# Lecture Outline: NERVOUS SYSTEM

[Chapters 10, 11, 12]

#### Introduction

Neural Tissue Types: Neurons –

Neuroglial Cells -

#### Divisions

1. Central Nervous System (CNS) Parts:

Functions: analyze, evaluate, integrate  $\rightarrow$ 

- 2. Peripheral Nervous System (PNS) Nerves:
- A. Divisions of PNS
  - 1. Sensory Division (afferent) Receptors –
  - 2. Motor Division (efferent) Effectors –

Motor Division consists of: Somatic –

Autonomic -

## B. Nervous System Functions

Sensory Function:

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Integrative Function

Motor Function

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The Neuron

Neurons are specialized to react to chemical and physical changes in their surrounds and conduct impulses in response to these changes

A. Structures of the Neuron

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- 1. Cell body (soma)
  - perikaryon
  - Nissl bodies
  - \*
- 2. Dendrites
  - -
  - -
- 3. Axon
  - ends at synaptic terminal
  - initial segment:
  - axon hillock:

#### Myelination of Axons White matter

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# **Gray matter**

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- B. Classification of Neurons
  - 1. Structure
    - based on number of cytoplasmic extensions
    - a. Bipolar neurons
  - b. Unipolar neurons
    c. Multipolar neurons
    c. Multipolar neurons
    2. Function
    based on function
    a. Sensory neurons
     afferent
     carry impulses to CNS
    b. Interneurons
     link neurons
    - -
    - -

-

- c. Motor neurons
  - carry impulses away from CNS
  - carry impulses to effectors
- **Neuroglial Cells** 
  - A. PNS neuroglia
    - 1. Schwann Cells
      - produce myelin found on peripheral myelinated neurons

- 2. Satellite Cells
  - support clusters of neurons cell bodies (ganglia)

# B. CNS neuroglia

- 1. Astrocytes
  - -
    - regulates ion concentration
    - connect neurons to blood vessels
    - -
- 2. Oligodendrocytes
  - provides myelin for many axons
- 3. Microglia
  - -
    - proliferate where brain or spinal cord is injured to diseased
- 4. Ependyma
  - ciliated
  - line central canal of spinal cord
  - -
  - -
- C. Neural Response to Injury
  - 1. Macrophages remove fragments of myelin and other cellular debris
  - 2. Neuroglial cells secrete
  - 3. Axon is stimulated to develop a sprout which may grow into a tube formed by connective tissue
  - 4. Schwann cells proliferate and \_\_\_\_\_

#### The Synapse:

\* nerve impulses pass form neuron to another cell at the synapse

- presynaptic cell

- postsynaptic cell

neuro-neuronal junction: NMJ: neuroglandular junction:

Synaptic transmission:

# Neurophysiology

## A. Transmembrane potential

1. Passive forces: Chemical gradients: ECF ICF

Electrical gradients:

Positive charge Negative charge

Resting membrane potential = -70 mV - due to

# 2. Active forces:

Sodium-Potassium exchange pump

- exchange of 3 Na+ for every 2 K+

[ moves 3 Na+ out of the cell; moves 2 K+ into the cell; uses ATP as energy source to move these ions]

- used to maintain the resting potential (\_\_\_\_\_)

## **B. Local Potential Changes**

Caused by:

\* environmental changes affect the membrane potential by opening a gated ion channel

## Graded (or local) Potentials

- do not spread far from site of stimulus

Threshold stimulus

- a local potential that is strong enough to start an action potential

Depolarization -

Hyperpolarization -

Repolarization -

# **C. Action Potentials**

- 1. At rest the membrane is \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Threshold stimulus is reached
- 3. Sodium channels \_\_\_\_\_ and membrane \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Potassium leaves cytoplasm and membrane

#### D. All-or-None Response

If a neuron responds at all, it responds completely

A nerve impulse is conducted whenever a stimulus of threshold Intensity or above is applied to an axon

All impulses carried on an axon are the \_\_\_\_\_

# E. Refractory Period

- 1. Absolute -
- 2. Relative -

#### F. Na+/ K+ exchange pump

Over time this pump will return ions to their prestimulation levels on appropriate side of membrane

 $Na^+ \rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_ are pumped \_\_\_\_\_ of the cell

 $K^+ \rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_ are pumped \_\_\_\_\_ the cell

## G. Propagation (or conduction) of AP

- 1. Continuous propagation:
  - chain reaction that spread AP along every part of the cell membrane
  - occurs on \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1m/sec
- 2. Saltatory propagation: - jumping of AP from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ in myelinated fibers

#### H. Axon Diameter

1. Type A fibers

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- 2. Type B fibers
  - \_
- 3. Type C fibers

#### Neurotransmitters

Synaptic transmission: Chemical Synapses

presynaptic neuron ---> synaptic cleft ---> postsynaptic neuron

Neurotransmitters can be excitatory or inhibitory E  $\rightarrow$ 

Acetylcholine (ACh)

Norepinephrine (NE)

 adrenergic synapses
 released at most SNS post-ganglionic fibers

 Dopamine

 serotonin
 not enough may cause depression
 SSRI

 GABA (gamma aminobutyric acid)

 inhibitory
 inhibitory

Neuromodulators: Endorphins -

#### Impulse Processing

The way the nervous system processes impulses and acts upon them

Neural Pools

- groups of interneurons that make synaptic connections with each other
- interneurons work together to perform a common function
- each pool receives input from other neurons
- each pool generates output to other neurons

#### Convergence

- neuron receives input from \_
- incoming impulses represent information from different types of sensory receptors
- allows nervous system to collect, process, and respond to info
- makes it possible for a neuron to sum impulses from different sources

#### Divergence

- one neuron sends impulses to \_\_\_\_\_
- can amplify an impulse
- impulse from a single neuron in CNS may be amplified to activate enough motor units needed for muscle contraction

# **Nervous System Structure**

1. PNS =

Nerves -

Ganglia -

2. CNS =

Tract (column) -

Nucleus (center) -

#### A. Meninges

-

- Membranes surrounding

- 3 Layers:

- 1. Dura mater
- 2. Arachnoid mater
- 3. Pia mater

Organization of the spinal meninges:

Epidural space

Dura mater

Arachnoid

Subarachnoid space

Pia mater

### **B. Ventricles**

- 1. Interconnected cavities within cerebral hemispheres and brain stem
- 2. Continuous with central canal of spinal cord

3.

Lateral ventricles Third ventricle Fourth ventricle Cerebral aqueduct

# C. Cerebrospinal Fluid

- Secreted by choroid plexus (\_\_\_\_\_)
- Circulates in ventricles, central canal of the spinal column, and subarachnoid space
- -
- clear liquid that provides \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- helps maintain stable ion concentrations in CNS

Hydrocephalus:

- blocked
- excess production of CSF
- treatment: hydrocephalic shunt

# D. Spinal Cord

- 1. Slender column of nervous tissue continuous with the brain
- 2. Extends downward through vertebral canal
- 3.

Functions:

- center for spinal reflexes
- conduit for nerve impulses to and from the brain

Tracts:

- ascending tracts -
- descending tracts -

Reflex arcs:

Reflexes – automatic, subconscious responses to stimuli within or outside the body

Pathway:

Receptor

Afferent (sensory) neuron

CNS

Efferent (motor) neuron

Effector

Reflex Behavior:

Patellar reflex

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-

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Withdrawal reflex

#### Brain

Functions:

- interprets sensations
- determines perception
- stores memory
- reasoning
- make decisions
- coordinates muscular movements
- regulates visceral activities
- determines personality

# Major Parts of the brain:

-

## A. Structure of Cerebrum

- 1. corpus callosum connects cerebral hemispheres (left and right)
- 2.

3.

- 4. longitudinal fissure -
- 5. transverse fissure separates cerebrum from cerebellum

#### **B.** Functions of the Cerebrum

- interpreting impulses
- initiating voluntary movements
- storing information as memory
- retrieving stored information
- reasoning
- seat of intelligence and personality

# C. / D. Lobes of Cerebral Hemispheres and Functions

1. Frontal

2.

- 3. Temporal
- 4.

# E. Functional Regions of Cerebral Cortex

Cerebral cortex – thin layer of gray matter that constitutes the outermost portion of cerebrum

# 1. Sensory Areas

Cutaneous Area
-
-
Visual Area
-
-
Auditory Area
-
-
Area for Taste
-
Area for Smell
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## 2. Association Areas

- regions that are not primary motor or sensory areas
- widespread throughout the cerebral cortex
- analyze and interpret sensory experiences
- -

Frontal Lobe Association Areas:

- -
- -

Parietal Lobe Association Areas:

-

Temporal Lobe Association Areas:

-

Occipital Lobe Association Areas:

# Memory (association area)

### Short Term

- working memory
- closed neuronal circuit
- circuit is stimulated over and over
- -

## Long Term

- changes structure of function of neurons
- enhances synaptic transmission

## 3. Motor Areas

- Primary Motor Areas:
  - -

Broca's Area:

-

-

Frontal Eye Field

-

# F. Basal Nuclei

- masses of gray matter
- deep within cerebral hemispheres

- produce \_\_\_\_\_

- control certain muscular activities primarily by inhibiting motor functions

#### G. Diencephalon

- Area between cerebral hemispheres and above the brainstem
- Surrounds third ventricle
- Includes: thalamus, hypothalamus, \_\_\_\_\_, optic chiasma, Infundibulum, posterior pituitary, mammillary bodies, and \_\_\_\_\_

#### Thalamus

- gateway for sensory impulses heading to cerebral cortex
  - -
- channels impulses to appropriate part of cerebral cortex for interpretation

#### **Hypothalamus**

- maintains homeostasis by regulating visceral activities

# H. Brain Stem

- 3 Parts:
  - 1.

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- -
- contains bundles of fibers that join lower parts of brainstem and spinal cord with higher part of brain
- cerebral aqueduct
- corpora quadrigemina -
- 2.
- rounded bulge on underside of brainstem
- -
- -
- relays nerve impulses to and from medulla oblongata and cerebellum
- 3.
- -
- conducts ascending and descending impulses between brain and spinal cord
- contains cardiac, vasomotor, and respiratory control centers
- contains various non-vital reflex control centers

## I. Cerebellum

- inferior to occipital lobes, posterior to pons and medulla oblongata
- cerebellar cortex -
- arbor vitae -
- integrates sensory information concerning position of body parts
- -

# A. Peripheral Nervous System (PNS)

- 1.
- somatic fibers connecting to the skin and skeletal muscles
- autonomic fibers connecting to viscera
- 2.
- somatic fibers connecting to the skin and skeletal muscles
- autonomic fibers connecting to viscera

# **B. Structure of Peripheral Nerve**

Connective tissue coverings: Epineurium –

Perineurium –

Endoneurium -

#### C. Nerve Fiber Classification

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (afferent) conduct impulses into brain or spinal cord

General visceral afferent fibers – carry sensory impulses to CNS from blood vessels and internal organs

General somatic afferent fibers – carry sensory impulses to CNS from skin and skeletal muscles

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (efferent) conduct impulses to muscles or glands

- General somatic efferent fibers carry motor impulses from CNS to skeletal muscles
- General visceral efferent fibers carry motor impulses away from CNS to smooth muscles and glands
- 3. Mixed Nerves contain both \_\_\_\_\_ nerve fibers and \_\_\_\_\_ nerve fibers

Special somatic efferent fibers

 carry motor impulses from brain to muscles used in chewing, swallowing, speaking, and forming facial expressions

Special visceral afferent fibers

- carry sensory impulses to brain from olfactory and taste receptors

Special somatic afferent fibers

- carry sensory impulses to brain from receptors of sight, hearing, and equilibrium

D. Cranial Nerves - 12 Pair

Name	Major Function
I. OLFACTORY	S only: Smell
	S only: Sight
III. OCULOMOTOR	<ul> <li>S: Receptors that influence pupil size</li> <li>M: Muscles that move eye (<i>except</i> sup. oblique, lat. rectus)</li> </ul>
IV. TROCHLEAR	S: Muscle sense (eye muscles) <b>M</b> : Superior oblique eye muscle
V. TRIGEMINAL	S: Sensations of head, face M: Muscles of mastication
VI. ABDUCENS	S: Muscle sense (eye muscles) <b>M</b> : Lateral rectus eye muscle
VII. FACIAL	S: Tastebuds (anterior 2/3 tongue) M: Muscles for facial expressions
VIII. VESTIBULOCOCHLEAR (or AUDITORY)	<b>S</b> only: Sense of balance, hearing
IX. GLOSSOPHARYNGEAL	<ul><li>S: Tastebuds (posterior 1/3 tongue)</li><li>Detects BP in the carotid arteries</li><li>M: Muscles for swallowing</li></ul>
X. VAGUS	<ul><li>S: Pharynx, thoracic &amp; abdominal viscera</li><li>M: Major PSN nerve to thoracic &amp; abdominal viscera</li></ul>
XI. ACCESSORY (SPINAL)	<ul> <li>S: Proprioception from head, neck, shoulder muscles</li> <li>M: Head and shoulder movements</li> </ul>
XII. HYPOGLOSSAL	S: Proprioception from tongue <b>M</b> : Tongue movement and swallowing
S = sensory function	

M = motor function

#### E. Spinal nerves

\* Mixed nerves

31 pairs exit through intervertebral foramina

- 8 pr. cervical nerves
- 12 pr. thoracic nerves
- 5 pr. lumbar nerves
- 5 pr. sacral nerves
- 1 pr. coccygeal nerves
- 31 pair spinal nerves
- Dorsal Root (posterior or sensory root) - axons of sensory neurons

Dorsal root ganglion

- cell bodies of sensory neurons whose axons conduct impulses inward from peripheral body parts

Ventral root (anterior or motor root)

- axons of motor neurons whose cell bodies are in spinal cord
- Spinal Nerve union of ventral and dorsal roots
- Nerve Plexus complex networks formed by anterior branches of spinal nerves
  - fibers of various spinal nerves are sorted and recombined

#### 1. Cervical Plexuses

- (C1 C5)
- C1 C4 lies deep in the neck

- supplies muscles and skin of the \_\_\_\_\_

C3 – C5 contribute to the \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Brachial Plexuses

C5 - T1 - innervates shoulder / upper arm

Musculocutaneous nerve – muscles of the anterior arms and skin of forearms

Ulnar and Median nerves – supply muscles of forearms and hands

Radial nerve – supply posterior muscles of arms and skin of forearms and hands

Axillary nerve – supply muscles and skin of anterior, lateral, and posterior arms

#### 3. Lumbosacral Plexuses

- T12 S5
  - extends from lumbar region into pelvic cavity

Obturator nerve – supply motor impulses to adductors of thighs

Femoral nerve – supply motor impulses to muscles of anterior thigh and sensory impulses from skin of thigh and legs

Sciatic nerve – supply muscles and kin of thighs, legs, feet

#### A. Autonomic Nervous System (ANS)

- functions without conscious effort
- controls visceral activities
- regulates -

Two Divisions:

- 1. Sympathetic (SNS) -
  - strongly stimulated by stress  $\rightarrow$
- 2. Parasympathetic (PSN) -
  - Rest and repose

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## **SNS** Stimulation Responses:

- Dilates pupils
- Contracts arrector pili muscles
- VC vessels in skin and viscera
- Dilates vessels in skeletal and cardiac muscles
- -
- -
- Secretion of epinephrine
- Glucose is released from liver into blood
- Dilation of bronchioles
- -

#### **PSN** Stimulation Reponses:

- Elimination of waste
- Increases digestive activity
- -
- Relaxation of bladder sphincters
- -
- Dilates vessels to external genitalia

## **Control of Autonomic Activity**

- Controlled largely by CNS
- Medulla oblongata regulates -
- Hypothalamus regulates -
- Limbic system and cerebral cortex control emotional responses

## Life Span Changes

- Brain cells begin to die before birth
- Over average lifetime, brain shrinks 10%
- -
- By age 90, frontal cortex has lost half its neurons
- Number of dendritic branches decreases
- Decreased levels of neurotransmitters
- -
- Slowed responses and reflexes
- -
- Changes in sleep patterns that result in fewer sleeping hours
- **Clinical Applications**: Cerebral Injuries and Abnormalities Concussion

Cerebrovascular Accident

**Cerebral Palsy** 

Parkinson's Disease