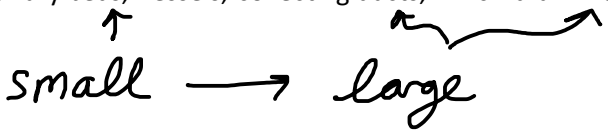
Lymphatic System

Wednesday, June 25, 2014
12:43 PM

Hydrostatic pressure forces fluid out of arteries through the cells of the capillary wall.
Osmotic pressure draws fluid back into the protein-rich plasma.
Net flow is outward --> lymph vessels return extra fluid to blood.
http://drmansvids.weebly.com/lymphatic-system.html

Key functions:

VASCULAR SYSTEM
1) "drainage" channels to return water and proteins to blood
2) delivers fats absorbed in the small intestine
3) transports cellular debris, pathogens, and foreign cells to lymph nodes, which serve as disposal site
Capillary beds, vessels, collecting ducts, which drain into veins in the lower neck.



ORGANS AND TISSUES: contribute to body's defense responses to injury and attack

Nodes - basically filters before lymph enters blood stream

Screen clipping taken: 7/1/2014, 10:09 PM

- Hold large quantities of lymphocytes (B and T cells)
- Identify pathogens in lymph and summon immune response
- http://www.visibleproductions.com/index.php?page=asset_detail&asset_id=vpl_0658_001

Tonsils - patches of lymphoid tissue at back of throat

Adenoids - patches of lymphoid tissue at rear of nasal cavity

Spleen (LARGEST LYMPHOID ORGAN; size of a fist) -
- **Filters blood, rather than lymph**
- filters pathogens, worn-out blood cells and platelets.
- Host to white blood cells that engulf and digest pathogens and defective body cells
- Host to antibody-producing B cells.
- If spleen is removed --> susceptible to infection

Thymus gland (very important for immunity)
- site of T lymphocyte differentiation; where they become capable of recognizing and responding to pathogens
- Makes hormones that regulate above process

Small patches of small intestine - Peyer's patch
Small patches of appendix