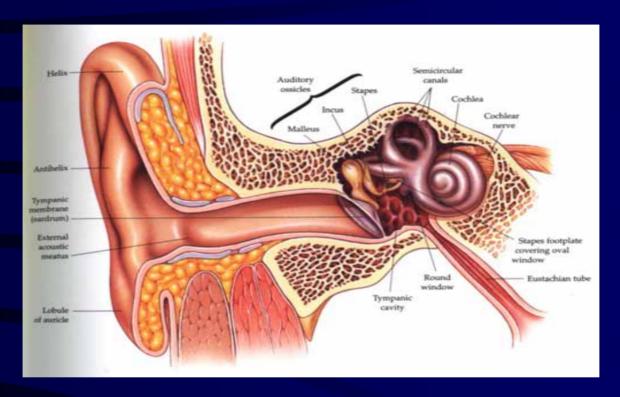
## THE EAR: PRACTICAL ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY:

J.W. Loock, Dept. of ORL Faculty of Health Sciences US/TBH

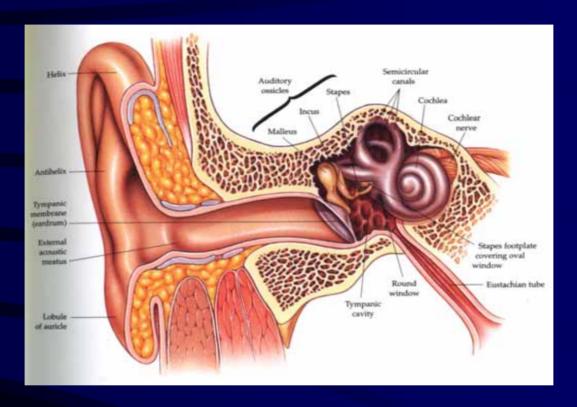
## Some questions you should be able to answer by the end of this lecture:

- Where (anatomically) may/may you not wear an earring?
- Why should you throw you earbuds away?
- What makes it possible to hear whispered "sweet nothings"?
- Why should airlines give you gum to chew on descent?
- Why does syringing an old lady's ear with cold tapwater make her dizzy?
- How does the ear differentiate between low & high-pitched sounds?
- Why do your ears ring after a rave party?



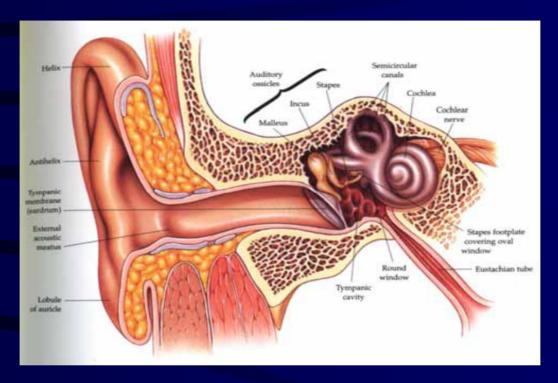
#### External Ear:

- Pinna
- External Auditory Meatus
- Drum (Tympanic Membrane)



#### Middle Ear Cleft:

- Middle Ear itself
- Eustachian Tube
- Mastoid Air Cell System



#### Inner Ear: "The Labyrinth"

- Cochlea
- Vestibule: Utricle

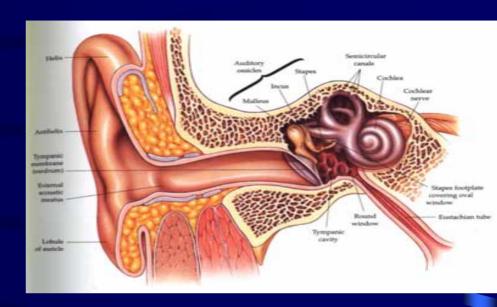
Saccule

Semicircular Canals

Vestibulocochlear Nerve --> CNS

#### External Ear:

- Pinna
- External Auditory Meatus
- Drum (Tympanic Membrane)



#### Tissues:

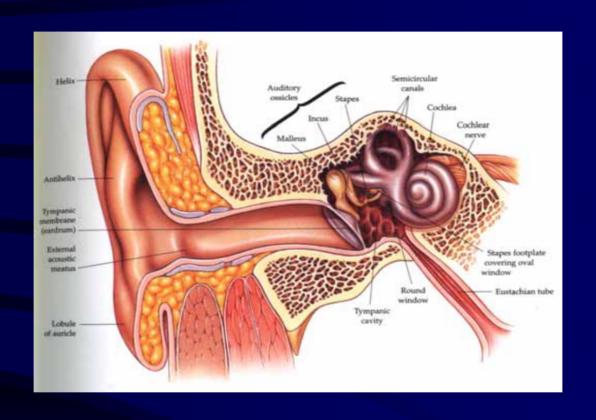
- Skin incl
  - Wax
  - Hairs
- Cartilage
  - Perichondrium
- Bone
- Eardrum

#### **Function:**

Desquamation, migration Protection, migration protection, expulsion

Seals off Middle Ear

#### Middle Ear Cleft:

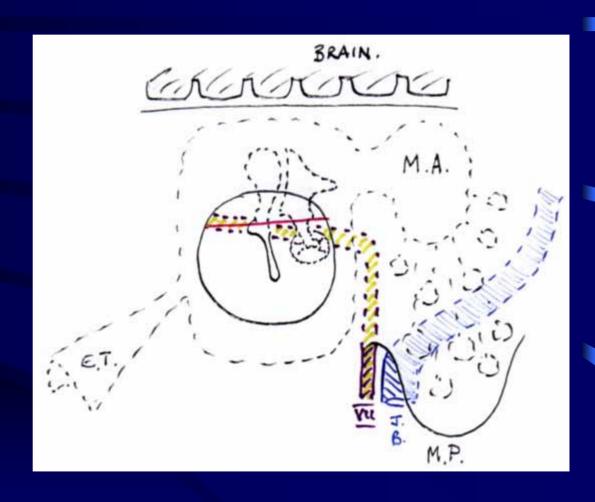


#### Middle Ear itself

- Eustachian Tube
- Mastoid Air Cell System

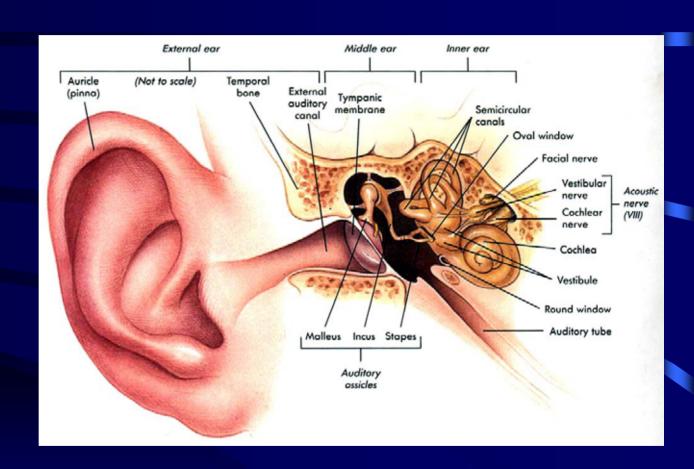
#### Middle ear Cleft: parts:

- Middle ear per se:
  - Mesotympanum
  - Epitympanum ("attic")
  - Hypotympanum
- Eustachian Tube
- Mastoid:
  - "Antrum"
  - Aditus
  - Air cells



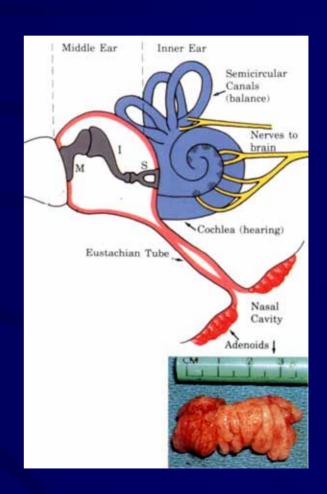
#### Middle ear anatomy: contents:

- Eardrum
- Ossicles:
  - malleus
  - incus
  - stapes
- Oval Window
- Round Window
- Facial Nerve



#### Middle ear Physiology:

- Aeration:
  - •Eustachian tube
  - •Mastoid air cell "reservoir"
- Mucosa
- Sound amplification
  - •TM
  - Ossicles



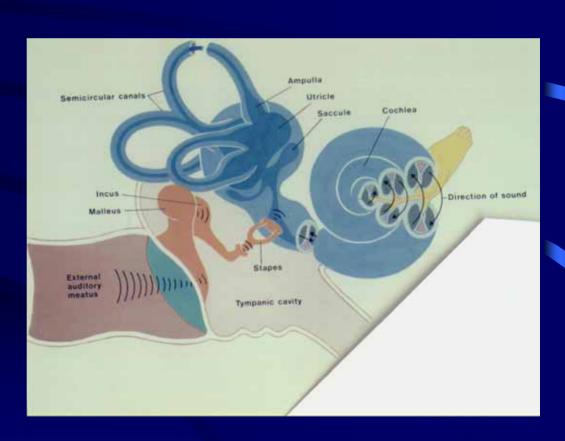
#### Middle ear Physiology:

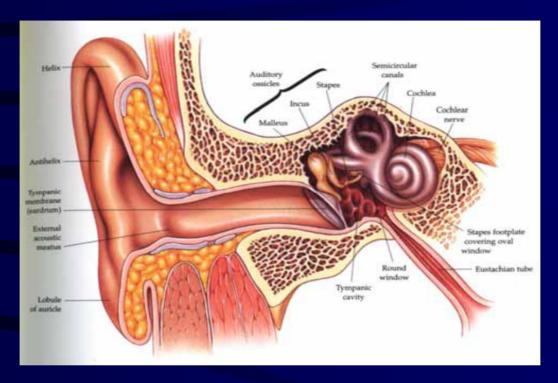
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#### Middle ear Physiology:

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#### Inner Ear: "The Labyrinth"

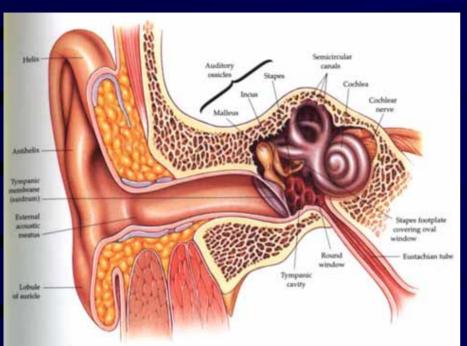
- Cochlea
- Vestibule: Utricle

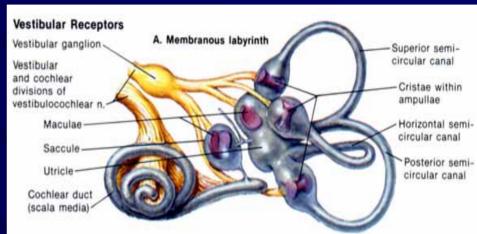
Saccule

Semicircular Canals

Vestibulocochlear Nerve --> CNS

#### THE INNER EAR:





- Cochlea
- Vestibule: Utricle

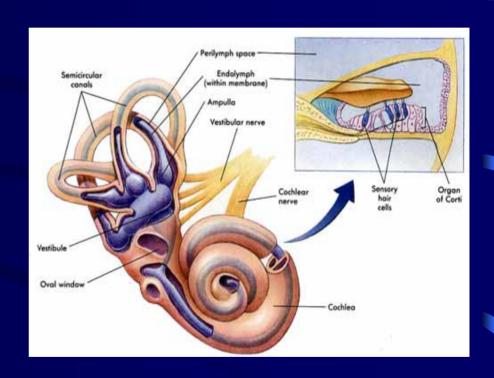
Saccule

Semicircular Canals

Vestibulocochlear Nerve --> CNS

#### The Inner Ear: Cochlea:

- Twisted tube:
  - Basal turn to apex
- 3 Compartments:
  - Scala tympani
  - Scala media
  - Scala vestibuli
- Basilar membrane & hair cells



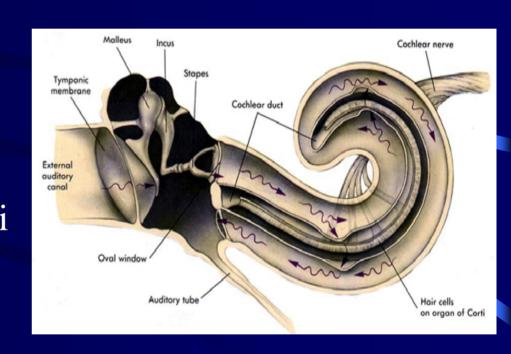
#### The Inner Ear: Cochlea: Function:

#### **HEARING:**

Sound wave travels up
Basilar Membrane

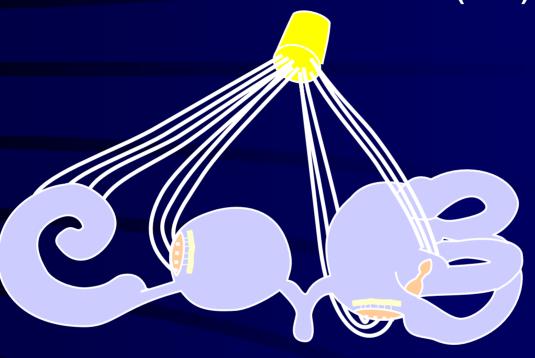
Pitch (frequency)
determines place of max.
displacement

Hair cells of Organ of Corti
on Basilar Membrane
transform movement into
electrical impulses =>
Cochlear Nerve=>
Cerebral Cortex



#### INNER EAR: PHYSIOLOGY:

Vestibulocochlear nerve (VCN)



Cochlea

**Hearing** 

Vestibular labyrinth

Saccule + Utricle

Static position + linear acceleration

Maculae: Hair cells + statoconial membrane

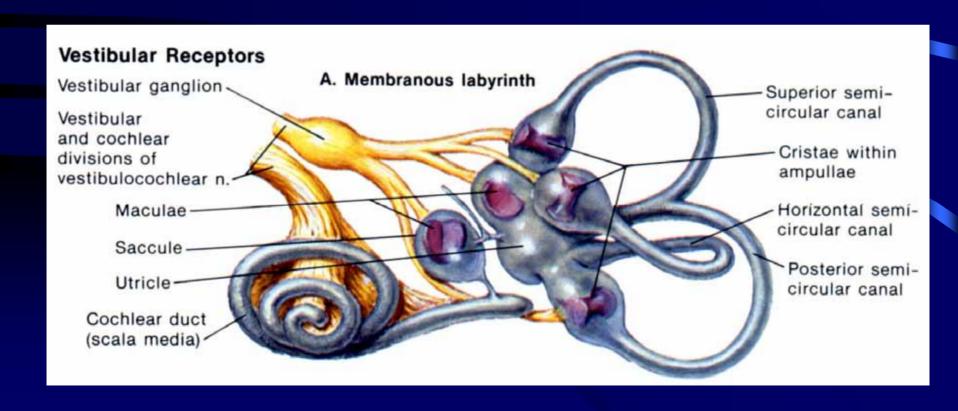
**Semicircular canals** 

**Angular acceleration** 

Ampullary crista: Hair cells + cupulae

# EQUILIBRIUM: ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY OF VESTIBULAR APPARATUS

- Bony Labyrinth contains membranous
- (Outer) Perilymph ~ Extracellular Fluid
- (Inner) Endolymph ~ Intracellular Fluid ( $\uparrow K, \downarrow Na$ )

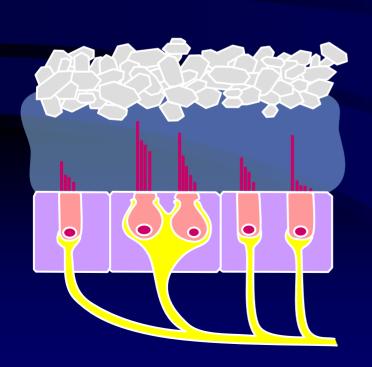


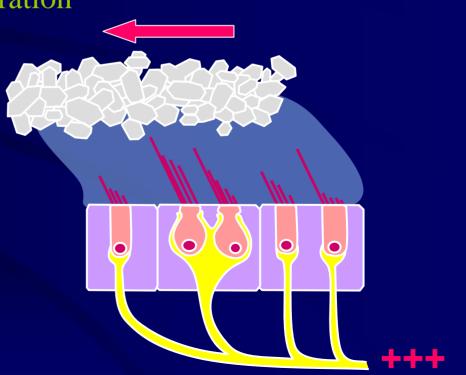
#### **EQUILIBRIUM:**

### ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY OF VESTIBULAR APPARATUS

MACULA (of utricle & saccule)

- Hair cells
- Statoconial membrane (CaCo3 crystals in mucopolysaccharide bed)
- Static position & linear acceleration





# EQUILIBRIUM: ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY OF VESTIBULAR APPARATUS

MACULA (of utricle & saccule)

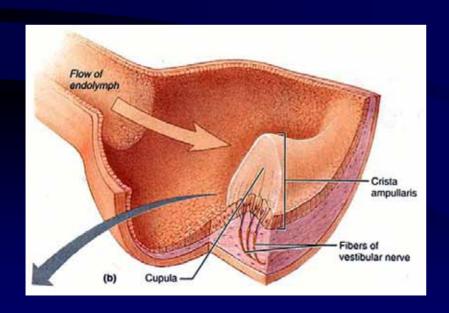
- Hair cells
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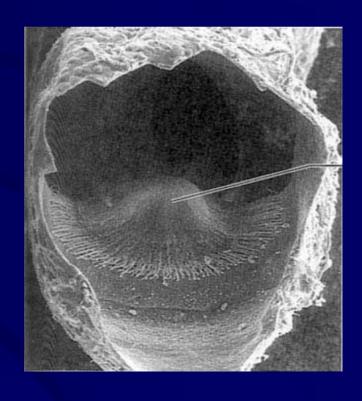


# EQUILIBRIUM: ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY OF VESTIBULAR APPARATUS

#### **AMPULLARY CRISTA:**

- Dilated ampulla at end of semicircular canal
- Hair cells
- Cupula
- Angular acceleration





#### **EQUILIBRIUM:**

## ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY OF VESTIBULAR APPARATUS

#### **SEMICIRCULAR CANALS:**

- Orientated in 3 different spacial planes
- at +/- right angles
- able to track exact direction of acceleration

