

Brain Anatomy

◆ Four Major Regions:

- Cerebral Hemispheres → most superior part of the brain
- Diencephalon → is enclosed by the cerebral hemispheres
- Brain Stem → about the size of a thumb in diameter and approx. 3 inches long
- Cerebellum → Large, cauliflower structure that projects dorsally from under the occipital lobe of the cerebrum

Brain Anatomy

1. Cerebral Hemispheres:

Surface:

- ♦ Gyri = elevated ridges
- ♦ Sulci = shallow grooves
- ♦ Fissures = less numerous deeper grooves that separate large regions of brain

Corpus Callosum → connects the cerebral hemispheres. Arches above the structures of the brain stem and allows the cerebral hemispheres to communicate.

Brain Anatomy

2. Diencephalon (Interbrain)

- Includes the Thalamus, Hypothalamus, Pituitary Gland, Pineal Gland, Amygdala, Hippocampus, Striatum

Brain Anatomy

3. Brain Stem

- Midbrain → relatively small part of the brain stem. Reflex centers involved with vision and hearing.
- Pons (“bridge”) → rounded structure that protrudes just below the midbrain. Involved in controlling breathing.
- Medulla Oblongata → Most inferior part of the brain stem. Contains centers for vital organ control.

Brain Anatomy

4. Cerebellum –

- Like the cerebrum it has two hemispheres and a convoluted surface.
- Provides the precise timing for skeletal muscles and control balance.