

Regional neuroanatomy

Chris Thomson

BVSc(Hons), Dip ACVIM (Neurol), Dip ECVN, PhD
Associate Professor Neurobiology,
Dept. of Vet. Med.,
University of Alaska, Fairbanks,
Alaska.



References and images taken from:

- deLahunta and Glass: Veterinary Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology, 3rd edition, Saunders, 2009
- Dyce: Textbook of veterinary anatomy, 4th edition, Saunders, 2010
- Evans HE. Miller's Anatomy of the Dog, 3rd Edition, Saunders, Philadelphia, 1993
- Gray's Anatomy. The Anatomical Basis of Clinical Practice, Ed Standring S. 39th Edition, Elsevier, Edinburgh, 2005
- Jenkins TW. Functional Mammalian Neuroanatomy. 2nd Edition, Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1978
- King A.S. Physiological and clinical anatomy of the domestic animals /; v. 1. Central nervous system. Oxford; New York : Oxford University Press, 1987
- Thomson and Hahn: Veterinary Neuroanatomy: a clinical approach, Elsevier, 2012
- Uemura EE. Fundamentals of Canine Neuroanatomy and Neurophysiology, Wiley-Blackwell, 2015
- Vandevelde M, Higgins RJ, Oevermann A. Veterinary Neuropathology. Essentials of theory and practice, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012

Veterinary Neuroanatomy

A Clinical Approach



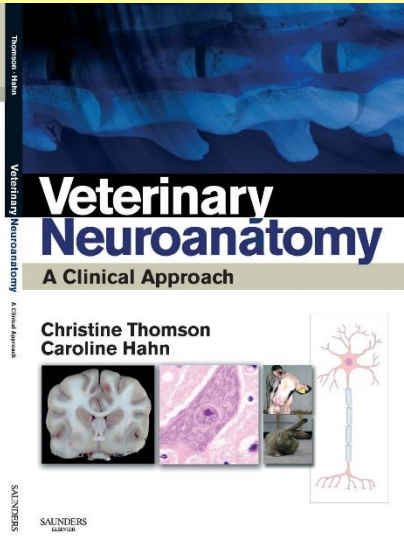
Veterinary Neuroanatomy: A Clinical Approach is written by veterinary neurologists for anyone with an interest in the functional, applied anatomy and clinical significance of the nervous system in animals, especially those of veterinary significance. It offers a user-friendly approach, providing the pragmatic elements that students and clinicians need to understand and interpret the results of the neurological examination. Clinical cases are used to illustrate key concepts throughout. The book begins with an overview of the structural organization of the nervous system, basic embryological development, microscopic anatomy and physiology. These introductory chapters are followed by an innovative, hierarchical approach to understanding the overall function of the nervous system. The applied anatomy of posture and movement, including the vestibular system and coordination, is comprehensively described and illustrated by examples of both function and dysfunction. The cranial nerve and autonomic systems as well as behavior, arousal and emotion are discussed. The final chapter addresses how to perform and interpret the neurological examination.

Veterinary Neuroanatomy: A Clinical Approach has been prepared by experienced educators with 50 years of combined teaching experience in neuroanatomy. Throughout the book great care is taken to explain key concepts in the most transparent and memorable, yet still interesting way. Detailed information for those readers with specific interests in clinical neuroanatomy is included in the text and appendices. As such, it is suitable for veterinary students, practitioners and also readers with a special interest in clinical neuroanatomy.

- Features**
- Contains nearly 300 clear, conceptual and anatomically precise drawings, photographs of clinical cases and gross anatomical specimens
 - Keeps to simple language and focuses on the key concepts
 - Unique 'NeuroMaps' outline the location of the functional systems within the nervous system and provide simple, visual aids to understanding and interpreting the results of the clinical neurological examination
 - The anatomical appendix provides 33 high-resolution gross images of both the intact and sliced cow and sheep brains and detailed histological images of the sectioned sheep brainstem
 - An extensive glossary explains more than 200 neuroanatomical structures and their function.

SAUNDERS
ELSEVIER

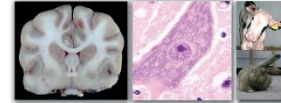
www.saunderselsevier.com



Veterinary Neuroanatomy

A Clinical Approach

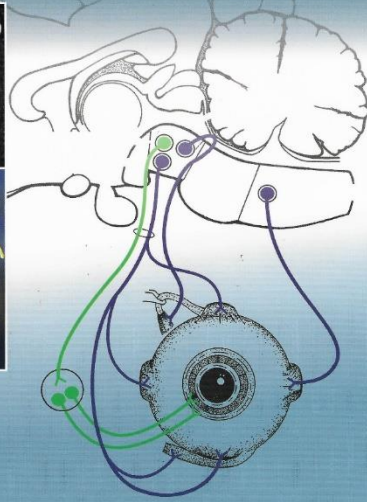
Christine Thomson
Caroline Hahn



SAUNDERS
ELSEVIER

Fundamentals of Canine Neuroanatomy and Neurophysiology

Etsuro E. Uemura



WILEY Blackwell

New texts

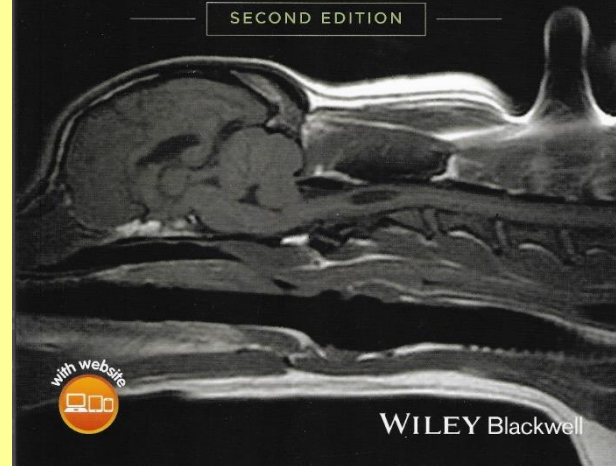


Geoff Skerritt

KING'S

Applied Anatomy of the Central Nervous System of Domestic Mammals

SECOND EDITION



WILEY Blackwell

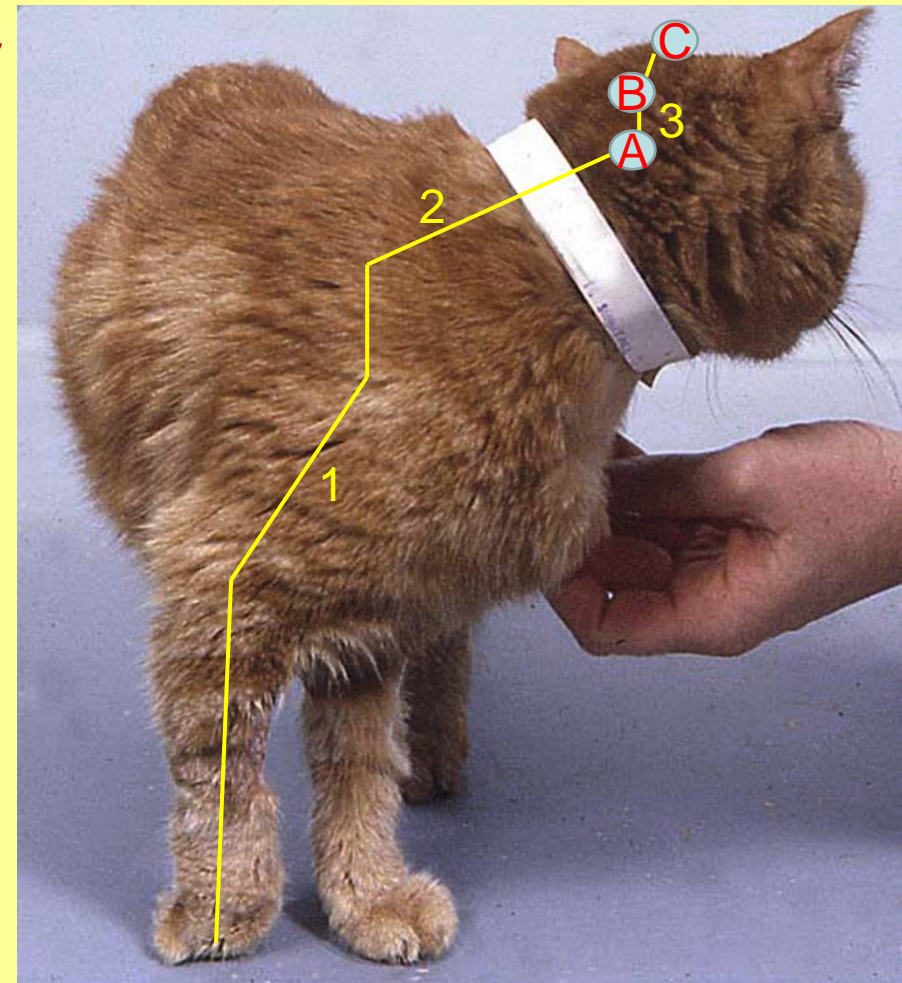
Definitions

- **Nucleus** is a collection of nerve cell bodies in the **CNS**
- **Ganglion** is a collection of nerve cell bodies in the **PNS**
- **UMN** = upper motor neuron – nerve fibres of the motor system, confined to the **CNS**
- **LMN** = lower motor neuron – nerve fibres of the motor system, with cell bodies in the CNS, but majority of the nerve (axon) in the **PNS**, connecting with muscle at NMJ
- **Spinal cord segment** – section of spinal cord to which is attached a pair of dorsal roots and a pair of ventral roots
- **Intumescence** – enlarged region of spinal cord associated with limb innervation (cervical and lumbosacral intumescences)
- **Grey matter** – nerve cell bodies in the CNS
- **White matter** – myelinated nerve fibres (axons white because of high lipid content)
- **Tract** - group of neurons from dendrite to synapse, with same function e.g. vestibulospinal tract (CNS); name often tells origin and destination of tract
- **Nerve** group of axons in the periphery (e.g. C5 spinal n., radial n., oculomotor n.)
- **Pathway** – two, or more, tracts in series conveying same neural information, e.g. proprioceptive pathway (PNS and CNS components) – see next slide

Pathway example

Conscious proprioception pathway

- Name of nerve 1?
- Name of tract 2 (spinal cord)?
- Name of tract 3 (brainstem)?
- Name of nucleus A?
- Name of nucleus B?
- Name of pathway termination C?



Functional divisions within the nervous system

- Brain
 - Brainstem, cerebellum, forebrain
- Spinal cord
 - Cervical, cervical intumescence, thoracolumbar, lumbosacral, caudal
- PNS
 - Spinal nerve e.g. C5 spinal nerve
 - Named nerve e.g. radial nerve
- Somatic and autonomic nervous systems



Rat nervous system, Courtesy of Dr. Anna Fails, CSU

PNS – Spinal nerve anatomy

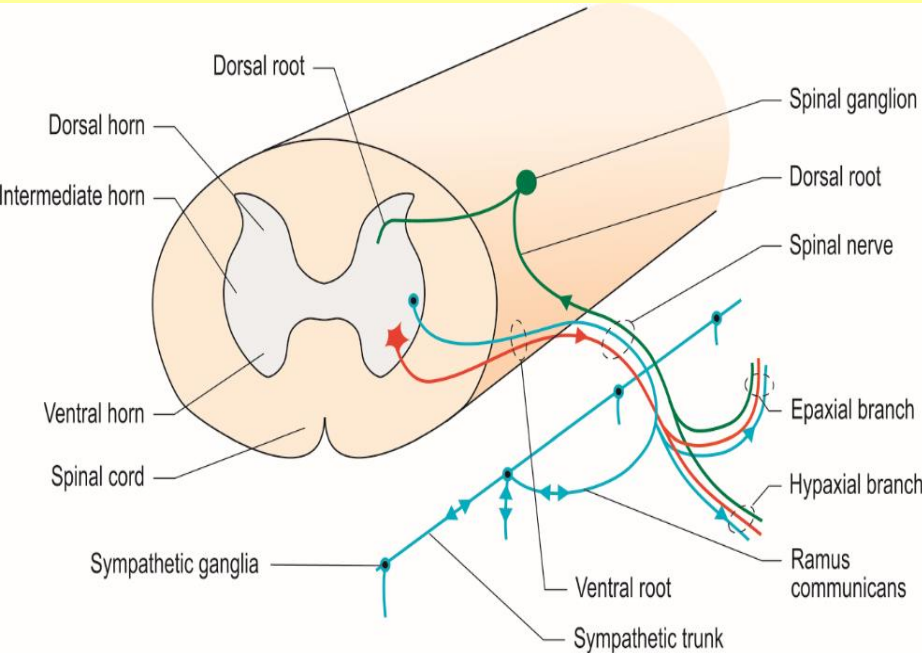
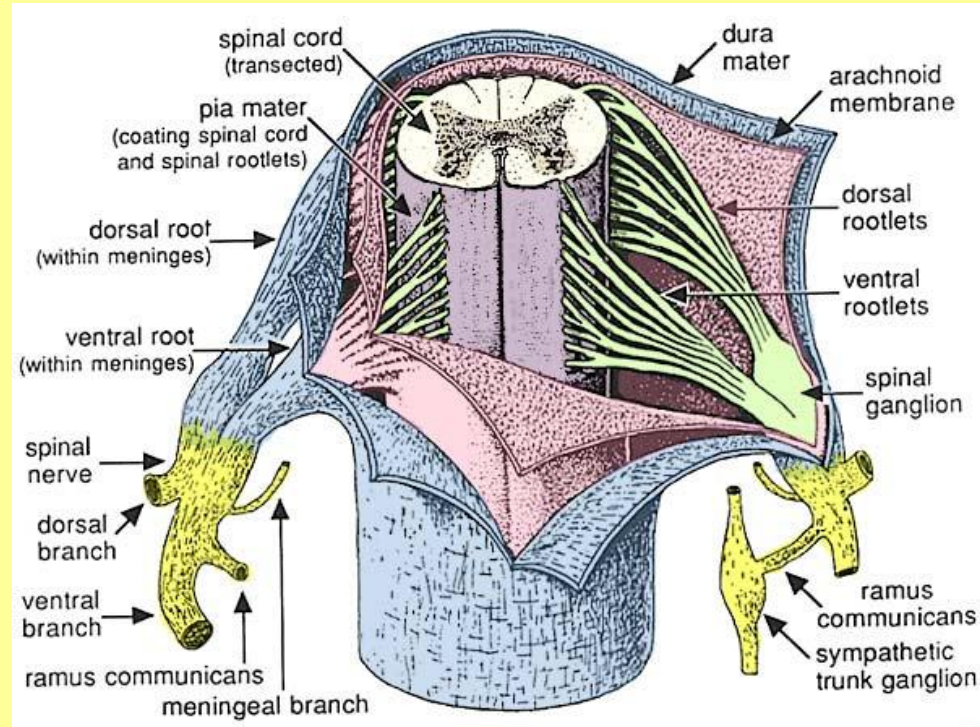


Fig 12.3 Thomson and Hahn



Evans, fig 16-2

Nerve roots

- Sensory (afferent), dorsal attachment
- Motor (efferent), ventral attachment

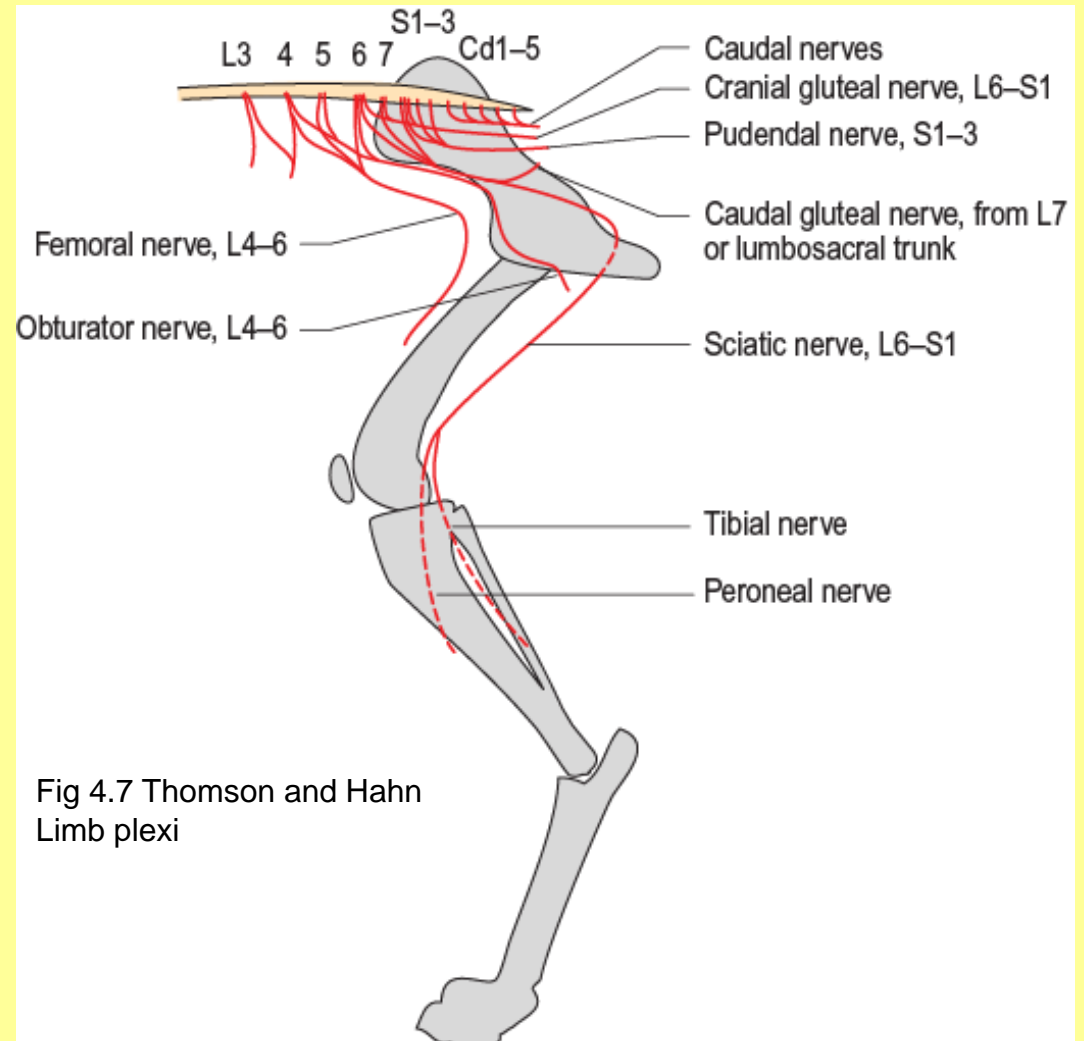
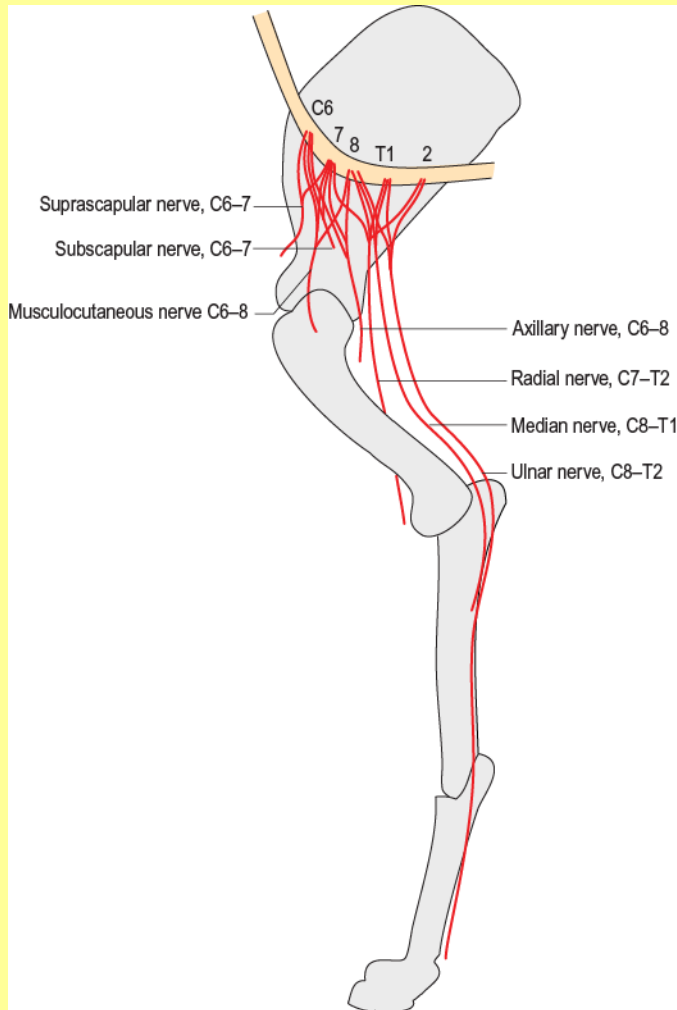


Fig 4.7 Thomson and Hahn
Limb plexi

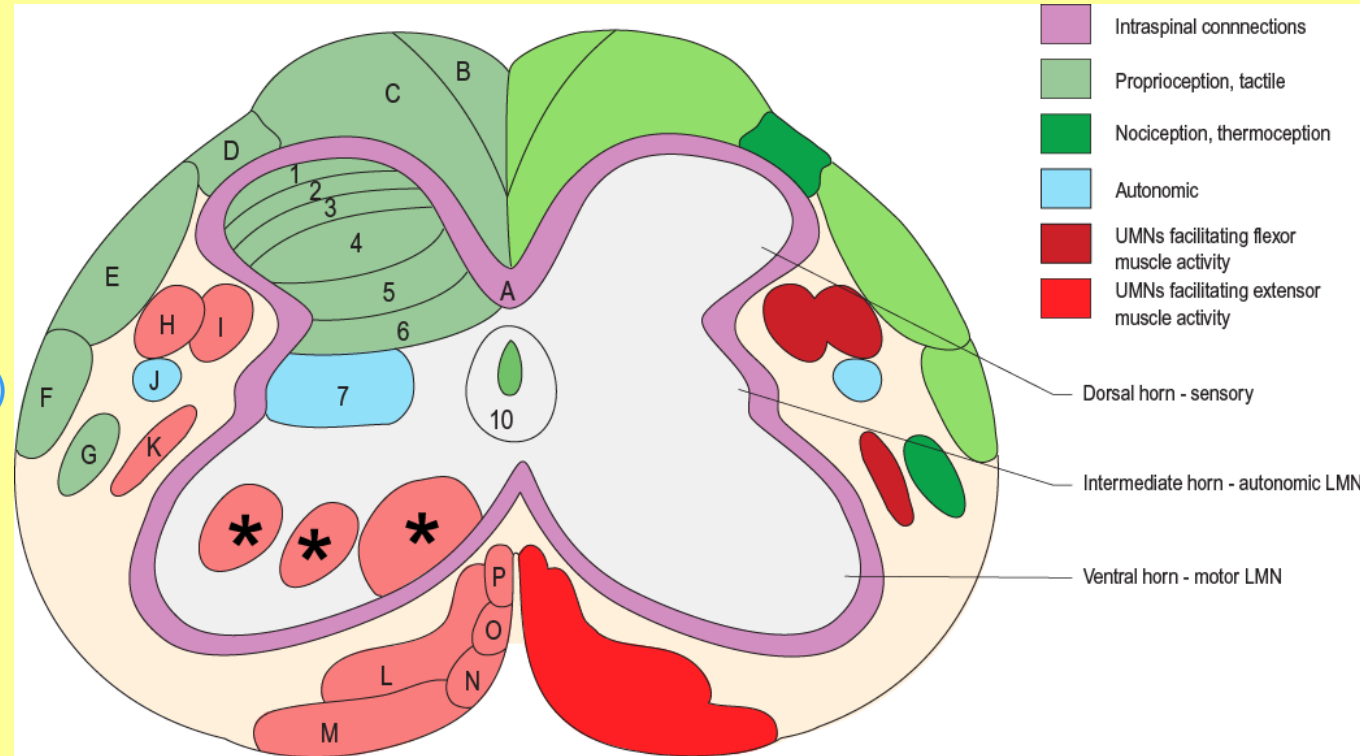
General rule limb innervation

- Cranial intumescence/plexus innervates cranial, proximal limb
- Caudal intumescence/plexus innervates caudal, distal limb



Spinal cord

Fig 4-5 Thomson and Hahn, legend on next slide



- Intraspinal connections
- Proprioception, tactile
- Nociception, thermoception
- Autonomic
- UMNs facilitating flexor muscle activity
- UMNs facilitating extensor muscle activity

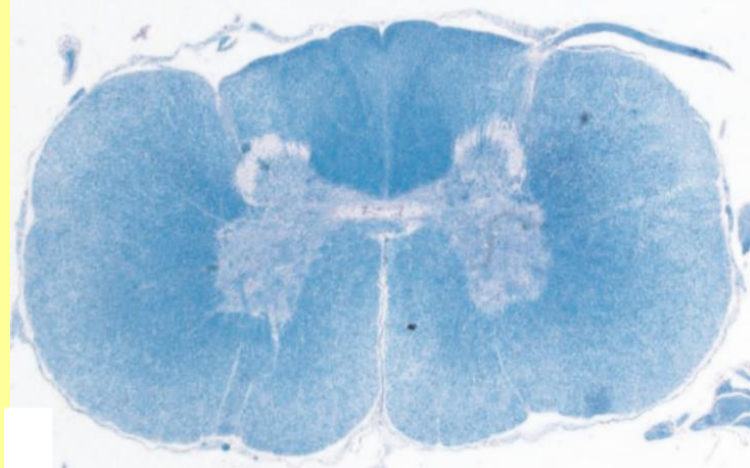
Dorsal horn - sensory
 Intermediate horn - autonomic LMN
 Ventral horn - motor LMN

Grey matter

- Central location
- Nerve cell bodies
- Divided into horns
 - Dorsal (sensory)
 - Ventral (motor)
 - Lateral (autonomic)

White matter

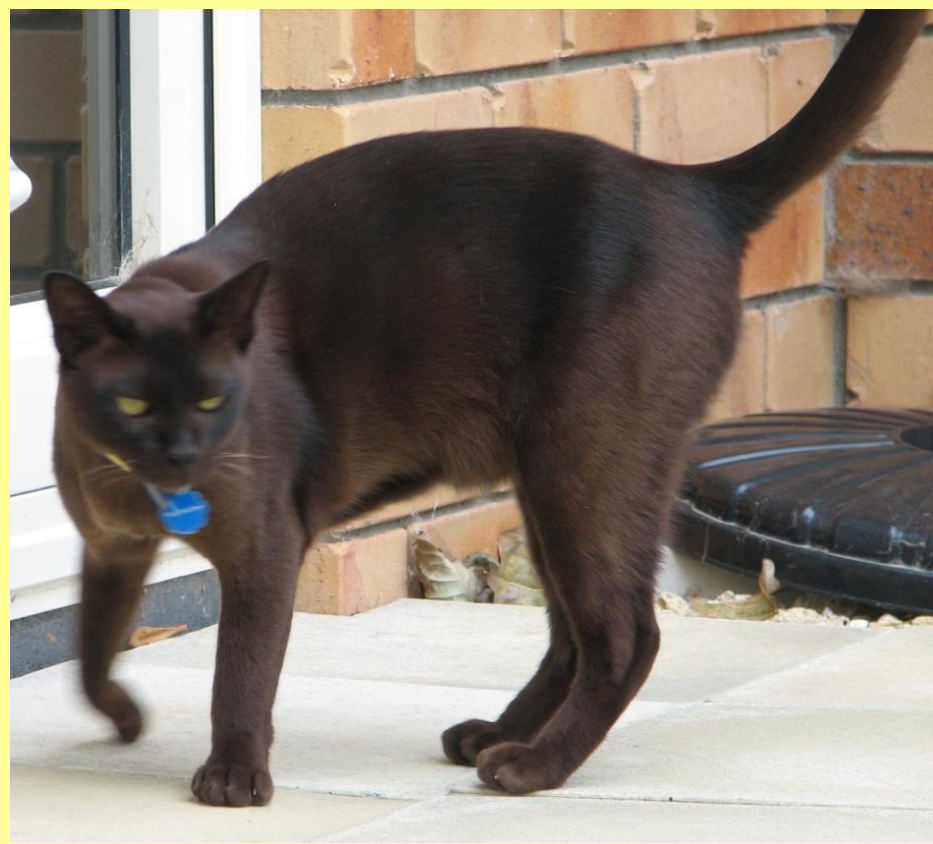
- Peripheral location
- Axons and myelin
- Funiculi based on nerve root attachment
 - Dorsal – afferent
 - Lateral – afferent, efferent to flexors
 - Ventral – efferent to extensors



XS K9 thoracic spinal cord

ID	Name	ID	Name
A	Propriospinal (spino-spinal)	I	Lateral corticospinal
B	Fasciculus gracilis	J	Lateral tectotegmentospinal
C	Fasciculus cuneatus	K	Medullary (lateral) reticulospinal
D	Dorsolateral fasciculus	L	Pontine (ventral) reticulospinal
E	Dorsal spinocerebellar	M	Lateral vestibulospinal
F	Ventral spinocerebellar	N	Tectospinal
G	Spinothalamic	O	Ventral corticospinal
H	Rubrospinal	P	Medial vestibulospinal and medial longitudinal fasciculus

table legend for XS of spinal cord WM on previous slide



The vestibulospinal tract runs in the _____
funiculus.

(Hint: what is the function of this tract?)

CNS – spinal cord

- Functional regions
 - Based on origin of limb innervation
 - e.g. dog?
- Species differences – number of segments
 - How many thoracic segments horse c/w cat?
 - No. spinal cord segments \neq no. vertebrae
- Regional differences
 - Shape of grey and white matter (to follow)

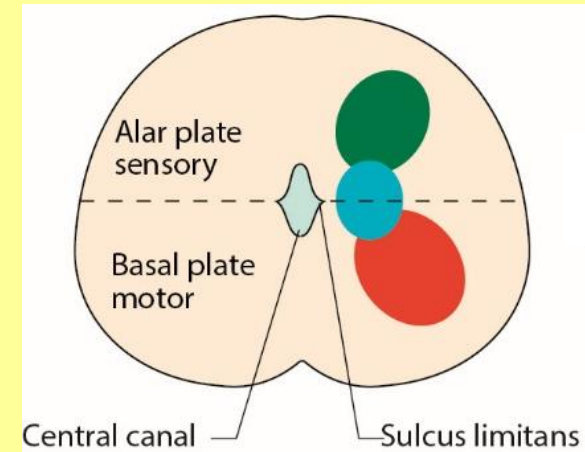


Fig 1.7 Thomson and Hahn

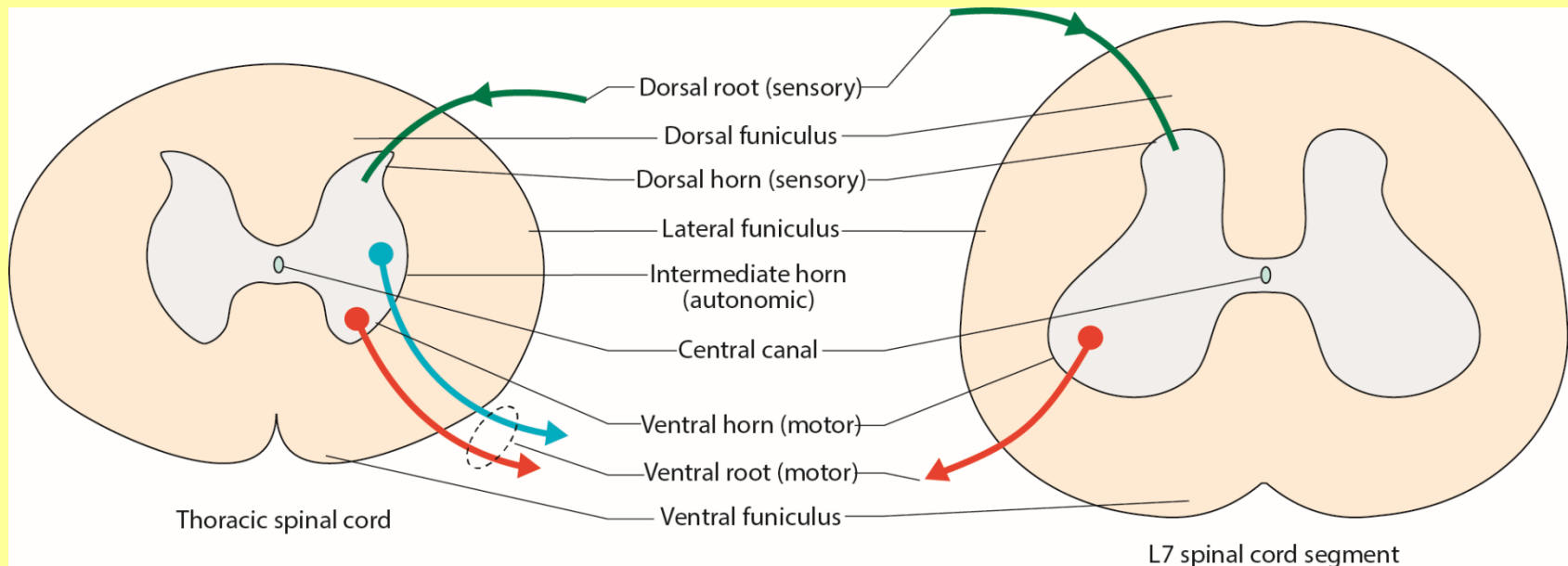
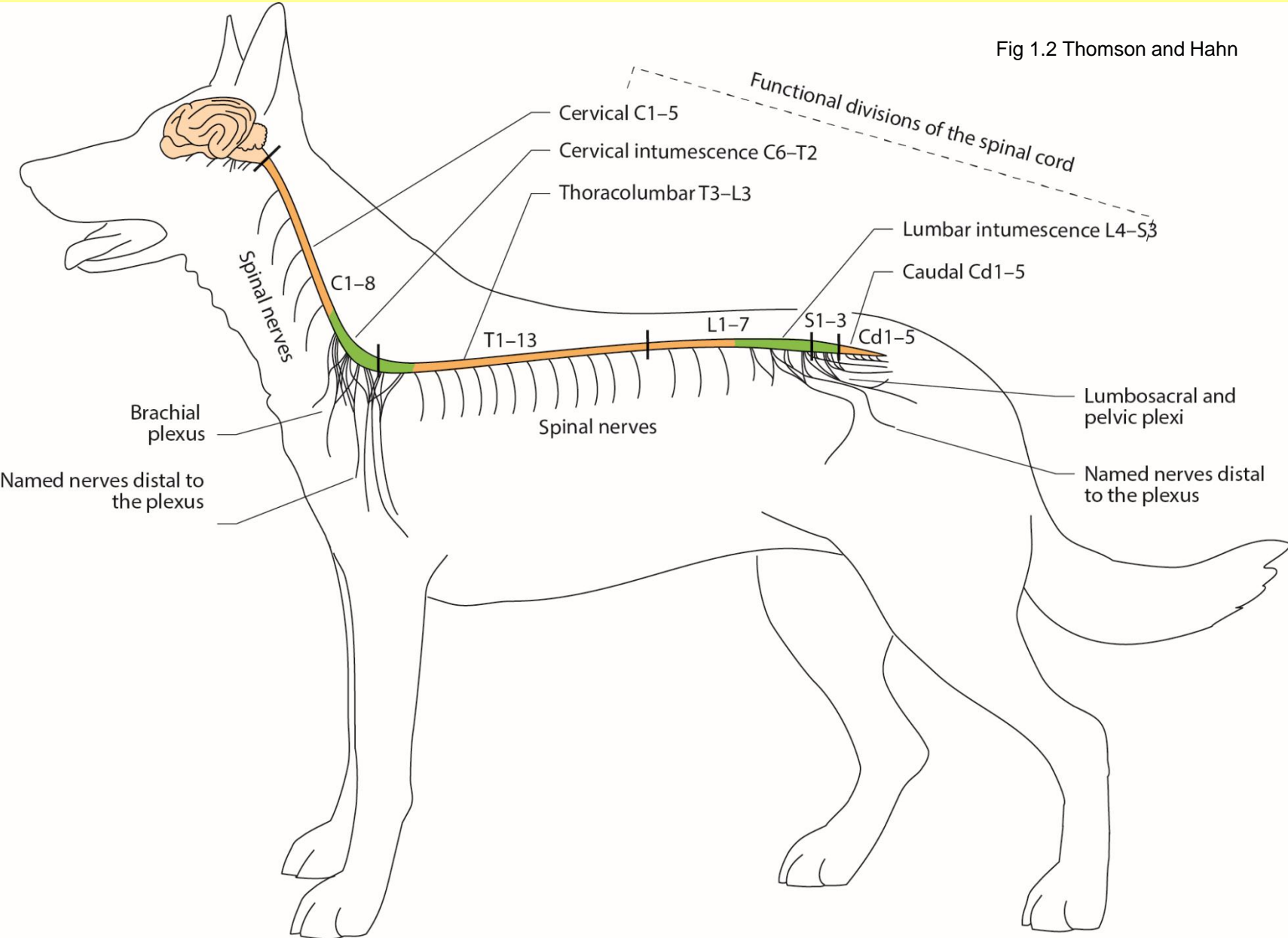


Fig 1.5 Thomson and Hahn

Fig 1.2 Thomson and Hahn



Functional SC division based on limb innervation

Differentiating anatomical levels of spinal cord sections

- Shape
 - cervical cord oval, thoracic is circular
- Size
 - intumescence vs non-intumescence
- WM:GM
 - cervical>lumbar
- Shape of dorsal horn apex
 - Cervical-pointed, thoracic-blunted, lumbar-rectangular
- Size of ventral horn
 - Intumescence vs non-intumescence
- Cranial to T7
 - Both fasciculus gracilis and cuneatus, and therefore dorsal intermediate sulcus
- C1
 - Pyramidal decussation,
 - nucleus gracilis and cuneatus
- Intermediate (lateral horn)
 - T1-L3 segments
 - Sacral segments
- Dorsal median fissure
 - Lumbar and sacral
- Caudal lumbar and sacral
 - Cauda equina

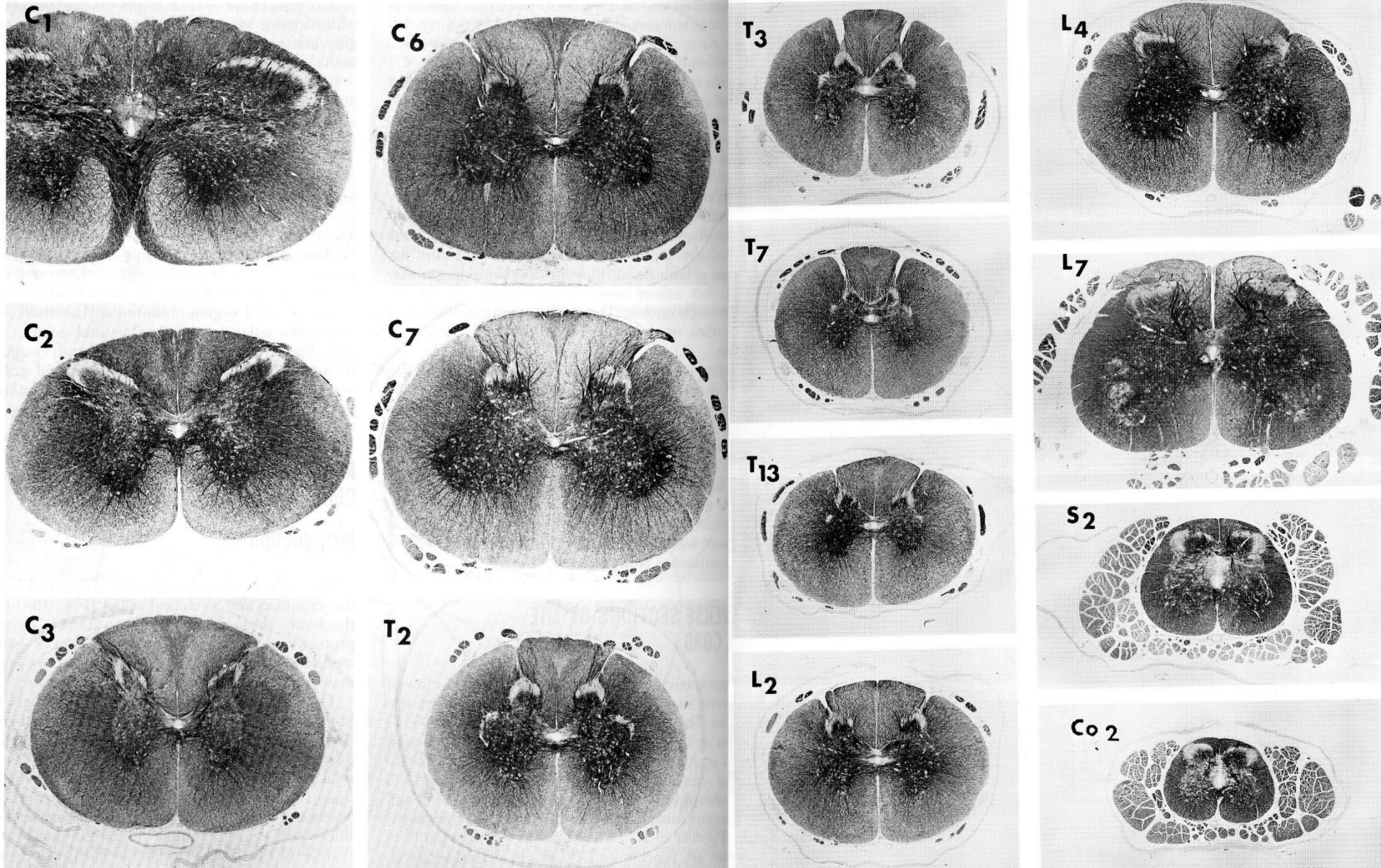


Fig 16-13 Evans

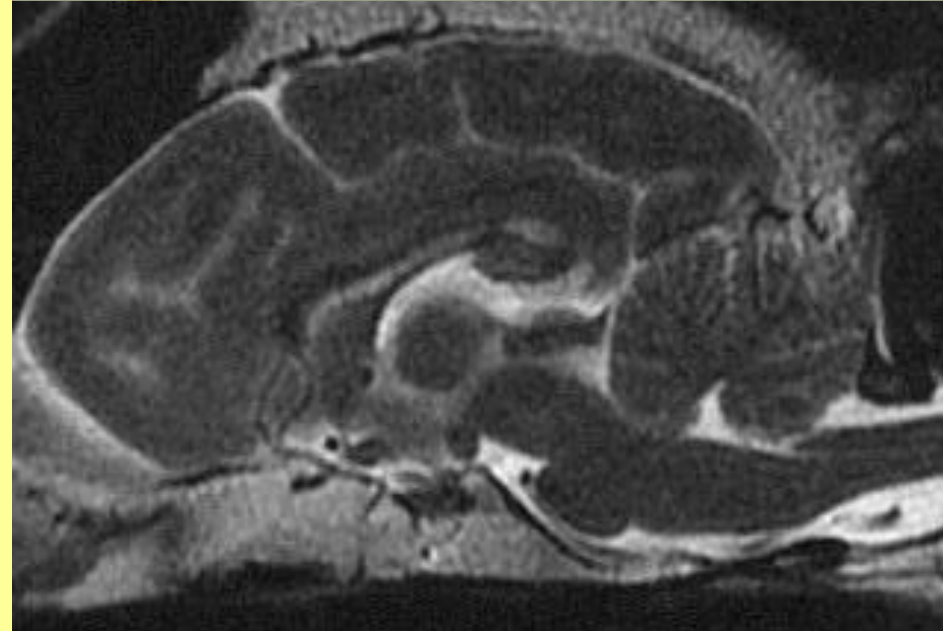
Species difference number of vertebrae

Animal	Cervical	Thoracic	Lumbar	Sacral	Caudal
Dog & cat	7	13	7 (occas. 6)	3	20+
Horse	7	18	6	5	20
Ox	7	13	6	5	18-20
Sheep	7	13	6(7)	4	16-18
Goat	7	13	6(7)	5	16-18
Swine	7	14-15	6-7	4	20-23
Camelid	7	12	7	4	13-15
Bird	8-25	7 – four fuse to form notarium	Synsacrum – last 1-2 thoracic, plus the lumbar, sacral and first caudal vertebrae	5-6 free vertebrae, then pygostyle	

Table 1.3, Thomson and Hahn

Functional regions of the brain

- Anatomical regions
 - Tel Di Mes Met My
- Functional regions
 - Brainstem
 - Myelencephalon
 - Medulla oblongata
 - Pons
 - ventral metencephalon
 - Mesencephalon
 - midbrain
 - Cerebellum
 - Dorsal metencephalon
 - Forebrain
 - Thalamic structures
 - Diencephalon
 - Cerebral hemispheres
 - Telencephalon



Functional NA of the brainstem

Fig 1.7 Thomson and Hahn

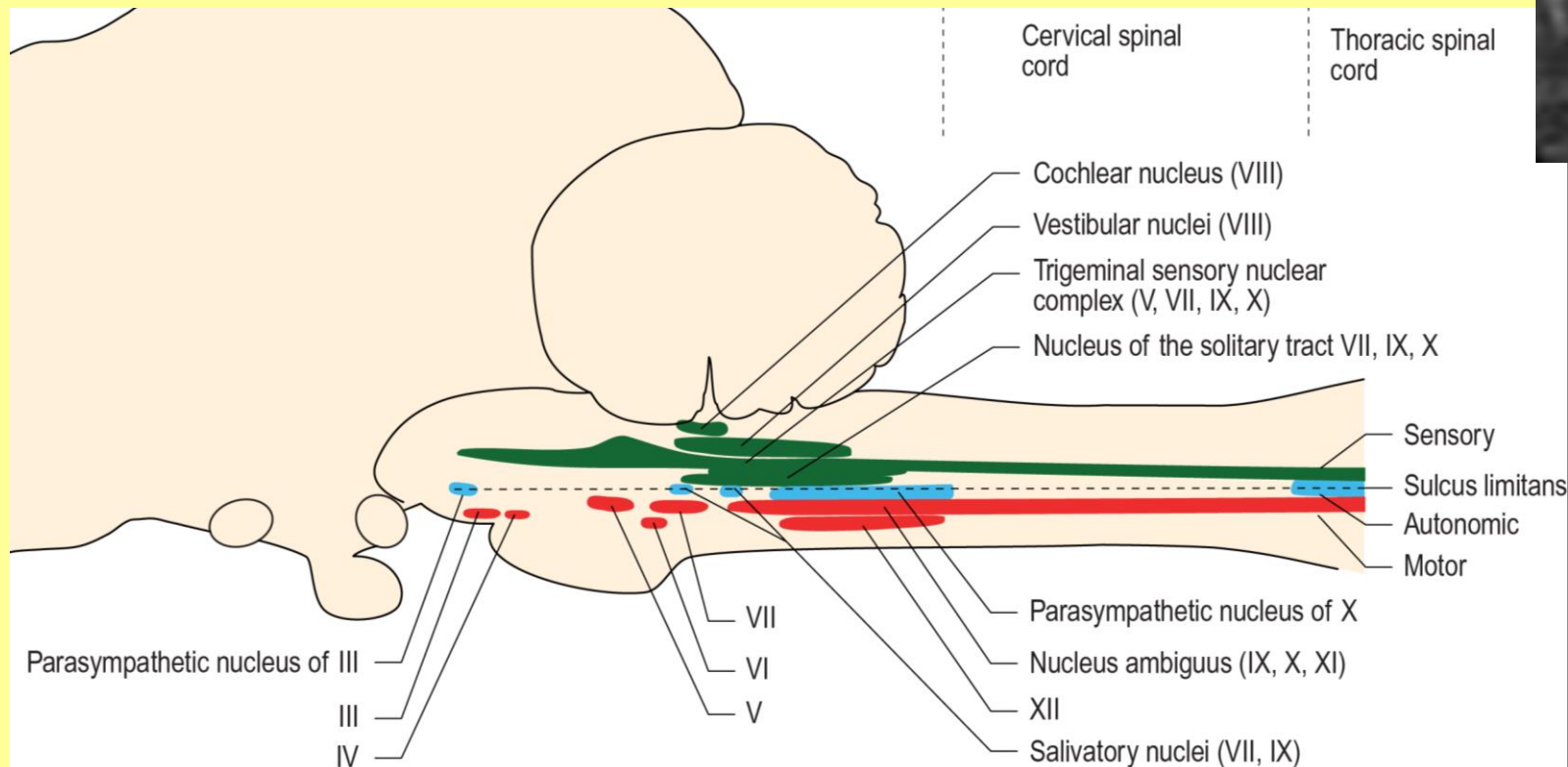
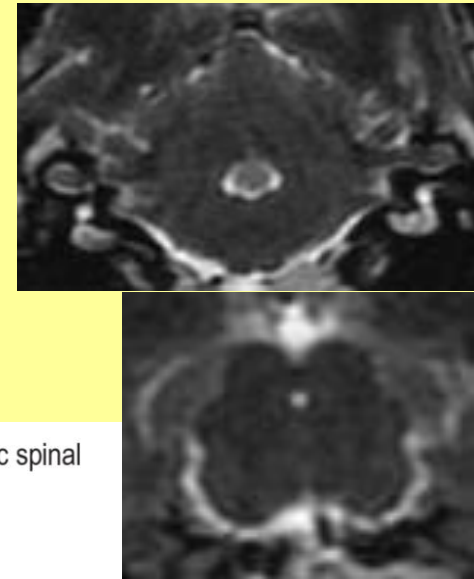
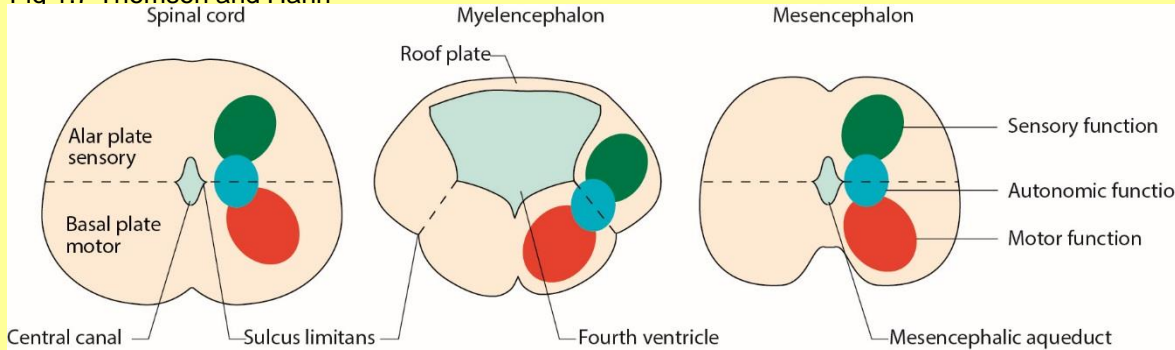
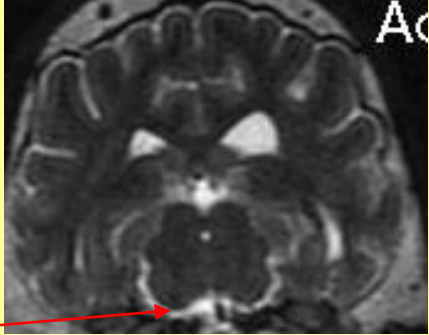


Fig 10.2 Thomson and Hahn

Brainstem function CNN and nuclei

- CNN III-XII and their nuclei
 - Sensory
 - CNN V, VII, VIII, IX, X,
 - Nuclei: solitary (VII, IX, X – visceral afferents from body, and taste), trigeminal sensory (V, VII, IX, X), vestibular, cochlear
 - LMN – CNN III-VII, IX-XII
 - Nuclei: oculomotor, trochlear, trigeminal, abducens facial, ambiguus (IX, X, XI to striated muscle), hypoglossal
 - Parasympathetic to head and body
 - CNN III, VII, IX, X
 - Nuclei: parasympathetic nucleus of III, VII, IX, X
- Sensory
 - Nuclei – gracilis, cuneatus (medial); lateral cuneate nucleus (cuneate and spinocerebellar)
 - Trapezoid nuclei (auditory pathway – trapezoid nuclei, lateral lemniscus)
 - Colliculi – rostral and caudal – auditory and visual grasp
- Motor
 - UMN semi automatic motor function and pattern generators
 - Posture, gait, breathing, chewing, swallowing, urination
 - Nuclei – red (rubrospinal), tectum (medial tectospinal – visual grasp; lateral tectotegmentospinal – sympathetic UMN to head), vestibular (vestibulospinal), reticular (reticulospinal – medullary and pontine = part of descending reticular formation)
 - Control circuits
 - Substantia nigra – mesencephalon, forebrain-basal nuclei circuits
- Mentation
 - Arousal – ARAS (ascending reticular activating system)
- Visceral control centres
 - Reticular formation (see ANS lecture)
 - respiratory, cardiovascular, vomiting centres, swallowing, coughing, micturition centre

Brainstem function – relays

- **Relay** (transmission neurons) and WM tracts
 - Rostrally directed
 - May synapse in or pass through the brainstem.
 - Sensory relay from limbs, trunk and head
 - Tactile – fasciculus cuneatus and gracilis, medial lemniscus
 - Thermal – spinothalamic,
 - Nociception – Spinocervicothalamic, spinoreticulothalamic
 - Proprioceptive relay from limbs, trunk and head
 - Nucleus gracilis and cuneatus, medial lemniscus
 - Spinocerebellar
 - Spinovestibular
 - Caudally directed
 - From forebrain motor areas via crus cerebri 
 - Brainstem for CNN function (corticonuclear tracts)
 - Spinal cord for trunk and limb function (corticospinal tracts)
 - Cerebellum via pontine nuclei and transverse fibres of the pons (corticopontine tract)
 - Reticular formation (corticoreticular tract)
 - From midbrain
 - Inhibitory to nociception – periaqueductal grey matter (mesencephalon) and nucleus raphe magnus (myelencephalon) to spinal cord dorsal horn
 - Other
 - Olivary nucleus – relay from cerebrum and midbrain to cerebellum
 - Locus ceruleus – widespread to brain and SC, NAd inhibition of excitation

Cerebellum



Fig 7.1 Thomson and Hahn

- Dorsal metencephalon
 - Vermis - 10 lobules
 - Two hemispheres
 - Flocculonodular lobe

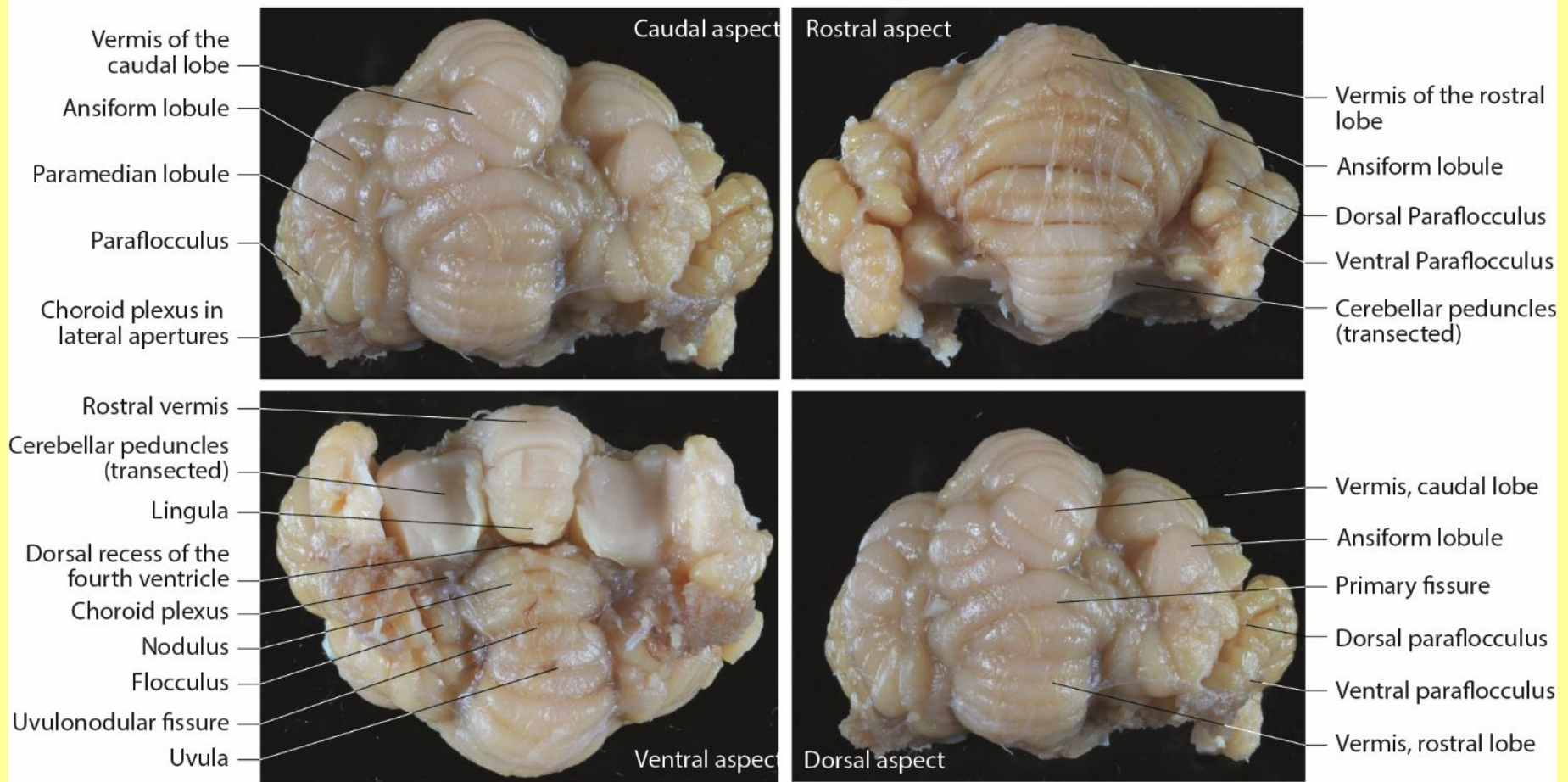
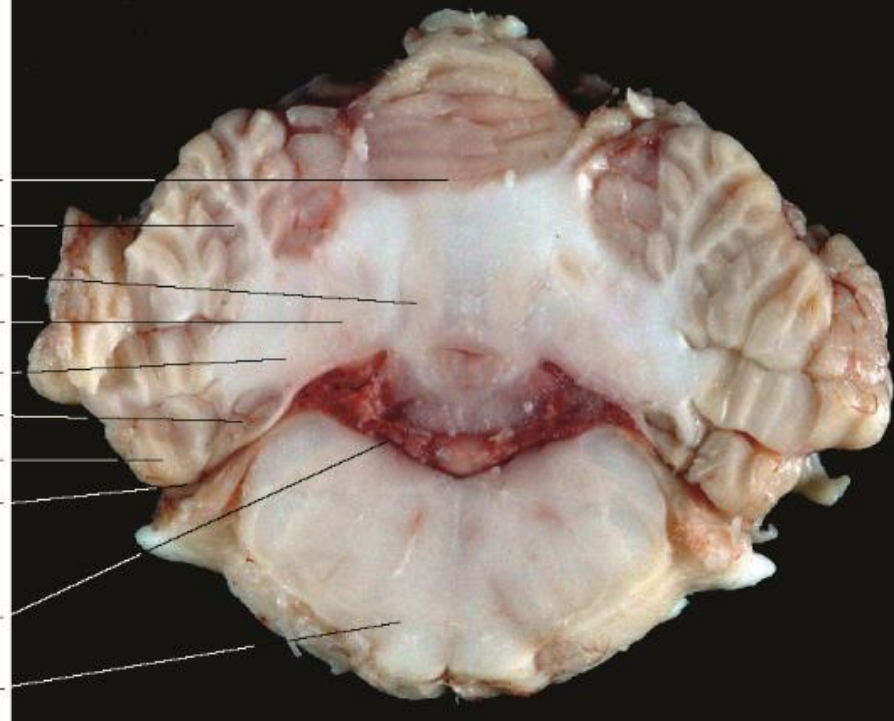


Fig A8 Thomson and Hahn

Vermis
Hemisphere
Fastigial nucleus
Interposital nucleus
Lateral nucleus
Flocculus
Ventral paraflocculus
Lateral aperture
Fourth ventricle
with choroid plexus
Myelencephalon



- Grey matter
 - Cortex – 3 layers
 - Cerebellar nuclei
- White matter
 - Arbor vitae
 - Lamina of the folia
 - Cerebellar peduncles

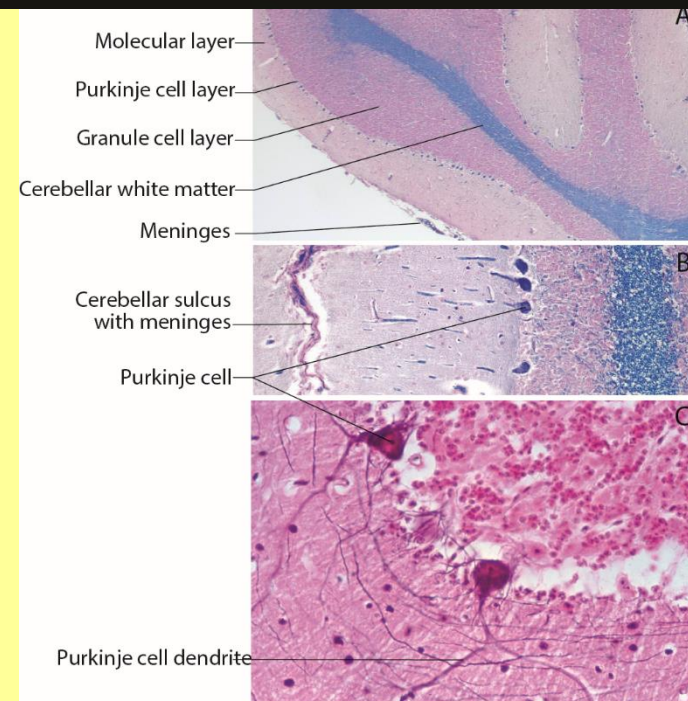


Fig 7.6, Thomson and Hahn

Cerebellar peduncles

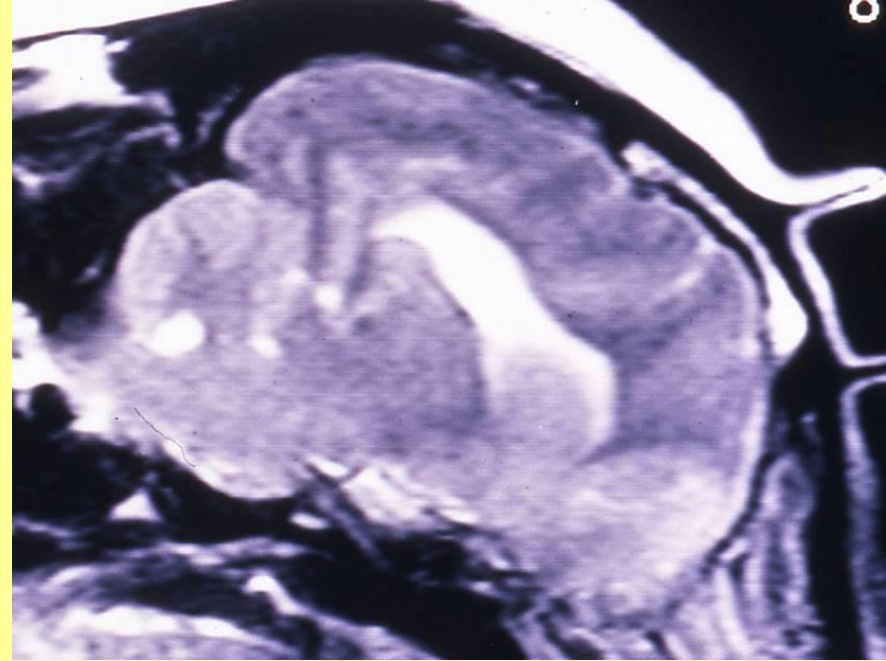
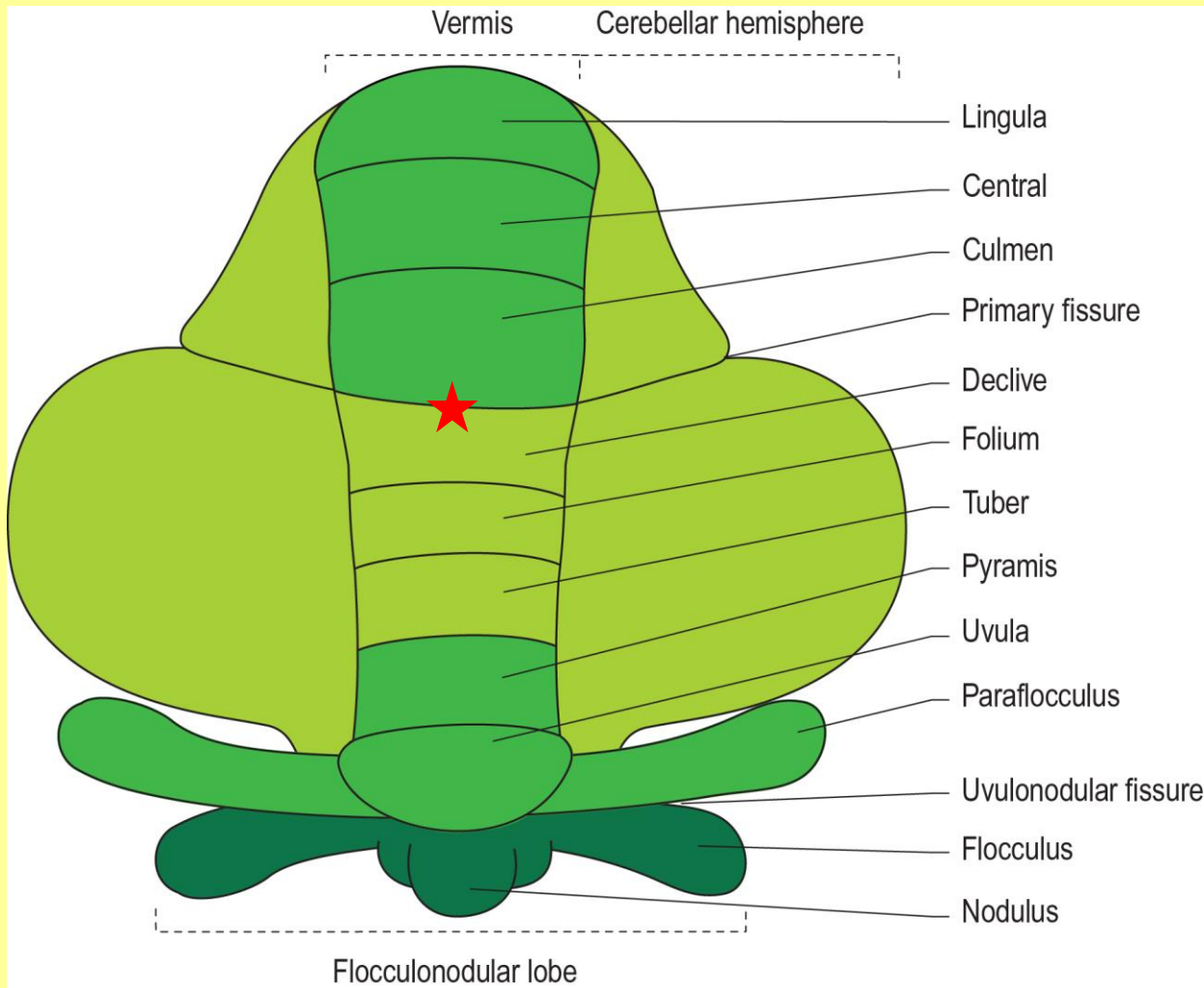


Fig 7.3B Thomson and Hahn
Parasagittal section

- Cerebellar peduncles
 - Rostral
 - Primarily efferents to mid and forebrain
 - One afferent (Ventral SCT)
 - Middle
 - Primarily corticopontine afferents
 - Caudal
 - Spino and vestibulocerebellar afferents
 - Efferents to myelencephalon
 - Juxtarestiform body – efferents, including to vestibular nuclei
 - Restiform – spinal and brainstem connections

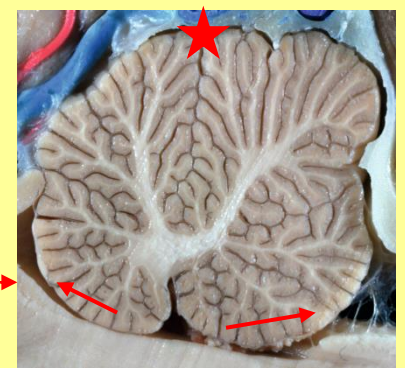
Functional NA of the cerebellum



Functional regions

- **Dark green**
 - Vestibulocerebellum
 - Vestibular function
- **Mid green**
 - Spinocerebellum
 - Trunk and limb movement
- **Light green**
 - Pontocerebellum
 - Skilled movement

Fig 7.4a Thomson and Hahn
Cerebellum rolled out flat, star on primary fissure
Functional zones



Species difference

Species specific structure

- Medial vs lateral portions
- Snakes c/w mammals c/w primates

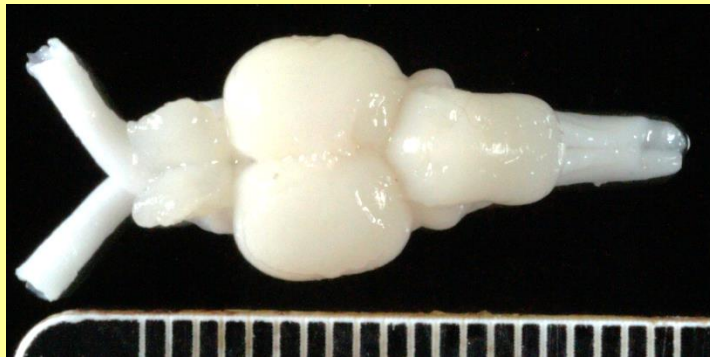
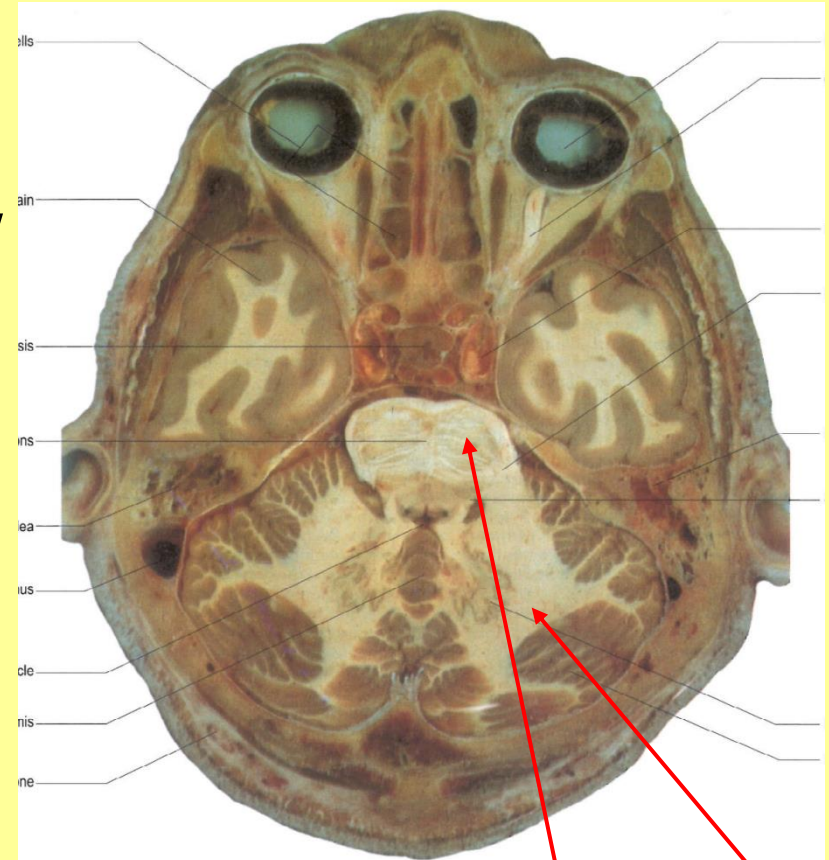


Fig 7.4 Thomson and Hahn
Trout brain, dorsal aspect



Human head, horizontal section through brainstem and cerebellum,
Gray's Anatomy, 39th edition, Fig 20.1, p 354,

Forebrain Anatomy

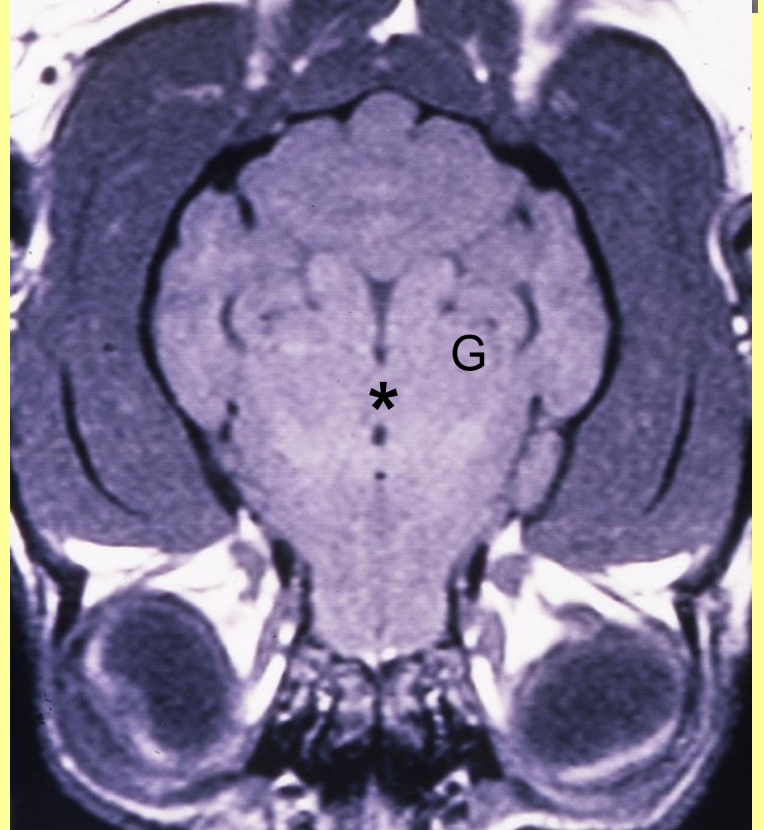
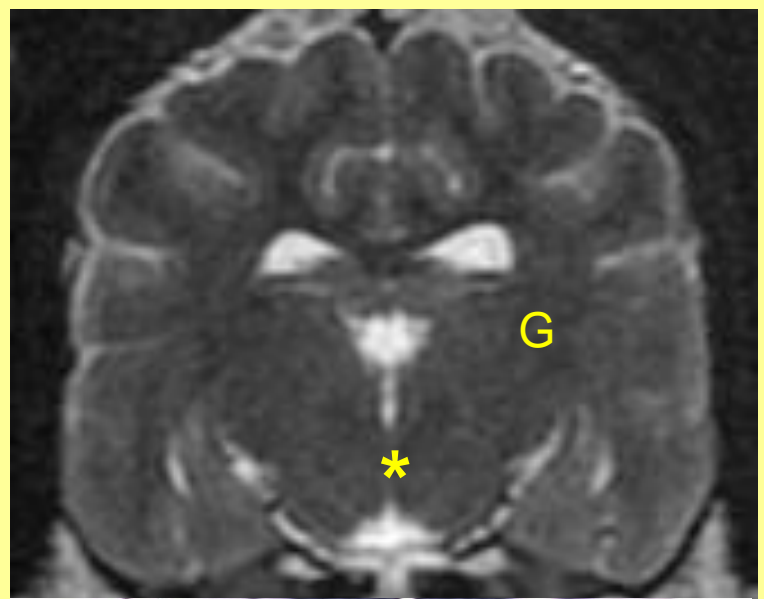
- Components
 - 1) Diencephalon
 - ‘...thalamic’ structures
 - 1 = interthalamic adhesion
 - 2) Telencephalon
 - Cerebral hemispheres



Dog brain, median section, MRI, T2

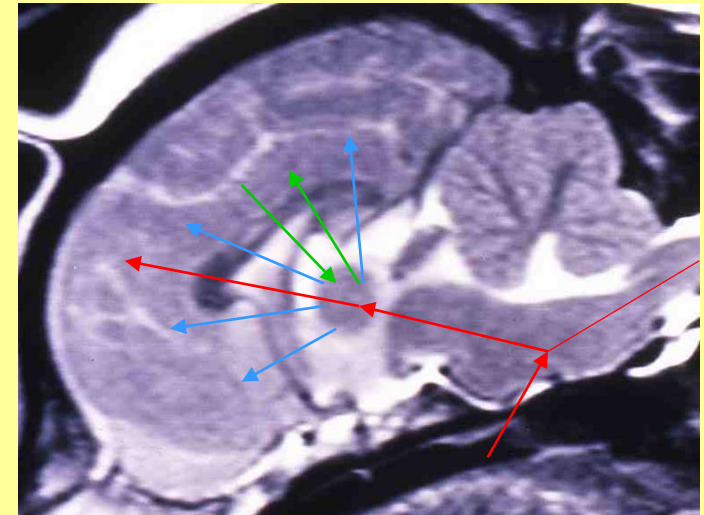
Diencephalon

- Components
 - Thalamus
 - with interthalamic adhesion *
 - Hypothalamus
 - Epithalamus – pineal gland
 - Subthalamus
 - Metathalamus
 - Geniculate nuclei (G)
 - Lateral and medial
 - vision and audition pathways



Diencephalon – Thalamus

- Functions – relay station
 - ‘post office’
 - 1) Direct cortical projection
 - National and international mail
 - All sensory systems except olfaction
 - Special senses, conscious proprioception, nociception,
 - 2) Local cortical connections
 - Local mail
 - Diencephalon <--> telencephalon interconnections
 - 3) Thalamic ascending reticular activating system (ARAS)
 - Blanket mail shots
 - Diffuse arousal of telencephalon



Clinical Signs of Thalamic Dysfunction

- **Direct cortical projection**
 - Sensory deficits
 - e.g. proprioceptive deficits, facial hypalgesia
- **Local cortical connections**
 - Seizures
- **Thalamic reticular system**
 - ARAS
 - Altered mentation

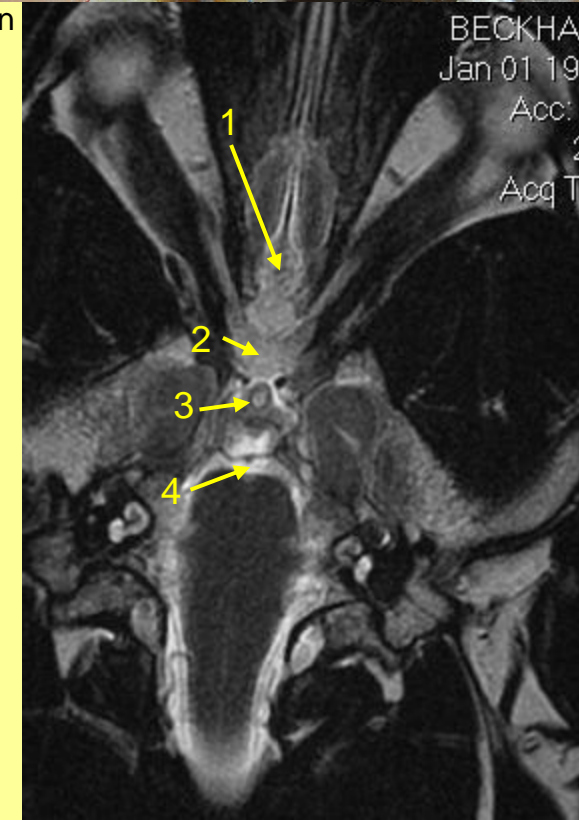


Diencephalon – Hypothalamus

- Nuclei
 - Supraoptic – ADH/vasopressin
 - Paraventricular – oxytocin
 - Suprachiasmatic – sleep/wake cycle
 - Ventromedial – appetite control
- Autonomic NS regulation
 - Temperature regulation
- Neurohypophysis
 - part of pituitary gland



Dog brain, median section



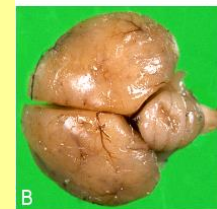
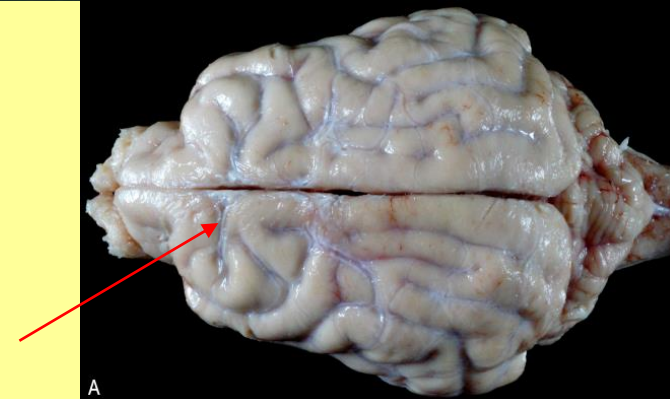
On the MRI,
which structure is
the hypophysis?

Telencephalon

- Definitions
 - Cerebrum, cerebral hemisphere, cerebral cortex
- Sulci and gyri
 - Species difference
 - Lissencephalic
 - Lagomorphs and rodents c/w most domestic spp.
- Longitudinal fissure + falx cerebri
- Transverse fissure + tentorium cerebelli



Cruciate sulcus



Equine, dog, rabbit, and bird (B) brains dorsal aspect; Thomson & Hahn 1-8

Telencephalon

- Lobes

- Frontal

- Motor cortex (skilled)
- Somatosensory cortex

- Parietal

- Cognition

- Temporal

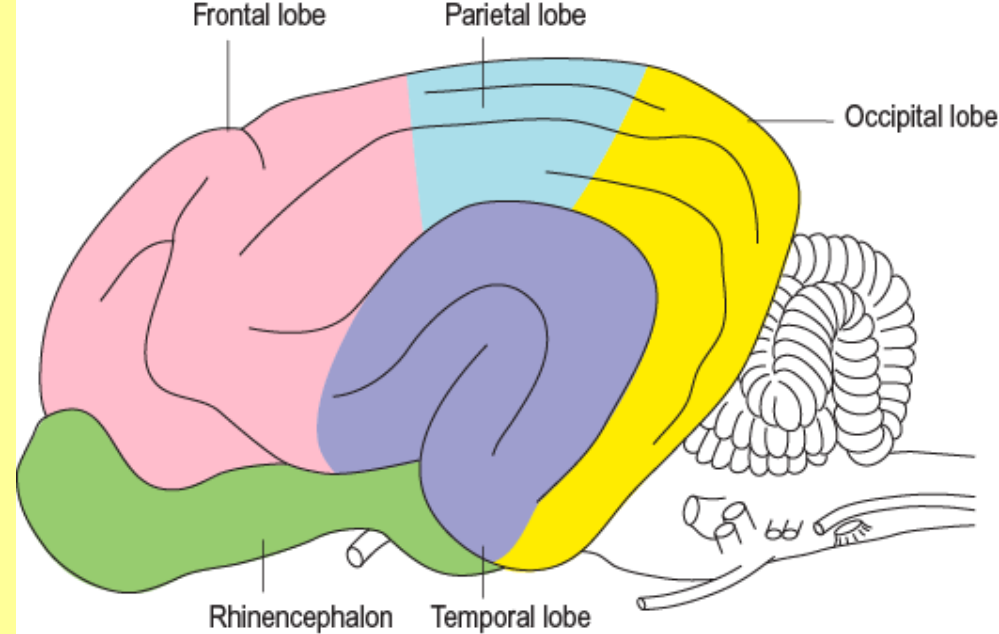
- Memory,
- Audition, vestibular
- Taste

- Occipital

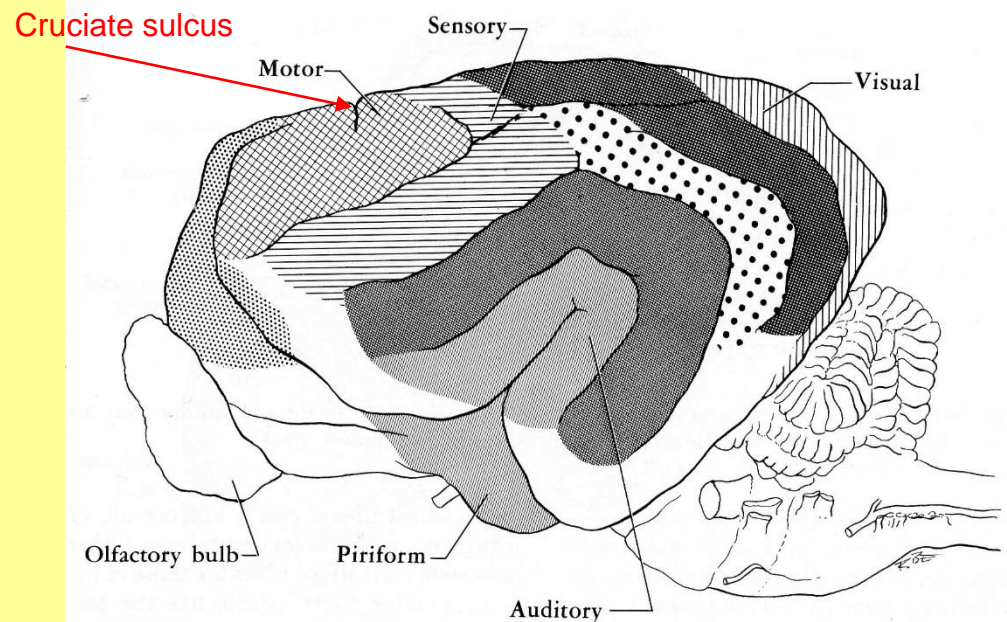
- Vision

- Piriform

- Rhinencephalon
- Olfaction

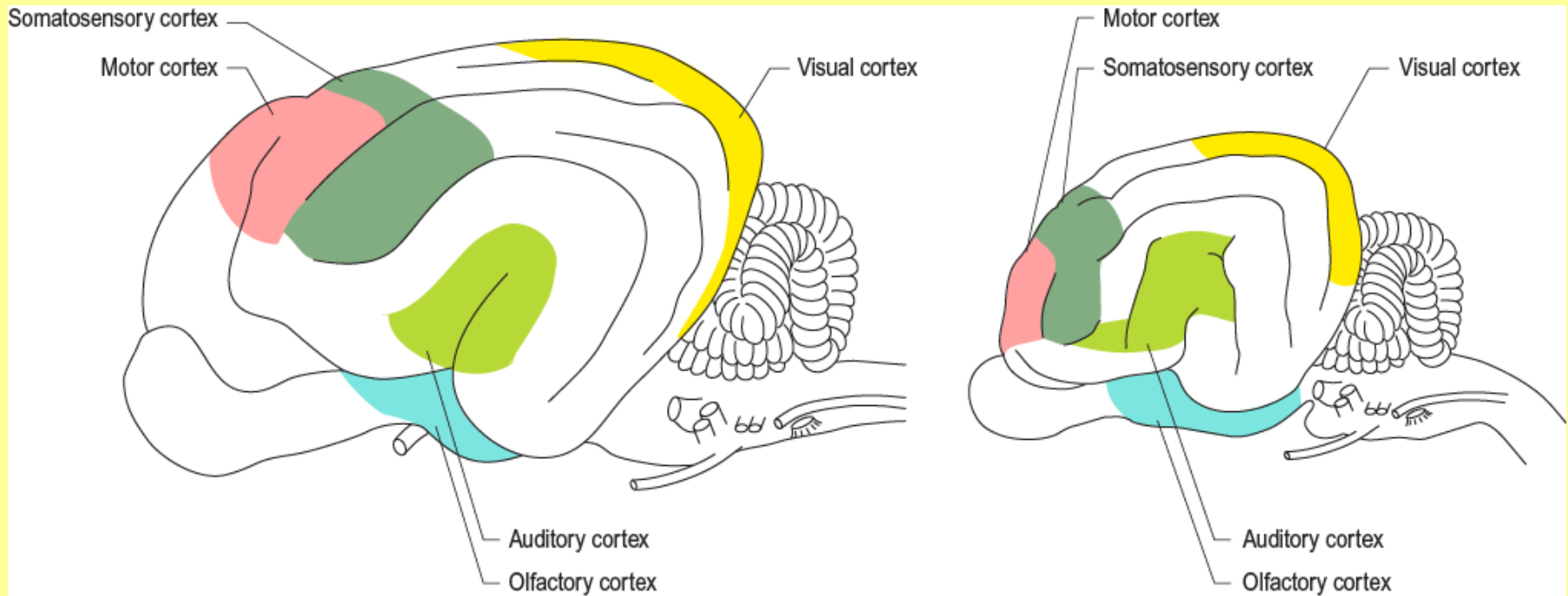


Thomson and Hahn, 1.10



Functional areas of the forebrain Jenkins 16-10

Functional areas of telencephalon



Thomson and Hahn, 1.11, dog and cat brains

Motor cortex – learned / skilled motor function

c/w brainstem motor nuclei – semi-automatic motor function

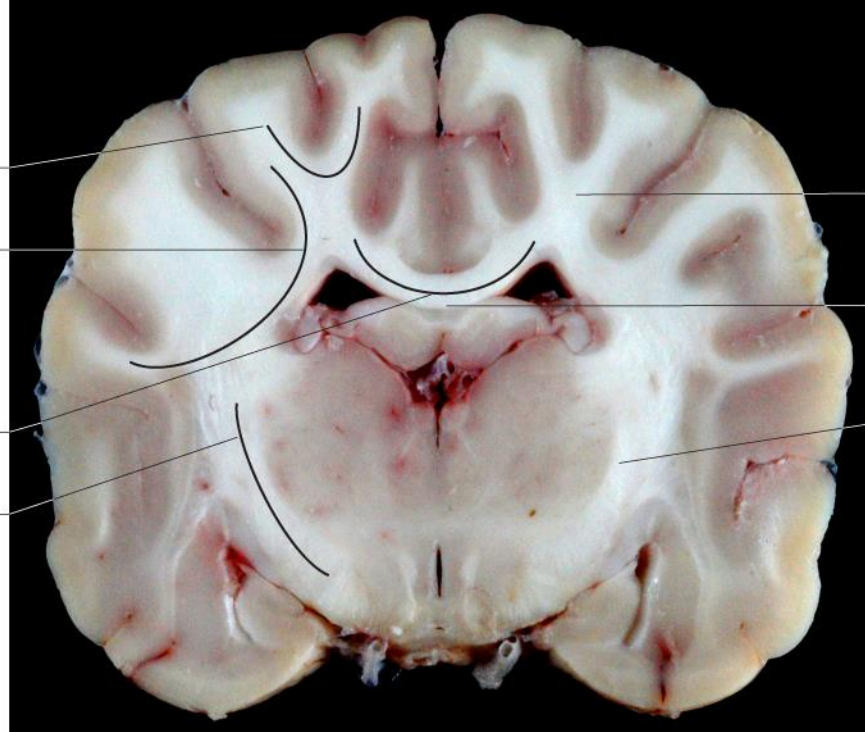
Telencephalon: white matter



Corona radiata
Internal capsule
Crus cerebri

Dog brain, Thomson and Hahn 1.13

Short association fibres
Long association fibres
Commissural fibres
Projection fibres

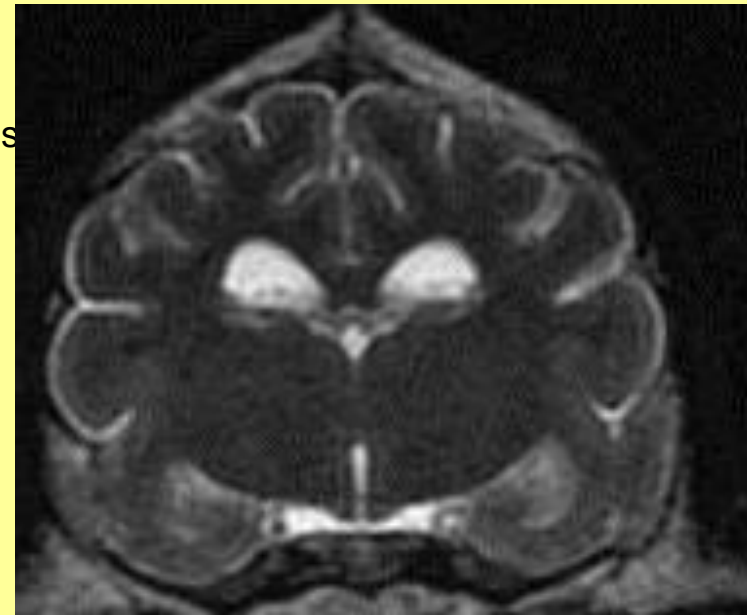


Corona radiata
Corpus callosum
Internal capsule

Dog brain, Thomson and Hahn 1.12

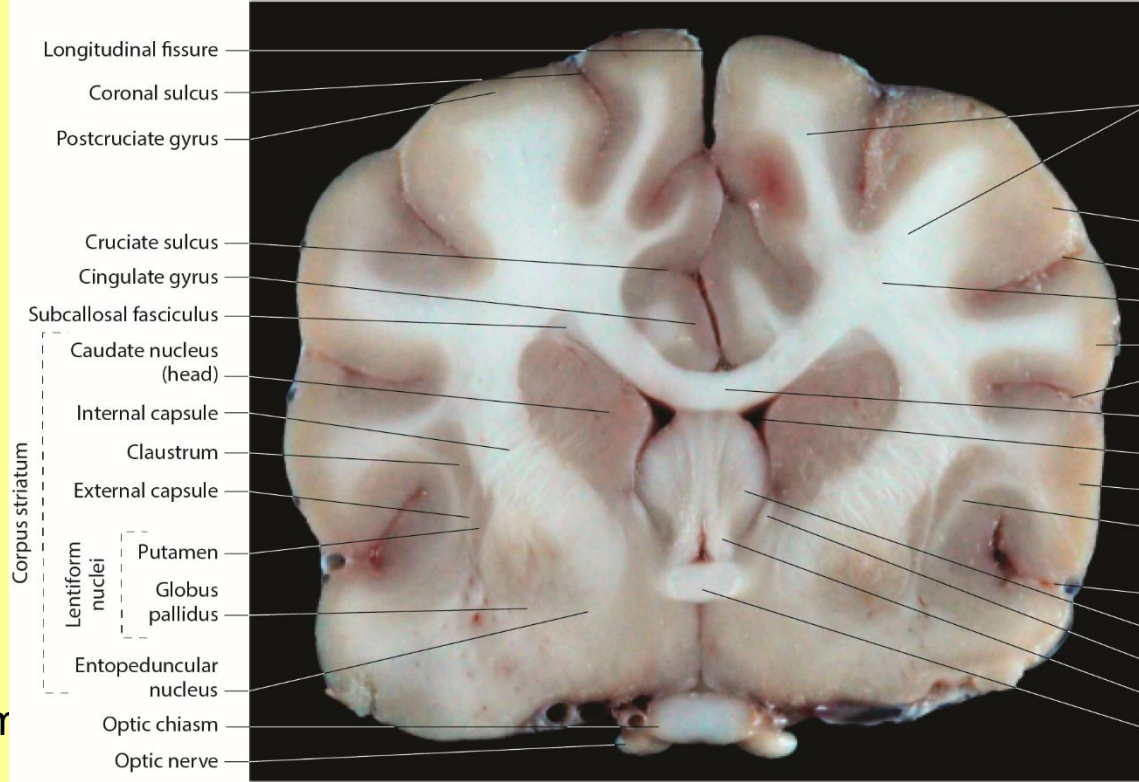
– WM Fibre types

- 1) **Commissural** – connecting the hemispheres
 - Corpus callosum – cerebrum interconnection
 - Rostral – olfactory and limbic system connections
 - Hippocampal
 - Caudal -
- 2) **Association fibres**
 - Corticocortical, ipsilateral
 - Short – b/w gyri
 - Long – b/w lobes
- 3) **Projection fibres**
 - Corticopetal (afferent)
 - Corticofugal (efferent)
 - » Internal capsule – corticofugal



Telencephalon – GM

- Superficial GM
 - Cerebral cortex
- Deep GM
 - 1) Basal nuclei
 - GM + WM = corpus striatum
 - Primary connections with cerebral cortex
 - 2) Hippocampus
 - Part of the limbic system
 - Behaviour, learning, memory
 - 3) Septal nuclei
 - Behaviour (sexual and aggressive)



Thomson and Hahn, A13, A16, A1



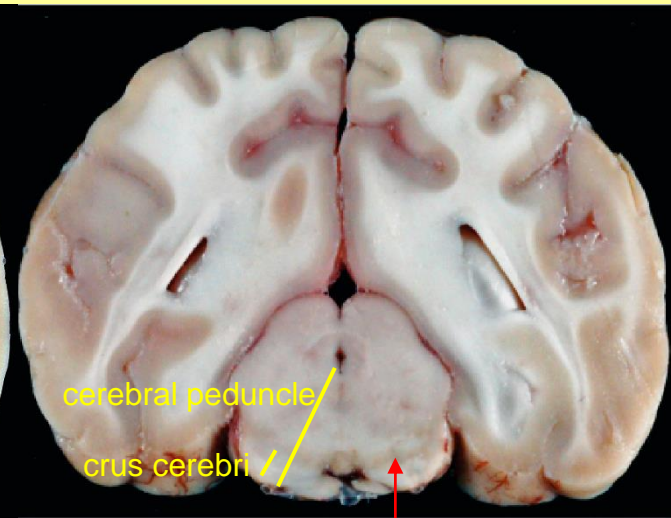
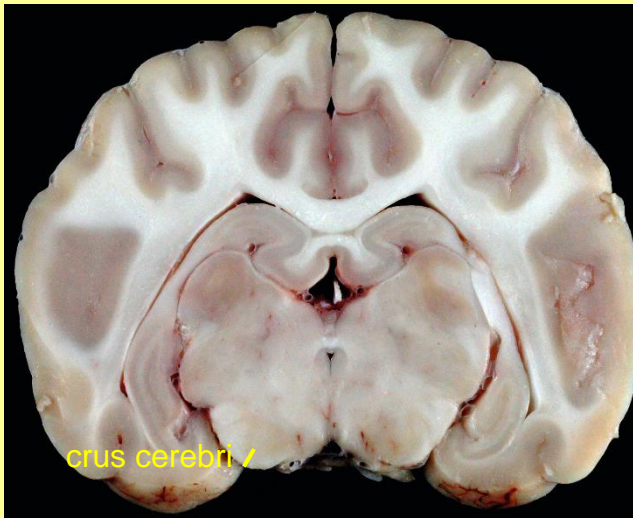
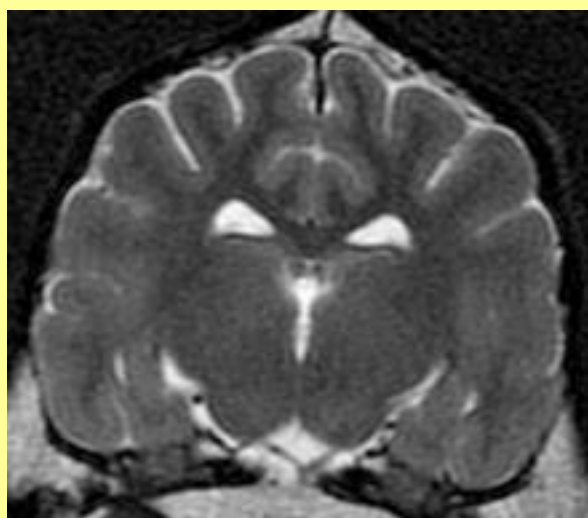
Telencephalon – Basal Nuclei

- Function
 - Storage of motor patterns / rituals
 - Modify learned motor activity
 - Planning
 - Regulation
 - Execution
 - Neostriatum
 - Caudate and putamen nuclei
 - Inhibitory influence
 - Lesions→hyperactivity and hypertonus
 - obstinate progression = head pressing
 - Hyperkinaesias?
 - Paleostriatum
 - Globus pallidus
 - Facilitatory influence
 - Lesions→hypoactivity and hypotonus

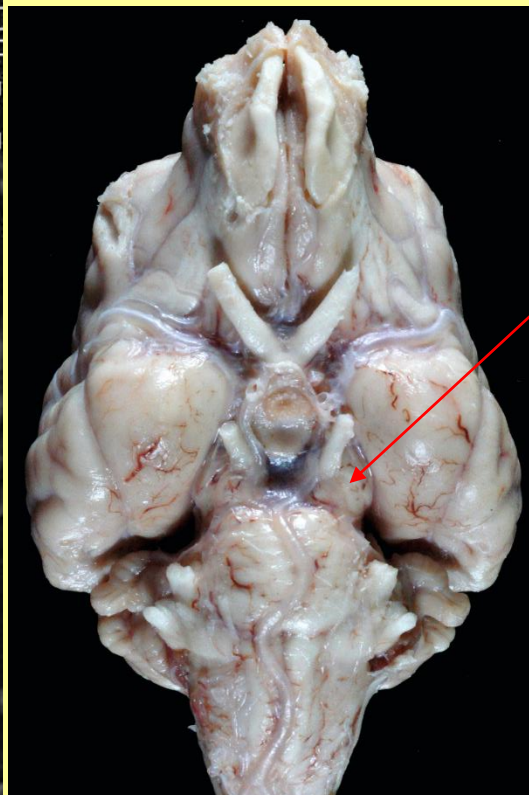


www.pawfun.com/





Thomson and Hahn, modified figs A3,17,18



Cerebral peduncles c/w crus cerebri

Cerebral peduncles

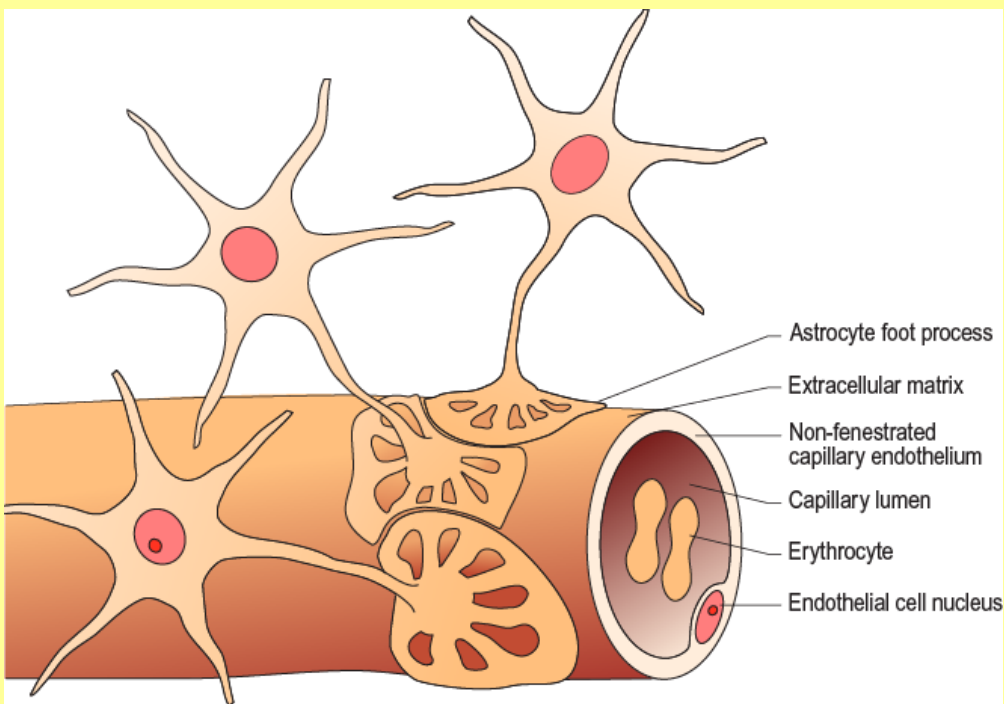
- tegmentum (reticular, CNN and red nuclei), substantia nigra and crus cerebri

Crus cerebri

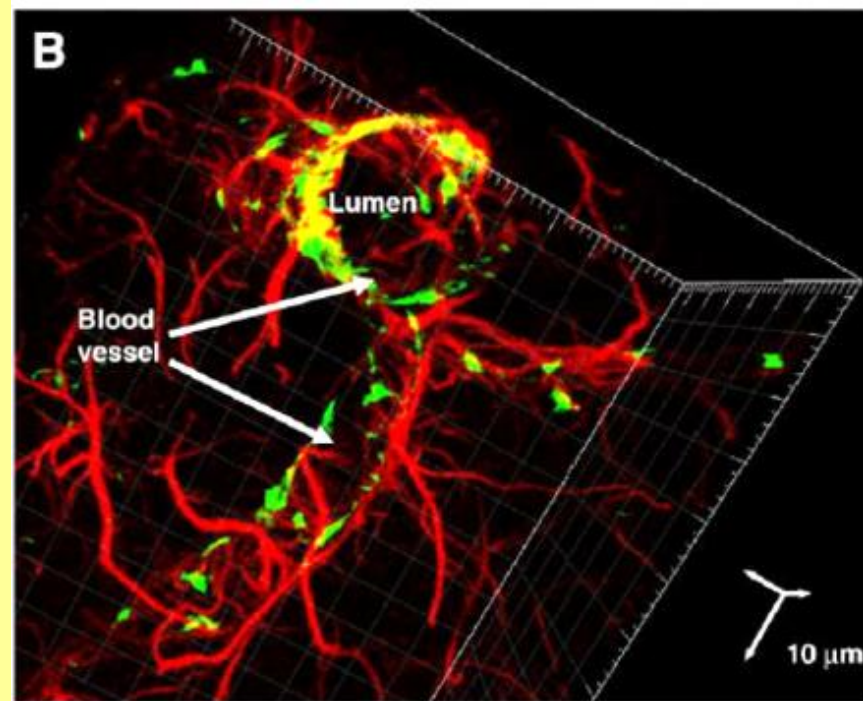
- efferents from cortex
 - Corticopontine, corticonuclear, corticospinal tracts

Forebrain functions 1

- Diencephalon
 - Connections
 - Sensory (rostrally directed)
 - Skilled motor (caudally directed)
 - Autonomic functions
 - Temperature, hormonal, ANS control
 - ARAS – mentation
- Telencephalon
 - Neocortex (neopallium)
 - Projection areas (primary receiving)
 - Somatosensory – from body (soma)
 - » Exteroceptors
 - » Proprioceptors – tactile
 - » Interoceptors – visceral
 - Special senses
 - Vision, audition, balance, olfaction
 - Association areas
 - Processing afferent information
 - e.g. cognition – parietal lobe
 - Motor (skilled)
 - Archicortex (archipallium)
 - Limbic system
 - behavior, memory, emotion
 - Paleocortex (paleopallium)
 - Ventral to lateral rhinal sulcus
 - Rhinencephalon – olfaction
 - (Allocortex – archi + paleocortex)
 - Basal nuclei
 - Modification of motor function



Thomson and Hahn, fig 3-19



Immunostaining – astrocytes, endothelial cells

[Weiss N et al: The blood-brain barrier in brain homeostasis and neurological diseases. Biochim Biophys Acta 1788:842-857 \(2008\)](#)

Blood-brain barrier Components?

Absent

- choroid plexus, hypophysis, pineal gland, area postrema

How do substances get into the CNS?

- Diffusion – Gases
- Molecular transporters
 - e.g. glucose, amino acids

Blood-CSF barrier

- Fenestrated endothelium
- Basement membrane
- Ependymal cells with tight junctions

Diseases often lead to leaky vasculature

