



Western  
UNIVERSITY • CANADA

# Tutorial 6

## Sections 009/010

TA: Greydon Gilmore  
Physiology 2130  
Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

# Your TA reminding you...

- **1<sup>st</sup> Peerwise assignment (1.5%)**
  - **Post 2 MC questions:** due Oct 16<sup>th</sup> @ midnight (Tomorrow!)
  - **Answer 5 MC questions:** due Oct 18<sup>th</sup> @ midnight
    - 38 students wrote 2 MC Q's
    - 43 students answered 5 MC Q's
- **1<sup>st</sup> Quiz (1%)**
  - **Opens:** Oct 21<sup>st</sup> @ 4pm
  - **Closes:** Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 4pm
- **1<sup>st</sup> Midterm - Oct 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm-7pm (15%)**
- **Midterm Review session**
  - **When:** Tuesday, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm
  - **Where:** Auditorium B, University Hospital, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

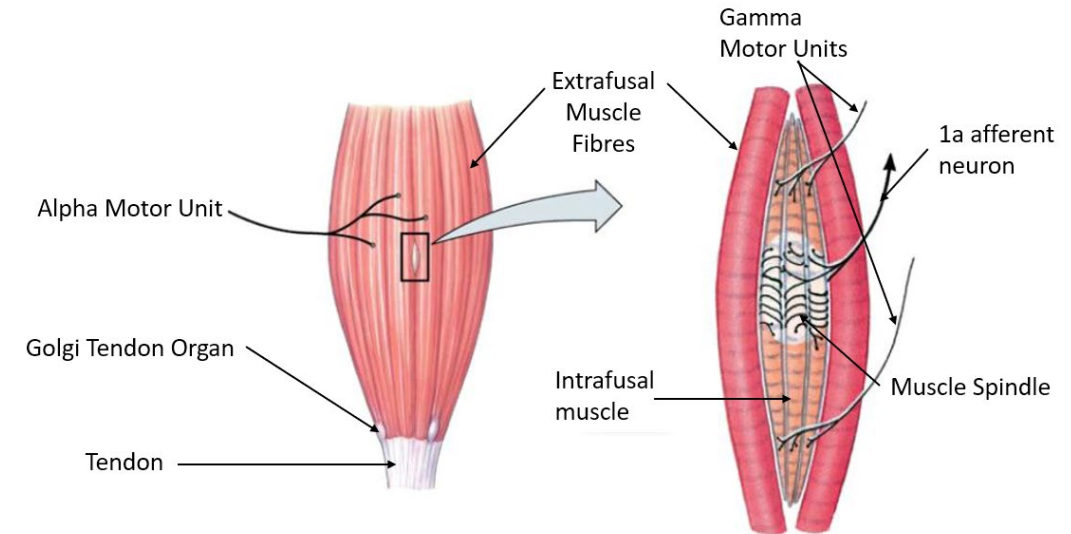
# Today

- No group work!
- Learning Catalytics Question
- Vision
- Audition
- Motor Control

**Question from anonymous suggestion  
box...**

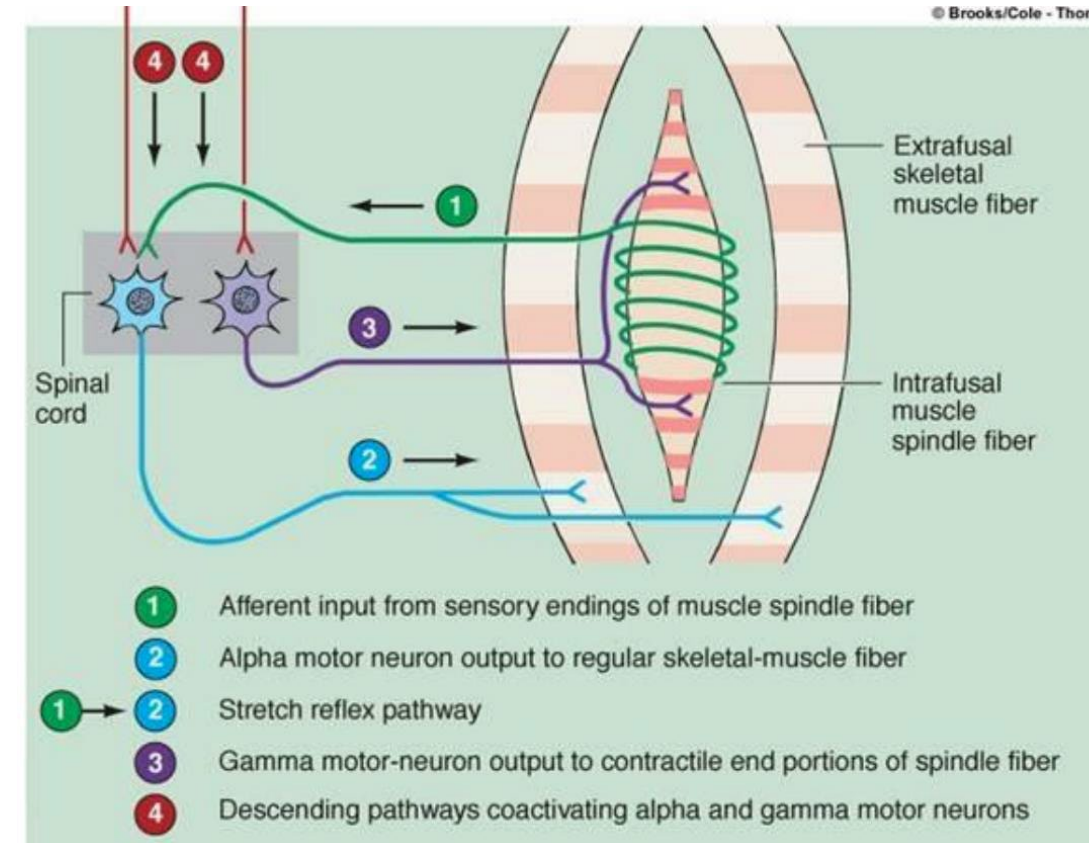
# How do gamma neurons regulate gain of muscle spindles, and how does the inhibitory inter-neuron in the antagonistic patellar tendon reflex work?

- **Extrafusal fibers**: normal contractile fibers, outer muscle
- **Alpha** motor neuron innervates extrafusal muscle fibers
- **Intrafusal fibers**: internal muscle fibers of muscle
- **Gamma** motor neurons innervate intrafusal fibers.



# How do gamma neurons regulate gain of muscle spindles, and how does the inhibitory inter-neuron in the antagonistic patellar tendon reflex work?

- **Stretching** of muscle spindle/intrafusal muscle fiber
- Info sent from muscle spindles to CNS via **1a afferent** neurons
- CNS processes info
- **Alpha motor neuron** causes extrafusal muscle fiber contraction
- **Gamma motor neuron** causes intrafusal fiber contraction



# Learning Catalytic Question



# Vision: Eye and Retina

Chapter 2: Dr. Everling

pp.

# Electromagnetic Spectrum

- Light is electromagnetic energy emitted in the forms of waves
- Our eyes are sensitive to a small part of this spectrum called visible light (400 – 700 nm)

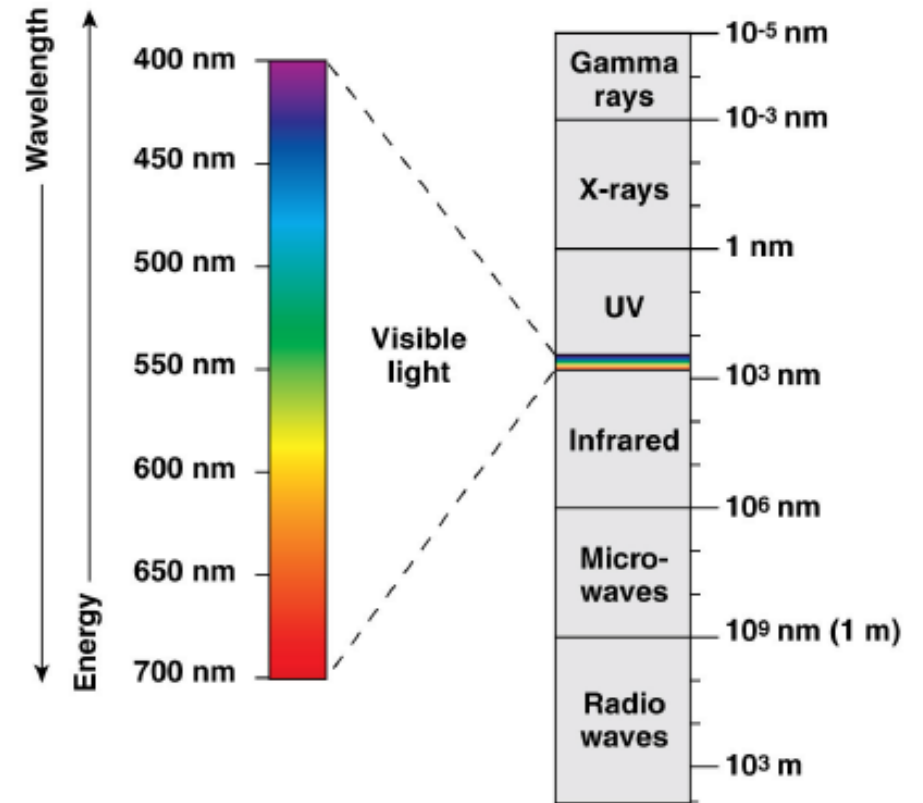


Fig. 2.21

**The first structure which the majority of retinal ganglion cells project to, and synapse with, in the brain is the...**

- A) Visual cortex
- B) Optic chiasm
- C) Lateral geniculate nucleus
- D) Superior colliculus

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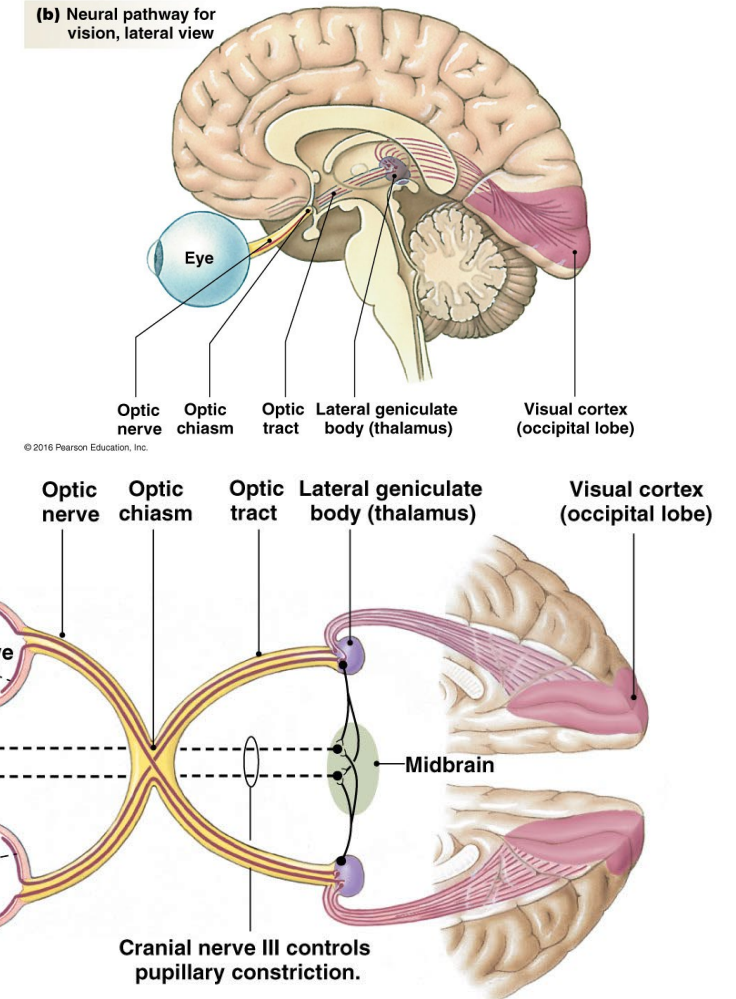
- A) Visual cortex
- B) Optic chiasm
- C) Lateral geniculate nucleus
- D) Superior colliculus

# Components of the Visual system

## Fundamental Components:

Eye → Retina → Optic Nerve → Optic Chiasm → Optic Tract → LGN → Optic Radiations → Primary Visual Cortex

- Retinal Targets:
  - Lateral geniculate nucleus (LGN)
    - Main target (90% of info)



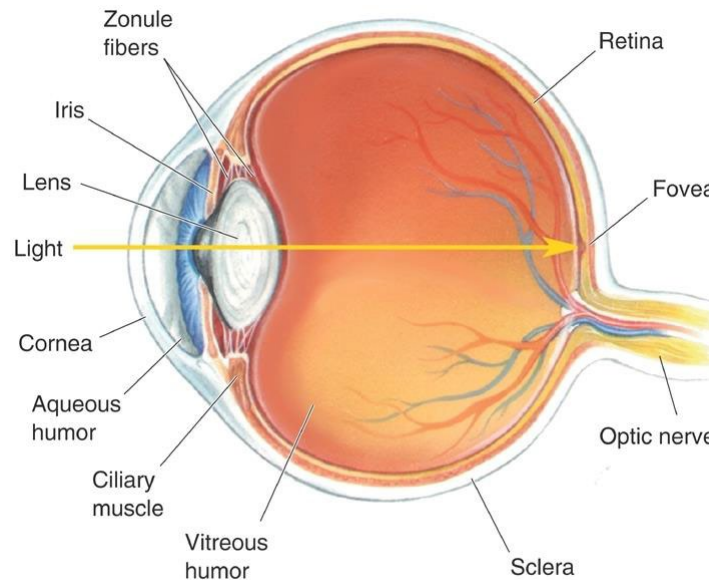
# Eye (Gross Anatomy)

- Pathway of light:

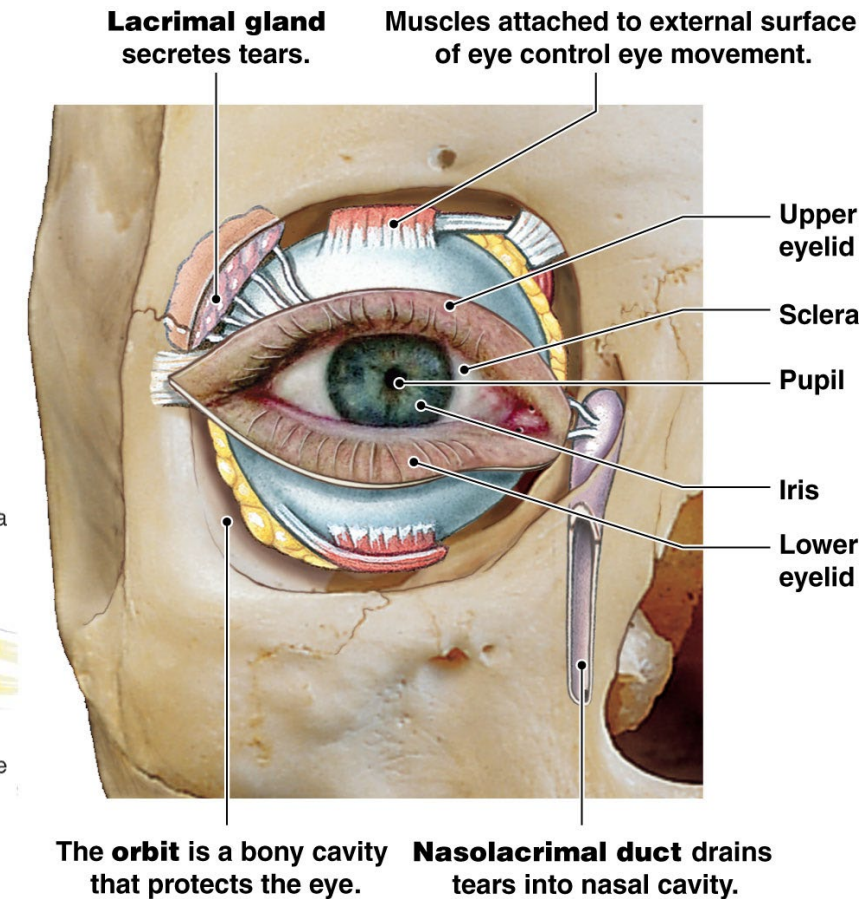
Cornea → Anterior Chamber (with aqueous humor) → Pupil → Lens → Posterior Chamber (with vitreous humor) → Retina

- Other important Structures:

- Iris
- Sclera
- Conjunctiva
- Extraocular Eye Muscles
- Ciliary Muscles
- Fovea
- Optic disk (Blindspot)

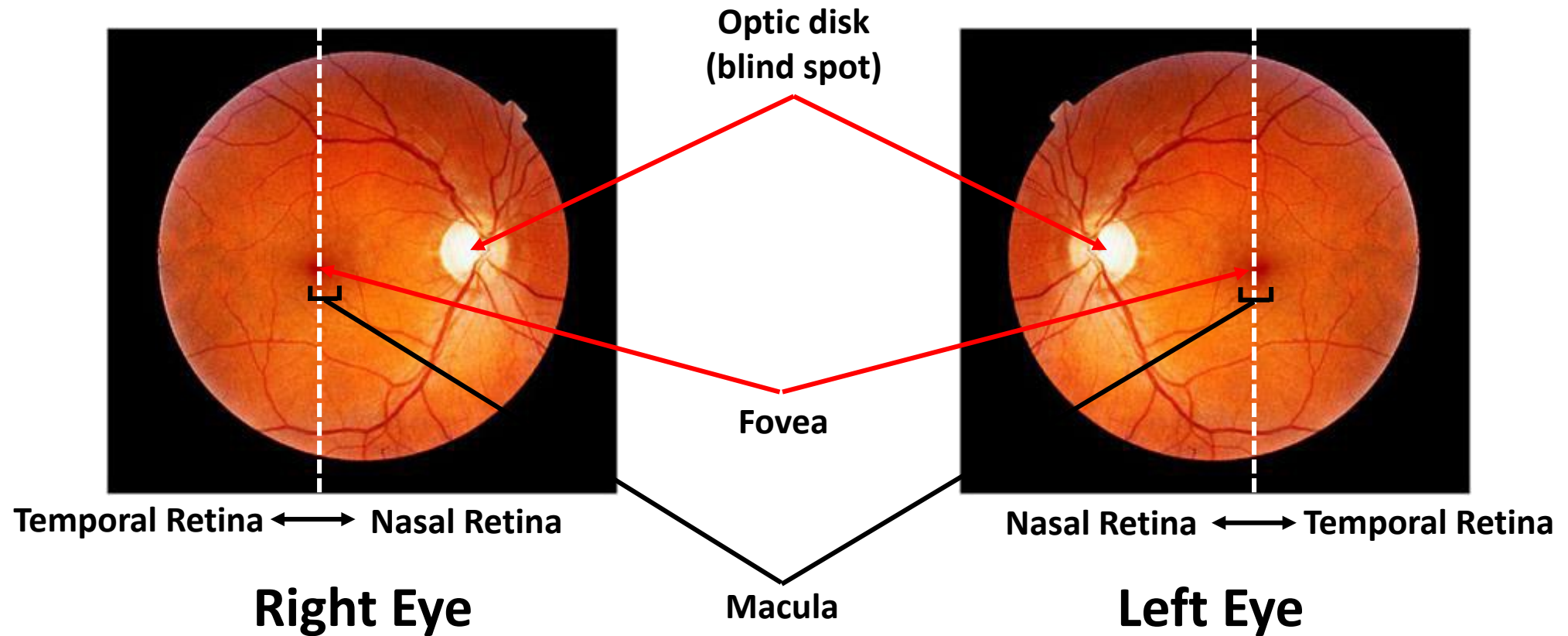


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# Eye (Gross Anatomy)





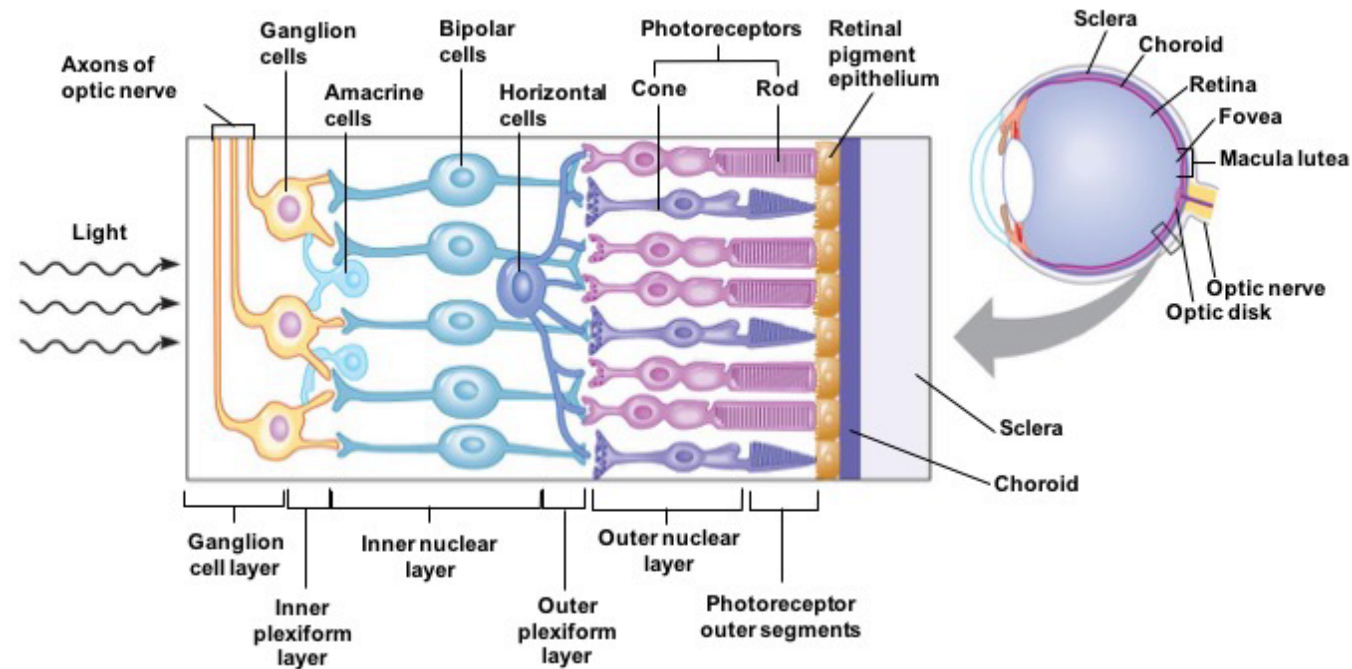
# Retinal Cells

## Main Pathway:

- Photoreceptors (rods and cones)
- Bipolar cells
- Ganglion cells

## Modulation and Communication:

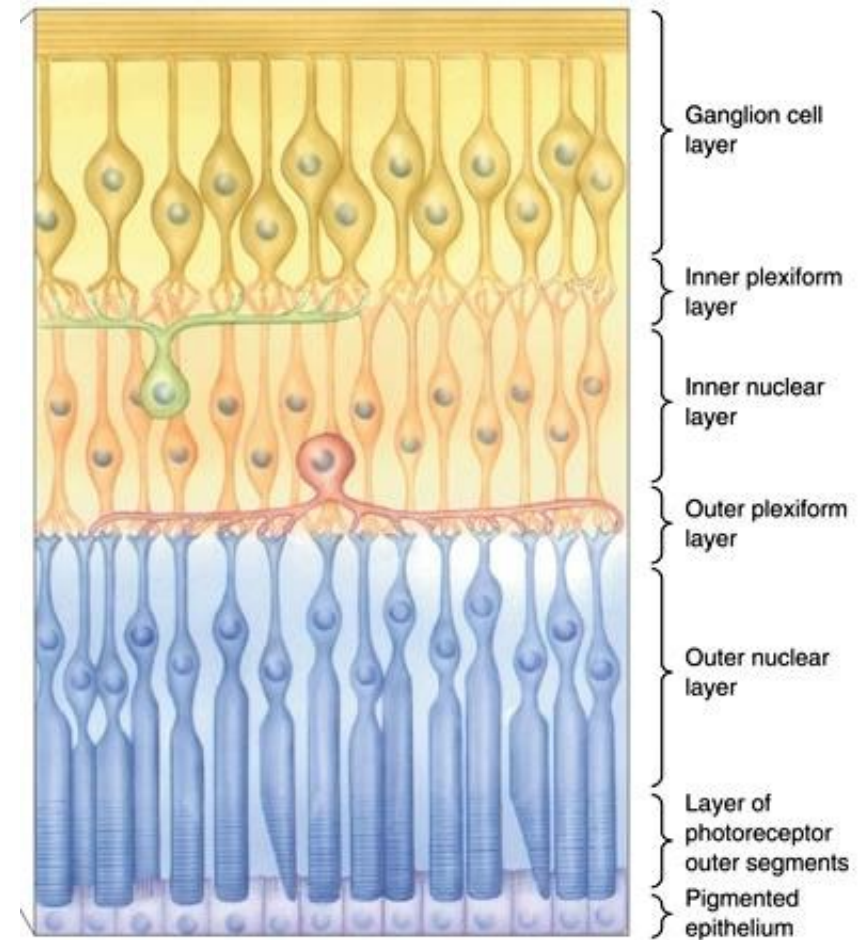
- Horizontal cells
- Amacrine cells





# Retinal Layers

- **Nuclear layers:** cell bodies
- **Plexiform layers:** synapses
  1. Ganglion cell layer
  2. Inner plexiform layer
  3. Inner nuclear layer
  4. Outer plexiform layer
  5. Outer nuclear layer
  6. Photoreceptor outer segments



**The fovea is the part of the retina that contains photoreceptors called...**

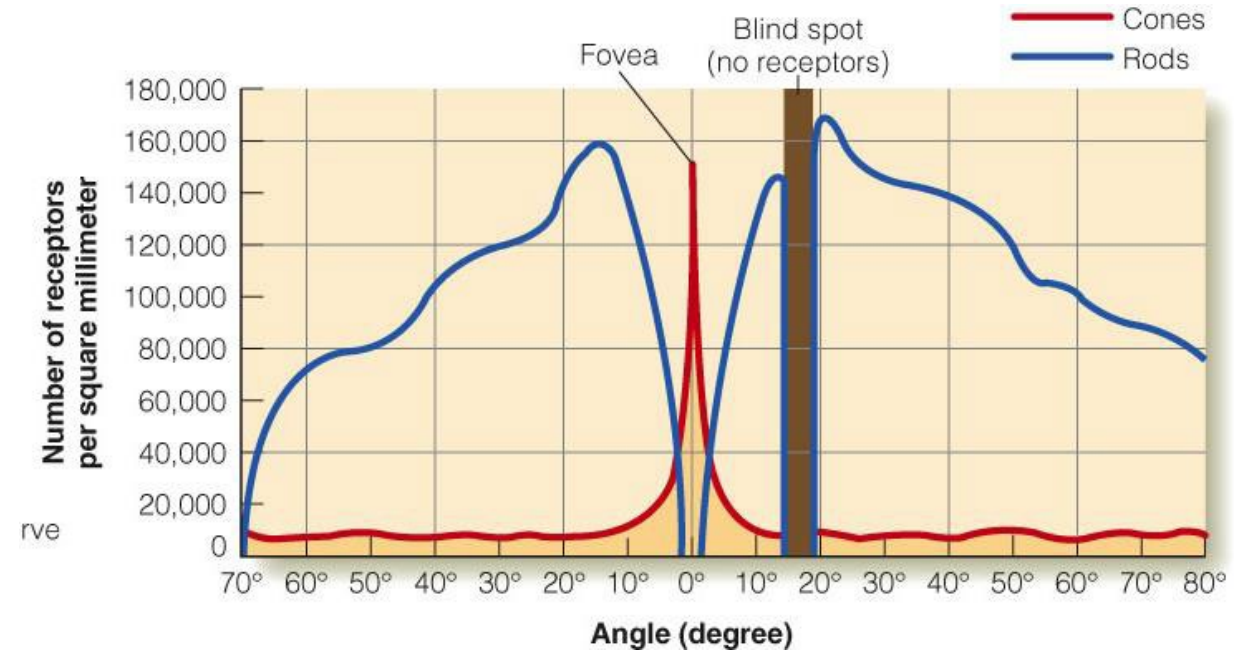
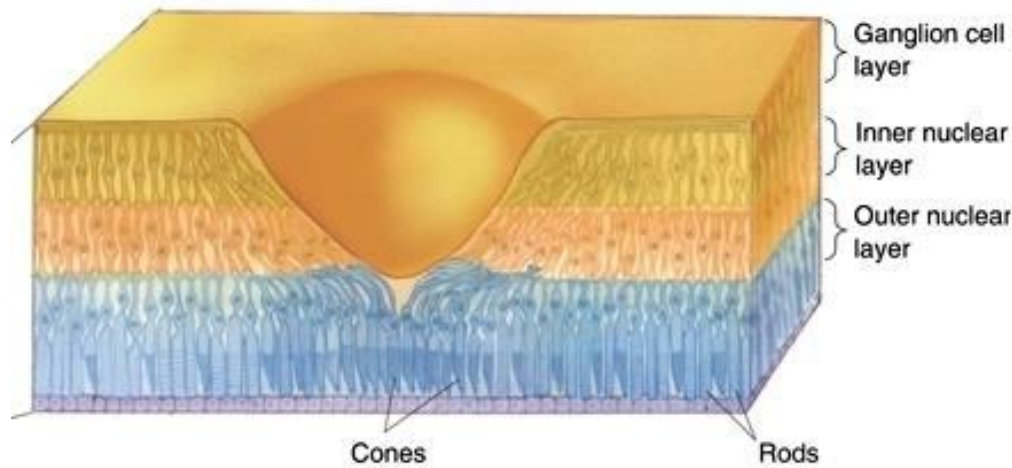
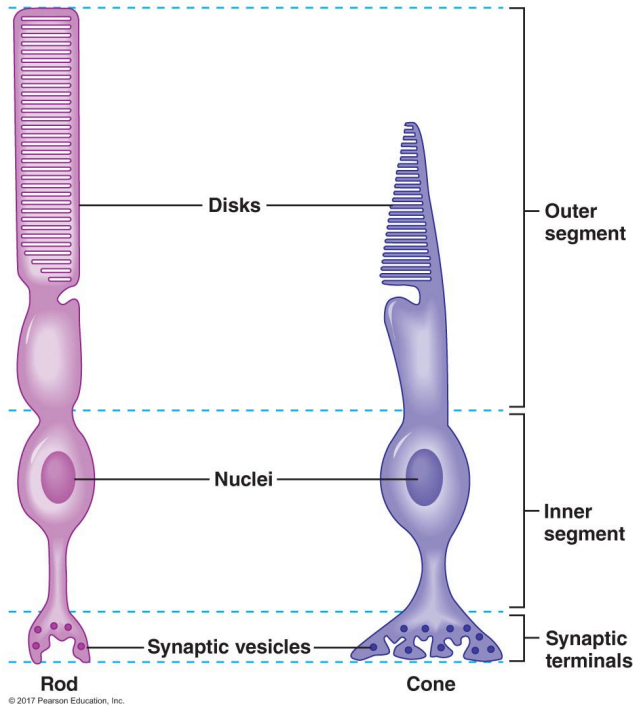
- A) Rods
- B) Ganglion cells
- C) Cones
- D) Amacrine cells

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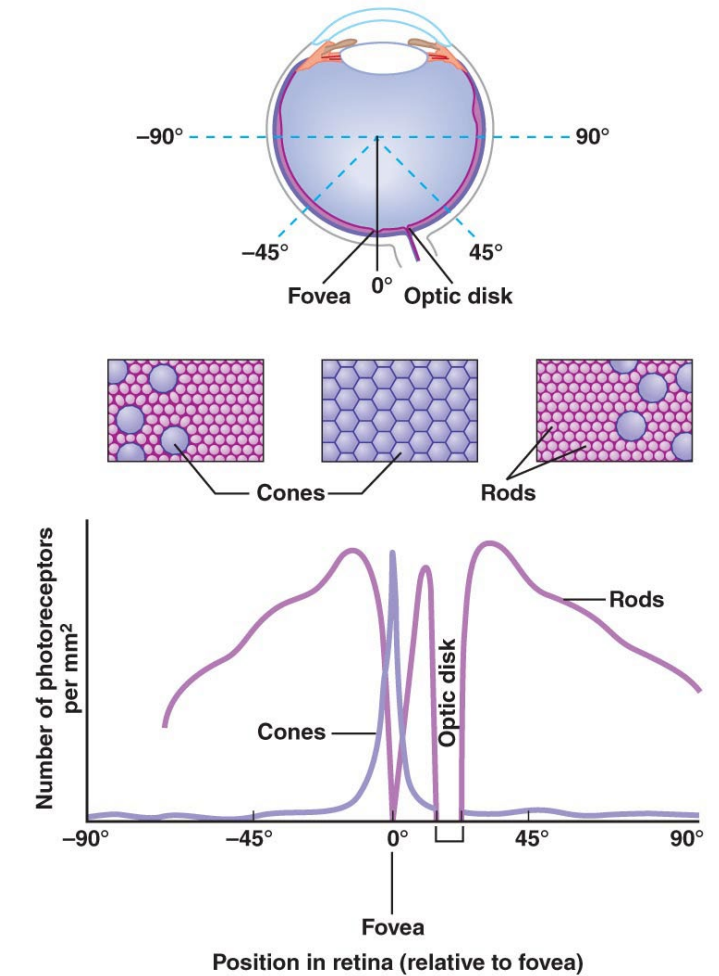
# Photoreceptors

- Two parts:
  - **Outer segment**: photosensitive part
  - **Inner segment**: cell body



# Two Photoreceptors: Rods vs. Cones

Feature	Rods	Cones
Sensitive to...	White/Black	Color
Lighting conditions...	Dim light	Daylight
Located	Around retina	Only in fovea
Amount	Many (120 million/retina)	Few (5 million/retina)



**Axons extending from the nasal part of the retina project to the \_\_\_\_\_ side of the brain, whereas axons from the remainder of the retina project to the \_\_\_\_\_ part of the brain.**

- A) Dorsal, ventral
- B) Opposite (contralateral), same side (ipsilateral)
- C) Same side (ipsilateral), opposite (contralateral)
- D) Medial, Lateral

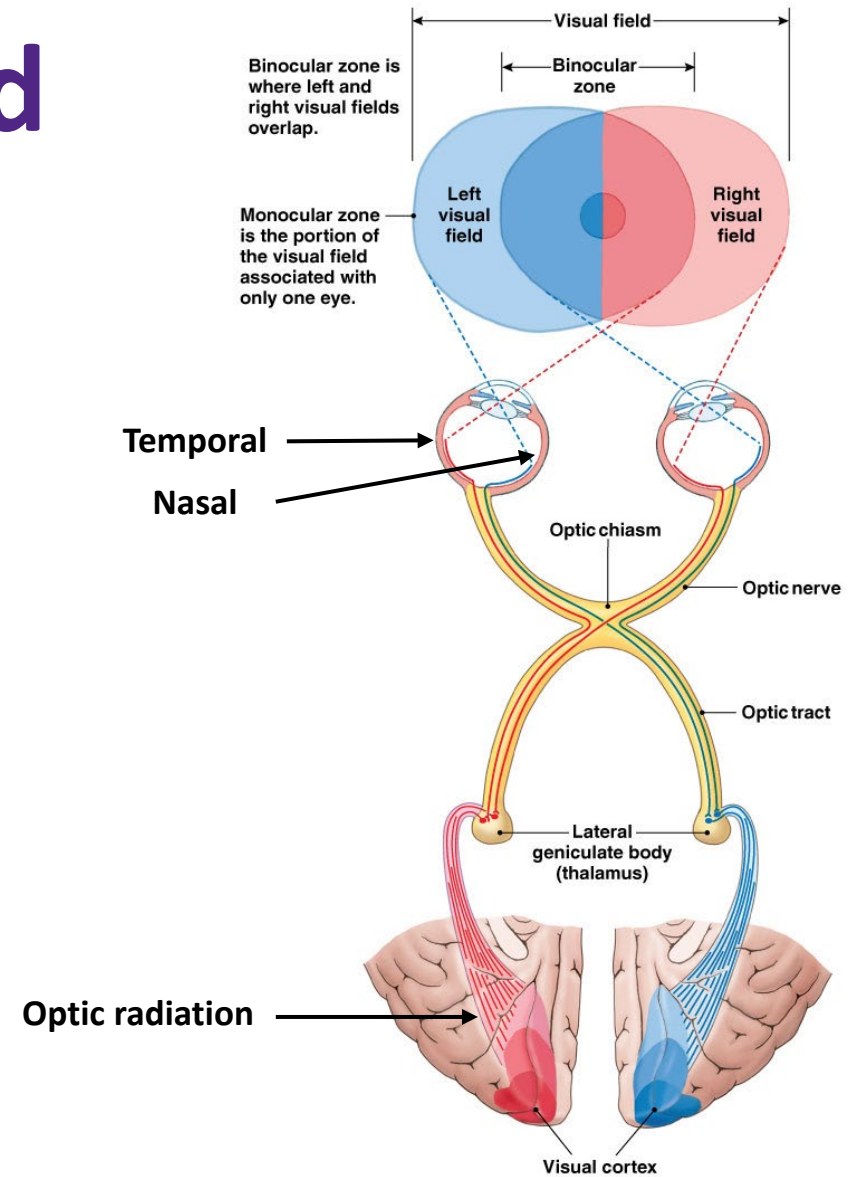
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# Visual Field

## KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER:

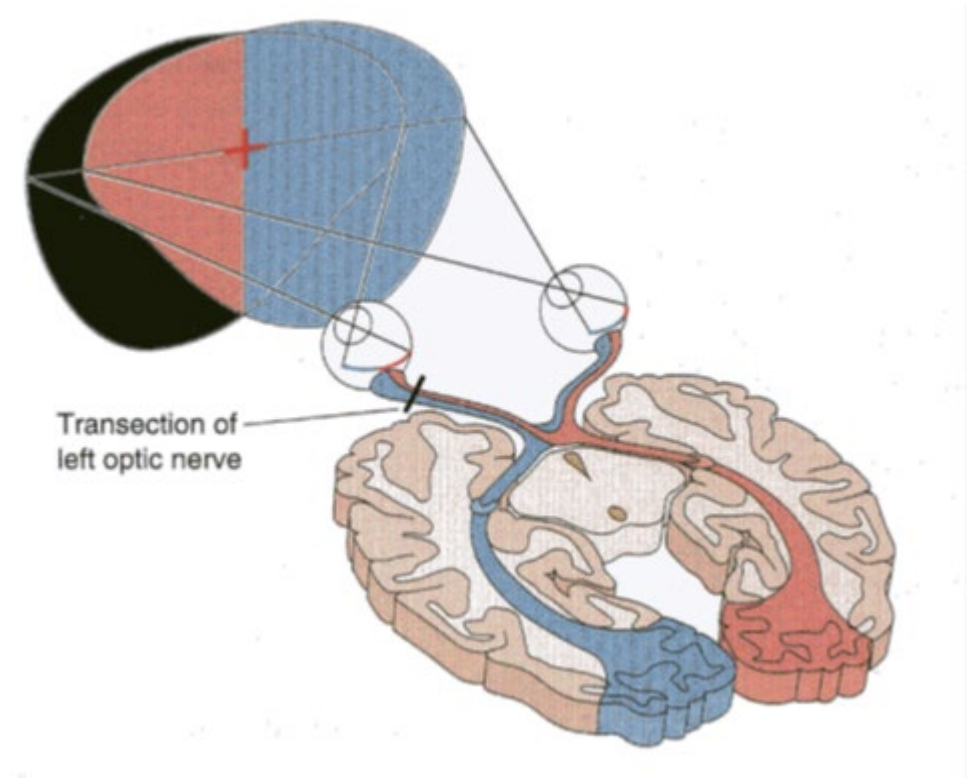
- Info from each visual field is sent to **OPPOSITE** side of each retina
- Info from each visual field is sent to **CONTRALATERAL** hemisphere
- Temporal retina axons **DO NOT** cross optic chiasm
- Nasal retina axons **DO** cross optic chiasm





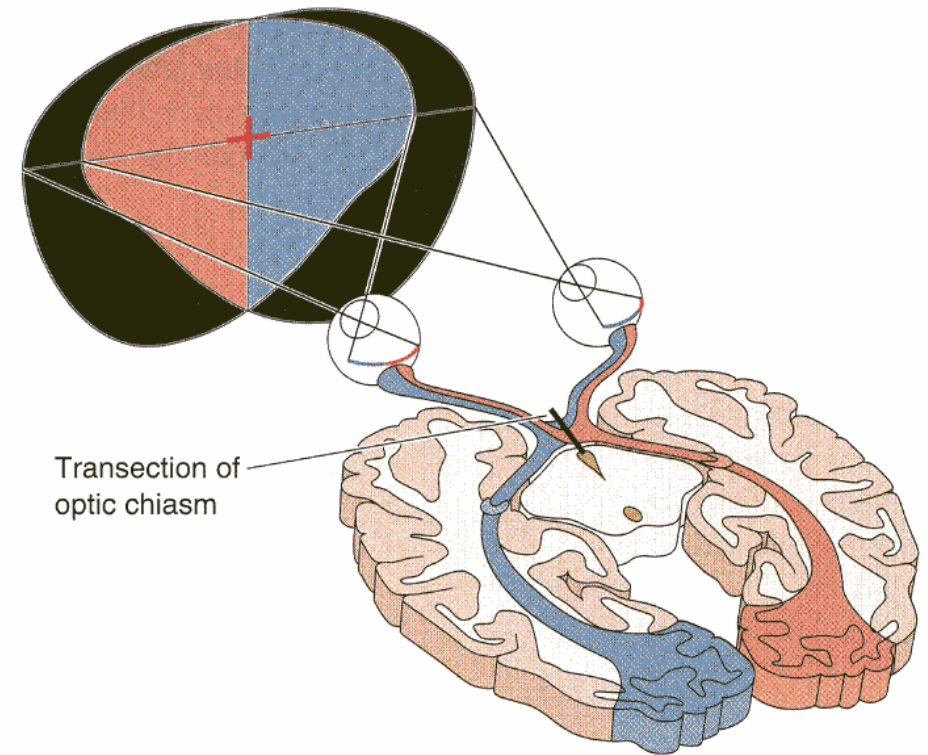
# Visual Pathway: Lesion at Optic Nerve

- Left optic nerve lesion
  - See only visual field of right eye (same as closing left eye)
- Right optic nerve lesion
  - See only visual field of left eye (same as closing right eye)



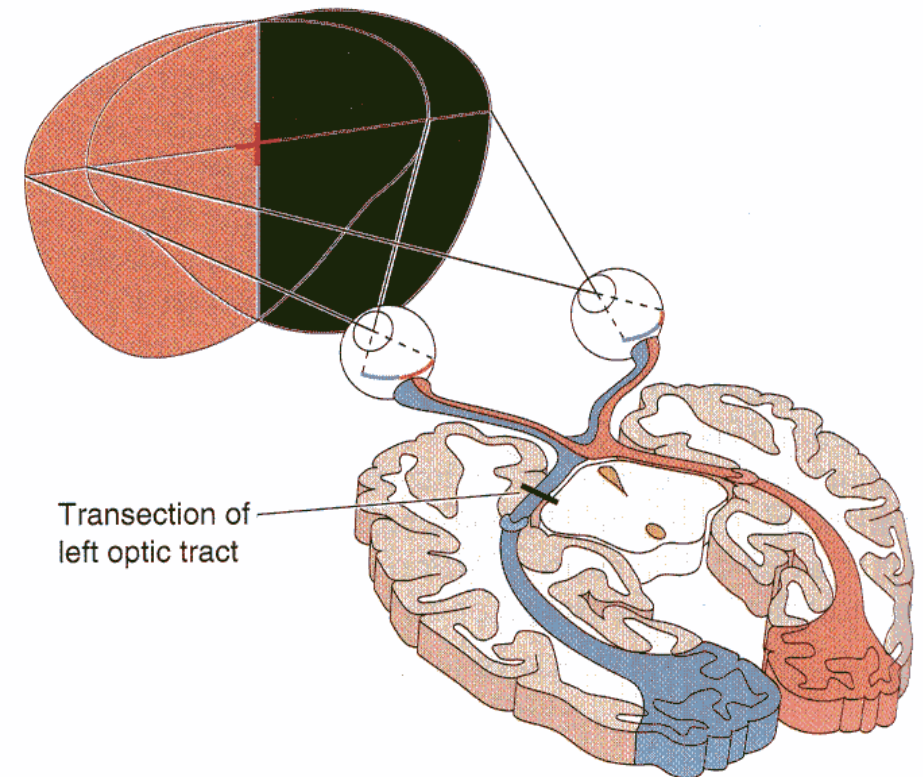
# Visual Pathway: Lesion at Optic Chiasm

- Lesion at optic chiasm
  - Tunnel Vision (i.e. lose nasal retina axons, which carried info from peripheral vision)



# Visual Pathway: Lesion at Optic Tract

- Left optic tract lesion
  - See only left hemifield (i.e. lose right hemifield)
- Right optic tract lesion
  - See only right hemifield (i.e. lose left hemifield)



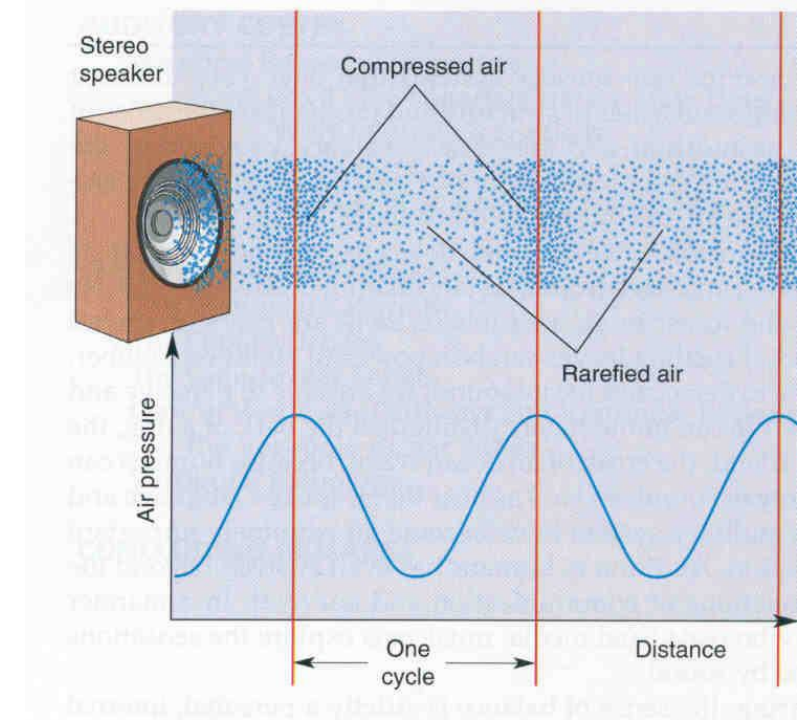
# Sensory: Auditory System

Chapter 2: Dr. Everling

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# Sound

- Sound is variations in air pressure
- **Intensity (Loudness)**: difference in pressure between compressed air patches (amplitude)
  - Measured in Decibels (dB)
- **Frequency (Pitch)**: # of compressed air patches
  - Measured in Hertz (Hz): # of cycles/second
  - Human frequency range: 20 – 20000 Hz
  - Most sensitive range: 2000 – 4000 Hz



**Pinna is a shell-like structure which is a part of:**

- A) Inner ear
- B) Outer ear
- C) Middle ear
- D) None of the above

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# Divisions of Auditory System

## Outer Ear: AIR

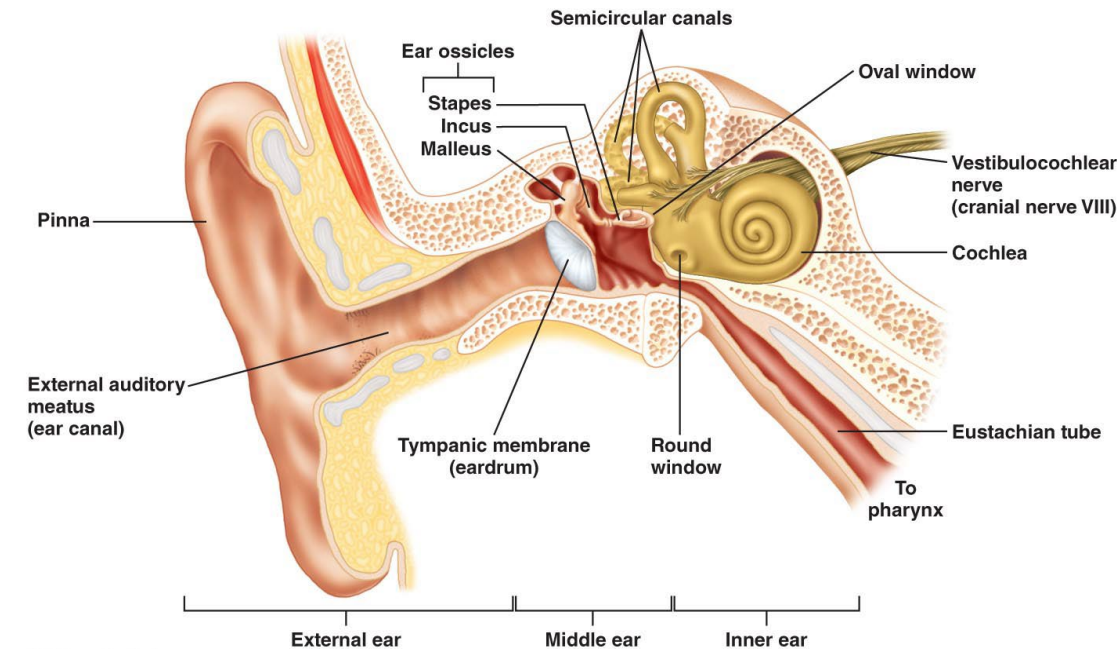
- **Auricle (Pinna)**
- **Auditory Canal:** enhances intensity by resonance (reflection of sound waves in closed tube enhances intensity of certain frequencies)

## Middle Ear: AIR

- **Tympanic Membrane (Eardrum):** transmits sound from air to ossicles
- **3 Ossicles: Malleus, Incus and Stapes:** convert air pressure changes to mechanical pressure
- **Auditory (Eustachian) Tube:** important in changing air pressure

## Inner Ear: FLUID

- **Cochlea:** convert fluid vibrations into electrochemical impulses carried to brain

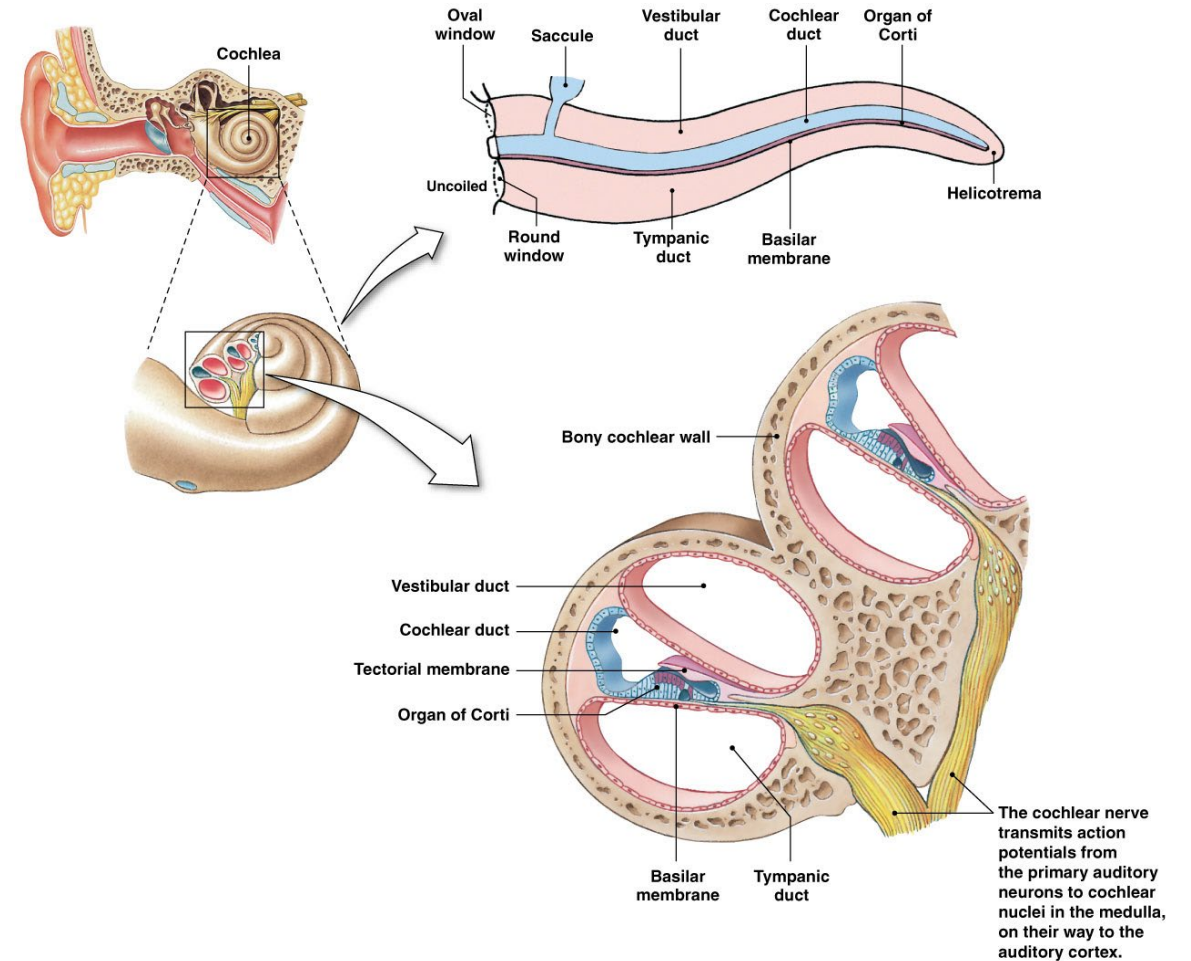


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# Cochlea

- Two windows
  - **Oval Window**: connected to stapes; transfers vibrations to perilymph fluid
  - **Round Window**: counterbalances movement of oval window



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# The receptors in the Organ of Corti are hair cells. How are they stimulated?

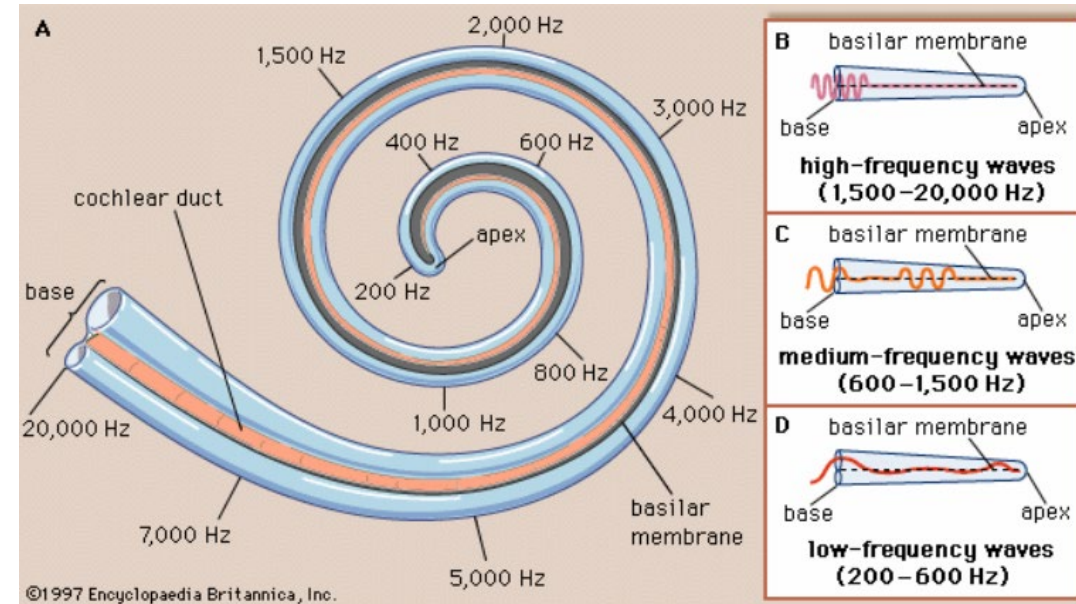
- A) By air-borne waves
- B) Displacement of the vestibular membrane
- C) Displacement of tectorial membrane
- D) Displacement of basilar membrane

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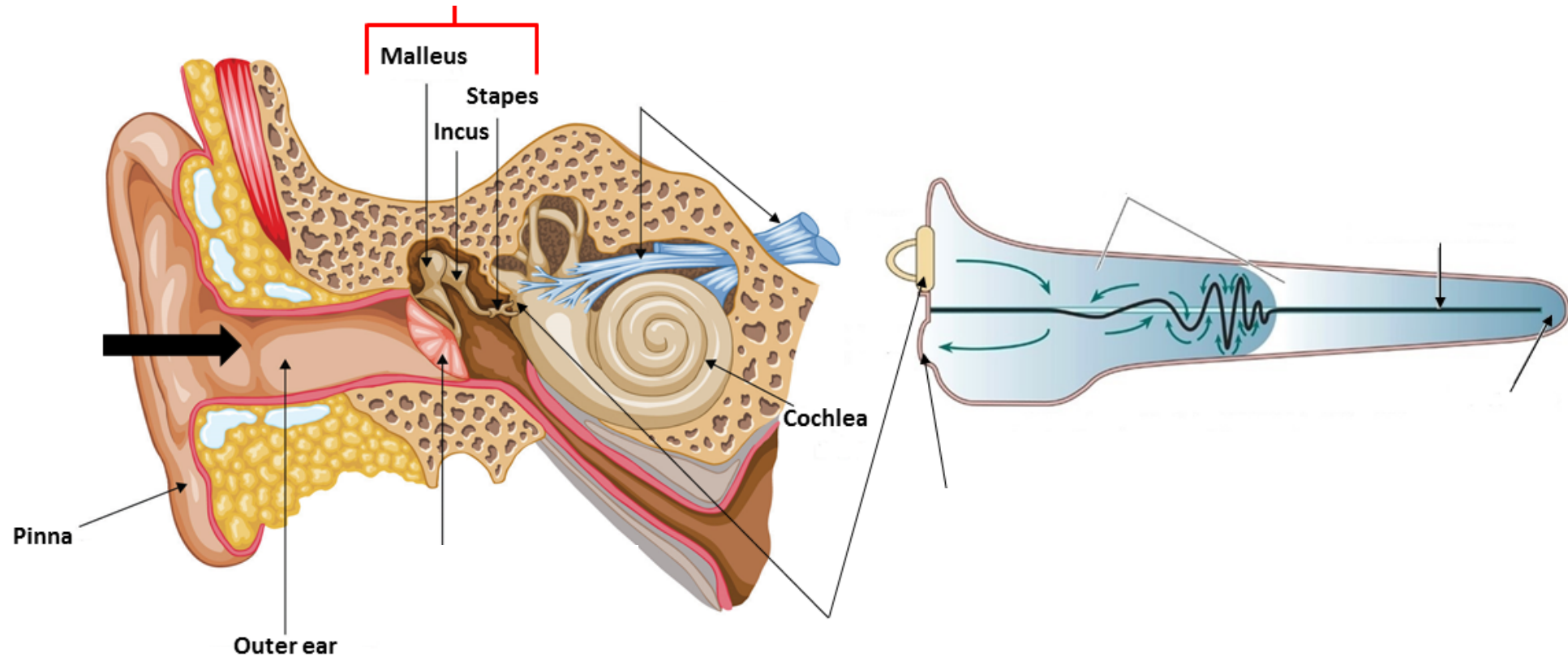
- A) By air-borne waves
- B) Displacement of the vestibular membrane
- C) Displacement of tectorial membrane
- D) Displacement of basilar membrane

# Cochlea

- Tonotopic map
- Cochlea shows an orderly map of frequencies along its length
  - **Base**: narrow and stiff; detects **high frequency**
  - **Apex**: wide and floppy; detects **low frequency**

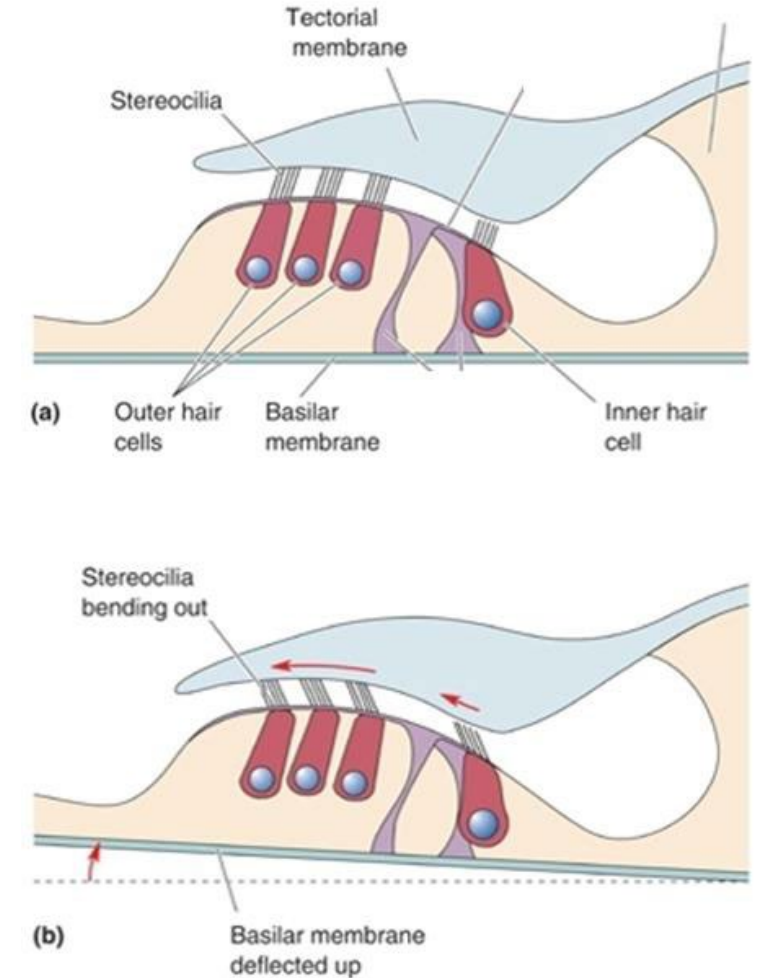


# How Sound Travels Through Ear



# Divisions of Auditory System

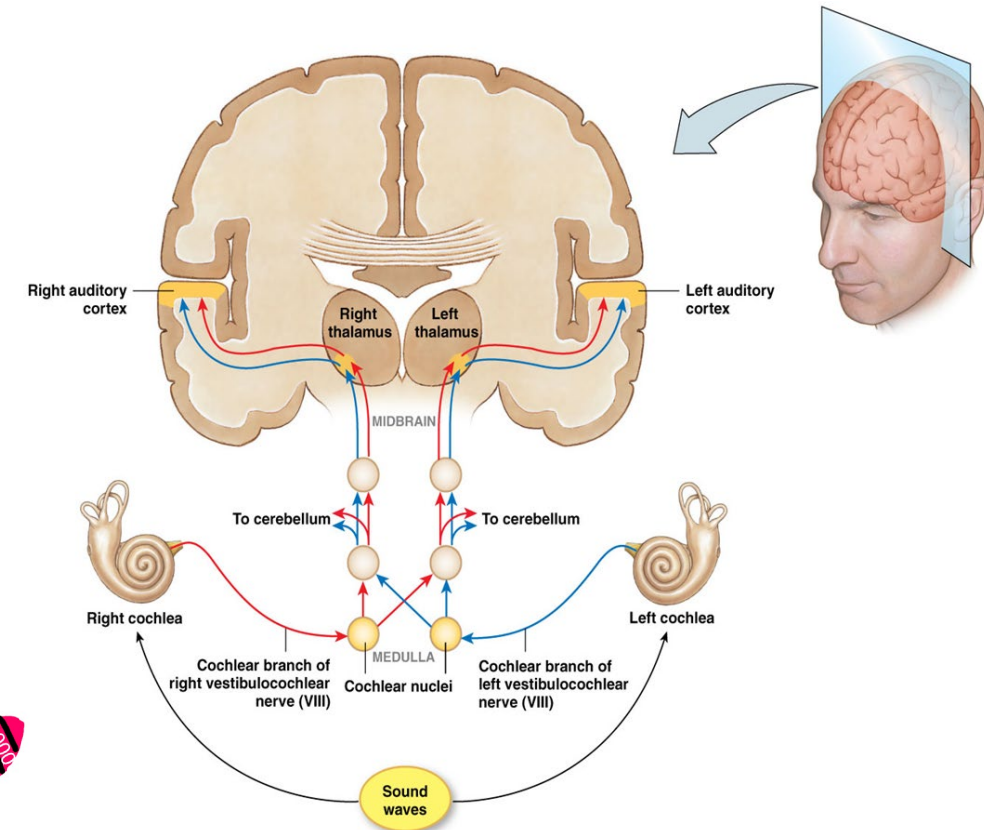
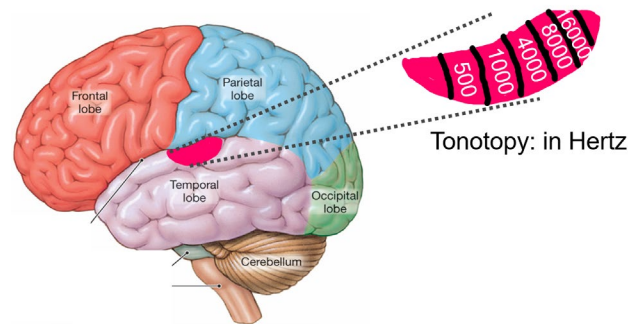
- Organ of Corti contains hair cells with **stereocilia**:
  - Fluid movements cause deflection of **basilar membrane**
  - Basilar membrane deflection leads to dragging of hair cells against the **tectorial membrane**
    - Stereocilia bend from dragging
  - Hair cells **depolarize** when stereocilia bend
    - Mechanically-linked ion channels open (depolarization)
    - Aka brings cell to threshold → AP is fired
  - When hair cells bend in other direction the cell is hyperpolarized





# Auditory Pathway

- **Auditory Nerve** (Vestibulocochlear nerve)
  - Formed by axons of spiral ganglion cells
- **Medulla**
  - Info from right and left ears combine
- **Midbrain**
  - Projections to cerebellum
- **Primary Auditory Cortex** (Temporal Lobe)
  - Tonotonic Map:
    - **Anterior**: Low frequencies
    - **Posterior**: High frequencies



# Hearing Loss

**Conductive:** Sound is unable to be transmitted through outer or middle ear.

- A mechanical defect
- e.g. Extremely loud sounds rupture eardrum or damaged ossicles

**Sensorineural:** damage to structures of inner ear that affects hair cells, or to auditory nerve (nerve deafness)

- e.g. Extremely loud sounds damage Organ of Corti
- e.g. Presbycusis (old + hearing), i.e. degenerations in the cochlea

**Central:** Damage to auditory pathways upstream from cochlea

- A defect in the Central Nervous system
- e.g. tumours or strokes in the central auditory pathways

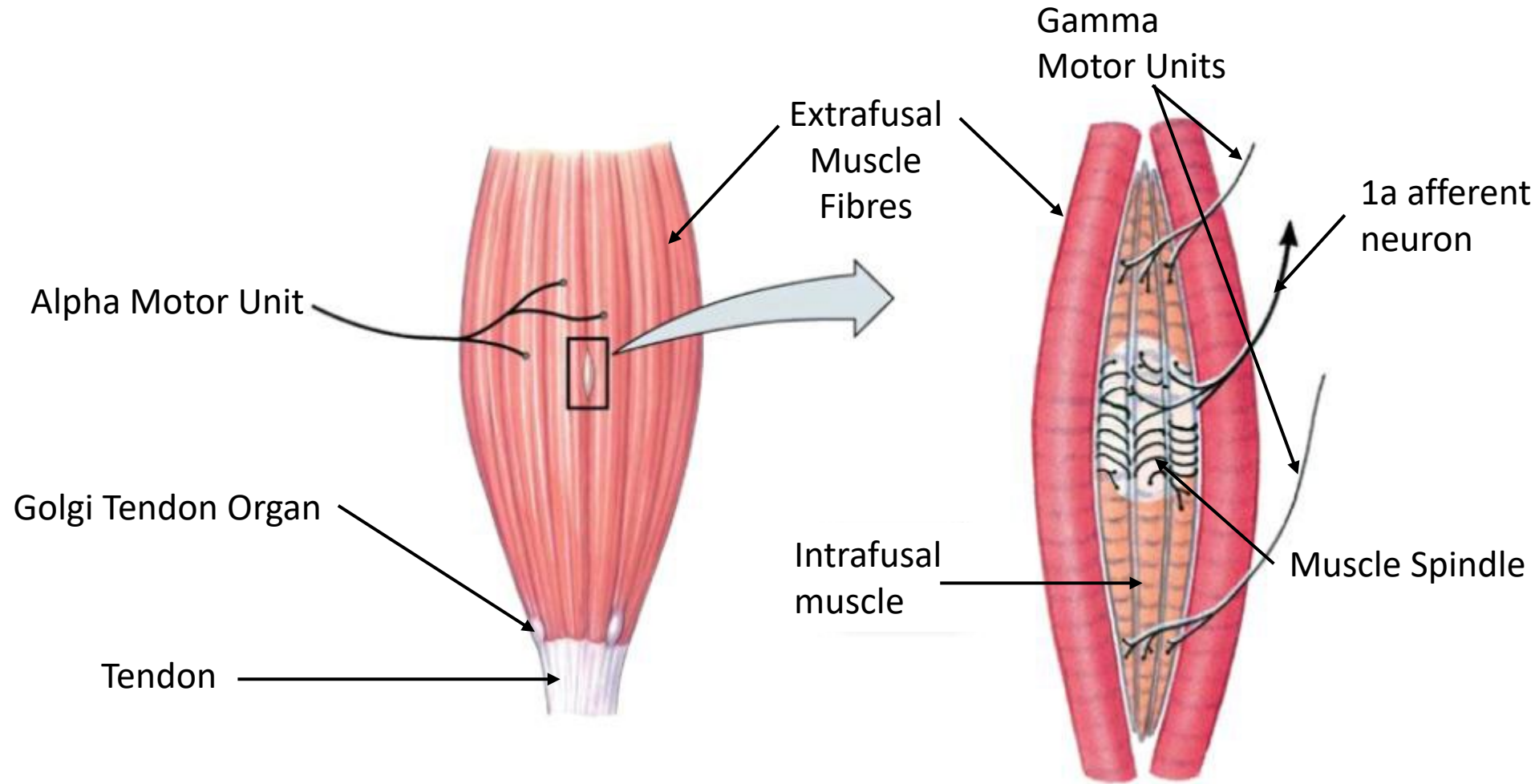


# Motor Physiology

Chapter 3: Dr. Everling

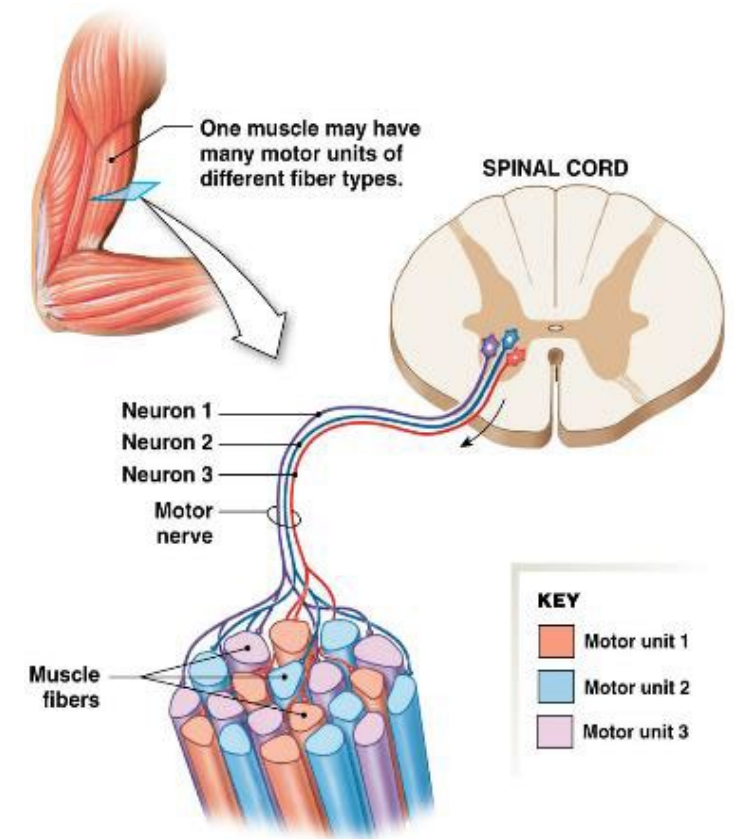
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# Muscle Anatomy



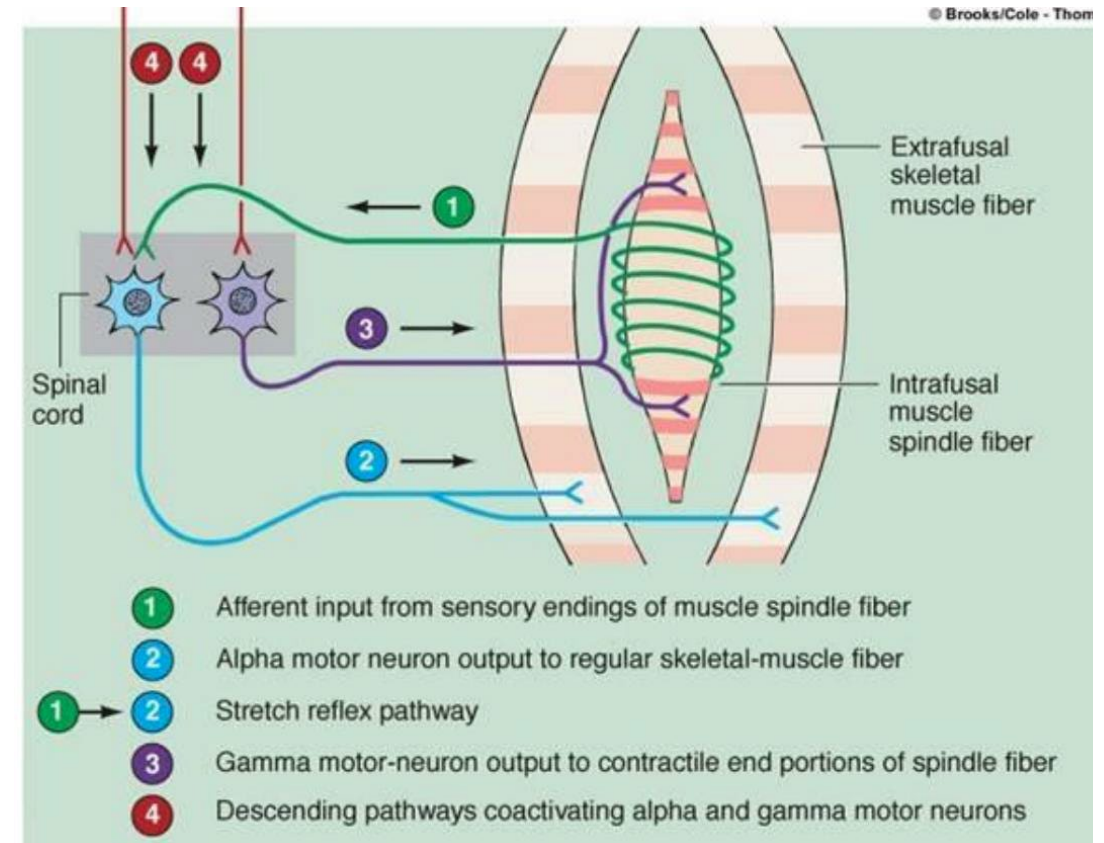
# Motor Unit/Pool

- **Motor Unit:** Group of skeletal muscle fibers and the 1 somatic motor neuron that controls them
- **Motor Neuron Pool:** group of motor neurons that innervate a single muscle



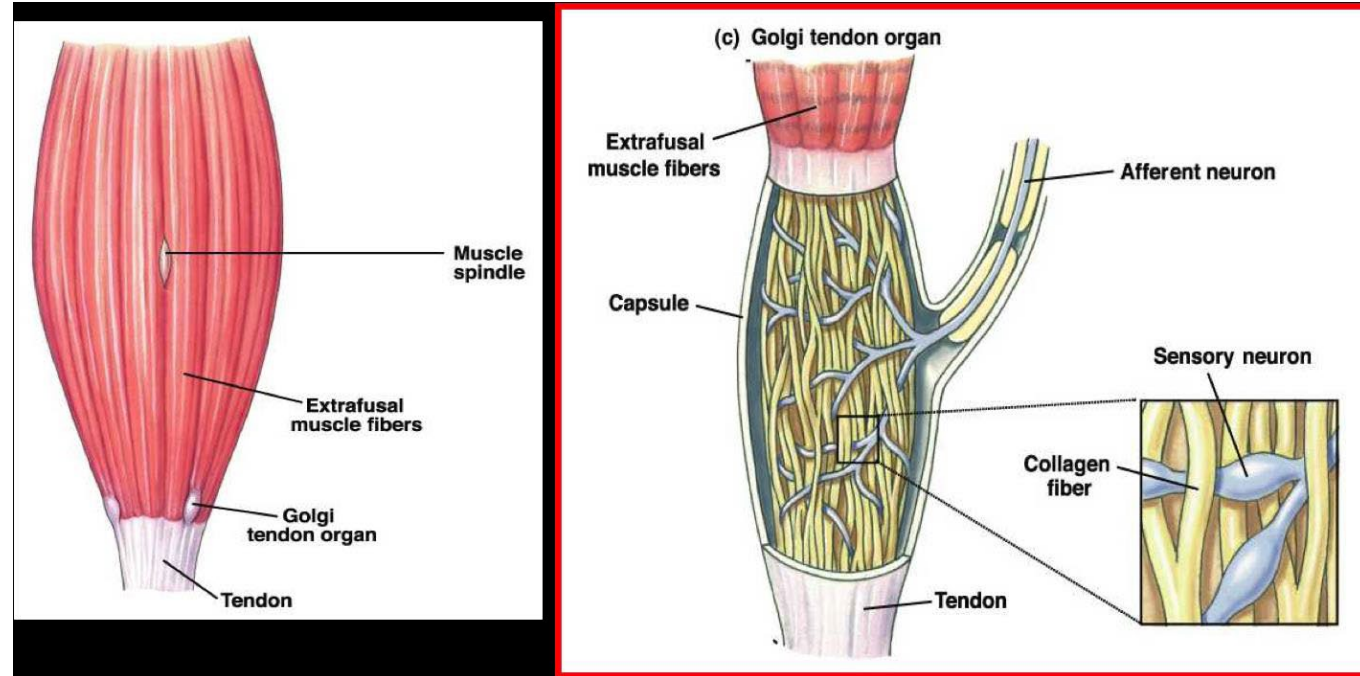
# Muscle Spindle

- **Stretching** of muscle spindle/intrafusal muscle fiber
- Info sent from muscle spindles to CNS via **1a afferent** neurons
- CNS processes info
- **Alpha motor neuron** causes extrafusal muscle fiber contraction
- **Gamma motor neuron** causes intrafusal fiber contraction



# Golgi Tendon Organ

- Golgi tendon organ links muscle and tendon
- Collagen fibers woven around sensory receptors
- Increase in **tension** causes collagen contraction around sensory receptor, which sends info to CNS via **1b afferent neuron**

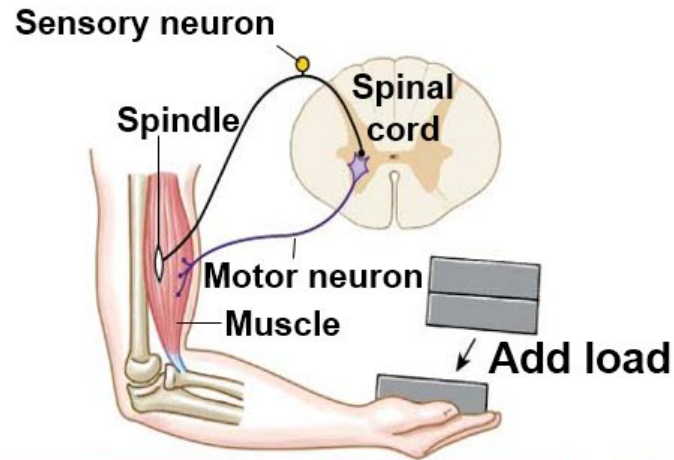


# Reflexes

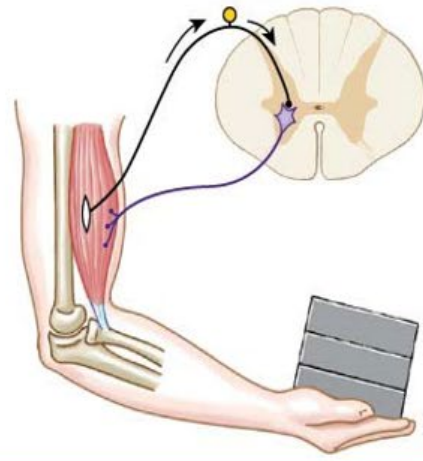
- **Reflex**: involuntary response to a stimulus which requires the integrity of the nervous system
- **Reflex arc involves**: Receptor → Afferent neuron → Synapse → Motor neuron → Effector
- **Monosynaptic reflex**: Pathway in a reflex arc that contains only 1 synapse (ex: stretch reflex)
- **Polysynaptic reflex**: Pathway in a reflex arc that contains more than 1 synapse (ex: withdrawal reflex)
- **Reciprocal Innervation**: Contraction of a muscle is accompanied by simultaneous inhibition of antagonistic muscle



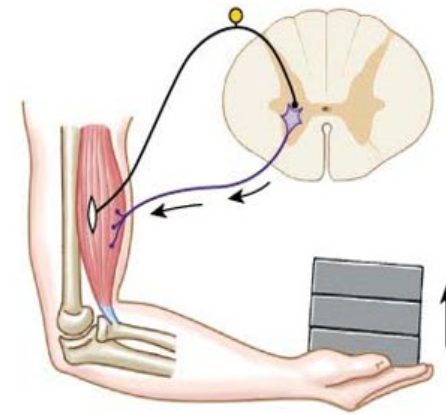
# Stretch Reflex



**1. Load added to muscle.**



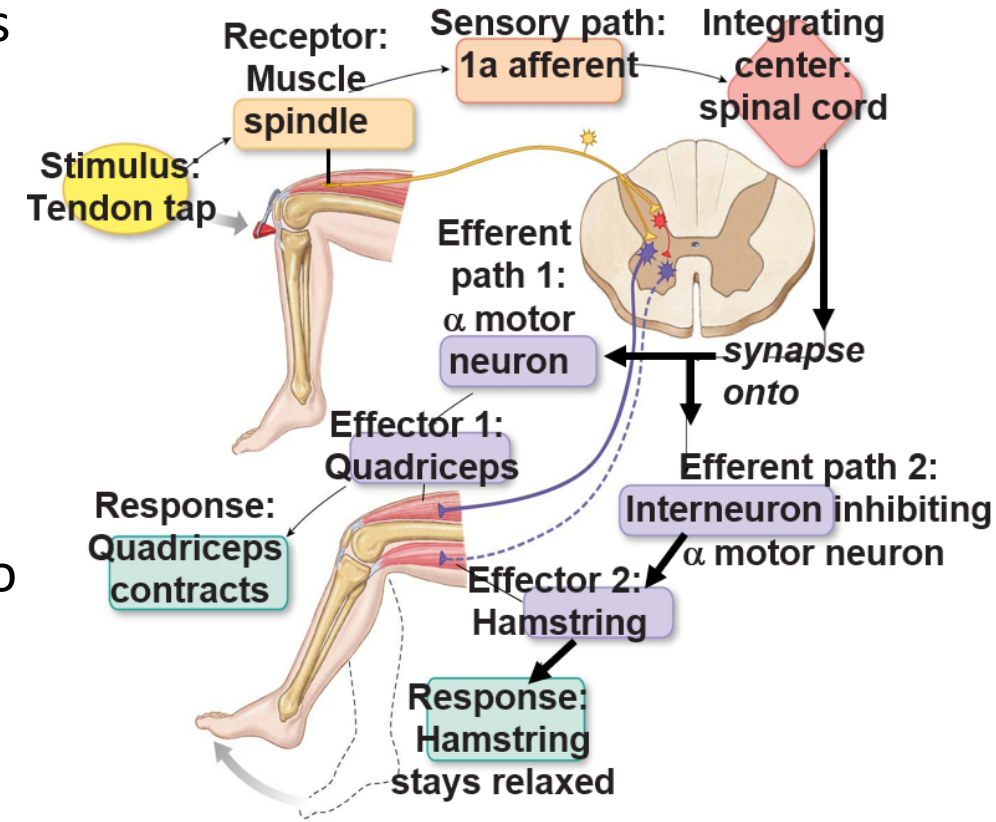
**2. Muscle and muscle spindle stretch as arm extends. Muscle spindle afferents fire more frequently.**



**3. Reflex contraction initiated by muscle stretch restores arm position and prevents damage from over-stretching.**

# Patellar Tendon Reflex

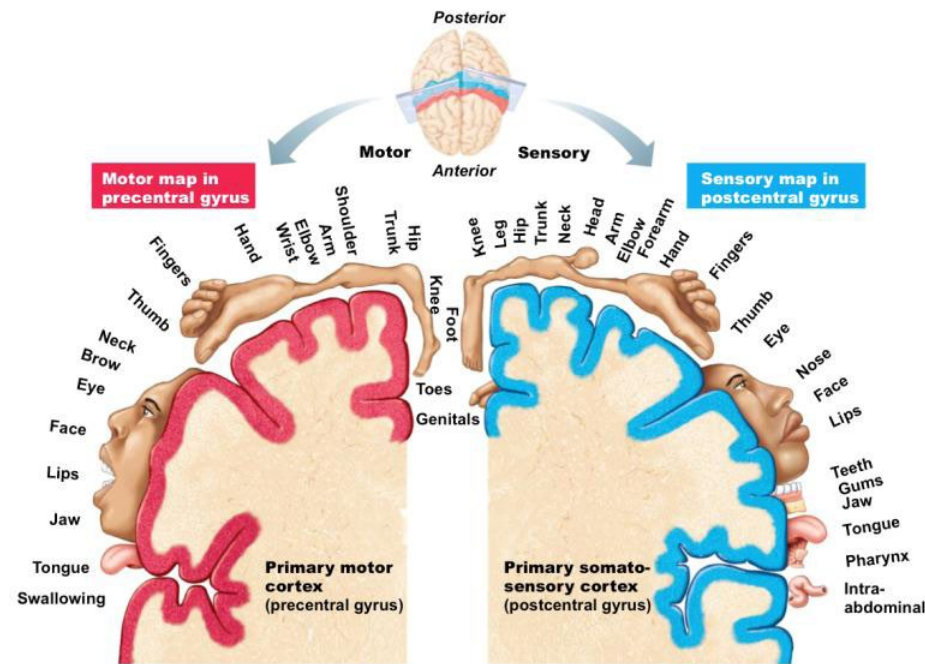
1. Tapping patellar tendon stretches quadriceps femoris (extensor muscle)
2. Muscle spindle in quadriceps femoris stretches, activating 1a afferent to fire action potentials.
3. 1a afferent directly synapses (monosynaptic) on alpha motor neuron to quadriceps femoris – muscle contracts and lower leg swings forward.
4. Collateral from the 1a afferent also excites an inhibitory interneuron in the spinal cord.
5. Inhibitory interneuron inhibits alpha motor neuron to antagonistic (Hamstring) muscle. The hamstring is a flexor muscle.
6. Antagonistic muscle relaxes (reciprocal innervation (inhibition) so leg can extend and swing out.





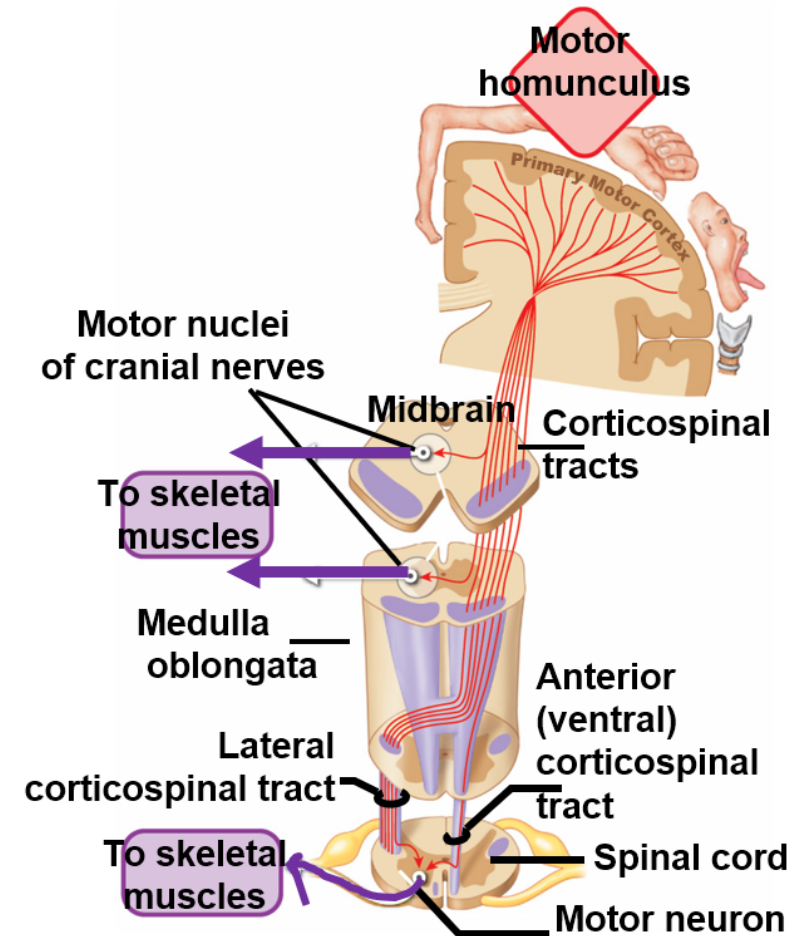
# Motor Cortex, Homunculus vs. Somatosensory Cortex

- **Motor homunculus:** Found in primary motor cortex, which is precentral gyrus
- **Sensory homunculus:** Found in somatosensory cortex, which is postcentral gyrus



# Corticospinal Tracts

- **Corticospinal pathway** (pyramidal tract) is the primary pathway that leaves the motor cortex to innervate motor neurons in the spinal cord
  - Left side of body controlled by right motor cortex
  - Axons cross at brain stem or spinal cord



# Next Tutorial (Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>)

- Endocrinology

# What Questions Do You Have?

You can ask in the **Owl forums** as well!

Also anonymously ask questions in the **online dropbox!!**