

CAPILLARY - one cell thick; in organs of your body.

- tiny vessels with narrow lumen

- ~~between the arteries~~

- your blood flows through a large network of capillaries.

Transport in the blood

- white blood cells are part of your immune system.

- platelets are involved in the clotting of your blood.

- the blood plasma and red blood cells are involved in the transport of materials around your body. (CO_2 from organs to lungs) (glucose: small intestine to organs)

- red blood cells transport oxygen around your body. (waste products from liver to kidneys)

- your plasma transports all of your blood cells and a number of other things

- CO_2 produced in organs is carried back to lungs.

- urea is carried to your kidneys from your liver

- transports hormones around the body.

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Red Blood Cell



biconcave cells

~~biconcave~~

- biconcave disks gives a larger surface area: volume ratio to increase the diffusion of oxygen.

- packed full of haemoglobin - to carry oxygen.

- mature red cells have no nucleus, more space for haemoglobin.

Haemoglobin - large protein molecule

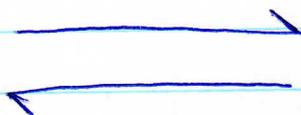
in - high oxygen concentration (reacts with oxygen \rightarrow oxyhaemoglobin)

in - low oxygen concentration (reaction reverses \rightarrow haemoglobin + oxygen)

oxygen

+

haemoglobin



oxyhaemoglobin