The kidneys maintain proper blood composition by regulating water, protein, and electrolyte levels. When waste material is detected in the blood, the kidneys filter it and pass it on to the bladder.

Each kidney is made up of millions of filtering units called nephrons, which consist of 2 parts: the glomerulus and the tubule.

The glomerulus is the filter that acts like a colander holding spaghetti. It allows the water to pass through, keeping valuable nutrients and proteins in the body, and filters the waste materials out.

The tubule collects these waste materials into urine, and sends it to the bladder to be excreted from the body.

**Nephrotic Syndrome** occurs when glomeruli become damaged, allowing key proteins to leave the body.

**Protein loss** upsets the balance of the blood chemistry and results in swelling, malnutrition, and proteinuria.

**Left untreated** Nephrotic Syndrome can progressively and permanently damage the kidneys and lead to complete kidney failure.

To learn more, please visit our website at NephCure.org.