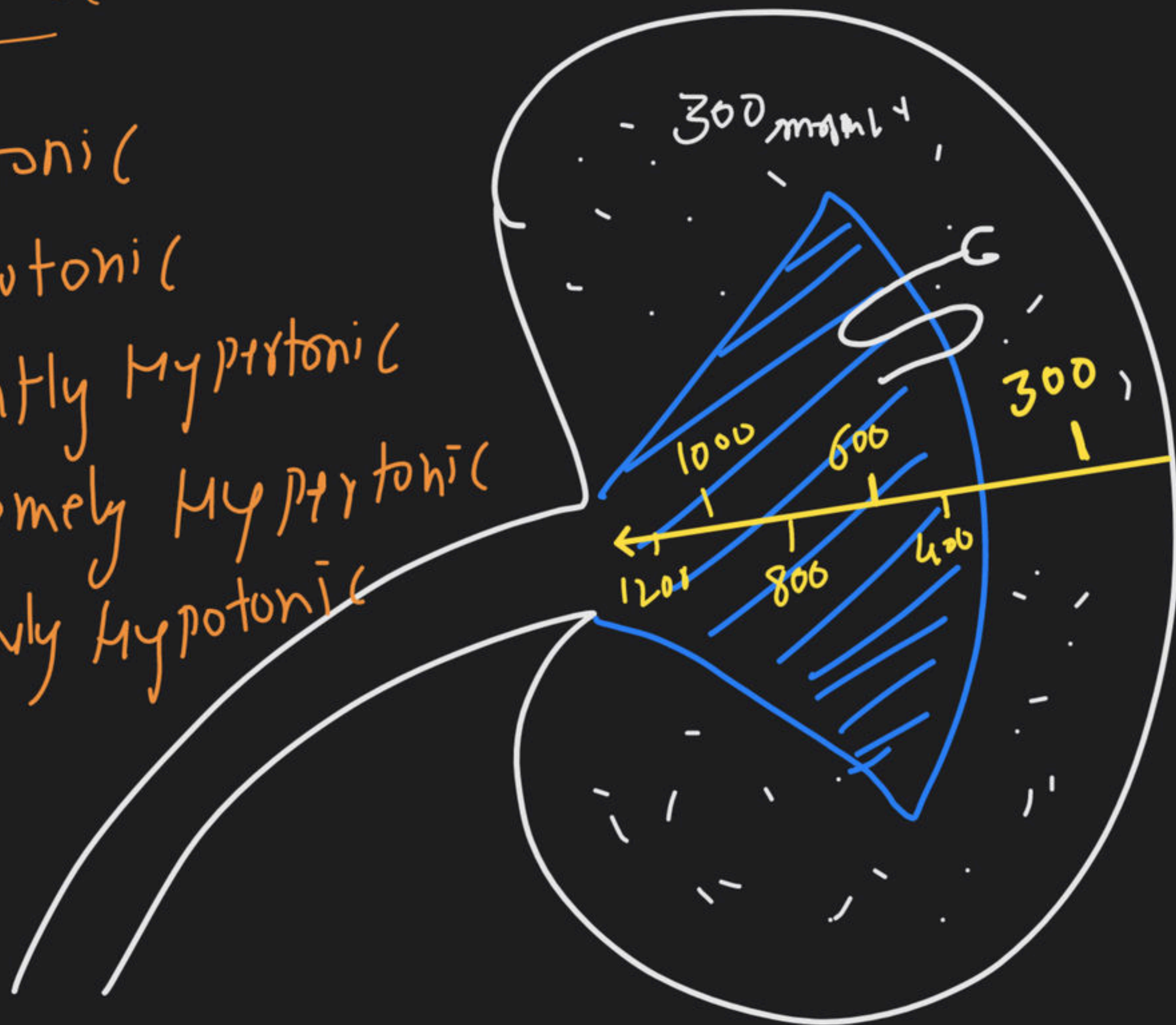
(A) isotonic

(B) hypotonic

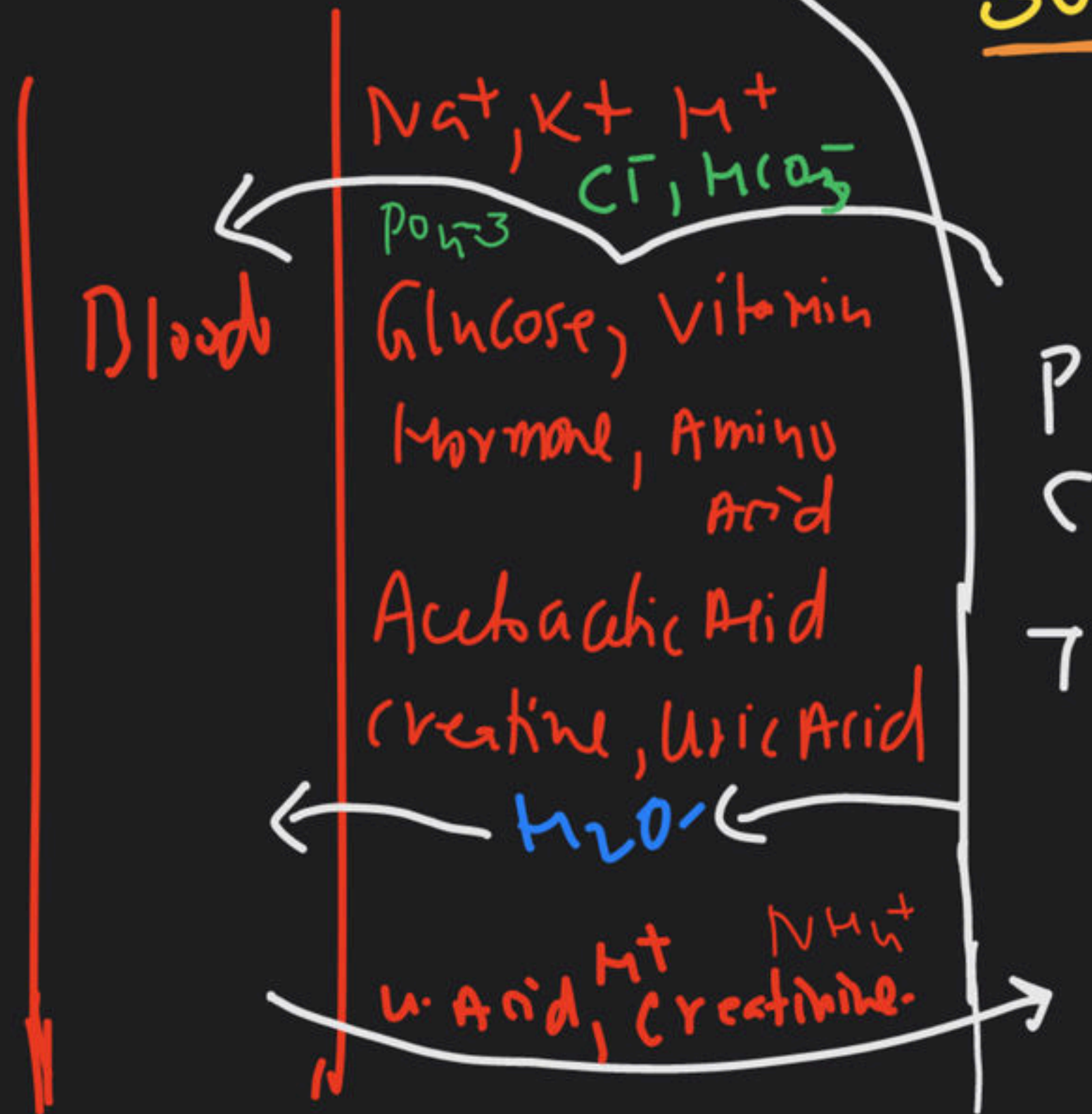
☒ (C) slightly hypertonic

(D) extremely hypertonic

(E) extremely hypotonic

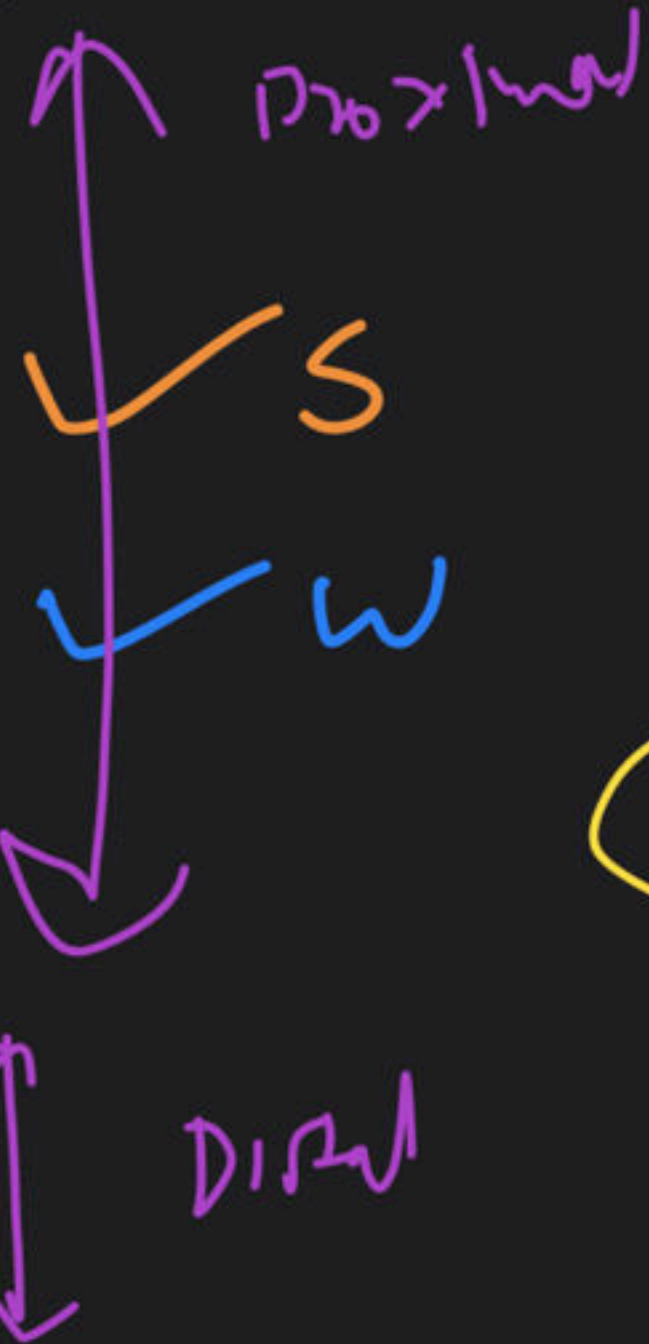


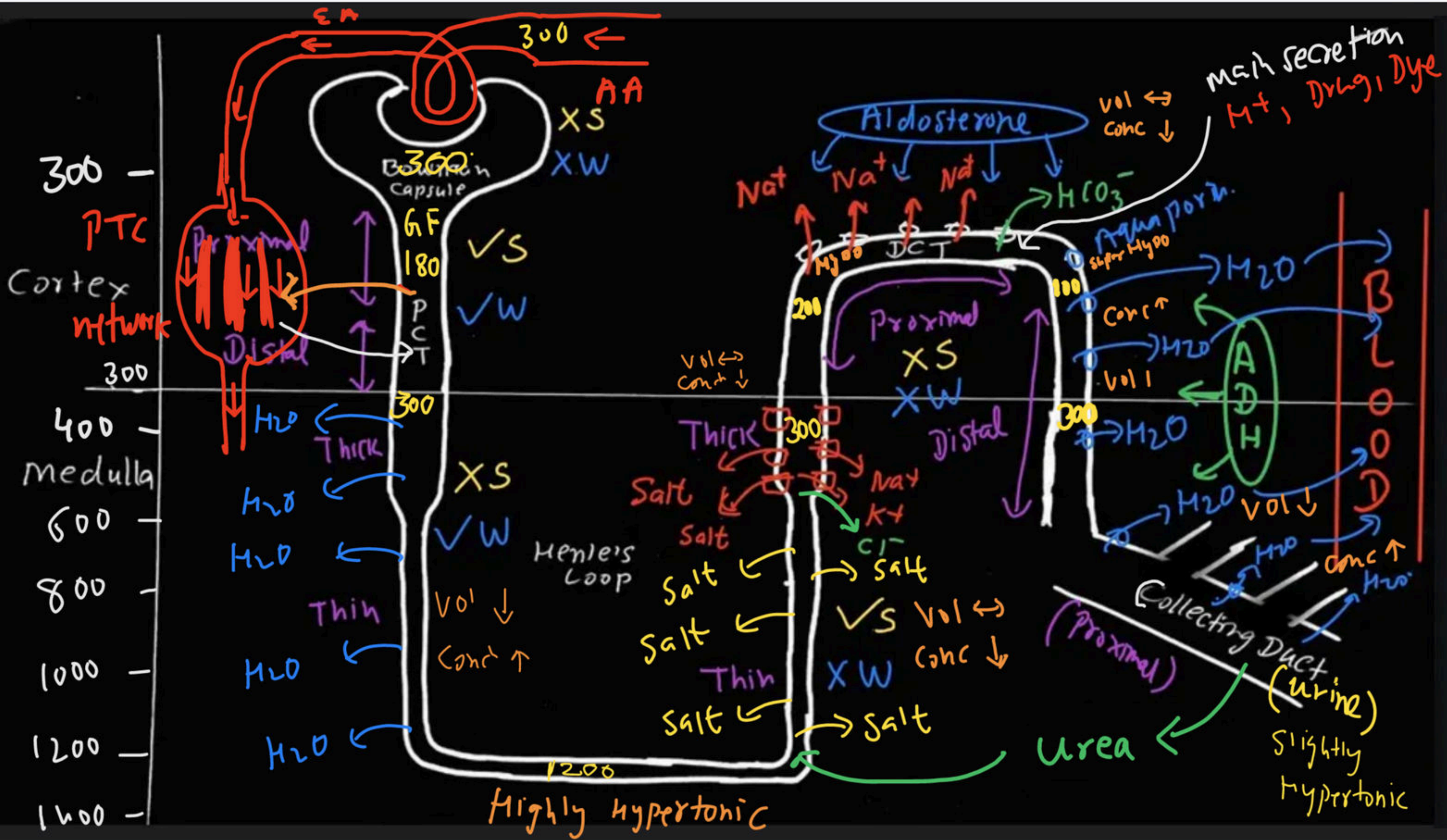
PTC Network

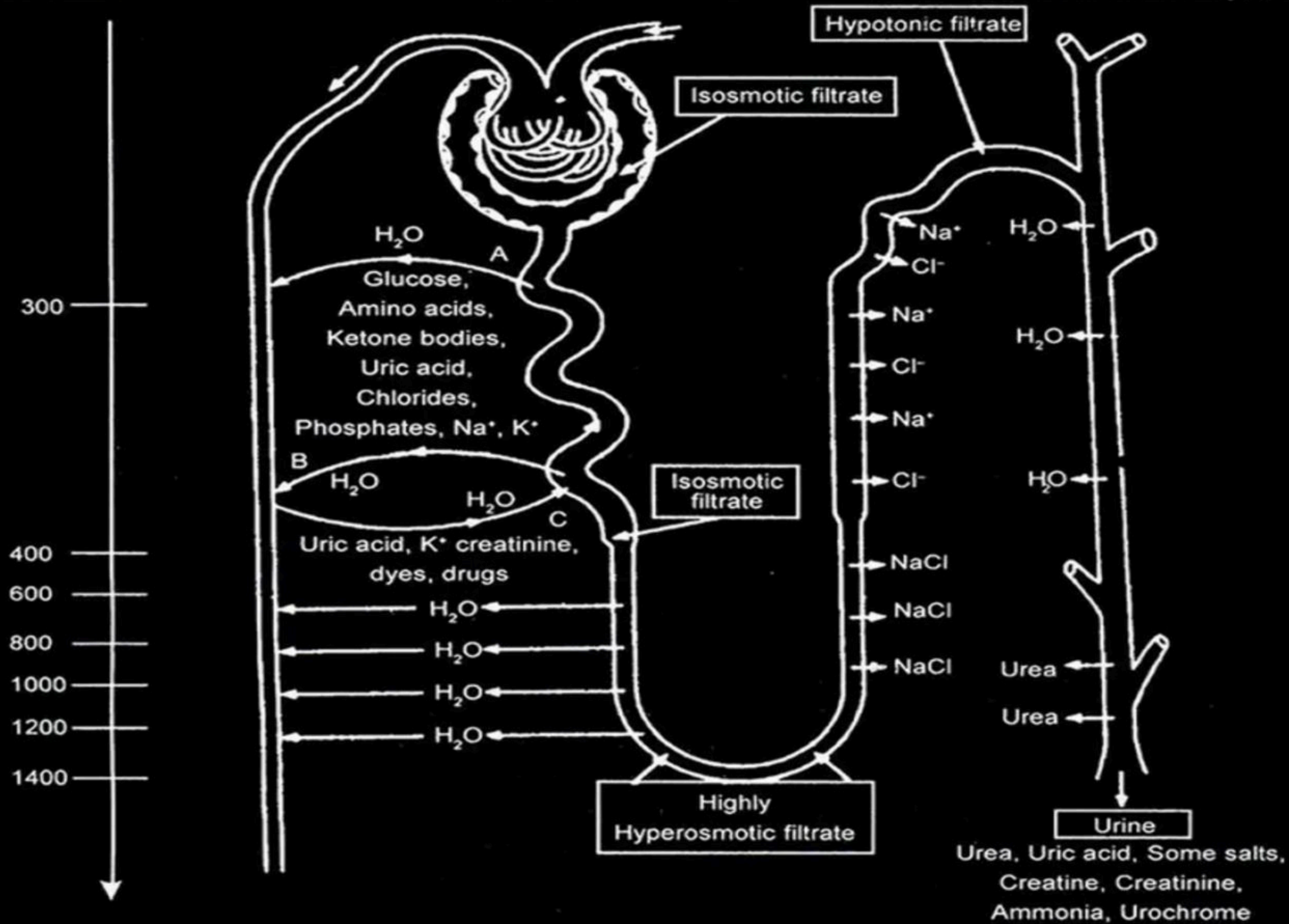


$\times S$
 $\times W$

A - isotonic
B - Hypotonic
C - Hypertonic







Changes occurring stepwise in the filtrate while it flows through the tubules :

(1) **Bowman's capsule** : Since all plasma solutes, except proteins, freely enter into glomerular filtrate from blood, the total solute concentration (osmolality 300 milliosmoles per litre) of the filtrate is essentially the same as that of plasma. Here the filtrate is thus **isotonic** (isosmotic) to the plasma.

• *Concentration \leftrightarrow ; Volume \leftrightarrow*

(2) **Proximal convoluted tubule** : The microvilli of the "brush-border" columnar cells of the epithelium of this tubule increase the internal surface of the epithelium about 20 times. Hence, this epithelium becomes most suitable for reabsorption. About 65 % to 80% of the filtrate is reabsorbed into the blood of peritubular capillaries through this epithelium and surrounding tissue fluid (renal interstitium). Most of the solutes like glucose, amino acids, vitamins, ketone bodies, acetoacetic acid, uric acid, chlorides, sodium, potassium, phosphates etc of the filtrate are reabsorbed into the blood by diffusion and active transport. Some urea is also reabsorbed. Sulphates, creatinine, inulin and PAH (para amino hippuric acid) are not reabsorbed.

As most of the solutes are reabsorbed, water automatically goes back into the blood by osmosis leaving the osmotic pressure in the filtrate unchanged . Thus, the filtrate is reduced in volume, but it **still remains isotonic** to the plasma.

\therefore Concentration \leftrightarrow , volume \downarrow

(3) **Descending limb of henle's loop** : The loop of Henle is divisible into four parts, namely Thick descending limb, the Thin descending limb, the Thin segment of ascending limb, and the Thick segment of ascending limb.

In mammalian kidneys, the osmolality of renal interstitium is different in renal cortex and medulla. Whereas the cortical interstitium has the normal osmolality of 300 mOsmol/liter, the medullary interstitium has a gradient of increasing osmolality from the cortex upto the tips of the papillae. (300 to 1400 mOsmol/liter)

The thin wall of descending limb of Henle's loop is permeable to water, but not to the solutes. As the isotonic tubular fluid flows down this limb, it gradually loses water by exosmosis due to increasing osmolality of medullary interstitium through which this limb extends. This leaves a small volume of concentrated (**hypertonic** to blood plasma upto 1200 mOsmol/liter) tubular fluid to enter into the ascending limb of Henle's loop.

\therefore Concentration \uparrow , Volume \downarrow

(4) **Ascending limb of Henles loop** : The thin segment of the ascending limb of henle's loop is structurally like the descending limb, but its permeability is different. It is quite permeable to NaCl but not to water.

Due to decreasing osmolality of medullary interstitium towards cortex, the tubular fluid, therefore, loses Na^+ and Cl^- by diffusion, again becoming diluted and **isotonic** to plasma without changing in volume.

\therefore Concentration \downarrow , Volume \leftrightarrow

The wall of the thick ascending limb of Henle's loop is virtually impermeable to both water and solutes, but the plasma membrane of its cells is very rich in $\text{Na}^+ - \text{K}^+$ pumps. These pumps pump out Na^+ by active transport, and Cl^- passively diffuse out following the outflux of Na^+ . Thus the process of dilution of the tubular fluid continues in this limb. Consequently, the tubular fluid becomes considerably **hypotonic** to blood plasma without a change in its volume.

\therefore Concentration \downarrow , Volume \leftrightarrow

(5) **Distal convoluted tubule (DCT)** : In the distal convoluted tubule, under the influence of Aldosterone active reabsorption of Na^+ and Cl^- passively continues by facilitated diffusion and hence the tubular fluid becomes still more diluted . It also helps to regulate blood pH by reabsorption of HCO_3^- which is an important buffer.

In Distal segment of DCT passive Reabsorption of water occurs under the influences of ADH.

\therefore In proximal DCT *Concentration* \downarrow , *Volume* \leftrightarrow

While in distal DCT *Concentration* \uparrow , *Volume* \downarrow

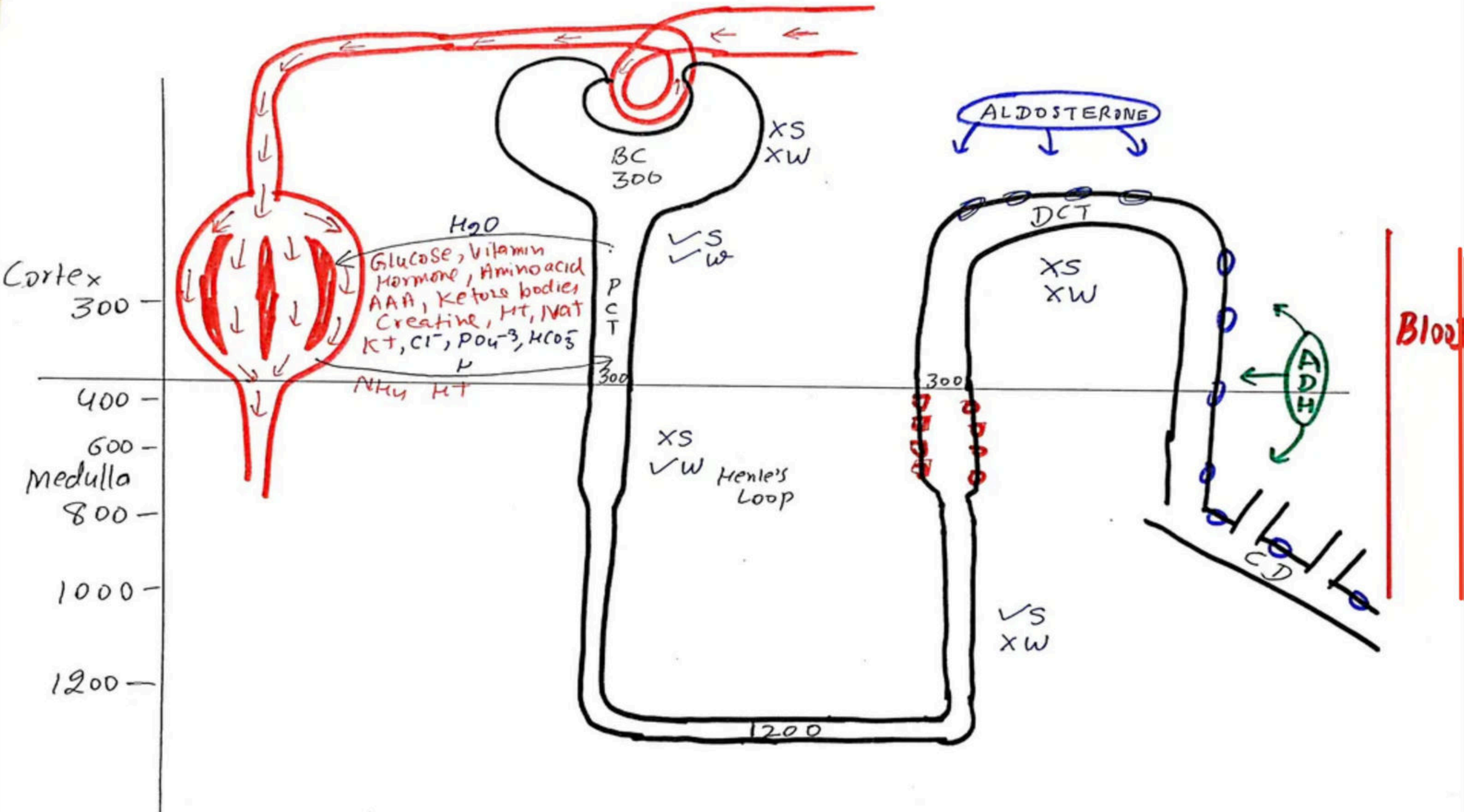
(6) **Collecting duct** : From the distal convoluted tubule, the hypotonic tubular fluid flows into a collecting duct. This duct is quite permeable to water but not to salt (in presence of some ADH). Hence the tubular fluid loses considerable amount of water by exosmosis as the duct runs down through the hypertonic medullary interstitium to empty into the calyx. The distal part of collecting duct is permeable to urea also.

Hence same urea is also reabsorbed from tubular fluid and it adds to the hyperosmolality of medullary interstitium .

\therefore *Concentration* \uparrow , *Volume* \downarrow

After losing considerable amount of water and some urea, while flowing through the collecting ducts, the filtrate is now ultimately called **urine**.

Chemical composition and physical characteristics of urine : Normal urine contains about 95% water 2% electrolytes (ions of salts, mainly chlorides, sulphates, phosphates and bicarbonates of sodium, potassium, ammonium, etc), 2.6% urea, 0.3% uric acid and traces of creatinine, ammonia, creatine etc. It is transparent but pale yellow due to the presence of a trace of urochrome pigment. Urochrome is a by product of haemoglobin degradation found in blood and filtered into glomerular filtrate. Normal urine is slightly acidic with a pH of 6.00 (range is 4.5 to 8.2). Its specific gravity is 1.015 to 1.02. On standing, it becomes cloudy and acquires ammonia odour due to formation of ammonium carbonate.



Kidney functions

- 1) Excretion of Nitrogenous waste by urine formation
- 2) Maintenance of pH of Blood (7.4)

more H^+ conc in Blood

↓
Blood becomes more Acidic

↓
more urinary excretion of H^+

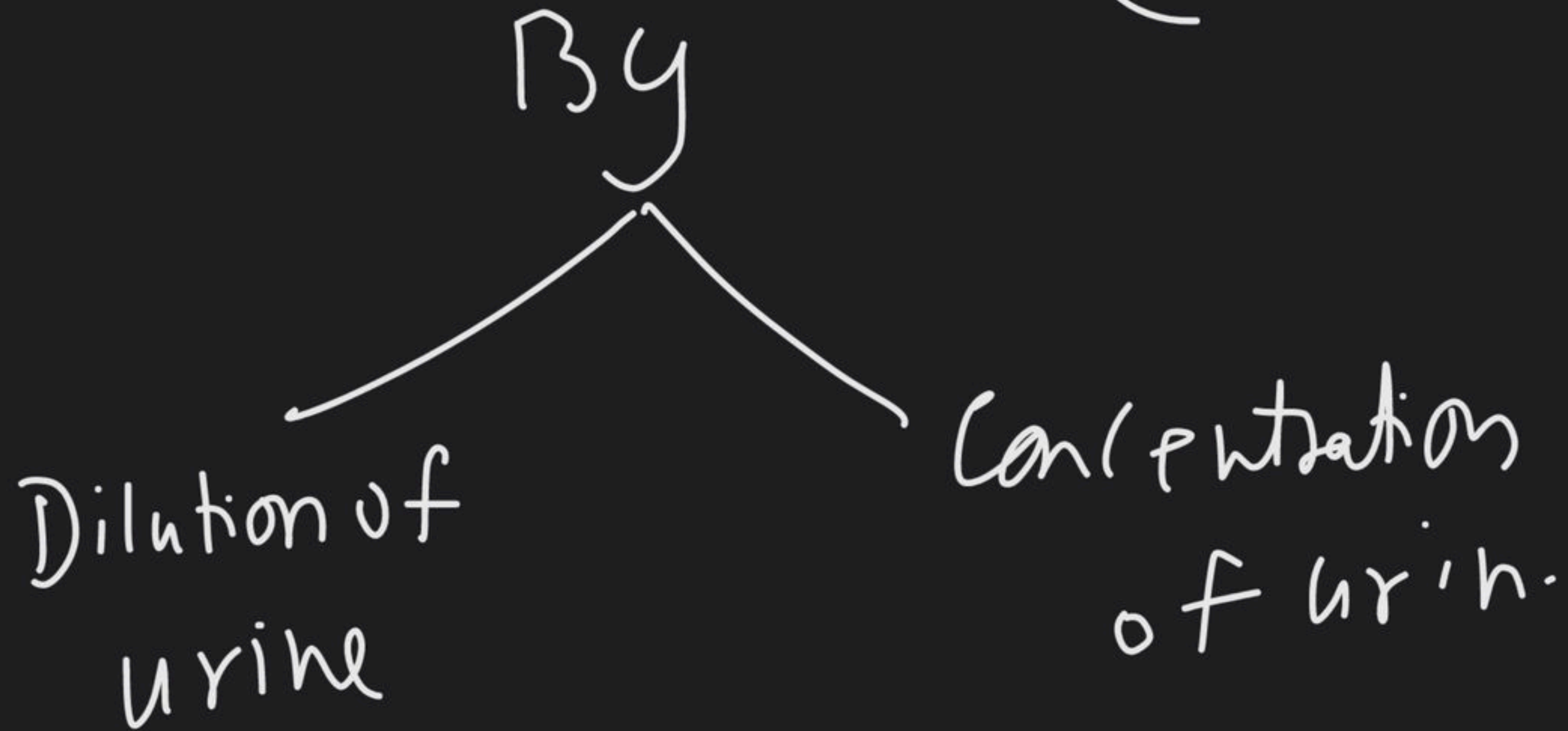
↓
Blood H^+ conc reduces to normal.
↓
Blood pH becomes normal.

more HCO_3^- in Blood

↓
Blood becomes more Basic

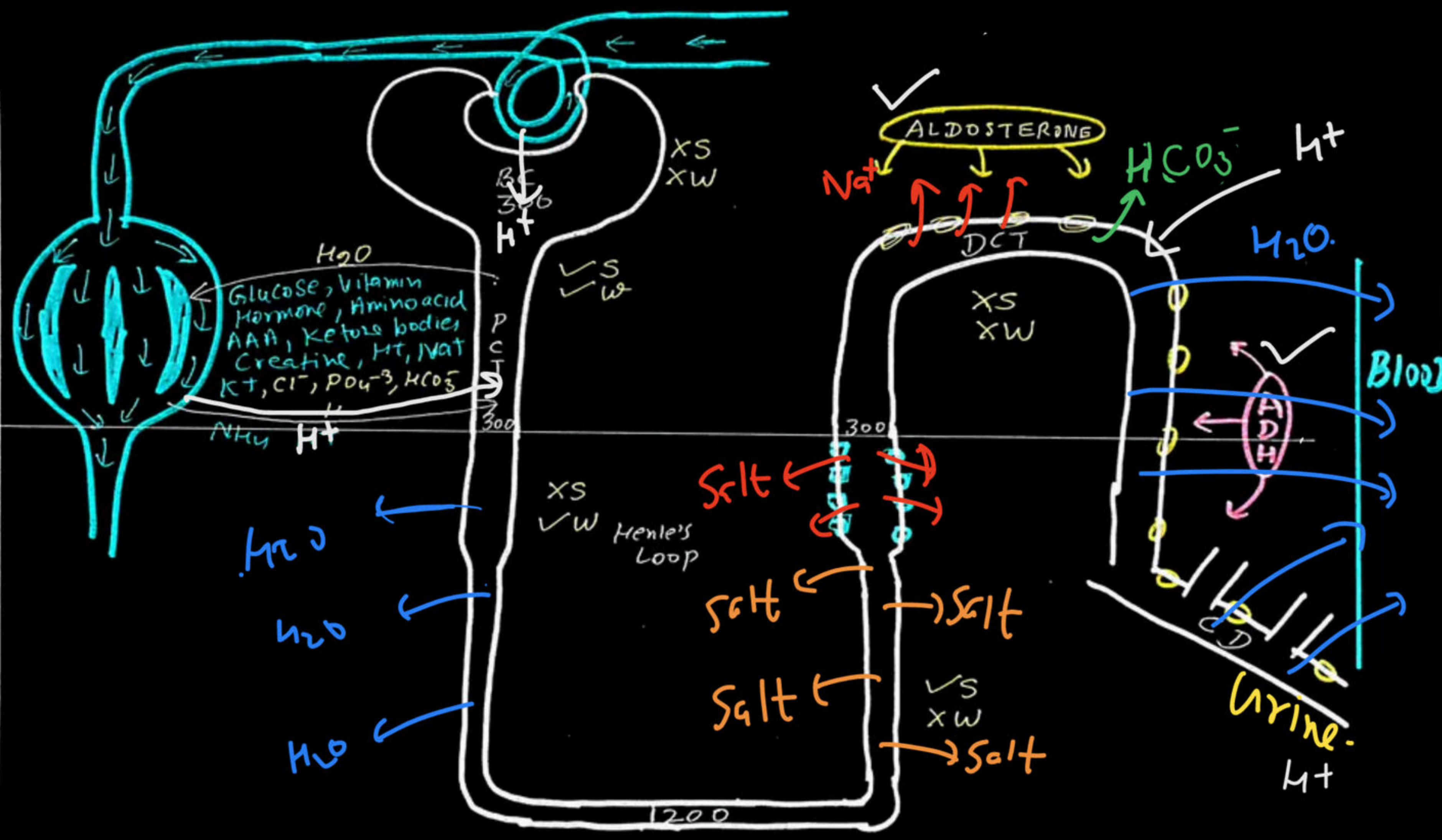
↓
Less Reabsorption of HCO_3^-
↓
more urinary excretion of HCO_3^-
↓
pH of Blood becomes normal

3) Maintenance of Blood osmolarity
($= 300 \text{ mosm L}^{-1}$)



Cortex
300

Medulla
600
800
1000
1200



① ↑ **Aldosterone**

→ ① ↑ Salt in Blood

→ ② ↓ Salt in Urine

① ↑

ADH

→ ① ↑ Water in Blood

→ ② ↓ Water in Urine

What are A, B, C, D

(A) Blood, Blood, Urine, Urine

(C) Blood, Urine, Blood, Urine

(B) Urine, Blood, Urine, Blood

(D) Urine, Urine, Blood, Blood

During urine formation.

⇒ in order to make ~~urine~~^{Blood} with an appropriate pH, the pH of ~~Blood~~^{Urine} can be Altered.

True / False

Blood
(A)

Urine
(B)



↑ Salt in urine

(A) ↑ ADH

(B) ↓ ADH

(C) ↑ Aldosterone

(D) ↓ Aldosterone