# (Renal Physiology 6) Renal Transport Process 2

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## **Loop of Henle**

- 25% NaCl, K+ absorbed as well as Ca<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>occurs in thick ascending limb (TAL)
- impermeable to water
- 15% water absorbed in thin descending limb
- permeable to water



## Loop of Henle

- Solute absorption (TAL):
- 1) Transcellular (50%)
  - a) Na+/2CI-/K+ cotransporter/ symporter b) NHE
    - i) Na+ in ii) H+ out iii) HCO3- in



I ransport mechanisms for NaCI reabsorption in the thick ascending limb of Henle's loop.

## **Loop of Henle**

### 2) Paracellular (50%)

- Loss of NaCl in tubule
  - $\Rightarrow \uparrow \text{ positive}$ charge compared to blood drives absorption



# Distal convoluted tubule (DCT) & collecting duct (CD)

- 7% NaCl
- 8 15 % water reabsorbed (needs ADH)
- Some K<sup>+</sup>, H<sup>+</sup> secreted into tubule
- Early DCT:
- Reabsorbs Na<sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup> and Ca<sup>++</sup> (impermeable to water)



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# Distal convoluted tubule (DCT) & collecting duct (CD)

### Late DCT:

• 2 cells:

1) principle cells: reabsorb Na+, water, secrete K+

- 2) intercalated cells: secrete or reabsorb H+ (inverse for HCO3-), reabsorb K<sup>+</sup>
- Na<sup>+</sup> diffuses via selective channels
- K<sup>+</sup> secreted down concentration.



## **Factors affecting Na reabsorption**

- 1. GFR: when increased causes an increase in filtration of Na which sensitise the macula densa.
- 2. Aldosterone.
- 3. Estrogens: Increase reabsorption of Na and decrease Na excretion.
- 4. Natriuretic hormone.
- 5. Osmotic diuresis (Increase Glucose, Mannitol and Urea) increase their conc. In the filtered load then causes a decrease in water reabsorption and Na.
- 6. Diuretic Drugs (Lasix)
- 7. Poorly reabsorbed anions causes retention of equal amount of Na.

## **Transport of potassium**

- Most abundant cation in the body
- 3,500-4,000 mmol in blood.
- 98 % is intracellular, [150mM]
  - Regulates intracellular function such as Cell volume, Acid/base status, cell growth & division
- 2% K extra-cellular [3.5-5mM]
  - This regulates membrane potentials in excitable cells and diffusion potentials in transporting epithelia.

- K<sup>+</sup> Intake 80-120 mmol/day
- Tissue damage leading to cell lysis increases plasma [K<sup>+</sup>]
- Both extracellular [K<sup>+</sup>] and total body potassium are tightly regulated.

### HOW?

## INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION (This regulates extracellular [K<sup>+</sup>])

### RENAL K<sup>+</sup> EXCRETION (This regulates total body potassium)

## **Internal potassium distribution**

- Potassium content of average meal is 30-40mmol. This is rapidly absorbed.
- Renal elimination is slow. It can take up to six hours eliminate this load.
- If nothing happened then this absorbed load would cause
  Plasma [K<sup>+</sup>] to rise by ~ 2-5mmol which is potentially lethal.
- Buffering of the load occurs by increased intracellular uptake via Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> pump into Skeletal Muscle, Liver, Bone RBCs etc.
- Loss of K<sup>+</sup> from exercising muscle can seriously increase plasma K<sup>+</sup>, trained athletes show accelerated uptake after exercise

## **Renal excretion of potassium**

- 90-95% of Dietary K excreted via the kidneys
- 5-10% in Sweat & Feces (This is unregulated and may become significant in diarrheas)
- In normal individual intake is matched by excretion and potassium balance is maintained.
- Filtered load of potassium ~ 720 mmol/day
- Bulk absorbed by proximal tubule and loop of Henle.



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## **Renal K<sup>+</sup> Transport mechanisms**

- Cell membrane transporters
  - Na<sup>-</sup>K ATPase, H<sup>-</sup>K ATPase
  - K<sup>+</sup> channels, K:CI cotransport
  - Na:K:2CI cotransport
- K<sup>+</sup> is Reabsorbed in PT, TAL & intercalated cell in CCD
- K<sup>+</sup> Secreted in late distal tubule and in principal cells of late DT & CCD

 Proximal Tubule: K<sup>+</sup> is absorbed by intercellular solvent drag whereby fluid movement driven by Na<sup>+</sup> absorption entrains K<sup>+</sup> ions



- TAL: Na:K:2Cl in luminal membrane
- K:Cl co-transport in baso-lateral membrane



# **CD:** K reabsorption is by the intercalated cells via a luminal H-K ATPase.

#### C CORTICAL COLLECTING TUBULE (CCT): α INTERCALATED CELL



 CD: K+ secretion in the principal cells (via luminal K channels and basolateral Na-K ATPase).



# Factors affecting potassium secretion

### **Peritubular factors:**

1.Hyperkalemia: increase K in tubular cells, increase chemical gradient of K between tubular cell and tubular lumen which lead to increase in the secretion and excretion of K.

2.Hyper-aldosteronism: increase aldosterone increase secretion and excretion of K.

3.Alkalosis: increase H-K exchange at baso-lateral membrane then increase secretion and excretion of K.

# Factors affecting potassium secretion

#### **Luminal factors:**

1.Diuresis: increase volume of urine and decrease conc of K in lumen which causes secretion via chemical gradient. (increase secretion and excretion)

2.Increased urinary excretion of Na: increase in Na-K exchange at luminal membrane causes an increase in secretion and excretion of K.

3.Increased urinary excretion of bicarbonate, phosphate, sulphate and ketone acids: increase negativeness of lumen then increase electrochemical gradient between cell and lumen causes secretion and excretion of K.