

3rd WEEK: LYMPHATIC SYSTEM

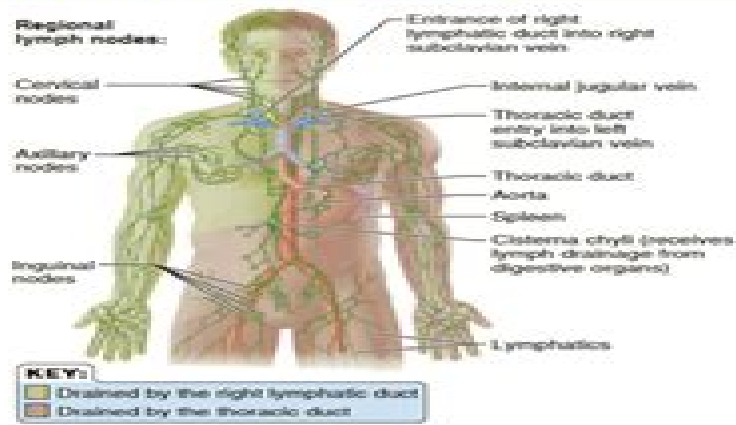


Figure 3. Distribution of lymphatic vessels and lymph nodes

LYMPHATIC VESSELS

- Similar to veins of the cardiovascular system
 - Thin walled
 - Larger vessels have valves
 - Low-pressure, pumpless system
- **Lymph transport is aided by:**
 - Milking action of skeletal muscles (like how skeletal muscles can open valves of veins when it is squeezed by the muscles)
 - Pressure changes in thorax during breathing
 - Smooth muscles in walls of lymphatics

LYMPH NODES

- Lymph nodes help protect the body by removing foreign material such as bacteria and tumor cells from the lymphatic stream by producing **lymphocytes** that function in the immune response
- Lymph nodes filter lymph before it is returned to the blood
 - As lymph is transported toward the heart, it is filtered through the thousands of lymph nodes that cluster along the lymphatic vessels
- Large clusters are found in the **inguinal, axillary, and cervical** regions of the body
- **Harmful materials that are filtered:**
 - Bacteria
 - Viruses
 - Cancer Cells
 - Cell debris
- **Defense cells within lymph nodes:**
 - **Macrophages** – engulf and destroy bacteria, viruses, and other foreign substances in the lymph before it is returned to the blood
 - **Lymphocytes** – respond to foreign substances in the lymphatic stream
- **Lymph nodes** vary in shape and size but most are **kidney-shaped**, less than 1 inch long, and buried in connective tissue

- Each node is surrounded by a **fibrous capsule** from which connective tissue strands called **trabeculae**
 - Divided into compartments by **trabeculae**

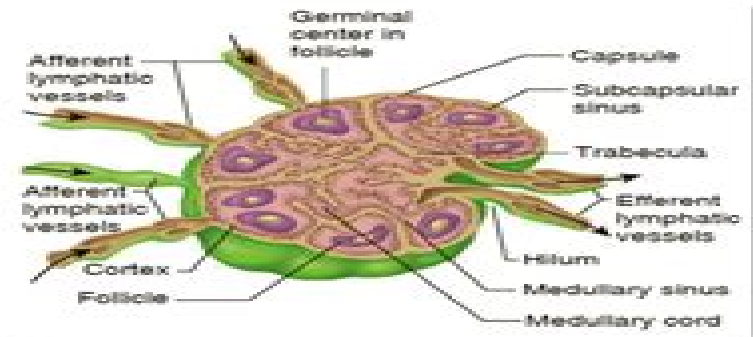


Figure 4. Structure of a lymph node

- Internal framework is a network of **soft reticular connective tissue**
- **Lymphocytes** arise from the redbone marrow but then migrate to the lymph nodes and other lymphoid organs, where they reproduce further
- The **cortex** (outer part) contains collections of lymphocytes called **follicles**
 - **Follicles** – collections of lymphocytes, many of which have **dark-staining** centers called **germinal centers**
 - Germinal centers enlarge when specific B lymphocytes (the B cells) are generating daughter cells **plasma cells** which release antibodies.
 - **T-cells** – the rest of the cortical cells that are in transit
 - Circulate continuously between the blood, lymph nodes, and lymphatic stream
- **Medulla** (inner part)
 - The **medullary cords** are inward extensions of cortical tissue that contain both B and T cells
 - **Phagocytic macrophages** are located in the central medulla of the lymph node

FLOW OF LYMPH THROUGH NODES

1. Lymph enters the convex side through **afferent lymphatic vessels**
2. Lymph flows through a number of sinuses or spaces inside the node
3. Lymph exits through **efferent lymphatic vessels** because there are fewer efferent than afferent vessels, flow is **slowed**
 - It allows time for the lymphocytes and macrophages to perform their protective functions

The Lymphatic System And Body Defenses Answers

Lei Shi



The Lymphatic System And Body Defenses Answers:

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web catholic church pope the 266th bishop of rome is pope francis who was elected on the 13th of march 2013 as bishop of rome the pope is the patriarch of the latin church the largest of the catholic church s 24 autonomous churches he is also head of the college of bishops which governs the universal church the papal primacy doctrine of catholics