

Vocabulary



kidney the excretory organ that filters wastes from the blood

About 2,000 liters of blood pass through the kidneys each day. The wastes that are filtered out leave the body in urine.

osmosis the diffusion of water across a membrane

Water diffuses from where it is more concentrated to where it is less concentrated. In living things, water diffuses across the cell membrane.

sweat gland a structure in the skin that removes salt and water from the body and helps cool the body

The skin has more than two million sweat glands. The skin is your largest excretory organ.

ureter the tube that carries urine from a kidney to the urinary bladder

Your body has two ureters, one from each kidney. The ureter is 8 to 10 inches long in adults.

urethra the tube that carries urine from the urinary bladder to the outside of the body

Your body has one urethra.

urinary bladder the organ that collects and stores urine until it leaves the body

The urinary bladder can store as much as one-half liter of urine.

urine a liquid that is formed in the kidneys and contains wastes

The average adult produces one to two liters of urine each day.