

### 6.2 - CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

- transport nutrients, hormones, antibodies
- transport oxygen to cells
- transport waste away from cells (incl. CO<sub>2</sub> & urea)
- maintain body temperature (transport heat)
- control blood pressure
- blood clotting

### COMPONENTS OF BLOOD

- 55% plasma: liquid portion (water, proteins, solutes)
- 45% cells

Sickle cell anemia  
<http://www.netwellness.org/ency/images/en/1223.jpg>

American Society for Clinical Pathology  
<http://www.ascp.org/default.aspx>

### Blood Composition

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    graph TD
      Blood[Blood] --> Plasma[Plasma (Liquid part)]
      Blood --> Cells[Cells]
      Blood --> Platelets[Platelets]
      Plasma --> PlasmaSub[Proteins, nutrients & dissolved solutes]
      Cells --> Erythrocytes[Erythrocytes (red blood cells)]
      Cells --> Leucocytes[Leucocytes (white blood cells)]
      Platelets --> BloodClotting[Blood clotting]
      Erythrocytes --> ErythrocytesSub[O2 & CO2 transport]
      Leucocytes --> Phagocytes[Phagocytes (non-specific immune response)]
      Leucocytes --> Lymphocytes[Lymphocytes (antibody production)]
    
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### 1) Plasma

- straw coloured fluid
- 90 % water
- carries waste, gasses, proteins, hormones
- 50-55 % of blood

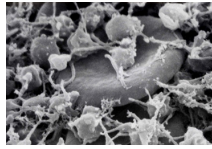
### 2) Erythrocytes (red blood cells)

- 40 % of blood
- round cells with hollow depression in centre to increase surface area
- has no nucleus or mitochondria
- contains hemoglobin (protein that carries oxygen)
- carries O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>
- produced in bone marrow; stored in spleen
- Lifespan = 120 days

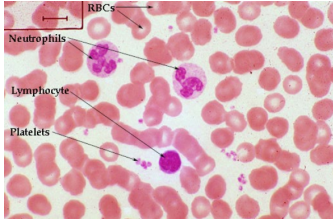
### 3) Leukocytes (White Blood Cells)

- Large irregular shaped cells with a nucleus
- Phagocytes are involved in immune response
- Lymphocytes produce antibodies

**4) PLATELETS**  
(Thrombocytes)



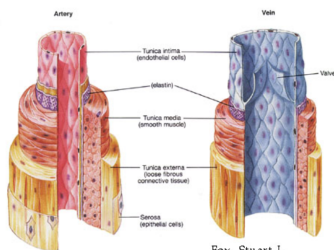
- Small cell fragments
- no nucleus
- Blood clotting agents



**Blood Vessels**

ARTERIES	CAPILLARIES	VEINS
Move blood away from the heart	Exchange of materials between blood and tissues	Move blood towards the heart
Has thick muscular walls	Thin walls 1 cell layer thick	Has thin walls
Narrow lumen	1 cell at a time	Wide lumen
No valves	No valves	Valves to prevent backflow
Move blood at high speed	Move blood at low speed. Cells move single file	Move blood at moderate speed
High pressure (blood spurts)	Low pressure	Low pressure (blood flows)
Generally O <sub>2</sub> rich (bright red blood)	Links arterioles and venules	Generally O <sub>2</sub> low (dark red blood)

**Blood Vessels**



Fox, Stuart I.  
Human Physiology 4th  
Brown Publishers

