

Laboratory Exercise 6: The Central Nervous System (CNS)

Introduction

The goals for this laboratory are to become familiar with the anatomy and functional organization of the brain and spinal cord – you will be able to identify key features and areas of the CNS in models and preserved specimens.

Preparation:

1. Brain

Use Chapter 15 in Martini as reference, for identification of structures in the posted list. As far as the cranial nerves, know the number and name of nerve, area/structure innervated, and fiber makeup of nerve (sensory/motor/mixed) – this information is concisely presented in Table 15-12, Martini.

2. Spinal cord

You should be familiar with general structure of the cord and the features of a representative cross-section of the cord – pages 355 – 362, Martini. You are not responsible for identification/function of spinal nerves and associated plexuses.

3. List of structures – download the list of CNS structures you are responsible for, it is posted on this site.

4. Pre lab assignment – due by beginning of lab.

Electronically submit to me by beginning of lab (also send a copy to yourself for your records in case there are submission problems) the CNS electronic labeling quiz from the Martini companion site – go to the Martini companion site, select Chapter 15 (brain), Advanced review – complete the labeling exercise.