
Spinal Cord and Peripheral nervous system (PNS)

Anatomy for Nursing students

QUISTION

What is the master gland?
located.....?

Contents

- Spinal cord
- Spinal cord injury: case history

Objectives

- To understand the meaning of:
 - PNS
 - Spinal nerves and Dermatomes
 - Nerve plexuses and important nerves emerge from them
 - cranial nerves

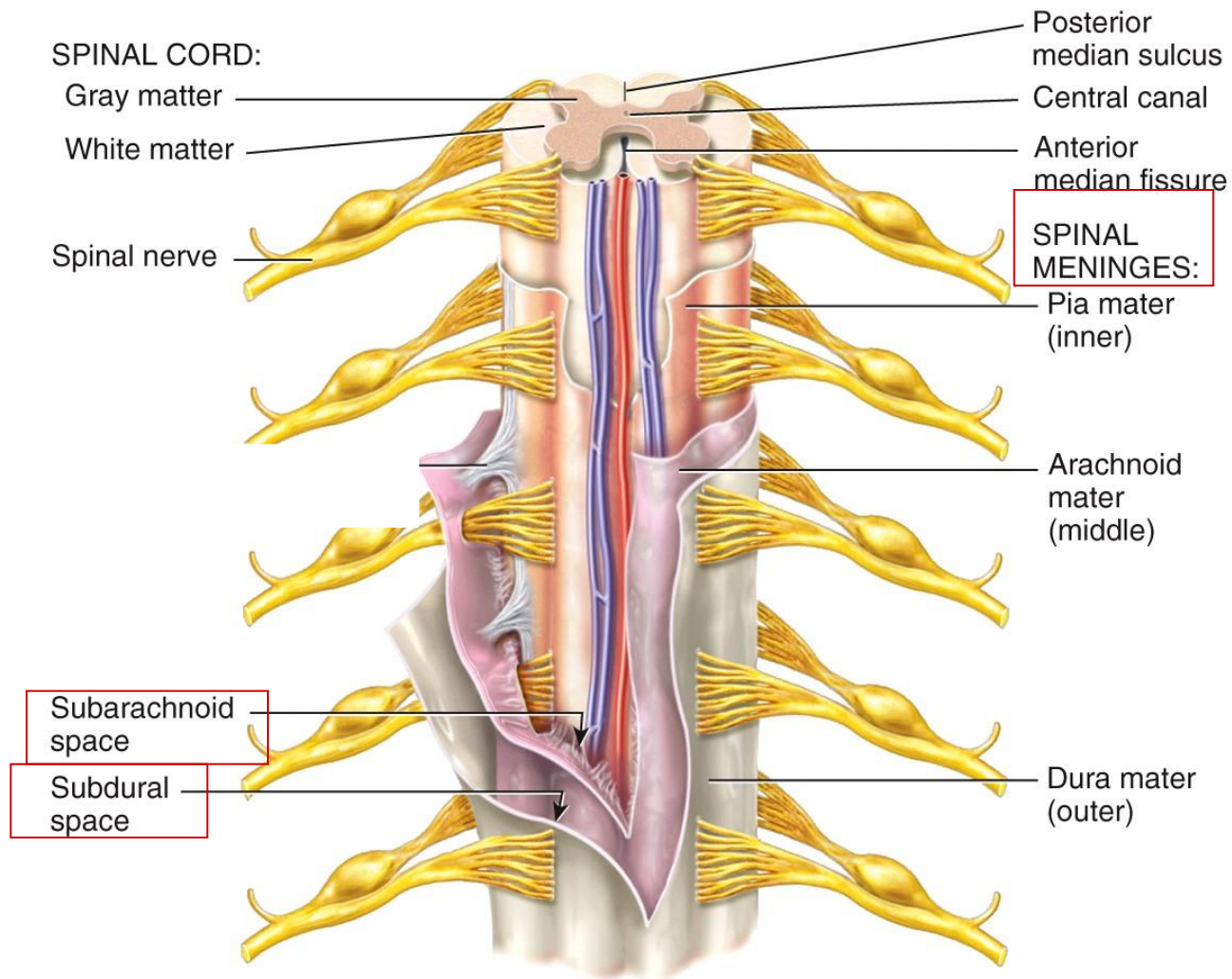
- To distinguish each C.N. on the brain and to know the main function of each nerve

Spinal Cord

Protective Structures

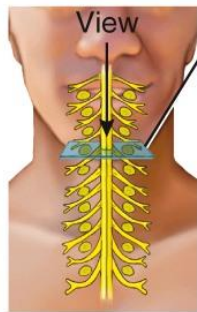
- Vertebral column
- Meninges:
 - Dura mater
 - Arachnoid mater
 - Pia mater

Gross Anatomy of the Spinal Cord



(a) Anterior view and transverse section through spinal cord

Gross Anatomy of the Spinal Cord



Transverse plane

POSTERIOR

Spinous process of vertebra

Subarachnoid space

Posterior (dorsal) root of spinal nerve

Denticulate ligament

Anterior (ventral) root of spinal nerve

Transverse foramen

Body of vertebra

Dura mater and arachnoid mater

Spinal cord

Pia mater

Epidural space

Superior articular facet of vertebra

Posterior (dorsal) ramus of spinal nerve

Spinal nerve

Anterior (ventral) ramus of spinal nerve

Vertebral artery in transverse foramen

Dissection Shawn Miller,
Photograph Mark Nielsen

ANTERIOR

(b) Transverse section of the spinal cord within a cervical vertebra

External Anatomy of the Spinal Cord

- The length of the adult spinal cord is 42–45 cm.
- Its maximum diameter is about 1.5 cm in the lower cervical region.
- Cervical enlargement
- Lumbar enlargement
- Conus medullaris
- Filum terminale

Clinical Connection

Epidural anesthesia

Lumbar puncture

Internal Anatomy of the Spinal Cord

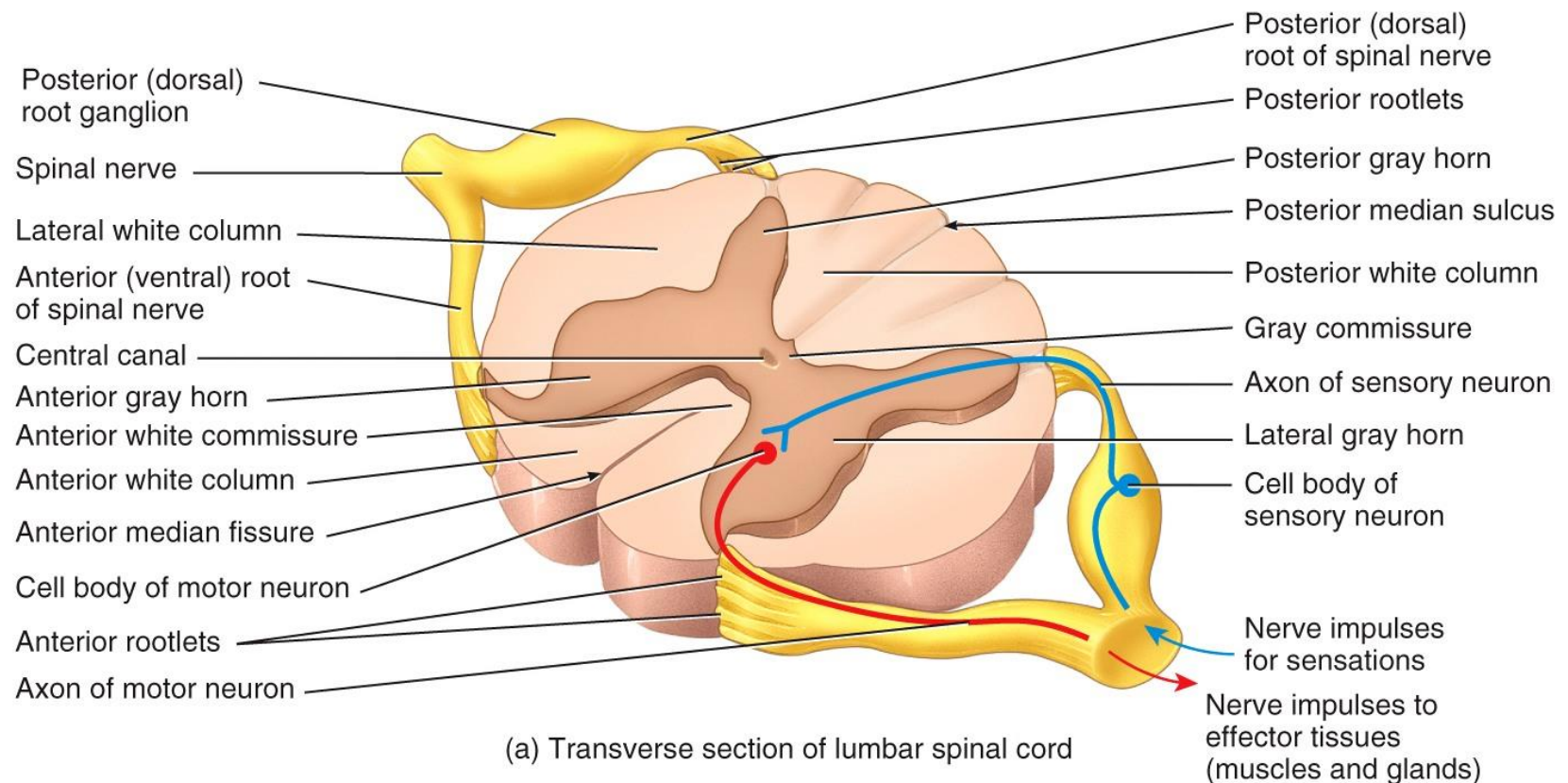
- ❖ In a cross section the following parts will can be seen:
 - Anterior median fissure
 - Posterior median sulcus
 - Gray commissure
 - Central canal
 - Anterior (ventral) white commissure
 - Horns
 - Anterior (ventral) gray horns
 - Posterior (dorsal) gray horns
 - Lateral gray horns

Internal Anatomy of the Spinal Cord

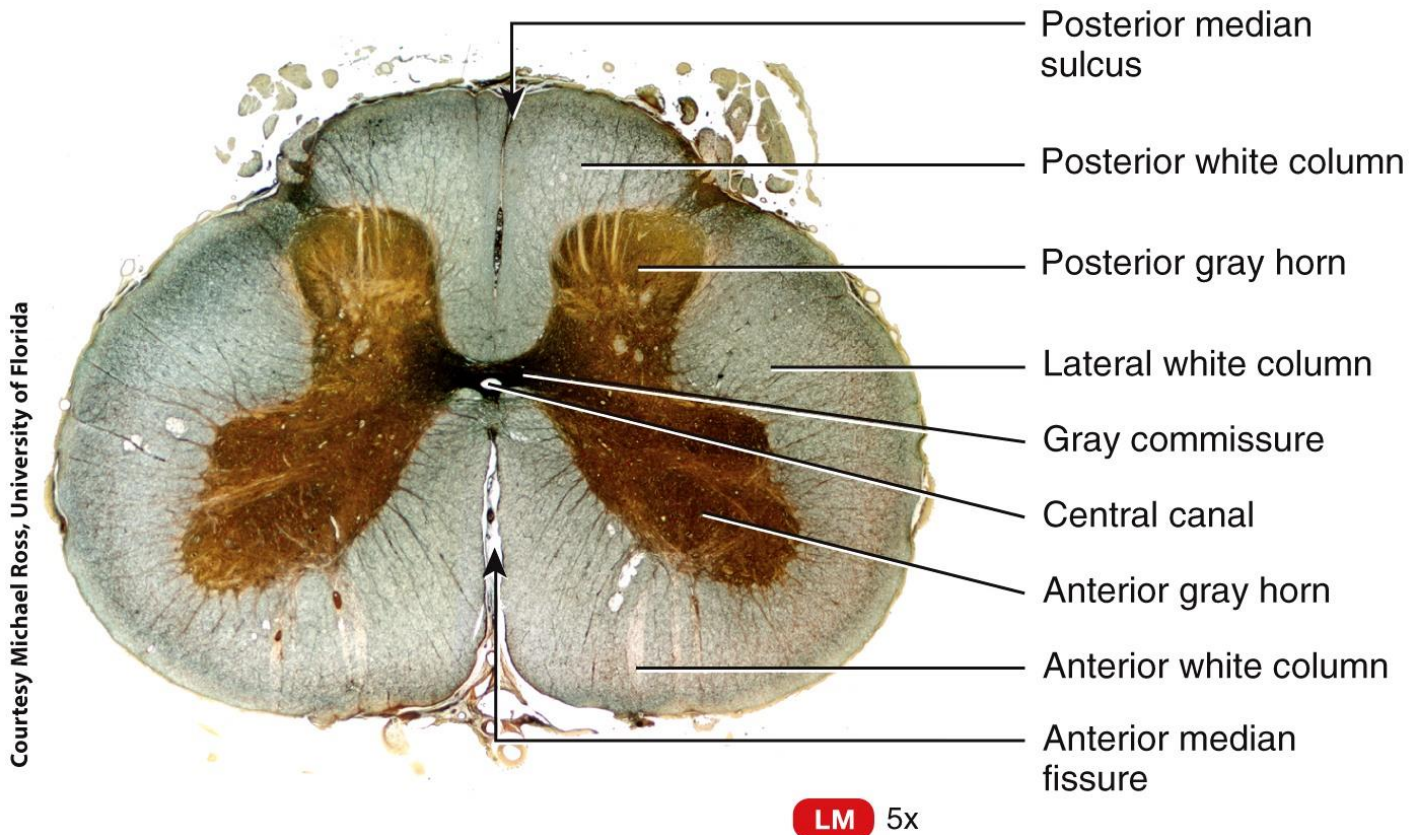
■ Columns

- Anterior (ventral) white columns
- Posterior (dorsal) white columns
- Lateral white columns

Internal Anatomy of the Spinal Cord: The Organization of Gray Matter and White Matter



Internal Anatomy of the Spinal Cord: The Organization of Gray Matter and White Matter



(b) Transverse section of lumbar spinal cord

Peripheral nervous system (PNS)

PNS

❖ PNS Includes:

□ Spinal Nerves

- 31 pairs of nerves that emerge from vertebral foramina

□ Cranial Nerves

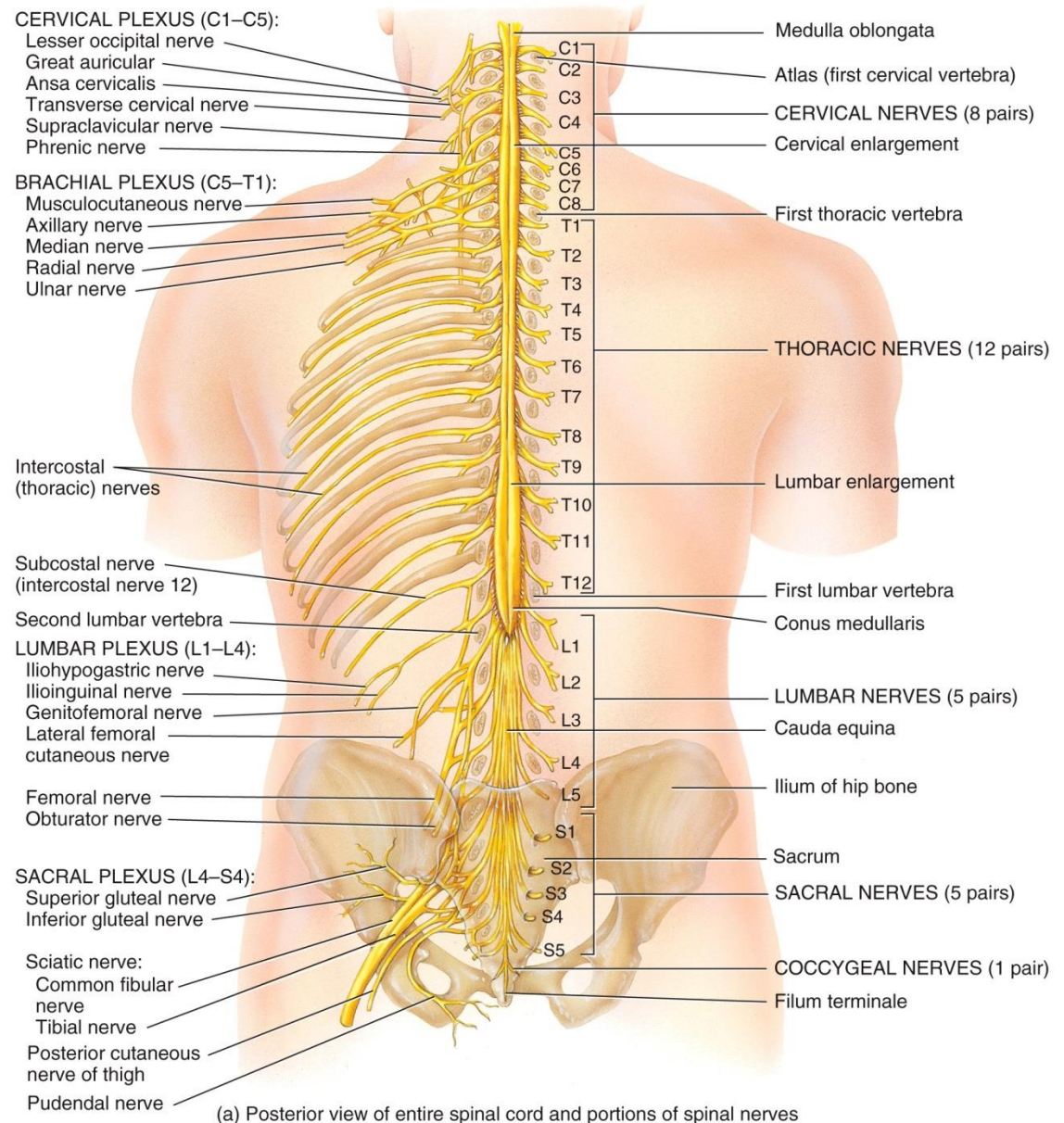
- 12 pairs of nerves that pass through cranial foramina
- numbered from I-XII

- *Nerve: a bundle of 100s to 1000s of axons and the connective tissue that covers them together

Spinal Nerves

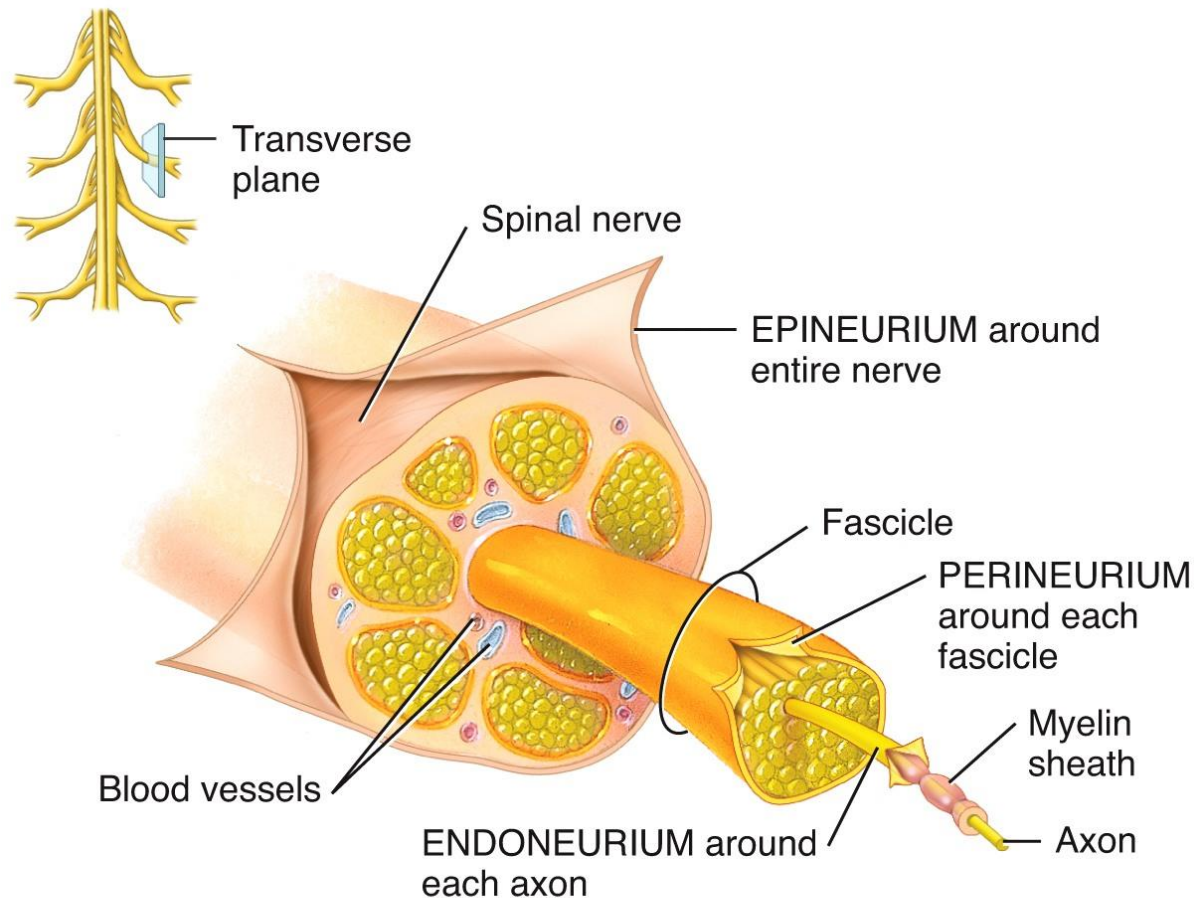
- Spinal nerves and the nerves that branch from them are part of the peripheral nervous system (PNS).
- They connect the CNS to sensory receptors, muscles, and glands in all parts of the body.

External Anatomy of the Spinal Cord and the Spinal Nerves



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Organization and Connective Tissue Coverings of a Spinal Nerve



(a) Transverse section showing the coverings of a spinal nerve

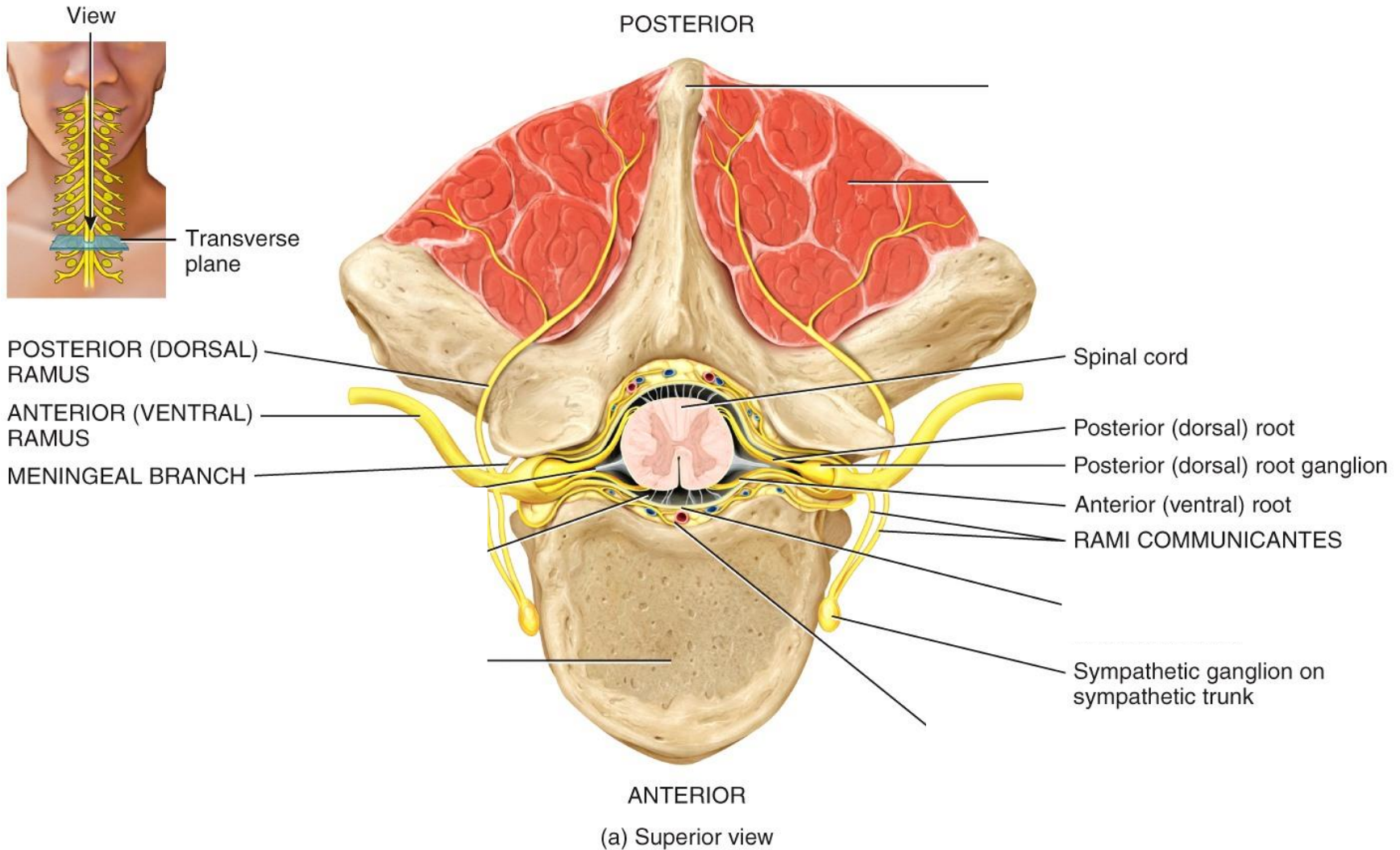
Organization of Spinal Nerves

- Rootlets
- Anterior (ventral) roots
- Posterior (dorsal) roots
- Posterior (dorsal) root ganglion
- Spinal nerve trunk

Branches of the Spinal Nerves

- Posterior (dorsal) ramus
 - Anterior (ventral) ramus
 - Meningeal branch
 - Rami communicantes
-
- Rami (singular = ramus)

Branches of a Typical Spinal Nerve

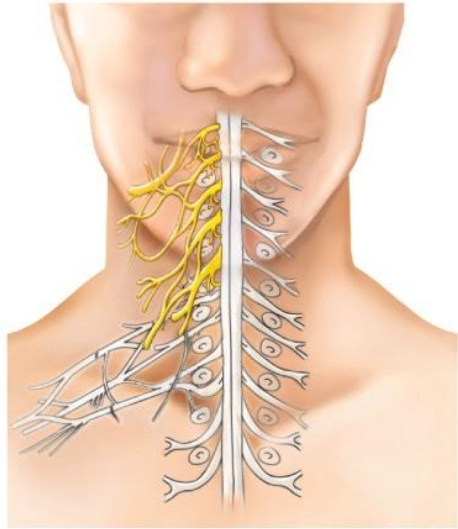


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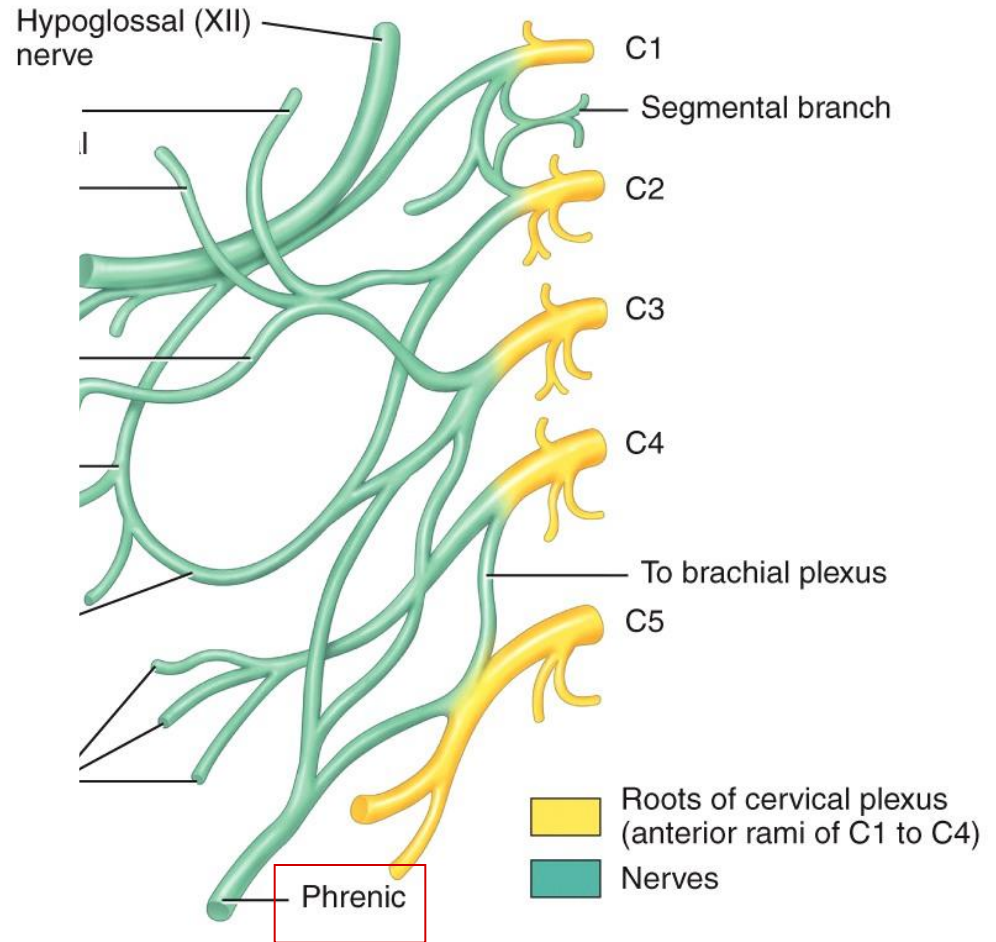
Plexuses

- Axons from the anterior rami of spinal nerves, except for thoracic nerves T2–T12, form networks on both left and right sides of the body. Each network is called a plexus.
- The principal plexuses are the cervical plexus, brachial plexus, lumbar plexus, and sacral plexus.
- A smaller coccygeal plexus is also present.
- Groups of nerves emerge from the plexuses.

Cervical Plexus in Anterior View



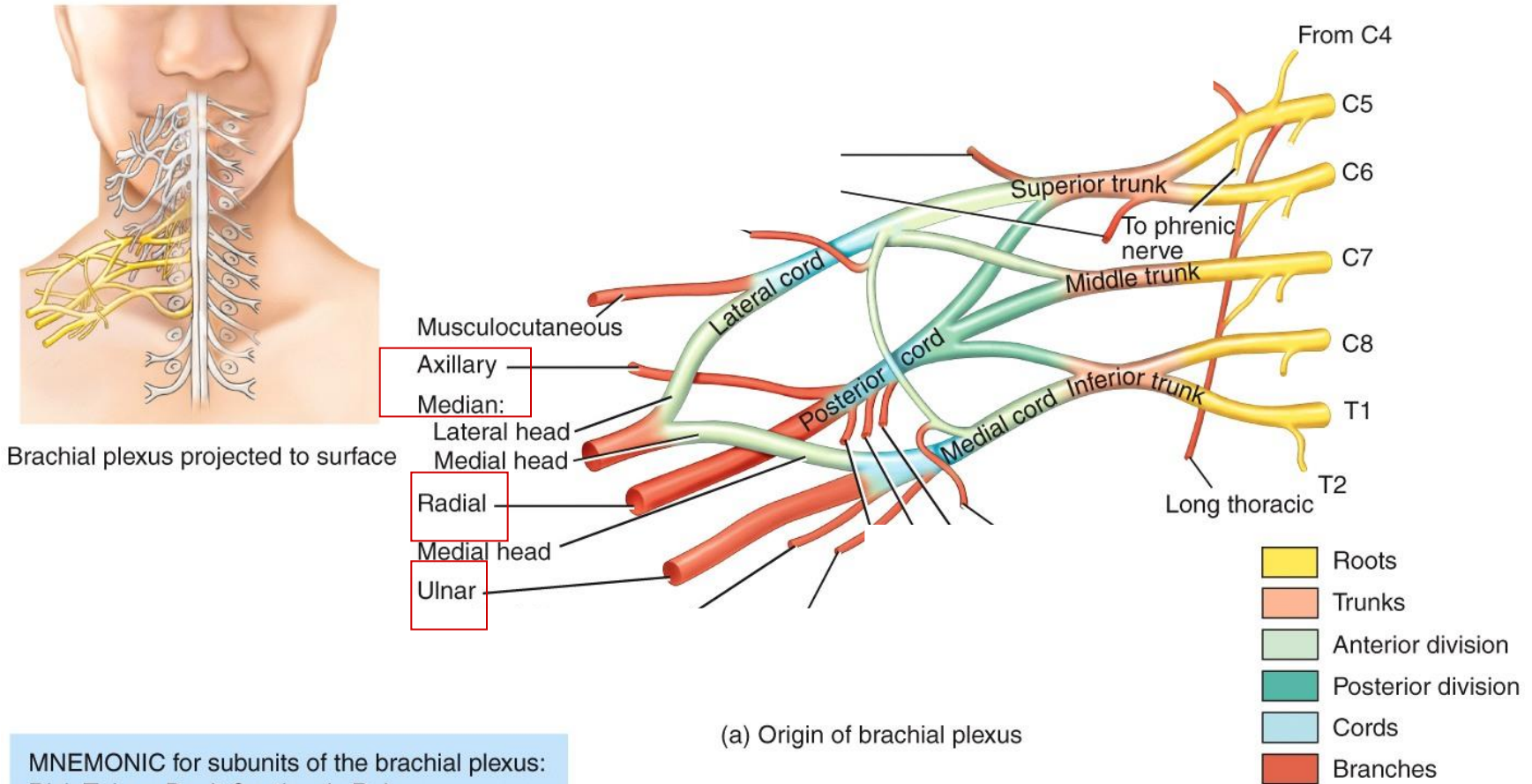
Cervical plexus projected to surface



(a) Origin of cervical plexus

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Brachial Plexus in Anterior View

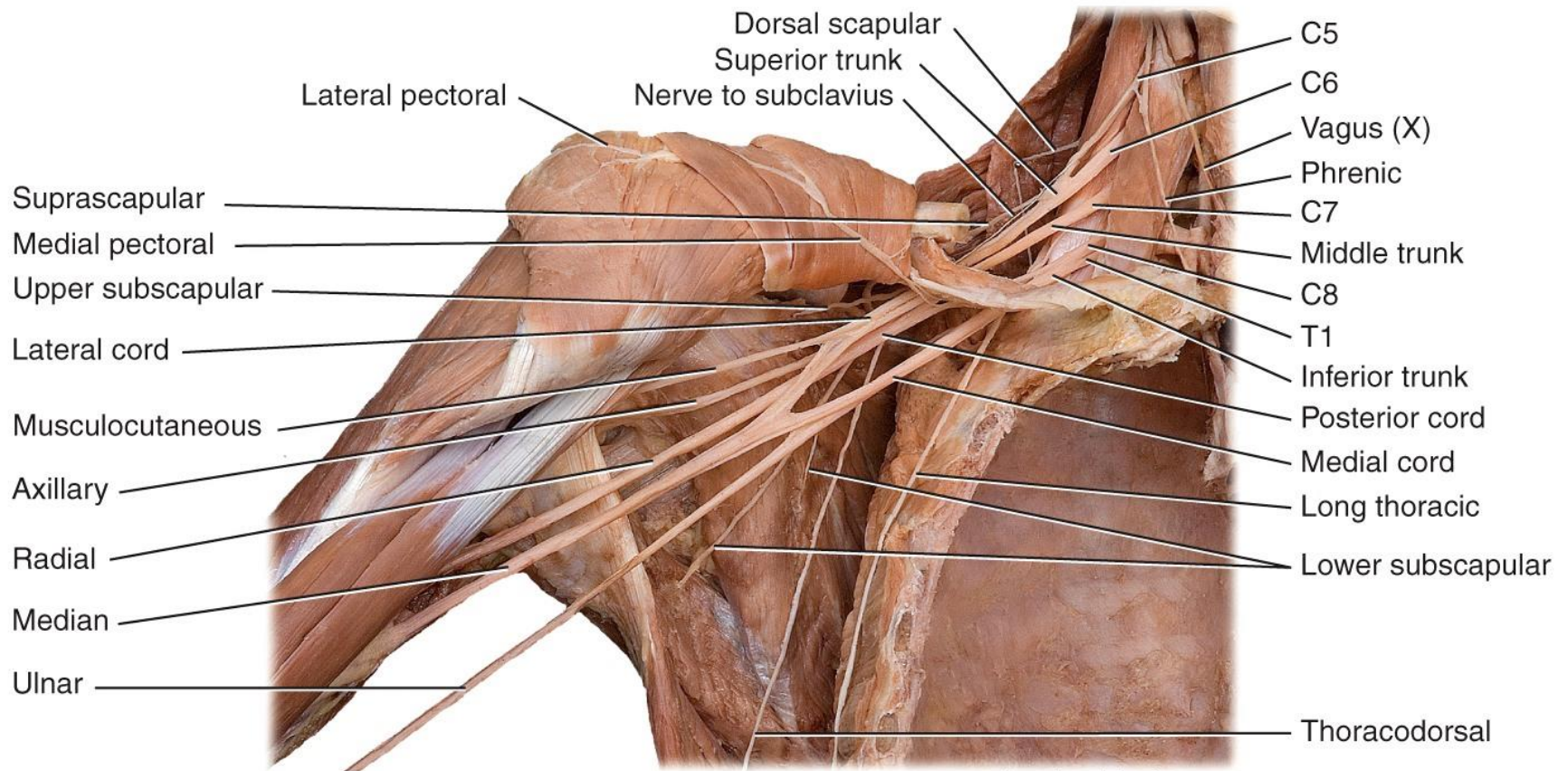


(a) Origin of brachial plexus

MNEMONIC for subunits of the brachial plexus:
Risk Takers **D**on't **C**autiously **B**ehave.
Roots, **T**runks, **D**ivisions, **C**ords, **B**ranches

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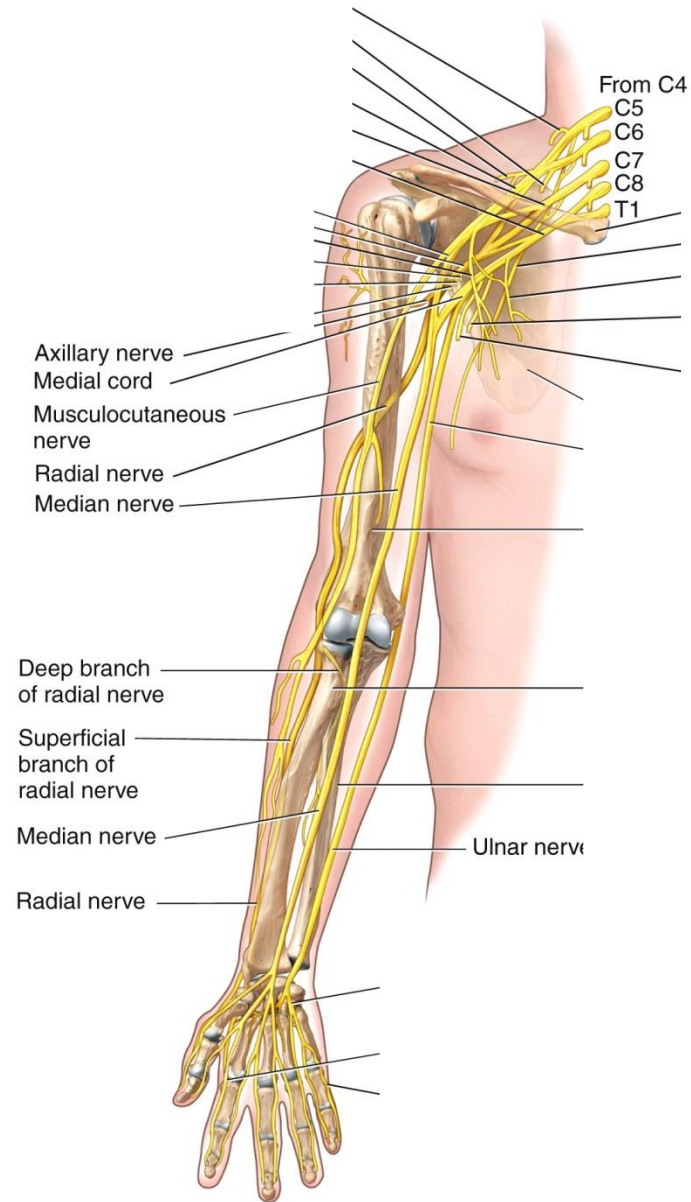
Brachial Plexus in Anterior View



(b) Anterior view of brachial plexus

Dissection Richard Homer;
Photograph Mark Nielsen

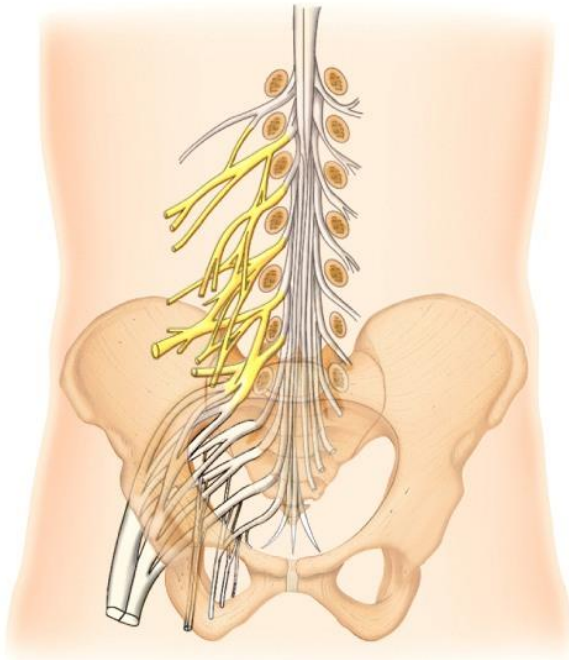
Brachial Plexus in Anterior View



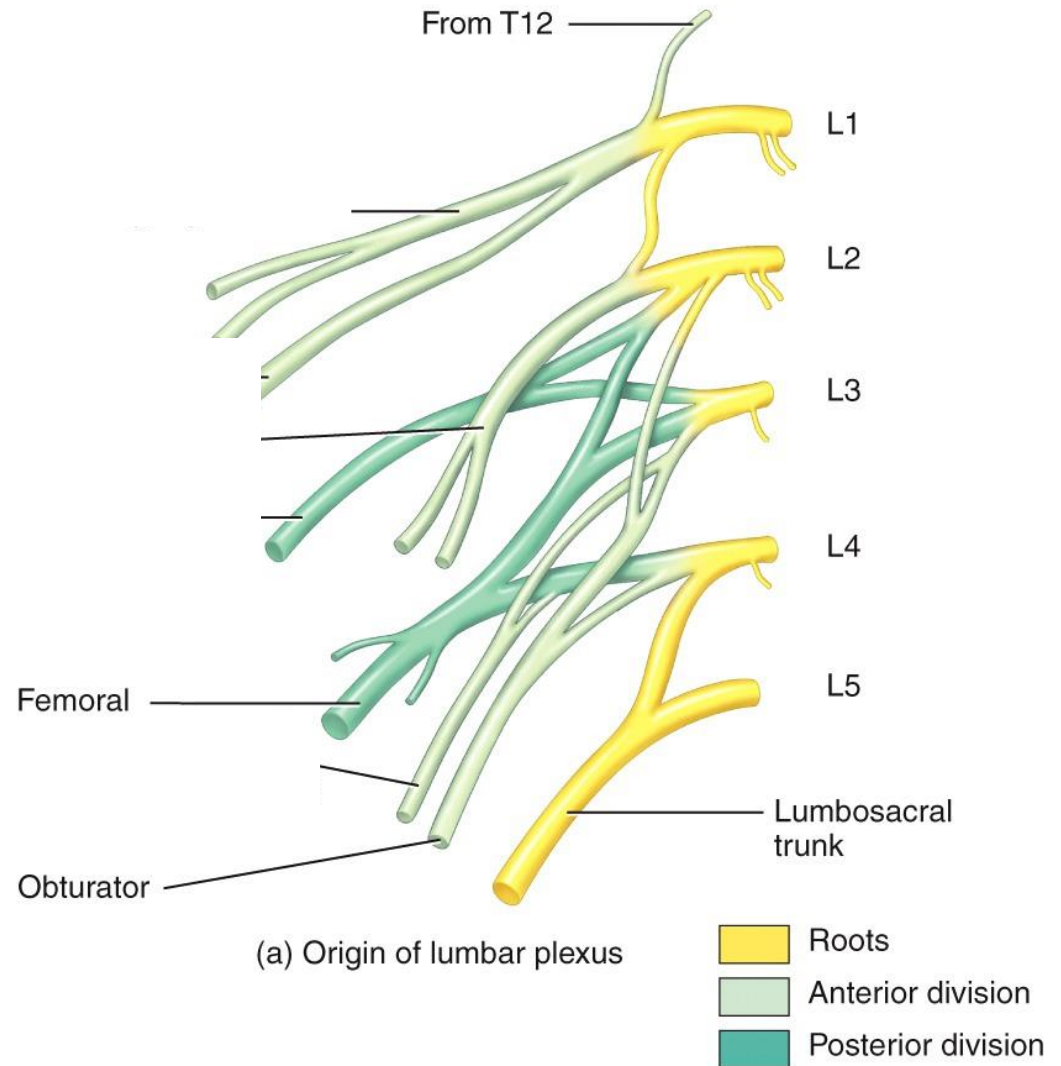
(c) Distribution of nerves from brachial plexus

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Lumbar Plexus in Anterior View

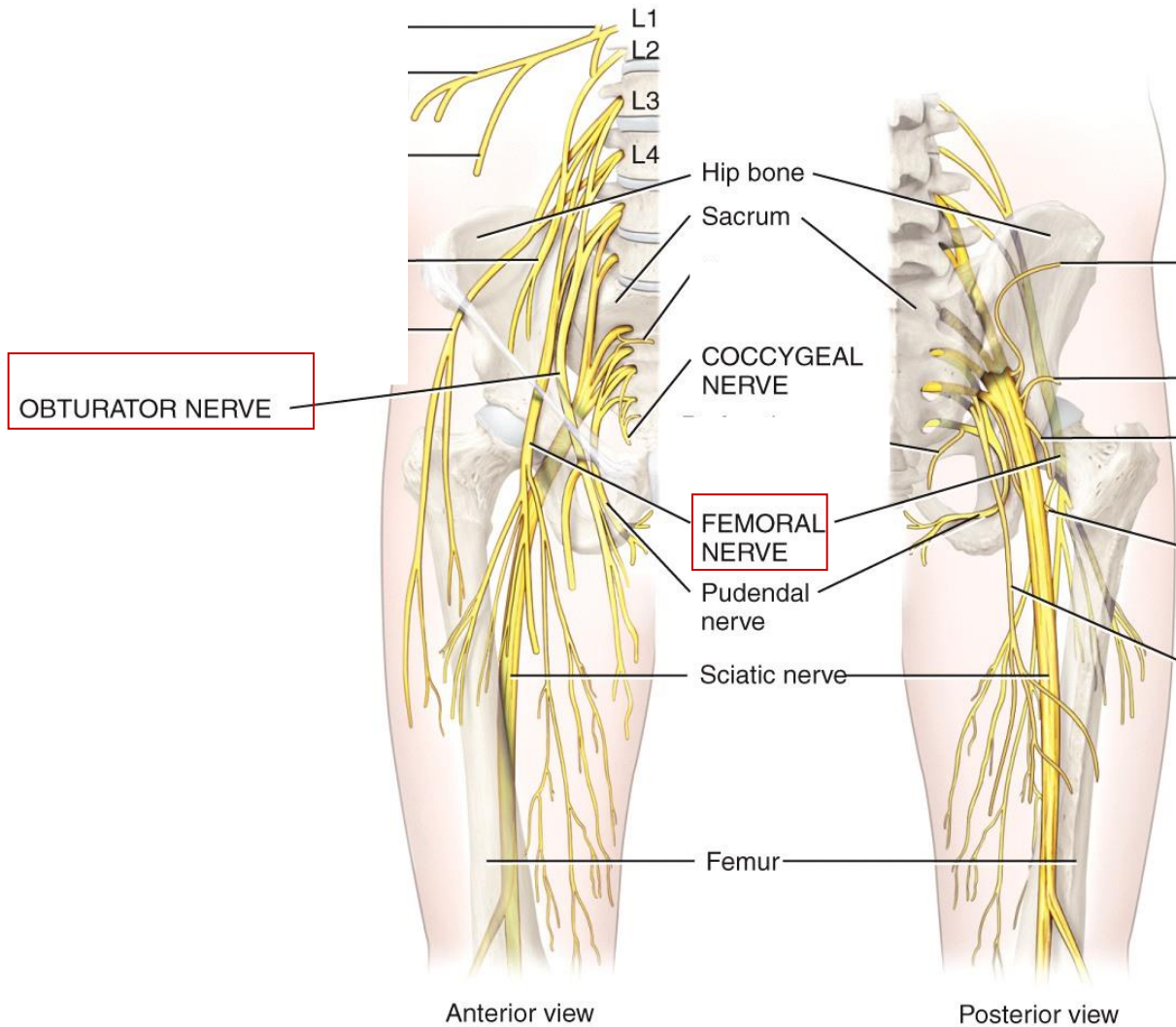


Lumbar plexus projected to surface



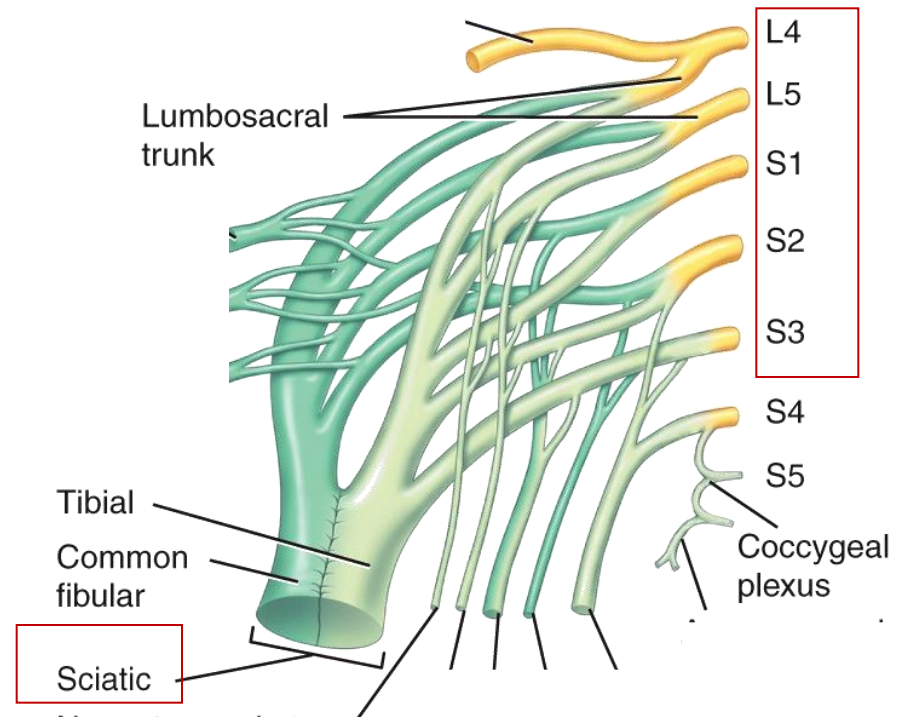
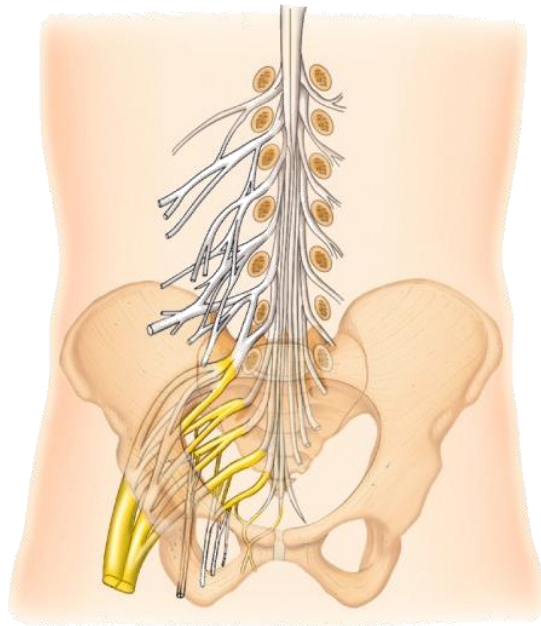
(a) Origin of lumbar plexus

Lumbar Plexus in Anterior View



(b) Distribution of nerves from lumbar plexus

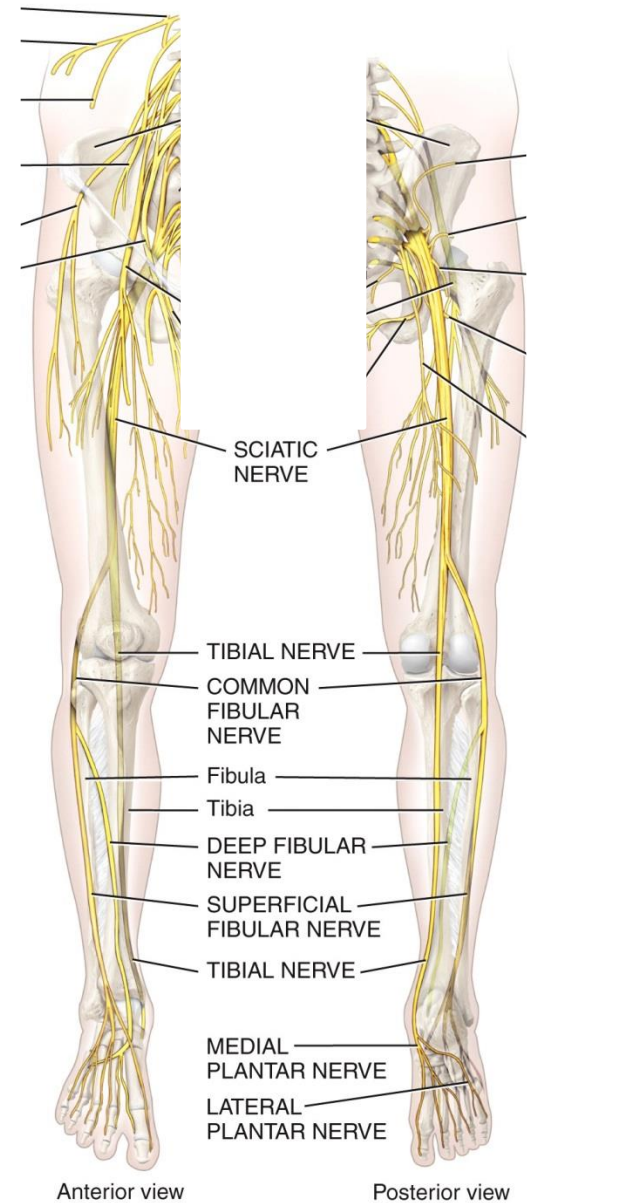
Sacral and Coccygeal Plexuses in Anterior View



Sacral and coccygeal plexuses projected to surface

- (a) Origin of sacral and coccygeal plexuses
- Roots
 - Anterior division
 - Posterior division

Sacral Plexuses: Sciatic nerve



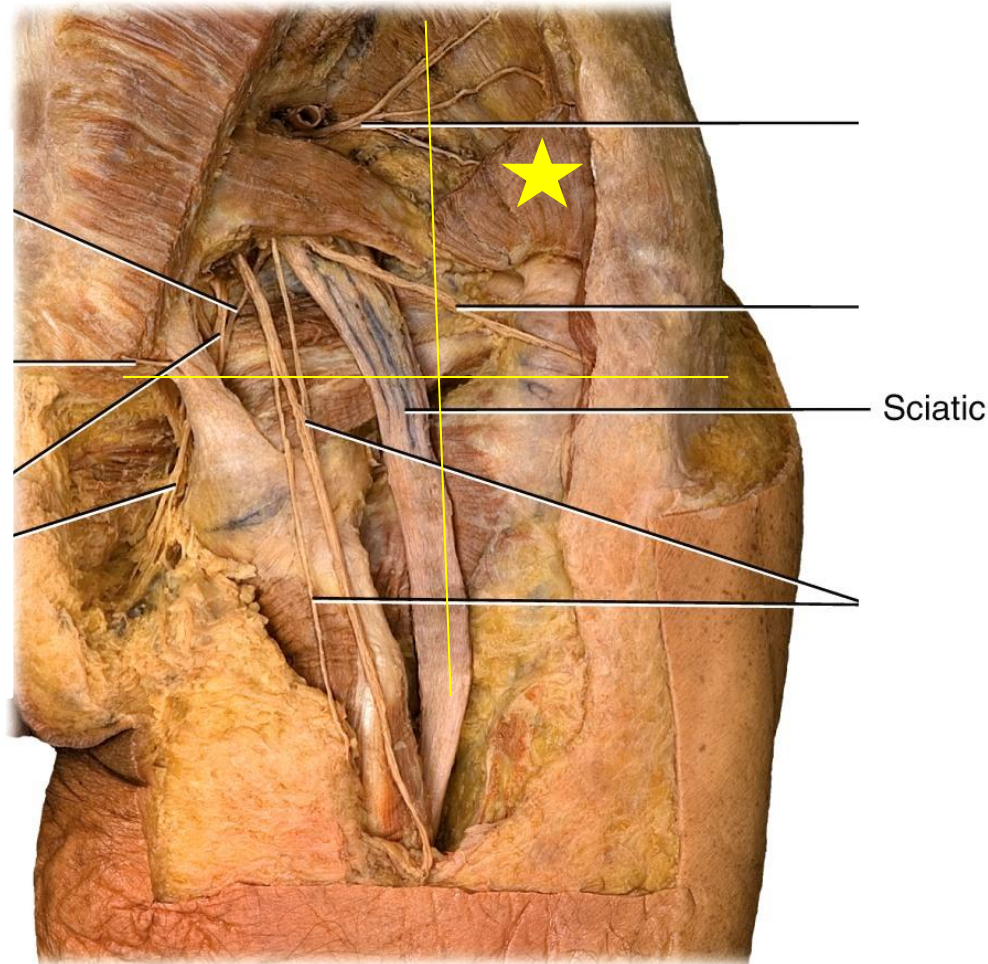
(b) Distribution of nerves from the sacral and coccygeal plexuses

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Sciatic Nerve

To avoid sciatic nerve injury the site of i.m injection should be.....

In the



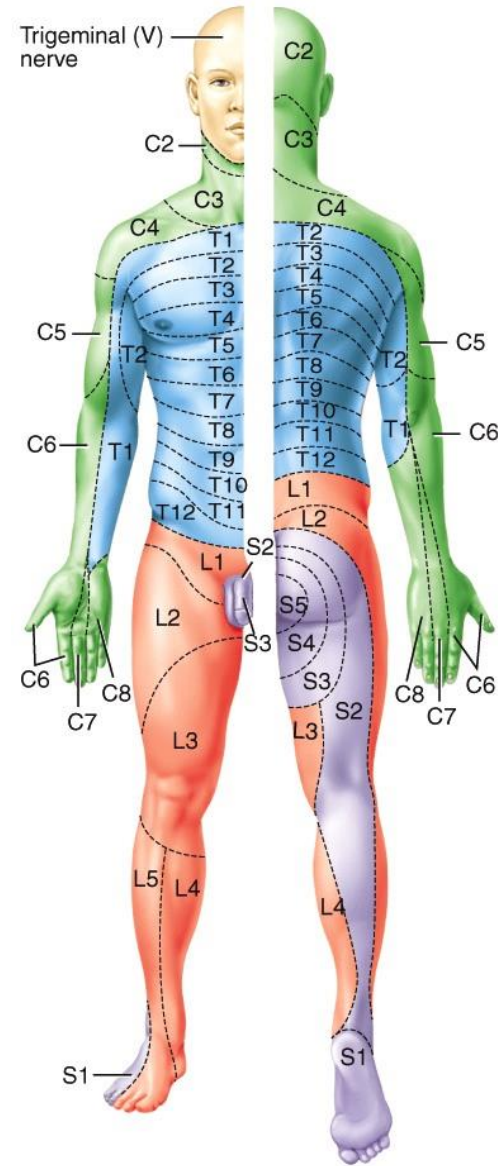
Dissection Shawn Miller,
Photograph Mark Nielsen

(c) Posterior view of sacral plexus in right gluteal region

Dermatomes versus Cutaneous Fields

- Each spinal nerve contains sensory neurons that serve a specific, predictable segment of the body.
- Dermatomes are the areas of the skin that provides sensory input to the CNS via one pair of spinal nerves.
- Knowing which spinal cord segments supply each dermatome makes it possible to locate damaged regions of the spinal cord.
- The nerve supply in adjacent dermatomes overlaps somewhat.

Distribution of Dermatomes and Cutaneous Fields



Anterior view Posterior view

(a) Distribution of dermatomes

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Clinical Connection

■ Shingles:

Shingles is caused by the varicella-zoster virus — the same virus that causes chickenpox



Reflexes and Reflex Arcs

- Reflexes:
 - Spinal reflex
 - Cranial reflex
 - Somatic reflex
 - Autonomic (visceral) reflex

Reflex and Reflex Arc

- Components of a reflex arc
 - Sensory receptor
 - Sensory neuron
 - Integrating center
 - Motor neuron
 - Effector

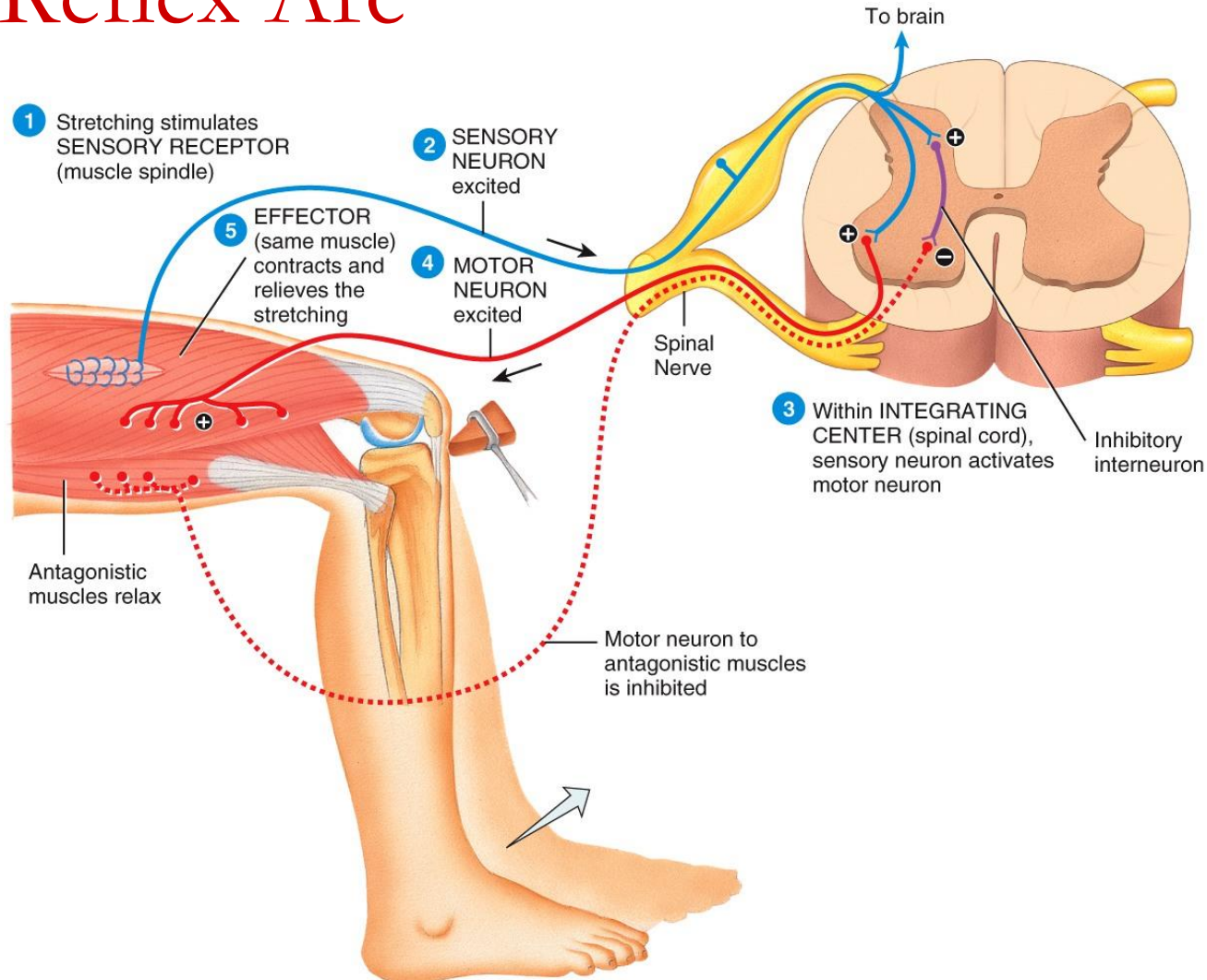
Reflexes

Interactions Animation

- Spinal Somatic Reflexes

You must be connected to the internet to run this animation.

Patellar Reflex Showing Components of a Reflex Arc



CRANIAL NERVES



Cranial Nerves

- Cranial Nerves
- 12 pairs of nerves that pass through cranial foramina (hence the name)
- They are part of PNS
- Numbered in order as they arise from Ant. to Post. aspect of the brain
- I is more ant. than II > III ...etc

Cranial Nerve I

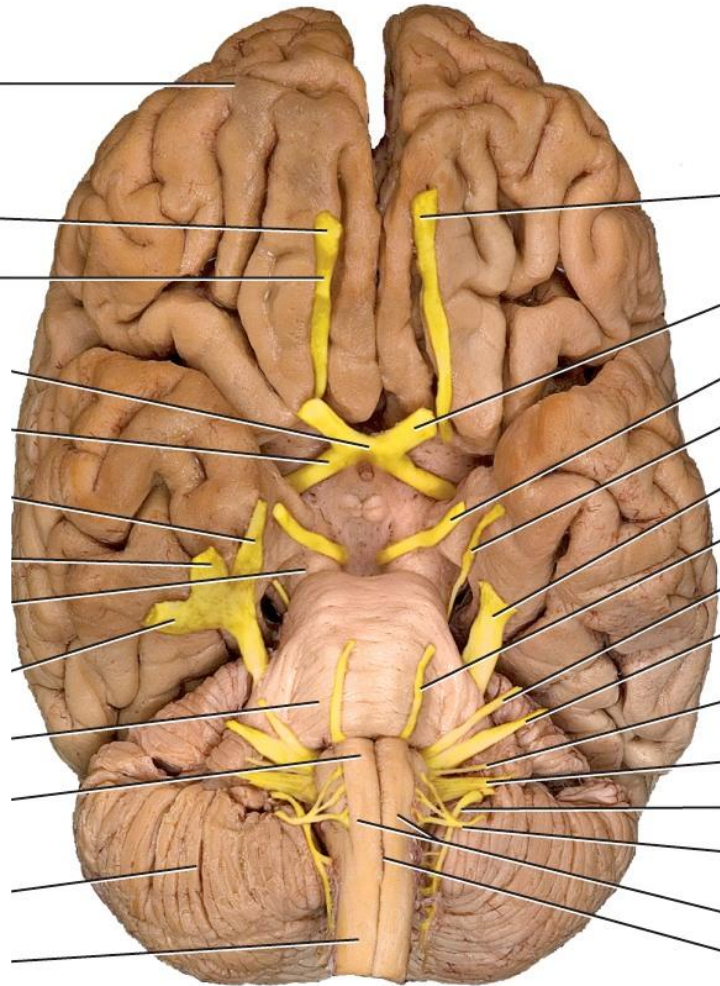
- Olfactory (I) nerve
 - Olfactory bulbs
 - Olfactory tracts

Cranial Nerves I and II

Cerebrum

Olfactory bulb

Olfactory tract



Dissection Shawn Miller, Photograph Mark Nielsen

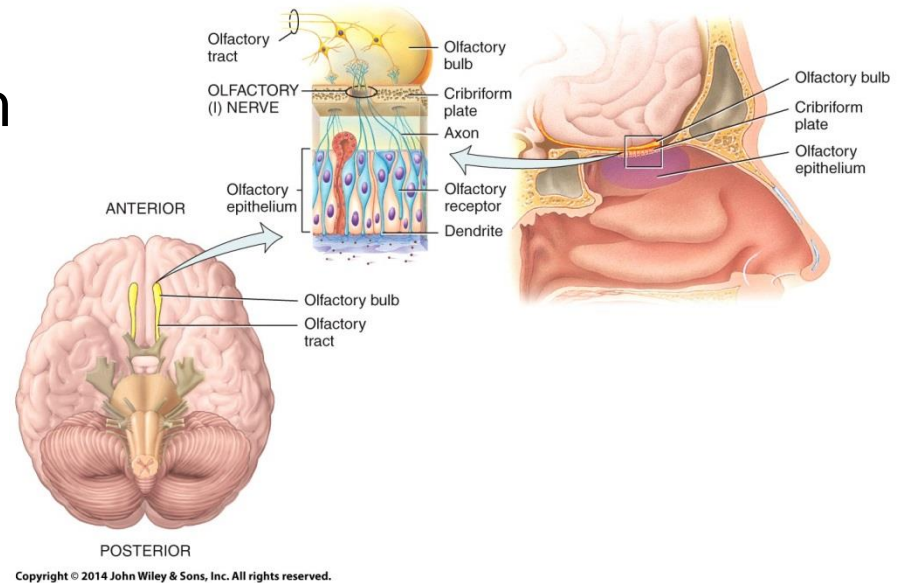
(a) Inferior aspect of brain

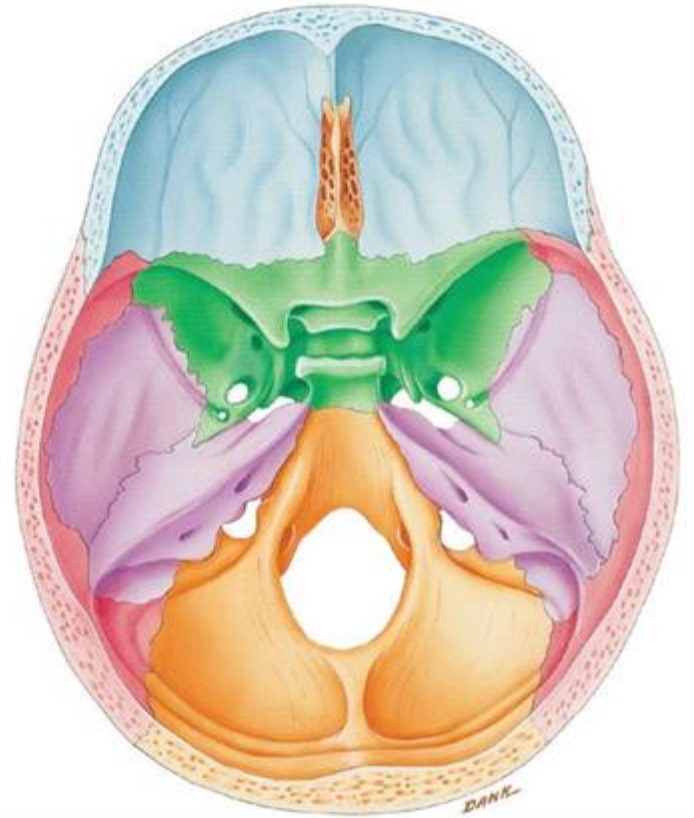
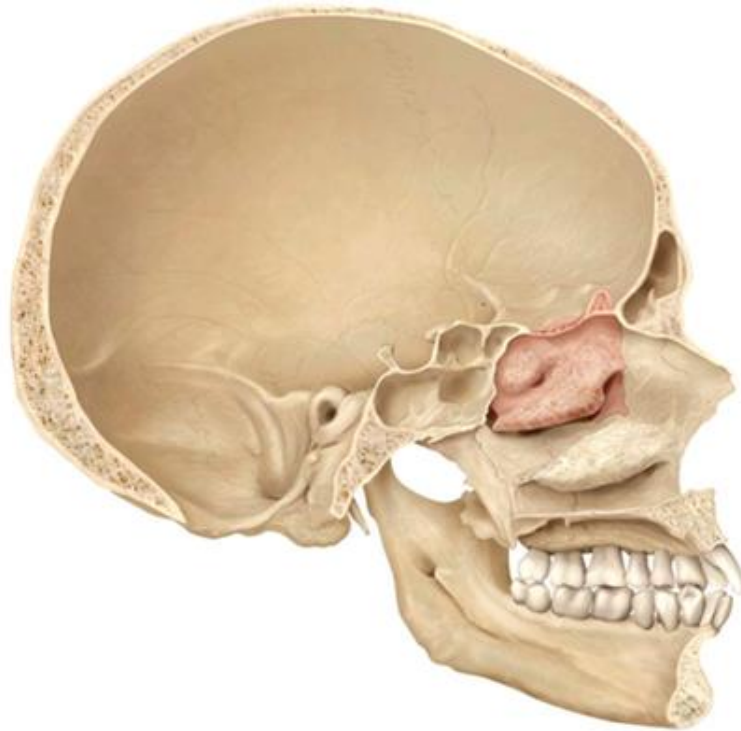
Olfactory (I) Nerve

- ❑ Entirely sensory
- ❑ Conduct the sense of smell

Olfactory axons extend through cribriform plate of ethmoid & gather in olfactory bulbs where they synapse

Axons of second neurons pass through olfactory tracts to temporal lobe





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Location of Cranial Nerves I and II

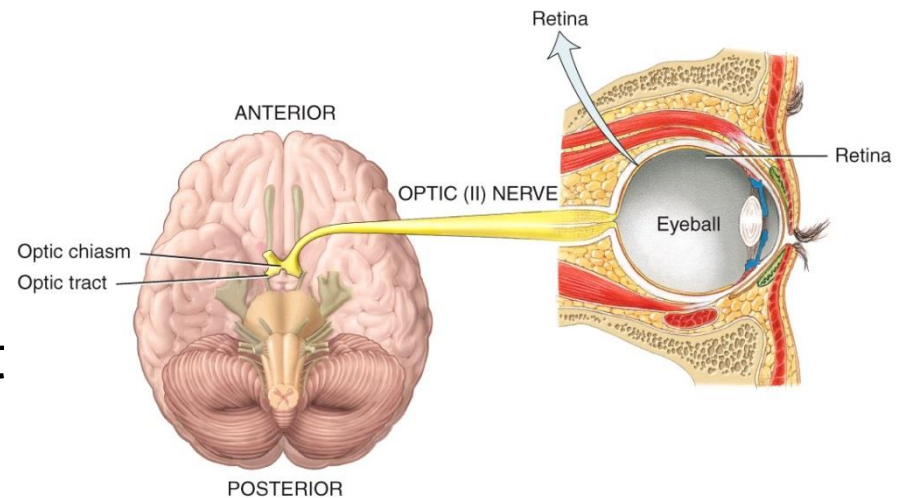
- Optic (II) nerve
 - Optic chiasm
 - Optic tracts

Optic (II) Nerve

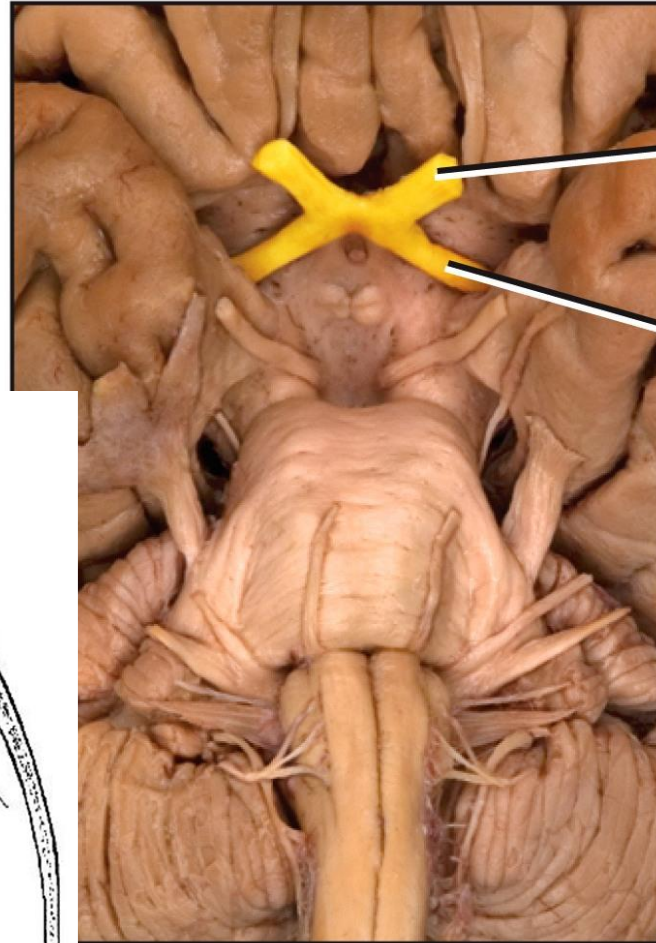
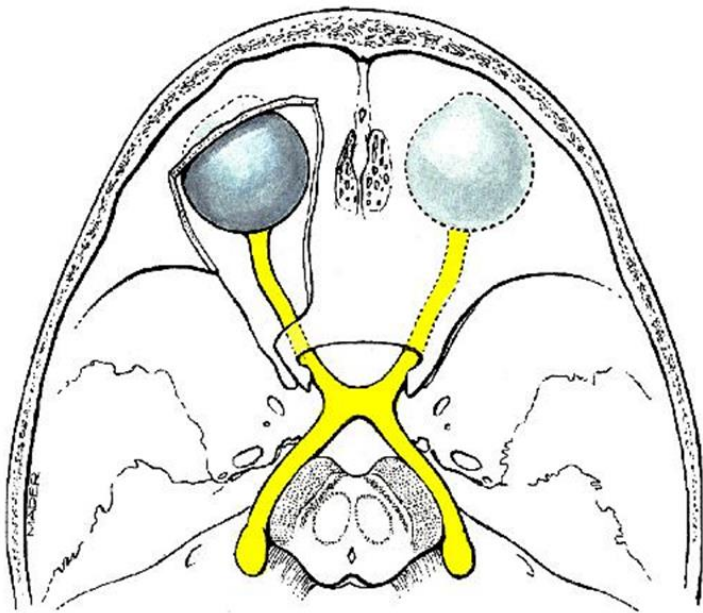
- ❑ Special sensory
- ❑ Conduct the sense of vision

Axons extend from sensory receptors in the retina to form the optic nerve, then pass through optic foramen

Optic nerves from both sides crossover posterior to the orbit to form optic chiasma



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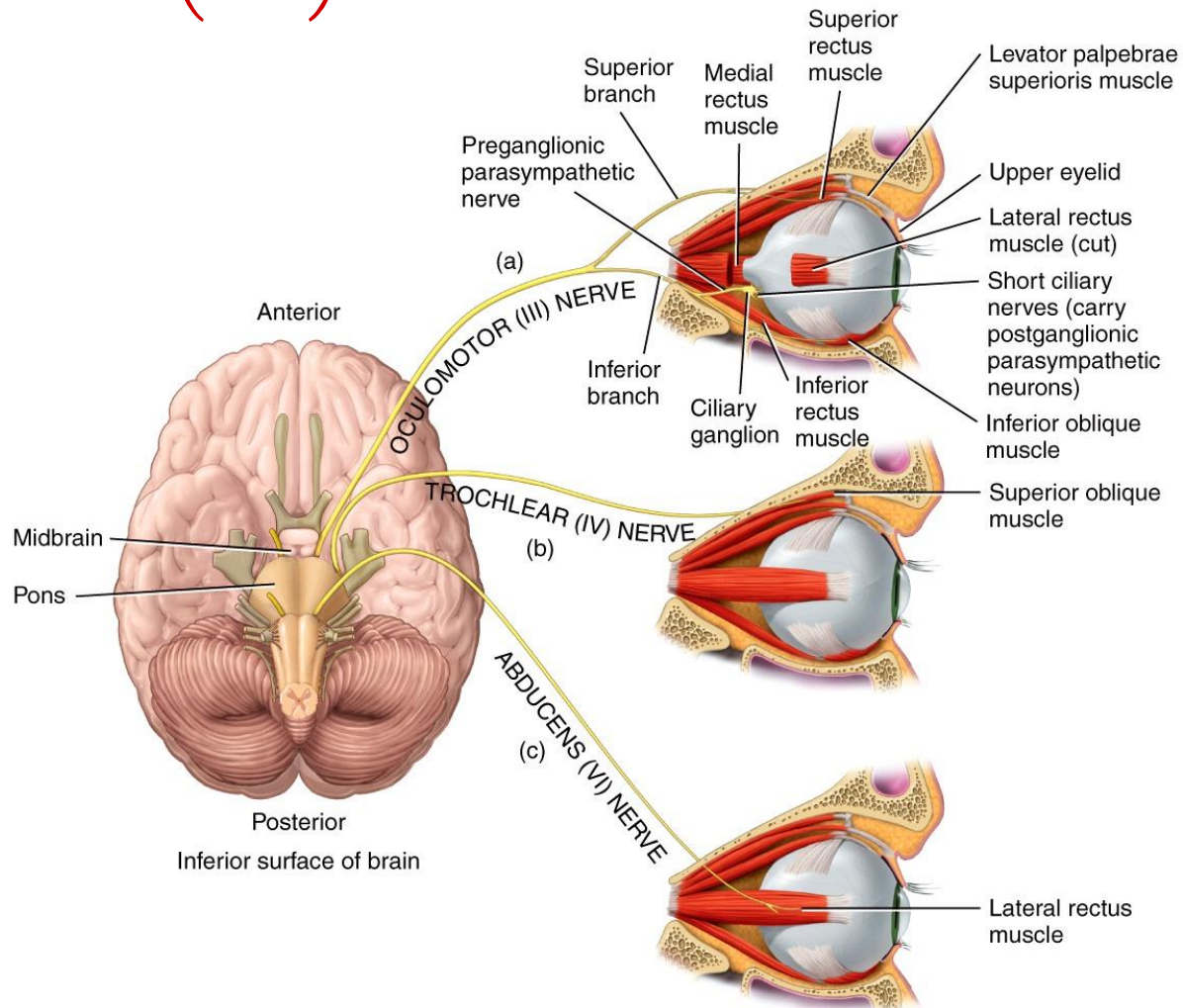


Optic (II)
nerve

Optic
tract

Dissection Shawn Miller,
Photograph Mark Nielsen

Oculomotor (III), Trochlear (IV), and Abducens (VI) Nerves



Oculomotor (III)

Mixed

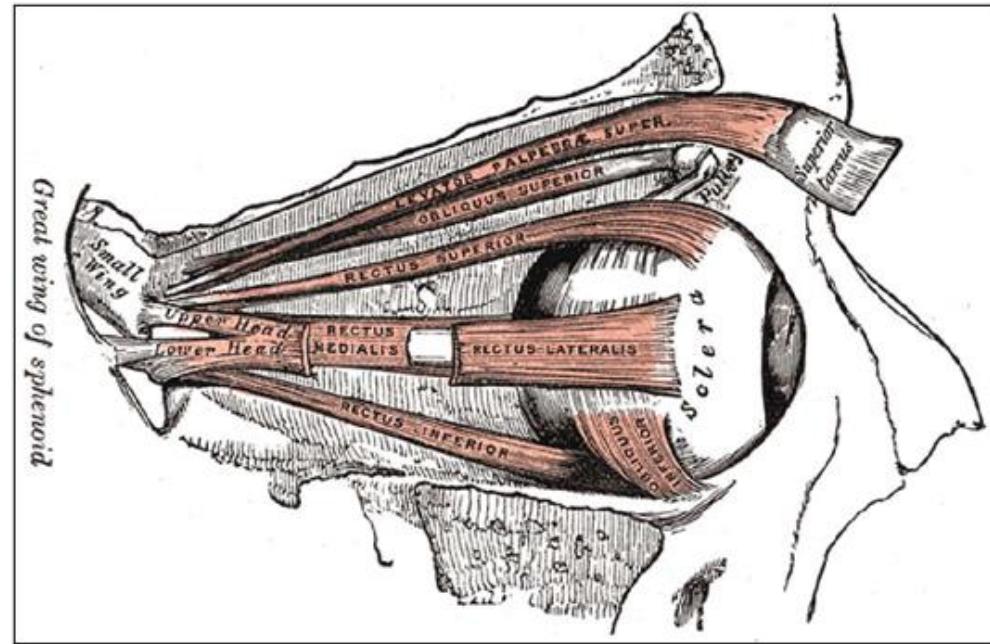
Divides into sup. & inf. branches before it pass through superior orbital fissure to the orbit

Supply extrinsic muscles of the eye except:
Superior oblique (SO) & lateral rectus (LR)

Muscles of The Orbit

7 muscles:

- Levator palpebrae superioris
- 4 recti muscles
- Sup. & Inf. obliques



Trochlear (IV)

Motor

The smallest C.N.

Pass through superior orbital fissure to supply:
Superior Oblique muscle
(SO4)

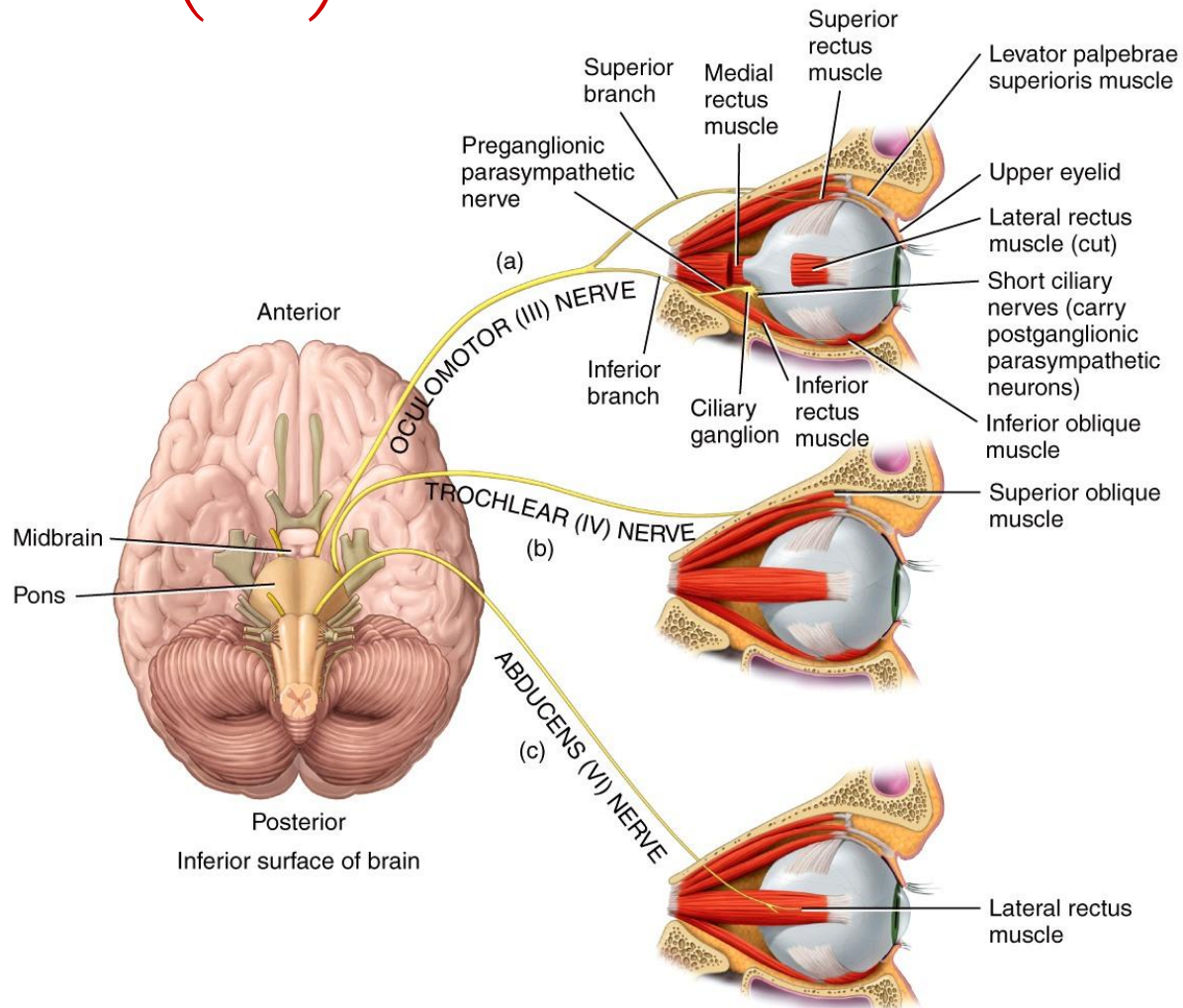
Abducens (VI)

Motor

Pass through superior orbital fissure
supply: Lateral Rectus muscle (LR6)

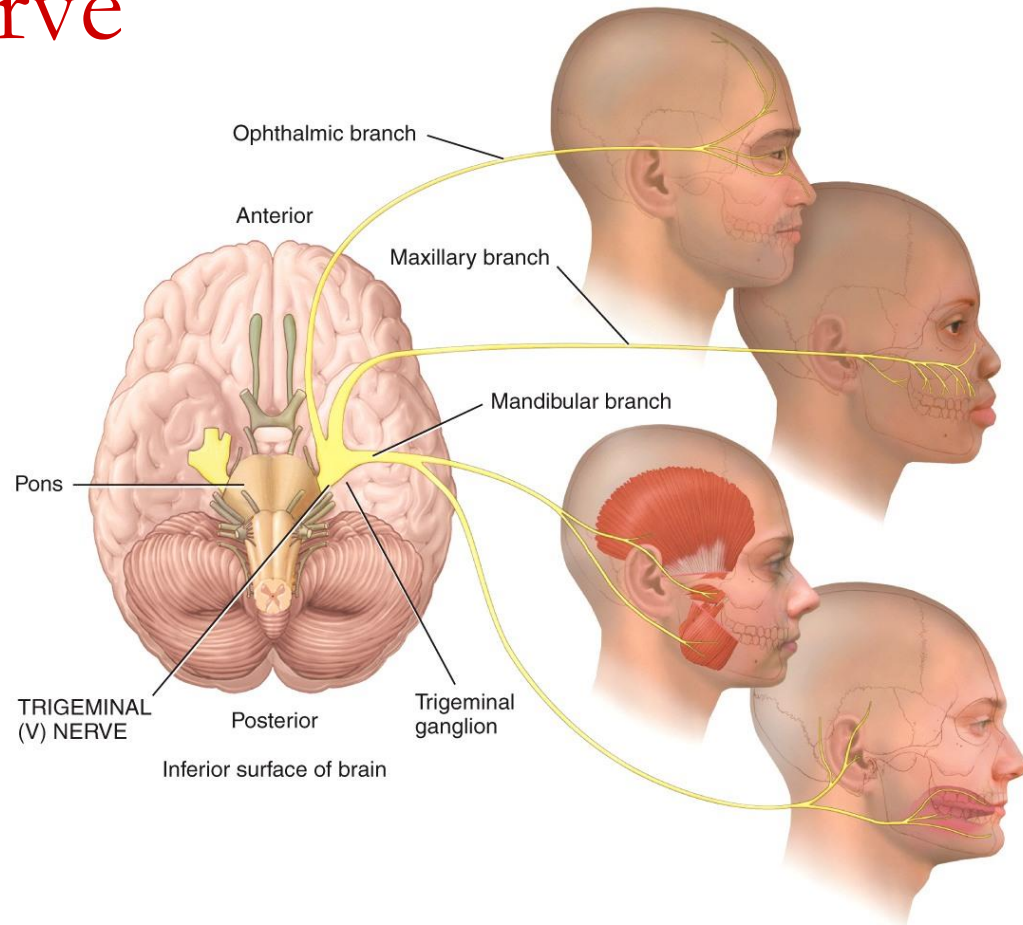
Abduction of the eye

Oculomotor (III), Trochlear (IV), and Abducens (VI) Nerves



Trigeminal (V) Nerve

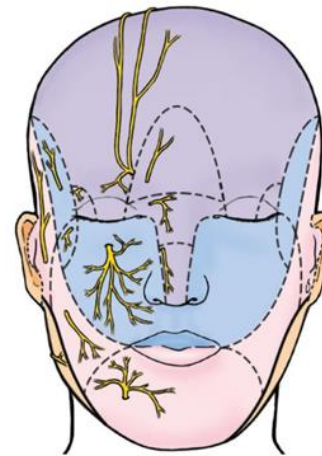
- ❑ Mixed nerve:
 - Sensory: face & teeth
 - Motor: muscles of mastication
- ❑ The largest of C.N.
- ❑ 3 divisions:
 - Ophthalmic
 - maxillary
 - mandibular



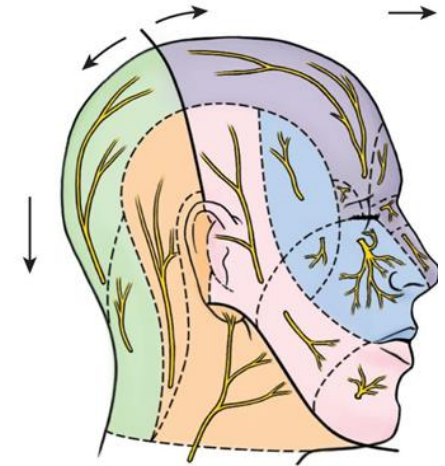
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Trigeminal (V) Nerve

- ❑ Ophthalmic Nerve (V1)
 - Entirely sensory branch:
 - Forehead, ant. ½ scalp, upper eyelid, & bridge of the nose
- Pass to orbit through: superior orbital fissure

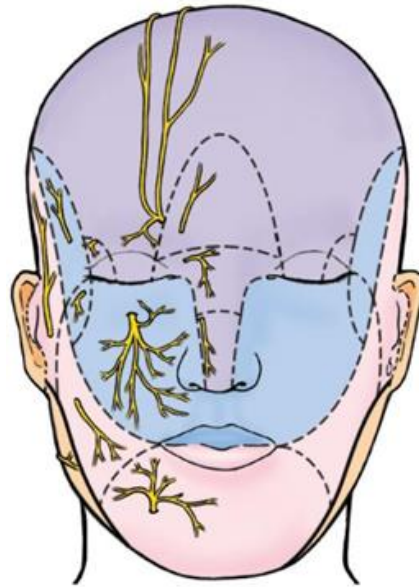


A. Anterior view

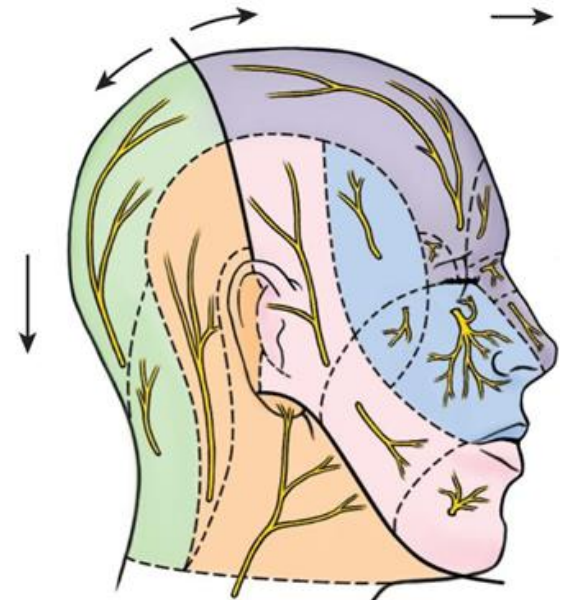


B. Lateral View (Cervical plexus)

Maxillary Nerve (V2) OF Trigeminal



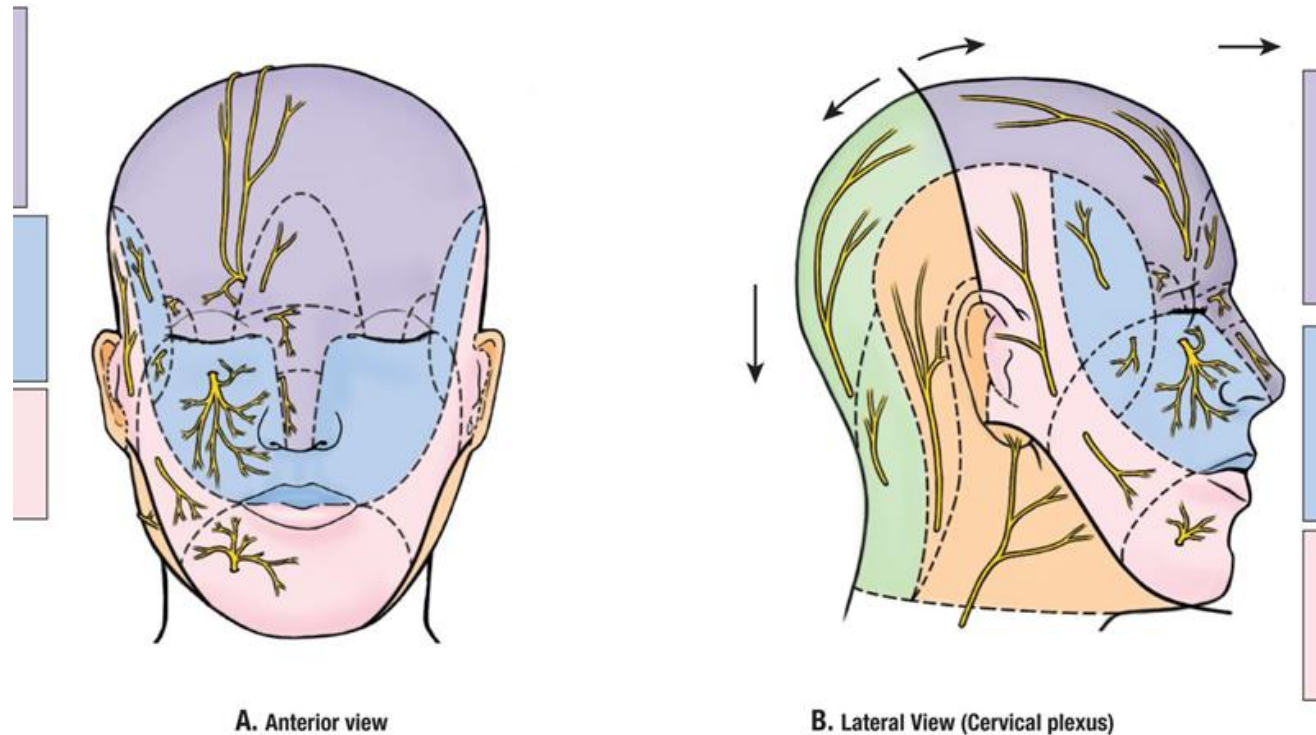
A. Anterior view



B. Lateral View (Cervical plexus)

- ❑ Sensory branch:
- ❑ skin over maxilla, upper teeth, & palate
- ❑ Pass through foramen rotundum

Mandibular Nerve (V3) OF Trigeminal



- Mixed branch:
- Sensory: skin over the mandible & cheeks ant . & sup. to the auricle (temporal)
- Tongue ant. 2/3 &
- Motor: muscles of mastication
- Pass through foramen ovale as a main trunk



Clinical Connection

- Trigeminal neuralgia



Trigeminal (V)
nerve

Dissection Shawn Miller,
Photograph Mark Nielsen

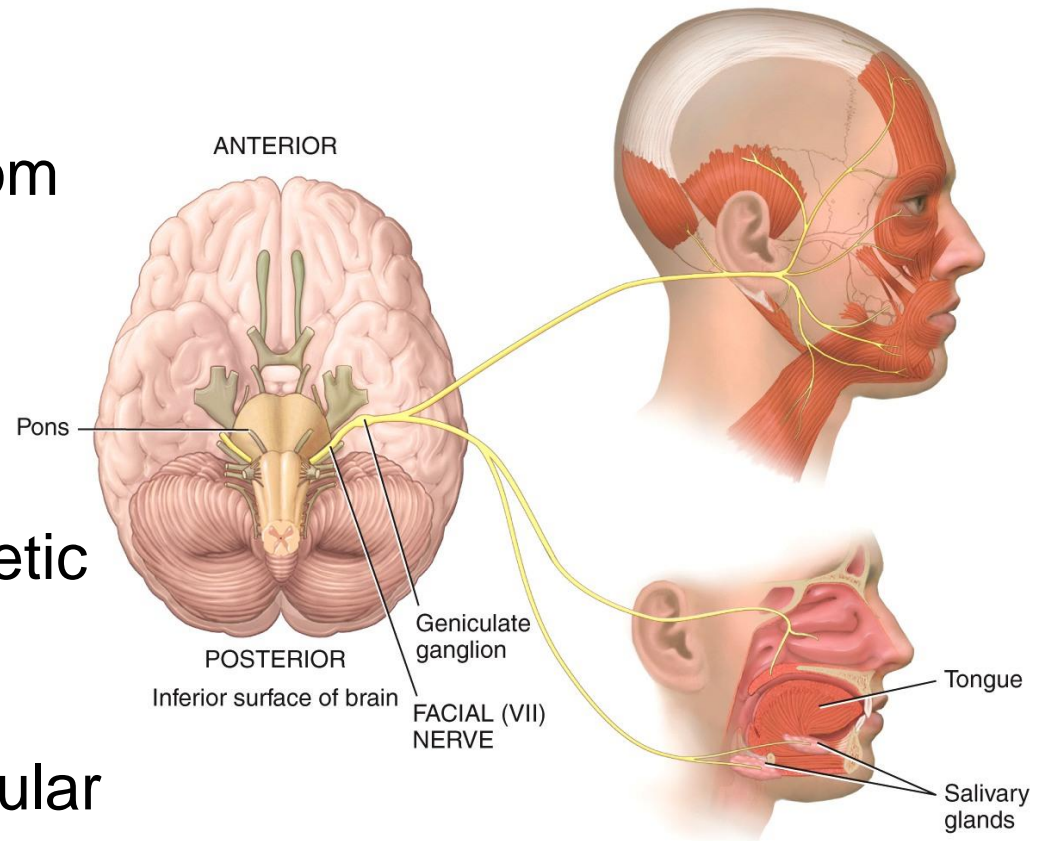
Facial (VII) Nerve

Mixed Somatic:

- special sensory: taste from ant. 2/3 of tongue
- motor: muscles of facial expression & stapedius

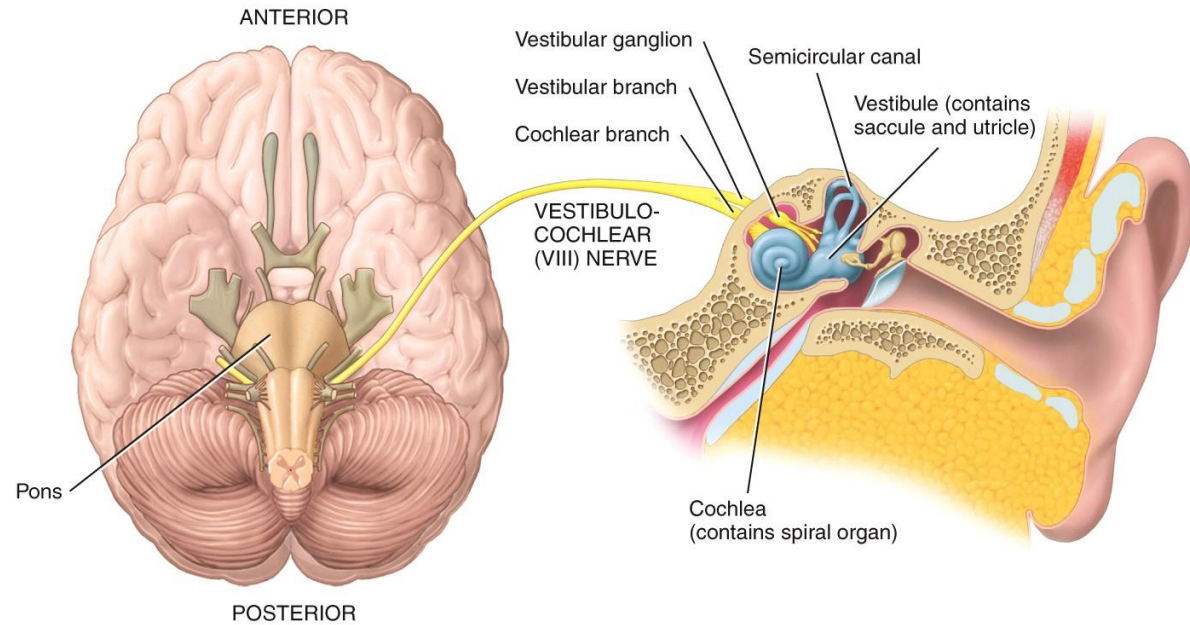
Autonomic: (parasympathetic secretomotor)

- lacrimal gland
- sublingual & submandibular salivary glands



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Vestibulocochlear (VIII) Nerve



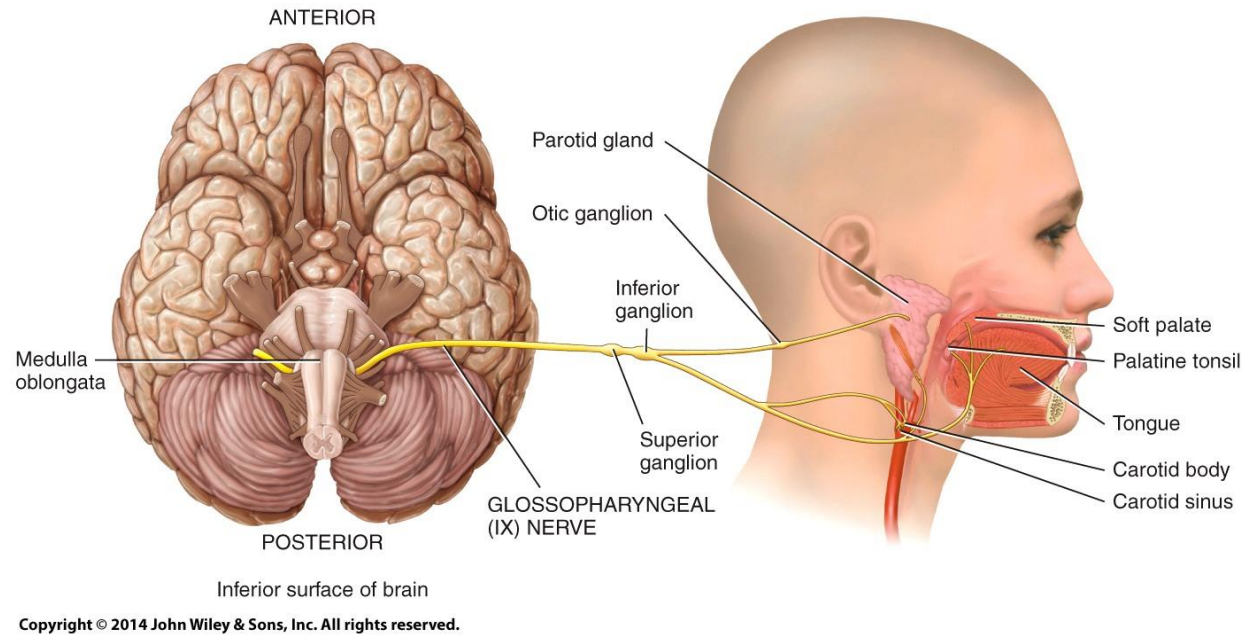
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Mainly sensory

Conduct the sense of hearing (auditory)

Concerned with hearing &

Glossopharyngeal (IX) Nerve



Mixed

Mixed Somatic:

- post. 1/3 of the tongue (general & special taste)
- stylopharyngeus muscle

Autonomic:

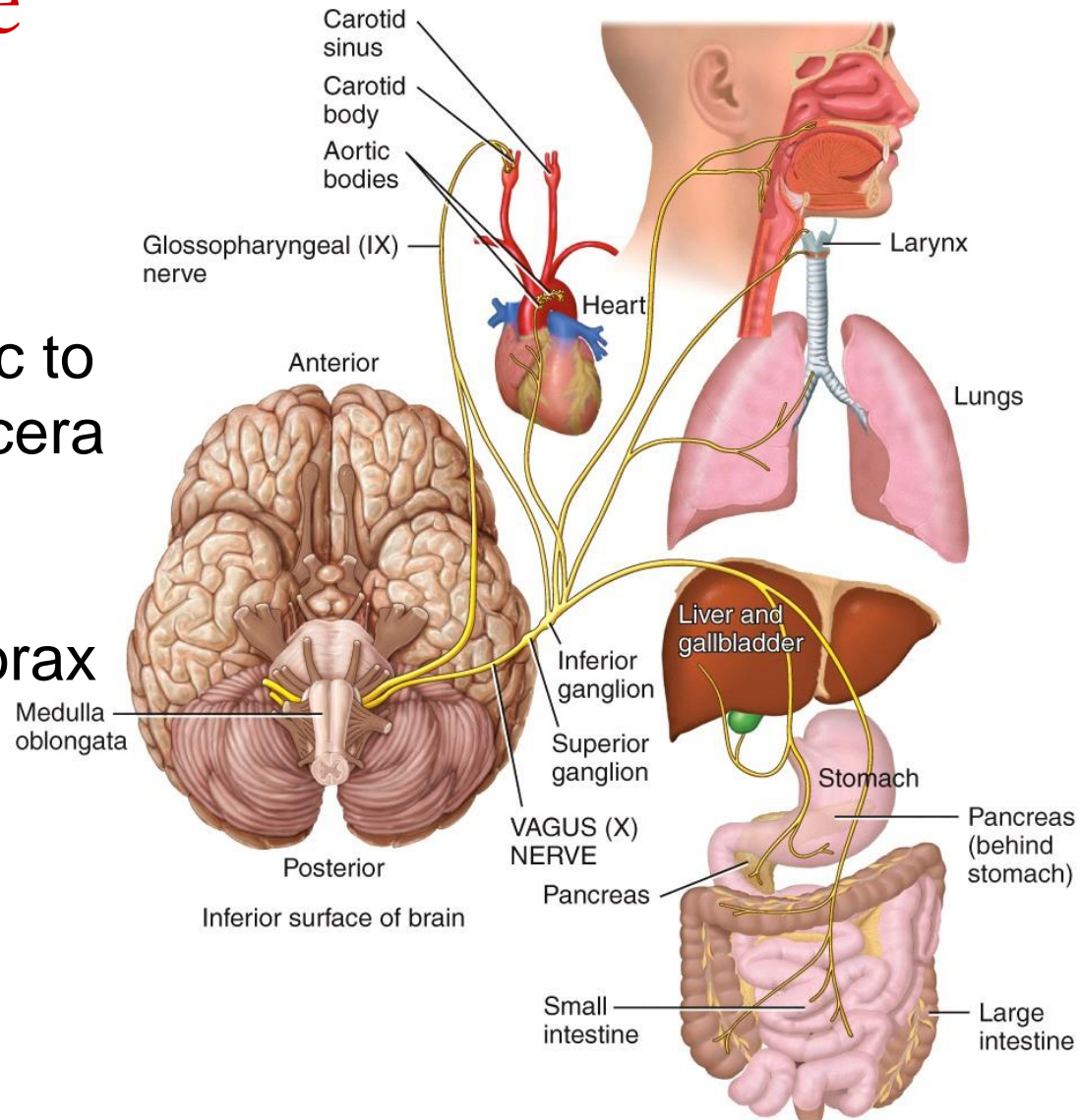
- secretomotor to parotid gland

Vagus (X) Nerve

Mixed

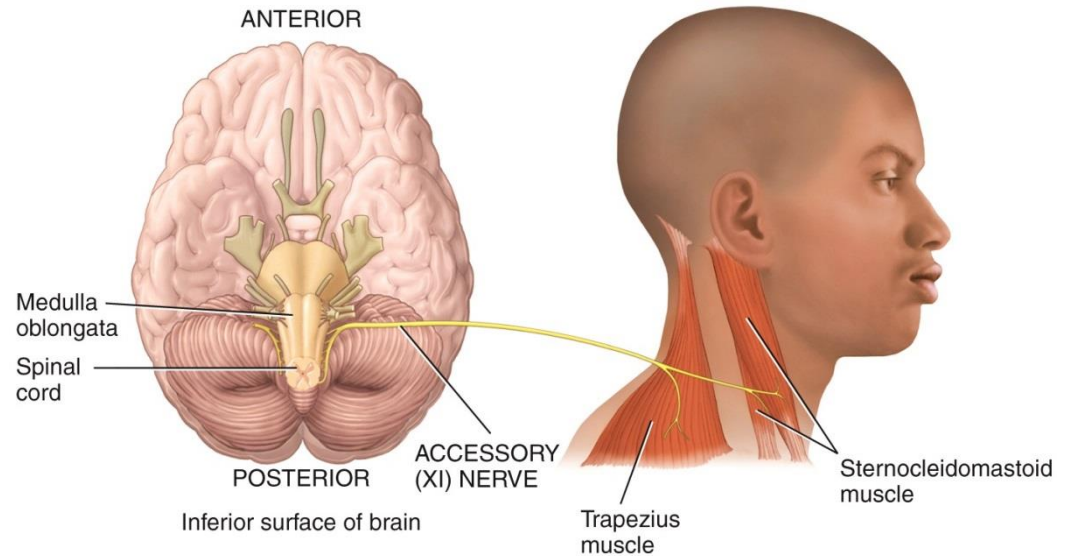
Mainly parasympathetic to
thorax & abdominal viscera

Extends widely into Thorax
& abdomen
(hence the name)



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Accessory (XI) Nerve



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Mainly motor

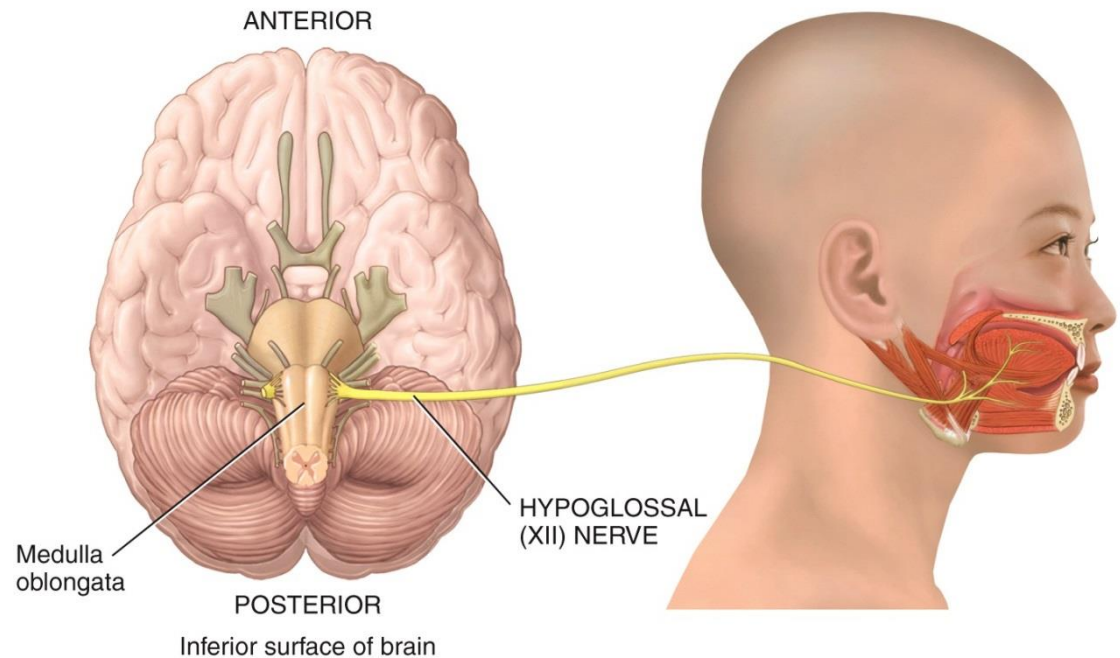
*Has 2 origins:

- cranial: brain stem - spinal: spinal cord

*- Cranial: muscles of pharynx, larynx & soft palate

- Spinal: sternocleidomastoid m. & Trapezius

Hypoglossal (XII) Nerve



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Mainly motor:
Supply tongue muscles

Tongue innervation

Sensory: V, VII, IX

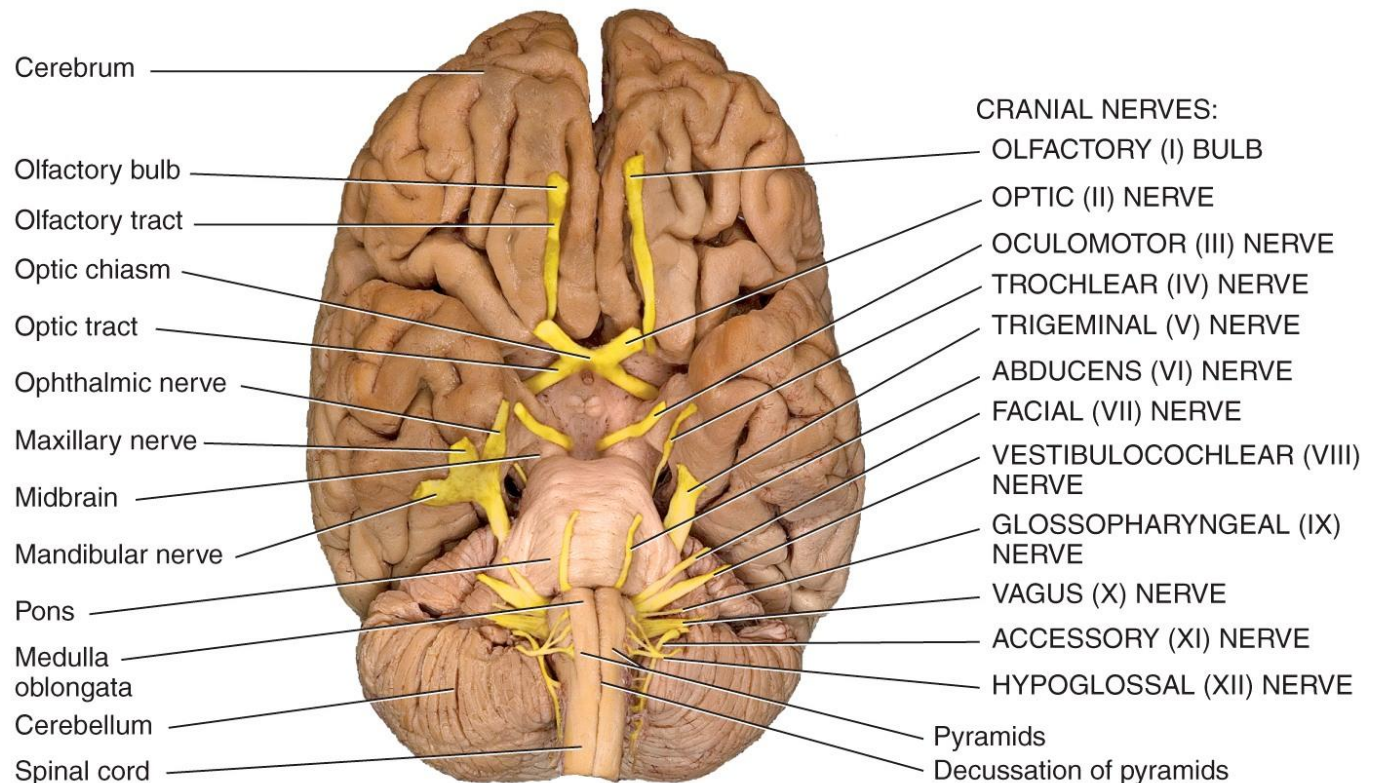
Motor: XII

Cranial Nerves I and II

Cranial nerves with autonomic divisions: 1973

Cranial nerves that move the eye ball SO4+ LR6

3



Dissection Shawn Miller, Photograph Mark Nielsen

(a) Inferior aspect of brain