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This seminar „Examination in Neurology“:

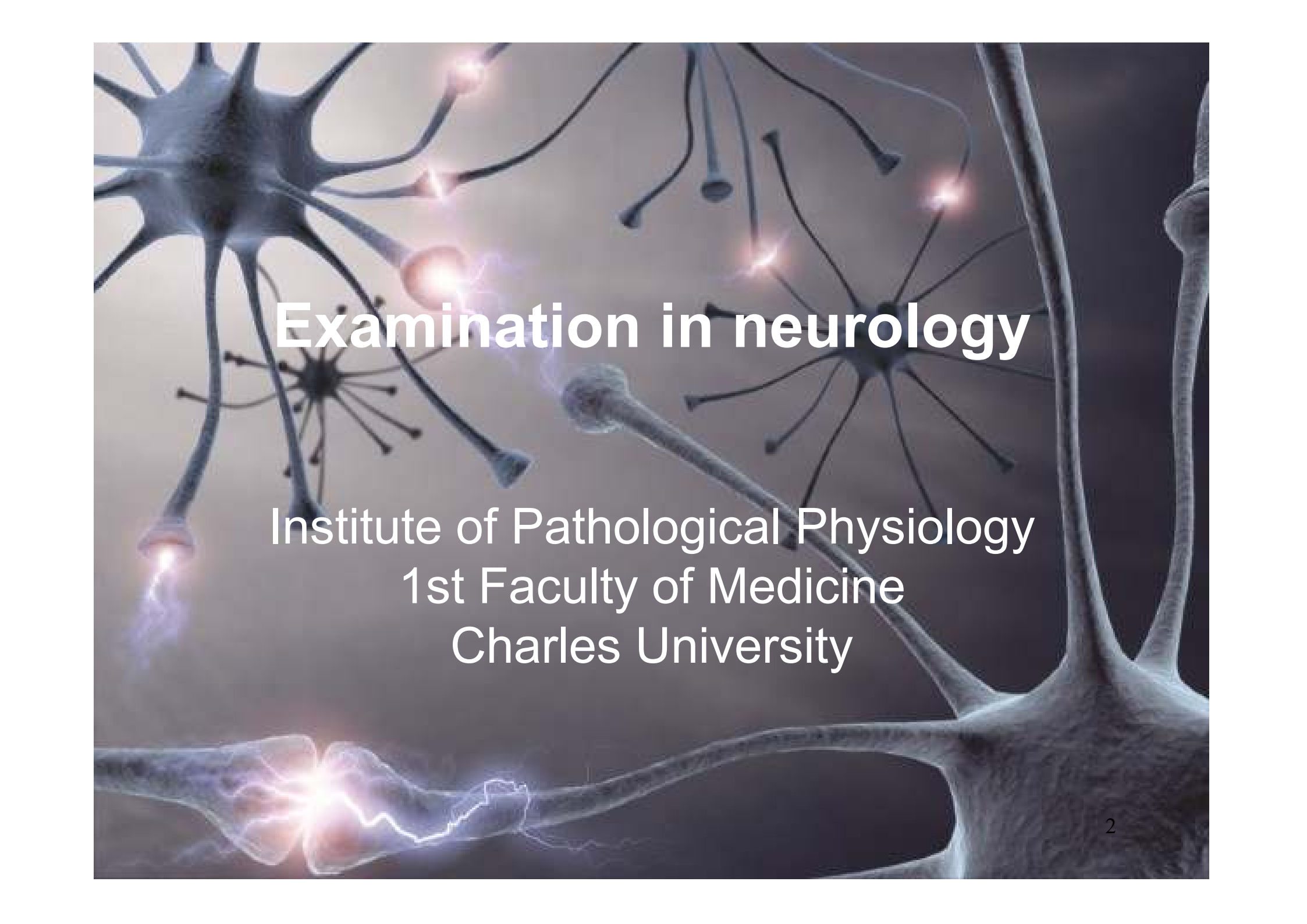
[https://dec52.lf1.cuni.cz/~pmar/ftp/PPT-PATF/PPT-sem-EN/  
pptx and pdf files](https://dec52.lf1.cuni.cz/~pmar/ftp/PPT-PATF/PPT-sem-EN/pptx)

All Talks on NS:

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Seminar on Diagnostic Methods:

SE-Nerv-Syst-Diag-EN-2025-etc.pptx



# Examination in neurology

Institute of Pathological Physiology  
1st Faculty of Medicine  
Charles University

# Examination methods

- patient history (anamnesis)
- status praesens
- objective examination
- laboratory examination
- (therapeutic plan)

# What do we need?

- neurological hammer
- flash light
- tuning fork
- sharp pin
- cotton buds
- measuring meter



# neurological- psychological (vs. psychiatric) examinations (from Thieme Color Atlas of Neurology)

Aspect To Be Tested	Questions/Tests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attention (p. 116)</li> <li>• Orientation</li> <li>• Memory, recall</li> <li>• Serial subtraction</li> <li>• Frontal lobe function</li> <li>• Language (pp. 124, 128)</li> <li>• Praxis</li> <li>• Spatial orientation, visual perception</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awake, somnolent, stuporous, comatose? Arousability, attention span, perception</li> <li>• Personal data (name, age, date/place of birth), orientation (“where are we?”, place of residence); time (day of the week, date, month, year); situation (reason for consultation, nature of symptoms)</li> <li>• The patient should be able to name the months of the year backward, spell a word backward, repeat random series of numbers between 1 and 9. Can the patient recall 3 objects mentioned 3 minutes ago, recall figures, name famous people? Tests of general knowledge</li> <li>• Serial subtraction of 3s (or 7s), starting from 100</li> <li>• Perseveration<sup>1</sup>; hand sequence test<sup>2</sup>; proverb interpretation</li> <li>• Following commands, naming, repetition, writing, reading aloud, simple arithmetic</li> <li>• See p. 128</li> <li>• See p. 132. Naming of colors and objects</li> </ul>

# Anamnesis

- family history of neurological diseases
- all pathological changes, which cause the patients their problems
- other personal medical history
- work and social anamnesis (patient's ability)

# Present status

- I. Mental, intellectual status (specific in children, standard in adult patients)
- II. Cranial nerves
- III. Motor function
  - upper and lower extremity
  - extrapyramidal, cerebellar signs
- IV. Standing and gait
- V. Somatosensory function

# Mental status examination

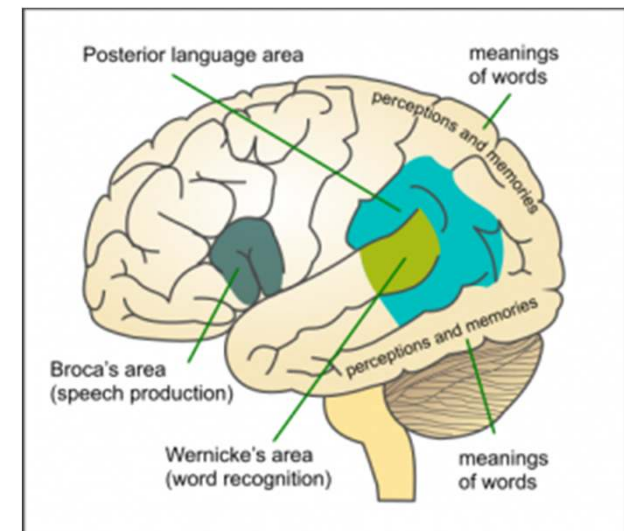
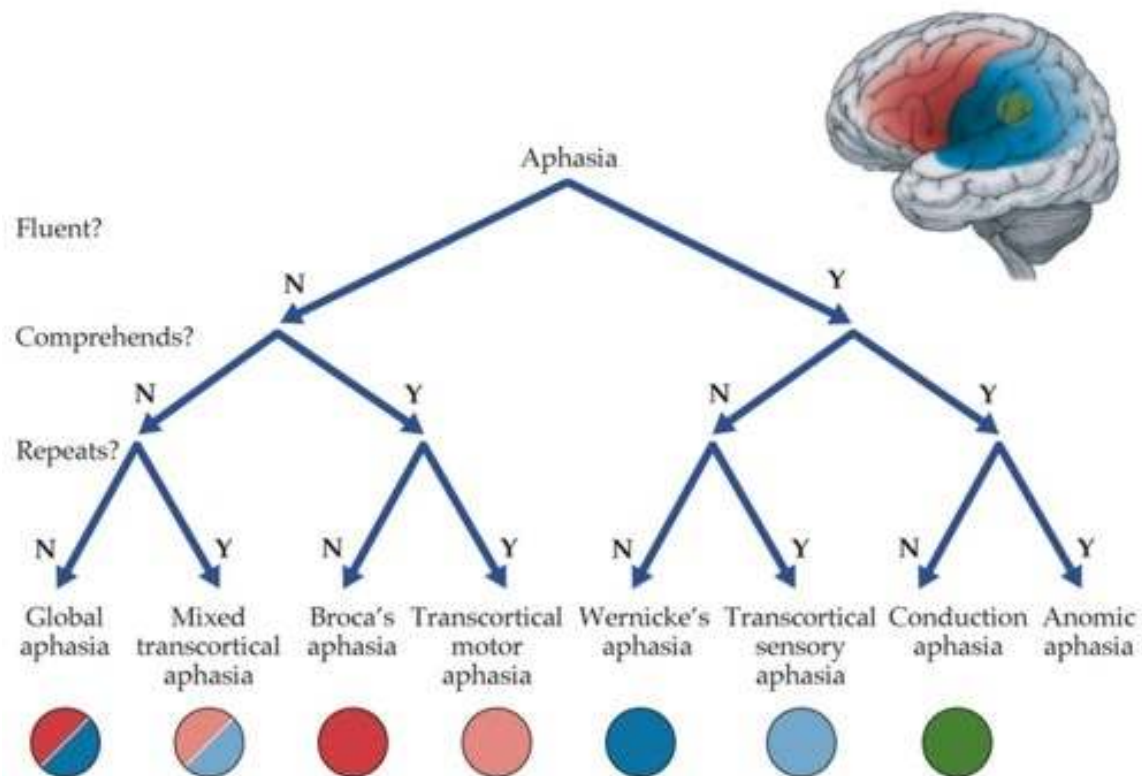
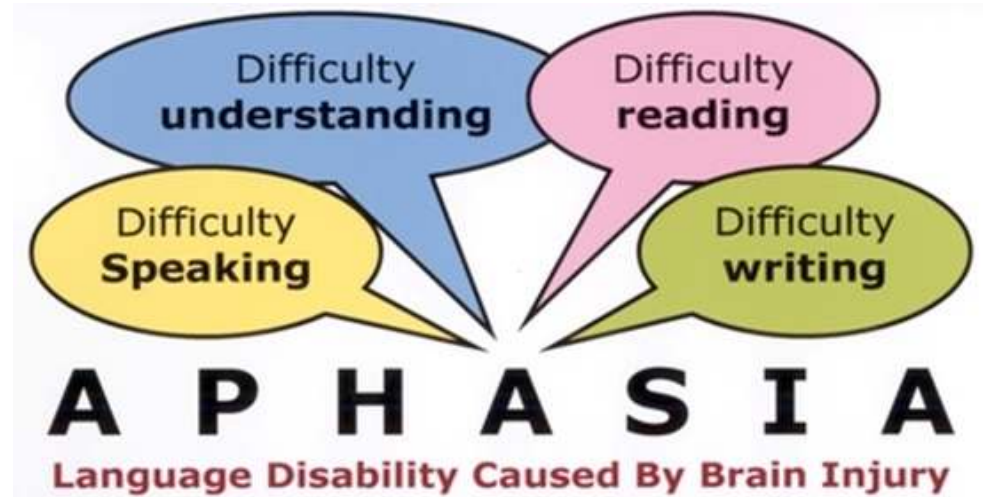
- Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE)
  - Long term memory (name, birthday, place of living, name of the president, this place)
  - Short term memory (repetition of three short words)
  - Phatic functions
    - spontaneous speech, repetition of grammatical particles (no ifs, buts or ands)
    - calculation (subtracting 7 from 100)
    - practical skills (knot the tie, dressing, gestures)



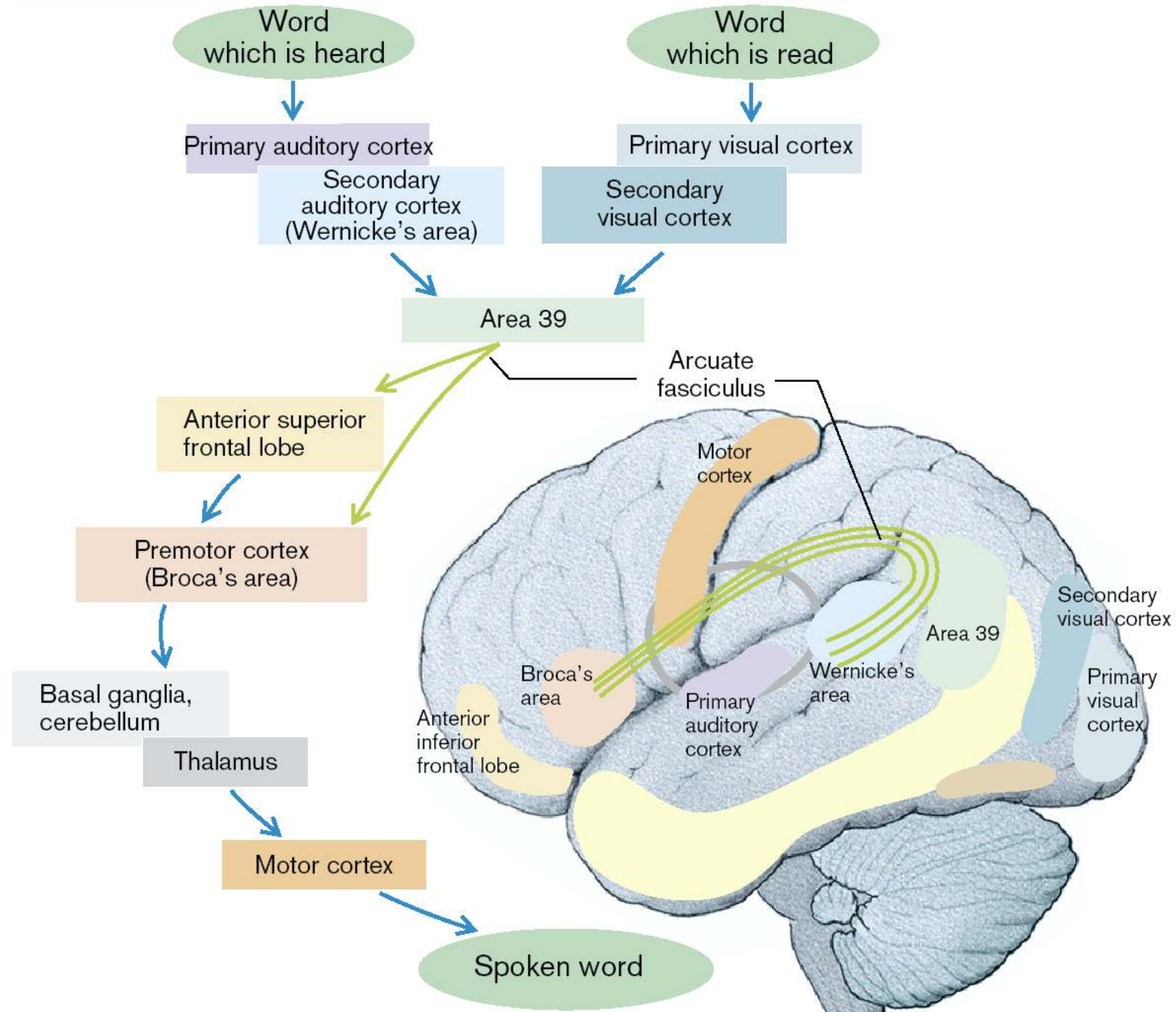
# Mental status examination

- writing a sentence
- (copy of a simple picture)
- detailed neuropsychological and/ or psychiatric examination

# Aphasia



## - A. Aphasias



Type	Spontaneous speech	Repetition of words	Language comprehension	Finding words
Broca's aphasia	abnormal	abnormal	normal	impaired
Wernicke's aphasia	fluent (at times logorrhea, paraphasia, neologisms)	abnormal	impaired	impaired
Conduction aphasia	fluent, but paraphasic	markedly impaired	normal	abnormal, paraphasic
Global aphasia	abnormal	abnormal	abnormal	abnormal
Anomic aphasia	fluent	normal, but anomic	normal	impaired
Achromatic aphasia	fluent	normal, but anomic	normal	impaired
Motor transcortical aphasia	abnormal	normal	normal	abnormal
Sensory transcortical aphasia	fluent	fluent	abnormal	abnormal
Subcortical aphasia	fluent	normal	abnormal (transient)	abnormal (transient)



# Glasgow coma scale

## Glasgow coma scale (GCS)

- differences for adults and for small children
- lowest possible score: 3
- highest: 15 (fully conscious)

Sign	Pediatric GCS	Score
Eye opening	Spontaneous	4
	To sound	3
	To pain	2
	None	1
	Smile, orientation to sound, interacts, follows objects	5
Verbal response	Cries, irritable	4
	Cries to pain	3
	Moans to pain	2
	None	1
	Spontaneous movements (obeys command)	6
Motor response	Withdraws to touch (localizes pain)	5
	Withdraws to pain	4
	Abnormal flexion to pain (decorticate)	3
	Abnormal extension to pain (decerebrate)	2
	None	1

**Glasgow Coma Scale**

**Eye opening (E)**

Spontaneous = 4  
Response to speech = 3  
To pain = 2  
Nil (no response) = 1

**Motor response (M)**

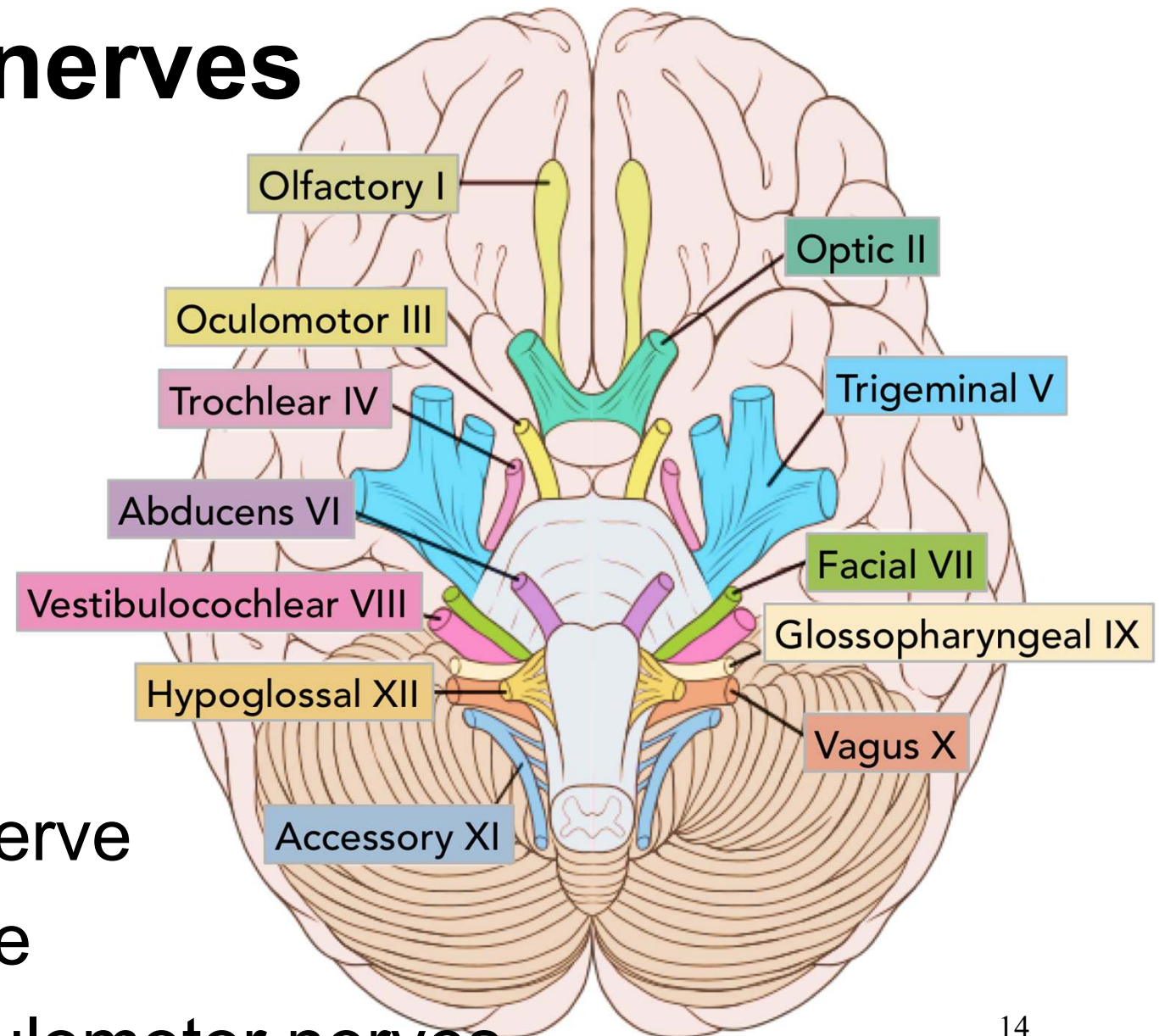
Obeys = 6  
Localizes = 5  
Withdraws = 4  
Abnormal flexor response = 3  
Extensor response = 2  
Nil (no response) = 1

**Verbal response (V)**

What year is this? 1983  
Yesterday Mother  
Scream, groan, moan  
Inappropriate words = 3  
Incomprehensible sounds = 2  
No response  
Oriented = 5  
Confused conversation = 4  
Nil = 1

**Coma score (E + M + V) = 3 to 15**

# Examination of cranial nerves

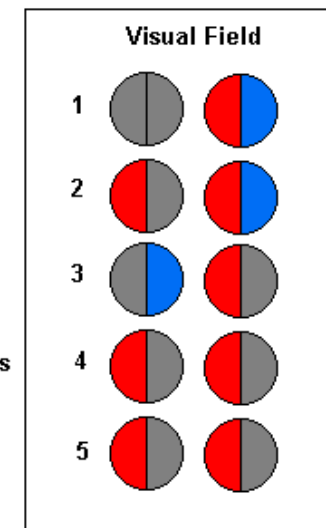
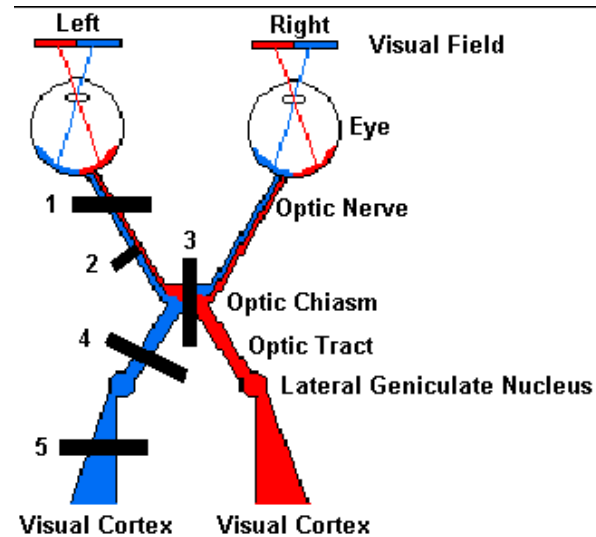
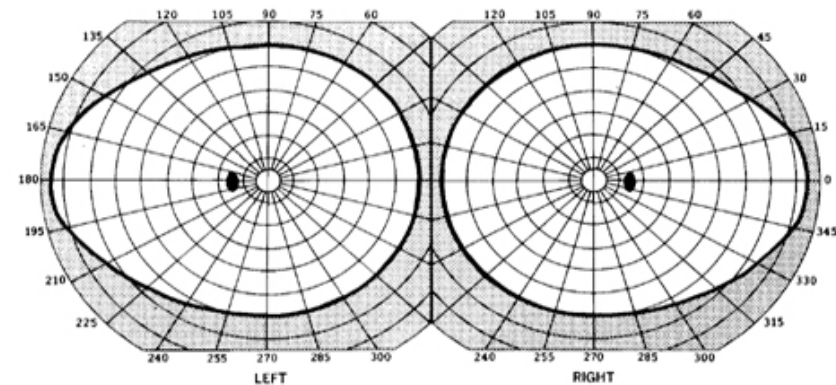
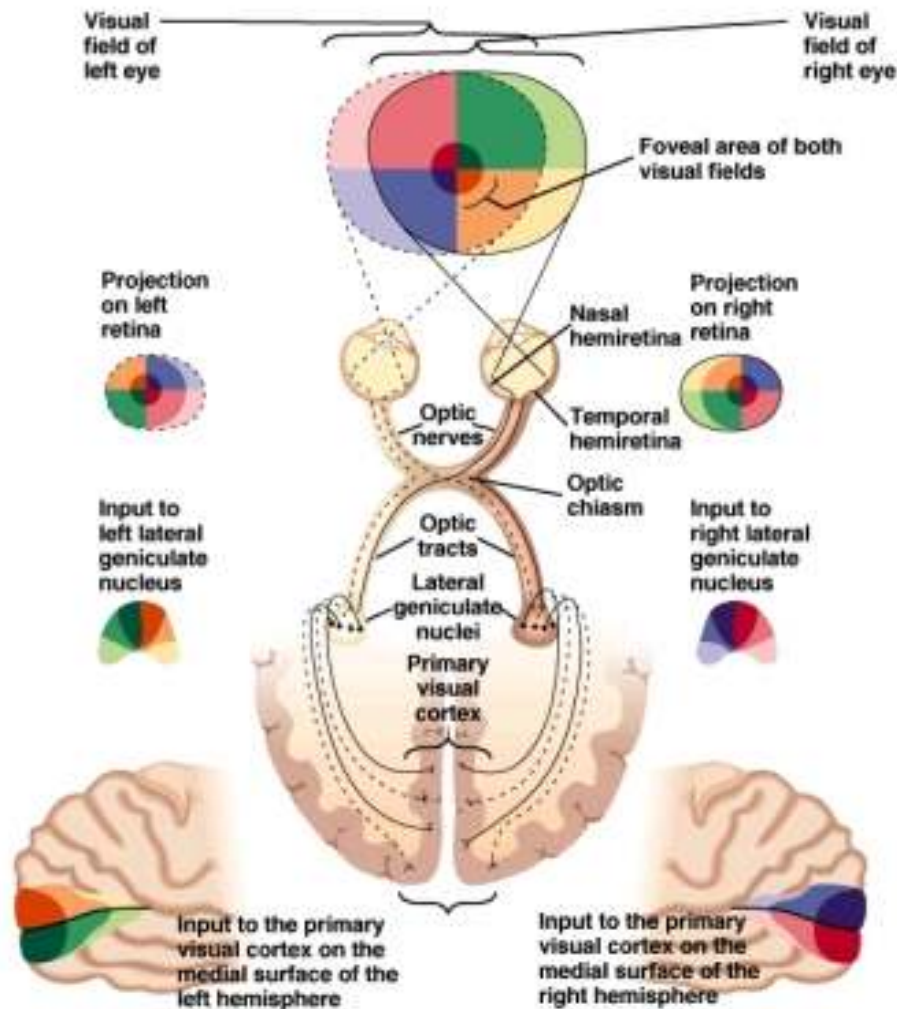


- I olfactory nerve
- II optic nerve
- III, IV, VI oculomotor nerves



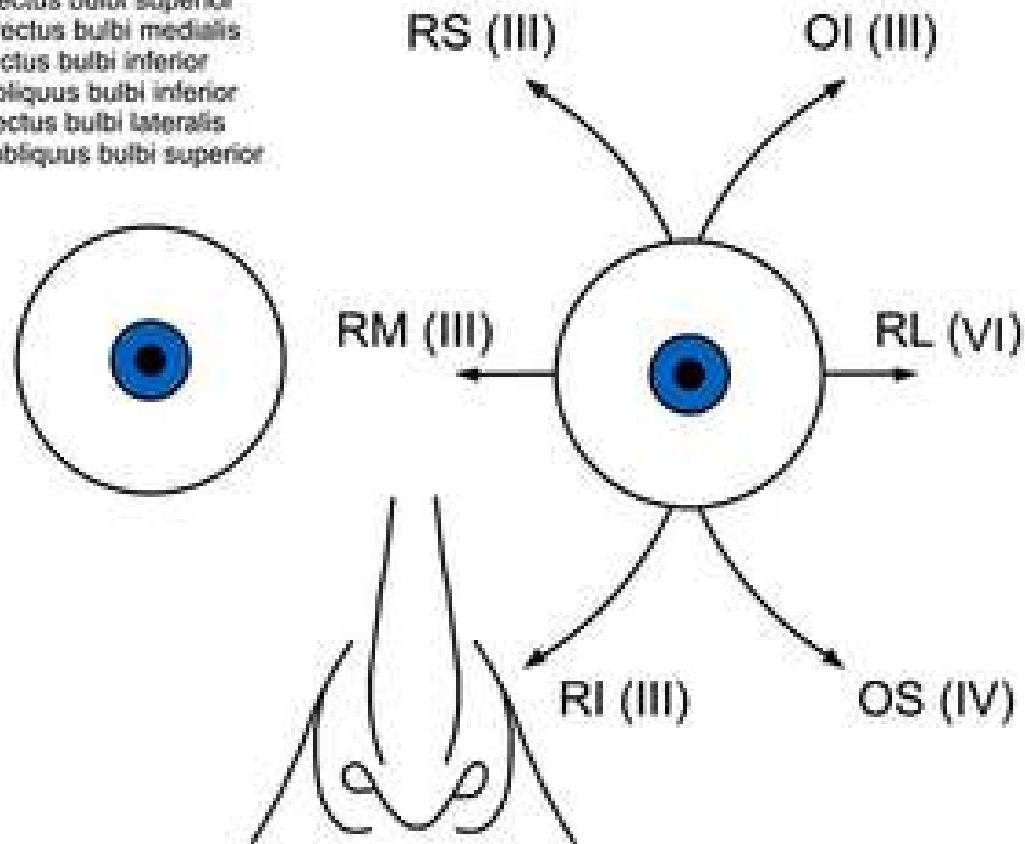
# Visual field

## ► Retina-Geniculate-Striate System



Source: Adapted from Netter, 1962.

RS - m. rectus bulbi superior  
RM - m. rectus bulbi medialis  
RI - m. rectus bulbi inferior  
OI - m. obliquus bulbi inferior  
RL - m. rectus bulbi lateralis  
OS - m. obliquus bulbi superior



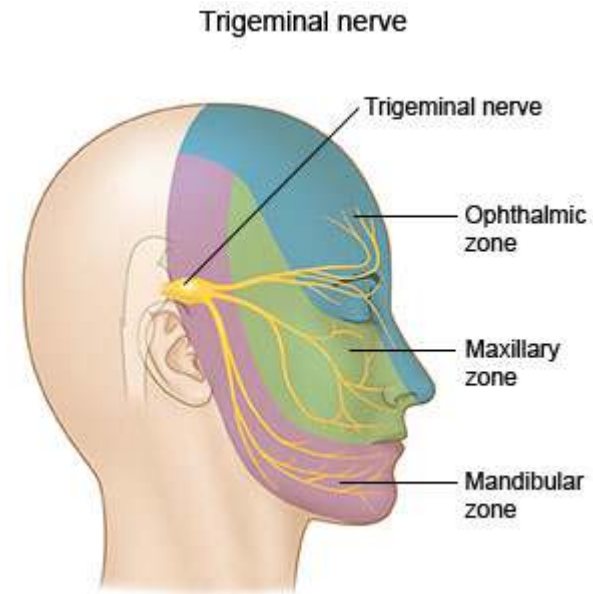
# Examination of cranial nerves

## Oculo-motor nerves



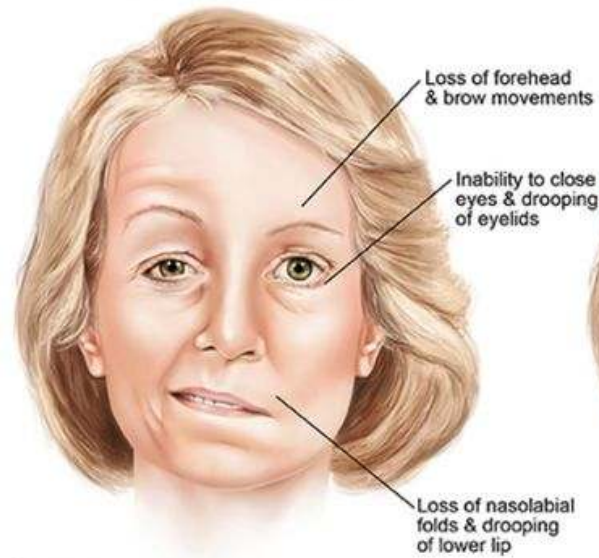
# Examination of cranial nerves

- V trigeminal nerve

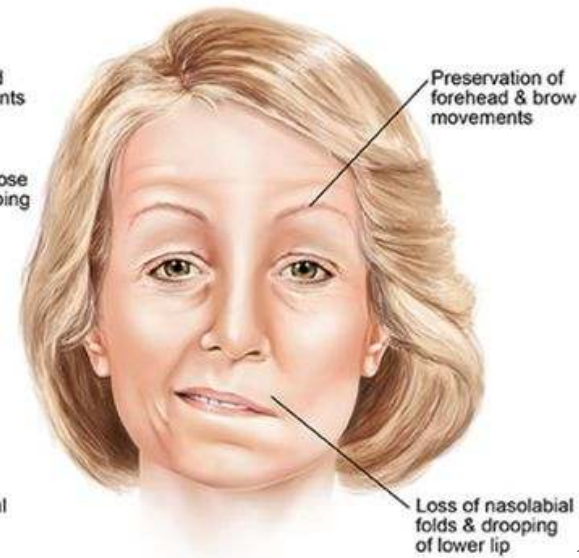


- VII facial nerve

Peripheral facial palsy

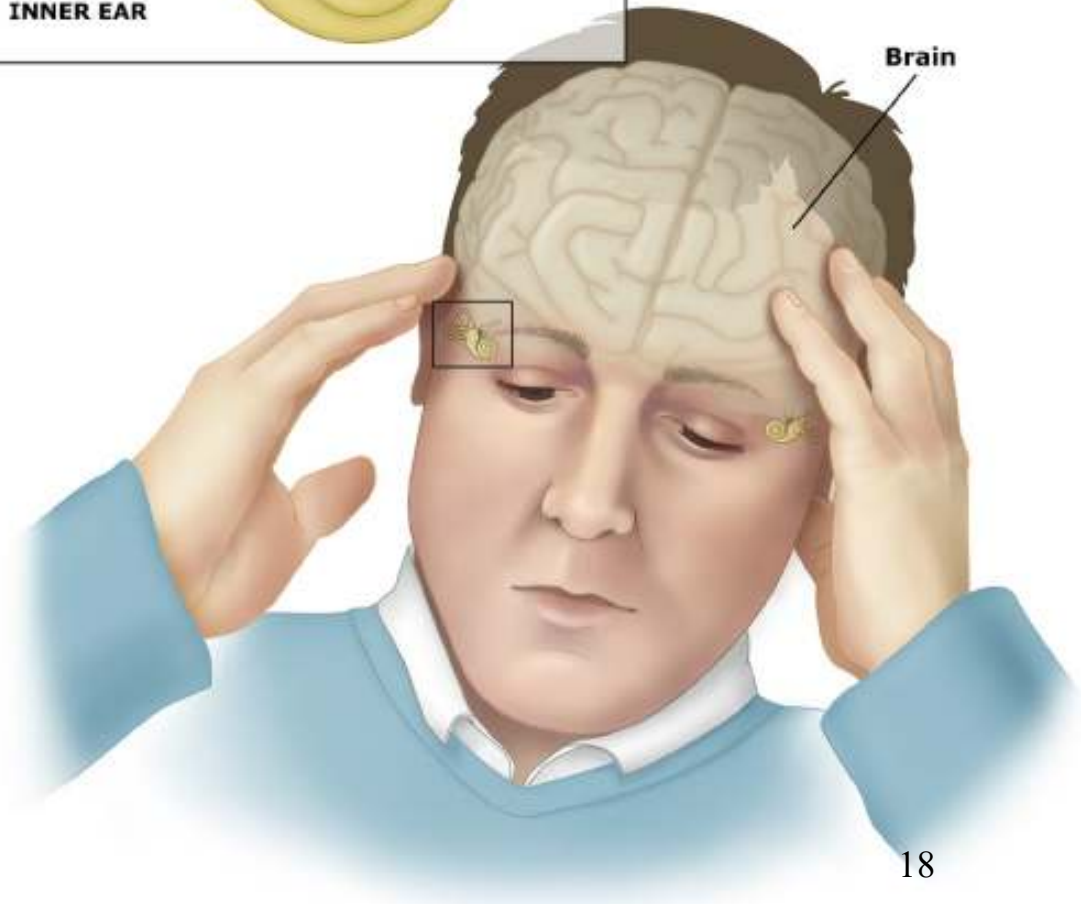
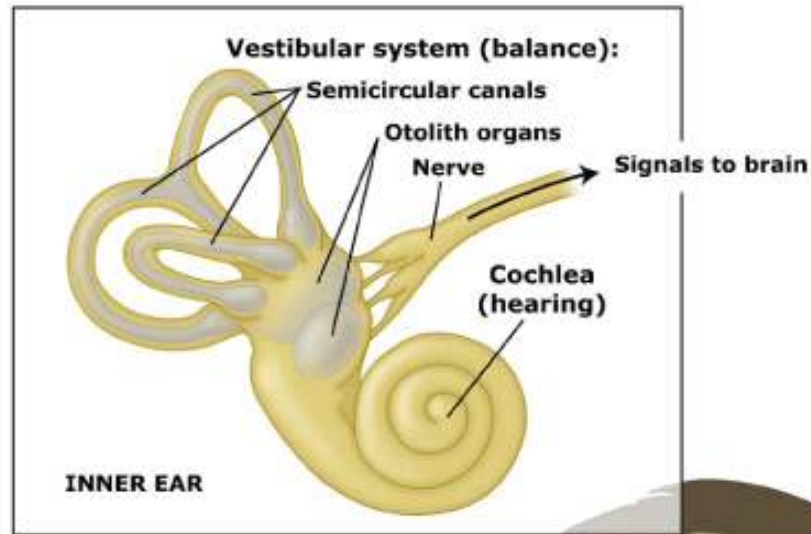


Central facial palsy



# Examination of cranial nerves

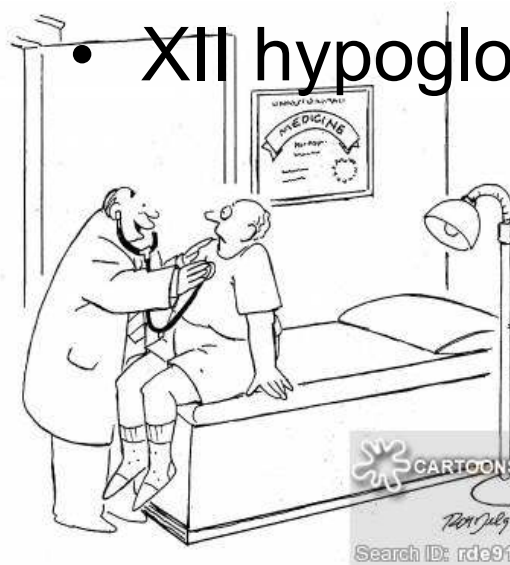
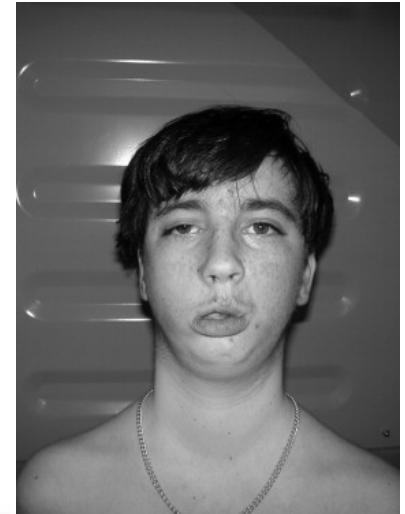
- VIII stato-acoustic nerve



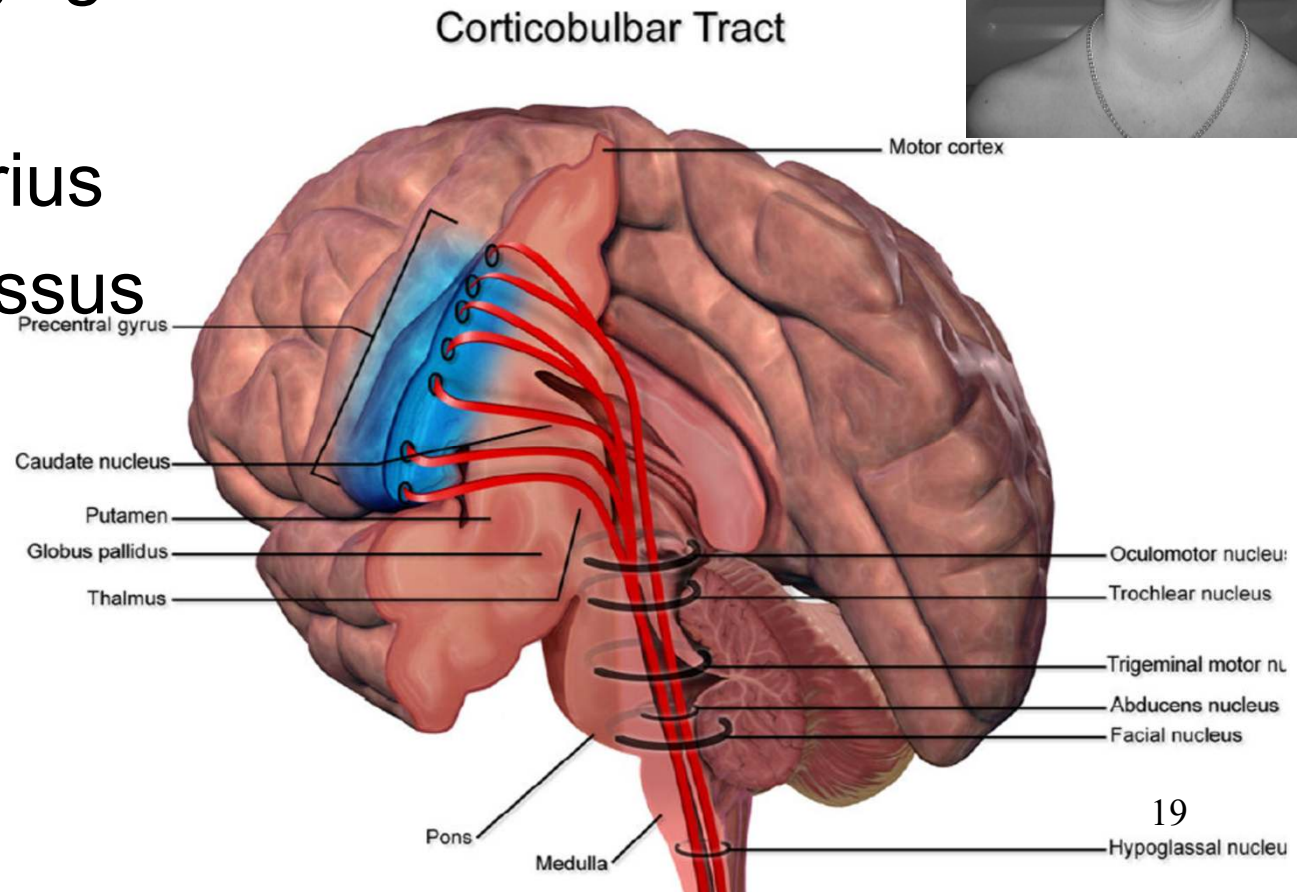
# Examination of cranial nerves

location: cerebral 'bulbus',  
bulbar paralysis/ bulbar

- ~~palsy~~  
glossopharyngeus
- X vagus
- XI accessorius
- XII hypoglossus



" I test for gag reflex by talking  
about gas prices. "



# Examination of cranial nerves/ bulbar paralysis/ palsy (bulbus = medulla oblongata)

## Symptoms

- **dysphagia** (difficulty in swallowing)
- difficulty in chewing
- nasal regurgitation
- slurring of speech
- difficulty in handling secretions
- choking on liquids
- dysphonia (defective use of the voice, inability to produce sound due to muscular /laryngeal/ weakness)
- **dysarthria** (difficulty in articulating words due to a CNS problem)

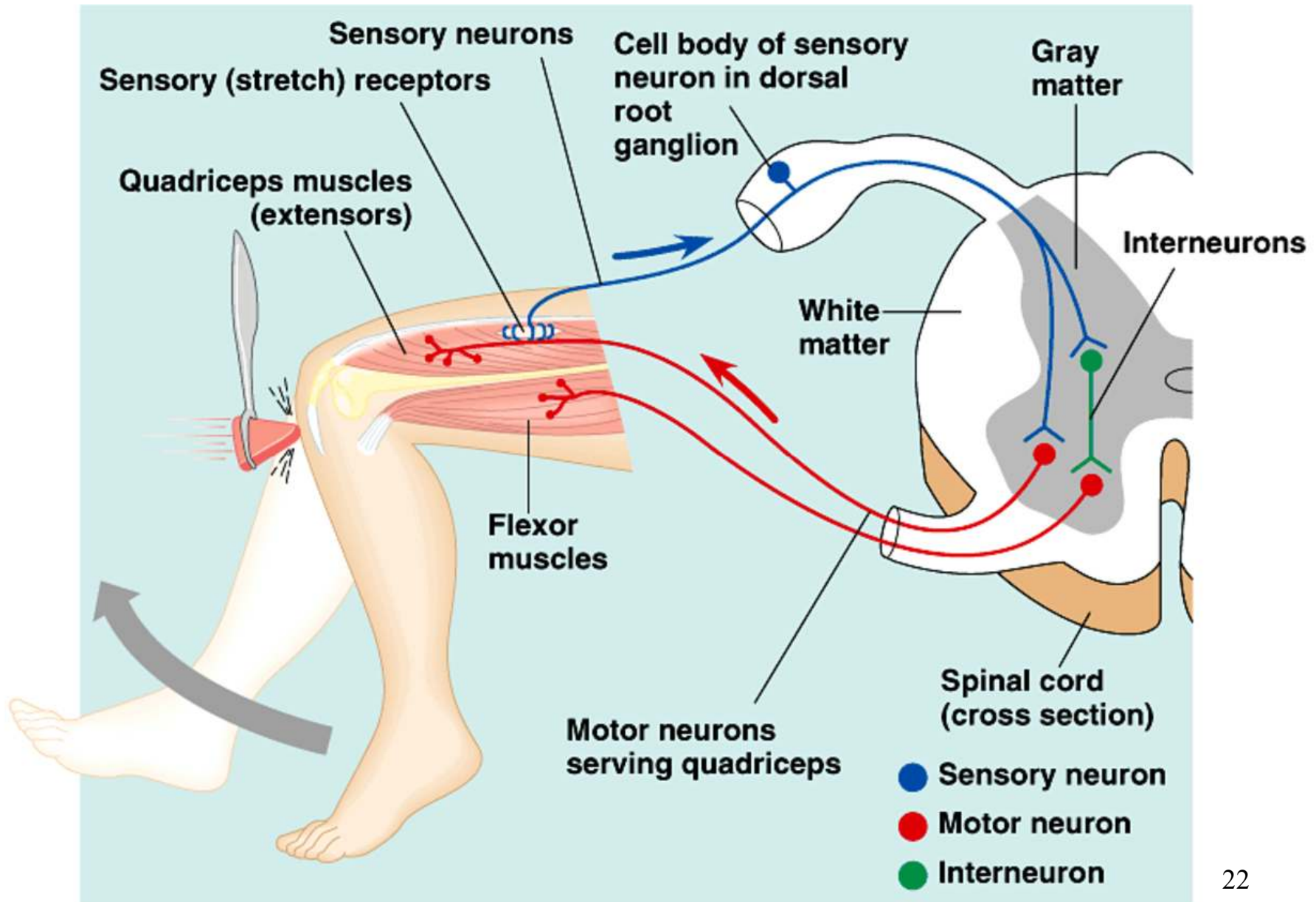
- IX glossopharyngeus
- X vagus
- XI accessorius
- XII hypoglossus

# Extremities

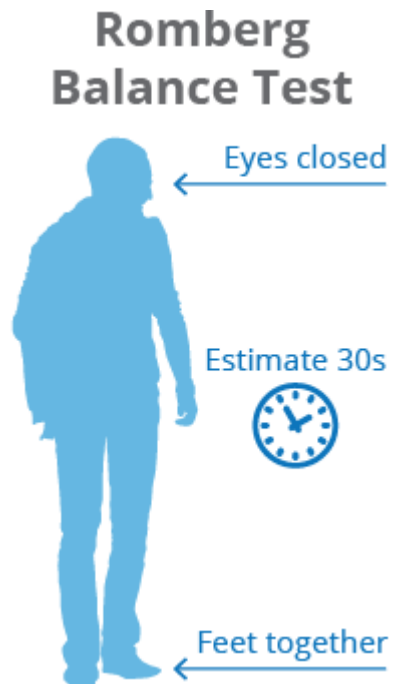
- Range of movements
  - active (paresis - neurology) X passive (skeletal, joint or ligaments - orthopaedics)
- strength, muscle tone
- paretic pyramidal signs (Mingazzini, Dufour)
- irritative pyramidal signs (Babinski, Juster)
- myotatic reflexes (spinal cord segment responses)
- cerebellar syndromes
  - taxis, diadochokinesis, muscle atonia, intention tremor
- extrapyramidal syndrome
  - elementary postural reflexes
  - rigidity, bradykinesia, static tremor



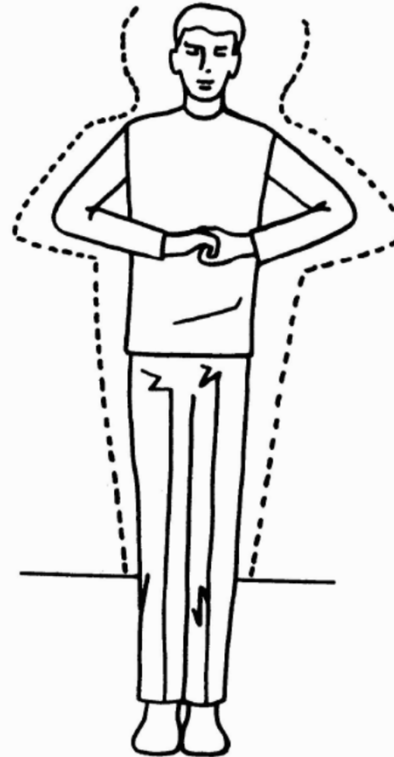
# Spinal reflexes



# Standing and gait



**ROMBERG'S TEST**



**position of feet**

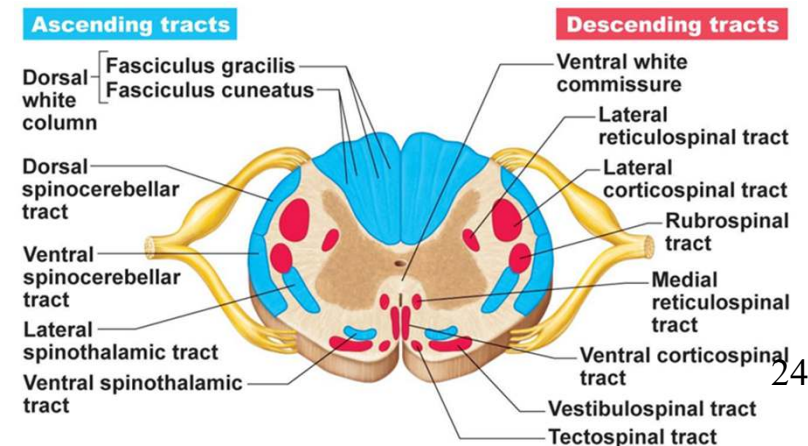
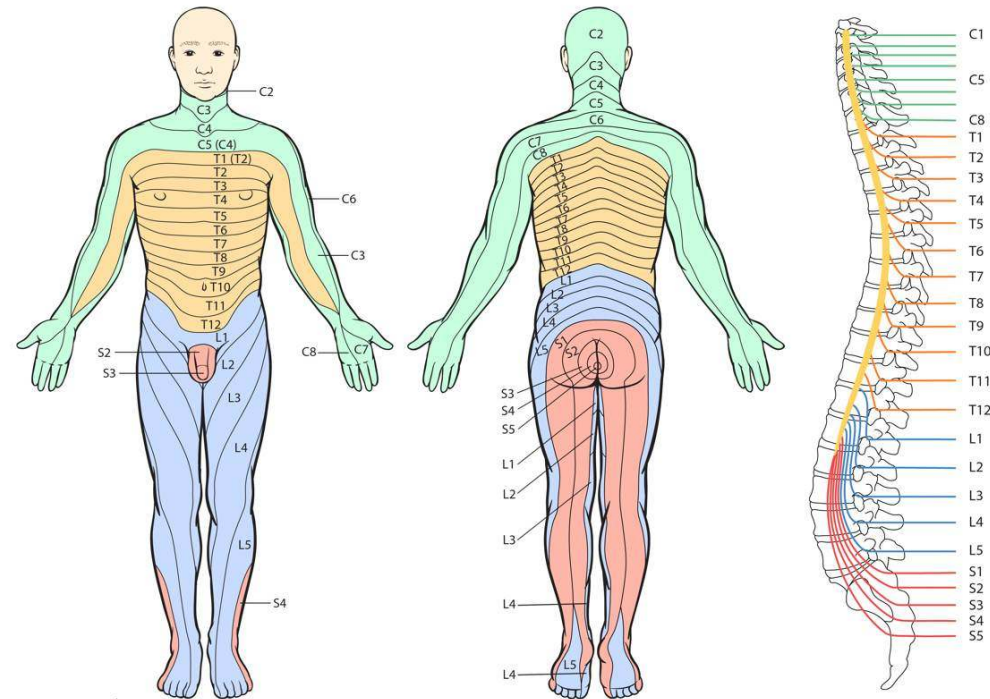


**Jendrassik's manoeuvre**



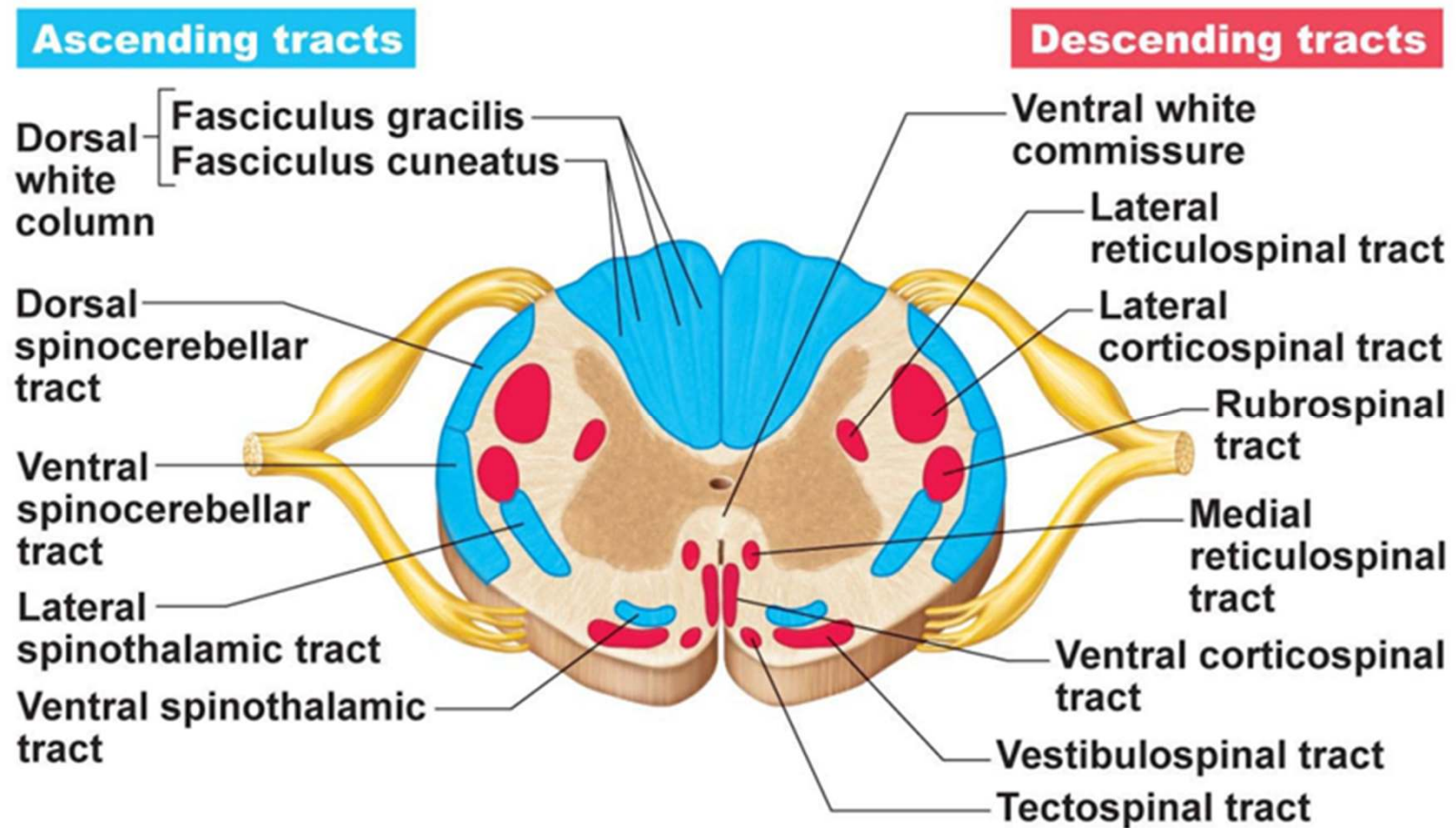
# Somatosensory examination

- touch and pressure
- deep sensation, proprioception
  - lemniscal, dorsal column
- pain and thermic sensation
  - spinothalamic tract
- vibration sense by tuning fork
  - dorsal column

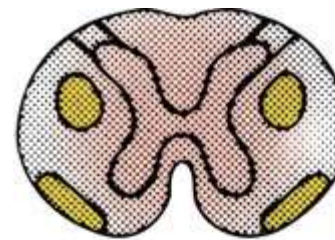
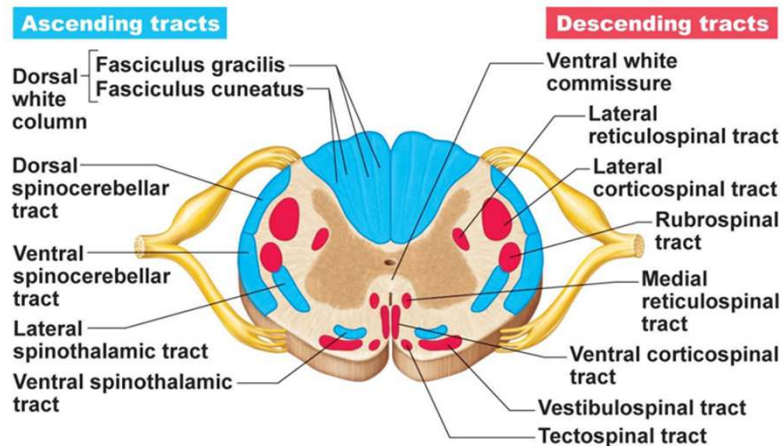




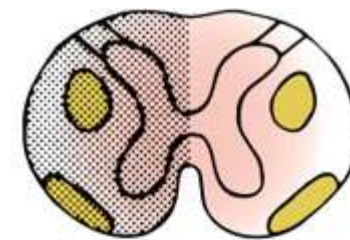
# Spinal tracts



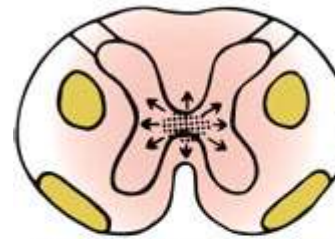
# What should we know about spinal tracts?



Complete cord transection



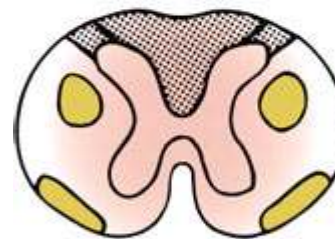
Brown-Séquard syndrome



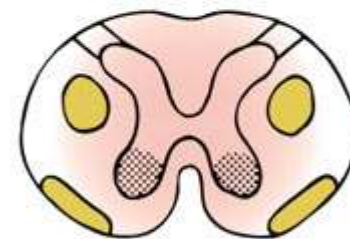
Central lesions (syringomyelia)



Posterolateral column syndrome (subacute combined degeneration)



Posterior column syndrome (tabes dorsalis)



Anterior horn cell syndrome

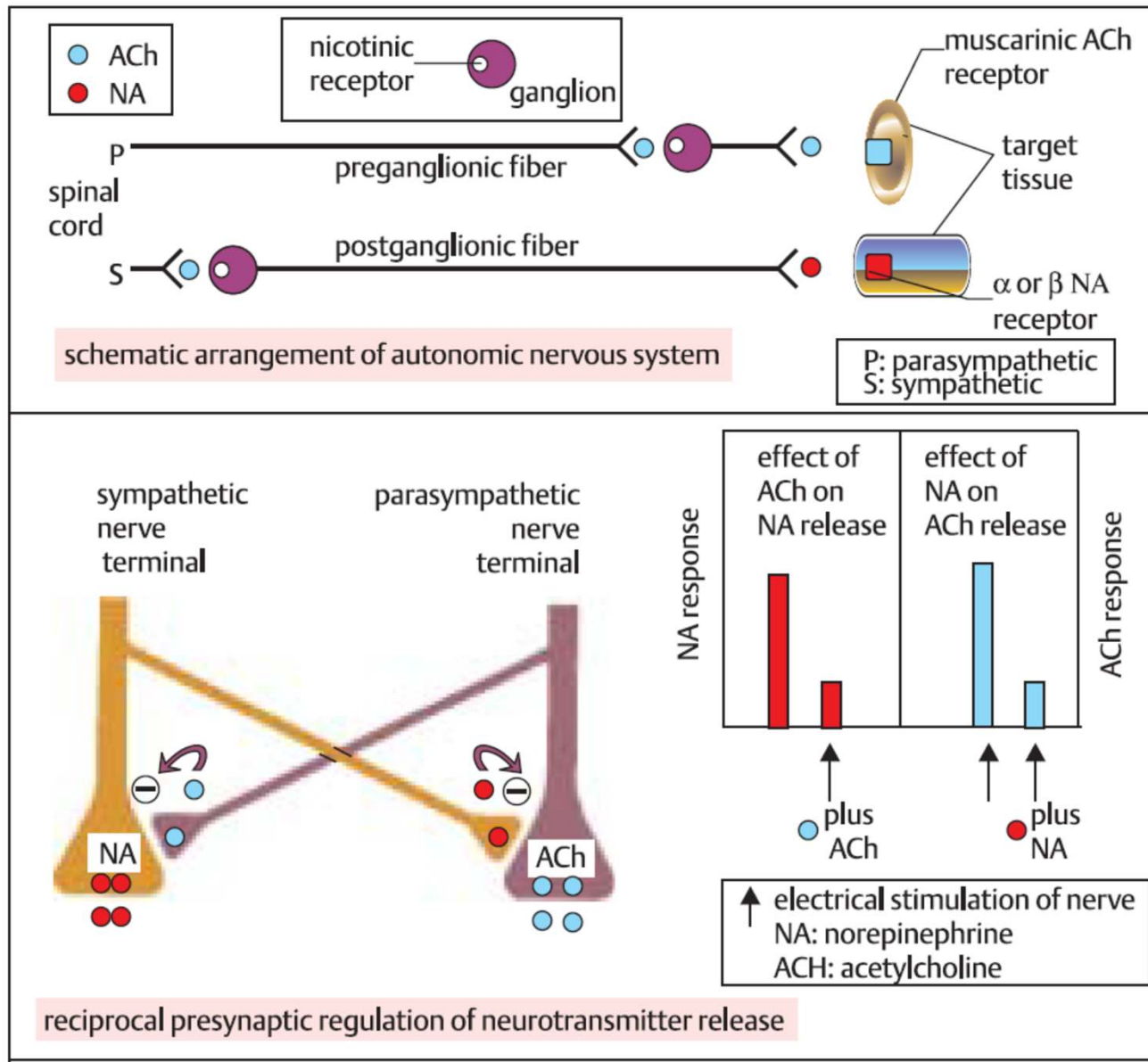


Combined anterior horn cell-pyramidal tract syndrome (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis)



Anterior spinal artery occlusion

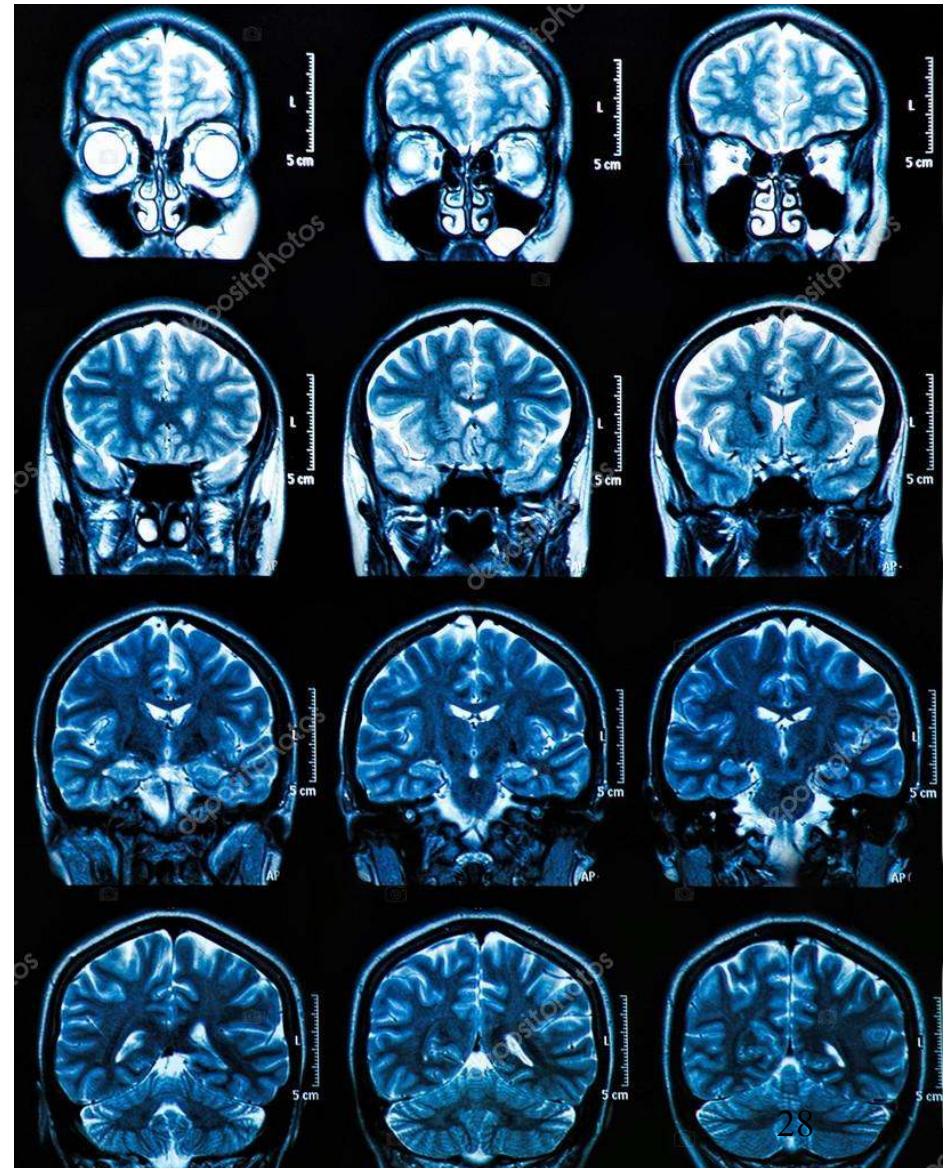
# Reciprocal action of sympathetic and parasympathetic nerves





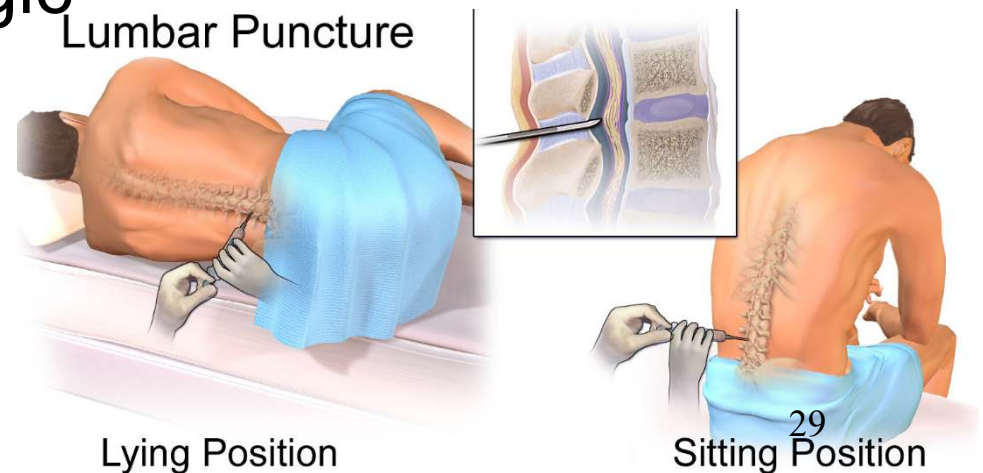
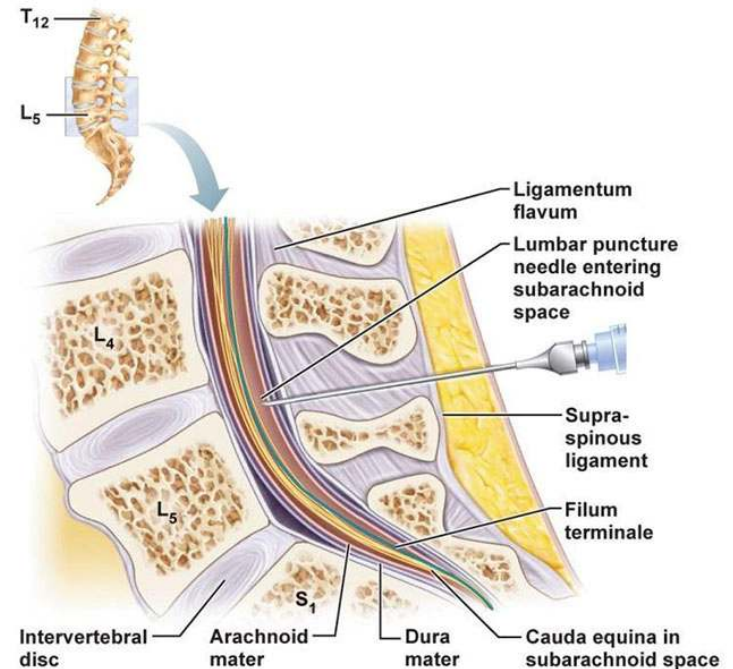
# Other examinations

- lumbar puncture
- radiodiagnostics
- isotope methods
- USG + Doppler
- Angiography,  
digital subtraction A.
- EEG
- sleep examination
- evoked potentials
- laboratory methods
- meningeal signs
- ventriculography
- pneumoencephalography
- ...



# Lumbar puncture

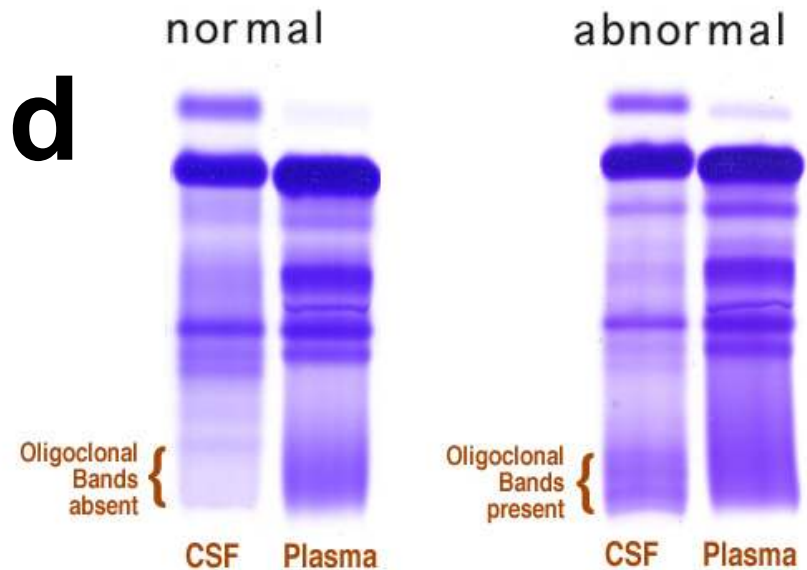
- **indications:** diagnostics of neuroinfections, demyelination diseases, tumours, ruling out intracranial hemorrhages
- **contraindications:** high intracranial pressure, expansive intracranial processes, sepsis, local infection, hemorrhagic diatheses, vertebral deformities
- postpuncture syndrome



# Findings in cerebrospinal fluid



## Oligoclonal Bands in CSF



Typical CSF Findings in Meningitis					
Type	Appearance	Pressure (cm H <sub>2</sub> O)	WBC/mm <sup>3</sup> Predom type	Glc (mg/dL)	TP (mg/dL)
Normal	Clear	9–18	0–5 <i>lymphs</i>	50–75	15–40
Bacterial	Cloudy	18–30	100–10,000 <i>polys</i>	<45	100–1000
TB	Cloudy	18–30	<500 <i>lymphs</i>	<45	100–200
Fungal	Cloudy	18–30	<300 <i>lymphs</i>	<45	40–300
Aseptic	Clear	9–18	<300 <i>polys</i> → <i>lymphs</i>	50–100	50–100



# Imaging Methods

Imaging Study	Indication/Objective <sup>1</sup>
<i>Conventional radiography</i> <sup>2</sup> Skull, spine	Metallic foreign bodies, air-filled cavities, fractures, skull defects, bony anomalies, osteolysis, spinal degenerative disease
<i>Computed tomography (CT)</i> Head, spine, spinal canal, CT-guided diagnostic interventions, 3-D reconstruction	Assessment of skeleton (anomalies, fractures, osteolysis, degenerative changes, spinal canal stenosis), metastases, trauma, intracranial hemorrhage, cerebral ischemia, hydrocephalus, calcification, intervertebral disk disease, contrast studies <sup>3</sup> (brain, spinal canal, CT angiography)
<i>Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)</i> <sup>4</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Head, spine, spinal canal</li> <li>Skeletal muscle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tumors (brain, spine, spinal cord), infection (encephalitis, myelitis, abscess, AIDS, multiple sclerosis), structural anomalies of the brain (epilepsy), leukodystrophy, MR angiography (aneurysm, vascular malformation), ischemia of the brain or spinal cord, spinal trauma, hydrocephalus, myelopathy, intervertebral disk disease</li> <li>Muscular atrophy, myositis</li> </ul>
<i>Angiography</i> <sup>3,5</sup> Cerebral, spinal; preinterventional or preoperative study <sup>6</sup>	High-grade arterial stenosis, aneurysm, arteriovenous malformation/fistula, sinus thrombosis, vasculitis
<i>Myelography</i> <sup>3,7</sup>	Largely replaced by CT and, especially, MRI. Used to clarify special diagnostic questions in spinal lesions
<i>Diagnostic nuclear medicine</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skeletal scintigraphy ("bone scan")</li> <li>CSF scintigraphy</li> <li>Emission tomography<sup>8</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tumor metastasis, spondylodiscitis</li> <li>Intradural catheter function test, CSF leak</li> <li>Cerebral perfusion, cerebral metabolic disorders, degenerative diseases, diagnosis of epilepsy</li> </ul>

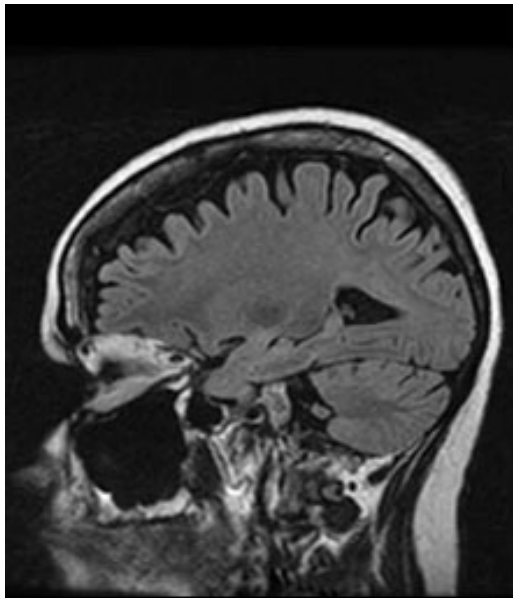
# Imaging Methods/ Radiodiagnostics

## **Morphological investigation methods (imaging)**

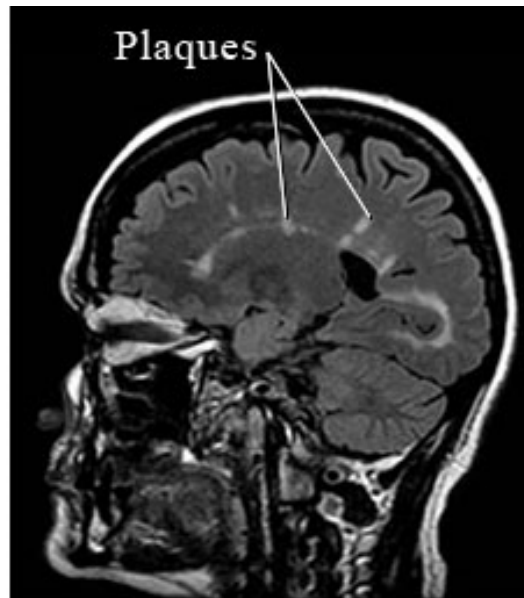
- **X ray**
- **Computational tomography**
- **Positron emission tomography (PET)**
- **(Nuclear) magnetic resonance**
- **Functional magnetic resonance**
- **brain angiography**
- **Ultrasonography (USG) and Doppler sonography**



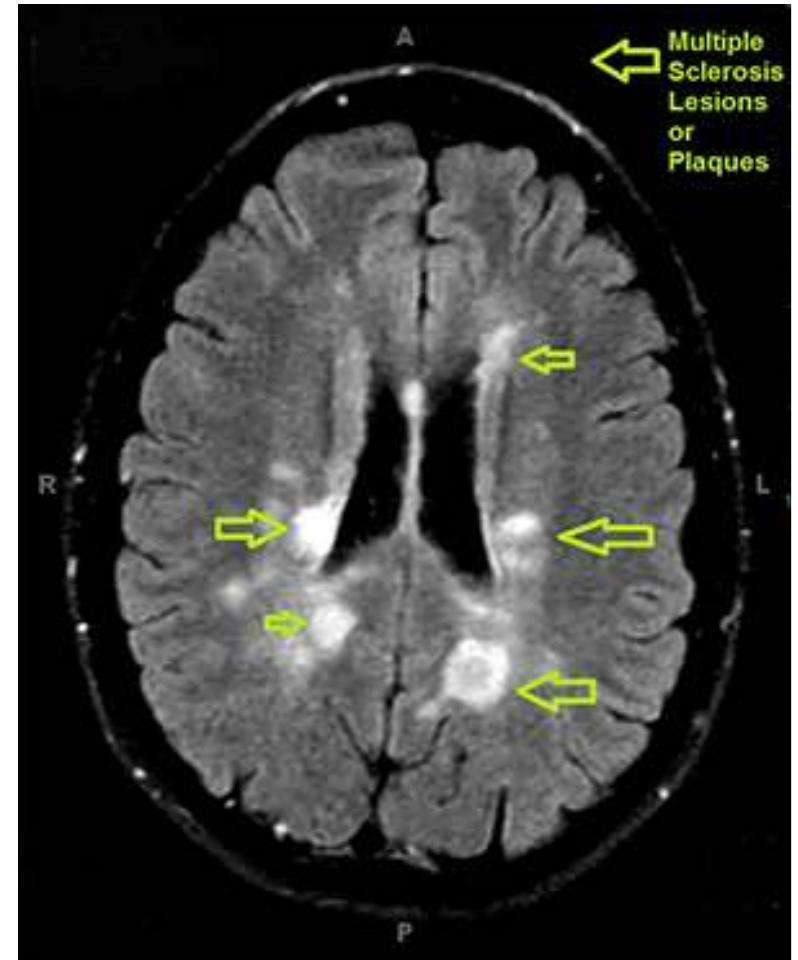
# MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) example: multiple sclerosis



Healthy brain

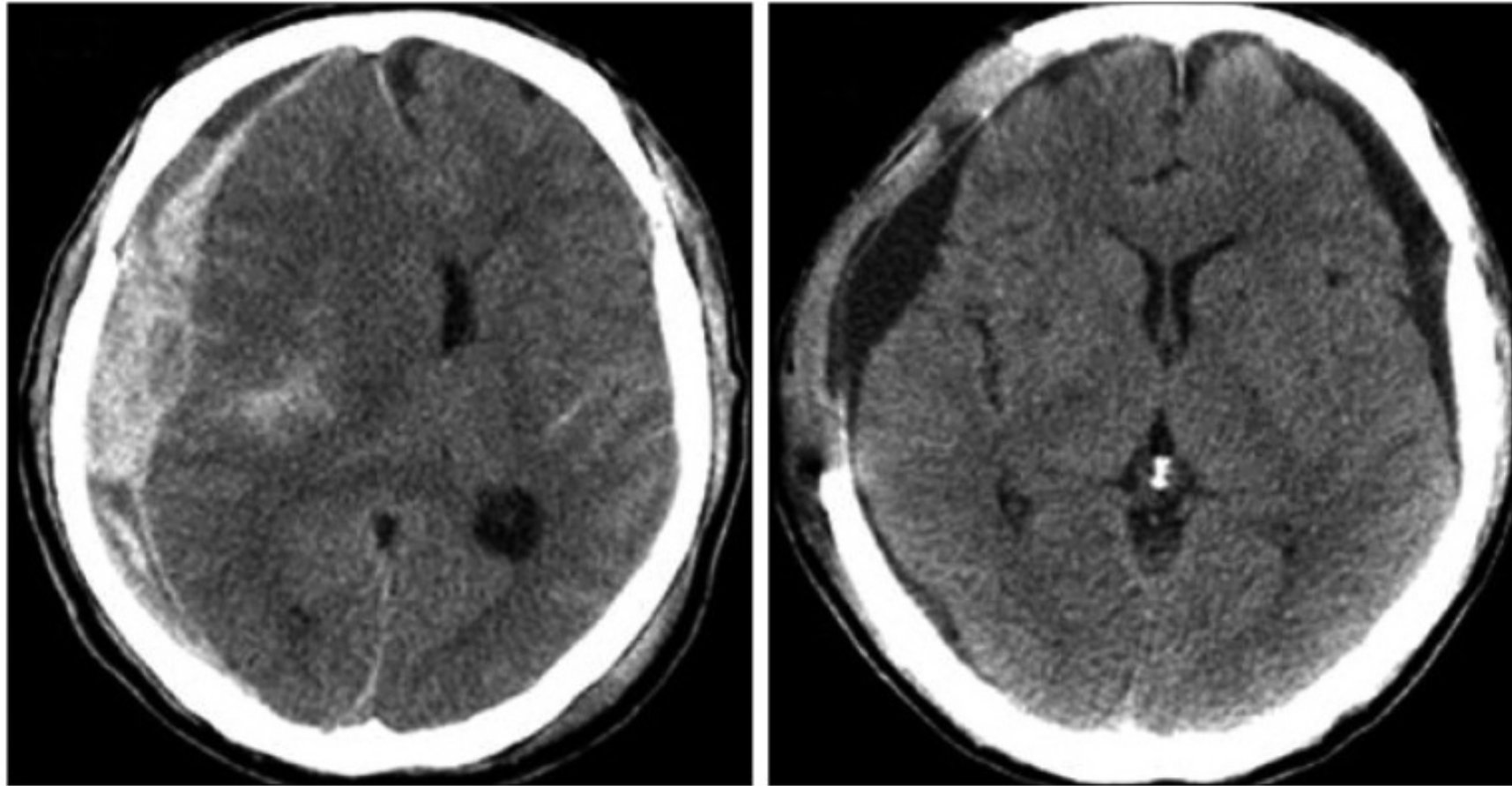


Brain with damage (lesions or plaques) caused by MS



# Computer Tomography

example: acute subdural hematoma  
before and after evacuation

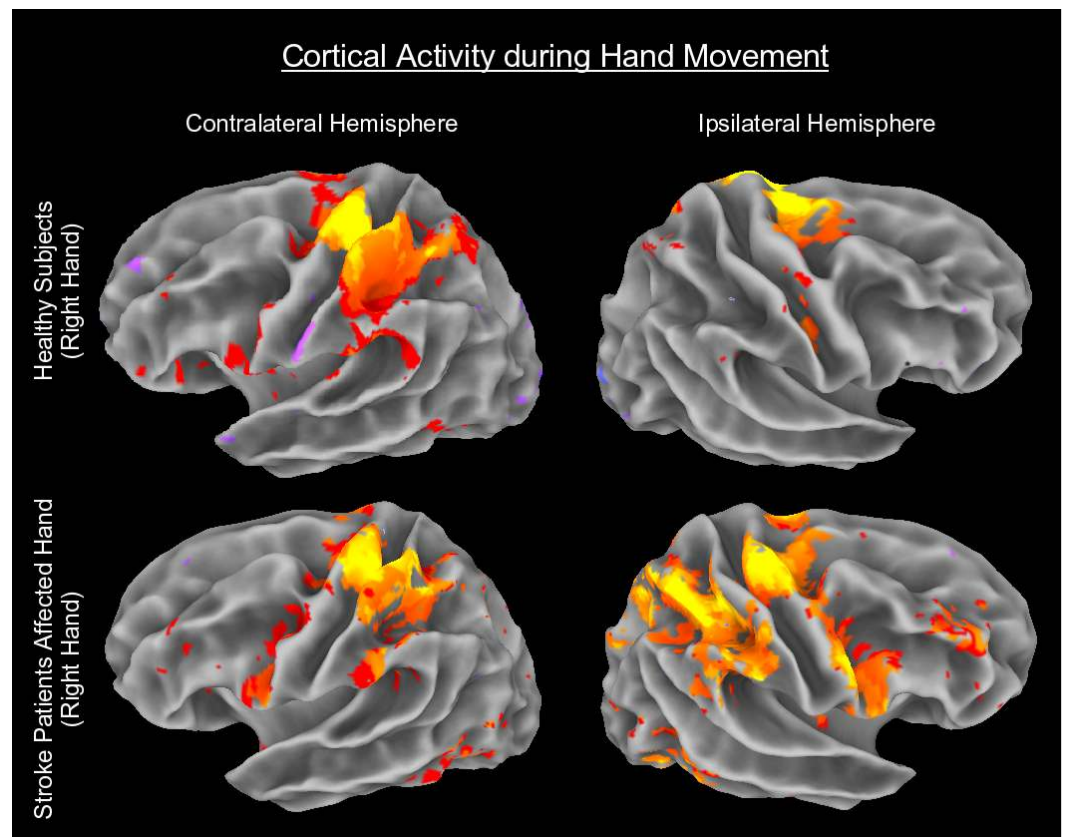


# Functional magnetic resonance (f MRI)

**Principle:** Detects BOLD (Blood Oxygen Level Dependent fMRI) signal.

**Spatial resolution:** 1 mm,  
**time resolution:** no theoretical limit, in practice, only times in the range of 1 s are used

**Application:** Analogous, as in computer tomography. Shows a succession of areas as they are activated.

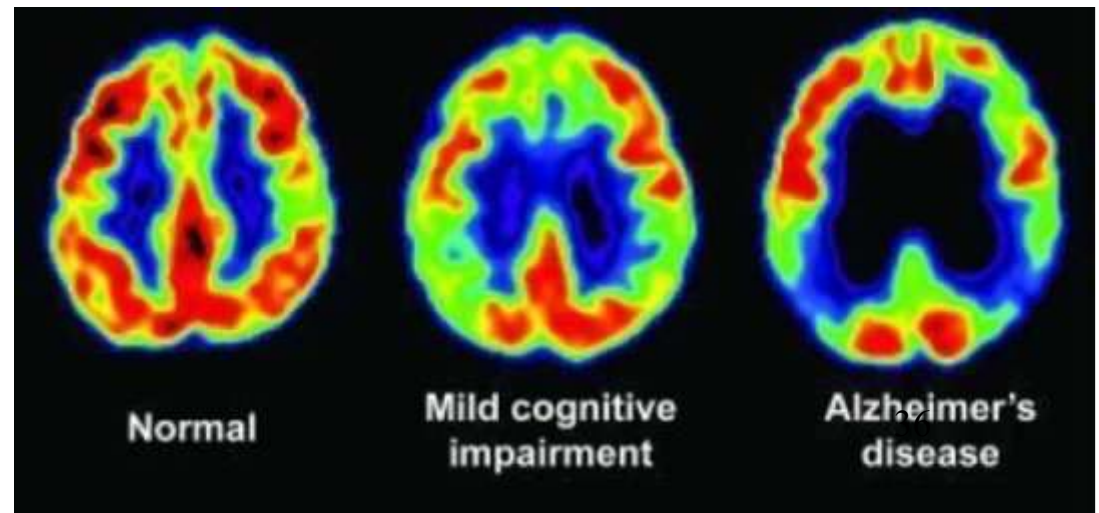
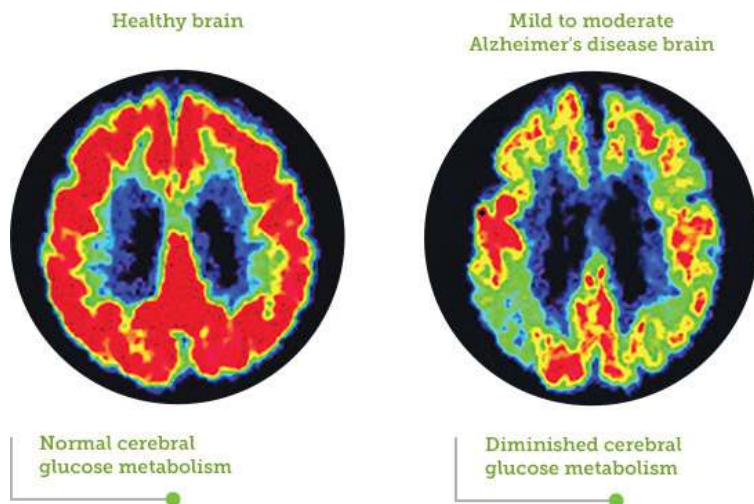


# Positron emission tomography

**Principle:** Radioactive isotopes  $^{11}\text{C}$ ,  $^{13}\text{N}$ ,  $^{15}\text{O}$  and  $^{18}\text{F}$  emit positrones. They collide with electrons and emit two quanta of gamma rays.

**Spatial resolution:** 8 mm, **time resolution:** no theoretical limit, in practice, only times in the range of 1 s are used.

**Application:** Application of radioactive deoxy-glucose marks tissues with active metabolism.





# High intracranial pressure

- causes:
  - intracranial bleeding
  - infections, abscesses
  - tumours, metastases
  - brain oedema
  - hydrocephalus

## INCREASED INTRACRANIAL PRESSURE (IICP)

(Symptoms Of IICP Are Opposite Of Shock)

### \* IICP \*

- ↑ B/P
- ↓ Pulse
- ↓ Respirations (Cushings Triad)



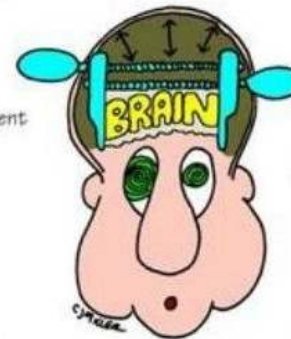
### \* Shock \*

- ↓ B/P
- ↑ Pulse
- ↑ Respirations

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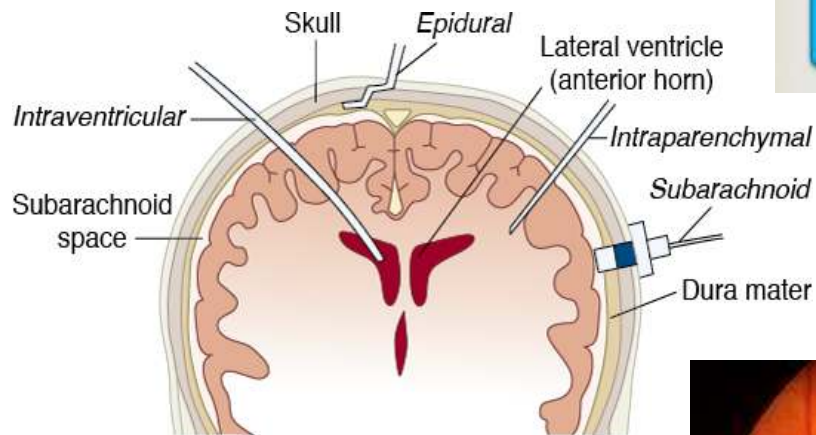
## INCREASED INTRACRANIAL PRESSURE

- Changes in LOC
- Eyes
  - Papilledema
  - Pupillary Changes
  - Impaired Eye Movement
- Posturing
  - Decerebrate
  - Decorticate
  - Flaccid
- Decreased Motor Function
  - Change in Motor Ability
  - Posturing
- Headache
- Seizures
  - Impaired Sensory & Motor Function
- Changes in Vital Signs:
  - Cushing's Triad:
    - ↑ Systolic B/P
    - ↓ Pulse
    - Altered Resp Pattern
- Vomiting
- Changes in Speech
- Infants:
  - Bulging Fontanel
  - Cranial Suture Separation
  - ↑ Head Circumference
  - High Pitched Cry

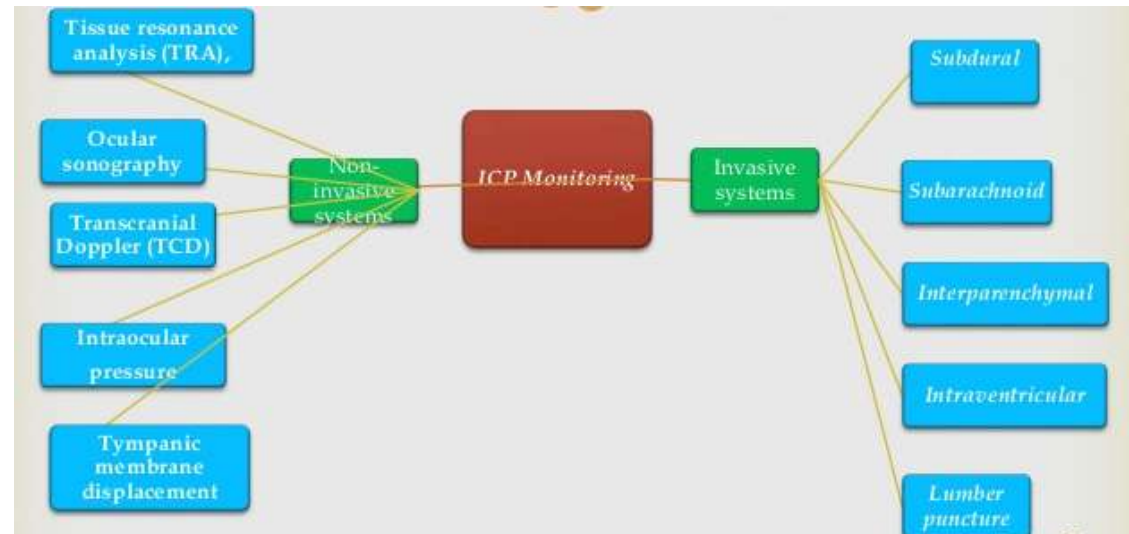


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# Intracranial pressure monitoring



Source: Atchabedian A, Gupta R: *The Anesthesia Guide*  
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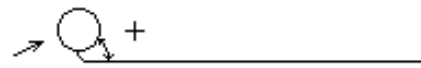


**Retinography:**  
normal papilla vs  
papillary oedema  
in high ICP

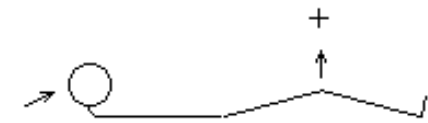


# Meningeal signs

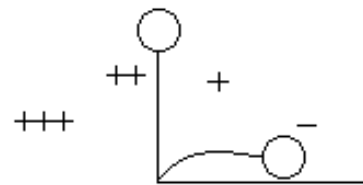
- irritation of the meninges
  - neuroinfection
  - subarachnoid hemorrhage
  - tumors on meninges
  - lesions of nearby brain tissue



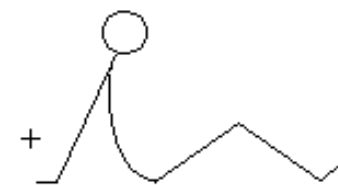
nuchal rigidity



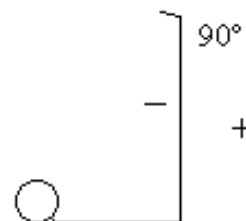
Brudzinksi's sign



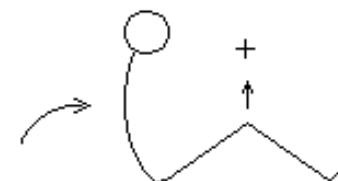
spine sign



tripod sign (Amoss' sign)

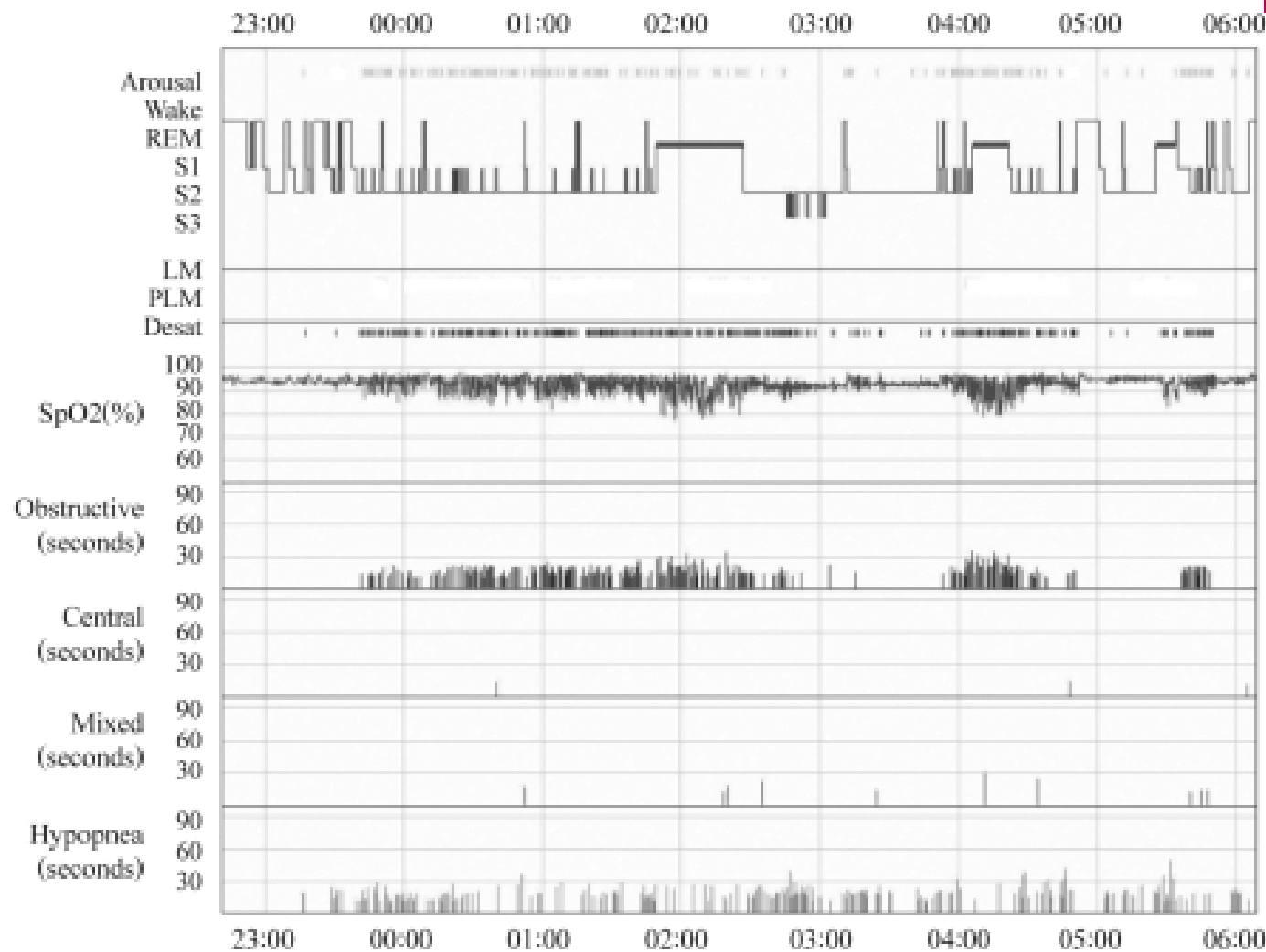
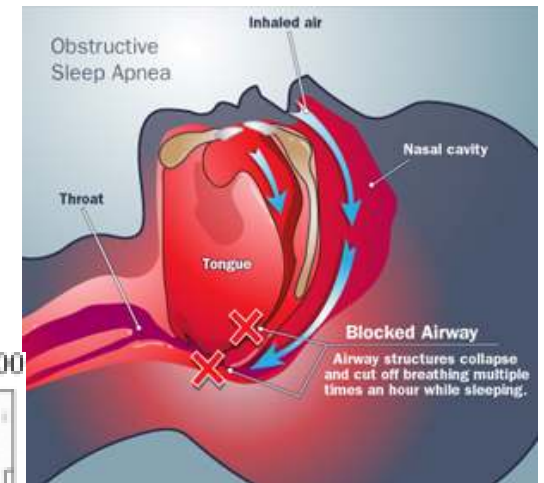


Lasègue's sign



Kernig's sign

# Sleep examination – sleep apnea



[https://openi.nlm.nih.gov/detailedresult.php?img=PMC2848777\\_pi-7-75-g001&req=4](https://openi.nlm.nih.gov/detailedresult.php?img=PMC2848777_pi-7-75-g001&req=4)



# Electrophysiologic Examinations

Test/Purpose	Risks	Comments
<i>Electroencephalography:</i> To assess electrical activity of the brain <sup>1</sup>	<p>Surface electrodes: none</p> <p>Needle electrodes: infection</p> <p>Induction of seizures by provocative methods<sup>2</sup></p>	Sphenoid, subdural or depth recording <sup>3</sup> for special questions relevant to the (preoperative) diagnostic evaluation of epilepsy
<p><i>Evoked potentials (EPs):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VEPs<sup>4</sup>: Study of optic nerve, optic chiasm and optic tract</li> <li>• AEPs<sup>5</sup>: Study of peripheral and central segments of the auditory pathway<sup>6</sup></li> <li>• SEPs<sup>7</sup>: Study of somatosensory systems<sup>8</sup></li> <li>• MEPs<sup>9</sup>: Study of corticospinal motor pathway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• May induce epileptic seizures. Contraindications: cardiac pacemakers, metal prostheses in the target area, pregnancy, unstable fractures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used mainly to diagnose prechiasmatic lesions</li> <li>• Used mainly for diagnosis of multiple sclerosis, tumors of the posterior cranial fossa, brain stem lesions causing coma or brain death, and intraoperative monitoring</li> <li>• Used to assess proximal peripheral nerve lesions (plexus, roots) and spinal cord or parietal lobe lesions</li> <li>• Pyramidal tract lesions, motor neuron lesions, root compression, plexus lesions, stimulation of deep nerves, differential diagnosis of psychogenic paresis</li> </ul>
<i>Electromyography:</i> Study of electrical activity in muscle	Contraindication: coagulopathy. Risk of injury in special studies <sup>11</sup>	Provides information on motor unit disorders in patients with peripheral nerve lesions or myopathies. Not disease-specific. Disposable needles should be used to prevent spread of infectious disease <sup>10</sup>
<i>Electroneurography:</i> Measurement of motor and sensory conduction velocities.	Needle recordings contraindicated in patients with coagulopathy	Localization (proximal, distal, conduction block) and classification (axonal, demyelinating) of peripheral nerve lesions <sup>12</sup>
<i>Electro-oculography:</i> To record and assess eye movements and/or nystagmus	Caloric testing with water contraindicated in patients with perforated eardrums	Diagnosis and localization of peripheral and central vestibular lesions. 41 Differentiation of saccades

# **Electrophysiologic examinations**

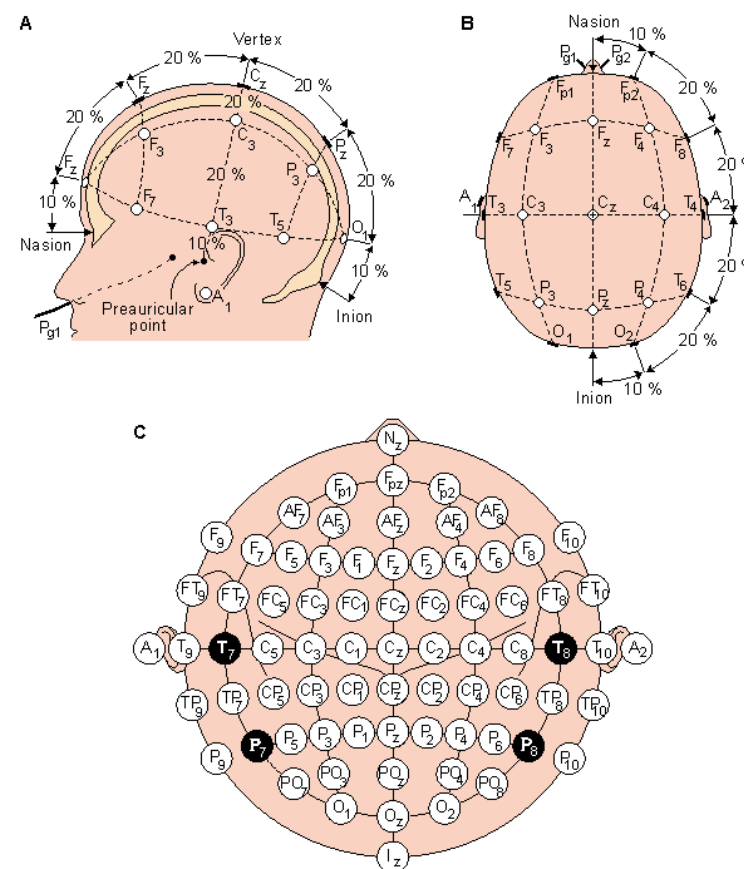
- Electroencephalography (EEG)
- Evoked potentials (EP)
- Electromyography (EMG)
- Other methods (electro-oculography, retinography, etc.)

# Electro-encephalo-graphy (EEG)

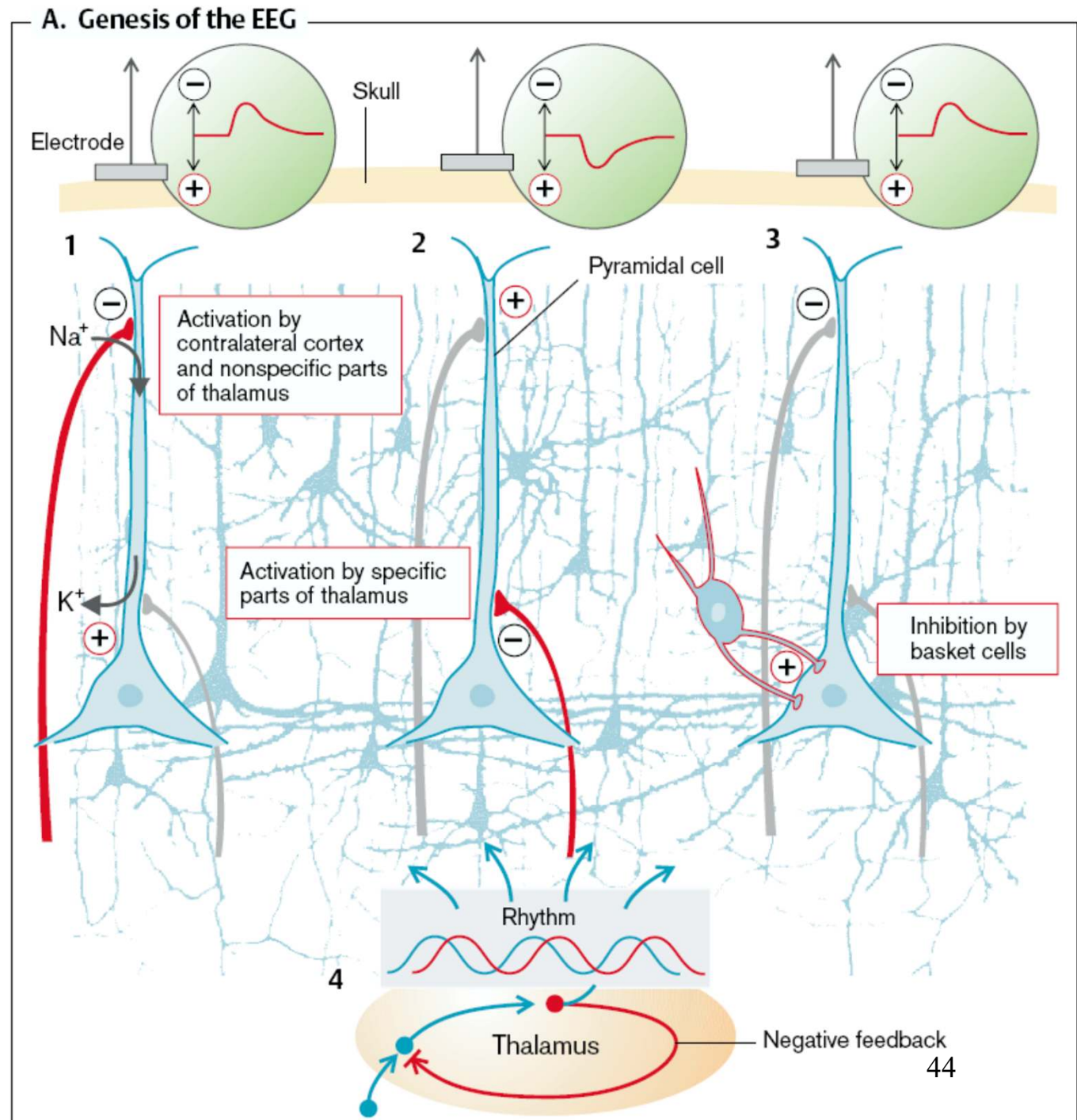
**Principle:** The EEG signal is result of net excitatory and inhibitory post-synaptic activity in surface layers of cerebral cortex. On the surface of the skull this is sometimes called macro-EEG, as compared to micro-EEG recorded at the cortex surface during surgeries.

**Spatial resolution:** due to crosstalks coarser than 1 cm, **time resolution:** better than in imaging, in the range of 1 ms.

**Application:** Epilepsy, sleep disorders, also in investigation of sensory systems.



**Summation and synchronization of post-synaptic potentials in surface layers of cerebral cortex.**



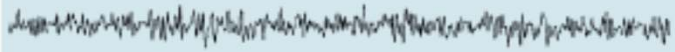


## B. Wave Frequency Pattern of EEG

$\alpha$  8–13 Hz



$\beta$  14–30 Hz



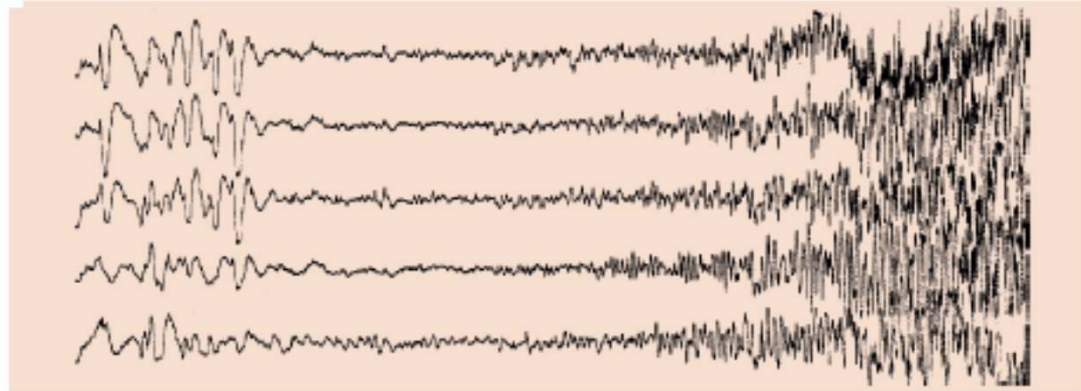
$\theta$  4–7 Hz



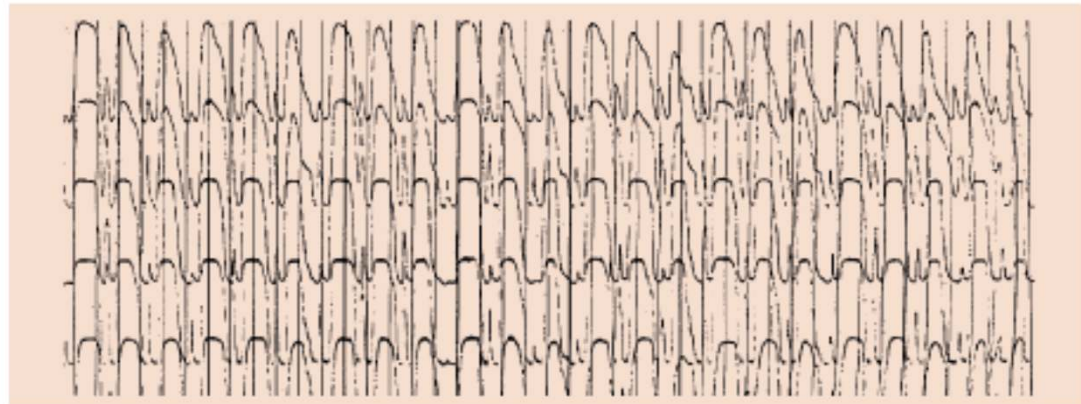
$\delta$  0.5–3 Hz



1 Normal EEG frequencies



2 Onset of an epileptic attack



3 Rhythmic spike-wave complexes in absences

### Normal findings: EEG waves:

Alpha waves, 8-13 Hz, parieto-occipital region, marked in closed eyes

Beta waves, 14-30 Hz, frontal region

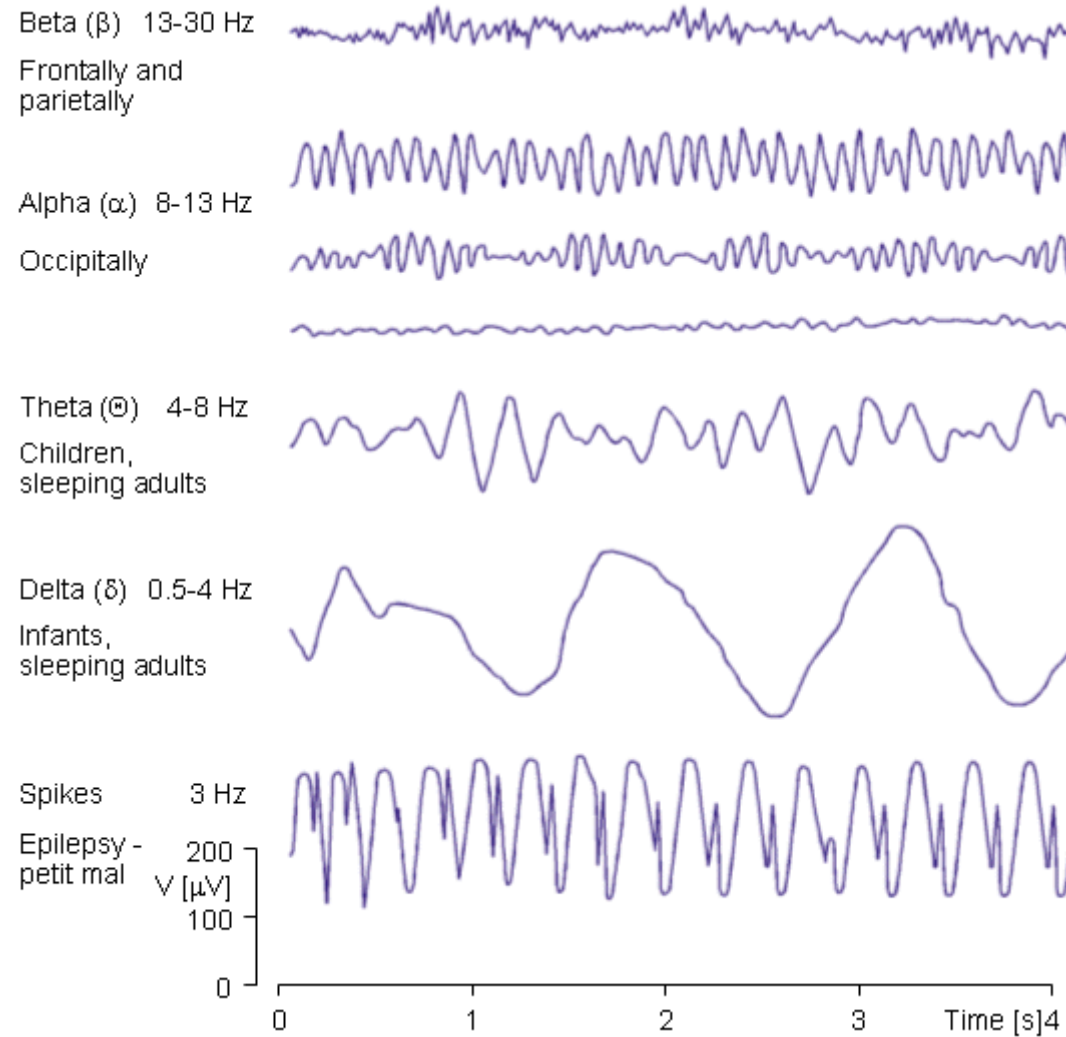
Gamma waves, 40-60 Hz, are not regularly used due to interference with electric power net.

Delta waves, < 4 Hz, e.g in synchronous phase of sleep.

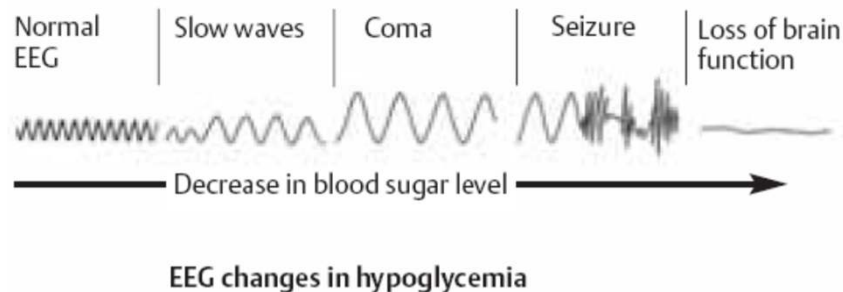
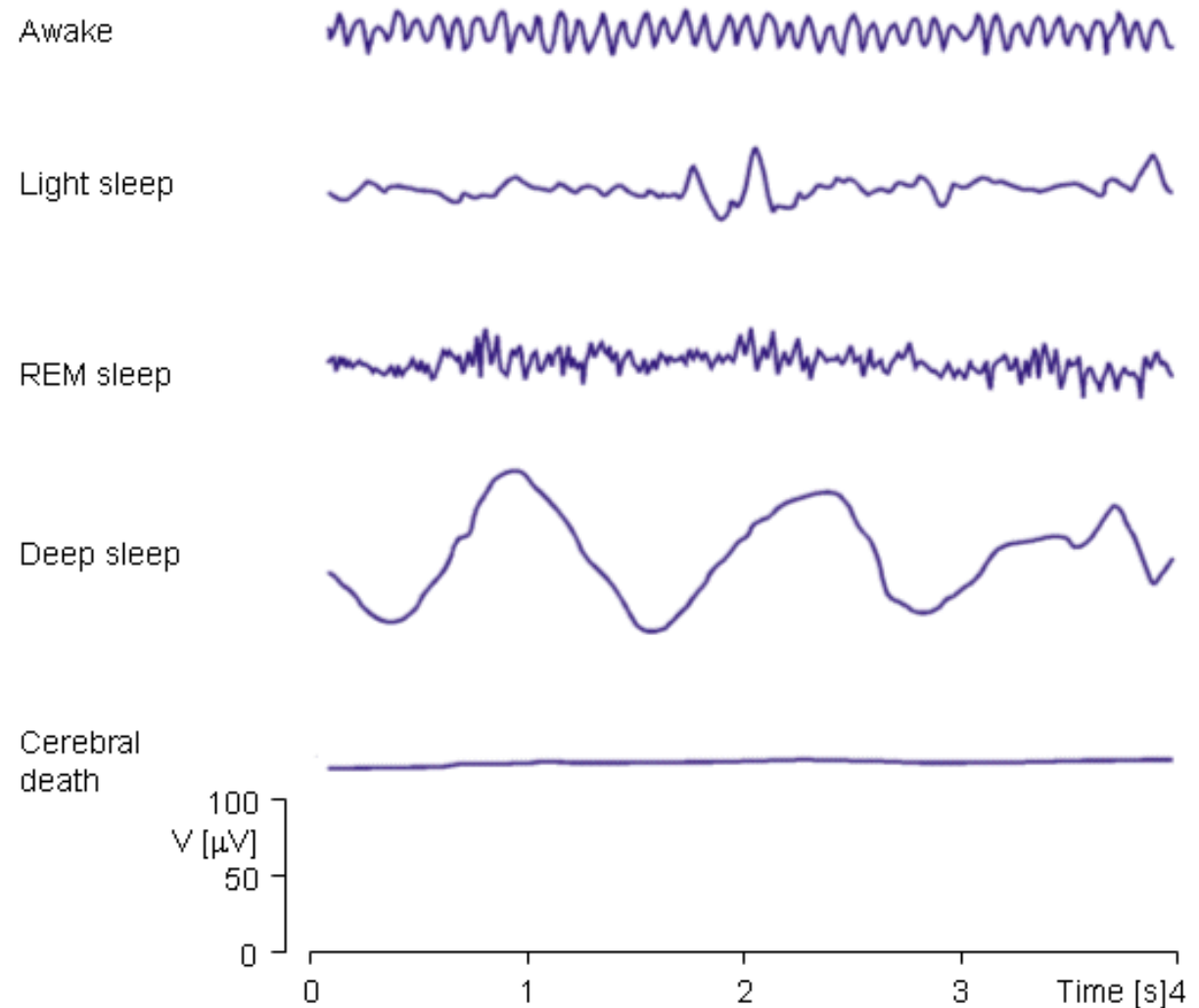
Theta waves, 4-7 Hz, e.g in synchronous phase of sleep.



# EEG Waves



# How can EEG look during various activities/pathologies?

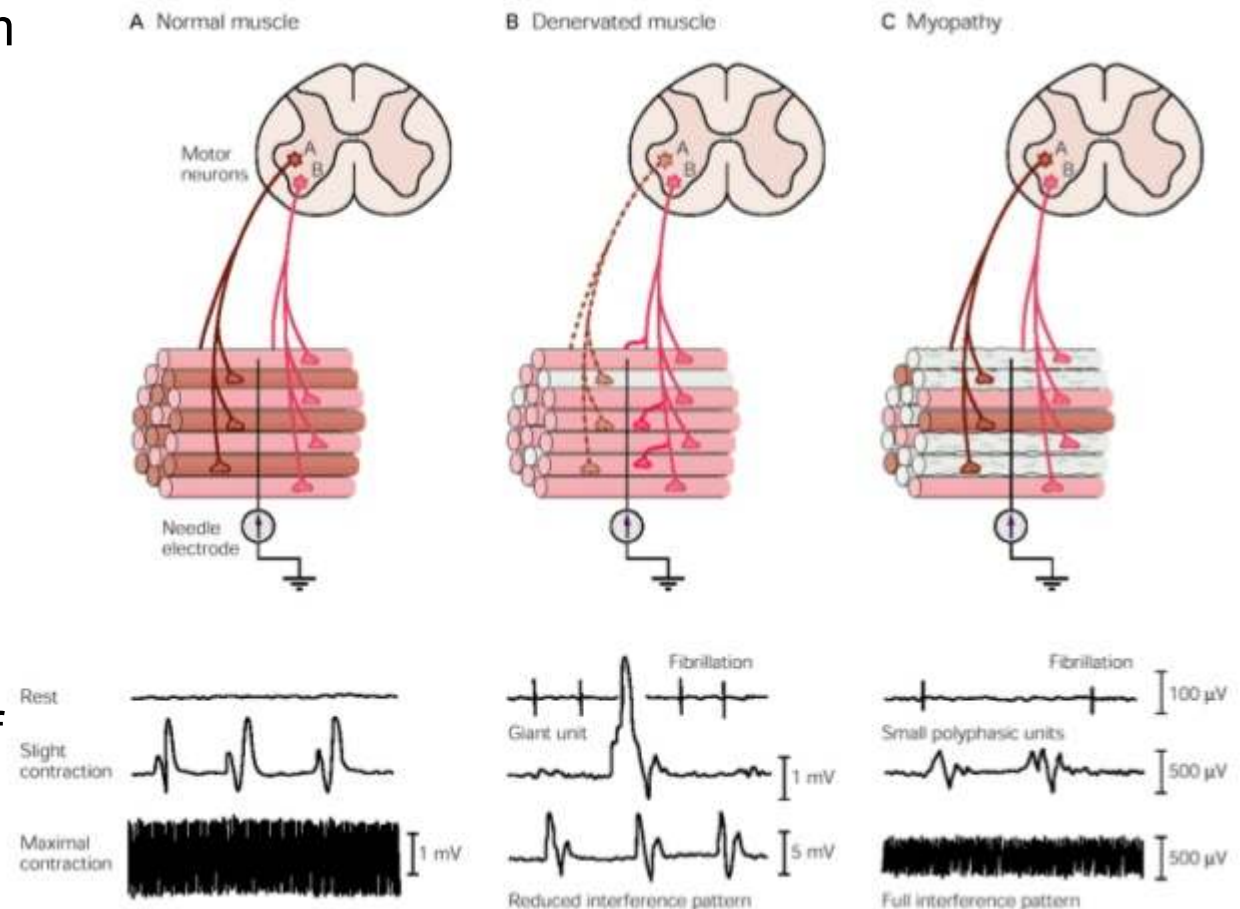


# Electromyography (EMG)

**Principle:** Recording from needles, shows recruitment of muscle fibers by motoneuron stimulation, myopathies and neuropathies can be distinguished.

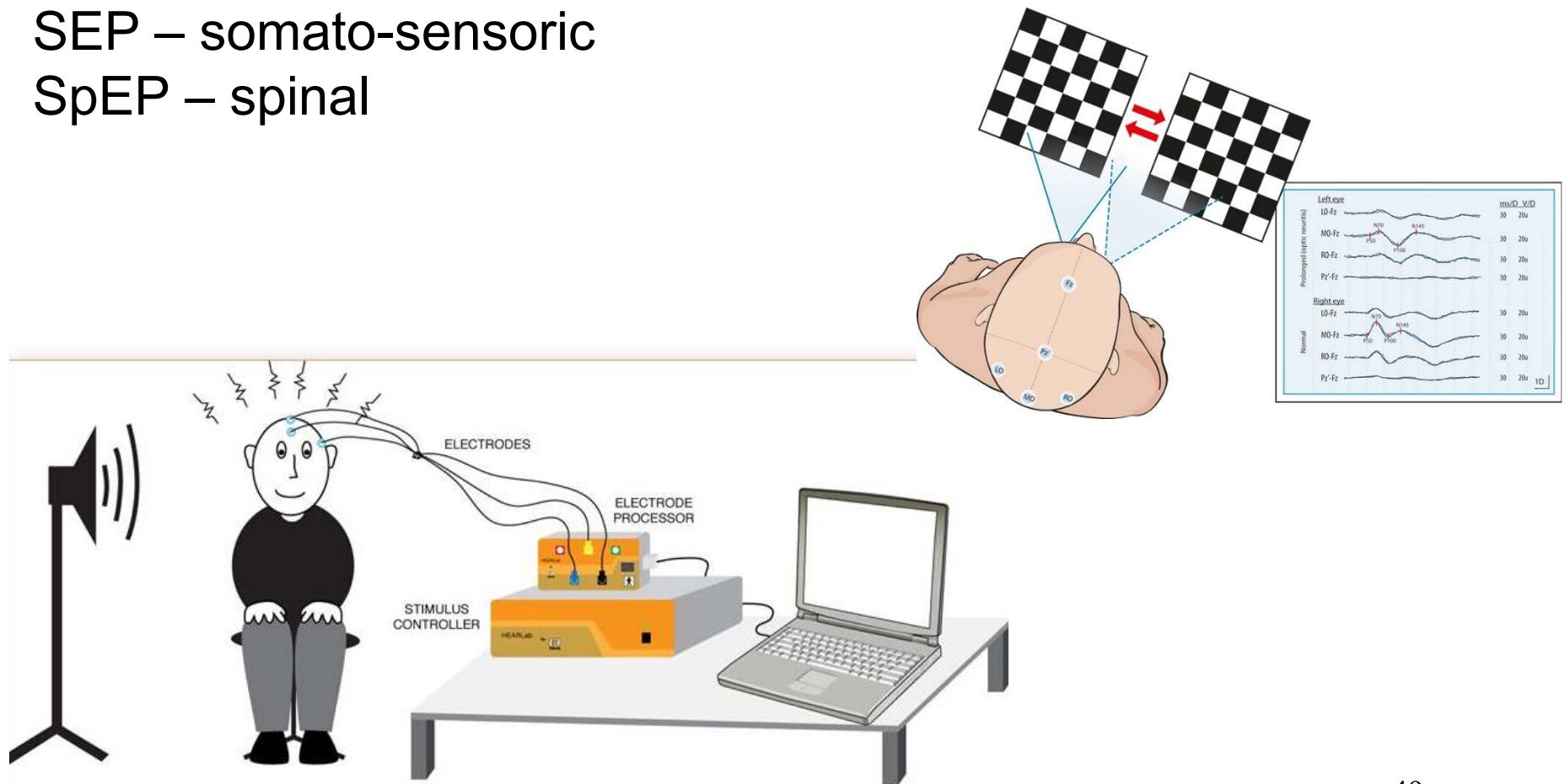
**Spatial resolution, time resolution:** as in EEG

**Application:** Disorders of neuro-motor unit.

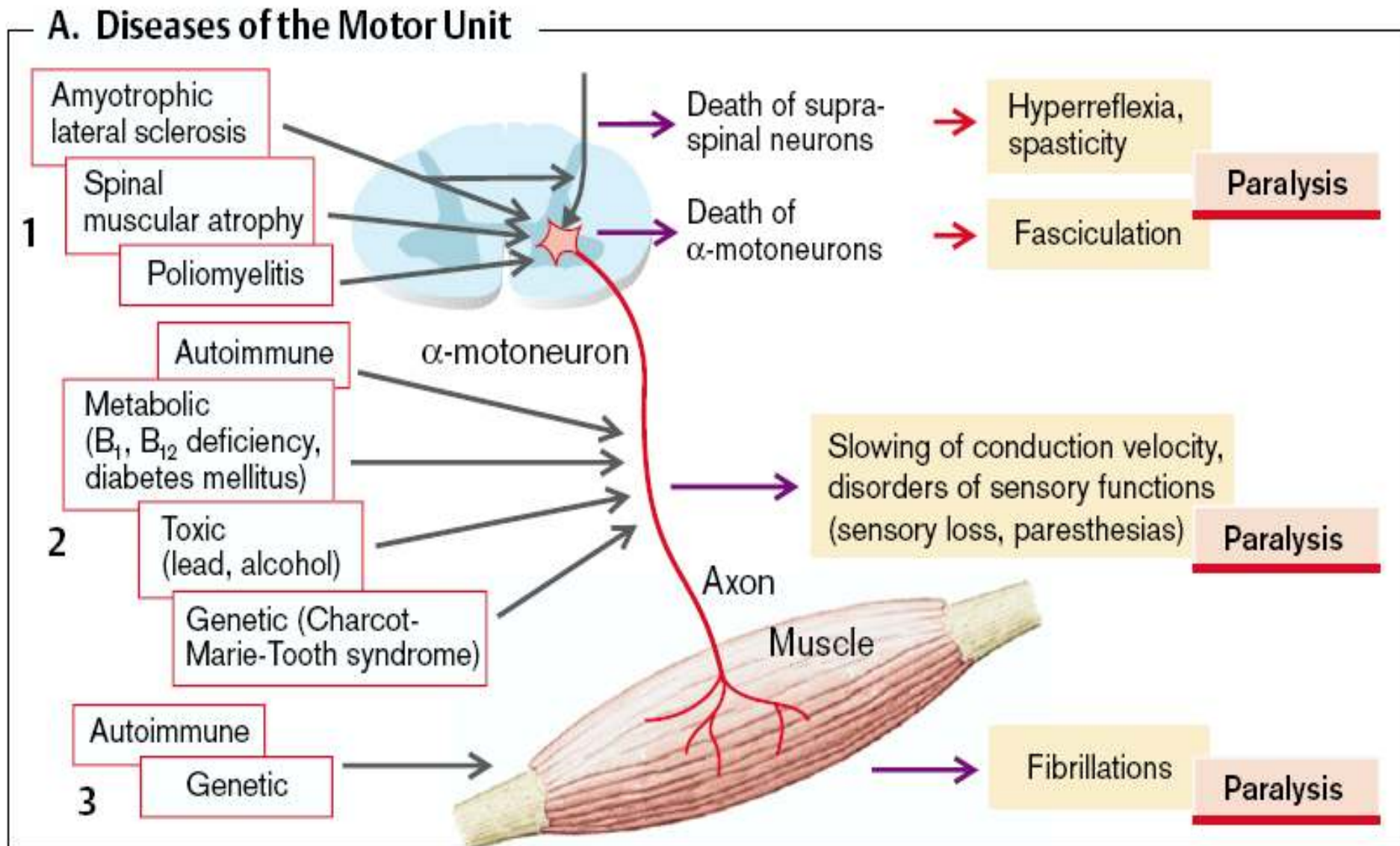


# Evoked potentials

- VEP – visual
- AEP – auditory- Ear-Nose-Throat Dept.
- SEP – somato-sensoric
- SpEP – spinal



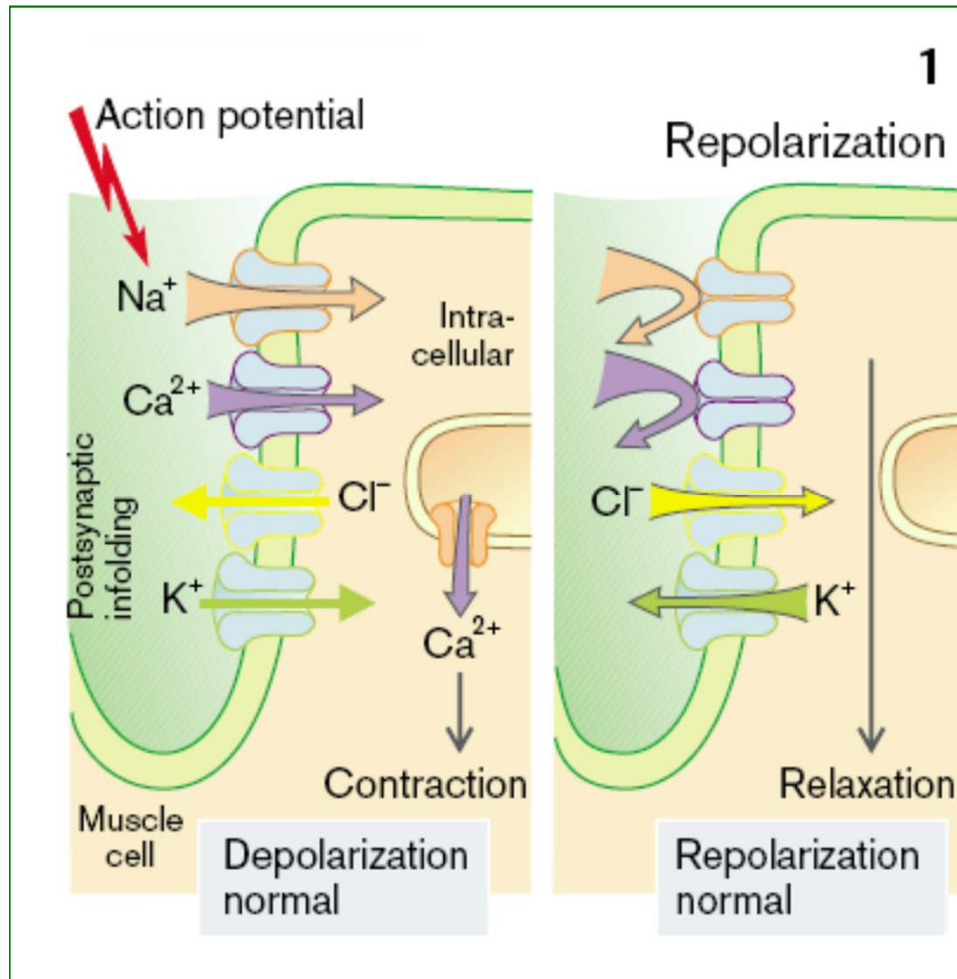
# Diseases of the motor unit



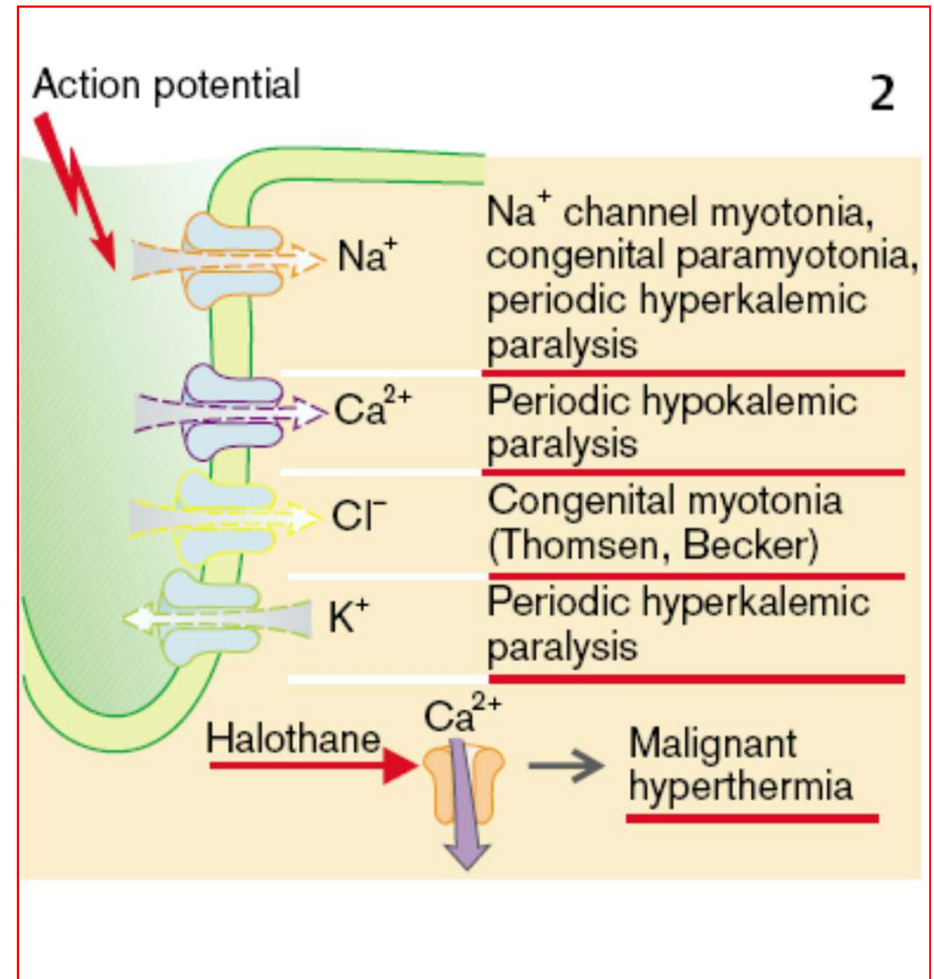


# Myotonias

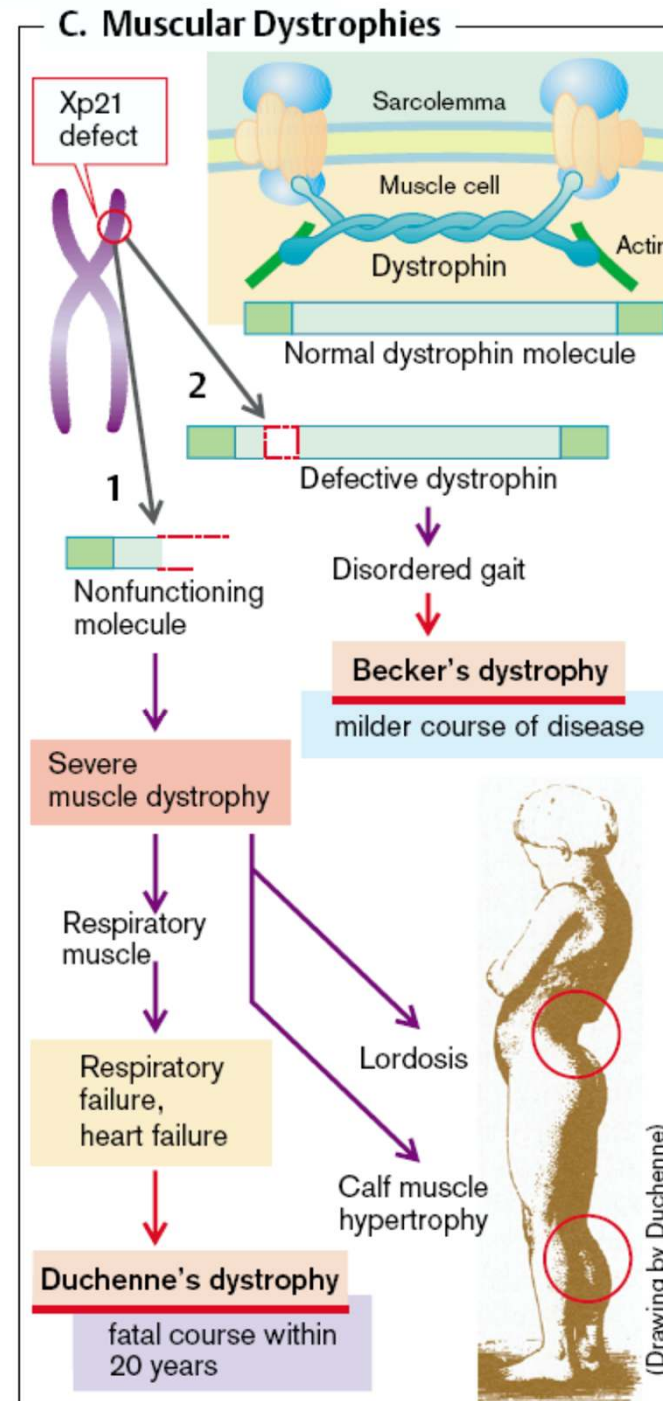
## Norm



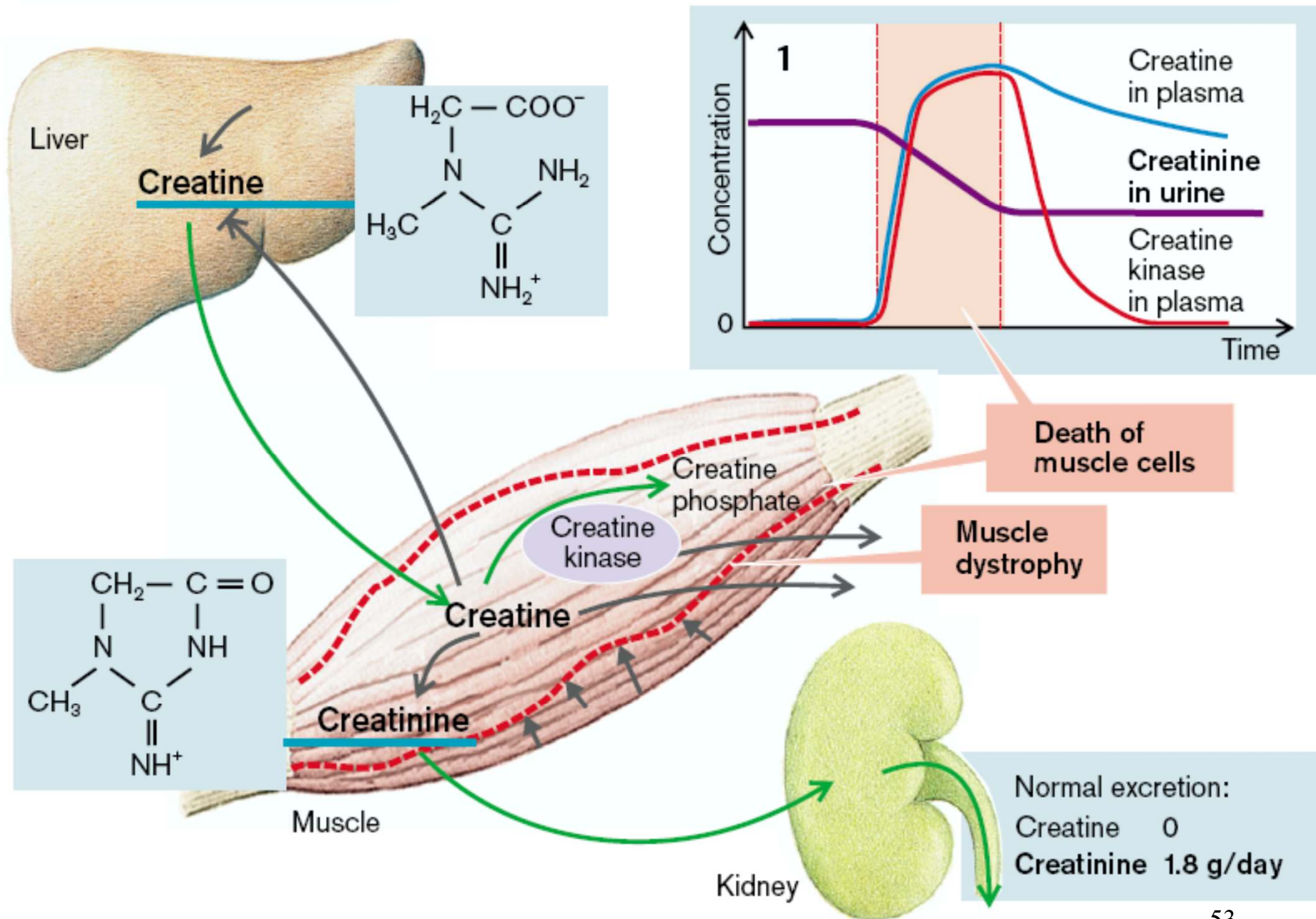
## Pathology



# Muscular dystrophies



## E. Creatine Metabolism



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„seminar“

Petr Marsalek, and others

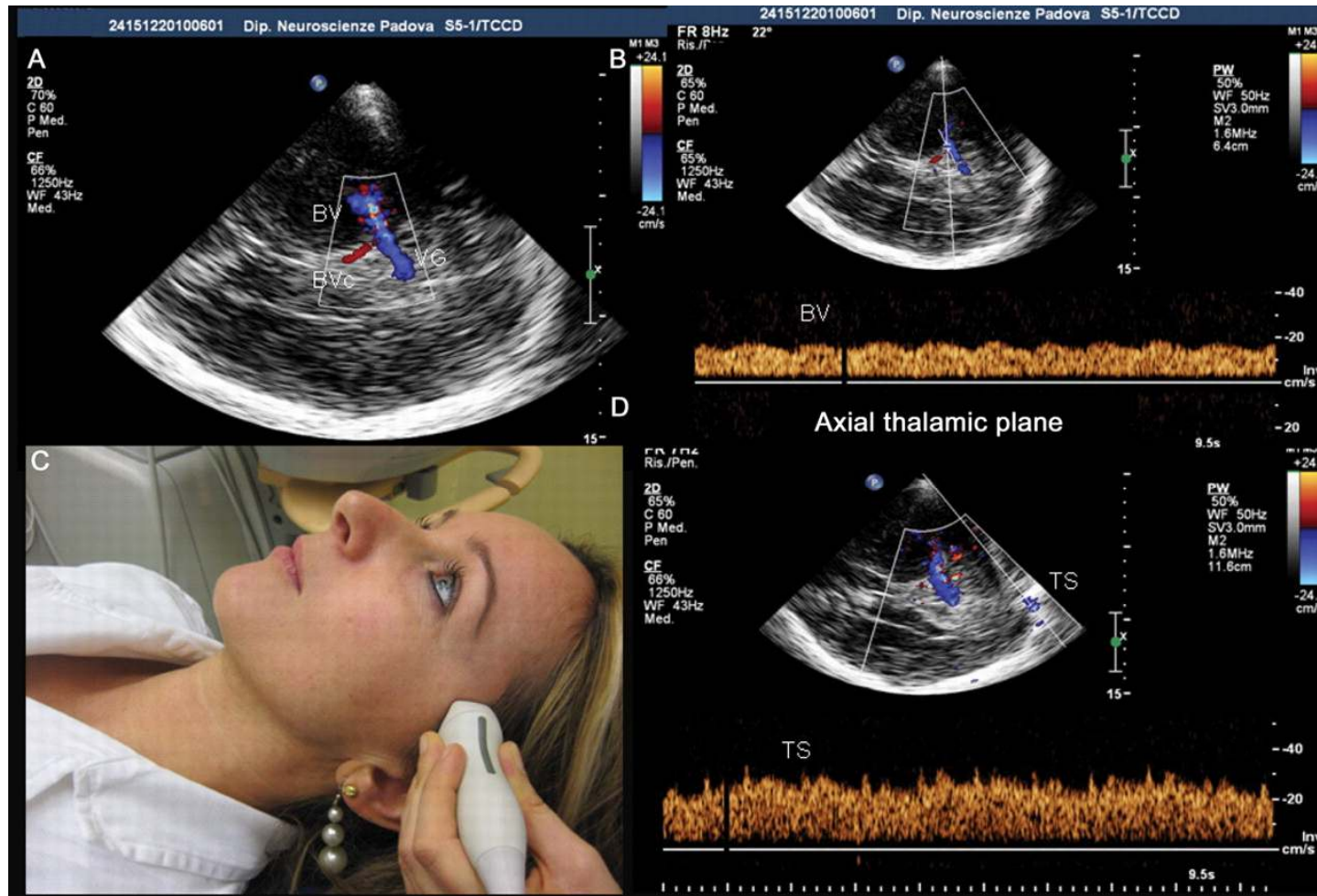
warning: the PDF version of this  
presentation is not an official study material

First Medical Faculty, Institute of Pathological Physiology



# Transcranial Doppler USG

= ultra-sonography, shows cerebral blood flow



Venous TCDS  
Transtemporal window