

<u>Lecture Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading in Marieb, Mallatt, and Wilhelm</u>
L19	Tues 3/31	Central nervous system I Anatomy of the brain
		Ch. 13, pp. 378-380, 382-405

**Embryonic development of the brain****Primary brain vesicles (week 4)**

*prosencephalon (forebrain)*  
*mesencephalon (midbrain)*  
*rhombencephalon (hindbrain)*

**Secondary brain vesicles (week 5)**

*telencephalon*  
*diencephalon*  
*mesencephalon*  
*metencephalon*  
*myelencephalon*

**Adult brain structures**

*telencephalon*  
*cerebral hemispheres*  
*cerebrum*  
*diencephalon*  
*thalamus*  
*hypothalamus*  
*epithalamus*  
*mesencephalon*  
*midbrain*  
*metencephalon*  
*pons*  
*cerebellum*  
*myelencephalon*  
*medulla oblongata*  
*ventricles*

**Basic parts and organization of the brain**

- (1) *brain stem (medulla, pons, and midbrain)*
- (2) *cerebellum*
- (3) *diencephalon (thalamus, hypothalamus, epithalamus)*
- (4) *cerebrum*

*cortex*

*cerebellar cortex*

*cerebral cortex*

*brain nuclei—clusters of neuron cell bodies*

## **The brain stem**

*structures*

*medulla oblongata*

*pons*

*midbrain*

*functions*

*(1) rigidly programmed, automatic behaviors necessary for survival (e.g. breathing)*

*(2) passageway for all fiber tracts from cerebrum to spinal cord*

*(3) innervations of the face and head (10 of 12 cranial nerves)*

### **The medulla oblongata (medulla)**

*pyramids—ventral midline, formed by the pyramidal tracts, fiber tracts descending through the brain stem and spinal cord carrying voluntary motor output from the cerebrum to the spinal cord*

*decussation of the pyramids—crossover point of pyramidal fibers (consequently, each cerebral hemisphere controls voluntary movement on the other side of the body)*

*reticular formation*

*stimulates cerebral alertness; regulate skeletal and visceral muscle activity*

### **Pons**

*relay nerve impulses between cerebrum and cerebellum, to coordinate voluntary movement*

### **Midbrain**

*corpora quadrigemina*

*superior colliculi (visual reflexes)*

*inferior colliculi (auditory reflexes)*

*substantia nigra (nigra = black)*

*dopamine synthesizing neurons*

*degeneration is the cause of Parkinson's disease*

### **The cerebellum**

*smooths and coordinates body movements*

*helps maintain posture and equilibrium*

*lesion leads to disorders of coordination, leading to slow or jerky movements that tend to overreach their targets*

## **The diencephalon**

### **Thalamus**

*processes and relays sensory information (excluding olfactory information) to the sensory areas of the cerebral cortex*

*every part of the brain that communicates with the cerebral cortex must relay its signals through a nucleus of the thalamus*

### **The hypothalamus**

*the main visceral control center of the body*

*(1) control of the autonomic nervous system*

*(2) control of emotional responses*

*(3) regulation of body temperature*

*(4) regulation of hunger and thirst sensations*

*(5) control of motivational behavior (feeding, sexual behavior)*

*(6) regulation of sleep-wake cycles*

- (7) control of the endocrine system*
- (8) formation of memory*

### **The epithalamus**

*contains pineal gland*

*secretes hormone melatonin (prepares the body to prepare for the nighttime stage of the sleep-wake cycle)*

### **The cerebrum**

#### **cerebral cortex of gray matter**

*function—self awareness, initiation and control of movements, communication, memory, cognitive function*

*frontal lobes*

*parietal lobes*

*primary sensory cortex*

*occipital lobes*

*primary visual cortex*

*temporal lobes*

*primary auditory cortex*

*insula*

*visceral sensory area*

#### **cerebral white matter**

*commissural fibers*

*association fibers*

*projection fibers*

#### **deep gray matter of the cerebrum**

*basal ganglia, involved in motor control*

*corpus striatum*

*caudate nucleus*

*putamen*

*globus pallidus*

*function*

*cooperate with cerebral cortex in coordinating movement*

*start, stop, and coordinate voluntary movement*

*basal forebrain nuclei, associated with memory*

*septum*

*diagonal band of Broca*

*horizontal band of Broca*

*basal nucleus of Meynert*

*part of basal forebrain cholinergic system (synthesize and release acetylcholine)*

*function*

*arousal, learning, memory, motor control*

*degeneration associated with Alzheimer's disease*

*claustrum, a structure with unknown function*