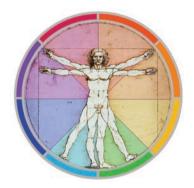
HUBS191 Lecture Material

This pre-lecture material is to help you prepare for the lecture and to assist your note-taking within the lecture,

it is NOT a substitute for the lecture!



Please note that although every effort is made to ensure this pre-lecture material corresponds to the live-lecture there may be differences / additions.







HUBS 191

Human Movement and Sensation

Theme 2: Integrating and coordinating roles of the nervous system

Lecture 18: Anatomy and Function of the Spinal Cord and Spinal Nerves

29 March 2017

Lecture 18: Learning objectives

After this lecture and associated study you should know and understand:

- The external anatomy of the spinal cord and its associated structures
- The internal anatomy of the spinal cord
- How neural information is organised within the spinal cord and the direction of information flow
- How neural information enters and exits the spinal cord
- The spinal nerves and how neural information travels in them out into the body
- The structure of a peripheral nerve

External anatomy of the spinal cord: External features

Starts at: Foramen magnum

= "big hole", the opening at the base of the skull

Ends at: inferior border of 1st lumbar vertebra (L1)

Within a sack that fits inside the spinal cavity

Spinal cavity within vertebrae

Cervical enlargement (of spinal cord) Spinal cord-Membranous covering (meninges) Bony covering (vertebral column) Lumbar enlargement (of spinal cord) Filum terminale

Patton and Thibodeau 8th ed Fig 14-1 (7th ed Fig 13-1)

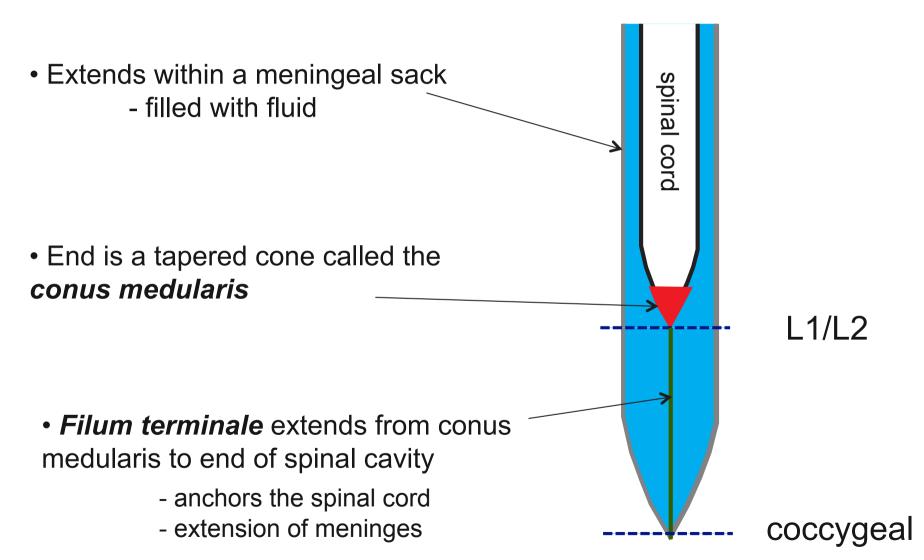
External anatomy of the spinal cord:

Spinal cavity & position in the vertebral

column dorsal dorsal Spinal cord goes here!!! Modified from: Tortora, "Principles of human ventral anatomy." ed 5, Fig 17-7.

See also: P & T, 8th ed Fig 8-14 (7th ed Fig 8-14)

External anatomical features of the spinal cord: Associated structures



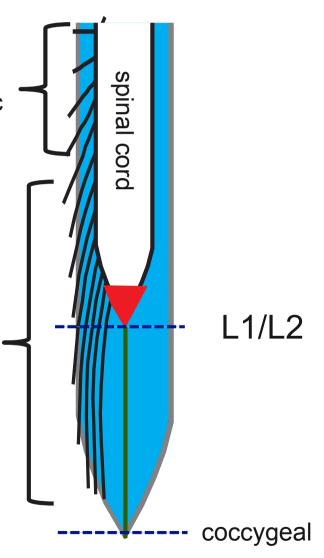
Vertebral External anatomy of the spinal cord: levels Spinal nerves c₅Cervical Cervical spinal cord (C1-C7) Thoracic spinal cord (T1-T12) Thoracic Lumbar spinal cord (L-L5) Sacral spinal cord (S1-S5) Spinal cord ends! ⊾Lumbar Spinal nerves exit the vertebral column at the level appropriate to their origin and destination Saladin, 2nd Ed. (See also: Patton and Thibodeau 8th ed Figs 14-1, 14-6 and 15-1 (7th ed Figs13-1, 13-6 and 14-1)

External anatomy of the spinal cord: Spinal nerves, cauda equina

Go to arms & thorax (Exit vertebral column at cervical and thoracic levels)

 Some spinal nerves exit the spinal cavity and vertebral column inferior to end of spinal cord

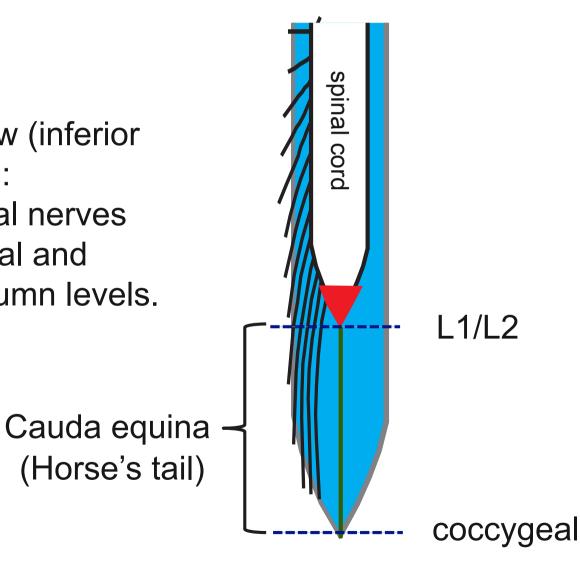
Go to legs, pelvis, abdomen (Exit vertebral column at lumbar, sacral, and coccygeal levels)



External anatomy of the spinal cord: Spinal nerves, cauda equina

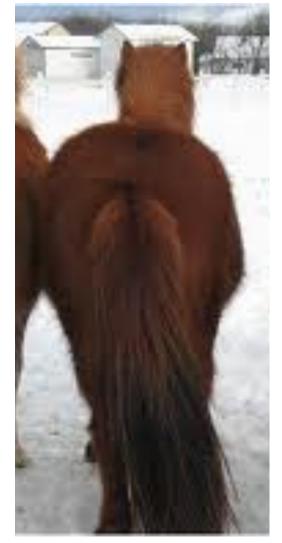
→ Meningeal sack below (inferior to) end of spinal cord:

• Filled with spinal nerves that exit at lumbar, sacral and coccygeal vertebral column levels.



External anatomy of the spinal cord:

Cauda equina Spinal cord (lumbar enlargement) Dura mater (cut) Conus medullaris Posterior (dorsal) nerve roots Cauda equina Filum terminale Patton and Thibodeau 8th ed Fig 14-7

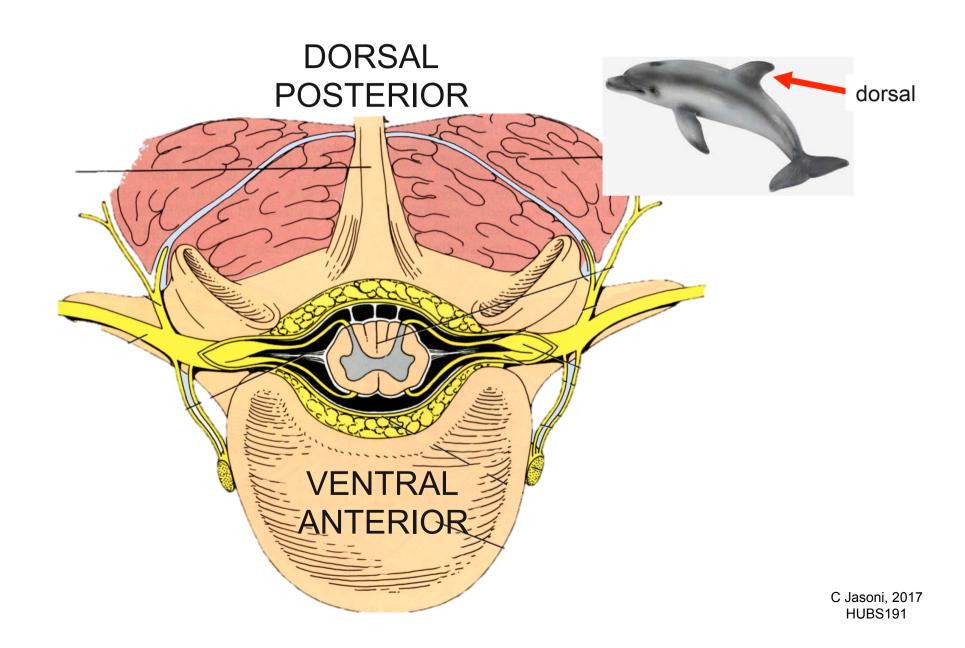


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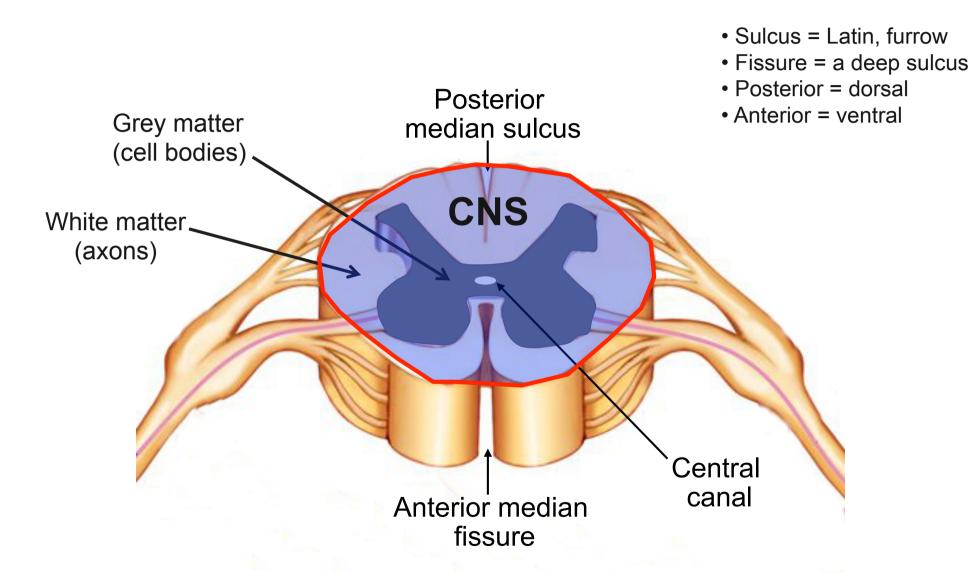
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(7th ed Fig 13-7)

Reminder...

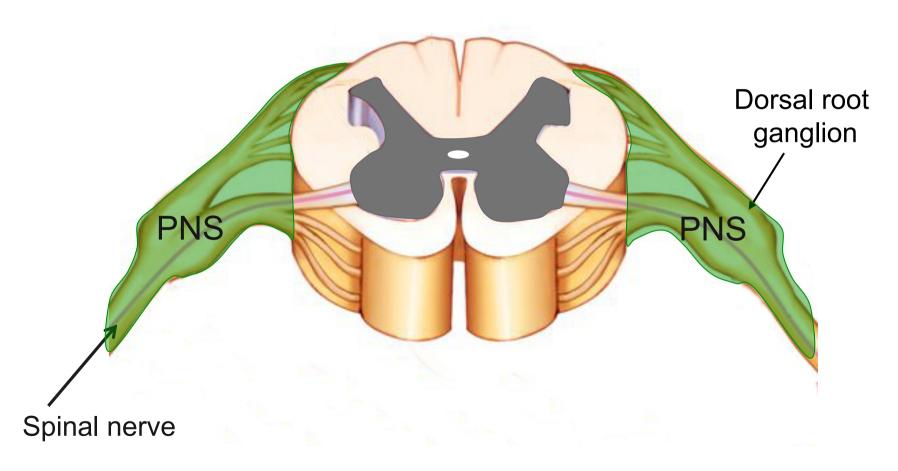


Anatomy of the spinal cord: Internal features



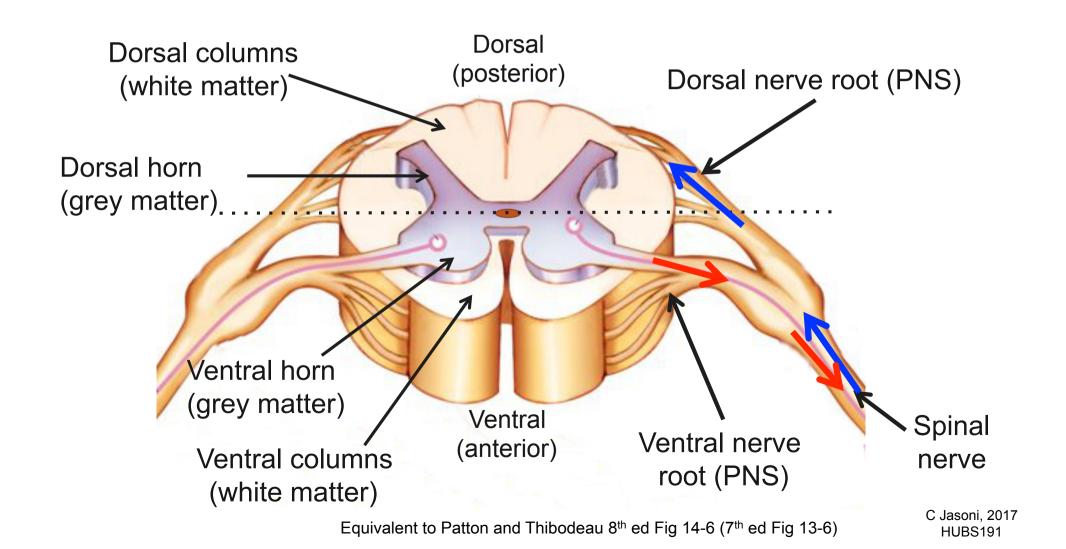
Anatomy of the spinal cord: Internal features

- Sulcus = Latin, furrow
- Fissure = a deep sulcus
- Posterior = dorsal
- Anterior = ventral

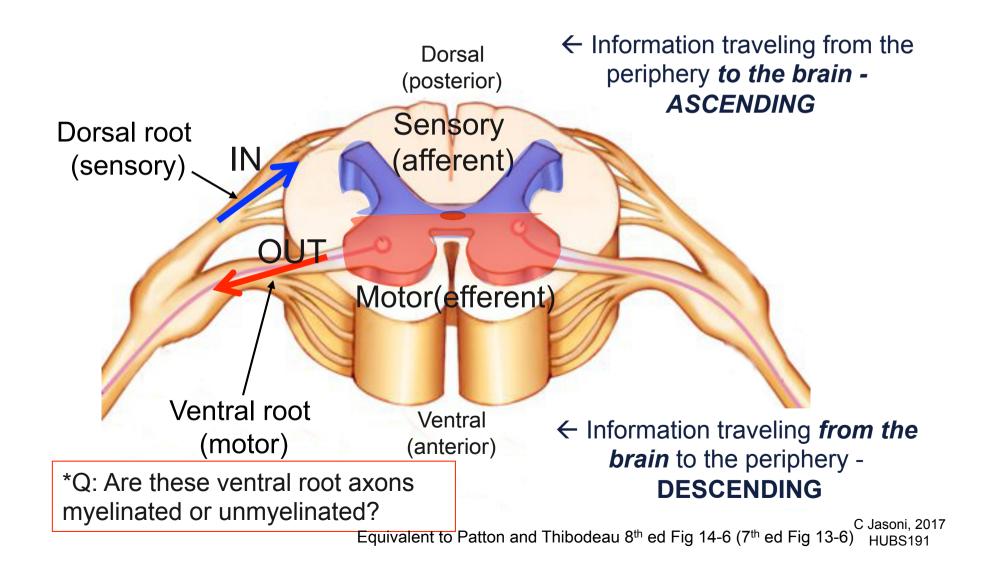




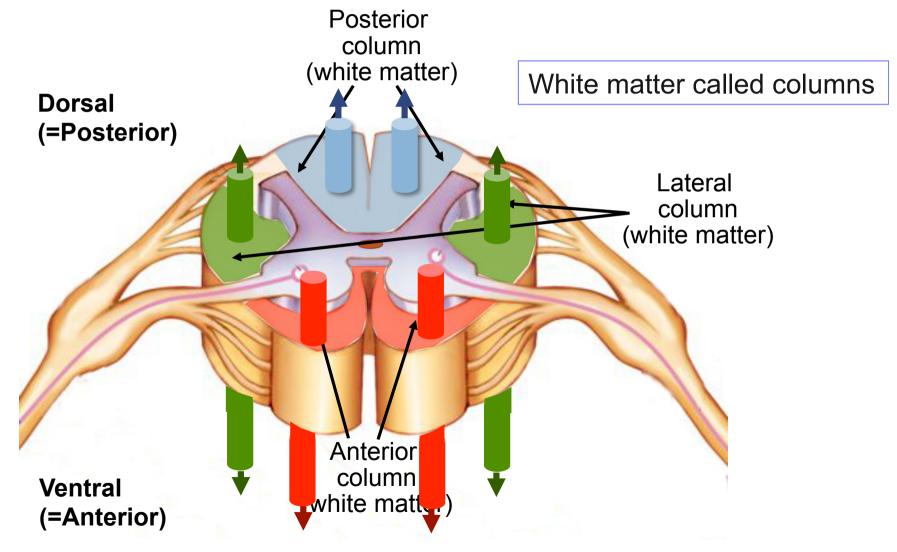
- White matter (axons)
- Grey matter (cell bodies)



Anatomy of the spinal cord: Internal organisation of neural information



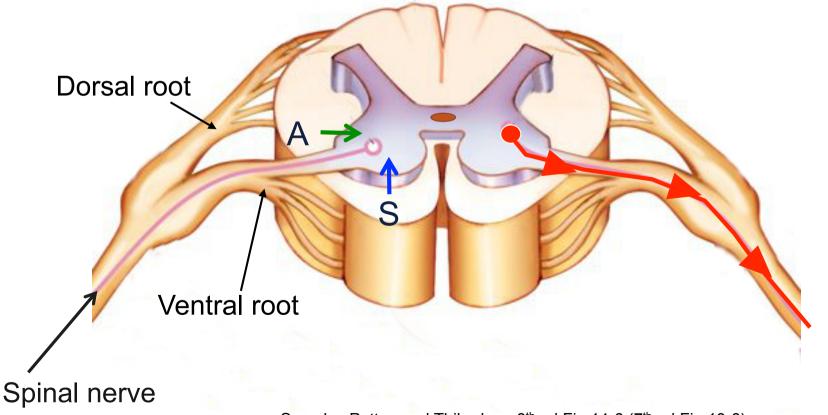
Anatomy of the spinal cord: Directions of information flow & divisions of white matter



Flow of information out of the spinal cord

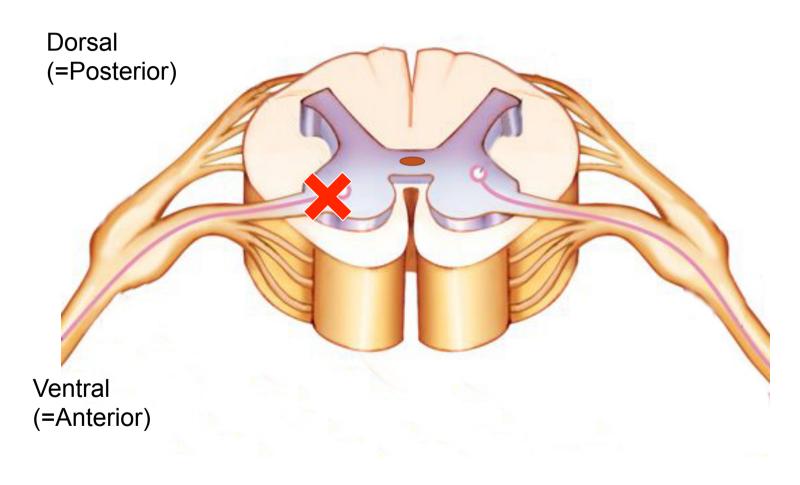
Efferent (motor) information leaves through ventral roots

- Somatic motor neurons in ventral horns of spinal cord
- > Autonomic in lateral/ventrolateral horns of spinal cord



Functional anatomy of the spinal cord

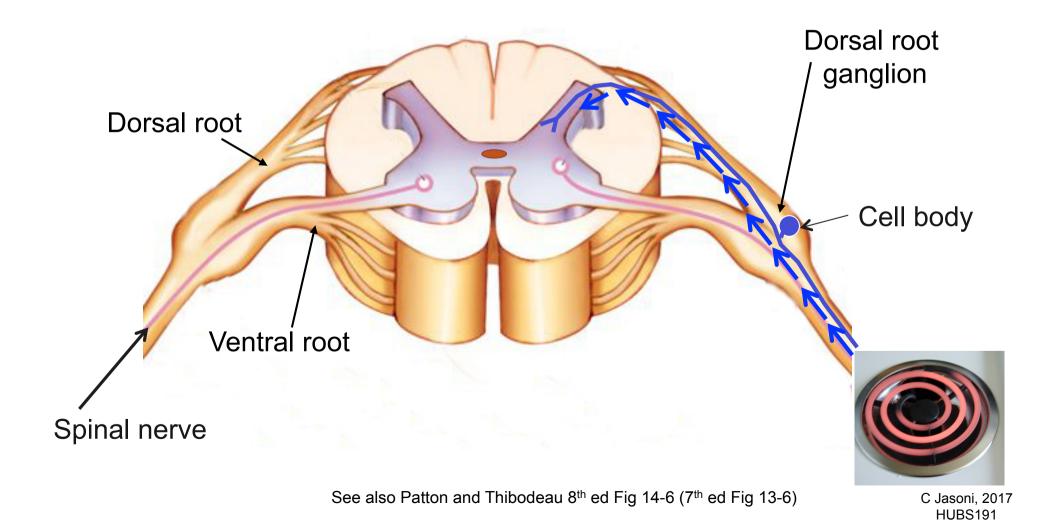
What would happen if there was a lesion here?



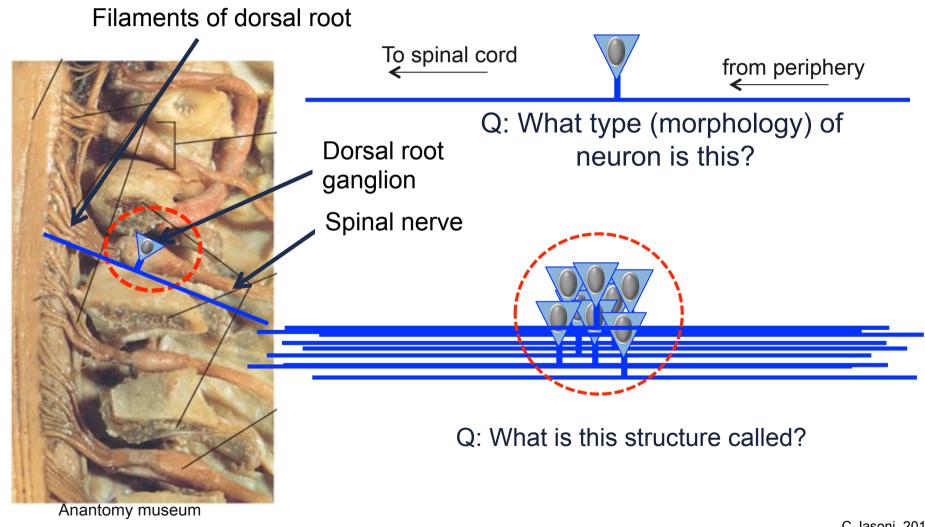
Flow of information into the spinal cord

Afferent (sensory) information enters the spinal cord in dorsal roots

> Cell bodies of sensory neurons are in the dorsal root ganglion

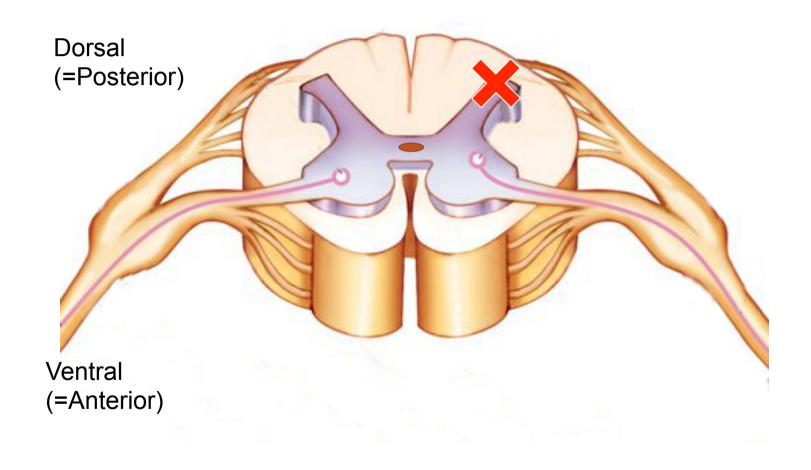


Dissection: Dorsal view of the spinal cord and dorsal nerve root



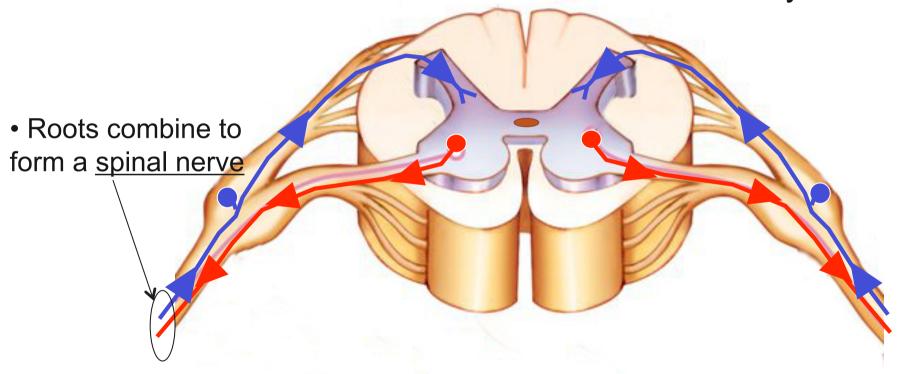
Functional anatomy of the spinal cord

What would happen if there was a lesion here?



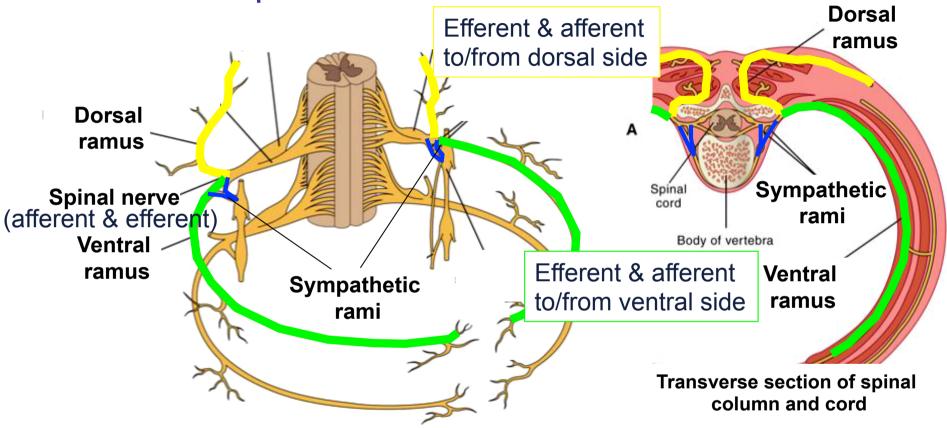
Summary: Flow of information into and out of the spinal cord

- Dorsal nerve roots flow of information 1-way = IN
- Ventral nerve roots flow of information 1-way = OUT



- Spinal nerves flow of information 2-way = IN and OUT
 - Spinal nerves are called MIXED nerves

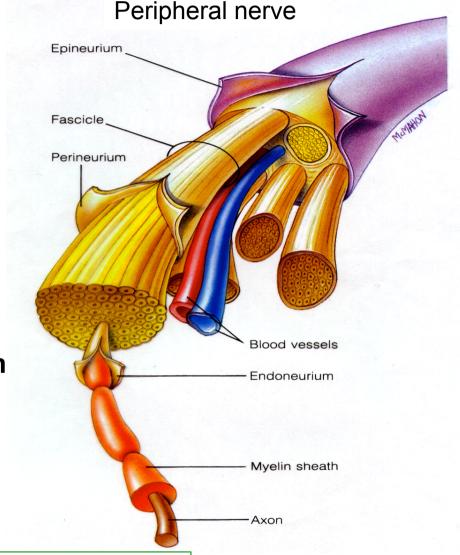
What happens to the spinal nerves once they leave the spinal column?



- They break into two branches <u>ventral</u> and <u>dorsal ramus</u> (ramus = branch; plural 'rami' = branches)
- The ventral ramus communicates with the sympathetic chain via two sympathetic rami

Structure of a peripheral nerve

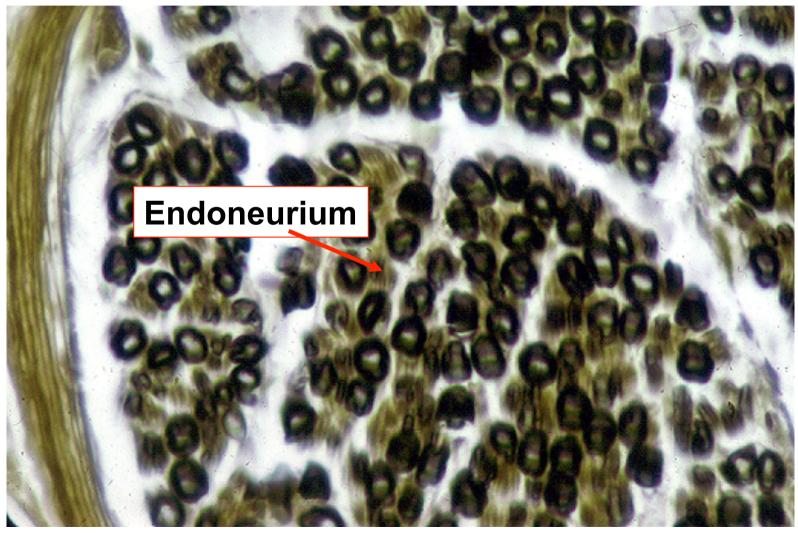
- Individual axons may be myelinated or unmyelinated
- Axons are covered with endoneurium
- Endoneurium-covered axons (nerve fibers) are bundled together to form a fascicle
- Fascicles are covered with perineurium
- Fascicles bundle with each other and with blood vessels to form a **nerve**
- Nerves are covered by epineurium



Bundles of axons in the CNS are called a tract

ENDONEURIUM

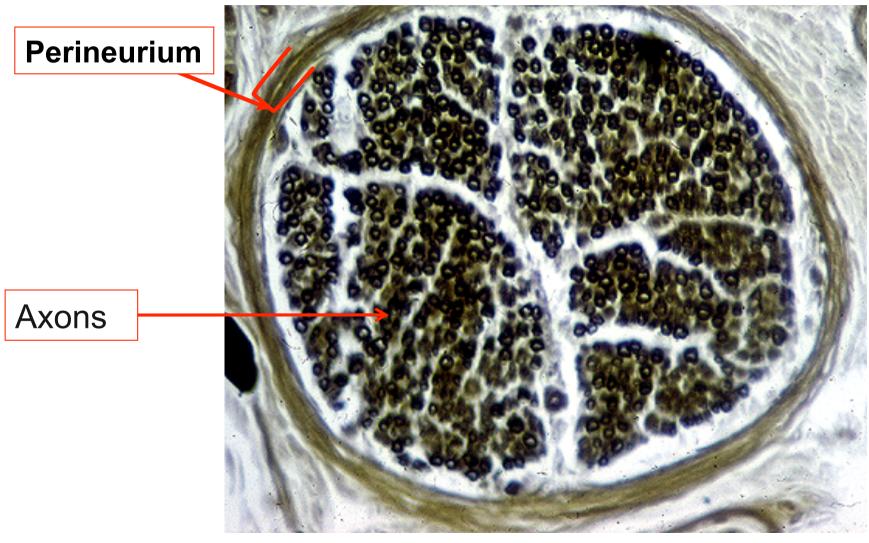
Surrounds individual axons (myelinated OR unmyelinated)



See also: Patton and Thibodeau 8th ed Fig 13-12B (7th ed Fig. 12-12 B)

PERINEURIUM

• Surrounds FASCICLES (= bundles of nerve fibers)



See also: Patton and Thibodeau 8th ed Fig 13-12B (7th ed Fig. 12-12 B)

EPINEURIUM

• Surrounds groups of fascicles, plus blood vessels

Fascicle **Epineurium** (nerve sheath)

Equivalent to Patton and Thibodeau 8th ed Fig 13-12B (7th ed Fig. 12-12 B)

Lecture 18: Post-lecture Quiz

- The dorsal white columns are part of:
- (a) PNS; (b) spinal nerves; (c) sensory system; (d) efferent system.
- Spinal nerves contain:
- (a) Only myelinated axons; (b) only unmyelinated axons; (c) both a & b; (d) filum terminale
- Which of the following is true of the spinal cord
 (a) it is part of the PNS; (b) contains spinal nerves; (c) it contains sympathetic nerve fibers; (d) it contains perineurium.
- Which of the following is true of the ventral ramus
- (a) it contains only motor information; (b) it contains only sensory information; (c) it is part of the CNS; (d) it contains both efferent and afferent information

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