

STUDY GUIDE	
PROGRAM	MBBS
MODULE TITLE	NERVOUS SYSTEM-1
ACADEMIC YEAR	2 nd year, 2025
INTRODUCTION	The Nervous system module is developed to provide the learners with
	in-depth knowledge about how the brain is structured and how it works
	under normal circumstances. Students learn the developmental processes
	of the brain in order to understand where the structures come from and
	how eachis linked with the others.
	This module deals not only with the brain but also with the peripheral &
	autonomic nervous systems. Students get to know how the human
	body carries out its myriad functions, some of which are under our
	control (e.g. walking) while others are not (e.g. beating of the heart).
	The Autonomic Nervous system, one of the essential systems maintaining
	our homeostasis, is dealt with in detail. One of the main reasons for this
	is because many medications alter Autonomic functions. A doctor has
	to have detailed knowledge about such medications and their interactions.
RATIONALE	Since conditions related to the Nervous system are common in Pakistan,
	detailed knowledge of the normal gross, microscopic and molecular
	structure and functions are necessary at the initial level.
OUTCOMES	By the end of the module, students will be able to describe the normal
	gross, microscopic and molecular structure and functions of the central,
	peripheral and the Autonomic Nervous Systems.
DEPARTMENTS	1. Anatomy
INVOLVED	2. Biochemistry
	3. Physiology
MODULE	By the end of the module, the students will be able to:
OBJECTIVES	
LECTURES	1. General organization & Histology of Nervous system,
ANATOMY	different typesof nerve tissue cells (Neurons & Neuroglia)
	 Explain the general components of nervous system.

 Discuss the division of nervous system into CNS, ANS & PNS.
 Discuss the structural/ cellular organization of nervous system.
Classify the types of neuron & neuroglia.
 Describe the structure of neuron & neuroglia.
2. Development of Brain and Spinal cord & anomalies (Embryology)
• Describe the formation of primary & secondary vesicles and flexures.
Relate the components of ventricular system with the
cavities of secondary vesicles.
Describe the differentiation of the layers from neuro-
epithelium inprimitive spinal cord.
Describe derivation of alar & basal plates, neuron and
neuroglia cells.
Discuss positioning of spinal cord.
 Describe the congenital anomalies of spinal cord viz. Spina bifidaocculta, spinal bifida cystica, Myeloschisis.
billaocculta, spiriai billua cystica, Myeloscilisis.
3. Gross External features of spinal cord
 Discuss the extent (starting & terminating point) of spinal cord.
 Describe the gross features of spinal cord and its blood supply.
Discuss the regional enlargements of spinal cord.
4. Histology of spinal cord
 Discuss the microscopic structure of spinal cord.
Compare the sections at different segmental levels (cervical,
thoracic)
5. Internal features of spinal cord I- (Ascending tracts)
 Discuss the internal features of spinal cord, gray (groups) &

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	white(columns) matter.
•	Discuss 1st, 2nd & 3rd order neurons of sensory pathway.
•	Discuss in detail the ascending (sensory) tracts of the spinal
	cord andtheir lesions.
6. I	nternal features of spinal cord II- (Descending tracts)
•	Discuss in detail the descending (motor) tracts of the spinal
	cord.
•	Relate the lesions of descending tracts.
7. 6	Development of forebrain (Embryology)
•	Discuss the process of development of forebrain and its anomalies.
8. C	Development of midbrain & hindbrain (Embryology)
•	Discuss the process of development of midbrain & hindbrain and
	theiranomalies.
9. E	Blood supply (arterial supply & venous drainage) of spinal
C	ord andclinical manifestations of ischemia
•	Describe the Vertebral Systems of arteries.
•	Describe the area of spinal cord supplied by different branches.
•	Discuss the role of radicular and feeder arteries.
•	Describe the venous drainage of spinal cord.
•	Relate the clinical consequences of ischemia of spinal cord.
10.0	Bross anatomy of Cerebellum
•	Describe the gross anatomy of the cerebellum
	location, structural & functional division (lobes) and
	its blood supply.
•	Describe the folia, tracts and nuclei of cerebellum.
	Relate the clinical conditions associated with cerebellar dysfunction.

11. Histology of Cerebellum

- Describe the layers of cerebellar cortex.
- Describe the cellular organization in each layer.

12. Diencephalon I- Thalamus

- Describe the gross features, boundaries and division of diencephalon and its blood supply.
- Describe the gross features and relations of Thalamus.
- Discuss the nuclei, connections and functions of thalamus.
- Relate the clinical conditions associated with thalamus.

13. Diencephalon II- Sub thalamus, Hypothalamus & Epithalamus

- Describe the location, relations, components and structure of subthalamus, hypothalamus & epithalamus.
- Discuss their nuclei, connections and functions.
- Discuss the lesions of sub thalamus, hypothalamus & Epithalamus.

14. Limbic system & Reticular formation

- Describe the various parts of limbic system.
- Explain the hippocampal formation.
- Discuss the disorders of limbic system.

15. Basal ganglia & its nuclei

- Describe the location and components of basal ganglia and their blood supply.
- Discuss their connections and functions.
- Discuss the lesions of basal ganglia.

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16. Histology of cerebrum
Describe the layers of cerebral cortex.
Discuss the variation of layers in different cortical regions.
Describe the types of neurons and fibers distributed in different
layers.
17. White matter of cerebrum -I (Projection fibers and internal capsule)
 Discuss the basic concepts of white matter of cerebrum.
 Describe the location, parts, connections and
relations of internal capsule and its blood supply.
 Discuss the common lesion associated with the internal capsule.
18. White matter of cerebrum- II (Commissural & Association fibers)
 Discuss the commissural fibers and their connections.
 Describe corpus callosum and its parts.
 Explain the association fibers and their connections.
 Discuss the common lesions associated with
commissural and association fibers.
19. Meninges of brain & spinal cord
 List the meninges of brain & spinal cord.
 Describe the Dural layers, folds, extensions and spaces (subdural etc.)
 Discuss pia mater and its modifications (ligamentum denticulatum, telachoroidea).
 Describe the arachnoid mater, subarachnoid space and cisterns.
 Describe the blood and nerve supply of meninges.
20. Dural venous sinuses
Describe the location, relations, and drainage of Dural venous
sinuses ofbrain.

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	Describe the contents of cavernous sinus and extra
	cranialcommunication.
	Discuss the clinical importance of different sinuses.
	21.Autonomic Nervous System
	 Describe the divisions of ANS (sympathetic & parasympathetic).
	 Describe the components of sympathetic nervous system
	Discuss the components of parasympathetic part of nervous system
	 List the parasympathetic ganglia.
	 Describe the pathways of pre and postganglionic parasympathetic fibers.
	 Differentiate between the 2 systems on the basis of structure and
	function.
	1. Neuronal membrane potential, generation & propagation
PHYSIOLOGY	of nerveimpulse
	 Describe the structure and functions of a neuron.
	 Discuss the classification & functions of nerve fibers.
	Describe the threshold, initiation of action potential and propagation
	of nerve impulse in neuronal cells.
	2. Synapses, properties of synapses
	Describe the properties of chemical and electrical synapses.
	3. Sensory receptors and neuronal circuits
	 Discuss the classification of sensory receptors.
	Describe the functions & properties of different types of receptors.
	Explain the properties of different types of neuronal circuits.
	4. Somatic sensations - I
	Explain the general organization of somatic sensation: tactile

andposition senses.

Discuss the dorsal-column medial lemniscal pathway.

5. Somatic sensations – II

- Discuss the anterolateral pathway.
- Describe the mechanism of thermal receptors & their excitation.

6. Physiology of pain – I and headache

- Discuss the types of pain and their characteristics
- Explain the mechanism of stimulation of pain receptors
- Discuss the clinical abnormalities of pain: hyperalgesia, headache & itscauses.

7. Physiology of pain II- Brain analgesic system

- Explain the analgesic system of brain.
- Discuss the opiate system of brain.
- Describe visceral & referred pains.

8. Spinal cord and cord reflexes

- Describe the motor functions of spinal cord.
- Explain the structure and function of muscle spindle.
- Discuss the muscle, stretch reflex and its clinical applications.

9. Muscles proprioceptors (muscle spindle and Golgi tendon organ)

- Discuss the mechanism of flexor reflex, crossed extensor reflex, scratch reflex, postural and locomotive reflexes.
- Discuss spinal cord transection and spinal shock (Brown-Sequard syndrome)
- Explain the mechanism of Golgi tendon reflex and its significance in controlling motor activities.

10. Somatosensory cortex

•	Discuss the orientation of various areas of cortex and their
	associatedfunction.

• Describe the layers of somatic sensory cortex and their functions.

11. Function of brain stem

- Explain the role of brain stem nuclei in controlling motor functions.
- Discuss the vital and non- vital functions of brain stem

12. Cerebellum and its functions

- Explain the functional areas of cerebellum.
- List the functions of Vermis, Intermediate zone and lateral zone of cerebellum.

13. Neuronal circuits of cerebellum and

associated disorders

- Discuss the afferent and efferent pathways of cerebellum.
- Describe the Functions of Purkinje cells and deep cerebellar nuclei.
- Explain the abnormalities associated with cerebellar lesion.

14. Vestibular system and maintenance of equilibrium

- State the names of the parts of vestibular system.
- Explain the functions of the vestibular system.
- Discuss the role of utricle & saccule in static equilibrium.
- Discuss the role of semicircular ducts in angular acceleration.

15. Functions of diencephalon

- Discuss the functions of thalamus and its nuclei.
- Explain the functions of various nuclei of epithalamus and hypothalamus.

16. Regulation of body temperature and fever

• Distinguish between skin temperature and core temperature.

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•	Describe the following mechanisms of heat loss from the body;
	conduction, convention, radiation and evaporation.
•	Explain the role of anterior and posterior hypothalamus in regulation
	of body temperature.
•	Elaborate "set-point" of temperature control mechanisms and the
	role of pyrogens in altering the set point to cause fever.
17.L	imbic system and hypothalamus
•	Describe the functional areas of limbic system.
•	Discuss the role of hypothalamus in limbic system.
•	Discuss the importance of reward and punishment centers.
•	Explain the role of hippocampus and amygdala.
•	Discuss the effects of Kluver-Bucy syndrome.
18.E	Basal ganglia and its nuclei
•	Explain the functions of caudate & putamen pathways.
•	List the functions of specific neurotransmitters of basal ganglia.
•	Explain the disorders associated with basal ganglia
19.N	Notor cortex, pyramidal tract, Upper and lower Motor Neurons
•	Explain the functions of pyramidal tract.
•	List the functions of specific cortical motor areas.
•	Differentiate between upper & lower motor neuron lesions
20. F	Physiology of sleep and sleep disorders
•	Explain the physiology of slow wave sleep & rapid eye
	movement(REM) sleep.
•	Explain the basic theories of sleep & origin of brain waves.

21. Learning and memory

	 JINNAH SINDH MEDICAL UNIVERSITY Define the role of cerebral cortex in higher intellectual functions.
	 Classify the different types of memories.
	• Classify the uncrent types of memories.
	22. CSF: formation, circulation and function
	 Describe the mechanism of CSF formation, its circulation &
	functions.
	23. Autonomic Nervous System -I
	Explain the functional division of Autonomic Nervous System
	Discuss the organization of sympathetic & parasympathetic
	nervous system, their neurotransmitters and receptors in body
	systems.
	24. Autonomic Nervous System-II
	Explain the effect of sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous
	system on various organs.
	 Discuss various abnormalities caused by activation of
	sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous system.
	25. Speech and its disorders
	Explain the physiology of speech and associated disorders.
BIOCHEMISTRY	1. Lipids of the nervous system: Chemistry of Brain Lipids
	Classify brain lipids with examples
	Explain the chemistry of brain lipids
	Describe the chemical composition and functions of myelin
	Discuss the clinical significance of lipid storage diseases
	2. Blood Brain Barrier
	 2. Blood Brain Barrier Define Blood Brain Barrier
	Define Blood Brain Barrier

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	 Discuss the clinical disorders associated with Blood Brain
	Barrierdisruption
3.	Cerebrospinal fluid
	 Describe the chemical composition of CSF and its functions
	Explain the mechanism of production, route of flow and re-
	absorption of CSF
	Explain the procedure of lumbar puncture
	Interpret the laboratory investigations of CSF in different diseases
4.	Introduction of Neurotransmitters
•	Define Neurotransmitters
•	Classify Neurotransmitters with examples
•	 Describe the mechanism of action and functions of
	Neurotransmitters
	Classify receptors of Neurotransmitters
•	 Explain the synthesis and degradation pathways of
	Neurotransmitters
	 Discuss the disorders associated with Neurotransmitter
5.	Acetylcholine & Dopamine
	 Describe the chemical structure of Acetylcholine and Dopamine
	 Describe the metabolism of Acetylcholine and Dopamine
	 Explain the mechanism of action and functions of
	Acetylcholine & Dopamine
	 Discuss the receptors of Acetylcholine and Dopamine
	 Explain the clinical disorders associated with
	Acetylcholine and dopamine
6.	Serotonin & GABA
	 Describe the chemical structure of Serotonin and GABA
•	 Describe the metabolism of Serotonin and GABA
	 Explain the mechanism of action and functions of Serotonin and
	GABA

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	Discuss the receptors of Serotonin and GABA
	Explain the clinical disorders associated with Serotonin and GABA
	7. Neurodegenerative diseases of CNS
	List the common Neurodegenerative diseases
	Discuss the common mediators of Neurodegenerative diseases
	Discuss the biochemical changes in Neurodegenerative diseases
	 Describe the biochemical phenomenon of ageing
	8. Role of free radicals & Vitamins in CNS disorders
	Explain the role of free radicals in Neurodegenerative diseases
	 List the free radicals causing degenerative diseases
	List the sources of free radicals
	Explain the mechanism of free radical injury
	 Describe the role of free radicals in diseases
	Classify the antioxidants with examples
	 Discuss the process of oxidative stress response
	 Discuss the biochemical importance of vitamins in
	neurologicaldisorders
	 Discuss the sources, biochemical role and daily
	requirements ofvitamins B1, B6, B9, B12 and folic acid
	 Explain the deficiency diseases related to these vitamins
DEMONSTRATIO	1. Skull as whole, vault of skull + Anterior cranial fossa
NS/TUTORIALS	 Describe the gross anatomy of skull.
ANATOMY	 Discuss the sutures of skull.
	 Discuss different views (normal) of skull.
	 Discuss the divisions of the cranial cavity.
	 Describe the boundaries, bony prominences and foramina
	of theanterior cranial fossa.

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	Aiddle & Posterior cranial fossa	
	Describe the boundaries, bony prominences and foramina of	the
	middle& posterior cranial fossa.	
;	Spinal cord lesions, transection & spinal shock	
	Discuss the lesions of anterior & posterior nerve roots.	
	Elaborate the lesions of ascending & descending tracts.	
	Discuss the mechanism & consequences of tabes dorsalis, spina	l
	shocksyndrome, Brown Sequard syndrome, poliomyelitis,	
	Syringomyelia.	
-	Brainstem I- Medulla Oblongata	
	Enumerate the parts of brainstem.	
	Describe the gross anatomical features of Medulla Oblongata	
	and itsblood supply.	
	Discuss in detail the internal features of Medulla Oblongata.	
	Discuss the cranial nerves emerging from Medulla Oblongata.	
	Discuss the clinical importance of Medulla Oblongata.	
	Brainstem II-Pons	
	Describe the location of Pons.	
	Discuss the external & internal features of Pons and its blood sup	ply.
	Discuss the relation of Pons with 4th ventricle.	
	Discuss the cranial nerves emerging from Pons.	
	Discuss the clinical conditions associated with Pons.	
	Proinctom III. Midhroin	
	Brainstem III -Midbrain	
	Describe the location of midbrain.	
	Discuss the external & internal features of midbrain with its supply	y .
	Discuss the relation of Pons with cerebral aqueduct.	

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	 Describes the cranial nerves emerging from midbrain.
	Discuss the clinical conditions associated with midbrain.
7.	Gross anatomy of Cerebrum (external features, surfaces, gyri &
	sulci)
	• Discuss the gross anatomical features of cerebrum (surfaces,
	borders,
	poles, lobes, sulci & gyri).
	Describe the blood supply of cerebrum.
8.	Functional cortical areas of cerebrum & their lesions
	 Describe different functional areas of cerebral cortex (motor,
	sensory,auditory, visual).
	• Discuss the lesions of the functional cortical areas of cerebral cortex.
9.	Ventricular system I- Lateral ventricle
	Describe the ventricles of brain.
	 Discuss the location, boundaries and relations of lateral
	ventricles and ts blood supply.
	Discuss the clinical conditions associated with lateral ventricles.
10	. Ventricular system II- 3 rd & 4 th ventricles and CSF circulation
	 Describe the structure and location of 3rd and 4th ventricles,
	andcerebral aqueduct.
	 Briefly discuss the normal CSF secretion, circulation & blood
	brainbarrier.
	 Discuss the applied anatomy of ventricles of brain and CSF flow.
11	. Cranial nerves (I to VI)
	 Mention the names of all the cranial nerves in sequence.
	 List the locations of the cranial nerve nuclei (I to VI).
	Discuss their distribution.

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	Describe the main effects of lesions of cranial nerves.
	12. Cranial nerves (VII to XII)
	 List the location of the cranial nerve nuclei (VII to XII).
	Discuss their distribution.
	 Describe the main effects of lesions of VII to XII cranial nerves.
	13. Functional cortical areas of cerebellum
	 Discuss the location and lesions of the functional cortical
	areas ofcerebellar cortex.
	14. Blood supply of brain
	 Discuss the carotid and vertebral systems of vessels.
	List the branches arising from them.
	Describe the formation of circle of Willis.
	Discuss its branches.
	 Discuss the area of supply of the 3 cerebral arteries.
	 Discuss the veins of brain and their area of drainage.
	Relate the clinical manifestations of ischemia of brain.
	15. Spinal cord and its cut sections (Demonstration on Sectra)
	Discuss the various cut sections of spinal cord and associated
	lesions.
BIOCHEMISTRY	1. Neurotransmitters-1 Acetylcholine & Catecholamine
	Discuss the clinical importance of Acetylcholine & Dopamine
	 Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their
	laboratoryinvestigations
	2. Neurotransmitters-2 Serotonin & GABA

JINNAH SINDH MEDICAL UNIVERSITY Discuss the clinical importance of Serotonin & GABA • Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their • laboratoryinvestigations 3. Cerebrospinal fluid Discuss the clinical importance of Cerebrospinal fluid Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their laboratory • investigations 4. Neurodegenerative diseases of CNS Discuss the clinical importance of neurodegenerative diseases Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their laboratory investigations PRACTICALS 1. Lumbar Puncture • Explain the procedure of Lumbar Puncture (LP) BIOCHEMISTRY Identify the chemical tests and bio-techniques to detect analytes in CSF Identify the parts of LP needle Interpret the laboratory report in different CNS diseases Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their laboratory investigations 2. CSF Glucose Estimation Identify the procedure & bio-technique to detect glucose in CSF Estimate glucose in CSF Interpret the laboratory report of glucose in CSF Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their laboratoryinvestigations 3. CSF Protein Estimation Identify the procedure & bio-technique to detect proteins in CSF Estimate proteins in CSF

Interpret the laboratory report of proteins in CSF • Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their laboratoryinvestigations 4. CSF Chloride Estimation Identify the procedure & bio-technique to detect chloride in CSF Estimate chloride in CSF Interpret the laboratory report of chloride in CSF Interpret clinical conditions correlated with their laboratory investigations HISTOLOGY 1. Structure of neuron & neuroglia Describe the structure of neuron & neuroglia. • List the types and functions of neuron & neuroglia. • Discuss the formation of blood brain barrier. ٠ Identify the histological sections of neuron & neuroglia under • lightmicroscope. 2. Spinal cord, spinal nerve & ganglia Identify the histological features of spinal cord, spinal nerve & ganglia • under light microscope. Discuss the histological features of spinal cord, spinal nerve & ganglia. 3. Microscopic anatomy of cerebellar cortex Identify the histological features of cerebellar cortex under light • microscope. Discuss the histological features, layers, cells & nuclei of cerebellum. • 4. Microscopic anatomy of cerebral cortex Identify the histological features of cerebral cortex under light • microscope.

Discuss the histological features, layers, cells & nuclei of cerebrum. ٠ PHYSIOLOGY 1. Examination of Superficial reflexes Elicit superficial reflexes viz. Corneal reflexes, Abdominal reflexes & Plantar reflexes. Describe their significance in different neurological disorders. 2. Examination of Deep reflexes Perform deep reflexes: Bicep reflex, tricep reflex, knee jerk, ankle jerk, brachioradialis reflex. Describe their significance in upper and lower motor neuron lesions. 3. Cerebellar function tests Perform cerebellar function tests. Identify disorders of cerebellar function. 4. Body temperature • Determine the body temperature by using oral mercury thermometer. Describe the significance of body temperature taken through oral, axillary and rectal route. 5. EEG Interpret brain waves with the help of power lab. • 6. Examination of Cranial Nerves (CN I – CN VI) Perform different tests for examination of the cranial nerves I-VI. 7. Examination of cranial nerves (CN VII – XII) Perform different tests for examination of cranial nerves VII-XII. **INTERNAL** Internal evaluation carries 20% weight in professional examination. ASSESSMENT The mode of internal assessment may vary from one institution to the

	next.
ANNUAL	 MCQs and OSPE (observed + un-observed)
EXAMINATION	
MODULE	Course evaluation will be obtained through a feedback form which
EVALUATION	will be posted on the JSMU website
SUGGESTED	A. <u>GROSS ANATOMY</u>
READINGS	a. K.L. Moore, Clinically Oriented Anatomy
	b. Neuro Anatomy by Richard Snell
ΑΝΑΤΟΜΥ	B. HISTOLOGY
	a. B. Young J. W. Health Wheater's Functional Histology
	C. <u>EMBRYOLOGY</u>
	a. Keith L. Moore. The Developing Human
	b. Langman's Medical Embryology
BIOCHEMISTRY	A. <u>TEXTBOOKS</u>
	a. Harper's Illustrated Biochemistry
	b. Lippincott's Illustrated reviews of Biochemistry
	B. <u>REFERENCEBOOKS</u>
	a. Lehninger's Principles of Biochemistry
	Biochemistry by Devlin
PHYSIOLOGY	A . <u>TEXTBOOKS</u>
	1. Textbook of Medical Physiology by Guyton and Hall
	2. Ganong's Review of Medical Physiology
	3. Human Physiology by Lauralee Sherwood
	4. Berne & Levy Physiology
	5. Best & Taylor Physiological Basis of Medical Practice
	B. <u>REFERENCEBOOKS</u>
	1. Guyton & Hall Physiological Review

2. Essentials Of Medical Physiology by Jaypee
3. Textbook Of Medical Physiology by InduKhurana
4. Short Textbook Of Physiology by Mrthur
NMS Physiology