

INTERNAL STRUCTURES OF THE MEDULLA OBLONGATA

Reference Anatomy Chart | Level-Specific Classification

1. Level of Decussation of Pyramids (Great Motor Decussation)

White Matter

Decussation of lateral corticospinal tracts, Fasciculus gracilis, Fasciculus cuneatus.

Grey Matter

Nucleus gracilis, Nucleus cuneatus, Spinal nucleus of trigeminal nerve.

[Cross-section Sketch: Motor Decussation]

2. Level of Decussation of Lemnisci (Great Sensory Decussation)

White Matter

Internal arcuate fibers forming the Medial Lemniscus, Pyramids (anteriorly).

Grey Matter

Nucleus gracilis, Nucleus cuneatus, Spinal nucleus of V, Hypoglossal nucleus.

[Cross-section Sketch: Sensory Decussation]

3. Level of the Olives (Open Medulla)

Prominent Nuclei

Inferior Olivary Nucleus (C-shaped), Ambiguus, Vestibular, and Cochlear nuclei.

White Matter

Inferior cerebellar peduncle, Medial longitudinal fasciculus (MLF), Tectospinal tract.

Cranial Nerves

Glossopharyngeal (IX), Vagus (X), Accessory (XI), Hypoglossal (XII).

[Cross-section Sketch: Olivary Level]

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