

Structure of lymphatic vessels

- Small lymphatic vessels are called:
 - **Lymphatic capillaries**
- Large-diameter lymphatic vessels are called:
 - **Lymphatic ducts**
- Lymphatic Capillaries
 - Comparisons to the vascular capillaries
 - Lymphatic capillaries are **larger in diameter**
 - Lymphatic capillaries have **thinner walls**
 - Lymphatic capillaries have an **irregular outline, different shape**
 - Lymphatic capillaries have **anchoring filaments** that connect to the surrounding connective tissue to keep the capillaries open
 - Lymphatic capillaries have **greater permeability, open to anything in interstitial fluid to be tested**

You have about 10% of blood hanging out in lymphatic system to be tested and sent back out again, so lymphatic system has to be working pretty well

Why is artery thicker than vein? Has smooth muscles to vasodilate and vasoconstrict which happens with parasympathetic and sympathetic
Veins versus artery shape: Vein is a thin circle, artery has big thick muscle and is circular, lymphatic vessels of abnormal shape, not a circle, and has interstitial fluid flowing in and out of it, on slide 14

- Comparisons of lymphatic vessels to veins
 - Lymphatic vessels have **thinner walls**
 - Lymphatic vessels have **larger lumens**
 - Lymphatic vessels do not have easily identifiable **tunics, squiggly shape**
 - Larger lymphatic vessels have **valves** just like most veins have
- Valves of Lymphatic Vessels
 - Pressure in the lymphatic vessels is **lower** than the pressure in the veins
 - Valves prevent the backflow of lymph
 - Skeletal muscles contract to help propel lymph
 - Inhalation decreases thoracic pressure, which helps to move lymph toward the venous system (happens in subclavians)
- Major Lymph-Collecting Vessels
 - There are two sets of lymph vessels (**superficial lymphatics** and **deep lymphatics**)
 - **Superficial lymphatics**
 - Found in the subcutaneous layer