

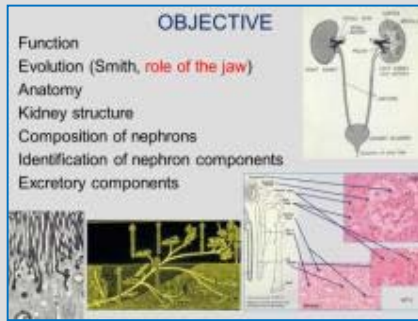
# Medical School Histology Basics

## Urinary System

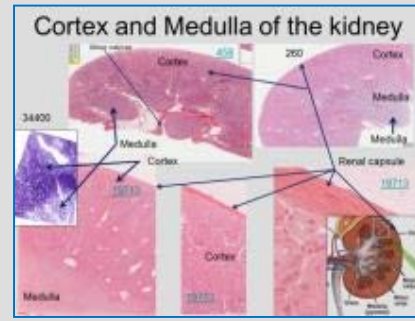
VIBS 243 lab

**OBJECTIVE**

- Function
- Evolution (Smith, *role of the jaw*)
- Anatomy
- Kidney structure
- Composition of nephrons
- Identification of nephron components
- Excretory components

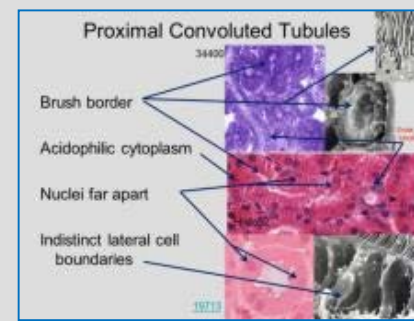


**Cortex and Medulla of the kidney**



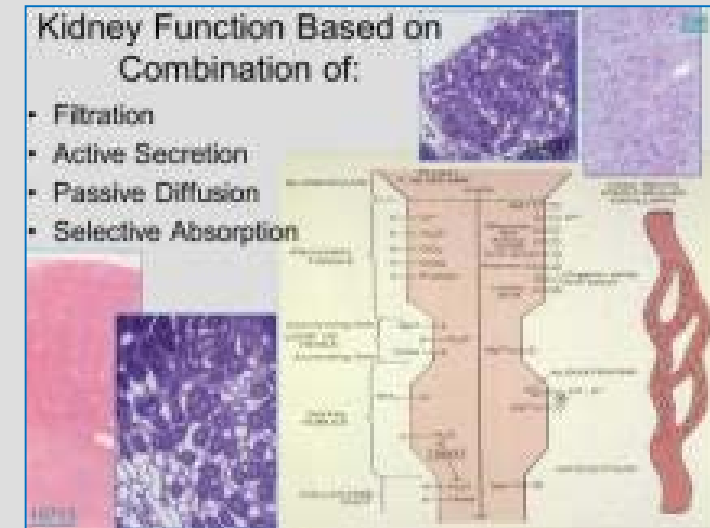
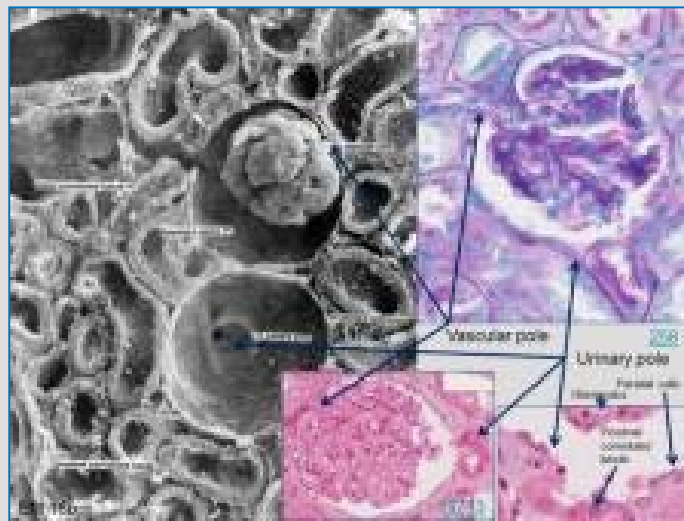
**Proximal Convoluted Tubules**

- Brush border
- Acidophilic cytoplasm
- Nuclei far apart
- Indistinct lateral cell boundaries

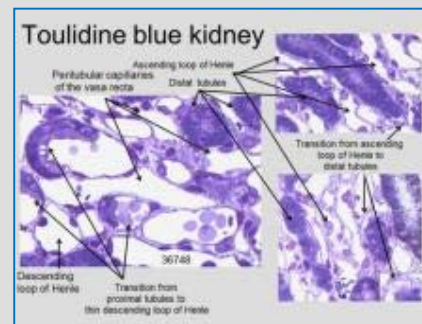


**Kidney Function Based on Combination of:**

- Filtration
- Active Secretion
- Passive Diffusion
- Selective Absorption

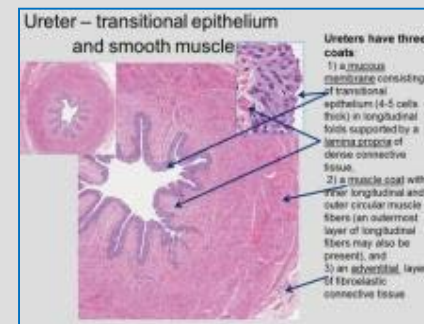
**Toulidine blue kidney**



**Ureter – transitional epithelium and smooth muscle**

Ureters have three coats:

- 1) a mucous membrane consisting of transitional epithelium (4-5 cells thick) in longitudinal folds supported by a lamina propria of dense connective tissue.
- 2) a muscle coat with inner longitudinal and outer circular muscle fibers (an outermost layer of longitudinal fibers may also be present), and
- 3) an adventitial layer of fibroelastic connective tissue.



**160 Urinary bladder, monkey**



Larry Johnson

Texas A&M University

# OBJECTIVE

Function

Evolution (Smith, role of the jaw)

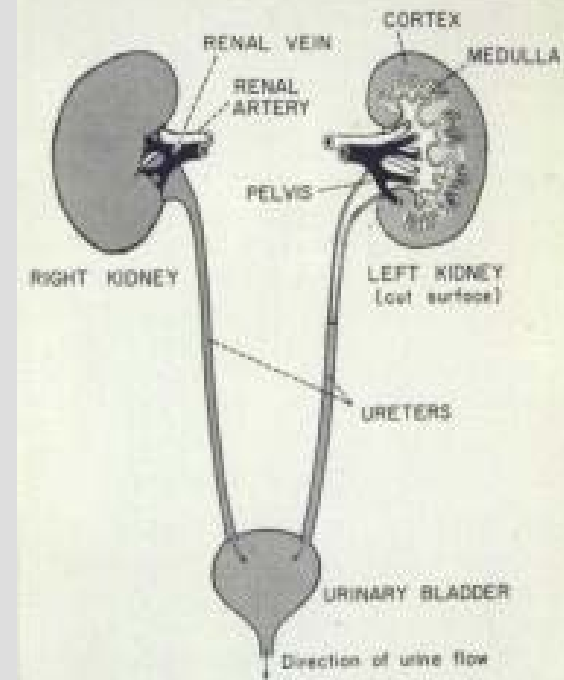
Anatomy

Kidney structure

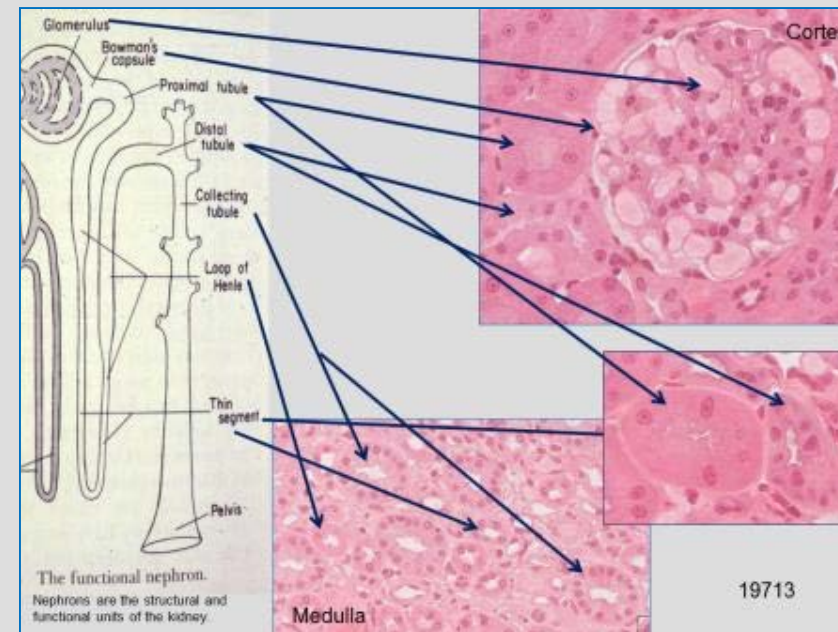
Composition of nephrons

Identification of nephron components

Excretory components

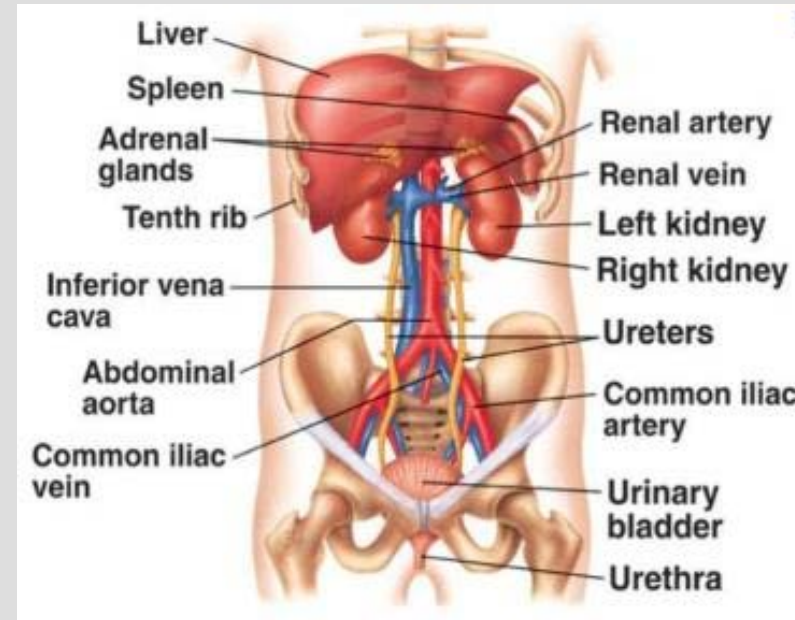
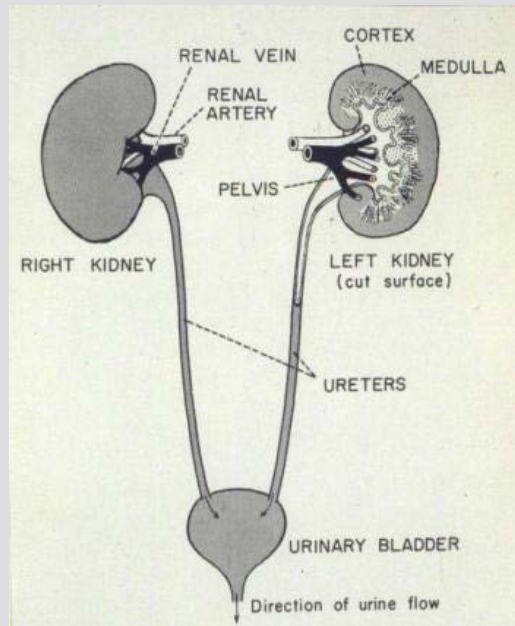


Ref code  
# 6, 8



# Function of Urinary System: Homeostasis

Ref code  
# 8



Rid body of waste (urea, uric acid, creatinine, salts)

Preserves constancy of extracellular fluid in composition, volume, and pH

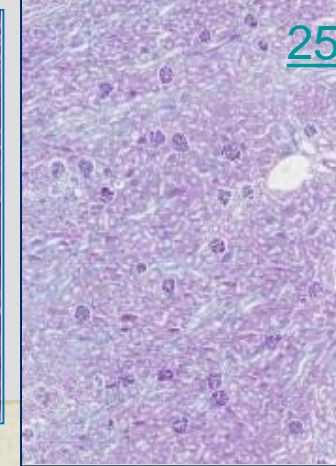
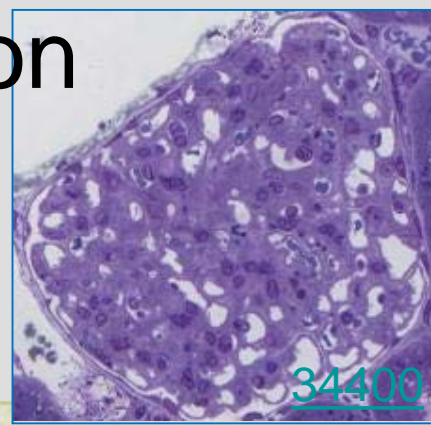
Endocrine function

- Secrete erythropoietin - red blood cell production
- Produces renin - aldosterone release

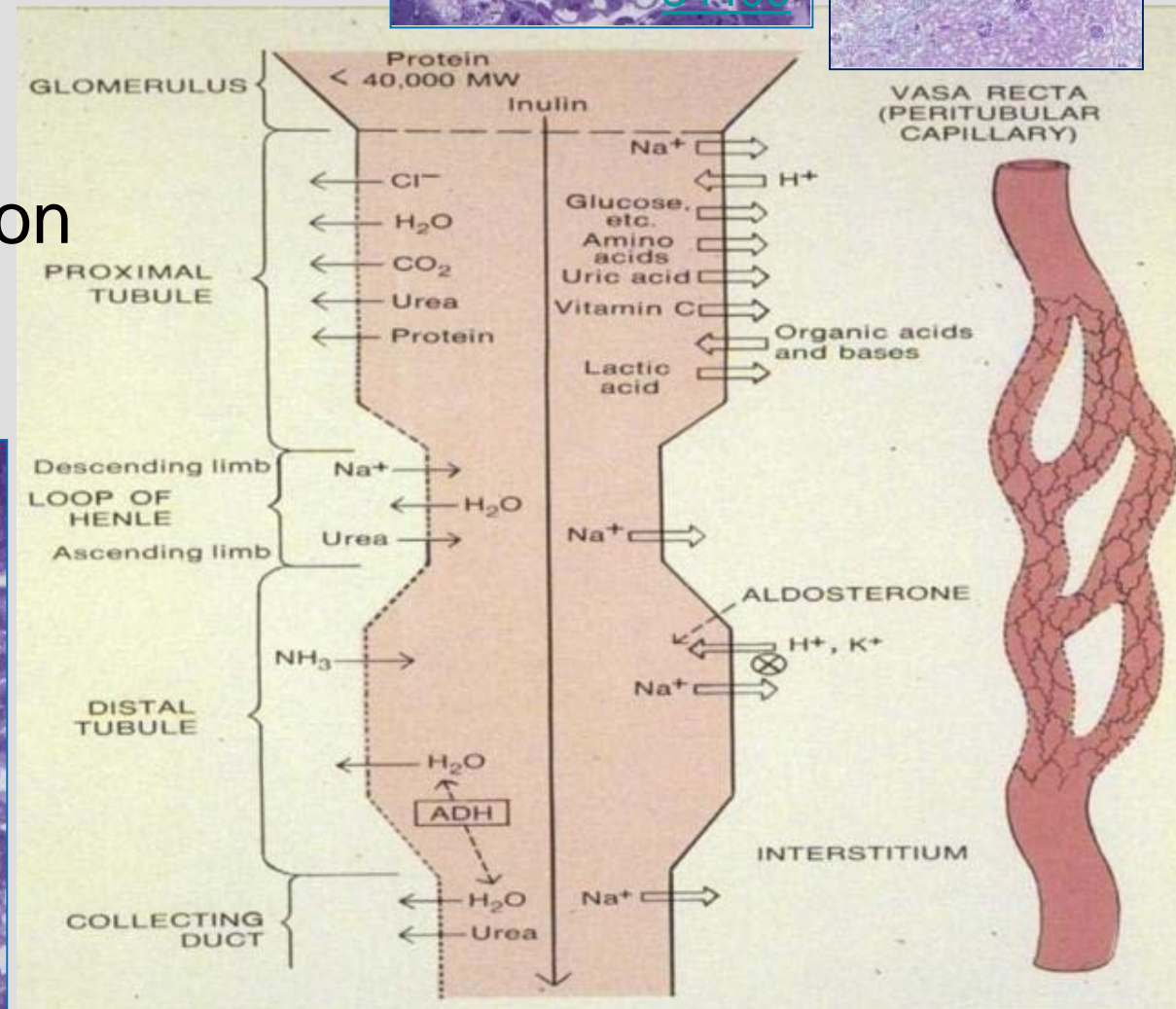
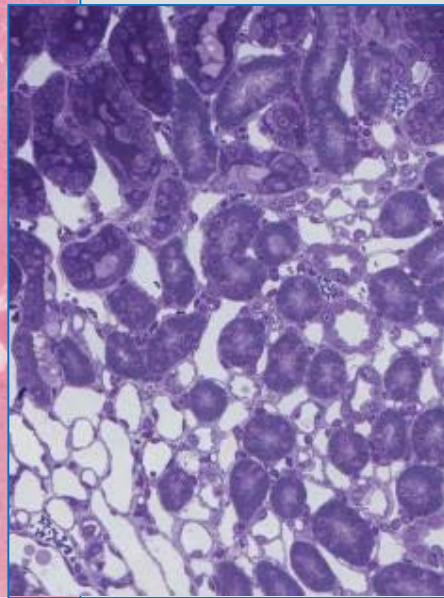
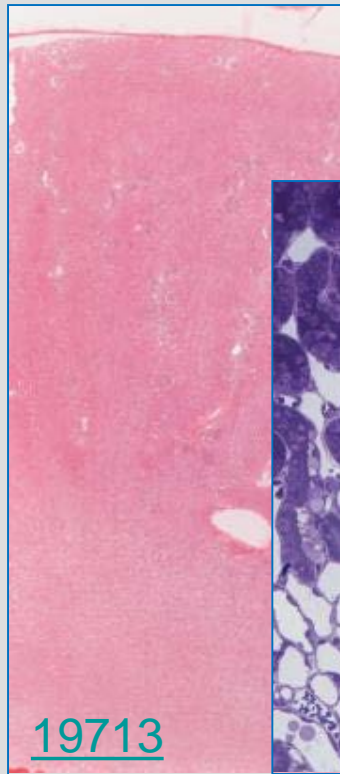


# Kidney Function Based on Combination of:

- Filtration
- Active Secretion
- Passive Diffusion
- Selective Absorption



Ref code # 16

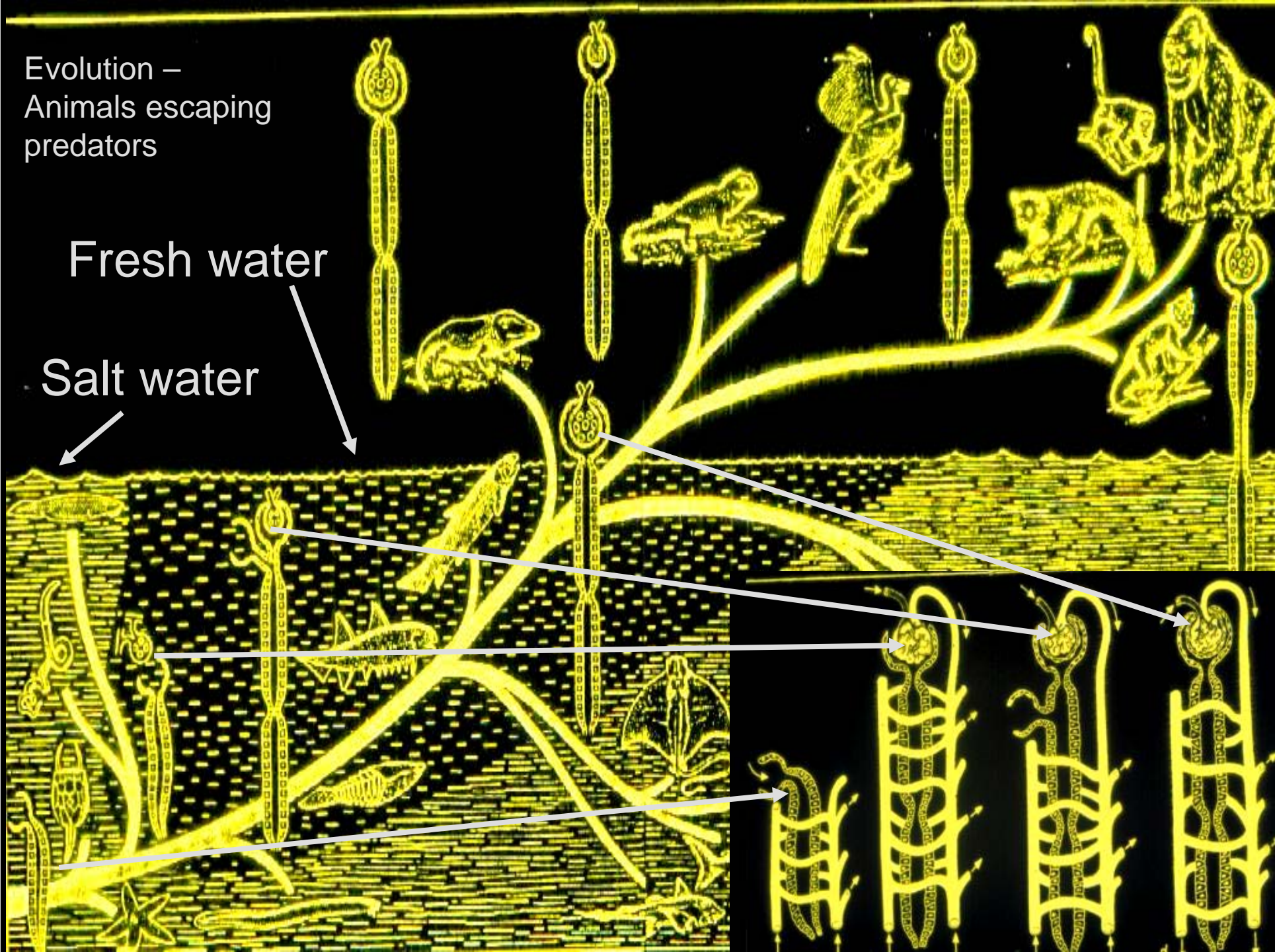




Evolution –  
Animals escaping  
predators

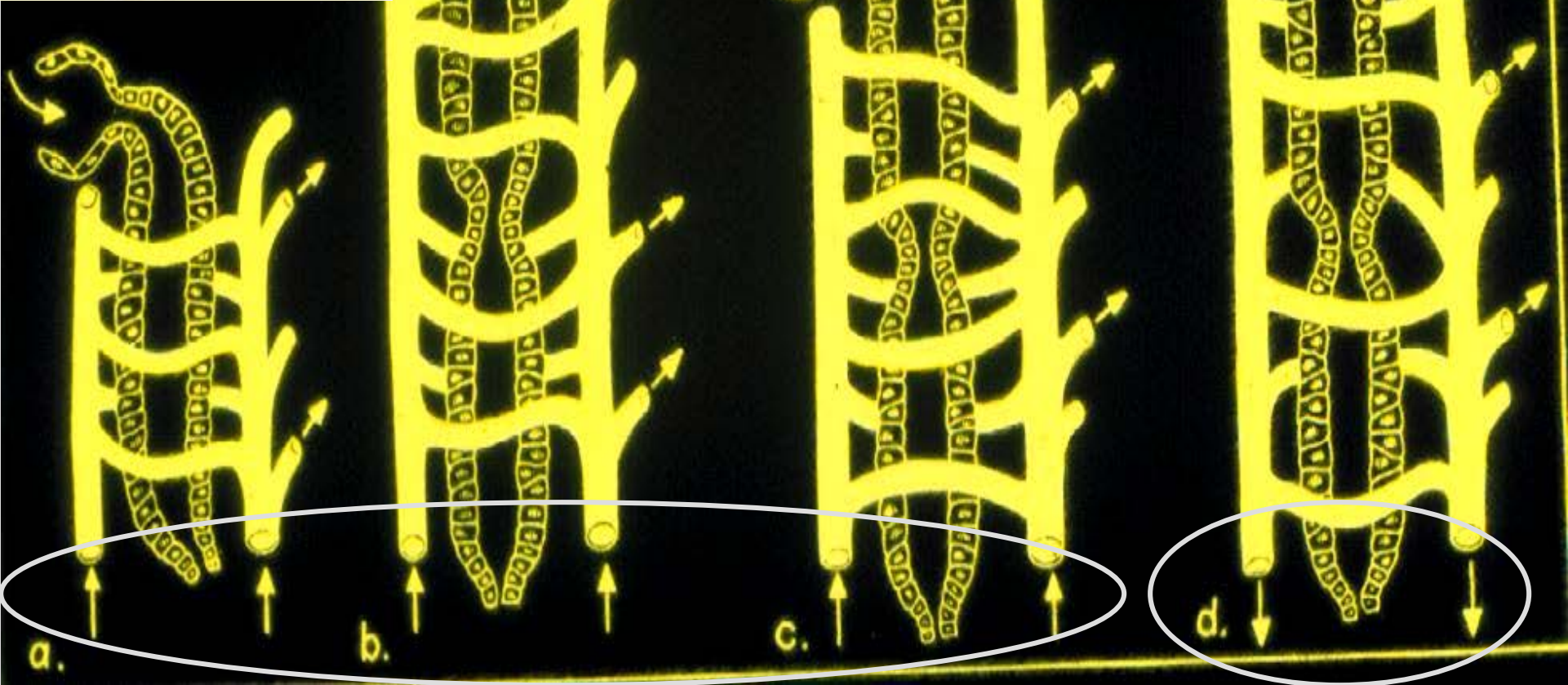
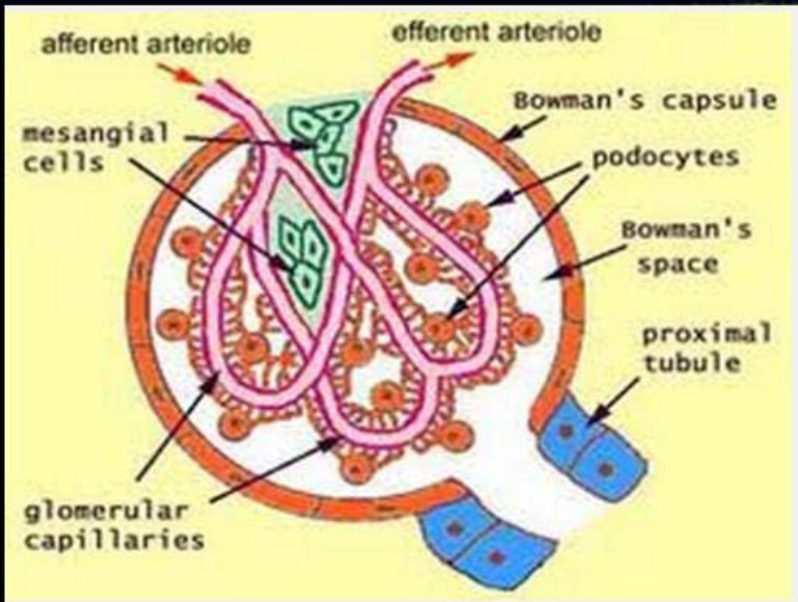
Fresh water

Salt water



[https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ\\_AUICigB#imgrc=\\_TLN\\_3GCOgt6RM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ_AUICigB#imgrc=_TLN_3GCOgt6RM:)





**PORTAL ARTERIOLE**



[https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ\\_AUICigB#imgrc=\\_TLN\\_3GCOgt6RM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ_AUICigB#imgrc=_TLN_3GCOgt6RM:)



# Portal system

= CAPILLARY  $\Rightarrow$  PORTAL  
ARTERIOLE  $\Rightarrow$  CAPILLARY

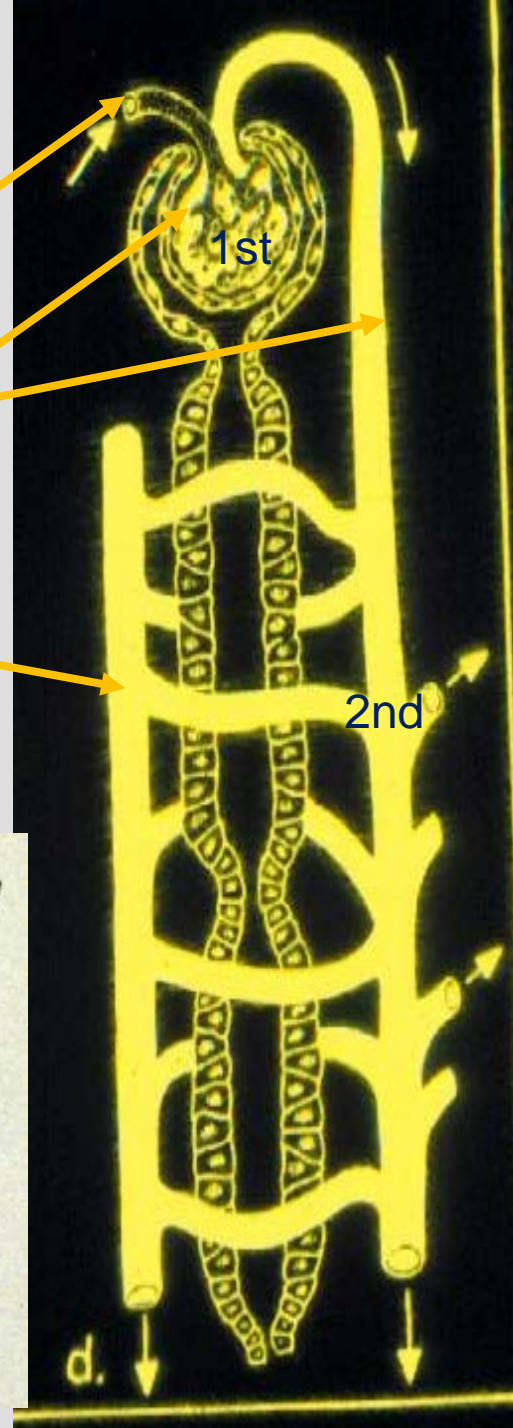
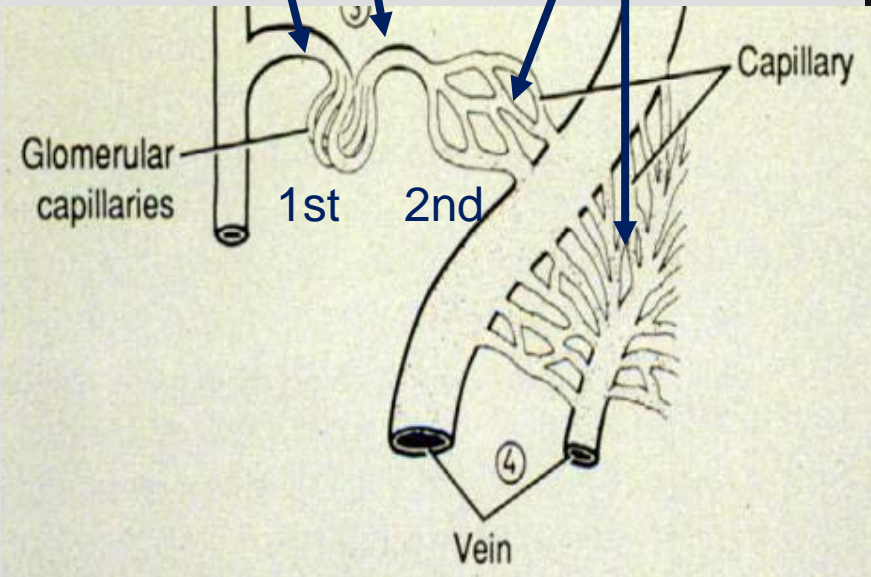
afferent ARTERIOLE

Glomerular CAPILLARY

efferent ARTERIOLE

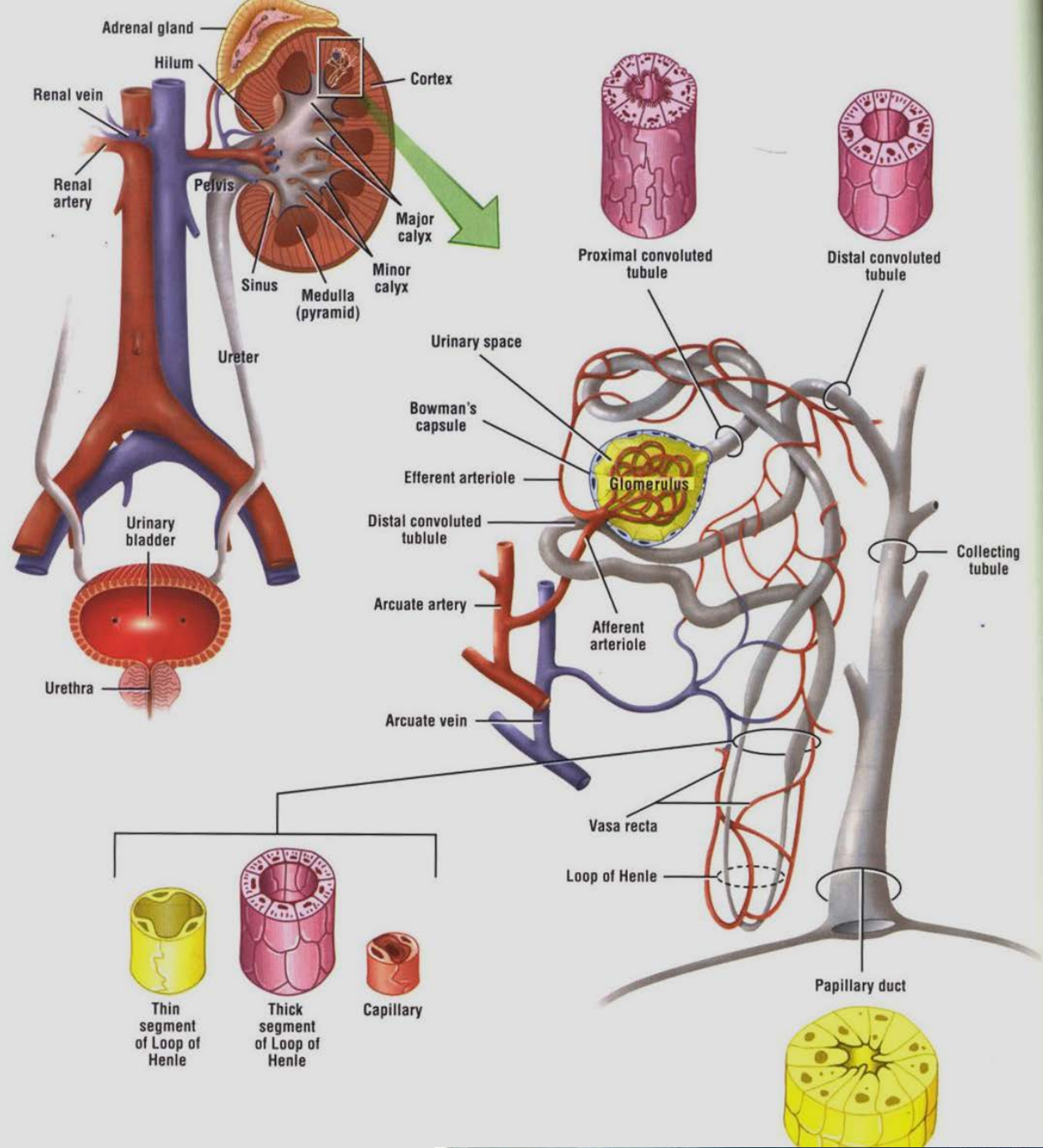
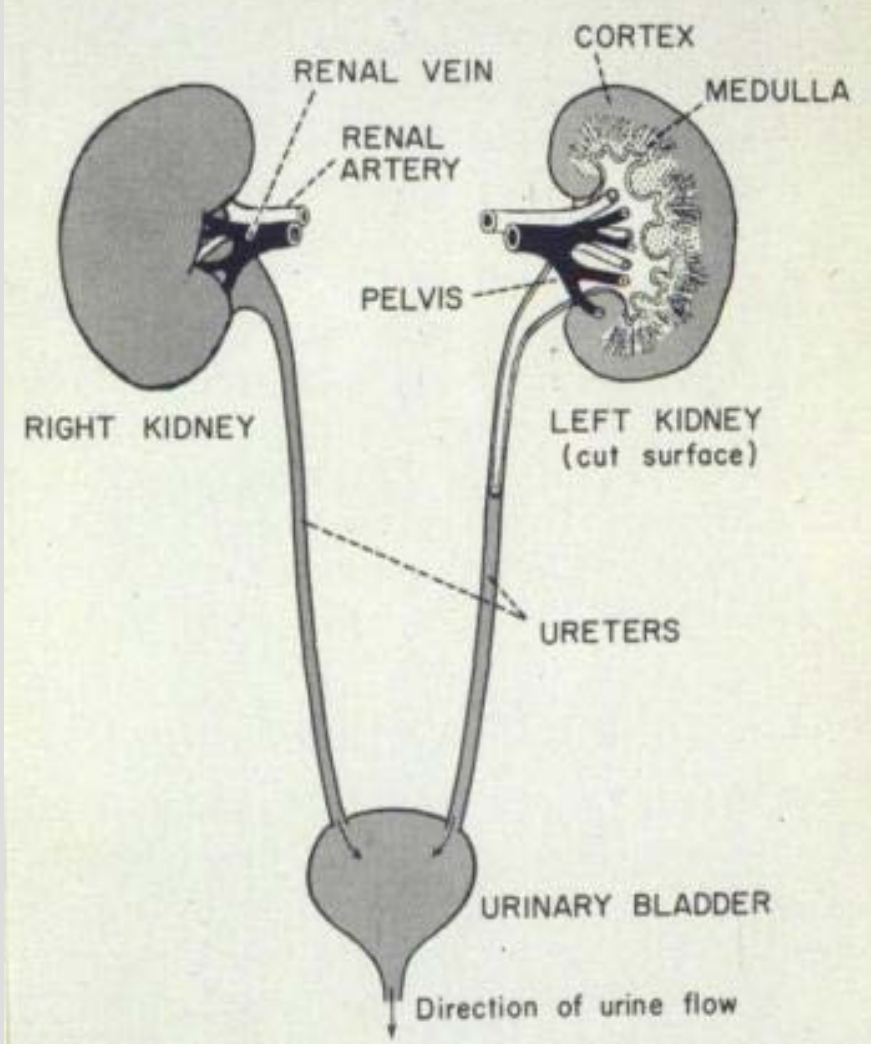
PERITUBULAR  
CAPILLARIES

[https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ\\_AUICigB#imgrc=\\_TLN\\_3GCOgt6RM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ_AUICigB#imgrc=_TLN_3GCOgt6RM:)



Function of a portal system?

local change in blood composition whereby the first capillary modifies and second allows the change in composition to affect local cells near it.





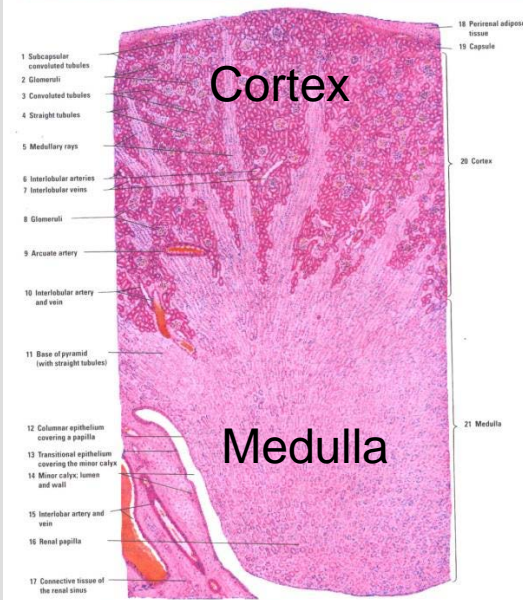
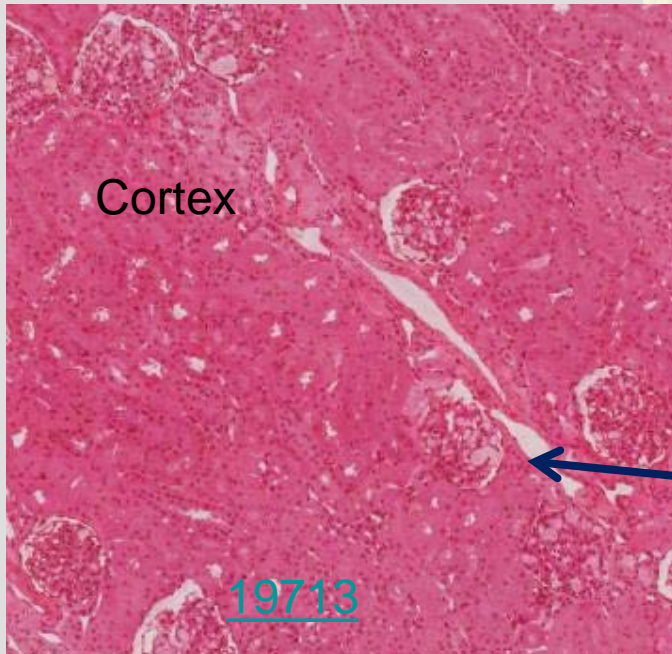
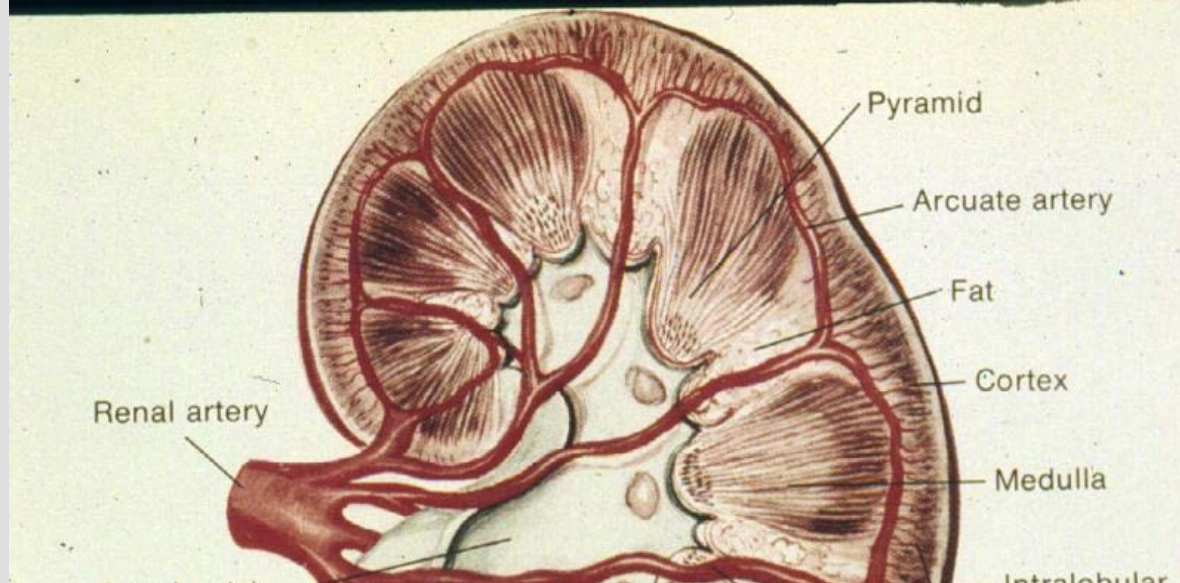


Fig. 15-1 Kidney: Cortex and Pyramid (panoramic view). Stain: hematoxylin/eosin. Low magnification.

di Fiore's **ATLAS OF HISTOLOGY** with FUNCTIONAL CORRELATIONS



19713



Renal artery

Renal pelvis

Pyramid

Arcuate artery

Fat

Cortex

Medulla

Interlobular

Ureter

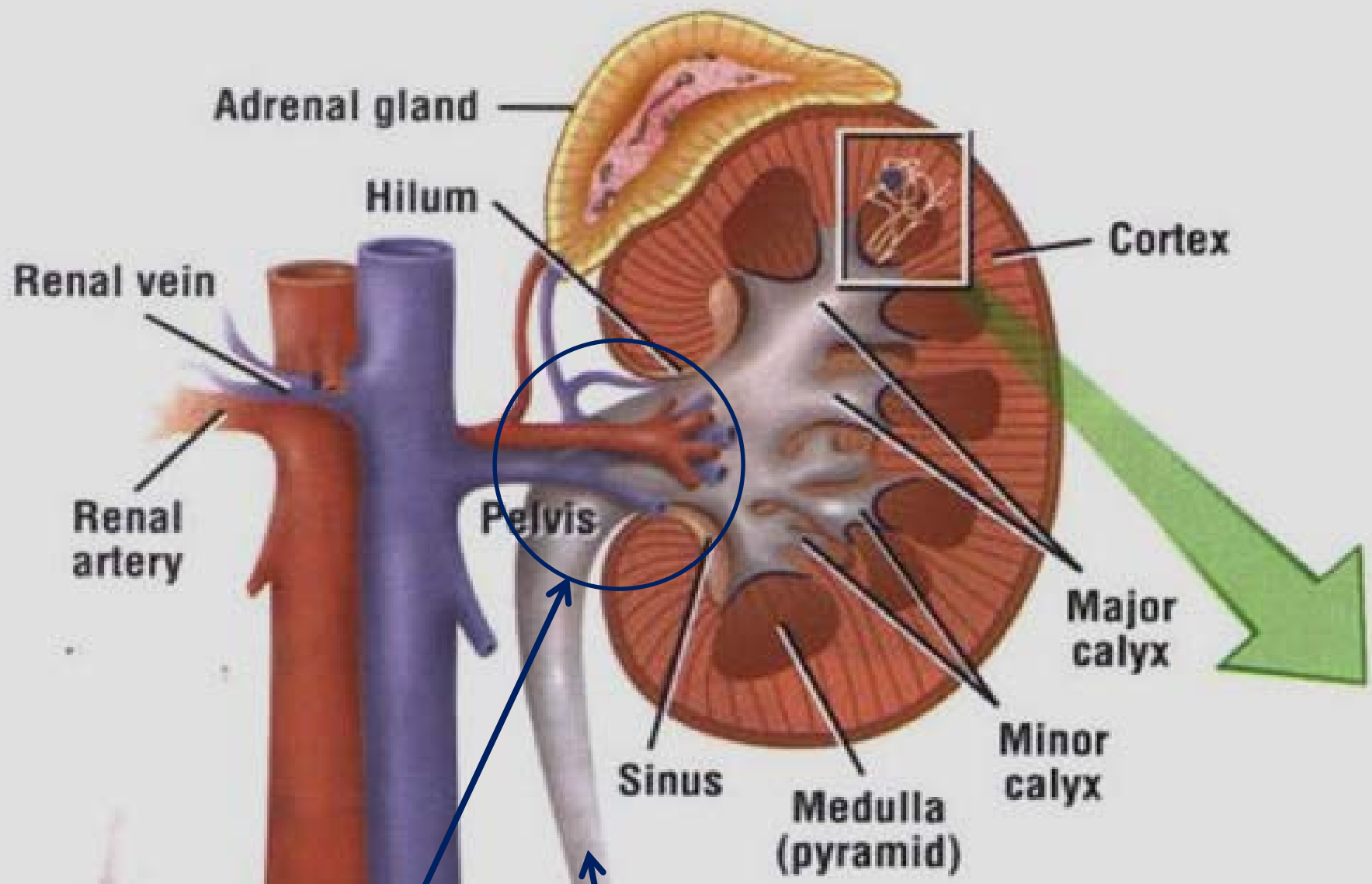
Interlobar artery

Arcuate artery

Renal capsule

Interlobular artery

Ref code # 5,14, 16

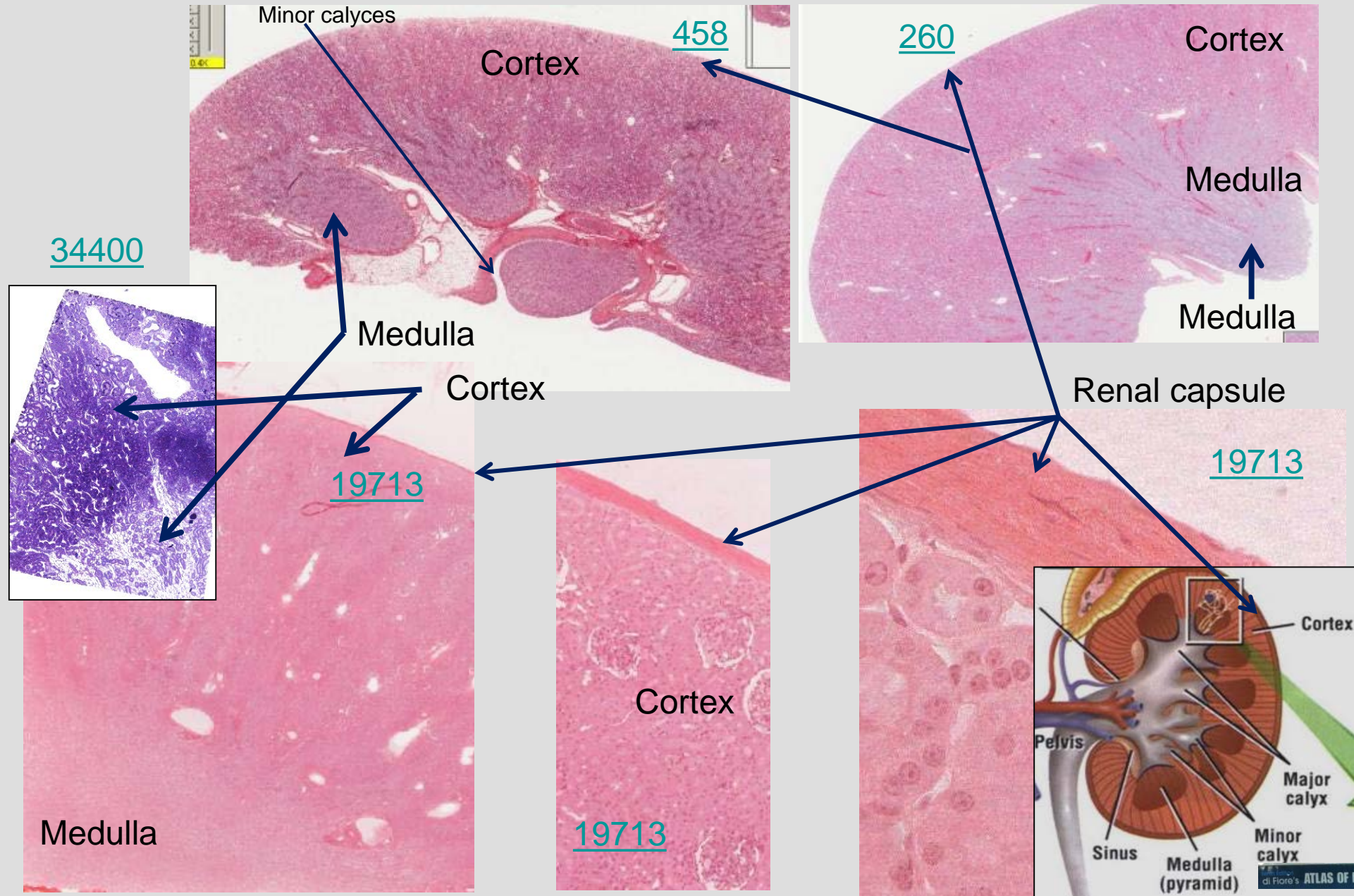


Hilus region where blood vessels enter and leave and the ureter begins

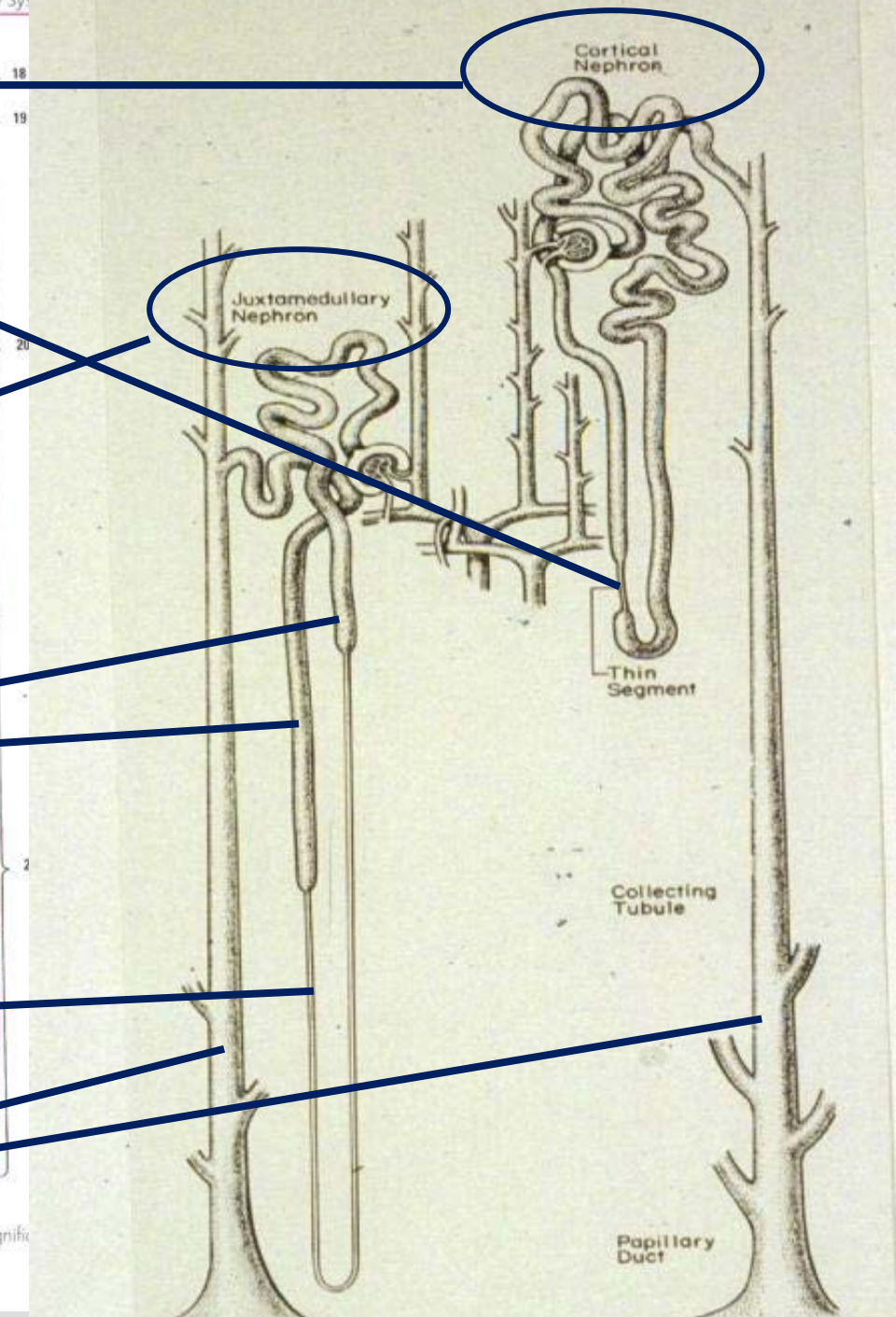
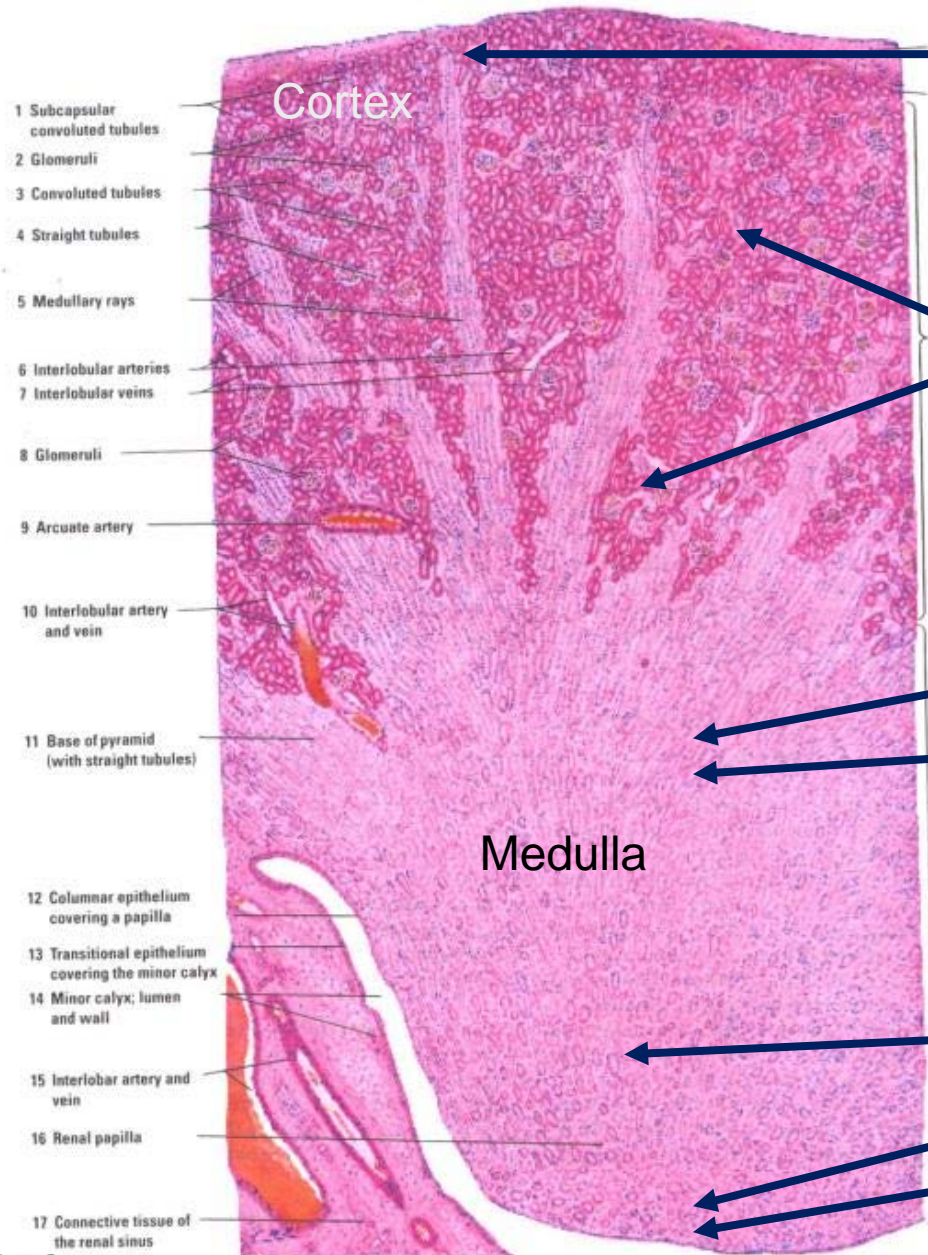


# Cortex and Medulla of the kidney

Ref code # 5



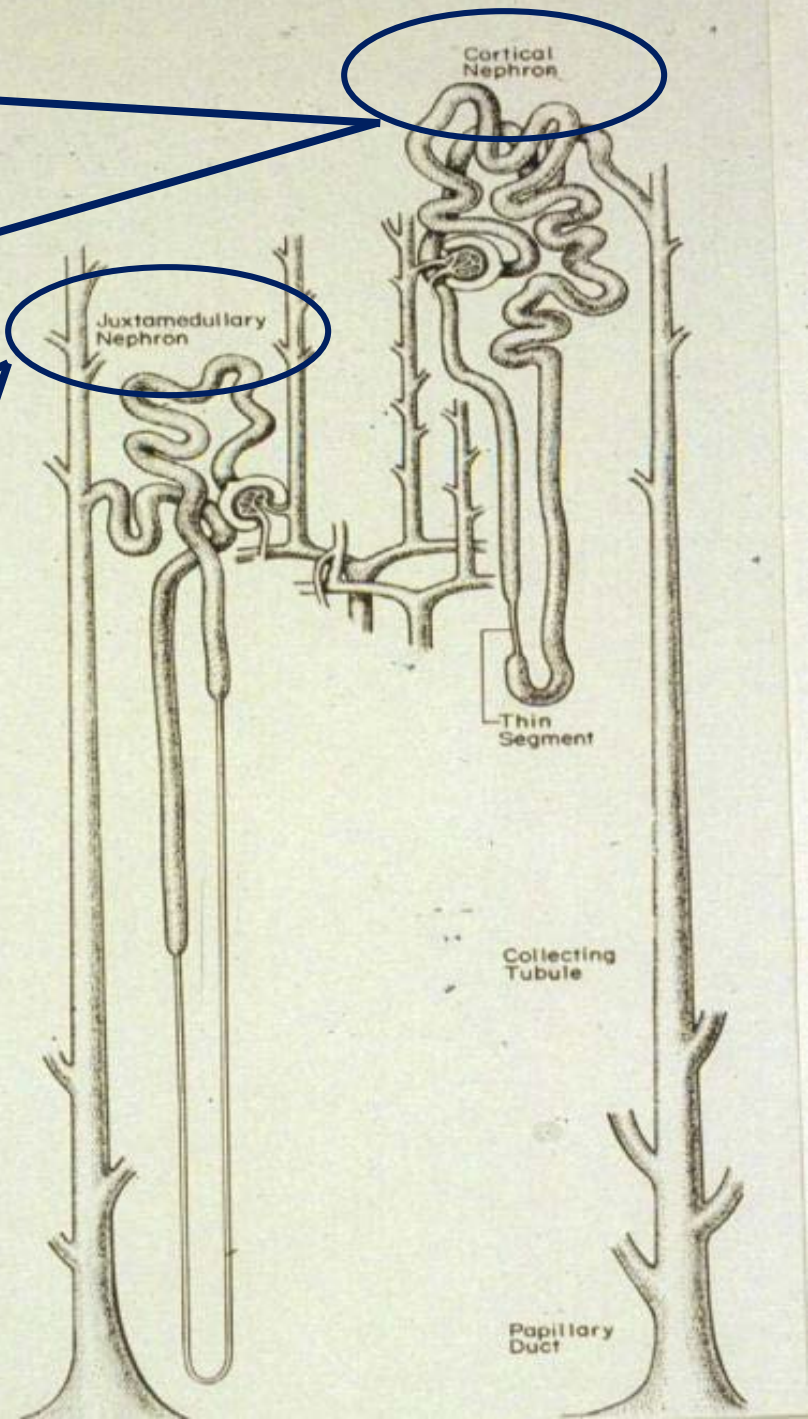
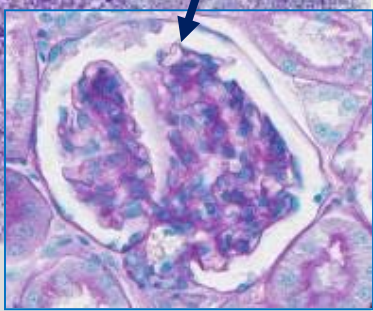
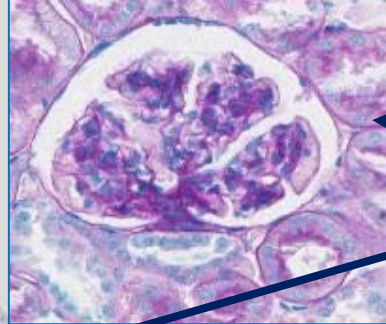
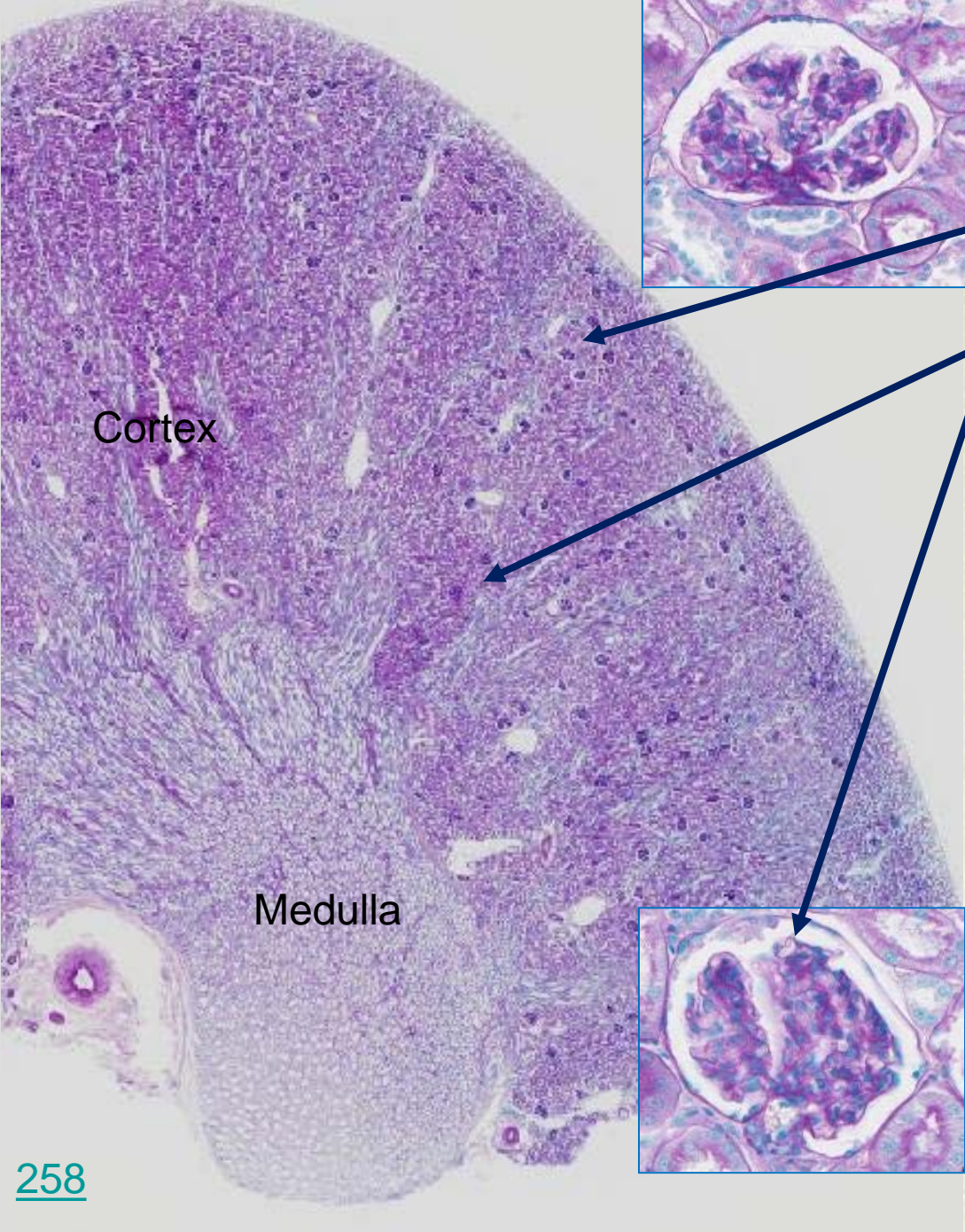




Ref code # 5, 6

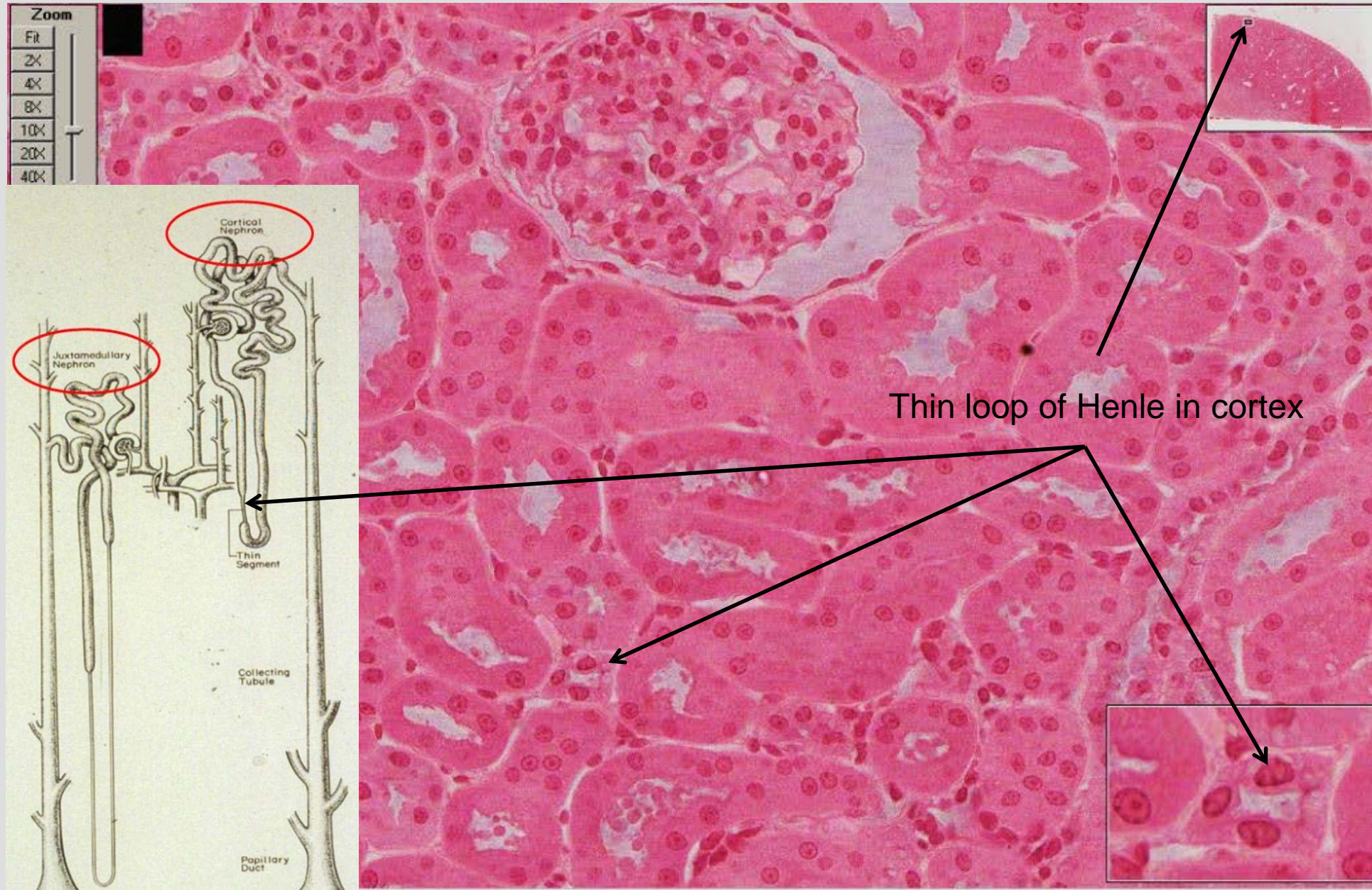
258 Fig. 15-1 Kidney: Cortex and Pyramid (panoramic view). Stain: hematoxylin-eosin, Low magnification



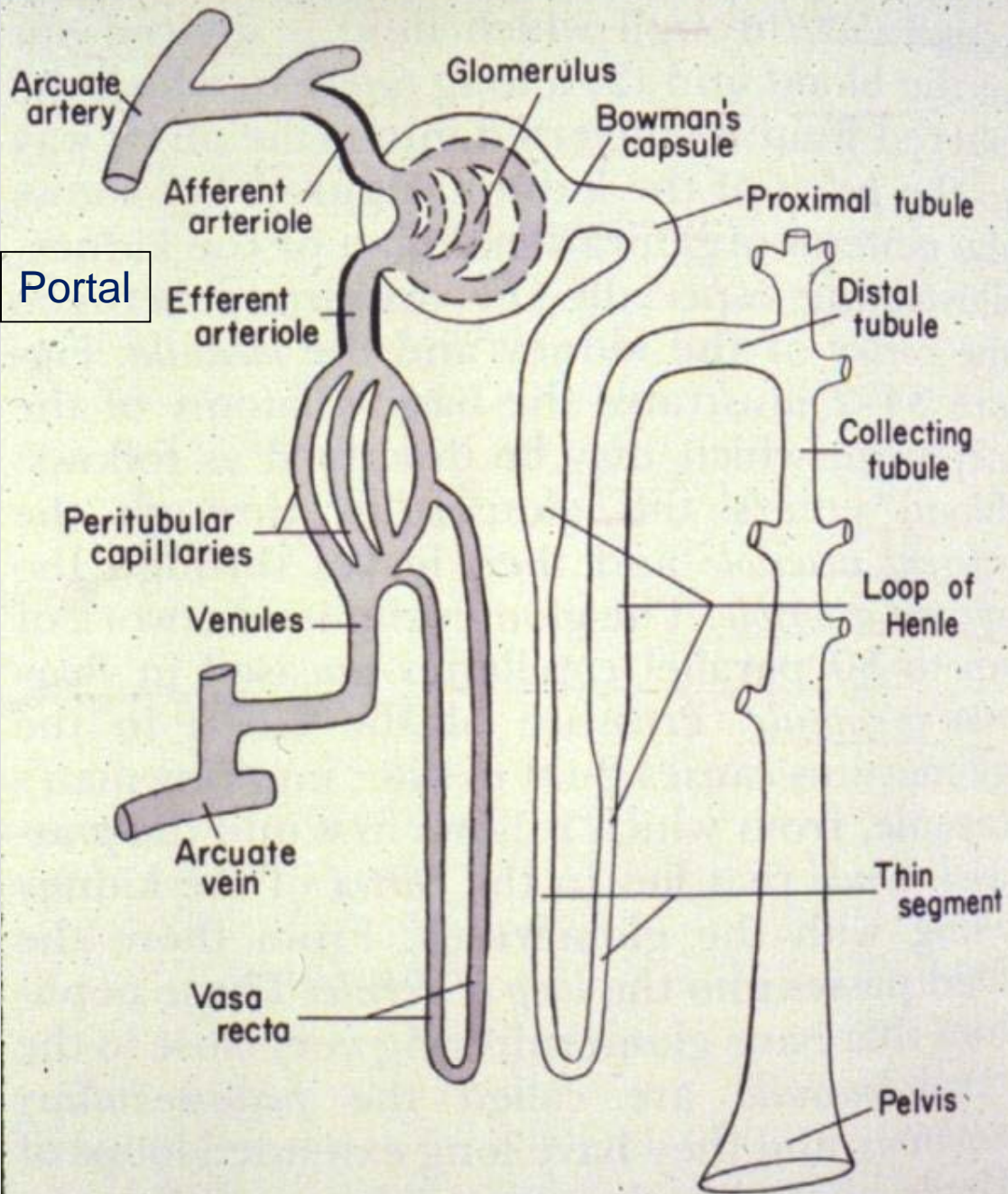




# 19713 kidney thin loop of Henle in cortex







Portal

**Nephrons are the structural and functional units of the kidney.**

**Nephrons consists of:**

- A glomerulus,
- Bowman's capsule,
- proximal convoluted tubule,
- loop of Henle,
- distal convoluted tubule, and
- collecting tubule (collecting ducts).

**Figure 34-3** The functional nephron.



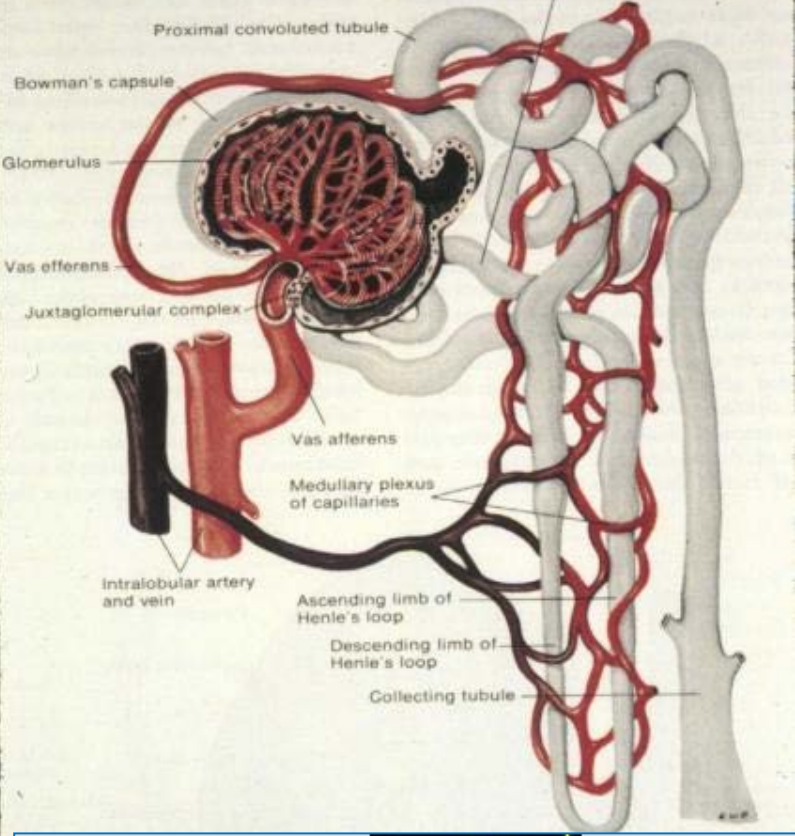
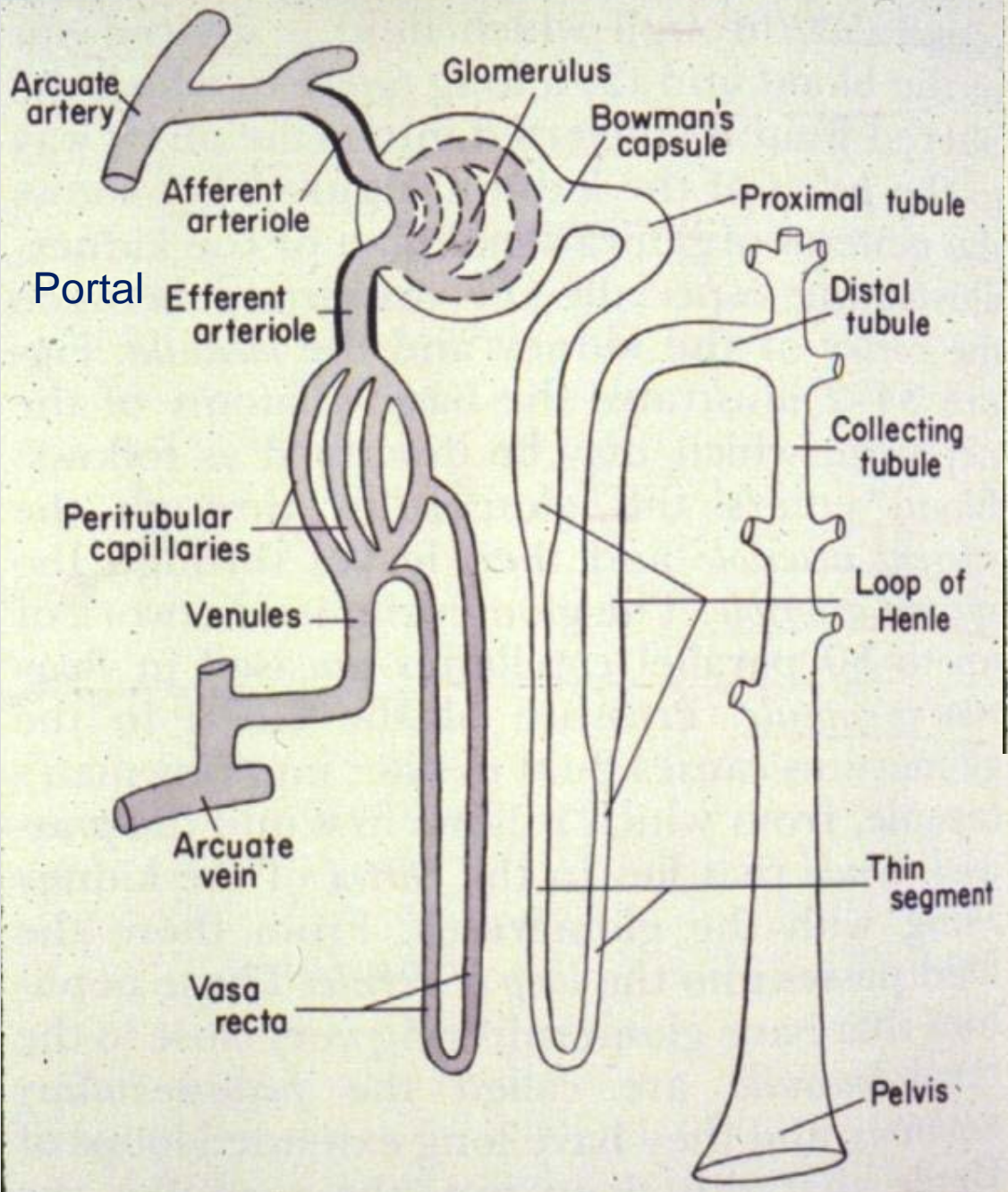


Figure 34-3 The functional nephron.

**Portal system**  
 = CAPILLARY ⇌ PORTAL ARTERIOLE ⇌ CAPILLARY

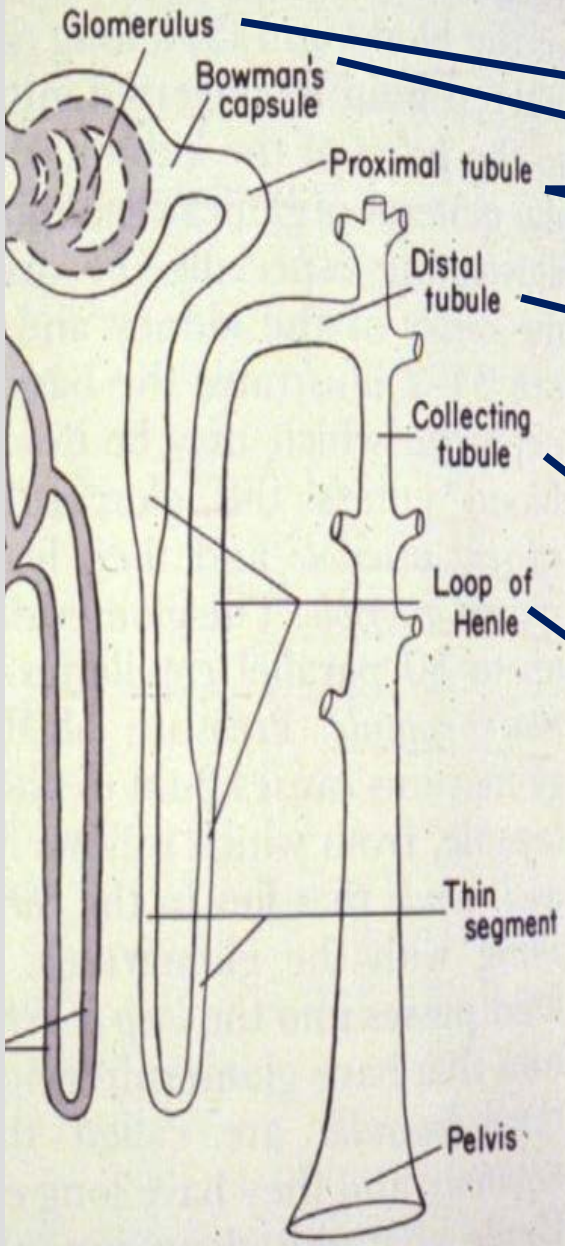
afferent ARTERIOLE  
 Glomerular CAPILLARY  
 efferent ARTERIOLE

PERITUBULAR CAPILLARIES

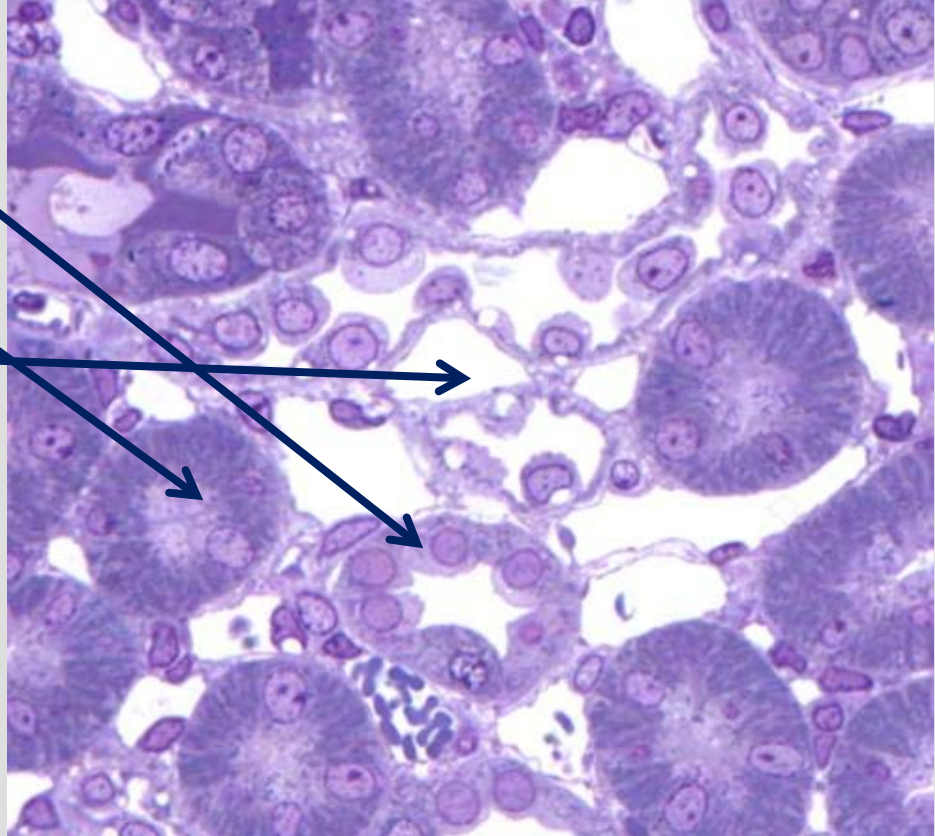
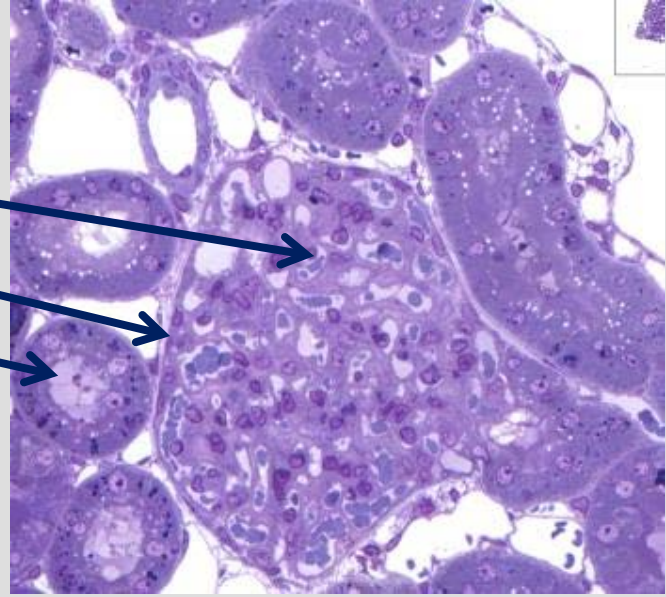
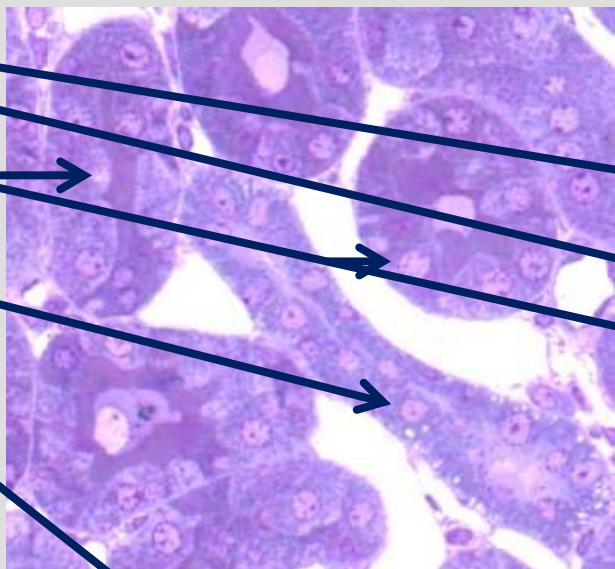
Function of a portal system?  
 local change in blood composition whereby the first capillary modifies and second allows the change in composition to affect local cells near it.

The diagram shows a vertical yellow tube representing a portal system. At the top, a capillary labeled '1st' is connected to a glomerular capillary. Below it, a second capillary labeled '2nd' is connected to a vein. Red arrows indicate the flow of blood from the glomerular capillary through the first capillary, then through the second capillary, and finally into the vein. The text explains that the first capillary modifies the blood composition, and the second capillary allows this change to affect local cells near it.





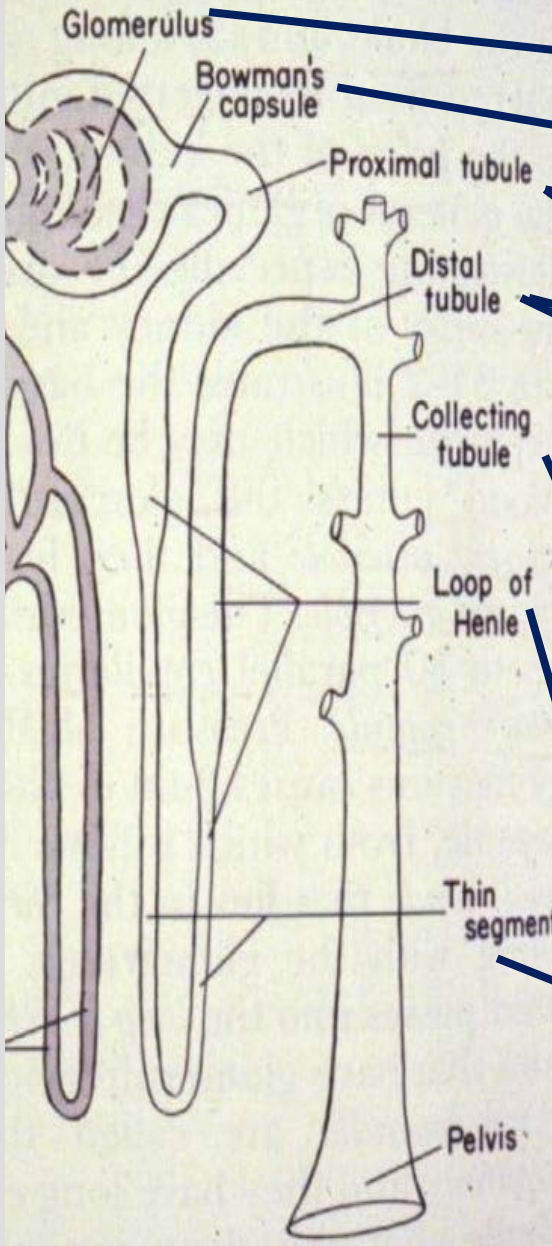
The functional nephron.



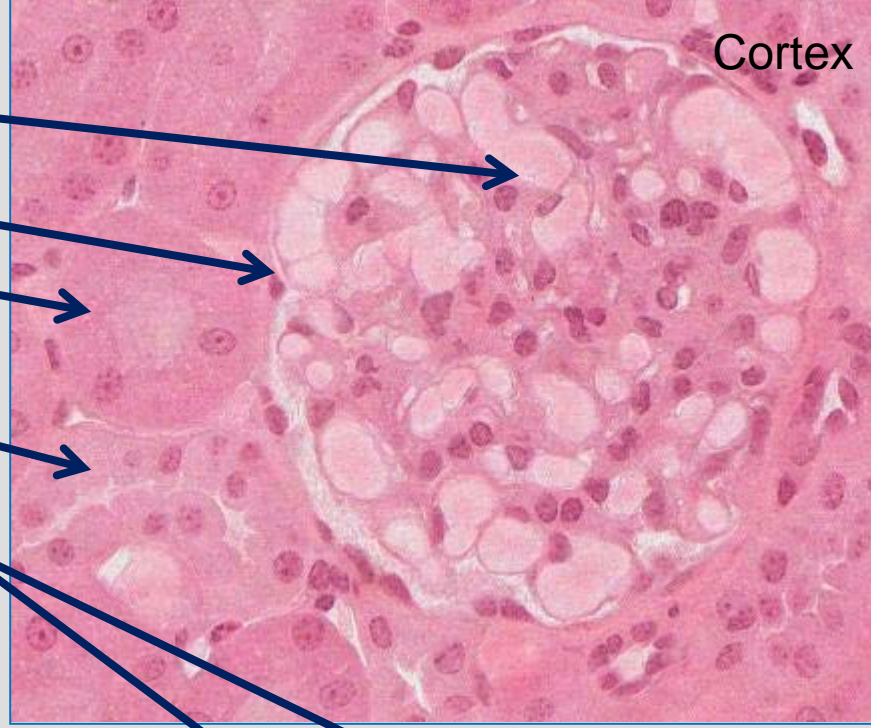
Nephrons are the structural and functional units of the kidney.

[34400](#)



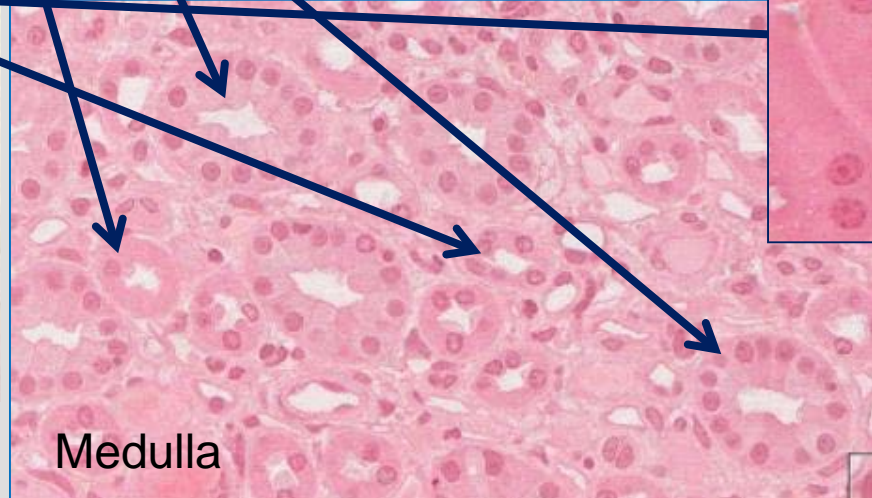
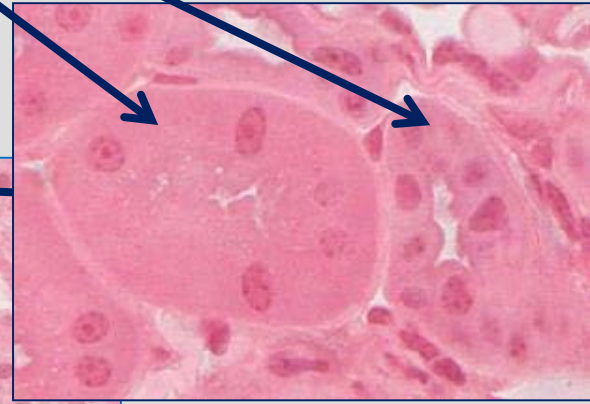


The functional nephron.



Cortex

Ref code # 8

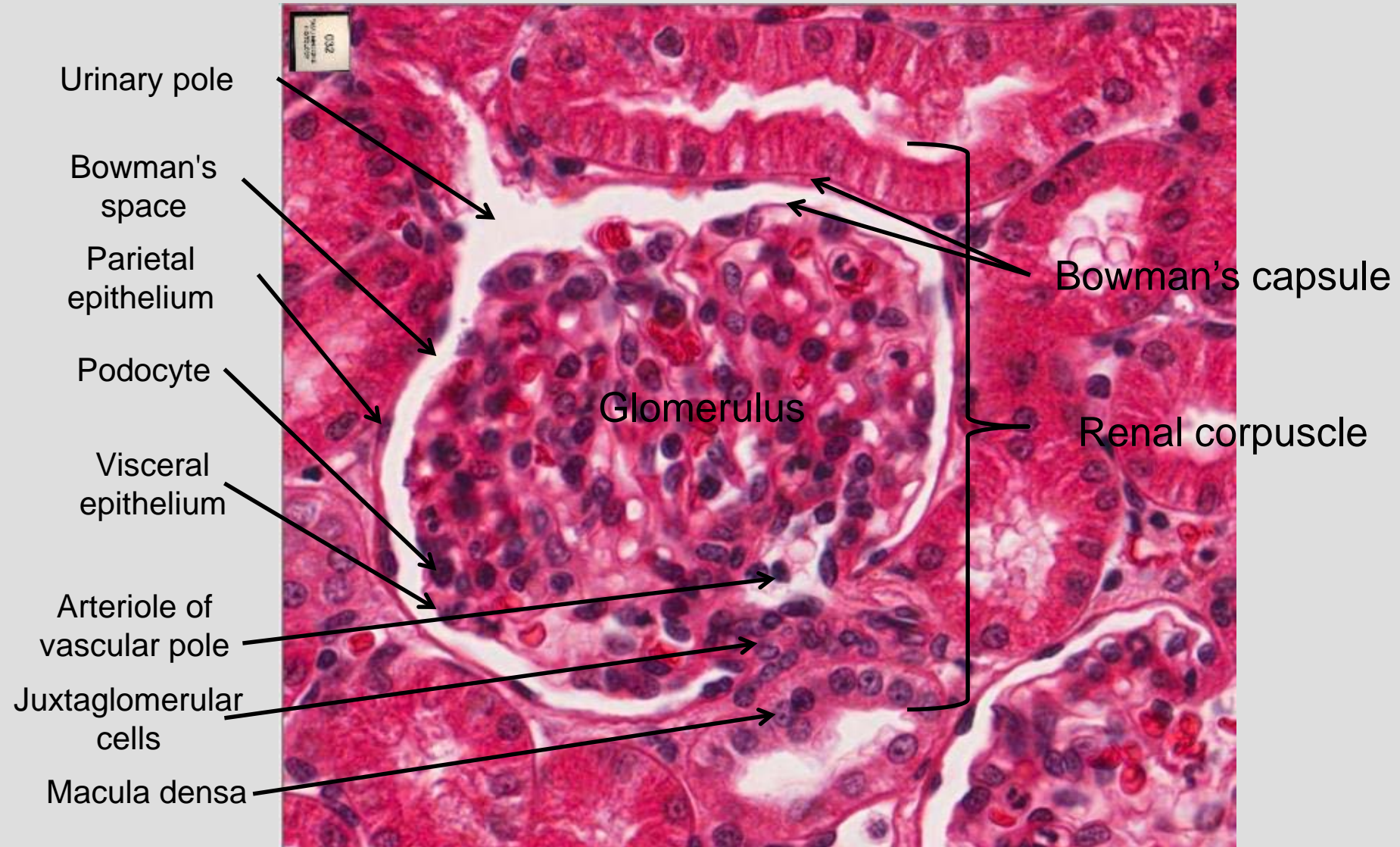


Medulla

19713

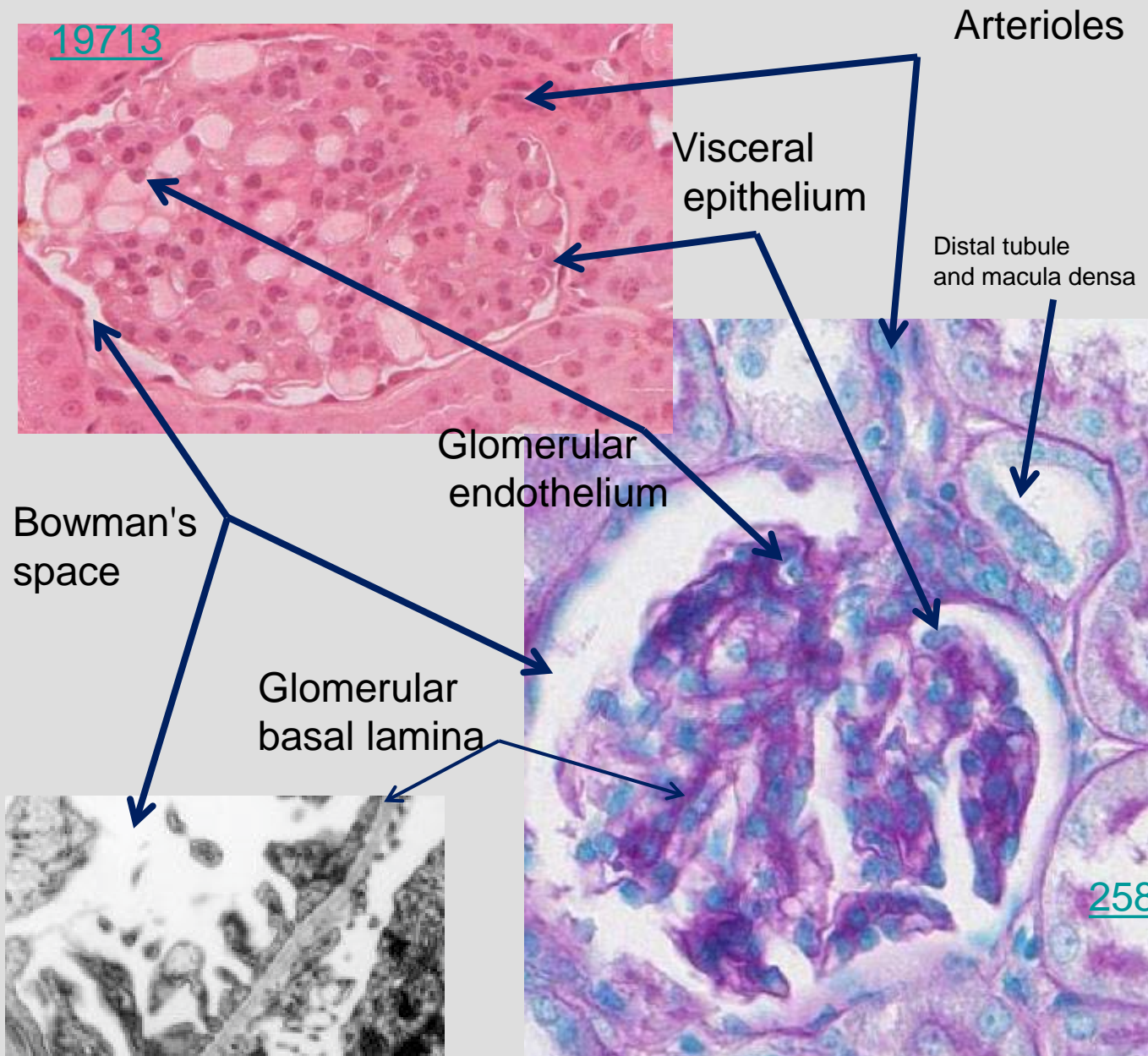


# Slide Histo 032: Kidney (H&E)





# Renal corpuscle



The renal corpuscle provides the anatomical structure required for the first phase of urine formation: the production of the glomerular filtrate.

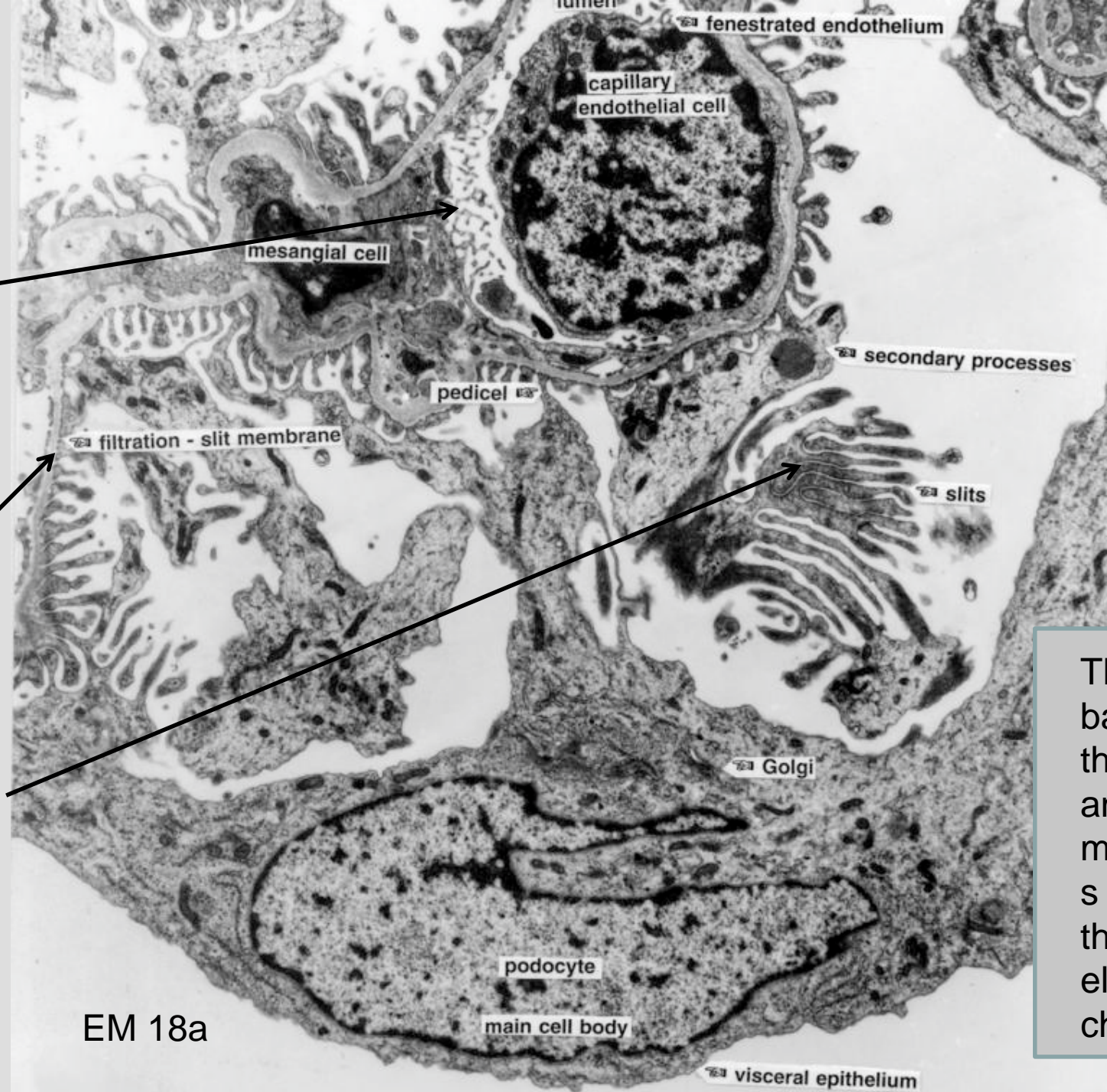
Several histological arrangements and structures are required for the production of glomerular filtrate:

- 1) arterioles entering and leaving the glomerulus,
- 2) glomerular endothelium,
- 3) glomerular basal lamina, and
- 4) visceral epithelium of the Bowman's capsule



## Components of the filtration barrier:

1. The fenestrations of the capillary endothelium, which blocks blood cells and platelets
2. The thick, combined basal laminae, or GBM, which restricts large proteins and some organic anions
3. The filtration slit diaphragms between pedicels, which restrict some small proteins and organic anions

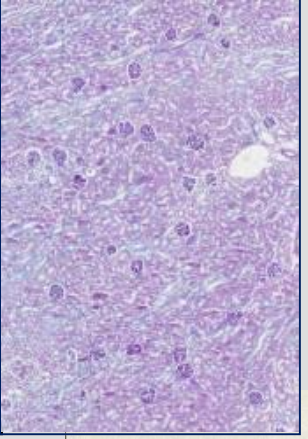
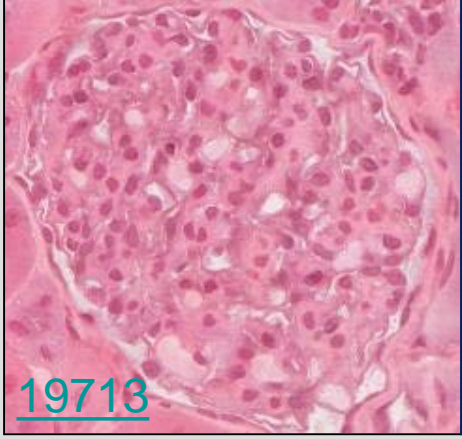


EM 18a

The glomerular basal lamina, thick and anionic, filters macromolecules according to their size and electrostatic charge.



# Glomerular Features for Extreme Filtration



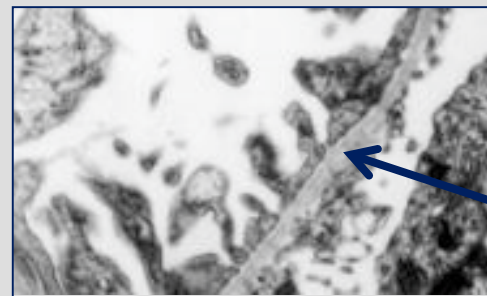
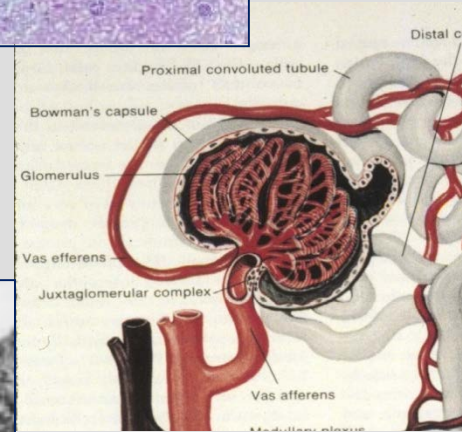
258

Very Large Surface Area (1.5 m<sup>2</sup>)

Large resistance afforded by reduced diameter of the efferent arteriole

Thin Filter (0.1 μm)

Thus, 25 times more permeable than regular capillaries



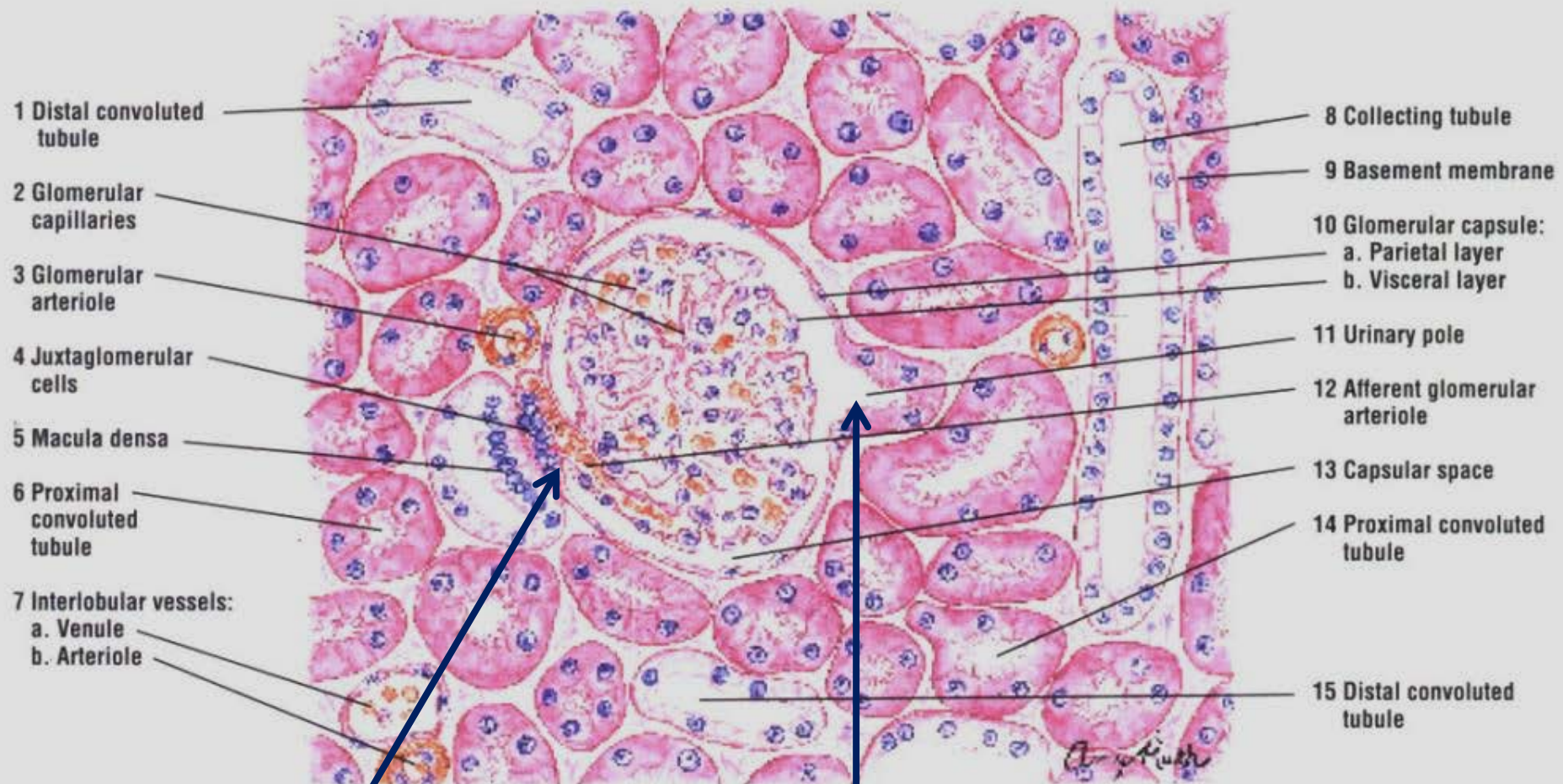
Glomerular basal lamina

Endothelium of the glomerular capillaries is fenestrated



The hydrostatic pressure within the glomerular capillaries provides the driving force for producing 180 liters of glomerular filtrate per day. The filtrate resembles blood plasma without large (>40,000 MW) proteins.



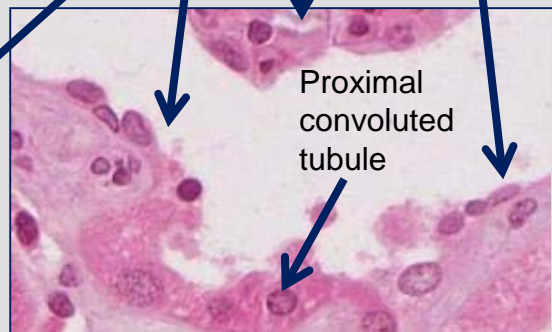
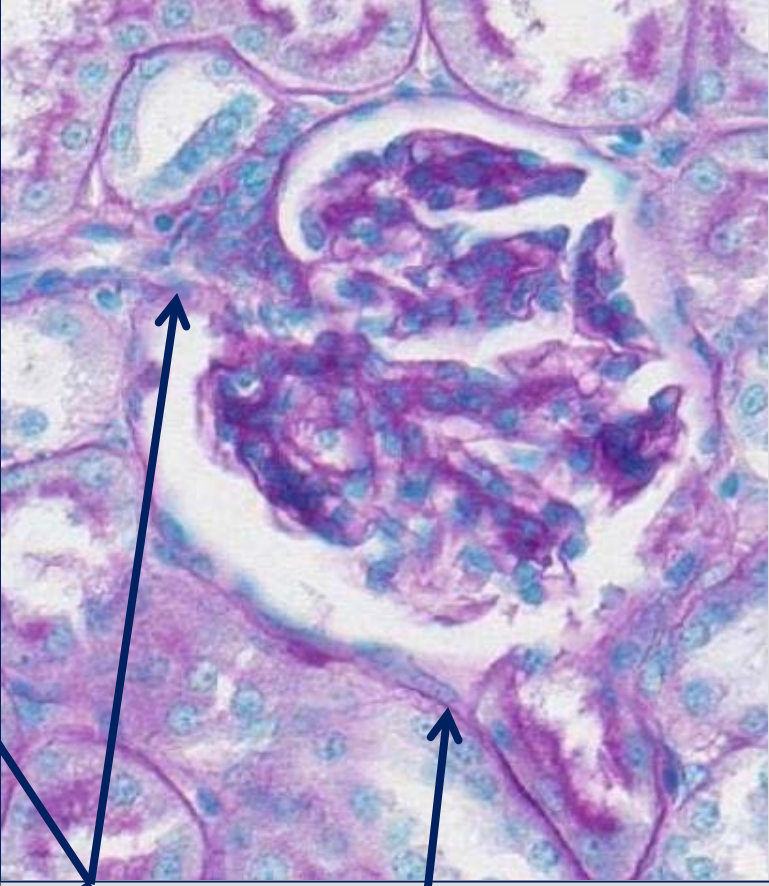
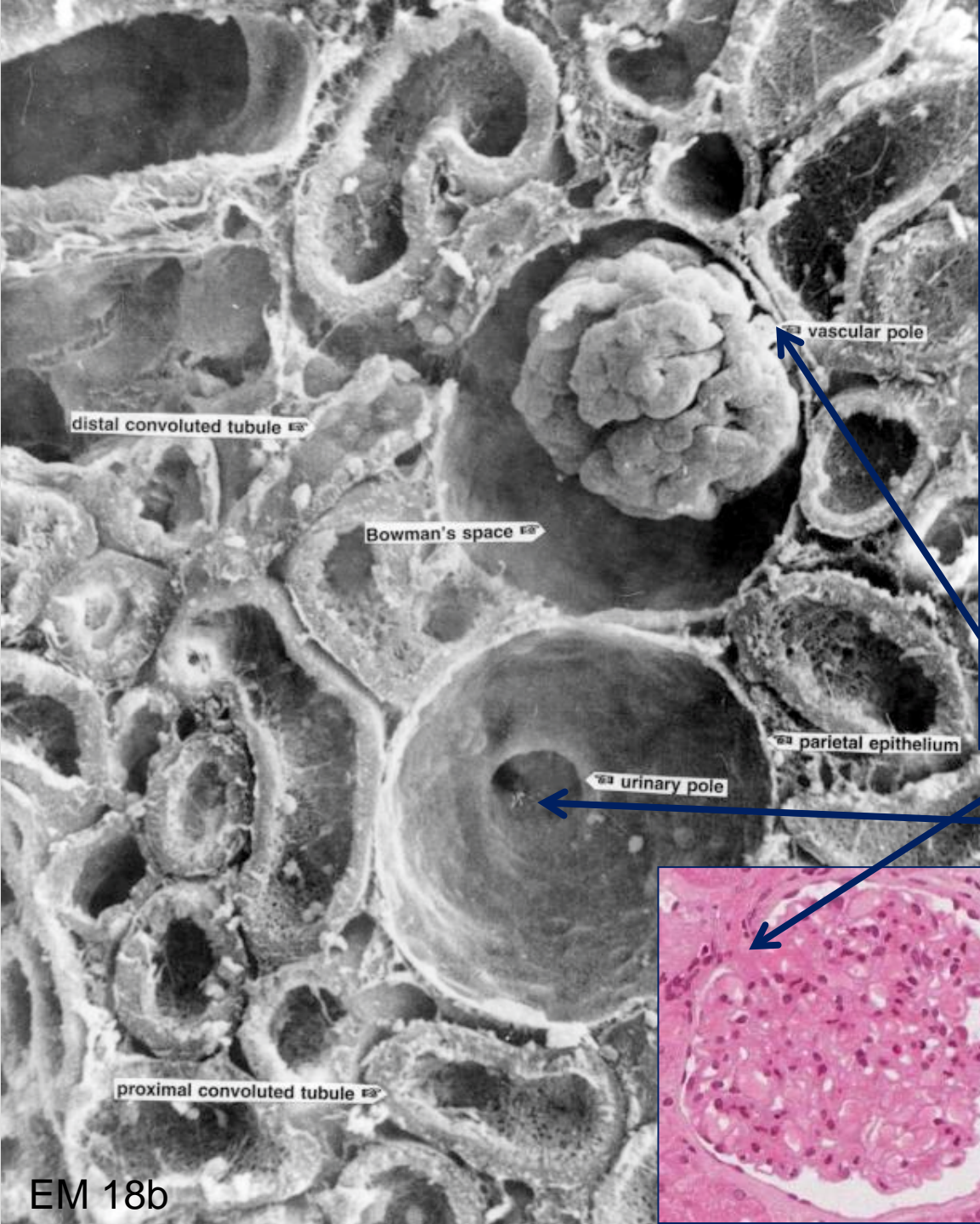


**Fig. 15-3 Kidney Cortex: Juxtaglomerular Apparatus.** Stain: periodic acid-Schiff and hematoxylin. Medium magnification.

Vascular pole –  
site of afferent and efferent arterioles

Urinary pole – site of union of parietal cells of Bowman's Capsule and cells lining the proximal convoluted tubules



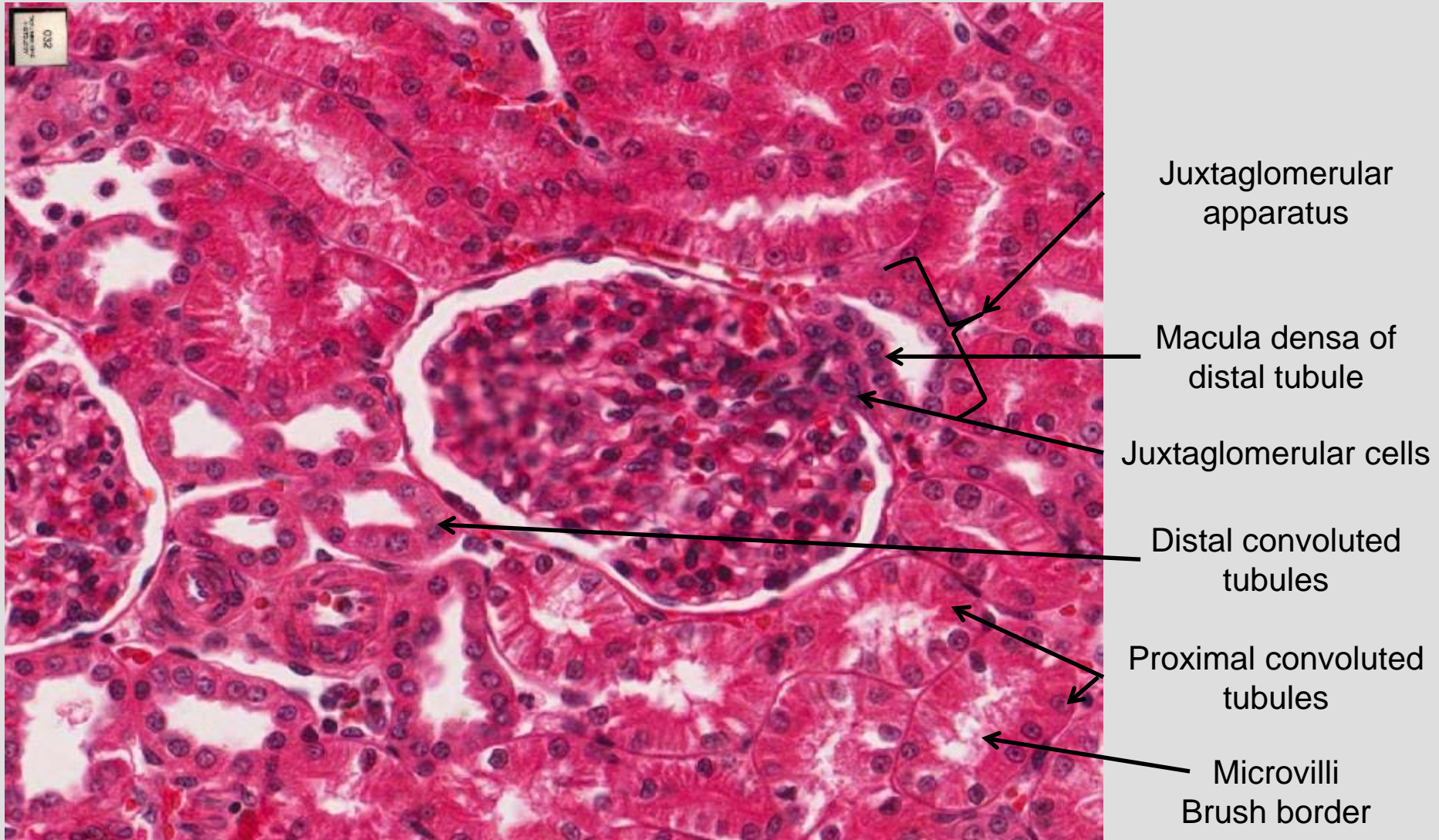


Vascular pole

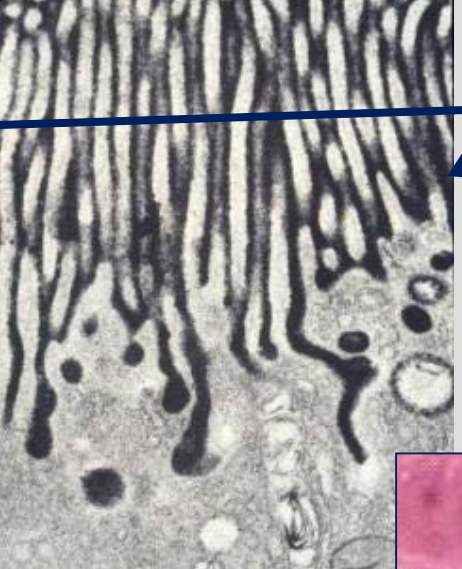
Urinary pole



# Slide Histo 032: Kidney (H&E)



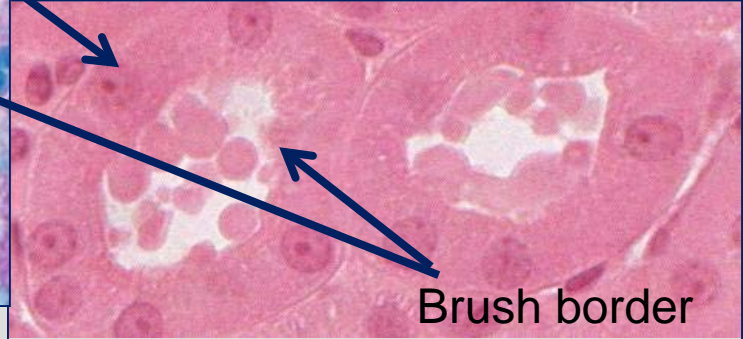
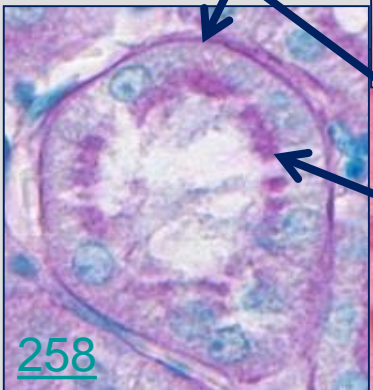




Brush border is involved in reabsorption of protein.



Proximal convoluted tubules



Brush border

0 to 8 mg/dL protein in urine is considered normal.



# Proximal Convoluted Tubules

Ref code  
# 6, 19

34400

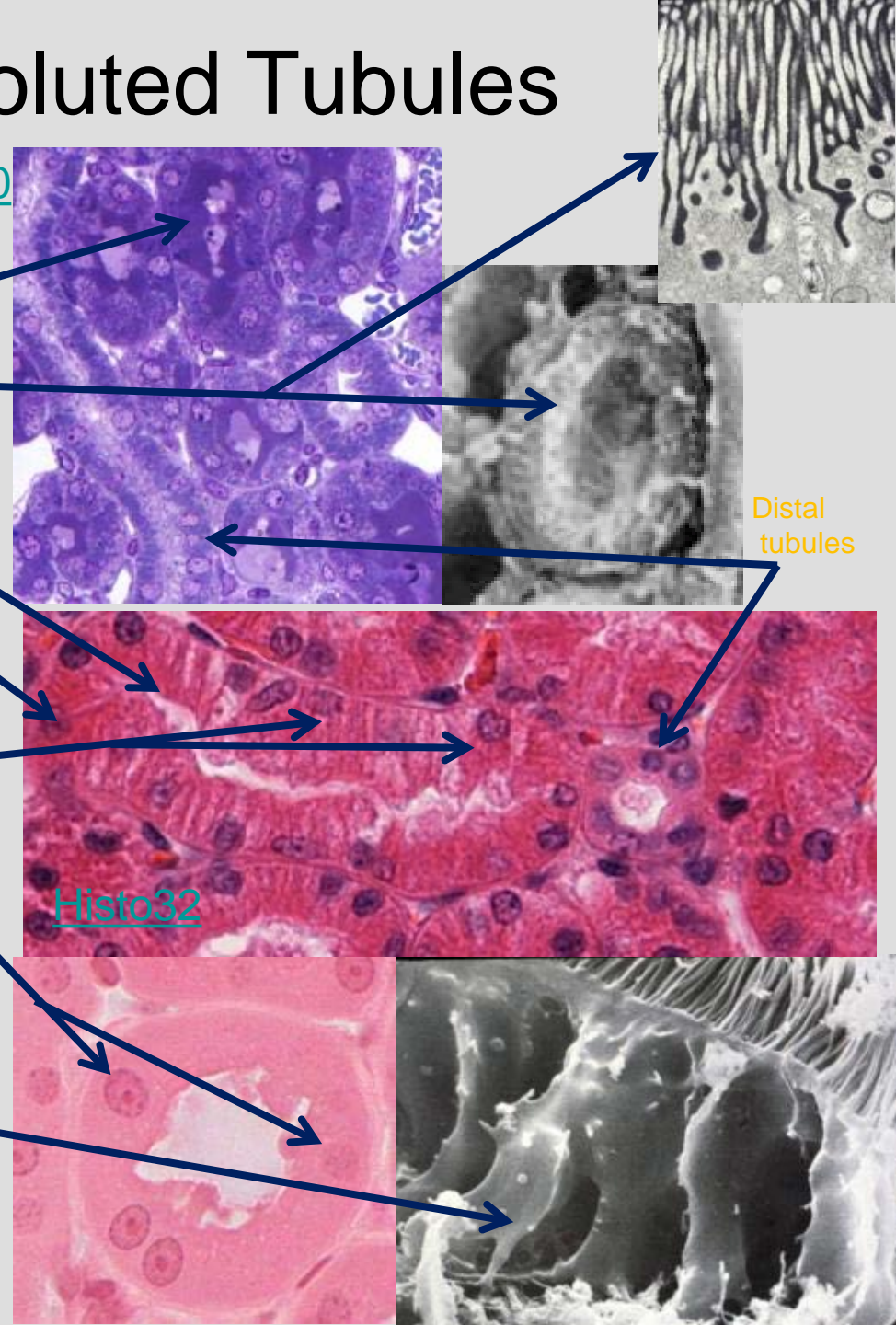
Brush border

Acidophilic cytoplasm

Nuclei far apart

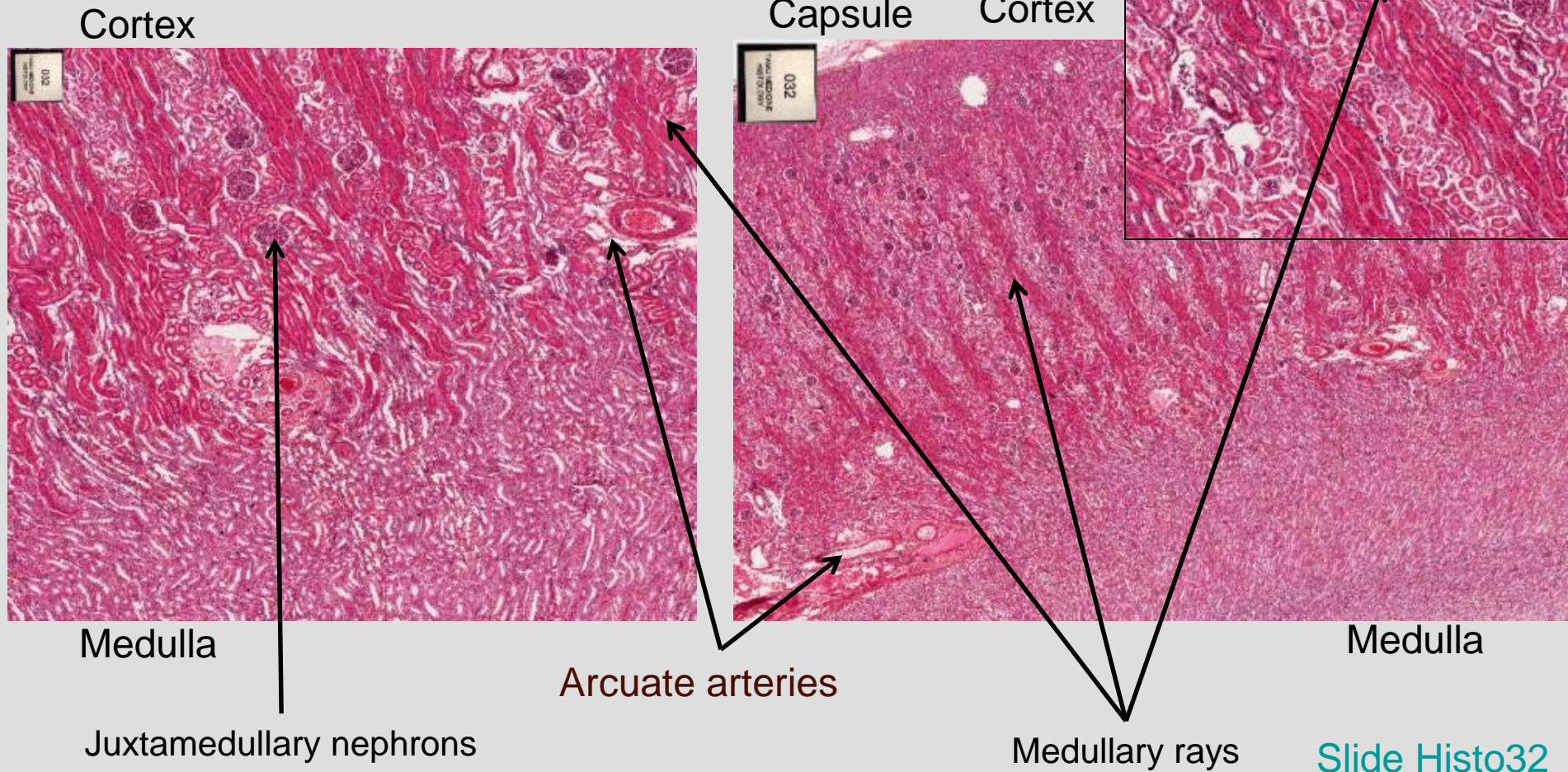
Indistinct lateral cell boundaries

19713

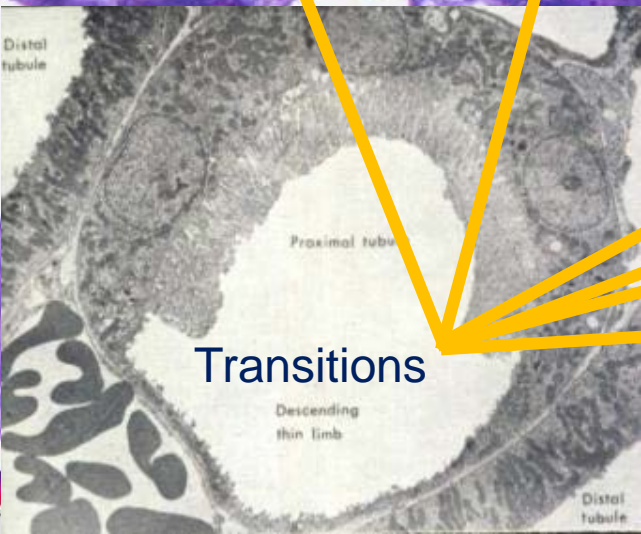
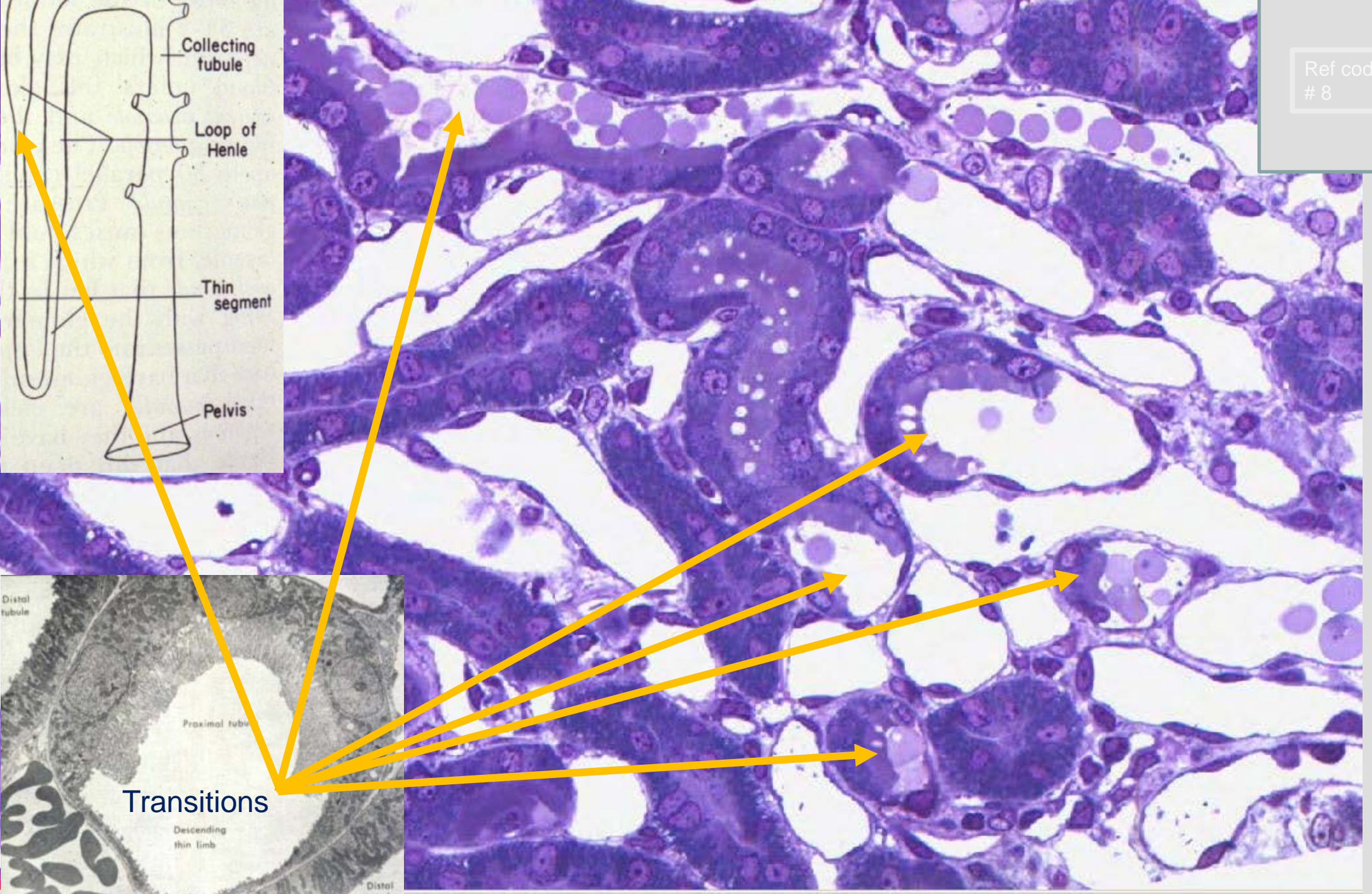
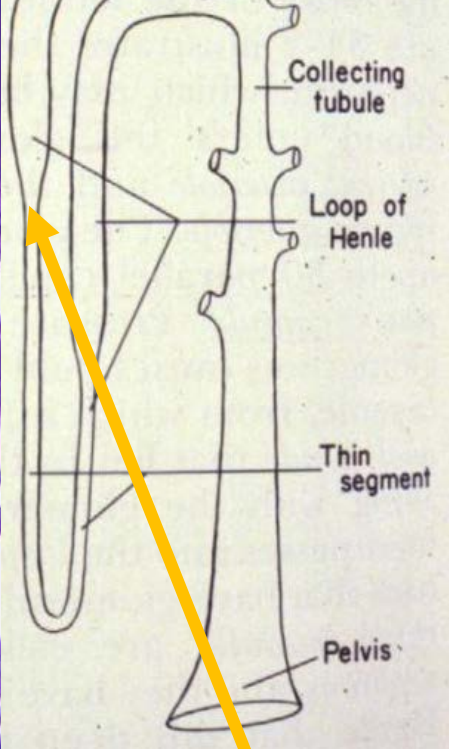




# Kidney (H&E)

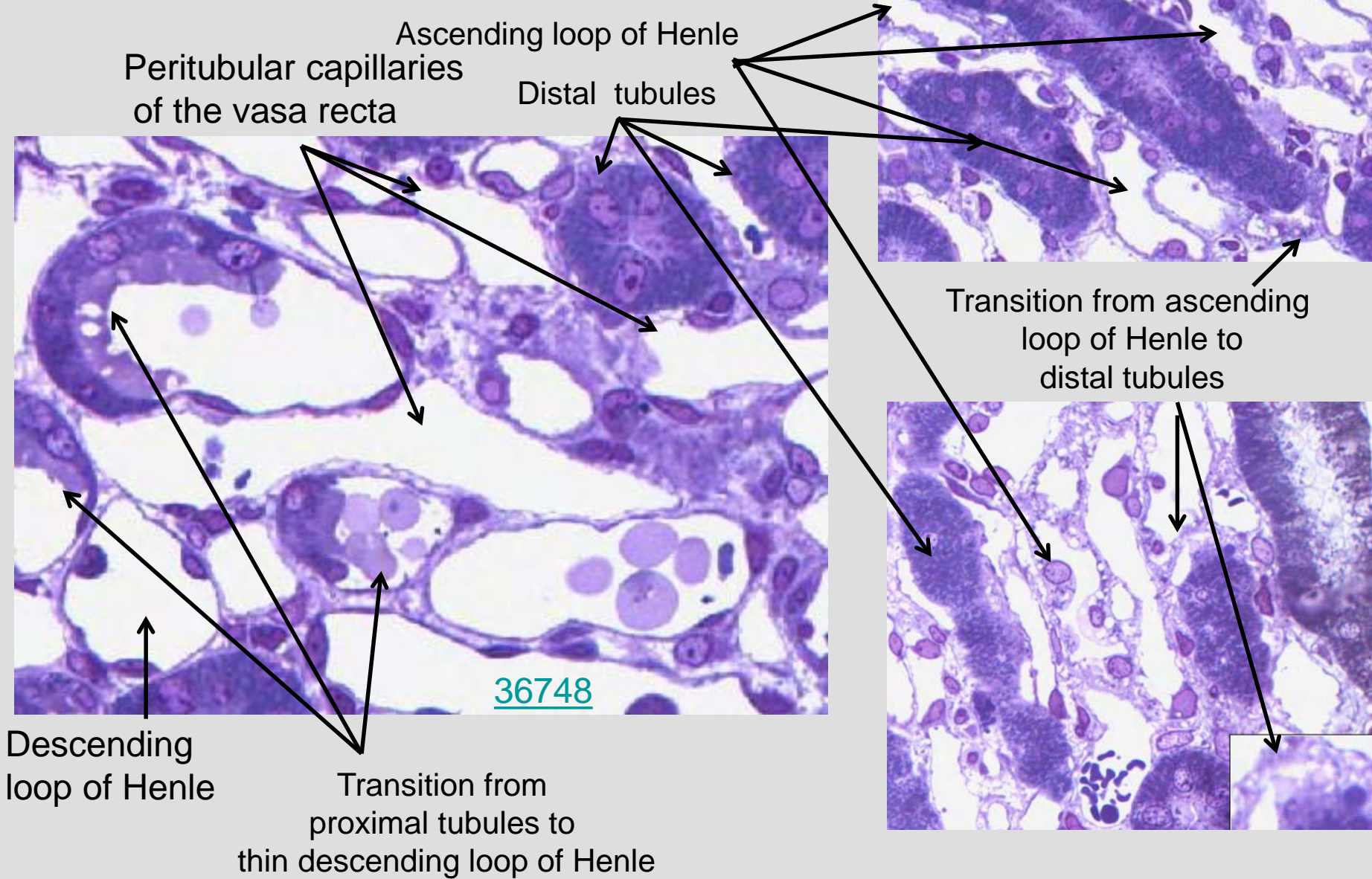








# Toulidine blue kidney



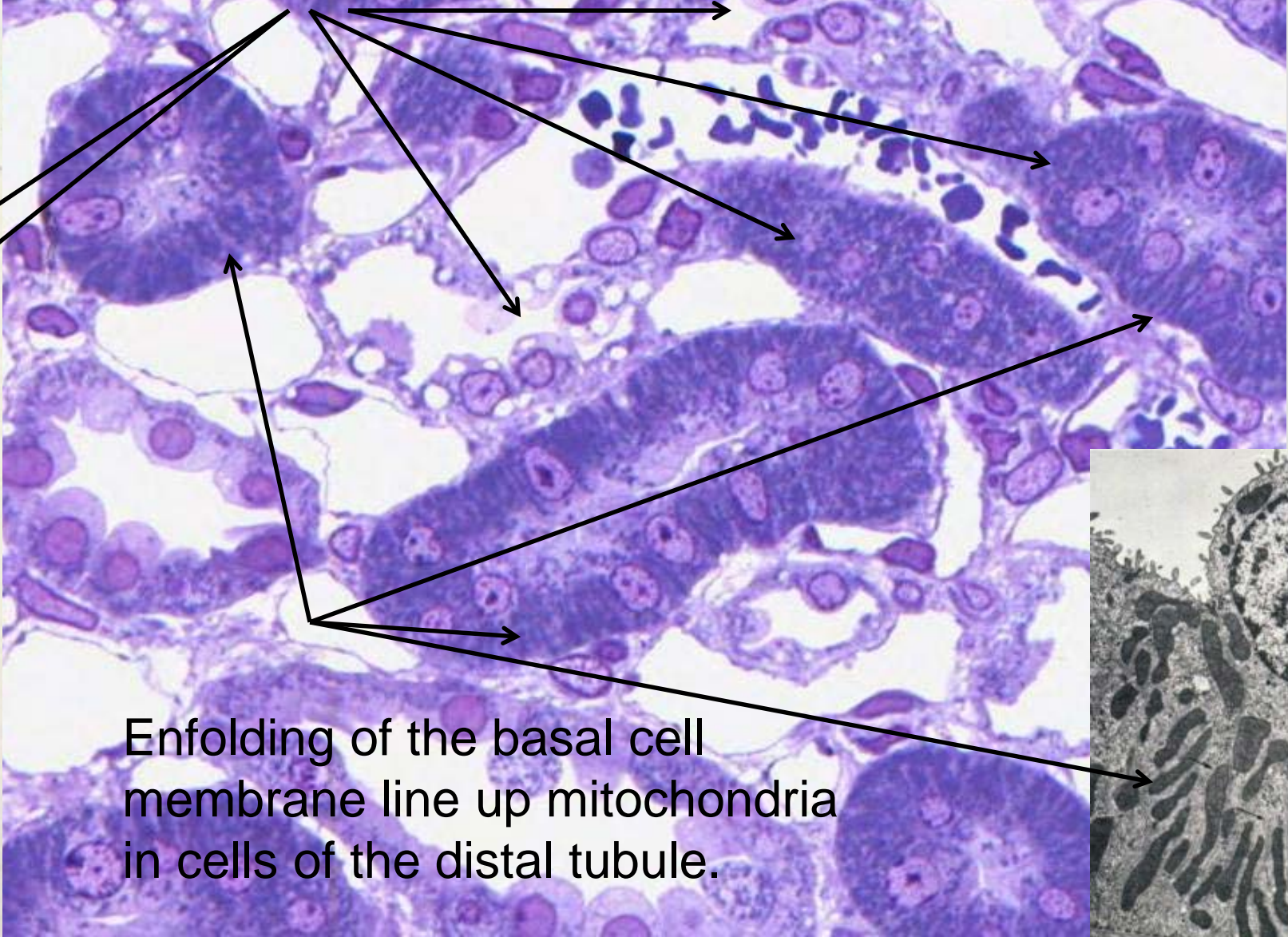
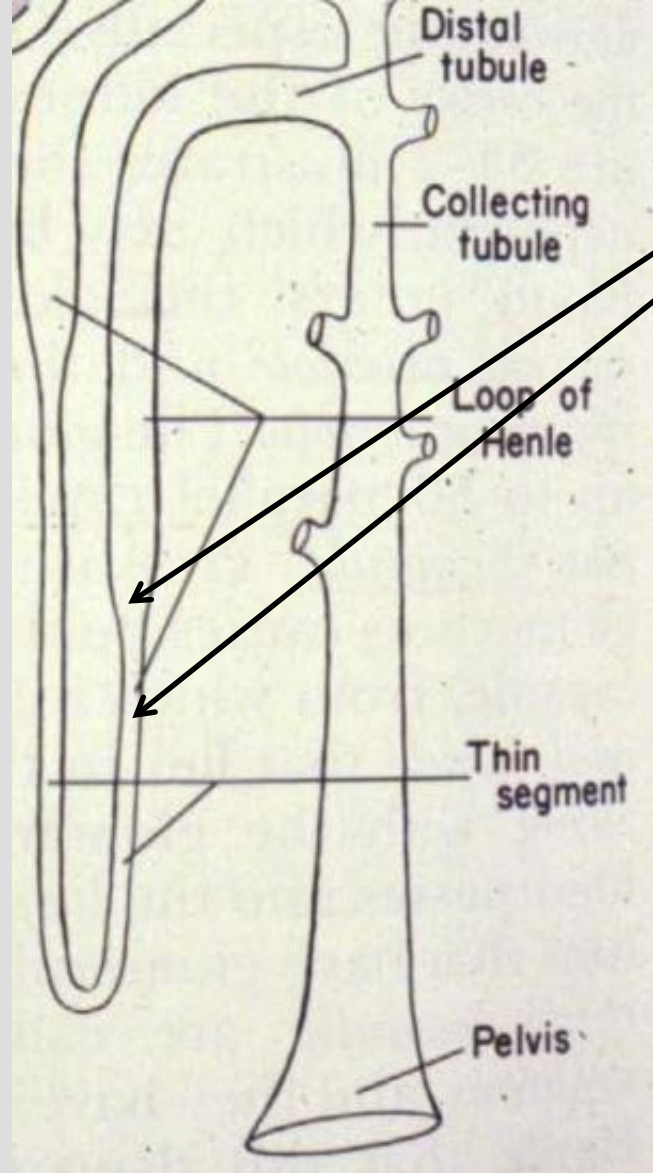




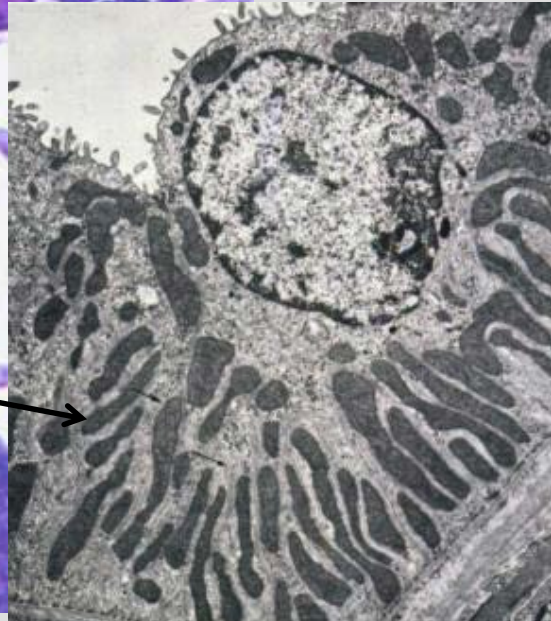
Transitions from ascending loop of Henle to distal tubules

36748

Ref code # 6, 8



Enfolding of the basal cell membrane line up mitochondria in cells of the distal tubule.





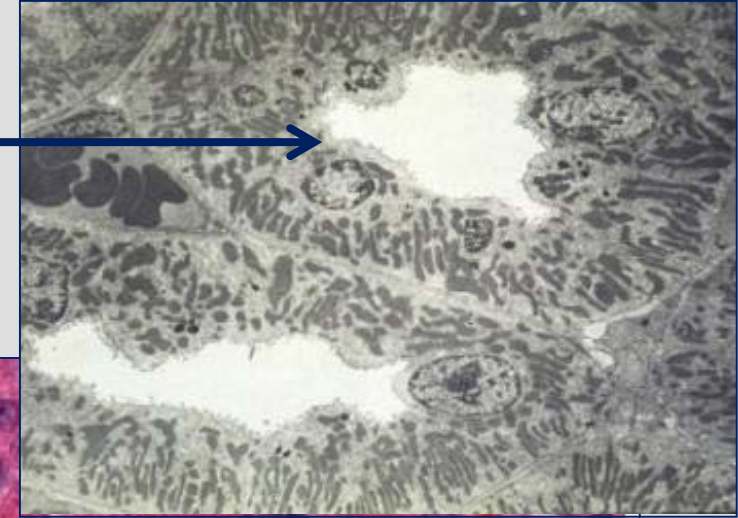
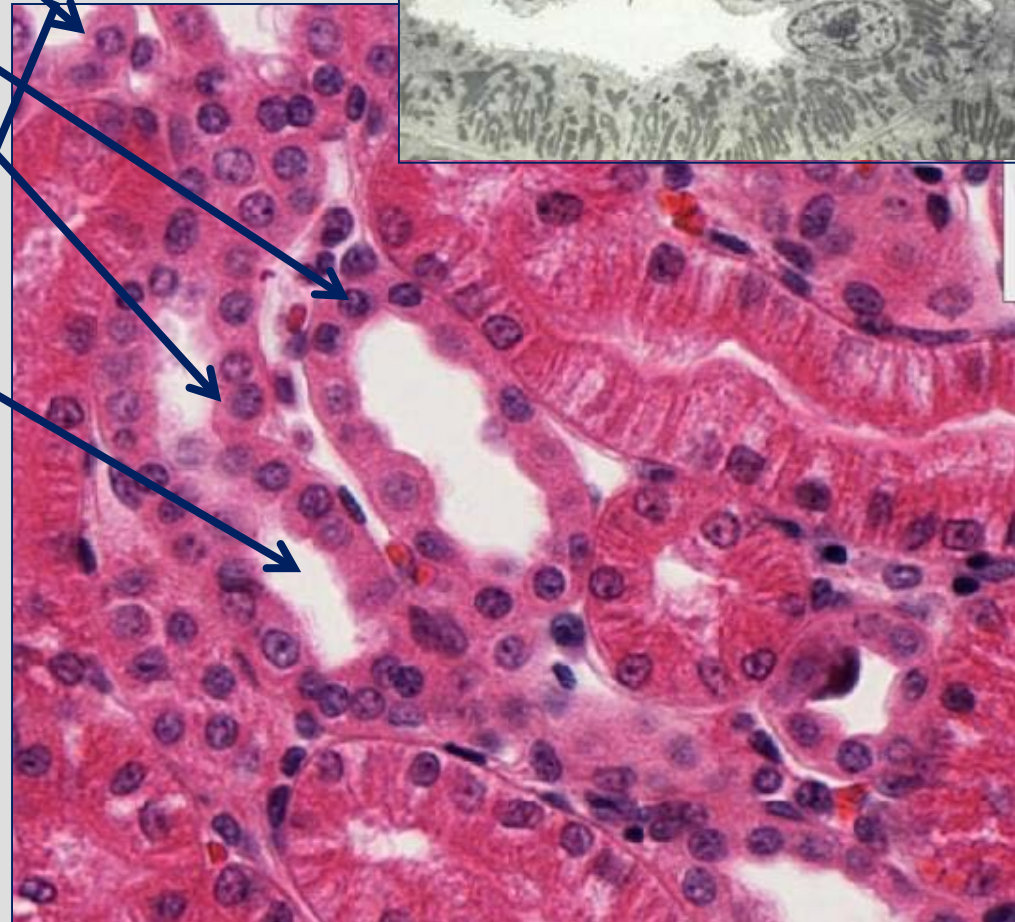
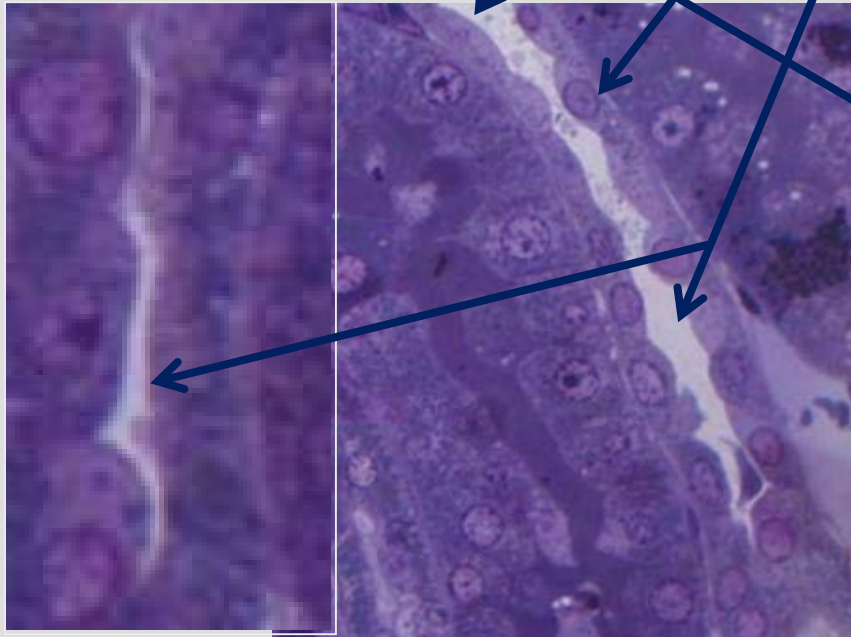
# Distal Convoluted Tubules

No brush border

Less acidophilic  
cytoplasm

Nuclei relatively close

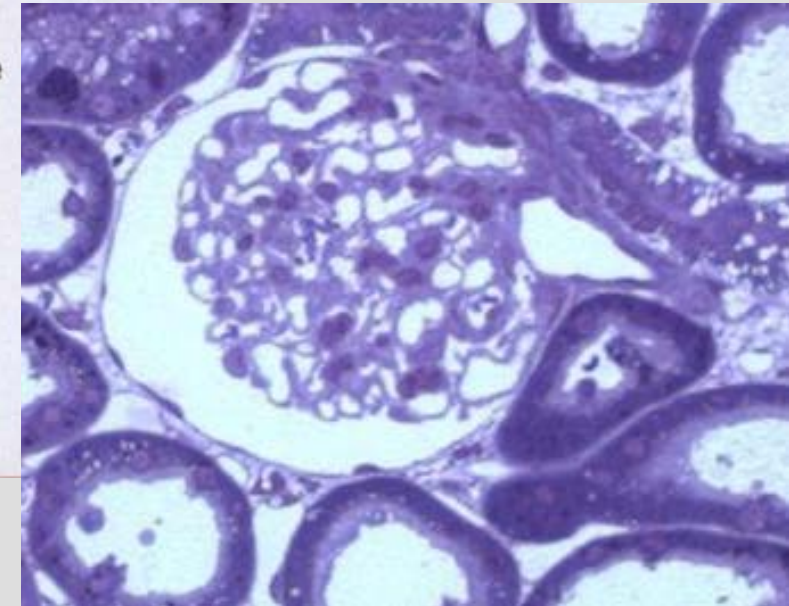
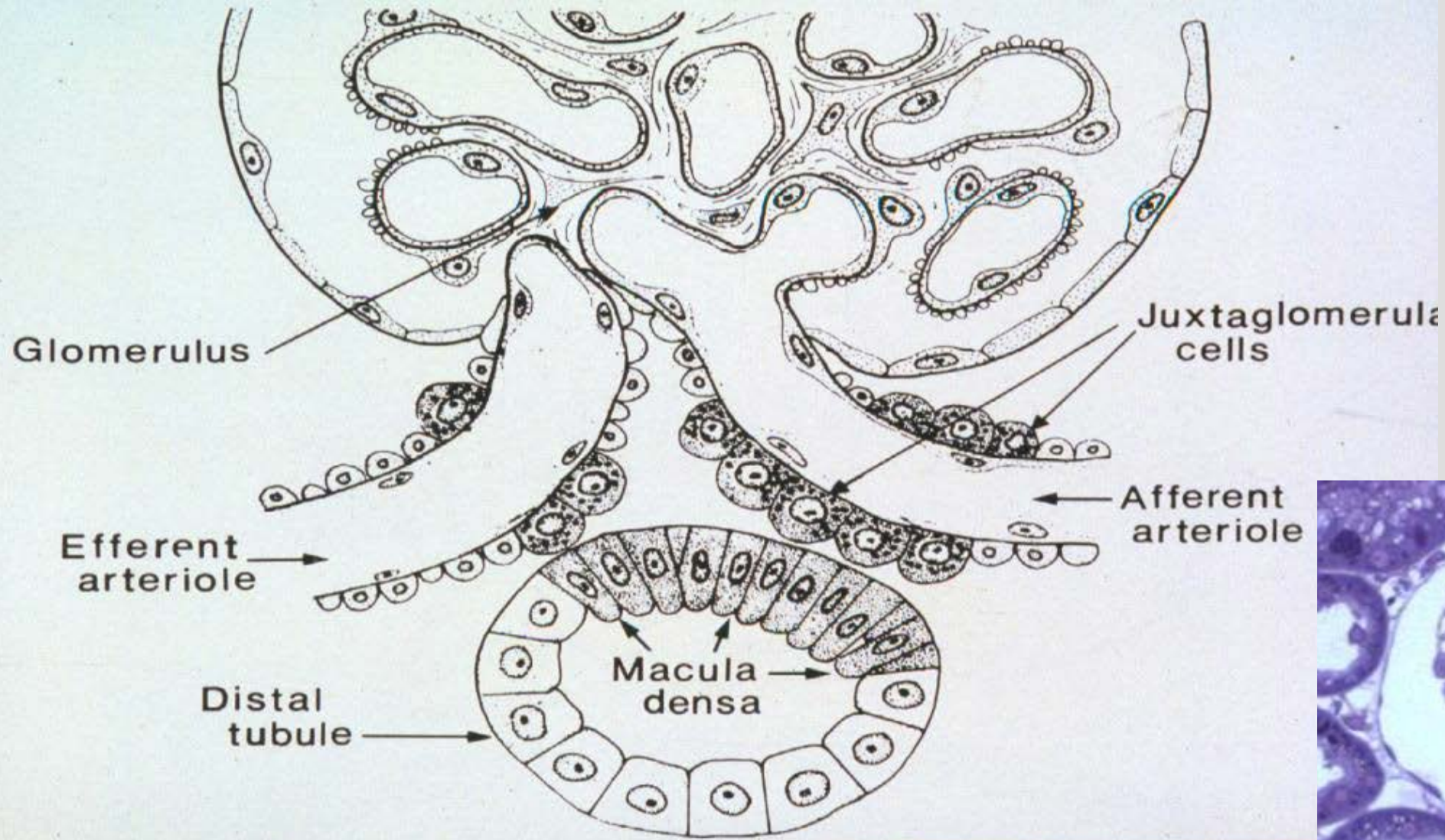
Larger lumen





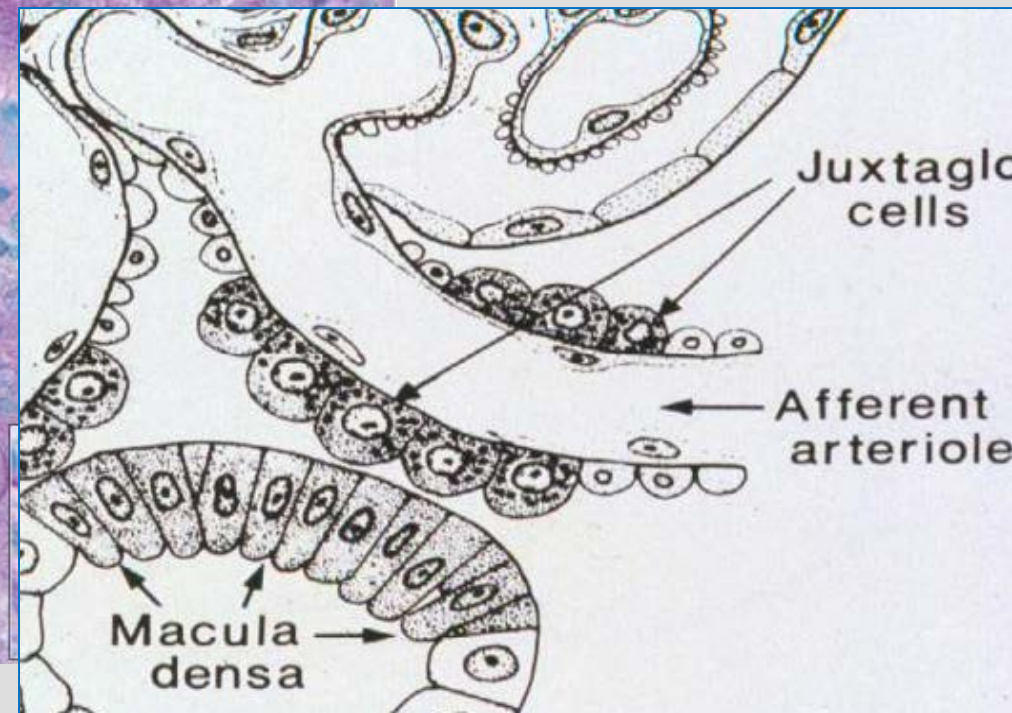
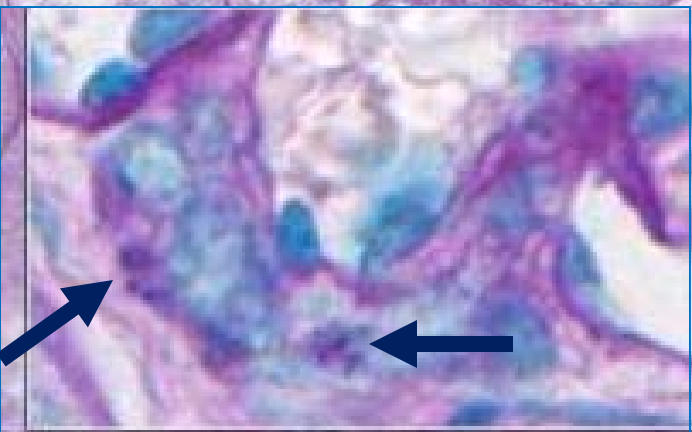
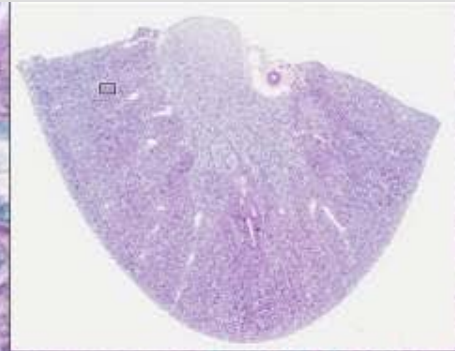
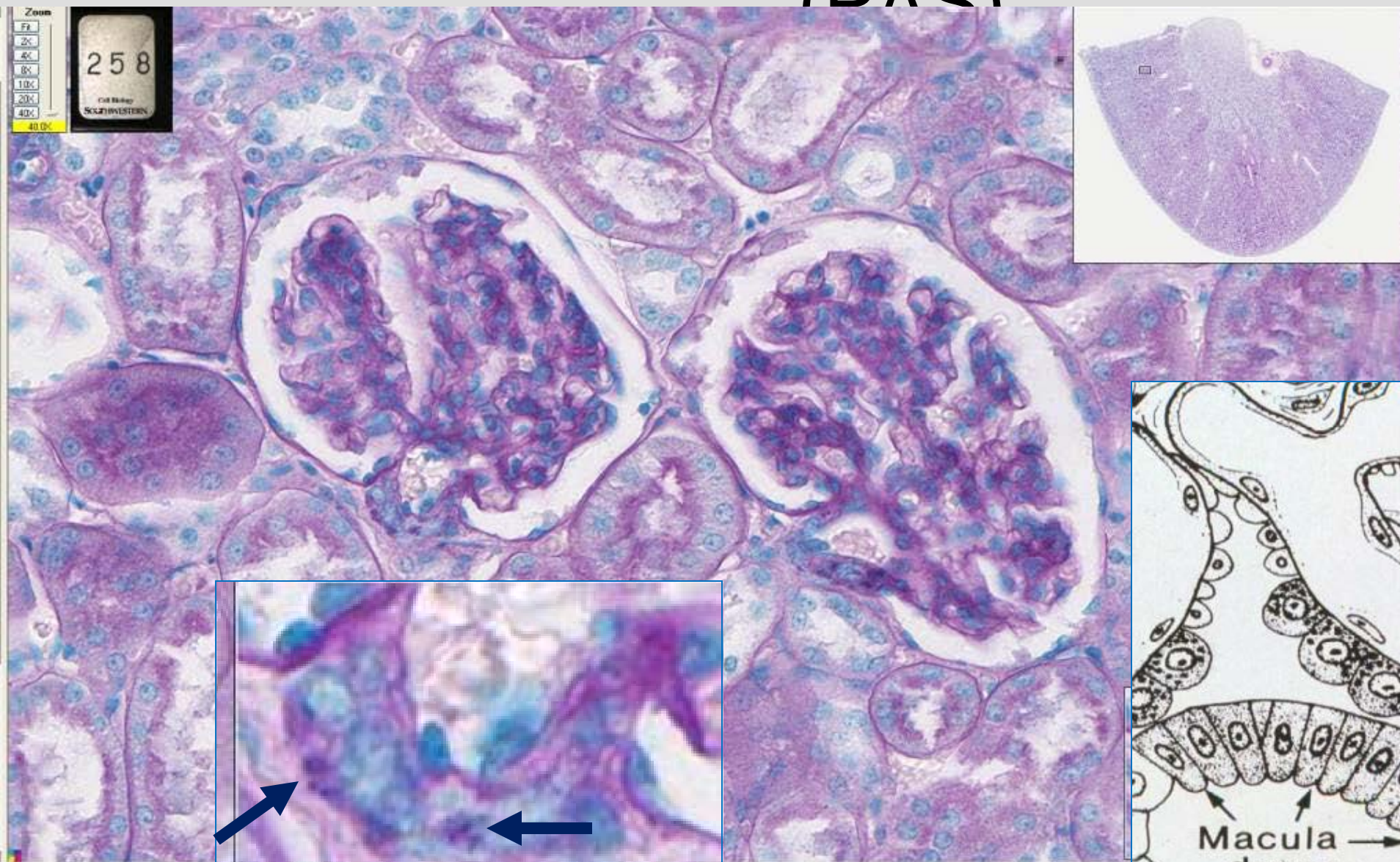
# Juxtaglomerular apparatus

Ref code  
#7



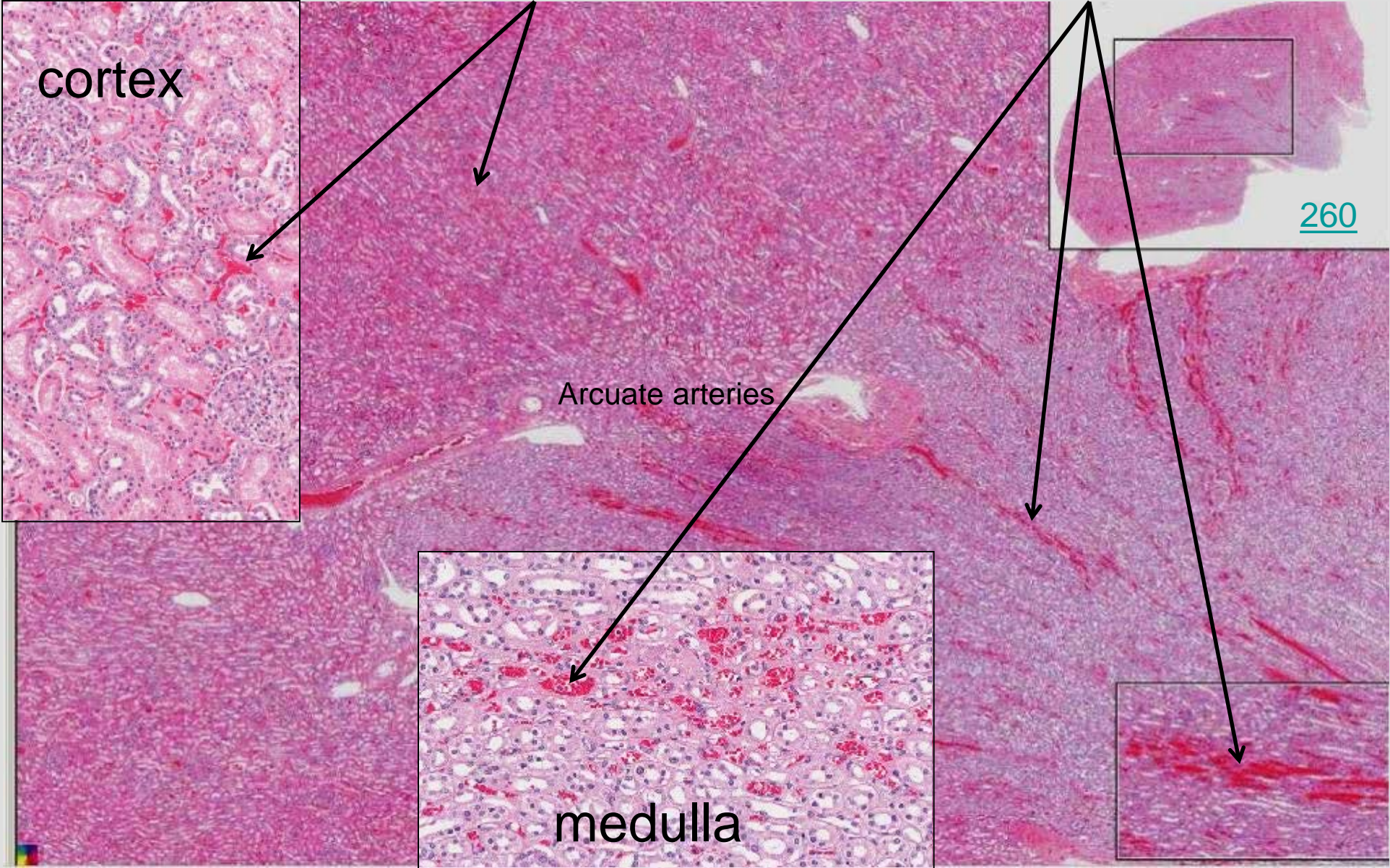


# Renin granules in JG cells of Kidney (DAS)





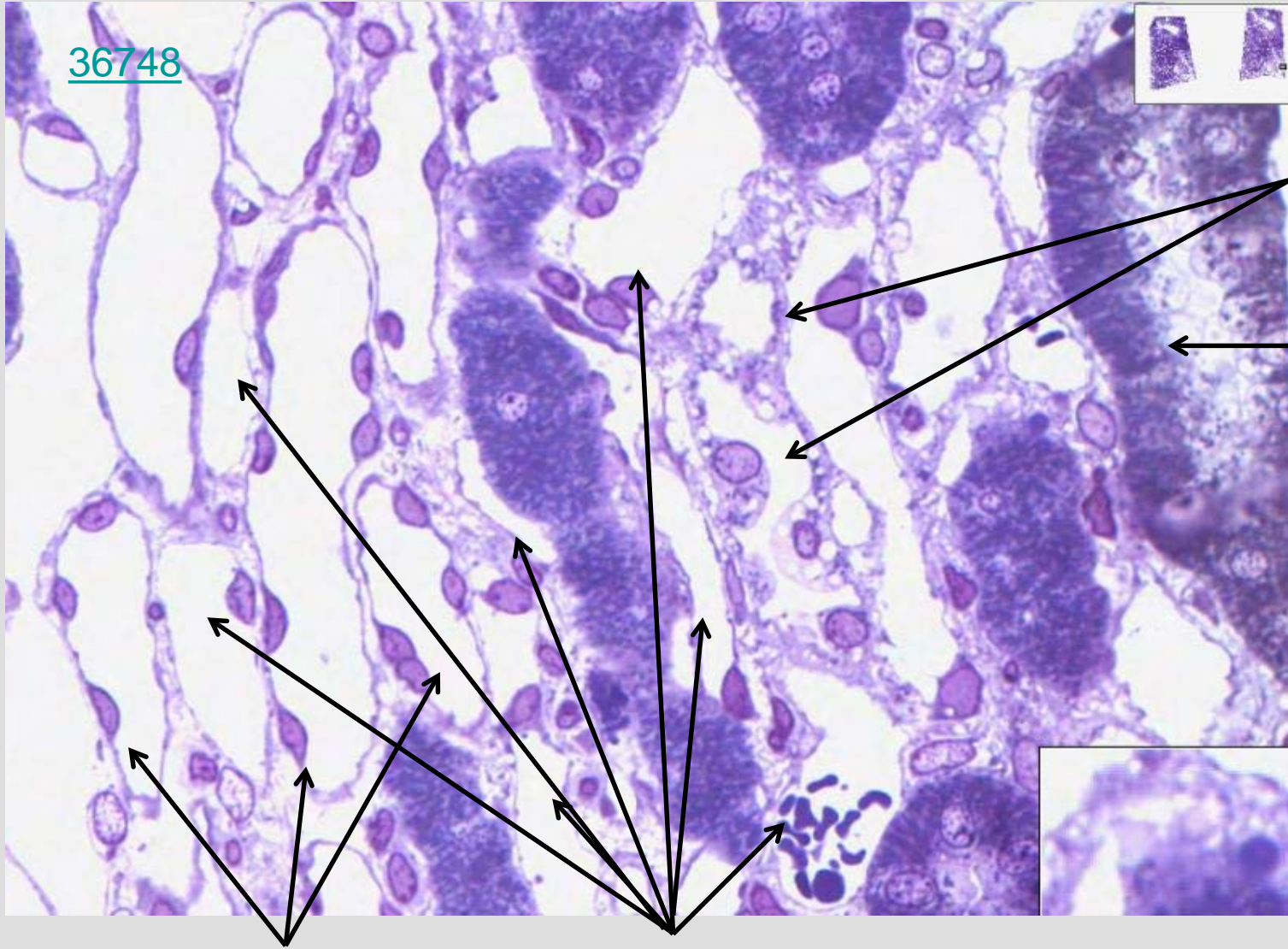
# Rich blood supply of peritubular capillaries and vasa recta





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Ref code #5

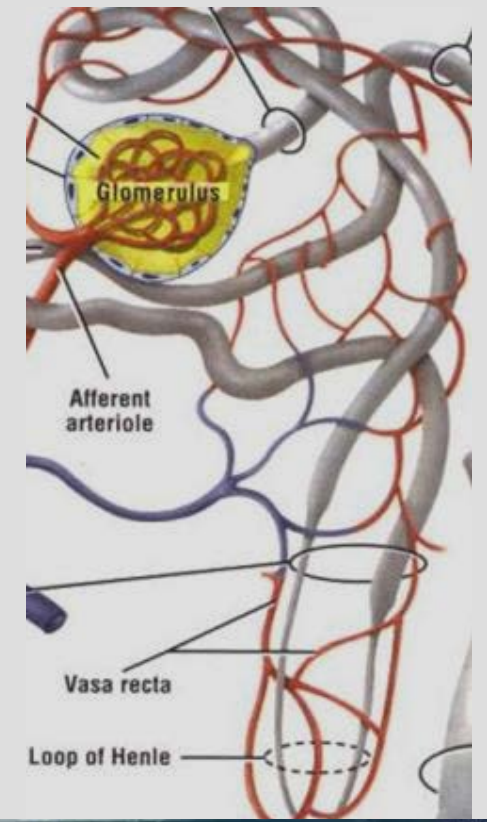


Ascending loop of Henle

Distal tubule

Descending loop of Henle

Blood capillaries of the vasa recta

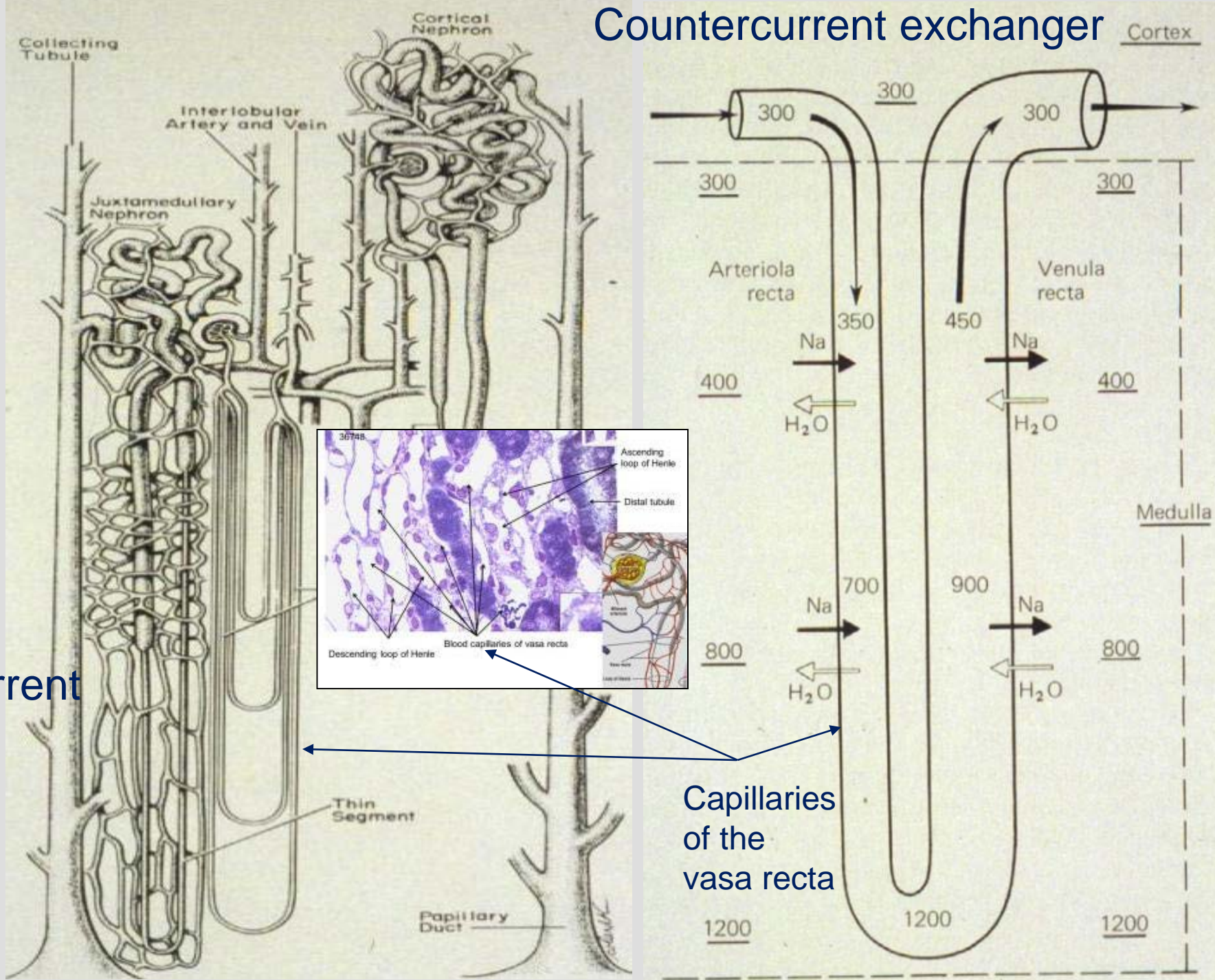




# Countercurrent exchanger

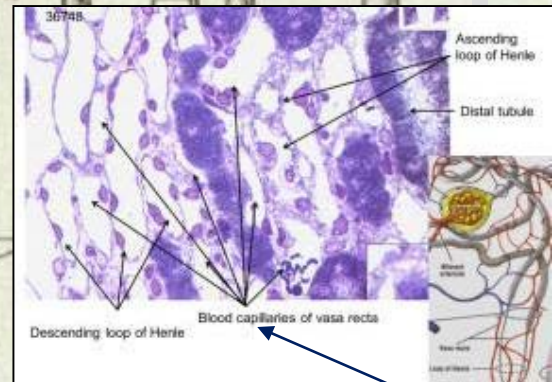
Cortex

Ref code # 5, 6



Countercurrent multiplier

Capillaries of the vasa recta





# Peritubular Capillaries

Absorbs - 180 liters/day from interstitial spaces; thus, ~4 times reabsorption of venous end of all other capillaries of body

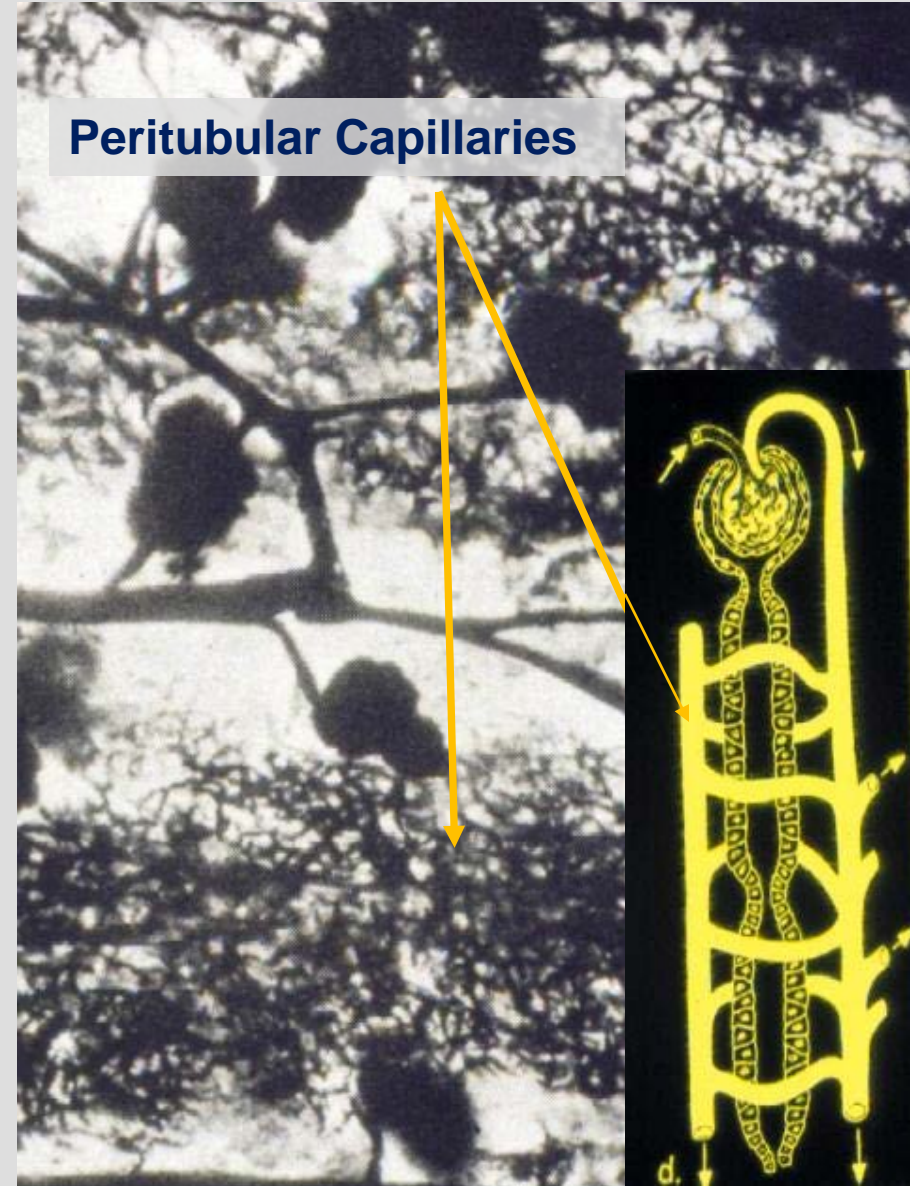
Endothelial cells - extremely porous

Colloidal osmotic pressure of plasma proteins

Low capillary pressure

Proximity to uriniferous tubules

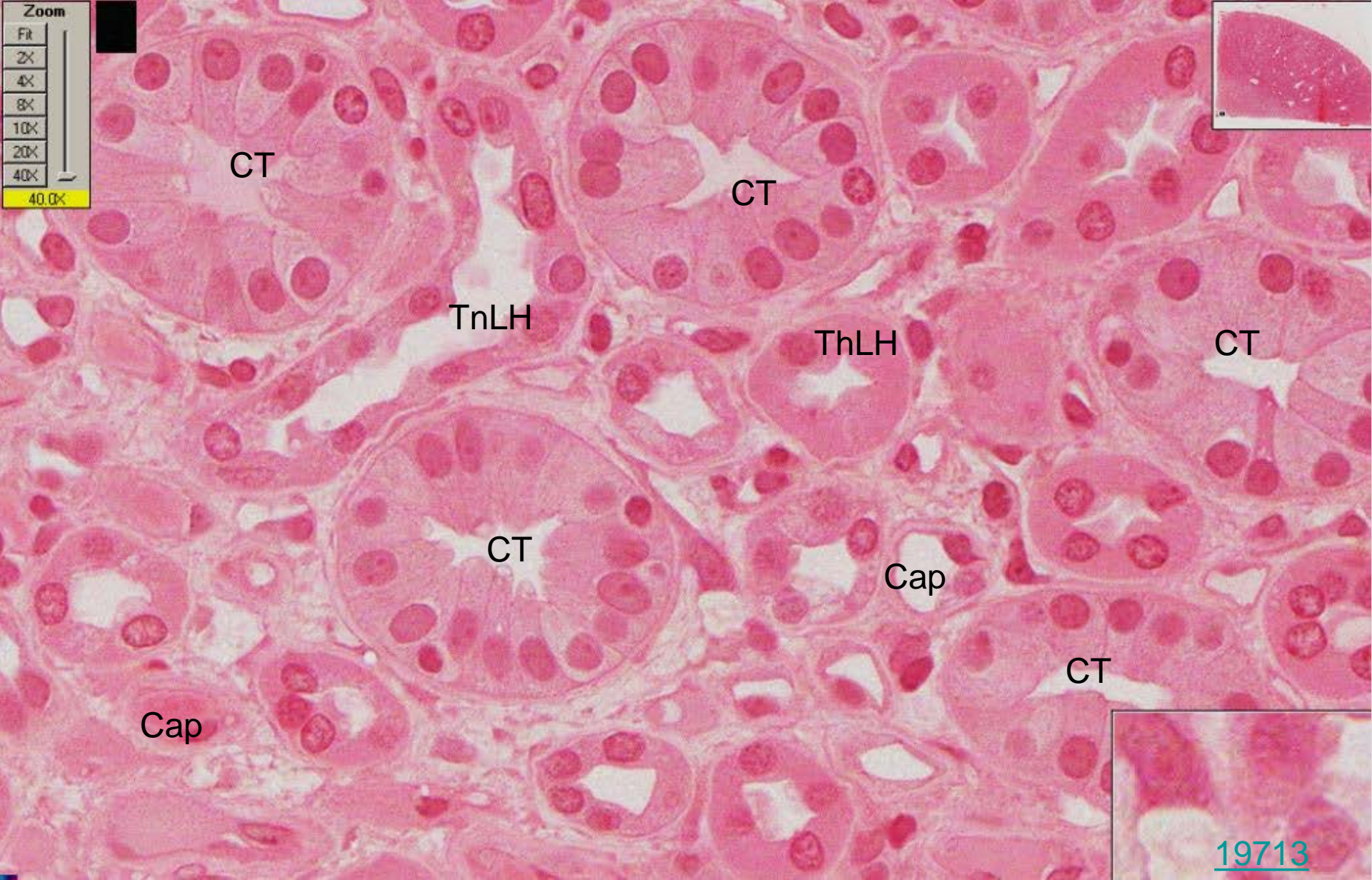
About 85% of the water and sodium of the glomerular filtrate is resorbed by the proximal convoluted tubule and passes back into the bloodstream via the peritubular capillaries.



[https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=Inms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ\\_AUICigB#imgrc=\\_TLN\\_3GCOgt6RM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=evolution+of+kidney+by+smith&source=Inms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwid-vS72M3YAhVS6GMKHfFCC2AQ_AUICigB#imgrc=_TLN_3GCOgt6RM:)



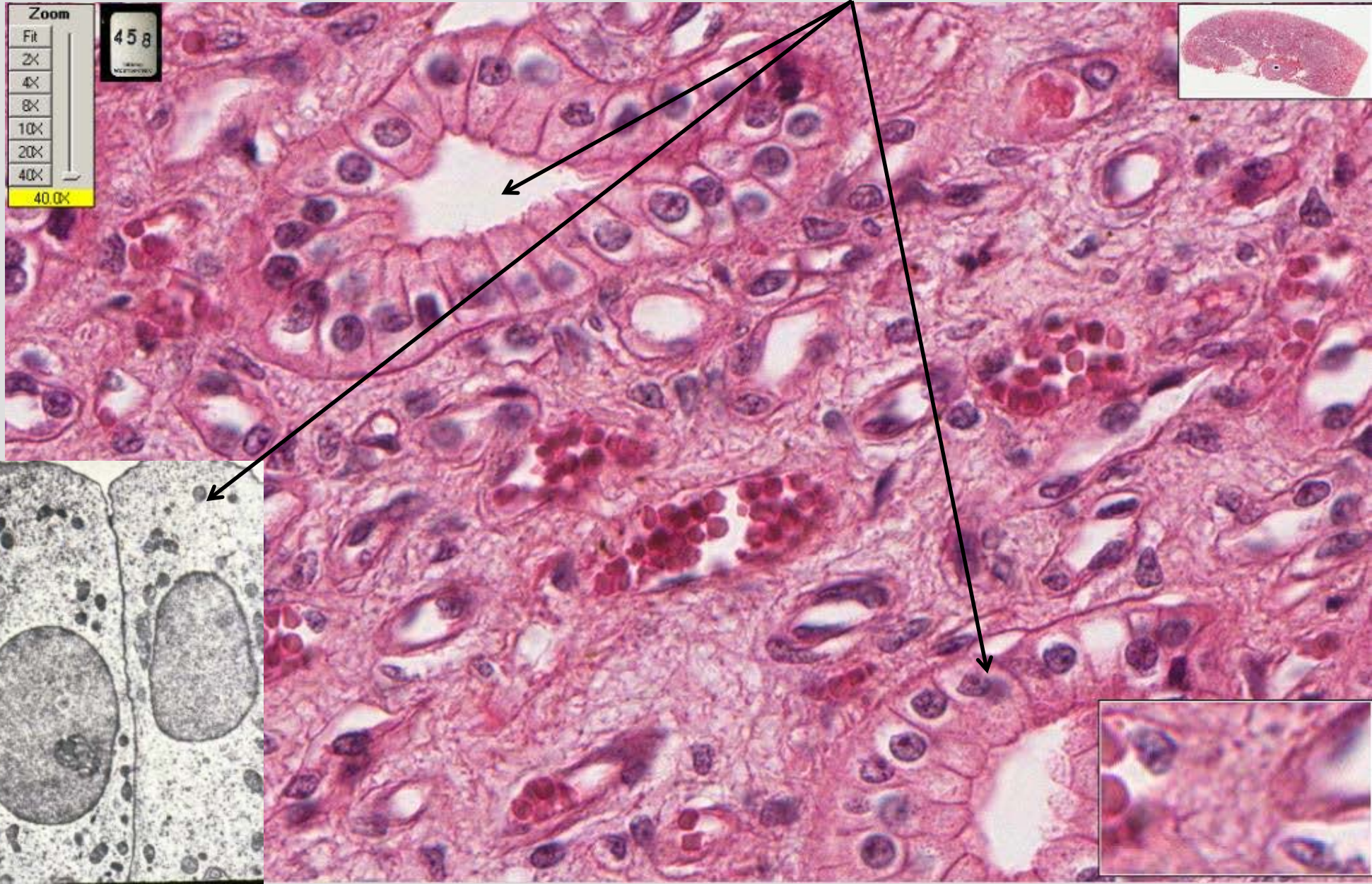
# Kidney medulla





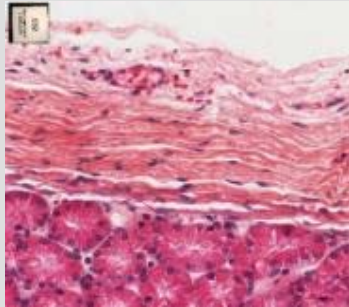
# 458 kidney

Collecting duct

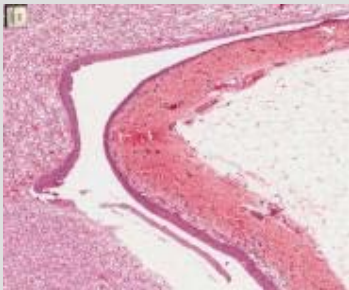




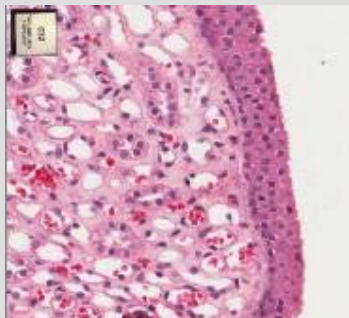
# Slide Histo 032: Kidney (H&E)



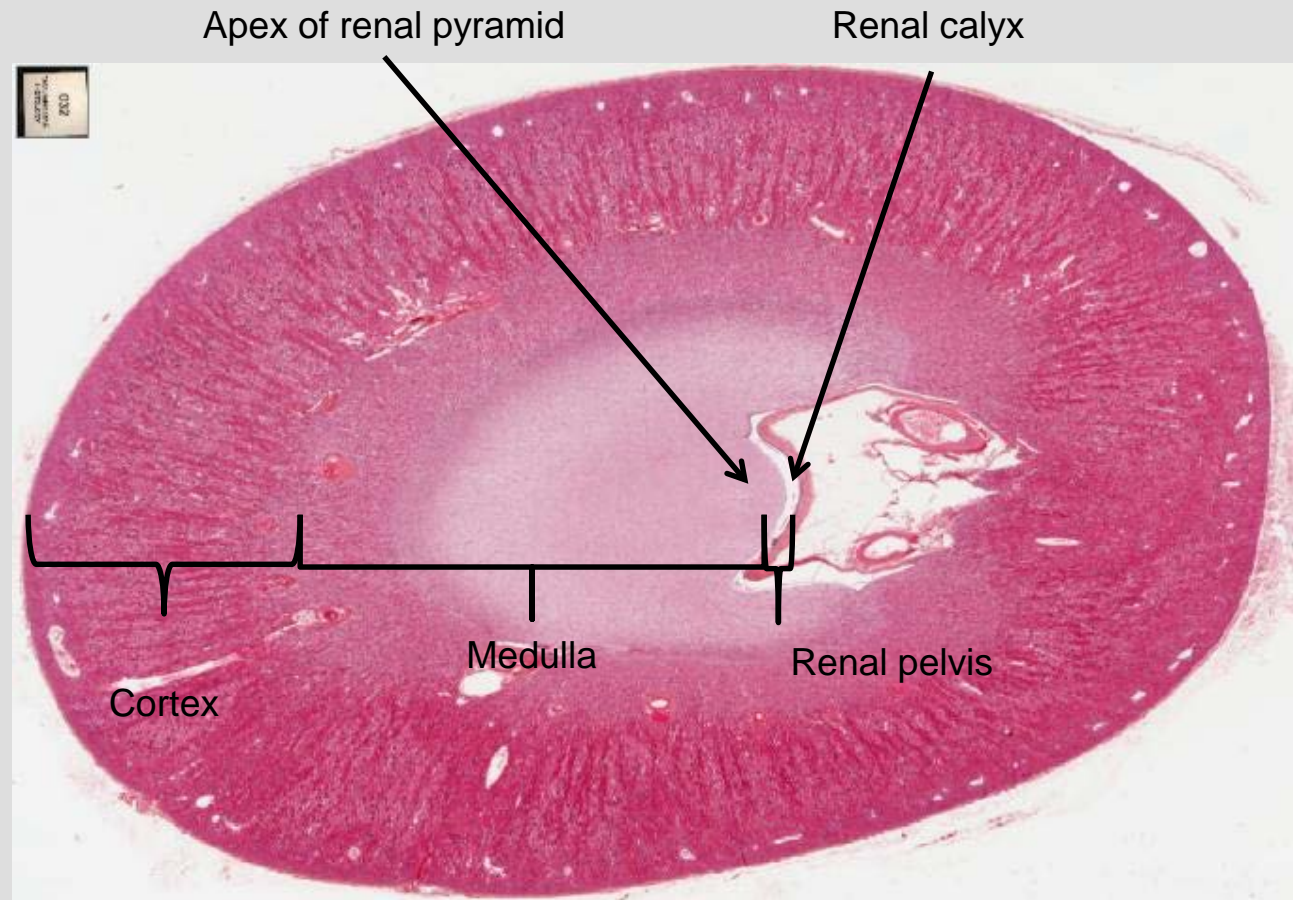
CT adventia capsule



Renal pyramid and calyx

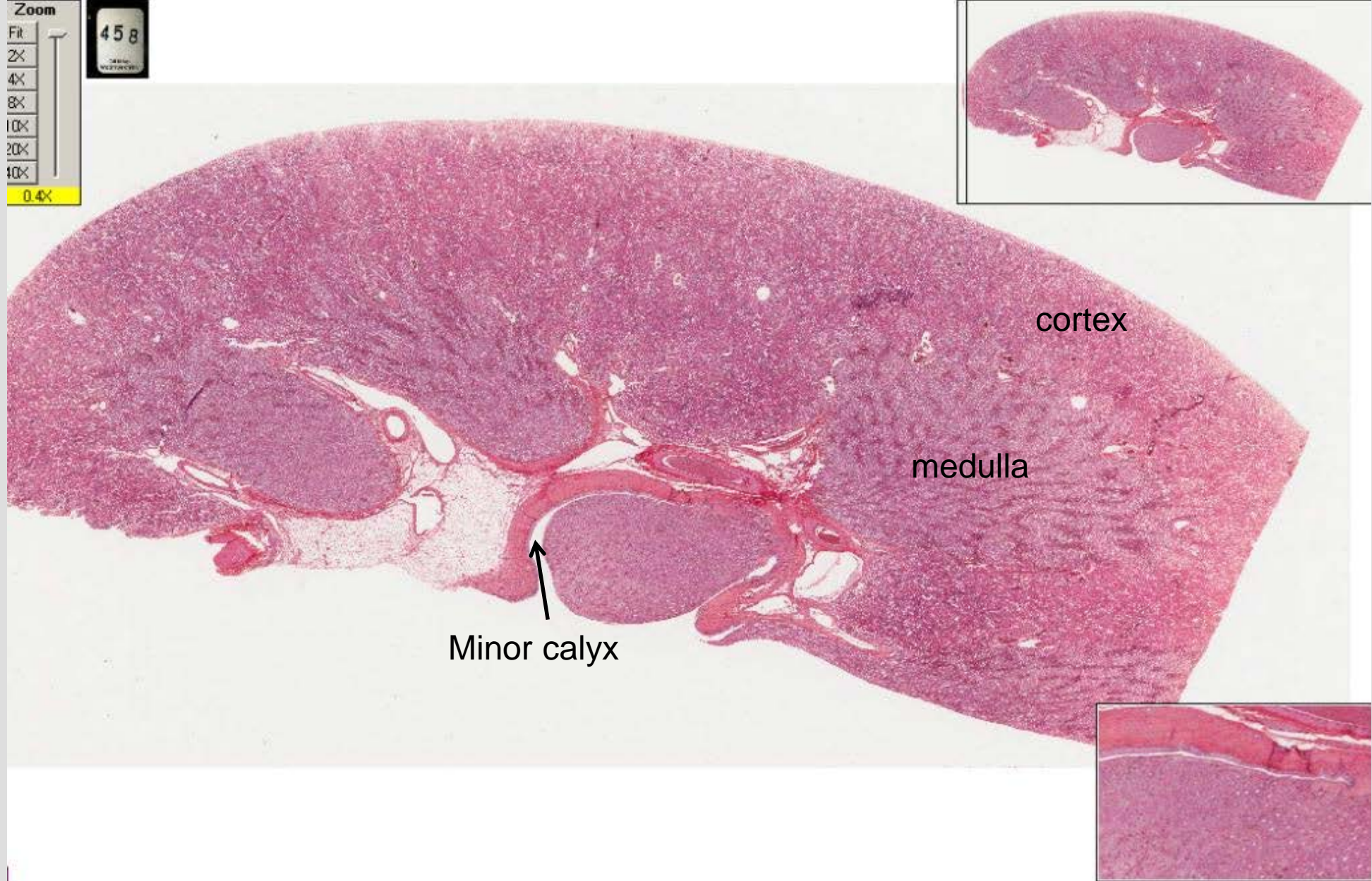


Simple columnar to transitional-like epithelium of pyramid

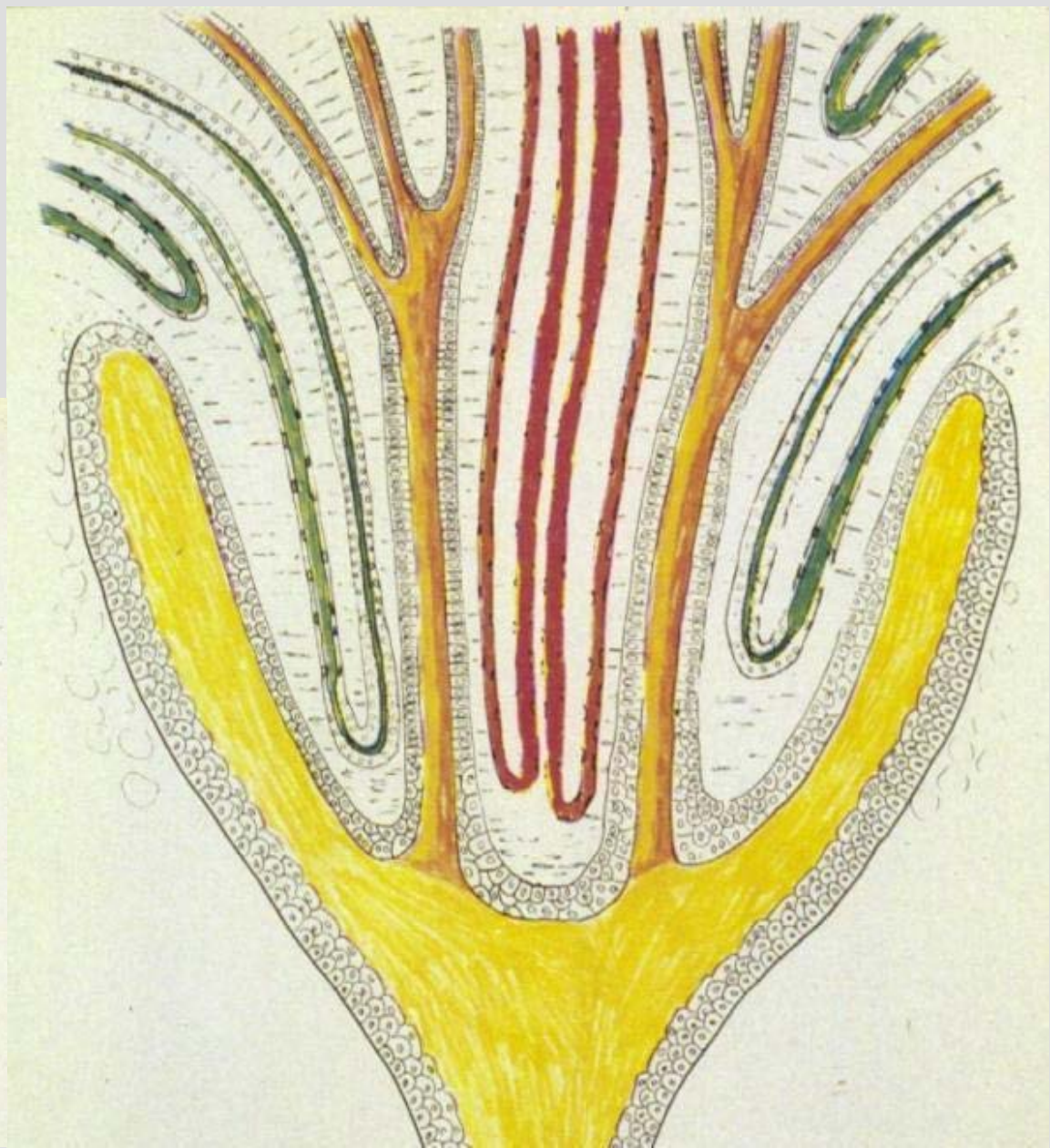
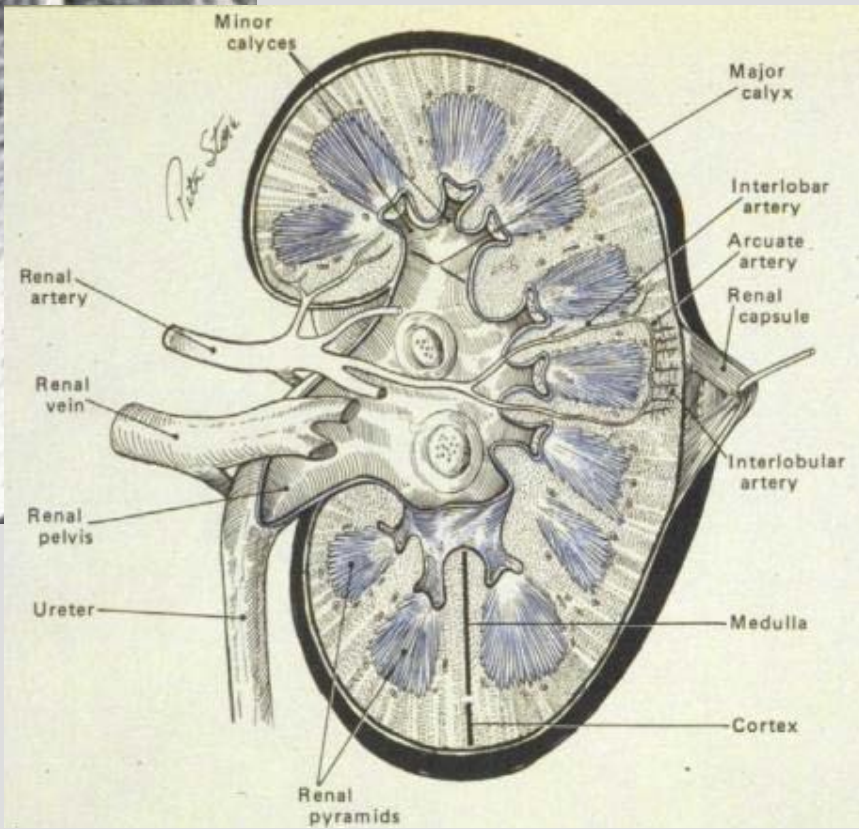
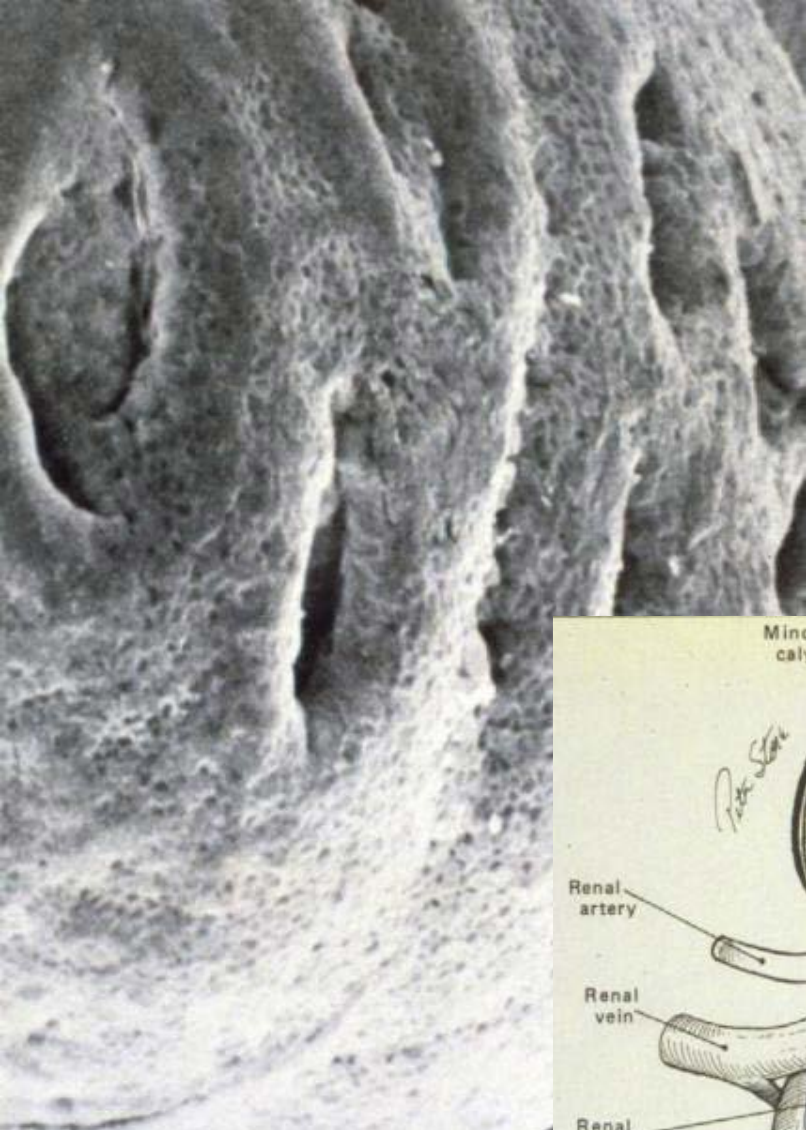




# 458 kidney





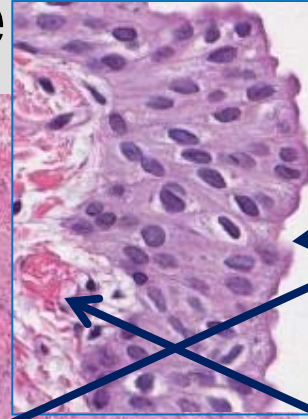
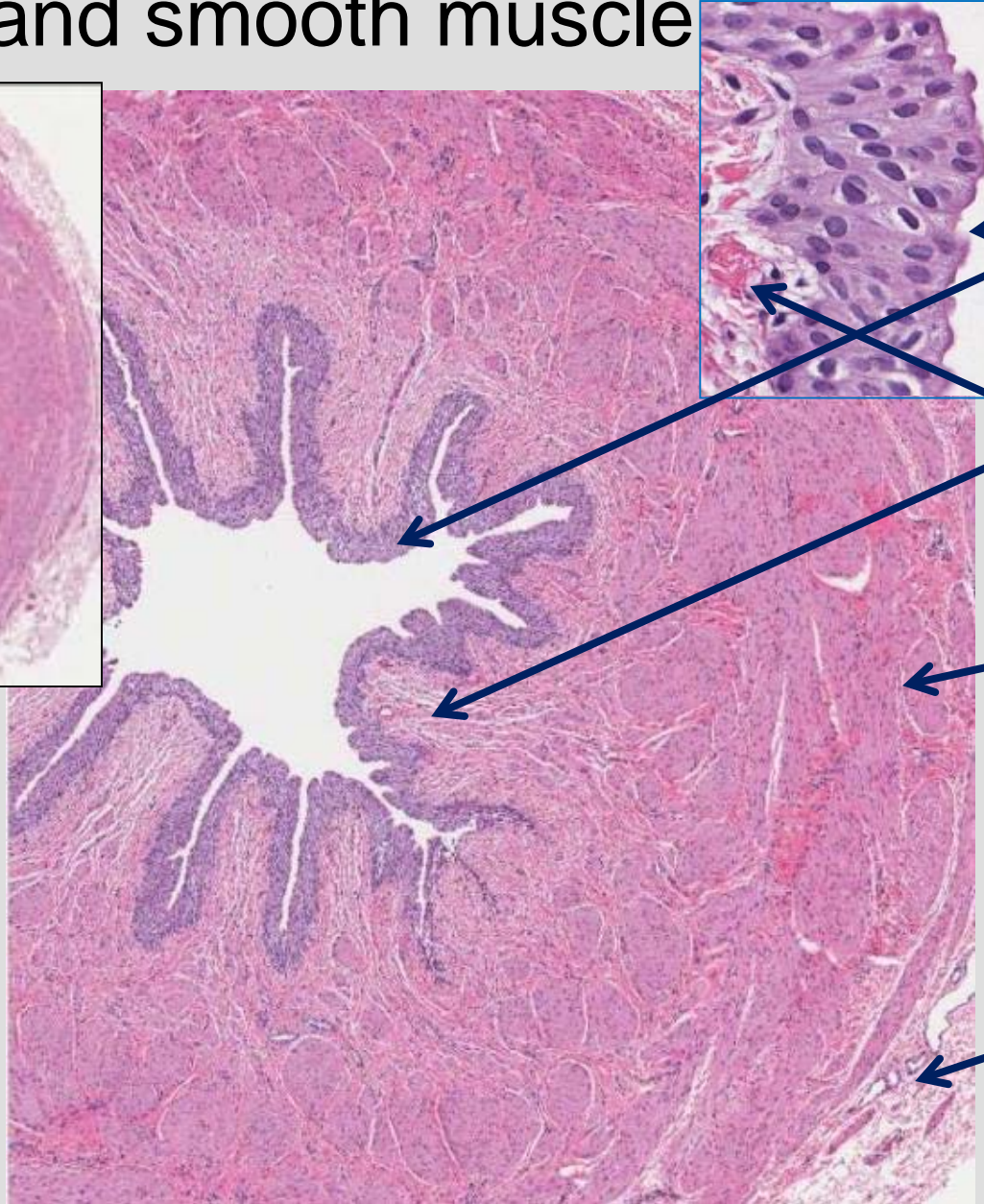
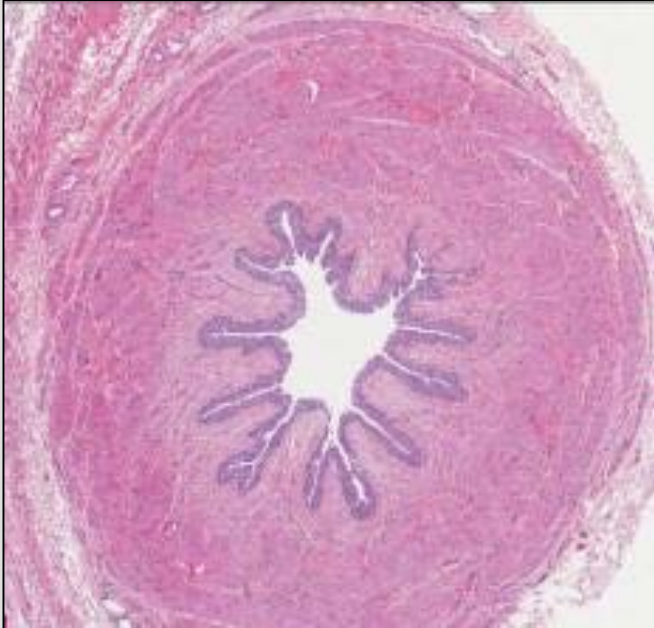




# Ureter – transitional epithelium and smooth muscle

**Ureters have three coats:**

- 1) a mucous membrane consisting of transitional epithelium (4-5 cells thick) in longitudinal folds supported by a lamina propria of dense connective tissue,
- 2) a muscle coat with inner longitudinal and outer circular muscle fibers (an outermost layer of longitudinal fibers may also be present), and
- 3) an adventitial layer of fibroelastic connective tissue





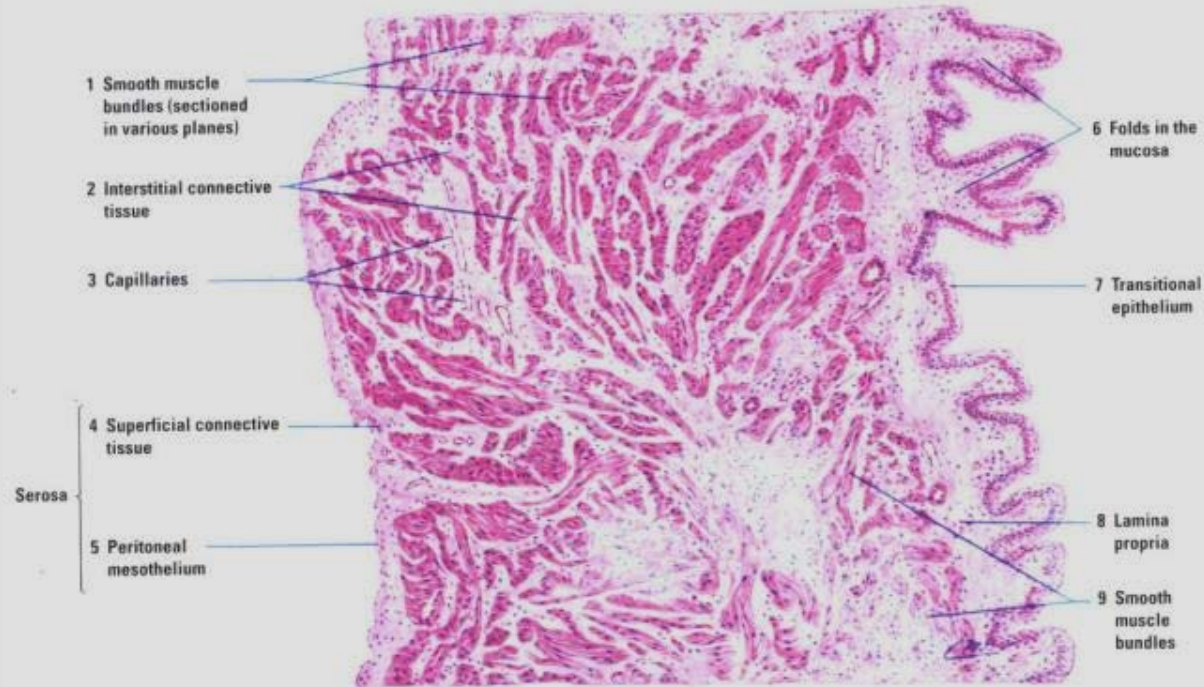


Fig. 15-8 Urinary Bladder: Wall (transverse section). Stain; hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.

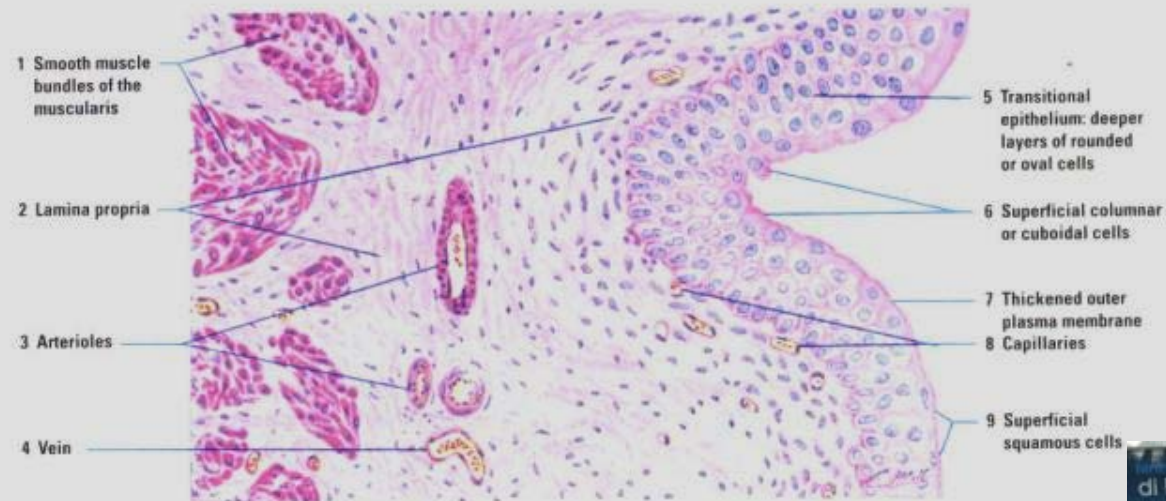
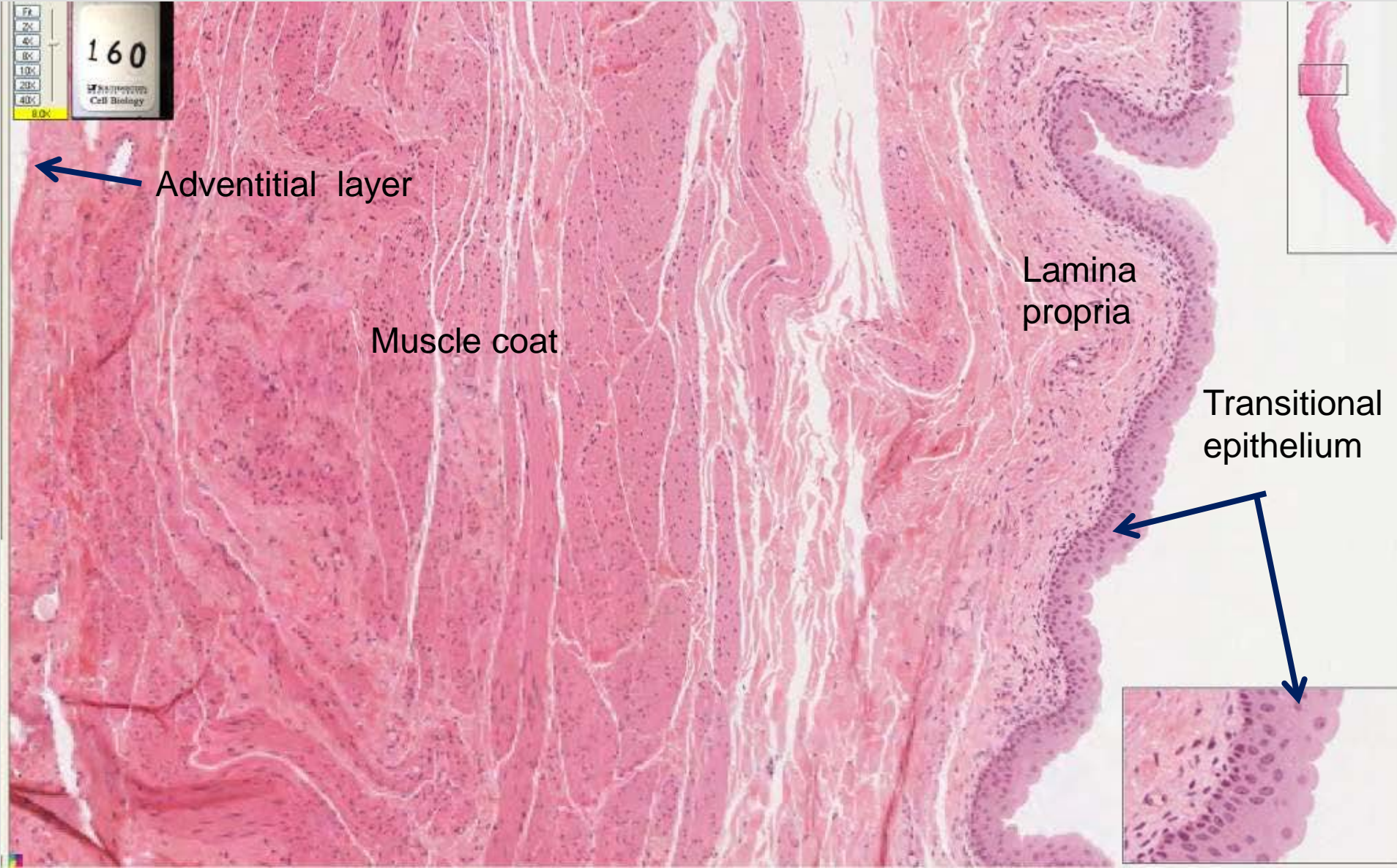


Fig. 15-9 Urinary Bladder: Mucosa (transverse section). Stain; hematoxylin-eosin. Medium magnification.

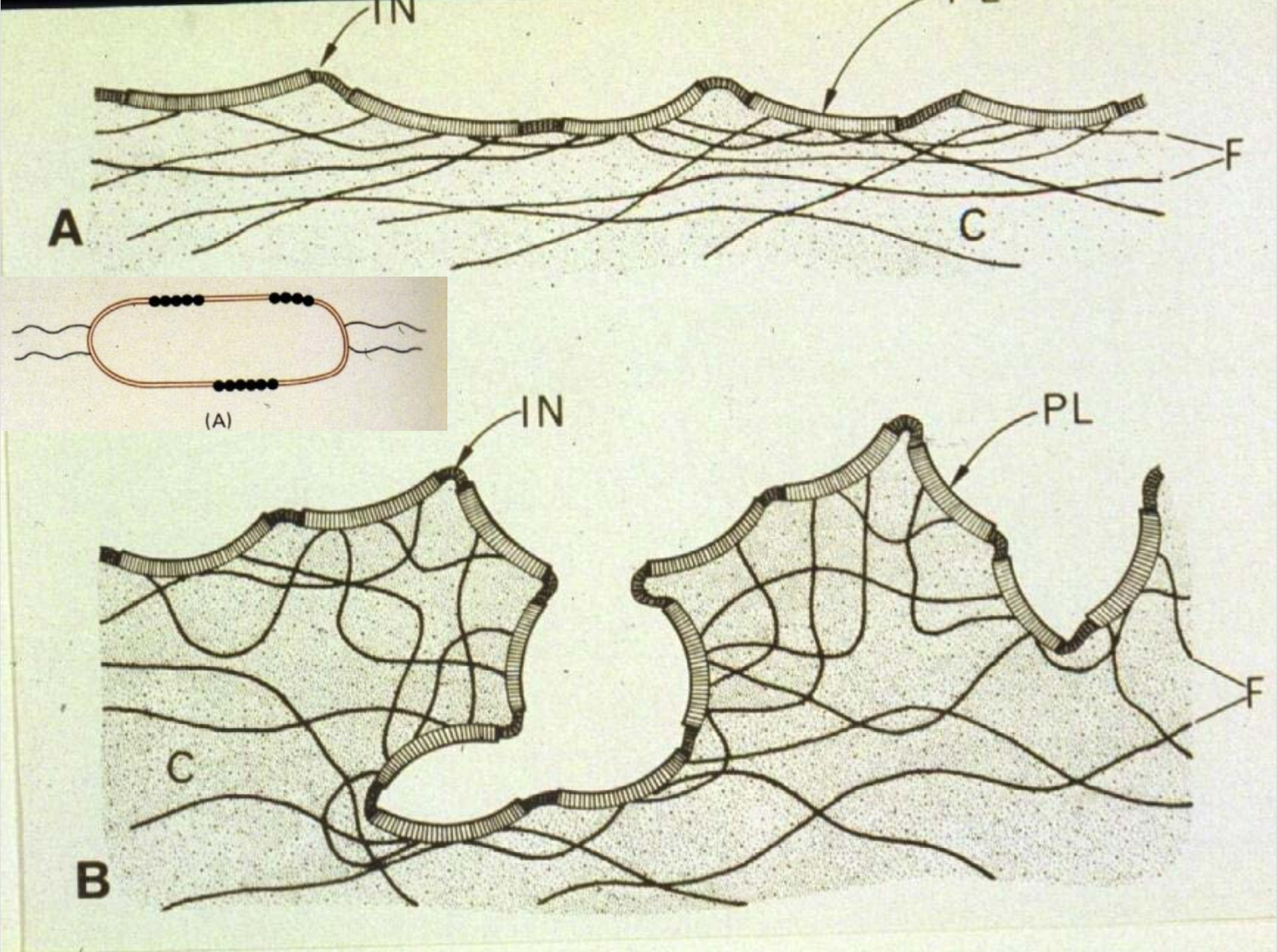


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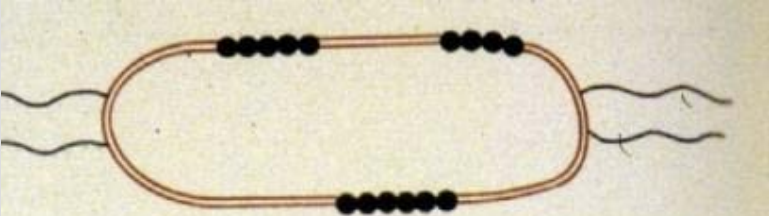
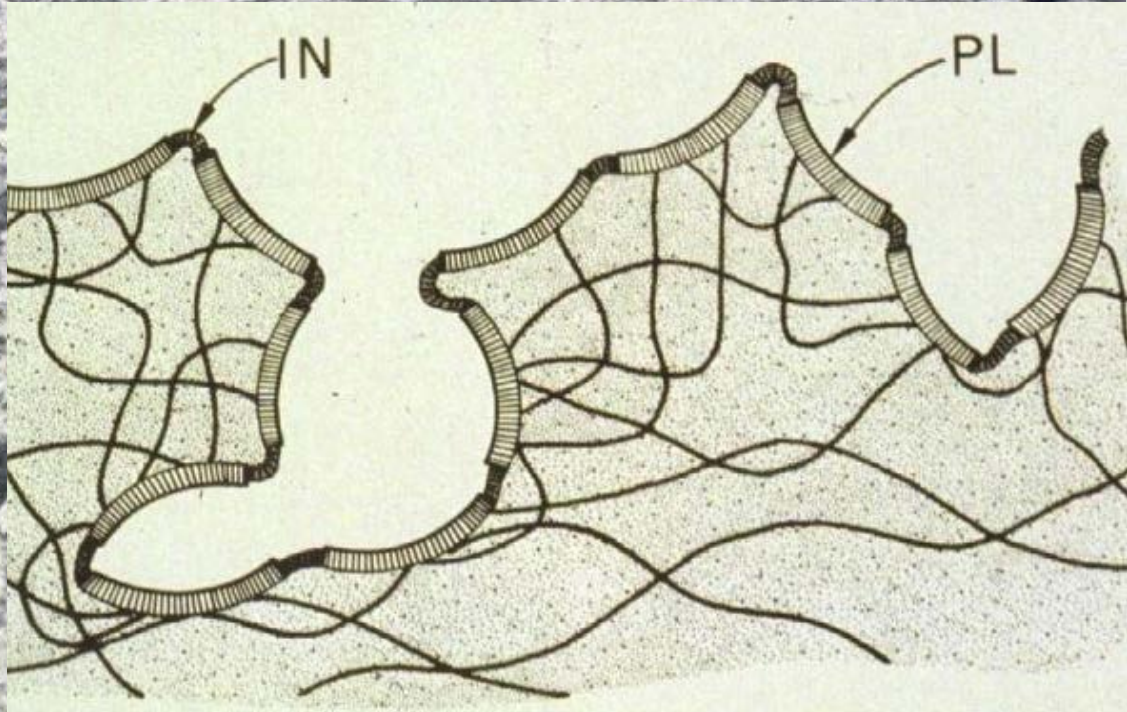
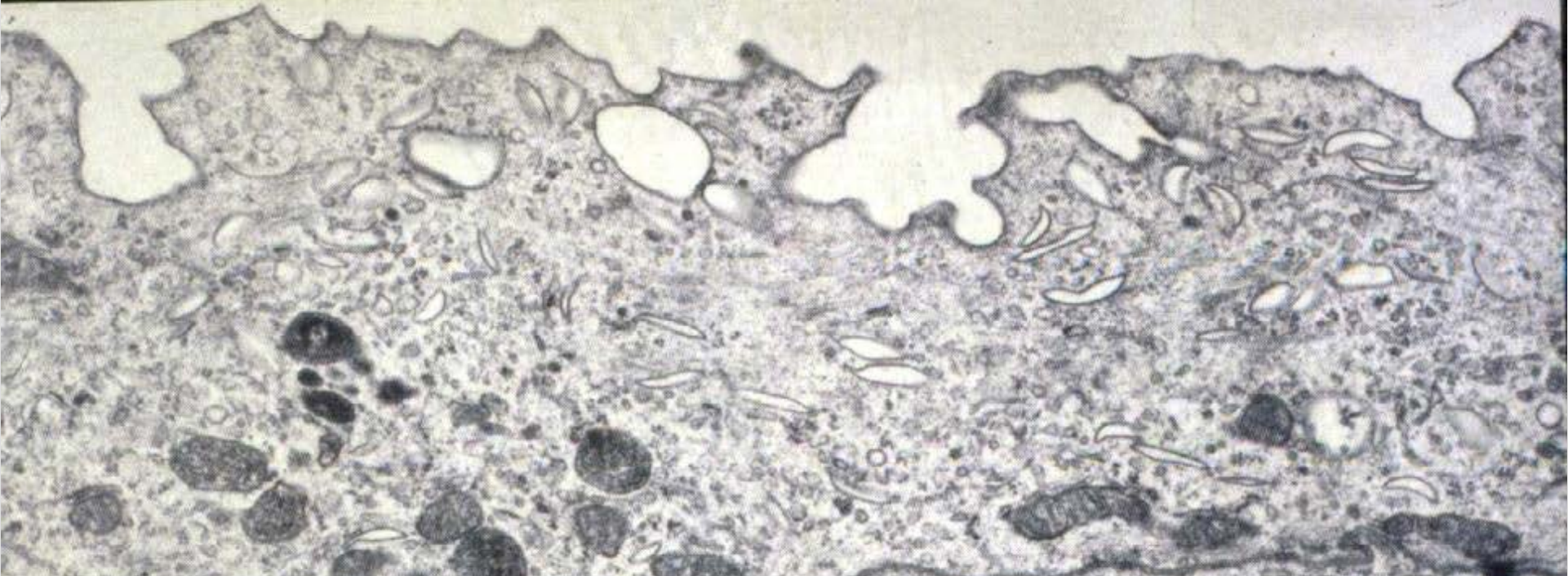
# Urinary bladder, monkey













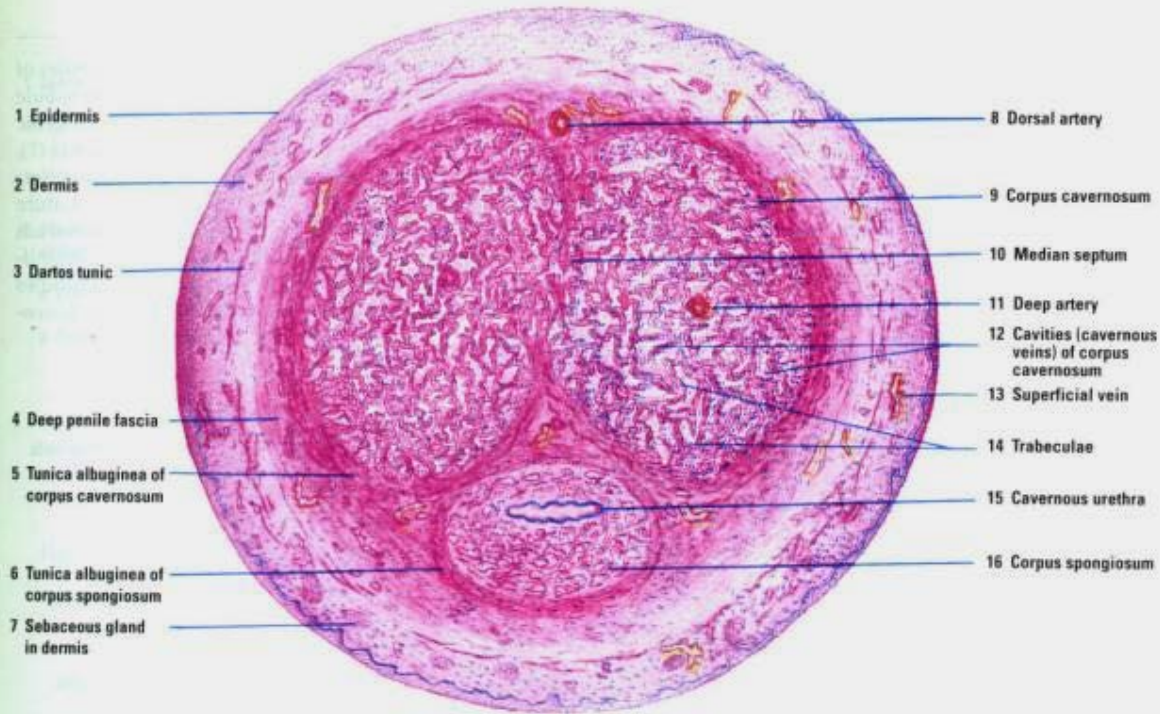


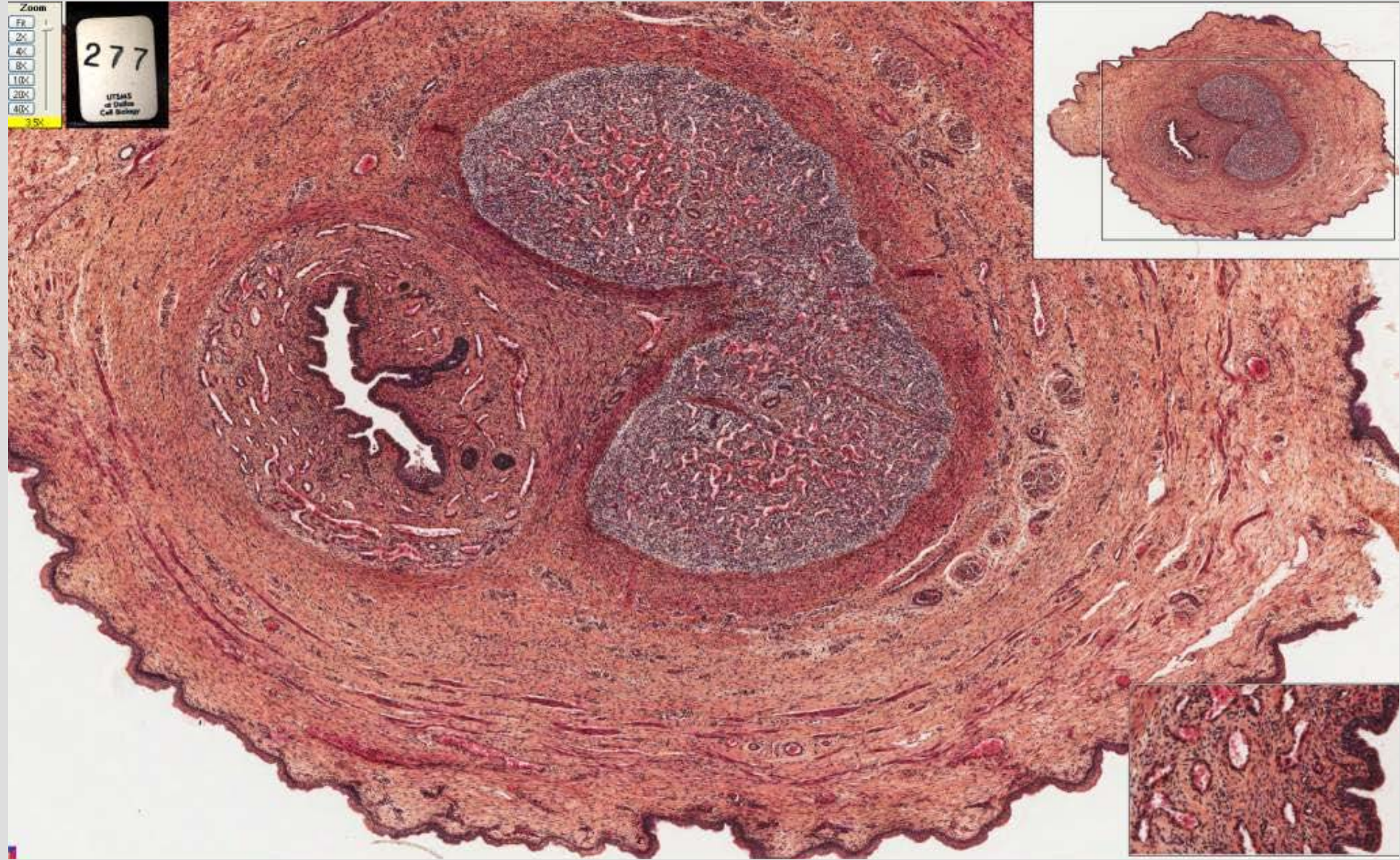
Fig. 17-13 Penis (transverse section). Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.



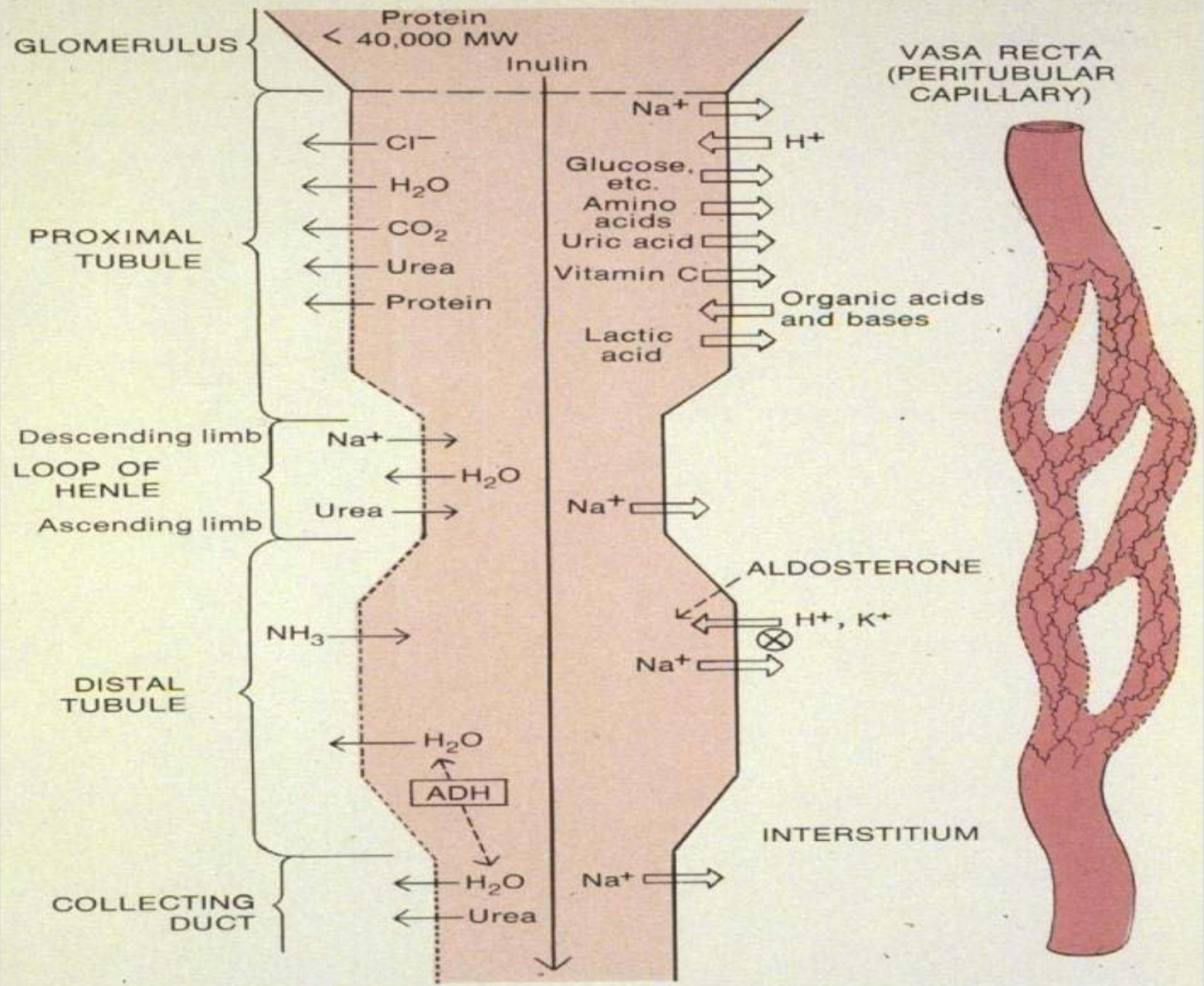
Fig. 17-14 Cavernous Urethra (transverse section). Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.



# 277 Human Penis – transitional epithelium and surrounding spongy cavernous of penial urethra



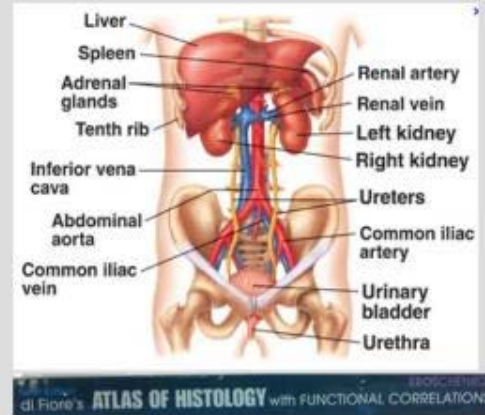
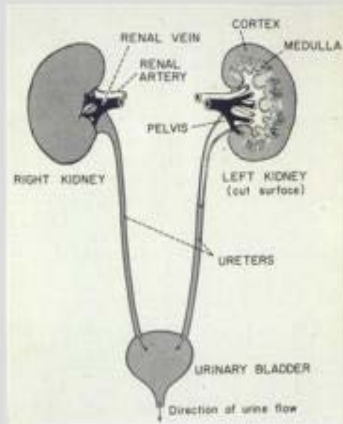






# In summary

## Function of Urinary System: Homeostasis

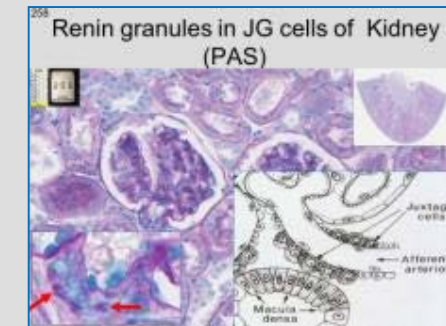
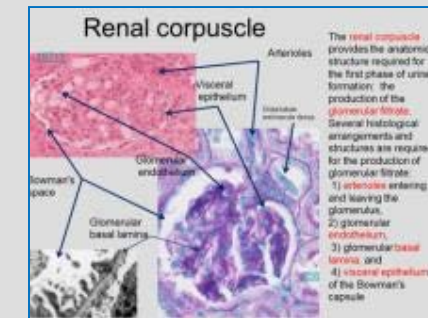
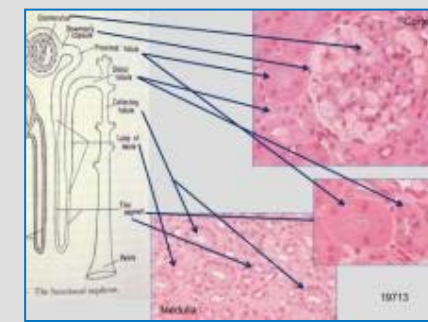


Rid body of waste (urea, uric acid, creatinine, salts)

Preserves constancy of extracellular fluid in composition, volume, and pH

Endocrine function

- Secrete erythropoietin - red blood cell production
- Produces renin - aldosterone release





Many illustrations in these VIBS Histology YouTube videos were modified from the following books and sources: Many thanks to original sources!

1. Alberts, et al., 1989. Molecular Biology of the Cell. 2nd Edition. Garland Publishing, Inc. New York. ISBN 0-8240-3695-6.
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20. Weiss, L. and Greep, R. 1977. Histology. 4th Edition. McGraw-Hill Book Company. New York. ISBN 0-07-069091-X.



# Questions on the urinary system

Which of the following process - structure combination(s) of the urinary tract match?

- a. filtration - renal corpuscle
- b. reabsorption of proteins - proximal tubule
- c. reabsorption of sugar - distal tubule
- d. a and b**
- e. a, b, and c

Renal corpuscles

- a. facilitate the interaction between the blood and uriniferous tubules**
- b. contain parietal cells that filters the blood
- c. contain mesangial cells that has renin granules
- d. a and b
- e. a, b, and c

Which characteristics facilitate maximal filtration of the glomerulus?

- a. large filter
- b. thin filter
- c. high blood pressure created by difference in the caliber of the afferent and efferent arterioles
- d. a and b
- e. a, b, and c**







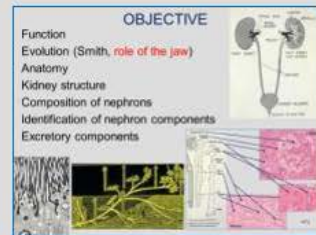
# The end of

## Medical School Histology Basics Urinary System

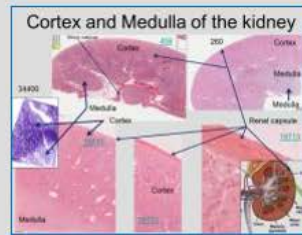
VIBS 243 lab

**OBJECTIVE**

- Function
- Evolution (Smith, *role of the jaw*)
- Anatomy
- Kidney structure
- Composition of nephrons
- Identification of nephron components
- Excretory components

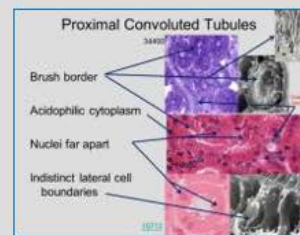


**Cortex and Medulla of the kidney**



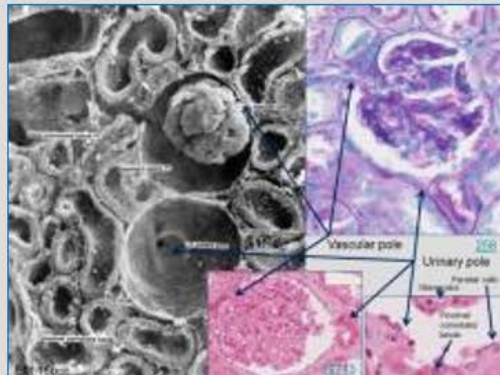
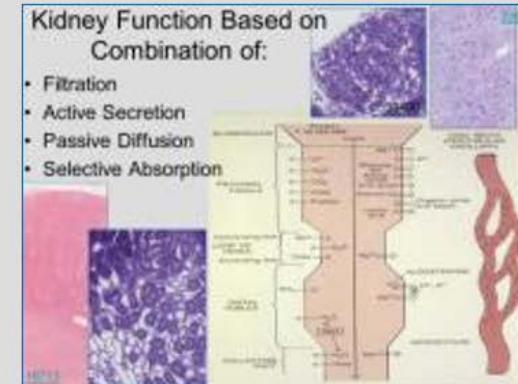
**Proximal Convoluted Tubules**

- Brush border
- Acidophilic cytoplasm
- Nuclei far apart
- Indistinct lateral cell boundaries



**Kidney Function Based on Combination of:**

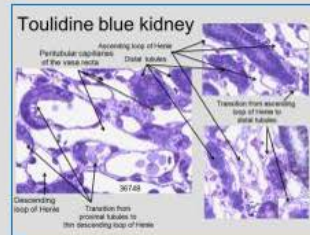
- Filtration
- Active Secretion
- Passive Diffusion
- Selective Absorption



**Vascular pole**

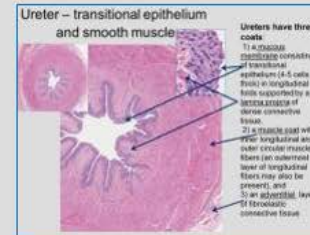
**Urinary pole**

**Toulidine blue kidney**



Ascending loop of Henle  
Distal tubules  
Transition from ascending loop of Henle to distal tubules  
Descending loop of Henle  
Transition from proximal tubules to their descending loop of Henle

**Ureter – transitional epithelium and smooth muscle**



Ureters have three coats  
1. **MUCOSA**  
transitional epithelium (4-5 cells thick) in longitudinal folds supported by a lamina propria of dense connective tissue  
2. **MUSCULARIS** (2 layers) with inner longitudinal and outer circular muscle fibers (an outermost layer of longitudinal fibers may also be present), and  
3. **SEROSA** (layer of fibroelastic connective tissue)

**160 Urinary bladder, monkey**



Apical part  
Lamina propria  
Transitional epithelium

Larry Johnson

Texas A&M University