



Physiology of Proprioception in Balance



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- Important
- Further Explanation
- Note from Males' slides

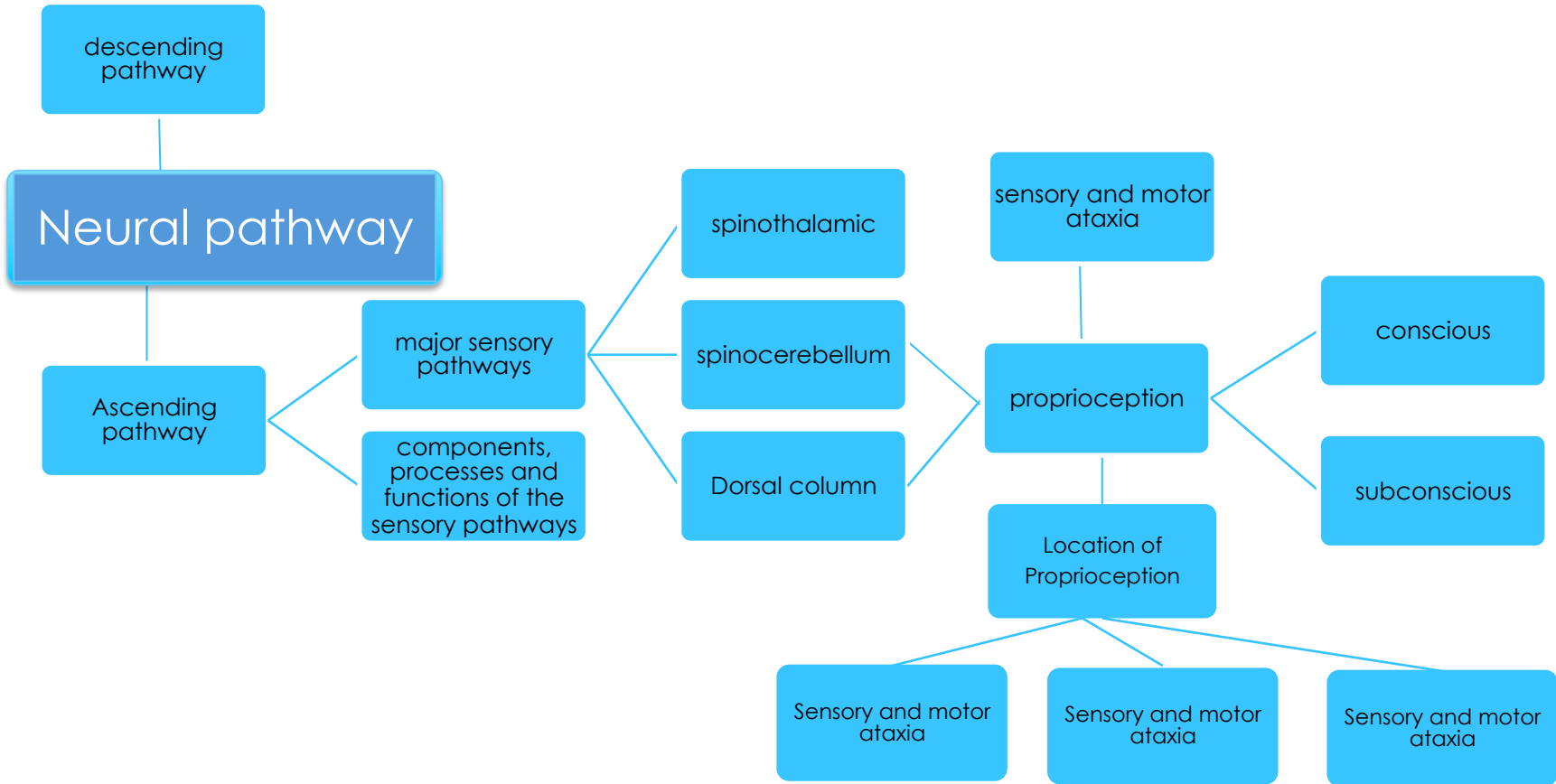
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Recommended Videos!



Please check out this link before viewing the file to know if there are any additions/changes or corrections. The same link will be used for all of our work [Physiology Edit](#)



Proprioception

Latin Proprius, meaning “one’s own”. “individual” and perception, is the sense of the relative position of neighboring parts of the body and strength of effort being employed in movement.

Exteroception: By which one perceives the **outside** world.

Interoception: By which one perceives pain, hunger...etc and the movement of **internal** organs. E.g.: peristalsis which is the typical movement of the esophagus, stomach, and intestine.

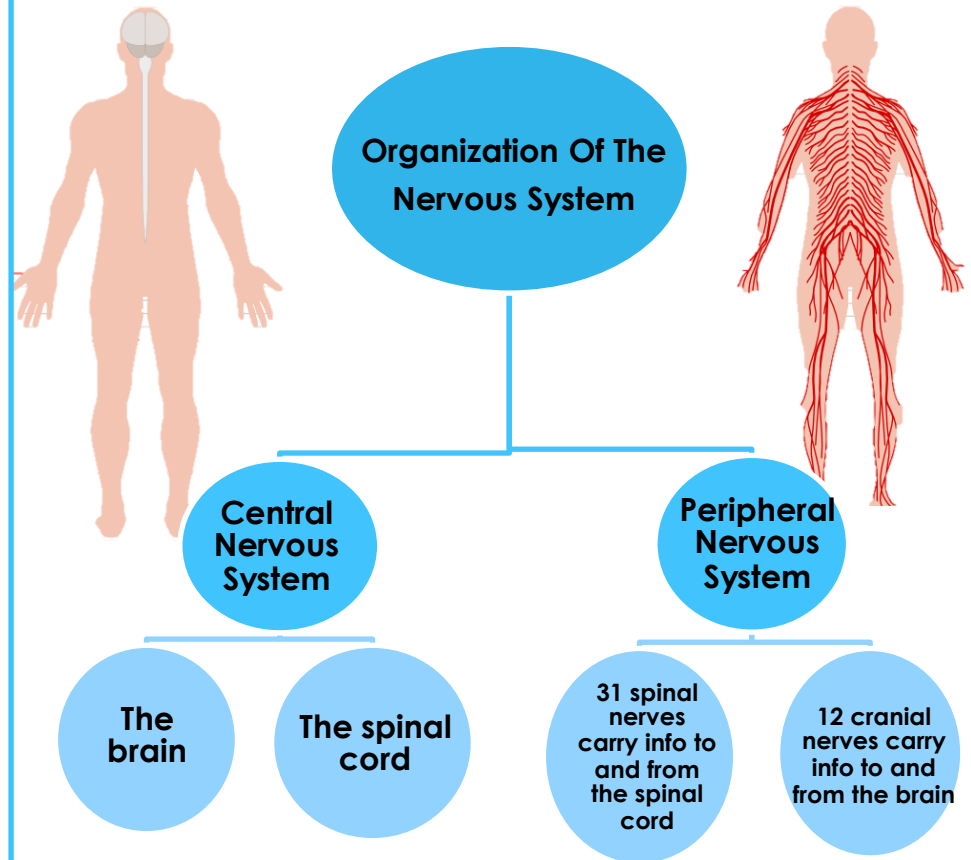
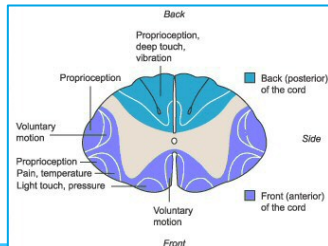
Mechanoreceptors: which detect mechanical compression or stretching of the receptor or of tissues adjacent to the receptor.

Types of Proprioception



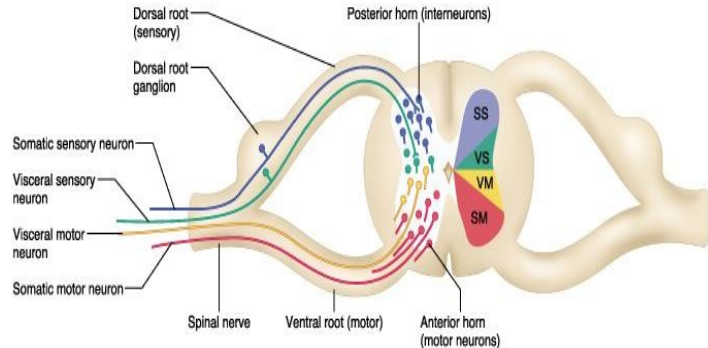
Spinal cord

- ✧ A Cross-section view of spinal cord- wider laterally than antero-posteriorly. In the middle on the dorsal side is a shallow groove called the posterior median sulcus and on the ventral side is the anterior median fissure (deeper).
- ✧ Center consist of gray matter shaped like a butterfly and there is an opening at the center
- ✧ Spinal cord is protected by three layers of meninges. The only difference from the brain is that the dural matter does not attach to bone. The dural matter is surrounded externally by a layer of cushioning fat called epidural space.



Gray Matte : Organization

- ❖ Dorsal half – sensory roots and ganglia
- ❖ Ventral half – motor roots
- ❖ Dorsal and ventral roots fuse laterally to form spinal nerves
- ❖ Four zones are evident within the gray matter – somatic sensory (SS), visceral sensory (VS), visceral motor (VM), and somatic motor (SM)

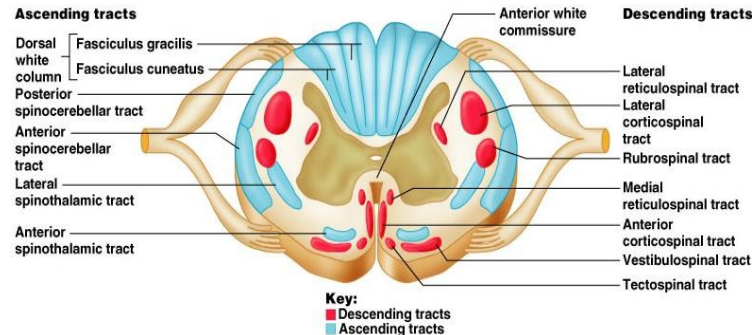


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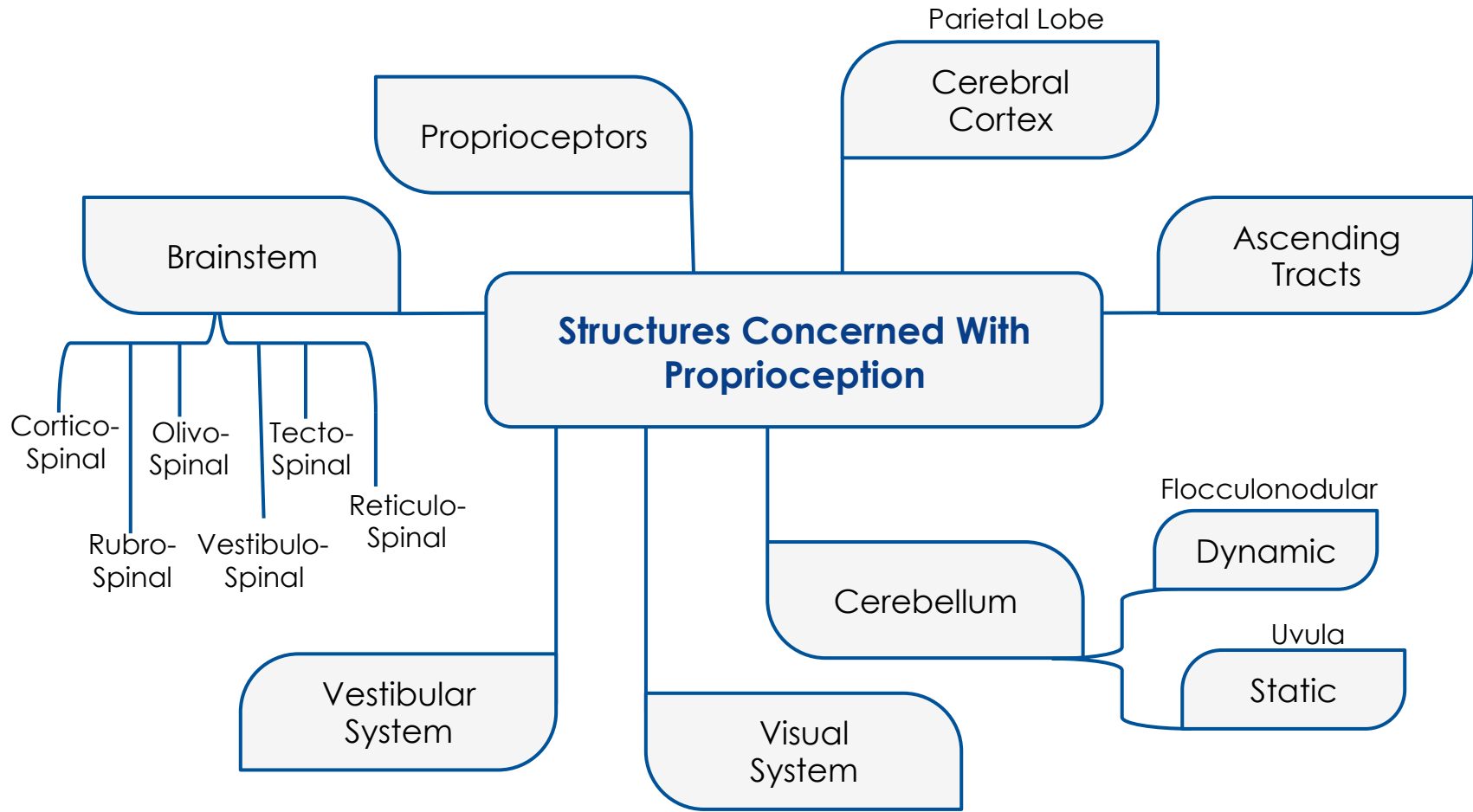
White Matter in the Spinal Cord

AH.. WE KNOW ALL THAT ;) TOO!

- ❖ Fibers run in three directions – ascending, descending, and transversely
- ❖ Divided into three funiculi (columns) – posterior, lateral, and anterior
- ❖ Each funiculus contains several fiber tracks
 - Fiber tract names reveal their origin and destination
 - Fiber tracts are composed of axons with similar functions



All The Info Presented in This Slide Have Been Discussed Previously...



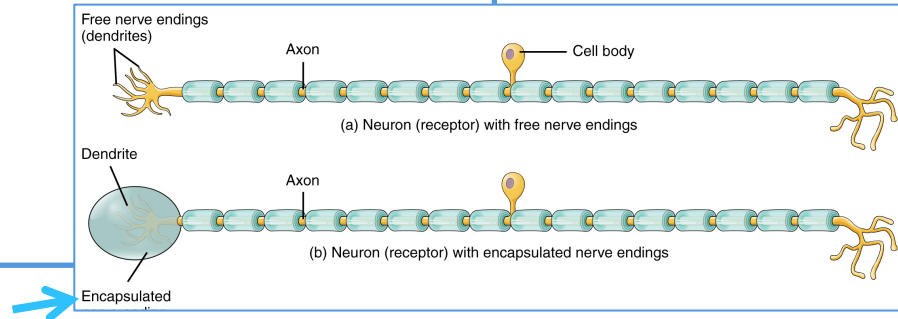
Peripheral Sensory Receptors

Sensory receptors classified according to:

1. Location
2. Type of stimulus detected
3. Structure

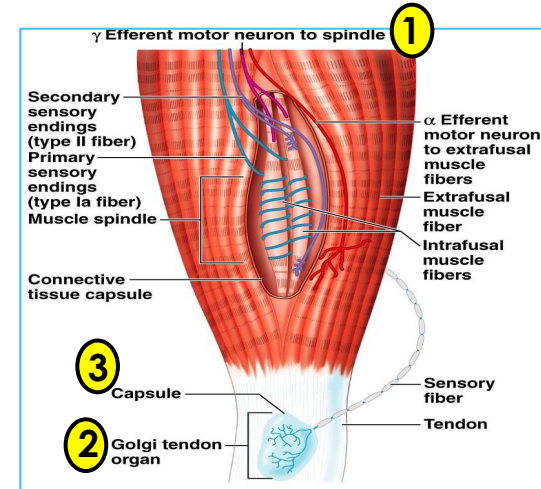
Encapsulated Nerve Endings

- ✦ Consist of one or more end fibers of sensory neurons
- ✦ Enclosed in connective tissue
- ✦ Include four main types:
 - ✓ Meissner's corpuscles
 - ✓ Pacinian corpuscles
 - ✓ Ruffini's corpuscles
 - ✓ **Proprioceptor**



Proprioceptors

- Encapsulated Nerve Endings
- Monitor stretch in locomotory organs
- Three types of proprioceptors:
 1. **Muscle spindles** – measure the changing length of a muscle (Imbedded in the perimysium between muscle fascicles)
 2. **Golgi tendon organs** – located near the muscle-tendon junction Monitor tension within tendons
 3. **Joint kinesthetic receptors** Sensory nerve endings within the joint capsules

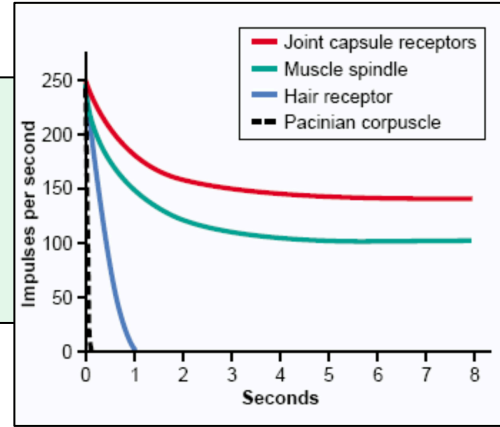


1) **Static position sense:** which means conscious perception of the orientation of the different parts of the body with respect to one another

2) **Rate of movement sense:** also called kinesthesia or dynamic proprioception

Adaptation of Receptors

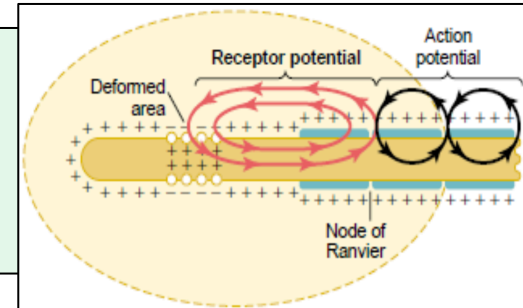
When a continuous sensory stimulus is applied, the receptor responds at a **high impulse rate at first** and then at a **progressively slower rate until finally the rate of action potentials decreases** to very few or often to none at all.



Receptor Potential of the Pacinian Corpuscle

For joint position and vibration sensation (Also Ruffini's Endings)

- The receptor potential produced by compression induces a local circuit of current flow that spreads along nerve fiber.
- The frequency of repetitive action potentials transmitted from sensory receptors increases approximately in proportion to the increase in receptor potential



Neural Pathways



Afferent pathways

- **Sensory information** coming from the sensory receptors through peripheral nerves to the spinal cord and the brain

Efferent pathways

- **Motor commands** coming from the brain and spinal cord, through peripheral nerves to effector organs



Sensory Pathways

- ✧ Sensory systems allow us to detect, analyze and respond to our environment
- ✧ “**ascending pathways**”
- ✧ Carry information from sensory receptors to the brain
- ✧ **Conscious:** reach cerebral cortex
- ✧ **Unconscious:** do not reach cerebral cortex
- ✧ Sensations from body reach the opposite side of the brain

Spinal Cord Tracts

These are known as sensory and motor pathways consisting of multi-neuron pathways connecting the CNS to the PNS.

At some point most pathways crossover (decussate)

Sensory pathways has 3 neurons:
 1. Enters spinal cord from periphery
 2. Crosses over ascends in spinal cord to thalamus
 3. Projects to somatosensory cortex

Ascending (Sensory) Pathways		
1. Dorsal column pathway	2. Posterior and anterior spinocerebellar pathways	3. Spinothalamic pathway
carries signal of fine touch, pressure, vibration, stereognosis and conscious proprioception	Carry subconscious proprioception.	carries signals of pain, temperature, deep pressure, and coarse touch
ascends up dorsal white column in fasciculus gracilis or cutaneatus to medulla oblongata to the thalamus to primary somatosensory cortex (post central gyrus).	Dorsal gray horn- to lateral column- to medulla oblongata- to pons – to cerebellum.	From posterior gray horn decussate into lateral and anterior funiculi up to the thalamus to primary somatosensory cortex (postcentral gyrus).

Pathway	Carries	1 st neuron	2 st neuron	3 st neuron	Damage
Dorsal column pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Fine touch •2 point discrimination •Pressure •Vibration •Stereognosis¹ •Conscious proprioception signals 	Enters spinal cord through dorsal root ascends to Medulla (brain stem)	Neuron crosses over in medulla ascends to thalamus	Neuron projects to somatosensory cortex	Sensory ataxia -Patient staggers cannot perceive position or movement of legs -Visual clues help movement
Spino-cerebellar pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Unconscious proprioception •Signals receptors in muscles & joints 	Enters spinal cord through dorsal root	Ascends to cerebellum	Neuron to cortex , hence unconscious	Cerebellar ataxia -Clumsy movements - Incoordination of limbs. -wide-based, reeling gait (ataxia) -Alcoholic intoxication produces similar effects



¹: the mental perception of depth or three-dimensionality by the senses.

Ataxia & Gait Disturbances

Result from any condition that affects the central and peripheral nervous systems

Motor Ataxia

- ✧ Caused by cerebellar disorders
- ✧ Intact sensory receptors and afferent pathways
- ✧ Integration of proprioception is faulty
- ✧ Midline cerebellar lesions cause truncal ataxia
- ✧ Lateral cerebellar lesions cause limb ataxia
- ✧ Thalamic infarcts may cause contra lateral ataxia with sensory loss
- ✧ N.B cerebellar ataxia will be discussed later with cerebellum

Sensory Ataxia

- ✧ Failure of proprioceptive information to the CNS
- ✧ May be due to disorders of spinal cord or peripheral nerves
- ✧ Can be compensated for by visual inputs

Brown Sequard Syndrome

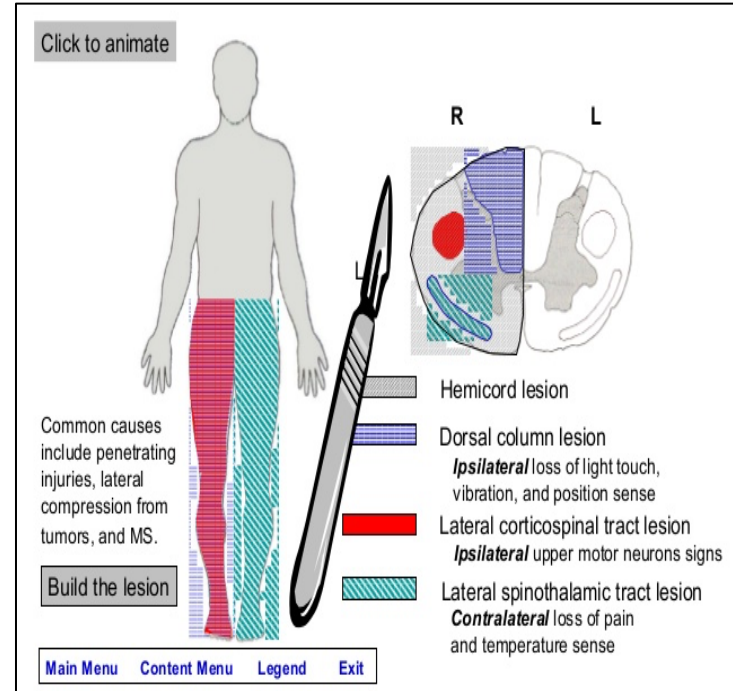
Hemisection Of Spinal Cord

Contralateral Loss

Loss of pain and temp	Lateral Spinothalamic
Loss of crude touch and Pressure	Ventral Spinothalamic
Minor Contralat Muscle Weakness	Ventral Corticospinal
Leg Ataxia	Ventral Spinocerebellar

Ipsilateral Loss

Fine touch, Vibration, Proprioception	Dorsal Column
Leg Ataxia	Dorsal Spinocerebellar
Spastic Paresis below lesion	Lateral Corticospinal
Flaccid Paralysis	Ventral horn destruction



1- where dose the Golgi tendon organs is located?

- A. Near the muscle-tendon junction
- B. Golgi apparatus
- C. Bones
- D. The large muscles of the body

2-the unconscious sensory pathway is reaches the?

- A. Spinal cord
- B. Brainstem
- C. Cerebellum
- D. Cerebral cortex

3-how the Sensations from body reach reach the brain?

- A. Opposite side
- B. Same side
- C. Both
- D. Same

4-the spinocerebellar pathway has how many neurons?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

5- Alcoholic intoxication produces similar to?

- A. Spinocerebellar tract damage
- B. Dorsal column damage
- C. Vestibulocerebellar tract damage
- D. None

6- signals that carry by the spinocerebellar tract is?

- A. Fine touch
- B. Unconscious proprioception
- C. Subconscious proprioception
- D. Course touch

7-sensory ataxia is happened due to damage of tract?

- A. Pontocerebellum
- B. Spinocerebellum
- C. Vestibulocerebellum
- D. Dorsal column

8-which one of these is not a proprioception pathway?

- A. Anterior spinocerebellum
- B. Posterior spinocerebellum
- C. Spinothalamus
- D. Dorsal column

1.A
2.C
3.A
4.B
5.A
6.B
7.C

1-Give me an example of proprioception?

When we close our eyes we can walk and this is important for blind people

2-What are the three types of Proprioceptors ?

Muscle spindles

Golgi tendon organs

Joint kinesthetic receptors

3-What are the Neural pathways?

Afferent and Efferent

4-What is the different between conscious and unconscious pathway?

Conscious: reach cerebral cortex

Unconscious: do not reach cerebral cortex

5-Mention three of signals that carry by the dorsal column pathway?

Fine touch, pressure, vibration , stereognosis and conscious proprioception

6-What is the different between sensory ataxia and motor ataxia ? (2 differences)

sensory ataxia is due to disorder in spinal cord or peripheral nerves but motor ataxia is due to cerebellar lesion

sensory ataxia can be compensated by the visual input white the motor ataxia is not

THANK YOU FOR CHECKING OUR WORK!

BEST OF LUCK

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