

Urinary System: Renal Physiology for Medical Students, L4-8

Urine Formation by the Kidneys:
II. Tubular Reabsorption and Secretion

Reference: Guyton & Hall, Jordanian first edition
Chapter 27

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2023



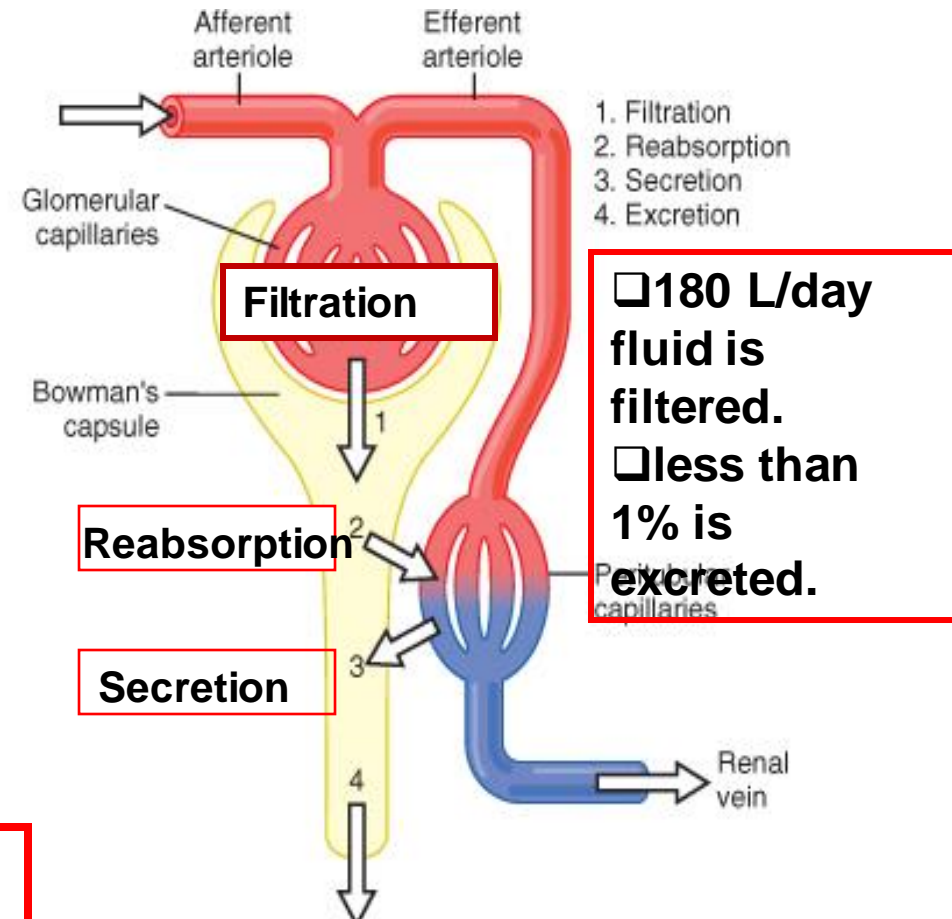
Objectives

- Describe the mechanisms of renal reabsorption and secretion in the nephron for different substances.
- Identify the functions of the different parts of the nephron tubules and describe the transport mechanisms occurring in each part.
- Describe the changes in concentrations of different substances in the renal tubules and the underlying causes of these changes.
- Understand how inulin can be used to estimate water reabsorption in each segment of the nephron.

The functional unit of the kidney

Basic Mechanisms of Urine Formation

- Ultrafiltration
- Reabsorption
- Secretion
- Excretion



**Excretion =
Filtration - Reabsorption +
Secretion**

Urinary excretion (1-2 L/day)

Audio-Visual Aid

Please watch this animation Demonstrating:

- [Reabsorption and Secretion animation - YouTube](#)



Reabsorption and Secretion animation



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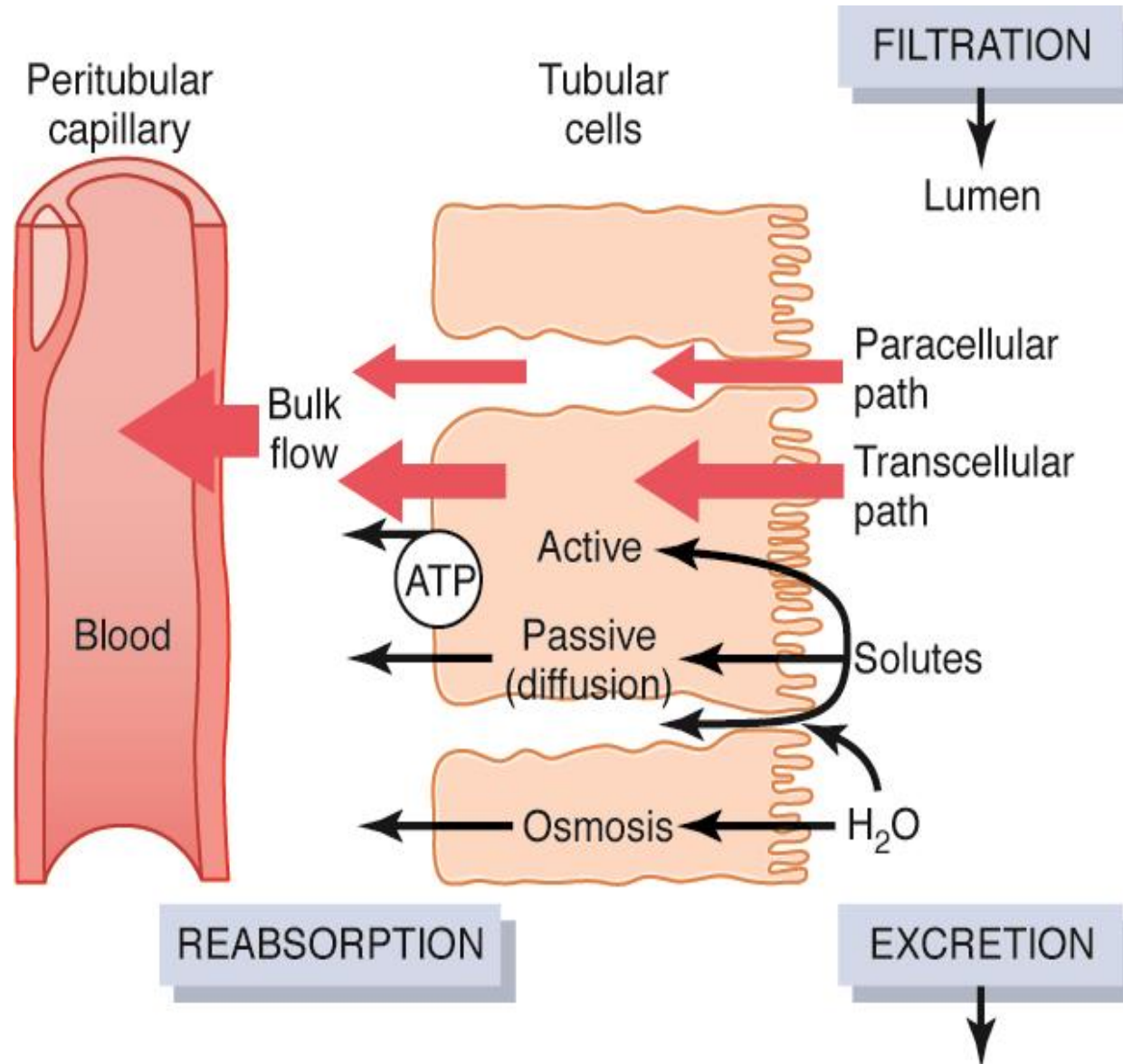
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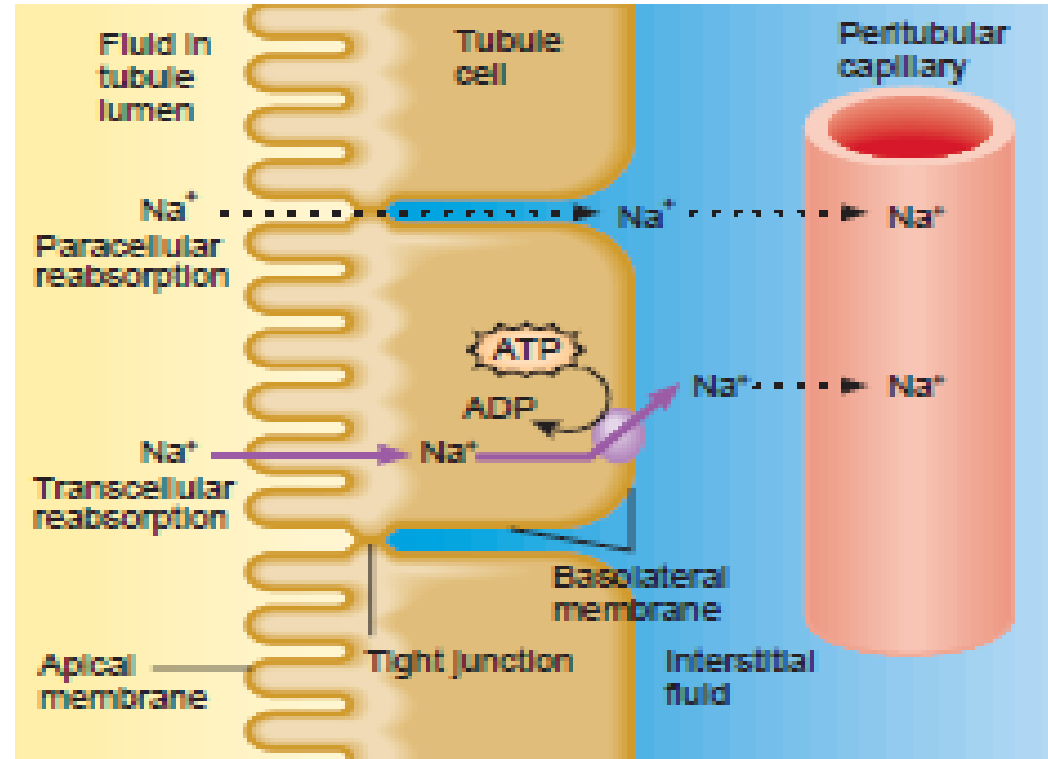
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Reabsorption of Water and Solutes



Reabsorption of Water and Solutes



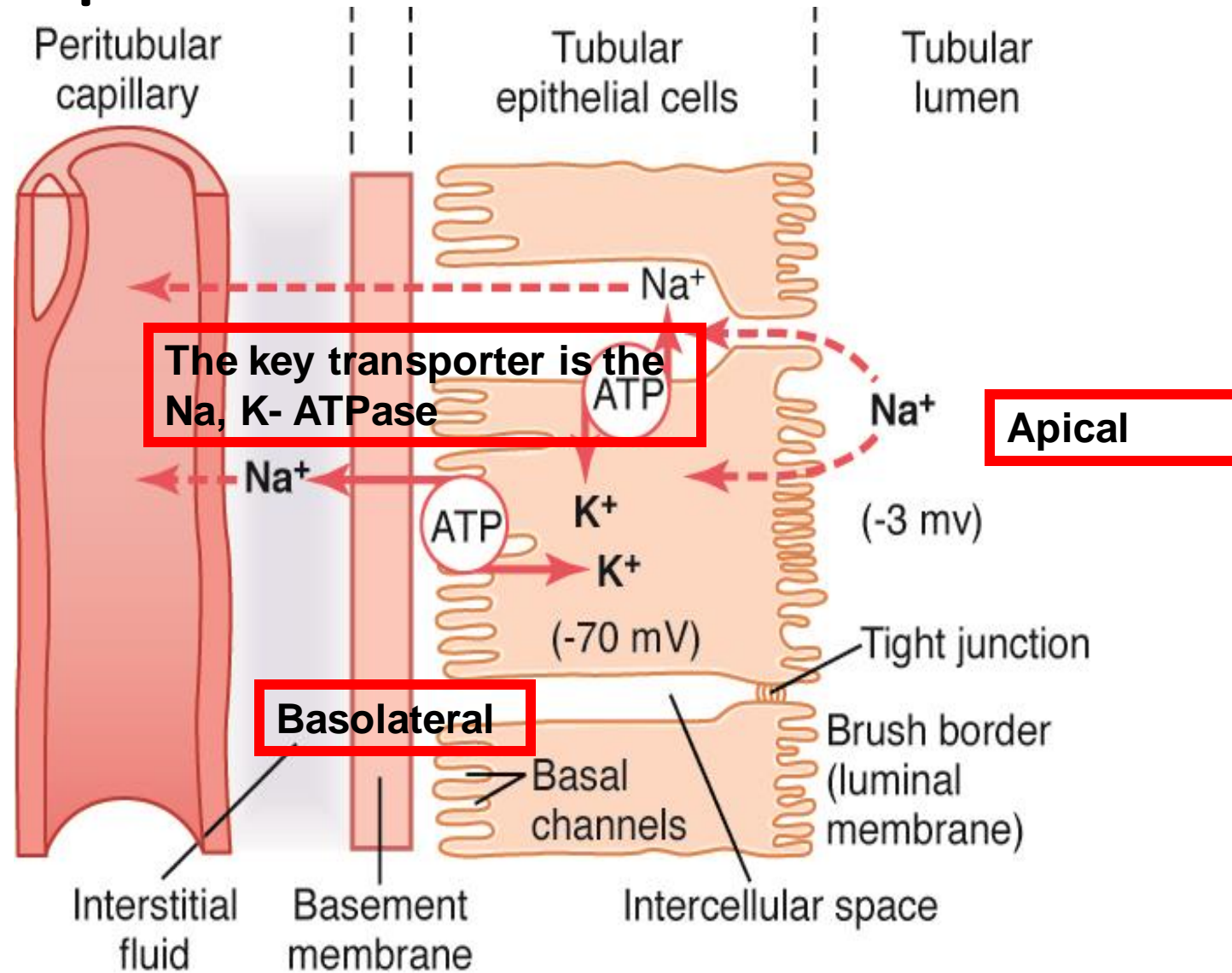
Key:

.....▶ Diffusion

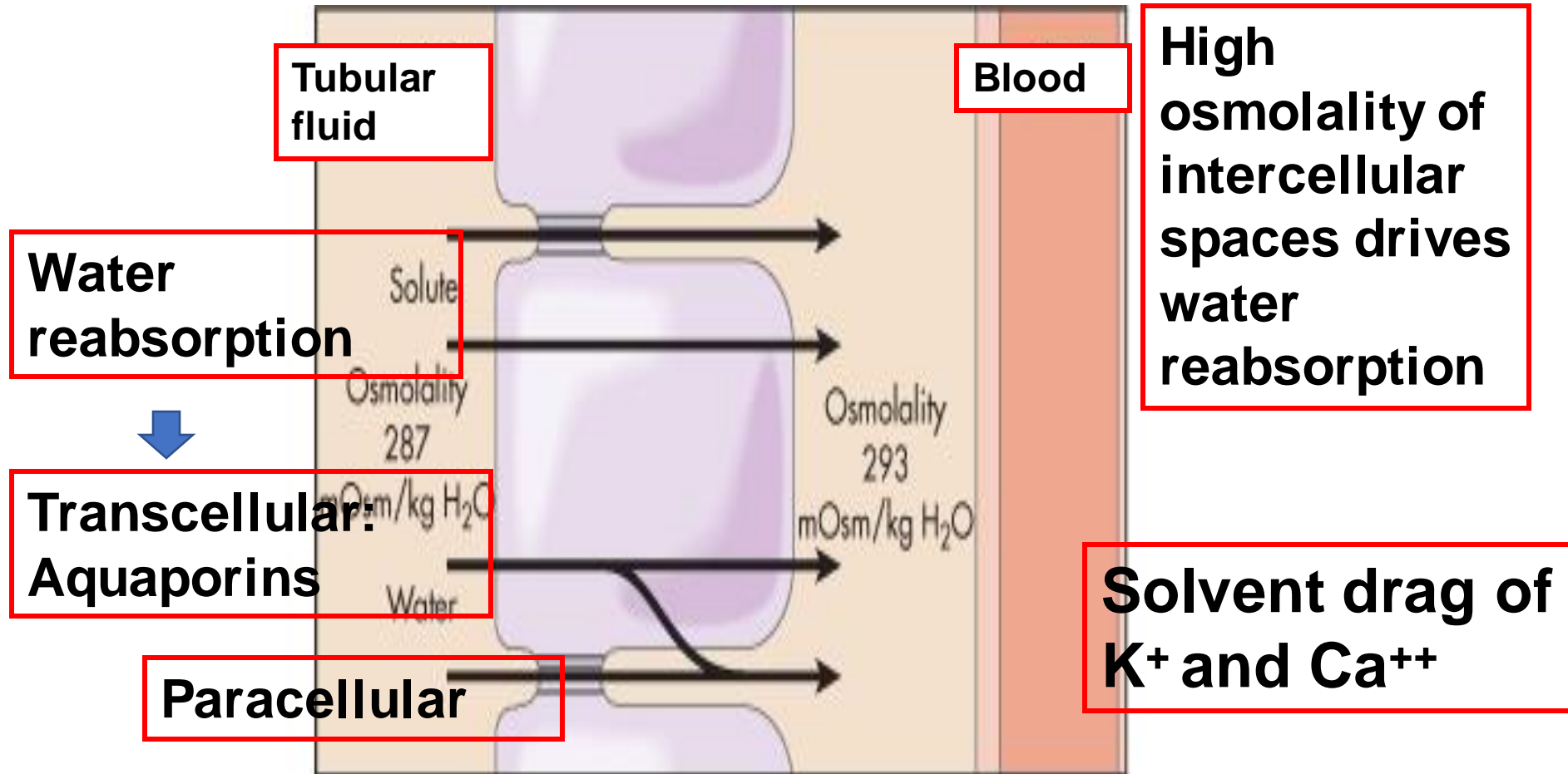
————▶ Active transport

 Sodium-potassium pump (Na^+/K^+ ATPase)

Active Transport

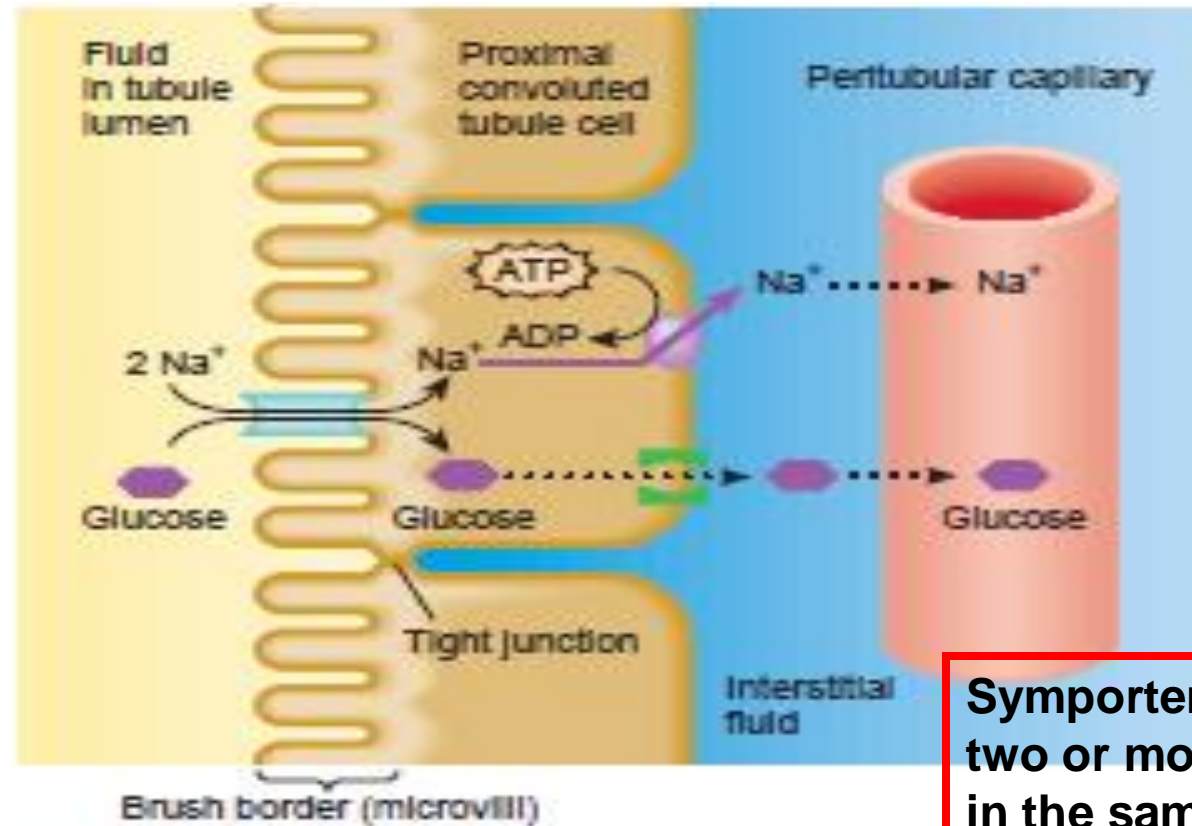


Proximal tubule reabsorption



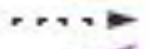



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Glucose: Proximal Tubules



Symporter= transports two or more substances in the same direction

- Key:
-  Na⁺-glucose symporter
 -  Glucose facilitated diffusion transporter
 -  Diffusion
 -  Sodium-potassium pump

Glucose is transported via secondary active transport (facilitated diffusion)

Mechanisms of secondary active transport in Proximal Convoluted Tubules.

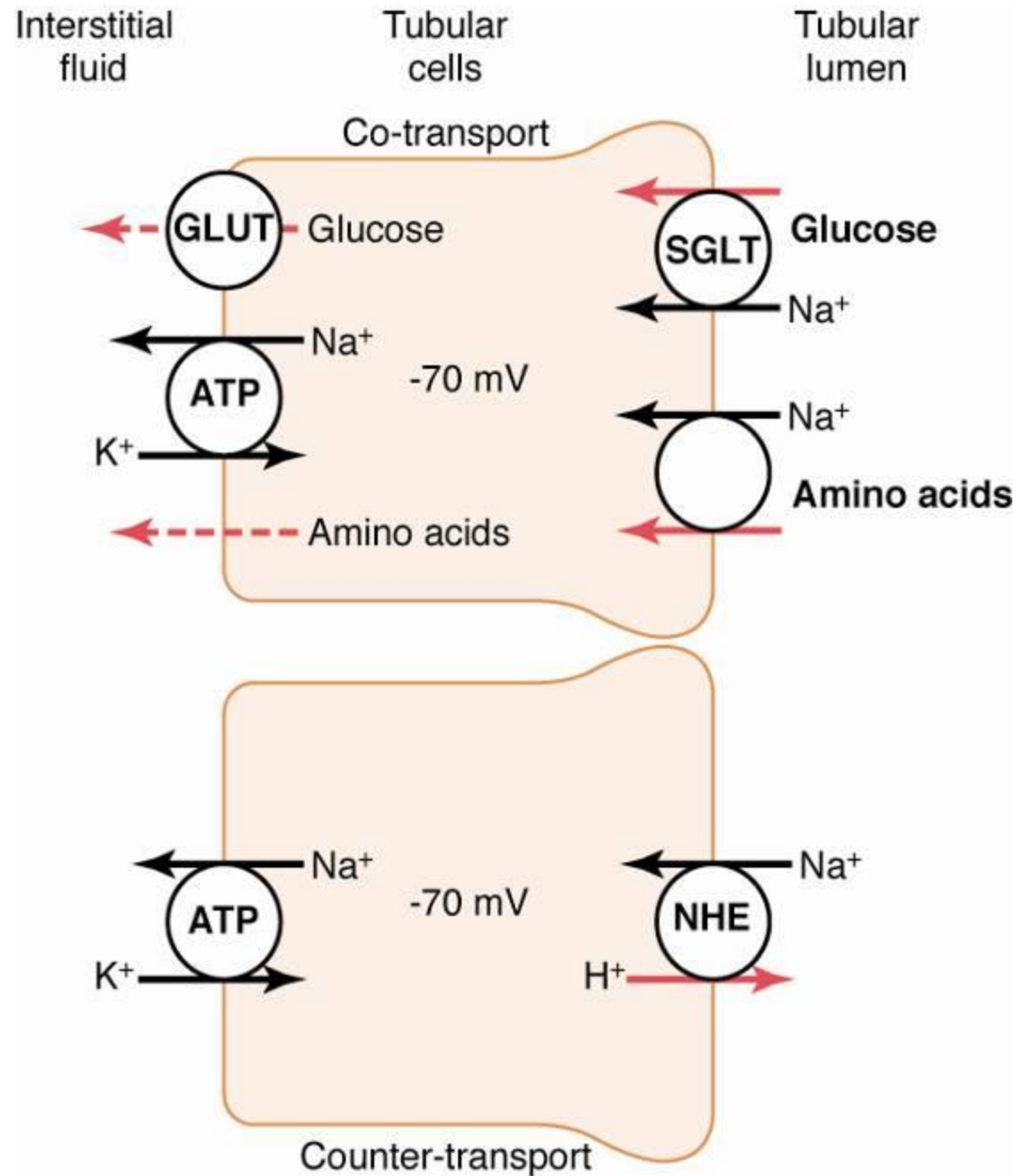


Figure 27-3

Glucose Transport Maximum

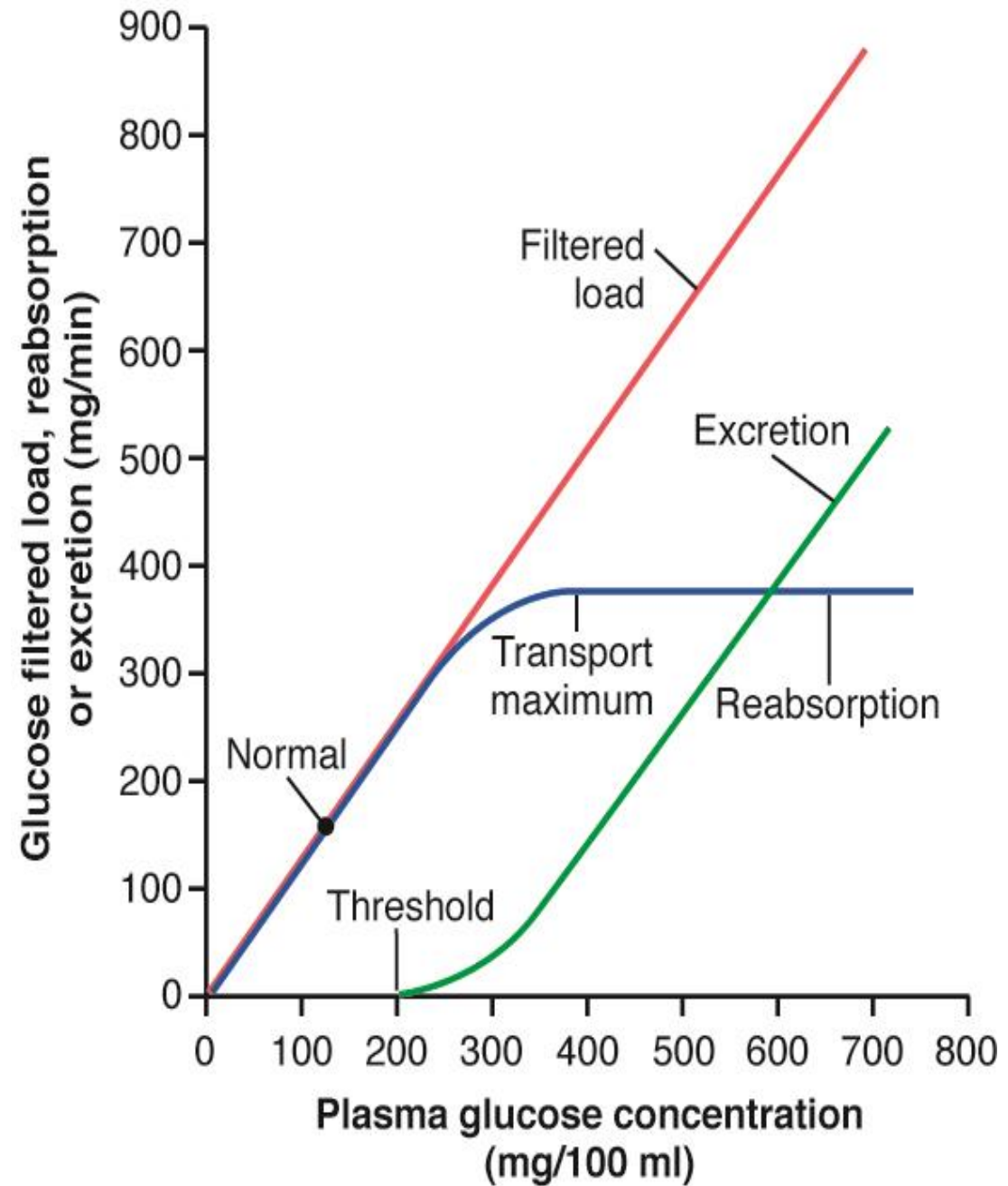
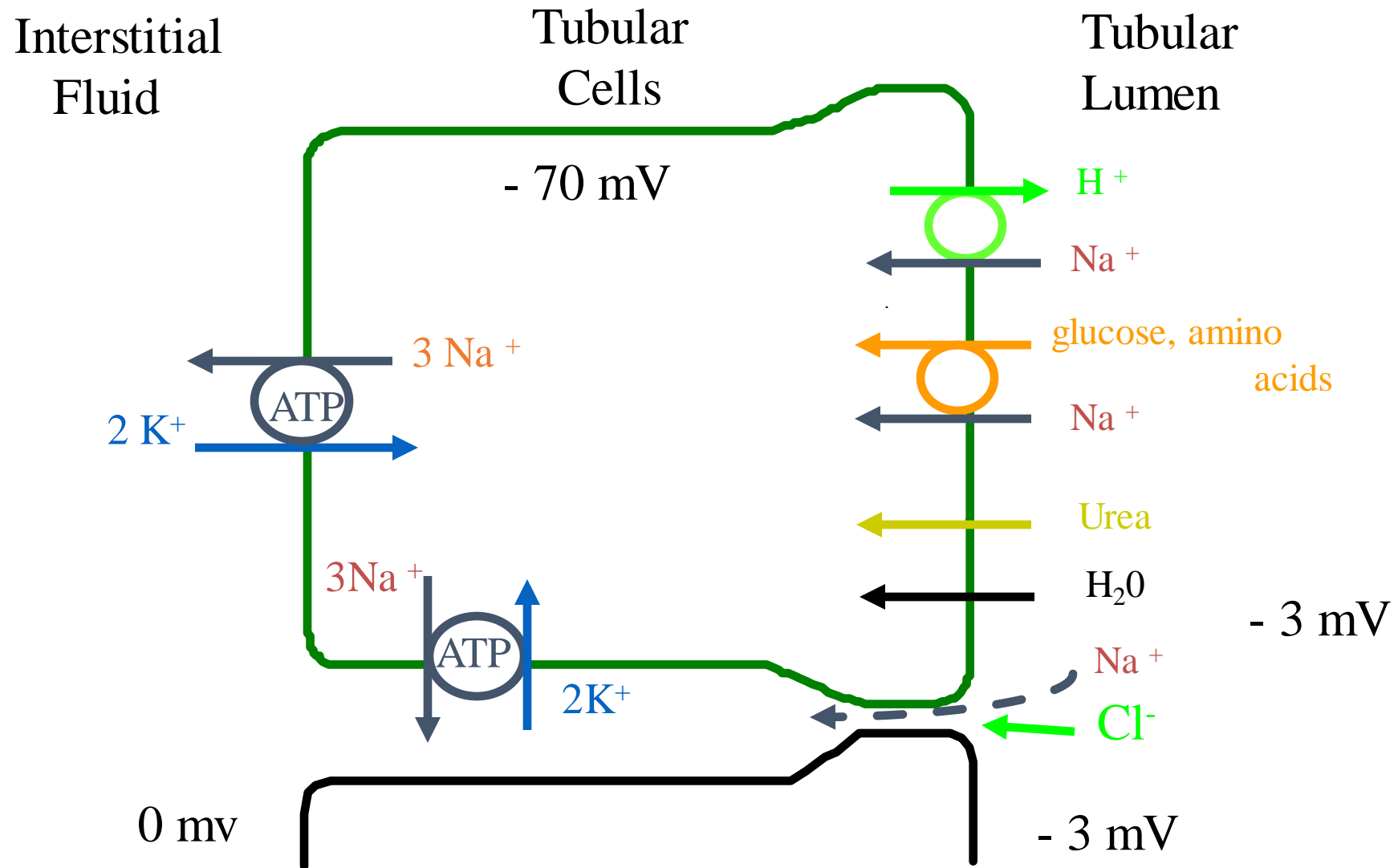


Figure 27-4

Proximal Convoluted Cells



Mechanisms of water, chloride, and urea reabsorption coupled with sodium reabsorption

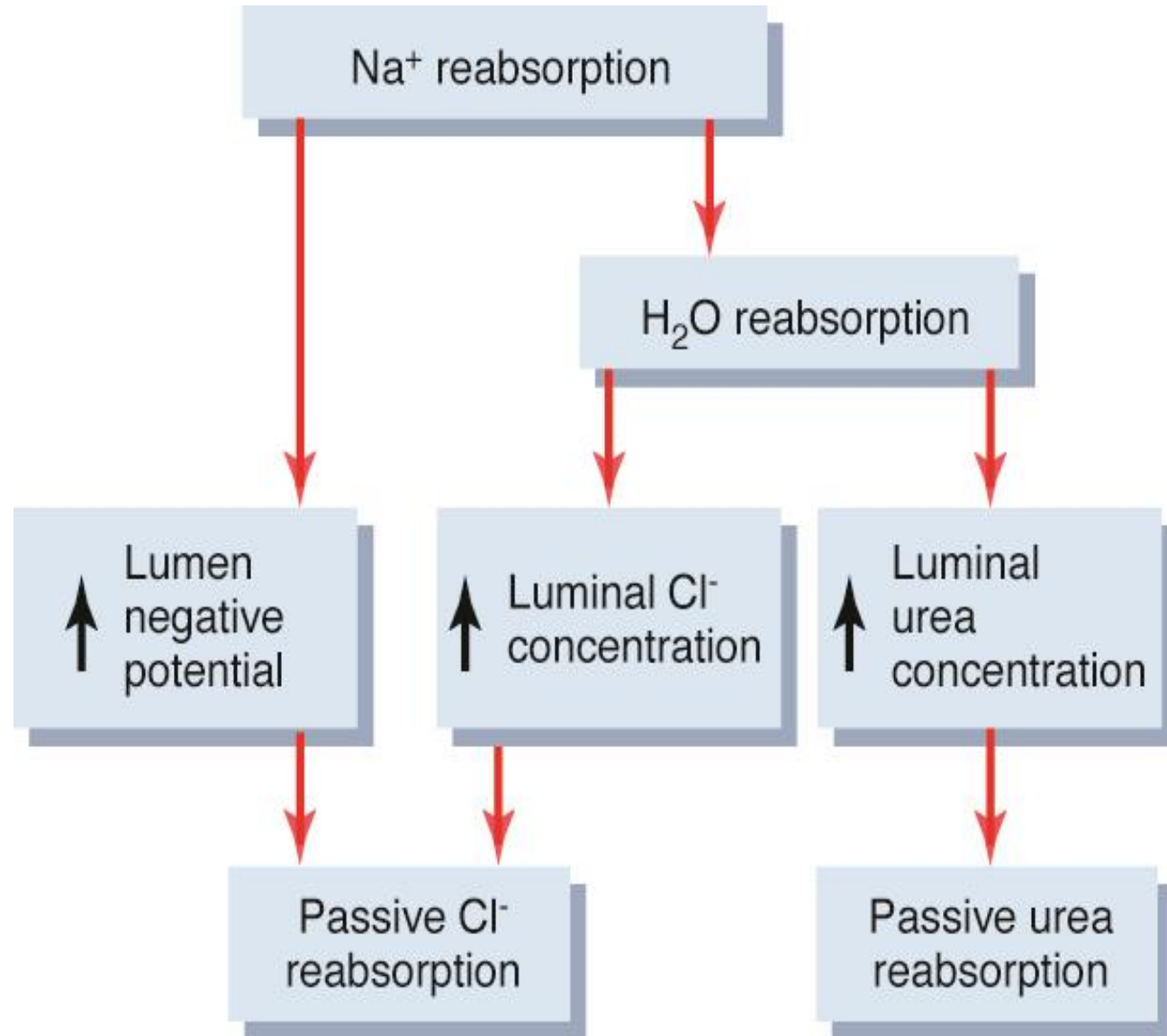
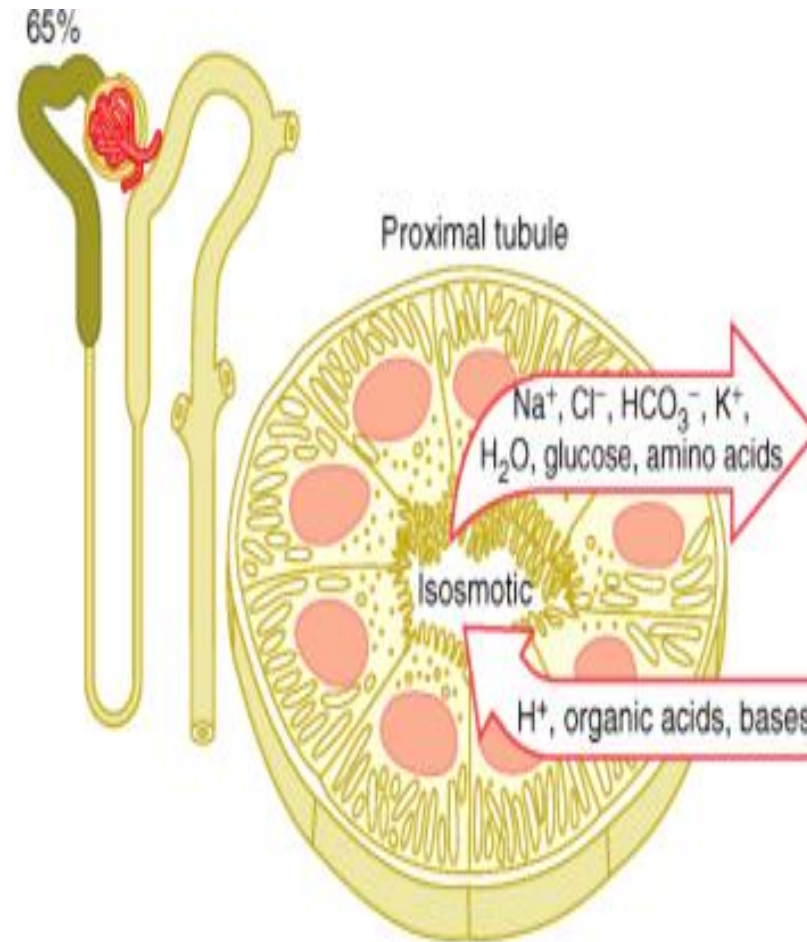


Figure 27-5

Proximal Tubules

- The proximal tubules reabsorbs about 67% of filtered water, Na^+ , Cl^- , K^+ , HCO_3^- .
- The proximal tubules reabsorbs almost all glucose and amino acids filtered by the glomeruli.
- The key transporter element is the Na, K- ATP ase in the basolateral membrane.



Changes in concentration in proximal tubule

Concentrations of solutes in different parts of the tubule depend on relative reabsorption of the solutes compared to water

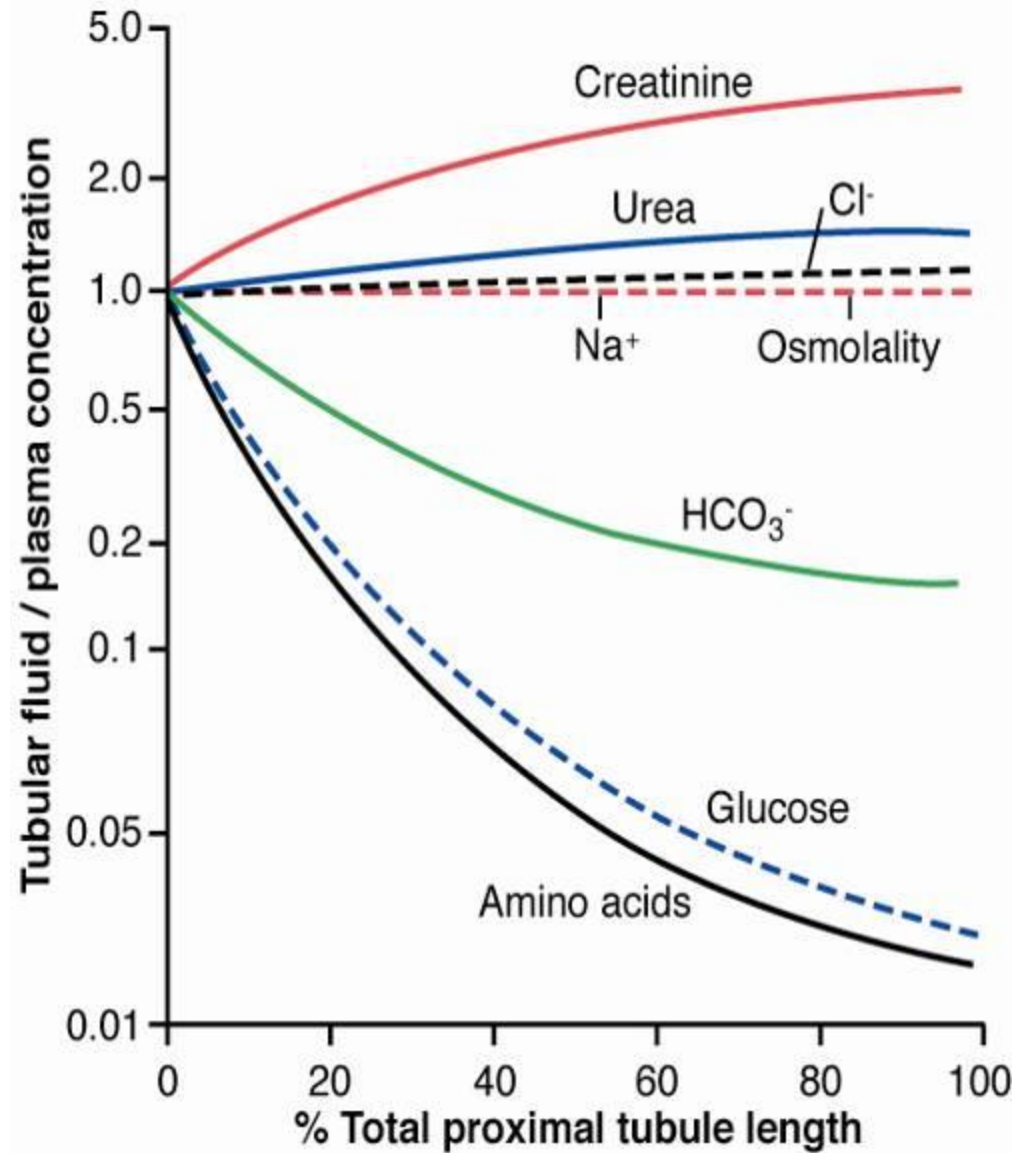
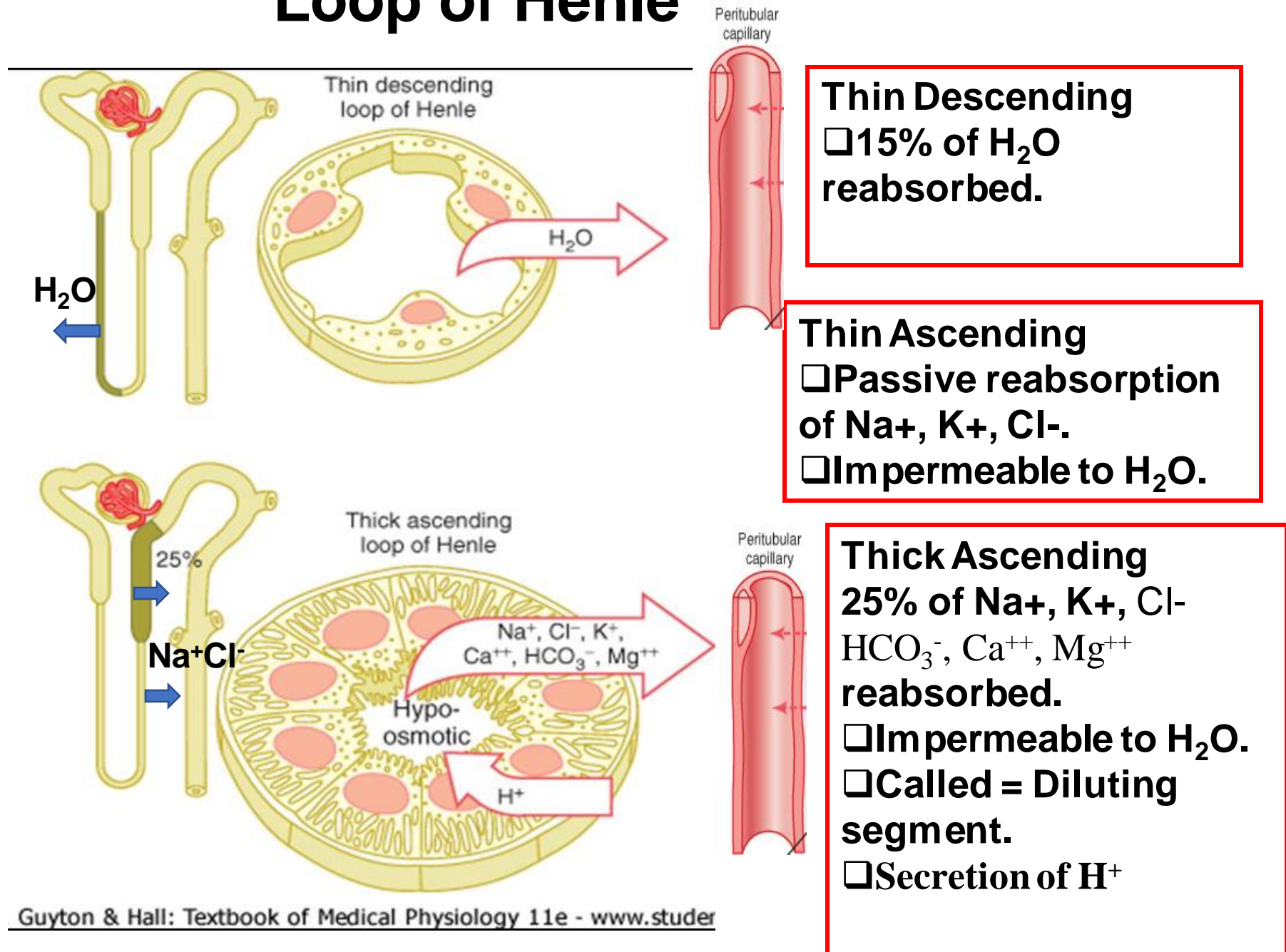


Figure 27-7

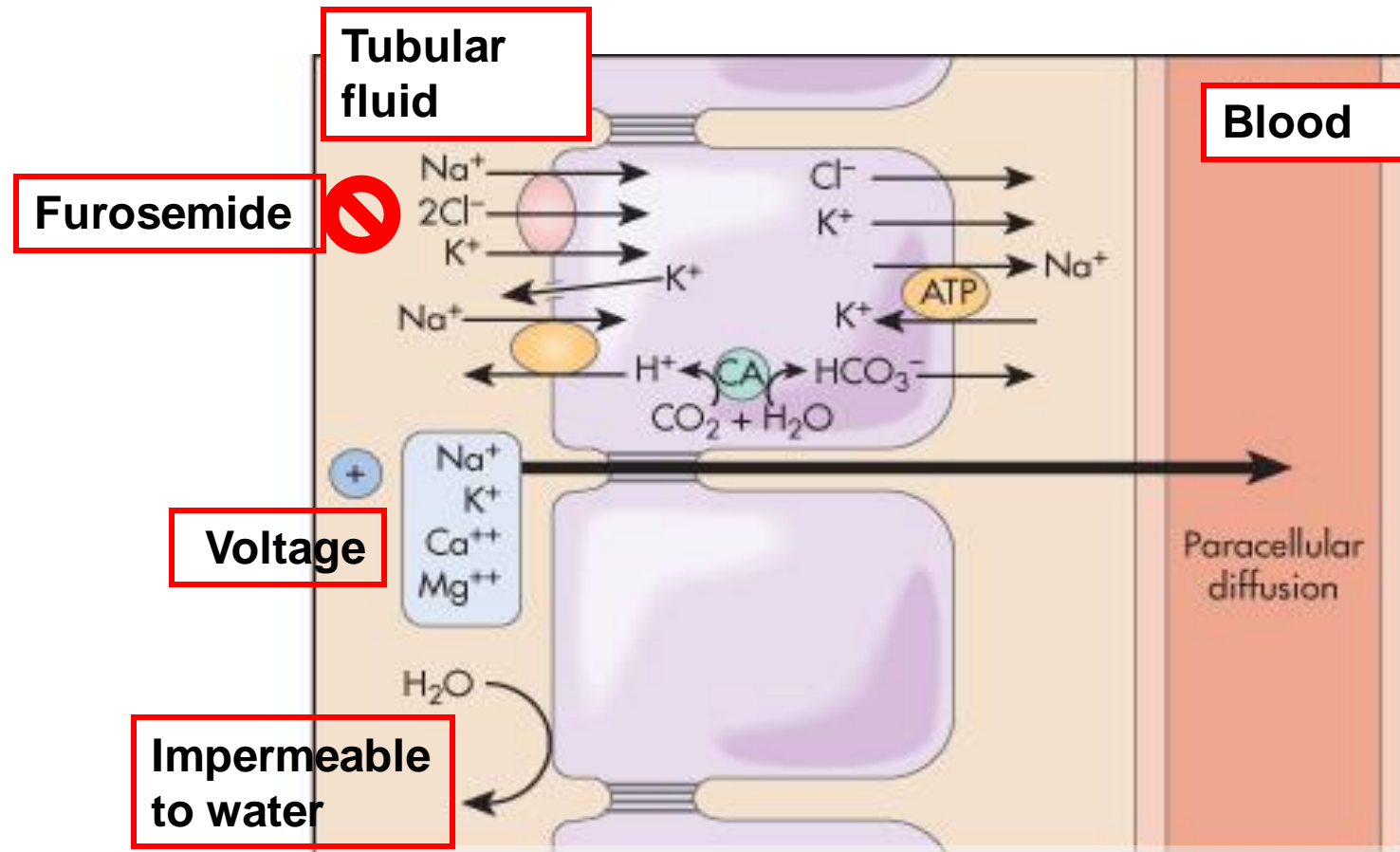
Loop of Henle



Loop of Henle

- Water reabsorption occurs exclusively in the **thin descending** limb of Henle via AQP1 water channels.(**Aquaporins**)
- Reabsorption of **NaCl** occurs in both thin and thick **ascending** limb of Henle.
- In thin ascending limb NaCl is reabsorbed passively. However, in thick ascending limb NaCl is reabsorbed through $\text{Na}^+\text{-K}^+$ ATPase in basolateral membrane ans .
- Ascending limb is impermeable to water.
- Reabsorption of Ca^{++} and HCO_3^- occurs also in Loop of Henle.

Thick ascending limb of Henle



of NaCl
Reabsorption:
□ 50% is
Transcellular
□ 50% is
Paracellular

Sodium chloride and potassium transport in thick ascending loop of Henle

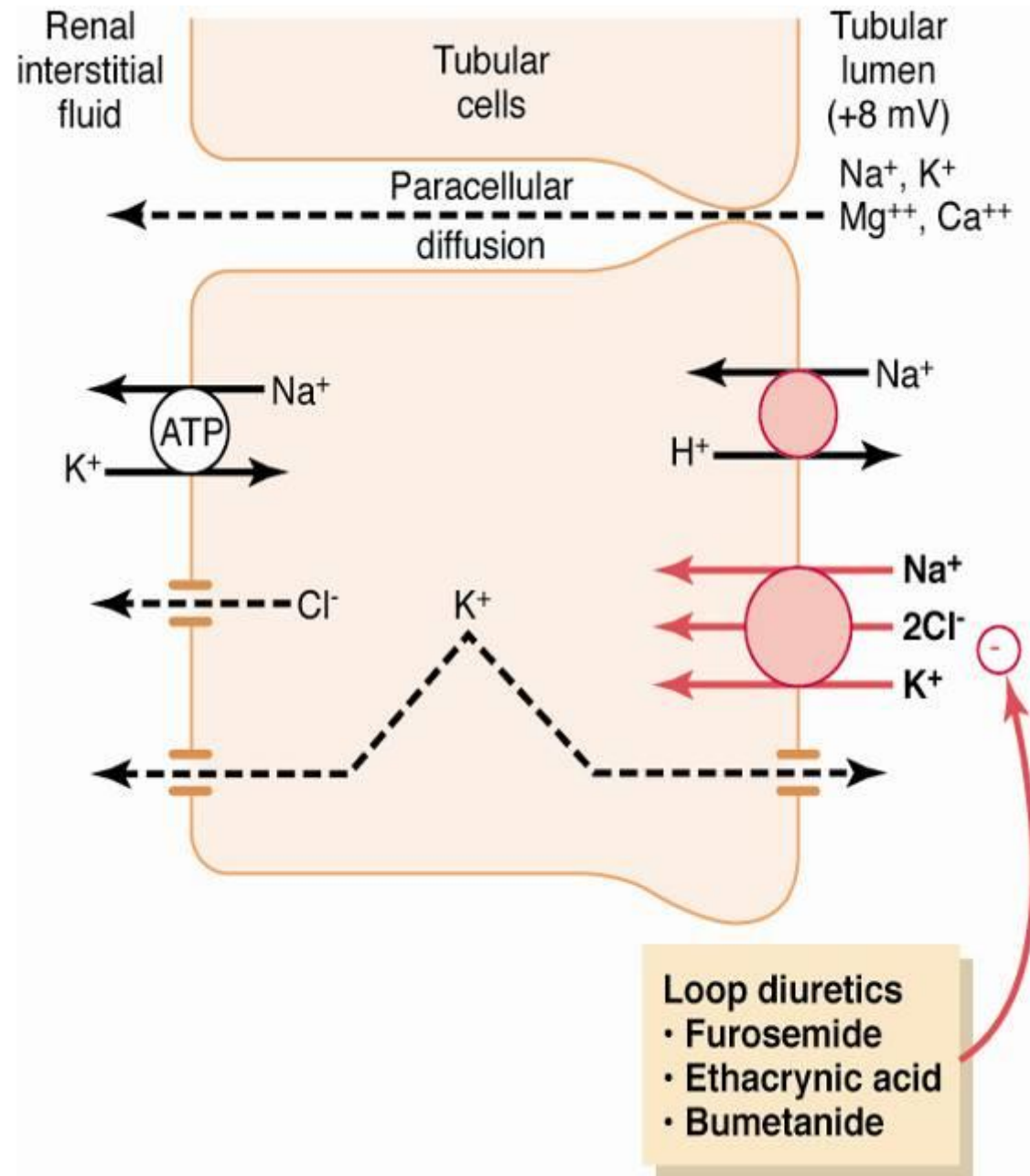


Figure 27-9

Early Distal Tubule

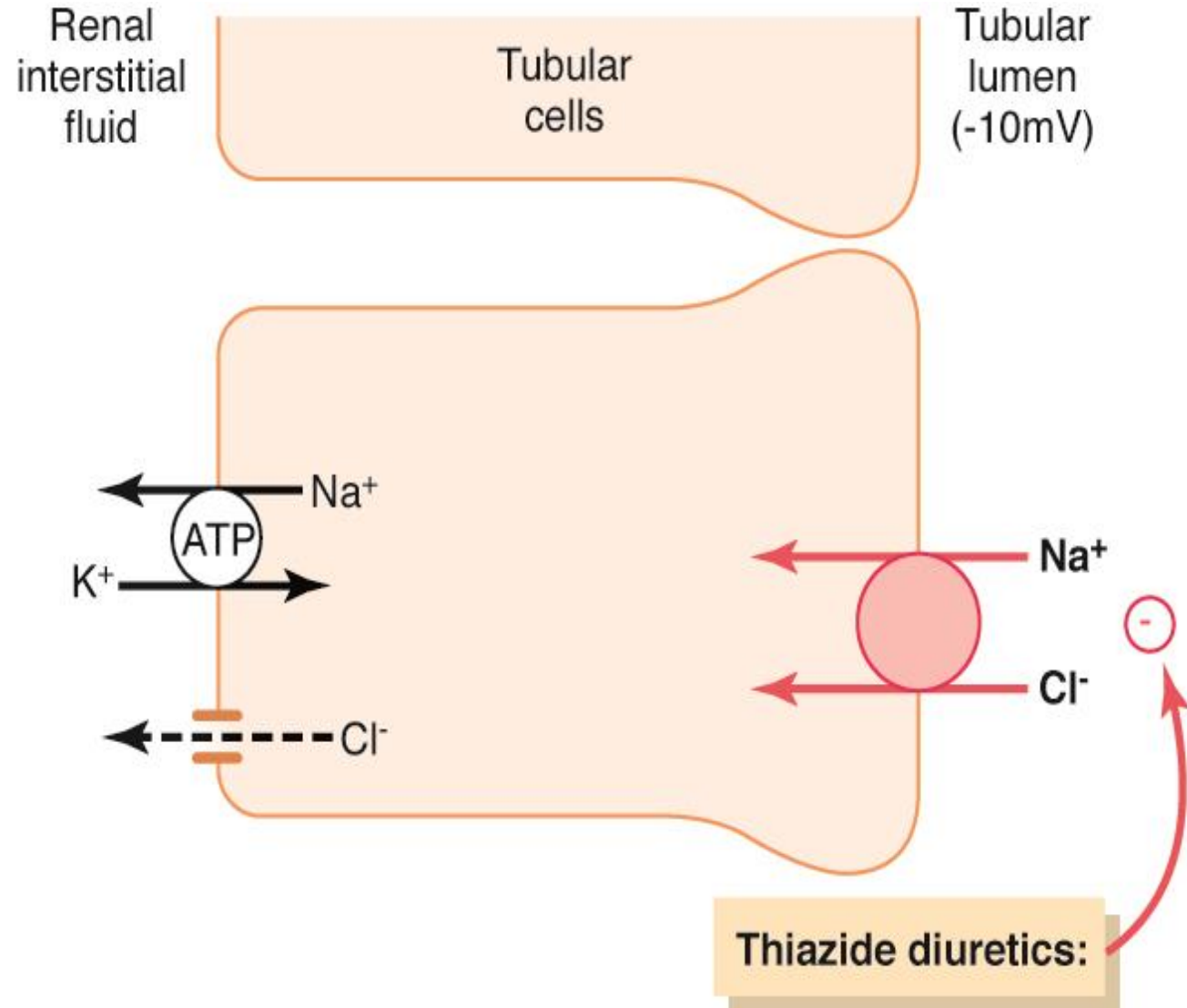


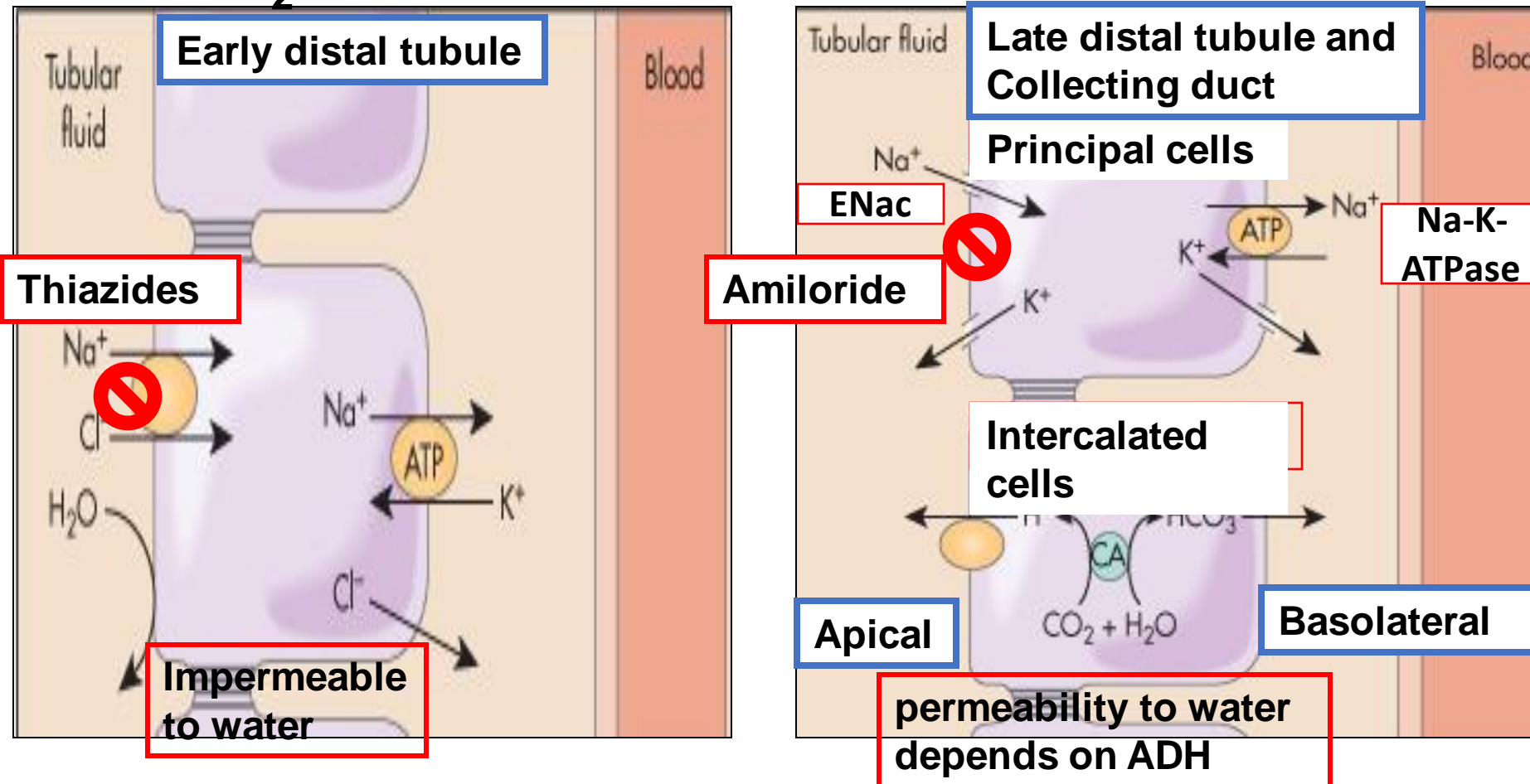
Figure 27-10

Early Distal Tubule

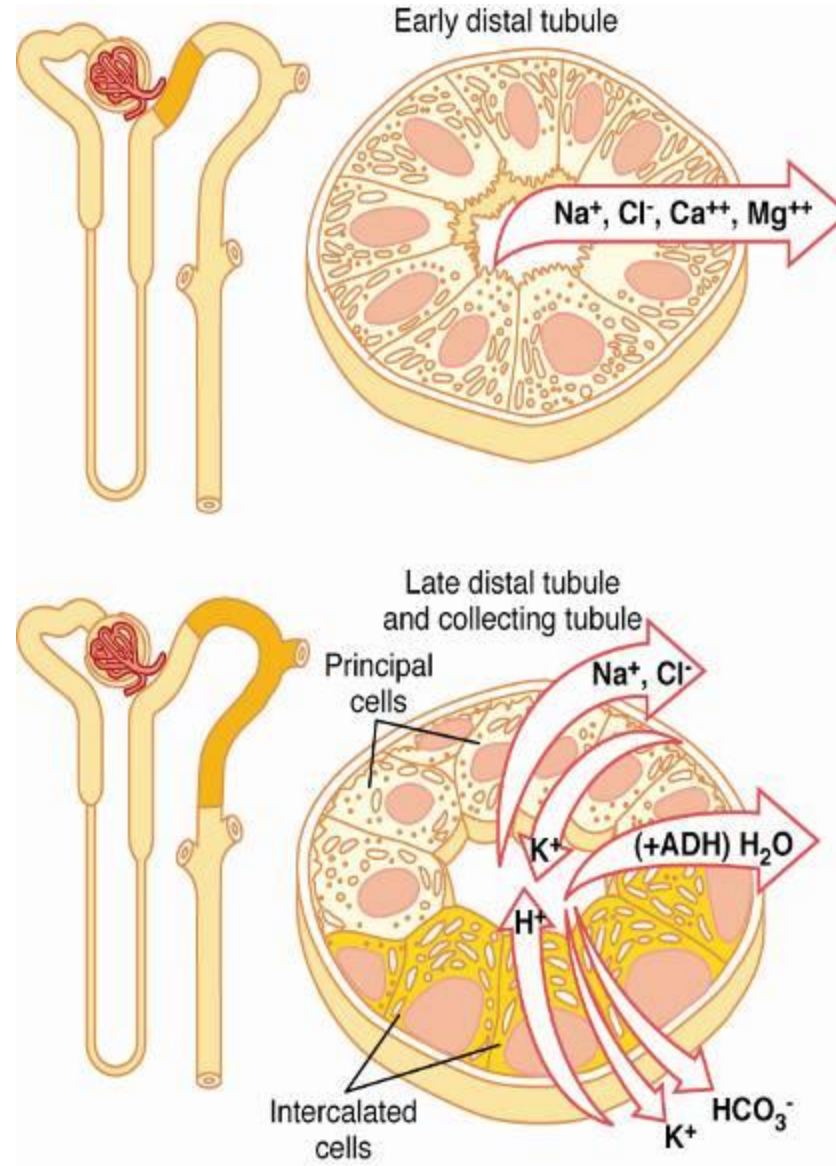
- Functionally similar to thick ascending loop
- Not permeable to water (called diluting segment)
- Active reabsorption of Na^+ , Cl^- , K^+ , Mg^{++}
- Contains macula densa

Distal tubule and collecting duct

- Reabsorbs 7% NaCl, secretes K^+ and H^+ and reabsorbs 8-17% H_2O



Early and Late Distal Tubules and Collecting Tubules.



~ 5% of filtered load
NaCl reabsorbed

- not permeable to H_2O
- not very permeable to urea

- permeability to H_2O depends on ADH
- not very permeable to urea

Figure 27-11

Late Distal and Cortical Collecting Tubules Principal Cells – Secrete K^+

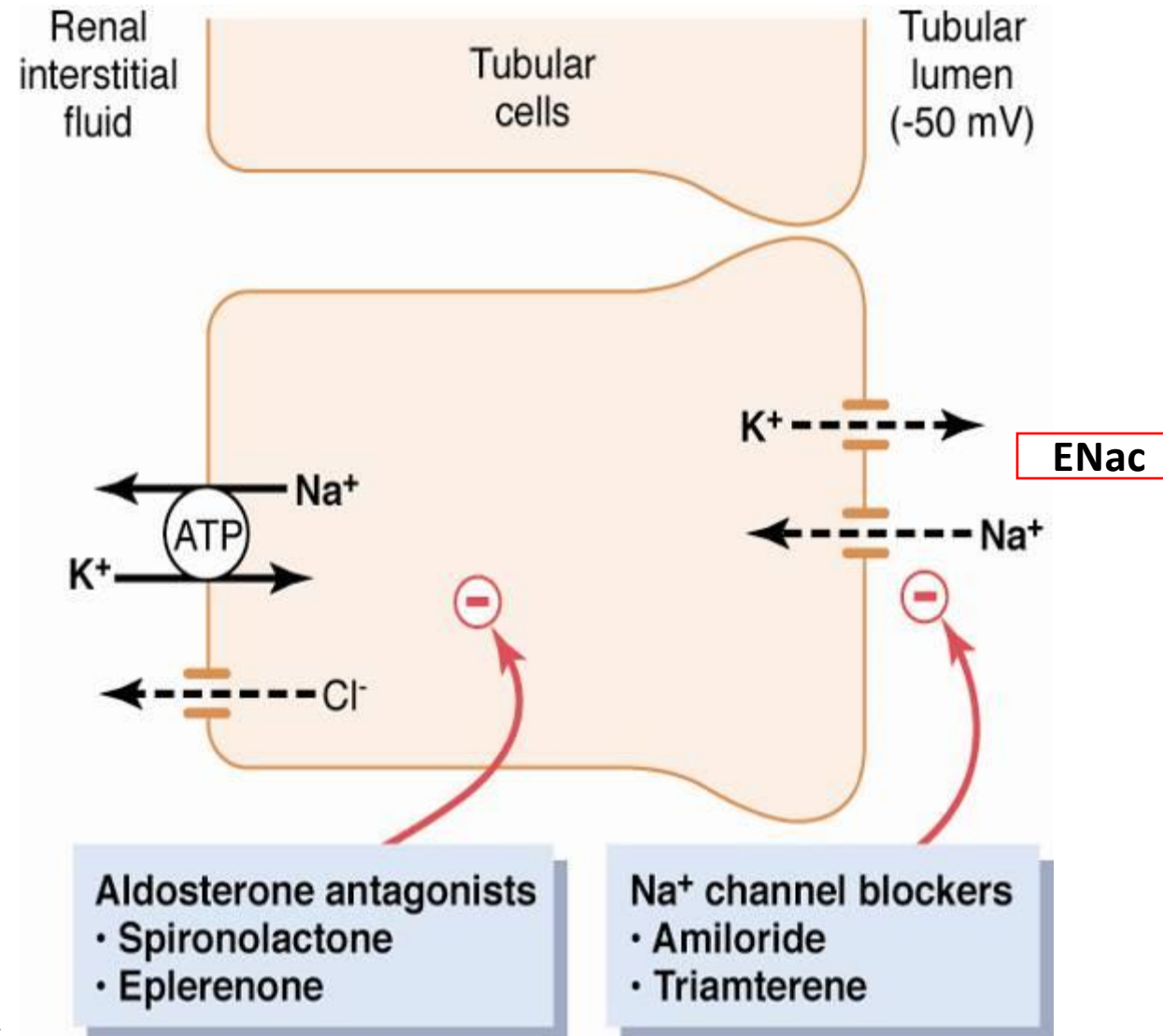
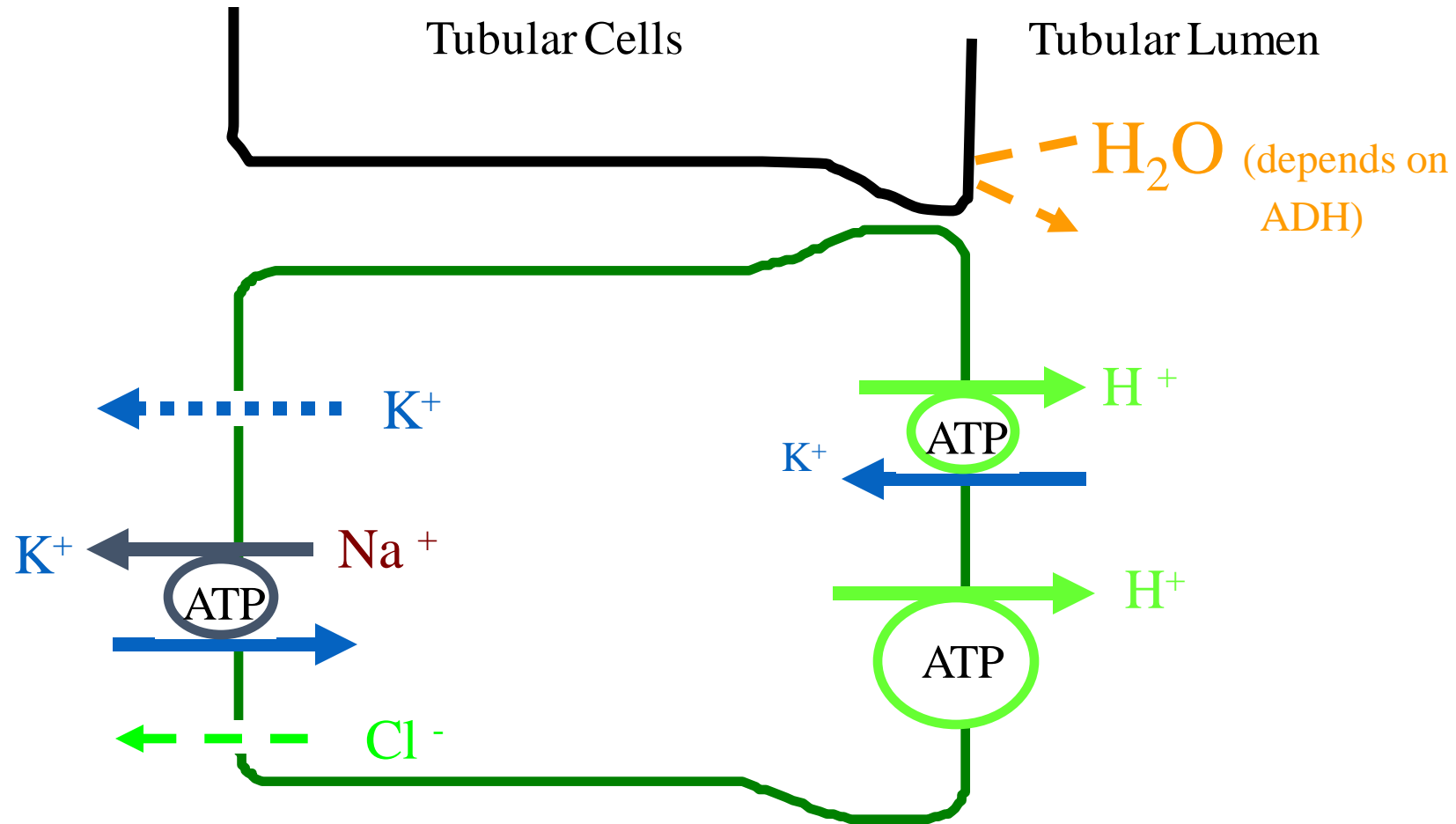


Figure 27-12

Late Distal and Cortical Collecting Tubules Intercalated Cells –Secrete H^+



Transport characteristics of medullary collecting ducts

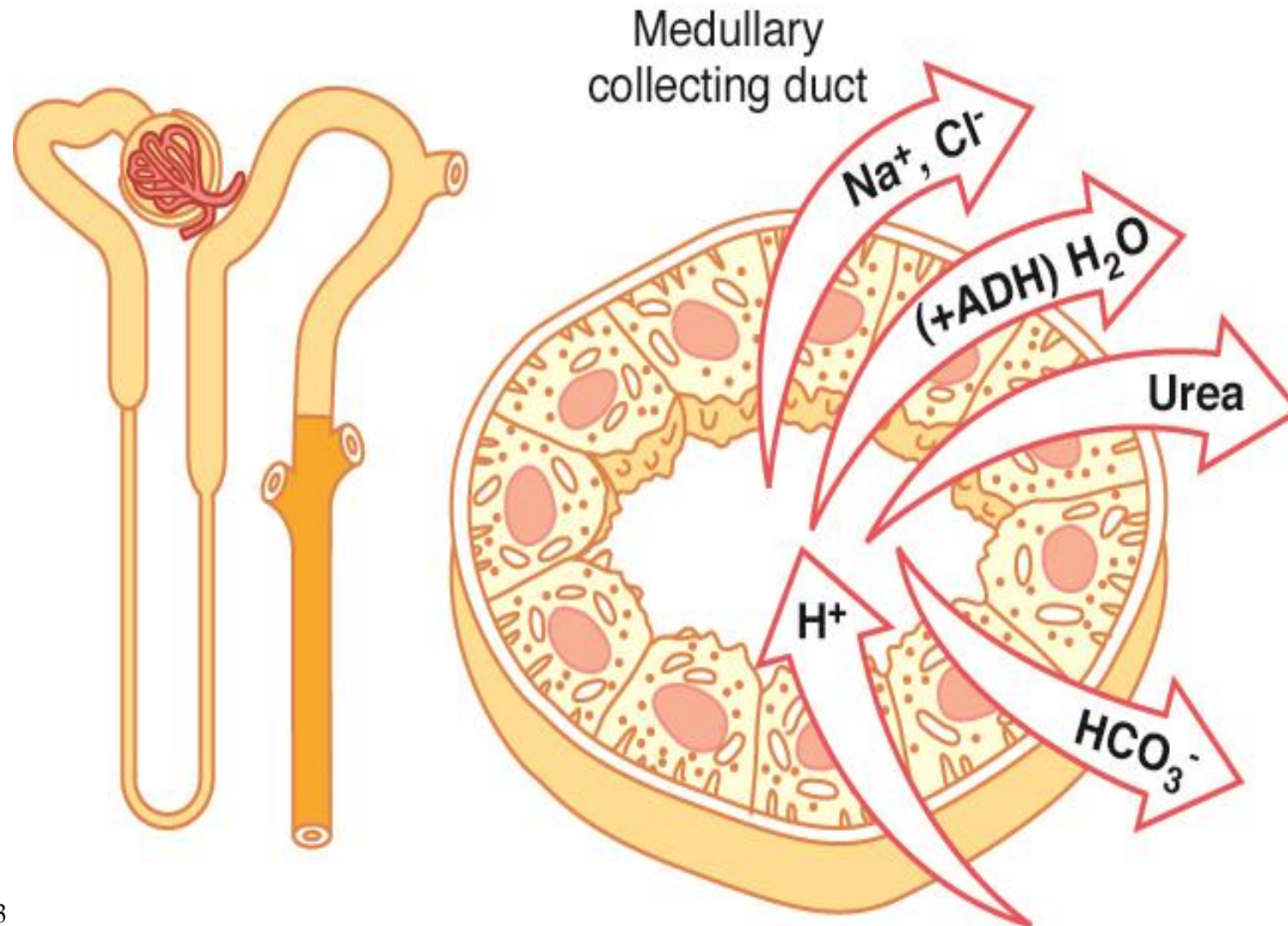
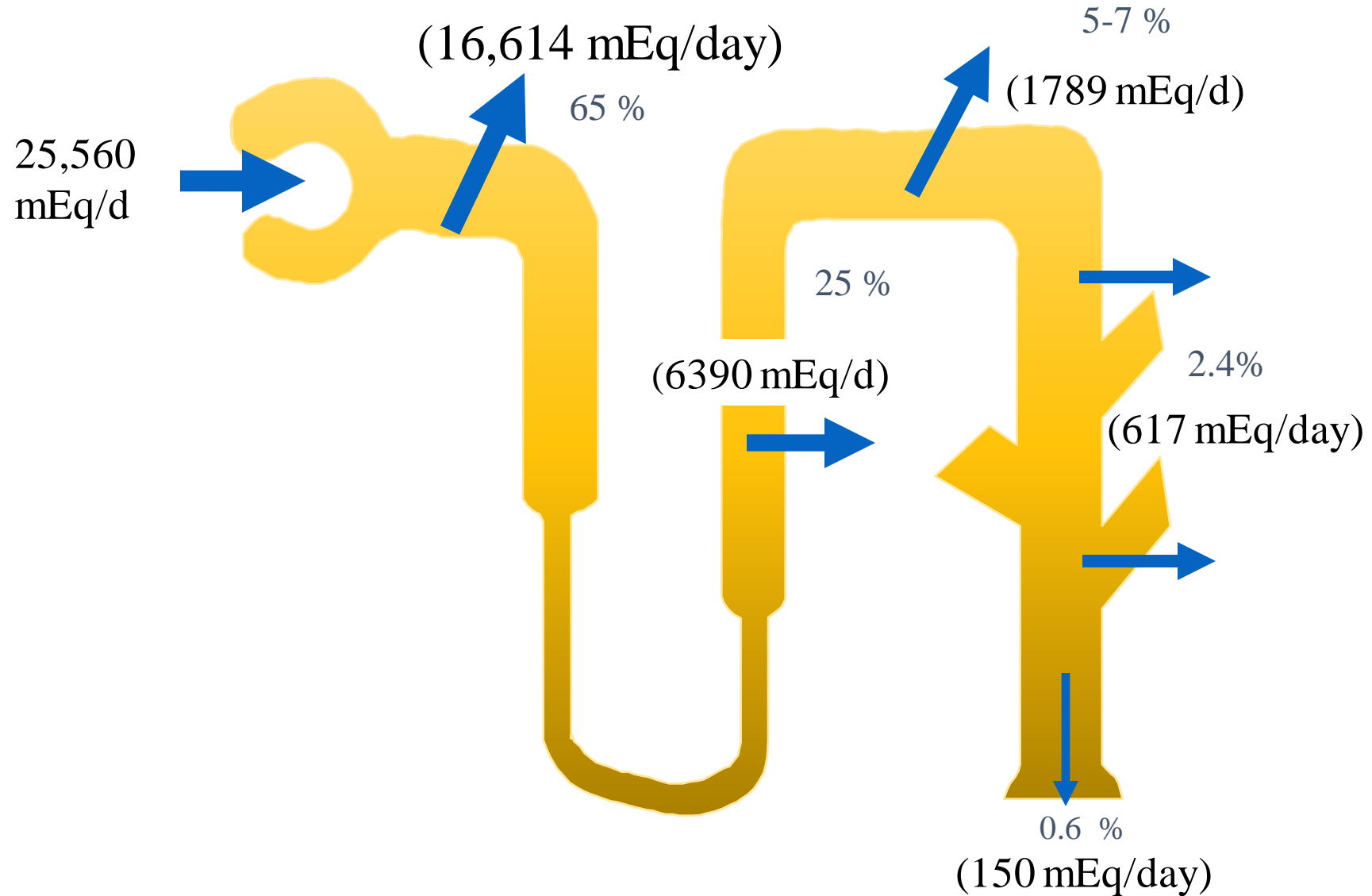


Figure 27-13

Normal Renal Tubular Na⁺ Reabsorption





Concentrations of solutes in different parts of the tubule depend on relative reabsorption of the solutes compared to water

- If water is reabsorbed to a greater extent than the solute, the solute will become more concentrated in the tubule (e.g. creatinine, inulin)
- If water is reabsorbed to a lesser extent than the solute, the solute will become less concentrated in the tubule (e.g. glucose, amino acids)

Changes in concentrations of substances in the renal tubules

Concentrations of solutes in different parts of the tubule depend on relative reabsorption of the solutes compared to water

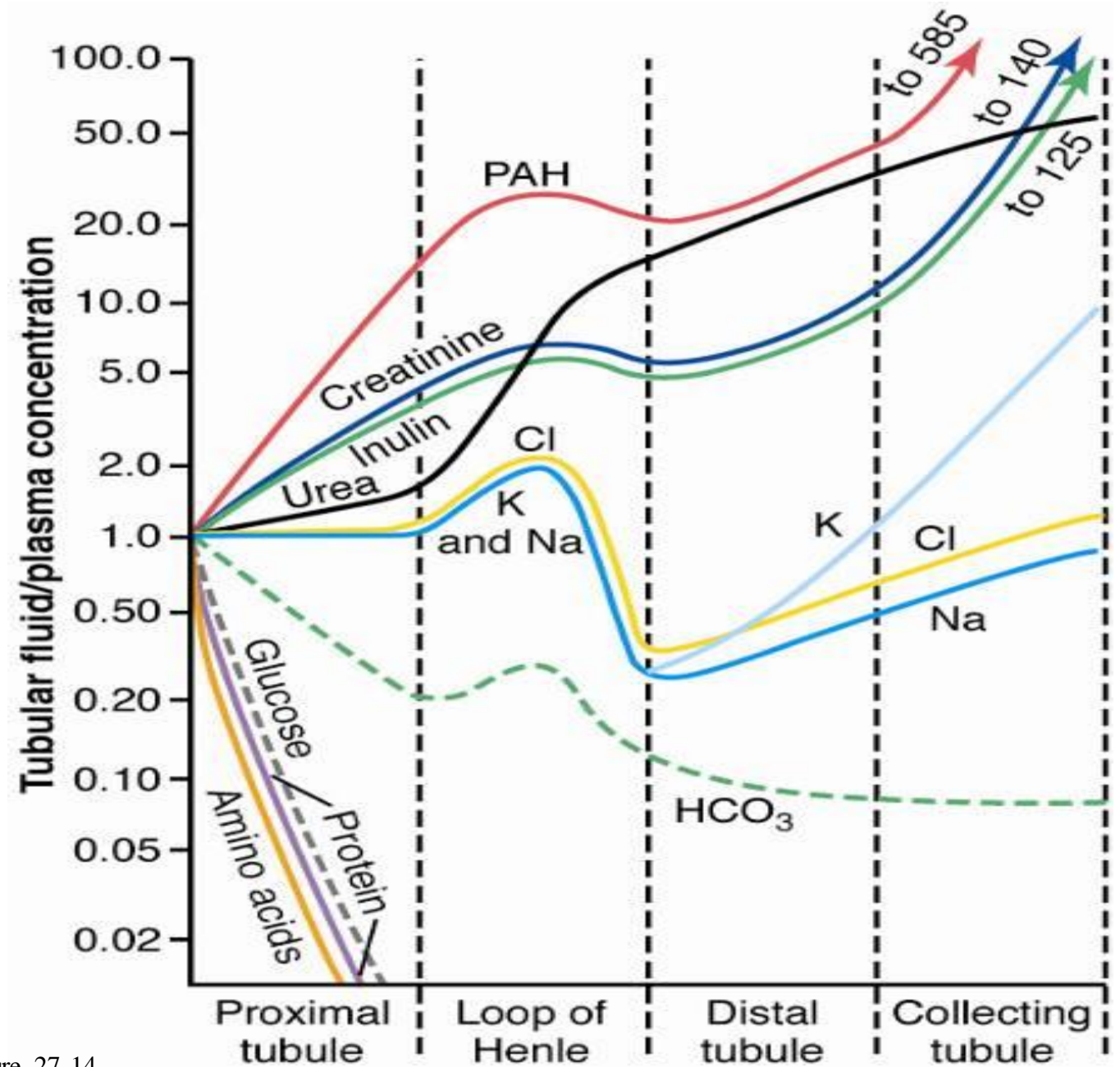
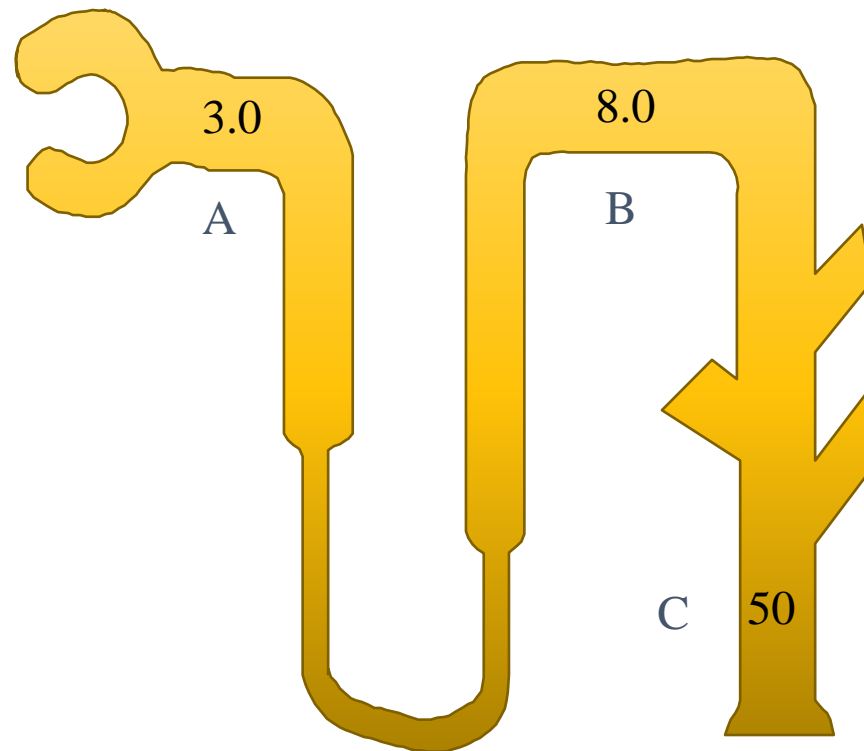


Figure 27-14



The figure below shows the concentrations of inulin at different points along the tubule, expressed as the tubular fluid/plasma (TF/P_{inulin}) concentration of inulin. If inulin is not reabsorbed by the tubule, what is the percentage of the filtered water that has been reabsorbed or remains at each point ? What percentage of the filtered water has been reabsorbed up to that point?

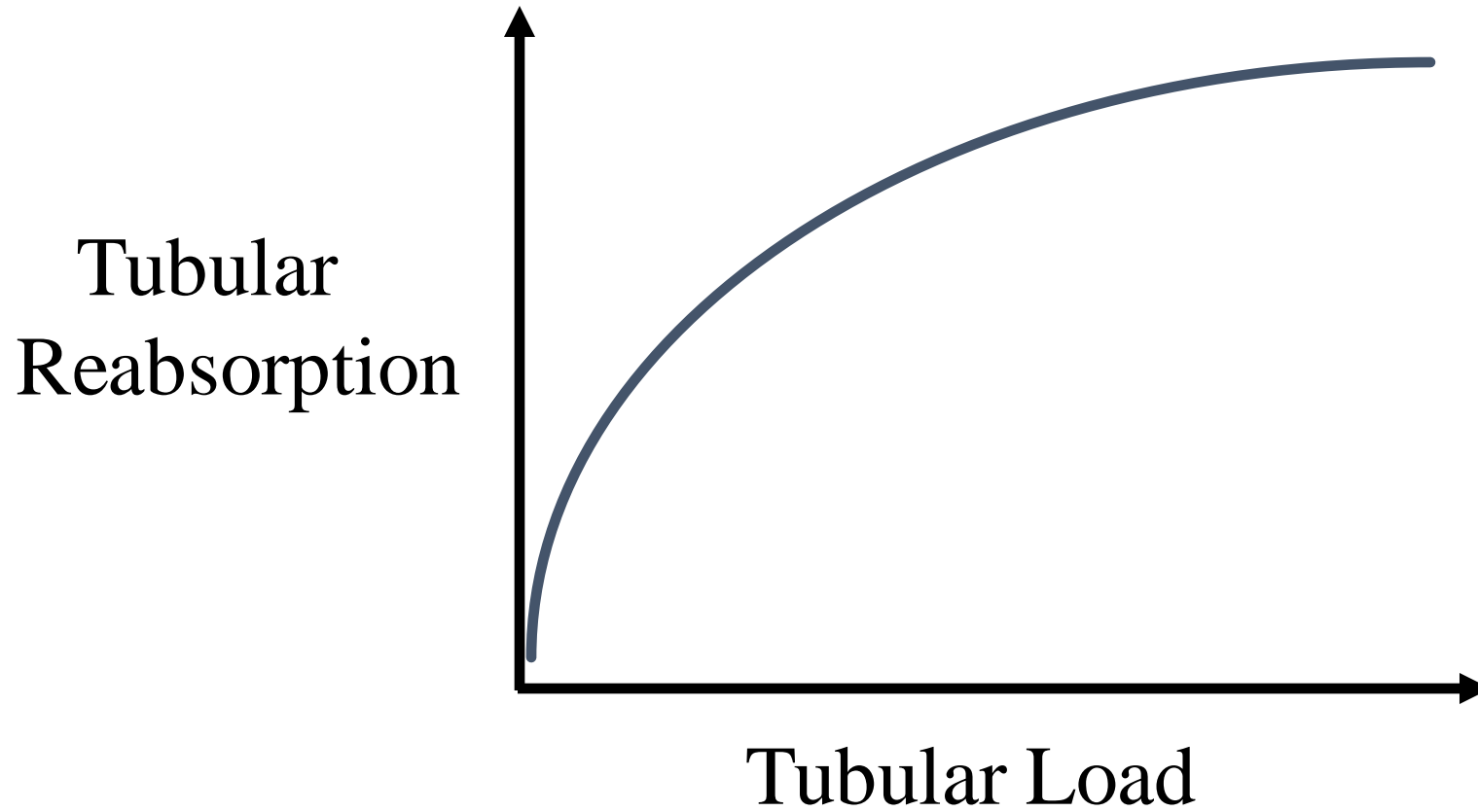
- A = $1/3$ (33.33 %) remains
66.67 % reabsorbed
- B = $1/8$ (12.5 %) remains
87.5 % reabsorbed
- C = $1/50$ (2.0 %) remains
98.0 % reabsorbed



Regulation of Tubular Reabsorption

- Glomerulotubular Balance
- Peritubular Physical Forces
- Hormones
 - aldosterone
 - angiotensin II
 - antidiuretic hormone (ADH)
 - natriuretic hormones (ANF)
 - parathyroid hormone
- Sympathetic Nervous System
- Arterial Pressure (pressure natriuresis)
- Osmotic factors

Glomerulotubular Balance



Importance of Glomerulotubular Balance in Minimizing Changes in Urine Volume

GFR	Reabsorption	% Reabsorption	Urine Volume
	no glomerulotubular balance		
125	124	99.2	1.0
150	124	82.7	26.0
	“perfect” glomerulotubular balance		
150	148.8	99.2	1.2

Peritubular capillary reabsorption

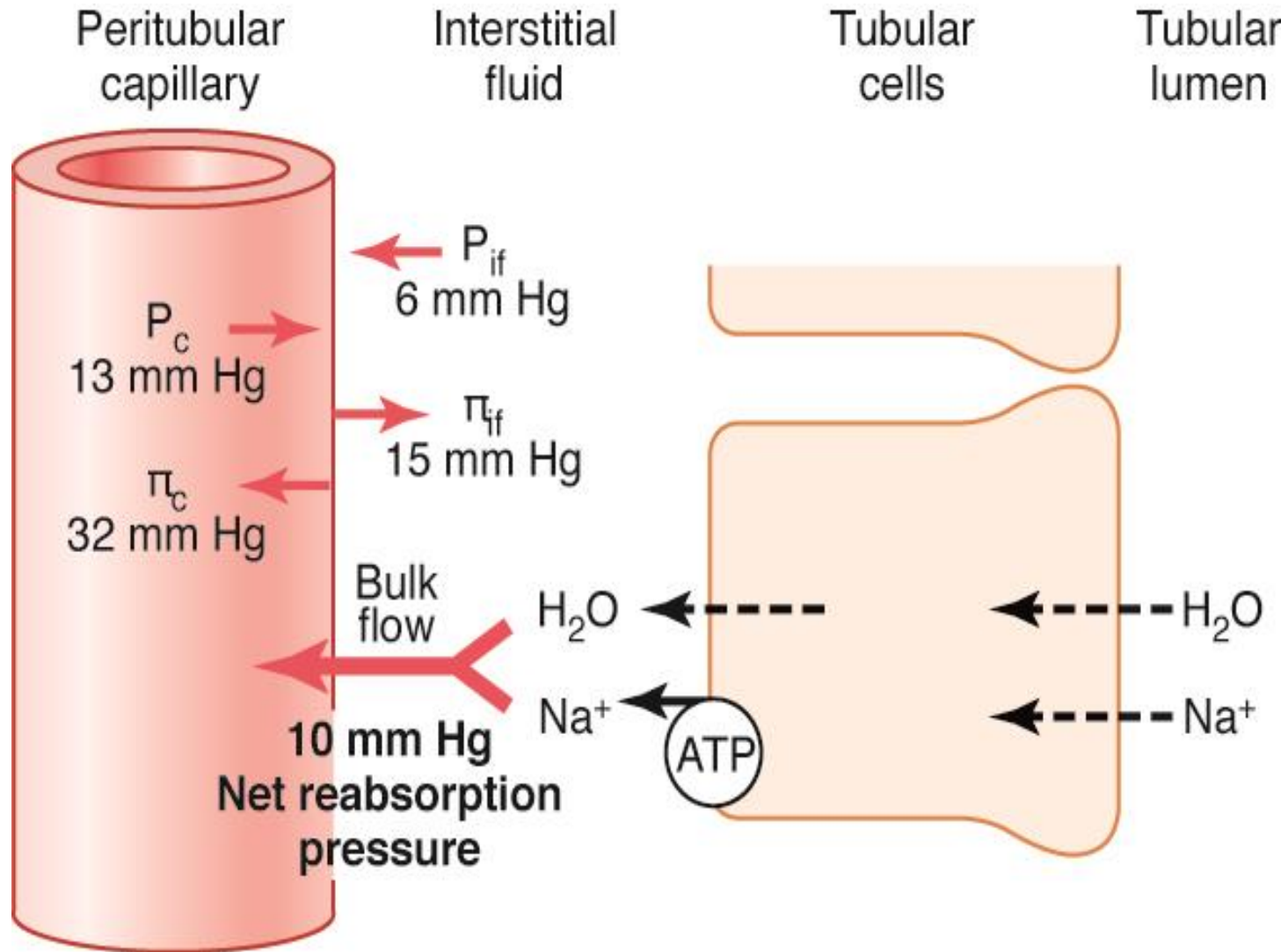


Figure 27-15

Calculation of Tubular Reabsorption

(when $\text{Excret } s < \text{Filt } s$)

$$\text{Reabsorption} = \text{Filtration} - \text{Excretion}$$

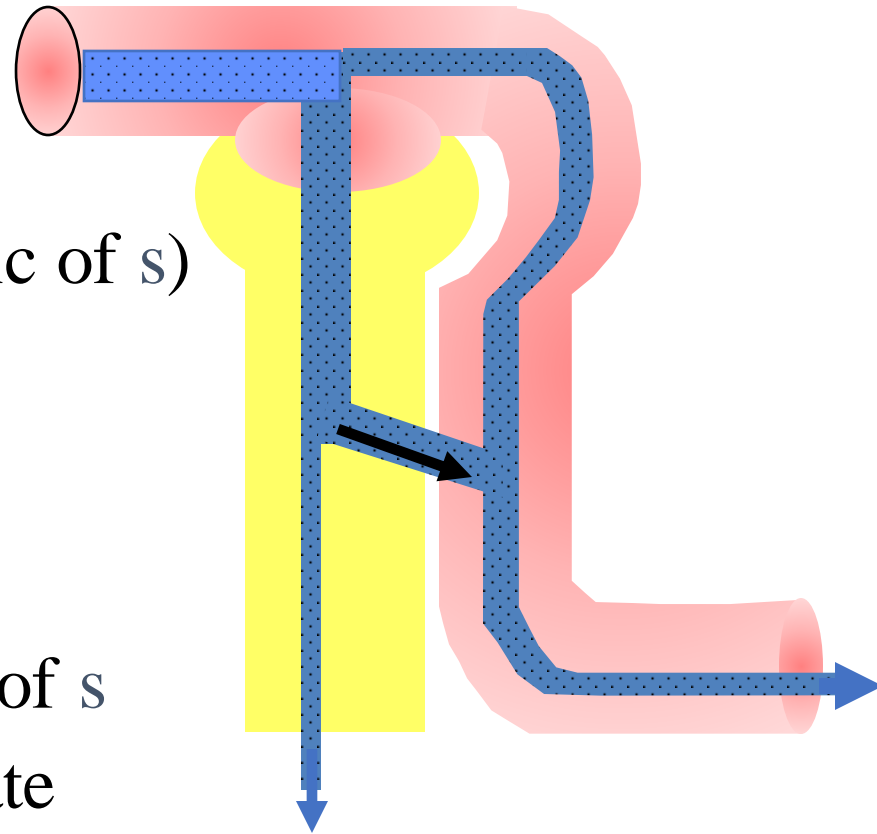
$$\text{Filt } s = \text{GFR} \times P_s$$

(P_s = Plasma conc of s)

$$\text{Excret } s = U_s \times V$$

U_s = Urine conc of s

V = urine flow rate

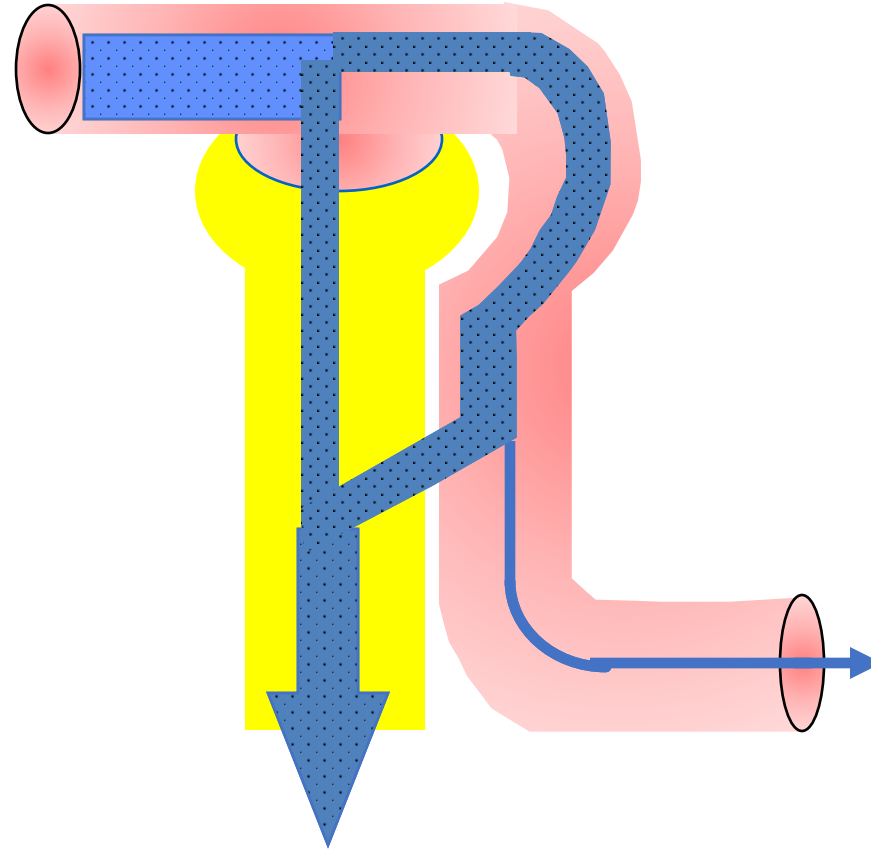


Calculation of Tubular Secretion

(when $\text{Excret s} > \text{Filt s}$)

$\text{Secretion} = \text{Excretion} - \text{Filtration}$

$$\text{Filt s} = \text{GFR} \times P_s$$



$$\text{Excret s} = U_s \times V$$



Example: Given the following data, calculate the rate of Na⁺ filtration, excretion, reabsorption, and secretion

$$\text{GFR} = 100 \text{ ml/min (0.1 L/min)}$$

$$P_{\text{Na}} = 140 \text{ mEq/L}$$

$$\text{urine flow} = 1 \text{ ml/min (.001 L/min)}$$

$$\text{urine Na conc} = 100 \text{ mEq/L}$$

$$\text{Filtration Na} = \text{GFR} \times P_{\text{Na}}$$

$$= 0.1 \text{ L/min} \times 140 \text{ mEq/L} = 14 \text{ mEq/min}$$

$$\text{Excretion Na} = \text{Urine flow rate} \times \text{Urine Na conc}$$

$$= .001 \text{ L/min} \times 100 \text{ mEq/L}$$

$$= 0.1 \text{ mEq/min}$$



Example: Given the following data, calculate the rate of Na^+ filtration, excretion, reabsorption, and secretion

$$\text{GFR} = 100 \text{ ml/min};$$

$$P_{\text{Na}} = 140 \text{ mEq/L}$$

$$\text{urine flow} = 1 \text{ ml/min};$$

$$\text{urine Na conc} = 100 \text{ mEq/L}$$

$$\underline{\text{Filtration Na}} = 0.1 \text{ L/min} \times 140 \text{ mEq/L} = \underline{14 \text{ mEq/min}}$$

$$\underline{\text{Excretion Na}} = .001 \text{ L/min} \times 100 \text{ mEq/L} = \underline{0.1 \text{ mEq/min}}$$

$$\text{Reabsorption Na} = \text{Filtration Na} - \text{Excretion Na}$$

$$\text{Reabs Na} = 14.0 - 0.1 = 13.9 \text{ mEq/min}$$

Secretion Na = There is no net secretion of Na since

$$\text{Excret Na} < \text{Filt Na}$$

Transport Maximum

Some substances have a maximum rate of tubular transport due to saturation of carriers, limited ATP, etc

- **Transport Maximum:** Once the transport maximum is reached for all nephrons, further increases in tubular load are not reabsorbed and are excreted.
- **Threshold** is the tubular load at which transport maximum is exceeded in some nephrons. This is not exactly the same as the transport maximum of the whole kidney because some nephrons have lower transport max's than others.
- **Examples:** glucose, amino acids, phosphate, sulphate

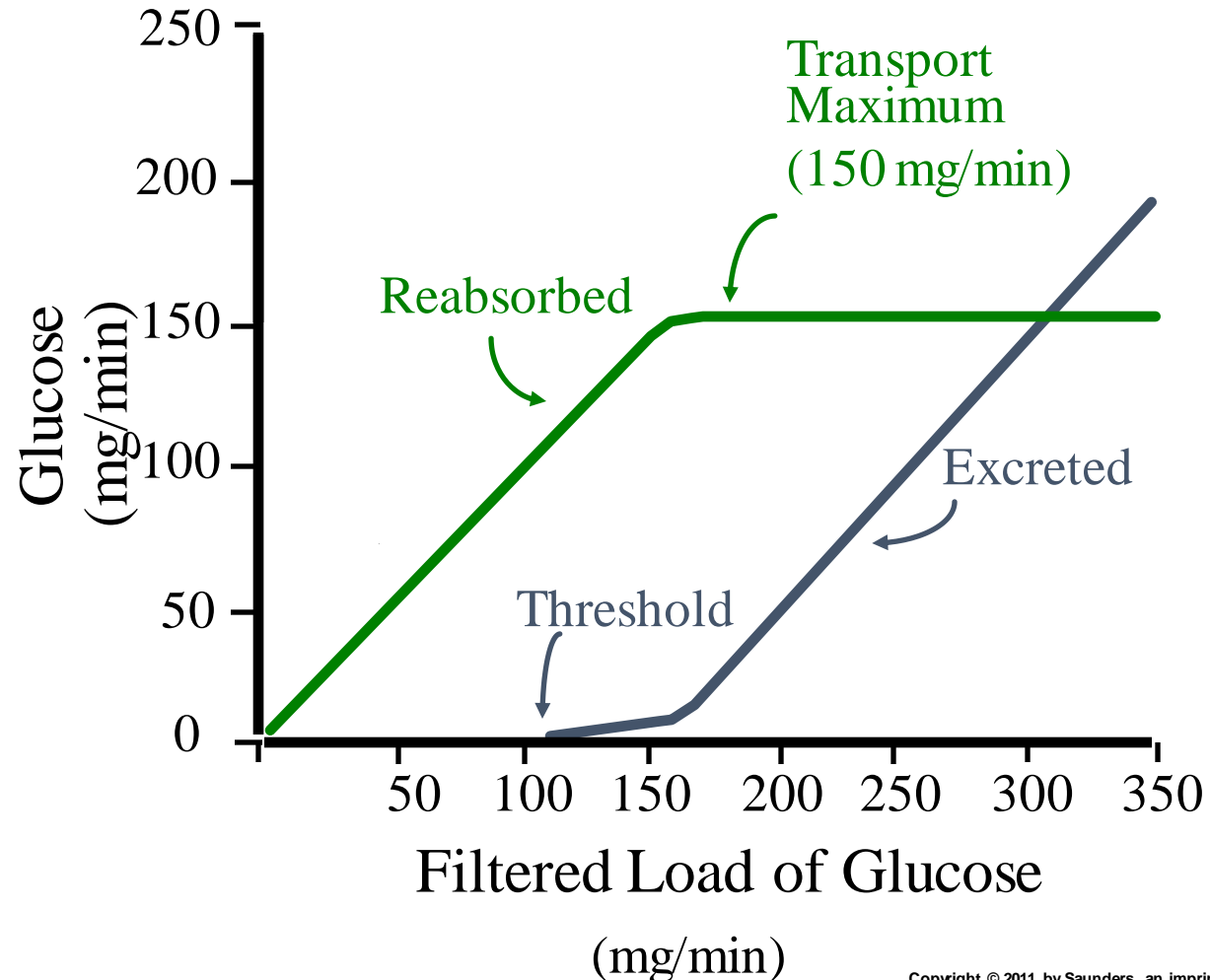


Does Na^+ have
Transport Maximum?



A uninephrectomized patient with uncontrolled diabetes has a GFR of 90 ml/min, a plasma glucose of 200 mg% (2mg/ml), and a transport max (T_m) shown in the figure. What is the glucose excretion for this patient?

1. 0 mg/min
2. 30 mg/min
3. 60 mg/min
4. 90 mg/min
5. 120 mg/min

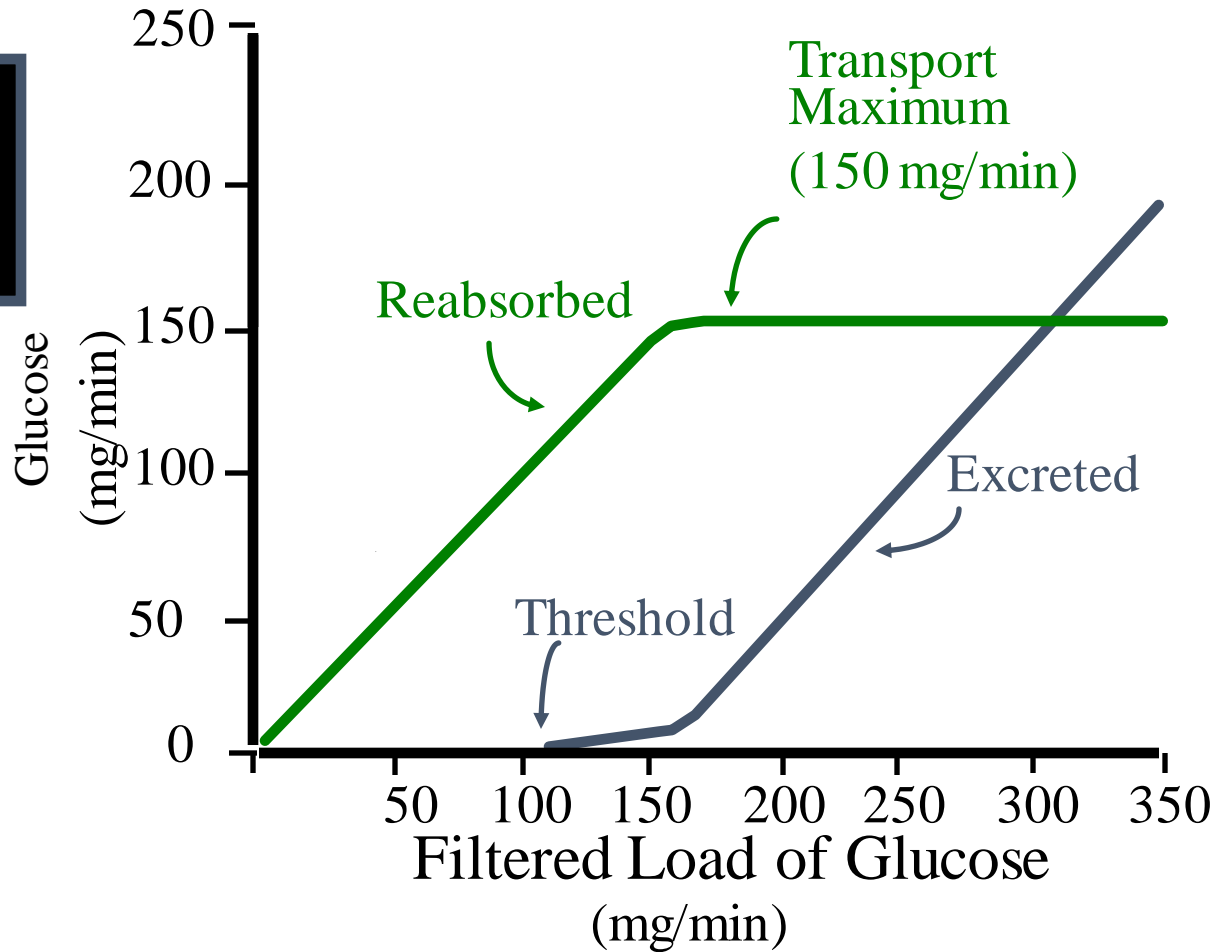




Answer: $\text{Filt}_{\text{Glu}} = (\text{GFR} \times P_{\text{Glu}}) = (90 \times 2) = 180 \text{ mg/min}$
 $\text{Reabs}_{\text{Glu}} = T_{\text{max}} = 150 \text{ mg/min}$
 $\text{Excret}_{\text{Glu}} = \underline{30 \text{ mg/min}}$

$\text{GFR} = 90 \text{ ml/min}$
 $P_{\text{Glu}} = 2 \text{ mg/ml}$
 $T_{\text{max}} = 150 \text{ mg/min}$

- a. 0 mg/min
- b. 30 mg/min**
- c. 60 mg/min
- d. 90 mg/min
- e. 120 mg/min



Peritubular Capillary Reabsorption

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Reabs} &= \text{Net Reabs Pressure (NRP)} \times K_f \\ &= (10 \text{ mmHg}) \times (12.4 \text{ ml/min/mmHg})\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Reabs} = 124 \text{ ml/min}$$

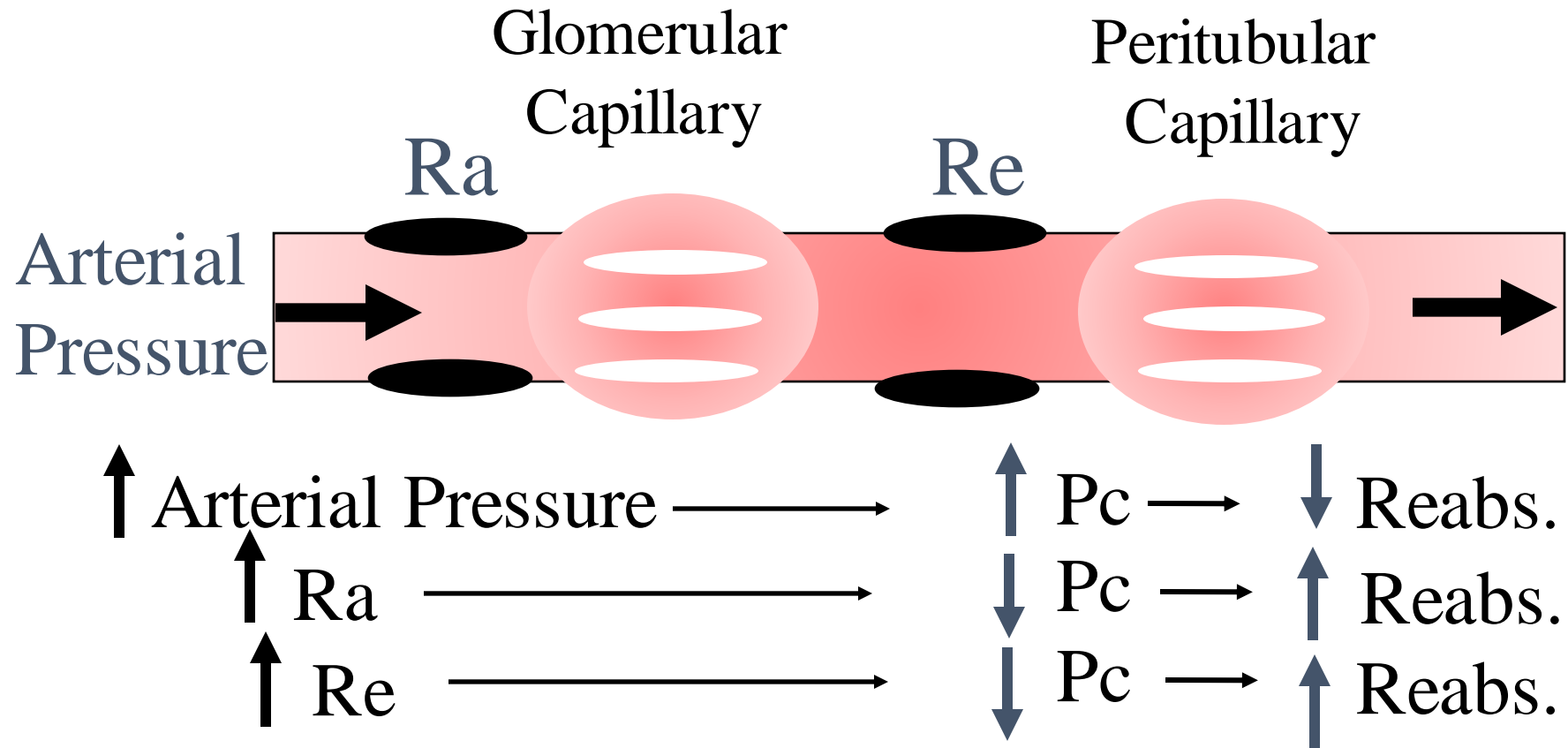
Determinants of Renal Reabsorption

↑ K_f → ↑ Reabsorption

↑ P_c → ↓ Reabsorption

↑ Π_c → ↑ Reabsorption

Determinants of Renal Reabsorption



Determinants of Renal Reabsorption

↑ Π_c → ↑ Reabsorption

↑ Plasm. Prot. → ↑ Π_a → ↑ Π_c
↑ Filt. Fract. → ↑ Π_c

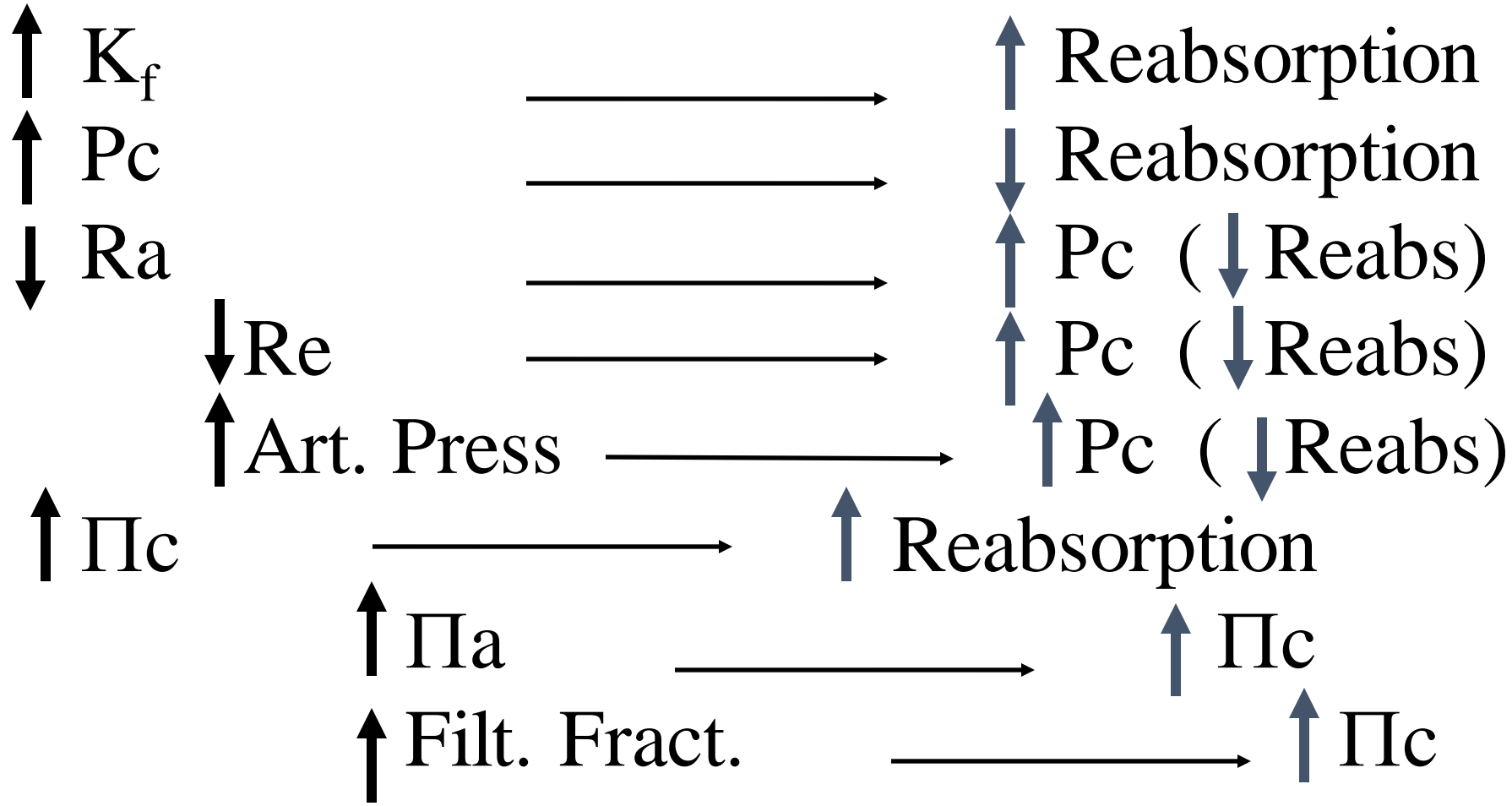
Remember

$$\text{Filt. Fract.} = \text{GFR} / \text{RPF}$$



Summary:

Determinants of Renal Reabsorption



Effect of increased hydrostatic pressure or decreased colloid osmotic pressure in peritubular capillaries to reduce reabsorption

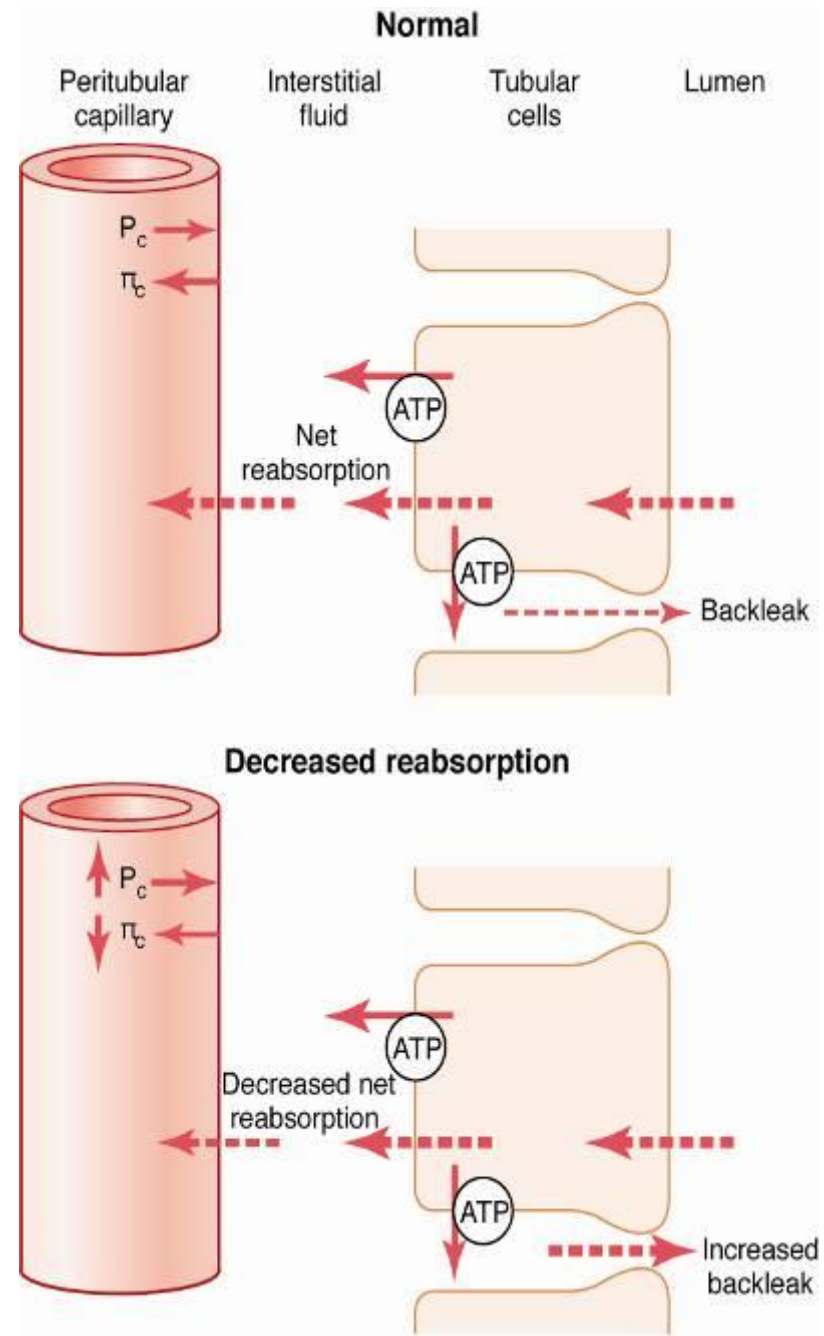
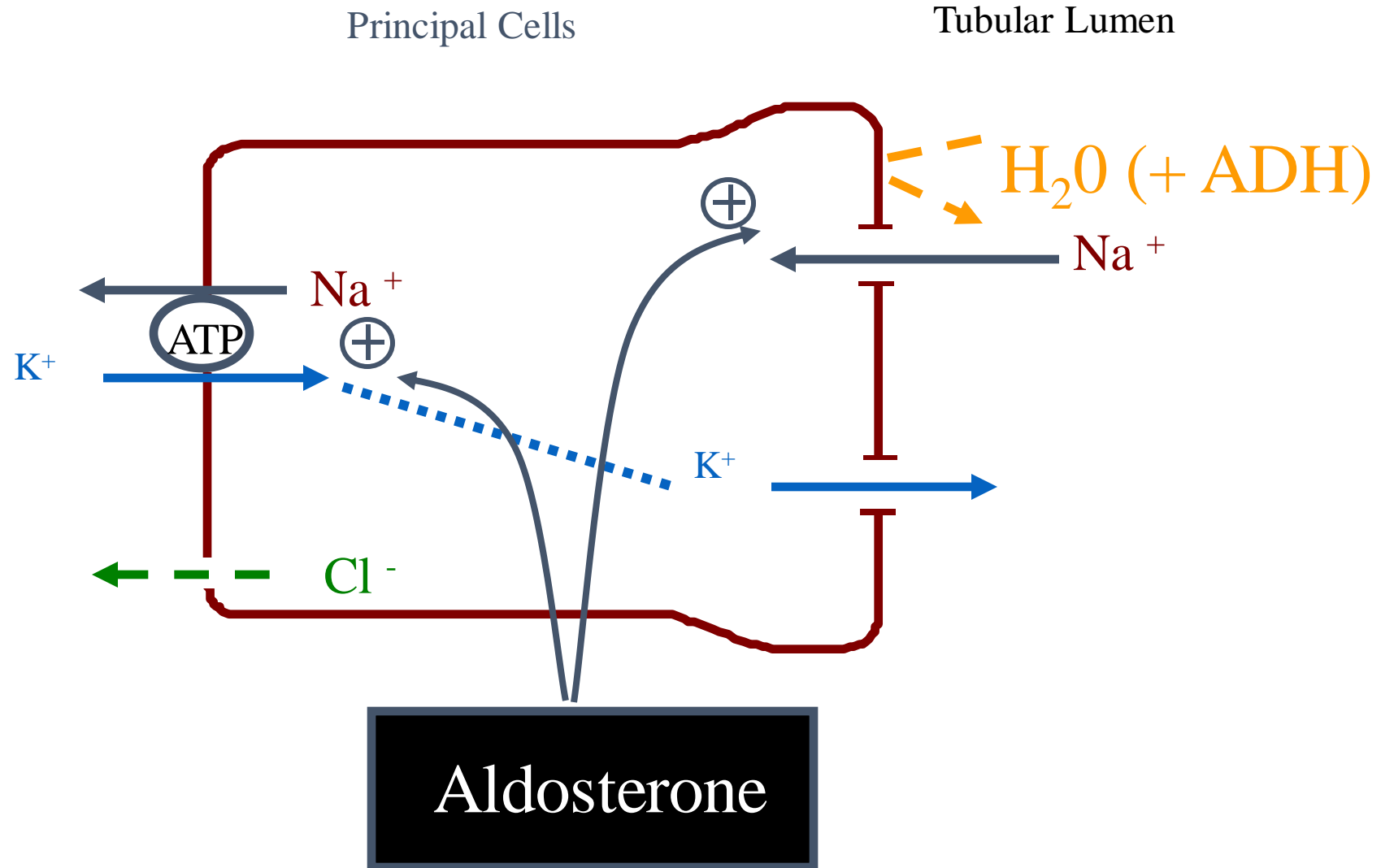


Figure 27-16

Aldosterone actions on late distal, cortical and medullary collecting tubules

- Increases Na^+ reabsorption - principal cells
- Increases K^+ secretion - principal cells
- Increases H^+ secretion - intercalated cells

Late Distal, Cortical and Medullary Collecting Tubules





Clinical Perspective

Abnormal Aldosterone Production

- Excess aldosterone (**Primary aldosteronism**
Conn's syndrome) - Na^+ retention,
hypokalemia, alkalosis, hypertension
- Aldosterone deficiency - Addison's disease
 Na^+ wasting, hyperkalemia, hypotension

Control of Aldosterone Secretion

Factors that increase aldosterone secretion

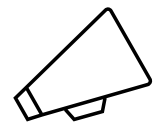
- Angiotensin II
- Increased K^+
- adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH)
(permissive role)

Factors that decrease aldosterone secretion

- Atrial natriuretic factor (ANF)
- Increased Na^+ concentration (osmolality)

Angiotensin II Increases Na^+ and Water Reabsorption

- Stimulates aldosterone secretion
- Directly increases Na^+ reabsorption
(proximal, loop, distal, collecting tubules)
- Constricts efferent arterioles
 - decreases peritubular capillary hydrostatic pressure
 - increases filtration fraction, which increases peritubular colloid osmotic pressure)



Audio-Visual Aid

[Renin Angiotensin Aldosterone System - YouTube](#)



Angiotensin II increases renal tubular sodium reabsorption

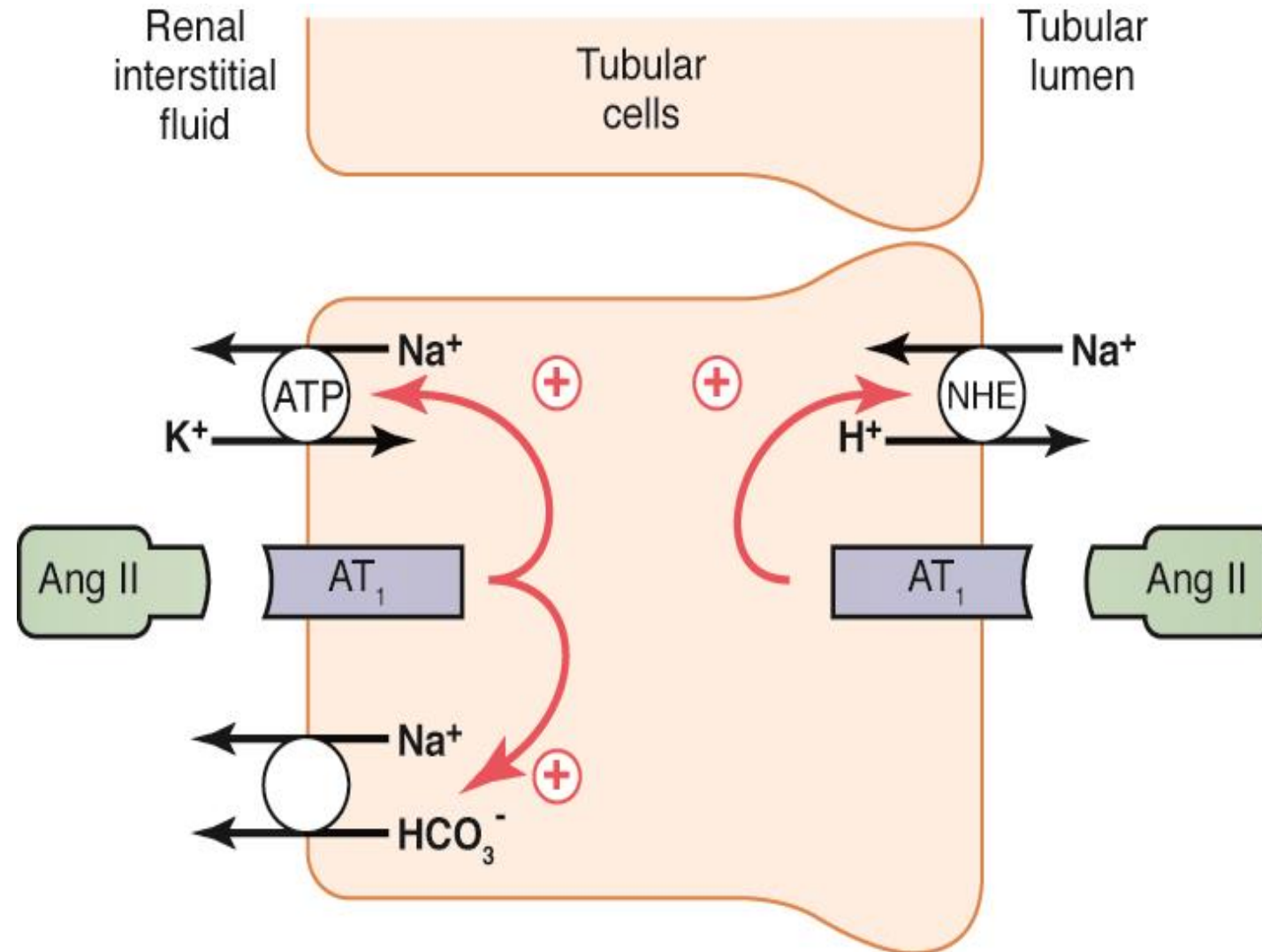
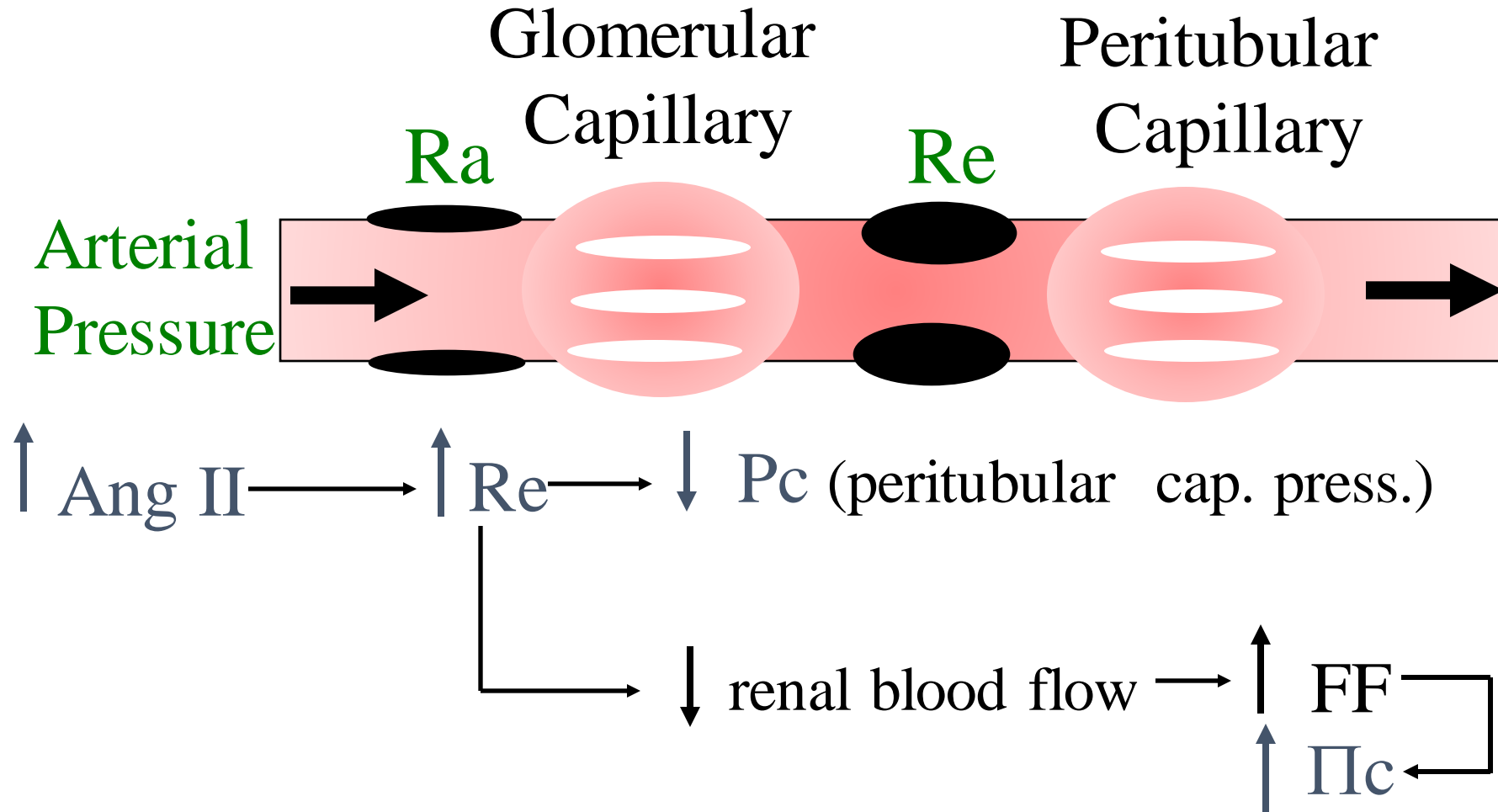
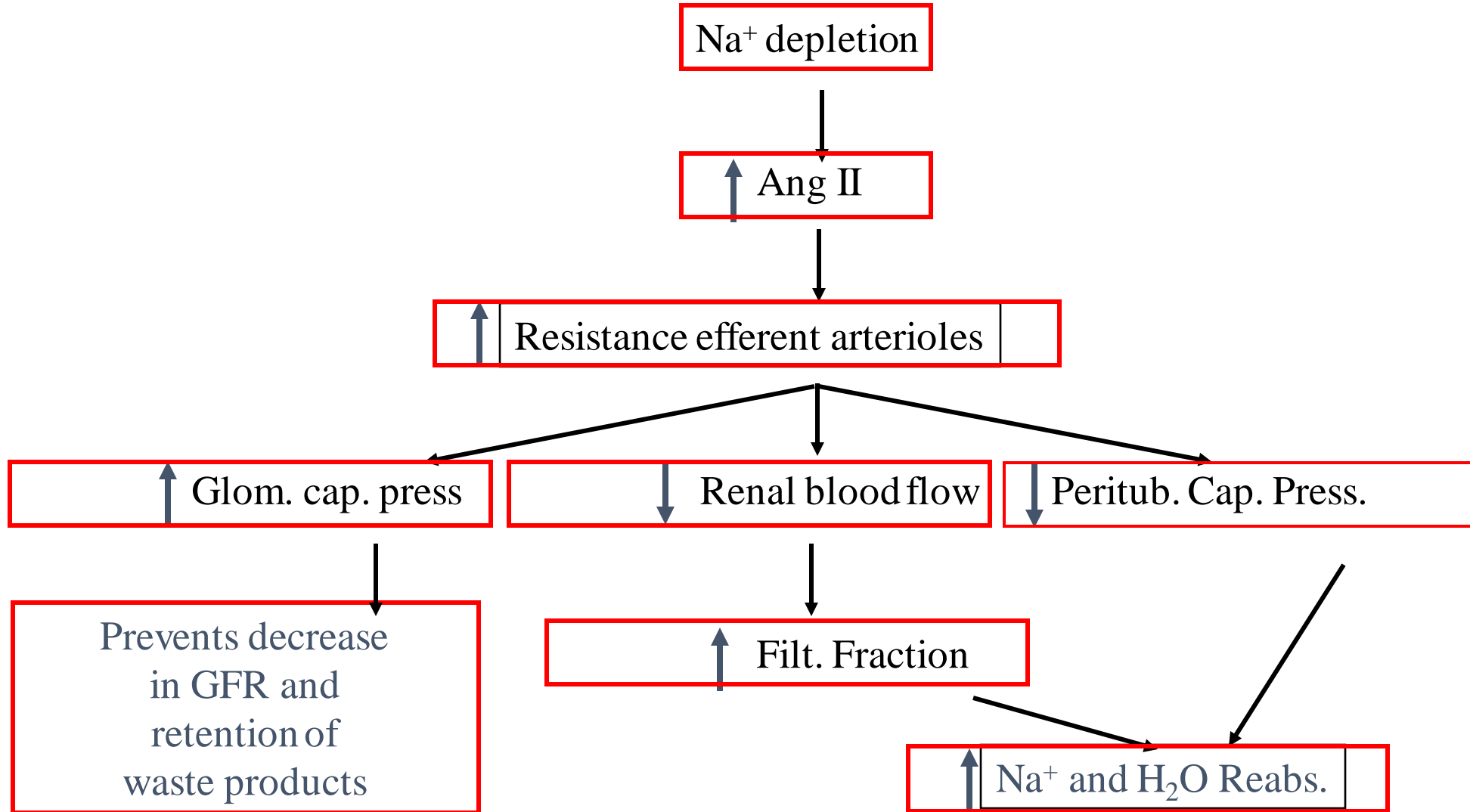


Figure 27-17

Effect of Angiotensin II on Peritubular Capillary Dynamics



Ang II constriction of efferent arterioles causes Na⁺ and water retention and maintains excretion of waste products



Angiotensin II blockade decreases Na⁺ reabsorption and blood pressure

- ACE inhibitors (captopril, benazepril, ramipril)
- Ang II antagonists (losartan, candesartan, irbesartan)
- Renin inhibitors (aliskirin)
 - decrease aldosterone
 - directly inhibit Na⁺ reabsorption
 - decrease efferent arteriolar resistance



Natriuresis and Diuresis + ↓ Blood Pressure

Antidiuretic Hormone (ADH)

- Secreted by posterior pituitary
- Increases H₂O permeability and reabsorption in distal and collecting tubules
- Allows differential control of H₂O and solute excretion
- Important controller of extracellular fluid osmolarity

ADH synthesis in the magnocellular neurons of hypothalamus, release by the posterior pituitary, and action on the kidneys

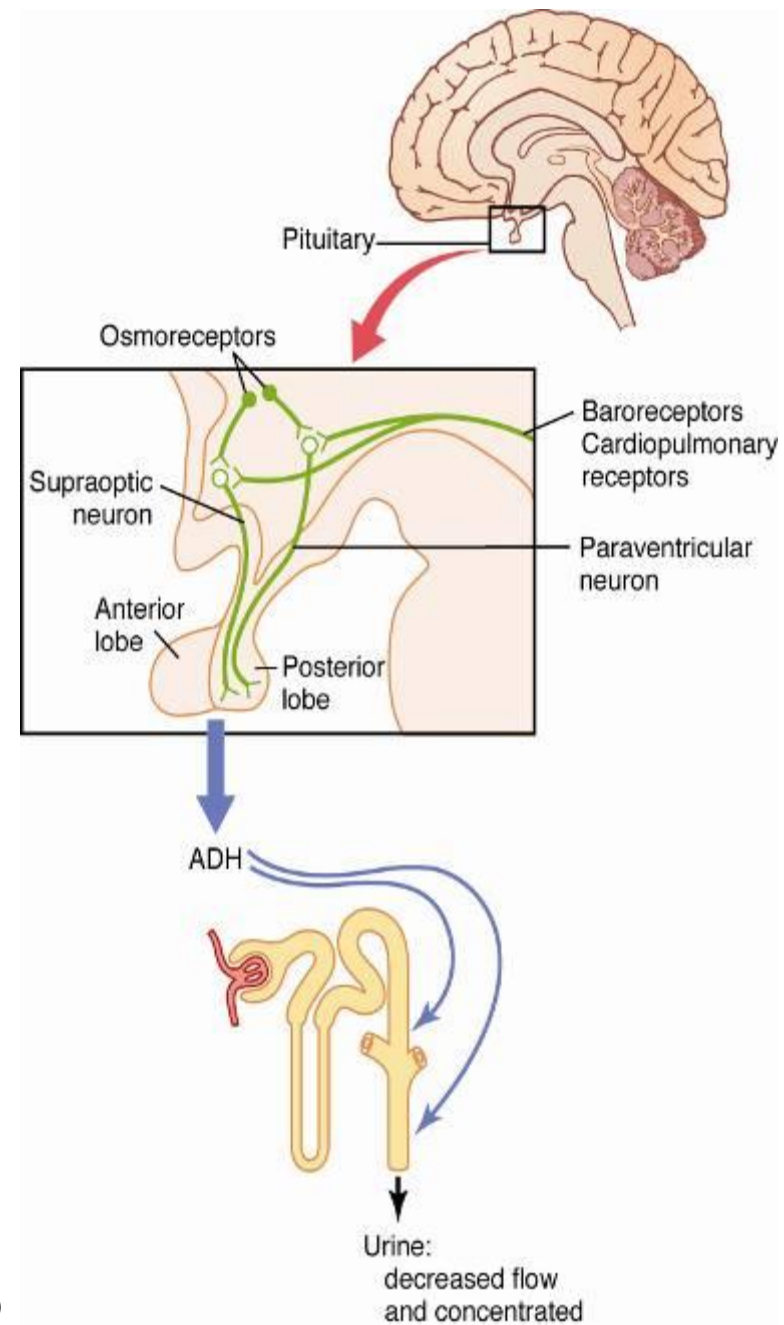


Figure 28-10

Mechanism of action of ADH in distal and collecting tubules

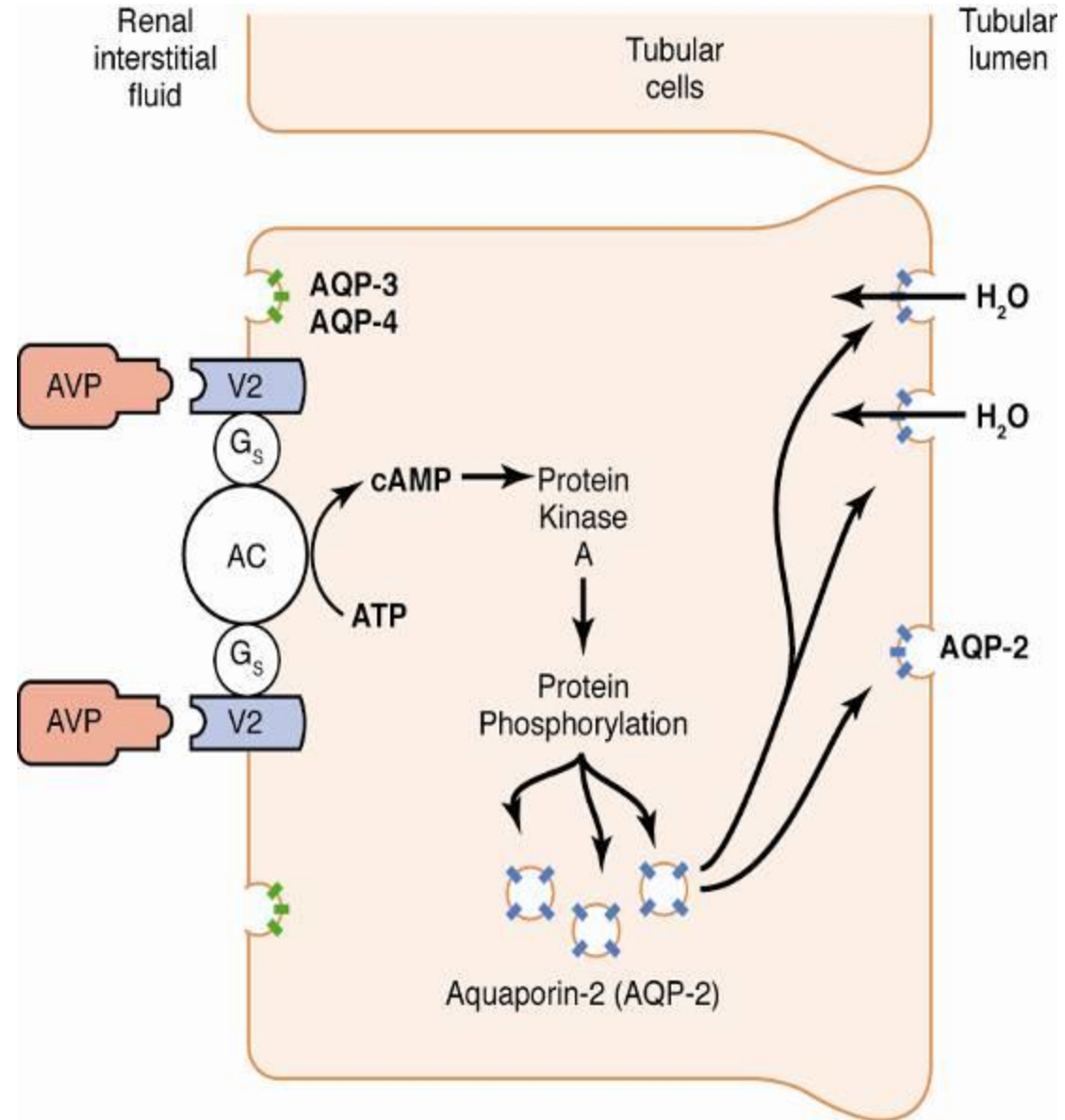
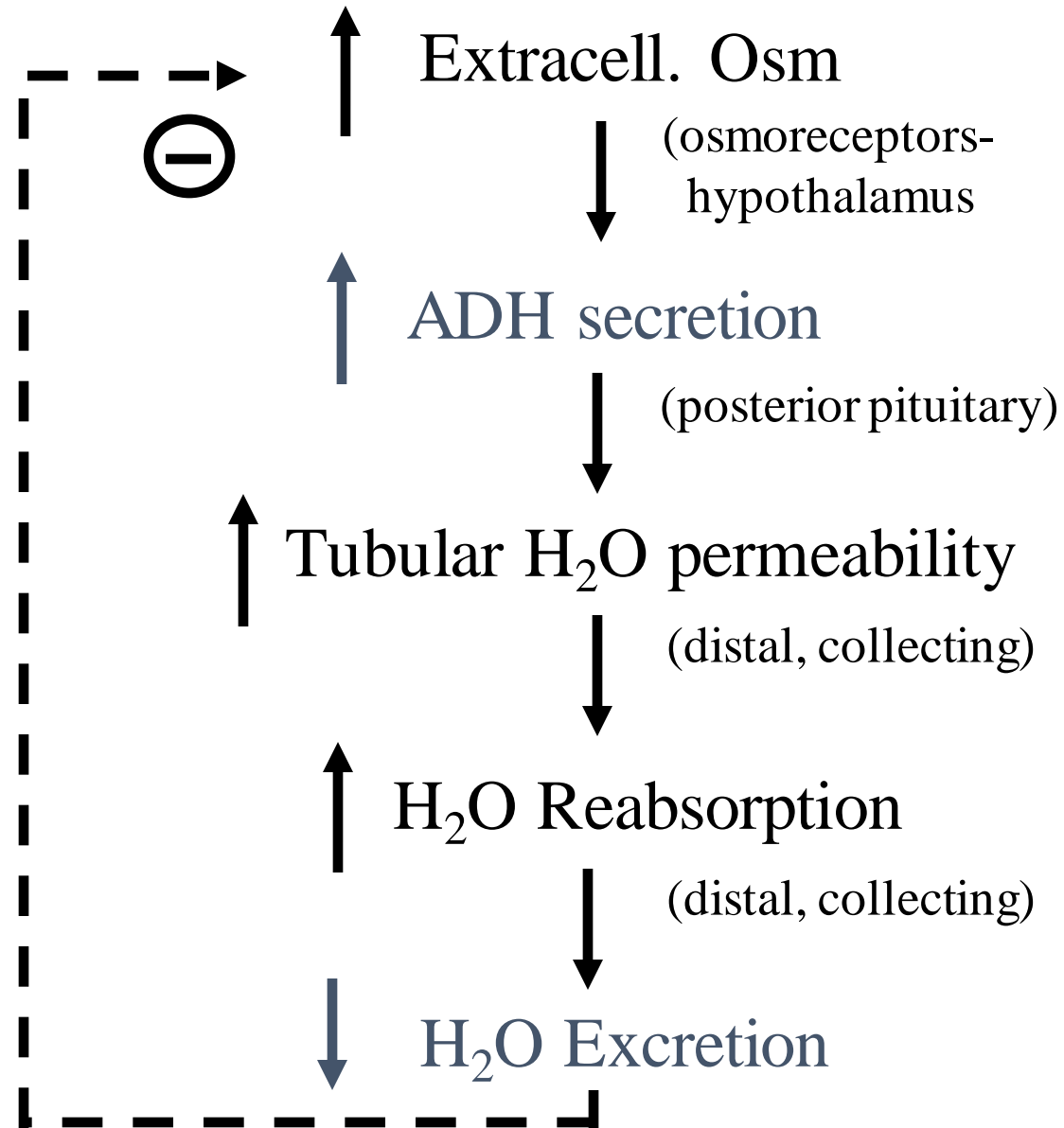


Figure 28-18

Feedback Control of Extracellular Fluid Osmolarity by ADH





Clinical Perspective

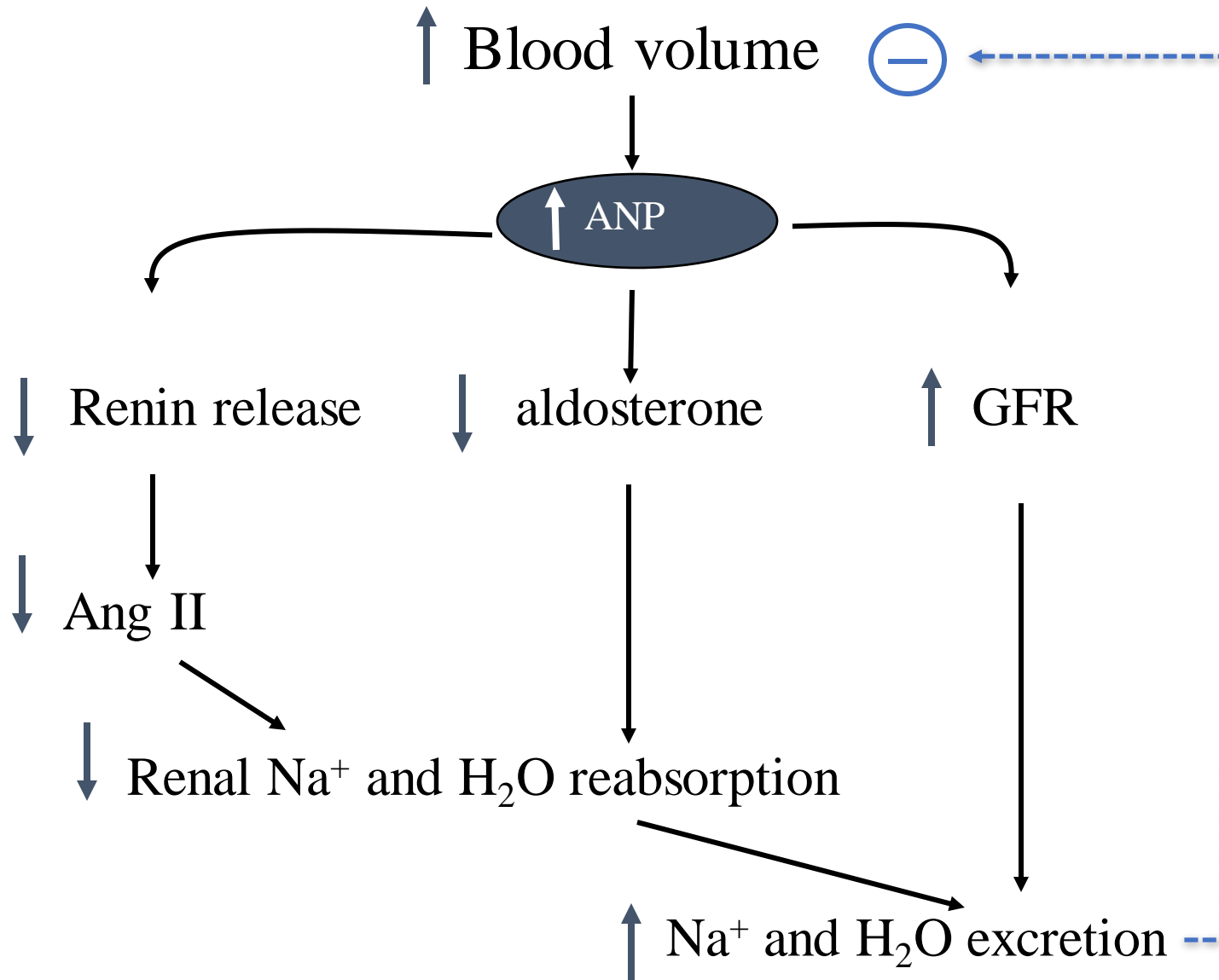
Abnormalities of ADH

- Inappropriate ADH syndrome (excess ADH)
 - decreased plasma osmolarity, hyponatremia
- “Central” Diabetes insipidus (insufficient ADH)
 - increased plasma osmolarity, hypernatremia, excess thirst

Atrial natriuretic peptide increases Na⁺ excretion

- Secreted by cardiac atria in response to stretch (increased blood volume)
- Directly inhibits Na⁺ reabsorption
- Inhibits renin release and aldosterone formation
- Increases GFR
- Helps to minimize blood volume expansion

Atrial Natriuretic Peptide (ANP)

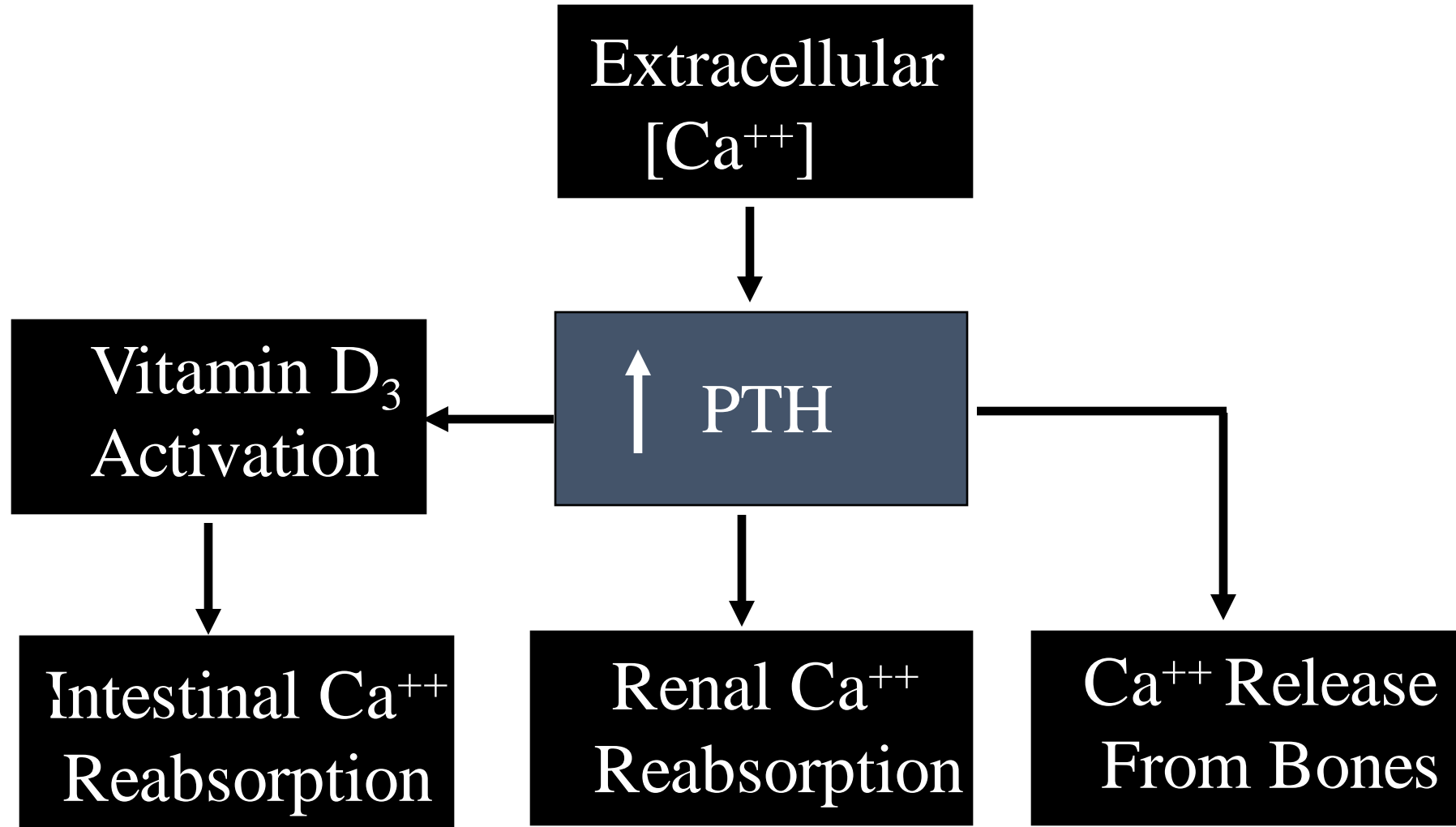


Parathyroid hormone increases renal Ca^{++} reabsorption

- Released by parathyroids in response to decreased extracellular Ca^{++}
- Increases Ca^{++} reabsorption by kidneys
- Increases Ca^{++} reabsorption by gut
- Decreases phosphate reabsorption
- Helps to increase extracellular Ca^{++}

(see chapter 29)

Control of Ca^{++} by Parathyroid Hormone

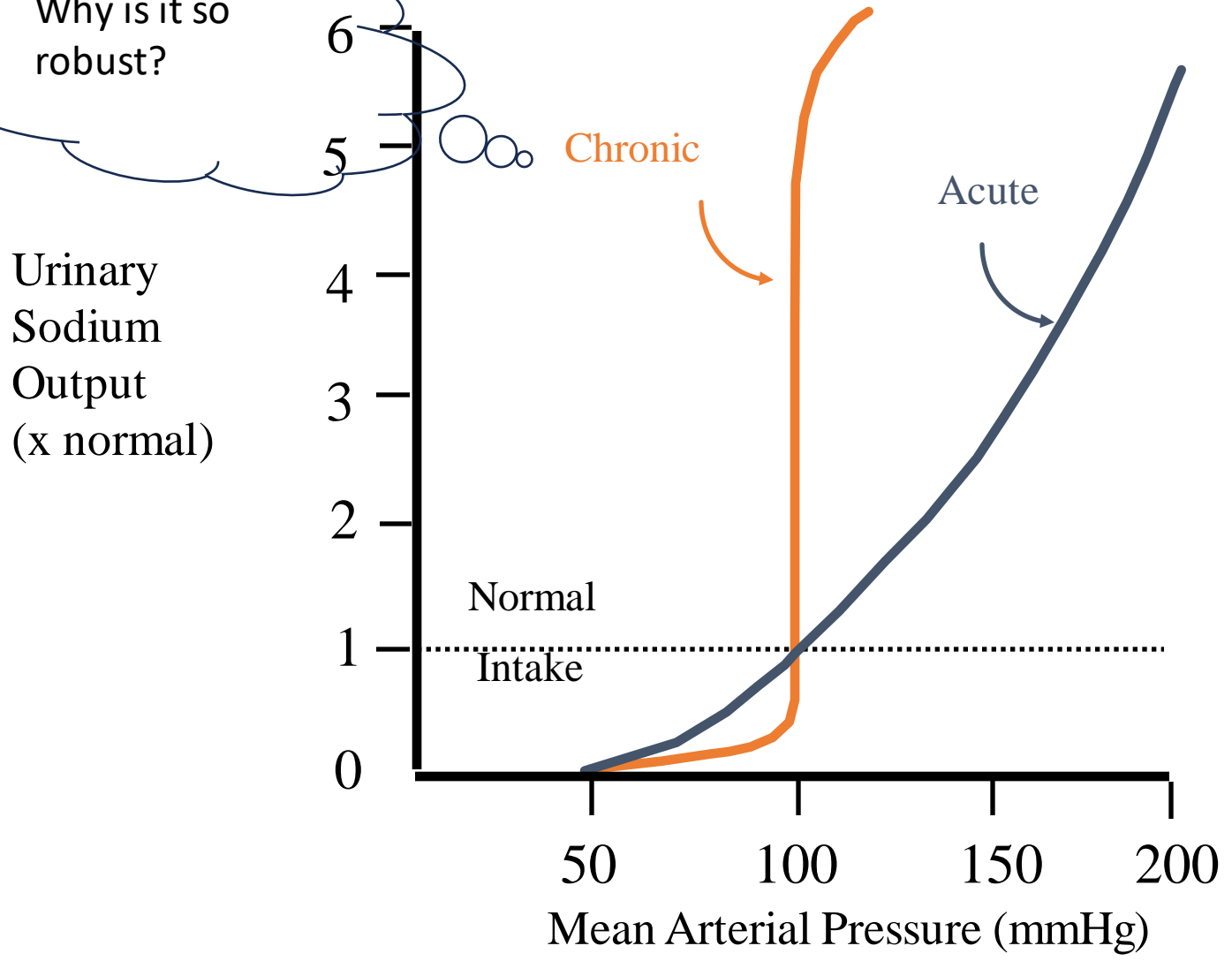


Sympathetic nervous system increases Na⁺ reabsorption

- Directly stimulates Na⁺ reabsorption
- Stimulates renin release
- Decreases GFR and renal blood flow
(only a high levels of sympathetic
stimulation)

Renal Pressure Natriuresis

Why is it so robust?





Answer

Increased Arterial Pressure Decreases Na⁺ Reabsorption (Pressure Natriuresis)

- Increased peritubular capillary hydrostatic pressure
- Decreased renin and aldosterone
- Increased release of intrarenal natriuretic factors
 - prostaglandins
 - EDRF

Osmotic Effects on Reabsorption

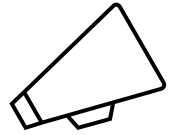
- Water is reabsorbed only by osmosis
- Increasing the amount of unreabsorbed solutes in the tubules decreases water reabsorption

i.e. diabetes mellitus : unreabsorbed glucose in tubules causes diuresis and water loss

i.e. osmotic diuretics (mannitol)

Assessing Kidney Function

- Plasma concentration of waste products
(e.g. BUN, creatinine)
- Urine specific gravity, urine concentrating ability;
- Urinalysis test reagent strips (protein, glucose, etc)
- Biopsy
- Albumin excretion (microalbuminuria)
- Isotope renal scans
- Imaging methods (e.g. MRI, PET, arteriograms,
iv pyelography, ultrasound etc)
- Clearance methods (e.g. 24-hr creatinine clearance)
- etc



Link To Recording of Clearance and GFR Calculation



https://fisjo-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/e_zayadne_hu_edu_jo/EVfxrMv5fDZHgWF5wU3y3x0BW4Y-3tEaRCkc6iRxRnZ7rQ?e=LosKcU

Clearance

- “Clearance” describes the rate at which substances are removed (cleared) from the plasma.
- Renal clearance of a substance is the volume of plasma completely cleared of a substance per min by the kidneys.

Clearance Technique

Renal clearance (C_s) of a substance is the volume of plasma completely cleared of a substance per min.

$$C_s \times P_s = U_s \times V$$

$$C_s = \frac{U_s \times V}{P_s} = \frac{\text{urine excretion rate}}{\text{Plasma conc. } s}$$

Where :

- C_s = clearance of substance S
- P_s = plasma conc. of substance S
- U_s = urine conc. of substance S
- V = urine flow rate

Clearances of Different Substances

Substance	Clearance (ml/min)
glucose	0
albumin	0
sodium	0.9
urea	70
inulin	125
creatinine	140
PAH	600

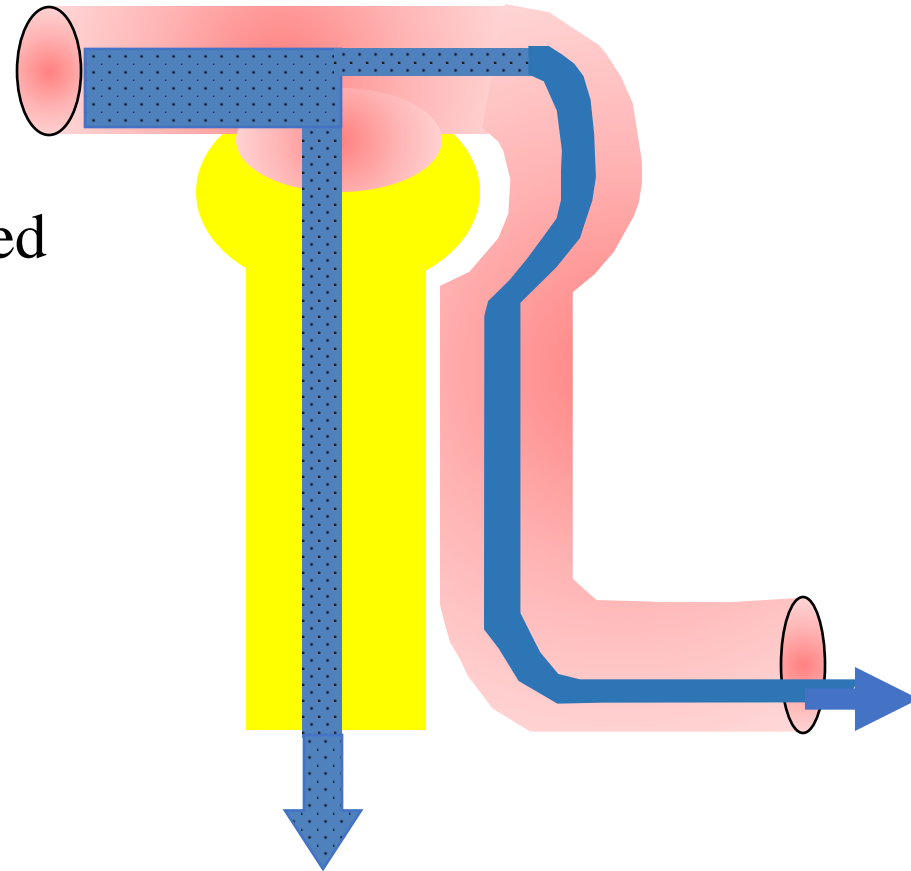
Use of Clearance to Measure GFR

For a substance that is freely filtered, but not reabsorbed or secreted (inulin, ¹²⁵I-iothalamate, creatinine), renal clearance is equal to GFR

amount filtered = amount excreted

$$\text{GFR} \times P_{\text{in}} = U_{\text{in}} \times V$$

$$\text{GFR} = \frac{U_{\text{in}} \times V}{P_{\text{in}}}$$





Calculate the GFR from the following data:

$$P_{\text{inulin}} = 1.0 \text{ mg} / 100\text{ml}$$

$$U_{\text{inulin}} = 125 \text{ mg}/100 \text{ ml}$$

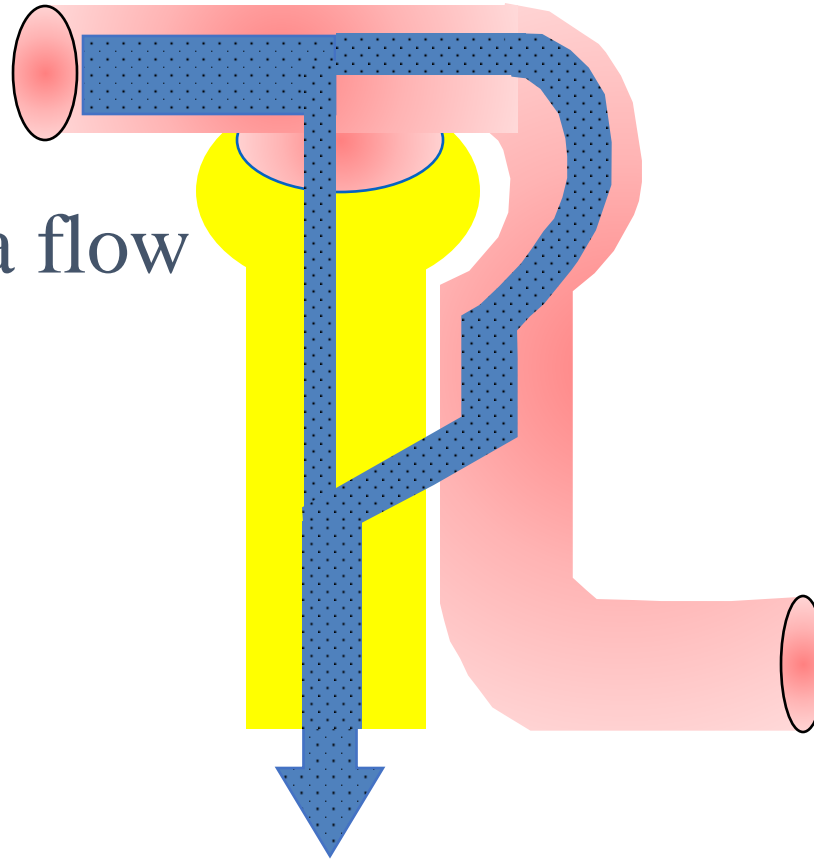
$$\text{Urine flow rate} = 1.0 \text{ ml}/\text{min}$$

$$\text{GFR} = C_{\text{inulin}} = \frac{U_{\text{in}} \times V}{P_{\text{in}}}$$

$$\text{GFR} = \frac{125 \times 1.0}{1.0} = 125 \text{ ml}/\text{min}$$

Theoretically, if a substance is completely cleared from the plasma, its clearance rate would equal renal plasma flow

$C_x = \text{renal plasma flow}$



Paraminohippuric acid (PAH) is freely filtered and secreted and is almost completely cleared from the renal plasma

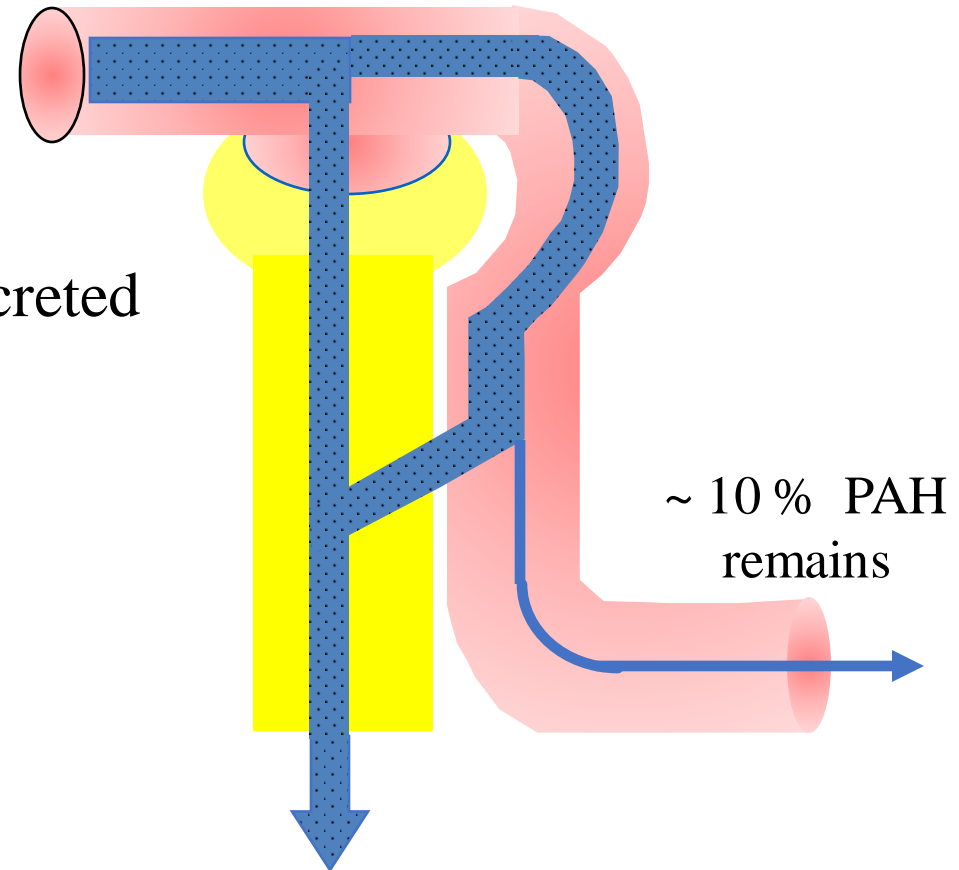
1. amount enter kidney =
 $RPF \times P_{PAH}$

2. amount entered \cong amount excreted

3. $ERPF \times P_{pah} = U_{PAH} \times V$
 $= \frac{U_{PAH} \times V}{P_{PAH}}$

$ERPF = \text{Clearance PAH}$

ERPF=estimated renal plasma flow



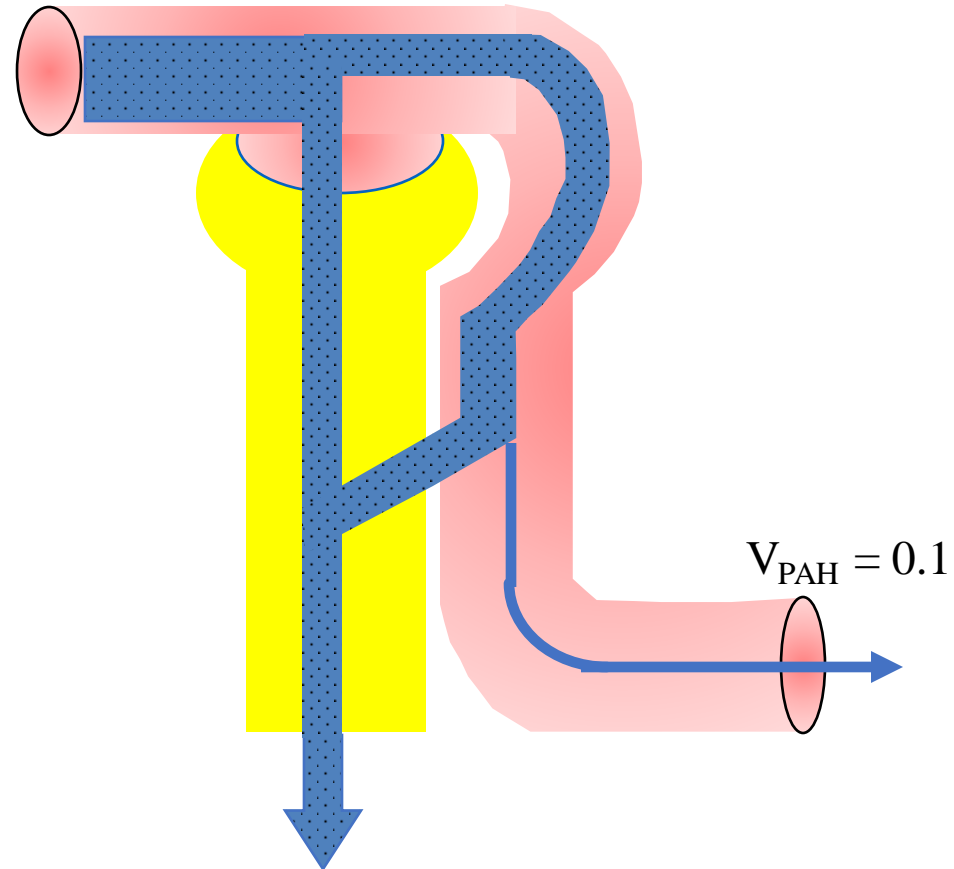
To calculate actual RPF ,
one must correct for incomplete extraction of PAH

$$A_{\text{PAH}} = 1.0$$

$$E_{\text{PAH}} = \frac{A_{\text{PAH}} - V_{\text{PAH}}}{A_{\text{PAH}}}$$
$$= \frac{1.0 - 0.1}{1.0} = 0.9$$

normally, $E_{\text{PAH}} = 0.9$
i.e PAH is 90 % extracted

$$\text{RPF} = \frac{\text{ERPF}}{E_{\text{PAH}}}$$

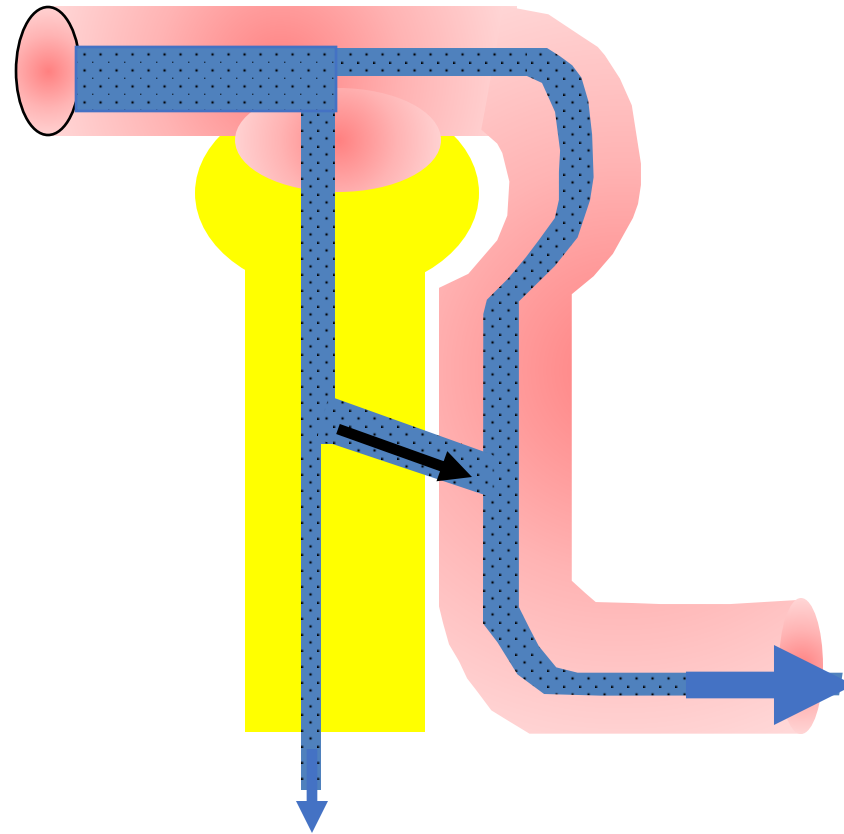


Calculation of Tubular Reabsorption

$$\text{Reabsorption} = \text{Filtration} - \text{Excretion}$$

$$\text{Filt } s = \text{GFR} \times P_s$$

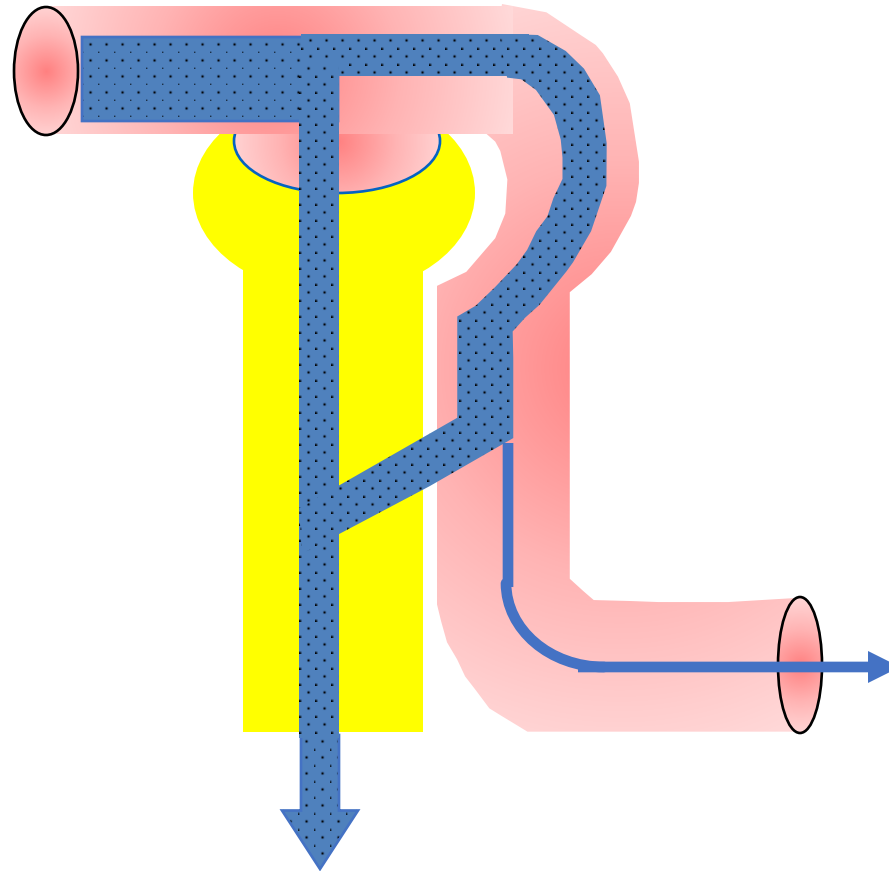
$$\text{Excret } s = U_s \times V$$



Calculation of Tubular Secretion

$$\text{Secretion} = \text{Excretion} - \text{Filtration}$$

$$\text{Filt } s = \text{GFR} \times P_s$$



$$\text{Excret } s = U_s \times V$$



Question

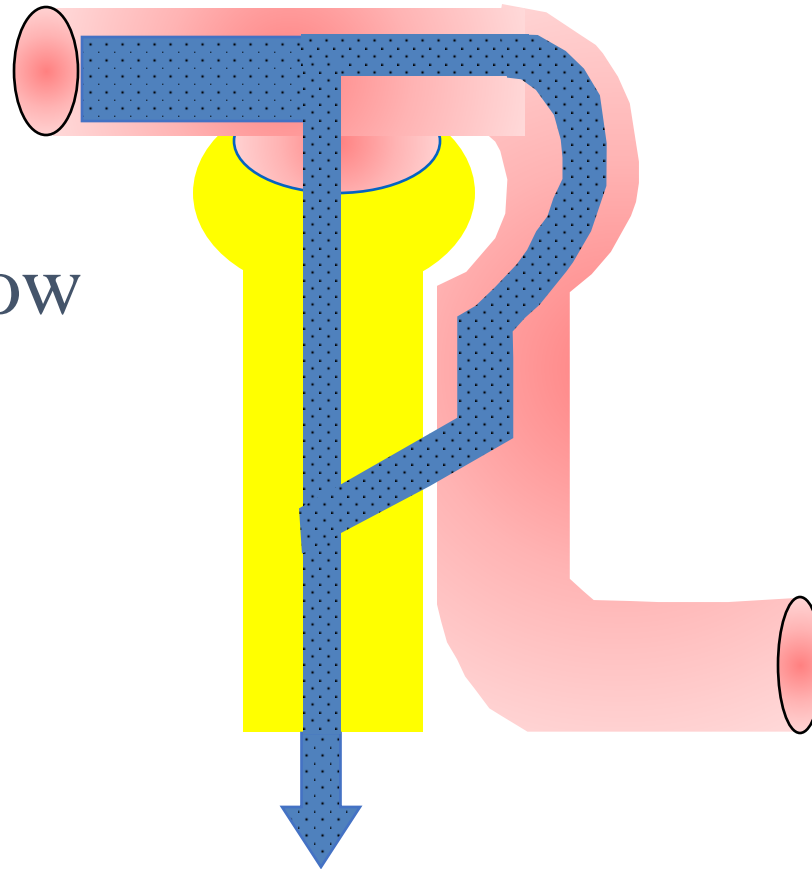
The maximum possible clearance rate of a substance that is completely cleared from the plasma by the kidneys would be equal to

1. glomerular filtration rate
2. the filtered load of the substance
3. urine excretion rate of the substance
4. renal plasma flow
5. none of the above

Use of Clearance to Estimate Renal Plasma Flow

Theoretically, if a substance is completely cleared from the plasma, its clearance rate would equal renal plasma flow

$C_x = \text{renal plasma flow}$



Clearances of Different Substances

Substance	Clearance (ml/min)
inulin	125
PAH	600
glucose	0
sodium	0.9
urea	70

Clearance of inulin (C_{in}) = GFR

if $C_x < C_{in}$: indicates reabsorption of x

if $C_x > C_{in}$: indicates secretion of x

Clearance creatinine (C_{creat}) ~ 140 (used to estimate GFR)

Clearance of PAH (C_{pah}) ~ effective renal plasma flow

Effect of reducing GFR by 50 % on serum creatinine concentration and creatinine excretion rate

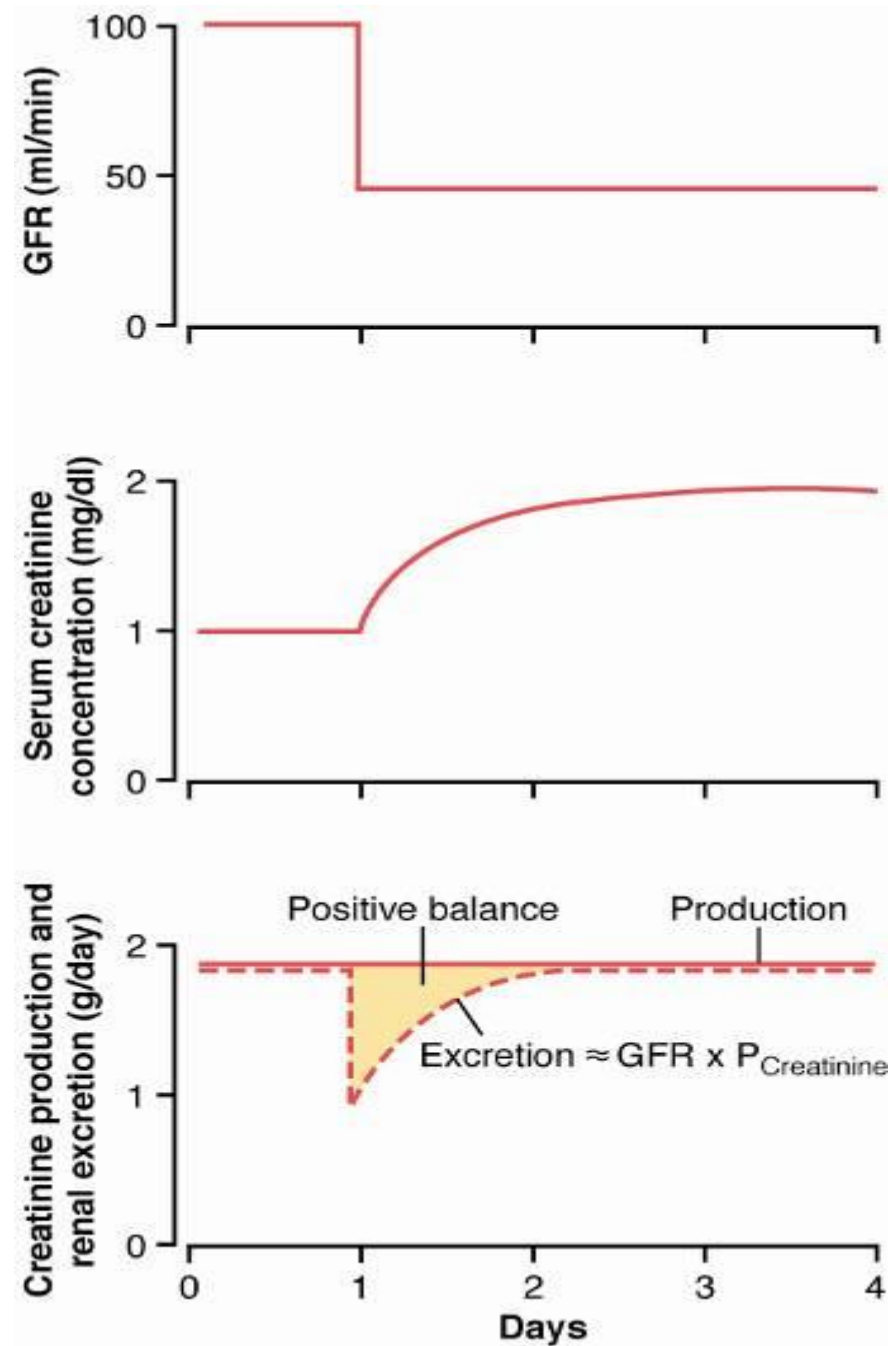


Figure 27-20



True or False?

Reduction of GFR by 50 % will increase serum creatinine to double while, creatinine excretion rate will remain the same as normal in steady state conditions



Plasma creatinine can be used to estimate changes in GFR

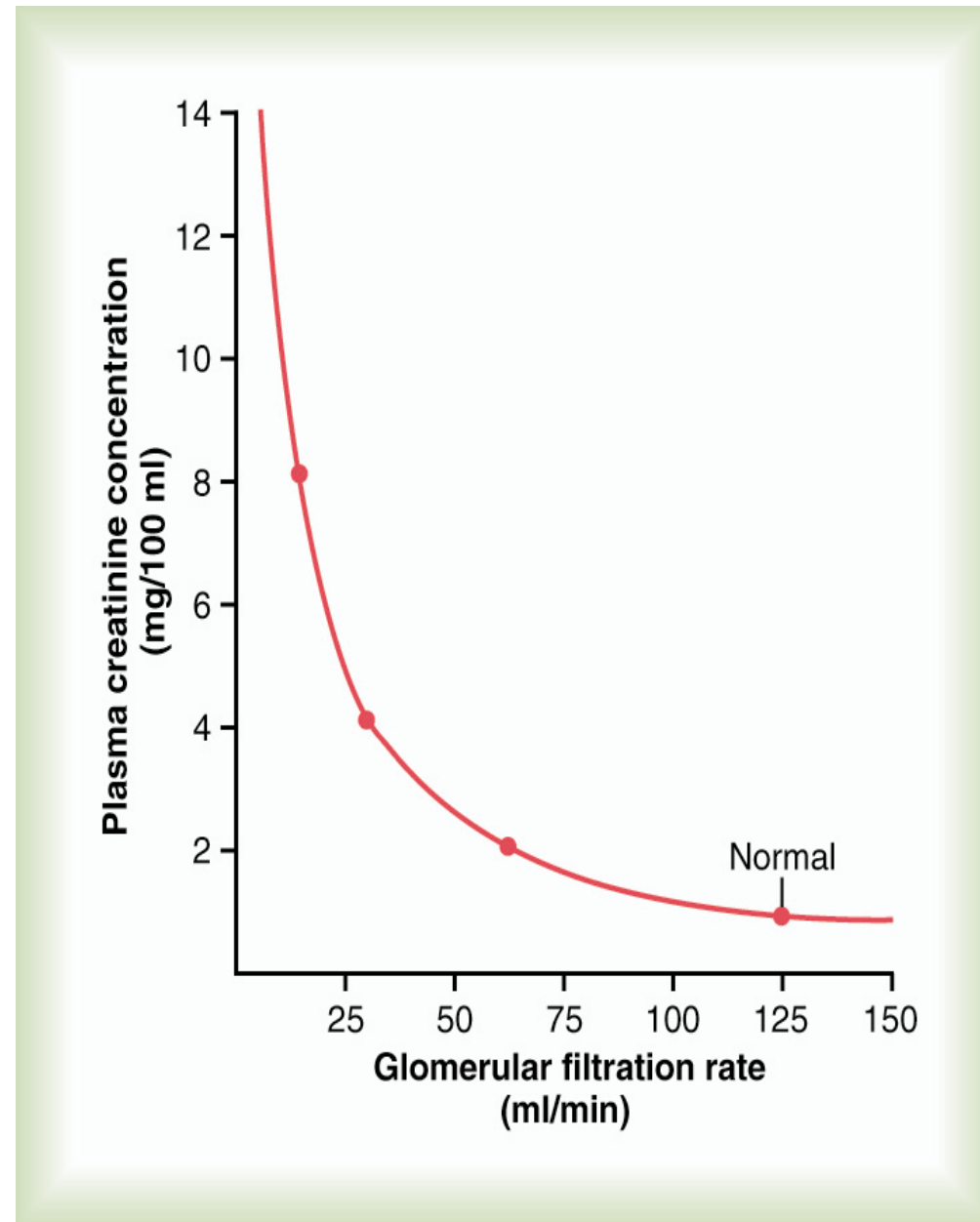


Figure 27-21



Clinical Perspective

Clinical GFR estimation equations using GFR

Online calculator:

[eGFR Calculator | National Kidney Foundation](#)

Model	Equation
Creatinine model	$36.76 + 1.91 \times Wt - 0.47 \times SCr$
Weight model	$16.25 + 1.67 \times Wt$
Cockcroft function ^a	$\frac{(130 + 0.09 \times Age) \times Wt \times (1 + 0.11 \times Sex)}{SCr}$
Jelliffe function ^a	$\frac{(2530 + 126 \times Age) \times BSA \times (1 + 0.13 \times Sex)}{SCr}$
Léger model	$\frac{(56.7 \times Wt + 0.142 \times Hght^2)}{SCr}$
Schwartz regression	$\frac{0.55 \times Hght}{SCr \times 0.01131} \times (BSA / 1.73) \text{ if female}$ $\left(1.5 \times Age + \frac{0.5 \times Hght}{SCr \times 0.01131} \right) \times (BSA / 1.73) \text{ if male}$

Coefficients derived from modelling data set, except for Schwarz and Léger equations where the original coefficients are used. Wt: weight (kg); Age: age (years); Sex: 1 if male, 0 if female; SCr: serum creatinine ($\mu\text{mol l}^{-1}$); BSA: body surface area (m^2); Hght: height (cm). ^aCoefficients re-estimated from current data set using nonlinear mixed effects modelling.



Clinical Perspective

Chronic kidney disease evaluation by GFR

Stage	Description	GFR (mL/min)
1	Kidney damage (protein in the urine) with normal or elevated GFR	90 or more
2	Kidney damage with mildly decreased GFR	60–89
3	Kidney damage with moderately decreased GFR	30–59
4	Kidney damage with severely decreased GFR	15–29
5	Kidney failure: end-stage renal disease (ESRD). Patients who have Stage 5 disease require dialysis or transplantation to survive.	Less than 15