

# **Review for Midterm Exam 2**

Steven McLoon  
Department of Neuroscience  
University of Minnesota

# Course News

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## Office Hours with Dr. McLoon

Monday (Oct 22)  
12:00-1:00pm and 2:30-3:30pm

Jackson Hall 4-158

# Course News

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## Review Session

Tuesday (Oct 23)  
4:00-5:00pm

in MCB 3-146B (the main lab room)

with Dr. Riedl

## Course News

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### **Midterm Exam Wednesday (Oct 24)**

The exam will cover lectures 12-20 and labs 3-5.

A –L last names in MoosT 2-650

M – Z in MoosT 2-620

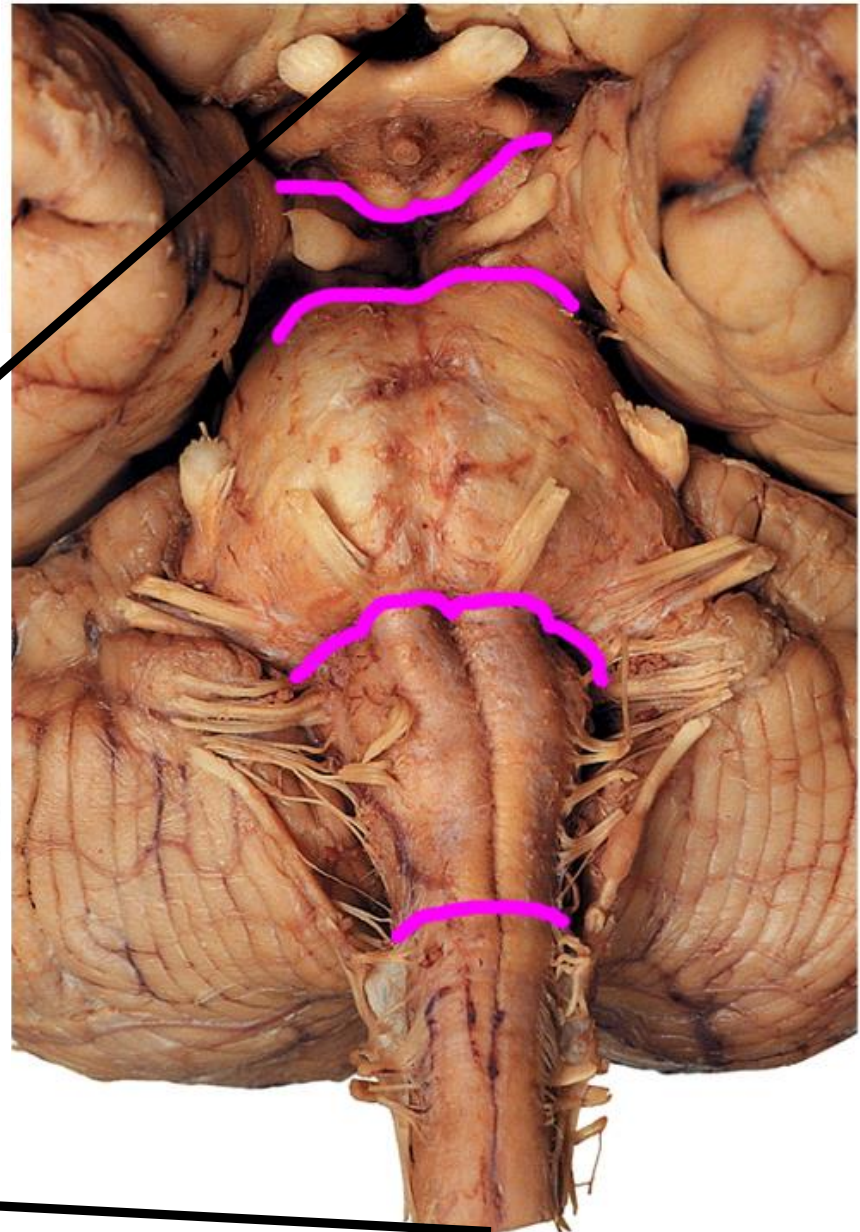
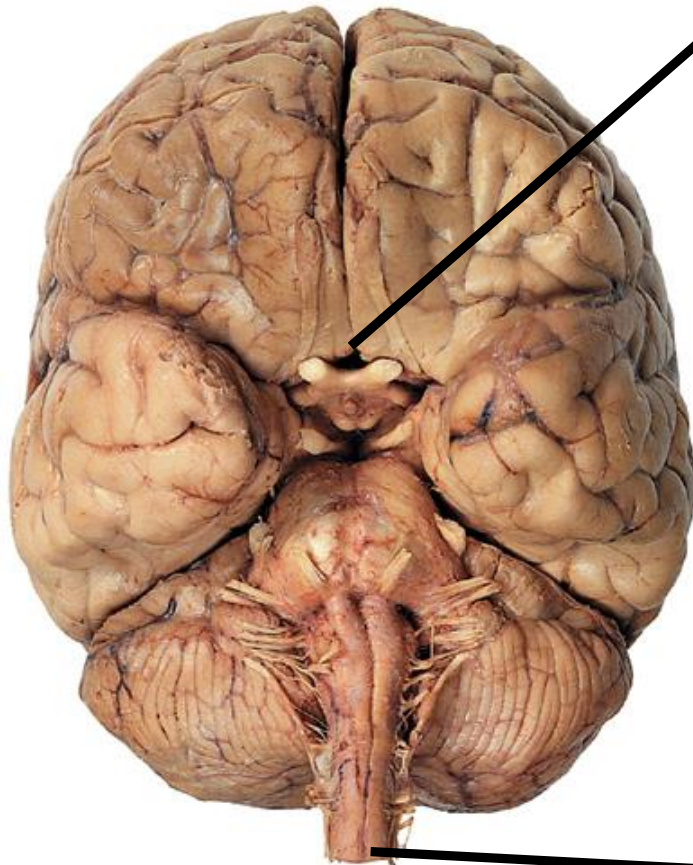
An extra hour will be available for those who need it.

**PLEASE BRING #2 PENCILS!!!**

Be sure to check out last year's exam on the course website!!!

## Brainstem Geography

- Brainstem includes the medulla, pons and midbrain.
- All regions are visible on the ventral side of the brain.



midbrain

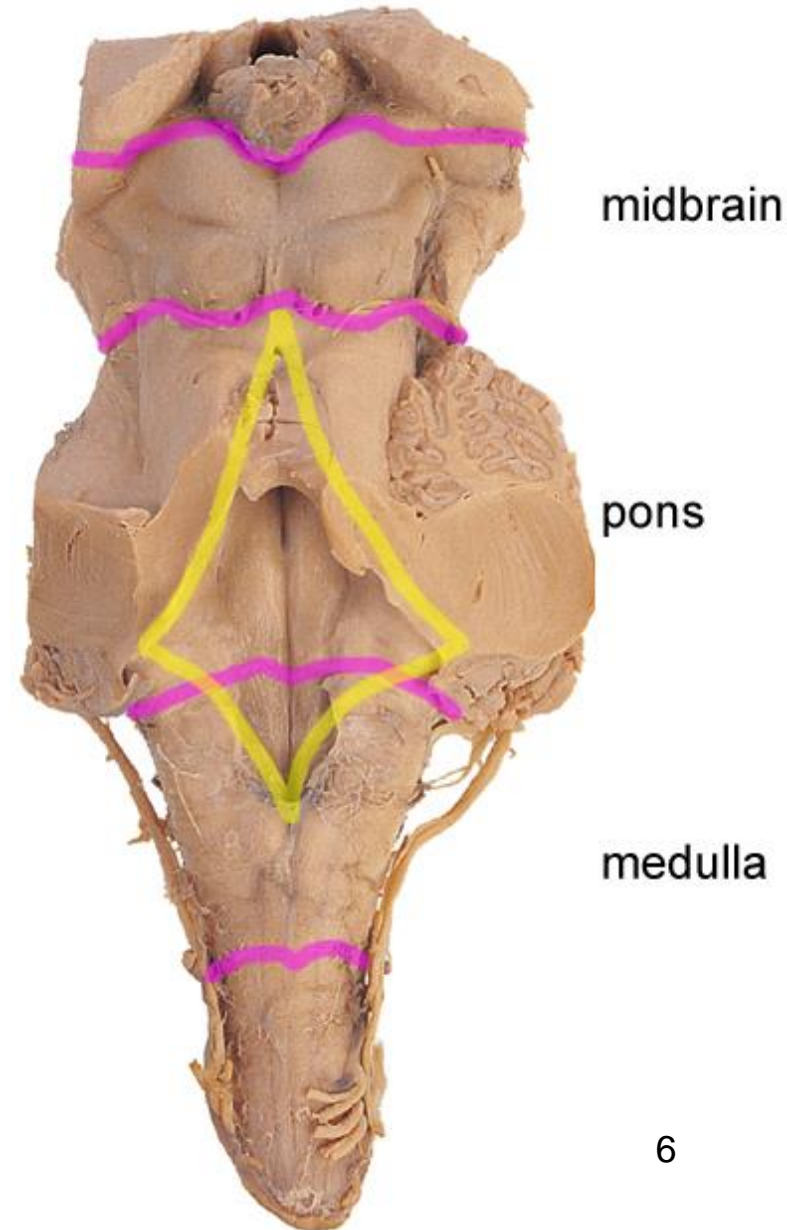
pons

medulla

## Brainstem Geography

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- The cerebellum covers the IV ventricle on the dorsal surface of the brainstem.
- The IV ventricle spans the entire pons and upper half of the medulla.

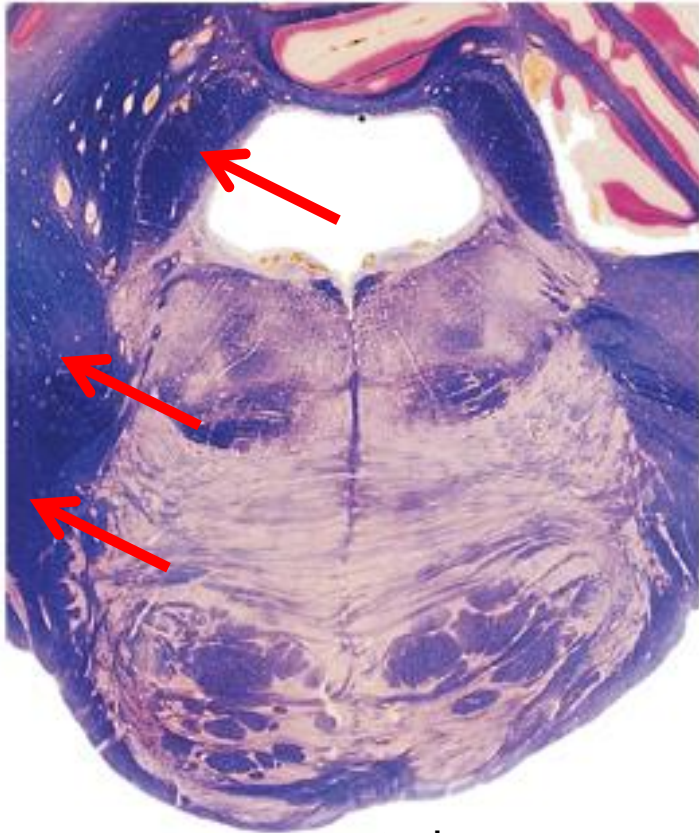


# Brainstem Geography

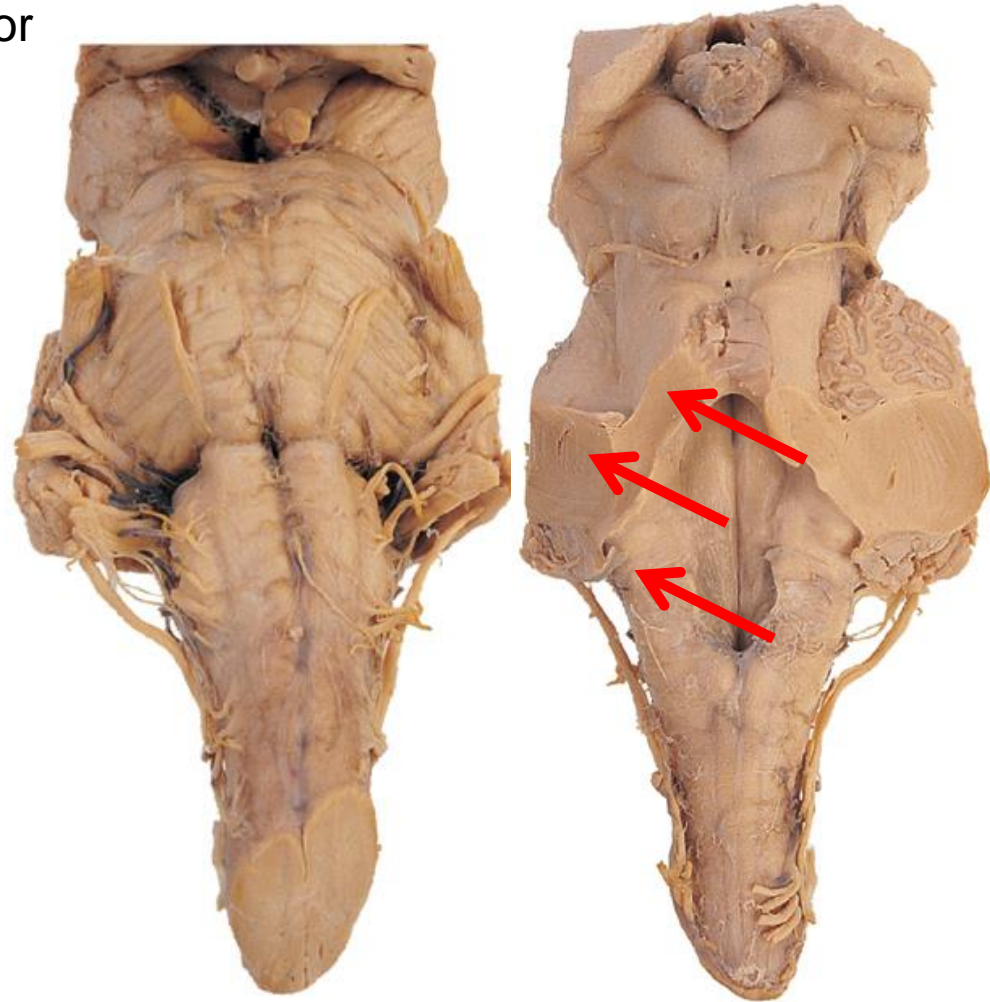
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- Cerebellum is attached to the pons via the superior, middle and inferior cerebellar peduncles

dorsal



ventral



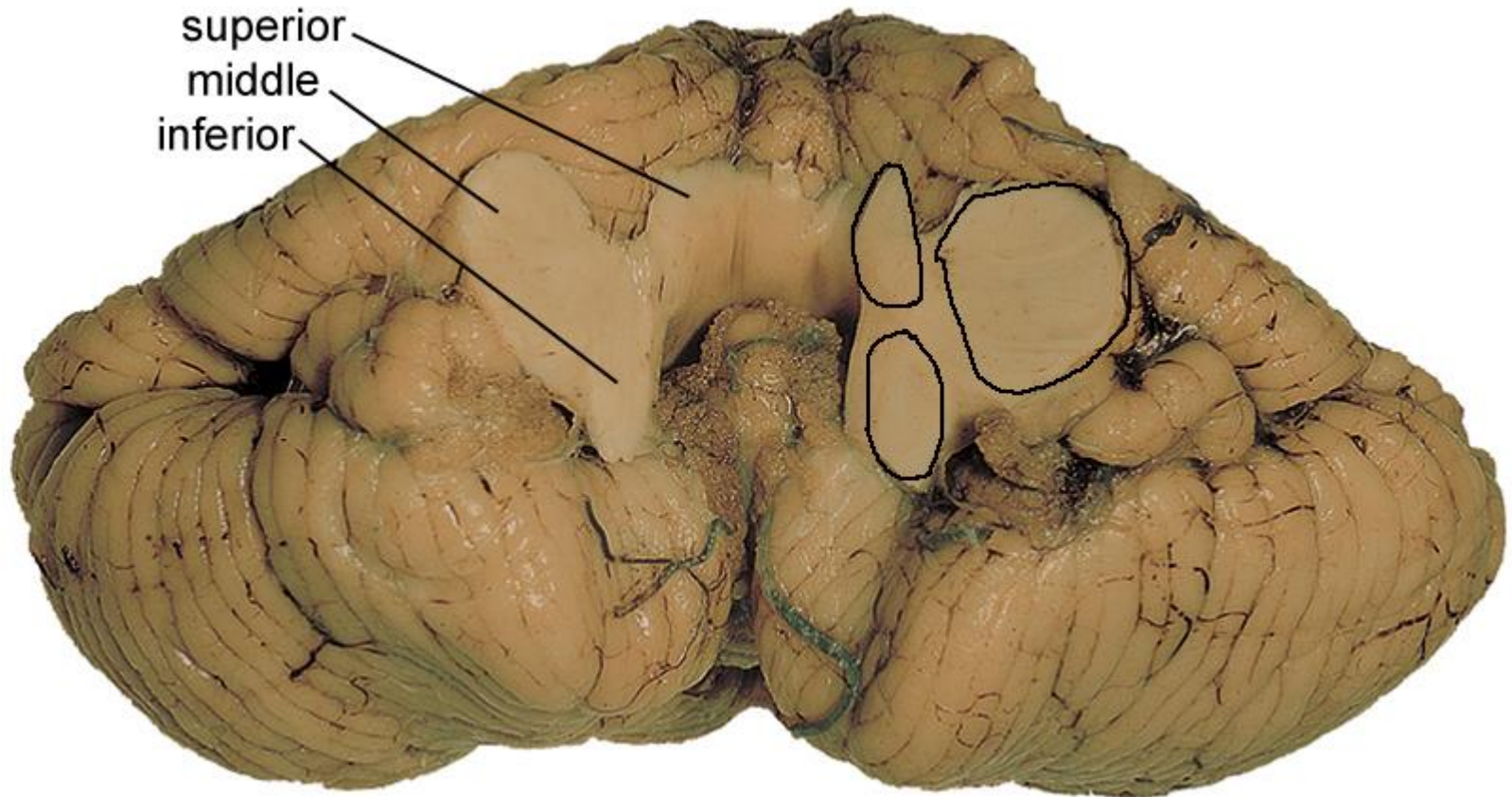
ventral

dorsal

# Brainstem Geography

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- Superior, middle and inferior cerebellar peduncles



Ventral surface of the cerebellum

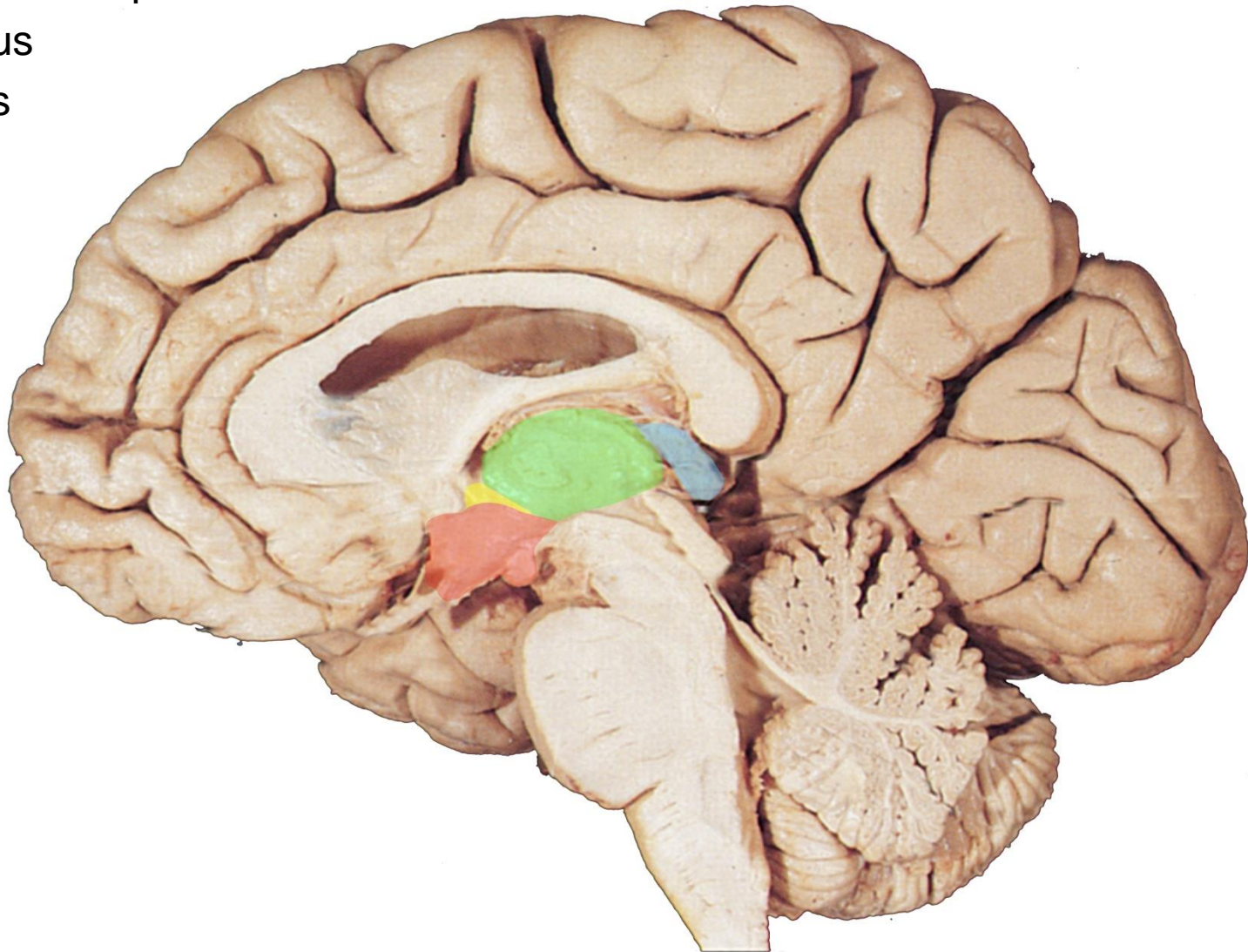


# Diencephalon

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The parts of the diencephalon are:

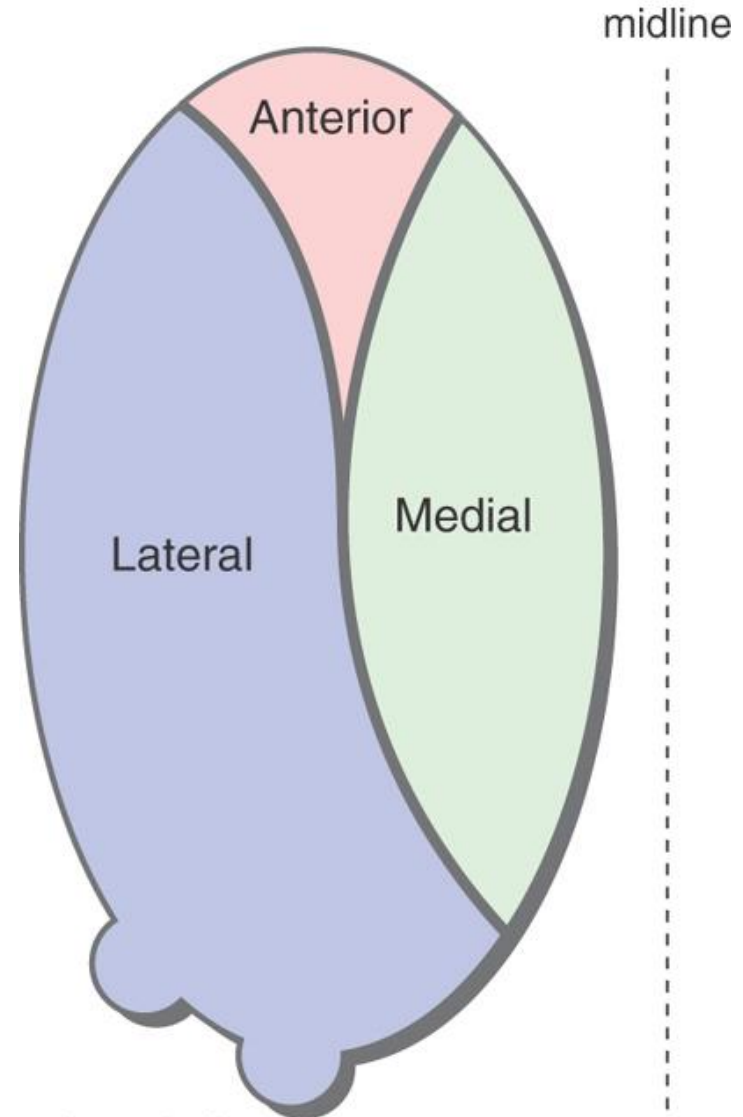
- Hypothalamus
- Subthalamus
- Thalamus
- Epithalamus



# Thalamus

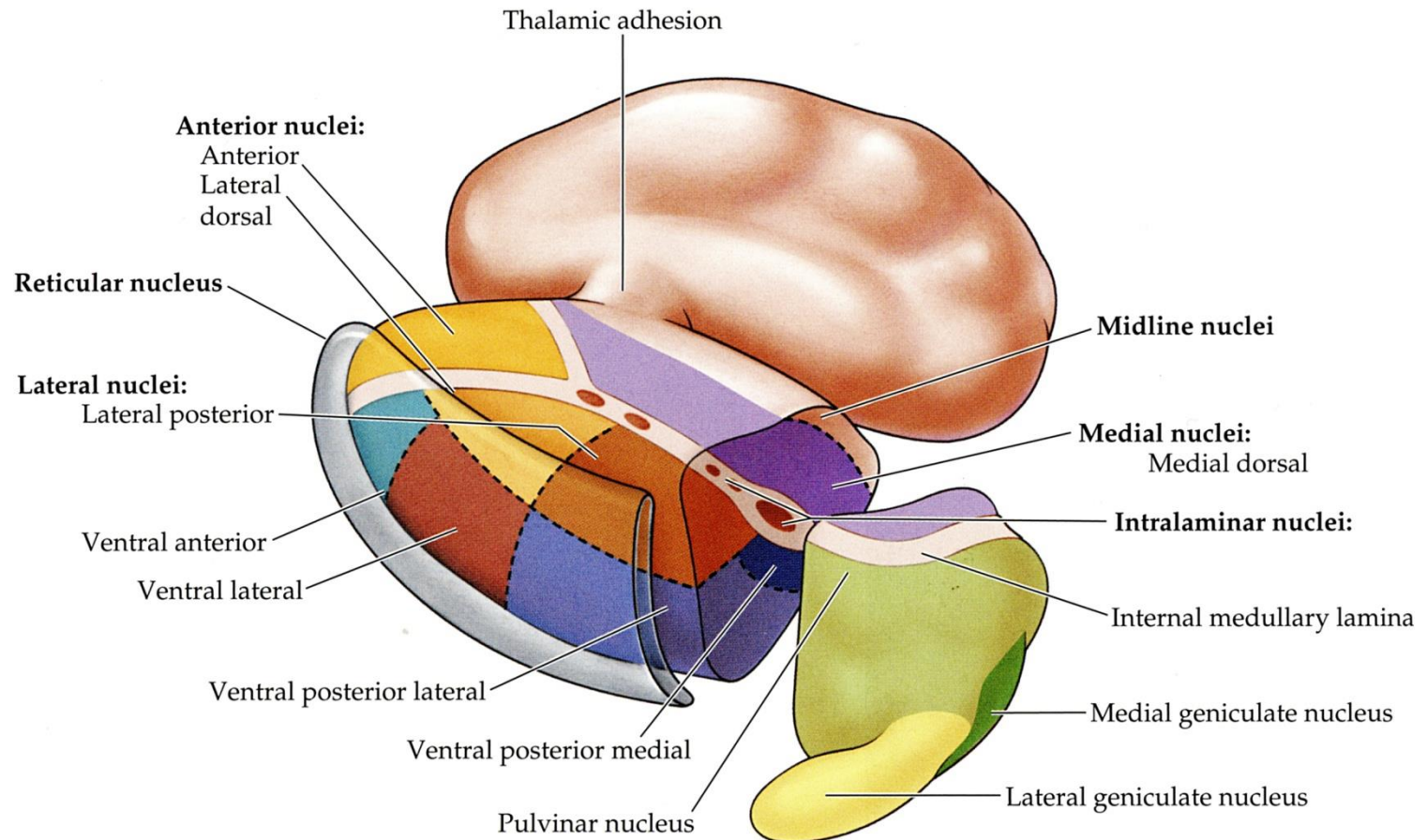
A sheet of myelinated axons, the internal medullary lamina, divides the thalamus into three major regions:

- Anterior (anterior nucleus)
- Medial (dorsomedial nucleus)
- Lateral (lateral group of nuclei)



# Thalamus

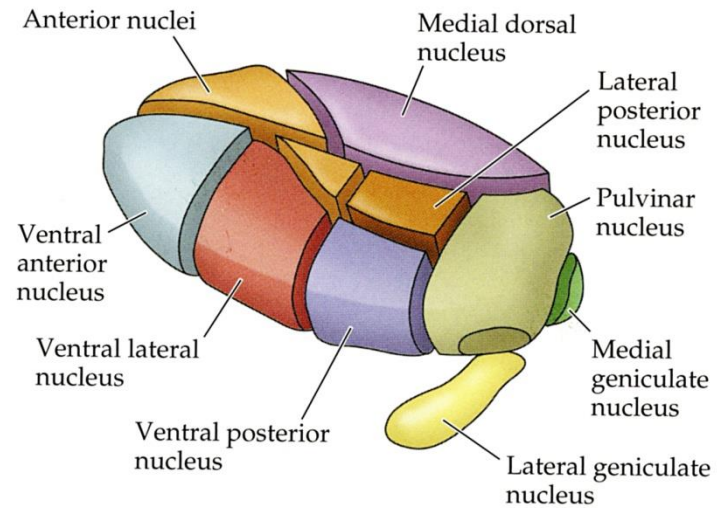
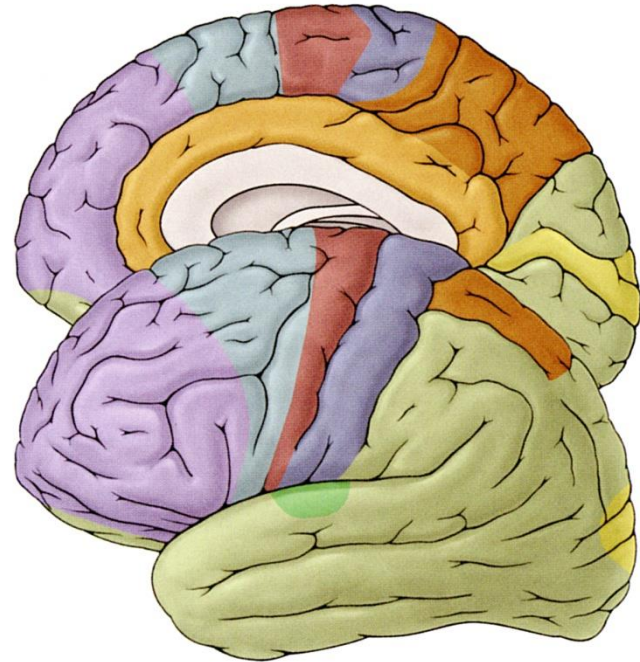
The thalamus is further divided into nuclei based on their connections (functions).



# Thalamus

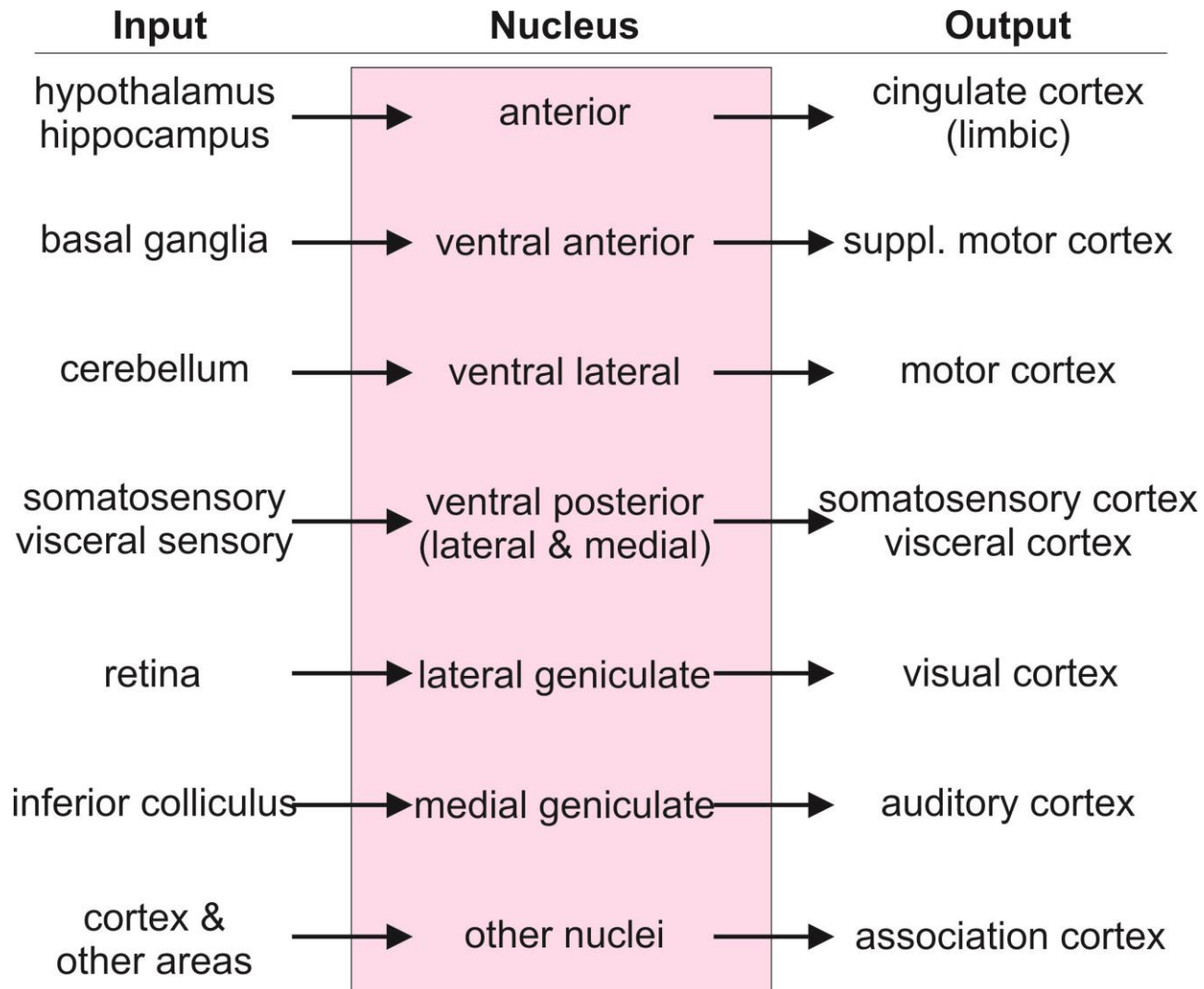
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- Thalamus sends axons to cortex.



# Thalamus

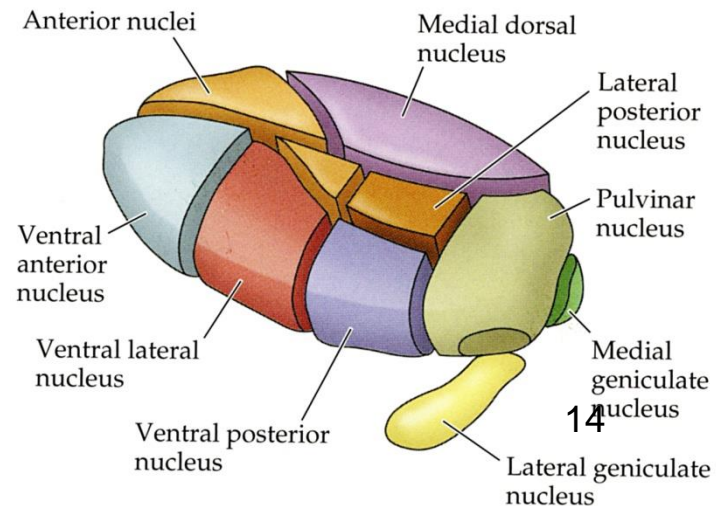
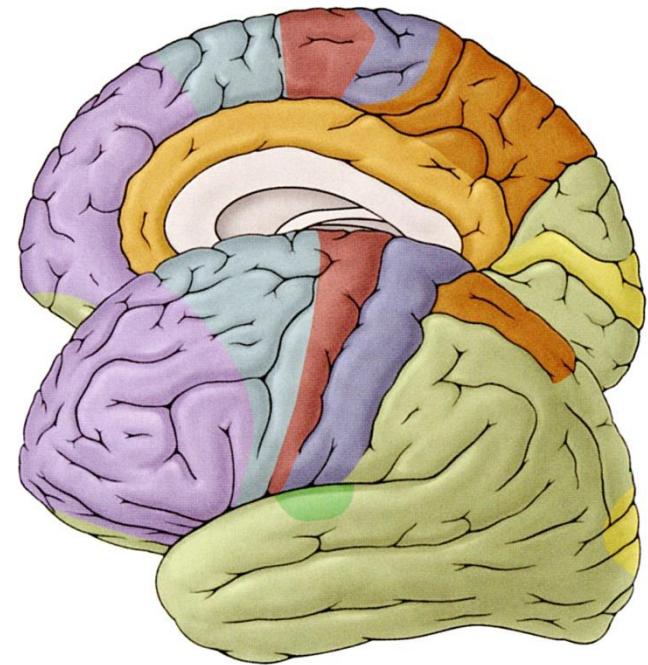
- Input and output relationships of the major relay nuclei:



# Thalamus

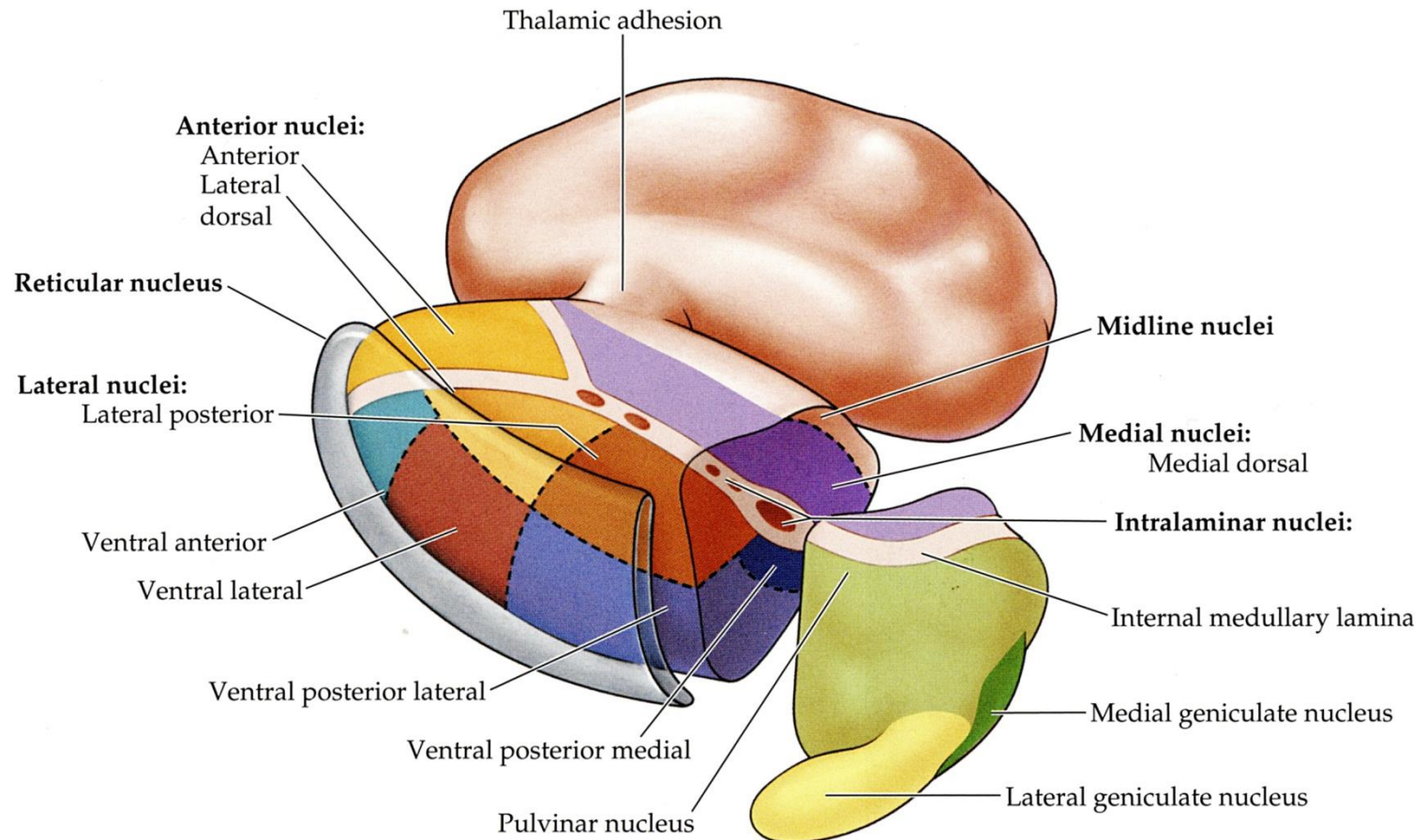
Other thalamic nuclei carry multiple modalities and project to association cortex. For example:

- dorsomedial nucleus → prefrontal association cortex
- pulvinar → parietal-occipital-temporal assoc. cortex



# Thalamus

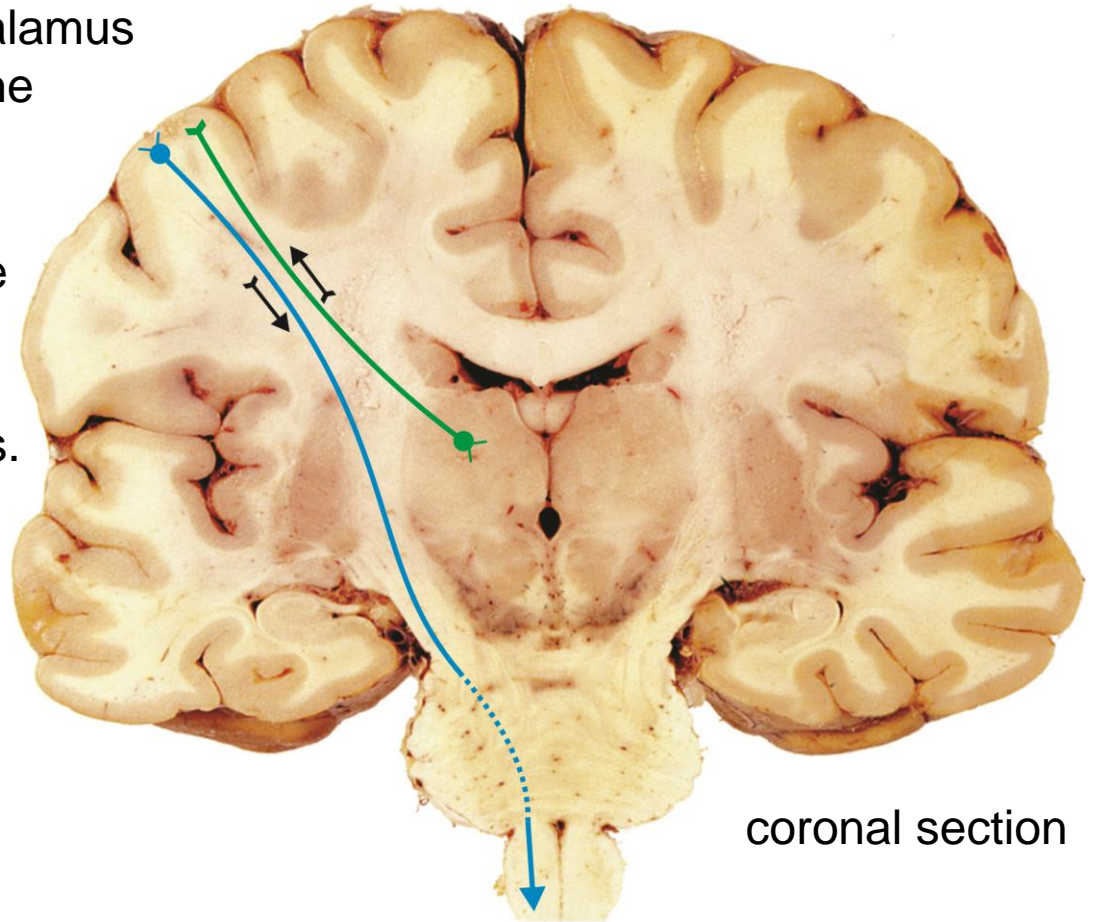
The flow of information from the thalamus to cortex is gated by inputs from the brainstem reticular activating system and the cortex via the reticular nucleus of the thalamus.



# Internal Capsule

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- Axons from neurons in thalamus ascend to the cortex via the internal capsule.
- Axons from neurons in the cortex descend via the internal capsule and pass just lateral to the thalamus.





# Telencephalon

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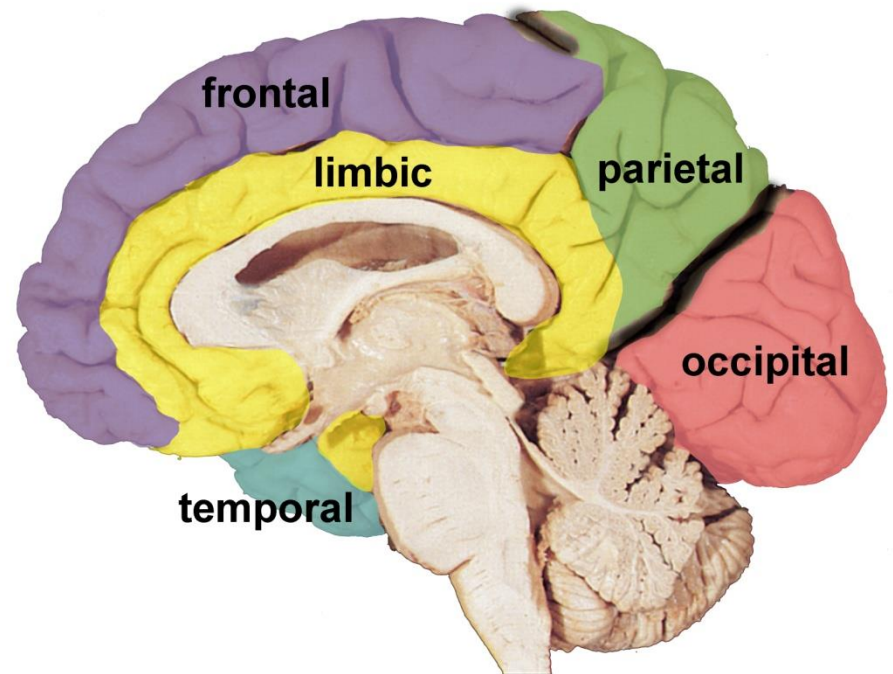
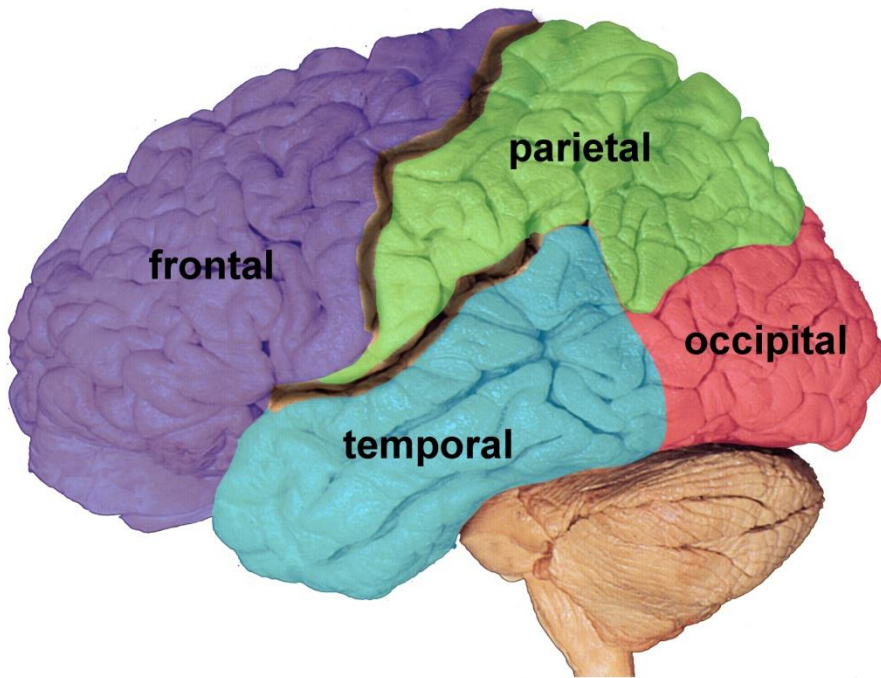
It is convenient to think of telencephalon as having three parts that are highly interrelated:

- Neocortex (cortex)
- Limbic system (old cortex)
- Basal ganglia

# Cerebral Cortex

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Cortex is divided into five lobes.



# Cerebral Commissures

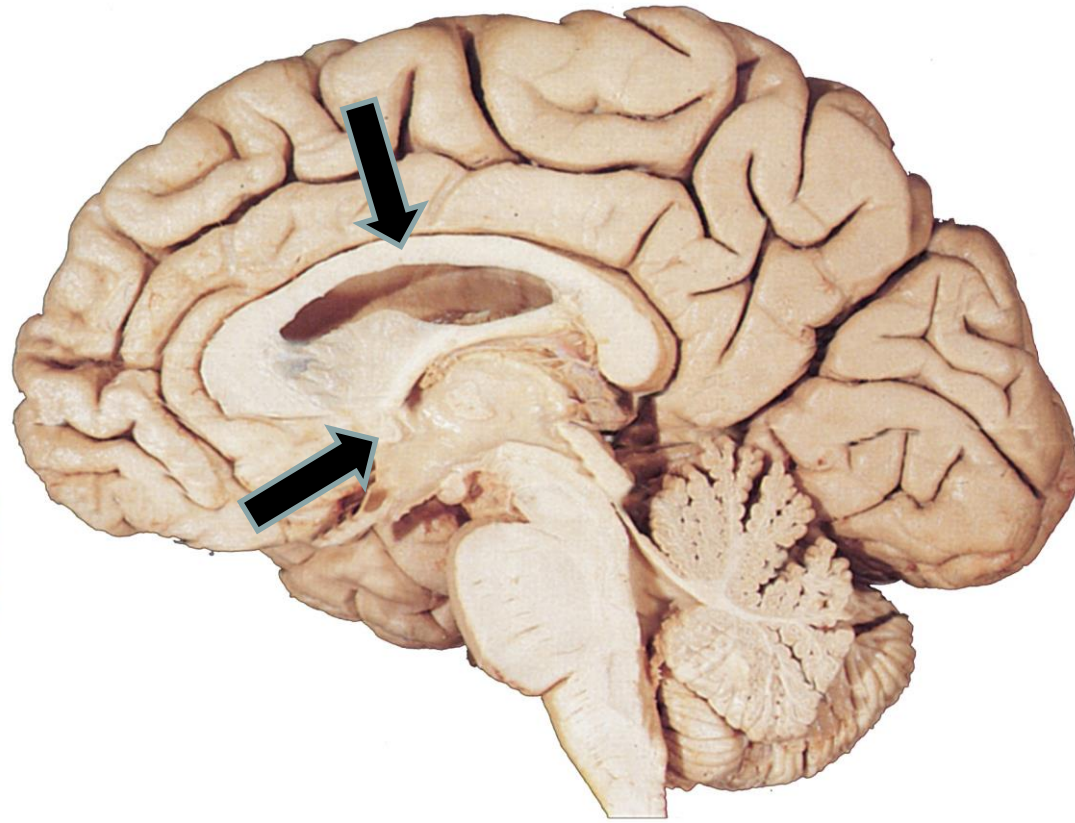
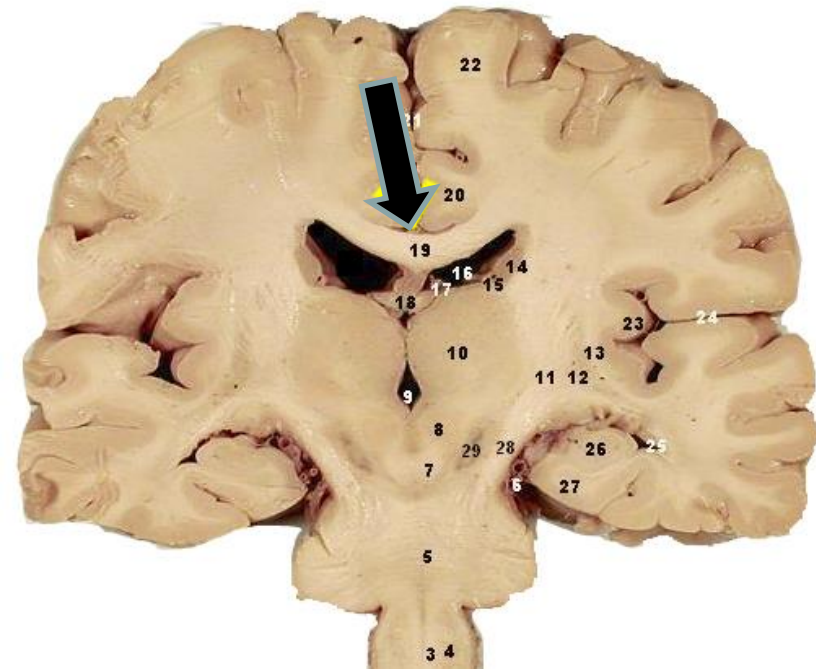
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Commissures are discrete bundles of axons that cross the midline.

Typically, a region of cortex on one side of the brain communicates with the same region on the other side.

Two commissures interconnect the hemispheres of the cerebral cortex:

- Corpus callosum
- Anterior commissure

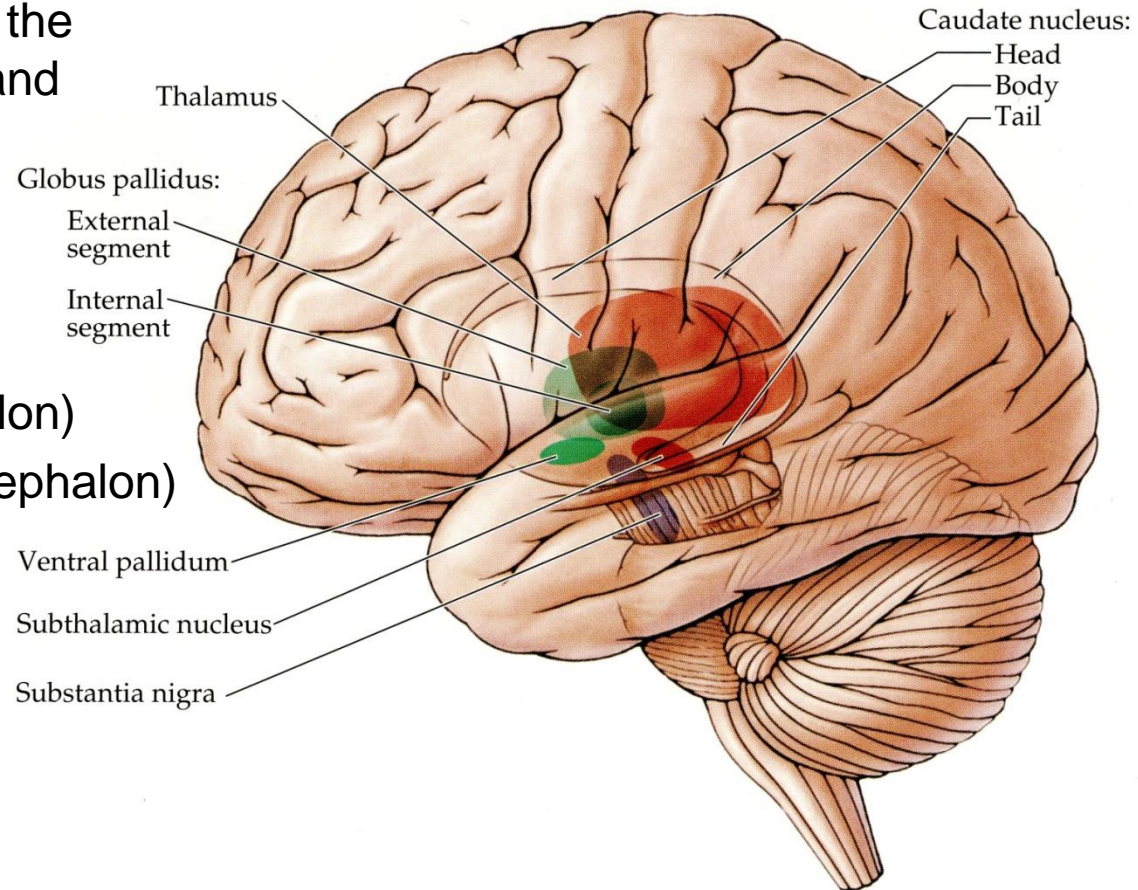


# Basal Ganglia Anatomy

The basal ganglia consist of a number of nuclei in the basal region of the telencephalon, diencephalon and midbrain.

The largest nuclei are:

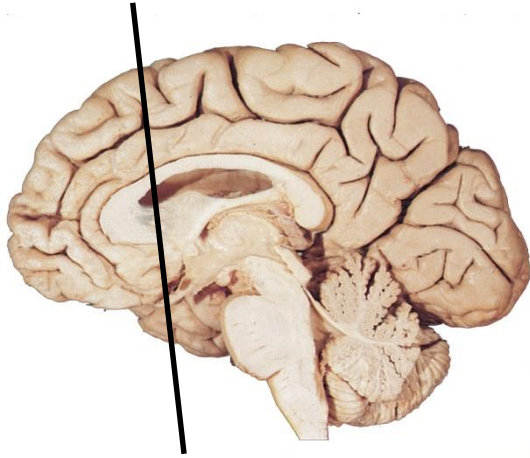
- Striatum (telencephalon)
- Globus pallidus (telencephalon)
- Subthalamic nucleus (diencephalon)
- Substantia nigra (midbrain)



# Basal Ganglia Anatomy

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- The striatum is composed of three nuclei:
  - caudate nucleus
  - putamen
  - nucleus accumbens
- The striatum is more like one nucleus divided by the internal capsule, which comes together at the front of the internal capsule.



**Striatum:**

- caudate nucleus
- putamen
- nucleus accumbens



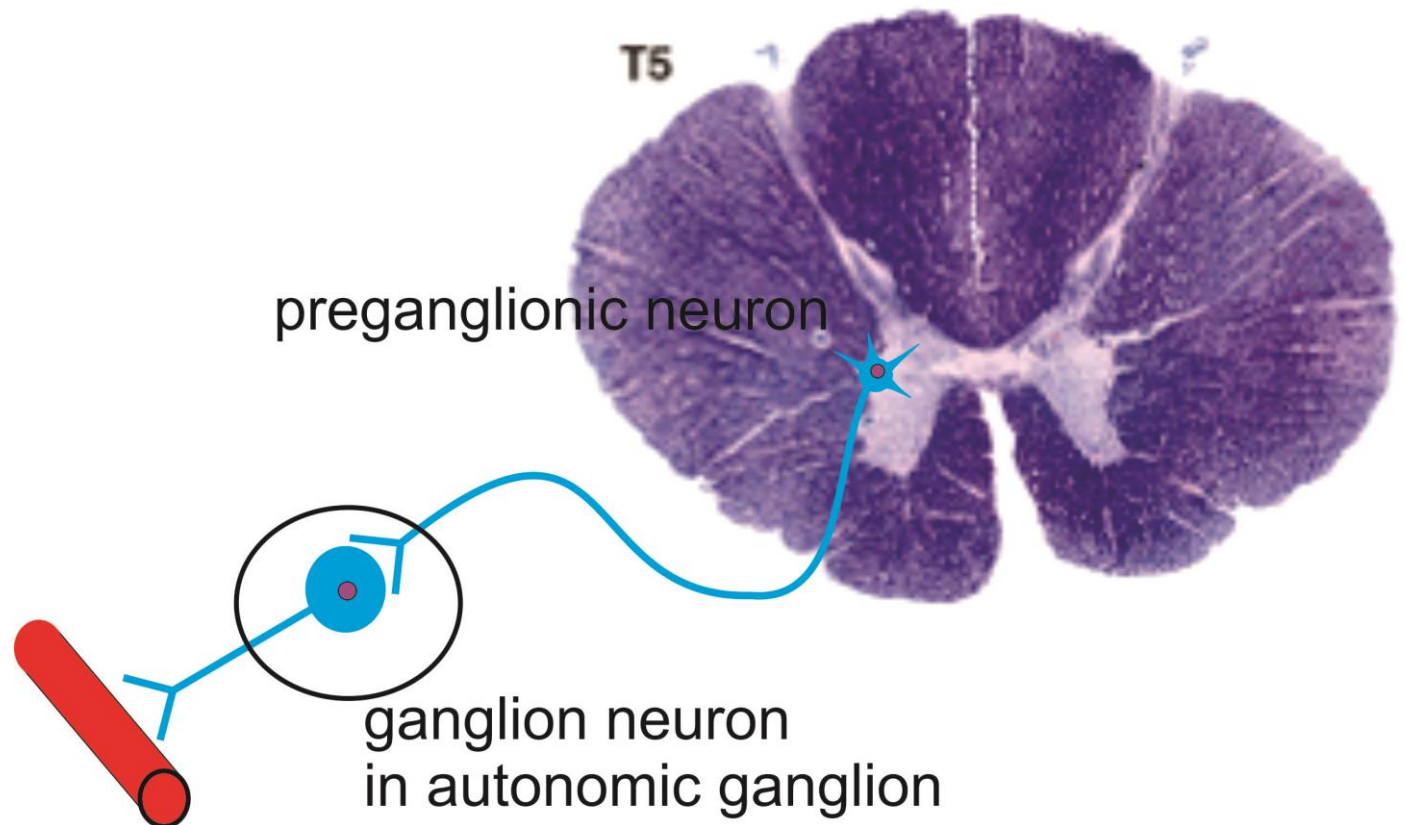
# **Cranial Nerves**

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## Autonomic Motor System

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- The autonomic motor system controls smooth muscle, the heart, glands, blood vessels, etc.
- It is a two neuron output system, a preganglionic neuron in the brainstem or spinal cord and a ganglion neuron in a ganglion.





# Autonomic Motor System

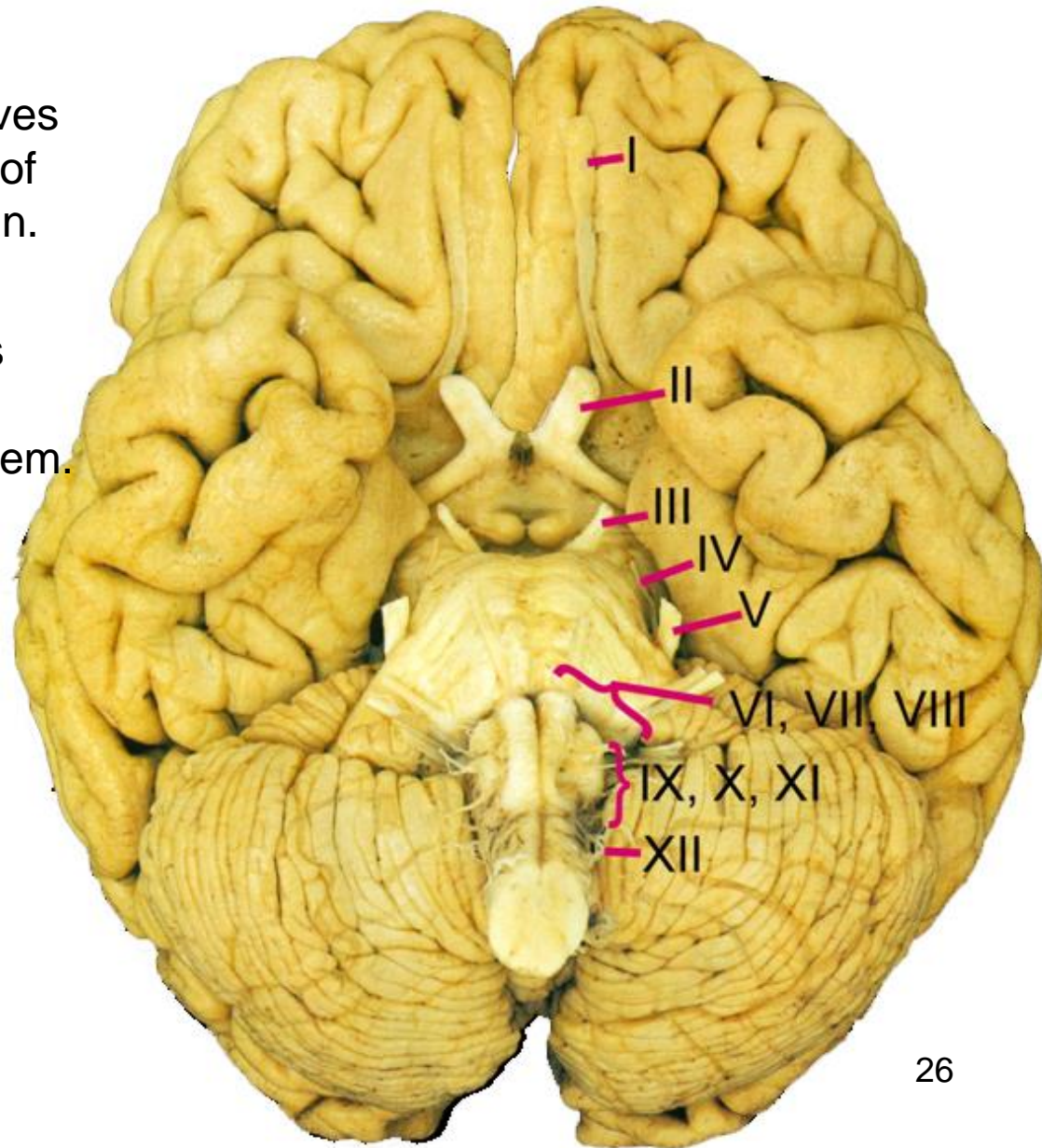
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The autonomic system has two subdivisions:

- Sympathetic system
  - Preganglionic neurons are in the thoracic spinal cord.
  - Ganglion neurons are in sympathetic ganglia on both sides of the vertebral column.
  - Preganglionic axons are short and postganglionic axons are long.
- Parasympathetic system
  - Preganglionic neurons are in the brain stem and sacral spinal cord.
  - Ganglion neurons are in parasympathetic ganglia near their targets.
  - Preganglionic axons are long and postganglionic axons are short.

## Twelve Pairs of Cranial Nerves

- The 12 pairs of cranial nerves are numbered in the order of their attachment to the brain.
- The first two cranial nerves attach to the forebrain; the others attach to the brainstem.



**cranial nerve****function**

		<i>general</i>		<i>general</i>	
		<i>motor</i>	<i>parasympathetic</i>	<i>sensory</i>	<i>special</i>
					<i>sensory</i>
I	Olfactory				X (olfaction)
II	Optic				X (vision)
III	Oculomotor	X <sup>a</sup>	X		
IV	Trochlear	X <sup>a</sup>			
V	Trigeminal	X <sup>b</sup>		X <sup>c</sup>	
VI	Abducens	X <sup>a</sup>			
VII	Facial	X <sup>b</sup>	X	X	X (taste)
VIII	Vestibulocochlear				X (auditory & vestibular)
IX	Glossopharyngeal	X <sup>b</sup>	X	X <sup>c</sup>	X (taste)
X	Vagus	X <sup>b</sup>	X	X <sup>c</sup>	X (taste)
XI	Accessory *	X <sup>a</sup>			
XII	Hypoglossal	X <sup>a</sup>			

\* cervical component; cranial component included with vagus

<sup>a</sup> somatic motor – innervates muscles that develop from somites

<sup>b</sup> branchial motor – innervates muscles that develop from pharyngeal arches

<sup>c</sup> includes visceral sensory as well as somatosensory

# Sensory Systems

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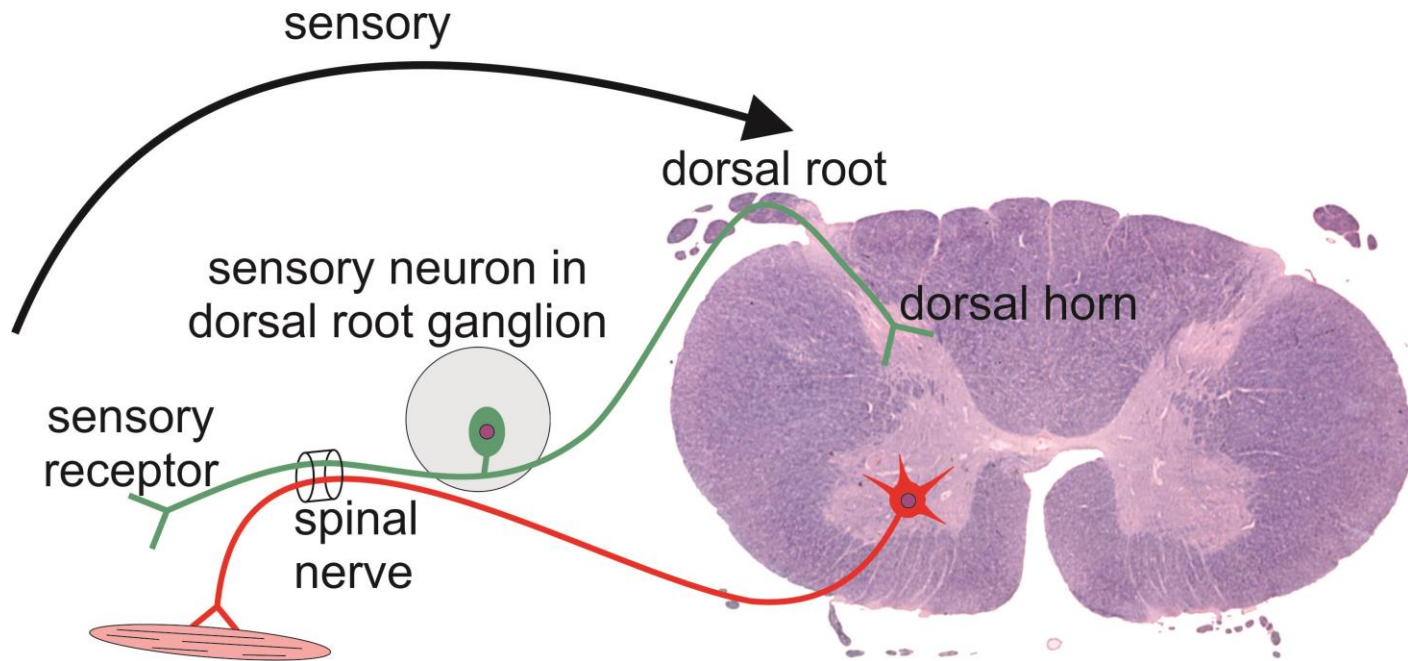
- Somatosensory
- Visceral sensory
- Special sensory
  - Vision
  - Auditory
  - Vestibular
  - Gustatory (taste)
  - Olfactory (smell)

# **Somatosensory System**

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# Primary Somatosensory Neurons

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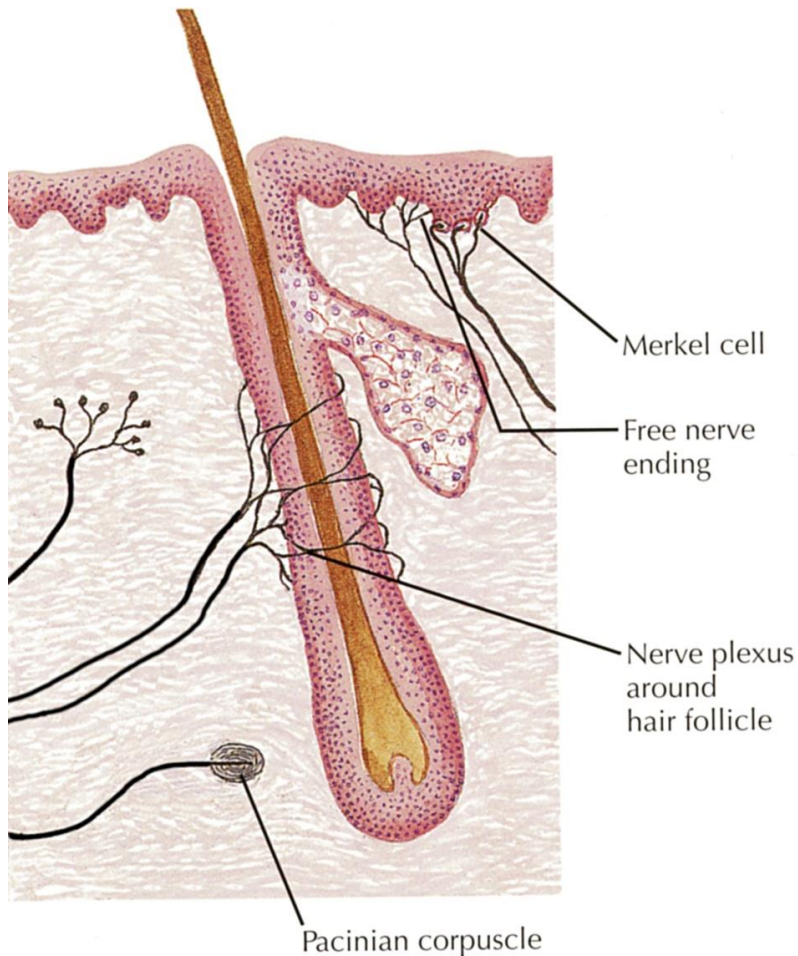
## The somatosensory system detects multiple sensations.

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- Touch
  - Fine touch
  - Pressure
  - Vibration
  - Movement against the skin
- Proprioception (limb & trunk position, movement & load)
- Thermoception (temperature)
  - Heat
  - Cold
- Nociception (pain – tissue damage)
- Pruritic reception (itch)

# Somatosensory Receptors

- Receptor neurons can have free nerve endings or can be encapsulated by other cells.
- Encapsulation changes the nature of the stimulus.

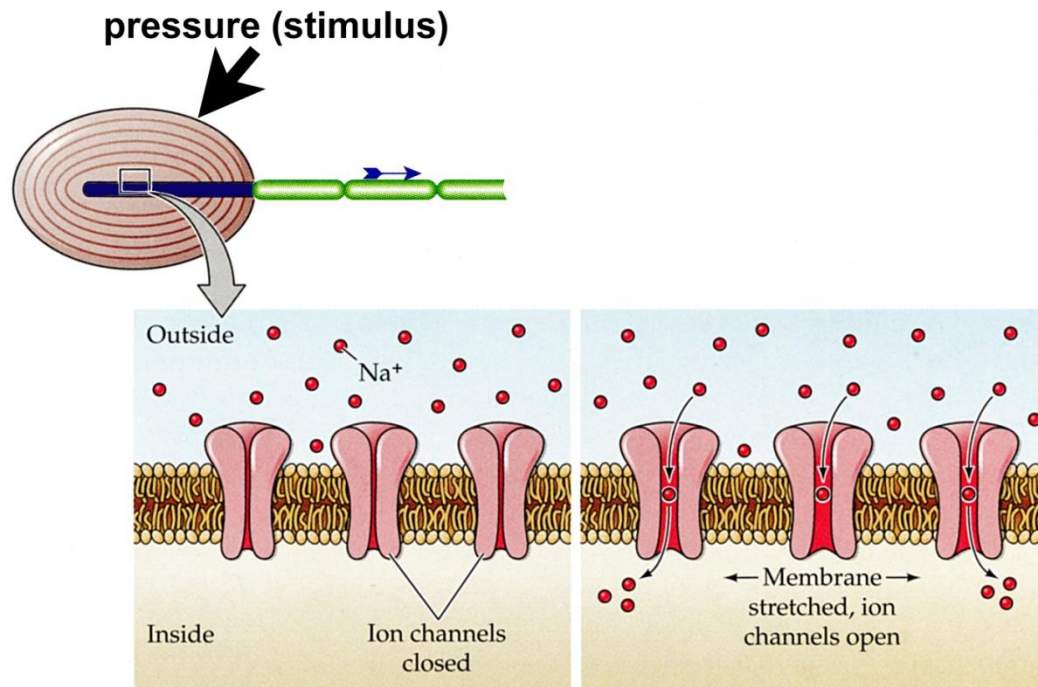


pacinian corpuscles in skin



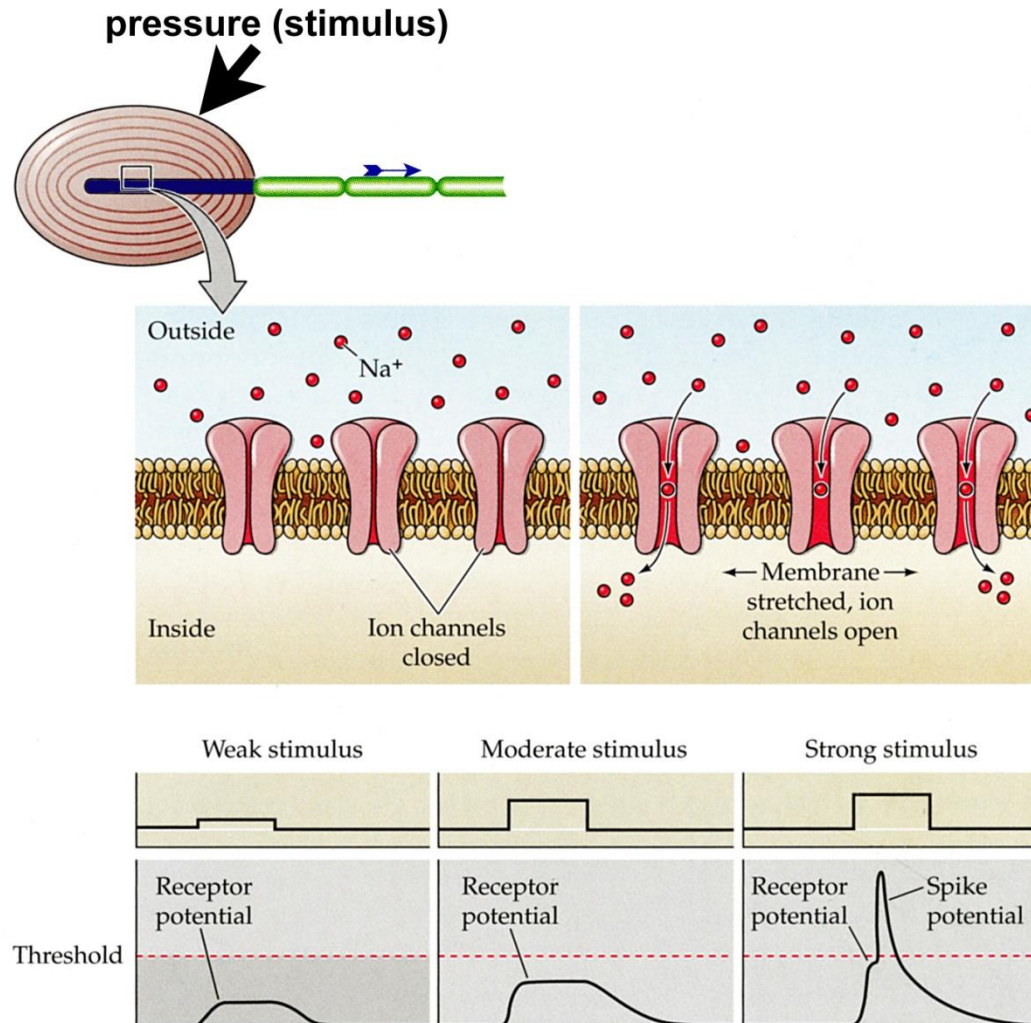
# Somatosensory Receptors

- An appropriate stimulus results in the opening of ion channels and an influx of sodium in the receptor. This results in a graded membrane potential.



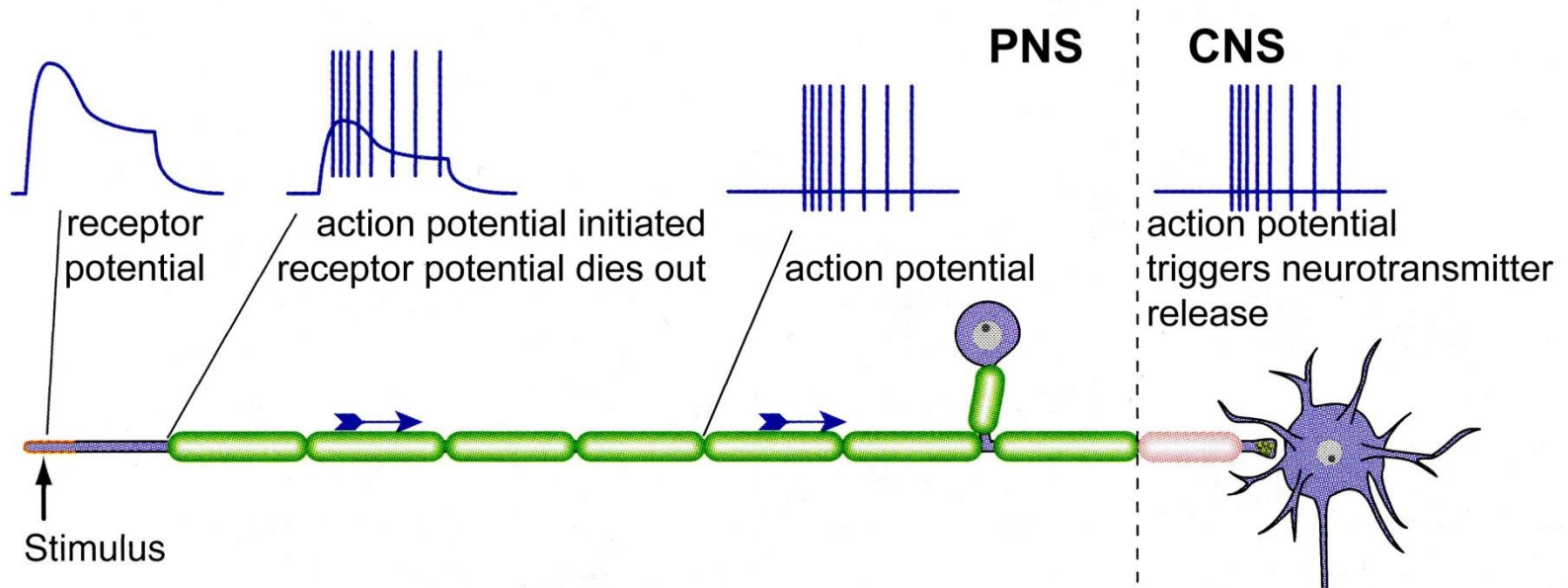
# Somatosensory Receptors

- The stronger the stimulus, the larger the membrane potential.



# Somatosensory Receptors

- With sufficient depolarization, the initial segment initiates an action potential, which is all-or-none and self-propagated up the axon.
- The number of action potentials encodes the strength and duration of the stimulus.



## Spinocerebellar Pathway

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- Primary sensory neurons carrying proprioceptive information synapse deep in the dorsal horn.
- Second order neurons ascend on both sides of the spinal cord in the spinocerebellar tracts.
- These axons synapse on the ipsilateral side of the cerebellum.
- The cerebellum has important roles in maintaining balance and coordinating movements.

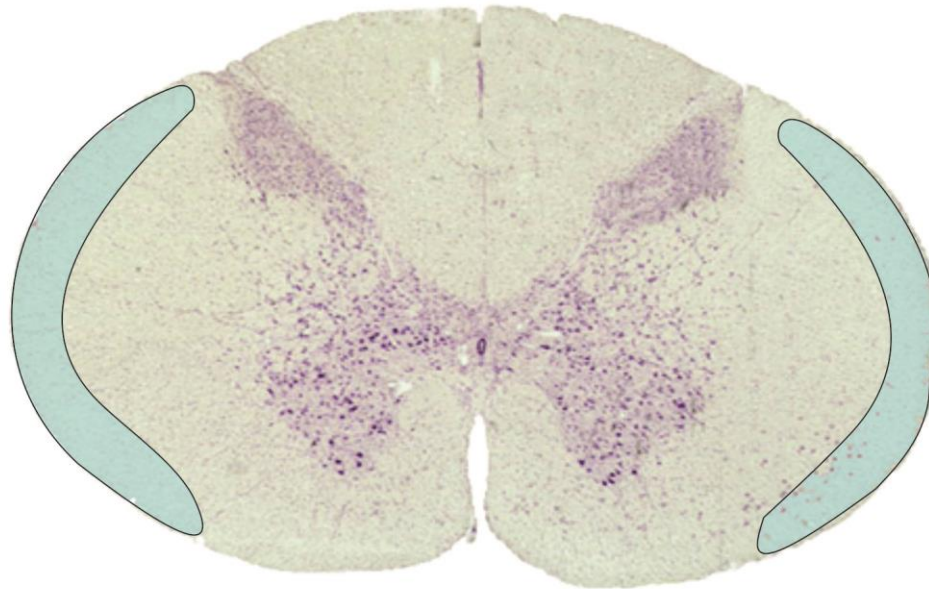


# Spinocerebellar Pathway

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- The spinocerebellar tracts are in the lateral funiculus of the spinal cord.

[Note how tracts are often labeled by their origin and target.]



## Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

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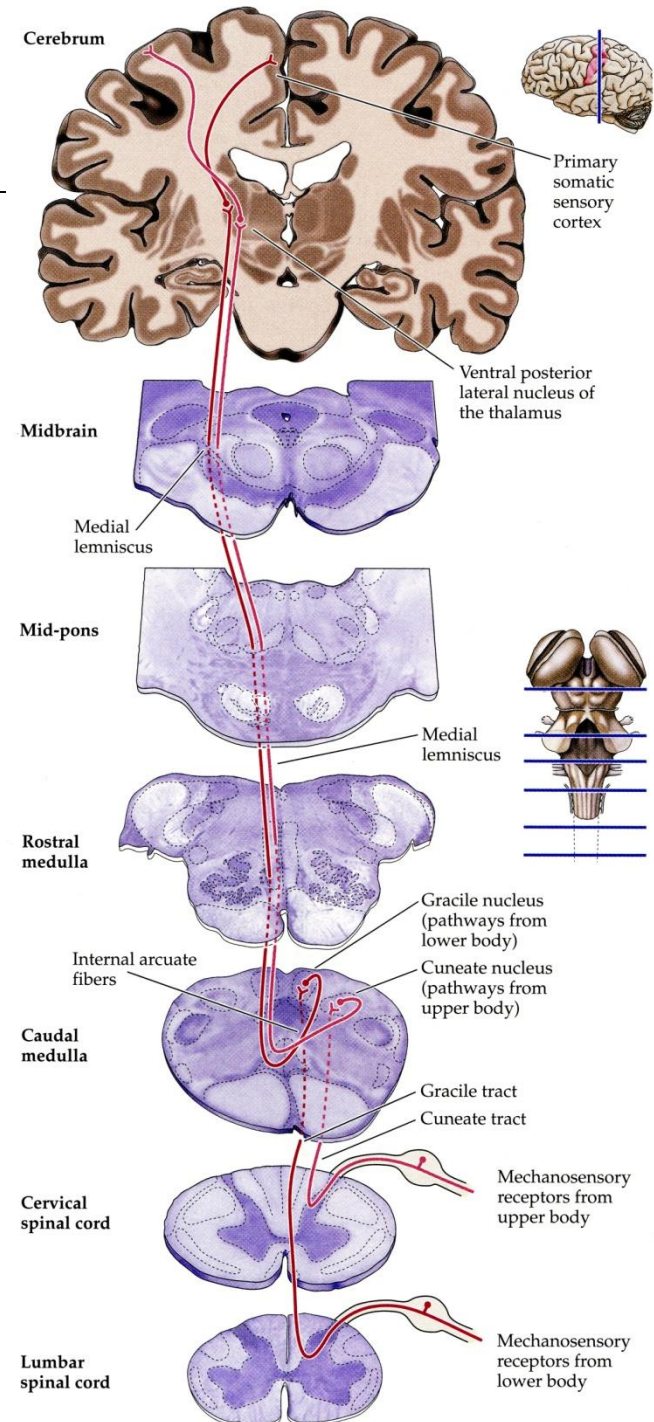
Two pathways:

- Proprioception and touch via the dorsal columns.
- Pain, temperature and light touch via the spinothalamic tracts.

# Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

## Dorsal column projection:

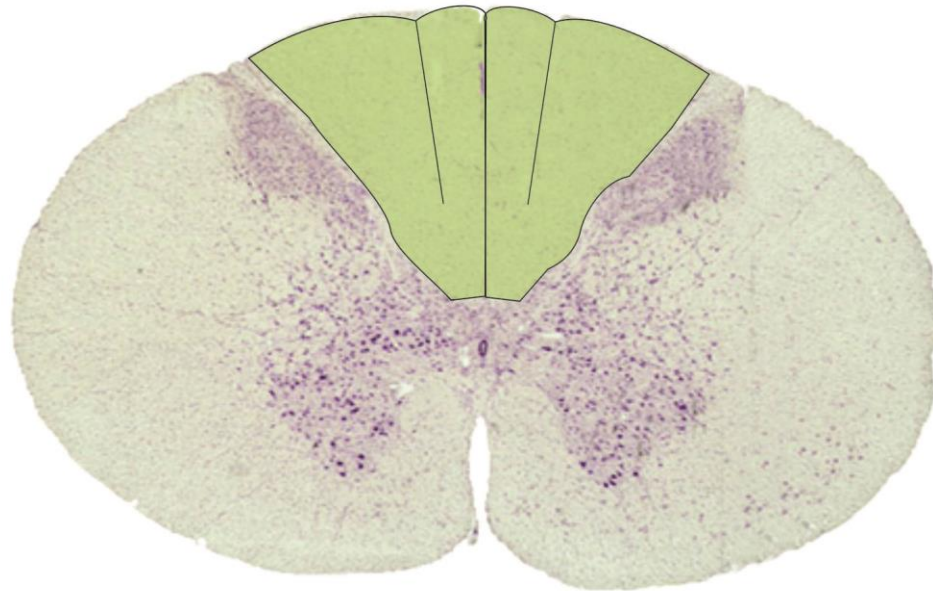
- Primary sensory axons for proprioception and touch enter the dorsal horn and ascend in the dorsal columns.
- These axons synapse in nucleus gracilis (from lower body) and nucleus cuneatus (from upper body) in the medulla.
- Axons from these nuclei cross the medulla and ascend to thalamus.
- They synapse in the ventral posterolateral nucleus (VPL) of the thalamus.
- Axons from the VPL neurons project to somatosensory cortex.



## Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

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- The dorsal columns are in the dorsal funiculus of the spinal cord.

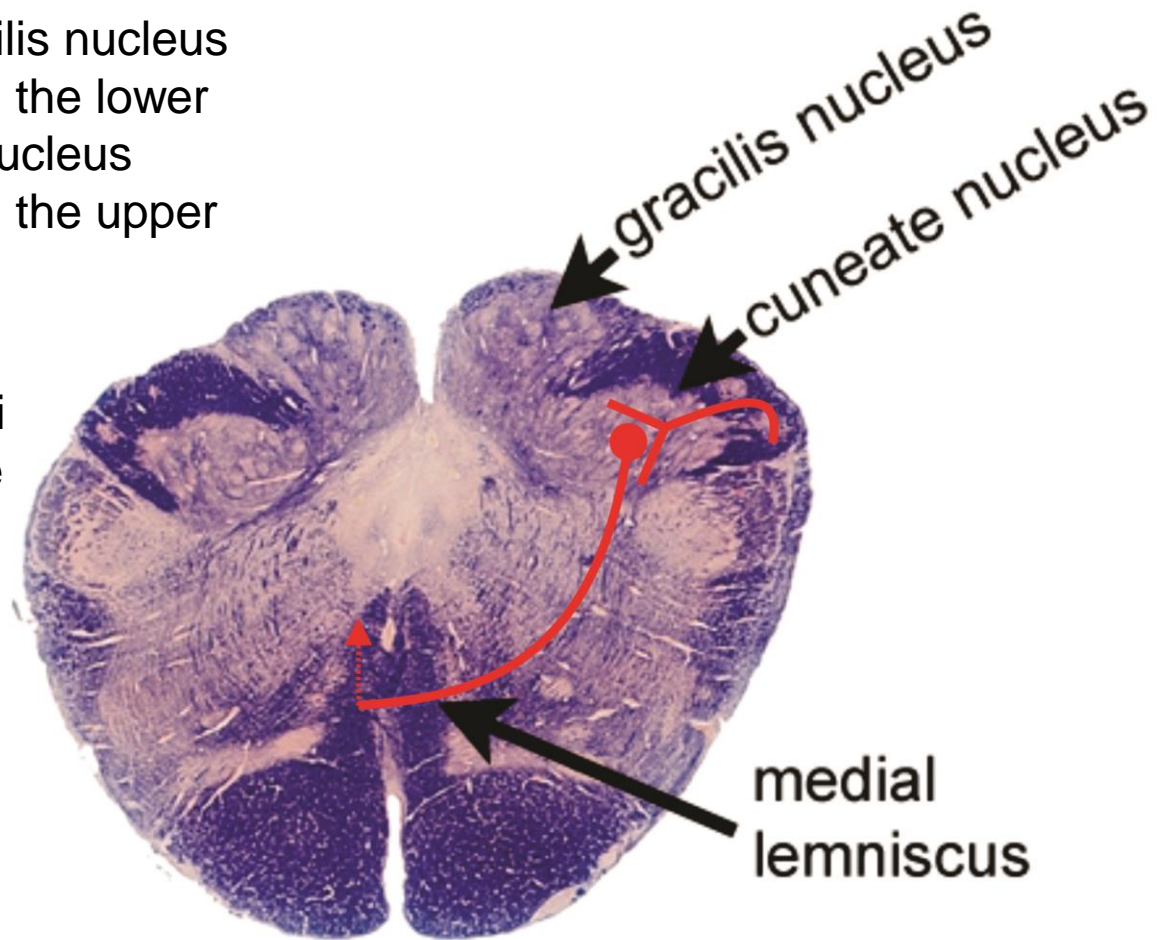




## Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

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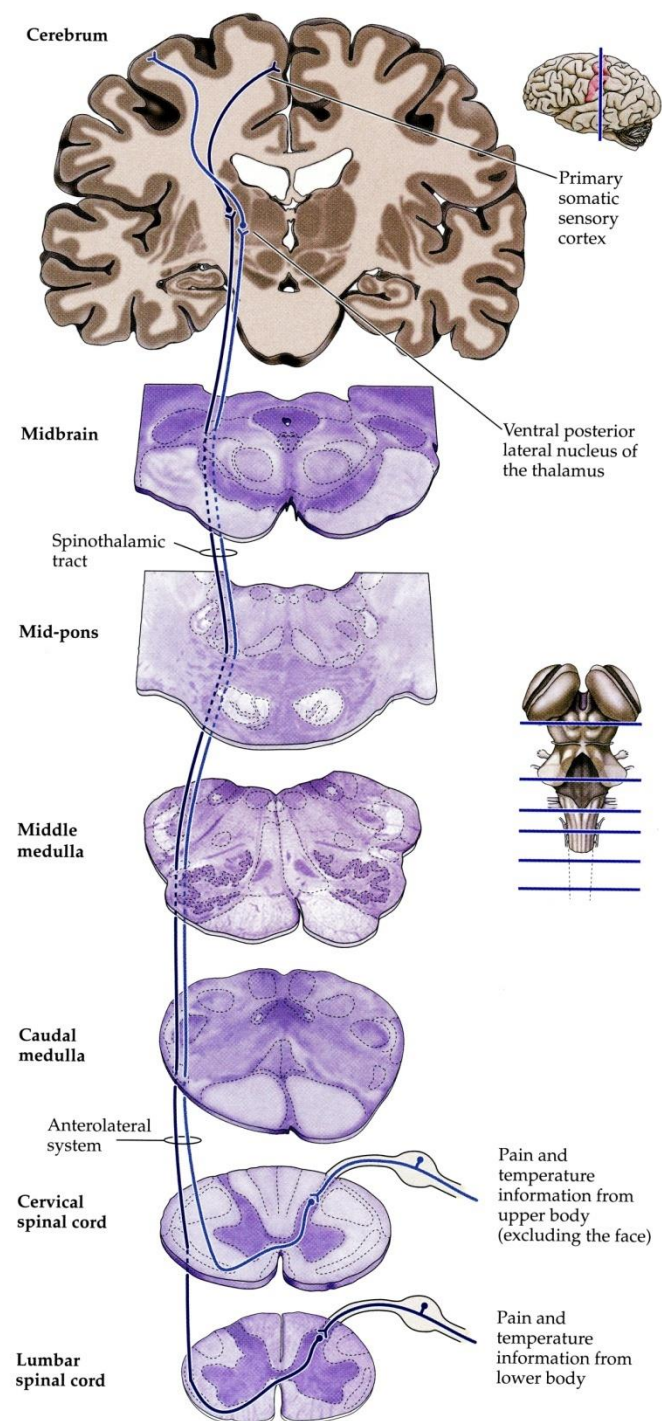
- In the medulla, the gracilis nucleus receives the axons from the lower body and the cuneate nucleus receives the axons from the upper body.
- Axons from these nuclei cross and ascend to the thalamus in the medial lemniscus.



# Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

Spinothalamic projection:

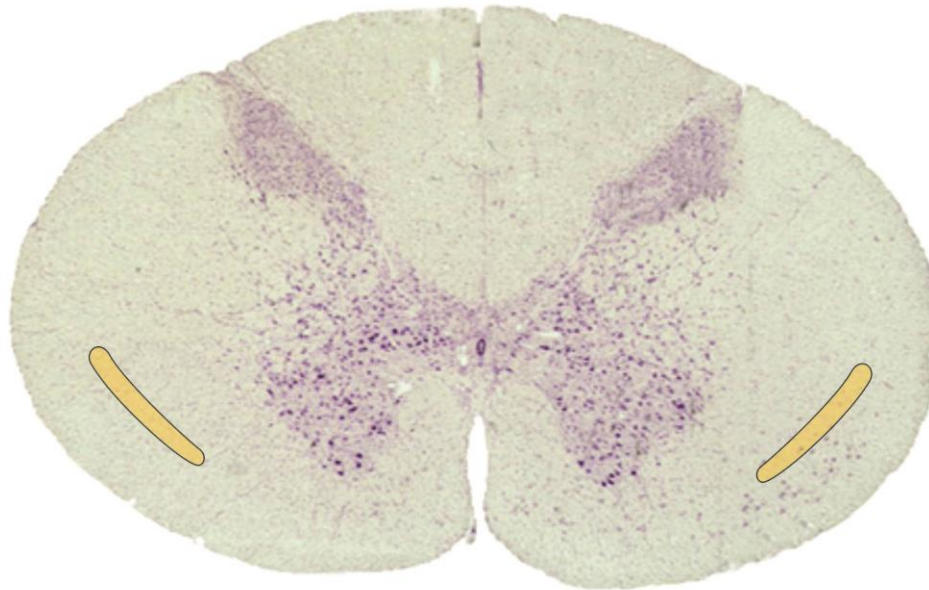
- Primary sensory axons for pain, temperature and light touch synapse on neurons in the dorsal horn.
- Axons of these dorsal horn neurons cross the spinal cord and ascend in the spinothalamic tract.
- They synapse in the ventral posterolateral nucleus (VPL) of the thalamus.
- Axons from the VPL neurons project to somatosensory cortex.



## Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

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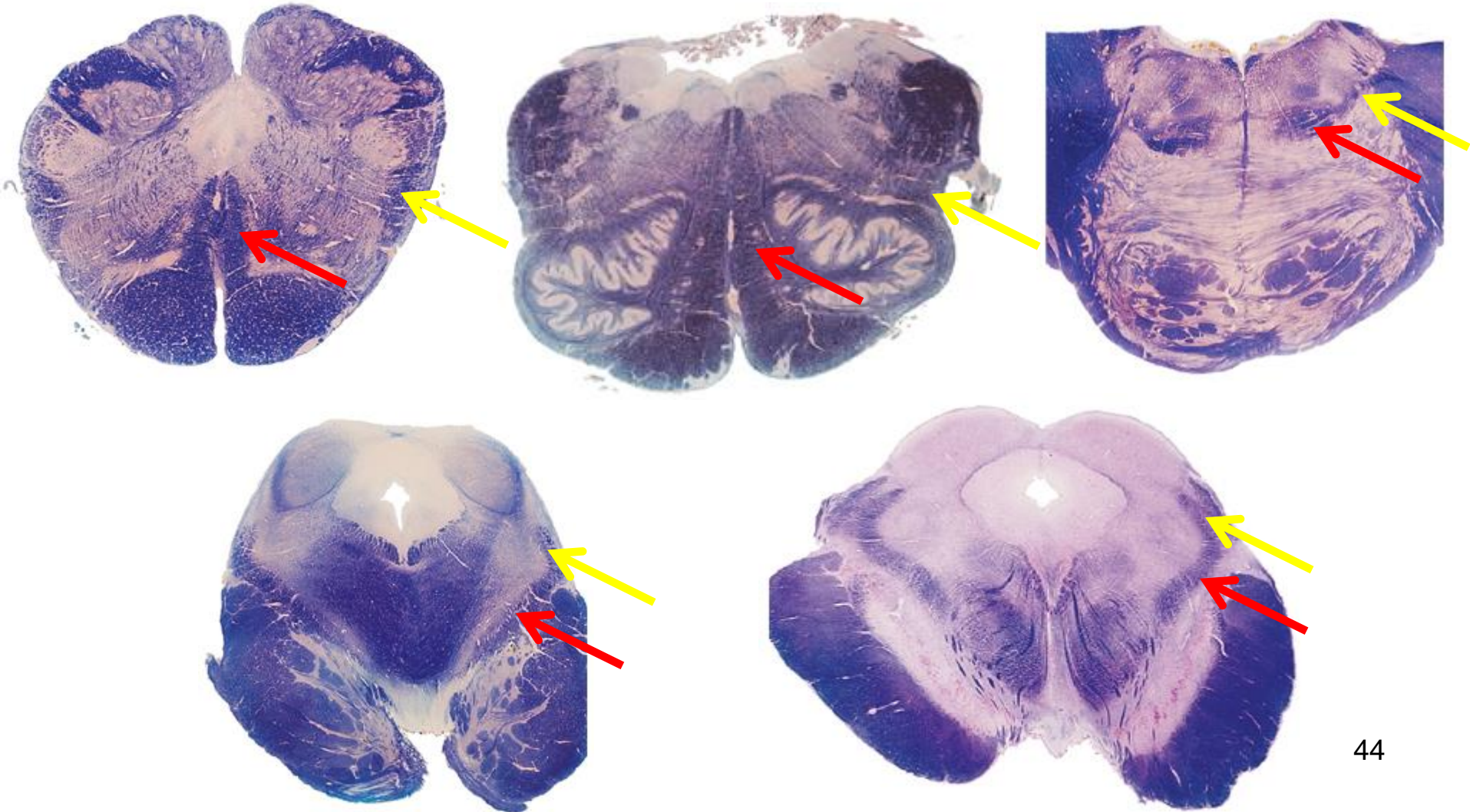
- The spinothalamic tracts are in the lateral funiculus of the spinal cord.



# Somatosensory Pathway

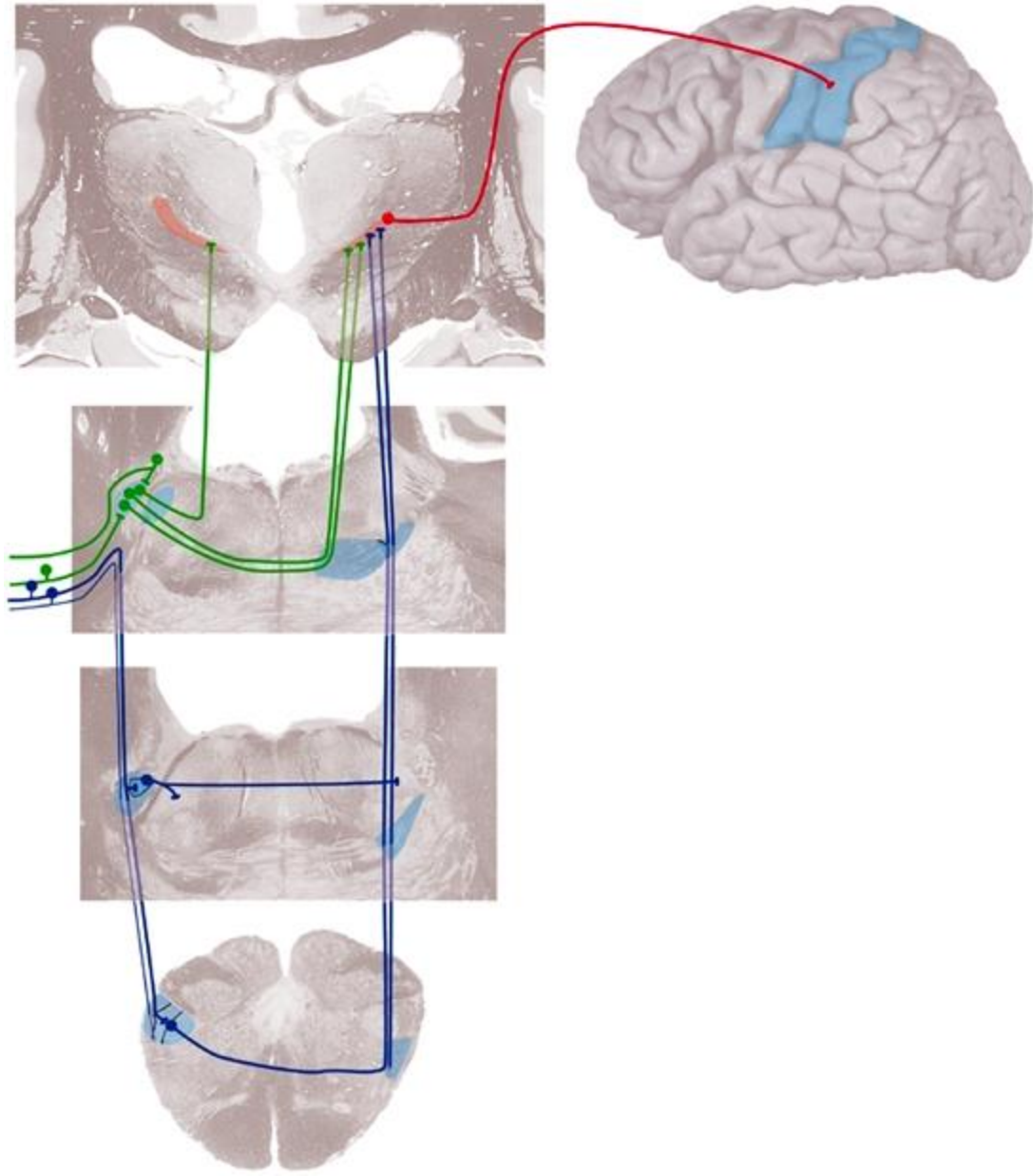
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- Medial lemniscus (red) and spinothalamic (yellow)



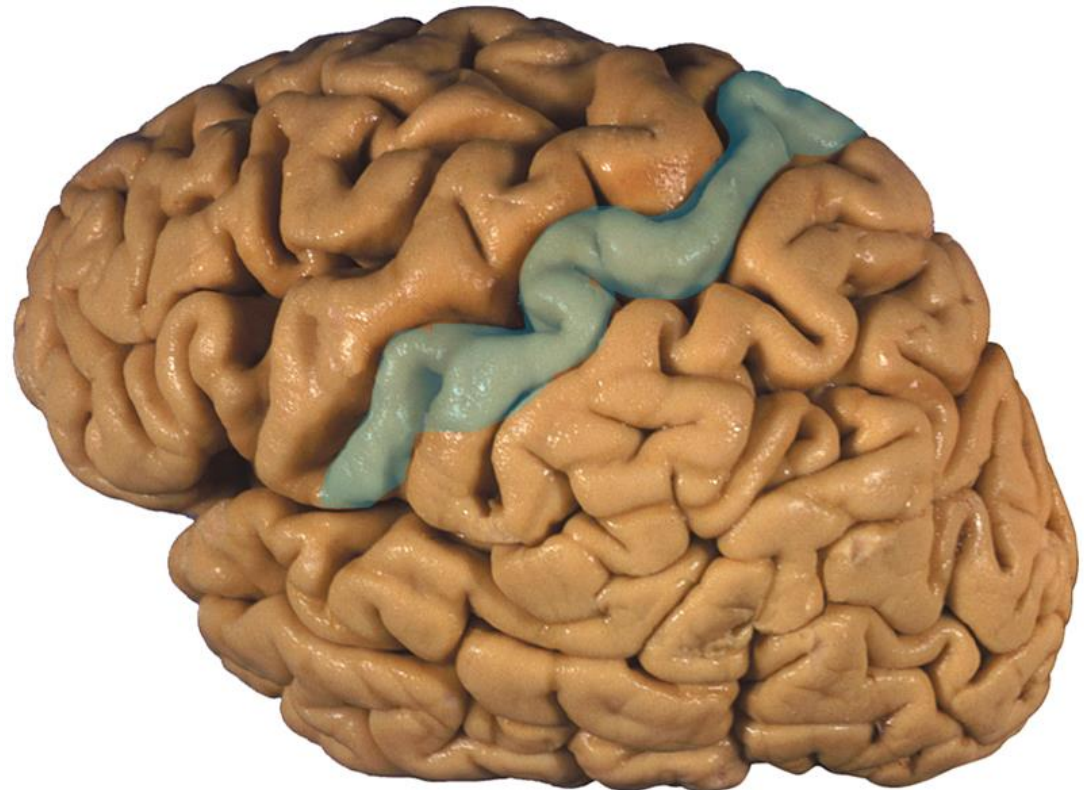
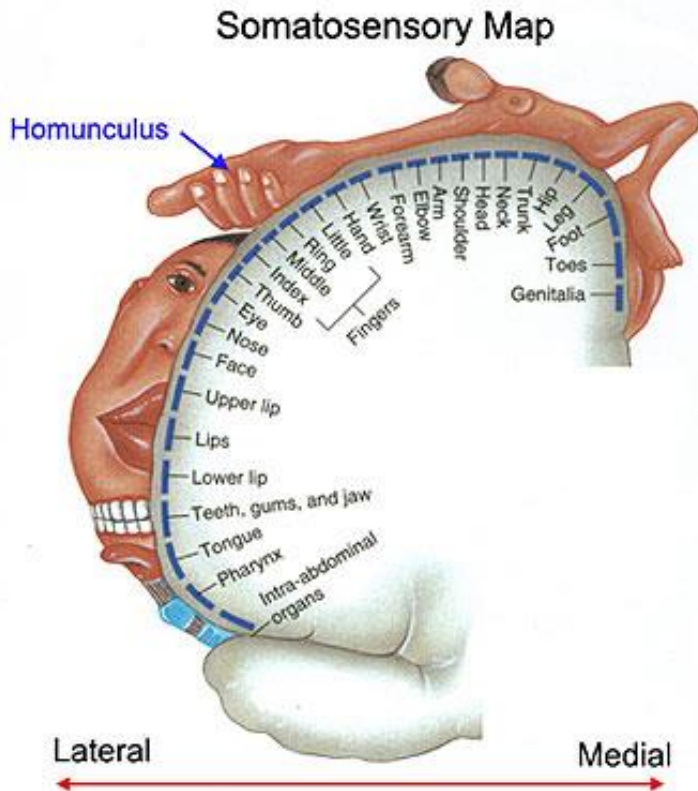
# Trigeminal Nerve (cn V)

- Trigeminal sensory pathway in the brain is similar to that for the rest of the body.



# Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

- Somatosensory cortex is in the postcentral gyrus.
- The somatosensory projection has a somatotopic organization throughout the pathway
- The pattern of the projection to cortex is said to be a homunculus (little person).



## Somatosensory Projection to Cortex

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- A stroke in the right side of the cerebellum can affect movements the right side of the body.
- A stroke in the right somatosensory cortex can affect sensory perception on the left side of the body.

# **Vision**

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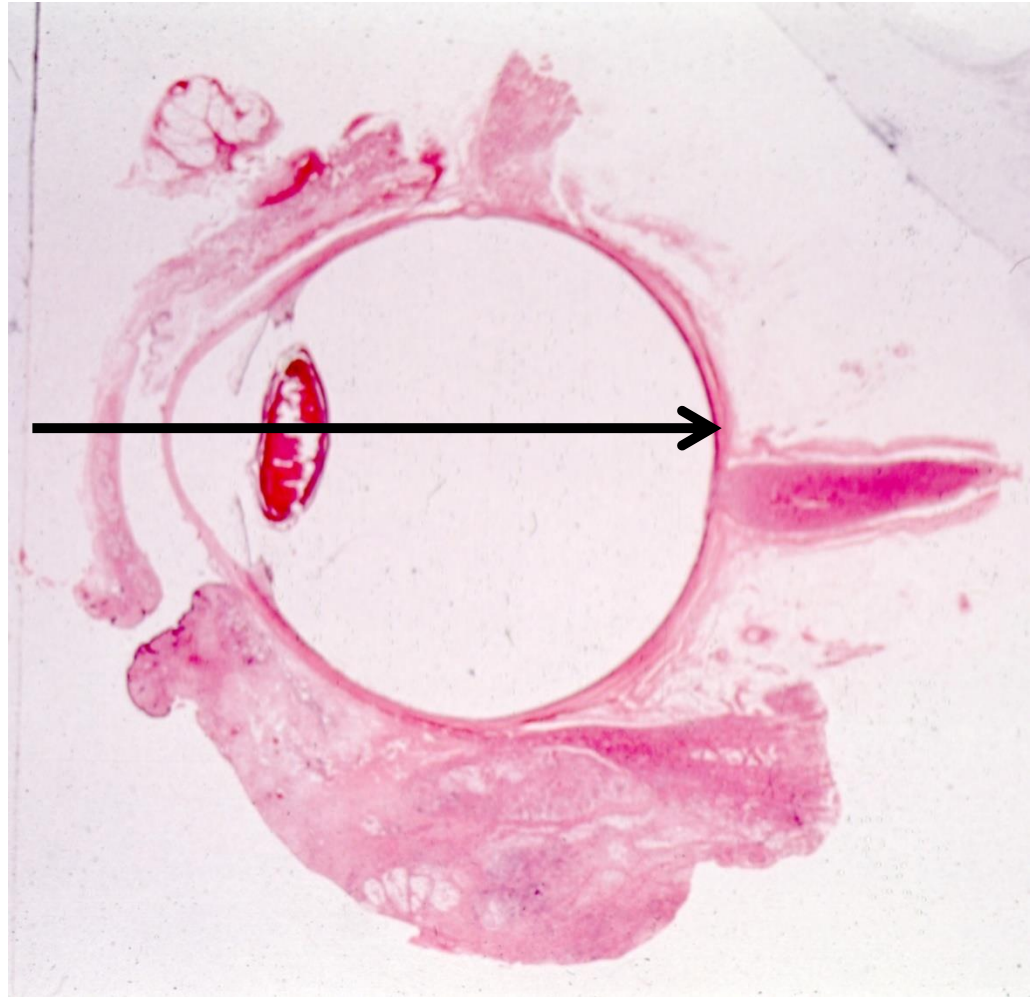


# Eye

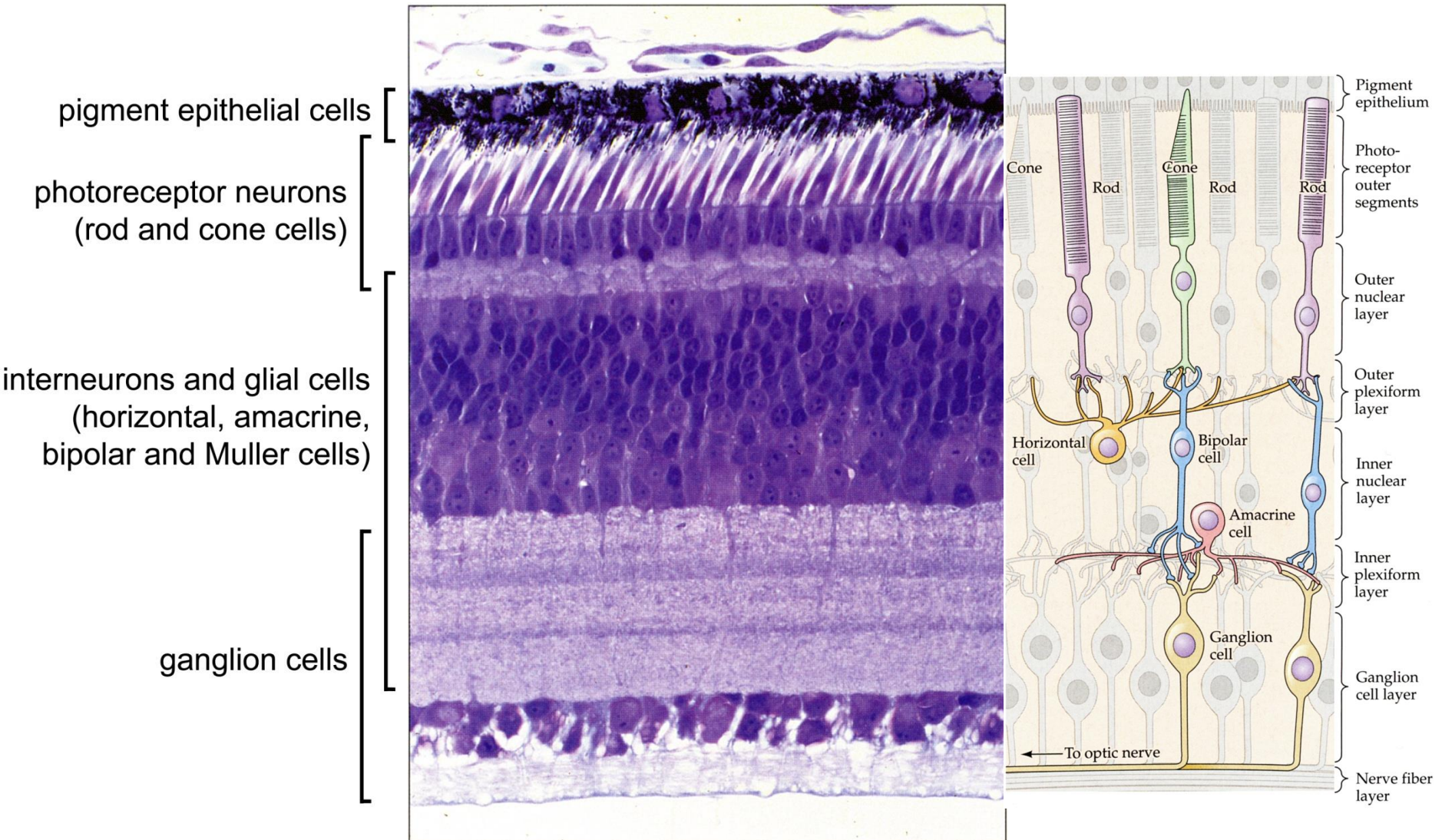
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Path of light:

- Cornea
- Anterior chamber
- Pupil
- Posterior chamber
- Lens
- Vitreous chamber
- Retina



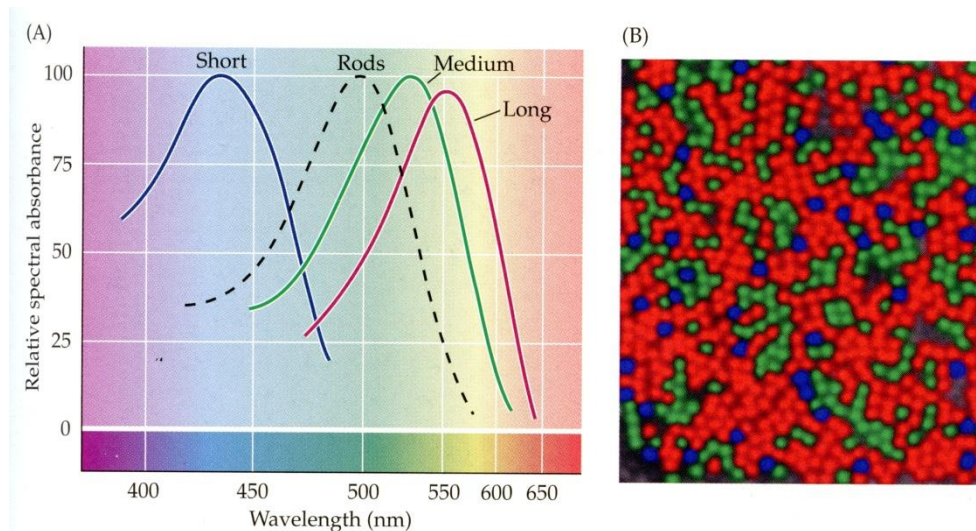
# Retina



# Retina

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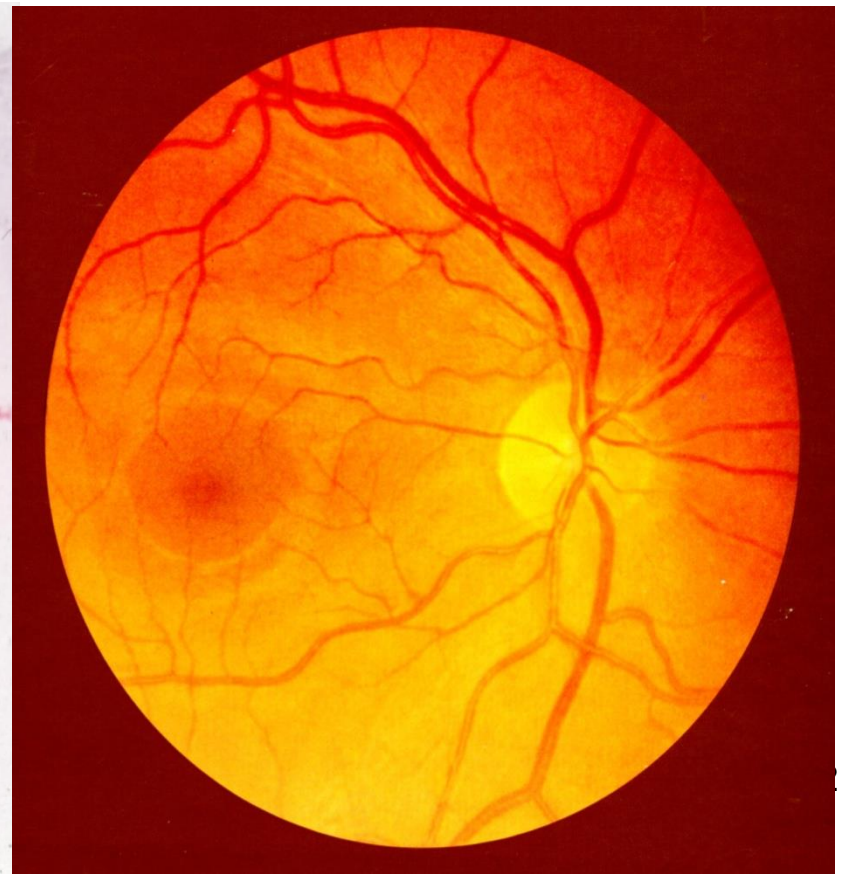
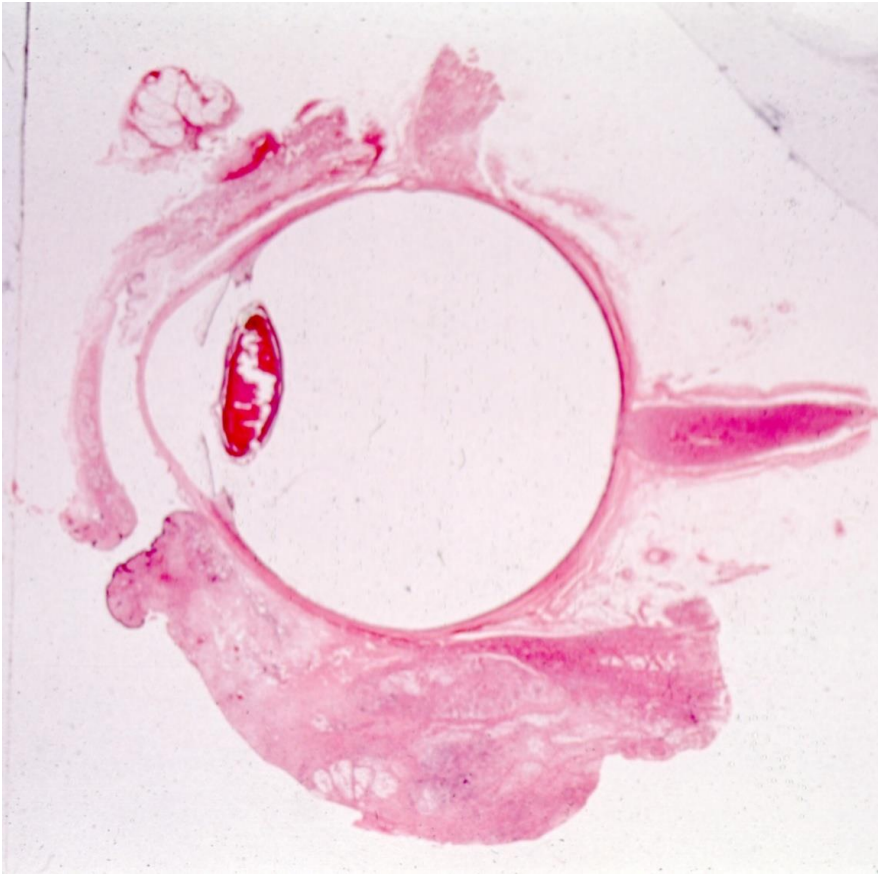
- Opsins are light sensitive proteins in photoreceptors; opsins bind retinal, which is a vitamin A derivative.
- Different opsins are sensitive to different wavelengths of light.
- There are three types of cone cells, each with a different opsin and sensitive to a different wavelength.



## Optic Nerve (CN II)

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- The axons from retinal ganglion cells across the retina run to the optic nerve head.
- The optic nerve head is the start of the optic nerve.
- There is no retina at the optic nerve head (blind spot).
- The retinal axons become myelinated at the optic nerve head.

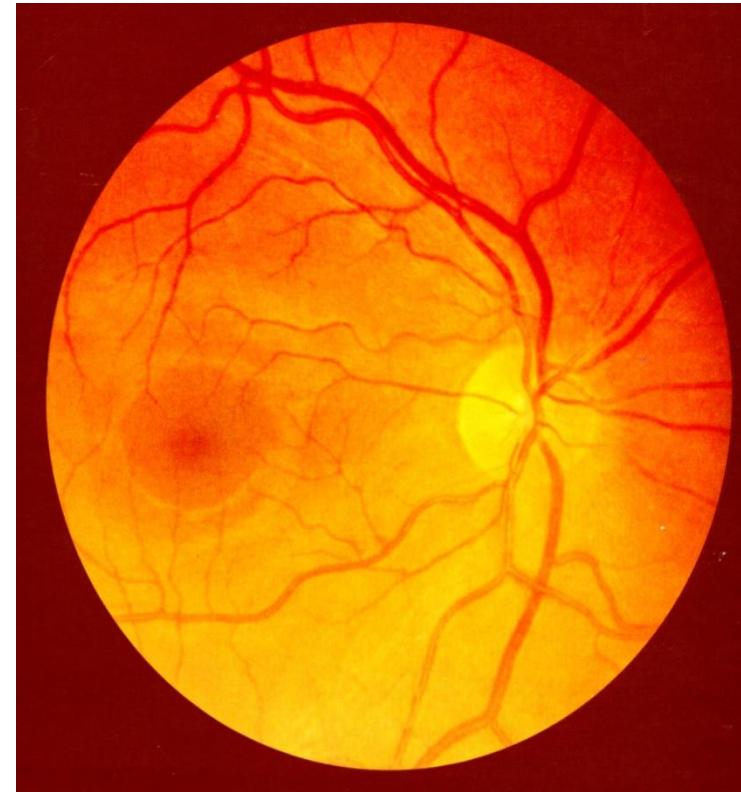


# Retina

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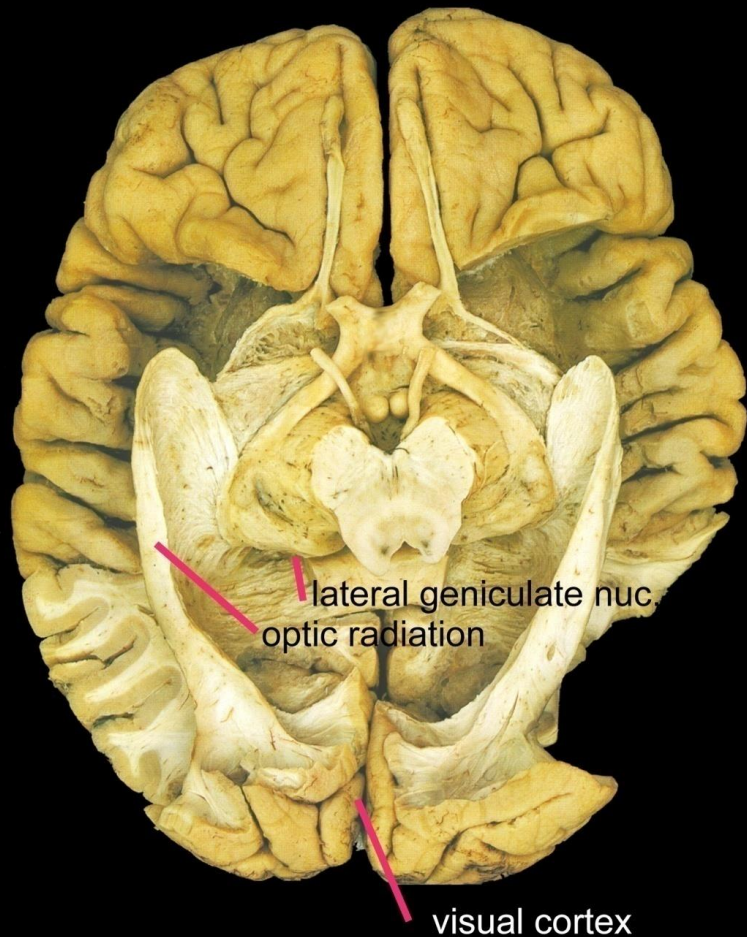
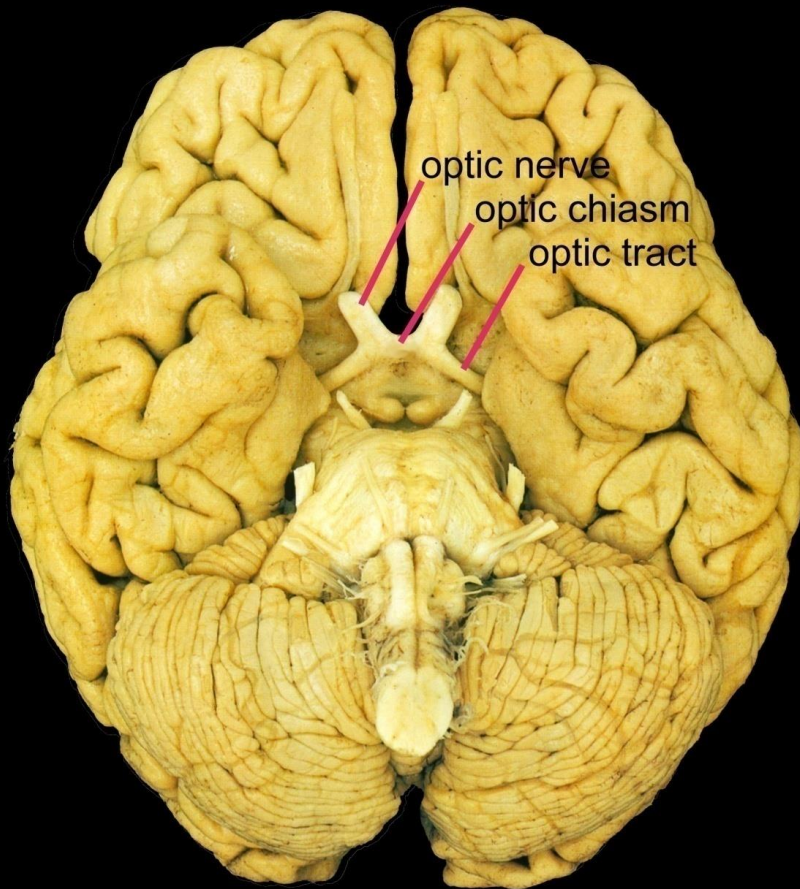
Retina can be examined non-invasively with an ophthalmoscope:

- Central artery & vein
- Macula & fovea
- Optic nerve head

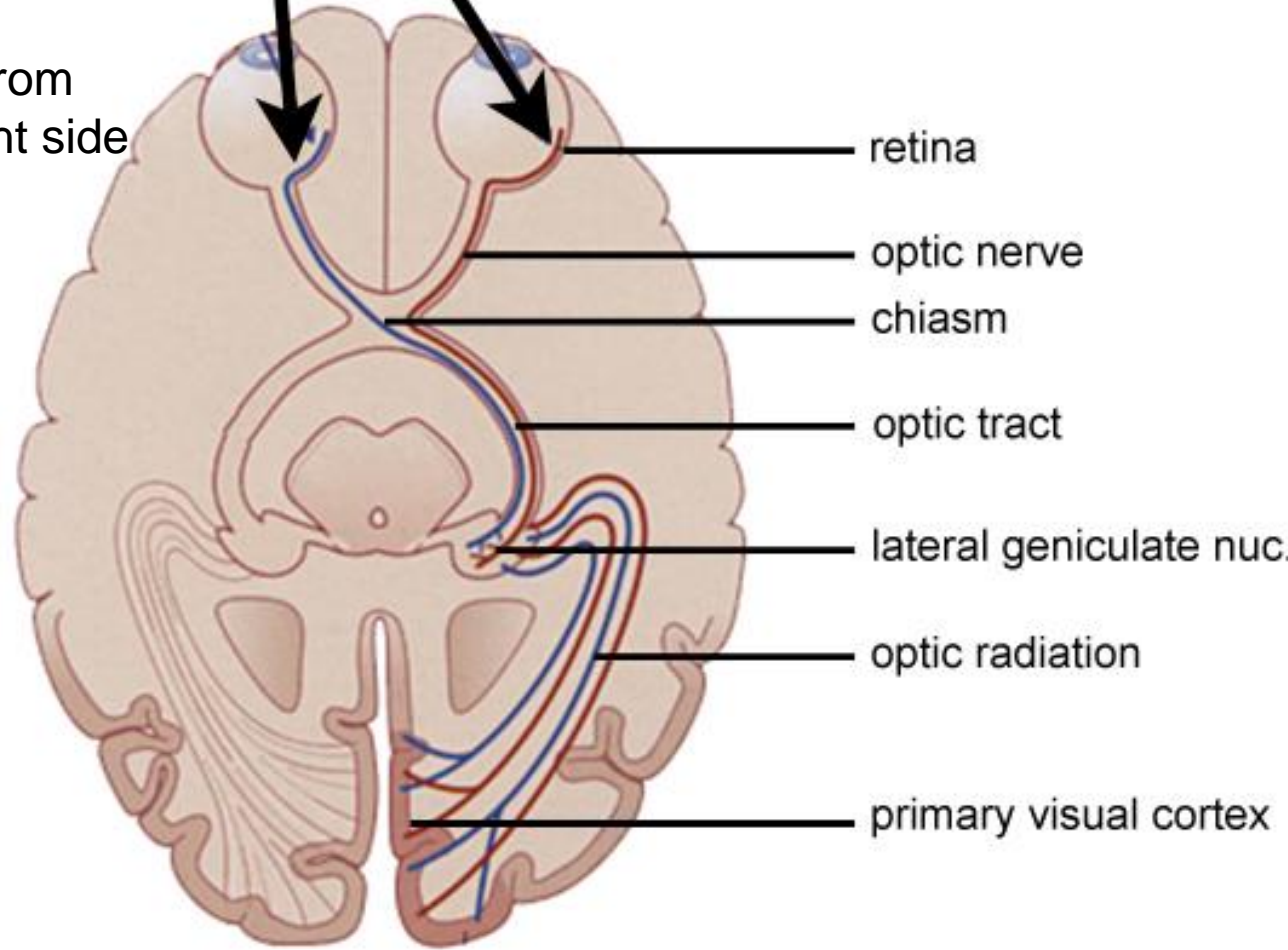


# Central Visual Pathways

- The optic nerve attaches to the brain at the optic chiasm.
- Retinal axons from the nasal side of retina cross in the chiasm.
- The retinal axons continue in the optic tract.

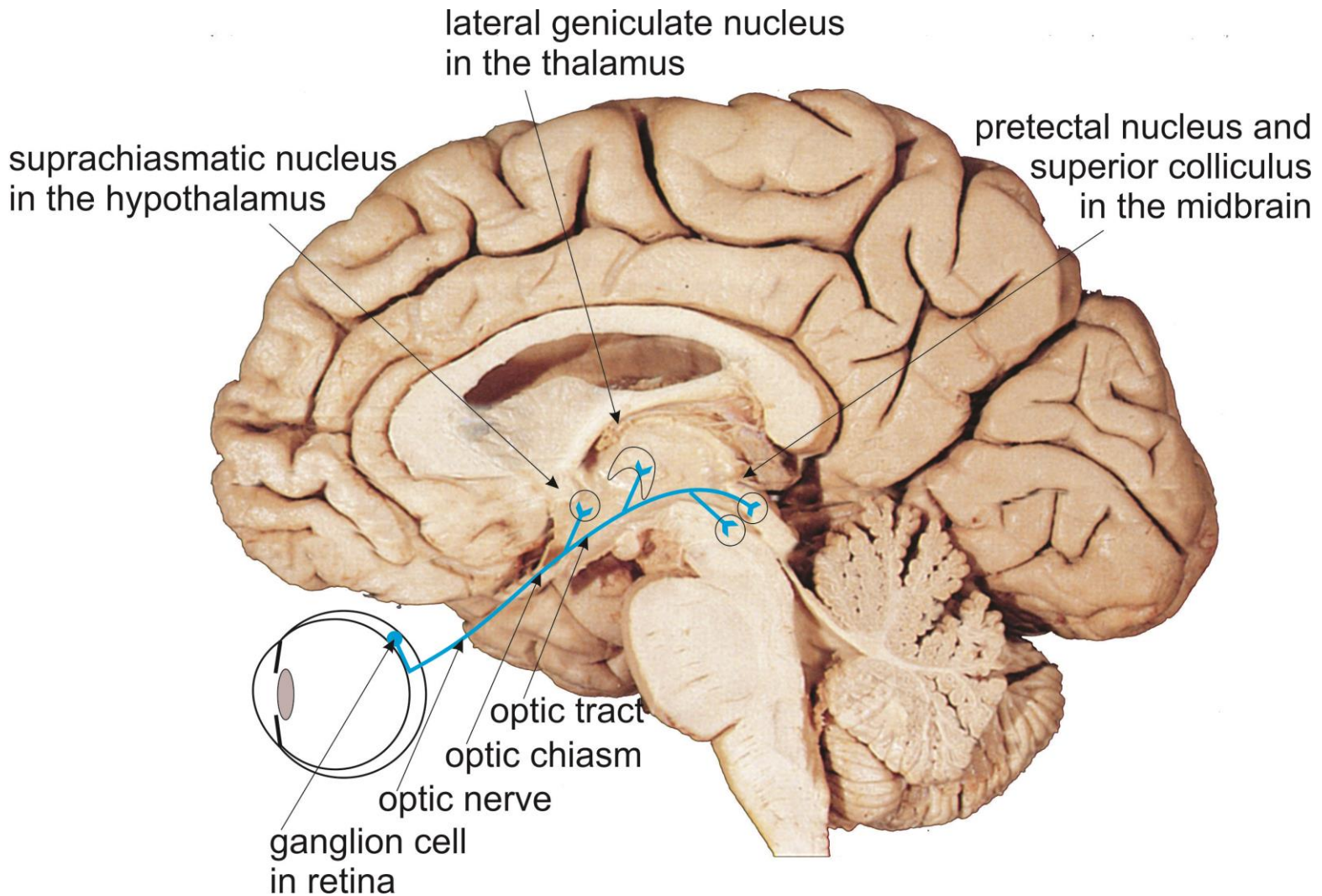


- The right visual hemifield from both eyes goes to the left side of the brain.
- The left visual hemifield from both eyes goes to the right side of the brain.



# Central Visual Pathways

- Retinal axons synapse in several visual centers in the brain.

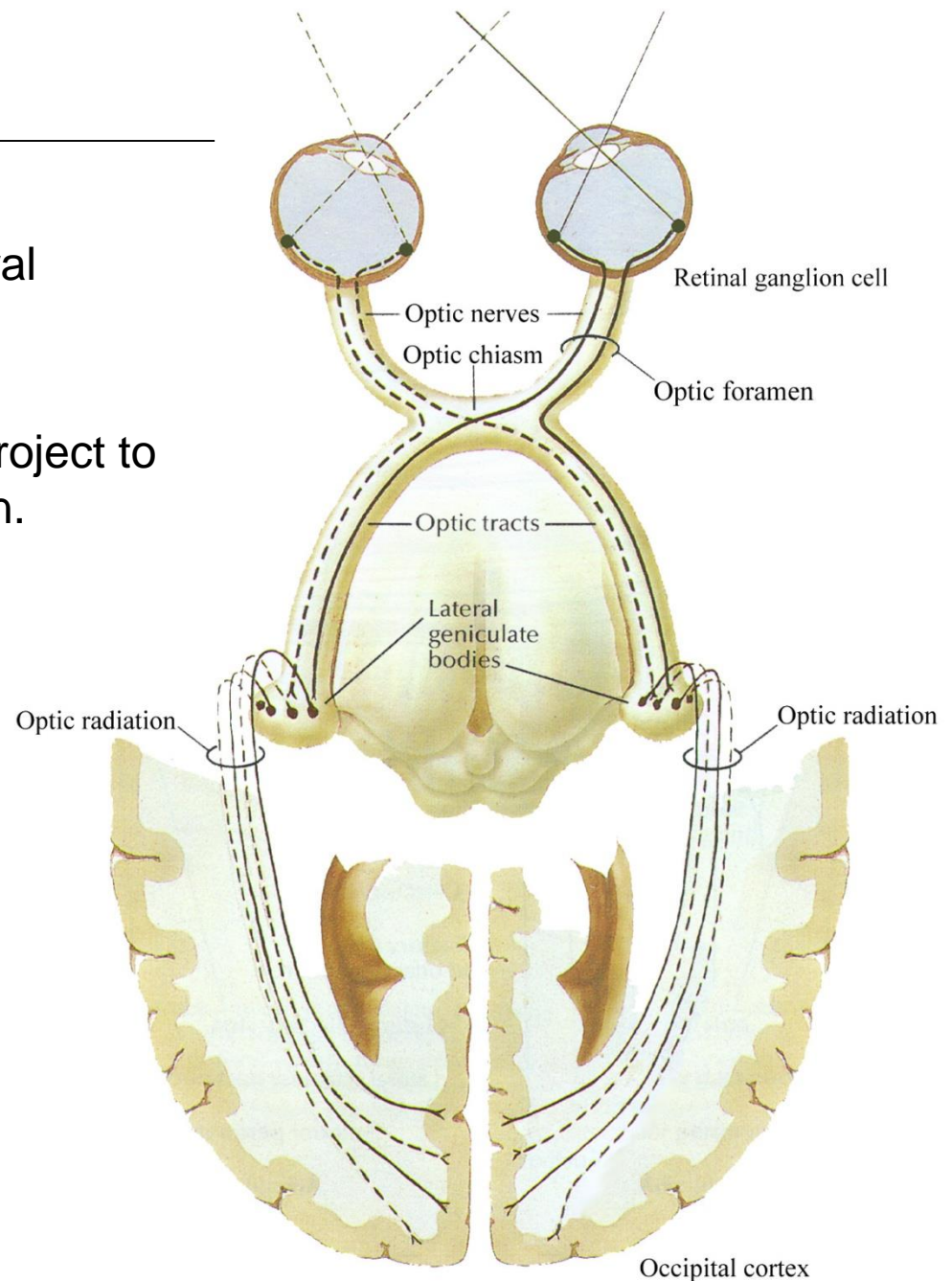




## Central Visual Pathways

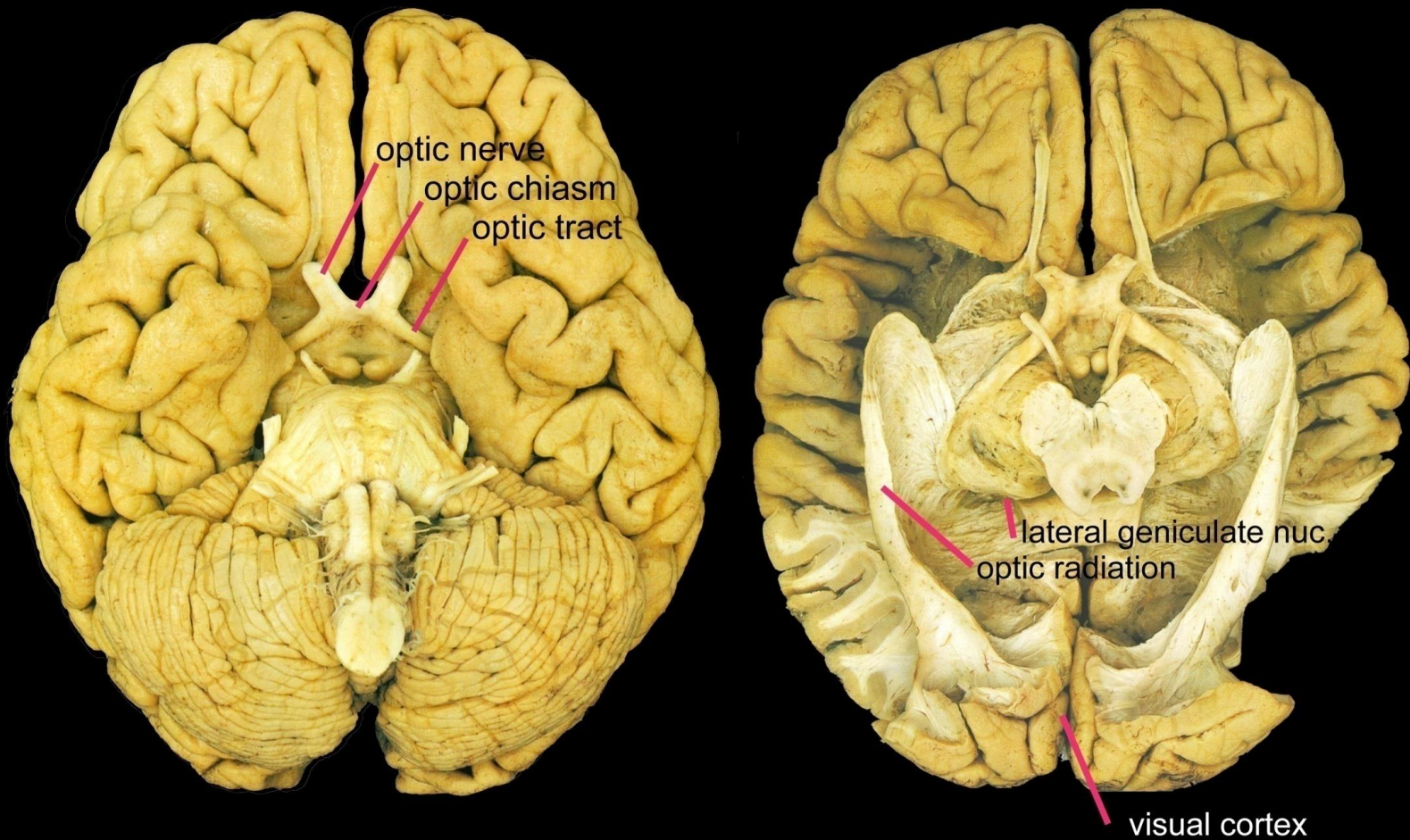
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- Retinal axons synapse in the lateral geniculate nucleus (LGN).
- Axons from neurons in the LGN project to visual cortex via the optic radiation.



# Central Visual Pathways

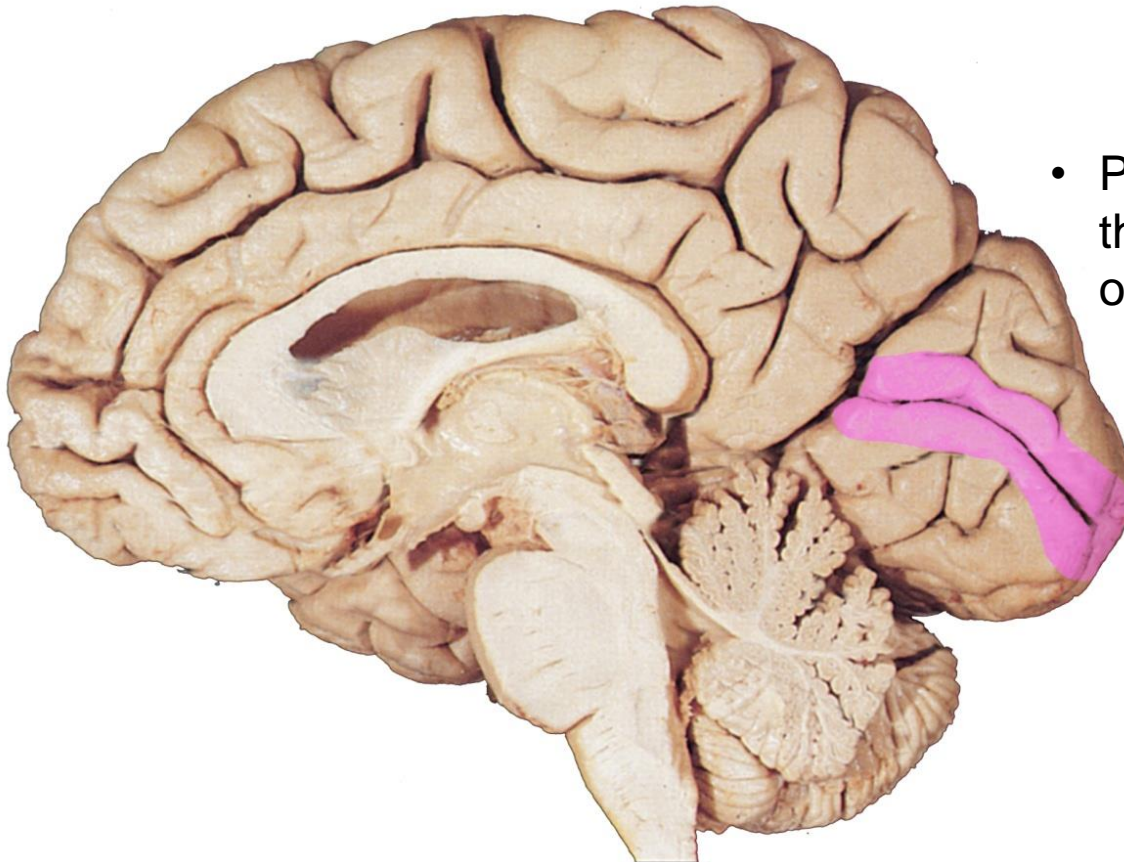
- Retinal axons synapse in the lateral geniculate nucleus (LGN).
- Axons from neurons in the LGN project to visual cortex via the optic radiation.



## Central Visual Pathways

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- Visual cortex is essential for conscious visual perception.
- Neurons in visual cortex send axons to secondary visual areas of cortex and to pulvinar (in the thalamus) for distribution to association cortex.

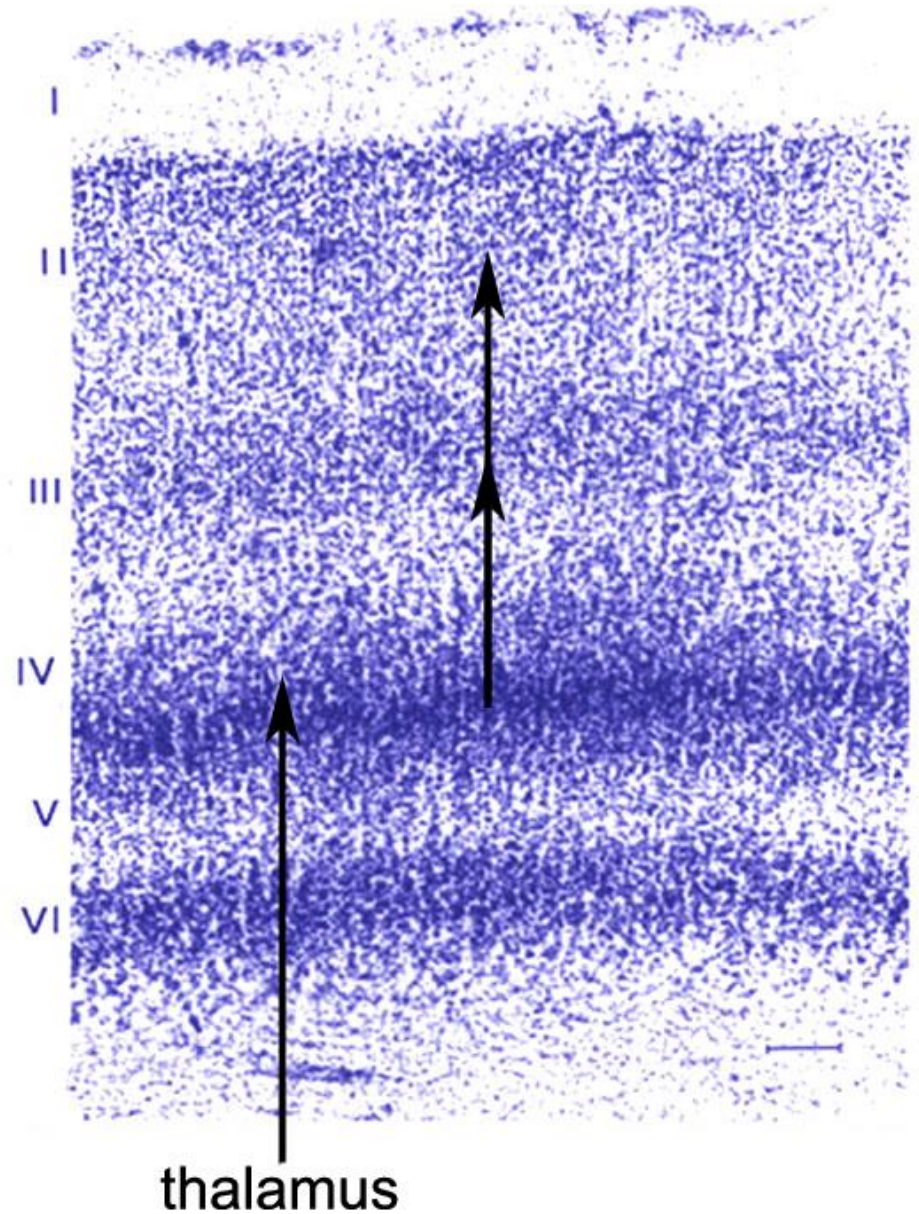


- Primary visual cortex is in the calcarine fissure of the occipital lobe.

# Central Visual Pathways

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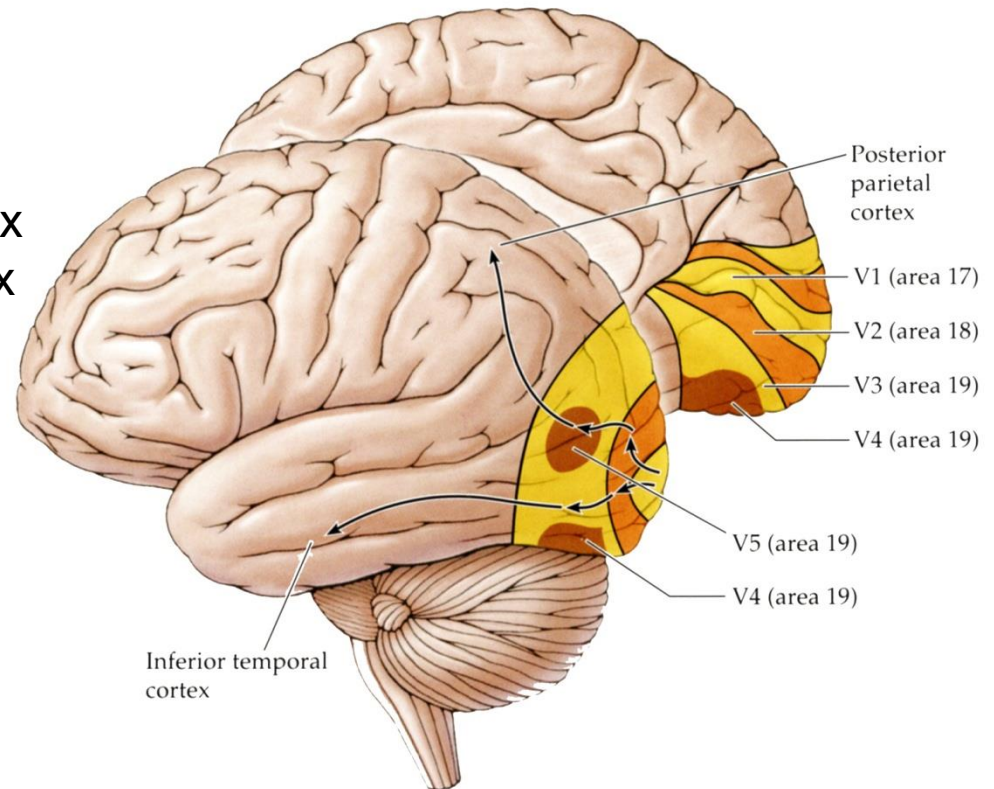
- Neocortex has six cell layers.
- Inputs from thalamus synapse in layer IV.
- Layer IV neurons send axons to layers II & III.



# Central Visual Pathways

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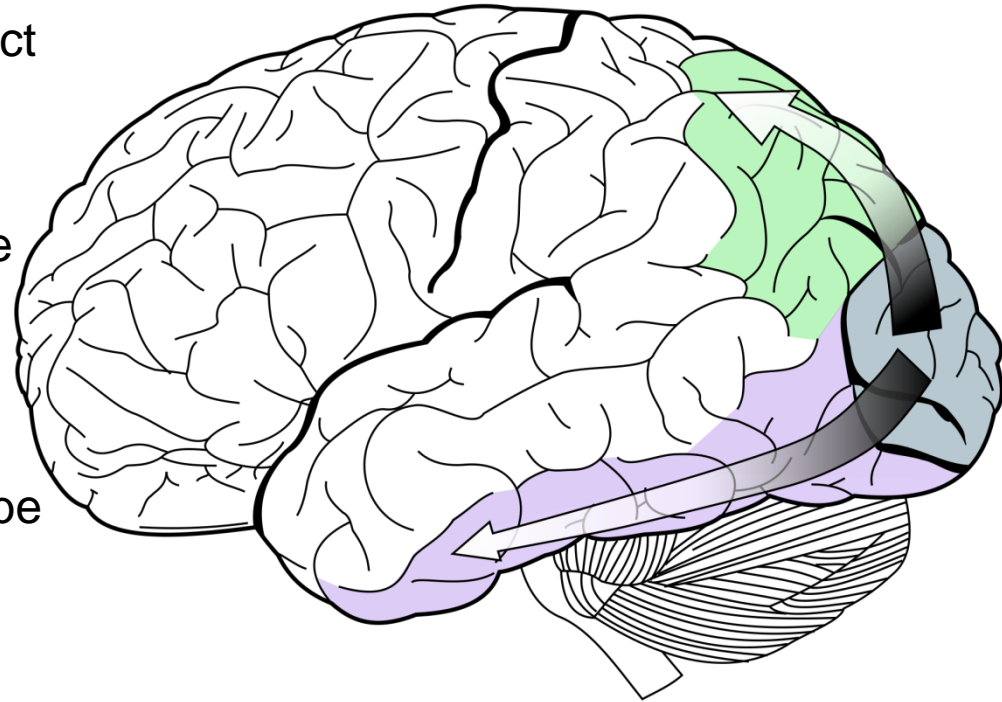
- Neurons in primary visual cortex send axons to secondary visual cortex (V2 or area 18).
- Neurons in secondary visual cortex send axons to tertiary visual cortex areas.



# Central Visual Pathways

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- Accessory visual cortical areas project to other cortical areas in two main streams:
  - dorsal stream into parietal lobe carrying information for motion and location analysis (M pathway)
  - ventral stream into temporal lobe carrying information for color and object recognition (P pathway)



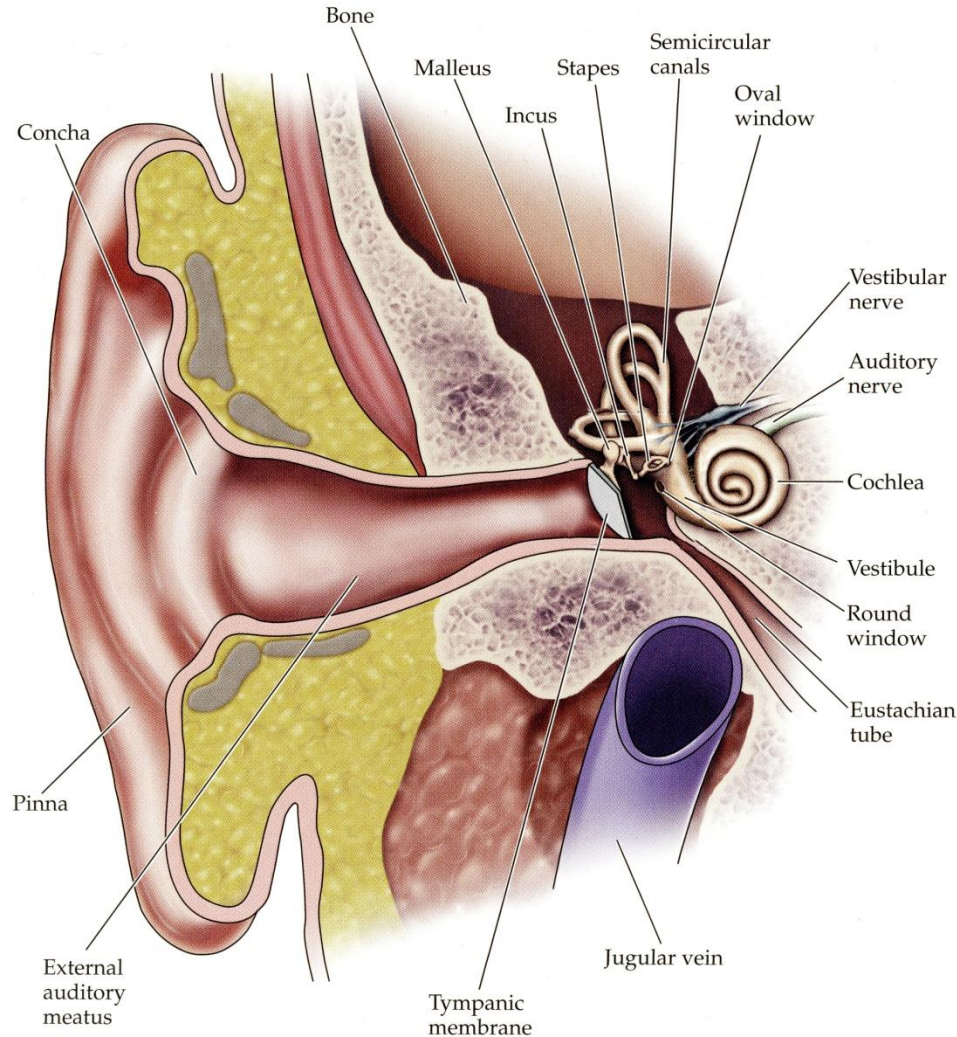
# **Auditory & Vestibular Systems**

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Department of Neuroscience  
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# Auditory System

## External ear:

- includes the pinna, external auditory meatus (ear canal) and tympanic membrane (ear drum).
- The pinna and canal collect sound and guide it to the tympanic membrane.
- The tympanic membrane vibrates in response to sound.

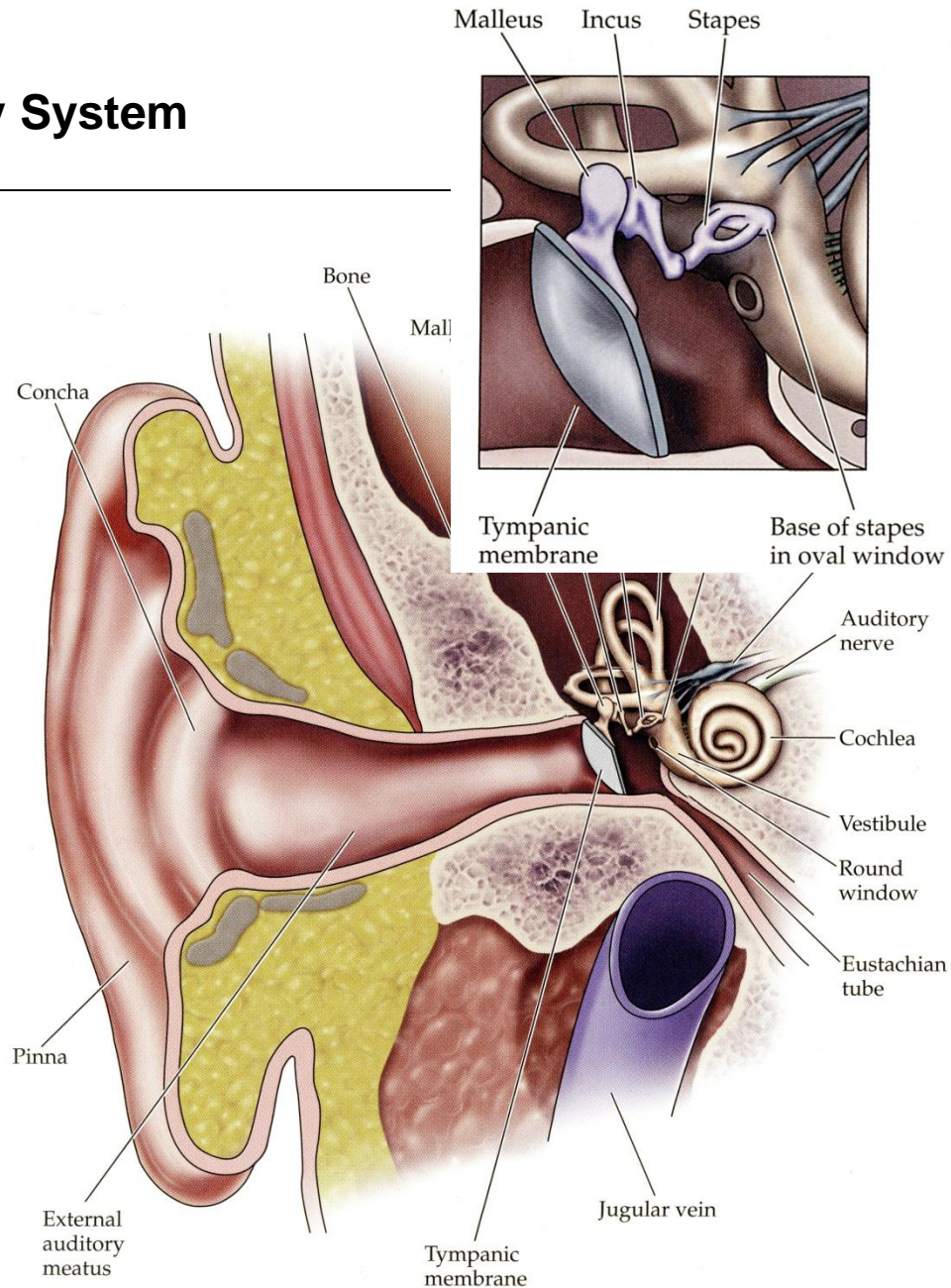




# Auditory System

## Middle ear:

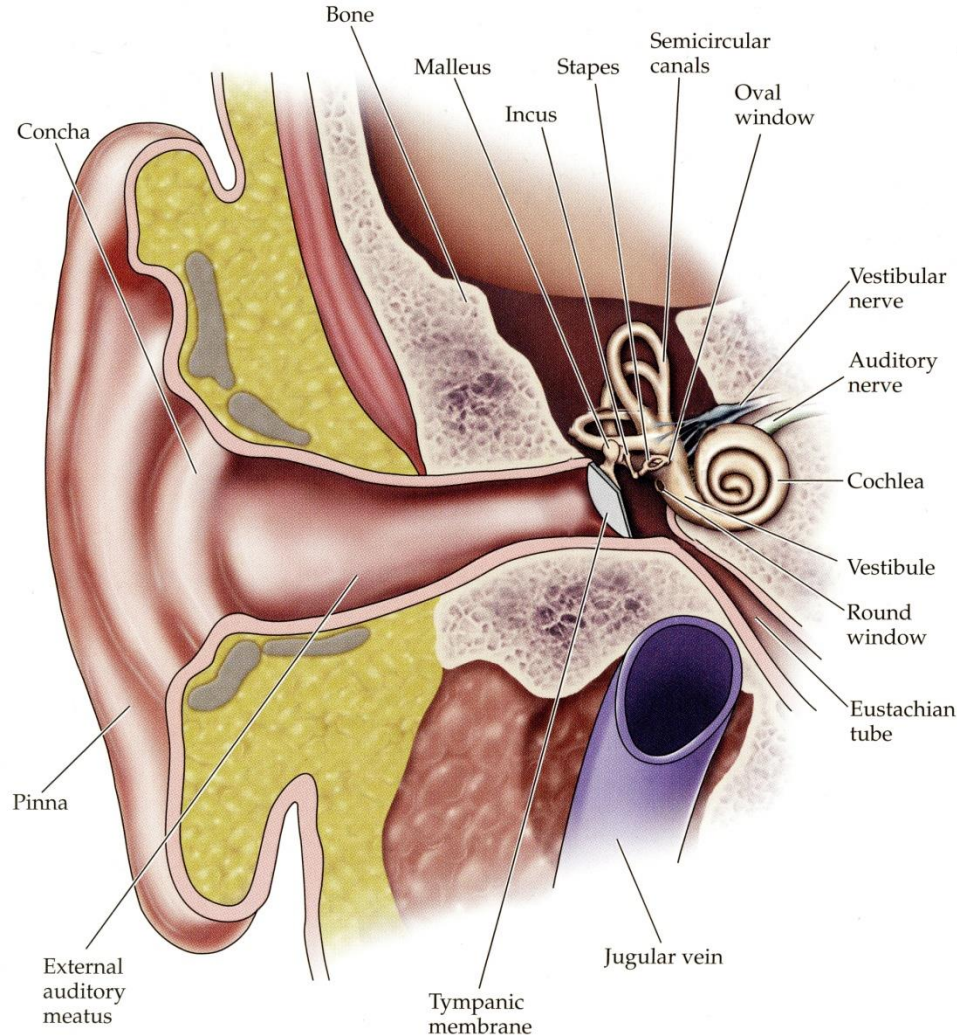
- It is an air filled chamber.
- The eustachian tube (auditory tube) connects the middle ear chamber with the pharynx (throat).
- Three tiny bones in the chamber transfer the vibration of the tympanic membrane to the oval window of the inner ear.



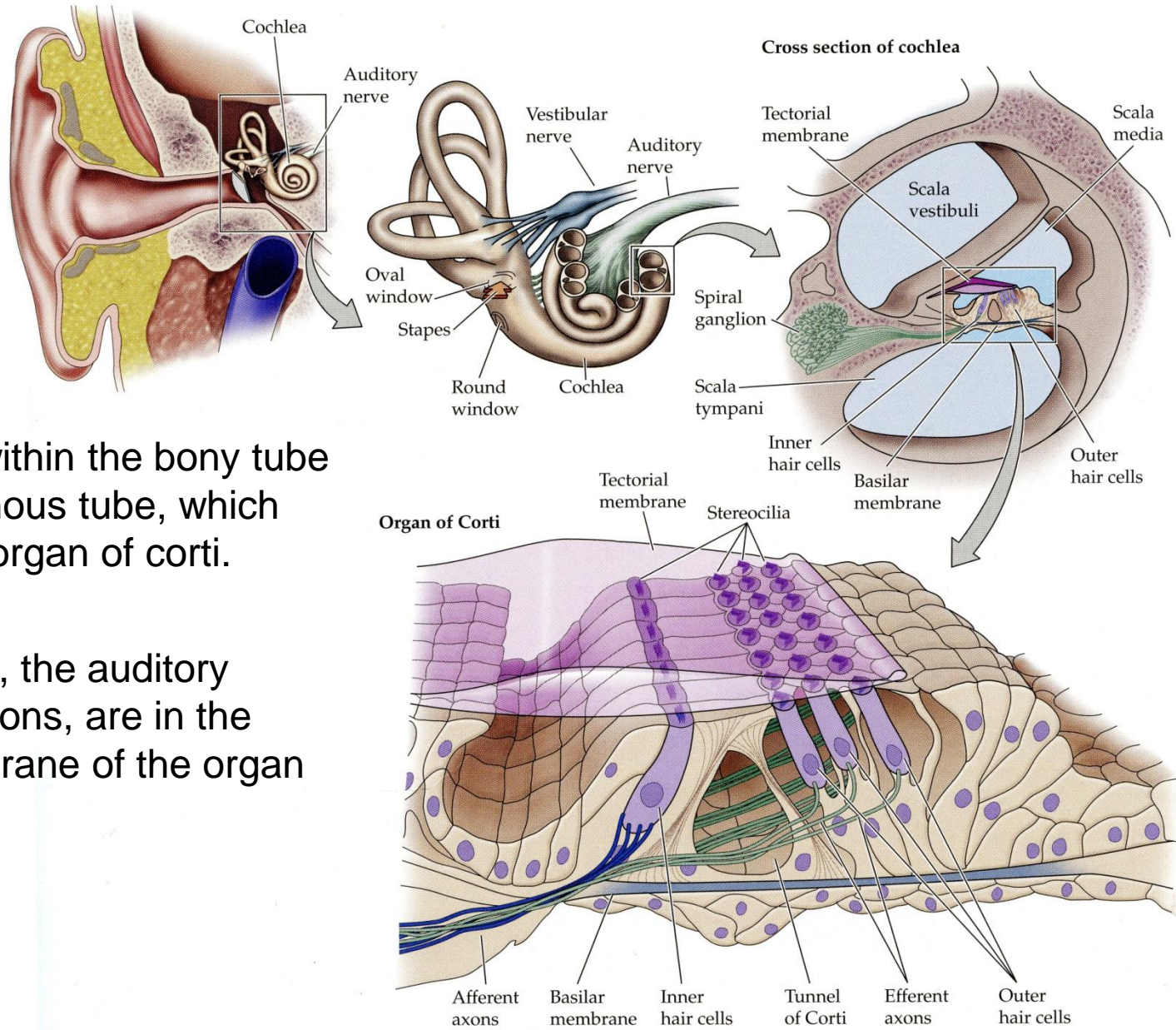
# Auditory System

## Inner ear:

- The cochlea is a snail shaped tube incased in bone.
- The cochlea has two membrane covered openings into the middle ear, the oval and round windows.
- The auditory nerve, a branch of the vestibulochochlear (CN VIII) runs into the cochlea.



# Auditory System

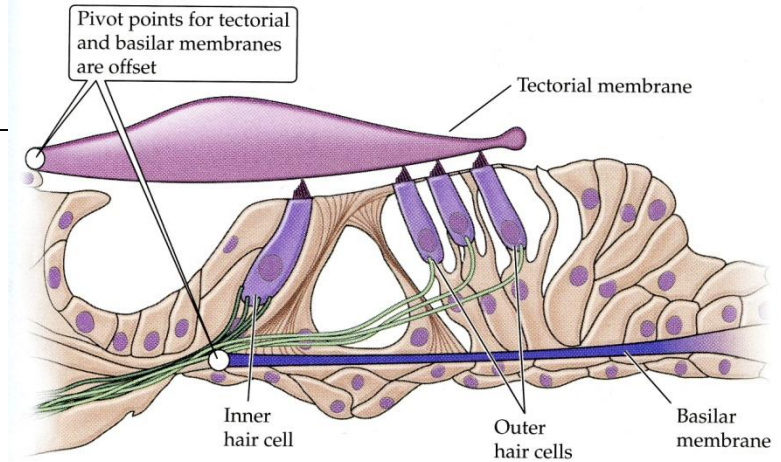


- Suspended within the bony tube is a membranous tube, which contains the organ of corti.
- The hair cells, the auditory receptor neurons, are in the basilar membrane of the organ of corti.

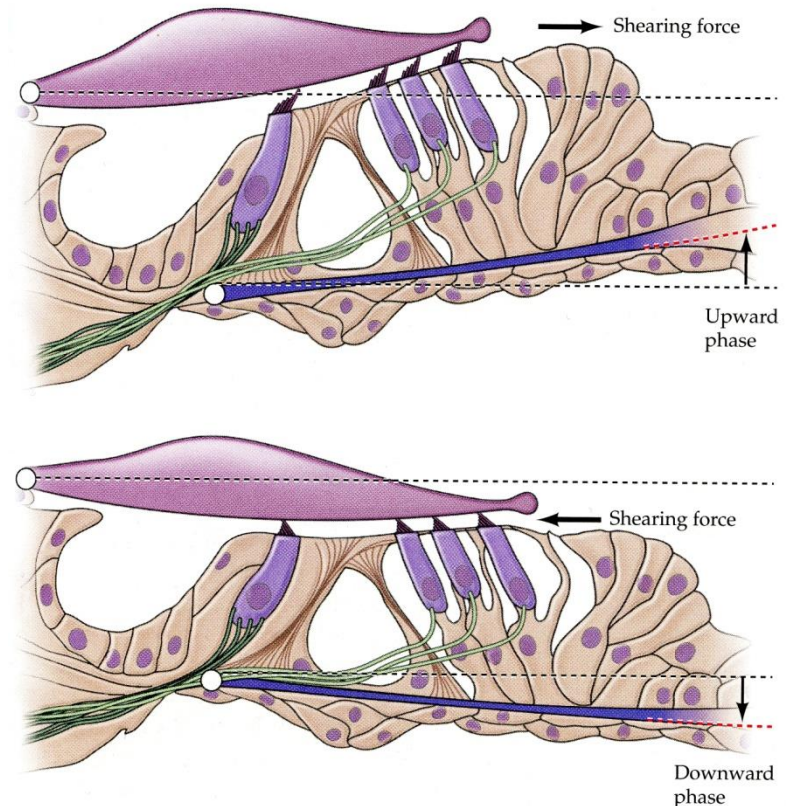
# Auditory System

- A sound vibration entering via the oval window travels up the cochlea.
- This causes vibration of the basilar membrane, which distorts the stereocilia bundles of the hair cells that is in contact with an overlying membrane.
- The mechanosensory hair cells are depolarized by movement of their stereocilia.
- The depolarized hair cells release neurotransmitter that activates the auditory nerve axons.

(A) Resting position



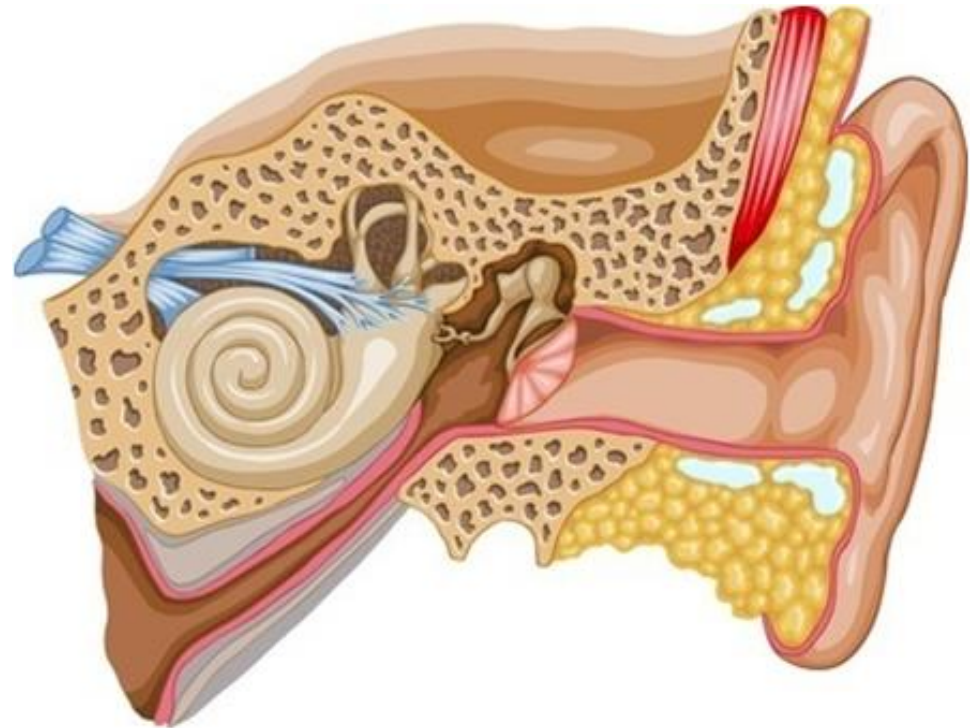
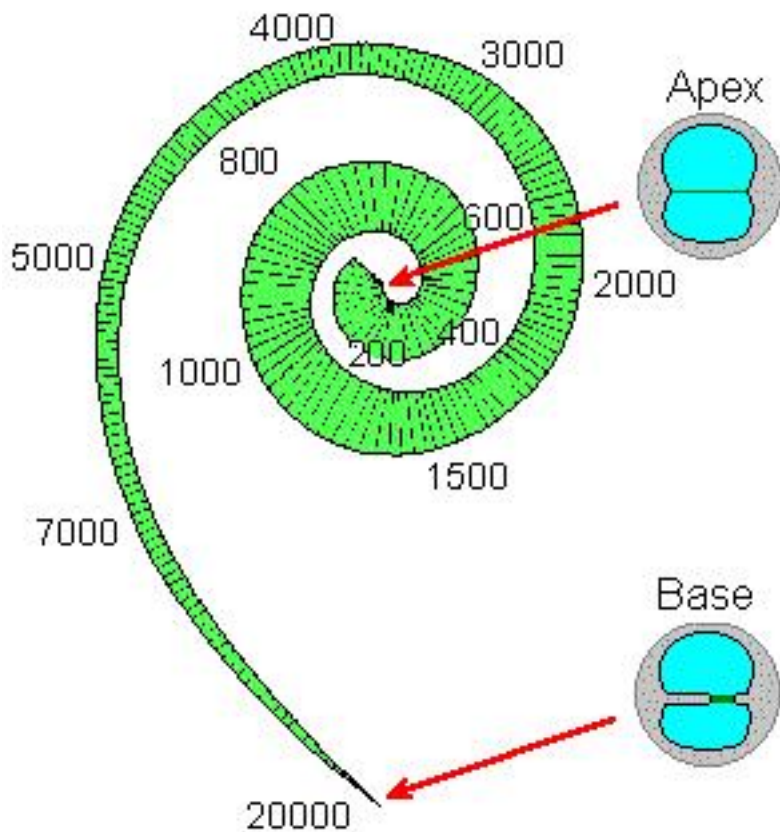
(B) Sound-induced vibration



# Auditory System

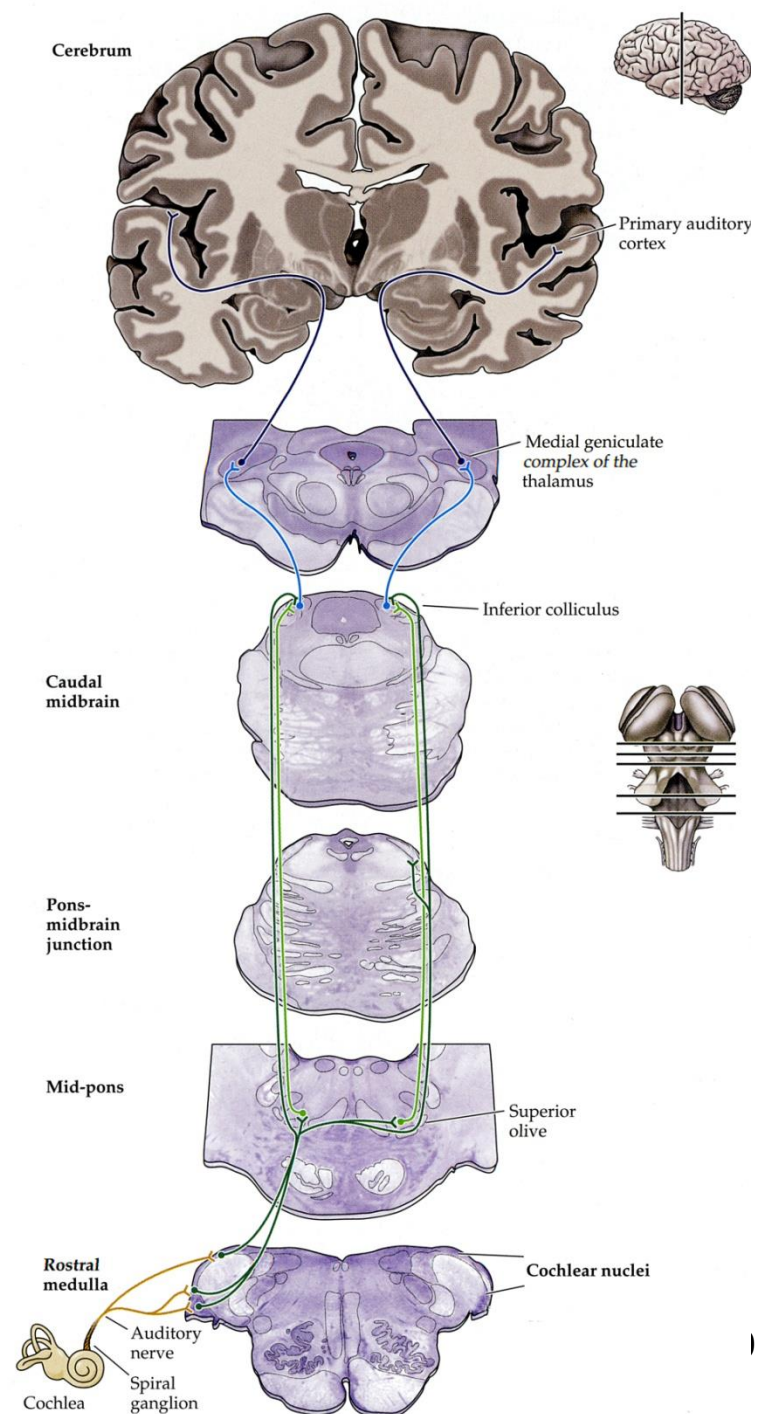
- Hair cells in different parts of the cochlea are sensitive to different frequencies.

Hair cells at the base of the cochlea are sensitive to high frequency sound; hair cells at the apex are sensitive to low frequency sound.



# Auditory System

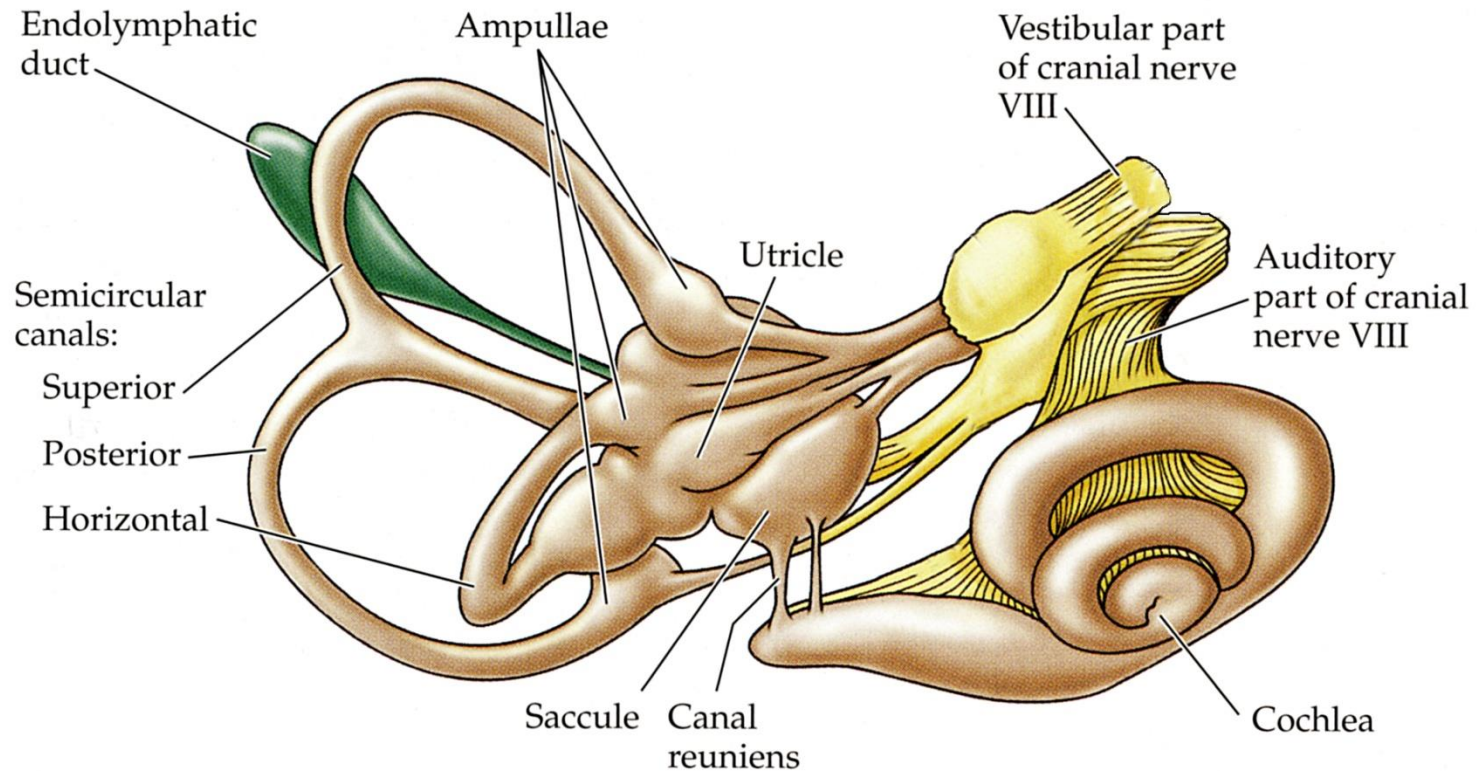
- Auditory nerve axons synapse in the cochlear nuclei in the upper medulla.
- Neurons in the cochlear nuclei project bilaterally to the inferior colliculus (and other places).
- Neurons in the inferior colliculus project to the medial geniculate nucleus in the thalamus.
- Neurons in the medial geniculate project to the auditory cortex in the temporal lobe.



# Vestibular System

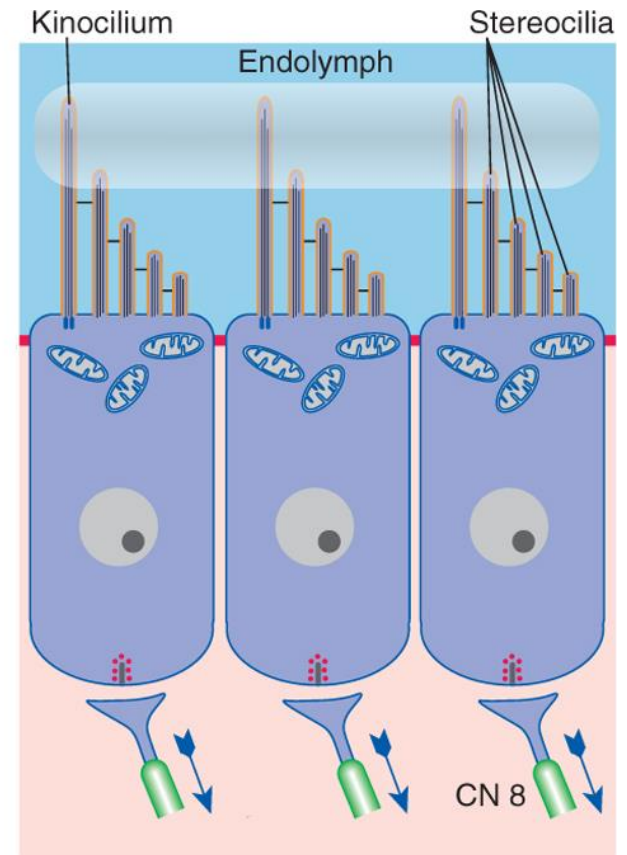
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- The vestibular sensory apparatus in each inner ear includes:
  - 3 semicircular canals
  - 2 otoliths (utricle and saccule)



# Vestibular System

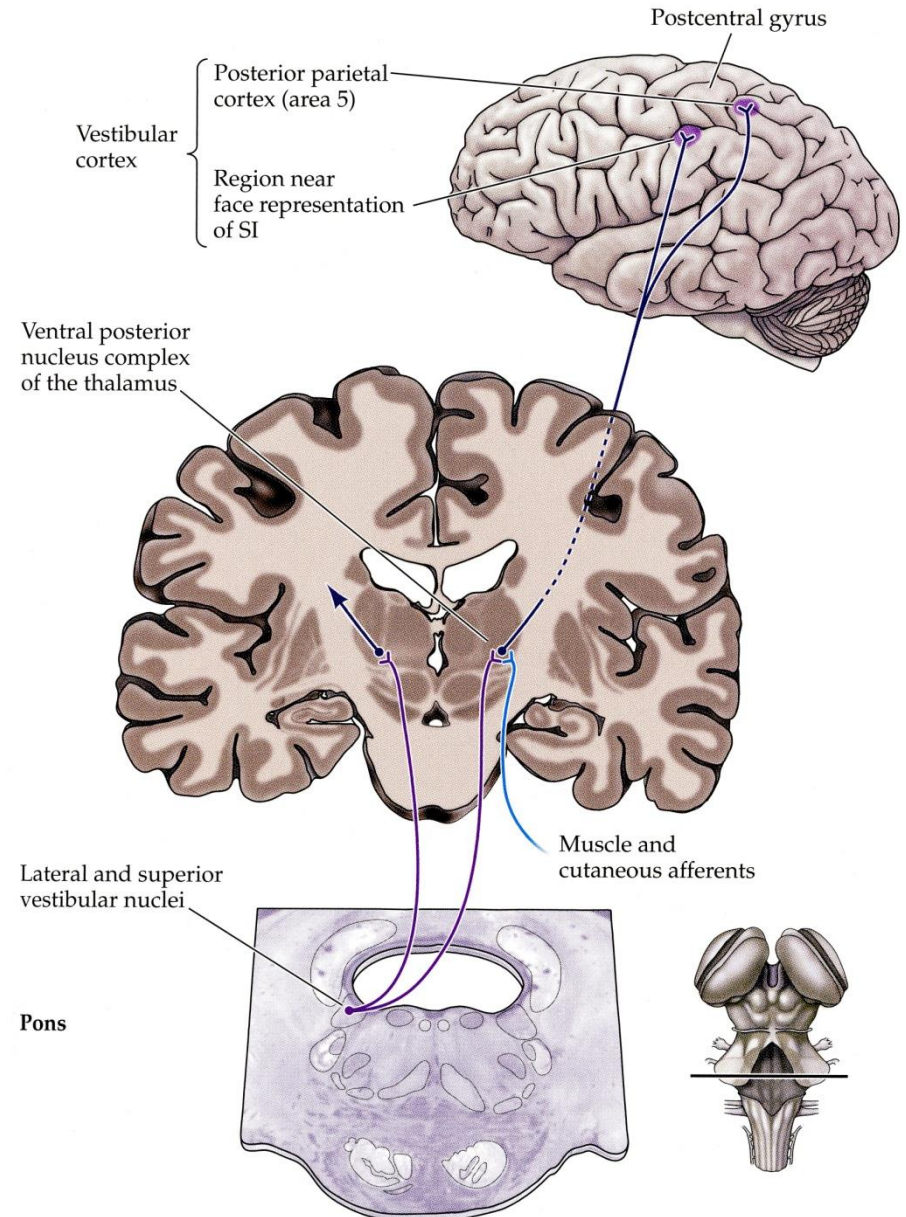
- Each semicircular canal and otolith has a sensory apparatus with hair cells that have stereocilia extending into a gelatinous weight.
- When the head moves in the optimal orientation for the particular sensor, the fluid in the chamber, the endolymph, moves, thus moving the weight.
- Movement of the weight depolarizes the hair cells.
- Hair cells synapse with the neurons of the vestibular nerve, a component of the vestibulocochlear nerve (CN VIII).





# Vestibular System

- Vestibular sense is conveyed to the ventral posterior thalamus and then relayed to regions of parietal cortex.

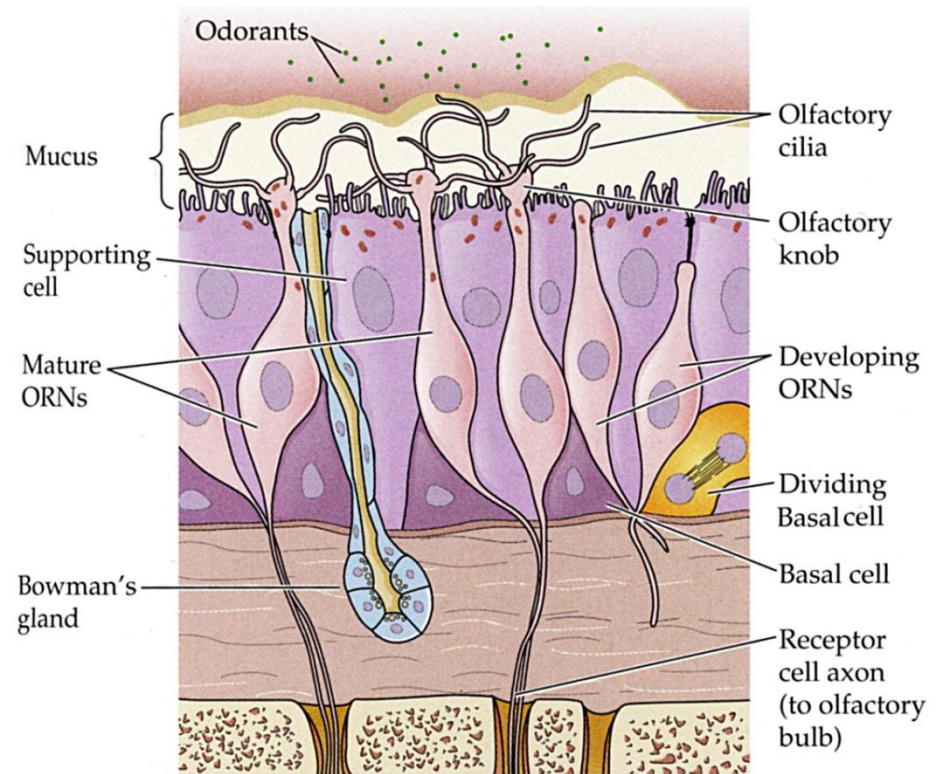


# **Chemical Senses: Taste and Smell**

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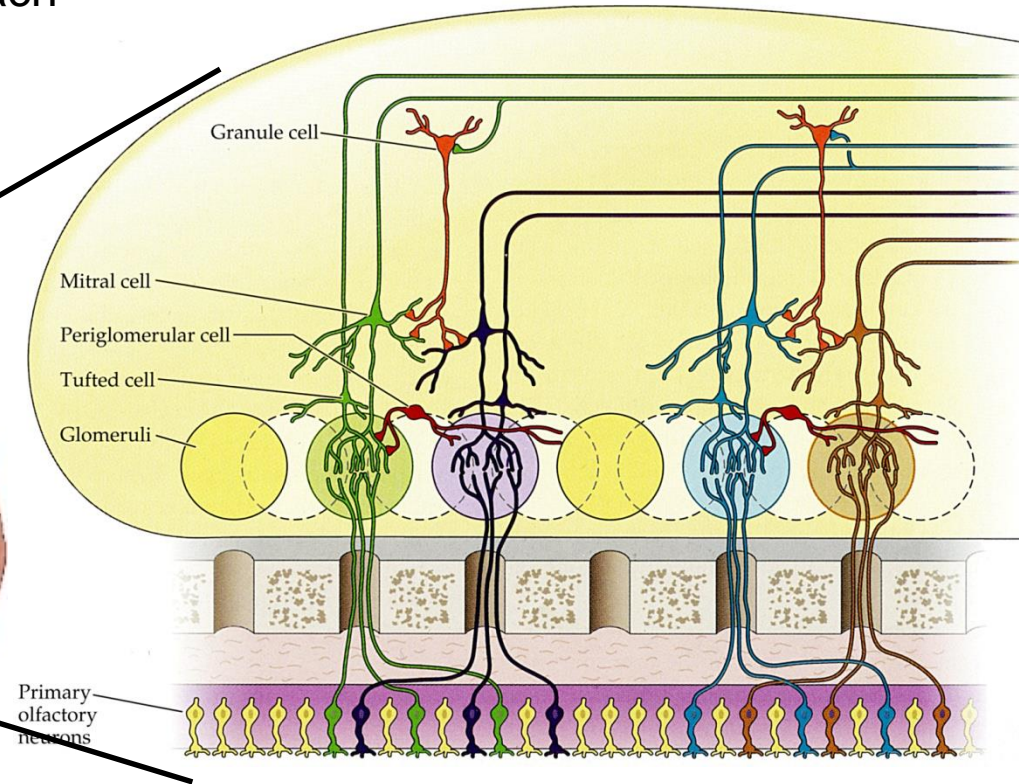
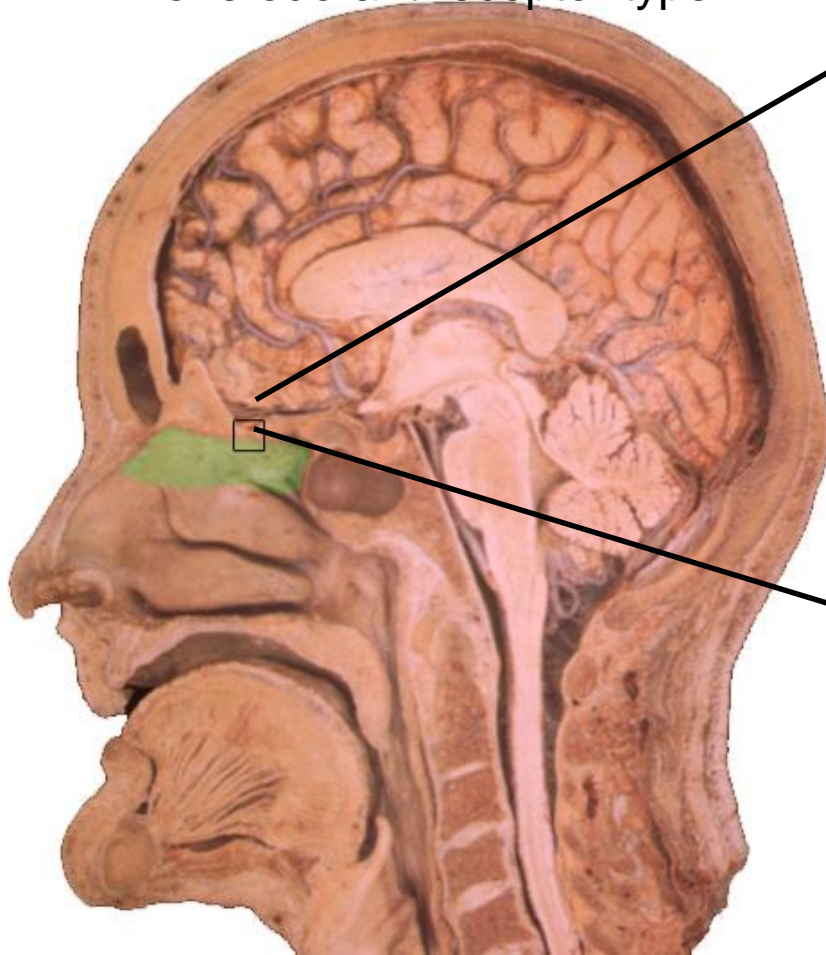
# Olfaction

- The receptor neurons have cilia in the mucus.
- The odorant receptor proteins are in the membrane of the cilia.
- Each receptor neuron has only one type of odorant receptor.
- Humans have 339 different odorant receptor types.
- The receptor neurons continually die and are replaced by division of basal cells.



# Olfaction

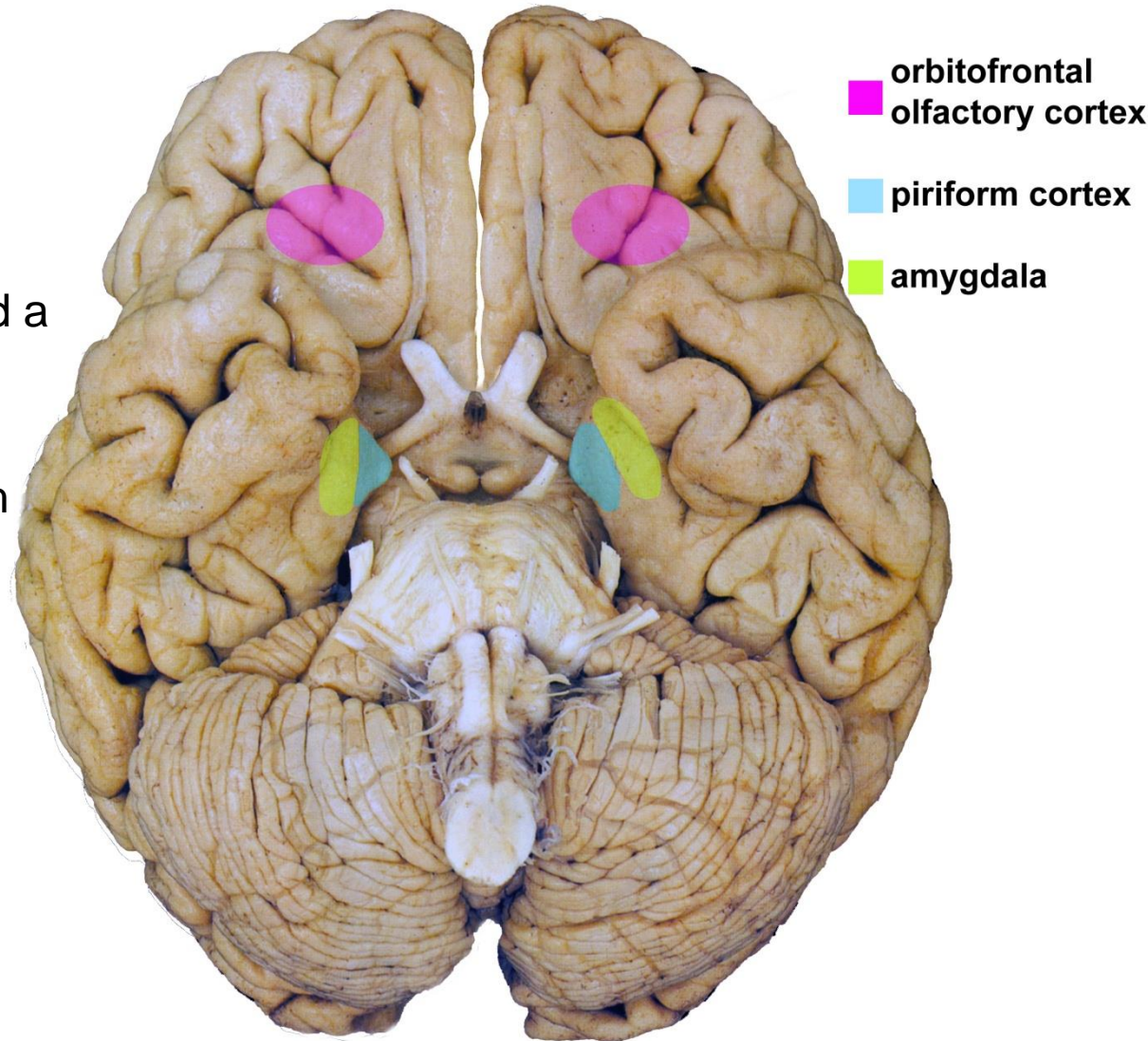
- Olfactory receptor neuron axons synapse in the olfactory bulb. Axons synapse in glomeruli. Each glomerulus receives input from one odorant receptor type.



# Olfaction

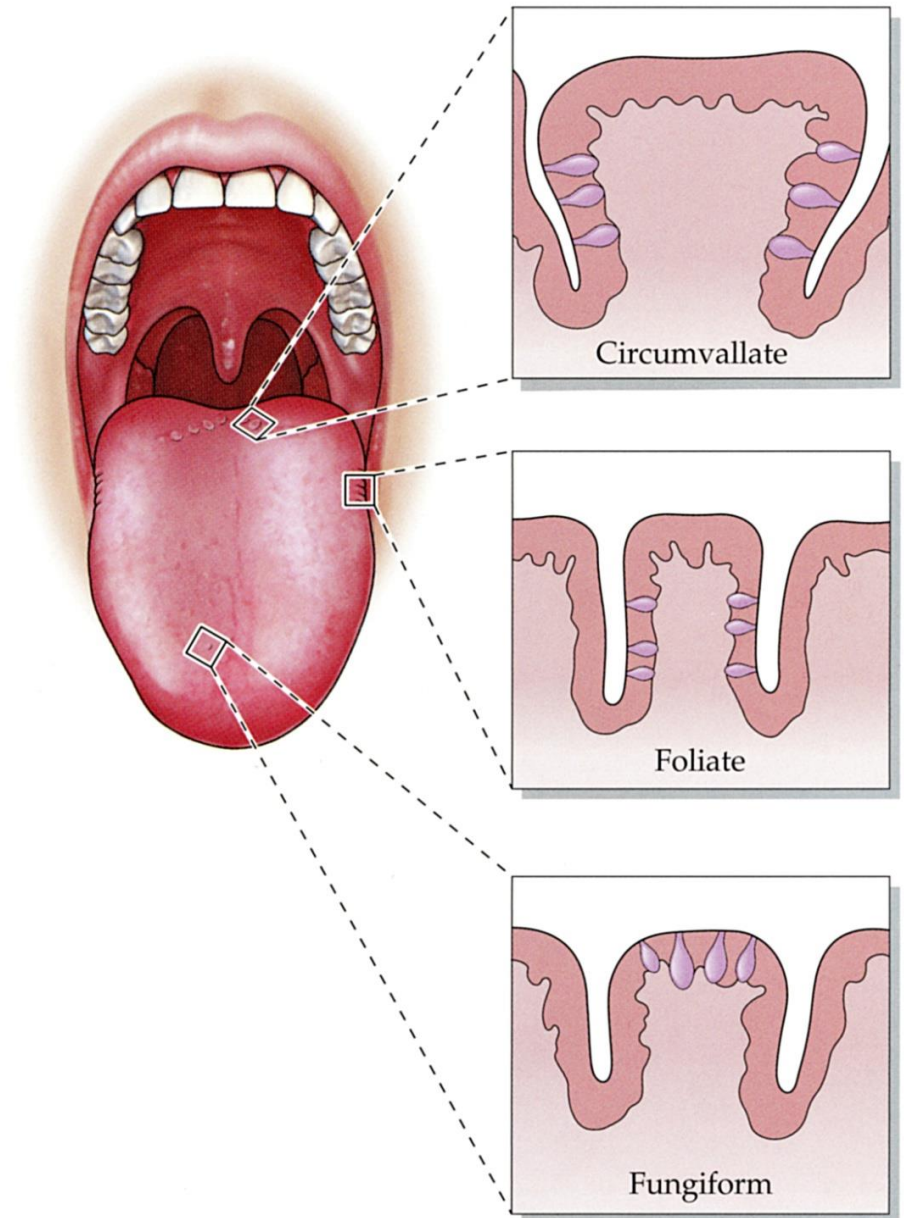
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- Several forebrain areas receive axons from olfactory bulb including piriform cortex and amygdala.
- Amygdala connects with hypothalamus, thalamus and a number of limbic areas.
- Piriform cortex connects with orbitofrontal cortex.



# Taste

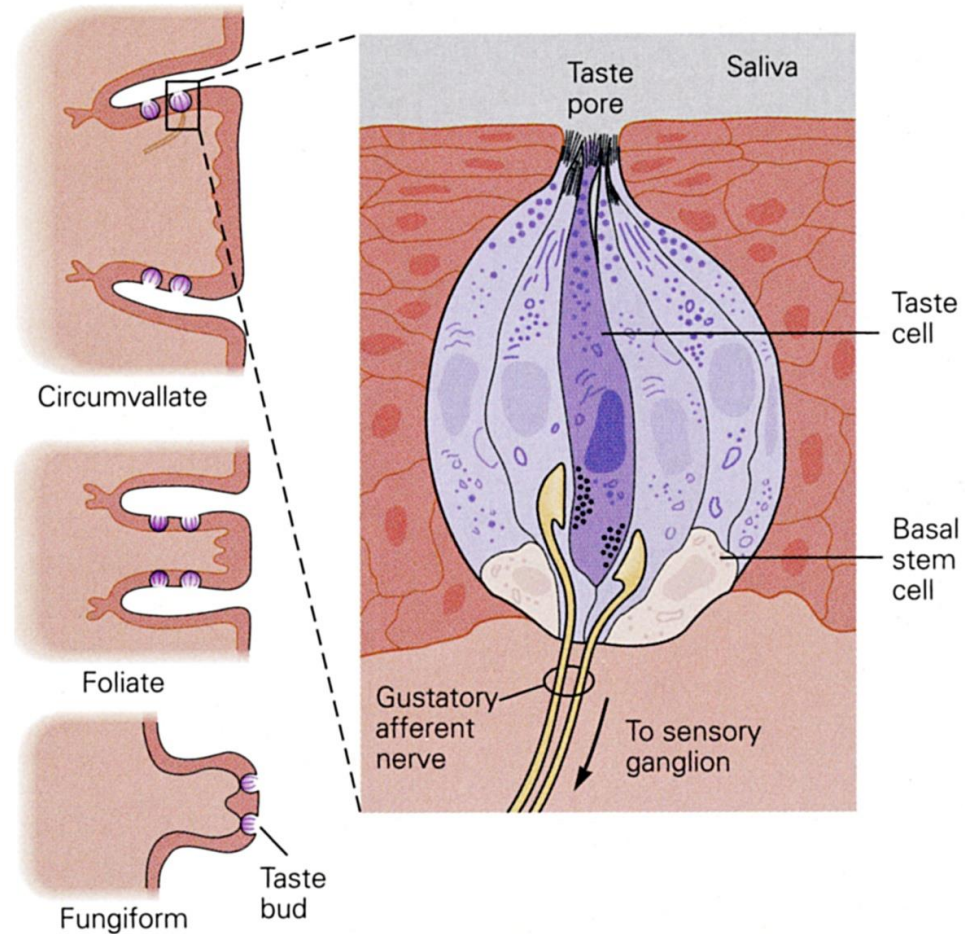
Taste buds are on papillae of the tongue and pharynx.



# Taste

Taste receptor cells in tastebuds:

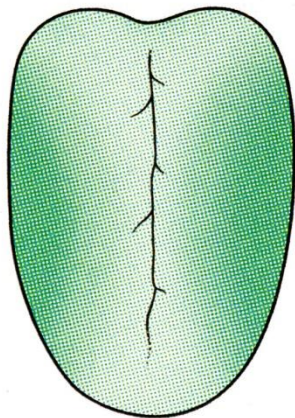
- non-neuronal cells
- exposed to chemicals on tongue via a taste pore
- communicate with sensory neuron via a chemical synapse; uses ATP as the transmitter



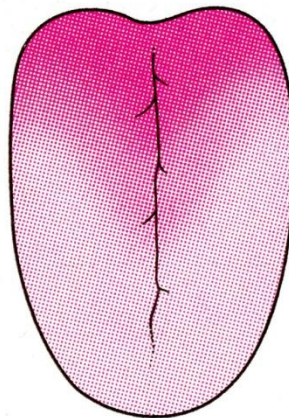
# Taste

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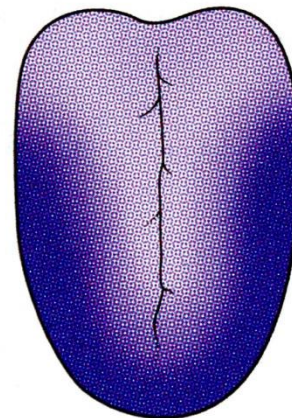
- Taste receptors are sensitive to one of five tastes.
  - Sour (rotting food)
  - Bitter (poisonous plants)
  - Salt (electrolytes)
  - Sweet (high calories)
  - Umami (amino acids or protein)



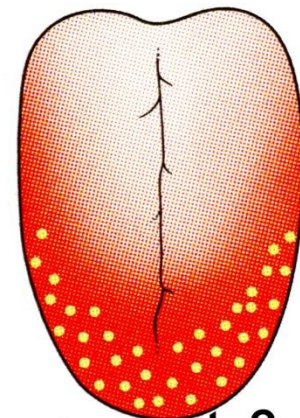
sour



bitter



salty



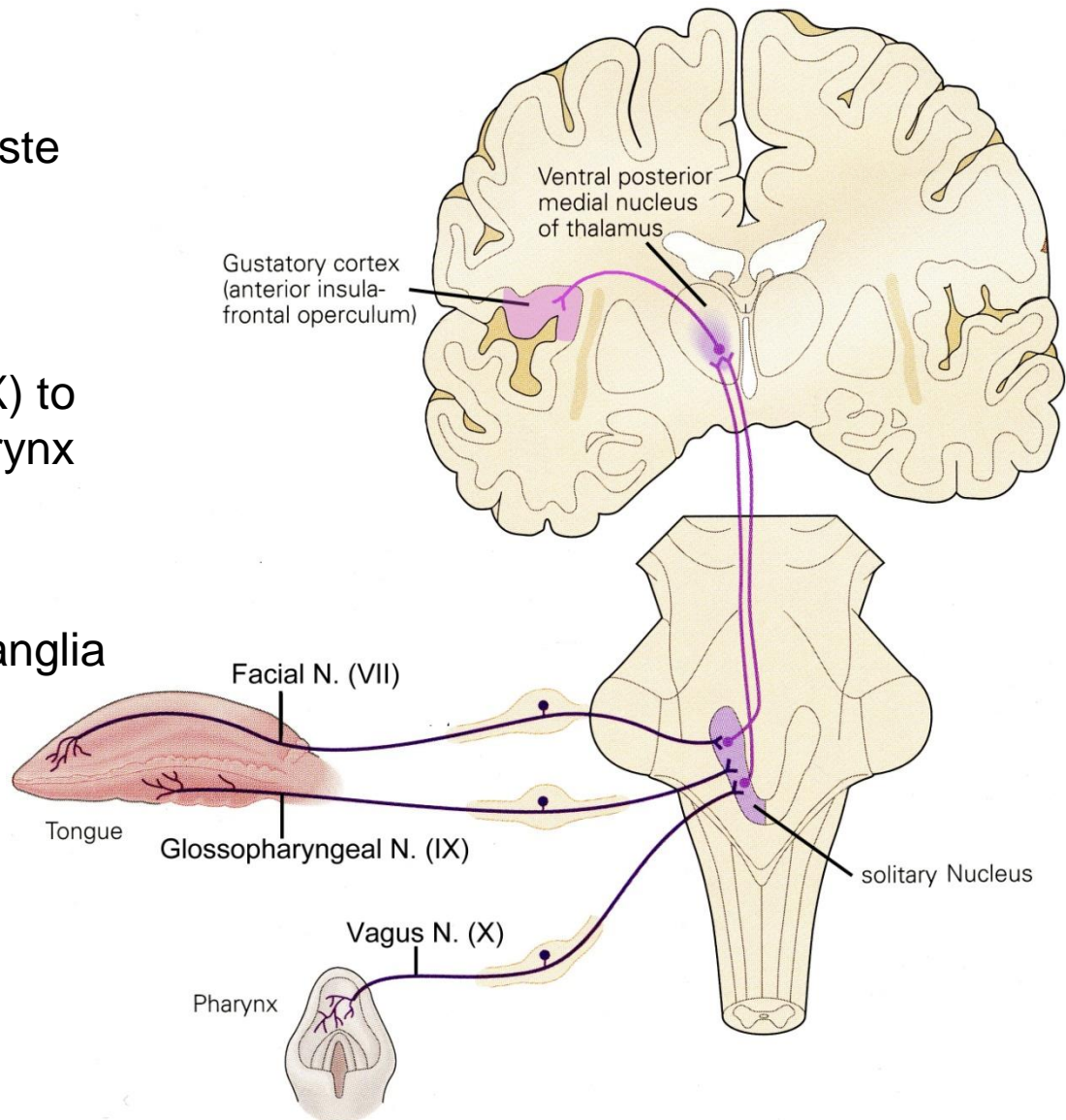
sweet &  
umami



# Taste

Sensory neurons for taste:

- Three cranial nerves have taste neurons.
  - Facial N. (VII) to front of tongue
  - Glossopharyngeal N. (IX) to back of tongue and pharynx
  - Vagus N. (X) to pharynx
- Cell bodies are in sensory ganglia for each nerve.

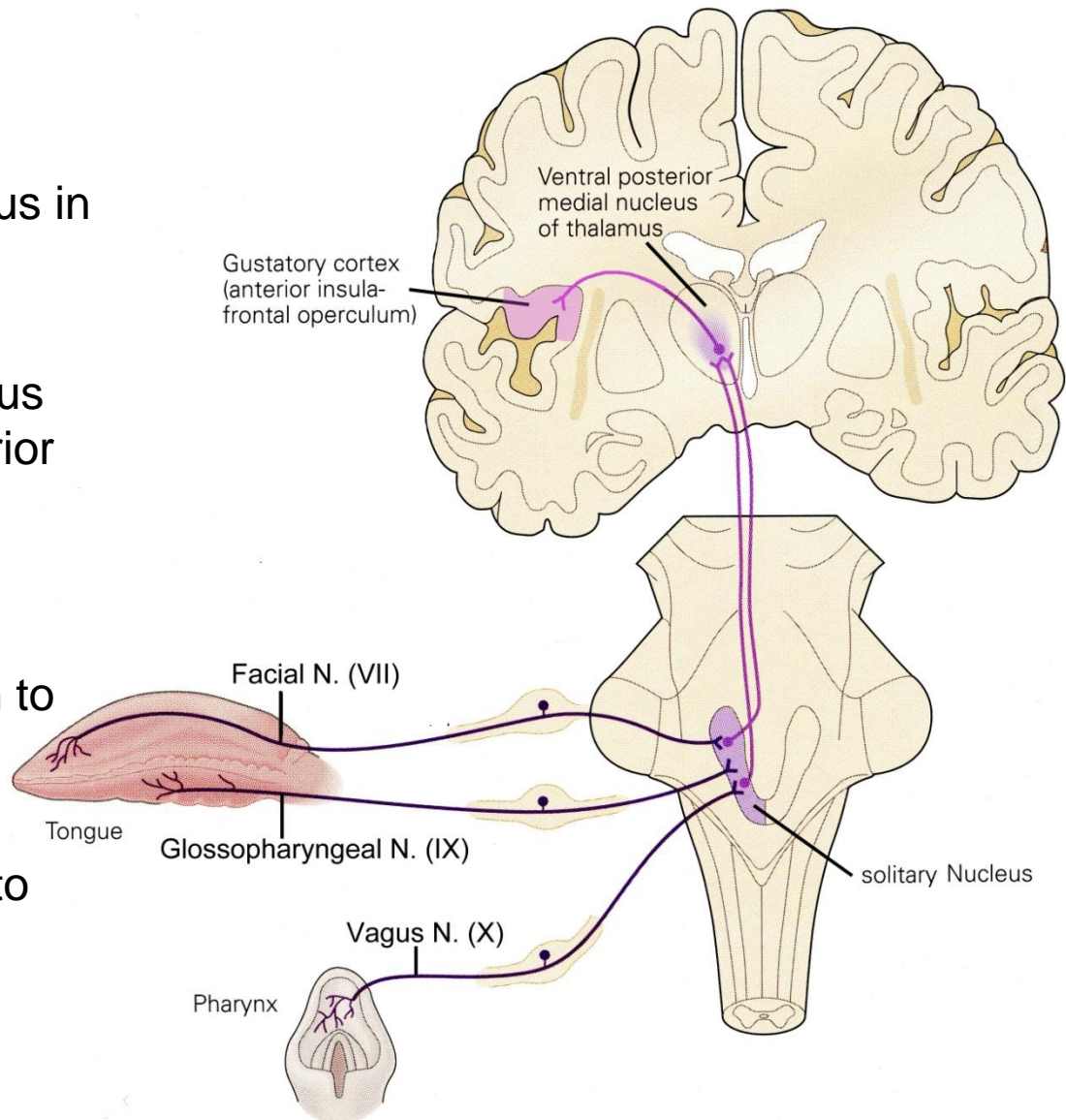


# Taste

## Taste pathway:

- All sensory neurons for taste synapse in the solitary nucleus in the brainstem.
- Neurons in the solitary nucleus synapse in the ventral posterior medial nucleus (VPM) in the thalamus.
- VPM sends taste information to the insular cortex.

(Taste is an ipsilateral pathway to cortex.)

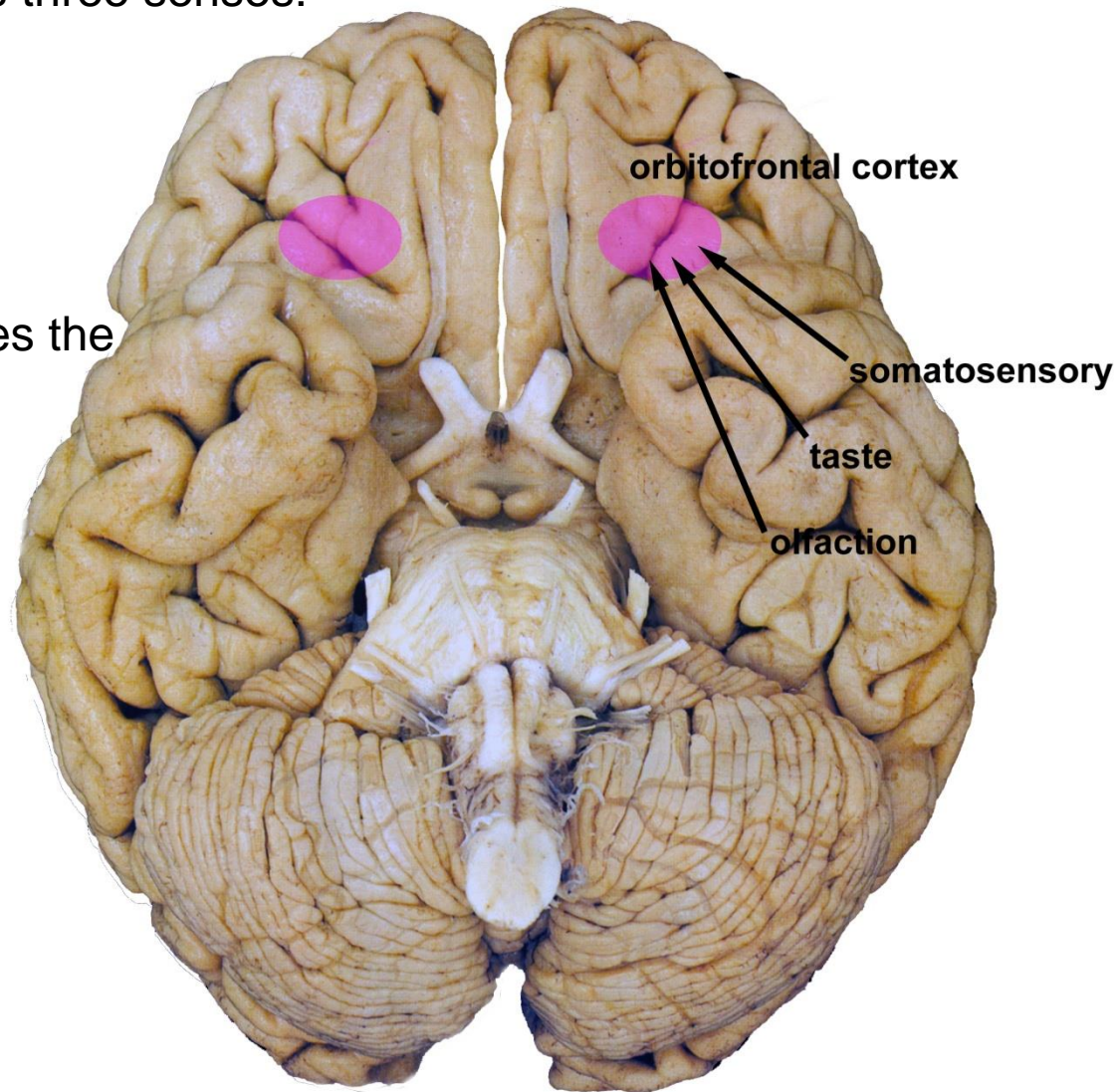


# Taste

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The perception of taste involves three senses:

- taste
- olfaction
- somatosensory
- Orbitofrontal cortex integrates the three senses.



## Course News

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### Midterm Exam Wednesday (Oct 24)

The exam will cover lectures 12-20 and labs 3-5.

A –L last names in MoosT 2-650

M – Z in MoosT 2-620

An extra hour will be available for those who need it.

**PLEASE BRING #2 PENCILS!!!**

Be sure to check out last year's exam on the course website!!!