

FUNCTIONS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

Sensory input—gathering information

- To monitor changes occurring inside and outside the body
- Changes = stimuli

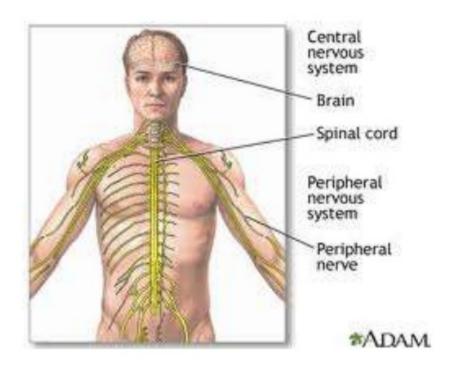
Integration

 To process and interpret sensory input and decide if action is needed

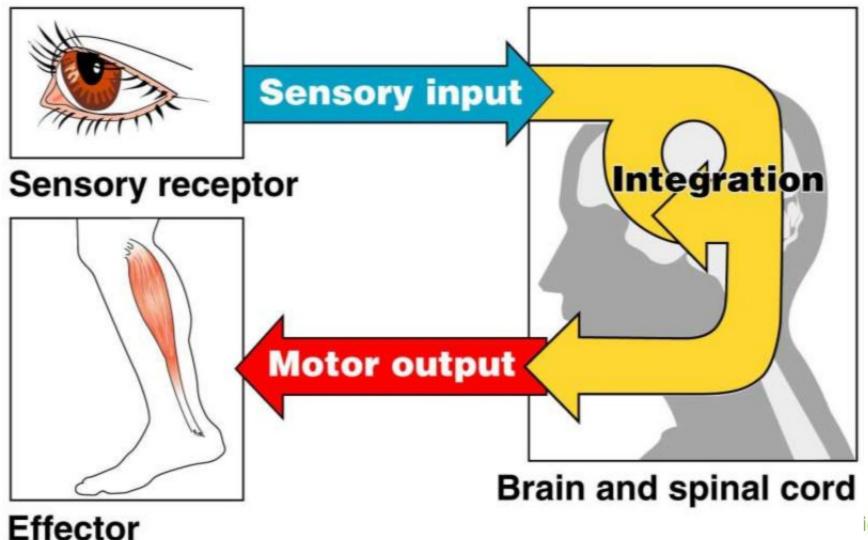
FUNCTIONS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

Motor output

- A response to integrated stimuli
- The response activates muscles or glands



FUNCTIONS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM



STRUCTURAL CLASSIFICATION OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

- Central nervous system (CNS)
 - Brain
 - Spinal cord
- Peripheral nervous system (PNS)
 - Nerves outside the brain and spinal cord
 - Spinal nerves
 - Cranial nerves

FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF THE PERIPHERAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

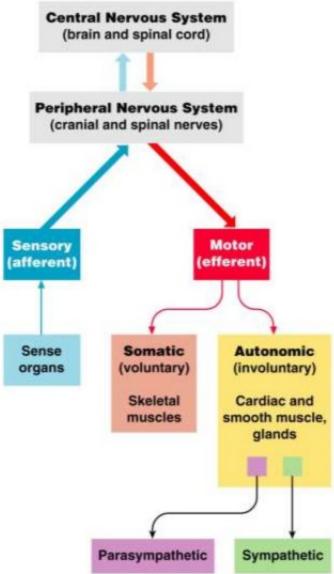
Sensory (afferent) division

 Nerve fibers that carry information to the central nervous system

Motor (efferent) division

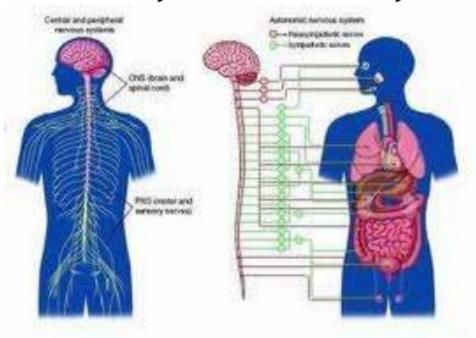
 Nerve fibers that carry impulses away from the central nervous system

ORGANIZATION OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM Central Nervous System



FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF THE PERIPHERAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

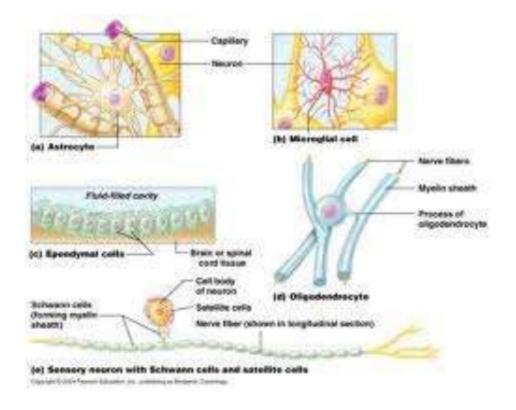
- Motor (efferent) division (continued)
 - Two subdivisions
 - Somatic nervous system = voluntary
 - Autonomic nervous system = involuntary



 Support cells in the CNS are grouped together as "neuroglia"

Function: to support, insulate, and protect

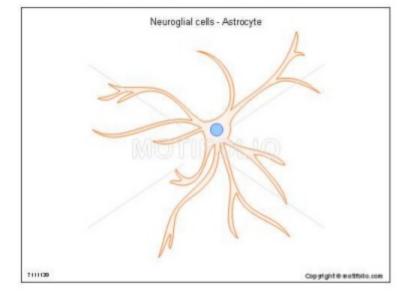
neurons

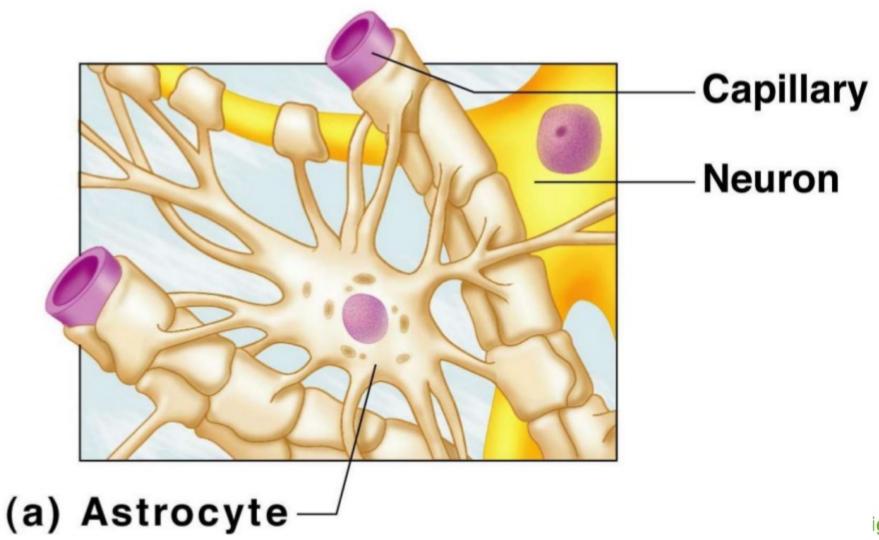


Astrocytes

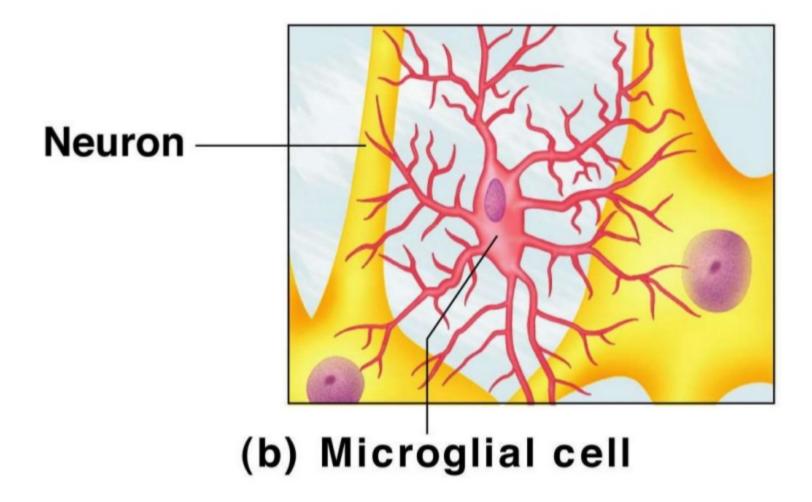
- Abundant, star-shaped cells
- Brace neurons
- Form barrier between capillaries and neurons
- Control the chemical environment of

the brain

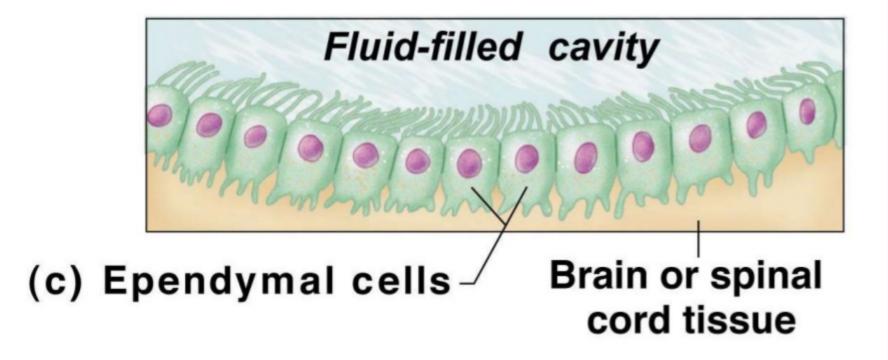




- Microglia
 - Spiderlike phagocytes
 - Dispose of debris

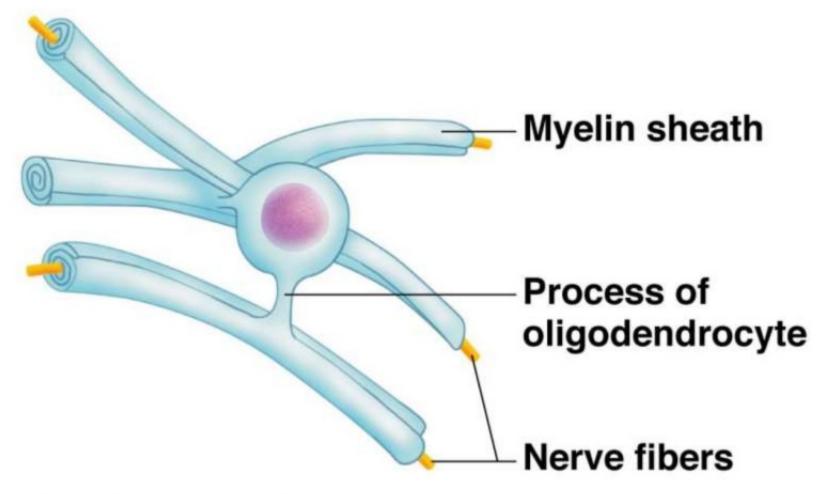


- Ependymal cells
 - Line cavities of the brain and spinal cord
 - Circulate cerebrospinal fluid



Oligodendrocytes

- Wrap around nerve fibers in the central nervous system
- Produce myelin sheaths



(d) Oligodendrocyte

- Satellite cells
 - Protect neuron cell bodies
- Schwann cells
 - Form myelin sheath in the peripheral nervous system

Schwann cells (forming myelin of neuron sheath) Satellite cells Nerve fiber

(e) Sensory neuron with Schwann cells and satellite cells

NERVOUS TISSUE: NEURONS

- Neurons = nerve cells
 - Cells specialized to transmit messages
 - Major regions of neurons
 - Cell body—nucleus and metabolic center of the cell
 - Processes—fibers that extend from the cell body