

Large Intestine Draft

The Large Intestine other wise known as the Colon is the final stage of the digestive system. It's main purpose is to extract Vitamins, Salt, and Liquid from fecal matter as it is digested. The Large Intestine is made up of multiple sections: The Cecum, The Ascending Colon, The Hepatic Flexure, The Transverse Colon, The Splenic Flexure, The Descending Colon, The Sigmoid Colon, The Rectum, and finally the Anus. The inside of the Colon is lined with muscles that help move fecal matter through the Colon and eventually out of the Anus.

The Cecum- A short, pouch like region on the lower right portion of the abdomen. It connects the small and large intestine together and begins the formation of feces by taking in small amounts of chyme at a time. (Chyme- a pulpy liquid coming directly from the stomach and small intestine that will be formed into fecal matter by the large intestine.)

Ascending Colon- Moves feces up the colon into the transverse colon. Where Bacteria digests the transitory fecal matter releasing vitamins which are absorbed by the intestinal wall and deposited into the blood stream.

Hepatic Flexure- The sharp bend on the upper right side of the colon that connects the ascending and transverse sections of the colon. It's main purpose is to transport feces from the ascending to transverse colon.

Transverse Colon- Longest region of the colon. A majority of the nutrient absorption and fecal formation takes place in the transverse colon making it one of the most important sections of the colon.

Splenic Flexure- A sharp bend in the colon connecting the transverse and descending colon. It is located in the upper left region of the colon. Its main purpose is to transport fecal matter from the transverse colon to the descending colon.

Descending Colon- The final penultimate segment of the colon. Its primary job is the transportation of feces, the absorption of left over nutrients and vitamins, and the depositing of liquid and vitamins into the blood stream. Feces is stored here until the body is ready to remove it during a bowel movement.

Sigmoid Colon- The final S shaped portion of the colon connected to the descending colon. Fecal matter is stored here until it is removed during a bowel movement. The Sigmoid Colon can absorb minute left over nutrients and liquids from the feces and deposit them into the blood stream.

Rectum- Connects the Colon to the Anus. Stores fecal matter until it is eliminated out the Anus during a bowel movement.

Grant Hallacy
9/23/16
Mrs. Evans
Senior Science

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Anus- Acts as the ore face from which defecation takes place during a bowel movement.