

Introduction

- The body system which is responsible for specific immunity which defenses specific microbe is lymphatic system.
- ▶ It is a closed system.
- Lymph is the specialized fluid connective tissue which contains a large no of lymphocytes.
- Lymphatic system consists of lymph, lymphatic vessels, lymphatic capillaries, lymphatic tissue, lymph nodes, red bone marrow.



Function :-

- □ Transports lipids and lipid soluble vitamins absorbed by git.
- Drains excess interstitial fluid from tissue space.
- Protect body against infection.
- □ Produce specific responses against specific microbes.
- □ Carries wastes from tissue to blood
- Produce lymphocytes.

Lymph

- Lymph is clear colorless tissue fluid.
- □ Lymph is the specialized fluid connective tissue.
- □ Located inside the lymphatic system
- □ Formed by filtration of tissue fluid into lymphatic vessels.
- Consists of blood plasma, lymphocytes, fat, nutrients, gases, hormones.
- □ Volume 3ltrs/day
- □ Cant return back to blood because of conc. Gradient.
- □ Show one way movement.
- □ pH of lymph is 7.0 (slightly alkaline)



Function of lymph

- Lymph transports oxygen, food materials, hormones etc., to the body cells
- And brings carbon dioxide and other metabolic wastes, from the body cells to blood.
- It keeps the body cells moist.
- It destroys the invading microorganisms and foreign particles in the lymph nodes









Lymphatic capillaries

The capillaries in which lymph flows i.e. more permeable than blood capillaries. Larger proteins, lipids can be absorbed.

Lymphatic vessels

The vessels begin with lymphatic capillaries. lymphatic vessel contains valves, so that lymph shows one way movement.

Lymph trunk

The lymphatic vessels unite to form lymph trunks which opens into 2 main ducts.

Lymphatic duct

- Those 2 ducts where the trunk drains lymph are:
 - Left lymphatic duct & right lymphatic duct
 - LLD receives lymph from left side of head, neck, chest & entire inferior portion of body & drains at junction of left jugular vein & left subclavian vein.
 - RLD receives lymph from upper right side of body & drains at junction of right jugular vein & right subclavian vein.

Lymph nodes

- Small bean shaped glands
- Located along with lymphatic vessels
- Present about 600 no's
- They occur in groups.
- Usually scattered throughout the body but larger groups are found near mammary glands, axillae, groin
- Length 1-25mm



Structure of lymph node

- Covered by dense connective tissue i.e. capsule
- Capsular extensions that divides it into compartments i.e. trabeculae
- It is divided into 2 regions i.e. superficial cortex & medulla.
- Egg shaped B cells aggregates inside the cortex i.e. lymphatic nodules.
- Lymphatic vessels emerge with lymph node at a slight depression i.e. hilum.
- Lymph enters into the lymph node through afferent lymphatic vessels & drains through efferent lymphatic vessels which contains valve that opens according to flow path.



Function of lymph node

- Produce plasma proteins.
- Filter solid particles from lymph
- Separates foreign substances from lymph.
- Produce lymphocytes
 - T-cells produced in cortex region
 - B-cells produced in medulla region.

Thymus

- Bilobed organ
- Located between sternum & aorta
- Reddish in appearance because of high content of lymphoid tissue & rich blood supply.
- In infant 70gms
- After maturity 3gms
- Helps in production & proliferation of T-cells.

Spleen

- Largest oval shaped organ.
- Highly vascular
- Located between stomach & diaphragm
- Neighboring organs make indentations
 - Gastric impression
 - Renal impression
 - Colic impression
- At hilum, splenic artery, splenic vein & efferent lymphatic vessels pass.
- Covered by dense connective tissue i.e. capsule
- Capsular extension inwards forms trabeculae.
- Consists of 2 types of tissues i.e.
 - White pulp- contains lymphocytes & macrophages
 - Red pulp- contains rbc & splenic tissues



SPLEEN ANATOMY



Function of Spleen

- Produce antibodies
- Produce blood cells during fetal growth.
- Fixed macrophages destroy blood borne pathogens & rbc
- Storage of platelet & blood cells.
- Removes ruptured, worn out, defective blood cells & platelets.