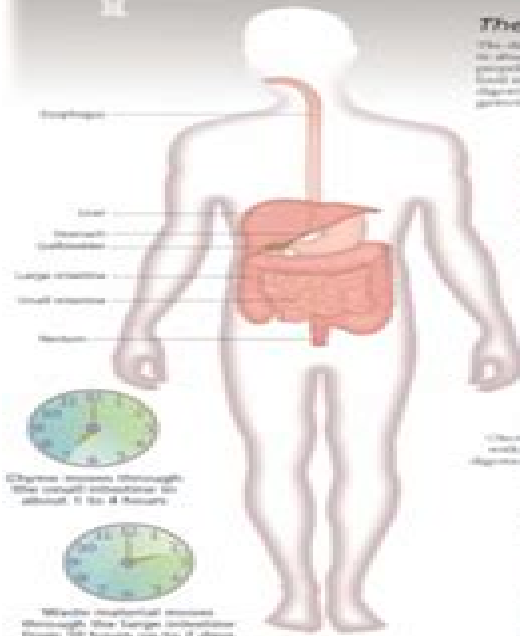




The Digestive Process

The digestive system

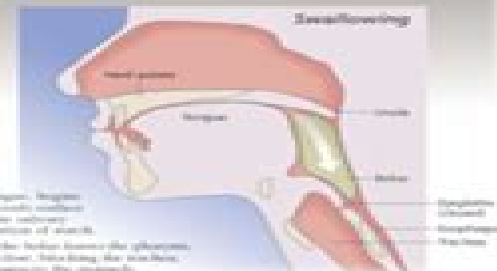
The digestive system, or gastrointestinal tract, is essentially a muscular tube in which food is broken down by the action of enzymes and chemical substances. Food enters the mouth, is chewed, and is propelled through a series of different accessory and absorptive components. Within these components, food is digested (broken down) by digestive enzymes and components that absorb it. The digestive system also stores undigested components until they are ready to be expelled at the end of the gastrointestinal tract.



Ingestion

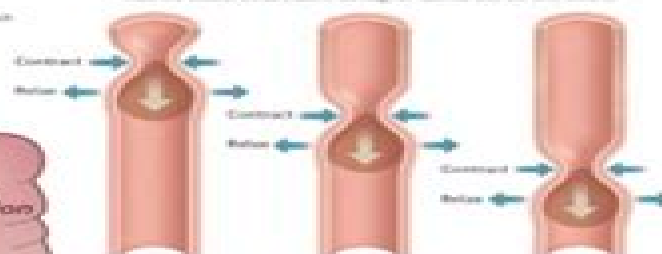
Chewing & swallowing

Chewing, the mechanical action of the mouth and tongue, begins the breakdown of solid food. This greatly increases food's surface area and exposes the food more fully to enzymes of the salivary glands. Saliva softens the food and begins the digestion of starch. The mixture of food and saliva is called a *bolus*. In the bolus, the pharynx, the esophagus, a flap-like valve, and the vocal cord contract, forcing the bolus forward, where it moves into the esophagus for the stomach.



Peristaltic action

Material is moved through the digestive system by a series of smooth muscle contractions called peristalsis. The muscle is relaxed in the material contents, while the muscle ahead contracts, forcing the material into the next section.

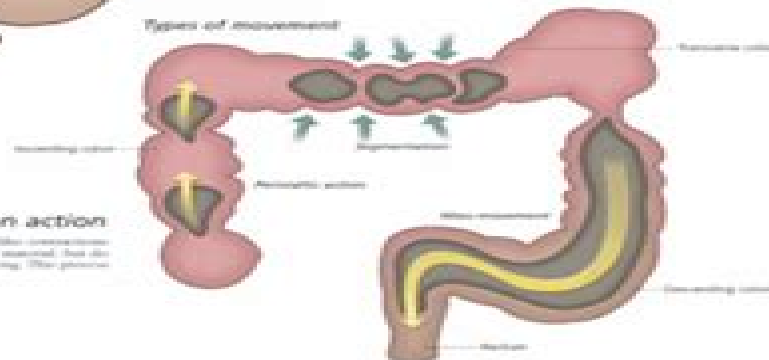


In the esophagus, material moves through the large intestine, where water and electrolytes are absorbed (reabsorbed). This reabsorption results in stool, formed and expelled (defecation).

Colonic movement

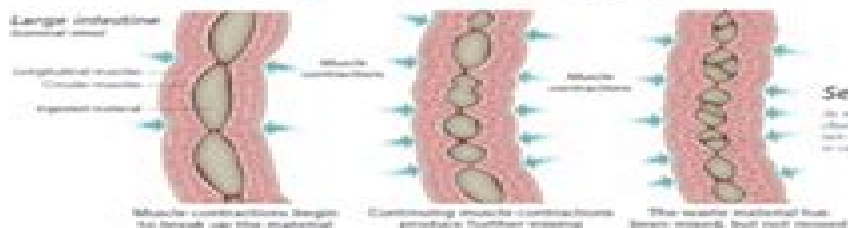
Movement through the large intestine is accomplished through the contractions of the longitudinal and circular muscles. Types of movement include peristaltic action, segmental action, and mass movement. Movement of food through the large intestine is slower than through the small intestine, allowing for reabsorption of water.

Types of movement



Segmentation action

In regular intervals, ring-like contractions (chase and pass the water material) pass the water (the material) along. This process is called segmentation.



Anatomy And Physiology Digestive System

John F. Reinus, Douglas Simon



Anatomy And Physiology Digestive System:

Anatomy And Physiology Digestive System Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In a world driven by information and connectivity, the power of words has become more evident than ever. They have the capacity to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such may be the essence of the book **Anatomy And Physiology Digestive System**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep into the significance of words and their impact on our lives. Published by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we shall explore the book's key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall effect on readers.

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