

# Urinary system

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# Urinary system - constituents

- kidneys
- ureters
- urinary bladder
- urethra



# Kidney

#### Weight: 130-140g



Kidneys location

- 1. On the posterior body wall
- Posterior to parietal peritoneum – *retroperitoneal organ*
- 3. At the level of T12-L2 (left kidney) and L1-L3 (right kidney)



### Kidneys - location





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# Kidneys – covering structures



#### Kidneys - neighbouring organs and structures



# Kidney – gross anatomy



External structures:

#### Hilum of kidney:

- 1. Renal vein
- 2. Renal artery
- 3. Ureter

# Internal structures:

- 1. Cortex
- 2. Medulla
- 3. Minor calyces
- 4. Major calyces
- 5. Renal pelvis

### Renal cortex



Renal columns (Bertini's columns)

## Renal medulla – renal pyramids



Approximately 30 pyramids are in each kidney and many of them are fused together.

renal papilla

## Minor calyces



8-9 in each kidney

# Major calyces



Approx. 3 in each kidney

# Renal pelvis



#### Renal hilum - L1/L2 level



renal sinus

From anterior to posterior direction:

renal vein
 renal artery
 ureter

From superior to inferior direction:

renal artery
 renal vein

3. ureter

### Renal arteries - L1 level



## Renal artery





- segmental arteries
- interlobar arteries
- arcuate arteries
- interlobular arteries
- afferent arterioles

#### Renal veins



*left renal vein is longer than the right one and crosses over the aorta* 

### Renal veins



right renal vein

*left renal vein is longer than the right one and crosses over the aorta* 



left renal vein

#### Tributaries of the renal veins





- (stellate veins only under the fibrous capsule)
- interlobular veins
- arcuate veins
- interlobar veins
- segmental veins

#### Renal veins



*left suprarenal vein* (empties into the left renal vein)

*left gonadal (testicular or ovarian) vein* (empties into the left renal vein)

The right suprarenal and gonadal veins empty into the *IVC*.

### Varicocele



The varicocele is a dilatation of the pampiniform plexus (part of the testicular vein over the testes). This may be due to the higher intravenous pressure in the left testicular vein. It heats the testes, causing infertility.

10-15% of the male population has varicocele.

## The most common cause of correctable male infertility.





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# Nephron

Structural and functional unit of kidney.

#### **Components:**

1. Renal corpuscle:

Bowman's capsule Glomerulus

#### 2. Renal tubules:

Proximal convoluted tubule Loop of Henle Distal convoluted tubule



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#### Bowman's capsule, Glomerulus

Bowman's capsule:

- 1. Parietal layer: simple squamous epithelium
- 2. Visceral layer: podocytes

Glomerulus: - filters plasma

- 1. Afferent arteriole
- 2. Efferent arteriole

(1200ml blood goes through the kidneys each minute. 125ml- glomerular filtration 124ml- reabsorbed glomerular filtration =1ml urine/min.)

### Proximal and distal convoluted tubules

#### Identification parameters of PCTs and DCTs

The identification of proximal convoluted tubules (PCTs) and DCTs is facilitated by the following parameters:

1. Both are adjacent to renal corpuscles.

 PCTs contain cells with abundant lysosomes (stained dark in both light microscope illustrations).

 The apical domain of PCTs has a prominent brush border (microvilli) and vesicles. In contrast, the apical domain of DCTs has sparce microvilli and vesicles.

 Cells lining the PCTs and DCTs contain abundant basally located mitochondria.



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#### **Proximal convoluted tubule:**

Cuboidal cells with brush border. (*Absorption: water, glucose, amino acids, Na*<sup>+</sup>, *vitaminC*)

#### **Loop of Henle:**

Squamous epithelium. (*Absorption: water, Na*<sup>+</sup>, *Cl*<sup>-</sup>, *Ca*<sup>2+</sup>, *PO*<sub>4</sub>. Secretion: *H*<sup>+</sup>, *K*<sup>+</sup>.)

#### **Distal convoluted tubule:**

Cuboidal cells without brush border. (*Absorption: water, Na*<sup>+</sup>, *Ca*<sup>2+</sup>, *HCO*<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or H<sup>+</sup>. Secretion: K<sup>+</sup>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or H<sup>+</sup>.)

# Ureter



- Begins at the L1 vertebral level
- Retroperitoneal structure
- 25-30cm long
- Parts: abdominal, pelvic and intramural
- Shows frequent contractions
- Lined by urothelium
- Anatomical constrictions:
  1: pelvico-ureteric junction,
  2: crossing with the
  common iliac artery, 3:
  intramural part

## Ureter – blood supply



- renal artery
- gonadal artery
- common iliac artery
- internal iliac artery
- uterine artery
- superior vesical arteries

## Ureter



# Urothelium



- 1. Umbrella cells
- 2. Pear shaped cells
- 3. Basal cells



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## Urinary bladder

- Infraperitoneal organ
- Parts: apex, body and fundus
- Urinary trigone: *ureteric openings, urethral opening*
- Folds of mucous membrane over the openings of ureters
- Lined by urothelium
- Average capacity: 300ml
- Blood supply: superior and inferior vesical arteries

#### Urinary bladder



# Ultrasound picture of bladder



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# Urinary bladder - ligaments



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The apex of the bladder is connected to the umbilicus by the remnant of the urachus, which forms the *median umbilical ligament* (arrows).

**In the female,** the fundus is anchored inferiorly by the pelvic fascia, and the bladder and the urethra are connected to the symphysis by the *pubovesical ligament*.

**In the male,** the fundus is anchored inferiorly by prostatic capsule, and the bladder and the urethra are connected to the symphysis by the *puboprostatic ligament*.



# Urethra

Lined by stratified columnar epithelium.

Female urethra:

2-3cm long

Male urethra:

15-18cm long

Represents 3 divisions:

Prostatic part Membranous part Spongy part



#### Urinary stones



Common, with a lifetime incidence of up to 15%. Males are at higher risk than females (3:1).

75% of the stones is built up by calcium oxalate (spinach, rhubarb, almonds and cashews, cocoa and raspberry.



#### Thank you for your attention.

References:Gray's Anatomy for StudentsThieme, Atlas of Anatomy, Internal OrgansLWW: Langman's Medical EmbryologyWebPathology.comstudyblue.com