9.5 DIGESTION IN THE Small & Large Intestines

P. 412 - 420



SECTIONS OF THE SMALL INTESTINE

Duodenum

The duodenum is the first 25-30 cm and is where most enzymes are added and where digestion in the small intestine begins

Jejunum

In the jejunum, digestion continues and **some** nutrients are **absorbed**

lleum

The **majority** of nutrients are **absorbed** in the ileum

MAXIMIZING NUTRIENT ABSORPTION

The inner layer of the small intestine is folded into ridges containing fingerlike projections (villi) to maximize surface area for nutrient absorption
 X 10X increase in SA



MAXIMIZING NUTRIENT ABSORPTION

Furthermore, each of the single layered epithelial cells that make up the villi (singular: villus) has even smaller, microscopic projections of the cell membrane called microvilli (singular: microvillus)



The combined effect of the <u>villi and</u> <u>microvilli</u> is estimated to increase the surface area by a factor of 500.

NUTRIENT ABSORPTION

- Within each villus is a network of tiny blood vessels called capillaries.
 - All nutrients, except digested fats, enter the bloodstream through the capillaries
- X Digested fats are transported through small vessels called lacteals.
 - X The digested fats are transported into the lymphatic system, and from there into the bloodstream





pyloric sphincter



DIGESTIVE & ACCESSORY ORGANS

Digestive Organs

The **alimentary canal** is made of **digestive organs** that form a **hollow tube**

(mouth to anus).

Food passes through the digestive organs.



Accessory Organs

The accessory organs **secrete fluids** into the tract that aid in digestion.

Food **does not** pass through the accessory organs.





THE PANCREAS

 X Connects to the duodenum via the pancreatic duct



- X Spongy, elongated and tapered
- X Sits behind stomach
- X Head sits in C-part of duodenum
- X Glands produce and secrete substances into the body











Hormones cholecystokinin (CCK) and secretin when chyme enters duodenum

CONTROLLING PANCREAS: HORMONE CCK

- X When fat-rich chyme enters the duodenum, cholecystokinin (CCK) is secreted by special cells in the duodenum and released into the bloodstream.
 - CCK signals the pancreas to secrete a variety of substances, including enzymes that are needed for lipid, carbohydrate, and protein digestion.
 - X CCK also signals the stomach to slow down the movement of chyme into the small intestine so that fats can be properly digested.



CONTROLLING PANCREAS: SECRETIN

- X The low pH of chyme (about 2.5) triggers a chemical called prosecretin that is present in the epithelial cells of the small intestine to be converted into its active form, secretin.
 - X Secretin stimulate the pancreas to release bicarbonate ions to neutralize the acidic chyme and raise the pH from about pH 2.5 to pH 9.0.
 - X Thus, secretin **protects** the small intestine from stomach acids.



			Duodenum
	Cholecystokinin (CCK)	Secretin	
Released by small intestine in response to presence of:	fat	acid	Secretin Bicarb (HC
Stimulates secretion of:	digestive enzymes	bicarbonate	CCK Pancreatic

DIGESTIVE ENZYMES: PROTEASE TRYPSIN

- X Recall that **pepsin** (protein digestive enzyme in stomach) is only active in acidic conditions
 - X Therefore, <u>not</u> active in small intestine
- X The pancreas releases **trypsinogen**, which is an inactive form of a protein-digesting enzyme called **trypsin**. The trypsinogen travels from the pancreas to the duodenum
 - Once it reaches the duodenum, an enzyme called enterokinase converts it into active trypsin
 - X Trypsin further breaks down any partially digested proteins that remain and converts other proenzymes into their active forms





DIGESTIVE ENZYMES: LIPASES

- X Fats that enter the duodenum are subjected to the action of lipases
 - X Lipases are enzymes secreted by the pancreas that break down lipids into fatty acid molecules.
- However, fats in chyme are present as large globules.
 - X Lipases cannot penetrate beyond the surface of the fat globules. The liver and its secretions (bile) must become involved.



THE LIVER & GALLBLADDER

- X The liver produces and secretes bile, a substance that emulsifies fats, breaking them into tiny droplets called micelles
 - X This gives the lipases (enzyme) a much greater surface area on which to act, and the rate of lipid digestion increases
- X Bile is continuously produced in the liver, but it is stored in the gallbladder
 - X Bile travels to the gallbladder:
 - Liver → hepatic ducts (L & R) →common hepatic duct → cystic duct →gallbladder
 - X When lipids are present in the SI, bile is squeezed out of the gallbladder:
 - **Gallbladder** → cystic duct → common bile duct → **duodenum**



OTHER ROLES OF THE LIVER

- X The removal and breakdown of toxins, (ie. alcohol) occurs in the liver.
- X The liver is also involved in producing and storing glycogen and fat soluble vitamins.

REMEMBER THE HORMONES RELEASED WHEN CHYME ENTERS DUODENUM? (MORE FUNCTIONS)

INTESTINE

Secretin

Secretin stimulates the flow of bile from the <u>liver</u> to the <u>gallbladder</u>

CCK Cholecystokinin

CCK stimulates the **gallbladder** to contract, causing bile to be secreted into the duodenum







Mechanisms for moving substances across cell membranes



Passive Transport:

- X Movement of <u>small</u> particles <u>with</u> their concentration gradient
- X Particles move from area of ↑concentration → area of ↓concentration
- X No energy required!

DIFFUSION

- Small particles can diffuse on their own
- ***** "Osmosis" is the term for diffusion of water specifically

FACILITATED DIFFUSION

 Large particles require membrane proteins to facilitate their diffusion (e.g. protein channels A and B)



Active transport:

- Movement of <u>large</u> particles <u>against</u> their concentration gradient
- ✗ From area of ↓ concentration → area of ↑ concentration
 ✗ Energy ATP is required
- **X** Transport proteins move materials across membrane



STRUCTURE OF THE LARGE INTESTINE (LI)

- X Approximately 1.5 m in length
- X Approximately 7.6 cm in diameter
 - X 2-3 times larger in diameter than the small intestine
- X The large intestine consists of the cecum, appendix, colon, rectum, and anus
 - The colon is separated into four parts: ascending, transverse, descending and sigmoid



NOTE:

- The cecum is a pouch that receives processed material
- The appendix is vestigial
- The rectum is up to 20 cm long



FUNCTIONS OF THE LARGE INTESTINE

Digestion is complete and most of the nutrients, including ~90% of water, have been absorbed by the time the digested material reaches the large intestine

- As indigestible material, such as cellulose, passes through the colon,
 water (~10%) is absorbed through the process of osmosis
 - X It may take 4 to 72 hrs for the undigested material to pass through the large intestine, depending on the types and volume of food eaten.
 - Approximately 20 L of fluids pass through the large intestine daily, and most of this is reabsorbed back into the body.
- ✓ Vitamins B and K, and minerals, sodium (Na⁺) and chloride (Cl⁻) ions, are also absorbed in the LI

BACTERIA IN THE COLON

- × 500+ species of bacteria normally inhabit the LI
- X E. coli is the most common species
- X They exist in a **symbiosis**:



- X Bacteria live in a suitable environment and have access to a plentiful food supply
- X In return, they produce essential vitamins (e.g. vit K and B)
- X Another byproduct of bacterial action is gas— some is absorbed in the large intestine and some is released as flatulence
- X Although these bacteria are needed, some strains can create serious or even fatal problems if they enter and reproduce in the stomach or small intestine

EGESTION

- Indigestible food such as cellulose and other fibers are important
 - X Add bulk and provides full feeling
 - Retain water in large intestine to help in egestion

The **absorption** of water in the large intestine results in a soft solid (feces)

- If too much water was absorbed
 → constipation
- If too little water was absorbed
 → diarrhea

Nerves in wall of the large intestine detects movement of feces in rectum \rightarrow defecation reflex activated

Defecation is controlled by two sphincter muscles in the anus

EGESTION: ANAL SPHINCTERS

Internal sphincter

X smooth, involuntary

External sphincter

- **X** skeletal, voluntary
- Feces is eliminated when both sphincters are relaxed



ENDOSCOPE

- Designed to look inside the body X
 - **Endoscopy:** any procedure X that uses an endoscope to look inside the body
- X Narrow tube with a light source, lens, and camera for imaging
 - Enters body through mouth X anus, or an incision
- Different attachments can be X inserted to perform different procedures including:
 - **Biopsy:** taking a sample of X tissue for examination **Surgery**: such as. gallbladder removal





Capsule endoscopes look like a pill and can be swallowed. The capsule takes thousands of images as it makes its way down the entire tract.

SUMMARY

Homework: P. 420 #1, 2a, 3, 7 & 8

9.5 Summary

- Most digestion takes place in the duodenum and the jejunum of the small intestine. Enzymes, hormones, and bile from the pancreas and the liver are secreted into the bloodstream or directly into the duodenum.
- The mucosa of the small intestine consists of villi and microvilli, which greatly increase the surface area for absorption.
- Absorption of nutrients occurs in the jejunum and ileum in the small intestine. Water, sodium, and chlorine ions, and some vitamins, are absorbed in the colon in the large intestine.
- Passive transport is the movement of materials across a cell membrane without the expenditure of energy by the cell. Passive transport includes diffusion, facilitated diffusion, and osmosis.
- Active transport uses the cell's own energy to move materials into or out of the cell.
- Indigestible material, such as cellulose, and other waste products are collected in the rectum and egested as feces through the anus.





CELIAC DISEASE

Autoimmune reaction to gluten
 Body essentially attacks gluten
 (considered foreign to body)
 causing damage to villi



Flattened villi negatively impact body's ability to absorb nutrients

- → Celiac disease can be triggered at any point in one's lifetime
- ➔ In Canada, 1.0% of the population is affected by celiac
 - 90% of celiac disease cases remain undiagnosed.
- → Symptoms: chronic diarrhea, abdominal distention, malabsorption, and loss of appetite.

CELIAC DISEASE TREATMENT



FOLLOW A STRICT GLUTEN-FREE DIET

Lifelong adherence to a strict gluten-free diet will allow he immune system to repair itself, which will keep ymptoms from flaring up.

CORRECT ANY NUTRIENT DEFICIENCIES

Talk to your doctor about performing tests to confirm any deficiencies, then take quality supplements to help speed up the healing process and fill in any gaps.



CONSIDER ADDITIONAL TESTS DONE TO CHECK BONES. SKIN AND JOINTS

Some doctors will order a bone density test or other tests to determine if deficiencies have caused problems like bone loss or joint inflammation.

CYSTIC FIBROSIS

- X Mucus clogs the pancreas
- Digestive enzymes are not able to get to the duodenum
- Food is improperly digested and absorbed (especially lipids and proteins)
- **X** Can lead to malnutrition
- X Individuals must take replacement enzymes



PEPTIC ULCER

- A sore in the lining of the stomach or duodenum
- Most common cause: Helicobacter pylori bacteria damaging protective mucous layer surrounding epithelial cells
- Acid reaches stomach lining and forms a sore



PEPTIC ULCER



Symptoms

- → Feeling bloated/full \rightarrow Loss of weight
- → Nausea and vomiting (vomiting blood potentially)
- → Dark/black coloured stool (as a result of bleeding)
- → 2-10% perforate hole could lead to bacteria entering the abdomen and possibly to sepsis

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE:

the umbrella term for a group of diseases that cause inflammation (swelling) of the intestines.





CROHN'S DISEASE

- Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)
- Causes inflammation of the digestive tract
- X Decreases absorptive area

Symptoms of IBD Sufferers

- Abdominal pain
- Mouth/stomach ulcers
- Diarrhea
- Rectal bleeding
- Loss/change in appetite
- Fever
- Weight loss
- Fatigue
- Change/loss of menstrual cycle

PATCHY INFLAMMATION THROUGHOUT SMALLAND LARGE BOWEL



ULCERATIVE COLITIS

- A form of inflammatory disease that attacks the colon (large intestine)
- X Causes inflammation
- X Decreases absorptive area
- **X** Ulcers form instead of fissures





Crohn's Disease

Age of onset: 15–35 years and 55–70 years Symptoms: Depends on location of disease. May include abdominal pain, diarrhea, weight loss and fatigue.

Bloody stool: Variable Malnutrition: Common



Ulcerative Colitis

Age of onset: 15-35 years and 55-70 years

Symptoms: May include stool urgency, fatigue, increased bowel movements, mucous in stool, nocturnal bowel movements and abdominal pain.

Bloody stool: Common

Malnutrition: Less common

That's partly because UC affects only your colon (large intestine) and rectum.

GALLSTONES

- Cholesterol in the bile precipitates out and forms
 crystals that become gallstones
- **X** Risk factors include obesity, high cholesterol intake, and heredity.
- ✗ If a gallstone gets stuck in the bile duct, it may block the passage of bile into the intestine. Bile will then seep into the bloodstream→ jauncice





Treatment:

- ➔ Medications
- → Ultrasound shock waves (to disintegrate stones)
- → Gallbladder removal (can survive without one bile will go directly to small intestine)

DIABETES

- Insulin is a hormone released by the pancreas to allow glucose to enter the body's cells
- *x* Individuals with diabetes either
 1) do not produce enough insulin or
 - 2) cannot use insulin properly
- **Problem -** Not enough sugar is delivered to cells. Sugar (chemical energy) is needed for ATP production!



	Types of Diabetes		
Type 1	Immune system destroys insulin producing cells in pancreas. Hereditary.		
Туре 2	Not enough insulin, or unable to use insulin properly. • Due to high sugar diets and/or obesity		
Gestational	Occurs in women in pregnancy due to fluctuating hormones and insulin levels.		

Treatment:

- → Carefully monitoring diet & blood sugar levels
- ➔ Insulin injections

HEPATITIS

- X This is a disease that causes inflammation of the liver resulting from viral infection
 X Hinders liver's ability to produce bile
- X Difficult to digest fatty foods
 X Build up of fluid in stomach (ascites) causes pain





CIRRHOSIS

- The liver is the only organ that can regenerate itself.
- X The healthy tissue within the liver is replaced with scar tissue.
 - Scar tissue prevents blood from flowing and slows liver's ability to filter nutrients and remove toxins
 - X Damage to liver is irreversible

Caused by hepatitis and alcoholism

X



