

The Nervous System

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Functions of the Nervous System

- 1. Control center for all body activities
- Responds and adapts to changes that occur both inside and outside the body

(Ex: pain, temperature, pregnancy)

Cellular structure of Nervous System

<u>Neurons</u> :

microscopic nerve cells that make up the brain, spinal cord, and nerves

30,000 neurons
can fit on a
pinhead



The Neuron

- Dendrites receive signals.
- The cell body integrates signals.
- The axon transmits action potential.
 The myelin sheath makes the signal travel faster.
- Synaptic terminals transmit signals.



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Communication Between Neurons

- The use of neurotransmitters causes an electrical current
- There is enough electrical current in the brain to power a flashlight



Basic nerve cell structure





3 main types of nerve cells



neurone

relay neurone

motor neurone

Sensory neurons



Carries impulses from receptors e.g pain receptors in skin to the CNS(brain or spinal cord)

Relay neuron



Carries impulses from sensory nerves to **motor** nerves.

Motor neuron



Carries impulses from CNS to effector e.g. muscle to bring about movement or gland to bring about secretion of hormone e.g ADH

Transmission of signals



Structural Classification of Neurons

- Multipolar neurons
 - Three or more processes
 - One axon and the rest dendrites
 - Most common neuron type (motor and interneurons)
 - Major neuron type in CNS
- Bipolar neurons
 - Two processes
 - An axon and a dendrite from opposite sides of the cell body
 - Rare, found in special sensory organs
- Unipolar neurons
 - Have a short single process leaving the cell body
 - Mainly found in ganglia of PNS (sensory neurons)







- (a) Pyramidal cell of the cerebral cortex
- (b) Purkinje cell of the cerebellar cortex
- (c) Olfactory cells in the olfactory epithelium and olfactory bulbs



Neuroglial cell

The Glial Cells







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The Synapse





Reflex Arc

- A reflex arc is the functional unit of the nervous system. In its simplest form, it consists of:
- Five components
 - <u>Receptor Eg</u>. The skin or muscle
 - <u>Sensory neuron</u>
 - Interneuron in spinal cord
 - Motor neuron
 - <u>Effector</u>Eg: the muscle

Reflex arc pathway



NEUROSCIENCE, Fourth Edition, Figure 1.7 (Part 1)

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Applied Anatomy:

- Tumours of the nervous tissue arise mostly from the neuroglia, as developed neurons have lost the power of multiplication.
- Tumour from neuroglial cella are called gliomas. These are highly malignant and rapidly growing tumours.

Brain Teaser

If you were running a race, and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?

Second

Neural Organization of the nervous system





Two Major Divisions of the Nervous System



Components of Central Nervous

- The spinal Cord: it extends from the base of the skull to the lower border of the first lumbar vertebra in an adult. The spinal cord receives sensory information from the skin, joints and muscles of the trunk and limbs. It is responsible for reflex and voluntary movements.
- Brain stem: it include the medulla, the pons, the midbrain.
- Cerebellum: the cerebellum lies dorsal to the pons and medula.

- The Diencephalon: It includes the thalamus and hypothalamus. It is present between the cerebral hemisphere and midbrain.
- The cerebral hemisphere: it consists of the cerebral cortex/ grey mater and the fibres which form white matter with deeply located nuclei i.e. the basal ganglia, the hippocampal formation and the amygdala.
- Ventricles of the brain: Ventricles are continuous cavities in various parts of brain.
- Protective coverings: Brain and spinal cord are covered by 3 meninges with intervening spaces. The outer most is the dura mater, middle layer is delicate cobweb like arachnoid space and inner one is the pia mater.

Central Nervous System

<u>Brain</u>: a mass of 100 billion neurons located inside the skull

-Learning occurs as more and stronger connections are made between neurons



Principal Parts of the Brain

- 1. Cerebrum
- 2. Diencephalon
 - a) Thalamus
 - b) Hypothalamus
- 3. Cerebellum
- 4. Brainstem
 - a) Medulla
 - b) Pons
 - c) Midbrain





The Diencephalon

- The diencephalon consists of three structures
 - Thalamus
 - Hypothalamus
 - Epithalamus
- These structures effectively enclose the third ventricle



Anatomy of the Brain

- <u>Cerebrum</u> : largest part of human brain
 - Responsible for:
 - Thought
 - Language
 - Senses
 - Memory
 - Voluntary movement





CORTEX



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Anatomy of the Brain

<u>Cerebellum</u> : at base of brain

- -Responsible for:
 - Muscle coordination
 - Balance
 - Posture



Anatomy of the Brain

- <u>Brain Stem</u> : connects brain to spinal cord
- -Responsible for:
 - Breathing
 - Swallowing
 - Heartbeat
 - Blood pressure




Development of brain

Neural tube- the whole of nervous system develops from ectoderm. Formation of neuroplate lead to neural fold, then neural groove between the two fold, fusing lead to foramtion of neural tube.



STAGES OF BRAIN DEVELOPMENT



Gross study of brain



Meninges of the brain

- The brain is most protected part of the body. It is protected by:
- Bony covering of the cranium
- Three membranous covering (meninges)
 - The outer dura mater (pachymeninx)
 - The middle arachnoid mater
 - The inner pia mater. The arachnoid and pia are together known as the leptomeninges.
- The cerebrospinal fluid fills the space between the arachnoid and pia maters (subarachnoid space) and acts as a water





DURA MATER

- Endosteal layer ;
 - Periosteum inner surface of the skull bones
 - Not continuous with dura mater of spinal cord
- Meningeal layer ;

two

- Dura mater proper
- Covering the brain
- Continuous with dura mater of spinal cord
- Folded inwards as 4 septa between part of the brain
- The function of these septa is to restrict the rotatory displacement of the brain.



Dura (Latin- hard mother) mater has two layers, an outer endosteal layer and inner meningeal layer enclosing the cranial venous sinuses between the

Arachnoid mater

 The arachnoid mater is a thin, avascular membrane, against, but not adherent to, the inner surface of the dura mater.



Arachnoid (latin cobweb like) mater is a thin transparent membrane surround the brain loosely without dipping into its sulci



It is separated from dura by the subdural space, from the pia by the subarachnoid space containing CSF and blood vessels

Arachnoid mater

- Prolongation:
 - It provides sheaths for the cranial nerves as far as their exit.
 - Arachnoid villi are small finger like processes of arachnoid tissue and absord CSF.

Pia mater

Cerebral pia mater

 Closely invests brain surface, in some areas the pia invaginates into ventricles to take part in the formation of choroids plexus



- The pia (Latin loving mother) mater is a thin vascular membrane which closely invests the brain, dipping into various sulci and other irregularities of its surface. It comprises epipia and pia glia.
- Prolonggation:
 - It provides sheaths for the cranial nerves merging with the epineurium around them.
 - Folds of pia mater enclosing tufts of capilaries form the telachoroidea and its line by secretory form the telachoroidea and its line by secretory ependyma form the choroid plexus.

Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)

- It is a modified tissue fluid.
- It contained in the ventricular system of the brain and in subarachnoid space around the brain and spinal cord.

Formation of CSF

- The bulk of the CSF is formed by choroid plexuses of the lateral ventricles and lesser amounts by the choroid plexuses of the third and fourth ventricles.
- Formed by the capillaries on the surface of brain and spinal cord.
- Total amount is 150 ml.
- Formation rate is 200ml per hour or 5000ml per day.

Circulation of Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)



Circulation of CFS

- CSF passes from lateral ventricles
- Through interventricular foramen of Monro
- To the third ventricles
- Through cerebral aqueduct
- To the fourth ventricles
- Through median
 4th ventricles
- To the subarachnoid space.

Absorption of CSF

- CSF is absorbed by villi and granulation of arachnoid space.
- Absorbed partly by the perineural lymphatics
- It is also absorbed by spinal nerves vein.
- And drain into the cranial venous sinuses.
- FUNCTION:
- Protective
- Nutritive
- A pathway for metabolites from CNS.

Applied Anatomy.

- CSF is obtained by Lumber puncture.
- Biochemical analysis of CSf is diagnostic in various diseases
- Obstruction of CSF flow lead to Hydrochephalus

Central Nervous System

<u>Spinal Cord</u> : Column of nerves from brain to tailbone – protected by vertebrae of spine

 Responsible for:

 Conducting impulses between the brain and the rest of the body

*Impulses may travel as fast at 268 miles/hr



Brain Teaser

ΑΗΙΜΝΟΤUVW

Which of the letters above does not belong with the rest?

N It is not a mirror-image of itself

Spinal cord

- It is lower elongated, cylindrical part of the CNS. It occupies the upper two third of the vertebral canal
- Extend from level of upper border of atlas to the lower border of vertebra L1
- It is about 45 cm long.
- The lower end is conical and is called conus medullaris.
- The spinal cord gives off 31 pairs of spinal nerves.

Internal structure of spinal cord.



Laminar structure of spinal cord



The tract of spinal cord

- A collection of nerve fibres that connects two masses of grey matter within the CNS is called a tract.
- Tract may be ascending or descending.

The Spinal Tracts



Cranial nerve

- There are 12 pairs of cranial nerve.
- It is supply to muscles of eyeball, face, palate, pharynx, tongue and two large muscles of neck, lungs, heart and most part of gastrointestinal tract.
- They are afferent to special senses like smell, sight, hearing, taste and touch.

Number	Name of cranial nerve	Mnemonic	Attached to
I	Olfactory	Oh	Forebrain
II	Optic	Oh	Forebrain
III	Oculomotor	Oh	Midbrain
IV	Trochlear	Try	Midbrain
V	Trigeminal	Try	Pons
VI	Abducent	Again	Pons
VII	Facial	failure	Pons
VIII	Vestibulocochlear	victory	Pons
IX	Glossopharyngeal	give	Medulla Oblongata
Х	Vagus	value	Medulla Oblongata
XI	Accessory	and	Medulla Oblongata
XII	Hypoglossal	Happiness.	Medulla Oblongata

Functional components of cranial Nerves

- In spinal cord, grey matter forms and differentiated into two somatic and two visceral functional columns.
- Somatic columns are general somatic efferent (motor or anterior horn) and general somatic afferent (sensory or posterior horn).
- The visceral columns are general visceral efferent (motor) and general visceral afferent (sensory).

Nuclei of cranial nerve

- General Somatic Efferent (GSE) Nuclei supply skeletal muscle of somatic origin.
- Visceral efferent Nuclei supply striated muscle and smooth muscle or glands.
- General Visceral afferent Nucleus get sensation through Glossopharyngeal nerve from tonsil, pharynx, tongue, carotid body and sinus, through vagus nerve receive sensation from pharynx, larynx, trachea, oesophagus and thoracic and abdominal viscera.

Ceneral somatic Afferent nuclei are all related to trigeninal nerve.

First cranial nerve

- OLFACTORY PATHWAYS-bipolar neurons
- Smell is perceived in olfactory areas.
- Applied Anatomy
- -anosmia is loss of olfactory fibres with aging.
- CSF can leak through nose in head injury.
- Assignment:

Brain stem

- The brain stem consists of the medulla oblongata, the pons and midbrain.
- It connects the spinal cord to cerebrum.
- The various ascending and descending tracts pass through the three components of the brain stem.

Peripheral Nervous System

<u>Nerves</u> : visible bundles of axons and dendrites that entend from the brain and spinal cord to all other parts of the body



-Responsibilities:

- <u>Sensory nerves</u>
- carry messages
 from body to
 brain (pain,
 pressure,
 temperature)
- <u>Motor nerves</u> carry messages from brain to body to respond



Brain Teaser

There is a town where 5% of all the people living there have unlisted phone numbers. If you selected 100 names at random from the town's phone directory, on average, how many of these people would have unlisted phone numbers?

0 They would not be in the phone book if their number was unlisted

Problems of the Nervous System

<u>Concussion</u>

A temporary disturbance of the brain's ability to function due to a hard blow to the head



Paralysis A loss of sensation and movement of part of the body due to an injury of the spinal cord or brain


<u>Parkinson's Disease</u>

The brain does not produce enough of the neurotransmitter that transmits messages from the brain to the muscles Symptoms: tremors, rigid muscles, shuffling walk, and loss of facial expression



Red areas show where chemical is stored

<u>Alzheimer's Disease</u>

A gradual shrinking of the neurons in the cerebrum

Symptoms: memory loss, emotional disturbances, inability to function on own, death



<u>Epilepsy</u>

Abnormal transmission of messages between the neurons in the brain

Symptoms: seizures



Brain Teaser

8 15 14 9 1 6 3

Which number comes next in the sequence? 4,7,10 or 12?



Limbic system

- Hypothalamus: master controller of the endocrine system.
- Amygdala: sensations of pleasure or fear, recognition of fear in others.
- Hippocampus: formation of memories.









