

Human Phys PCB4701

Kidney 1

Kidney Function

Remove waste chemicals, while reabsorbing nutrients

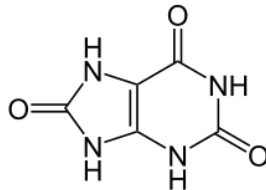
1. Filter plasma from blood (including water & water-soluble nutrients)
2. Reabsorb Na^+ : essential to maintain high extracellular $[\text{Na}^+]$
3. Reabsorb H_2O : essential to maintain body fluid volume
4. Reabsorb glucose and other nutrients
5. Reabsorb HCO_3^- / secrete H^+ to maintain pH

Toxicity of Ammonia (NH₃)

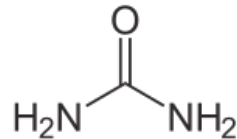
1. NH₃ → NH₄⁺ very basic

2. NH₃ is metabolic poison

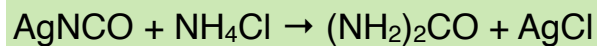
- Fish allow NH₃ to diffuse into surrounding water
- Birds & Reptiles convert NH₃ to uric acid, which is not water soluble and is excreted in the feces.



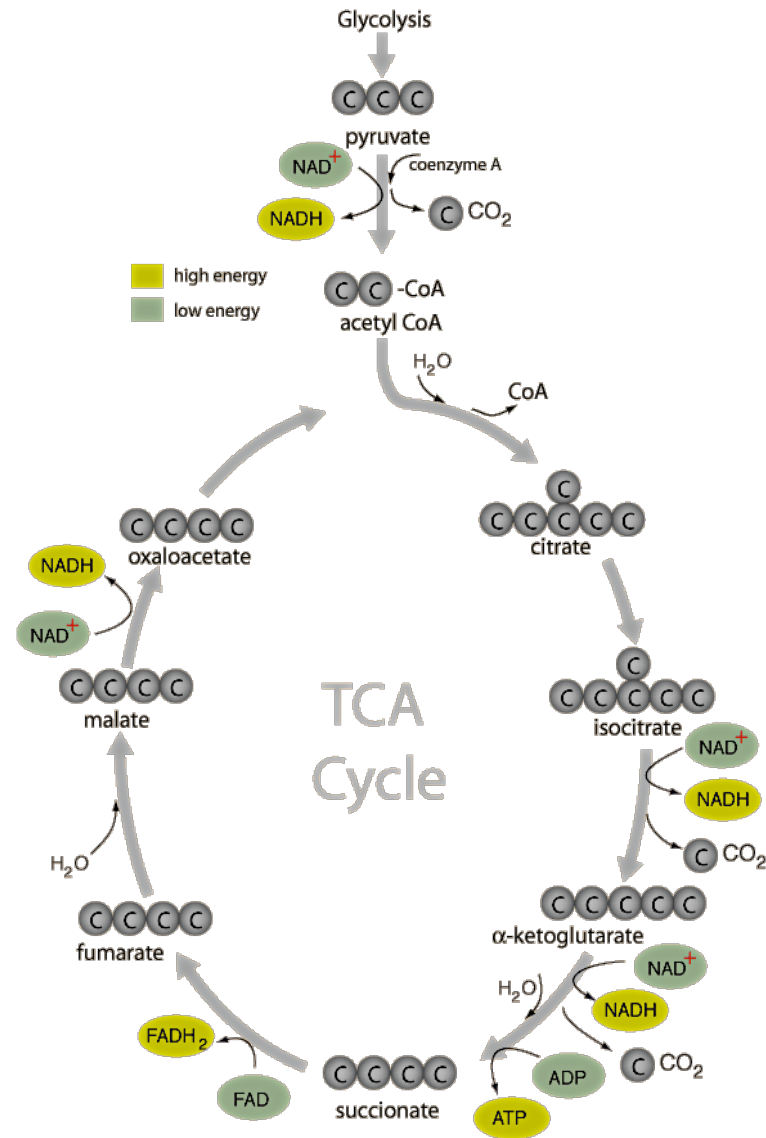
- Mammals convert NH₃ to urea (CH₄N₂O), which is non-toxic and water soluble for excretion by kidney



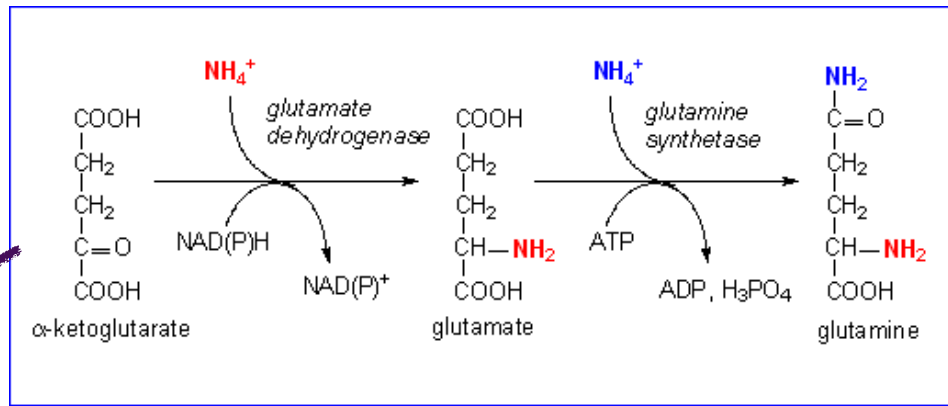
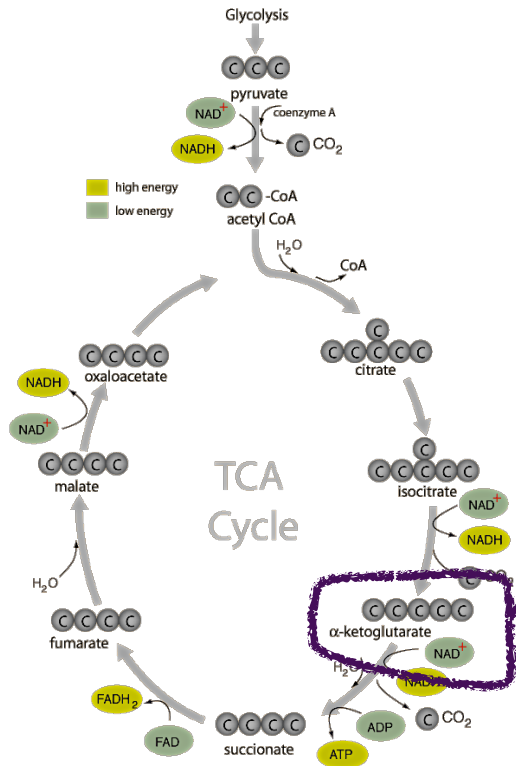
1828: first organic synthesis: the production of urea without living tissue.



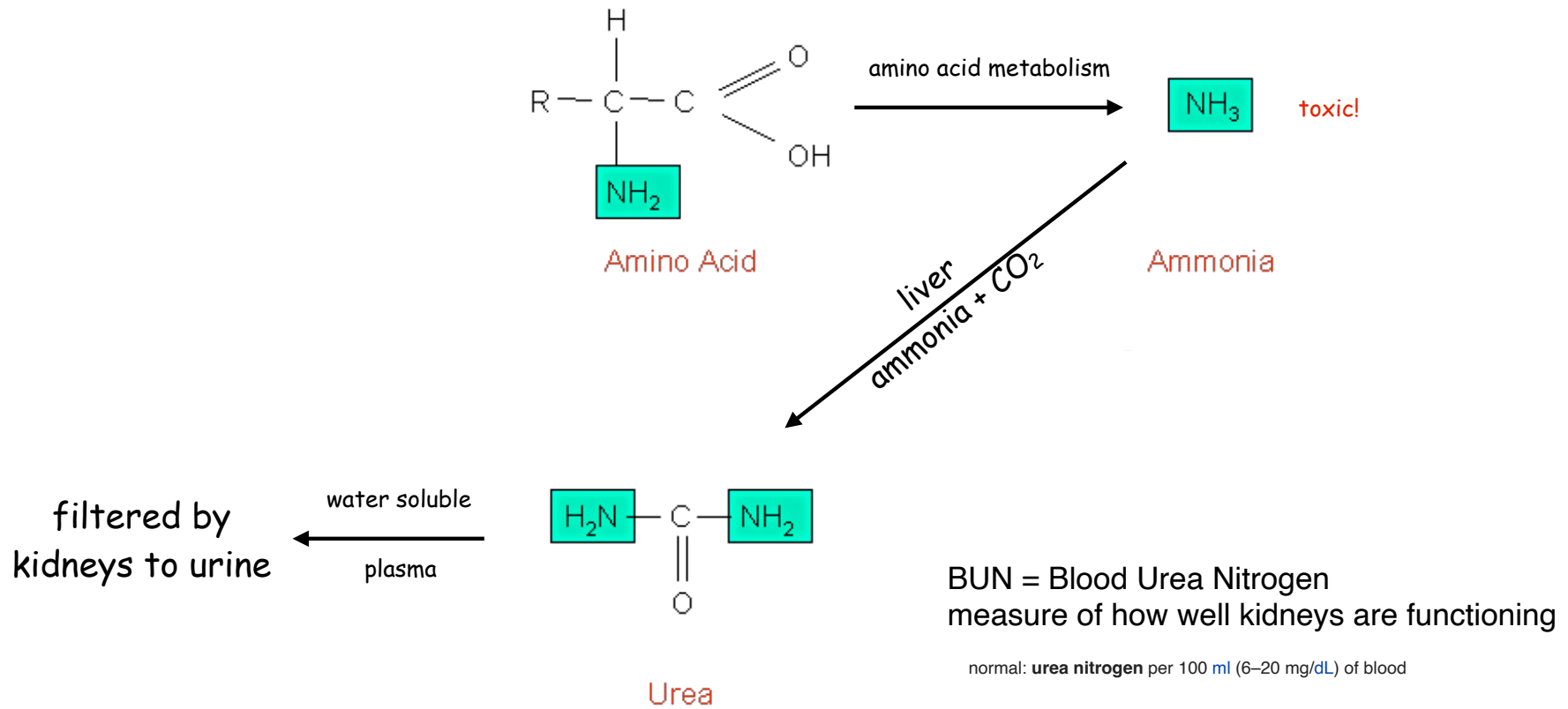
Krebs Cycle



Too much ammonia removes α -ketoglutarate from Krebs cycle, so starves cells of ATP



Urea - waste product of excess amino acid metabolism



Anatomy of the Kidney

Kidney Function

Filter excess and waste chemicals (water soluble) from the blood.
(excess water, Na+, **urea**, glucose > 200 mg/100ml)

Kidney Structures

cortex (bark): reddish brown, lots of capillaries

medulla (inner region): striped with capillaries & collecting ducts;
divided into renal pyramids

urine -> collecting ducts -> minor calyces -> major calyces
-> renal pelvis-> ureters -> urinary bladder -> urethra

calyx; calyces
"cup"

high surface area for exchange, then to storage and outside

ren- Latin for kidney

nephro- Greek for kidney

-uria - problem with urine, e.g. polyuria (too much urine), glycosuria (glucose in urine)

diabetes - also means too much urine

Figure 17.1

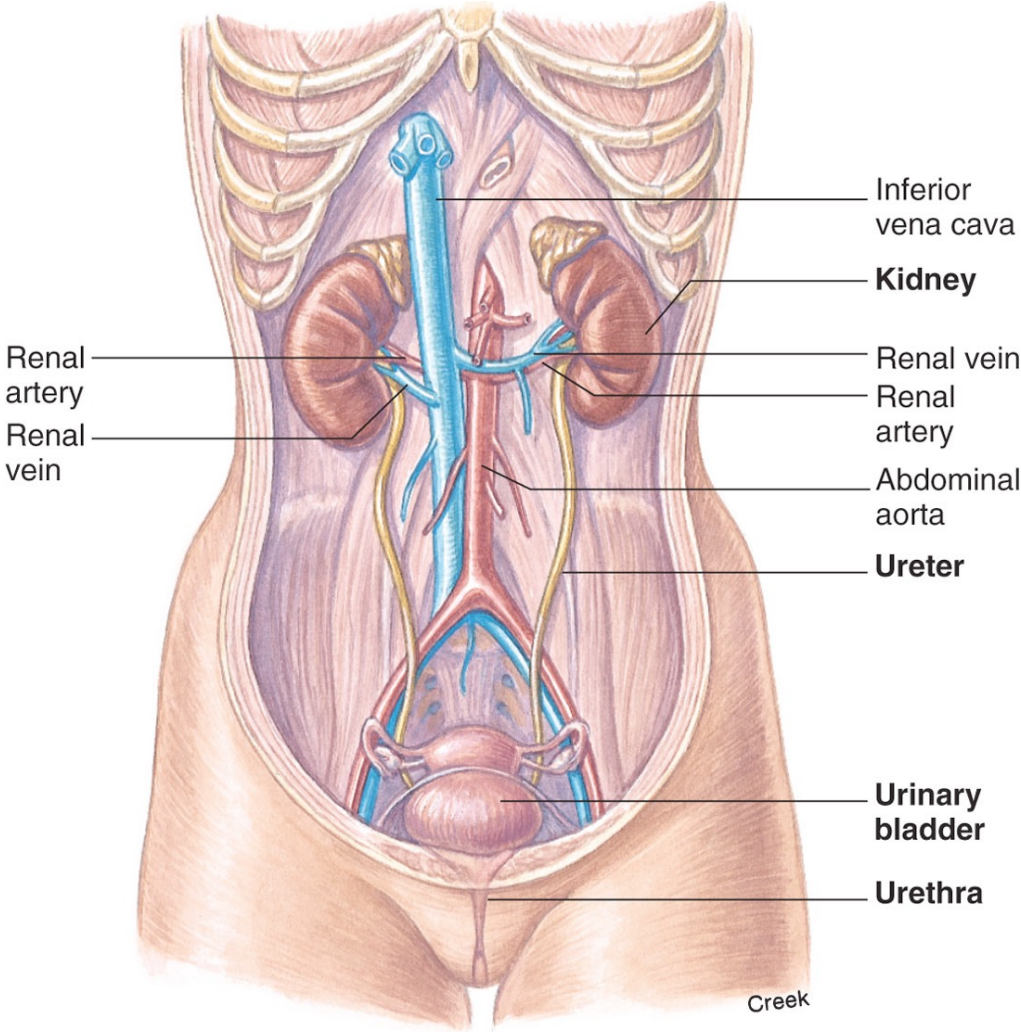


Figure 17.2

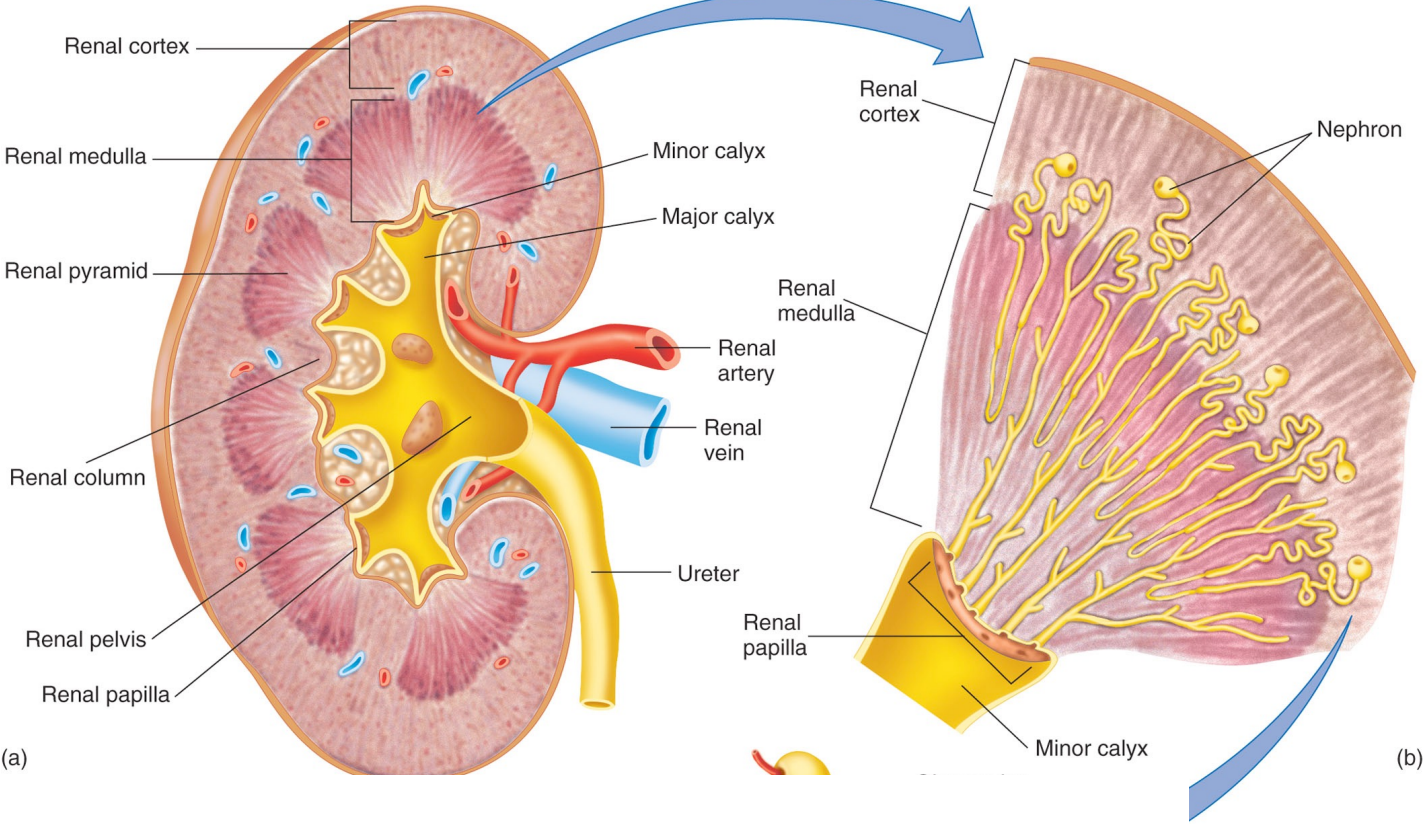
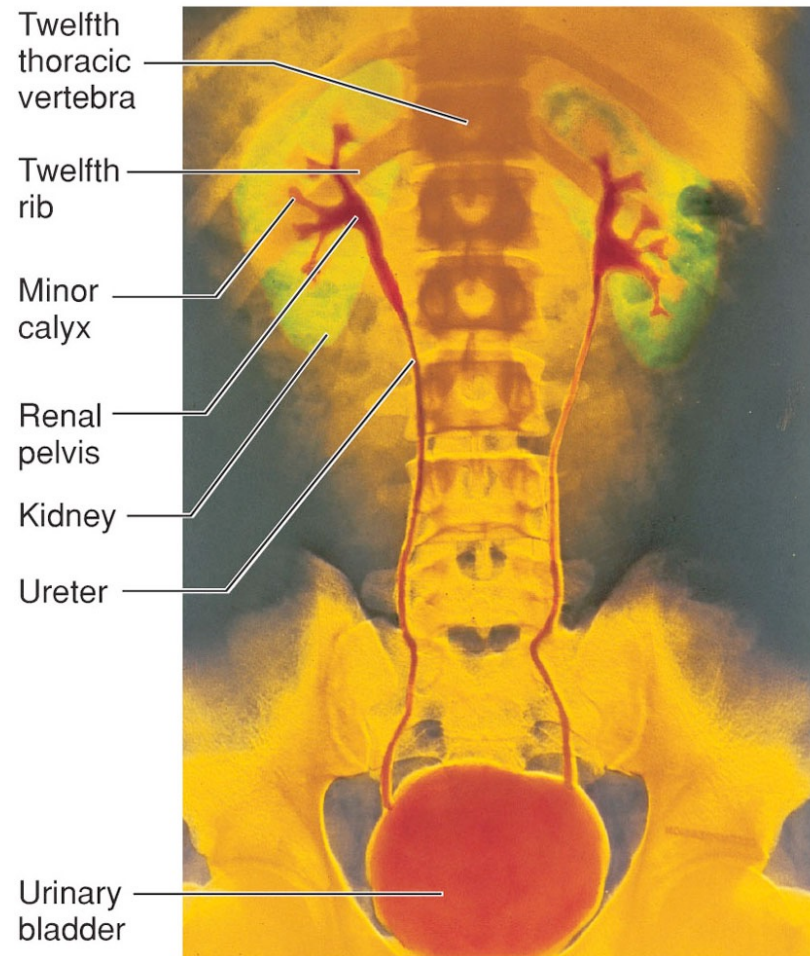


Figure 17.3



ren- Latin for kidney
nephro- Greek for kidney

Nephron

functional unit of the kidney: filters small molecules from blood, reabsorbs and secretes chemicals to produce urine.

glomerular (Bowman's) capsule - filters blood in cortex

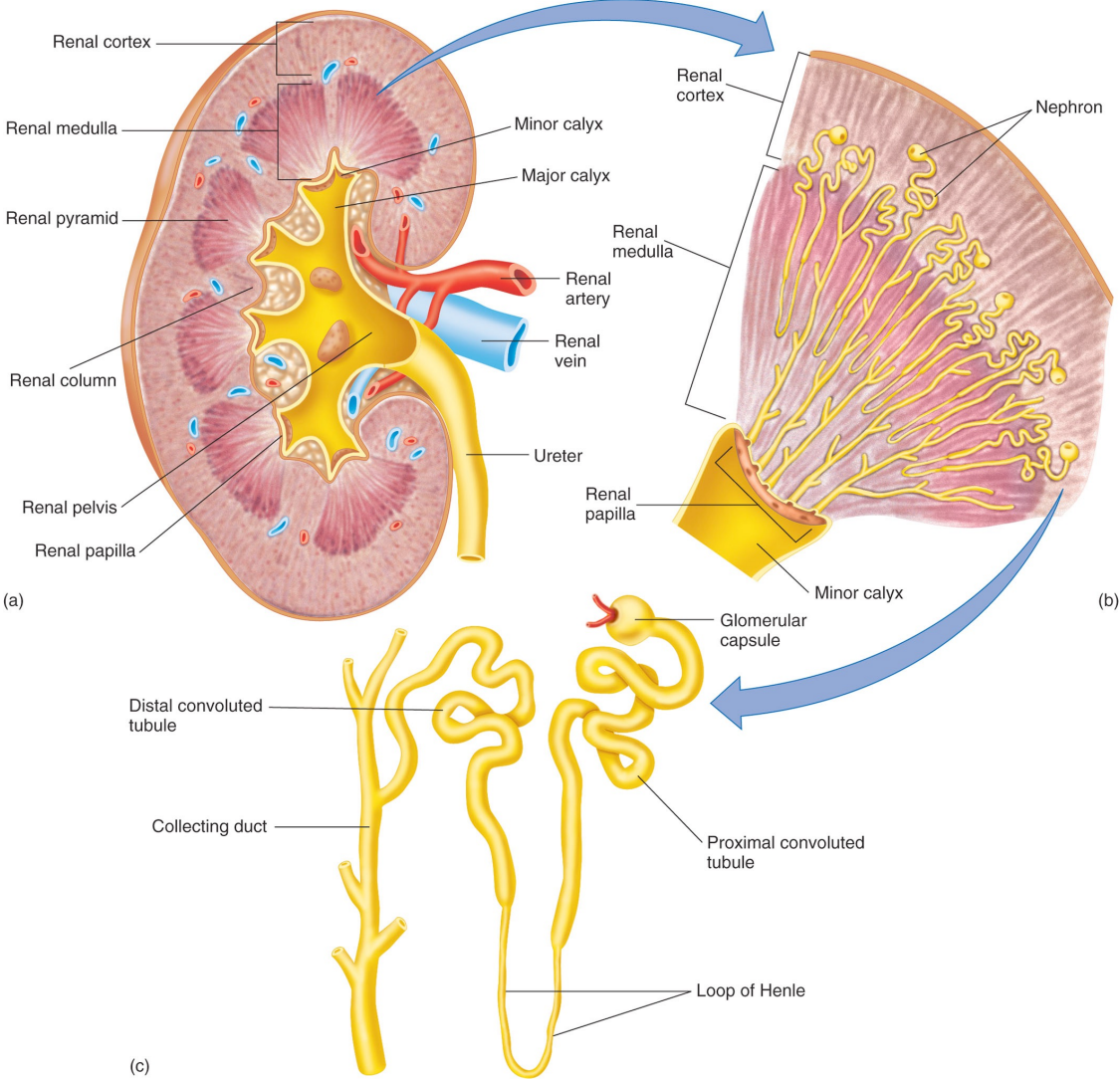
proximal convoluted tubule (closer to glomerulus) starts in cortex

loop of Henle dives into medulla

distal convoluted tubule (further from glomerulus) back to cortex

collecting duct final fluid (urine) drains into calyces & pelvis

Figure 17.2



Kidney Vasculature (blood supply)

renal artery -> interlobar arteries -> arcuate arteries -> interlobular arteries -> arterioles

-> glomeruli -> peritubular capillaries ->

← capillary beds for
exchange & transport

interlobular veins -> arcuate veins -> interlobar veins -> renal vein

Figure 17.4

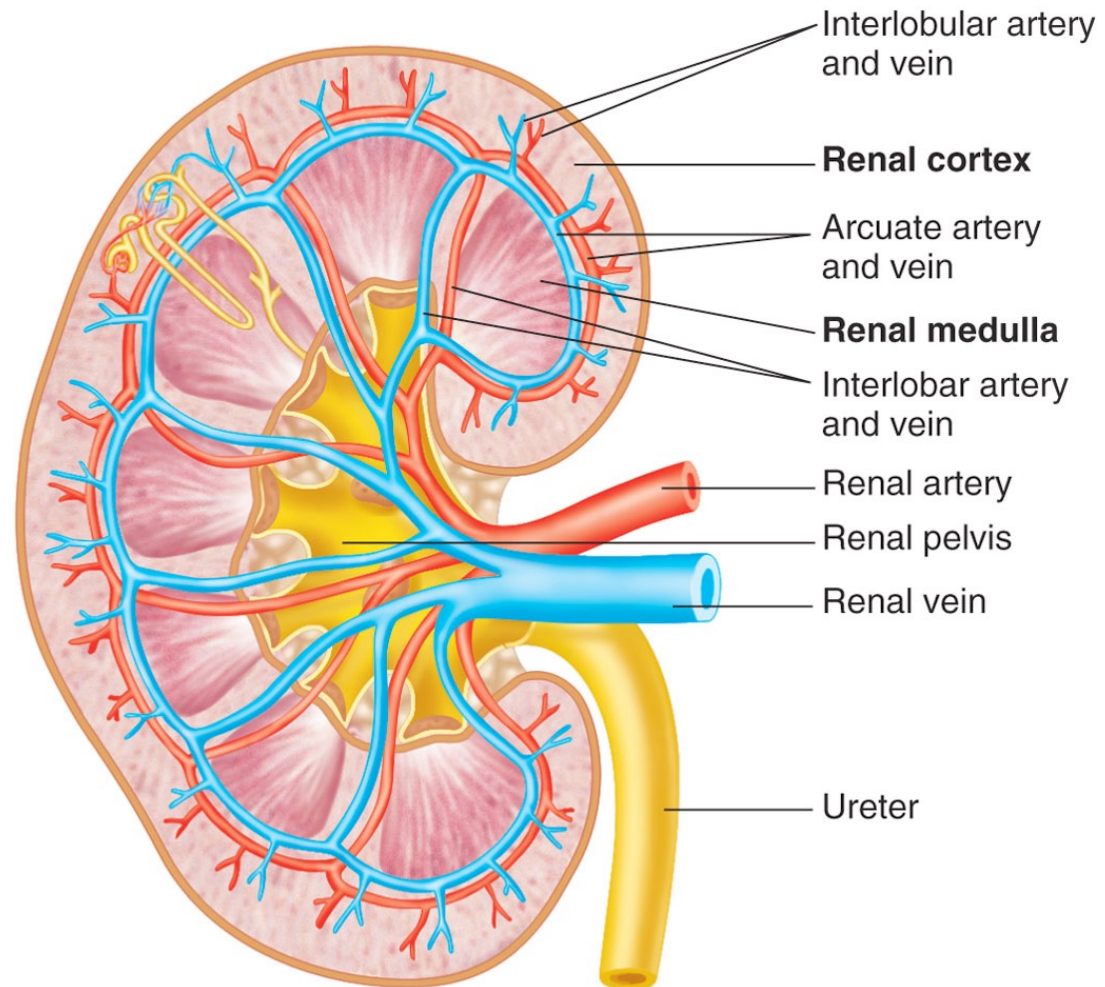
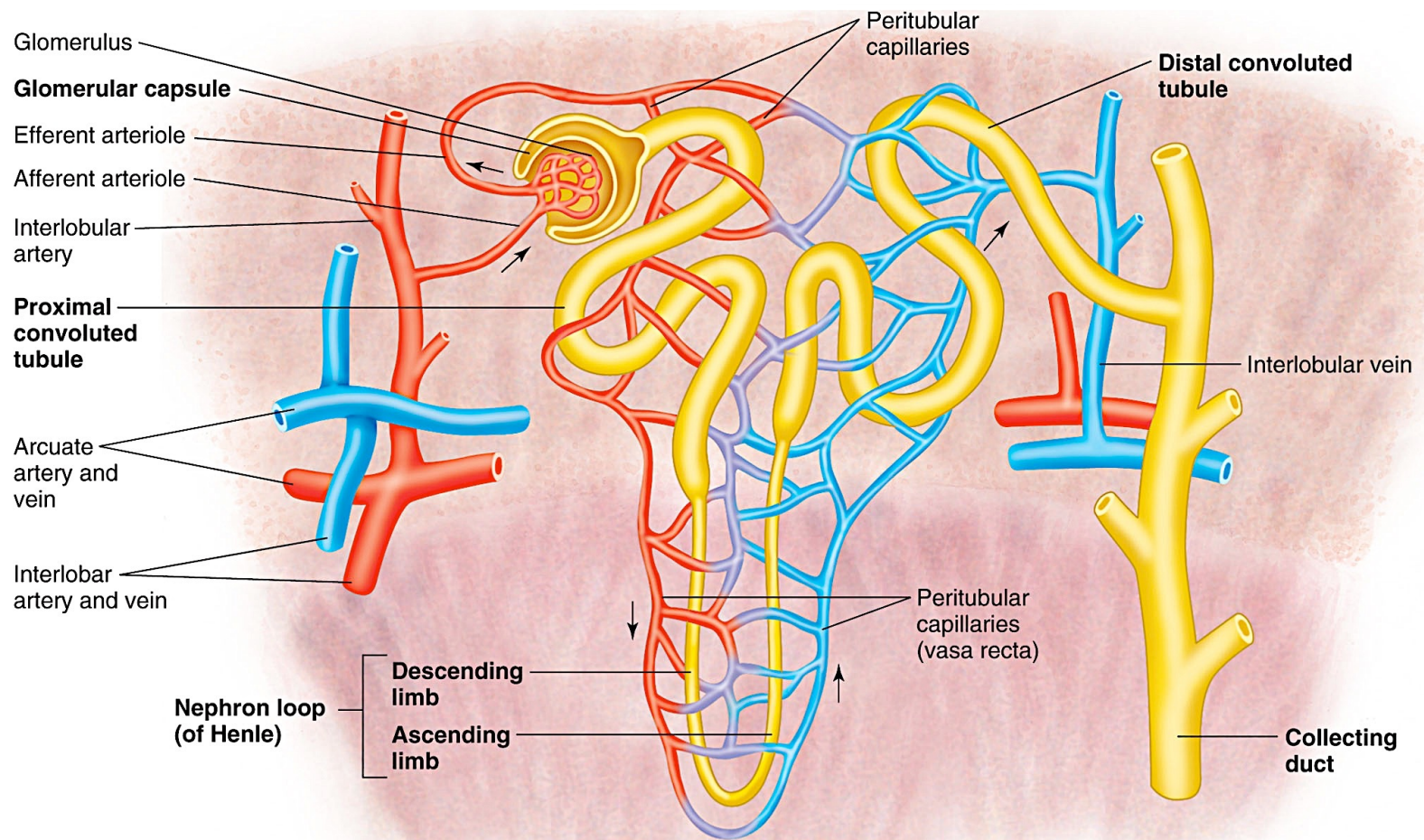


Figure 17.5



2 capillary beds in Renal Circulation

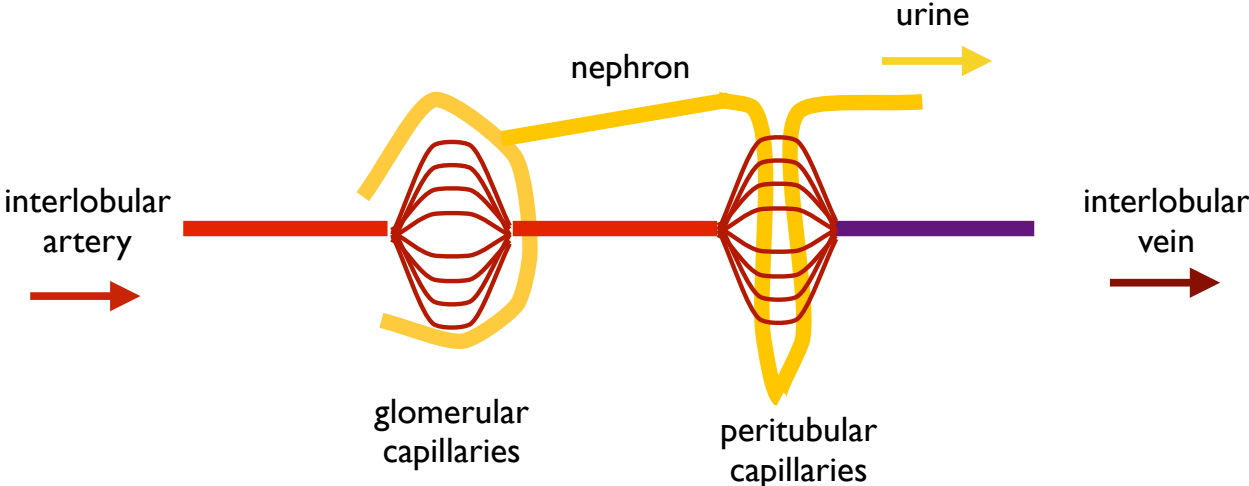
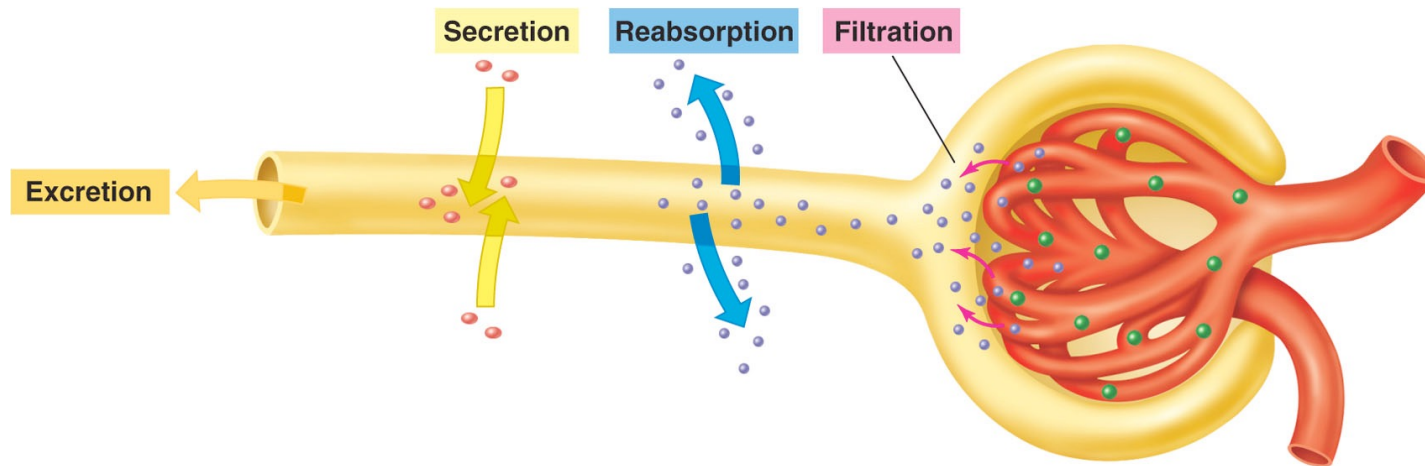


Figure 17.21

1. Filter plasma and water soluble chemicals **from** blood into urine
2. Reabsorb and return needed chemicals from urine and back to blood
3. Secrete additional chemicals into the urine



Glomerular Filtration

Plasma is filtered. Under blood pressure, fluid moves from capillaries to glomerular lumen as **filtrate**.

3 Layers of Filtration:

Fenestra of glomerular capillaries allows plasma but not platelets, blood cells to enter filtrate.

Basement Membrane layer of collagen and proteoglycans restricts flow into glomerular lumen.

Slit Diaphragm of the inner layer of glomerular capsule made of **podocytes**, which have interdigitated **pedicels** (foot processes) that wrap around glomerular capillaries. Blocks proteins from entering filtrate.

Net pressure for filtration =

hydrostatic pressure of blood (pushing fluid out of capillaries)

– osmotic pressure of proteins (pulling fluid back into capillaries)

= 10 mmHg

Glomerular Capsule filters small molecules (not proteins) from blood into nephron.

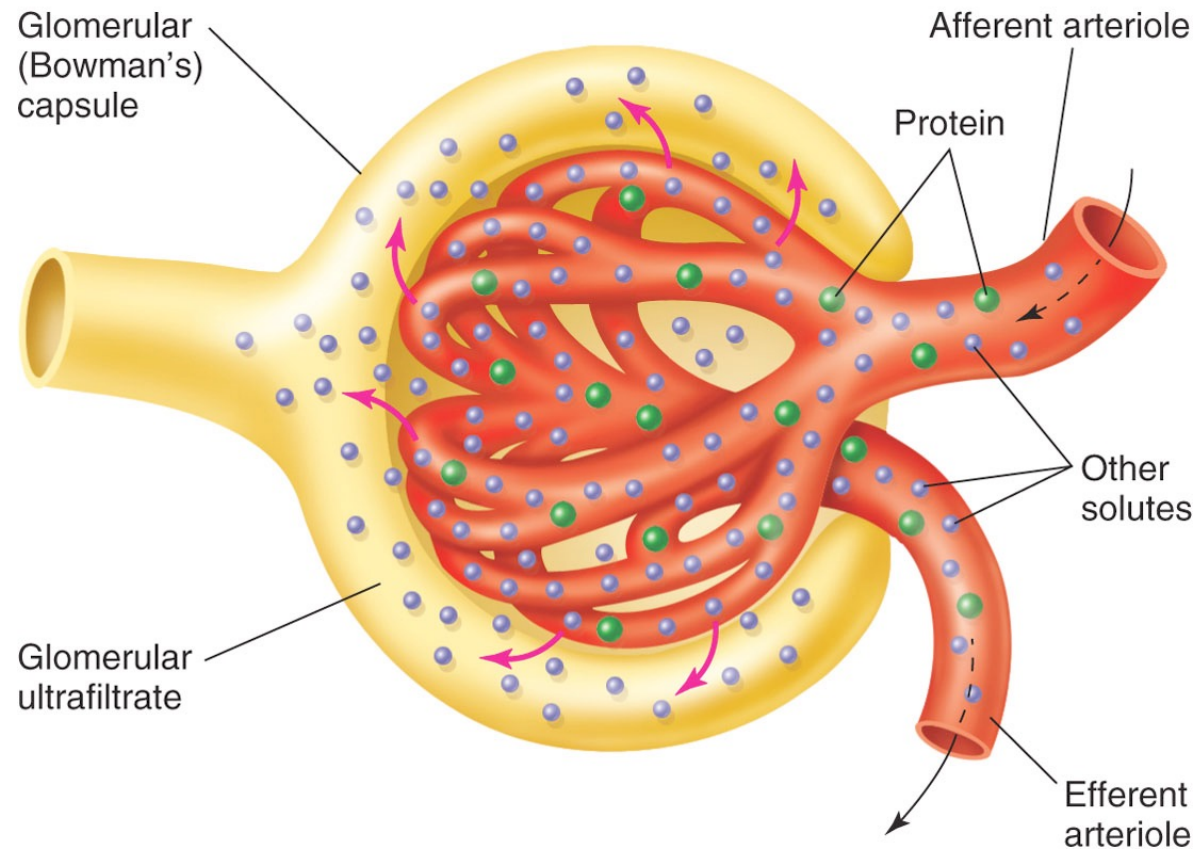


Figure 17.10

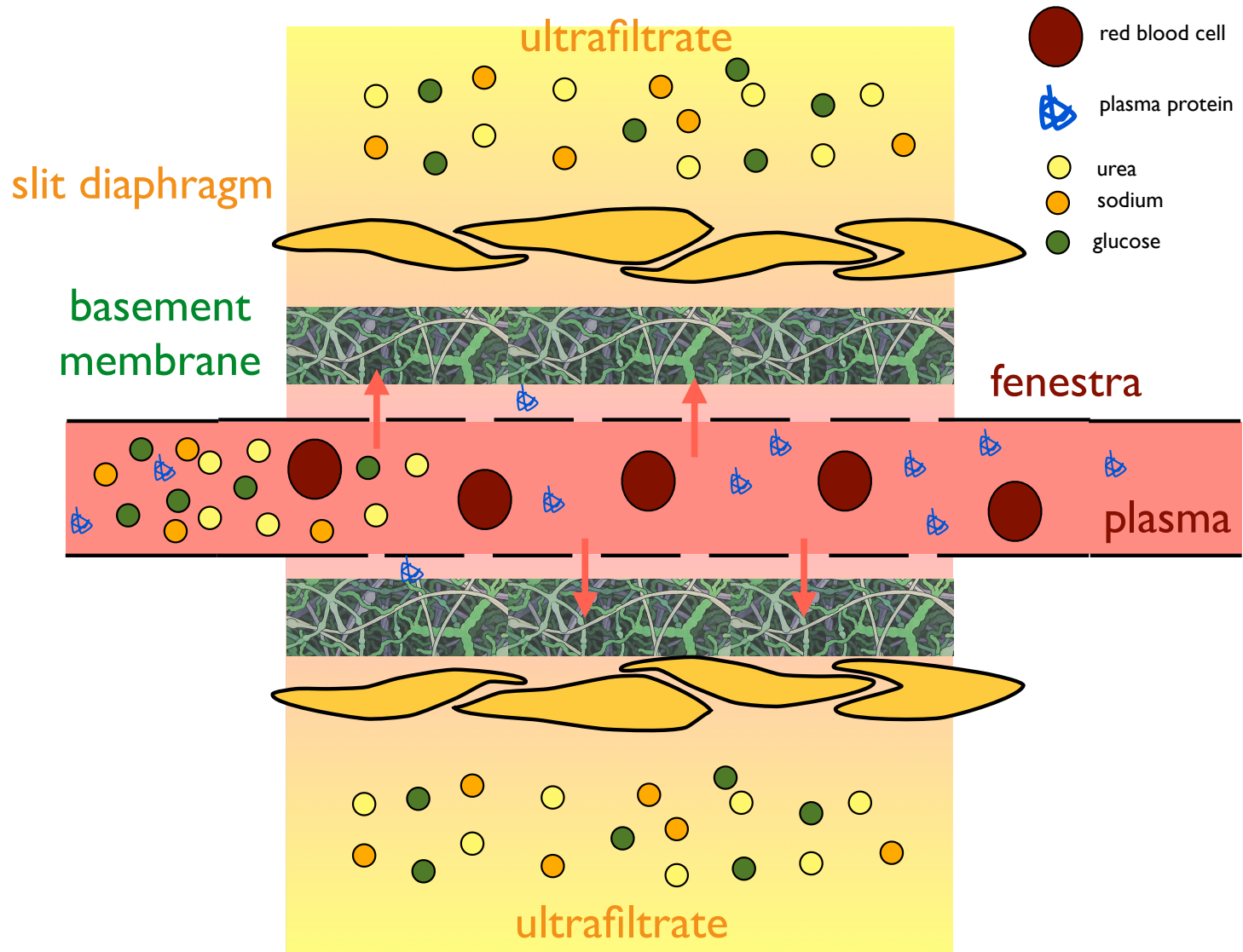


Figure 17.8

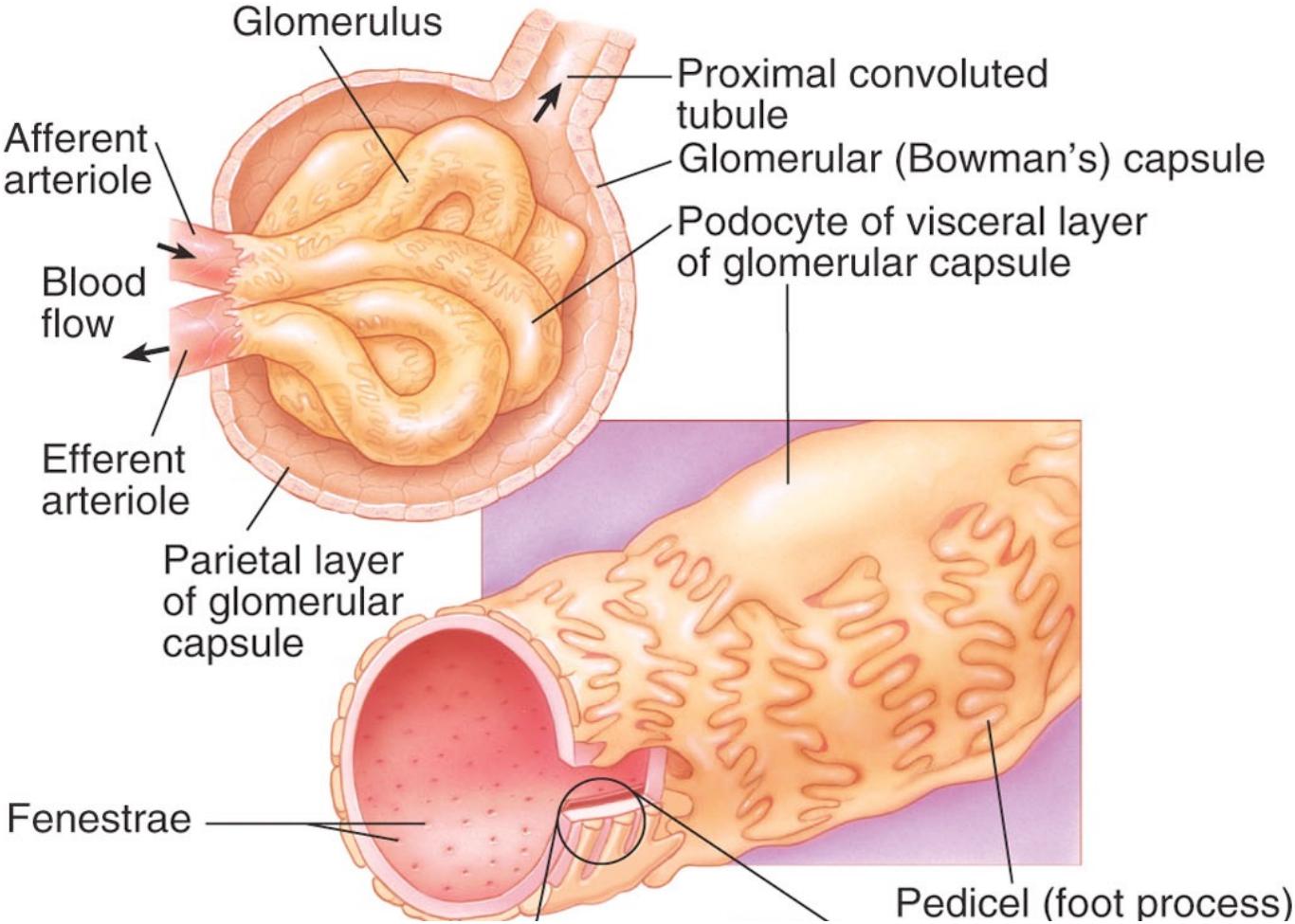


Figure 17.8

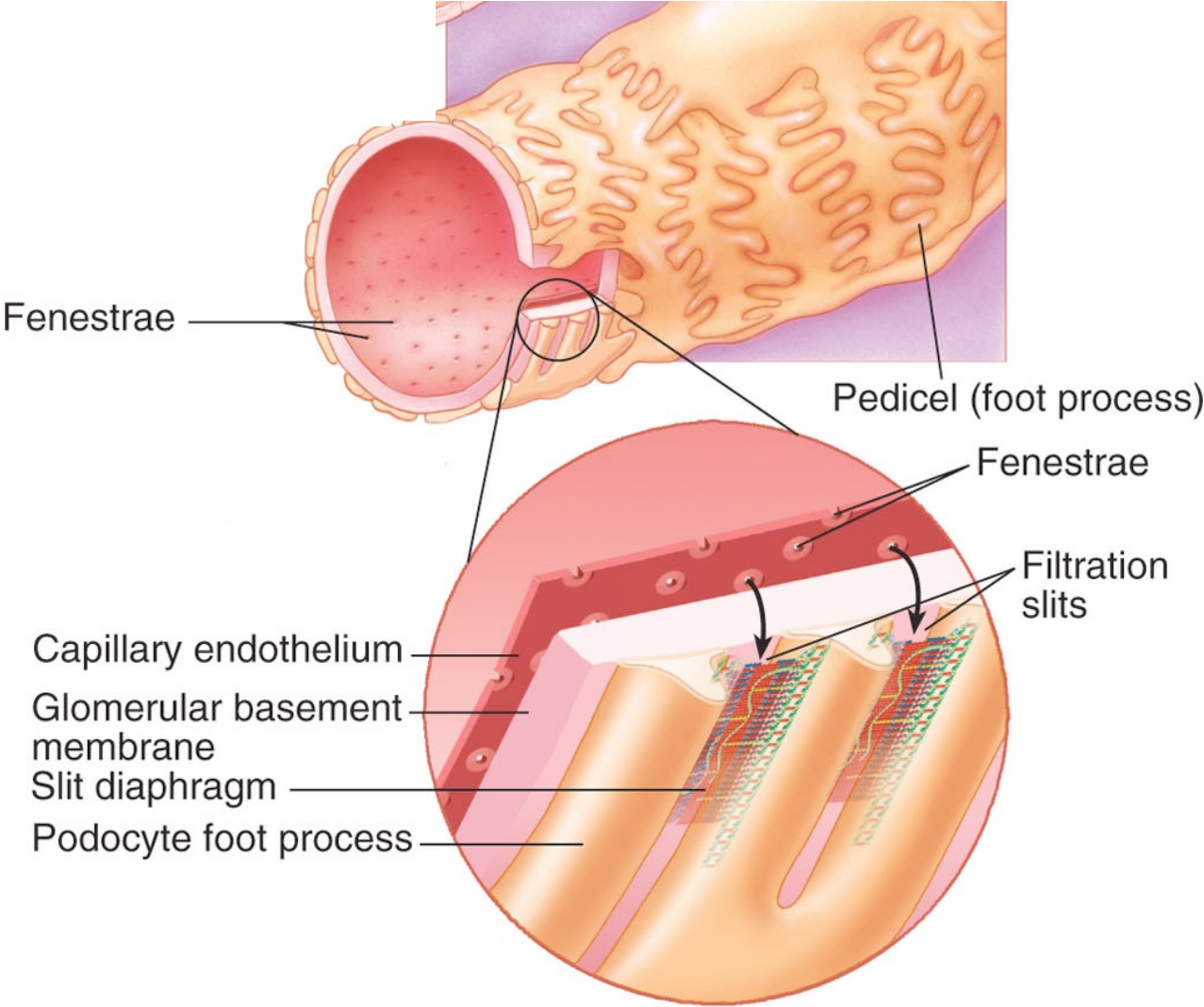


Figure 17.7

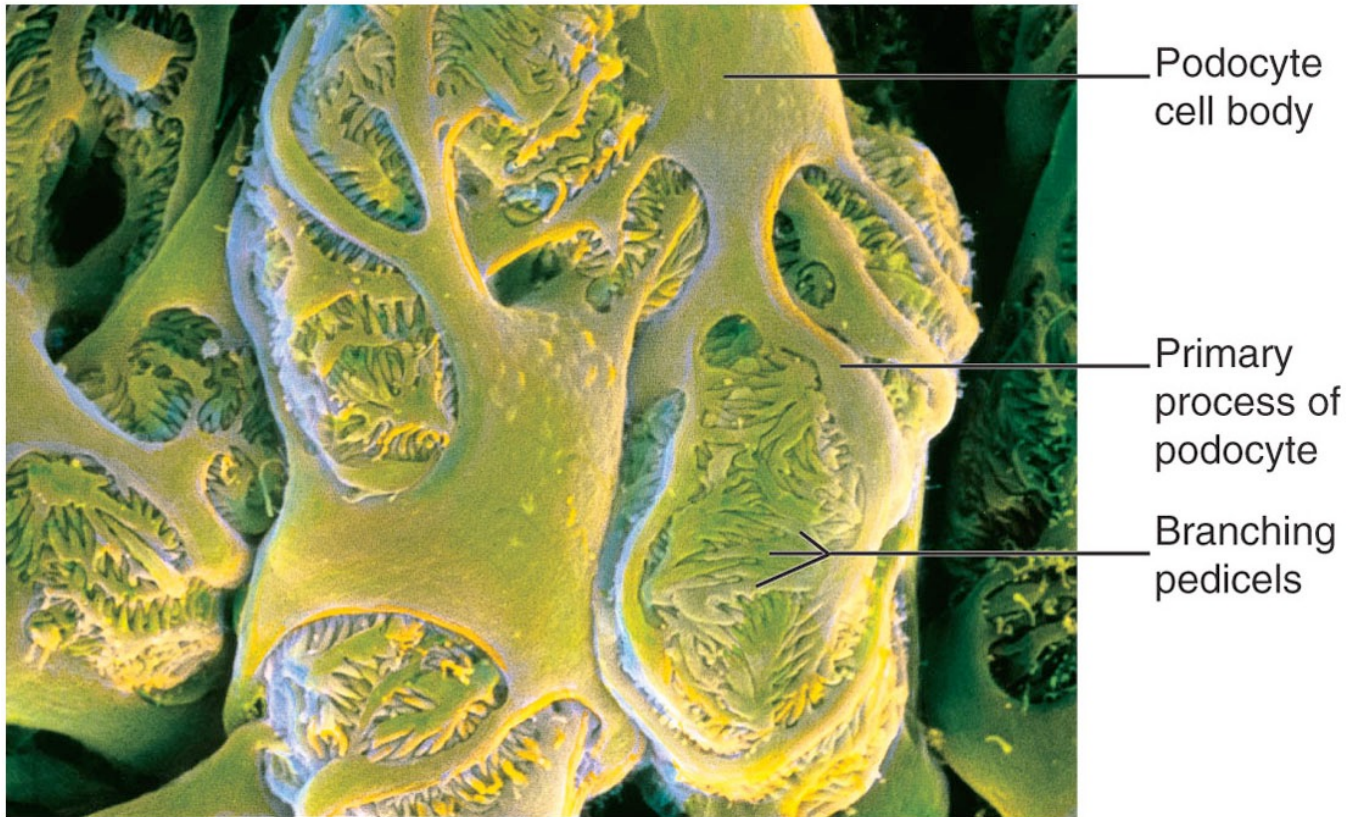
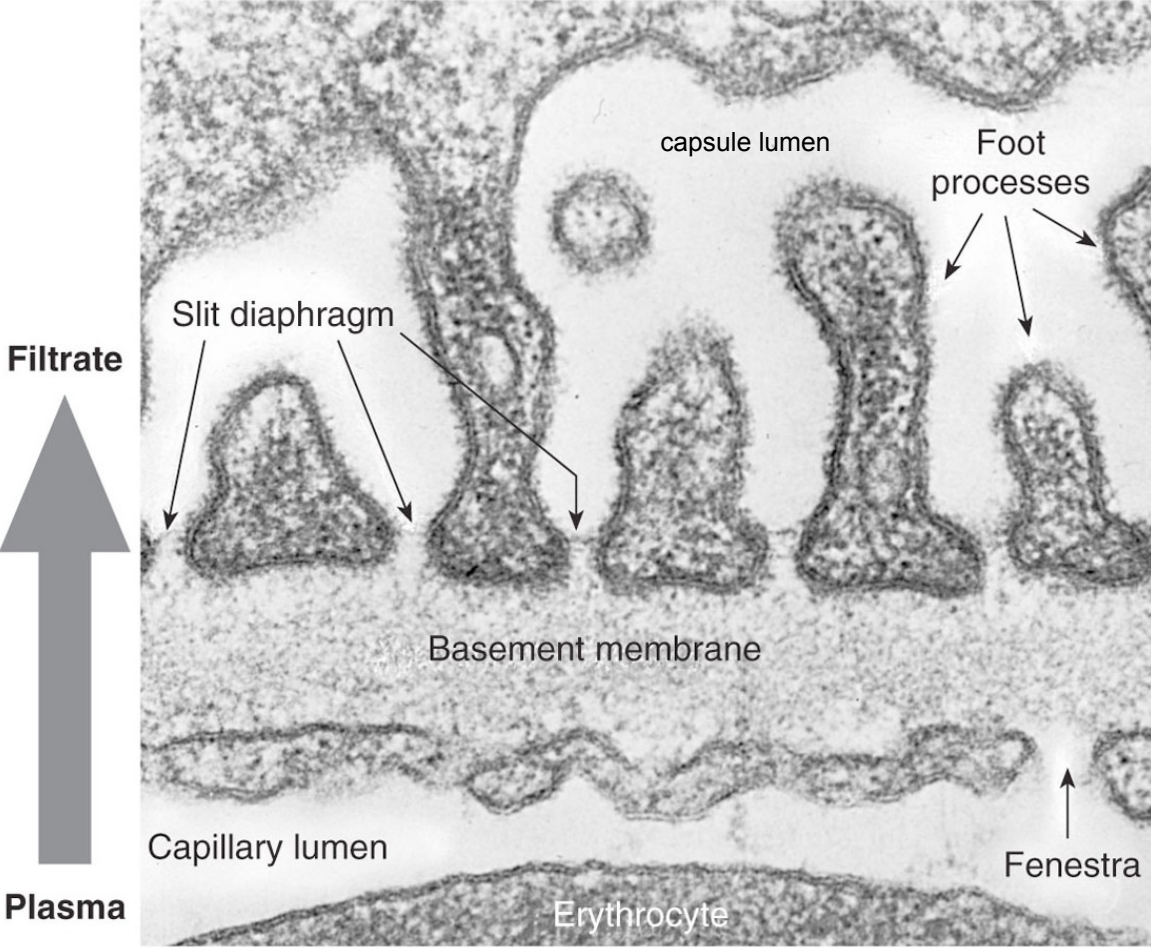
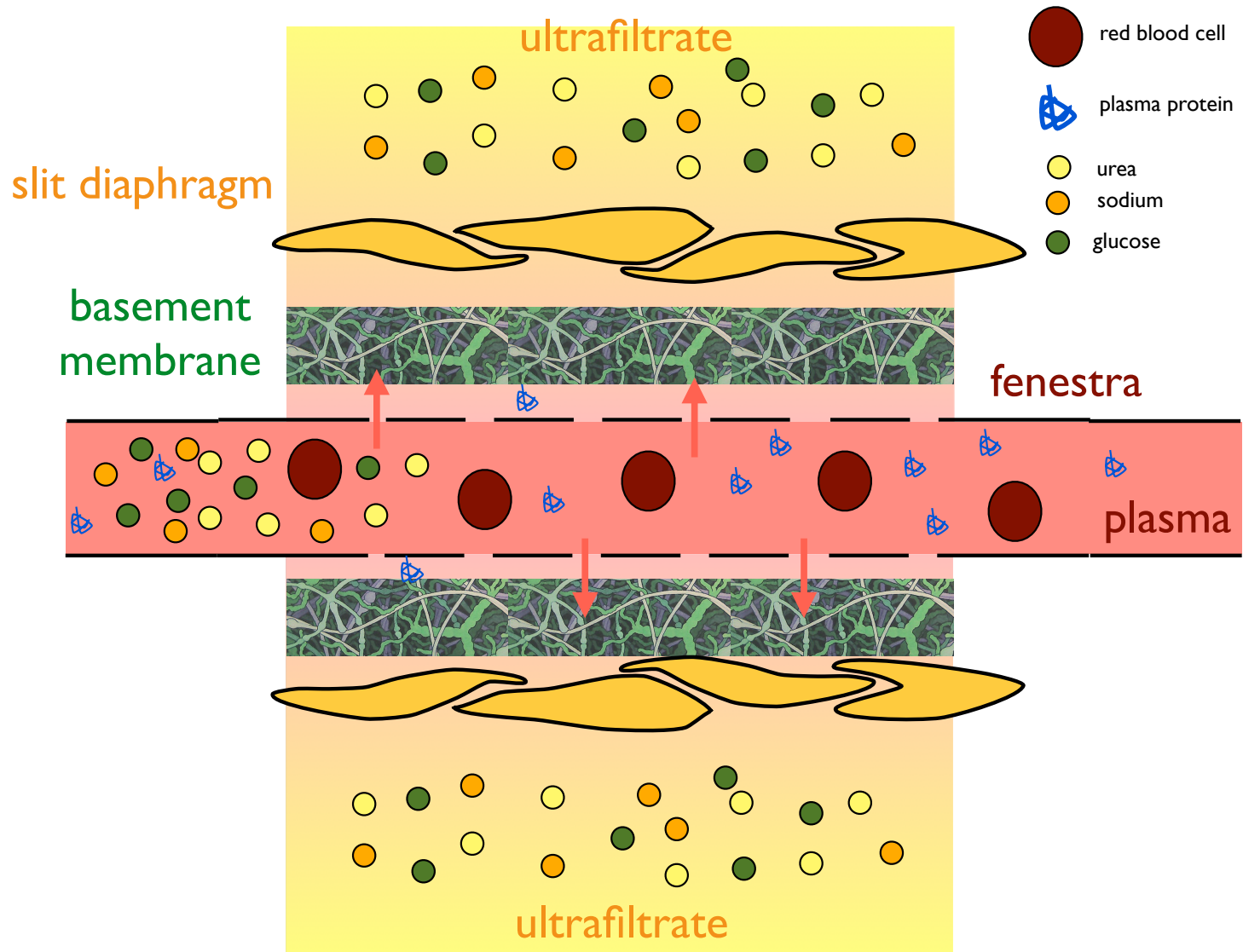


Figure 17.9





Glomerular Capsule filters small molecules (not proteins) from blood into nephron.

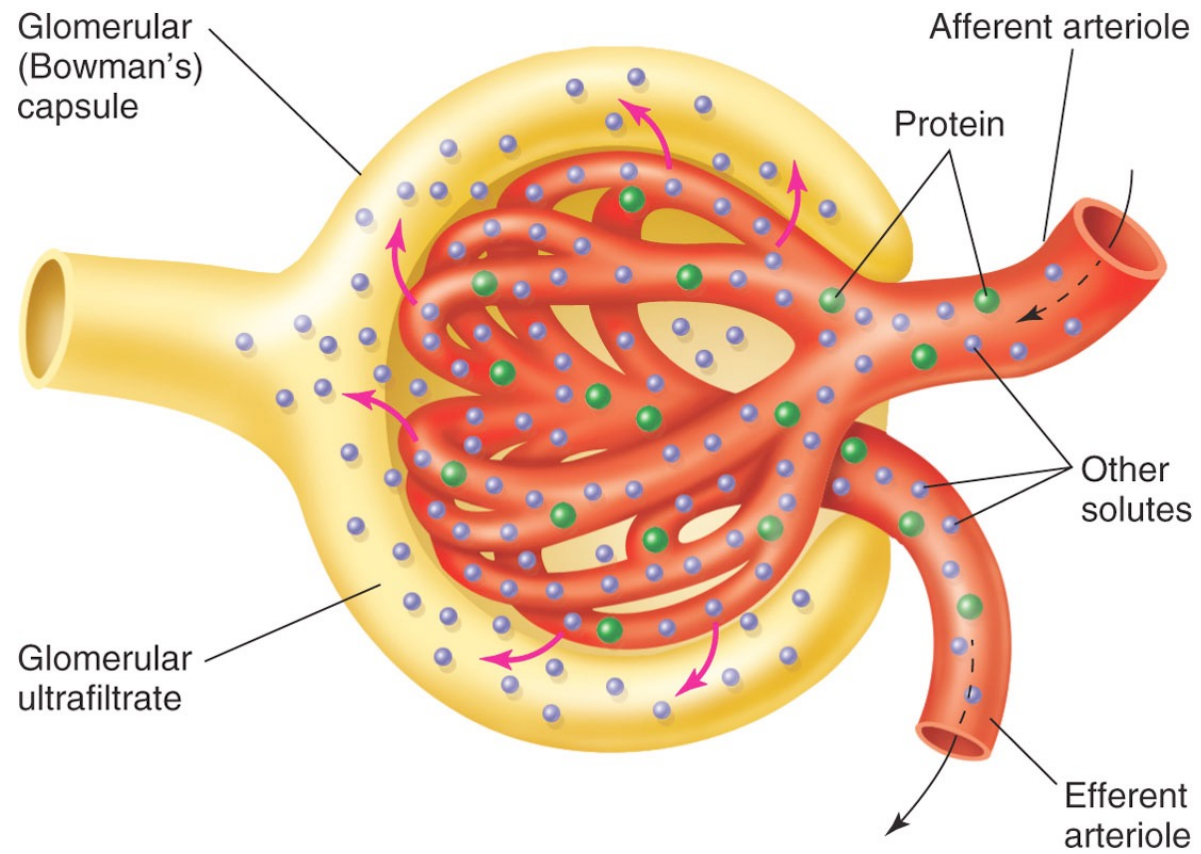


Figure 17.10

Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR)

GFR = volume of filtrate produced by both kidneys each minute

= 120 ml / minute

= 180 L per day

Blood volume = 5-6 L, so total blood volume filtered every 40 minutes.

Urine volume = 1-2 L /day.

Therefore, most of water in filtrate must be reabsorbed.

plasma creatinine (muscle waste product) eliminated by glomerular filtration;
kidney disease -> low GFR -> high plasma creatinine levels

Regulation of GFR

sympathetic nervous system (norepi)

-> vasoconstriction of kidney arterioles

-> decreased GFR

Renal Autoregulation also keeps GFR constant

decreased blood pressure -> dilation of kidney arterioles

increased blood pressure -> constriction of kidney arterioles

(caused by smooth muscle of arterioles and chemicals produced by nephron)

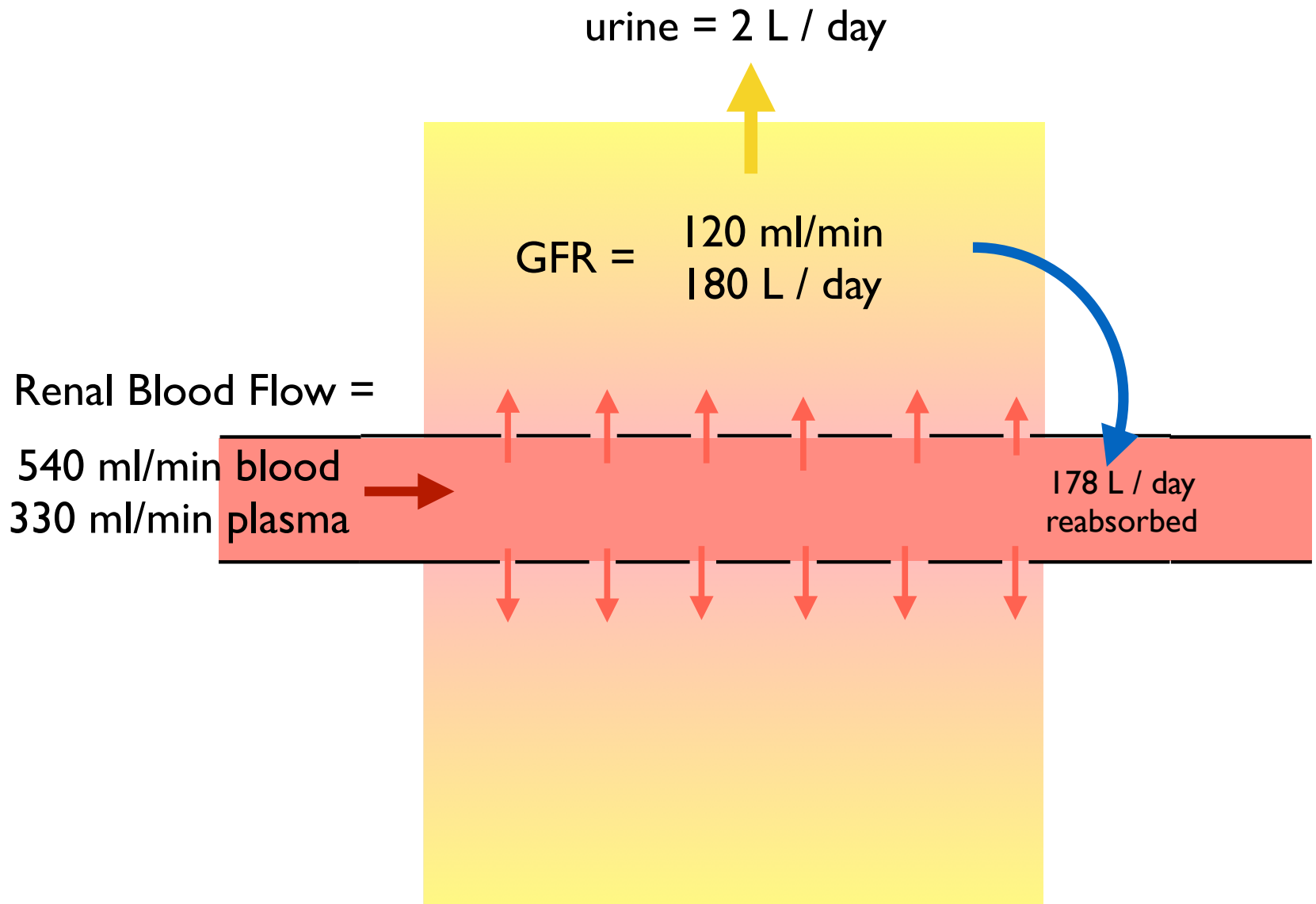


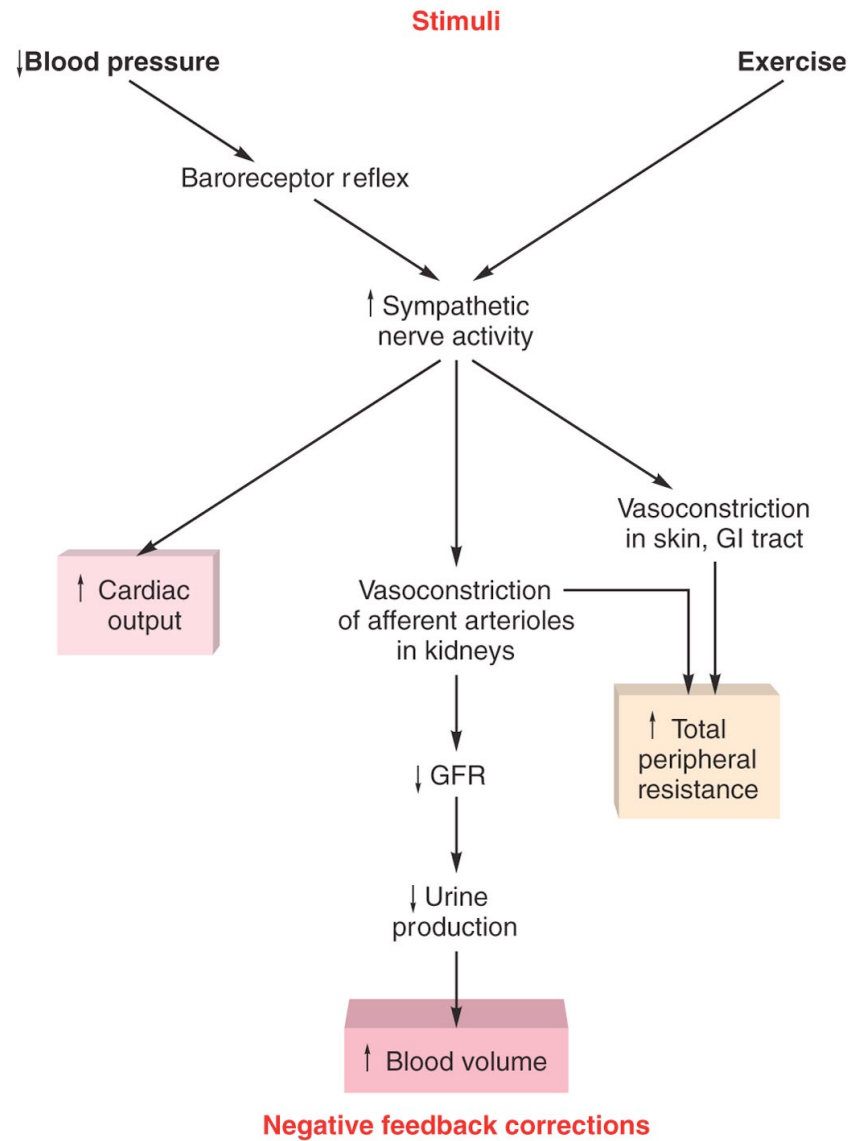
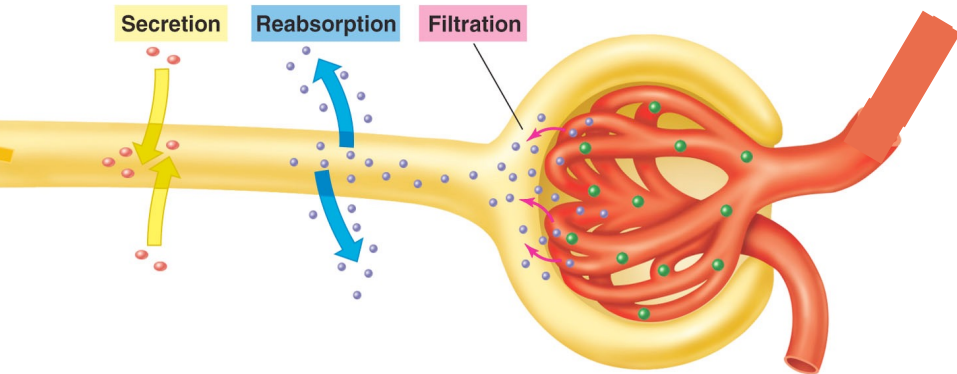
Table 17.1

Table 17.1 | Regulation of the Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR)

Regulation	Stimulus	Afferent Arteriole	GFR
Sympathetic nerves	Activation by baroreceptor reflex or by higher brain centers	Constricts	Decreases
Autoregulation	Decreased blood pressure	Dilates	No change
Autoregulation	Increased blood pressure	Constricts	No change

Figure 17.11

Vasoconstriction of arterioles
→ ↓ GFR



Reabsorption of Filtrate

GFR = 180 L/day

Filtrate is isotonic with plasma (i.e 0.15M NaCl)

minimum urine production = 400 ml/day
(**obligatory water loss** required to get rid of metabolic waste chemicals)

Must reabsorb up to 99% + of filtrate.

Three steps to reabsorption:

1. Reabsorption of NaCl and Water from proximal tubule
2. Reabsorption of NaCl and Water by Countercurrent Multiplier of loop of Henle
3. Reabsorption of Water through aquaporin channels in the collecting ducts

Reabsorption of Salt and Water

85% of filtered water and NaCl is reabsorbed in **proximal tubule**.

Epithelial cells pump Na⁺ into interstitial fluid with Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase, which creates a concentration gradient for Na⁺ (and an electrical gradient).

Na⁺ diffuses from tubule -> epithelial cell -> pumped into interstitial fluid

Cl⁻ follows positive charge of Na⁺ by passive diffusion

Water follows NaCl into interstitial fluid by osmosis

Requires energy (6% of total calories)

Remaining 15% of fluid reabsorbed by ascending limb of loop of Henle and collecting duct, depending on hydration state.

Figure 17.5

85% of filtered water and NaCl is reabsorbed in proximal tubule.

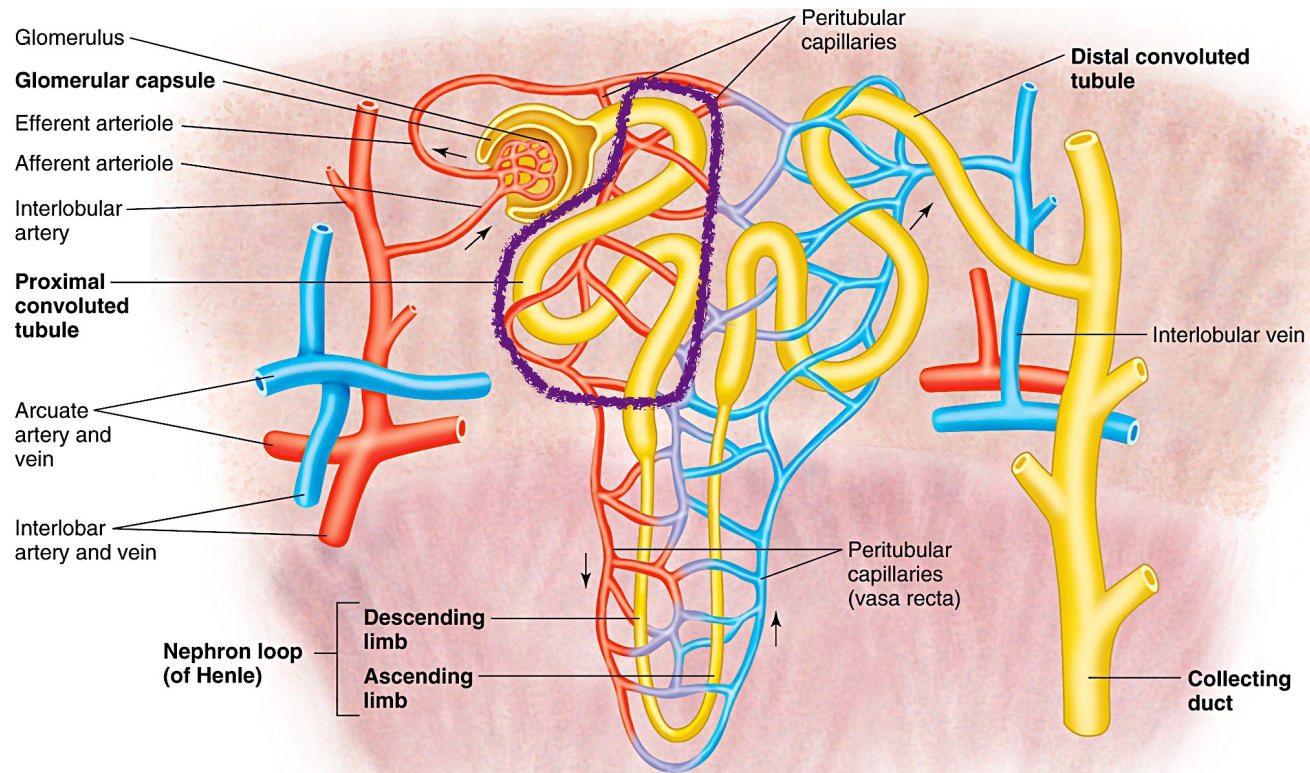
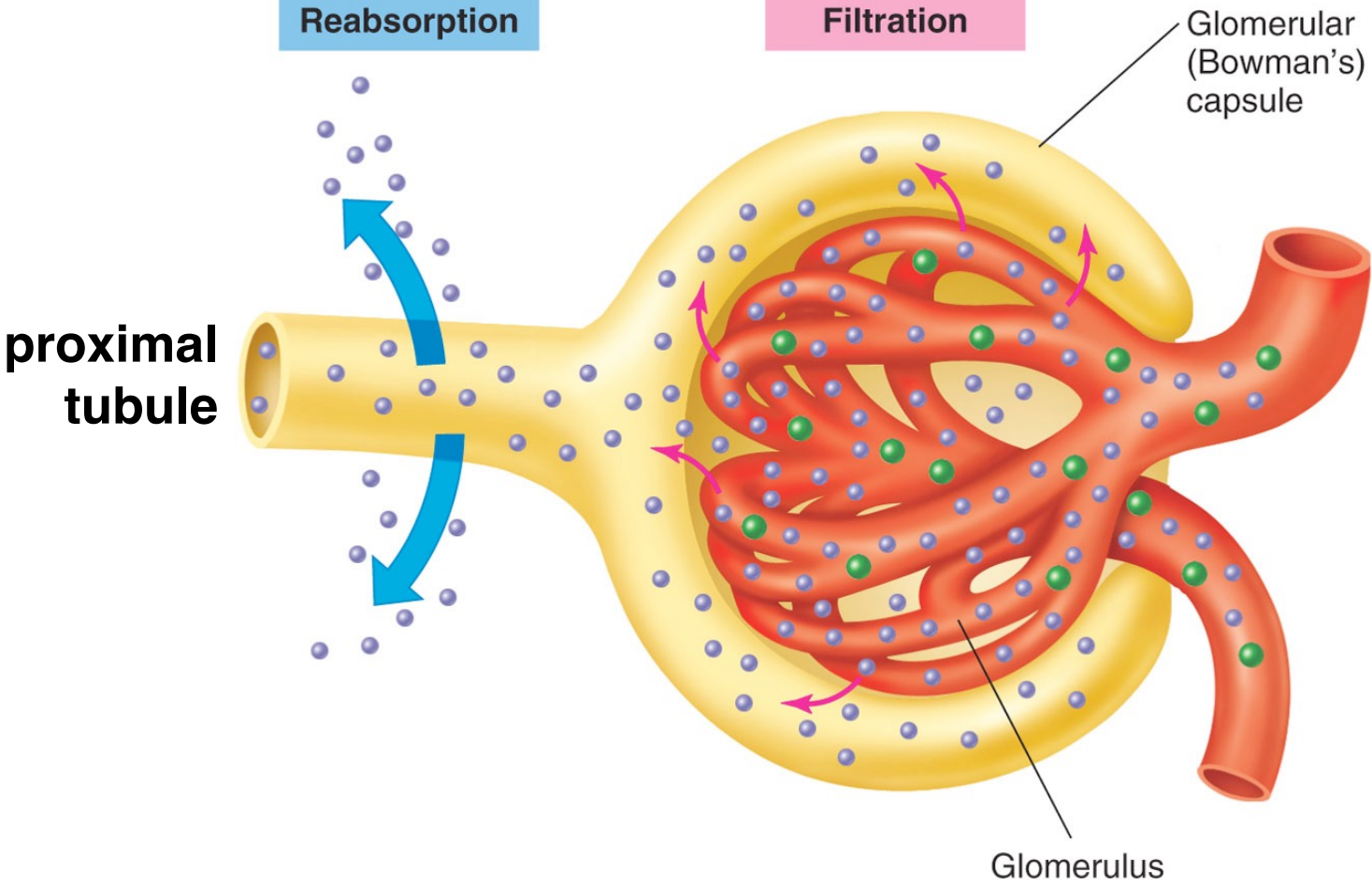
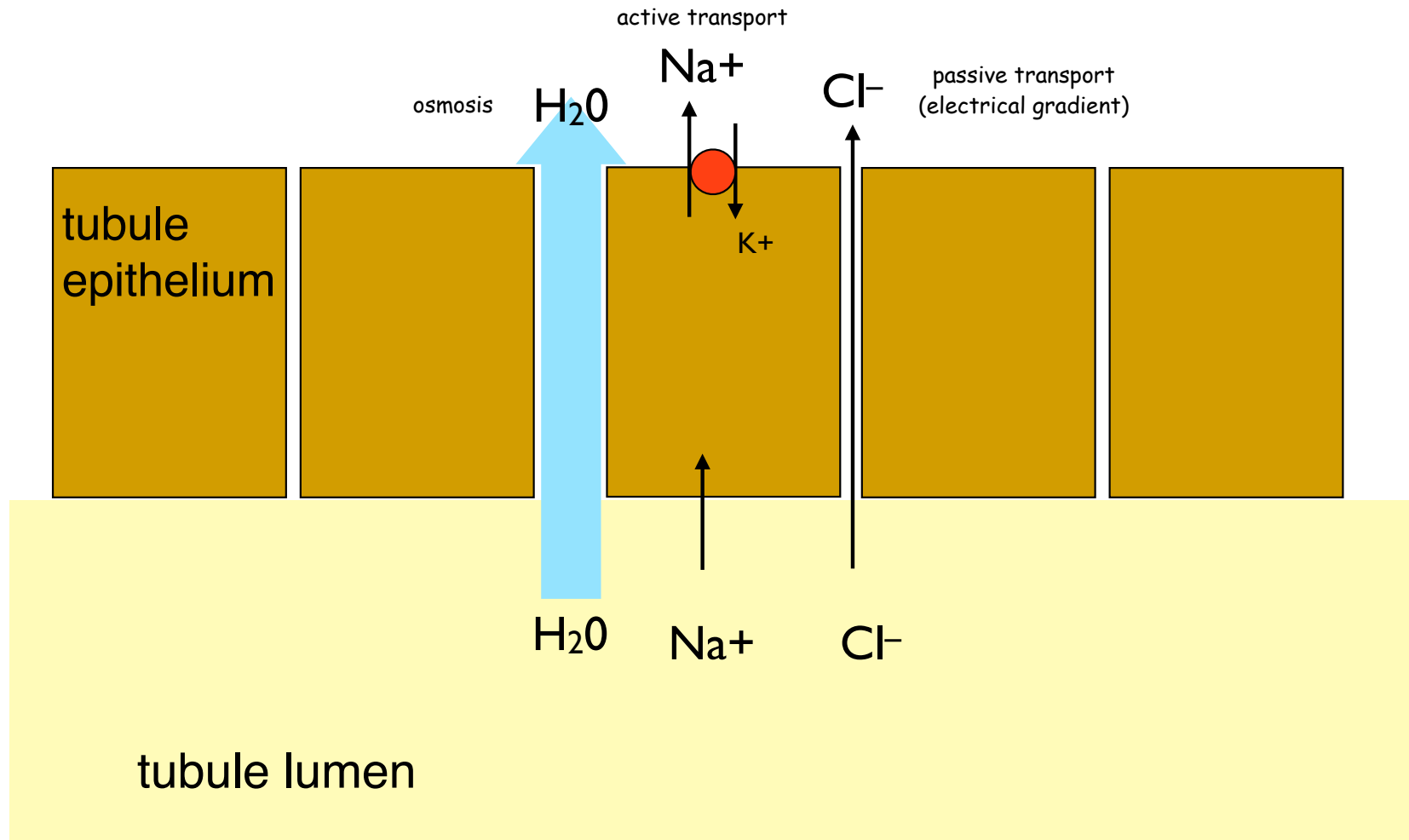


Figure 17.12

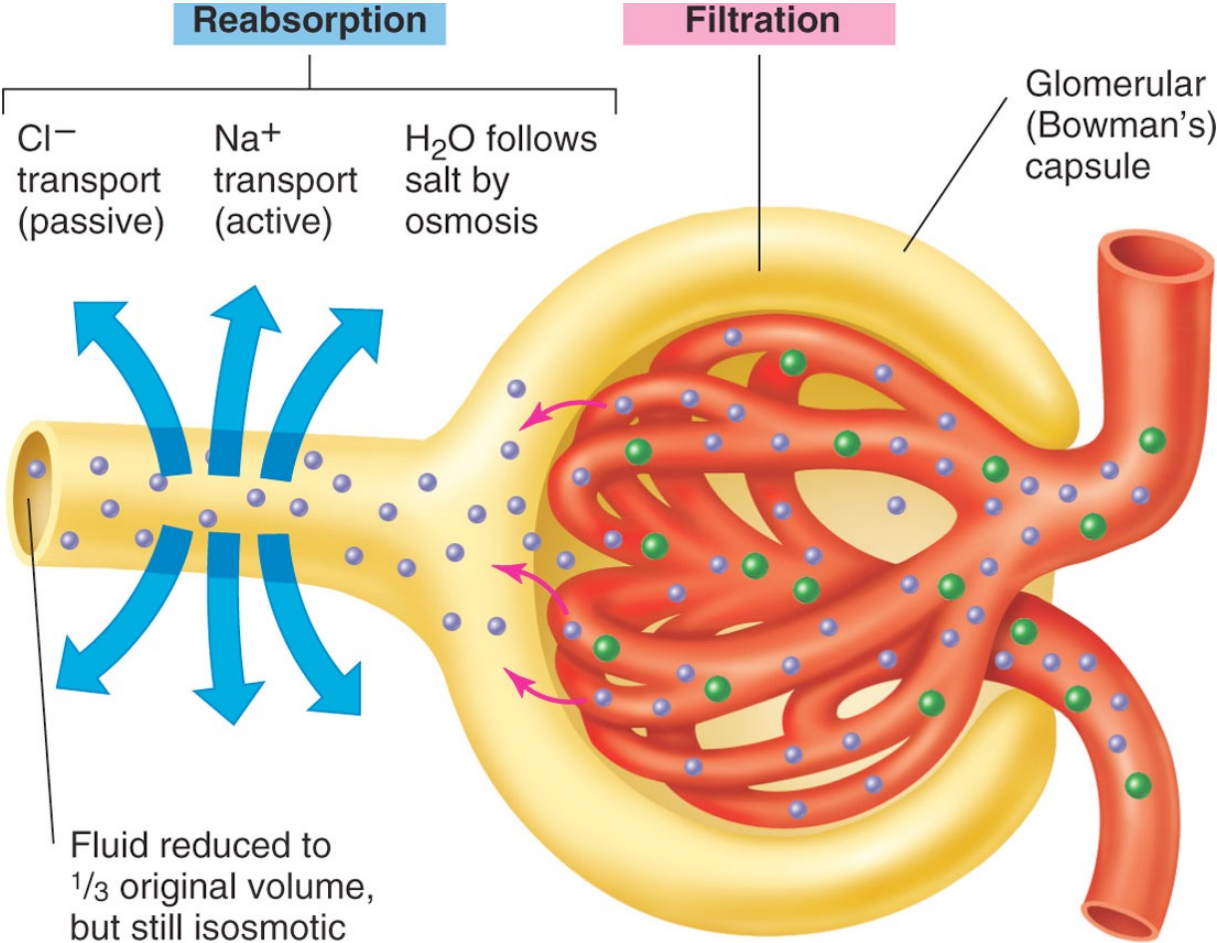


interstitial fluid



note; other water soluble molecules will be reabsorbed as well

Figure 17.13



Reabsorption of Glucose

Glucose transporters in the **proximal tubule** reabsorb glucose by Na⁺/glucose co-transport into epithelial cells, and then diffusion into blood.

Transporters require Na⁺ gradient (set up by Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase pumps).

Transporters are **saturable**: maximum transport (T_m) is 375 mg/minute glucose.

Fasting glucose = 1 mg/ml (= 100 mg/100ml).

GFR = 125 ml/min

so glucose filtration = 125 mg/min (which is less than T_m of 375 mg/min)

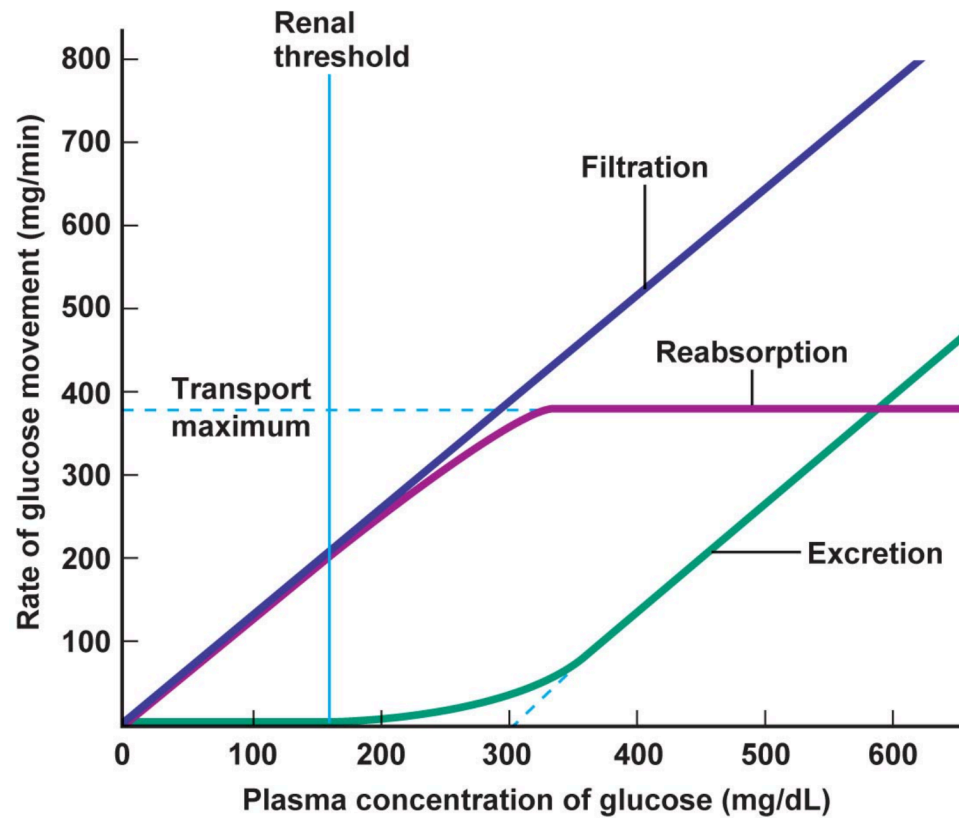
so normally no glucose in urine

Renal Plasma Threshold is maximum concentration that can still be excreted into urine.

Renal plasma threshold for glucose = 200 mg/100 ml; above 200 mg/100ml, glucose appears in urine (**glycosuria**)

(similar mechanism of amino acid reabsorption)

When Renal Plasma Threshold of plasma glucose is exceeded, then proximal tubule cannot reabsorb all the filtered glucose: excess -> urine (glycosuria)



Na⁺/glucose co-transport

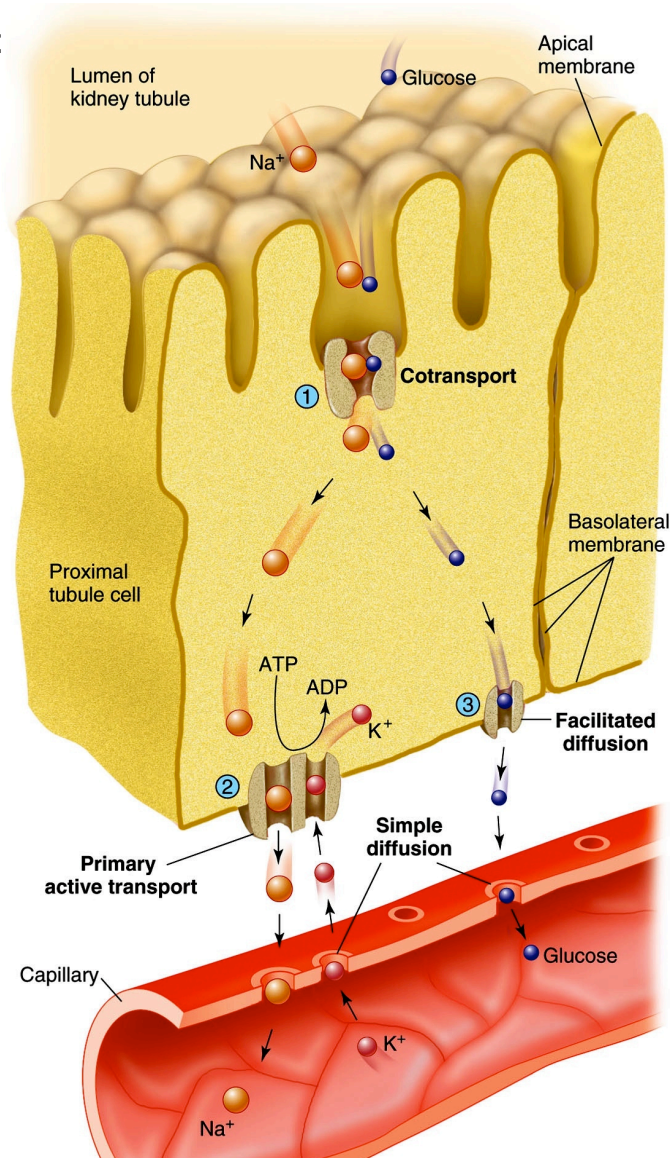


Figure 17.24

Reabsorption of Bicarbonate: Acid-Base Balance

Urine slightly **acidic** (pH 5 - 7)

Na⁺/H⁺ exchanger in proximal tubule moves H⁺ into urine (relies on Na⁺ gradient set up by Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase pump)

80-90% of Bicarbonate in urine reabsorbed as CO₂ from the lumen of the tubule

- Carbonic anhydrase on **luminal surface** converts HCO₃⁻ & H⁺ to CO₂ which can diffuse into epithelium cells.
- Carbonic anhydrase **inside epithelium cells** converts CO₂ back to HCO₃⁻ & H⁺ for transport in the blood.

H⁺ ATPase pump also adds protons to urine, making urine acidic in spite of CO₂ reabsorption.

Figure 17.29

