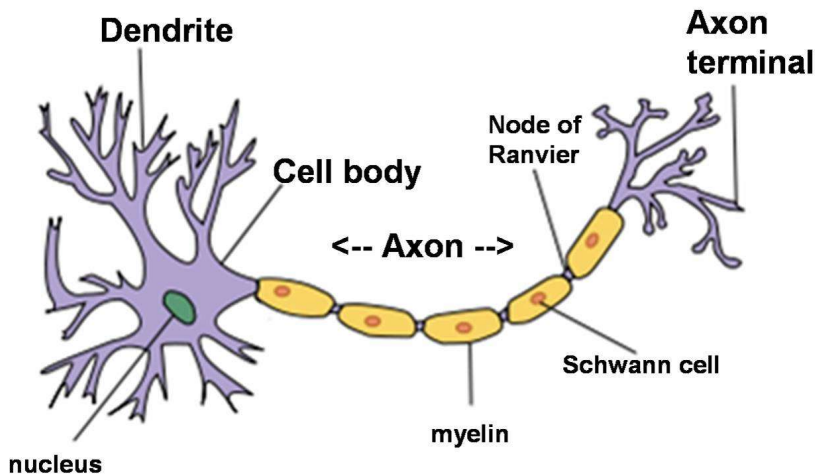


Nervous System Vocab



Structures of a neuron or nerve cell. Please know the function of and be able to label a dendrite, axon, cell body, and axon terminal.

Nervous system- a body system made of the structures that control the actions and reactions of the body in response to stimuli from the environment. Your nervous system has two parts: the central nervous system (CNS) and the peripheral (puh•RIFF•uh•rahl) nervous system (PNS).

Brain- the body's central command organ. It constantly receives impulses from all over the body.

Spinal cord- allows your brain to communicate with the rest of your body. Your nervous system is mostly made up of specialized cells that send and receive electrical signals.

Neuron- a cell that moves messages in the form of fast-moving electrical energy. These electrical messages are called impulses.

Dendrite (DEHN•dryt) - a usually short, branched extension of the cell body. A neuron may have one, two, or many dendrites

Axon- a part of and an extension of a neuron that carries impulses. A neuron has only one axon, and they can be very short or quite long. Some long axons extend almost 1 m from your lower back to your toes. Impulses move in one direction along the axon.

Endocrine system- controls body functions and helps maintain homeostasis by using hormones.

Hormone- a chemical messenger made in one cell or tissue that causes a change in another cell or tissue in a different part of the body. Hormones are produced by endocrine glands or tissues.

Gland- a group of cells that make special chemicals for your body