Drainage and the Extracellular Matrix

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The Extracellular Matrix Maintains Three Vital Functions:
1. Short term storage for toxins for future elimination (sponge like effect)
2. Intracellular communication
3. Transport (in) of things essential to cell life: oxygen, nutrients, hormones, messenger molecules and (out) metabolic waste

Toxins (X’s above) can accumulate (“glue-in”) in the Extracellular Matrix and affect these functions (left).