

# DIGESTIVE SYSTEM PHYSIOLOGY

## Functional Anatomy Reference Chart

ORGAN	PRIMARY FUNCTION	PHYSIOLOGICAL PROCESS
<b>Mouth</b>	Ingestion	Mechanical breakdown via mastication; chemical digestion of carbohydrates via salivary amylase.
<b>Esophagus</b>	Propulsion	Movement of bolus from pharynx to stomach via rhythmic muscular contractions (peristalsis).
<b>Stomach</b>	Digestion	Churning of food into chyme; protein denaturation via HCl and enzymatic breakdown via pepsin.
<b>Small Intestine</b>	Absorption	Primary site of nutrient absorption (duodenum, jejunum, ileum) using villi and microvilli.
<b>Liver / Gallbladder</b>	Emulsification	Production and storage of bile to neutralize acids and break down lipids for enzyme access.

<b>ORGAN</b>	<b>PRIMARY FUNCTION</b>	<b>PHYSIOLOGICAL PROCESS</b>
<b>Pancreas</b>	Secretion	Release of bicarbonate to neutralize chyme and digestive enzymes (lipase, protease, amylase).
<b>Large Intestine</b>	Reabsorption	Absorption of water, electrolytes, and vitamins; formation and storage of feces.