

## Summary of Chapter 31 of the Líng Shū

### Cháng Wèi – Intestine and Stomach

#### Paragraph 1

*"I like to hear about the transportation of the cereals in the six hollow organs, the size and length of stomach and intestine and capacity of the accommodation of the cereals."*

Length from lips to teeth = 2.3 cm.

Width of the mouth = 6.35 cm.

Depth from rear teeth to epiglottis = 8.9 cm. It can hold 0.05 l of food.

Weight of tongue = 283 g, length = 17.8 cm, width = 6.4 cm.

Weight of laryngopharynx = 283 g, width = 3.8 cm.

Length from laryngopharynx to stomach = 45 cm.

Length of stomach = 75 cm. Its circumference = 43 cm, diameter = 12.7 cm, capacity = 3.5 l.

Small intestine has 16 turnings, circumference = 6.4 cm, diameter = 2 cm, length = 960 cm.

Large intestine has 16 turnings, circumference = 10 cm, diameter = 3.3 cm, length = 630 cm.

Rectum circumference = 20.3 cm, diameter = 6.8 cm, length = 80 cm.

Total length of digestive tract is a little over 18 meter.

#### Bibliography

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[3] Unschuld, P., *Huang Di Nei Jing, nature, knowledge, imagery in an ancient Chinese medical text*, University of California Press, 2003.