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Hindbrain

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Definition

The hindbrain is the portion of the brain that connects the brain with the spinal cord.

Current Knowledge

The hindbrain is the caudal most of the three primary portions of the brain, connecting the brain with spinal cord. The hindbrain consists of

the cerebellum, medulla oblongata, and the pons. These areas of the brain coordinate muscle movements and equilibrium as well as control some of the most basic essential physiological processes such as breathing and blood circulation. Since cranial nerves V through VIII arise from the pons and cranial nerves IX through XII arise from the medulla, injuries or tumors of the hindbrain can adversely affect the functions of these nerves.

See Also

- [Cerebellum](#)
- [Medulla](#)
- [Pons](#)