



REVISITON :

Renal physiology &  
Acid-Base balane

**Nephron** : is the structural and functional unit in kidney .

Has two type :

*I. Cortical nephrons* : glomerular in outer cortex , short loop of henle(thin segment) , about 85% .

*II. Juxtamedullary nephron* : glomerular in deep cortex , long loop of henle (thin segm-ent) , about 15% , has a vasa recta .

**Composed of :**

1. **Renal corpuscle** , consist of :

a. **Glomerular** : group of capillaries which is along the Afferent arterioles .

b. **Bowman's capsule** : cup-shaped , covering the glomerular , type of cell is simple squamous epithelium .

2. **Proximal convoluted tubule (PCT)** : has length about 15 mm , simple long cuboidal cell (with micrivilli to increase the surface area) , numerous mitochondria ( provide ATP for Active transport) .

3. **Loop of henle** : U-shaped , consist of :

a. **Thin part** ( descending limb and lower part of ascending limb) : flat cells , 2-14 mm .

b. **Thick part** ( ascending limb" remain part") : cuboidal cells , 12 mm .

4.**Distal convoluted tubule (DCT)** : simple low cuboidal cells(fewer microvilli) ,

**divided into :**

a. **1st half** called diluting segment .

b. **2nd half** called late DT .

5. **Collecting duct** : about 20mm , collecting urine .

**# Blood supply of the kidney**

renal artery → segmental artery → inter lobar artery → arcuate artery → inter lobular artery → afferent arterioles→glomerular capillaries→efferent arterioles.

**Function of kidney:**

- **preserving blood volume** (low → ↑ water reabs-orbtion , high → ↑ urine secretion) .
- **preserving ion concentration** Na ,K,Ca and P).
- **Acid-base balance** : by excretion of H<sup>+</sup> or absorbing bicarbonate .
- **sectetory function** : as : renin , erythropoietin and active form of vit. D .

**Function of angiotensin II :**

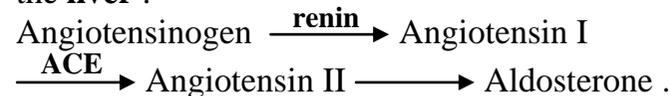
- raises blood supply to kidney (↑blood pressure) .
- stimulates the **adrenal cortex** to secrete (Aldosterone) hormone → 1) Na-water reabsorption , 2) K-H excretion .

**Juxtglomerular apparatus :**

- The point where efferent & afferent arterioles meet with a part of the distal convoluted tubule .
  - This specific part of the kidney "**changes**" and adapts to different situations , it has :
    1. a type of cells called "**Macula densa cell**" ( in distal convoluted tubule) .
    2. special cells "**JG cells**" that has *renin enzyme* ( in wall of afferent arteriole ) .
- \* NOTE : Macula densa → it's measures and senses the Na ions concentration in the filtrate .

\* **Renin enzyme** : it's secreted from the wall of the afferent arteriole that's in contact with (**JGA**) or close to distal convoluted tubule specifically .

\* **Angiotensinogen** : it's a hormone secreted from the **liver** .



Don't forget to review **GLOMERULAR MEMBRANE and DONNAN EFFECT !!!**

**Characters of Glomerular membrane :**

1. **High permeability** .

2. **High degree of selectivity** ; the cause of it is :
- a. The size of pores (8nm) .
  - b. The strong -ve charge of protein that lining in pores .

**Urine formation :**

1) **Glomerular filtration** → the filtrate passes though distal , proximal convoluted tubules and loop of henle .

2) **Reabsorption** → ( mainly for water , sodium and good nutrients) .

3) **secretion** → the molecules that escaped from filtration are gonna be secreted from peri-tubular capillaries to renal tubules "*tubular secretion*" .

\* **Glomerular filtration rate (GFR)** : fluid that are filtered by all the nephrons in both kidneys per minute.

**Filtration force :**

a. **Glomerular capillary hydrostatic pressure :**

- Has a +ve pressure value = 60 mmHg .

b. **Osmotic pressure of plasma protein :**

- Has a -ve pressure value = -32 mmHg .

c. **Bowman's capsule hydrostatic pressure :**

- Has a -ve pressure value = -18 mmHg .

d. **Bowman's capsule osmotic pressure :**

- Has a +ve pressure value = ZERO .

→ **The NET filtration force = 10 mmHg .**

## Factor affecting glomerular filtration :

### I. Glomerular capillary pressure :

#### a) **Renal blood flow (GFR) :**

↑RBF → ↑GBR → ↑glomerular capillary pressure

#### b) **Diameter of Afferent arteriole :**

To rise the glomerular capillary pressure the Afferent arteriole is dilated (vasodilatation) ↑ diameter (dilatation) → ↑ GBR → ↑ glomerular capillary pressure → ↑GFR .

#### c) **Diameter of Efferent arteriole :**

To raise the glomerular capillary pressure the Efferent arteriole is constricted (vasoconstriction) ↓ diameter (constriction) → ↑ GBR → ↑ glomerular capillary pressure → ↑ GFR .

#### d) **Sympathetic stimulation :**

mild and moderate → no effect .

Severe → Constriction of afferent arteriole → ↓ GFR → ↓glomerular capillary pressure → ↓ GFR.

#### e) **Arterial blood pressure (ABP) :**

Changes in ABP within the **physiological range** ( 80 -180 mm Hg ) has a little effect on renal blood flow or GFR due to **autoregulation mechanism** . **Autoregulation** is a mechanism by which RBF and GFR are maintained at a nearly constant rate inspite of changes in ABP within the physiological range , has two mechanism :

### **1. Tubuloglomerular feedback mechanism :**

↓GFR → So , the kidney starts to reabsorb Na , Cl (in the ascending limb of loop of Henle ) to raise blood volume , when the filtrate reaches distal convoluted tubule , Macula densa cell (which have osmoreceptor to sense Na , Cl concentration in filtrate) will indicate the loss of Na ,Cl ions which have been reabsorbed . this leads to :- stimulating Juxtaglomerular cells to secrete the renin which ends with the formation of **angiotensin II** causing vasoconstriction of Efferent arterioles → ↑ GFR .

## **2. Myogenic mechanism:**

if the blood supply is high → the Afferent arteriole will be stretched → smooth muscle contraction of Afferent arteriole stopping (inhabiting) the high blood pressure to reach the delicate glomerular capillary causing injuries .

### II. Osmotic pressure of proteins in Bowman's capsule :

When increased → ↑ GFR , and vice versa .

### III. Osmotic pressure of plasma proteins:

↓ Osmotic pressure of plasma protein (as: hypo-proteinemia → ↑ GFR , and vice versa .

## \*Renal handling of sodium ions :

### I. PCT :

((**Generally, Reabsorption** of : I) ~67% of Na<sup>+</sup> and water, K<sup>+</sup> & Ca<sup>+2</sup> , Most of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> . II) All filtered glucose and A.As in early PCT .

**Secretion** of : organic acids and bases, catecholamine and some drugs)).

### **NOW in details :**

#### a. **1<sup>st</sup> half :** First half ( 7 mm)

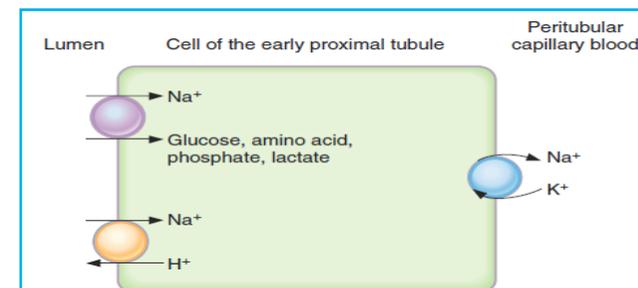
**Apical border** of the cell → Na<sup>+</sup> is diffused down electrical gradient . ( Na<sup>+</sup> transport passively in 2ry active transport with Glucose, A.As, and H<sup>+</sup>).

**Basolateral border** → Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup> pump ( 3 Na<sup>+</sup> to outside cell , 2K<sup>+</sup> to inside cell → "provide -ve charge inside → activation 2ry active transport".

- **In ACIDOSIS:** to get rid of these hydrogen ions → Na<sup>+</sup>-H<sup>+</sup> counter transport is activated and H<sup>+</sup> ions are released with urine .

- **In ALKALOSIS:** we need to preserve H<sup>+</sup> ions, and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> is released with urine , (Na<sup>+</sup>-H<sup>+</sup> counter transport is not activated) .

b. **2<sup>st</sup> half :** Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> are reabsorbed via co-transport → at this point , all previously absorbed substances ( glucose , amino acid ....) are totally transferred to the blood .

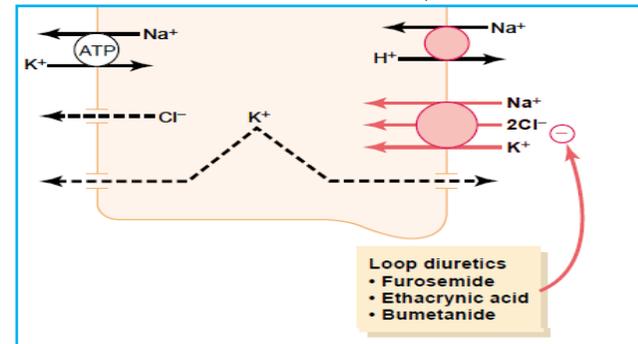


### II. Loop of henle :

a - **Thin segment** of the **ascending limb**, Na<sup>+</sup> reabsorbed passively occur after Cl<sup>-</sup> reabsorption along the paracellular route . It is a passive transport .

b - **Thick segment** of the **ascending limb**, Na<sup>+</sup> reabsorption across the luminal membrane is mediated primarily by (Na<sup>+</sup> - 2Cl<sup>-</sup> - P<sup>+</sup>) co-transporter .

(**generally** , reabsorption of : ~27% Na<sup>+</sup> and 20% of ~K<sup>+</sup> and ~27% of Ca<sup>+2</sup>) .

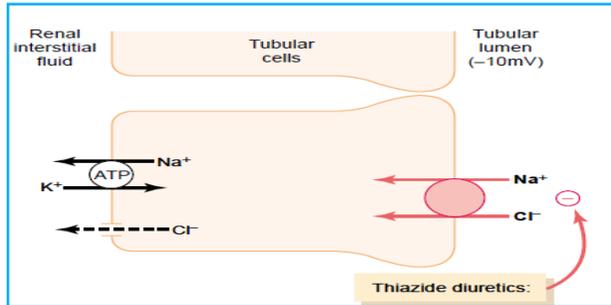


NOTE: Descending limb of loop of Helen → filtrate passes rapidly , no solute reabsorption , But this segment is freely permeable to water( it cell has aquaporins 1"protein"), so large amount of water(~10%) is reabsorbed .

### III. DCT and collecting duct :

#### 1. Early distal tubule

- Reabsorbs NaCl by a  $\text{Na}^+\text{-Cl}^-$  co-transporter.
- Is **impermeable to water**, as is the thick ascending limb.



#### 2. Late distal convoluted tubule AND cortical collecting duct :

##### - Have two type of cells:

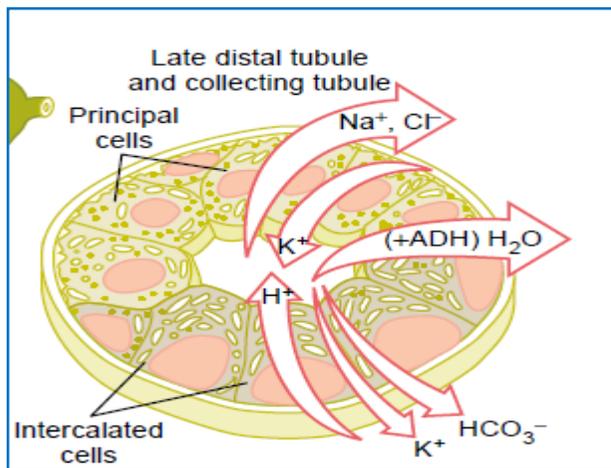
##### (1) Principal cells :

- reabsorb  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , secrete  $\text{K}^+$ , Aldosterone increases  $\text{Na}^+$  reabsorption and increases  $\text{K}^+$  secretion.

##### (2) *a*-Intercalated cells : (two types)

- regulation  $\text{H}^+$  and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ .

((we will describe them in Acid-Base balance))



#### 3. Medullary collecting duct :

-it's permeable to urea .

NOTE : Collecting duct has a receptor for **ADH hormone**, which is help in **urine concentration** .

$\uparrow$  ADH  $\rightarrow$  bind to receptor  $\rightarrow$  secrete aquaporins 2 which  $\uparrow$  the expression  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  formation aquaporins 1 in DCT  $\rightarrow$  water reabsorption .

##### Obligatory water reabsorption :

It's equal to 65% of water amount that reabsorbed in PCT .

Then according to **hydrated** :

- If the person well **hydrated**  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  ADH  $\rightarrow$  *diluted urine* . (especially in winter) .
- If the person well **dehydrated**  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  ADH  $\rightarrow$  *concentration urine* " hyperosmolar urine " . (especially in summer)

##### How the kidney concentration urine ?

\* in **vasa recta** blood circulate slow motion and low pressure .

This stimulus to concentrate urine by secrete ADH  $\rightarrow$  open aquaporins channel  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  water reabsorption .

**N.B :** water reabsorbed also need **hyperosmotic** in medullary interstitial , which produce from **ascending limb of loop of henle** .

For concentration urine we need **three factor** :

##### 1) Counter current multiplier $\rightarrow$

Caused by loop of henle of juxtamedullary nephron (U-shape)  $\rightarrow$  hyperosmotic in interstitial  $\rightarrow$  water reabsorbed from collecting duct & DCT to Medullary interstitial .

##### 2) Counter current exchange $\rightarrow$

**Vasa recta** responsible for hyperosmolarity in Medullary interstitial which act as loop of henle.

#### 3) Urea cycle $\rightarrow$

Urea has a small coefficient but high osmotic active .

- If water reabsorbed in Medullary collecting duct urea will follow it ( *solvent drag* ) .

- Urea hanging in Medullary interstitial  $\rightarrow$  make hyperosmolarity active secrete to thin ascending limb of loop of henle and so on .

**Note : not all urea will reabsorbed !!**

##### Acid-Base balance :

pH of blood  $\rightarrow$  concentration of  $\text{H}^+$ , has a normal value = 7.4.

- Source of  $\text{H}^+$  :

a. Diet  $\rightarrow$  Protein diet .

b. Intermediary Metabolism  $\rightarrow$

1) Volatile acids  $\rightarrow$  Carbonic acid .

2) Fixed acids  $\rightarrow$  Lactic acid & Ketoacids .

##### Defensive mechanism against changes in $[\text{H}^+]$ :

There are 3 mechanism ...

##### **I- Buffer system - Rapid Mechanism (takes minutes) :**

**Note:** The most effective **extracellular** buffer system is bicarbonate system, while the most important **intracellular** buffer systems are phosphates and proteins systems.

##### **a. Bicarbonate buffer system :**

\* This system accounts for **65 % of buffering capacity** in plasma and **40 % of buffering action in the whole body**.

\* Bicarbonate is regulated by the **kidney** (Metabolic component), while Carbonic acid is under **respiratory regulation** (Respiratory component).

**N.B:** We use the concentration of  $\text{Co}_2$  instead of  $\text{H}_2\text{Co}_3$  because it is easy to assay and it is a mirror of  $\text{H}_2\text{Co}_3$  because when  $\text{H}_2\text{Co}_3$  concentration increases the concentration of  $\text{Co}_2$  increase. So we can use  $\text{Co}_2$  instead of  $\text{H}_2\text{Co}_3$ .

### B-Phosphate buffer system:

- intracellular buffer and tubular fluid buffer
- Its two elements are:  
Phosphoric acid ( $H_2PO_4$ ) & Phosphate salt.
- It is an *effective buffer system* because its concentration is high intracellular and in tubular fluid.

### C-Protein buffer system:

- It is a *powerful system* because of its high concentration in intracellular fluid and in plasma.
- Amino acids can act as an acid (Proteinic acid) and or alkali (Na proteinate).
- In RBCs Hb is a powerful buffer.

**Note:** Phosphate buffer system and protein buffer system neutralize with  $H^+$  as it inside the cell, as if any  $H^+$  exit the cell it will be neutralized by bicarbonate system.

## II- Respiration regulation - Intermediate mechanism (takes hours) :



- In acidosis  $\rightarrow \uparrow H_2CO_3 \rightarrow \uparrow CO_2$  in the blood  $\rightarrow$  stimulate R.C  $\rightarrow \uparrow$  rate of respiration and elimination of the excess  $CO_2$  leading to decreased acid in the blood and so correcting acidosis.

- In alkalosis (the reverse occurs) i.e. decreased level of  $H_2CO_3$  leads to decreased  $CO_2$  concentration and inhibit R.C leading to  $CO_2$  retention in the blood and increased  $H_2CO_3$  so correcting alkalosis.

## III- Renal Regulation - Slow mechanism (takes days) :

- Renal compensation in acid base disturbances takes place through Excretion or absorption of  $H^+$  and  $HCO_3^-$  This occur in two ways:

1-Directly by retaining or excreting  $H^+$ , 2-Indirect by changing Reabsorption or excretion of  $H_2CO_3$  buffer.

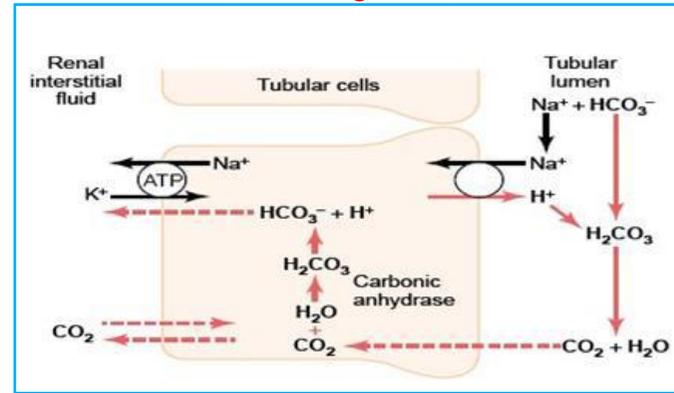
### In PCT :

- $H^+$  secretion and  $HCO_3^-$  Reabsorption .
- The proximal tubule is responsible for Reabsorption of most of the  $HCO_3^-$  .

#### Mechanism:

**Net result:** Filtered  $Na^+$  and  $HCO_3^-$  are reabsorbed  $H^+$  is secreted.

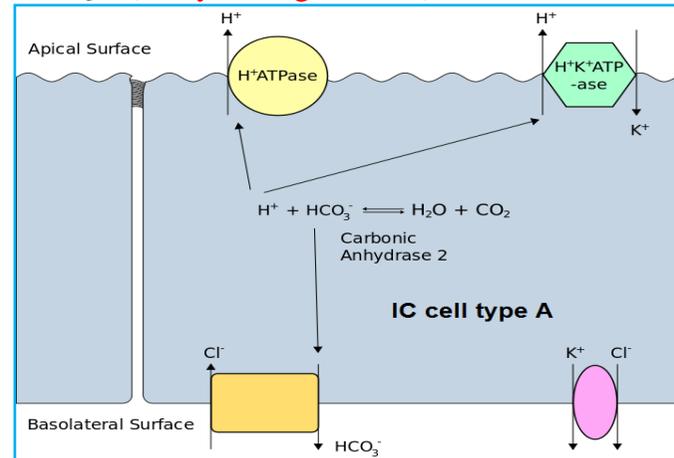
#### Mechanism: (in the figure!!!) ...



### In DCT & collecting duct :

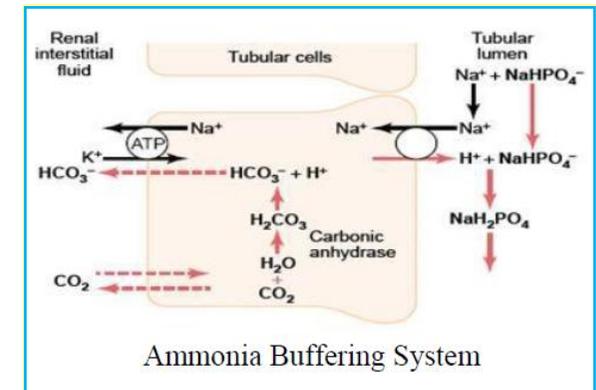
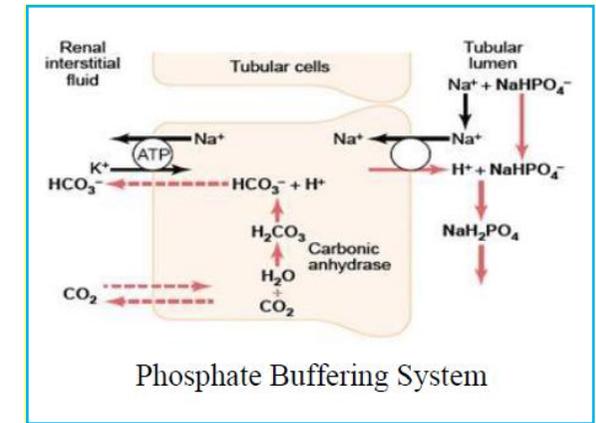
Has two type of **intercalated cells** which characterized by high concentration of **carbonic anhydrase** in their cytoplasm .

In acidosis, type (A)  $\rightarrow$  secrete  $H^+$  and reabsorb  $HCO_3^-$  . (study the figure well)

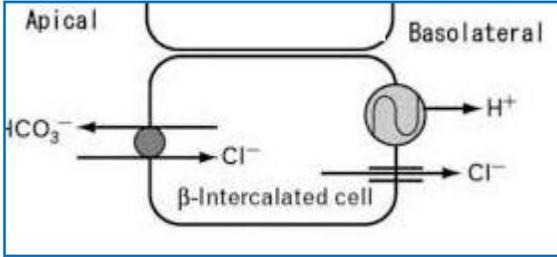


In acidosis, The kidney secretes  $H^+$  into the lumen of both proximal and distal tubules using direct (distal) and indirect (proximal) active transport If  $H^+$  is secreted rapidly by this mechanism in the tubular fluid its concentration is increased and tubular pH drops rapidly to (4.5) leading to stoppage of  $H^+$  secretion.

So, for  $H^+$  secretion to continue more and more in acidosis it must be carried and transported by Ammonia and phosphate ions to become in non-ionized state i.e. ammonia and phosphate ions in urine act as urinary buffers trapping  $H^+$  and allowing more  $H^+$  to be secreted.



In alkalosis, type (B) → secrete  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and reabsorb  $\text{H}^+$  . . (study the figure well)



In alkalosis, the kidney reverses the process described above by secreting  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  into the lumen, and absorbing  $\text{H}^+$  in an effort to bring pH back into normal range.

$\text{H}^+$  are reabsorbed into extracellular fluid on basolateral border by  $\text{H}^+$  ATPase and  $\text{H}^+$  -  $\text{K}^+$  ATPase

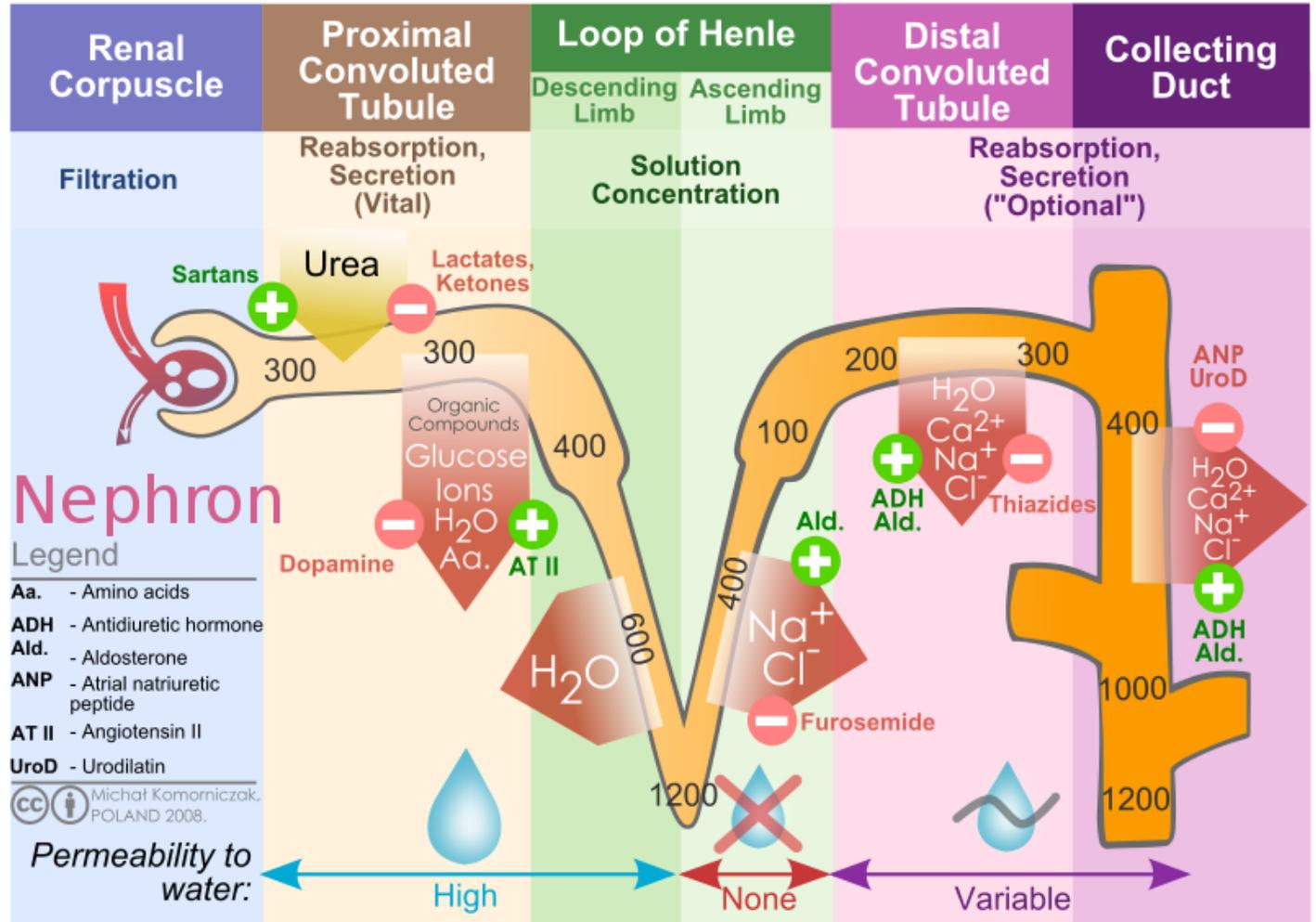
The  $\text{H}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$  ATPase of the distal nephron provides link between  $\text{H}^+$  and  $\text{K}^+$  creates an increase in  $\text{K}^+$  excretion and **hypokalemia**, while in acidosis the kidney secretes  $\text{H}^+$  into urine and reabsorbs  $\text{K}^+$  leading to **hyperkalemia**.

### Role of the liver in regulation of Acid – base balance:

- 1.Transform ammonia to urea (Neutral) .
- 2.Transformation of Lactic acid (produced during exercise) to glycogen .
- 3.In alkalosis: (glucose → lactic acid) .
4. In alkalosis : it ↑ ketone bodies.

### Disturbances of acid –base balance

❖ The 3 compensatory mechanisms Buffer, Ventilation and Renal excretion Keep the plasma PH at its normal value 7.4, but under some conditions the production or loss of  $\text{H}^+$  and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  is so extreme that compensatory mechanisms fail to maintain PH homeostasis.



JUST study what we need from this figure !!

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