Association and Projection White Fiber (WHITE MATTER)

By

Dr. Zahid Sarfaraz Khan

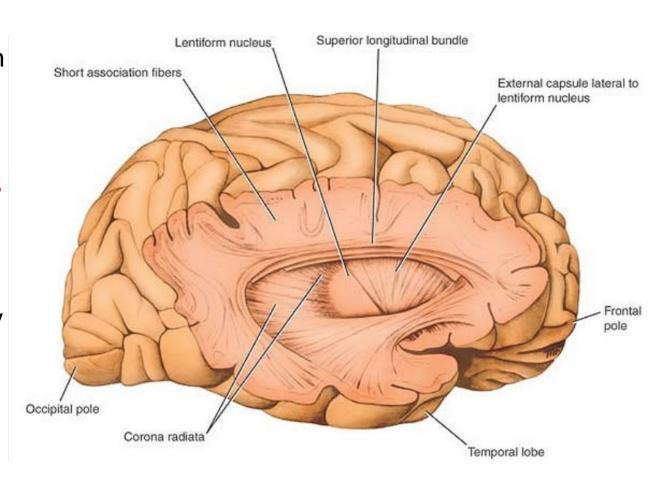
A/P Anatomy dept kgmc

Association Fibers

- These are nerve fibers
- That connect various cortical regions within the same hemisphere
- And divided into short and long groups

Short association.

- Fibers lie immediately beneath the cortex
- And connect adjacent gyri



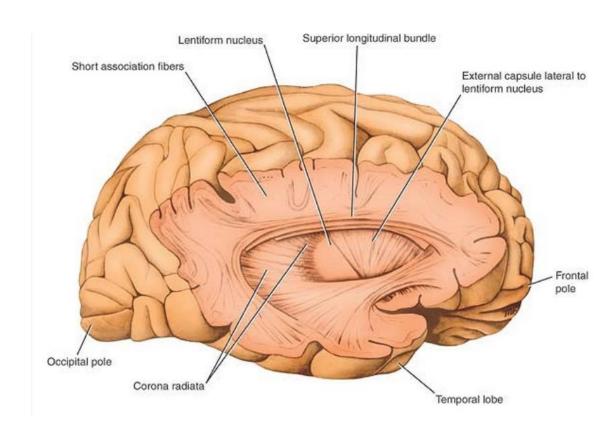
Association Fibers

long association fibers

- Are collected into their own named bundles
- That can be dissected in a formalin-hardened brain.

Uncinate fasciculus

- Connects the first motor speech area
- And the gyri on the inferior surface of the frontal lobe with the cortex of the pole of the temporal lobe.

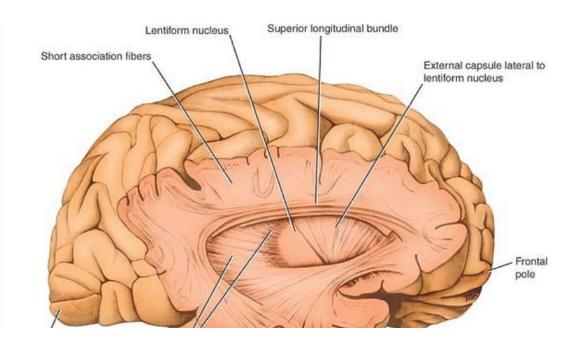


Cingulum fasciculus is a long, curved lying within the white matter of the cingulate gyrus.

 It connects the frontal and parietal lobes with parahippocampal and adjacent temporal cortical regions.

Superior longitudinal fasciculus

- Is the largest bundle of nerve fibers.
- It connects the anterior part of the frontal lobe to the occipital and temporal lobes.

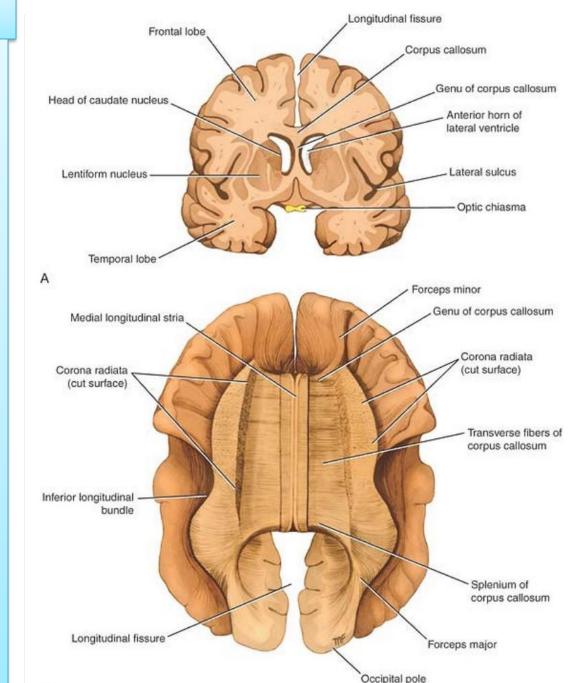


Inferior longitudinal fasciculus

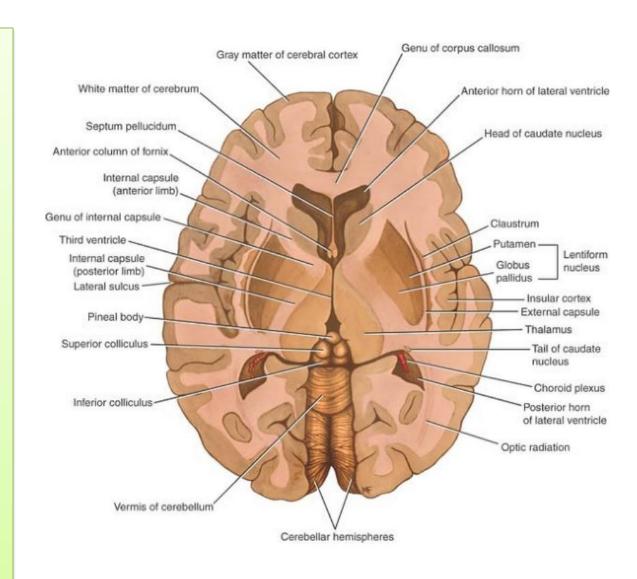
- Runs anteriorly from the occipital lobe
- Passing lateral to the optic radiation
- And is distributed to the temporal lobe.

Fronto-occipital fasciculus

- It is situated deep within the cerebral hemisphere and is related to the lateral border of the caudate nucleus.
- Connects the frontal lobe to the occipital and temporal lobes.

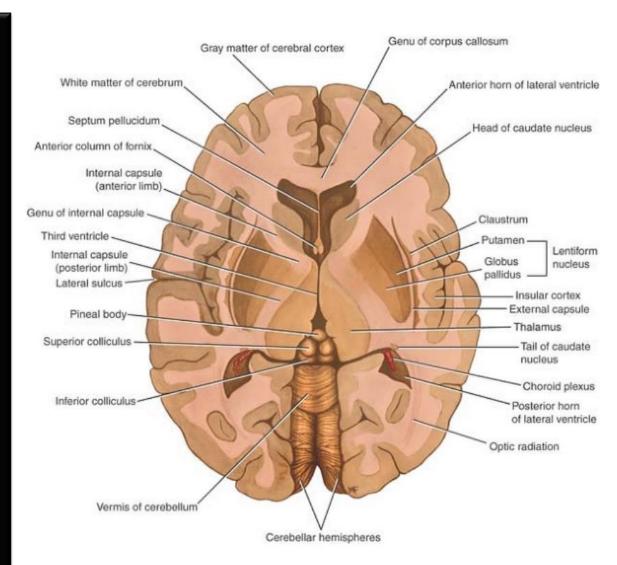


- Afferent and efferent nerve fibers passing to and from the brainstem to the entire cerebral cortex
- Must travel
 between large
 nuclear masses of
 gray matter within
 the cerebral
 hemisphere.

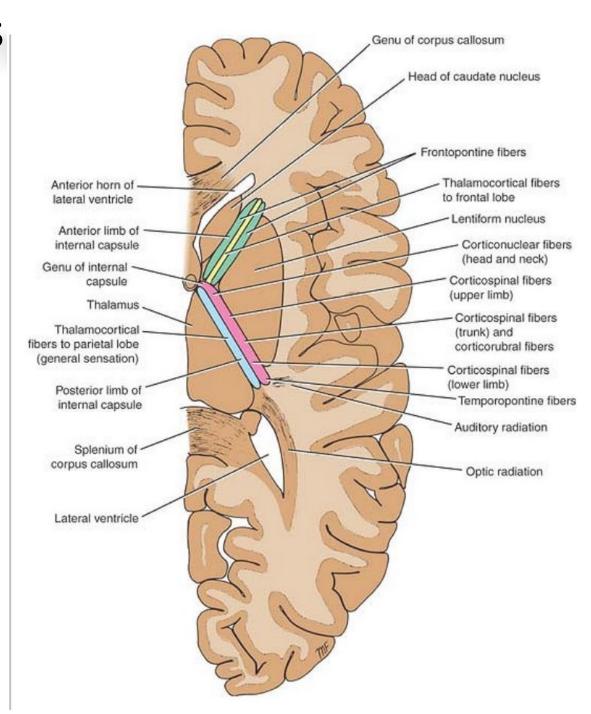


At the upper part of the brainstem

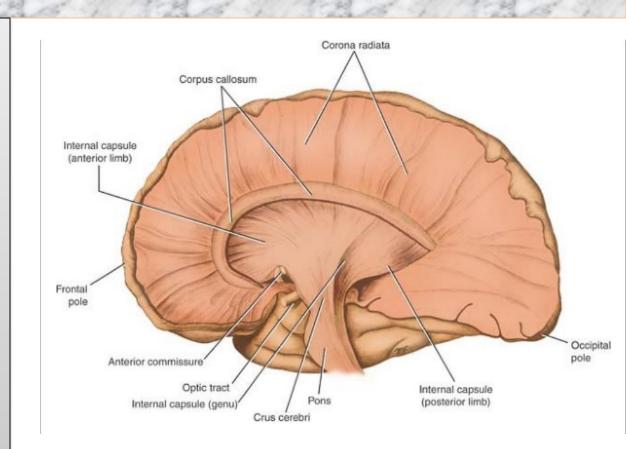
- These fibers form a compact band known as the internal capsule
- Which is flanked medially by the caudate nucleus and the thalamus and laterally by the lentiform nucleus.



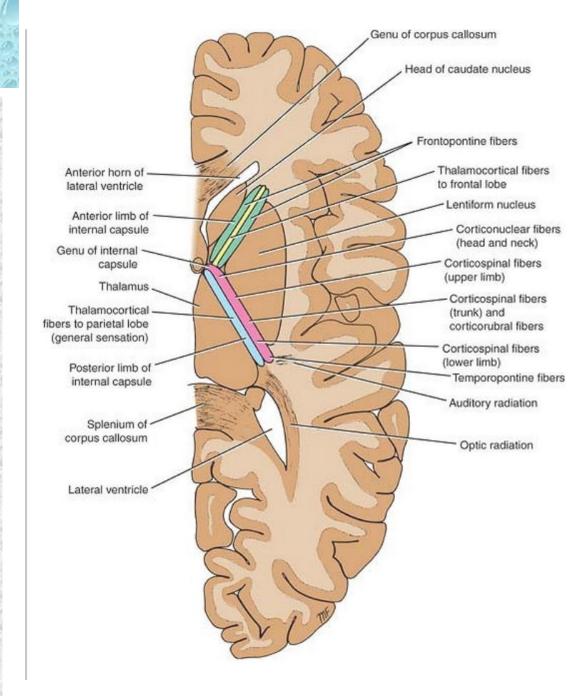
- Because of the wedge shape of the lentiform nucleus, as seen on horizontal section
- Internal capsule is bent to form an anterior limb and a posterior limb
- which are continuous with each other at the genu.



- Once the nerve fibers have emerged superiorly from between the nuclear masses
- They radiate in all directions to the cerebral cortex.
- These radiating projection fibers are known as the corona radiata.



- Most of the projection fibers lie medial to the association fibers
- But they intersect the commissural fibers of the corpus callosum and the anterior commissure.
- The nerve fibers lying within the most posterior part of the posterior limb of the internal capsule radiate toward the calcarine sulcus and are known as the optic radiation.



CASE PRESENTATION

- A 23-year-old man was referred to a neurologist because of intermittent attacks
 of headaches, dizziness, and weakness and numbness of the left leg.
- On close questioning, the patient admitted that the headache was made worse by changing the position of his head.
- A computed tomography (CT) scan revealed a small white opaque ball at the anterior end of the third ventricle.
- A diagnosis of a colloid cyst of the third ventricle was made.
- The aggravation of the headache caused by changing the position of the head could be explained by the fact that the cyst was mobile and suspended from the choroid plexus.

- When the head was moved into certain positions, the ball-like cyst blocked the foramen of Monro on the right side
- Further raising the intracerebral pressure and increasing the hydrocephalus.
- The weakness and numbness of the left leg were due to pressure on the right thalamus
- And the tracts in the right internal capsule, produced by the slowly expanding tumor.
- The patient made a complete recovery after surgical excision of the tumor.

