14 MOTOR NUCLEUS OF CRANIAL NERVE VII (MOTOR VII)

Before turning to the motor VII, you should note that the pons consists of two zones, a dorsal portion called the **tegmentum** of the pons and a ventral zone called the **basilar pons**. The tegmentum contains cranial nerve nuclei and ascending pathways such as the medial lemniscus, lateral lemniscus, ALS (spinothalamic tract), STT (solitariothalamic tract) and TTT (trigeminothalamic tract). The basilar region contains the pontine grey nuclei and massive groups of descending fibers, including the corticospinal, corticobulbar, and corticopontine tracts.



The motor nucleus VII contains motor neurons (branchiomotor) that innervate the muscles of facial expression including the orbicularis oculi (**CLOSES** eyelid), the stapedius, the stylohyoid and the posterior belly of the digastric. Neurons comprising motor VII possess axons that pursue a rather circuitous route in order to exit the brain stem. Initially they pass dorsally and medially to loop over the abducens nucleus. The fibers then course ventrally and laterally to exit the brain stem. The bump in the floor of the fourth ventricle caused by the motor fibers of C.N. VII looping over the abducens nucleus is called the **FACIAL COLLICULUS**.



A unilateral lesion interrupting the axons of C.N. VII results in the following: On the ipsilateral side, the forehead is immobile, the corner of the mouth sags, the nasolabial folds of the face are flattened, facial lines are lost, and saliva may drip from the corner of the mouth. The patient is unable to whistle or puff the cheek because the buccinator muscle is paralyzed. When the patient is smiling, the normal muscles draw the contralateral corner of the mouth up while the paralyzed corner continues to sag. Corneal sensitivity remains (C.N. V), but the patient is unable to blink or close the eyelid (CN VII). To protect the cornea from drying, therapeutic closure of the eyelids or other measures are taken (patient wears an eye mask, or lids are closed with sutures). Because of the paralysis of the stapedius muscle, which normally dampens the amplitude of the vibrations of the ear ossicles, the patient will experience sounds as uncomfortably loud. THIS IS CALLED HYPERACUSIS. REMEMBER, THERE <u>WILL</u> **BE ATROPHY OF ALL OF THE ABOVE MUSCLES** (i.e. Lower Motor Neuron).

You will recall that the cortex sends axons to cranial nerve motor nuclei. These are called **CORTICOBULBAR** fibers (remember those to the hypoglossal and nucleus ambiguus?). A unilateral lesion of the corticobulbar fibers to motor VII, for example in the motor cortex, results in weakness of the muscles of expression of the face **BELOW THE EYE ON THE SIDE CONTRALATERAL TO THE LESION**. The frontalis muscle (wrinkles forehead) and the orbicularis oculi muscle (closes eyelid) are unaffected. The accepted explanation states that **BILATERAL** (crossed and uncrossed) corticobulbar projections from the cerebral cortex influence the lower motor neurons (within Motor VII) innervating the frontalis muscle and orbicularis oculi, while only CROSSED corticobulbar projections influence the lower motor neurons innervating the muscles of the **LOWER** face. Think about it like this, the lower part of Motor VII is like the hypoglossal nucleus (crossed corticobulbars), while the upper part is like nucleus ambiguus (bilateral corticobulbars).

A lesion in the face representation of area 4 (motor cortex) will mean that those motor neurons in the contralateral region (ventral) of motor VII that innervate the lower facial muscles are completely deprived of cortical input. In contrast, the lower motor neurons in that part of motor VII that innervate the upper facial muscles still have cortical input from the ipsilateral motor cortex. Such muscles, therefore, contract when the patient wants to voluntarily contract them. **REMEMBER, THERE IS NO MUSCLE ATROPHY FOLLOWING A LESION OF THE CORTICOBULBAR FIBERS**.

You should now think about the resulting neurological deficits following a lesion of the **LEFT** motor cortex that interrupts all **CORTICOSPINAL** fibers and **CORTICOBULBAR** fibers to **motor VII, nucleus ambiguus and the hypoglossal nucleus**. There will be a **RIGHT** hemiplegia, the tongue will deviate to the **RIGHT** upon protrusion, and the lower facial muscles on the **RIGHT** will be weak. Any problems with swallowing? Will the uvula deviate when you say ahhh? **THINK! THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.**



CORTICOBULBARS TO MOTOR VII

respond (all cortical input is interrupted). There is NO ATROPHY!

PROBLEM SOLVING MATCHING

Match the best choice in the right hand column with the pathway or cell group in the left hand column

A. lesion results in atrophy of the left medial 1. <u>left</u> rostral nucleus solitarius rectus muscle _2. right abducens nerve B. lesion results in tongue deviation to the left upon _3. <u>right</u> superior olivary nucleus protrusion _4. <u>left</u> nucleus ambiguus C. cells project to the left stylopharyngeus muscle _5. <u>right</u> motor nucleus VII D. lesion results in the inability to move the <u>right</u> eye past the midline to the right; double vision E. receives input from the <u>left</u> inferior ganglion IX F. lesion results in a loss of pain and temp from the <u>left</u> side of the pharynx G. lesion results in atrophy of the left orbicularis oculi H. lesion results in deafness in the right ear I. lesion results in failure of corneal blink reflex in the right eye following stimulation of either cornea J. lesion results in subtle auditory deficits

PROBLEM SOLVING



Shade in the location, of <u>unilateral lesions</u> in the above drawing that will account for the following neurological problems: (MAKE THE LESIONS AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE)

loss of pain and temperature from the <u>left</u> side of the body, double vision, especially when attempting to turn eyes to the <u>right</u>, hypersensitivity to sounds, drooling from the <u>right</u> side of the mouth, dry cornea on the <u>right</u>

PROBLEM SOLVING ANSWER



AN INTERESTING CLINICAL OBSERVATION

It is known that following a stroke muscles of facial expression of the lower face on the opposite side are weak and the patient cannot voluntarily move these muscles. However, reflex smiling (at a joke) did result in movement of these muscles. This suggests that there are different pathways involved in moving these muscles during voluntary and reflex movements.

"SPEED PLAY"

Facial weakness ipsilateral to body weakness implies a lesion in or above the rostral pons.

15 SUPERIOR SALIVATORY AND LACRIMAL NUCLEI

We have already discussed two **PREGANGLIONIC PARASYMPATHETIC** (visceromotor) nuclei, the dorsal motor nucleus X (C.N. X) and the inferior salivatory nucleus (C.N. IX). Another area in the brain stem that contains preganglionic parasympathetic cell bodies is the **SUPERIOR SALIVATORY-LACRIMAL** nucleus. These cells lie in the pons, just medial to the **MOTOR VII**. Like the inferior salivatory nucleus, we cannot identify the **superior salivatory** and **lacrimal nuclei**.

Preganglionic parasympathetic axons arising from cells in the **superior salivatory** nucleus end within the **SUBMANDIBULAR GANGLION**. Short postganglionic fibers then pass to the **sublingual** and **submandibular** glands where they stimulate secretion. Preganglionic parasympathetic axons arising from cells in the **lacrimal nucleus** terminate in the **PTERYGOPALATINE** ganglion. Postganglionic axons then pass to the **lacrimal gland** to stimulate secretion.

You should remember that the **inferior salivatory lies medial to NUCLEUS AMBIGUUS** in the medulla. A lesion involving this nucleus will result in the loss of salivation from the ipsilateral parotid gland. In contrast, the **superior salivatory and lacrimal nuclei lie medial to MOTOR VII**. For our PROBLEM SOLVING, any lesion that includes **motor VII, AND THE REGION IMMEDIATELY MEDIAL TO IT,** will result in motor VII problems **PLUS** a lack of saliva secretion from the ipsilateral submandibular and sublingual glands, and the loss of tearing from the ipsilateral lacrimal gland.



You should also be aware of what is called the **intermediate nerve** of cranial VII. This nerve contains all axons associated with this cranial nerve **EXCEPT** those arising from **MOTOR VII**. This leaves the (1) preganglionic parasympathetic fibers to the superior salivatory nucleus and the lacrimal nucleus; (2) fibers conveying taste whose cell bodies lie in the geniculate ganglion and (3) the somatic sensory fibers conveying information from the "EAR" (whose cell bodies also lie in the geniculate ganglion and whose central processes enter the spinal tract V).



Brain stem Superior Salivatory/Lacrimal Nuclei Problem Solving

PROBLEM SOLVING



Shade in the locations of two relatively small lesions, one in each level, that will account for the following neurological problems: (MAKE THE LESIONS AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE)

deviation of the tongue to the <u>left</u> upon protrusion, <u>increase</u> in heart rate, fasciculations of the muscles on the <u>left</u> side of the tongue, inability to turn both eyes past the midline of the orbits upon attempted horizontal gaze to the <u>left</u>, hypersensitivity to sounds, drooling from the <u>left</u> side of the mouth, inability to close the <u>left</u> eyelid

PROBLEM SOLVING ANSWERS



PROBLEM SOLVINGMATCHING

Match the best choice in the right hand column with the pathway or cell group in the left hand column

1. <u>left</u> trigeminothalamic tract (TTT)	A. lesion results in a loss of pain and temp from the <u>left</u> side of the face
2. <u>right</u> inferior salivatory nucleus	B. lesion results in a constricted pupil in the <u>left</u> eye and ptosis of the <u>left</u> eye lid
3. <u>left</u> dorsal motor X	C. lesion results in drooling from the <u>left</u> side of the mouth
4. <u>left</u> motor nucleus VII	D. lesion results in a loss of pain and temp from the <u>right</u> "EAR"
5. <u>right</u> superior salivatory nucleus	E. lesion results in a lack of secretion from the <u>right</u> sublingual gland
	F. lesion results in atrophy of the <u>left</u> pharyngeal constrictors
	G. lesion results in a loss of secretion from the <u>right</u> parotid gland
	H. lesion results in tachycardia

- I. cells project to the <u>right</u> stapedius muscle
- J. lesion results in tinnitus (ringing) in the <u>left</u> ear

ANSWERS TO PROBLEM SOLVING QUESTIONS-POINTS 11-15

Point # 11 Nucleus and Tractus Solitarius Matching F,J,I,G,C

Point # 12 Cochlear Nuclei Matching E,G,D,A,H

Point # 13 Vestibular -Abducens Matching 1 I,D,G,F,B Matching 2 F,J,E,I,H

Point # 14 Motor VII Matching E,D,J,C,I

Point # 15 Superior Salivatory and Lacrimal Matching D,G,H,C,E

16 PONTINE NUCLEI AND MIDDLE CEREBELLAR PEDUNCLE

As presented earlier, the pons is divided into two portions: the dorsal portion called the pontine **tegmentum**, and a ventral part referred to as the **basilar pons**.

The ventral portion of the pons is a massive structure that consists of orderly arranged transverse and longitudinal fiber bundles between which are large collections of pontine neurons called the **PONTINE GREY** (or GRAY). The longitudinal bundles are (1) corticobulbar, (2) corticospinal and, most important for this point, (3) **CORTICOPONTINE FIBERS**.



Brain stem Pontine Nuclei/Middle Cerebellar Peduncle

I touched on some of the connections and functions of the cerebellum when discussing the accessory cuneate nucleus (POINT #5) and the inferior olivary complex (POINT # 6). There will also be several lectures on the cerebellum. Right now, you need to know that **CORTICOPONTINE** fibers convey information from motor related areas of cortex (i.e., the cells of origin) to neurons in the **IPSILATERAL** pontine grey (pontine grey neurons). More specifically, corticopontine axons convey to the pontine grey neurons information that is used in the **planning** and **initiation** of movements. These planning and initiation data are then sent to the **CONTRALATERAL** cerebellum by another projection called the **pontocerebellar tract**.

The corticopontine fibers descend from cerebral cortex **uncrossed** to end upon the pontine grey nuclei. Cells within the pontine grey then project via the **MIDDLE CEREBELLAR PEDUNCLE** (or brachium pontis) to the **CONTRALATERAL** cerebellum via pontocerebellar fibers. This cortico-ponto-cerebellar pathway is quantitatively the most important route by which the cerebral cortex can influence the cerebellar cortex. The corticopontine projection carries information that the contralateral cerebellum (via a synapse in the pontine grey) uses to participate in the preparation to move and in the initiation and execution of movements. Much more later!

You know that each **CEREBELLAR HEMISPHERE** influences the **SAME SIDE** of the body. Lesions of the corticopontine projection and the basilar pontine grey result in **CONTRALATERAL** deficits in muscle coordination. This incoordination/ataxia involves both the arm and the leg. In contrast, a lesion of the middle cerebellar **PEDUNCLE** results in **IPSILATERAL** deficits in motor coordination of the arm and leg. Why??

What about a Romberg sign following a lesion of the middle cerebellar peduncle? Well, since the cerebellum is not receiving its normal input from the pons, you can't stand with your heels together to begin with, so you could not have a Romberg sign. Same for inferior cerebellar peduncle?

You will hear more about this pathway in the lectures on the cerebellum. Right now, remember, for the cerebral cortex to inform the cerebellum about a movement, two neurons are needed. The first lies in the cortex; its axon (corticopontine) enters the internal capsule (along with corticospinal and corticobulbar axons), passes into the cerebral peduncle at midbrain levels, and enters the basilar pons where it terminates upon pontine grey nuclei. Pontine grey neurons possess axons (pontocerebellar) that cross in the basilar pons and project to the contralateral cerebellar cortex via the middle cerebellar peduncle. The pontocerebellar projection is the primary constituent of the middle cerebellar peduncle, which is also called the brachium pontis. Oh, by the way, do pontocerebellars end as mossy or climbing fibers? (remember there is <u>one</u> source of climbing fibers).



to striated muscle

tract

decussation

PROBLEM SOLVING MATCHING

Match the best choice in the right hand column with the pathway or cell group in the left hand column

1. <u>right</u> frontal eye field	A. lesion results in incoordination of the <u>left</u> side of the body
2. <u>right</u> caudal nucleus solitarius	B. lesion results in a loss of tearing in the <u>right</u> eye
3. <u>right</u> nucleus ambiguus	C. axons terminate in the <u>right</u> PPRF
4. <u>right</u> lacrimal nucleus	D. lesion results in a loss of taste from <u>right</u> side of tongue
5. <u>left</u> basilar pontine grey	E. cells of origin lie in <u>right</u> primary motor cortex (Area 4)
	F. lesion results in deviation of the uvula to the <u>left</u>
	G. lesion results in incoordination of the <u>right</u> side of body
	H. lesion results in the inability to initiate a voluntary horizontal saccade to the <u>left</u>
	I. axons terminate in the <u>right</u> submandibular ganglion
	J. excitatory projections to dorsal motor X slow the heart rate

Brain stem Pontine Nuclei/Middle Cerebellar Peduncle Problem Solving

PROBLEM SOLVING



Shade in the location of a single, continuous, unilateral lesion in the above drawing that will account for the following neurological problems: (MAKE THE LESION AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE)

double vision, especially when turning the eyes to the <u>left</u>, loss of taste from the <u>left</u> side of the tongue

Brain stem Pontine Nuclei/Middle Cerebellar Peduncle Problem Solving

PROBLEM SOLVING ANSWER



RIGHT LEFT



ACROSS

- 1. side of hemiplegia following cortical lesion
- 3. COWS test for caloric __ (G; to nod)
- _palsy (facial) 4. _
- 6. crossing fibers in auditory pathways (lies at bottom of pontine tegmentum)
- 9. nuclei containing cells that project to the superior olive
- 11. direction of stumbling with a lesion of the right vestibular nerve
- 13. _auditory deficits
- 14. side of incoordination with a lesion of the inferior cerebellar peduncle
- 16. projection innervates the dorsal portion of the ipsi motor VII, but not the

- 18. thalamic target of STT
- 21. apparatus that helps coordinate changes in the position of the head with eve position
- 23. related to the lacrimal nucleus
- 25. colliculus
- 26. ipsilateral projection from one of the vestibular nuclei 8. under the tongue
- 28. receives input from the contra vestibular nuclei and projects to the ipsi abducens
- 29. problem with saliva that results from a lesion of motor VII
- 30. results from irritation or lesions involving the vestibular apparatus or pathways

DOWN

- 1. facial
- 2. cells in this nucleus project to the contra oculomotor nucleus 5. another name for the
- horizontal semicircular canals
- 7. results from a lesion of any lower motor neuron
- 10. results from a lesion of motor VII
- 12. C.N.s 7,9 and 10 rostral pole solitary complex-(ummm good)
- 13. alone, existing separately (hard to find)
- 15. ganglia associated with "ear"
- 17. head rotation towards the lesion helps ameliorate

- 19. bilateral tract associated with vestibular nuclei
- 20. direction of nystagmus with a lesion of the right vestibular nerve
- 22. ganglia associated with taste
- 24. lesion of structure results in INO (can't turn ipsi eye medially upon attempted horizontal gaze to the contra side)
- 27. thalamic target of inferior colliculus



17 MOTOR, CHIEF SENSORY and MESENCEPHALIC NUCLEI of the TRIGEMINAL

MOTOR V

Axons arising from neurons in motor V constitute the bulk of the motor root of the trigeminal and supply the **muscles of mastication** (masseter, temporalis and lateral and medial pterygoid muscles), as well as the tensor tympani, tensor veli palatini, anterior belly of digastric and the mylohyoid muscles.

Lesions involving motor V or the motor fibers in the trigeminal nerve result in **ATROPHY** of the muscles listed above ipsilateral to the lesion. Since the pterygoids **OPEN** the jaw in concert with a downward and opposing inward motion, when they are weak on one side the inward vector of the opposing pterygoid is unopposed. Thus, the jaw deviates toward the **WEAK SIDE** (i.e., lesion side) upon opening.



IN MOTOR CORTEX 1. Cells of origin - cortical representation of the muscles of mastication. 2. Corticobulbar fibers course (with corticospinal fibers) caudally to reach the rostral pons where they project BILATERALLY to both Motor V nuclei. 3. Lesion of Motor V Nucleus or nerve = ATROPHY of the ipsilateral muscles Internal of mastication. Jaw DEVIATION, Capsule (post, limb) upon opening = IPSILATERAL (to the side of the lesion). 4. Lesion of corticobulbar input to Motor V Nucleus = NO PROBLEM because the Level 14 input from motor cortex is BILATERAL, MOTOR CORTEX Cerebral peduncle Level 10 Corticobulbar fibers MOTOR NUCLEUS OF C.N. V Level 6 MUSCLES OF MASTICATION TO THE MUSCLES OF MASTICATION

Corticobulbar input to Motor Nucleus of C.N.V

You Med 1s are lucky that **corticobulbar** input to motor V (like that to nucleus ambiguus) is **BILATERAL**. Therefore lesions of this system (i.e., in motor cortex) **DO NOT** cause obvious defects of jaw function. (Remember, lesions of the corticobulbar input to the **hypoglossal nucleus and motor VII** <u>DO</u> cause observable deficits, and you should know them **COLD**!)

REPRESENTATION OF THE MUSCLES OF MASTICATION

CHIEF SENSORY V

Discriminatory touch, as well as conscious proprioception and vibration information from the **face** do not "use" the spinal tract and nucleus V. Instead, they pass into the **CHIEF SENSORY NUCLEUS** (or principal sensory V). This nucleus lies LATERAL to motor V (Motor = Medial) in the pons at the level of the entering (and exiting) C.N. V fibers. Axons of cells in the chief sensory nucleus V cross and pass rostrally in the **trigeminothalamic tract** (TTT; along with the pain and temperature fibers from the caudal spinal nucleus V) to the ventral posteromedial (**VPM**) nucleus of the thalamus.





MESENCEPHALIC NUCLEUS V

This nucleus consists of a slender strand of cells extending from the chief sensory nucleus through the midbrain. The nucleus is located beneath the lateral edge of the floor of the fourth ventricle in the pons and in the lateral region of the periaqueductal grey matter in the midbrain. These cells are incorporated into the neuraxis, rather than being in the cerebrospinal ganglia (i.e., the trigeminal ganglion, the geniculate ganglion, etc.). Most of the peripheral processes of mesencephalic V neurons occupy the motor root of the trigeminal nerve and are distributed to muscle spindles in the muscles of mastication. The central processes of mesencephalic V neurons terminate within motor nucleus V. This connection establishes the stretch reflex originating in the muscle spindles of the masticatory muscles, together with a reflex for the control of the force of the bite. The mesencephalic nucleus V may be thought of as being similar to Clarke's column and the accessory cuneate nucleus (i.e., unconscious proprioception).



Brain stem Motor, Chief Sensory and Mesencephalic V

Damage to the C.N. V results in problems with the **CORNEAL REFLEX**. This reflex involves **C.N. V** (on the sensory side) and **C.N. VII** (on the motor side). Stimulation of the cornea of one eye results in the closing of **BOTH** eyelids. The pathways involved include touch fibers in the ophthalmic division of C.N. V (innervate cornea) that pass into the chief sensory nucleus V. Some pain fibers probably pass into spinal tract V, but let's concentrate on the touch fibers to the **CHIEF**. Cells in the **CHIEF** project **BILATERALLY** to motor VII (we cannot identify these axons in our sections). The result is closing of **BOTH** eyelids upon stimulation of **ONE** cornea.

The response on the side that is stimulated is called the **DIRECT** corneal reflex while that on the opposite side is called the **CONSENSUAL** corneal reflex (analogous to the gag reflex). Go over the diagram and think about the results of lesions of the various components.



REMEMBER:

a)	Pain and temperature	Spinal tract & nucleus V
b)	2-pt. discrimination,	Chief sensory nucleus V
	vibration, conscious	
	proprioception	
c)	unconscious propriocep-	Mesencephalic nucleus V
	from muscle spindles	
d)	Motor innervation of	Motor nucleus V
	muscles of mastication	

KNOW THE LOCATION OF THE SENSORY AND MOTOR ROOTS OF CN V



Brain stem Motor, Chief Sensory and Mesencephalic V



PROBLEM SOLVING



Shade in the location of a single, continuous, unilateral lesion in the above drawing that will account for the following neurological problems: (THE LESION DOES NOT INVOLVE ANY NUCLEI)

incoordination of <u>left</u> arm and leg, loss of the corneal (blink) reflex of <u>both</u> eyelids upon stimulation of the <u>left</u> cornea, deviation of the jaw to the <u>left</u> upon jaw opening, loss of pain and temperature from the <u>left</u> side of the face, loss of vibratory sense from the <u>left</u> side of the face

PROBLEM SOLVING ANSWER



PROBLEM SOLVING MATCHING

Match the best choice in the right hand column with the pathway or cell group in the left hand column

- 1. vestibular portion of the <u>left</u> cranial nerve VIII
- _____2. <u>right</u> trigeminothalamic tract (TTT)
- _____3. <u>left</u> chief sensory V
- _____4. <u>left</u> middle cerebellar peduncle
- ____5. <u>left</u> motor nucleus V

- A. lesion results in deviation of the jaw to the right
- B. axons terminate in the <u>right</u> side of the cerebellum
- C. lesion results in a loss of pain and temp from the entire <u>left</u> side of the tongue
- D. lesion results in stumbling to the left
- E. lesion results in a loss of vibration sense from the <u>left</u> side of the face
- F. lesion results in a loss of taste from the <u>right</u> side of the tongue
- G. cells project to the <u>left</u> stapedius muscle
- H. cells receive corticobulbar input from the <u>right</u> motor cortex
- I. axons terminate in the <u>left</u> side of the cerebellum
- J. lesion results in the inability to close the <u>left</u> eyelid

18 SUPERIOR CEREBELLAR PEDUNCLE (Brachium Conjunctivum)

The cerebellum plays a very important role in motor coordination. We know many of its inputs (dorsal spinocerebellar, cuneocerebellar, pontocerebellar). Now we need to understand how information **EXITS** the cerebellum in order to influence overall motor activity.

The majority of fibers that pass **OUT** of the cerebellum to the brain stem do so via the SUPERIOR CEREBELLAR **PEDUNCLE**. This peduncle is formed by axons that arise from certain deep cerebellar nuclei. These nuclei lie deep in the cerebellum. The "most famous" of these deep cerebellar nuclei resembles the inferior olive and is called the **dentate nucleus** (the remaining will be discussed later). This bundle passes rostrally into the dorsal pons where it forms a compact bundle along the dorsolateral wall of the fourth ventricle. At the level of the inferior colliculus all fibers of the superior cerebellar peduncle decussate. The majority of these crossed fibers ascend and either terminate in the red nucleus or continue rostrally to end within the MOTOR NUCLEI OF THE THALAMUS. the VENTRAL LATERAL and VENTRAL ANTERIOR nuclei. These thalamic nuclei project to motor-related cortical areas.



peduncle or brachium pontis)

Further details of the pathways connecting the cerebellar cortex with the brain stem and thalamus will be discussed during the lectures on the cerebellum.

You know that lesions of the cerebellar hemisphere result in **IPSILATERAL** incoordination/ ataxia. For instance, a lesion in the **RIGHT** cerebellar hemisphere will result in motor incoordination/ataxia of the **RIGHT** arm and leg. A lesion of the **RIGHT** superior cerebellar peduncle **CAUDAL TO** (before) the decussation will also result in motor incoordination/ataxia on the **RIGHT** side. In contrast, a lesion **ROSTRAL** to the decussation of the superior cerebellar peduncle will result in **CONTRALATERAL** motor deficits. PLEASE UNDERSTAND THIS!

There would NOT be a Romberg sign. You cannot stand with your heels together to begin with!! The superior cerebellar peduncle is a cerebellar efferent!!

REMEMBER:

- 1) The cells of origin of fibers of the superior cerebellar peduncle lie in the **deep cerebellar nuclei**. These nuclei lie deep in the white matter of the cerebellum, under what is called the cortex of the cerebellum.
- 2) The superior cerebellar peduncle is the principal **efferent** bundle of the cerebellum, unlike the other two peduncles (inferior or restiform body; middle or brachium pontis) that are conveying information <u>to</u> the cerebellum.
- 3) The superior cerebellar peduncle crosses at **caudal midbrain** (inferior colliculus) levels, after which most of the fibers ascend to the red nucleus (rostral midbrain) and dorsal thalamus (ventral lateral and ventral anterior nuclei).
- 4) The fibers cross (in the caudal midbrain) at the **decussation of the superior cerebellar peduncle** (brachium conjunctivum).
- 5) LESIONS OF THE SUPERIOR CEREBELLAR PEDUNCLE BEFORE (CAUDAL) THE DECUSSATION RESULT IN **IPSILATERAL** DEFICITS IN MOTOR COORDINATION, WHILE INTERRUPTION OF THE FIBERS AFTER (ROSTRAL) TO THE DECUSSATION RESULTS IN **CONTRALATERAL** DEFICITS.



Red Nucleus

Decussation of Superior Cerebellar

Peduncle

- 1. Cells of origin extensive areas of cortex.
- 2. Corticopontine fibers course within the internal capsule and cerebral peduncle before entering the basilar pons where they synapse upon pontine grey neurons.
- 3. Pontine grey neurons send their axons (pontocerebellar) into the middle cerebellar peduncle (brachium pontis).
- 4. Information from the pontocerebellar fibers eventually reaches Purkinje cells of cerebellar cortex. The axons of Purkinje cells project to deep cerebellar nuclei.
- 5. Deep cerebellar nuclei send their axons into the superior cerebellar peduncle (brachium conjunctivum) which courses rostrally, decussates and ends in the red nucleus and VL-VA of the thalamus. VA - VL project to motor related cortex.



Level 15

Level 10

Level 9



PROBLEM SOLVING



Shade in the location of a single, continuous, unilateral lesion in the above drawing that will account for the following neurological problems:

<u>right</u> hemiplegia, deviation of the tongue to the <u>right</u> upon protrusion, drooling from <u>right</u> side of the mouth

PROBLEM SOLVING ANSWER



PROBLEM SOLVING MATCHING

Match the best choice in the right hand column with the pathway or cell group in the left hand column

1. <u>right</u> pontine grey	A. lesion results in atrophy of the <u>right</u> lateral
	rectus and the left medial rectus
2. <u>right</u> chief sensory V	B. lesion results in atrophy of the <u>right</u> temporalis muscle
	C. receives input from the <u>left</u> PPRF
3. <u>left</u> inferior olivary nucleus	D. sends "mossy fibers" to the <u>right</u> side of the
	cerebellum
4. <u>left</u> abducens nucleus	E. axons terminate in the left VA, VL and red
	nucleus
5. <u>right</u> superior cerebellar peduncle	F. lesion results in a loss of vibrational sense from
	the <u>right</u> side of the face
	G. sends "climbing fibers" to the <u>right</u> cerebellar
	hemisphere
	H. axons terminate in the <u>right</u> medial geniculate body
	I. comprised of axons that convey vibrational
	sensation from the <u>right</u> arm
	J. lesion results in incoordination of the <u>left</u> side of
	the body