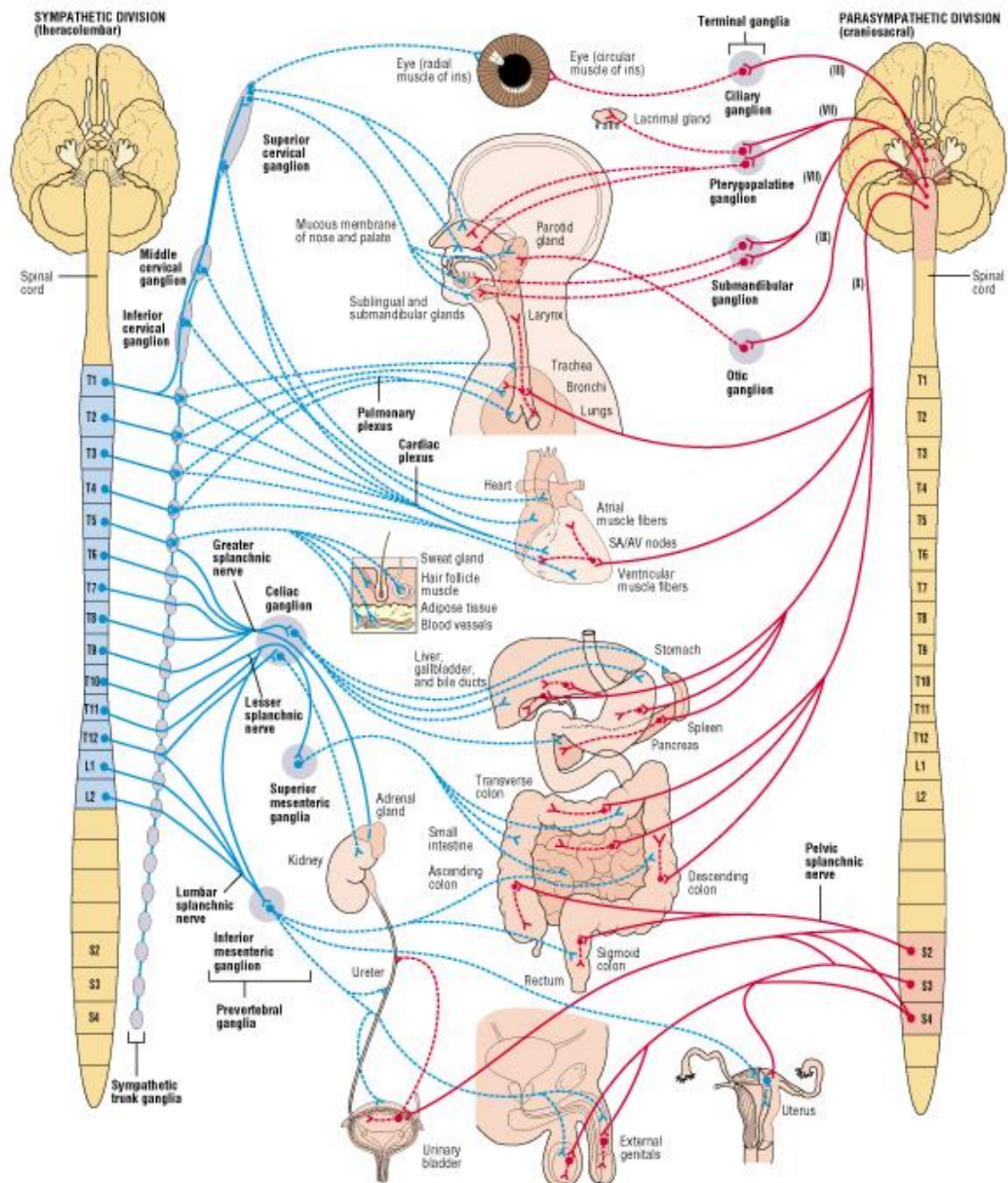


# Autonomic Nervous System

# Autonomic Nervous System

Ref: **Textbook of Medical Physiology**, Guyton, 14<sup>th</sup> Ed.:763-773, 13<sup>th</sup> ed.: 773-784. 12th ed: 729-738, and 11th ed. P748-760.

Fig.17.02



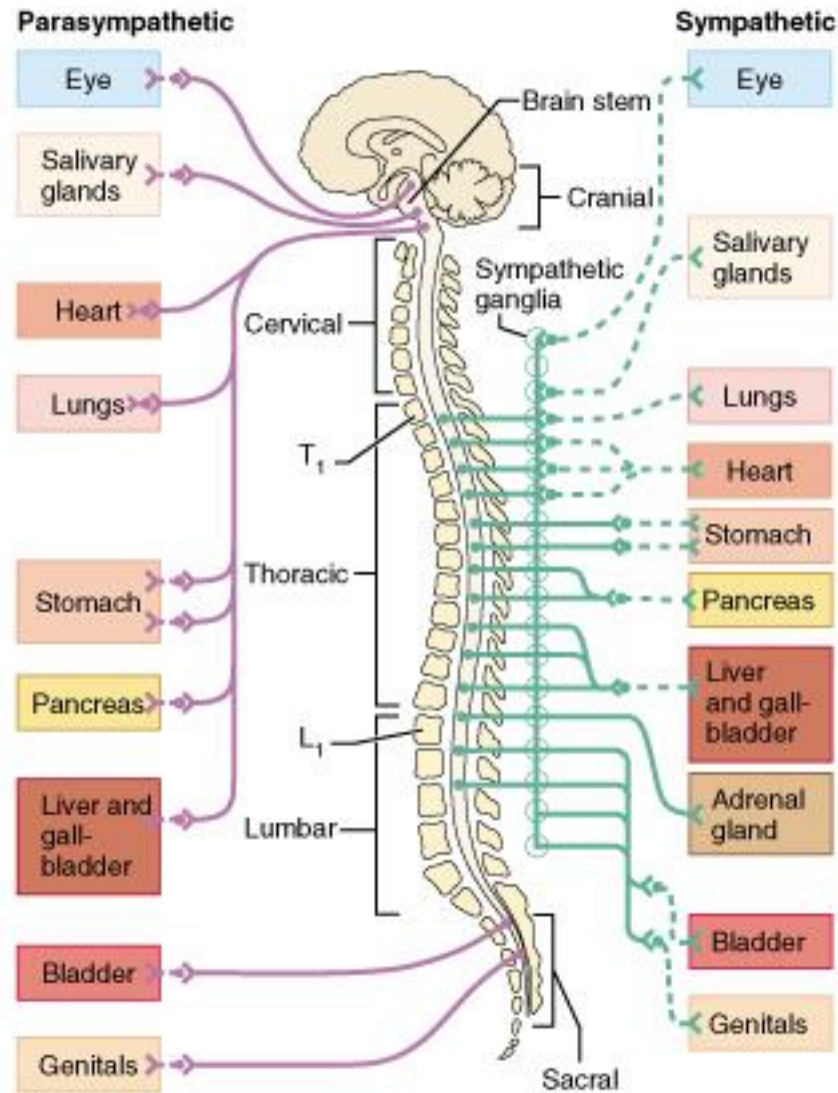
# General functions

Control and Adaptation of body systems to  
internal and/or external changes

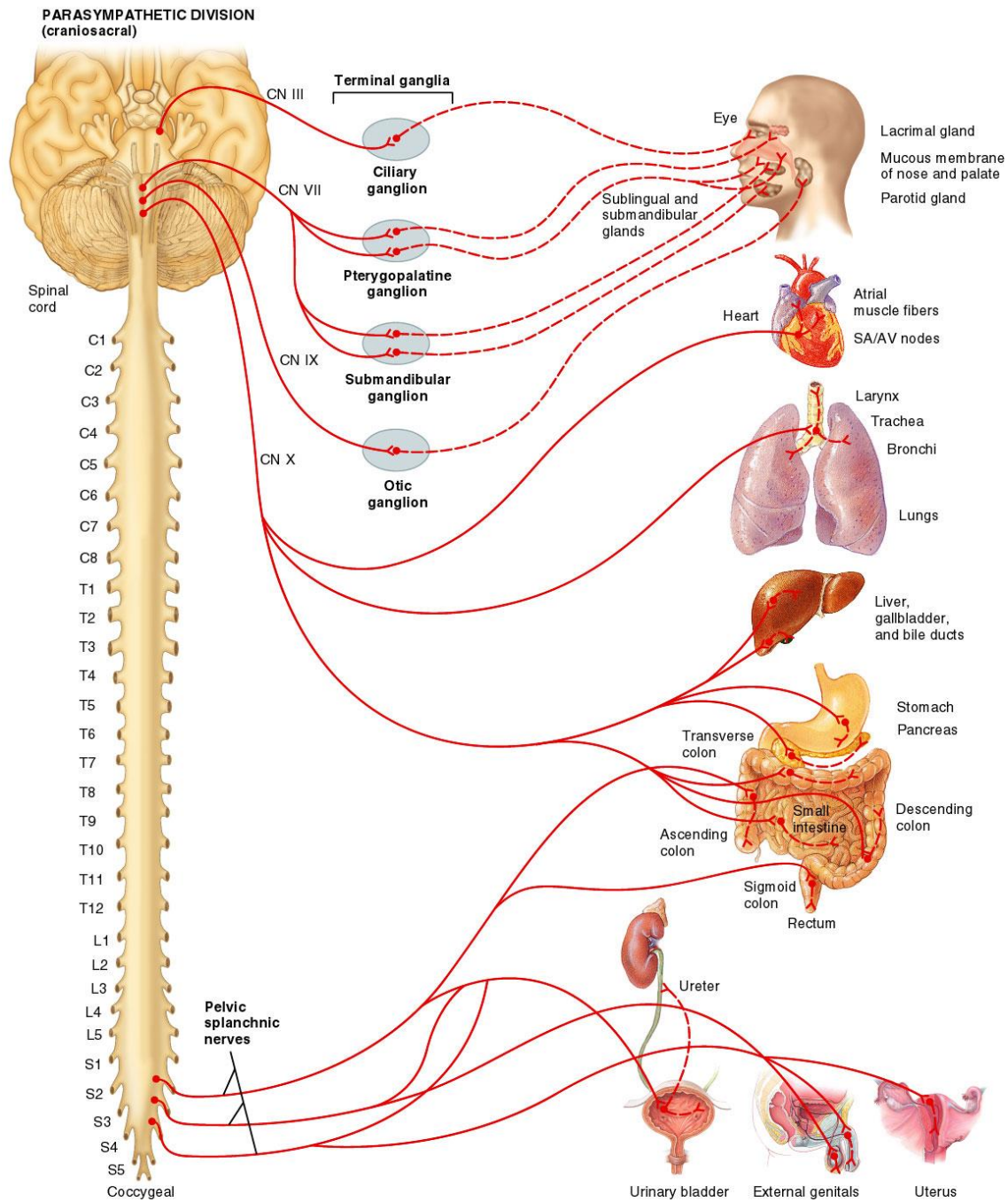
# Example of adaptation to external stimuli

## Fight and Flight Reaction

- Increase heart rate and force of contraction.
- Widely dilated pupils.
- Pallor (pale of fear) as blood is directed to the skeletal muscle.
- Goose pimples.
- Cold sweat.
- Dry mouth.



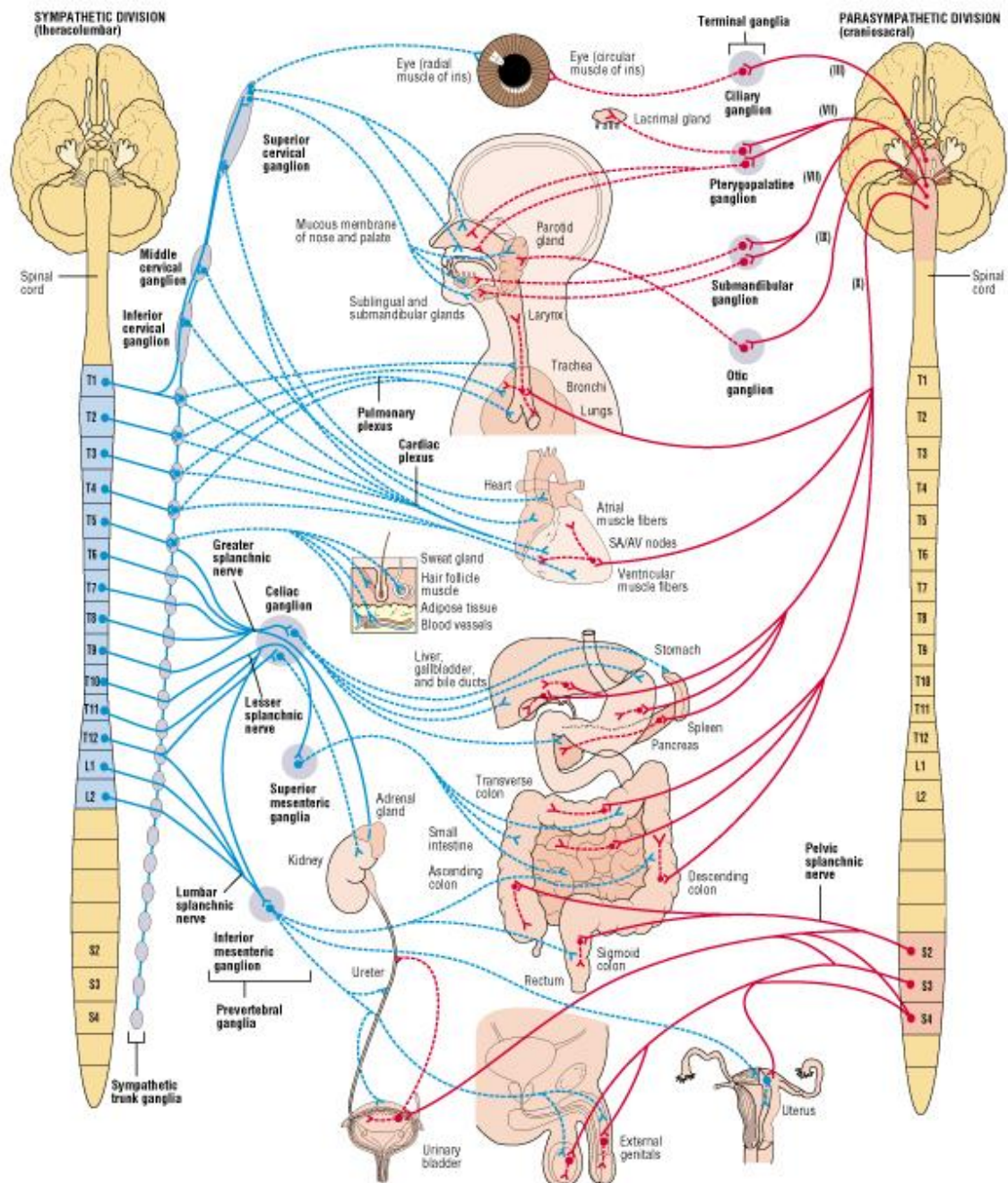
**Fig. 17.03**



# ANS characteristics

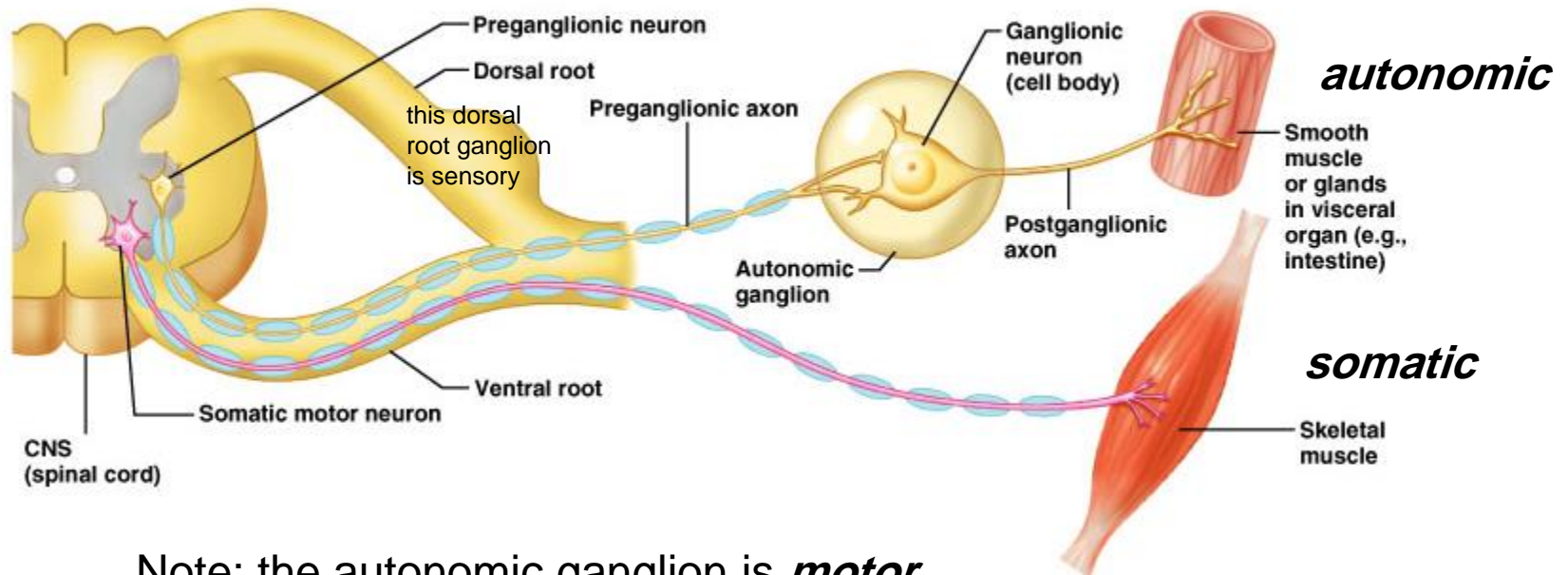
Anatomical characteristics and  
Synaptic organization of ANS

Fig.17.02



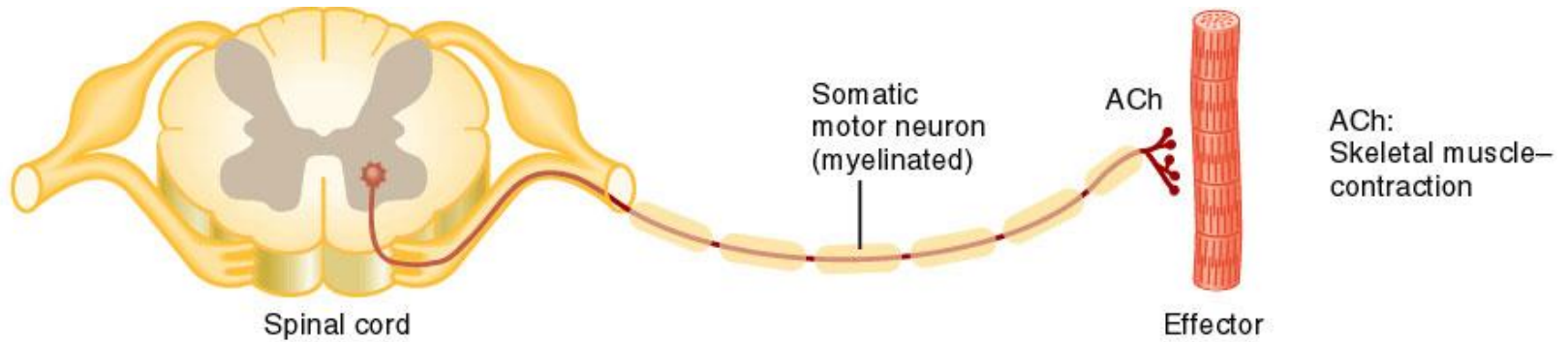
- Axon of 1<sup>st</sup> (*preganglionic*) neuron leaves CNS to synapse with the 2<sup>nd</sup> (*ganglionic*) neuron
- Axon of 2<sup>nd</sup> (*ganglionic*) neuron extends to the organ it serves

Diagram contrasts somatic (lower) and autonomic:

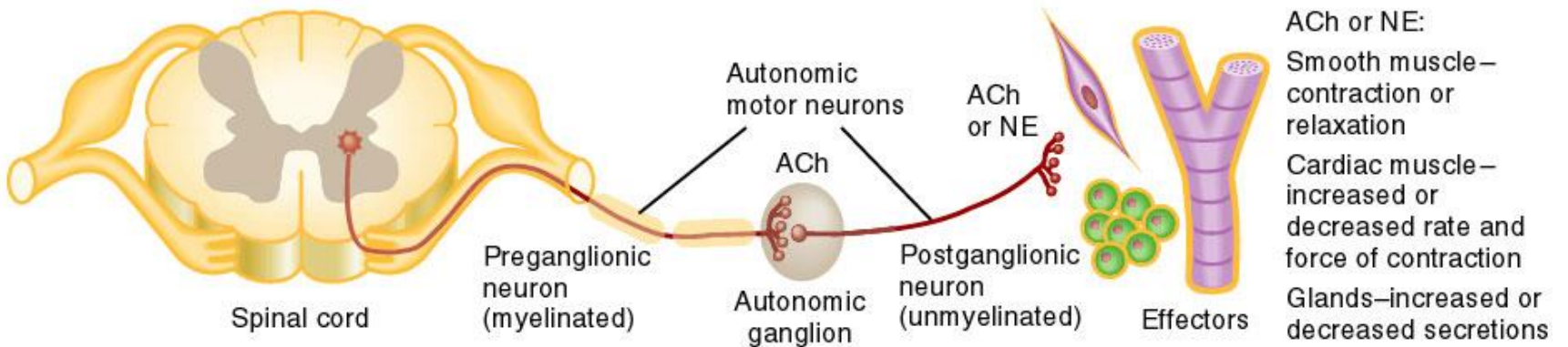


Note: the autonomic ganglion is *motor*

Fig.17.01



(a) Somatic nervous system



(b) Autonomic nervous system

# Synaptic organization of ANS

## Convergence and Divergence in Sympathetic division

Fig. 17.05

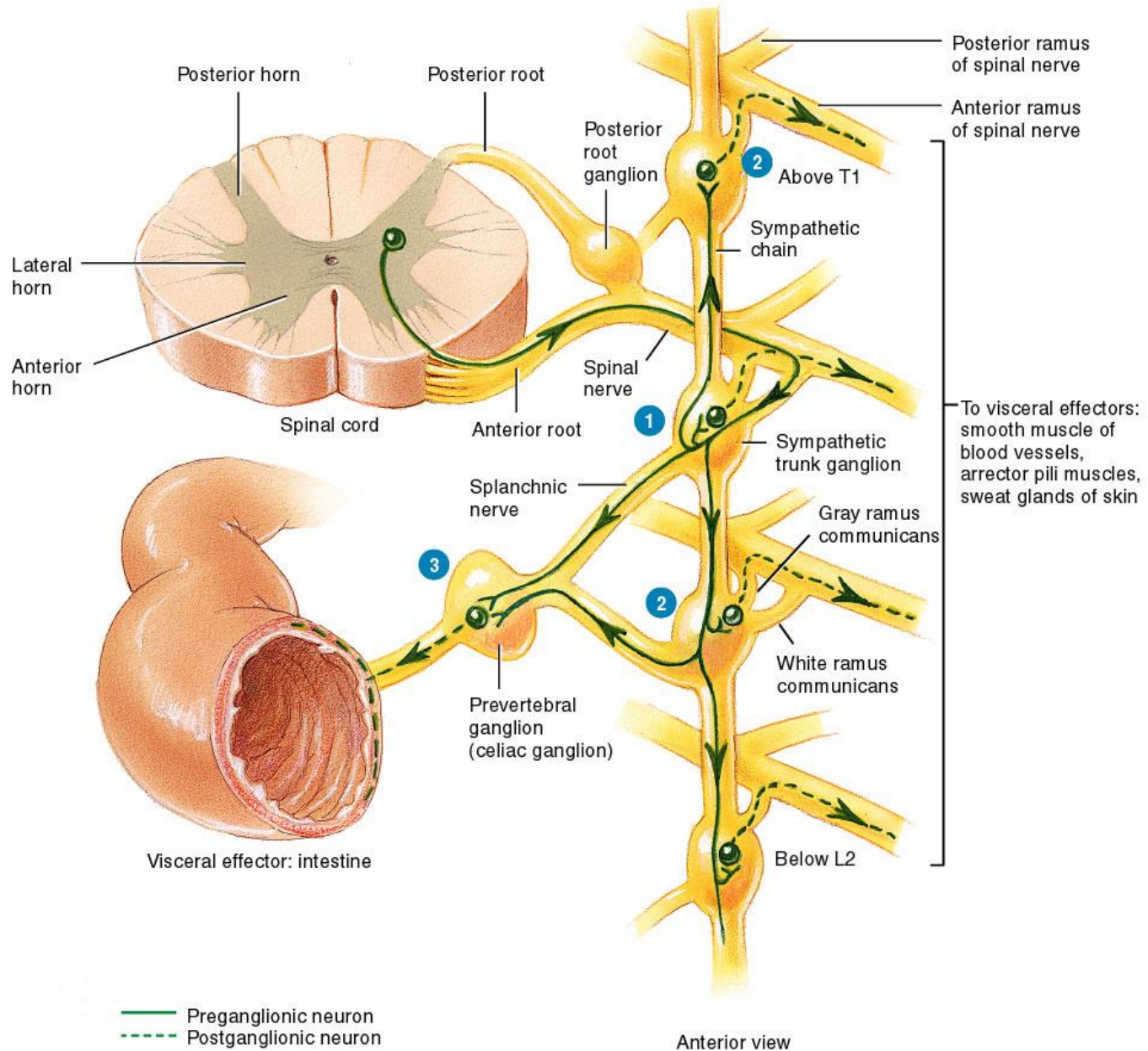
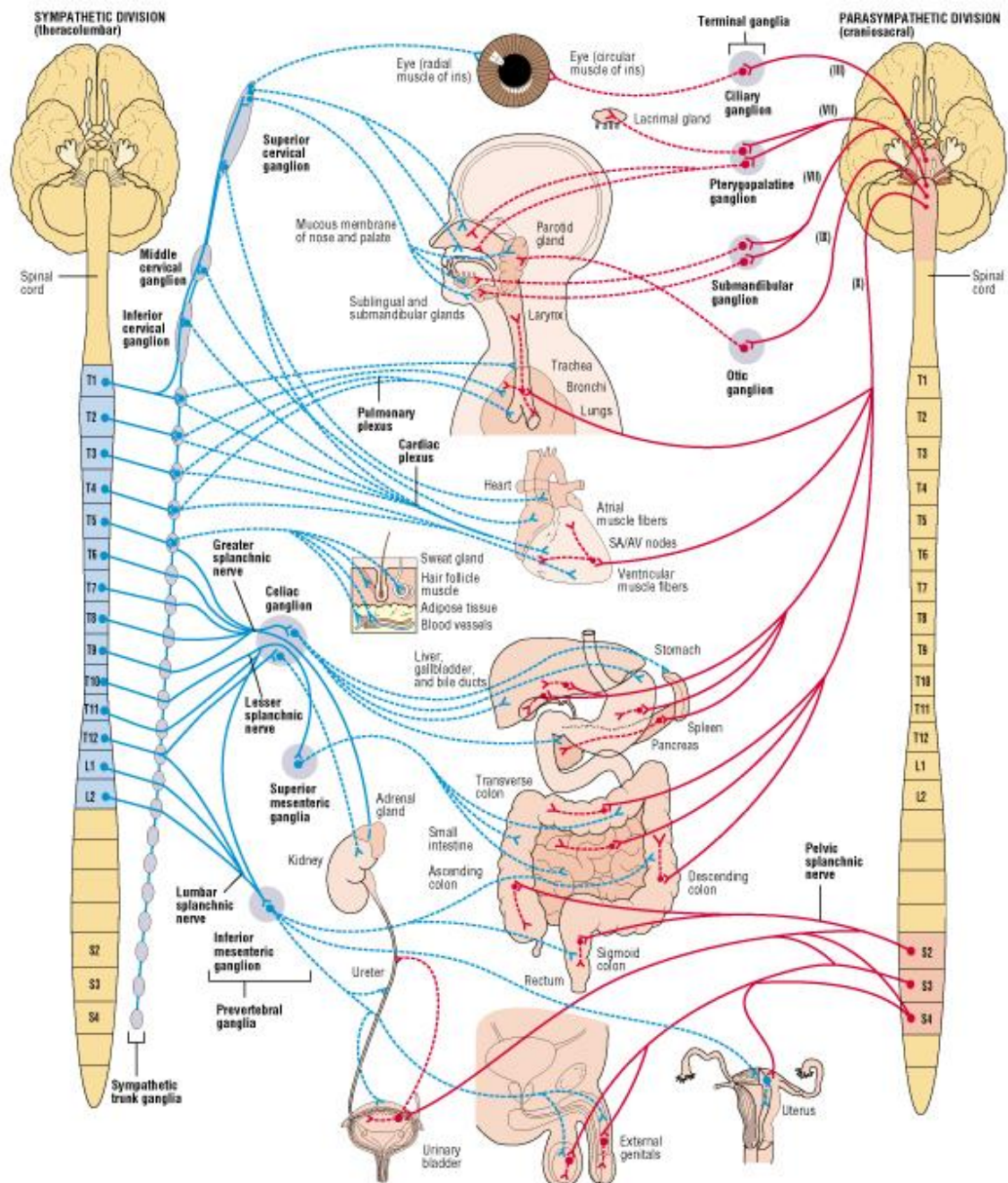
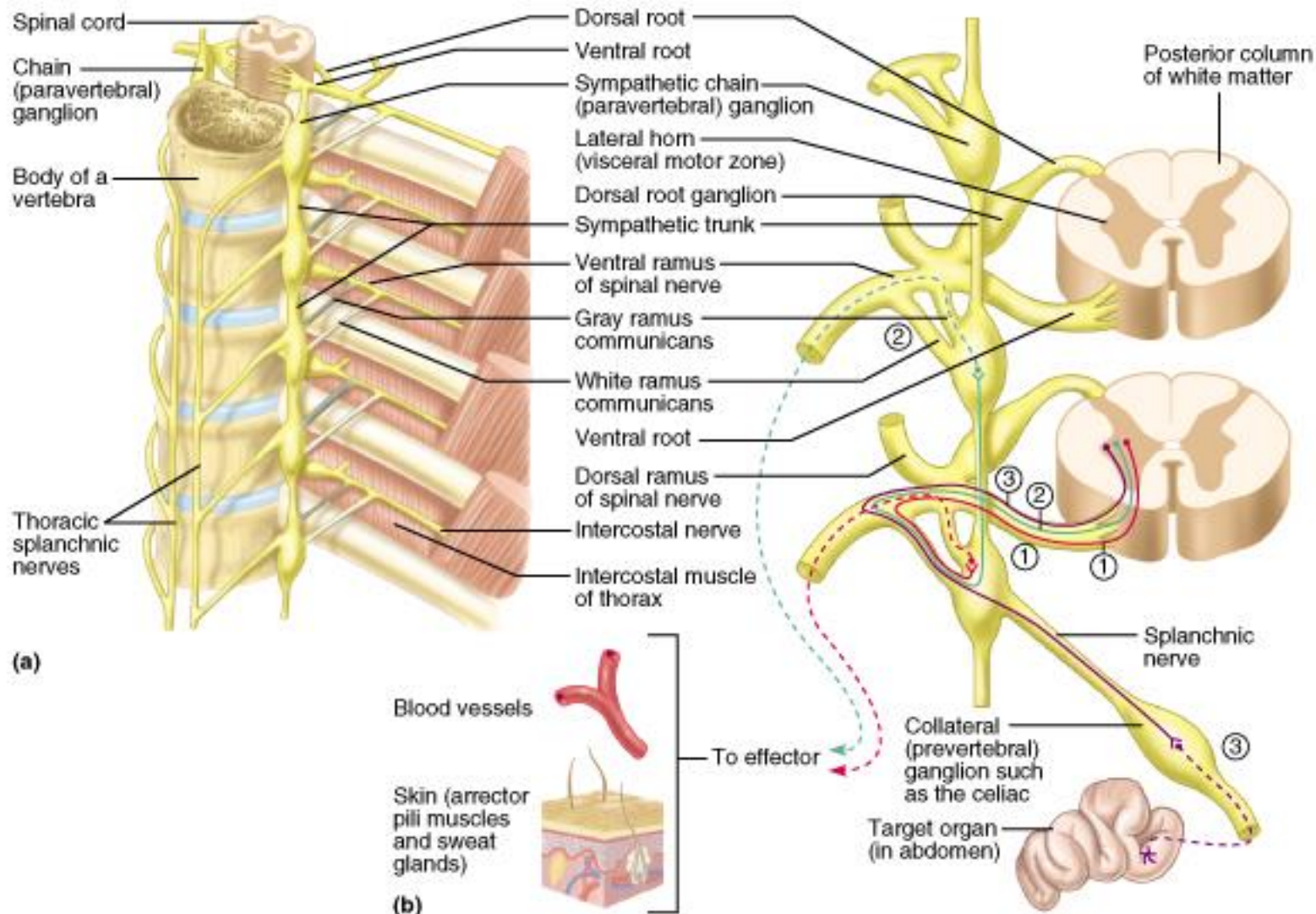


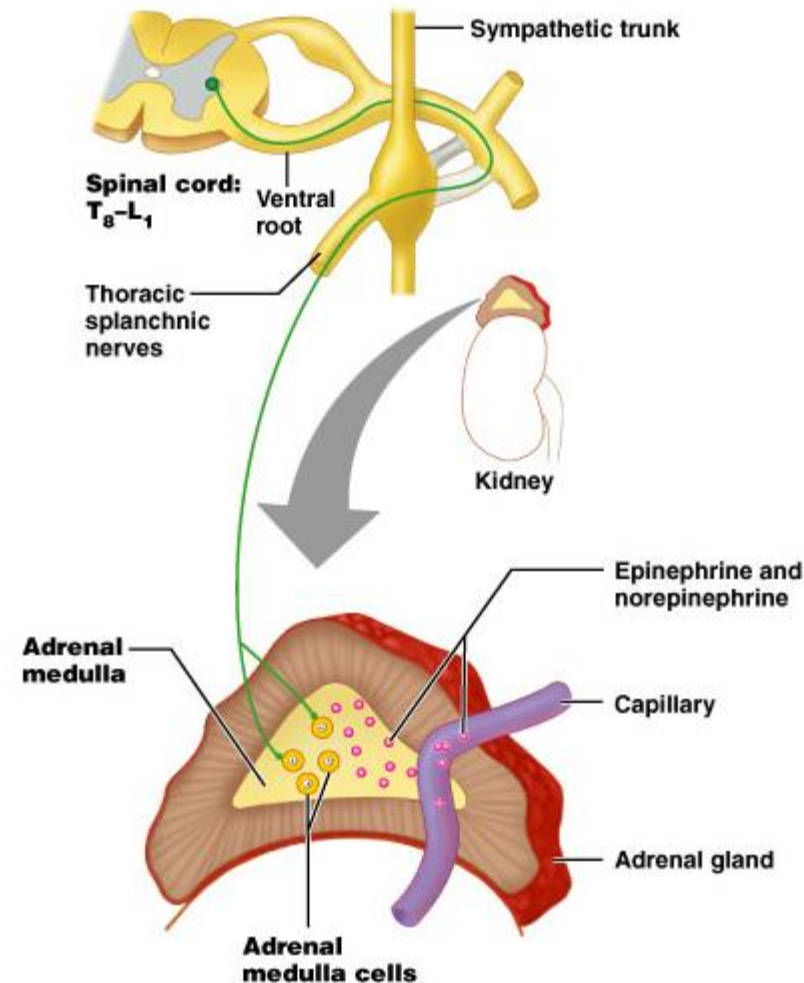
Fig.17.02





# Adrenal gland is exception

- Synapse in gland
- Can cause body-wide release of epinephrine



# Physiological characteristics of ANS

- High speed of onset:
- Automatic nature:
- Tonic activity:

# Effects of **sympathetic** stimulation

- **Blood pressure** (blood vessels supplying skeletal muscle are major players). In addition to that the effect on heart also contributes in regulation of blood pressure.

- **Body temperature** by the sympathetic effects on cutaneous blood vessels and sweat glands.

# Effects of **sympathetic** stimulation

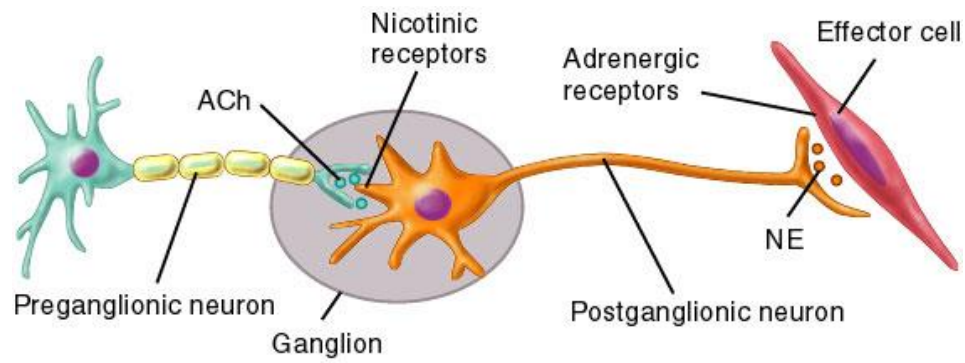
- **Cardiovascular system**: effects on vessels will result in redistribution of blood by enhancing blood flow to skeletal muscle and reducing blood flow to skin and mesentery.
- **Effects on heart**: increasing cardiac output (volume of blood pumped per minute).
- **Respiratory system**: causes relaxation of bronchial muscle which result in bronchodilation.
- **Digestive system**: inhibition of motility and secretion.
- **Metabolic effects**:
  - \* Mobilization of glucose.
  - \* Increased lipolysis.
  - \* Increased metabolic rate.

# Effects of **parasympathetic** stimulation

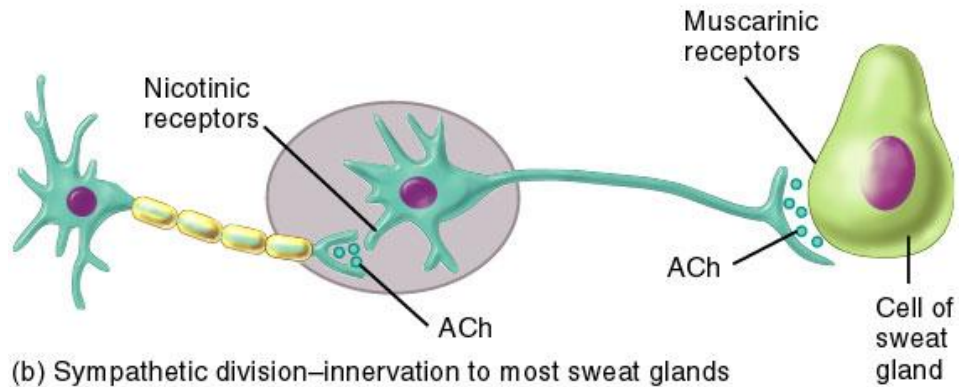
- **Gastrointestinal system**: increases motility and secretory activity.
- **Glands**: increases secretory activity (but remember sweat glands are under sympathetic control).
- **Heart**: decrease rate of contraction (bradycardia).
- **Pupil**: control pupil diameter by papillary light reflex (miosis) (regulates the amount of light falling on retina).
- Accommodation of the **lens** for near vision.
- Voiding the **urinary bladder** (micturation).

**MOLECULAR BASIS OF  
PHYSIOLOGICAL ACTIONS OF  
THE ANS**

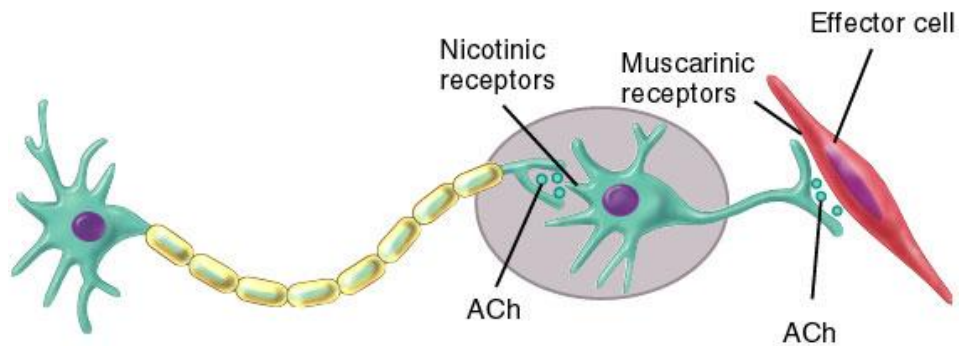
**Fig. 17.06**



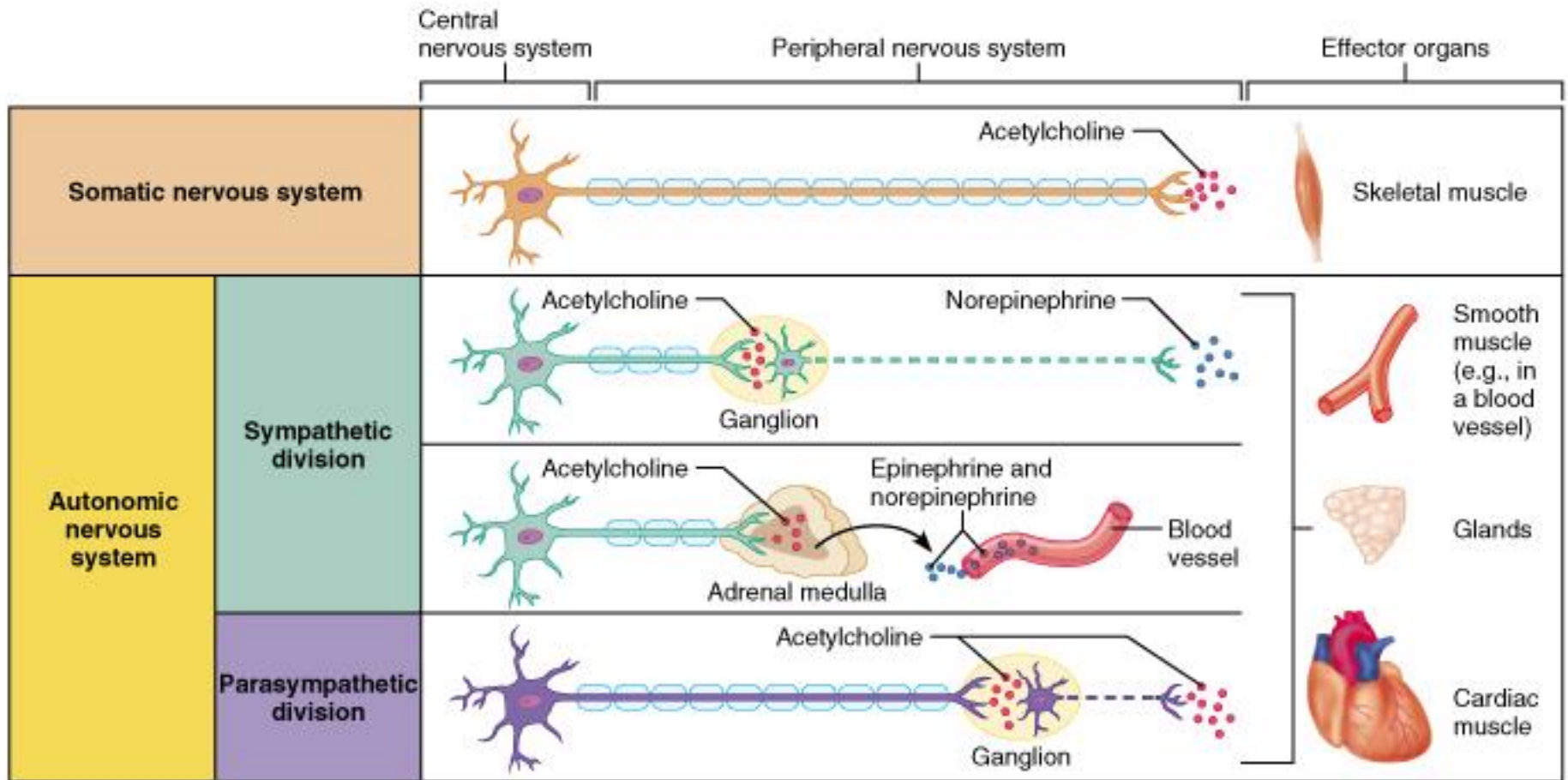
(a) Sympathetic division—innervation to most effector tissues








(b) Sympathetic division—innervation to most sweat glands



(c) Parasympathetic division



**Key:**

 = Preganglionic axons (sympathetic)    
  = Postganglionic axons (sympathetic)    
  = Myelination    
  = Preganglionic axons (parasympathetic)    
  = Postganglionic axons (parasympathetic)

## – Neurotransmitters

- At ganglion: preganglionic neurons of both sympathetic and parasympathetic release **acetylcholine (Ach)**.
- Effector organs:
  - parasympathetic fibers release **acetylcholine**
  - Sympathetic: **norepinephrine**.
- An exception for sympathetic nerves to sweat glands, which release **acetylcholine (Ach)**.

# Receptors and Signal transduction mechanisms

-At ganglia: sympathetic and parasympathetic have nicotinic receptors at the post synaptic membrane

-on effector cells: Muscarinic receptors.

# Receptors and Signal transduction mechanisms

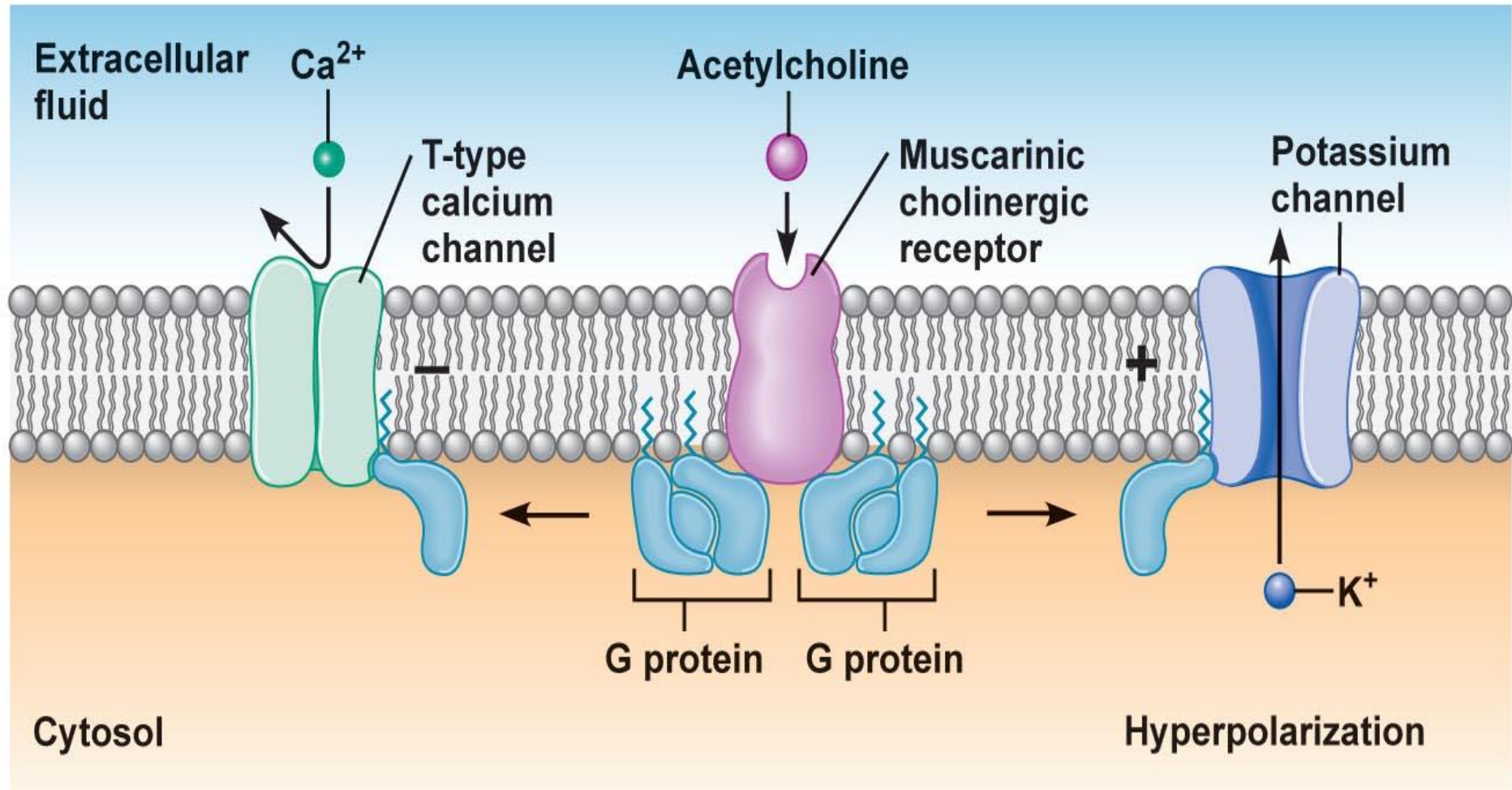
## Muscarinic Receptors (M1-M5)

### Inhibitory:

-M2 in the heart: G protein  $\rightarrow$   $K^+$  channel  $\rightarrow$  slow the rate of depolarization.

-Other inhibitory receptors:

$G_i \rightarrow$  adenylyl Cyclase  $\rightarrow$  reduce cAMP



**(b) Parasympathetic**

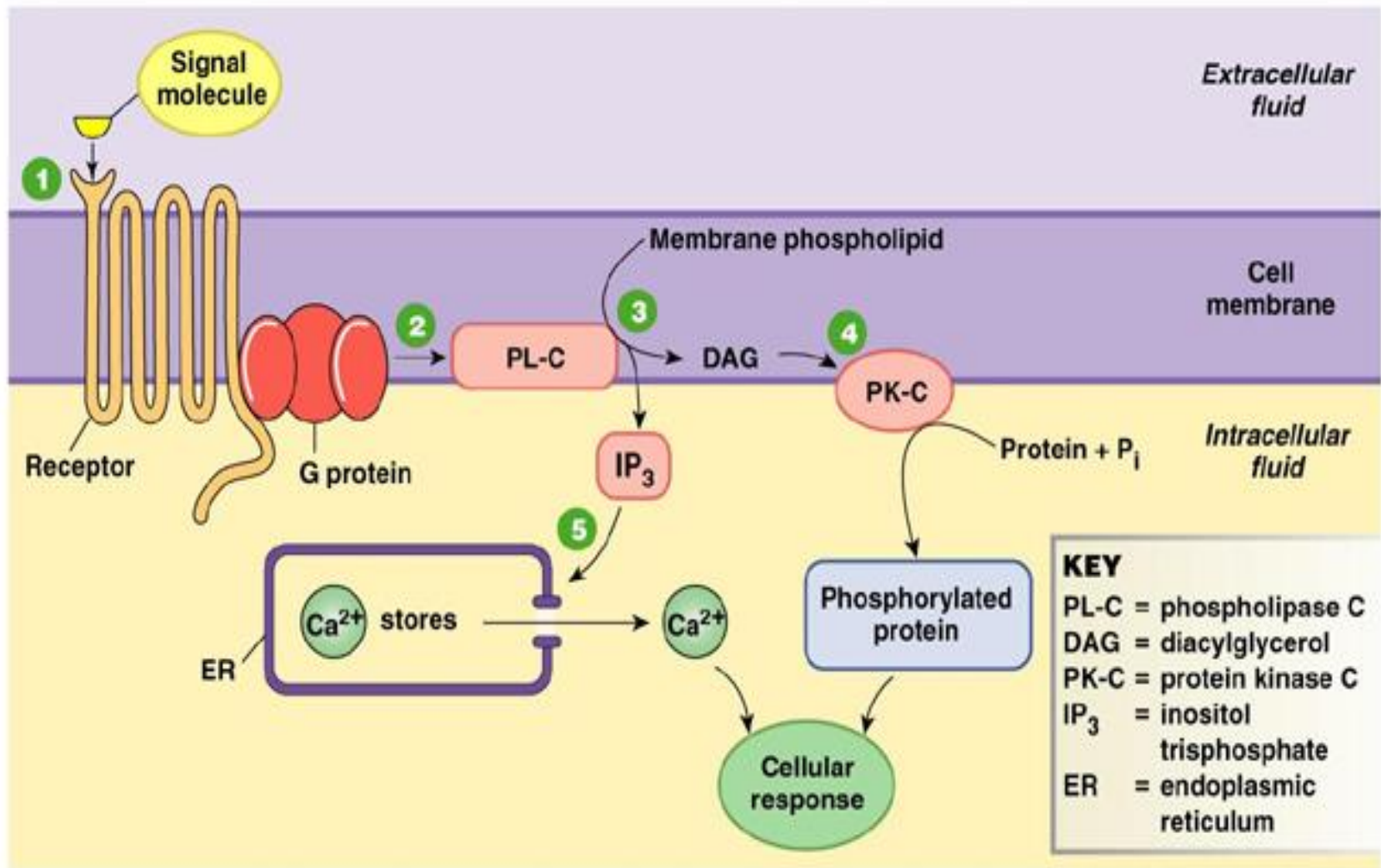
# Receptors and Signal transduction mechanisms

## Muscarinic Receptors (M1-M5)

### Excitatory Receptors: (M1, M3, M5)

Found on **smooth muscle** and **glands** are coupled Gq protein → phospholipase C.

This enzyme increases production of inositol-1,4,5-trisphosphate (**IP3**)



- 1** Signal molecule activates receptor and associated G protein.
- 2** G protein activates phospholipase C (PL-C), an amplifier enzyme.
- 3** PL-C converts membrane phospholipids into diacylglycerol (DAG), which remains in the membrane, and IP<sub>3</sub>, which diffuses into the cytoplasm.
- 4** DAG activates protein kinase C (PK-C), which phosphorylates proteins.
- 5** IP<sub>3</sub> causes release of Ca<sup>2+</sup> from organelles, creating a Ca<sup>2+</sup> signal.

# Activation of Muscarinic Receptors

- Stimulation of secretory activity: salivation, tearing, sweating, nasal and bronchial secretion.
- Increase gastrointestinal tract motility → vomiting and diarrhea.
- Contraction of urinary bladder → urination.
- Slowing of the heart → Bradycardia.

# Blocking of Muscarinic Receptors by ATROPIN

- Inhibition of glandular secretions → dry mouth, dry eyes, and dry nasal passages.
- Tachycardia. (increase heart rate).
- Loss of pupillary light reflex.
- Loss of ability to focus the lens for near vision.

# Receptors and Signal transduction mechanisms

## Adrenergic receptors:

These receptors respond to **catecholamines:** (epinephrine (EP) and norepinephrine (NE)).

# Receptors and Signal transduction mechanisms

## Alpha receptors:

- **The alpha 1 ( $\alpha_1$ )**: Excitatory: PLC  $\rightarrow$  IP3
- **Alpha2** receptors: Nerve Adrenergic terminals  $\rightarrow$  reduce NE release

**Alpha 2 Heteroreceptors**: Nonadrenergic -

Gi  $\rightarrow$  Adenylyl cyclase  $\rightarrow$  decrease cAMP

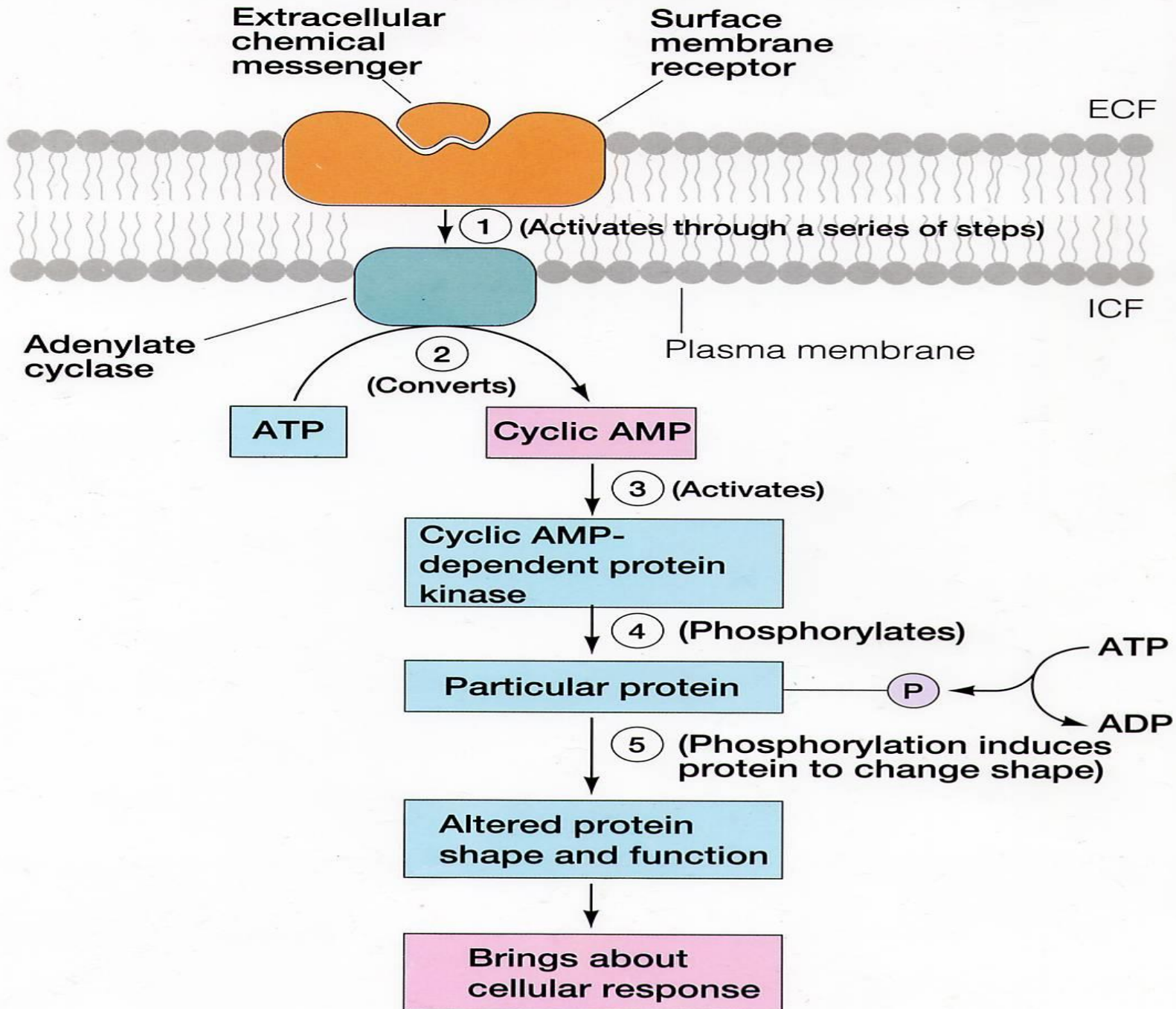
# Receptors and Signal transduction mechanisms

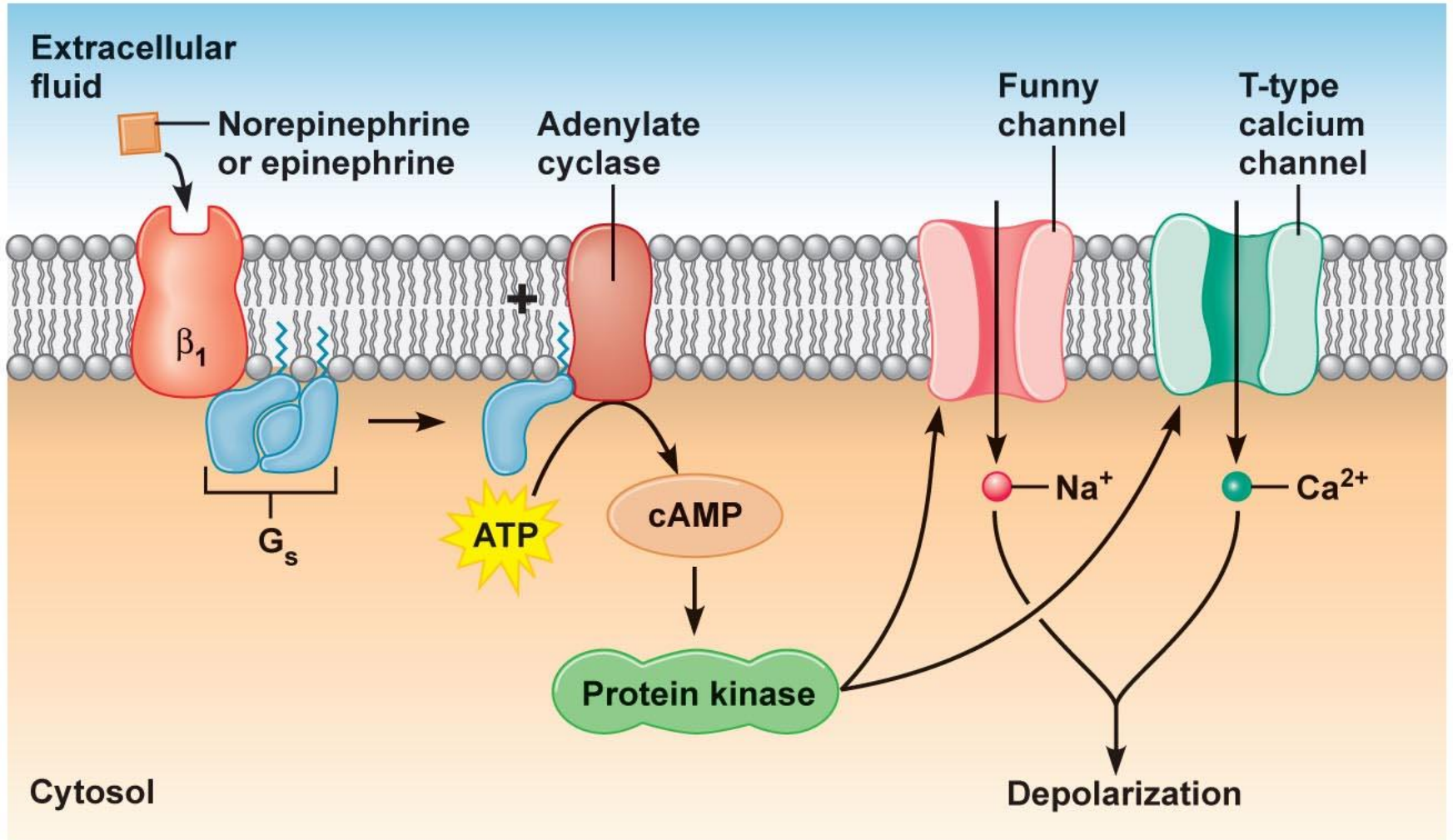
## Beta receptors:

- **Beta 1** ( $\beta_1$ ) receptors: found on heart
- **Beta 2** ( $\beta_2$ ) receptors: found on tracheal and bronchial smooth muscle, in the gastrointestinal tract, and on smooth muscles of blood vessels supplying skeletal muscles

Gs  $\rightarrow$  Adenylyl cyclase  $\rightarrow$  increase cAMP

# Postreceptor Event: Cyclic AMP Second Messenger System





**(a) Sympathetic**