

# Renal Physiology

RENAL PHYSIOLOGY 1 – 6

# Renal Physiology

RENAL PHYSIOLOGY 1 INTRO & RENAL ANATOMY

# Functions of the Kidney

- Production of Urine
  - Removal of wastes
  - Fluid balance as part of long-term blood pressure regulation
  - Electrolyte balance and osmolarity regulation
  - pH balance
- Secondary endocrine organ
  - Erythropoietin
  - Renin
  - Vitamin D metabolism

RAAS System

mostly K, Na, Ca, Cl

Hydrogen and Bicarbonate concentration maintains 7.35 and 7.45

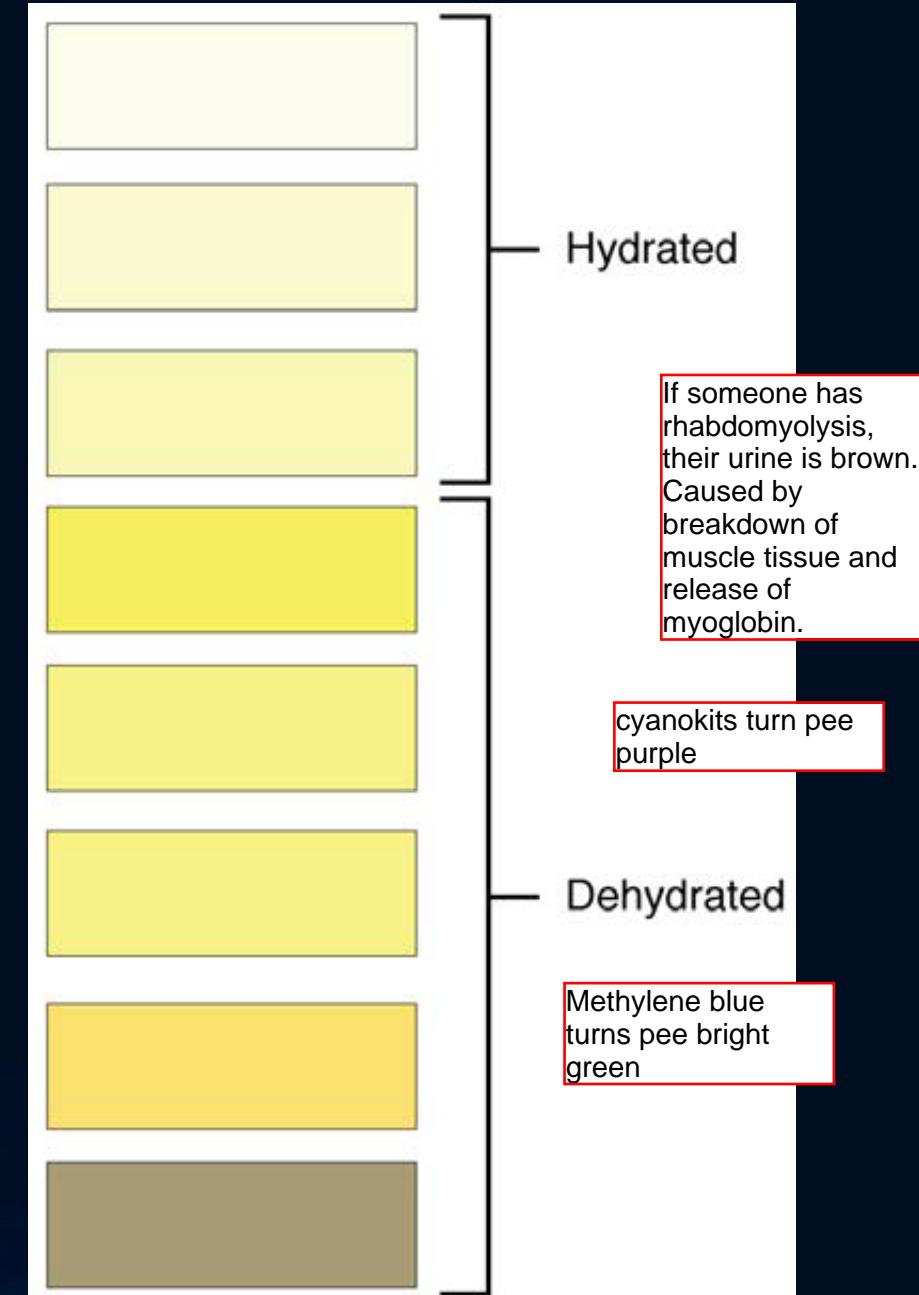
Hormone inducing erythropoiesis

# Characteristics of Urine

## Normal Urine Characteristics

Characteristic	Normal values
Color	Pale yellow to deep amber
Odor	Odorless
Volume	750–2000 mL/24 hour
pH	4.5–8.0
Specific gravity	1.003–1.032
Osmolarity	40–1350 mOsmol/kg
Urobilinogen	0.2–1.0 mg/100 mL
White blood cells	0–2 HPF (per high-power field of microscope)
Leukocyte esterase	None
Protein	None or trace
Bilirubin	<0.3 mg/100 mL
Ketones	None
Nitrites	None
Blood	None
Glucose	None

Table 25.1

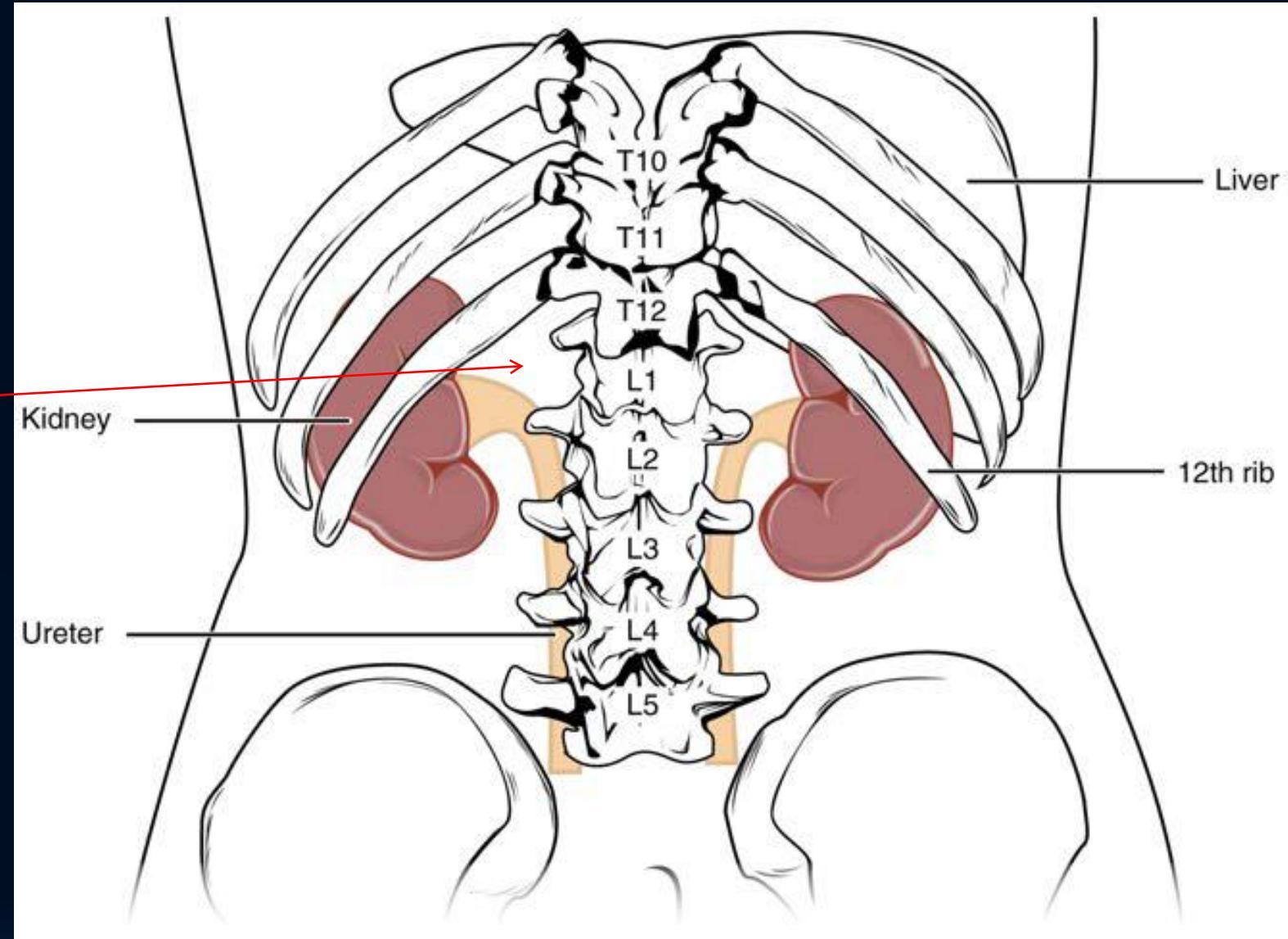


# Location of the Kidneys

Lies in the retroperitoneum

Kidney pain presents in the costovertebral angle (CSA).

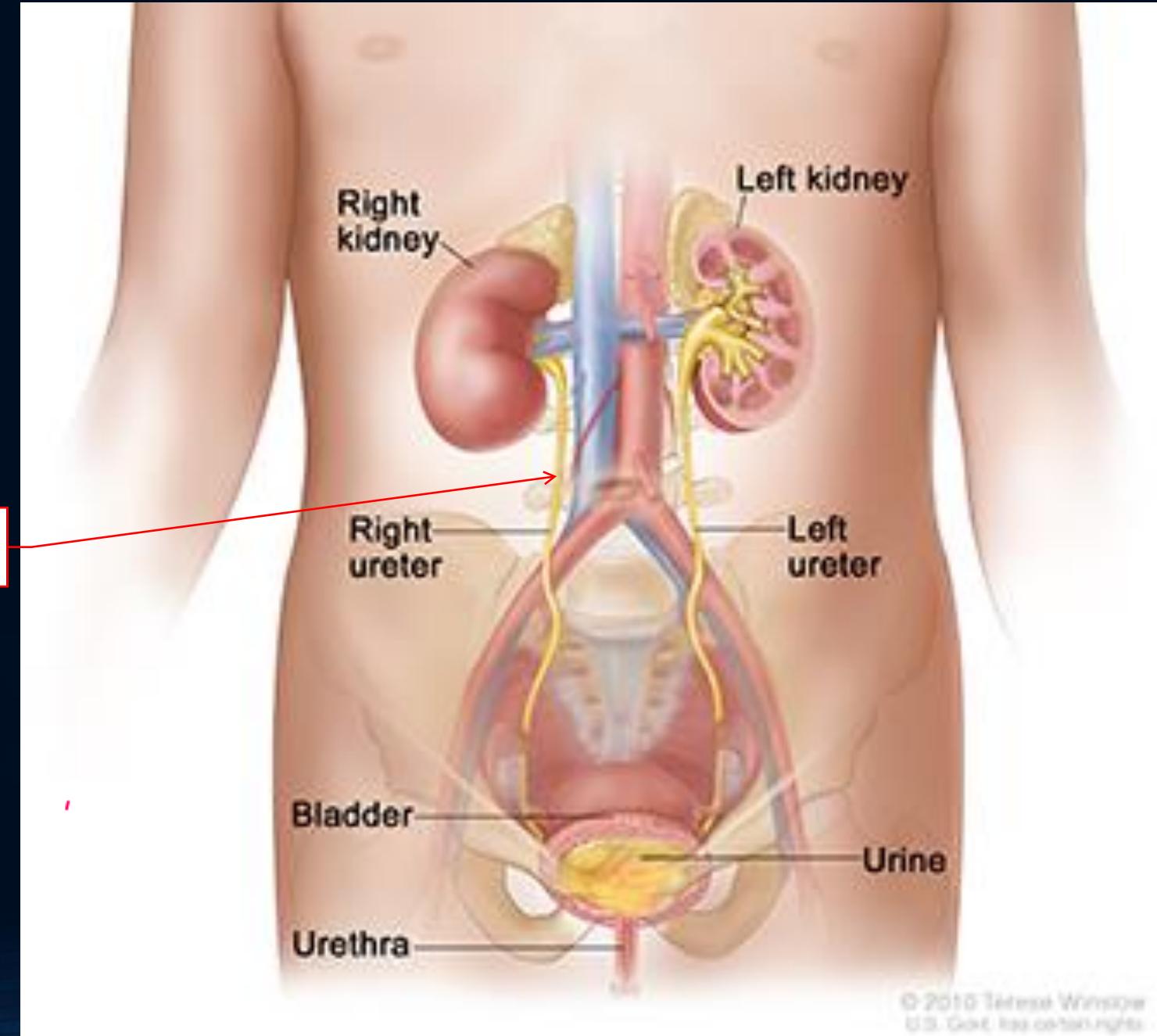
CSAC



# Urinary System

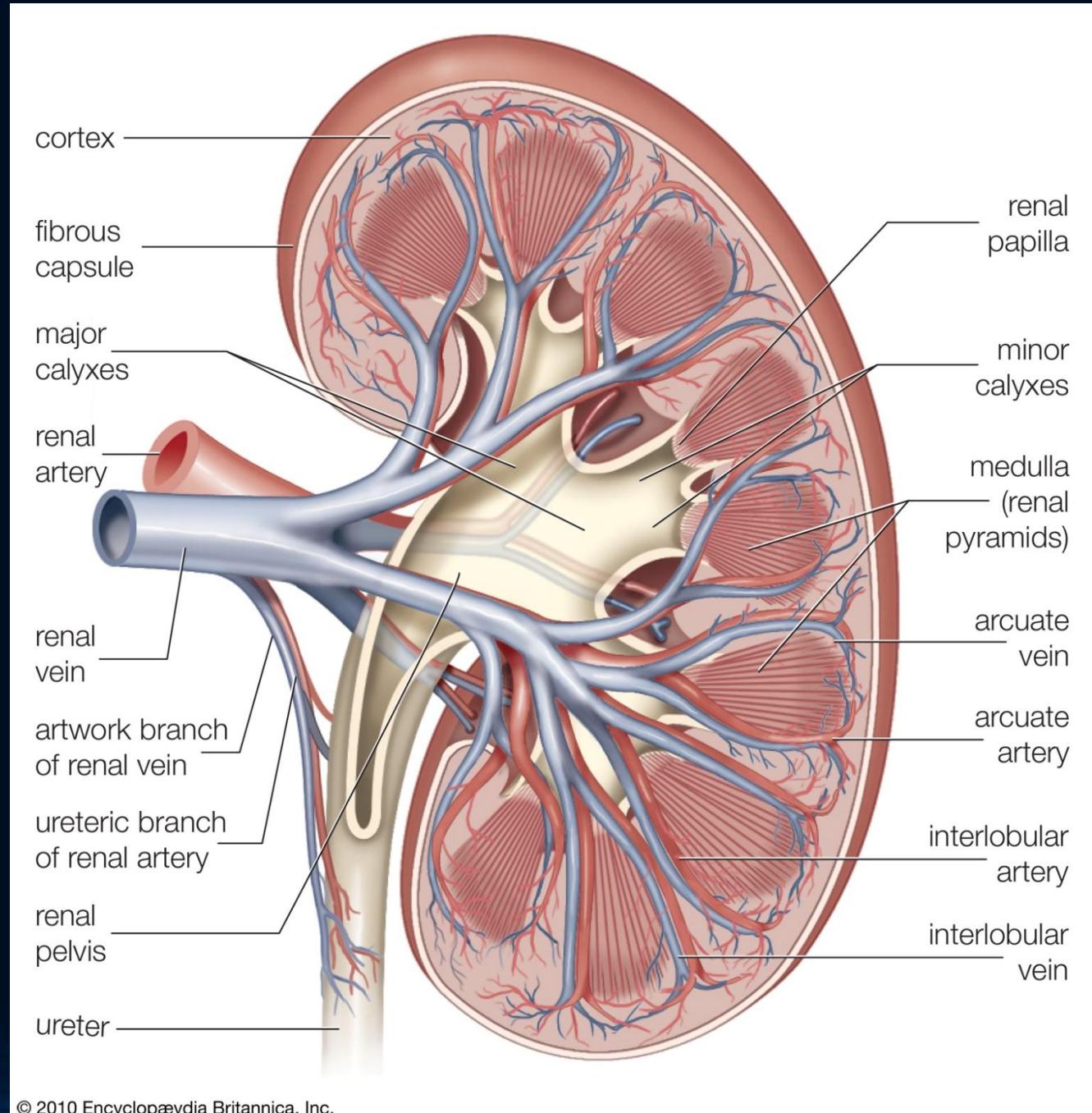
Kidney injuries  
present as  
hematuria, Grey  
Turner's sign  
(back/flank bruising)

calcium kidney  
stones tear this  
apart, causing pain



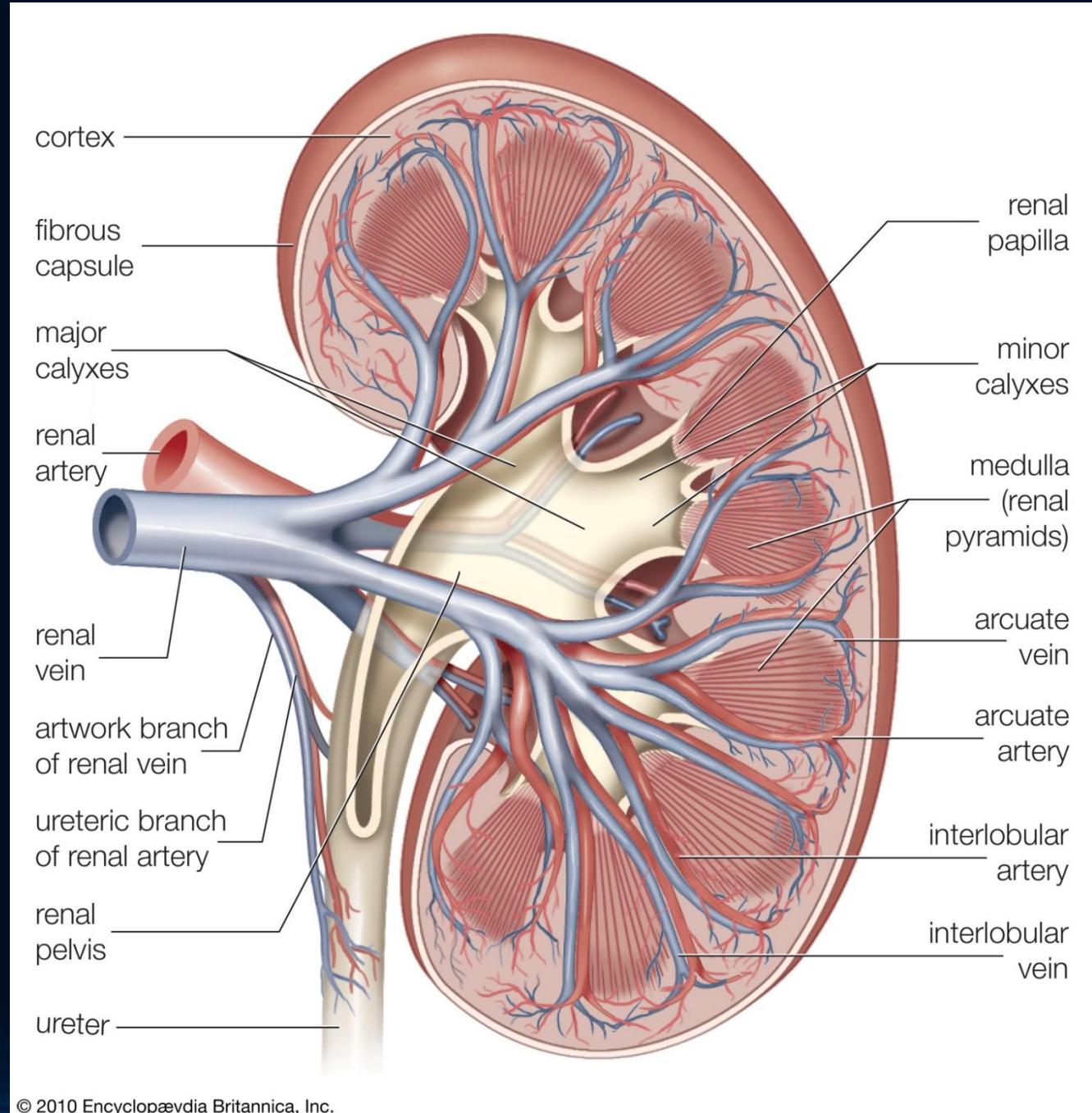
# Kidney Anatomy

- Functional Unit = Nephron
  - 1 Million per Kidney
- 20% of Cardiac Output
- 180L of filtrate
- 99% reabsorbed
- >1cc/kg/hr - Normal
- <0.5cc/kg/hr - anuria

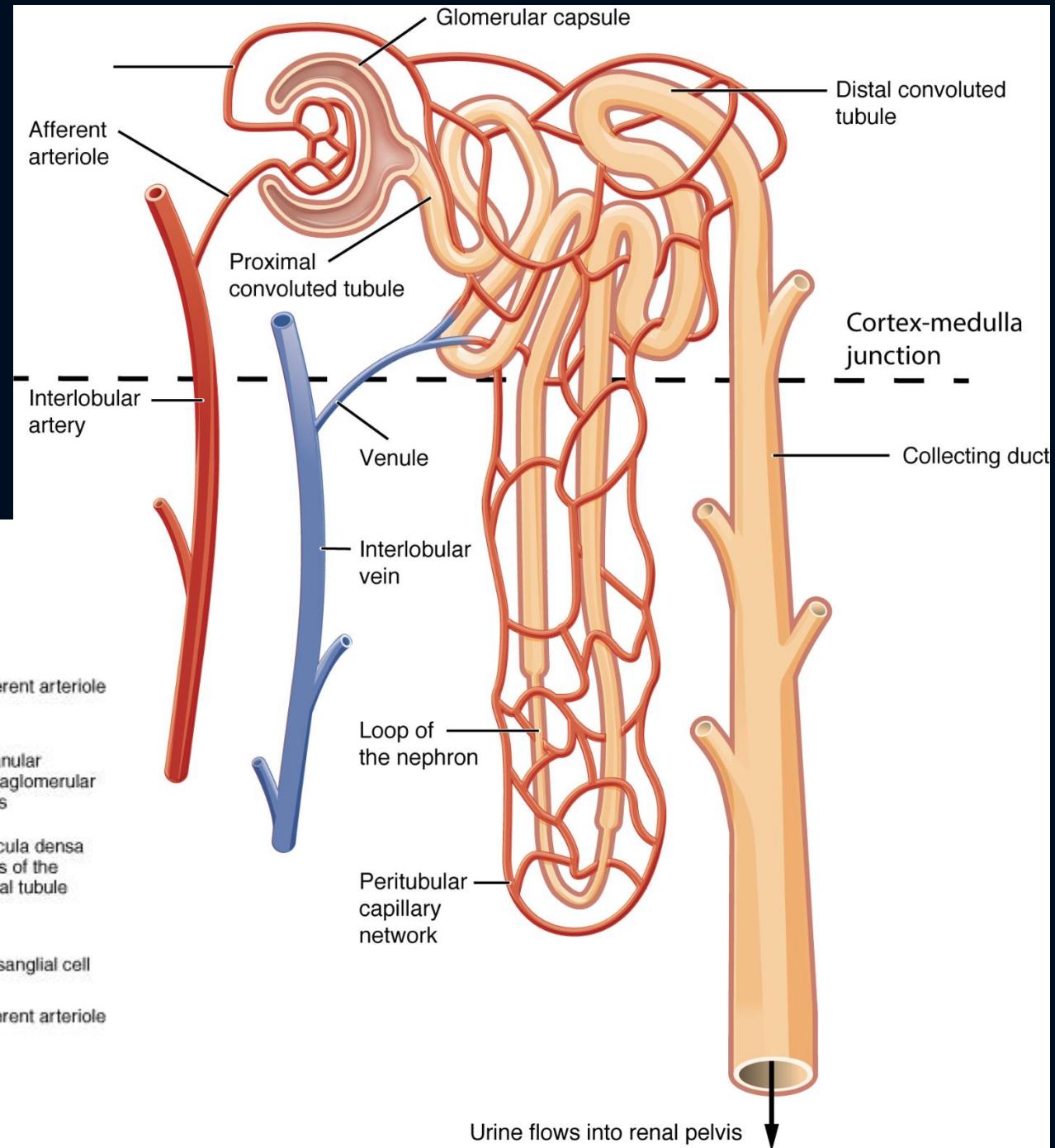
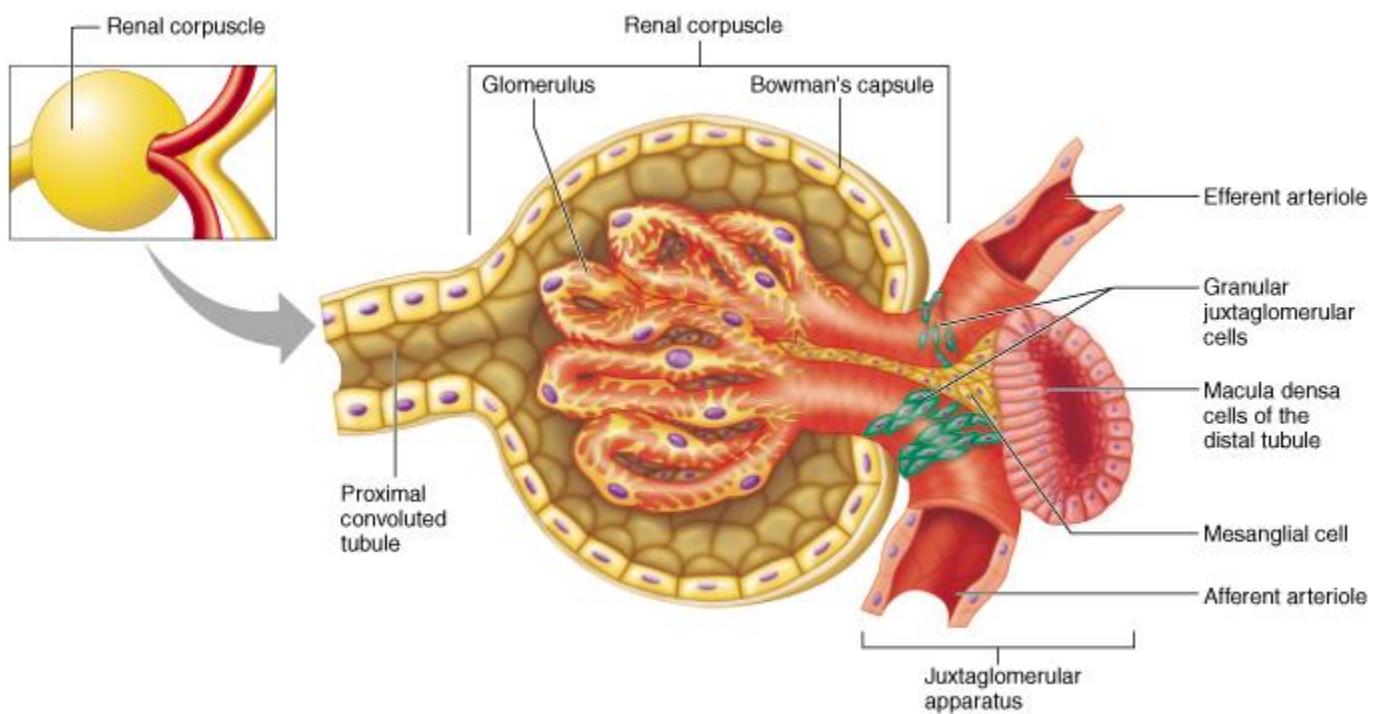


# Kidney Anatomy

- Rt/Lt Renal A. --> Segmental A. -  
-> Interlobular A. --> Arcuate A.  
--> Afferent A. --> Glomerulus --  
> Efferent A (peritubular V) --  
> Arcuate V --> Interlobular V -->  
Segmental V --> Renal V
- Nephrons  
Renal Pyramids  
Minor Calyx  
Major Calyx  
Renal Pelvis  
Ureter



# Nephron Anatomy



# Nephron Key Functions

## Filtration

- Glom → BC
- 20% CO (125ml/min)
- 180,000ml a day
- Glomerular Filtration Rate

## Reabsorption

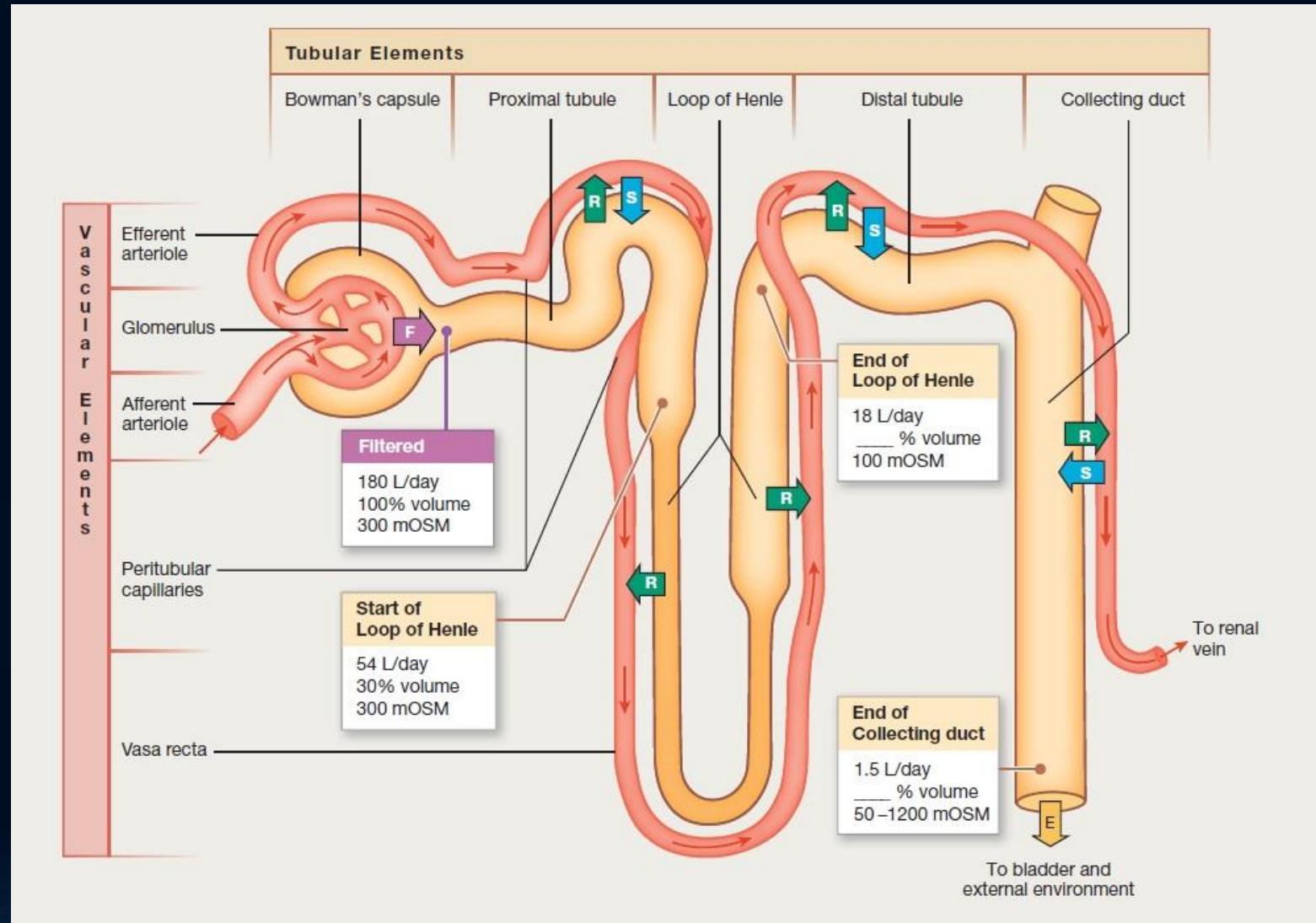
- Tubule → PTC
- 99% of filtrate
- Different amounts of solutes

## Secretion

- PTC → Tubule

## Excretion

- $E = F - R + S$



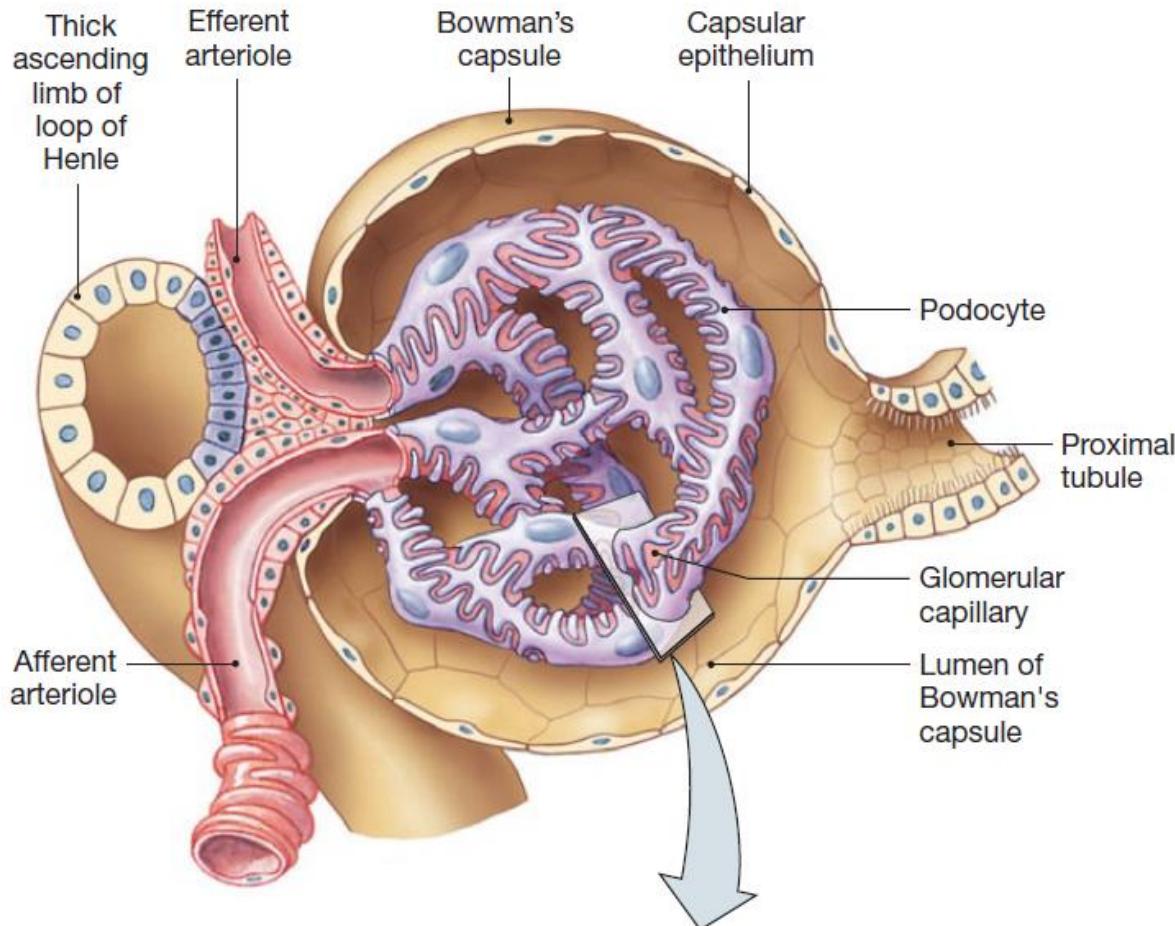
# Renal Physiology

RENAL PHYSIOLOGY 2 FILTRATION

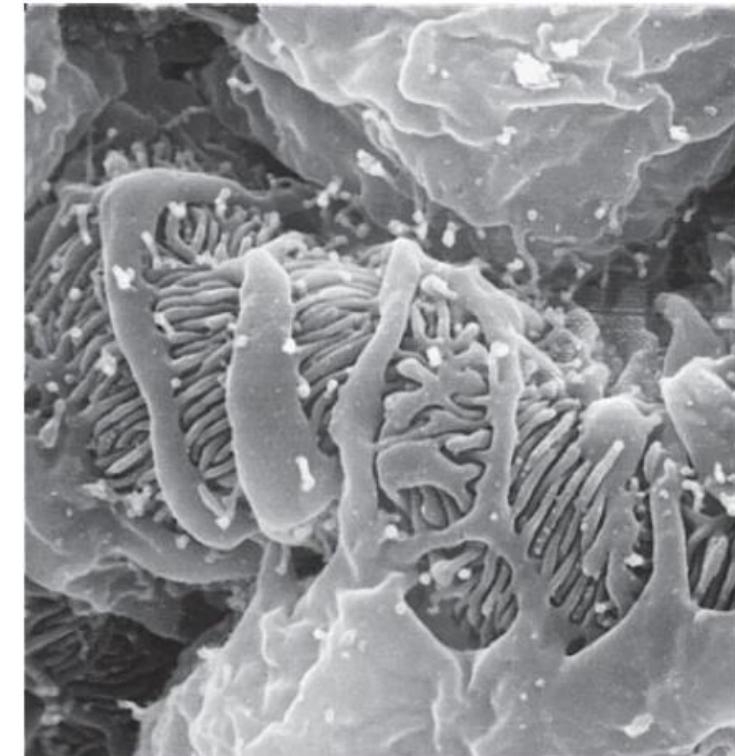
# Renal Corpuscle = Glomerulus + BC

## THE RENAL CORPUSCLE

(a) The epithelium around glomerular capillaries is modified into podocytes.



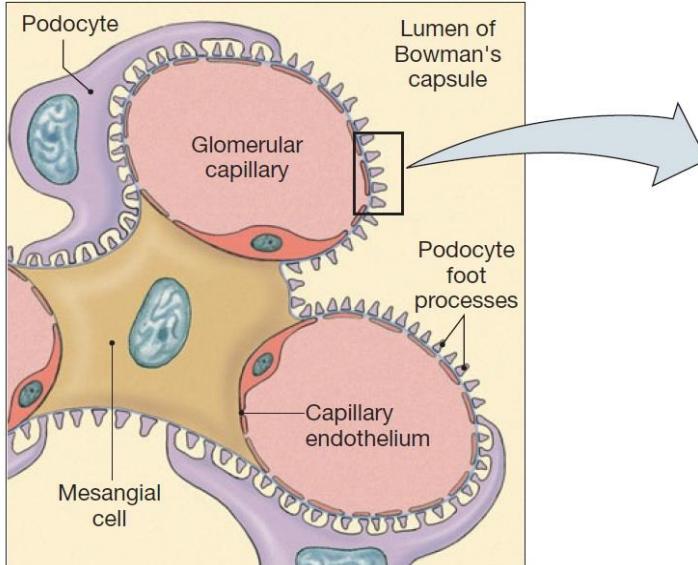
(b) Micrograph showing podocyte foot processes around glomerular capillary.



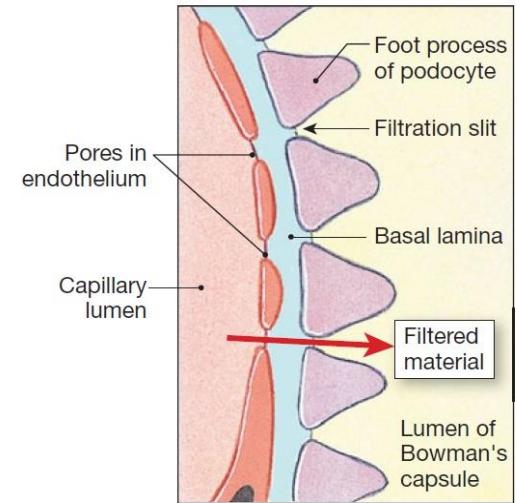
# Filtration Barriers (Glomerular-Capsular Membrane)

1. Podocytes
  - o Filtration Slits
  - o Slit diaphragm
2. Glomerular Endothelium
  - o Fenestrations
3. Basement Membrane
  - o Negative Charge

(c) Podocyte foot processes surround each capillary, leaving slits through which filtration takes place. Mesangial cells between the capillaries contract to alter blood flow.

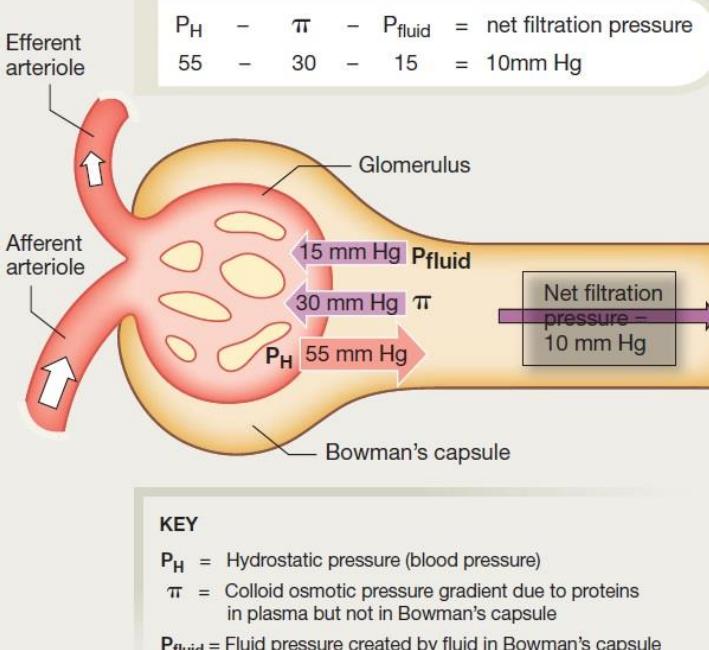


(d) The glomerular capillary endothelium, basal lamina, and Bowman's capsule epithelium create a three-layer filtration barrier. Filtered substances pass through endothelial pores and filtration slits.

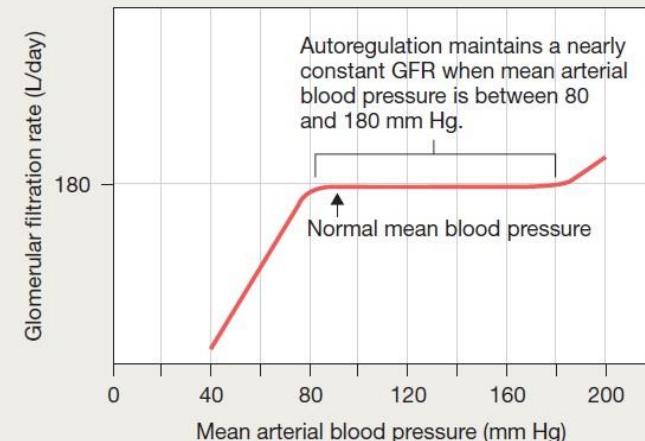


# Starling Forces

(a) Calculating glomerular filtration pressure



(b) Autoregulation of glomerular filtration rate takes place over a wide range of blood pressures.



Effective  
filtration  
pressure

= Glomerular  
hydrostatic –  
hydrostatic  
pressure

– Capsular  
hydrostatic –  
hydrostatic  
pressure

Filtration pressure

Glomerular  
osmotic –  
osmotic  
pressure

– Capsular  
osmotic –  
osmotic  
pressure

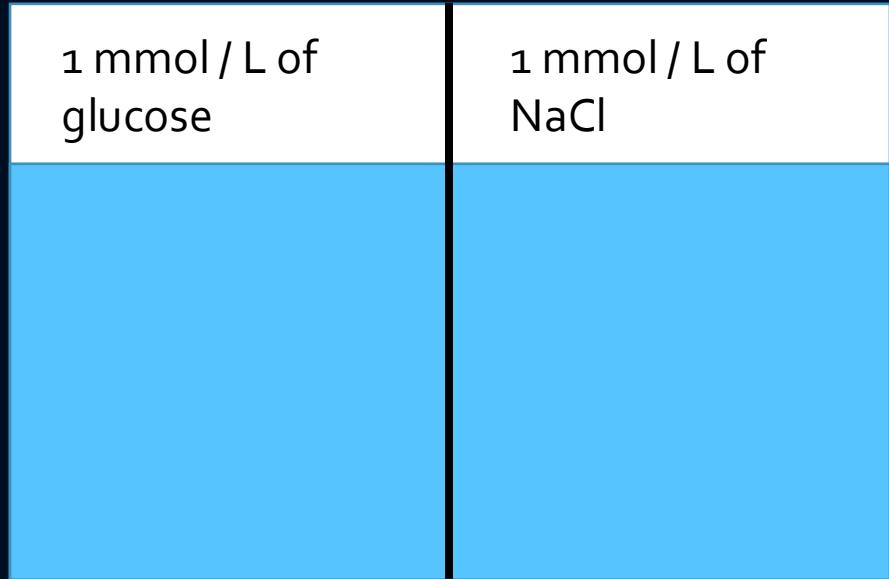
Osmotic pressure

# Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR)

- Volume filtered per unit time of total blood
- Renal blood flow = CO x % of blood that goes to kidneys
- Renal plasma flow = RBF x 0.55 (proportion of blood that is plasma)
- GFR = RPF x 19% (amount of plasma that is actually filtered)
- GFR = 125 mL / min = 180 L / day

# Osmolarity

- Osmolarity
  - Concentration of osmotically active particles (osmols) in a solution (mosmol / L)
  - How do osmoles differ from moles
    - Consider a 1 mmol / L solution of glucose and 1 mmol / L solution of NaCl, separated by a membrane that is permeable to water
    - What happens next?



# Osmolarity

- Glucose does not dissociate in solution so 1 mmol / L
- NaCl dissociates into 1 mmol / L of Na<sup>+</sup> and 1 mmol / L of Cl<sup>-</sup> thus the NaCl solution has 2 mmol / L of osmotically active particles or 2 mosmol / L
- Water will move toward the NaCl solution
- Under normal conditions, ECF and ICF have equal osmolarities → ~ 300 mosmol / L

1 mmol / L of glucose	1 mmol / L of NaCl
1 mmol / L of glucose	1 mmol / L of Na <sup>+</sup> 1 mmol / L of Cl <sup>-</sup>

# Composition of Filtrate

- Everything but blood cells and large plasma proteins can be filtered
- Approximately 20% of plasma is actually filtered
- Filtrate has osmolality of approximately 300 mosmol / L
- Blood leaving glomerulus to enter into efferent arteriole has a higher than normal osmolarity

# Regulation of GFR

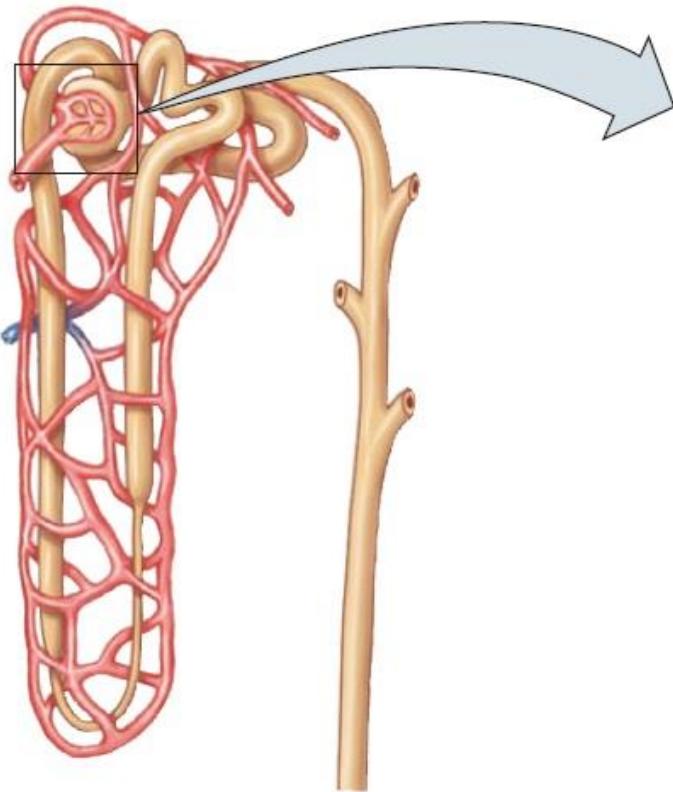
- Despite blood pressure changes, GFR is very stable at approximately 125 mL / min
- Mechanisms
- Autoregulation
  - Myogenic model
    - high pressure leads to higher blood flow through afferent arteriole which increases GFR
    - High blood pressure causes smooth muscle to stretch, opening VG Ca<sup>+2</sup> channels
    - Ca<sup>+2</sup> allows cross bridges to form promoting contraction of smooth muscle cells
    - This results in decreased GFR
    - When pressure decreases, smooth muscles relax, increasing blood flow and GFR
  - Tubuloglomerular Feedback

# JGA

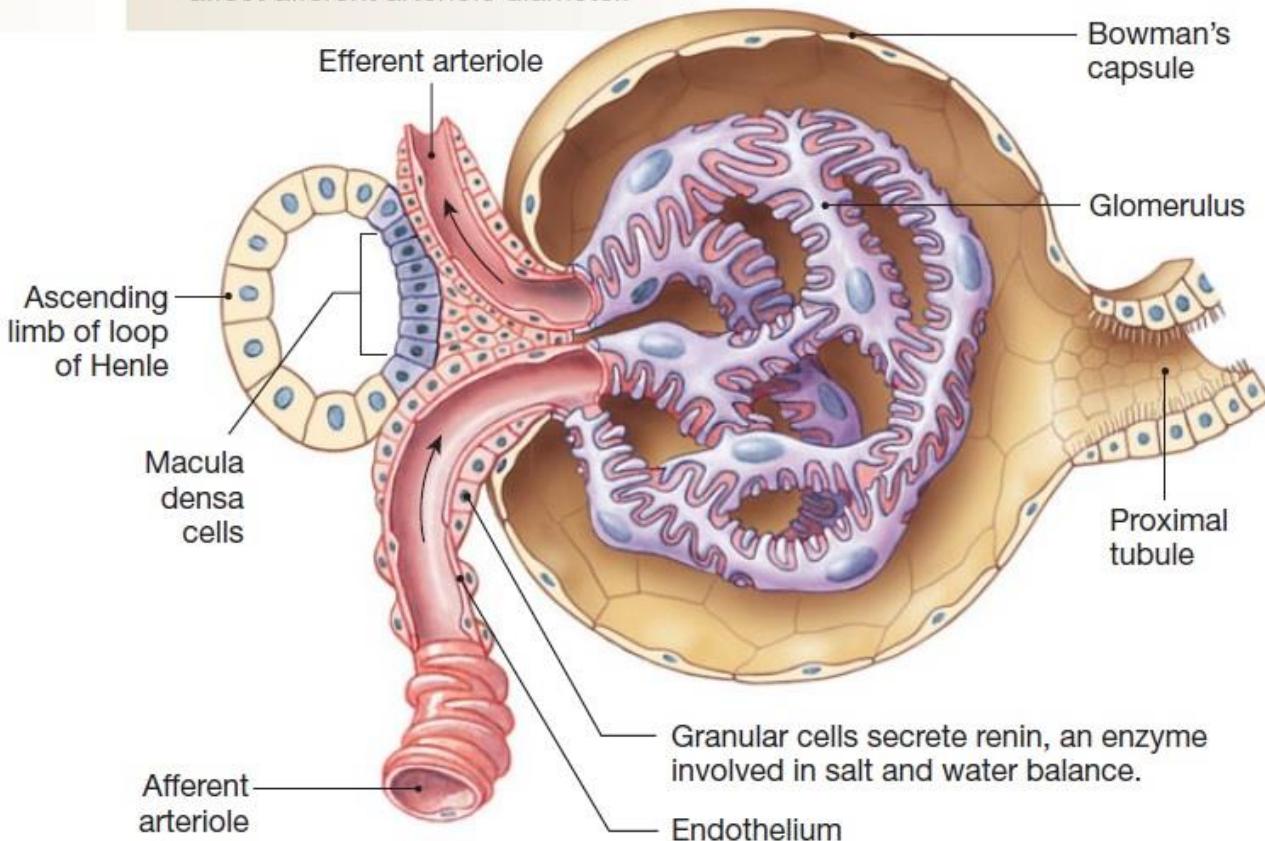
## THE JUXTAGLOMERULAR APPARATUS

The juxtaglomerular apparatus consists of macula densa and granular cells. Paracrine signaling between the nephron and afferent arteriole influences GFR.

(a) The nephron loops back on itself so that the ascending limb of the loop of Henle passes between the afferent and efferent arterioles.



(b) The macula densa cells sense distal tubule flow and release paracrines that affect afferent arteriole diameter.



# Regulation of GFR

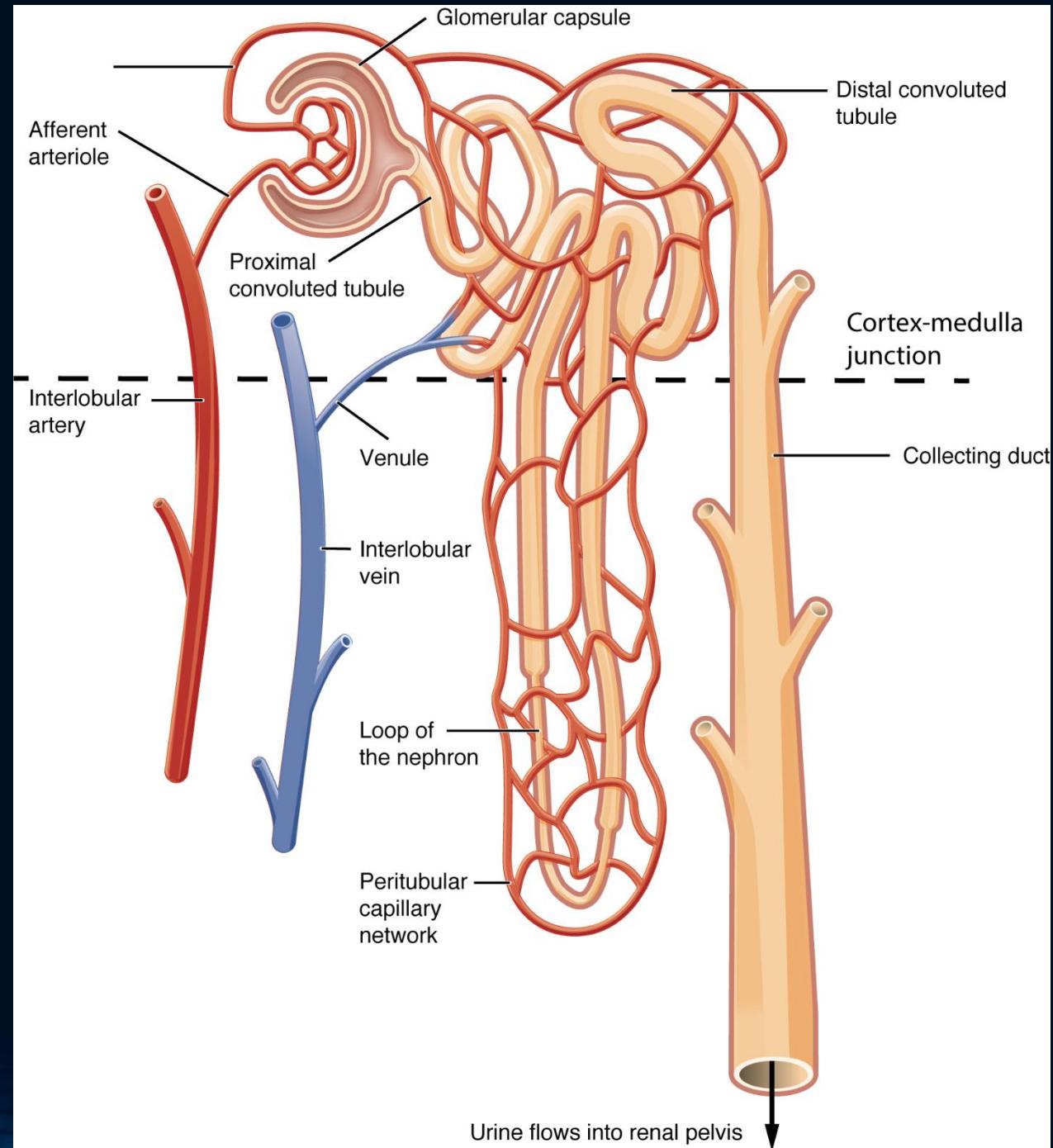
- Despite blood pressure changes, GFR is very stable at approximately 125 mL / min
- Mechanisms
- Autoregulation
- Tubuloglomerular Feedback
  - Increased blood flow through afferent arteriole increases GFR and increases flow of filtrate through the nephron
  - Increased flow is sensed by macula densa cells of JGA
  - Macula densa cells secrete more of paracrine factors adenosine and ATP which cause smooth muscle cells of afferent arteriole to contract which decreases GFR; secrete less NO
  - When blood flow is decreased through afferent arteriole, macula densa cells secrete less adenosine and ATP and more NO
  - Permeability of glomerulus can also be altered by Angiotensin II (Ang II)

# Renal Physiology

RENAL PHYSIOLOGY 3 REABSORPTION PCT

# Proximal Convoluted Tubule

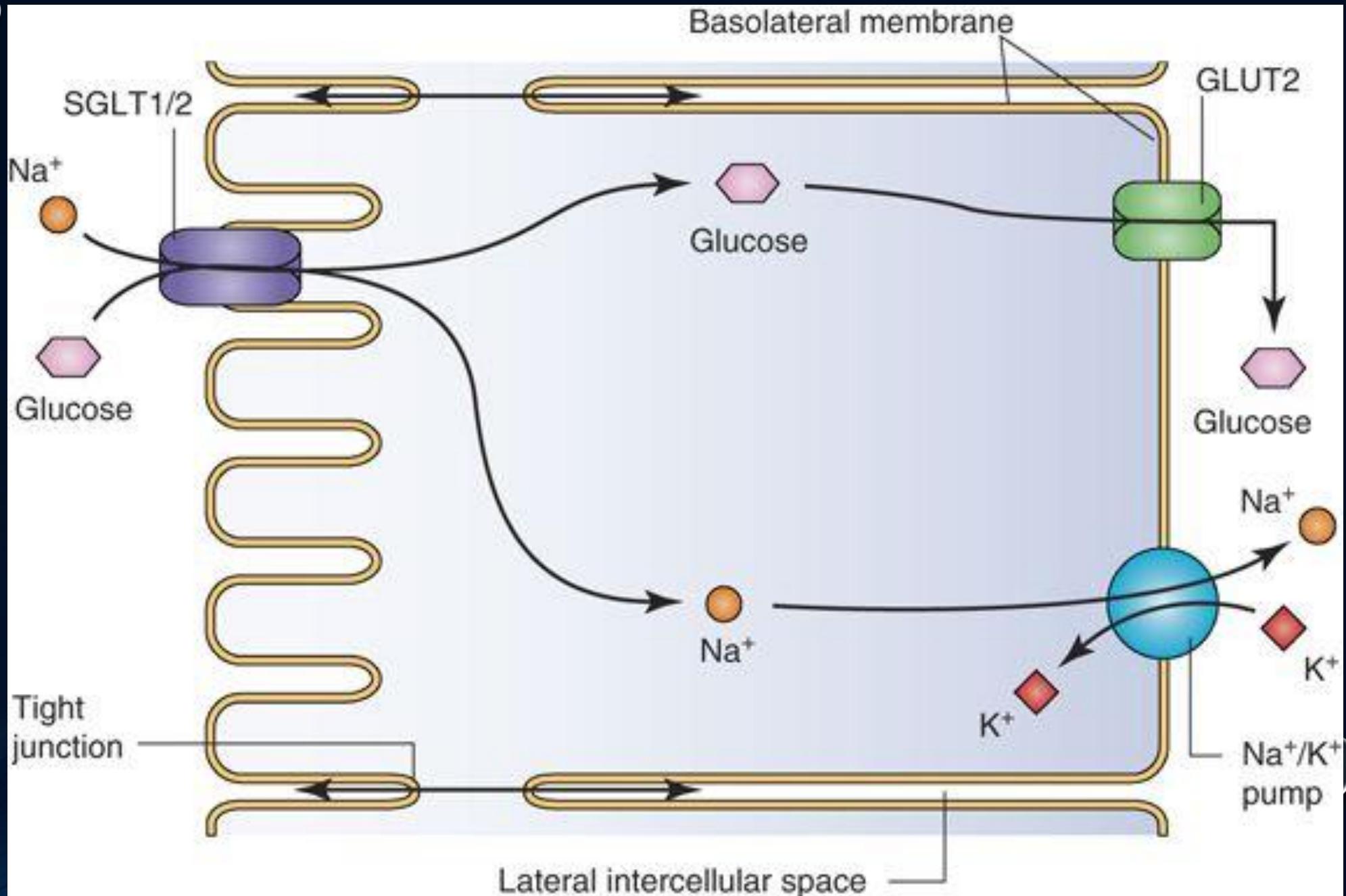
- Approximately 70% of reabsorption of water and solutes occurs at this part of the nephron
- Filtrate entering PCT has osmolarity of 300 mosm / L
- PCT composed of single layer of cuboidal epithelial cells
- Apical side (facing lumen of nephron) and basal side (facing interstitial space) are different in their expression of channels and transporters
- Most reabsorption involves the movement of  $\text{Na}^+$  and depends on concentration gradients



# Reabsorption at Proximal Convoluted Tubule

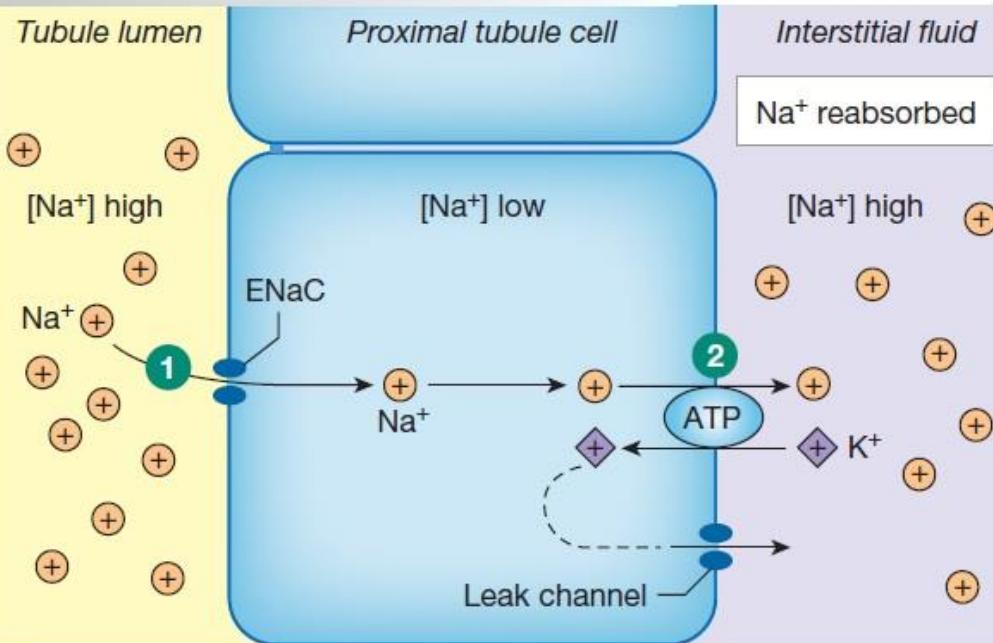
- Transcellular mechanisms
  - Depend on  $\text{Na}^+$  gradients and supporting transport proteins
- Secondary active transport (ie glucose transport)
  - Facilitated diffusion on apical side
  - Active transport on basal side maintains the  $\text{Na}^+$  concentration gradient
- Paracellular Mechanisms
  - Water follows the bulk of osmotically active particles by travelling between cells
  - Starling Forces in PCT favour movement of water from lumen of nephron to peritubular capillaries due to high osmotic pressure of the capillary

# Secondary Active Transport in PCT



**(b) Sodium reabsorption in the proximal tubule: active transport**

This figure shows the epithelial Na<sup>+</sup> channel, ENaC.



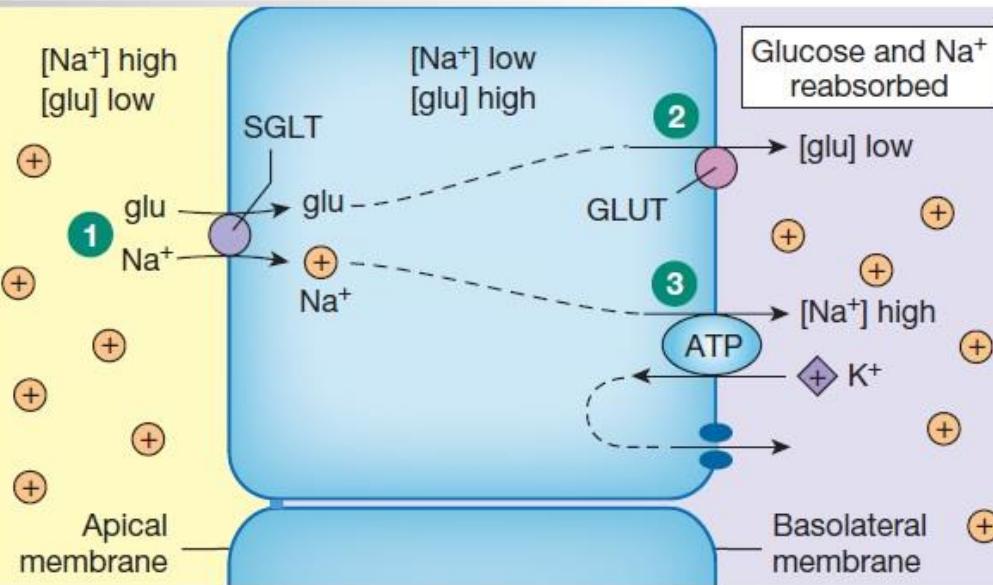
Na<sup>+</sup> reabsorbed

**1** Na<sup>+</sup> enters cell through various membrane proteins, moving down its electrochemical gradient.

**2** Na<sup>+</sup> is pumped out the basolateral side of cell by the Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase.

**(c) Sodium-linked reabsorption: indirect (secondary) active transport**

This figure shows glucose, but amino acids, other organic metabolites, and some ions such as phosphate are also absorbed by Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent cotransport.

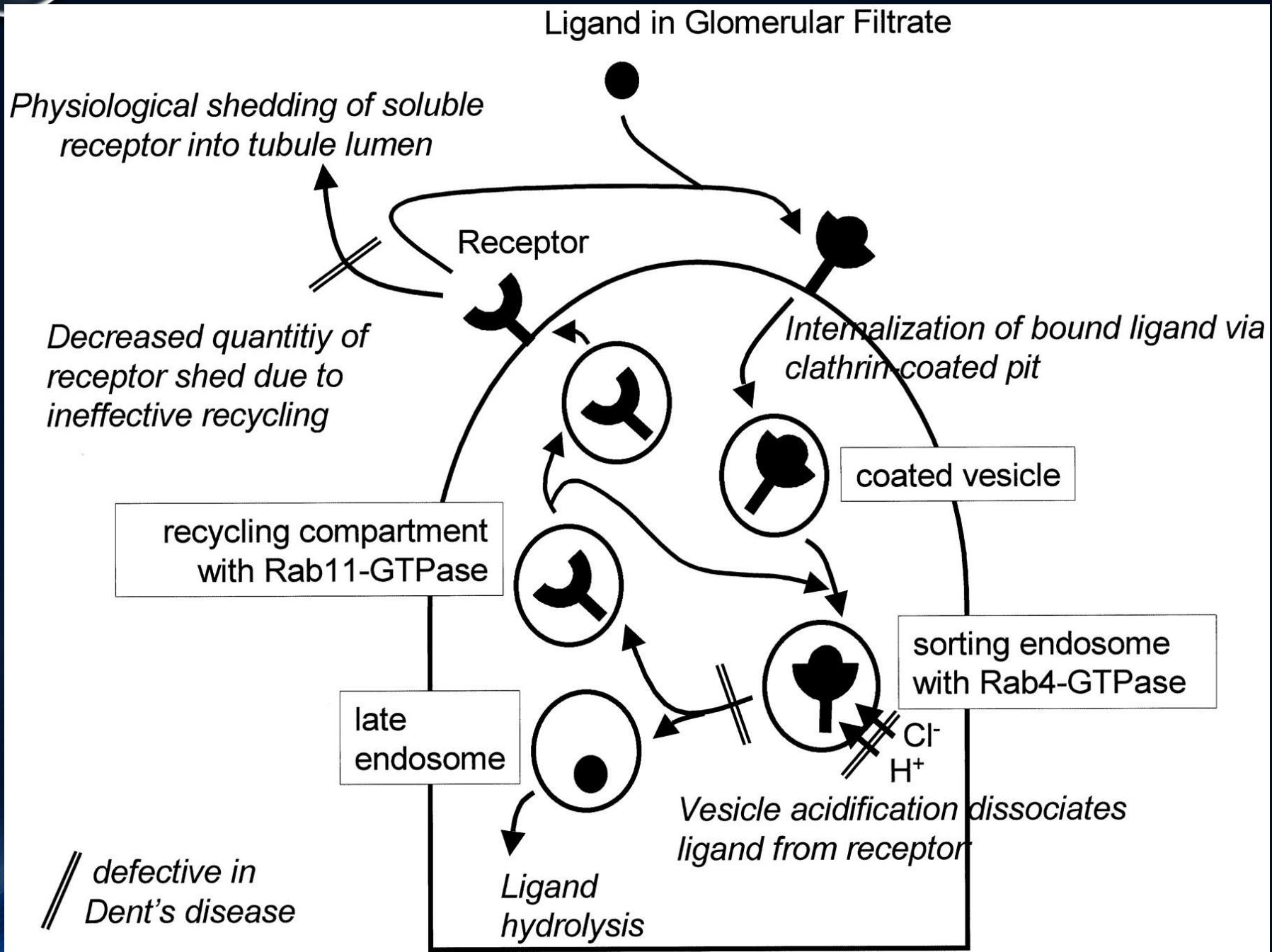


Glucose and Na<sup>+</sup> reabsorbed

**1** Na<sup>+</sup> moving down its electrochemical gradient uses the SGLT protein to pull glucose into the cell against its concentration gradient.

**2** Glucose diffuses out the basolateral side of the cell using the GLUT protein.

**3** Na<sup>+</sup> is pumped out by Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase.



Receptor mediated  
endocytosis –  
recycling small  
peptides like renin  
and Ang II

