Special senses

Hearing

Figures in this ppt are from guyton, ganong, best & taylor, tortora, netters, gray's anatomy and google images





THE HUMAN EAR

Vestibulo-cochlear apparatus





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Middle ear

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[•] Malleus(Hammer)

- Incus(Anvil)
- Stapes (Stirrup)
- Tensor tympani Tensor Tympani Stapes
 - Stapedius
 - Eustachian tube or pharyngotympanic tube or auditory tube



Bones of the Middle Ear (Malleus, Incus, Stapes) Amplify the Sound Waves

- •The eardrum attaches to the malleus (hammer)
- •The malleus attaches to the incus (anvil), which in turn attaches to the stapes (stirrup)
- •The stapes is attached to the oval window of the cochlea
- •Because of the way the bones are attached together the vibrations in the oval window are 20X larger than those in the eardrun (amplification)

•If the sound is too loud small muscles attached to the ear bones contract and dampen the vibrations

FUNCTIONS OF MIDDLE EAR: 1.IMPEDANCE MATCHING



Impedance matching

- Increases sound pressure so that fluid in internal ear is moved
- Lever action of ear ossicles 1.3 times
- Difference in size of tympanic membrane & footplate of stapes(oval window) 17 times
- 17x1.3=22 times







Tympanic reflex

- Attenuation reflex or Acoustic reflex or Middle ear reflex or Stapedius reflex
- Latent period 40-80 millisecond(fails to protect from sudden loud noise)
- Involuntary muscle contraction in response to high intensity sound stimuli or when person starts to vocalize
- Protects inner ear from damage & reduces perception of our own voice



Internal earcochlea









Hearing cont...



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tectorial membrane

Basilar Membrane











Source: Hohmann and Schmuckli 1989.







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Electrophysiology of hearing



- Endolymphatic potential or endocochlear potential
- Resting membrane potential of inner hair cell
- Cochlear microphonics
- Action potential in 8th nerve fibers

- Endolymph is +80 mv positive compared to perilymph due to more concentration of K+ ions secreted by stria vascularis.
- Inner hair cell resting membrane potential:-
- It is -70 mv at base (bathed in perilymph) & -150mv at apex (in relation to endolymph)

Endolymphatic or Endocochlear Potential



Cochlear microphonics(CMP)

- CMP :-Sum of receptor potentials of a number of hair cells (outer hair cells)
- Donot have latent period or refractory period
- Do not follow all or none law.
- does not propagate
- Synchronise with frequency of acoustic stimulus
- Resistant to anaesthesia or ischaemia
- Kanamycin which selectively destroys outer hair cells ,decrease CMP

Action potential in 8th nerve fibers



Auditory Nerve





Cochlear Microphonic



MMmm mMMmmm

- Compound action potential is recorded.
- Activity of large number of cochlear afferent fibers.
- Baseline impulses (8-10/sec) are continuously send to CNS
- When hair cells depolarise this impulses increase in number & when
 hyperpolarise then impulses decrease



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Cochlea -



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6 tonotopic maps in auditory cortex



Applied

Deafness:-

- Conductive
- Sensorineural
- Syndromic & non syndromic
- Pendred syndrome (bilateral neural deafness with decreased thyroid function due to mutant sulfate protein)
- . Long QT syndrome:- mutation of one of K channel protein

• Presbyacusis

 Tinnitus:- ringing sensation of the ear. Irritative stimulation of either inner ear or 8th nerve. Acoustic neuroma (tumor of schwan cells of 8th nerve)irritates 8th nerve.

Thank you