

### CN... CN... CN...

Which cranial nerves innervate the extraocular muscles (EOMs)?



#### CN3 CN6 CN4

#### Which cranial nerves innervate the extraocular muscles (EOMs)?



What is the name for the collections of neurons that give rise to each of these cranial nerves? (This is not a trick question--the answer is as obvious as it seems.)



CN3	CN6	CN4
Nucleus	Nucleus	Nucleus

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*Um, Dr Flynn, 4 comes before 6. Why are these nuclei listed out of order?* This will be explained shortly





?

With respect to pathology of the EOM control pathways, there are four major 'locations.' One of these (the nuclear) has been identified already. What are the other three? (Hint: Their names reflect the relationship each has to the nuclear level.)



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...you may not be with this one, although you'll agree it makes sense in context. (Further, and importantly, it is used in the BCSC *Neuro* book.)



With respect to pathology of the EOM control pathways, there are four major 'locations.' One of these (the nuclear) has been identified already. What are the other three? (Hint: Their names reflect the relationship each has to the nuclear level.)

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**Supranuclear** 

**The** *supranuclear pathways* consists of inputs to the nuclei from centers in the cortex, cerebellum, vestibular system, etc.



Infranuclear

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# **Supranuclear**

The supranuclear pathways consists of inputs to the nuclei from centers in the cortex, cerebellum, vestibular system, etc. These locations are 'supra' in that they carry signals to the nuclei.

# Internuclear























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# Supranuclear

This slide summarizes the basic organization of EOM control. When you encounter a pt with a motility issue, your first thought should be: *Is this issue nuclear, supranuclear, internuclear, or infranuclear in origin?* 



SupranuclearThis slide summarizes the basic organization of EOM control.When you encounter a pt with a motility issue, your first<br/>thought should be: Is this issue nuclear, supranuclear,<br/>internuclear, or infranuclear in origin?

















What purpose does the MLF serve?





*What purpose does the MLF serve?* To allow coordinated lateral gaze of both eyes





*What purpose does the MLF serve?* To allow coordinated lateral gaze of both eyes

How does the MLF facilitate lateral gaze coordination?





*What purpose does the MLF serve?* To allow coordinated lateral gaze of both eyes

How does the MLF facilitate lateral gaze coordination? By causing the contralateral MR to fire simultaneously with the ipsilateral lateral rectus (LR), thus ensuring both eyes turn into lateral gaze together


## From where to where do the fascicles of the MLF run?

So if the depicted CN6 nucleus is on a pt's left side, the depicted MLF runs to her right MR subnucleus.



By causing the contralateral MR to fire simultaneously with the ipsilateral lateral rectus (LR), thus **ensuring both eyes turn into lateral gaze together** 



## From where to where do the fascicles of the MLF run?

Infr

So if the depicted CN6 nucleus is on a pt's left side, the depicted MLF runs to her right MR subnucleus. When the pt endeavors to look to her left, the left CN6 nucleus causes the left LR to contract while also sending impulses (via the MLF) to her right MR subnucleus, which in turn causes the right MR to contract simultaneously—and both eyes shift into left gaze in coordinated fashion.

By causing the contralateral MR to fire simultaneously with the ipsilateral lateral rectus (LR), thus **ensuring both eyes turn into lateral gaze together** 





















**Infrai** The cranial-nerve nuclei and their fascicles are located within the brainstem. Given this, it shouldn't come as a surprise that, generally speaking, lesions of the nuclei and/or fascicles do not present with *isolated* EOM abnormalities; ie, the ophthalmoparesis is almost always accompanied by **nonocular** signs and symptoms of CNS damage.

What general term is used to describe conditions presenting with motility dysfunction 2ndry to fascicle damage + non-ocular CNS findings?



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> What general term is used to describe conditions presenting with motility dysfunction 2ndry to fascicle damage + non-ocular CNS findings? **Fascicular syndrome**
























































evaluating motility disorders!







Before discussing **supranuclear lesions**, we need to define the role of the efferent (ie, motor) component of the visual system. But before we do *that*, we have to define the role of the *afferent* system.

Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

Neuromuscular junction

Extraocular muscle



Before discussing **supranuclear lesions**, we need to define the role of the efferent (ie, motor) component of the visual system. But before we do *that*, we have to define the role of the *afferent* system.

In primates, vision has two purposes: 1) to **detect** objects of interest (eg, things you may want to eat, or may want to eat you), and 2) to **scrutinize** objects of interest (ie, to determine definitively whether it's an eat-er vs an eat-ee).

Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

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Extraocular muscle



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Cavernous sinus

Orbital

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Extraocular muscle



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**But let's consider what it takes to accomplish these tasks.** Scrutinizing an object requires steady bifixation—but not *too* steady, or the photoreceptors (PRs) will fatigue and the image will disappear.





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The *supranuclear pathways* consist of six systems in the primate CNS that deal with these fixation-related issues. Thus, lesions of a supranuclear pathway manifest as difficulties with either the **maintenance** or **acquisition** of bifixation.

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EXITAUCULAL ITTUSCIC



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

### with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

1) The two words **system** is responsible for maintaining a high-quality image of a stationary object when the head is still.

Fascicular

Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

Neuromuscular junction

Extraocular muscle



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuciear

1) The **ocular fixation system** is responsible for maintaining a high-quality image of a stationary object when the head is still.

Infranuclear

Fascicular

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#### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

1) The **ocular fixation system** is responsible for maintaining a high-quality image of a stationary object when the head is still. It does this via continuous *microsaccadic refixation movements*, which produce a constant shifting among the PRs regarding which are responsible for the retinal image. This shifting prevents PR fatigue (and subsequent image loss) from occurring.



Fascicular

Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

Neuromuscular junction



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

#### 1) The ocular fixation system

2) The **two words system** is responsible for maintaining fixation on a moving object. When it is impaired pursuit movements may either lag behind the object or jump ahead of it.

Infranuclear -

Fascicular

Subarachnoid

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### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

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#### Internuclear

#### 1) The ocular fixation system

2) The **smooth-pursuit system** is responsible for maintaining fixation on a moving object. When it is impaired pursuit movements may either lag behind the object or jump ahead of it.



Fascicular

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#### Internuclear

#### 1) The ocular fixation system

2) The **smooth-pursuit system** is responsible for maintaining fixation on a moving object. When it is impaired pursuit movements may either lag behind the object or jump ahead of it. Of note, that this is the only supranuclear pathway that is activated voluntarily.



Fascicular

Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

Neuromuscular junction



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

1) The ocular fixation system

2) The smooth-pursuit system

Infranuclear

3) The **system** is responsible for maintaining fixation on an object that is moving toward or away from the eyes, thus necessitating they converge or diverge.

Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

Neuromuscular junction



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

1) The ocular fixation system

2) The smooth-pursuit system

Infranuclear

3) The **vergence system** is responsible for maintaining fixation on an object that is moving toward or away from the eyes, thus necessitating they converge or diverge.

Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

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### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

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#### Internuclear

1) The ocular fixation system

#### 2) The smooth-pursuit system

Infranuclear

3) The **vergence system** is responsible for maintaining fixation on an object that is moving toward or away from the eyes, thus necessitating they converge or diverge. Many forms of vergence dysfunction can occur, including *convergence insufficiency, divergence insufficiency, accommodative esotropia*, and *spasm of the near*.

## Subarachnoid

Cavernous sinus

Orbital

Neuromuscular junction



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

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#### Internuclear

1) The ocular fixation system

- 2) The smooth-pursuit system
- 3) The vergence system

4) The	three words	system and the 5)	two words	system are
respon	sible for holding an image steady	/ during head rotation	ns—either brief and rapid (VOR)	or slower and
sustain	ed (OKN).			





### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuciear

1) The ocular fixation system

2) The smooth-pursuit system

3) The vergence system

4) The *vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR) system* and the 5) *optokinetic nystagmus (OKN) system* are responsible for holding an image steady during head rotations—either brief and rapid (VOR) or slower and sustained (OKN).





### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

1) The ocular fixation system

2) The smooth-pursuit system

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4) The **vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR) system** and the 5) **optokinetic nystagmus (OKN) system** are responsible for holding an image steady during head rotations—either brief and rapid (VOR) or slower and sustained (OKN). The VOR is controlled by the vestibular labyrinth, ie, the semicircular canals and otoliths. In contrast, the OKN system is driven by images sweeping across the retina.





### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

1) The ocular fixation system

2) The smooth-pursuit system

- 3) The vergence system
- 4) The vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR) system and the 5) optokinetic nystagmus (OKN) system

system is responsible for rapidly shifting fixation from the current object of interest to a new 6) The one located in the visual periphery.



Cavernous sinus

Neuromuscular junction



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1) The ocular fixation system

2) The smooth-pursuit system

- 3) The vergence system
- 4) The vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR) system and the 5) optokinetic nystagmus (OKN) system

6) The saccadic system is responsible for rapidly shifting fixation from the current object of interest to a new one located in the visual periphery.



Cavernous sinus

Neuromuscular junction



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

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- 1) The ocular fixation system
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6) The saccadic system

An important rule-of-thumb can be stated regarding supranuclear motility disorders and diplopia—what is it?

Orbital

Neuromuscular junction



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An important rule-of-thumb can be stated regarding supranuclear motility disorders and diplopia—what is it? It is this: With four important exceptions, supranuclear pts do not complain of diplopia

Orbital

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> Orbital *Why don't most pts with supranuclear disorders have diplopia?* Neuromu Extraocular muscle



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It is this: With four important exceptions, supranuclear pts do not complain of diplopia

Orbital<br/>NeuromuWhy don't most pts with supranuclear disorders have diplopia?<br/>Because most supranuclear disorders affect both eyes in a<br/>symmetric fashion



## six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

Internuciear					
1) The <b>ocular fixation system</b>					
2) The <b>smooth-pursuit system</b>					
3) The <b>vergence system</b>	What are some of the supranuclear disorders that				
4) The <b>vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR) system</b> and t	<b>(VOR)</b> system and the present typically, ie, without diplopia?				
6) The <b>saccadic system</b>					
An important rule-of-thumb can be stated					
It is this: With four important exceptions,	supranuclear pts do not complain of diplopia				
Orbital <i>Why</i>	don't most pts with supranuclear disorders have diplopia?				
Neuromu <sup>Beca</sup>	use most supranuclear disorders affect <b>both</b> eyes in a <b>metric</b> fashion				
Extraocular n	nuscle				



## six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

	Internuclear
1) The ocular fixation system	
2) The <b>smooth-pursuit system</b>	
3) The <b>vergence system</b>	What are some of the supranuclear disorders that
4) The vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR)	system and the present typically, ie, without diplopia? Gaze palsies, eg, Parinaud syndrome
6) The <i>saccadic system</i>	Congenital ocular motor apraxia (COMA)
An important rule-of-thumb ca	an be statedSaccadic disorders
It is this: With four important e	exceptions, supranuclear pts do not complain of diplopia
Orbi	tal Why don't most pts with supranuclear disorders have diplopia?
Neu	romu Because most supranuclear disorders affect <b>both</b> eyes in a <b>symmetric</b> fashion
Extra	aocular muscle



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with these fixation-related issues

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4) The vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR) system and the

6) The saccadic system

Orbital

What are some of the supranuclear disorders that sesent typically, ie, without distonia? --Gaze palsies, eg, Parinaud syndi --Congenital ocular motor apraxia (COMA) --Progressive supranuclear palsy (P2 --Saccadic disorders

It is this: With four important exceptions, superinuclear pts do not complain of diplopia

Whv Bec Neuromu tric fashion svn

t most pts with supranuclear disorders have diplopia? most supranuclear disorders affect **both** eyes in a

Each of these is addressed in detail in other slide-sets—check the ToC



### six systems in the primate CNS that deal

with these fixation-related issues

#### Internuclear

- 1) The ocular fixation system
- 2) The smooth-pursuit system
- 3) The vergence system
- 4) The vestibulo-ocular reflex (VOR) system and the 5) optokinetic nystagmus (OKN) system

#### 6) The saccadic system

An important rule-of-thumb can be stated regarding supranuclear motility disorders and diplopia—what is it?

It is this: With four important exceptions, supranuclear pts do not complain of diplopia

What are the four supranuclear disorders in which pts c/o diplopia?

- --
- --
- --
## **Supranuclear**



## six systems in the primate CNS that deal

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## Internuciear

- 1) The ocular fixation system
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What are the four supranuclear disorders in which pts c/o diplopia?

- --Skew deviation
- --Divergence insufficiency
- --Convergence insufficiency
- --Convergence spasm