

EXTERNAL FEATURES OF BRAIN STEM

DR. MAHVISH JAVED

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, MBBS / MPHIL ANATOMY DEPARTMENT KGMC PESHAWAR

Brainstem

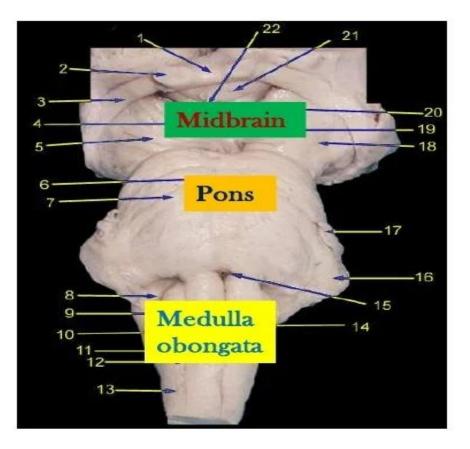
Located between the cerebrum and the spinal cord
Provides a pathway for tracts running between higher and lower neural centers.

Consists of the midbrain, pons, and medulla oblongata.

Each region is about an inch in length.

Microscopically, it consists of deep gray matter surrounded by white matter fiber tracts.

Produce automatic behaviors necessary for survival.



CONNECTIONS WITH CEREBELLUM:

- Each part of brain stem is connected to
- cerebellum by cerebellar peduncles
- White matter " (superior, middle & inferior).

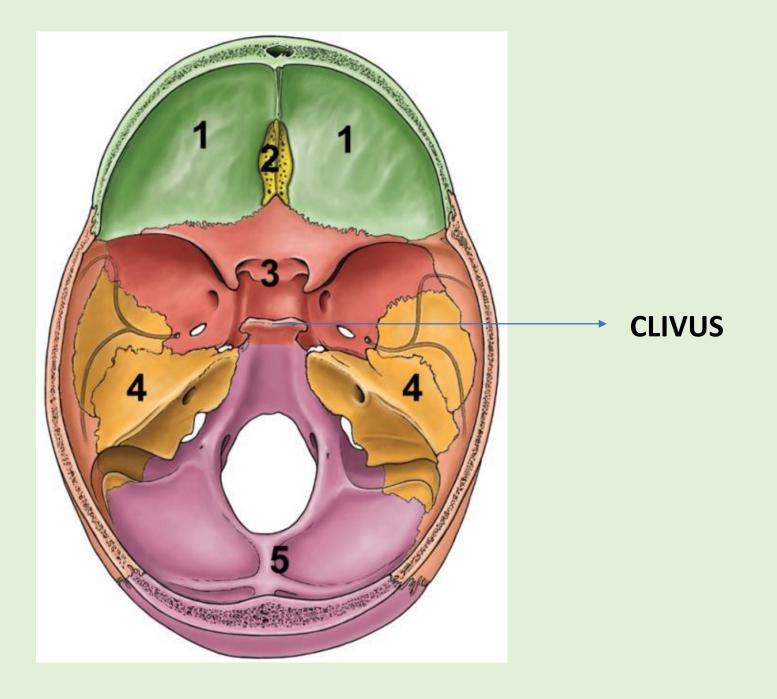
LOCATION

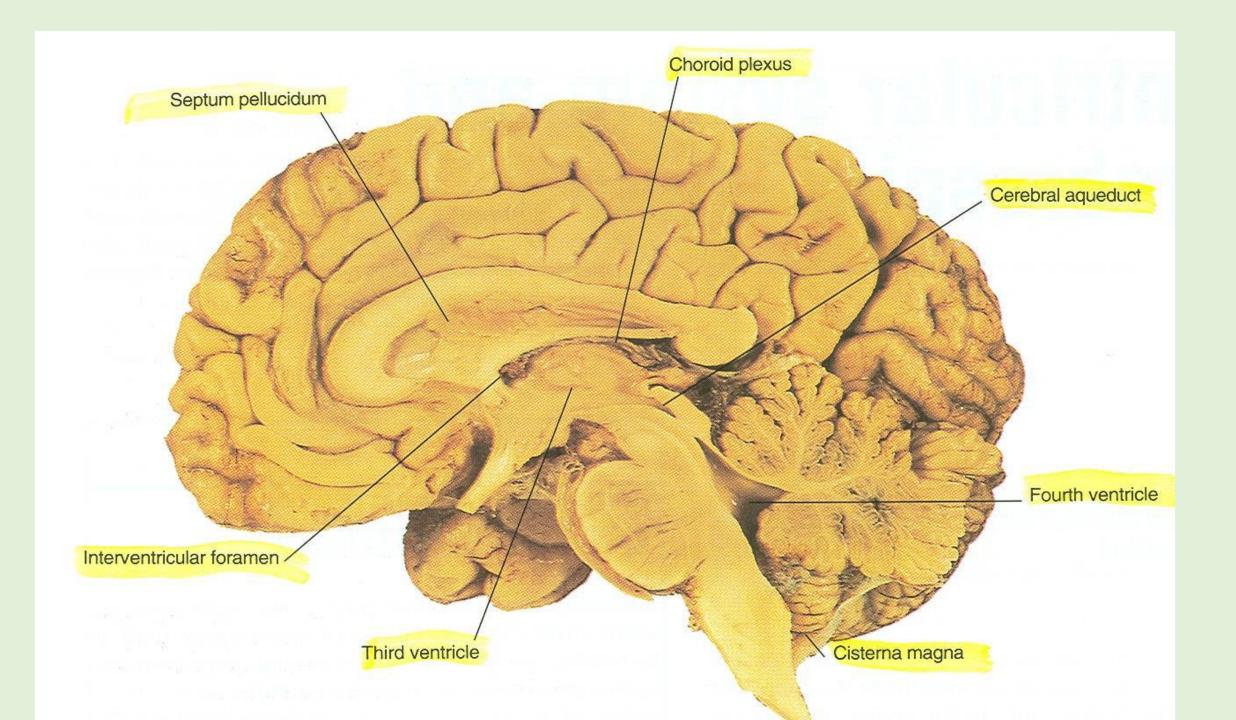
• The brainstem is very small, making up around

only 2.6 percent of the brain's total weight

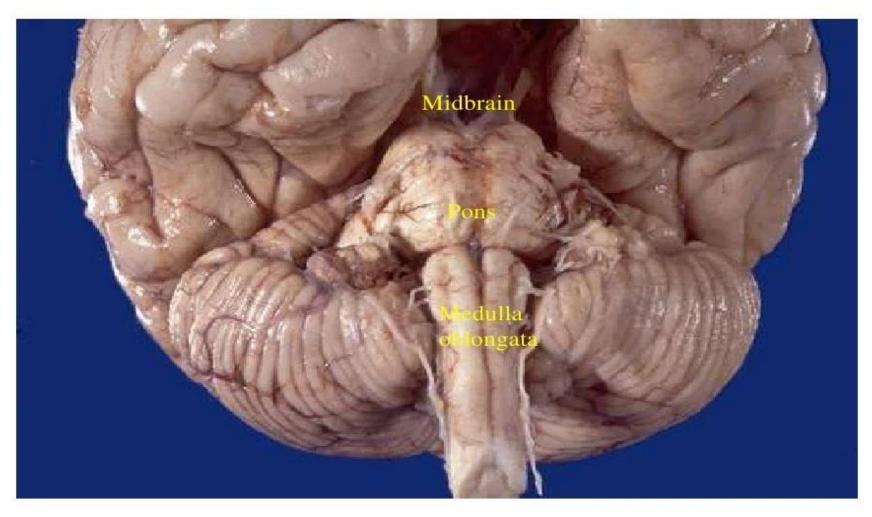
Posterior cranial fossa

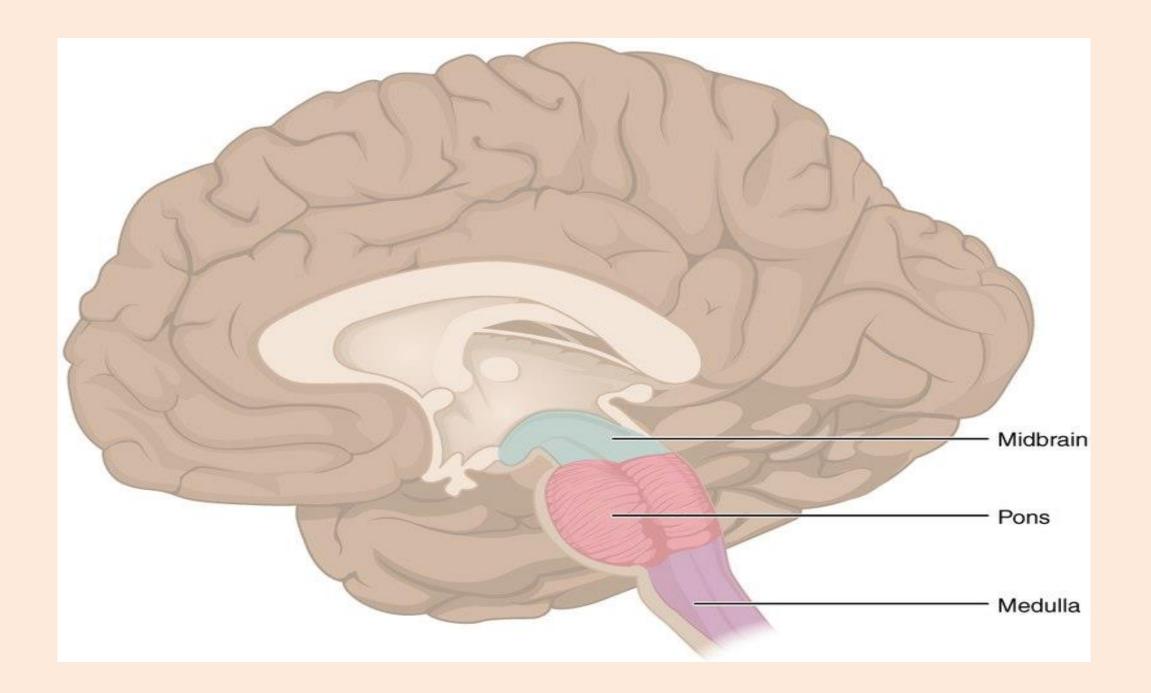
SKULL



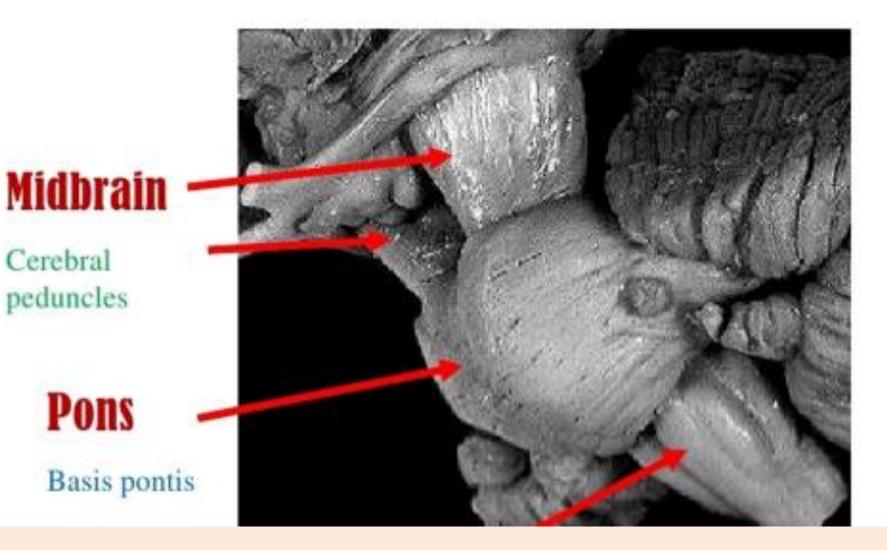


VENTRAL SURFACE OF BRAIN STEM



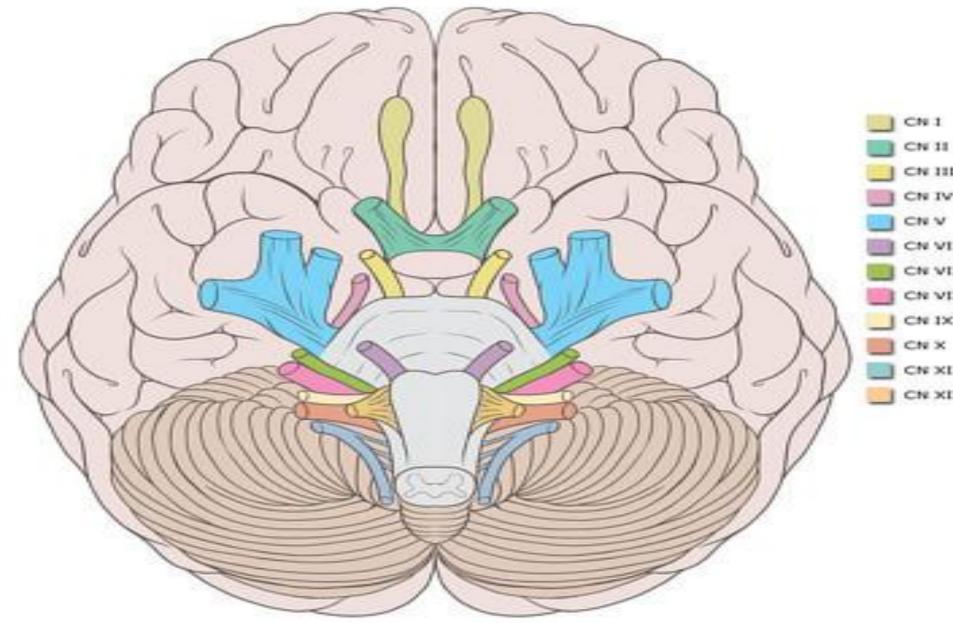


Ventral – Lateral View



Cerebral

peduncles





COMPOSITION OF BRAINSTEM

1- Well defined tracts (white matter)

2-Nuclei(grey matter)

3-Diffuse system of nerve fibers and nerve cells called as

Reticular formation).

FUNCTIONS OF BRAINSTEM

- It is also of prime importance in the conveyance of motor and sensory information.
- These pathways include
- the <u>corticospinal tract</u> (motor function)
- the <u>dorsal column-medial lemniscus pathway</u> (fine touch, <u>vibration sensation</u>, and <u>proprioception</u>)
- the <u>spinothalamic tract</u> (<u>pain</u>, temperature, itch, and <u>crude</u> <u>touch</u>) pathways from the rest of the brain to the body, and from the body back to the brain.

- 1. It contains important **autonomic reflex centers** which can regulate <u>cardiac</u>, and <u>respiratory</u> function, helping to control <u>heart rate</u> and <u>breathing rate</u>.
- It supply the <u>face</u> and <u>neck</u> via the <u>cranial nerves</u>. Ten pairs of cranial nerves come from the brainstem.
- 3. Other roles include the regulation of the <u>central nervous</u> <u>system</u> and the body's <u>sleep cycle</u>.
- 4. It contains **Reticular activating system** which controls consciousness (alertness)

THANK YOU.....

