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Subfornical Organ

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Synonyms

[Circumventricular organ](#)

subfornical organ is very important in maintaining the constancy of plasma osmolarity and is the principal site for control of salt-intake behavior. Its neurons regulate fluid electrolyte balance by controlling thirst, sodium excretion, blood volume regulation, and secretion of vasopressin by the hypothalamus. Because the subfornical organ is not protected by the blood-brain barrier, its neurons can respond to plasma osmolarity as well as to factors present in the systemic circulation such as angiotensin.

Definition

Overlying the third ventricle, the subfornical organ is one of the circumventricular organs and has fibers that project to the hypothalamus. The

See Also

- ▶ [Blood-Brain Barrier](#)
- ▶ [Hypothalamus](#)