

# The Large Intestine

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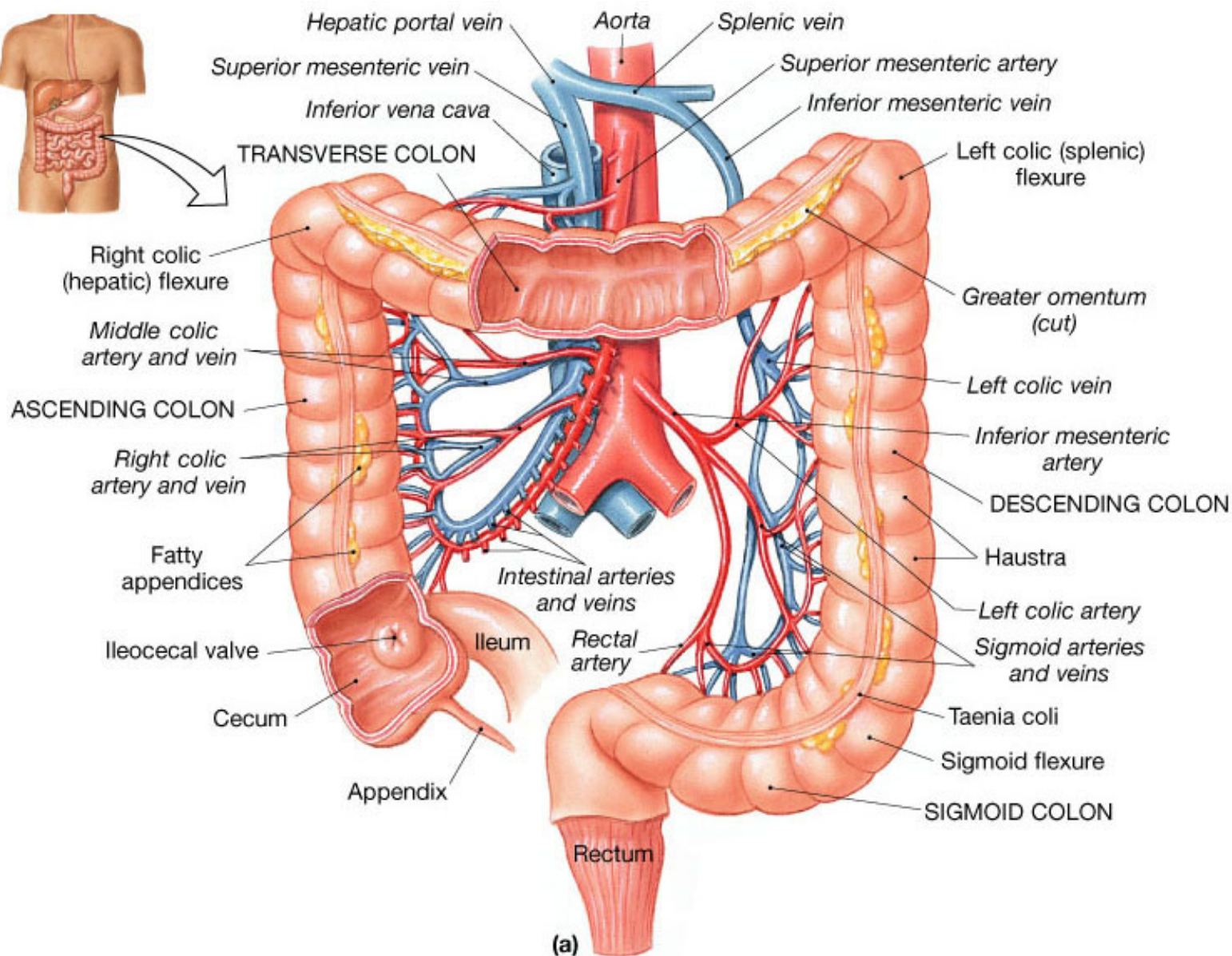
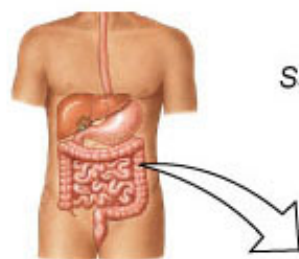
Dr. Alzoghaibi (L-9)

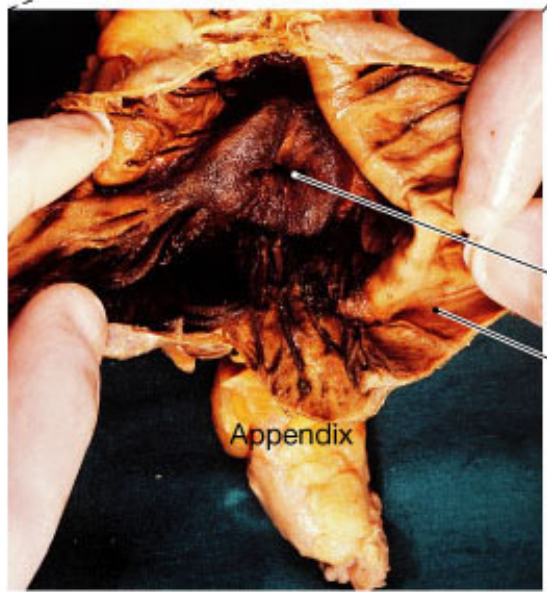
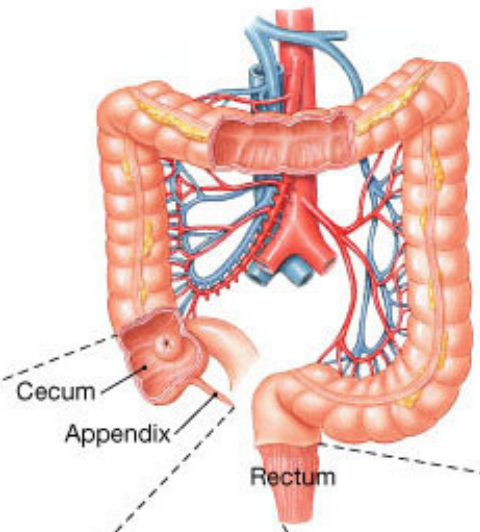
# Functions of the large intestine

- Reabsorb water and compact material into feces
- Absorb vitamins produced by bacteria
- Store fecal matter prior to defecation

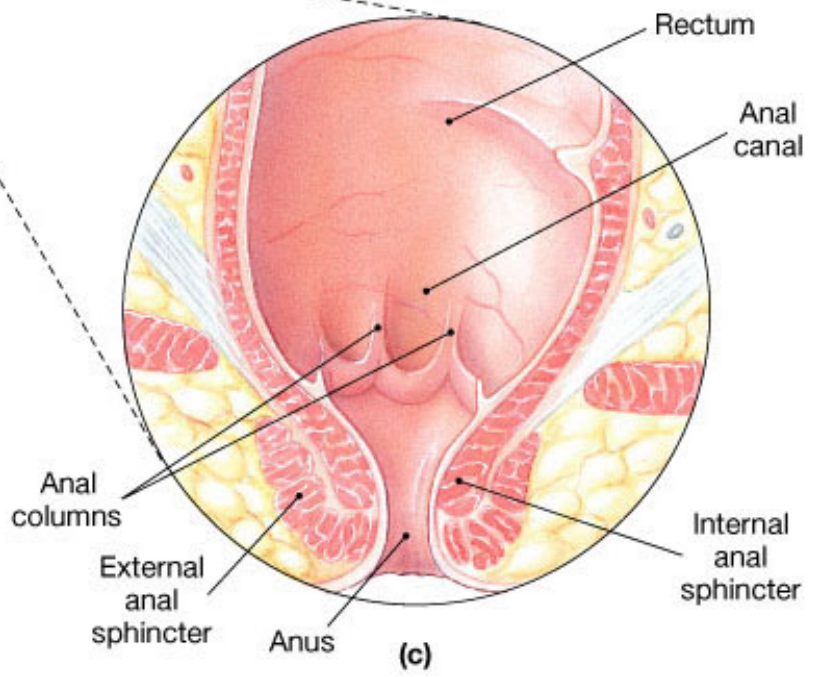
# The four areas of the colon are:

- Ascending
- Transverse
- Descending
- Sigmoid





(b)



(c)

# The rectum

- Last portion of the digestive tract
- Terminates at the anal canal
- Internal and external anal sphincters

# Histology of the large intestine

- Absence of villi
- Presence of goblet cells
- Deep intestinal glands

# Physiology of the large intestine

- Reabsorption in the large intestine includes:
  - Water
  - Vitamins – K, biotin, and B<sub>5</sub>
  - Organic wastes – urobilinogens and sterobilinogens
  - Bile salts
  - Toxins
- Mass movements of material through colon and rectum
  - Defecation reflex triggered by distention of rectal walls



