

CONGENITAL NEPHROTIC SYNDROME

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Definitions of Relevant Kidney Structures

- **Nephron:** unit of the kidney involved in excretion
- **Capillaries:** minute thin-walled blood vessels
- **Glomerulus:** clump of capillaries at the beginning of the nephron that passes protein-free filtrate from the blood into the surrounding capsule
- **Nephrin:** protein found in the membrane of the glomerulus that provides a barrier during filtration

