

## Module:

**Biological foundations of mental health**

Week 1:

Introduction to brain anatomy



Prof Sarah Guthrie

**Topic 1**  
**Overview of CNS development**

Part 1 of 3

## Introduction

### The levels of neural development

- The systems level: changes in size and shape in the development of nervous system – ‘morphogenesis’
- The cellular level : ‘differentiation’ from progenitors to mature neurons

### Developmental disorders that affect mental health



Figure 1: Morphogenesis

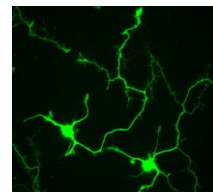
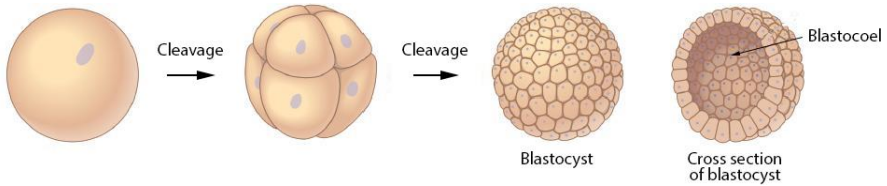


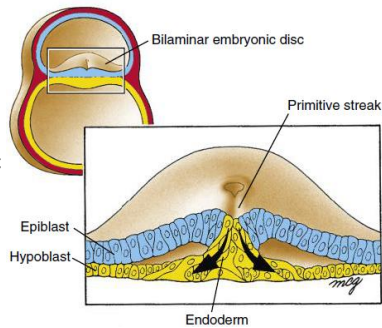
Figure 2: Differentiation

## Overview of human development (1)

**Day 0**  
Fertilisation, Cleavage



**Day 7**  
Blastocyst, implantation – formation of the embryonic disk with 2 layers, epiblast and hypoblast



**Day 14**

Gastrulation – transformation of the 2-layered disk into 3 'germ' layers – ectoderm, mesoderm and endoderm give rise to all tissues

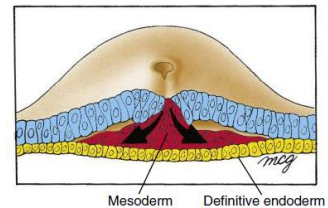


Figure 3: Overview of human development

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## Overview of human development (2)

**Day 21**

**Neurulation** – creation of the embryonic nervous system from the ectoderm



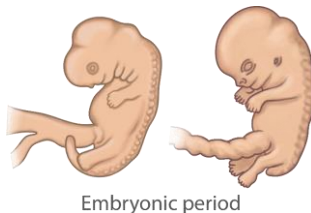
**Week 4-5**

Embryo recognisable with a head and tail – 'tailbud' stage



**Week 4-8**

**Embryonic Period**  
Organogenesis occurs  
Main tissue and organ systems develop  
Major features of body form develop



**3<sup>rd</sup> Month – Birth**

**Foetal Period**  
Maturation of tissues and organs  
Rapid growth of the body  
Cell proliferation

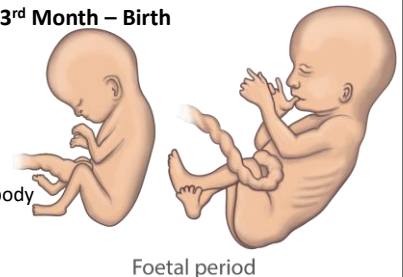


Figure 4: Overview of human development

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## Neural induction

Ectoderm is induced to become neural tissue by the underlying mesoderm.

In the process of neurulation, morphogenic and genetic changes transform section of the ectoderm into the neural tube.

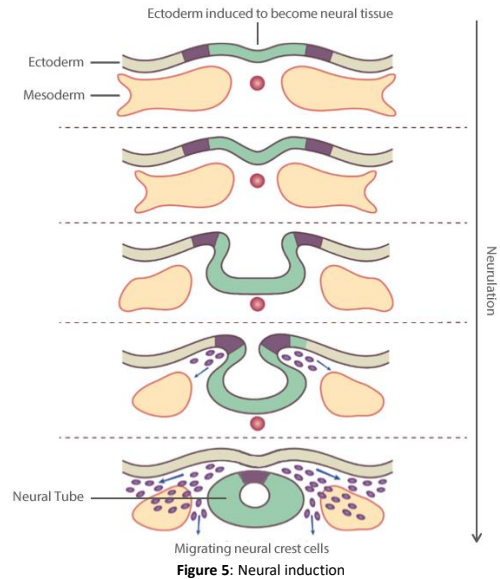


Figure 5: Neural induction

## Early neurulation

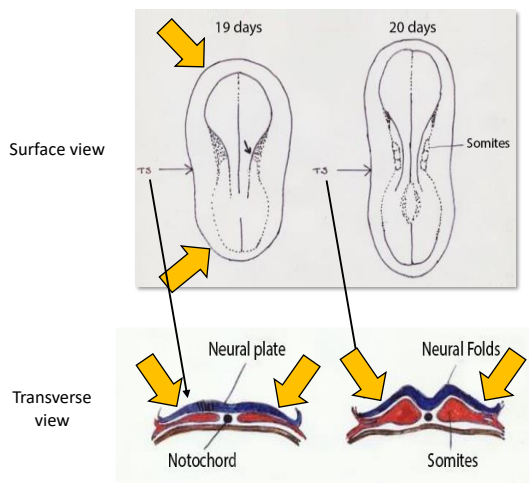


Figure 6: Early neurulation



Figure 7: Scanning electron micrograph of human embryo

## Late neurulation

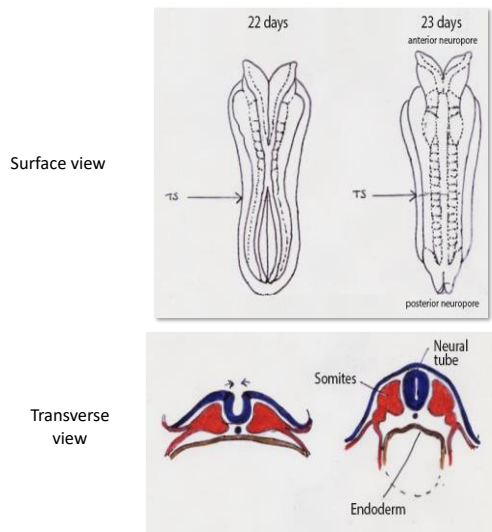


Figure 8: Late neurulation



Figure 9: Scanning electron micrograph of human embryo

## Morphogenesis

Cranial and caudal folding arches the embryo into a "comma" shape.

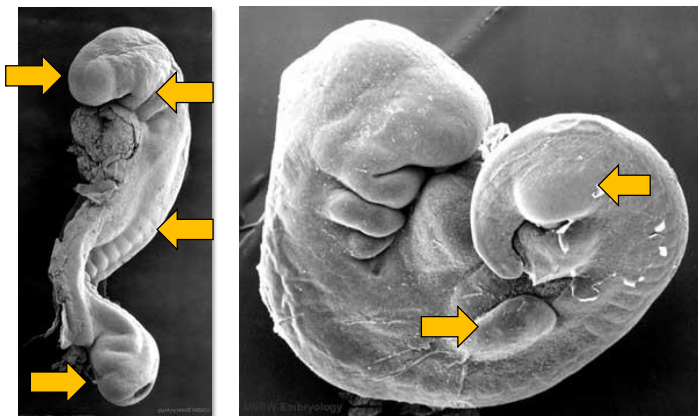


Figure 10: Tailbud stage (4-5 weeks)

Figure 11: 5-week old embryo

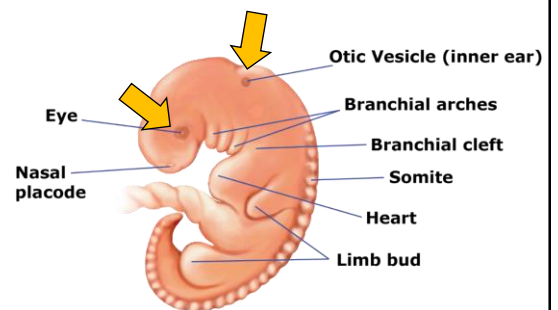
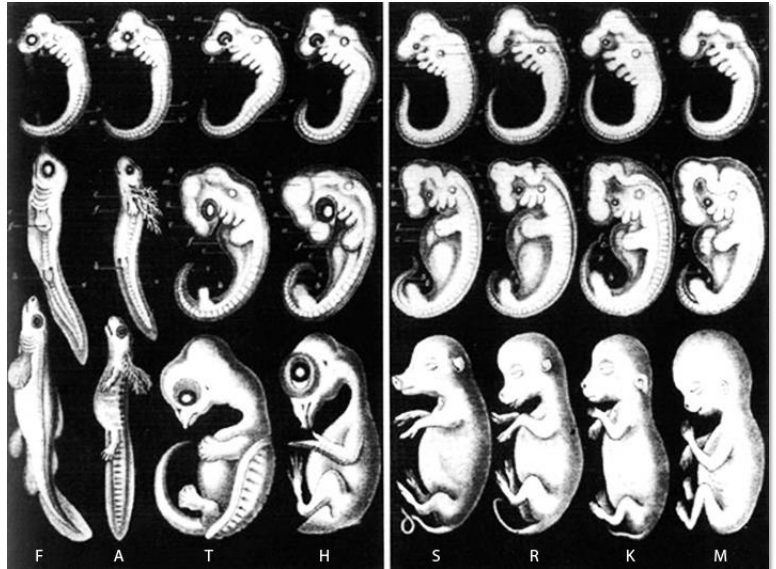


Figure 12: 5-week old embryo

Many organisms look similar at the tailbud stage



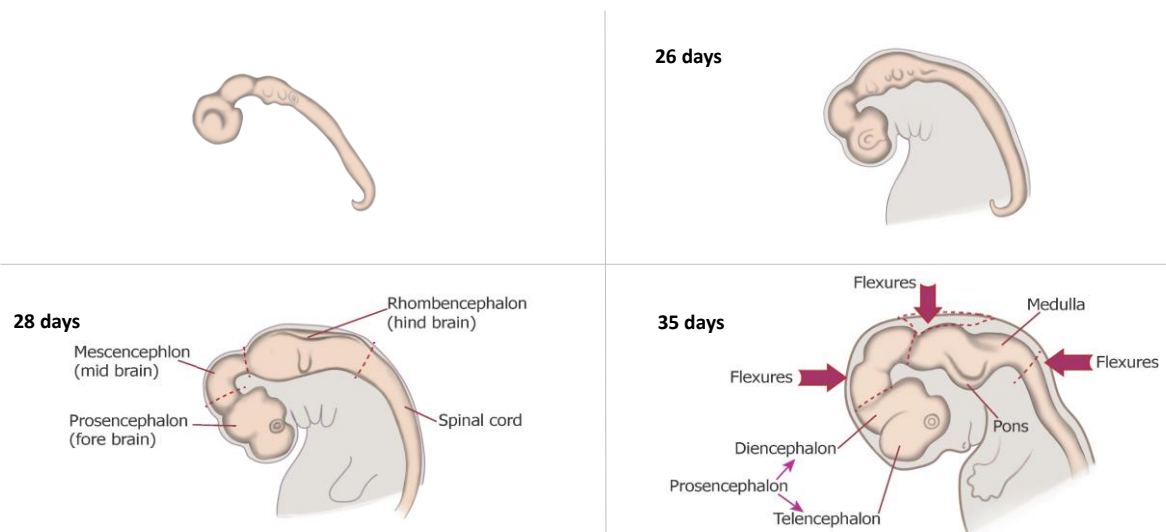
**Figure 13:** Double Plate Illustration Showing Embryos of fish (F), Salamander (A), Turtle (T), Chick (H), Pig (S), Cow (R), Rabbit (K), and Human (M)

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Formation of the flexures and subdivisions in the neural tube



**Figure 14:** Formation of the flexures and subdivisions in the neural tube

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