

# THE KIDNEYS

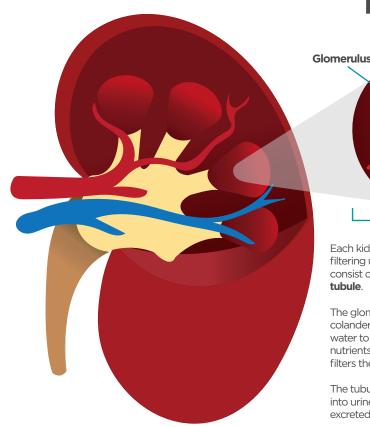
# Keeping Body Fluids in Balance

## **FUNCTION**

The kidneys maintain proper blood composition by regulating water, blood, the kidneys filter it and pass it on to the bladder.

**Tubule** 

## **FILTERING**



### **Nephron**

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

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.

## **FAST FACTS**



The kidneys sit just below the rib cage toward the back of your body on the right and left side



Each kidney is roughly the size of your fist



In one day, your kidneys blood and produce up to 2 liters of waste in the form of urine

## **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

progressively and permanently damage the kidnevs and lead

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