

Nervous System

```
graph TD; NS[Nervous System] --> PNS[Peripheral nervous system]; NS --> CNS[Central nervous system]; PNS --> ED[Efferent division]; PNS --> AD[Afferent division]; ED --> AS[Autonomic system]; ED --> SS[Somatic system]; AS --> E[Enteric]; AS --> P[Parasympathetic]; AS --> S[Sympathetic];
```

**Peripheral
nervous
system**

**Central
nervous
system**

**Efferent
division**

**Afferent
division**

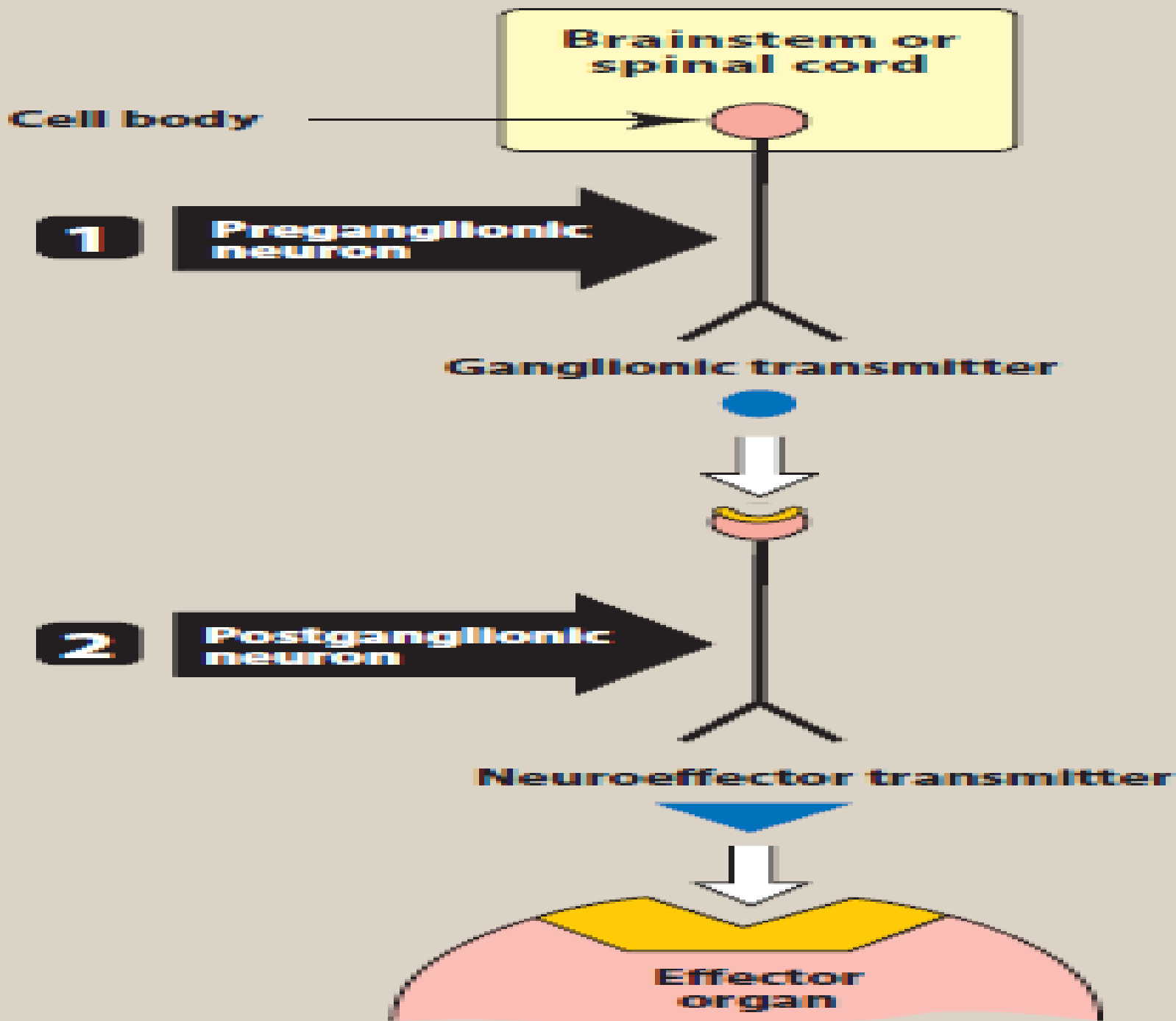
**Autonomic
system**

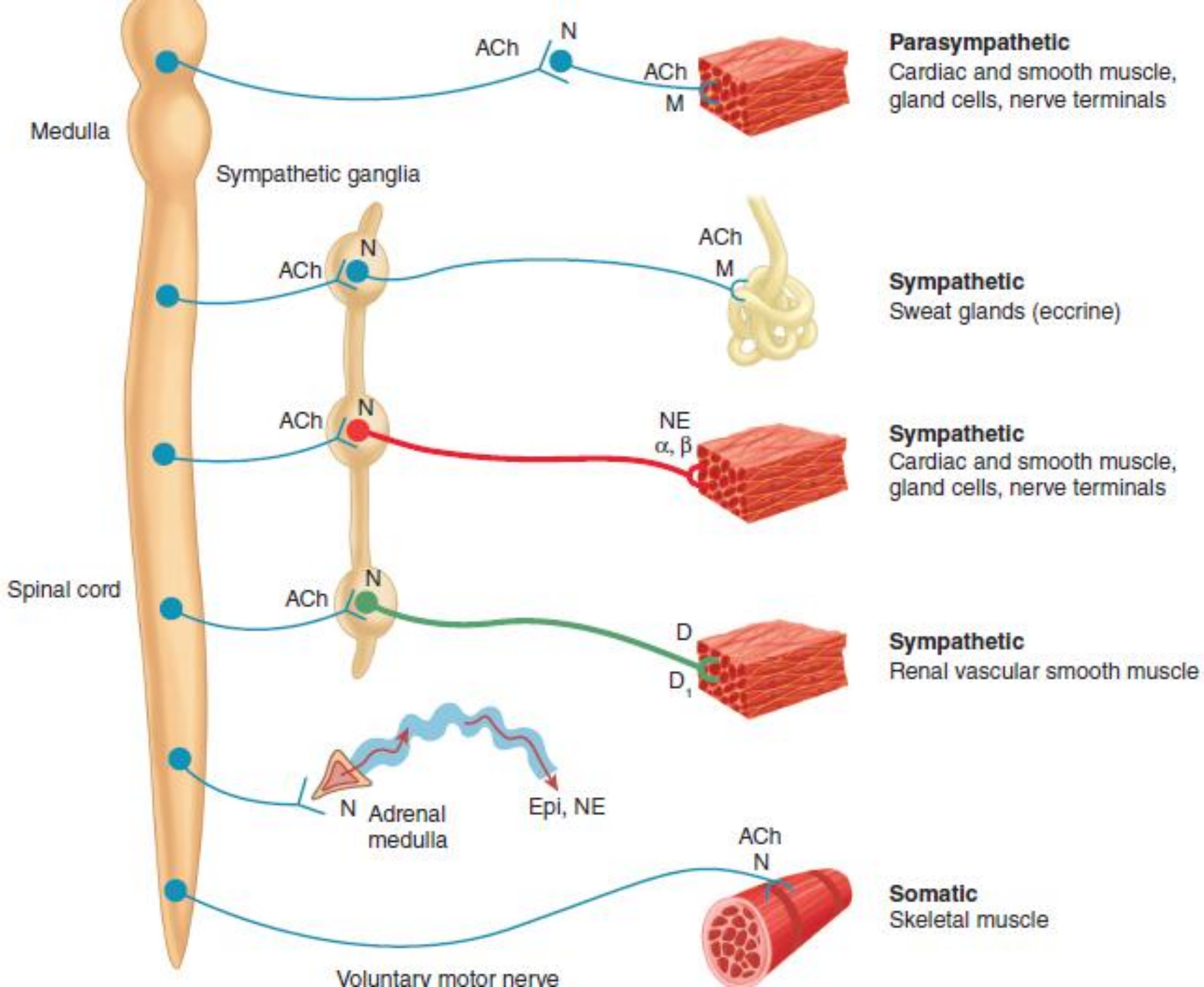
**Somatic
system**

Enteric

Parasympathetic

Sympathetic





LACRIMAL GLANDS

Stimulation of tears

SALIVARY GLANDS

Thick, viscous secretion
Copious, watery secretion

HEART

Increased rate; increased contractility
Decreased rate; decreased contractility

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM

Decreased muscle motility and tone;
contraction of sphincters
Increased muscle motility and tone

GENITALIA (female)

Relaxation of uterus

BLOOD VESSELS (skeletal muscle)

Dilation

BLOOD VESSELS (skin, mucous membranes, and splanchnic area)

Constriction

Red = Sympathetic actions
Blue = Parasympathetic actions

EYE

Contraction of iris radial muscle (pupil dilates)

Contraction of iris sphincter muscle (pupil contracts)
Contraction of ciliary muscle (lens accommodates for near vision)

TRACHEA AND BRONCHIOLES

Dilation
Constriction, increased secretions

ADRENAL MEDULLA

Secretion of epinephrine and norepinephrine

KIDNEY

Secretion of renin (β_1 increases; α_1 decreases)

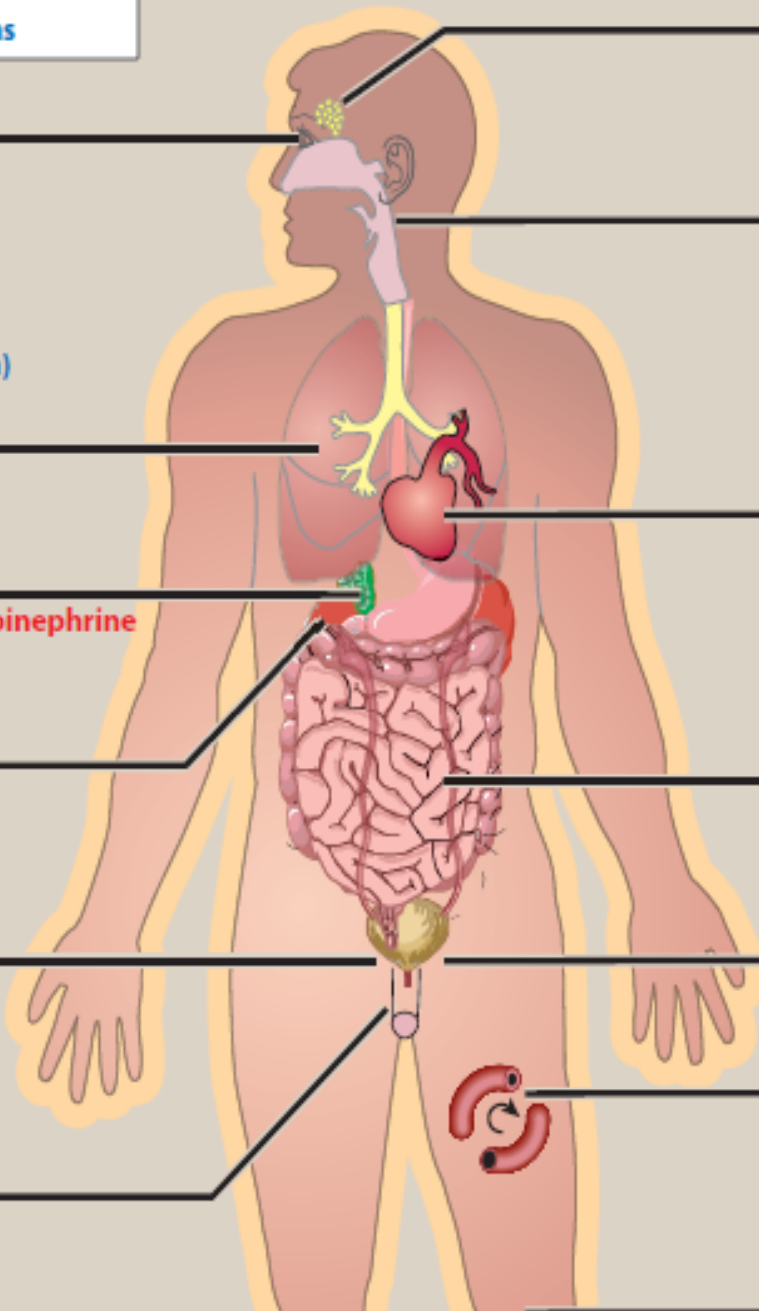
URETERS AND BLADDER

Relaxation of detrusor; contraction of trigone and sphincter

Contraction of detrusor; relaxation of trigone and sphincter

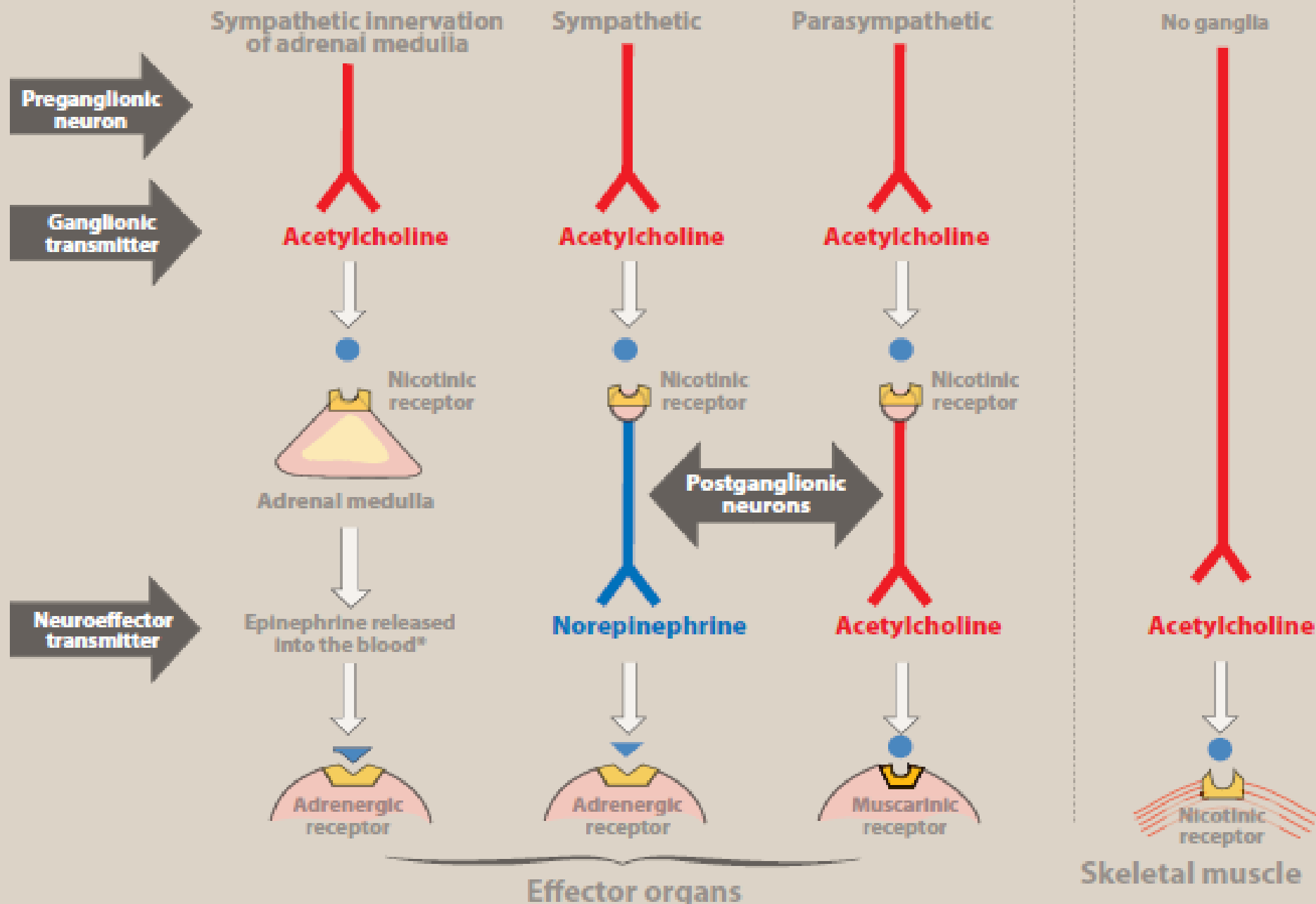
GENITALIA (male)

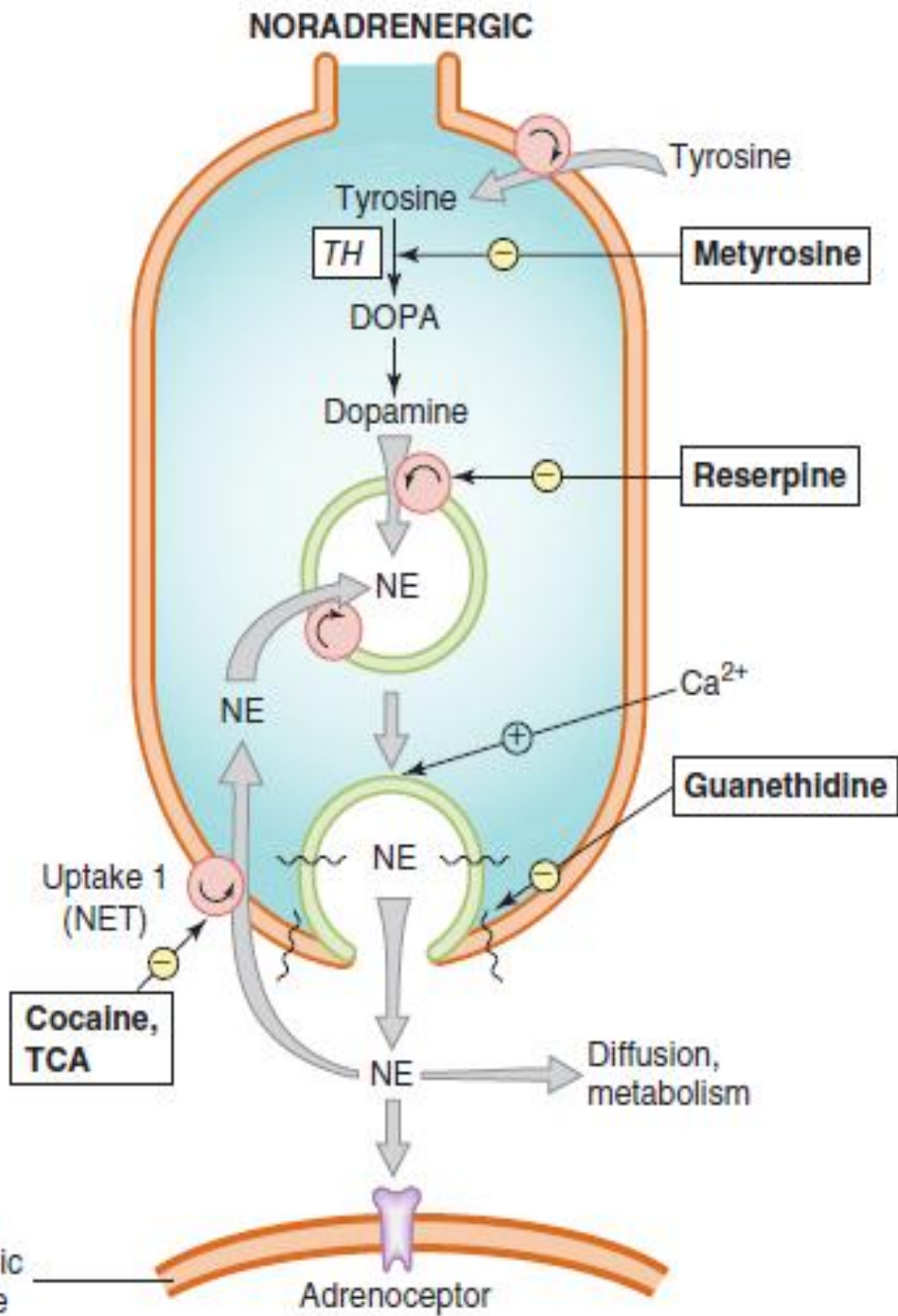
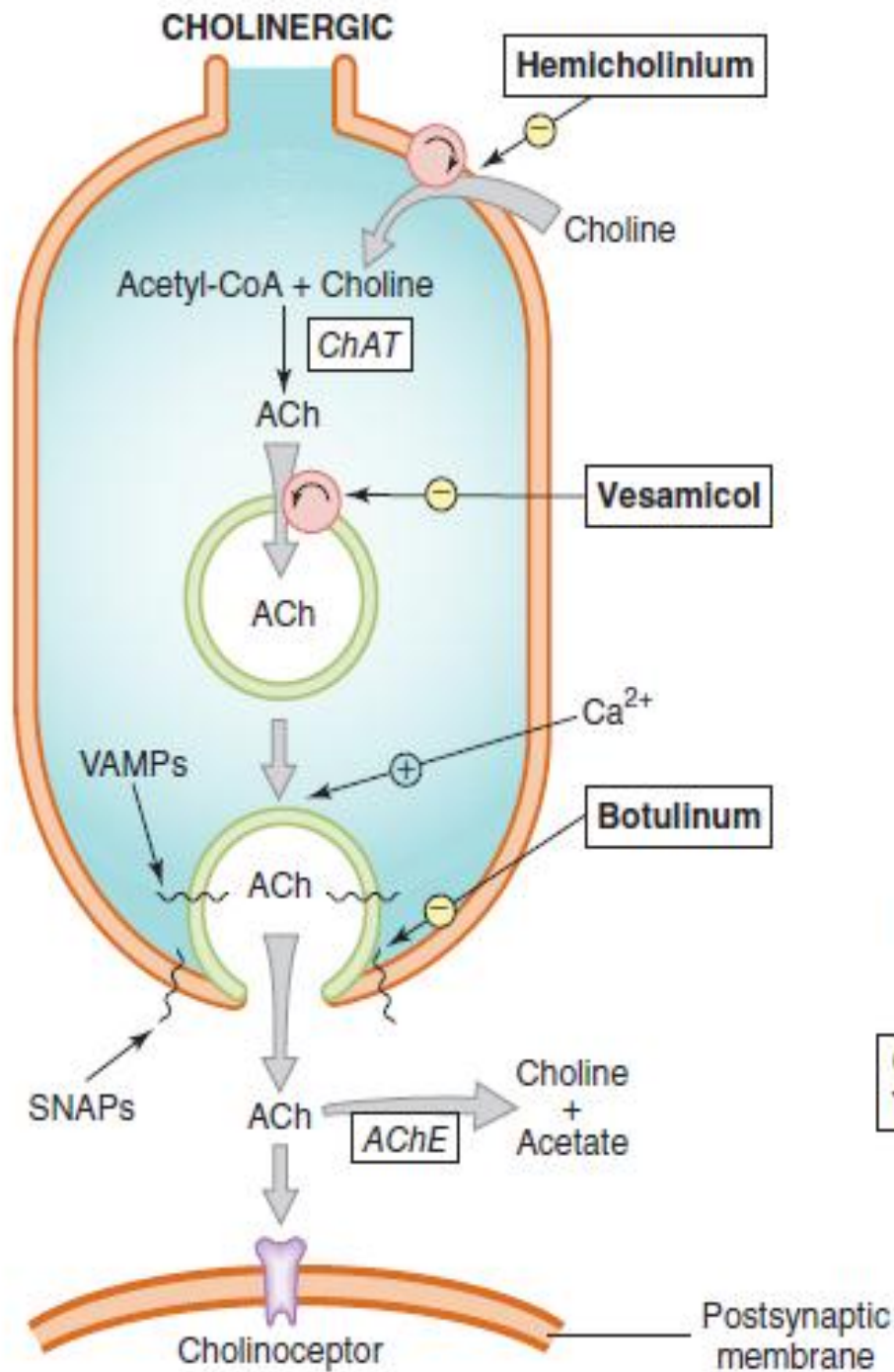
Stimulation of ejaculation
Stimulation of erection

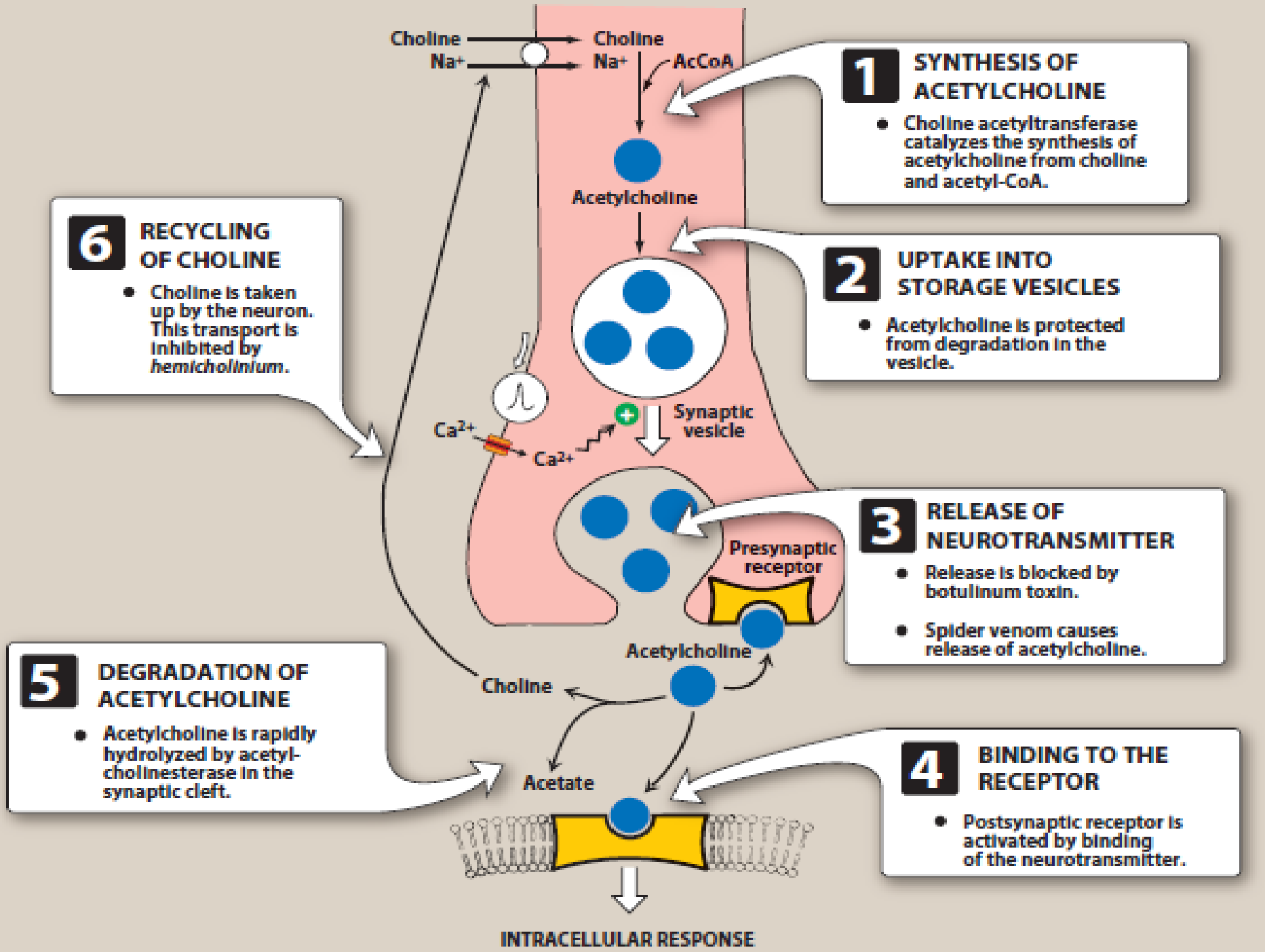


AUTONOMIC

SOMATIC







1 SYNTHESIS OF ACETYLCHOLINE

- Choline acetyltransferase catalyzes the synthesis of acetylcholine from choline and acetyl-CoA.

2 UPTAKE INTO STORAGE VESICLES

- Acetylcholine is protected from degradation in the vesicle.

3 RELEASE OF NEUROTRANSMITTER

- Release is blocked by botulinum toxin.
- Spider venom causes release of acetylcholine.

4 BINDING TO THE RECEPTOR

- Postsynaptic receptor is activated by binding of the neurotransmitter.

6 RECYCLING OF CHOLINE

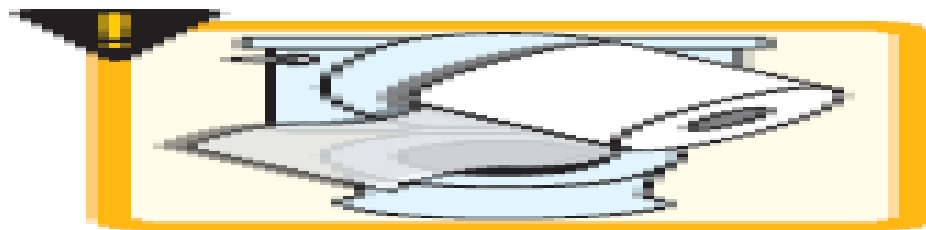
- Choline is taken up by the neuron. This transport is inhibited by hemicholinium.

5 DEGRADATION OF ACETYLCHOLINE

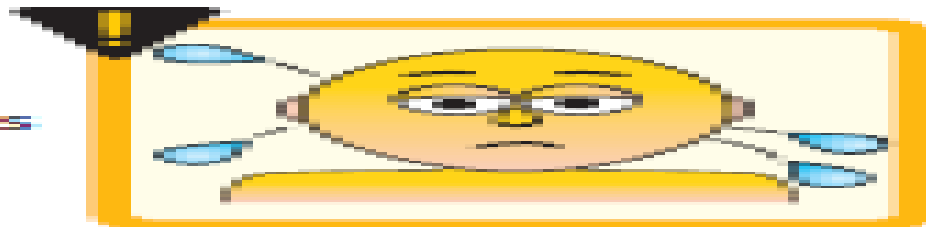
- Acetylcholine is rapidly hydrolyzed by acetylcholinesterase in the synaptic cleft.

INTRACELLULAR RESPONSE

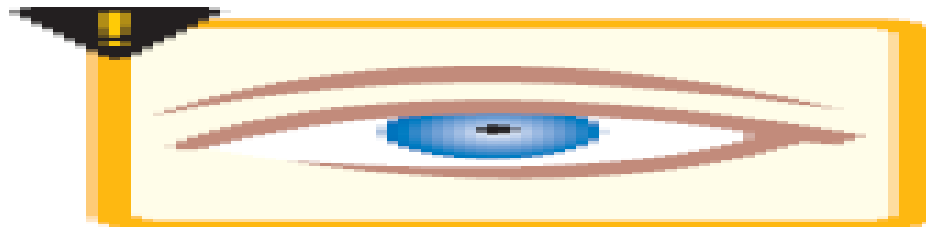
Diarrhea



Diaphoresis



Miosis



Nausea



Urinary urgency



Figure 4.6
Some adverse effects observed with cholinergic agonists.

Bethanechol

- Used in treatment of urinary retention
- Binds preferentially at muscarinic receptors

Physostigmine

- Increases intestinal and bladder motility
- Reverses CNS and cardiac effects of tricyclic antidepressants
- Reverses CNS effects of *atropine*
- Uncharged, tertiary amine that can penetrate the CNS

Rivastigmine, galantamine, donepezil

- Used as first-line treatments for Alzheimer's disease, though confers modest benefit
- Have not been shown to reduce healthcare costs or delay institutionalization
- Can be used with *memantine* (N-methyl-D-aspartate antagonist) with moderate to severe disease

Carbachol

- Produces miosis during ocular surgery
- Used topically to reduce intraocular pressure in open-angle or narrow-angle glaucoma, particularly in patients who have become tolerant to *pilocarpine*

Neostigmine

- Prevents postoperative abdominal distention and urinary retention
- Used in treatment of myasthenia gravis
- Used as an antidote for competitive neuromuscular blockers
- Has intermediate duration of action (0.5 to 2 hrs)

Echothiophate

- Used in treatment of open-angle glaucoma
- Has long duration of action (100 hours)

Pilocarpine

- Reduces intraocular pressure in open-angle and narrow-angle glaucoma
- Binds preferentially at muscarinic receptors
- Uncharged, tertiary amine that can penetrate the CNS

Edrophonium

- Used for diagnosis of myasthenia gravis
- Used as an antidote for competitive neuromuscular blockers
- Has short duration of action (10 to 20 min)

Acetylcholine

- Used to produce miosis in ophthalmic surgery

Drug

Therapeutic uses

Muscarinic blockers

Trihexyphenidyl
Benzotropine

- Treatment of Parkinson's disease

Darifenacin
Fesoterodine
Oxybutynin
Solifenacin
Tolterodine
Trospium

- Treatment of overactive urinary bladder

Cyclopentolate
Tropicamide
*Atropine**

- In ophthalmology, to produce mydriasis and cycloplegia prior to refraction

*Atropine**

- To treat spastic disorders of the GI tract
- To treat organophosphate poisoning
- To suppress respiratory secretions prior to surgery
- To treat bradycardia

Scopolamine

- To prevent motion sickness

Ipratropium
Tiotropium

- Treatment of COPD

Ganglionic blockers

Nicotine

- Smoking cessation

1 SYNTHESIS OF NOREPINEPHRINE

- Hydroxylation of tyrosine is the rate-limiting step.

2 UPTAKE INTO STORAGE VESICLES

- Dopamine enters a vesicle and is converted to norepinephrine.
- Norepinephrine is protected from degradation in the vesicle.
- Transport into the vesicle is inhibited by *reserpine*.

3 RELEASE OF NEUROTRANSMITTER

- Influx of calcium causes fusion of the vesicle with the cell membrane in a process known as exocytosis.
- Release is blocked by *guanethidine*.

5 REMOVAL OF NOREPINEPHRINE

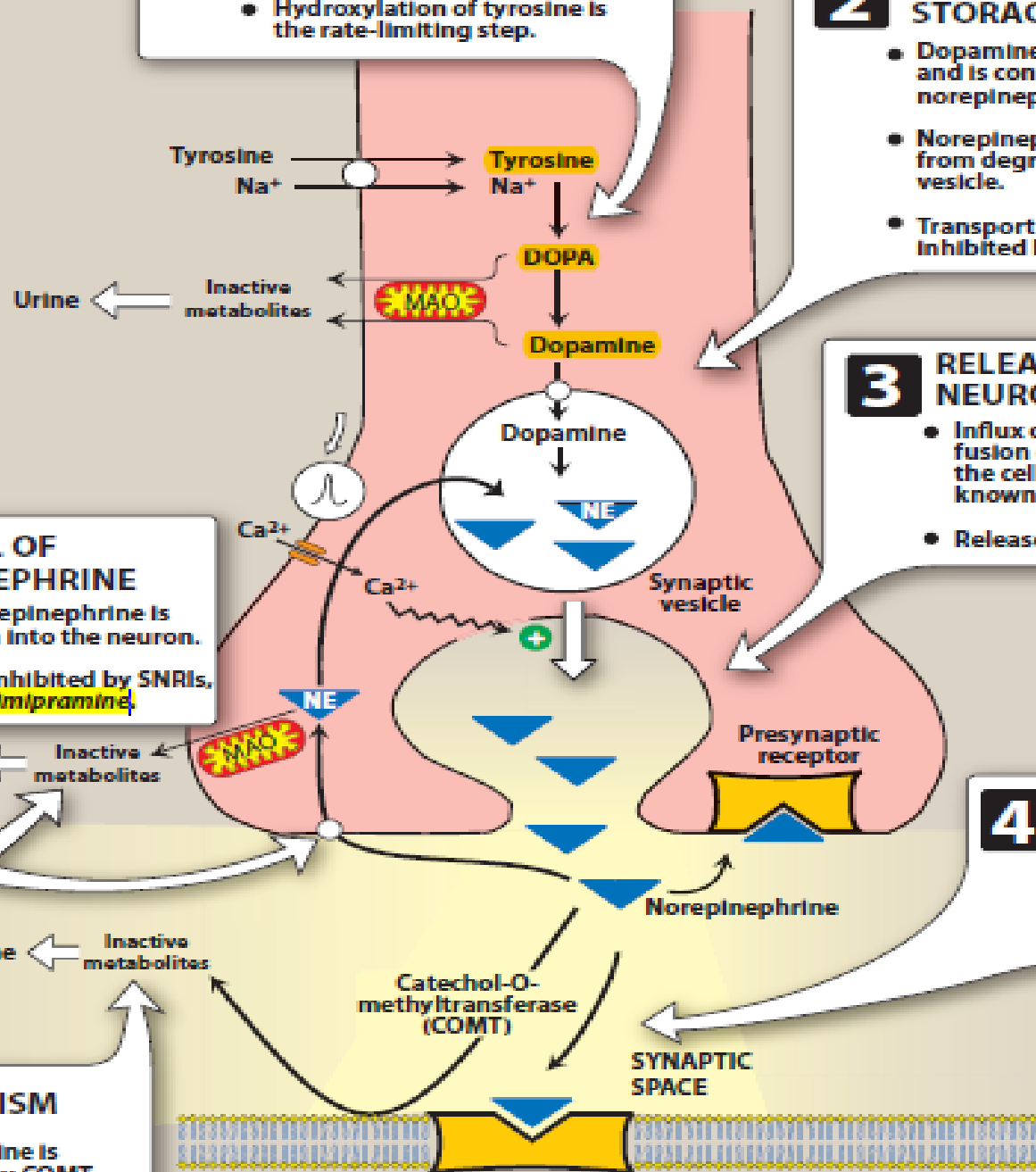
- Released norepinephrine is rapidly taken into the neuron.
- Reuptake is inhibited by SNRIs, *cocaine*, and *imipramine*.

4 BINDING TO RECEPTOR

- Postsynaptic receptor is activated by the binding of neurotransmitter.

6 METABOLISM

- Norepinephrine is methylated by COMT and oxidized by MAO.



ADRENOCEPTORS

α_1

Vasoconstriction

Increased peripheral resistance

Increased blood pressure

Mydriasis

Increased closure of internal sphincter of the bladder

α_2

Inhibition of norepinephrine release

Inhibition of acetylcholine release

Inhibition of insulin release

β_1

Tachycardia

Increased lipolysis

Increased myocardial contractility

Increased release of renin

β_2

Vasodilation

Decreased peripheral resistance

Bronchodilation

Increased muscle and liver glycogenolysis

Increased release of glucagon

Relaxed uterine smooth muscle

CLASS OF DRUG	DRUG NAMES	MECHANISM OF ACTION	SIDE EFFECTS
β -Adrenergic antagonists (topical)	<i>Betaxolol, carteolol, levobunolol, metipranolol, timolol</i>	Decrease of aqueous humor production	Ocular irritation; contraindicated in patients with asthma, obstructive airway disease, bradycardia, and congestive heart failure.
α -Adrenergic agonists (topical)	<i>Apraclonidine, brimonidine</i>	Decrease of aqueous humor production and increase of aqueous outflow	Red eye and ocular irritation, allergic reactions, malaise, and headache.
Cholinergic agonists (topical)	<i>Pilocarpine, carbachol</i>	Increase of aqueous outflow	Eye or brow pain, increased myopia, and decreased vision.
Prostaglandin-like analogues (topical)	<i>Latanoprost, travoprost, bimatoprost</i>	Increase of aqueous humor outflow	Red eye and ocular irritation, increased iris pigmentation, and excessive hair growth of eye lashes.
Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors (topical and systemic)	<i>Dorzolamide and brinzolamide (topical), acetazolamide, and methazolamide (oral)</i>	Decrease of aqueous humor production	Transient myopia, nausea, diarrhea, loss of appetite and taste, and renal stones (oral drugs).

DRUG	RECEPTOR SPECIFICITY	THERAPEUTIC USES
Propranolol	β_1, β_2	Hypertension Migraine Hyperthyroidism Angina pectoris Myocardial infarction
<i>Nadolol</i> <i>Pindolol</i> ¹	β_1, β_2	Hypertension
Timolol	β_1, β_2	Glaucoma, hypertension
<i>Atenolol</i> <i>Bisoprolol</i> ² <i>Esmolol</i> Metoprolol ²	β_1	Hypertension Angina Myocardial infarction
<i>Acebutolol</i> ¹	β_1	Hypertension
<i>Nebivolol</i>	$\beta_1, \text{NO} \uparrow$	Hypertension
Carvedilol ² <i>Labetalol</i>	$\alpha_1, \beta_1, \beta_2$	Hypertension