Blood Vessels

Blood Vessel	Diagram	Function	Thickness of Vessel Walls	Diameter of Lumen	Presence of Valves
artery					
vein					
capillary					

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thick		contains valves to prevent the backflow of blood	carries blood away from the heart under high pressure	acts as an efficient exchange surface and connects the arteries and veins
does not contain valves	carries blood towards the heart under low pressure	thin		very narrow
narrow		wide	does not contain valves	one cell thick

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