

#### Nervous system I

This is your brain on drugs



Cocaine Abuser (100 days)

## Functions of the nervous system

• Direct immediate response to stimuli

Central Nervous System Brain Spinal cord

Peripheral Nervous System

Peripheral nerves

Fig

13.1

Coordinates activities of other systems

Anatomical divisions:

CNS, central nervous system

(located in the cranial & spinal cavities)

PNS, peripheral nervous system-

all other neural tissue, nerves, receptors, neuroglia



## Autonomic nervous system

- Two functional divisions:
- Sympathetic
- Parasympathetic

#### Nervous System Terminology

Gray Matter – mostly nerve cell bodies.

White Matter – mostly myelinated axons.

Nerve fiber – a single axon of a neuron.

Nerve – a bundle of axons in the PNS.

Tract – a bundle of axons ins the CNS.

Ganglion – a cluster of nerve cell bodies in PNS.

Nucleus – gray matter in CNS with common function.

## Cells of the nervous system

- Two types:
- Neuroglia-supporting cells 5:1 neuron
- Neurons-transfer and process information

#### neuron

- Cell that transmit electrical impulses from the dendrites to the synaptic terminals
- Organelles: mitochondria, ribosomes, ER
  - Lack centrioles no cell division, can't be replaced
- Surface covered by glial cells





- Dendrites of neurons are stimulated
- Axon hillock summates this stimulation & creates a action potential
- Action potential travels on the axon to the synaptic terminals
- Synaptic terminals release chemicals called neurotransmitters



• Neurons release neurotransmitters to signal other cells

Signaling within a neuron is electric



Signaling between a neuron & other cells is usually chemical

# The neuroglia <sup>Fig</sup> 13.4



## CNS neuroglia

- Astrocytes-most numerous
  - Repair damages neurons
  - Control interstitial environment
  - Blood brain barrier
    - surround capillaries to isolate the brain from chemicals in the plasma
- Ependymal cells-with capillaries produce cerebral spinal fluid in the brain

- Oligodendrocytes-myelinate axons in the CNS
  - Works like insulation making actions
    potentials travel down axons ~ 6 times faster
- Microglia-break down cellular waste and pathogens in the CNS



Fig 13.5

## PNS neuroglia

- Schwann cells-myelinate axons in the PNS
- Satellite cells-exchange waste/nutrients cell body & extracellullar fluid



## Nerve impulse

- A neuron is electrically stimulated to threshold (summation @ axon hillock)
- At the threshold the cell membrane permeability to ions Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> changes
- This creates an action potential
- Large myelinated axon sends signals at 300 mhp!



## The brain

- Adult Contains 98% of all neural tissue
- 3 lbs, feels like jello
- 3 primary brain vesicles a 3 weeks









<sup>(</sup>d) Coronal section

## CSF

- Cushions the CNS
- Supports the brain-the brains is floating in the CSF
- Transport nutrient/wastes etc.

## Choroid plexus

- Produces CSF 500 ml/day
- Composed of ependymal cells and capillaries (CSF is very different from plasma)
- Found in each ventricle
- Floor of lateral ventricles (2)
- Roof of 3rd ventricle
- Roof of 4<sup>th</sup> ventricle



#### **CSF** circulation



## Blood brain barrier

- Maintained by astrocytes
- Not found in:
  - the hypothalamus
  - Pineal gland
  - Roof of 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> ventricles

## **Cranial Meninges**

- Protective layers of the brain & spinal cord
  Provide physical stability and shock absorption
- Superficial
  - Dura mater-Tough fibrous layer
  - Arachnoid
  - Pia mater
- Deep







(c) Superior sectional view





<sup>(</sup>b) Inferior view























#### Fig



















#### break

### Cranial dissection video

• By Kevin Petti

## Histology CD





(a) Lateral view







(b) Hypothalmus











homunculus



A distorted human figure drawn to reflect the space our body parts occupy on the sensory and motor cortex.

FYI