

**The Urinary System: An Overview** The urinary system is a vital part of the human body responsible for filtering waste products from the blood and eliminating them through urine. This intricate system plays a crucial role in maintaining fluid balance, regulating blood pressure, and ensuring the proper functioning of various bodily systems. Understanding the urinary system is essential for appreciating its complex mechanisms and the potential health issues that can arise when it malfunctions.

**Anatomy of the Urinary Tract**

**Kidneys** Two bean-shaped organs located in the back of the abdominal cavity, the kidneys are the primary filtration units of the urinary system. They receive blood from the renal arteries and filter waste products, excess fluids, and electrolytes, producing urine.

**Ureters** Two thin tubes that connect the kidneys to the bladder. These muscular tubes propel urine from the kidneys to the bladder through peristaltic contractions, preventing backflow and ensuring the continuous movement of urine.

**Bladder** A muscular sac located in the pelvic cavity that serves as a reservoir for urine. Its walls expand to accommodate urine and contract to expel it through the urethra. The bladder's capacity varies depending on age and individual factors.