

Urinary Incontinence

What We Know

What We Don't Know

What We Would Like To Know

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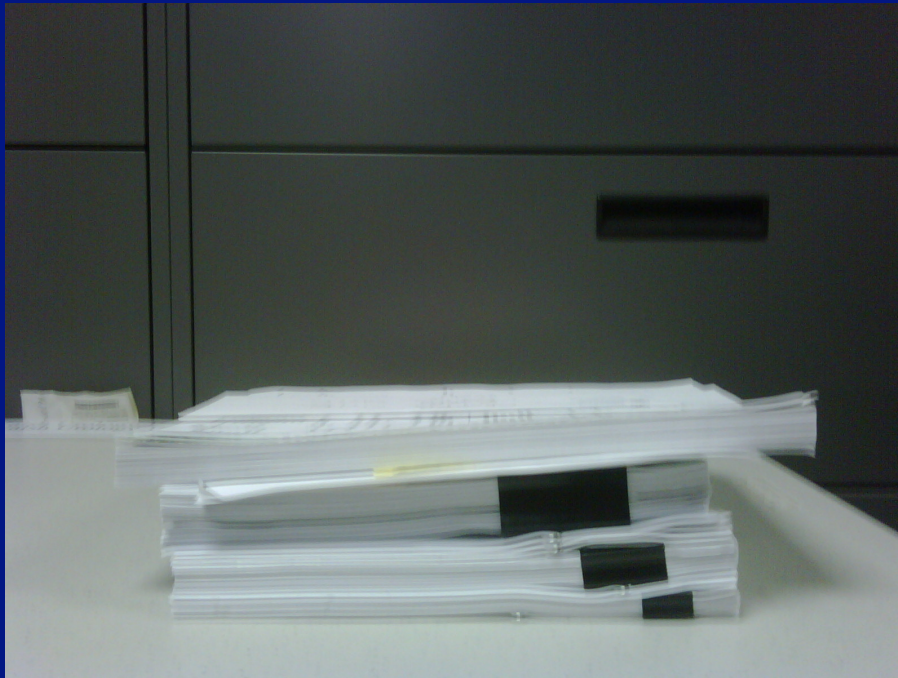
Penn Medicine/University of Pennsylvania Health System

Chief of Urology, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania



Picture Two Piles

What We Know



What We Don't Know



Definitions (Personal)

- **What We Know: Reasonable body of factual data, “general” agreement**
- **What we don’t know: More than 1 “supported” opinion. Could take either side of a debate proposition and support well.**
- **What we would really like to know now: What we don’t know that affects clinical practice**

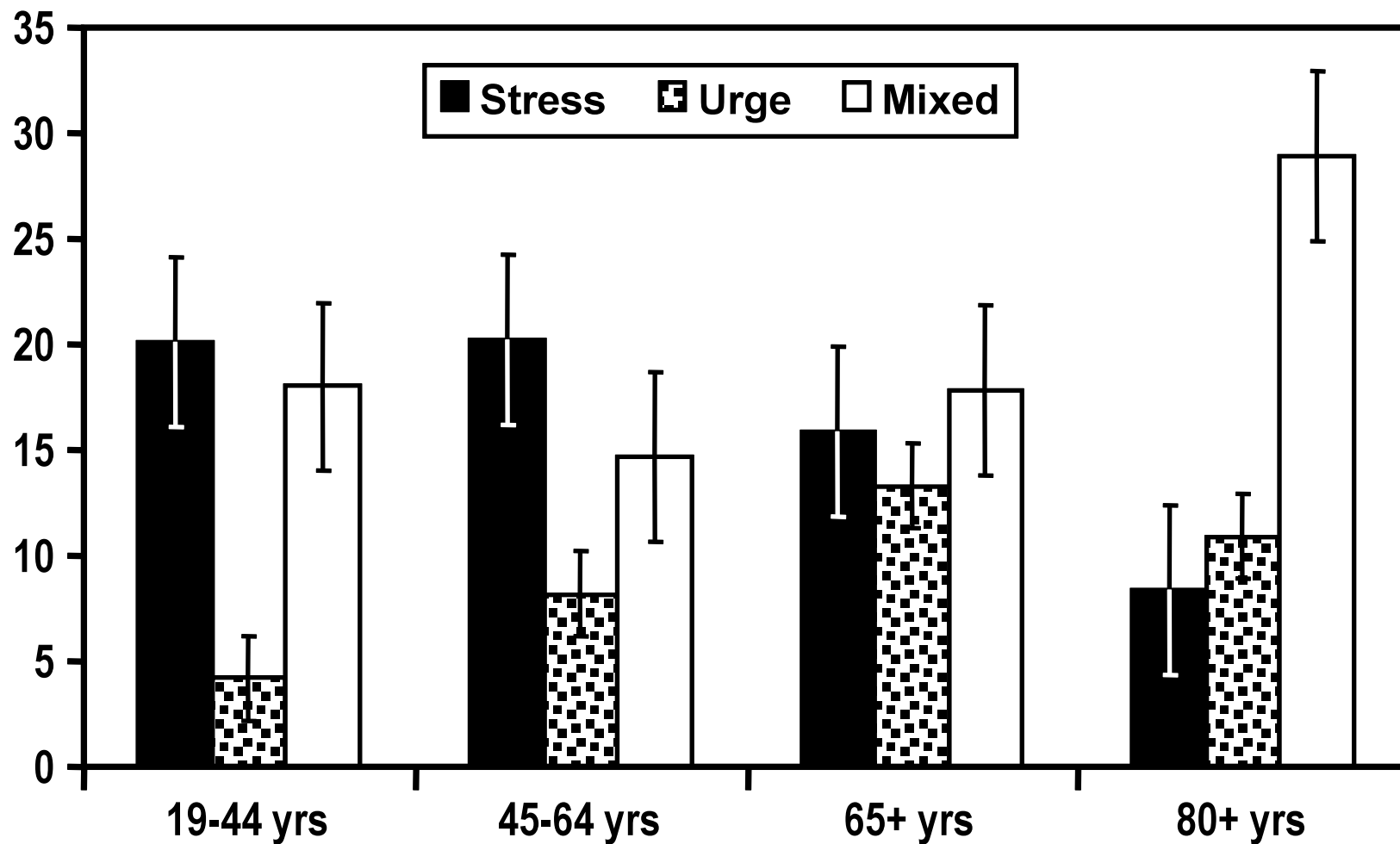


What We Know: General

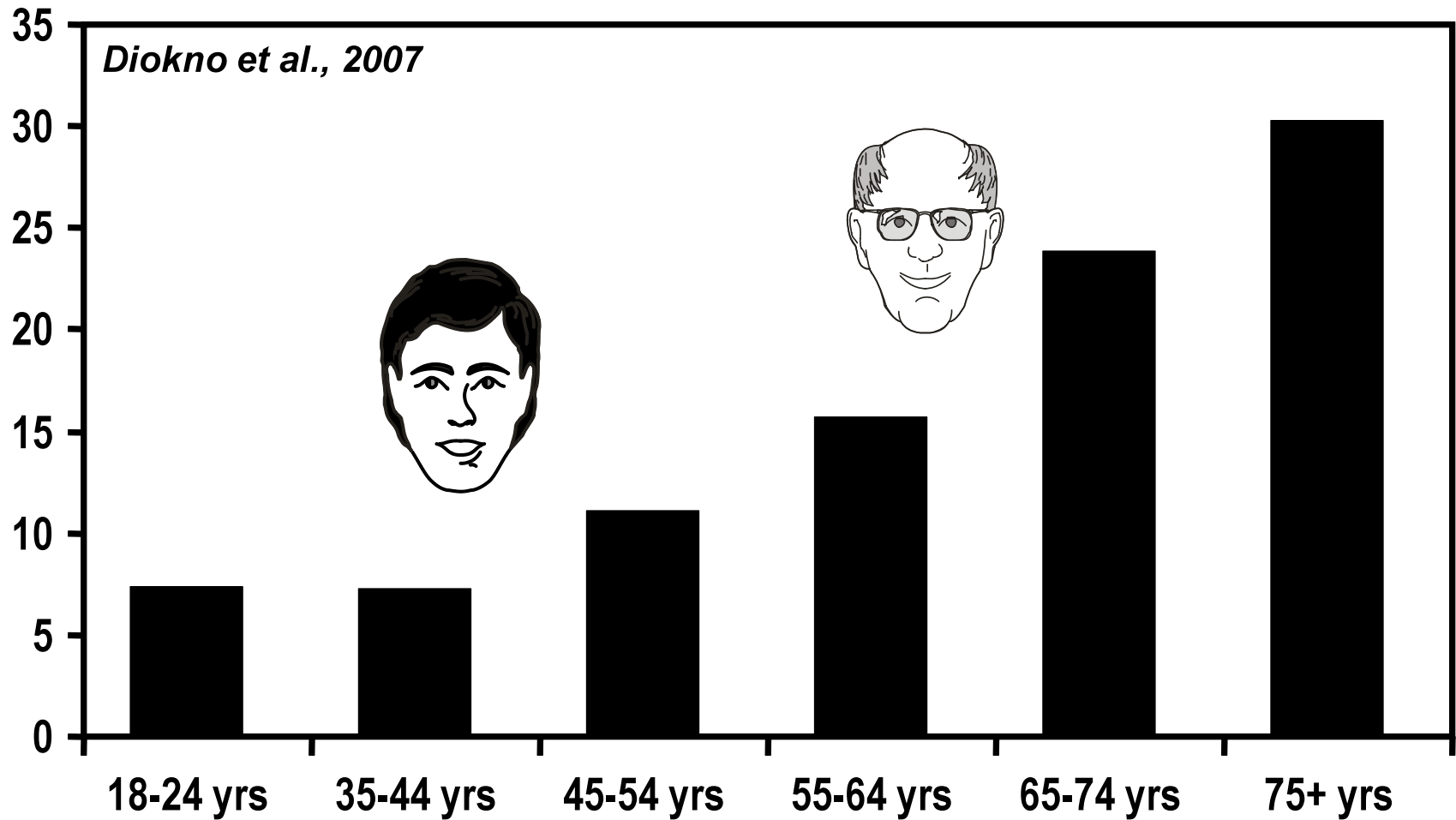
- Prevalence
- Risk Factors (Associations)
- Diagnostic Tools (Diaries, History, Examination, UDS/VUDS)
- Measurement (Diaries, Pad Tests, UD Parameters, POP-Q)
- Anatomy: The Basics
- Peripheral and Central Neurophysiology, Neuropharmacology: The Basics
- Conservative therapy is “effective”
- Surgical therapy is “effective” for SUI



Prevalence of UI Types in American Women (37 studies)



Prevalence of UI in American Men by Age (N=21,590)



Possible Risk Factors For Incontinence

Potential for Improvement/Prevention

Alcohol	Neurogenic Disease Stroke, Diabetes
Awareness	Obesity
Caffeine	Pelvic Surgery
Childbirth	Pelvic Organ Prolapse
Constipation	Physical Activity
Depression	Prostatic Obstruction
Education	Smoking
Hormonal Change	Stress
Immobility	Urinary Tract Infection
Medications	

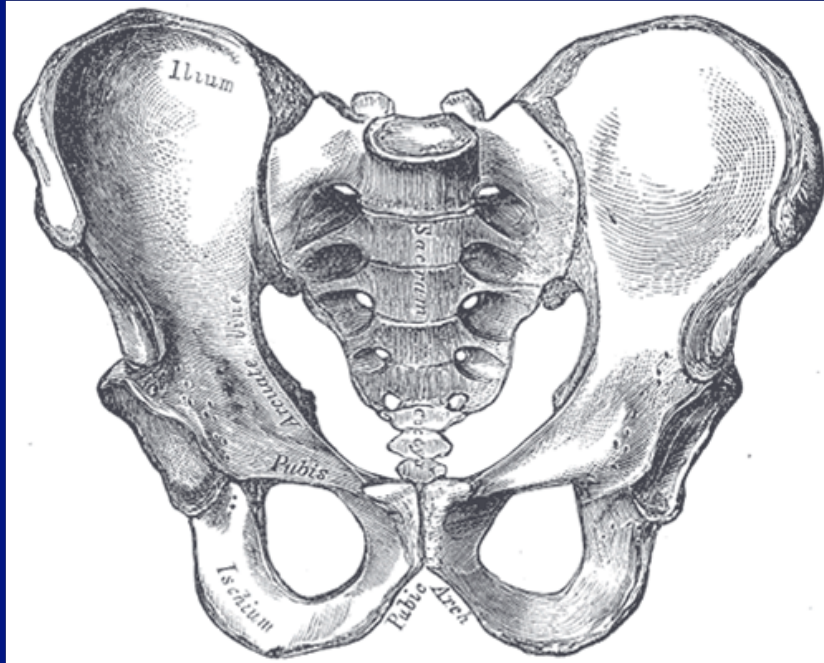
Fixed

Age
Sex (M, F)
Genetics

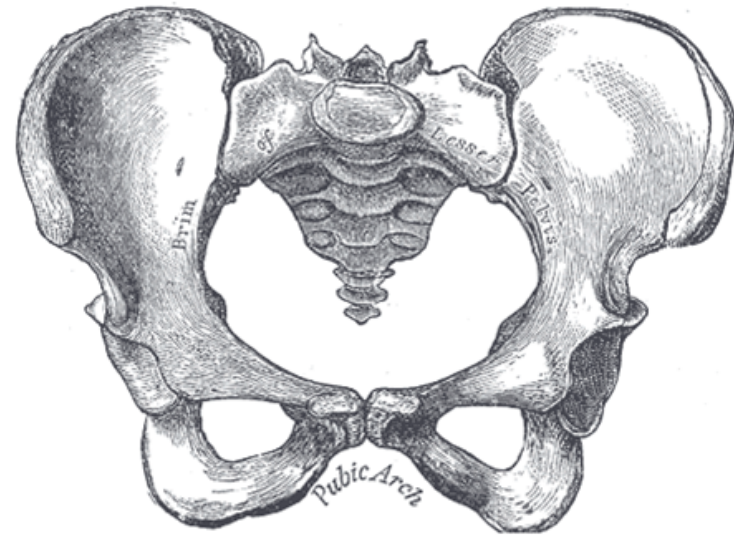


Anatomy

Male Pelvic Anatomy

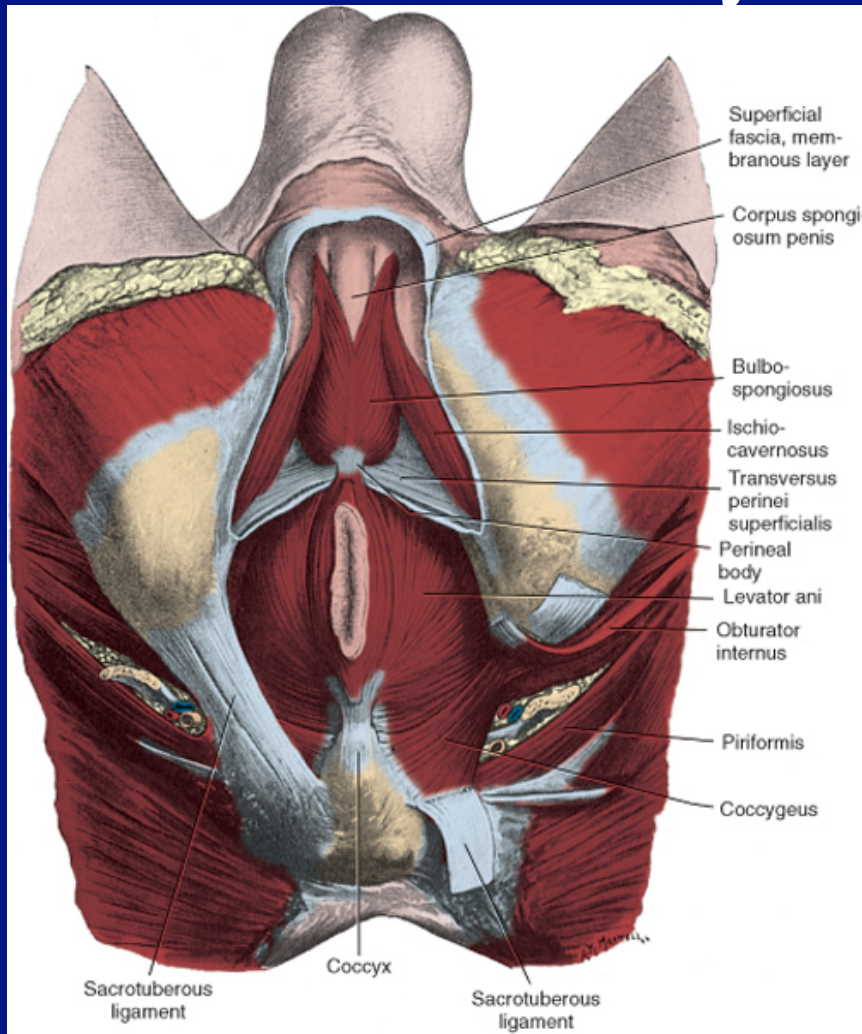


Female Pelvic Anatomy



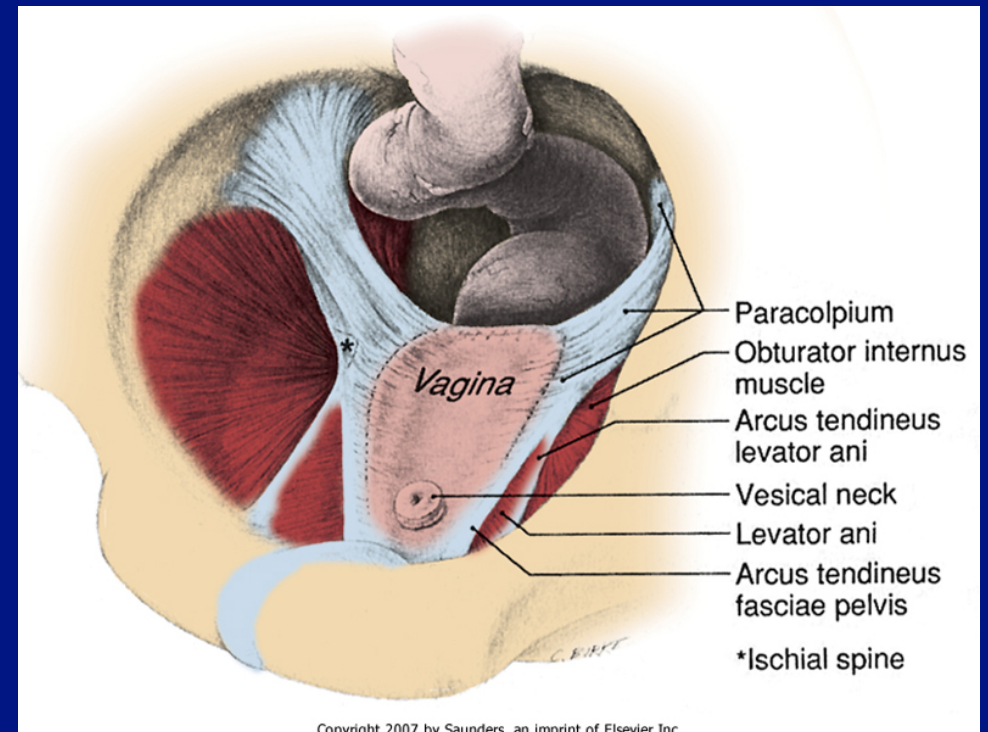
Anatomy

Male Pelvic Anatomy



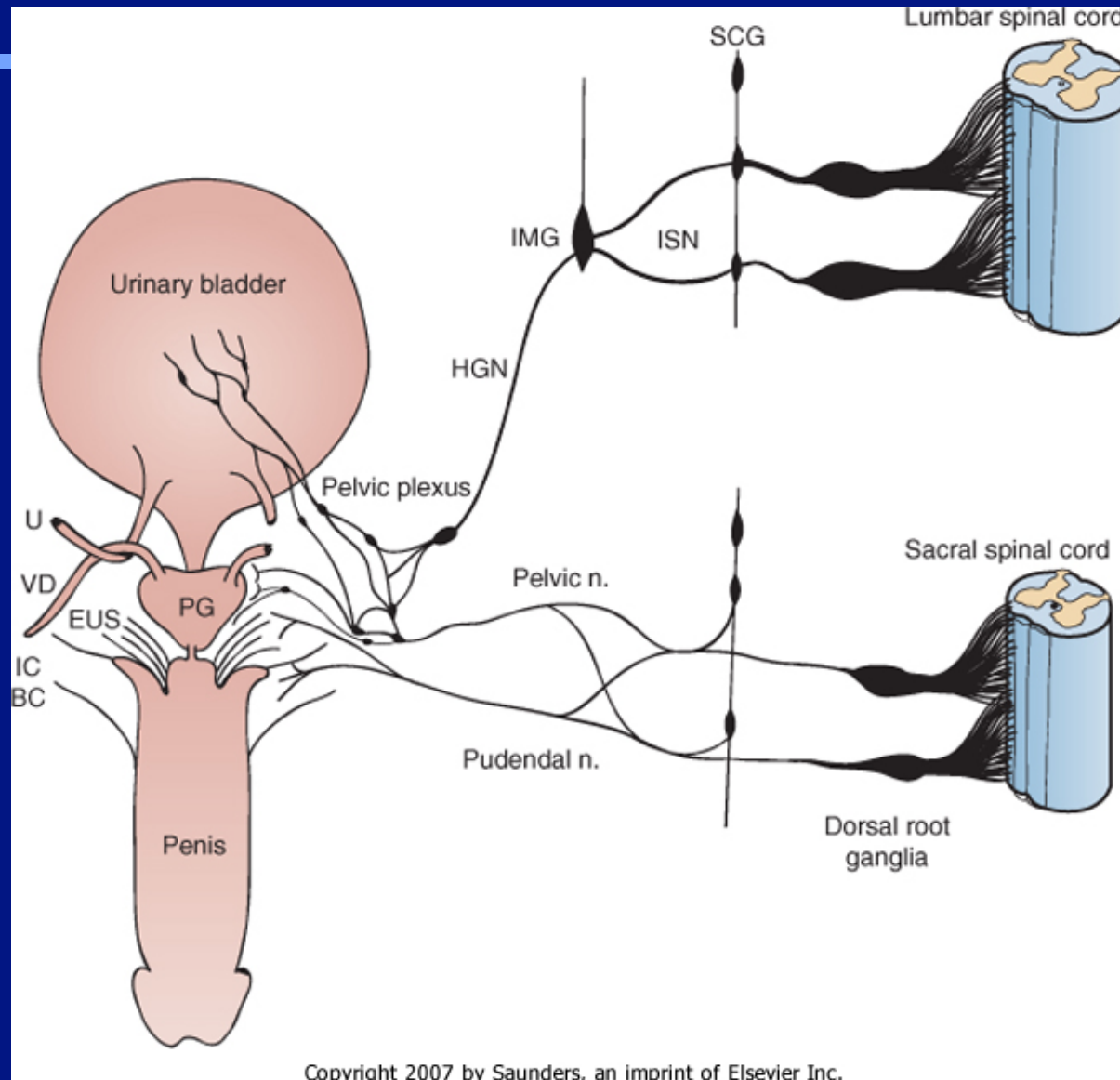
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Female Pelvic Anatomy



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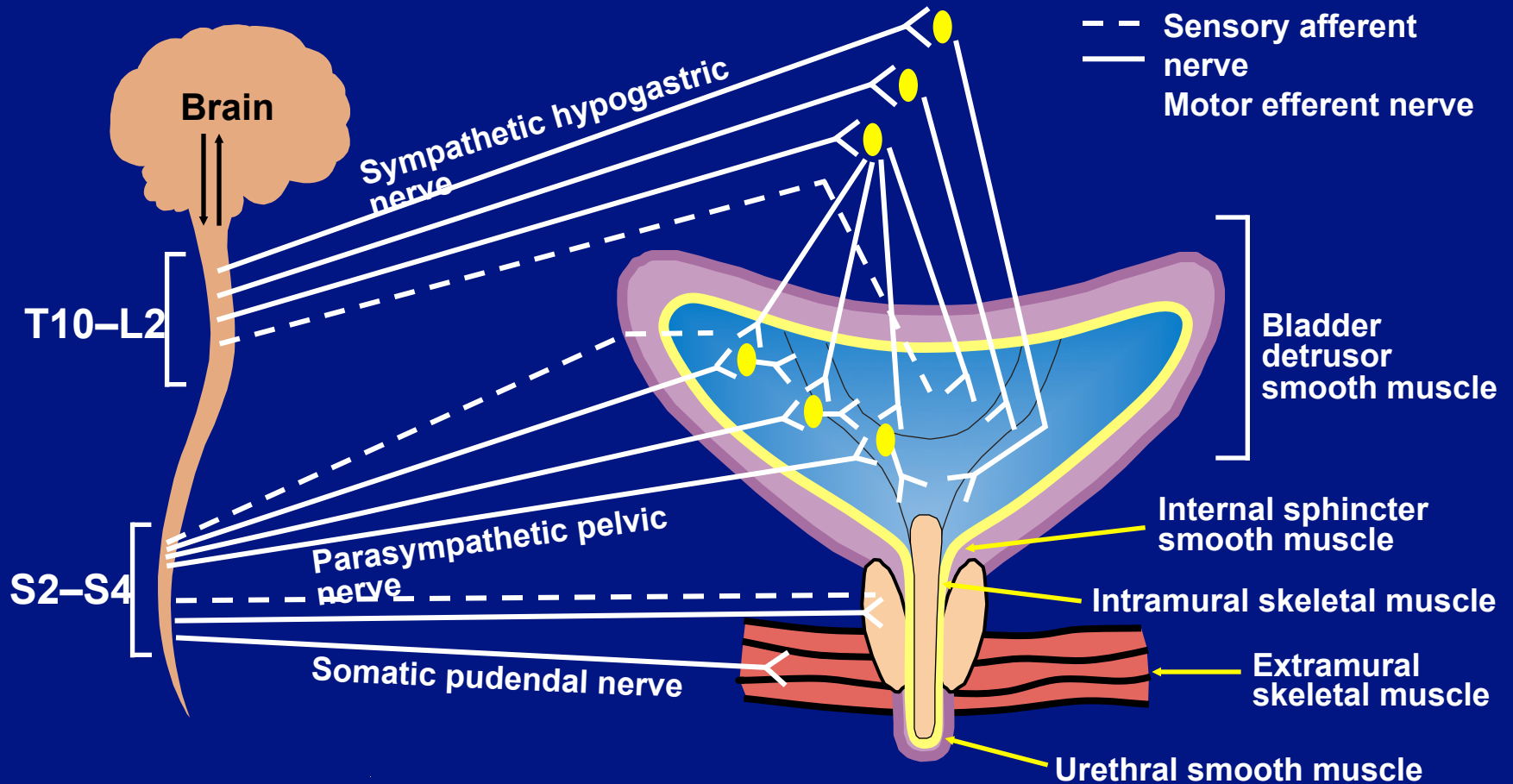
Peripheral Innervation



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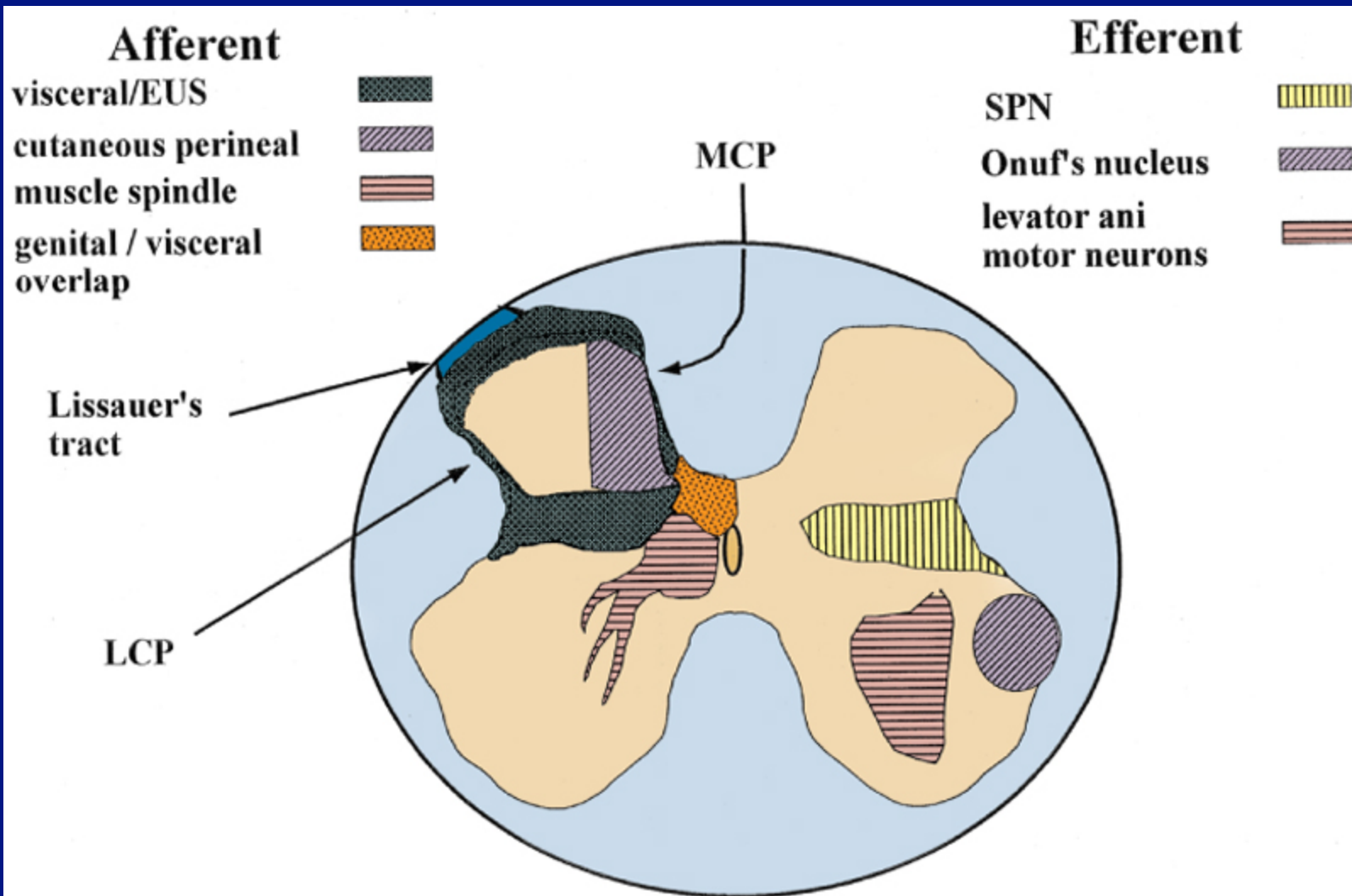


Innervation of the Lower Urinary Tract (LUT)

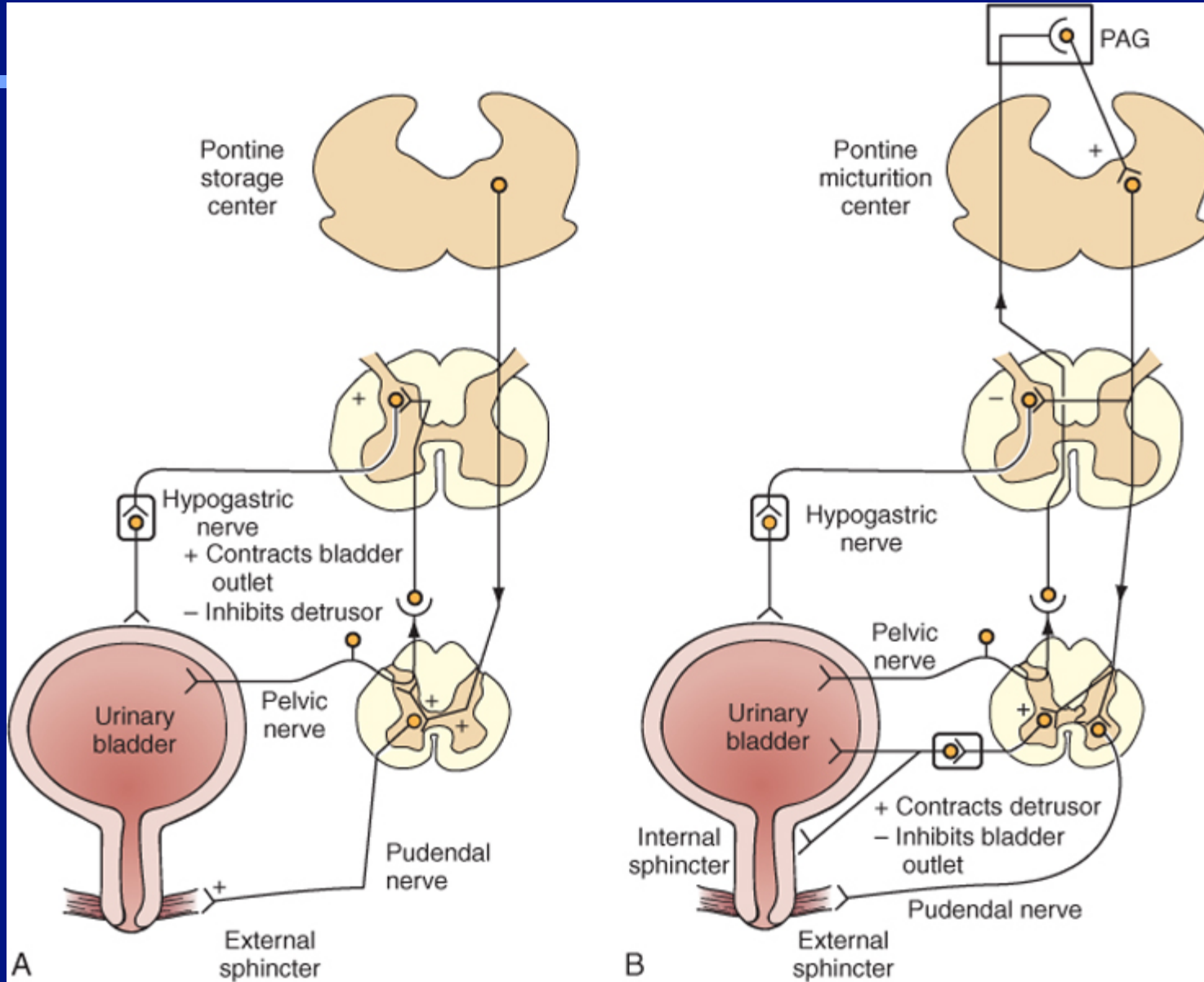


Adapted from Wein AJ. *Exp Opin Invest Drugs*. 2001;10:65-83.

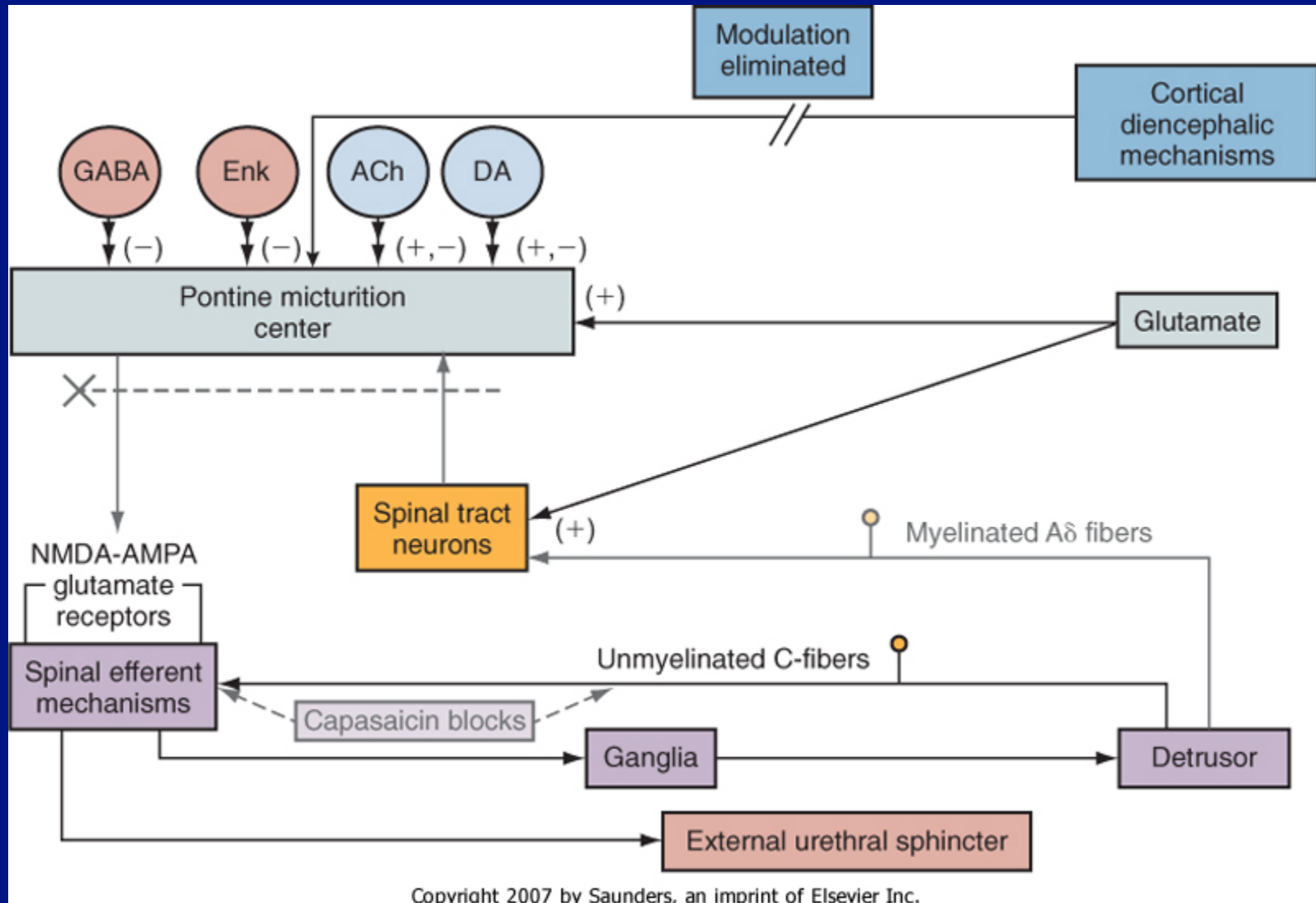
Sacral Spinal Cord



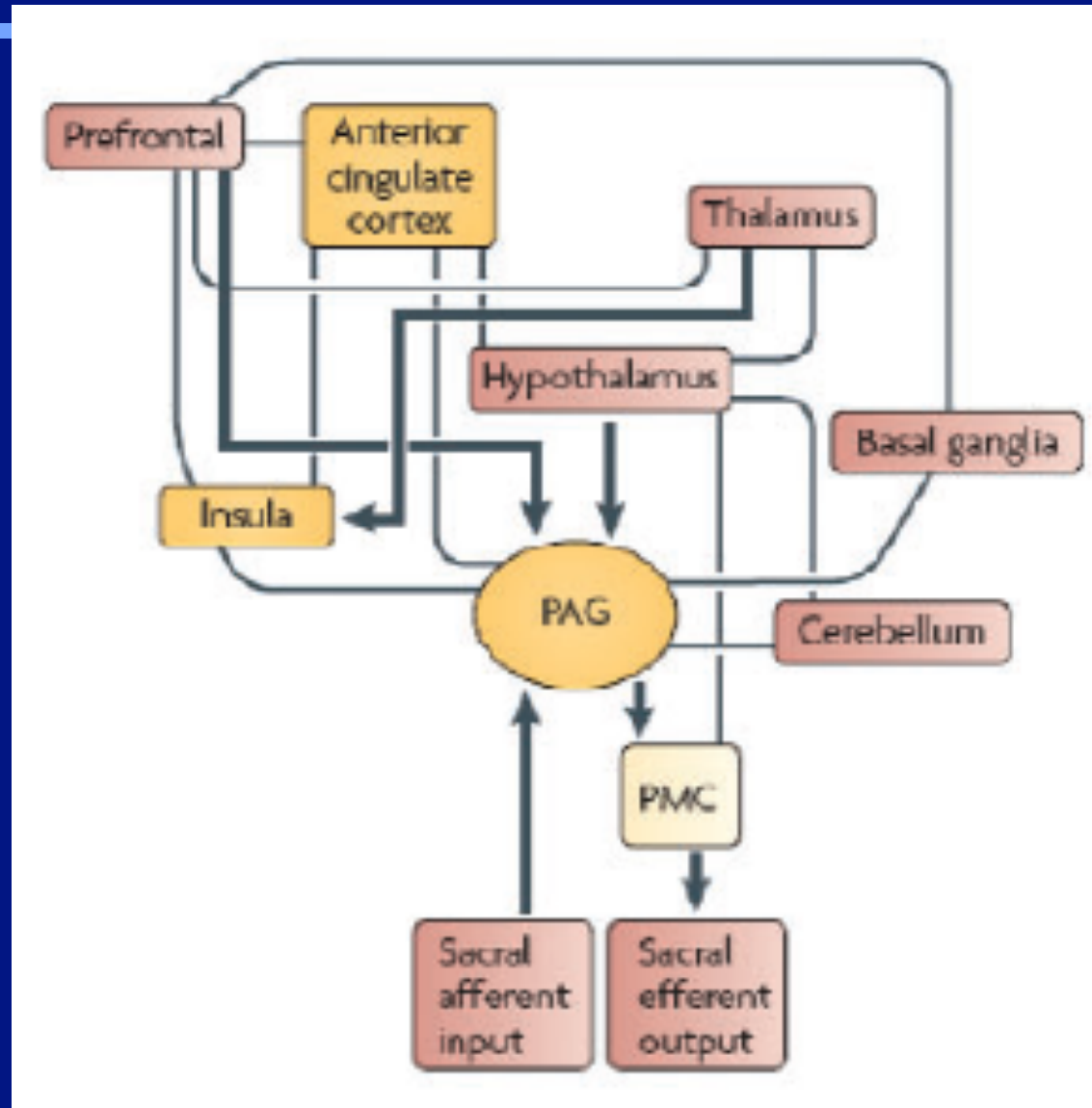
Storage & Voiding Reflex



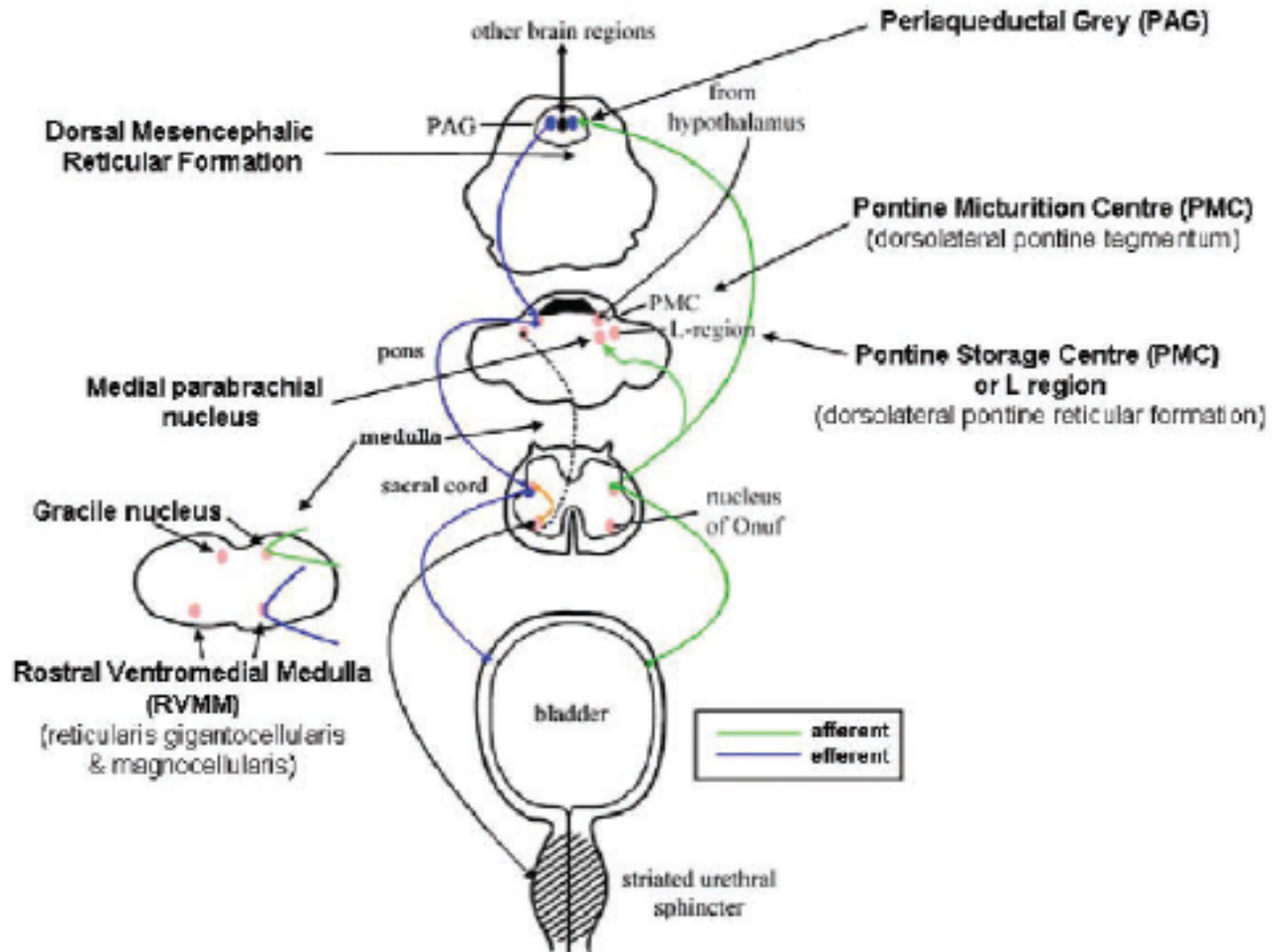
Central Reflex Mechanism of Micturition



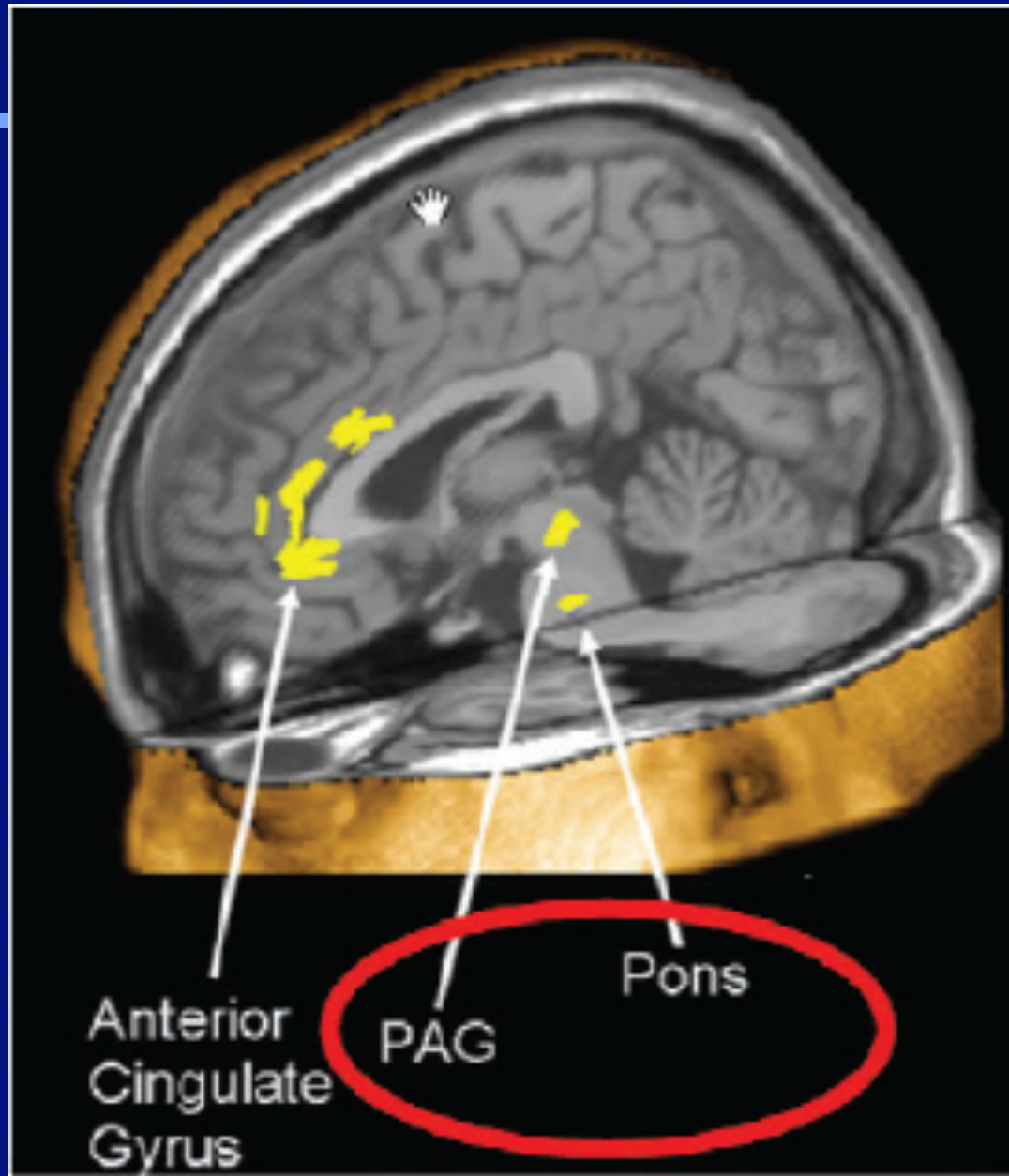
Neural Control - Mechanism



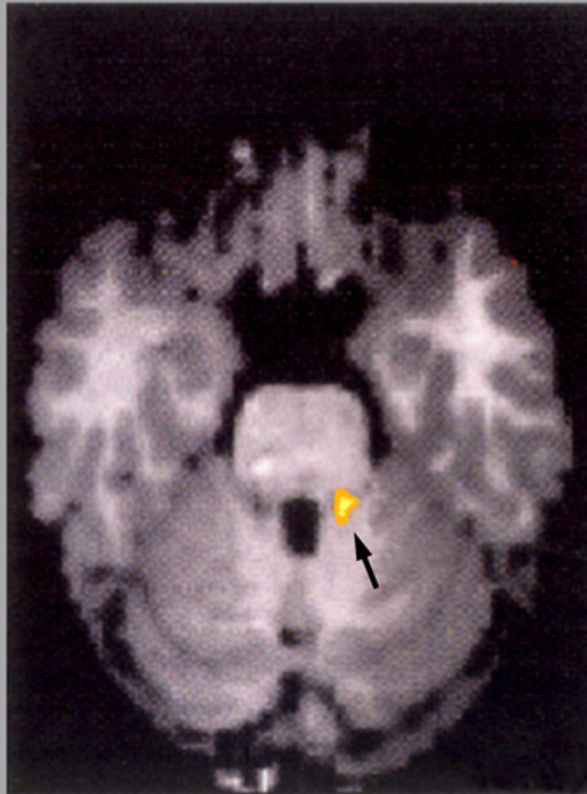
Neural Control



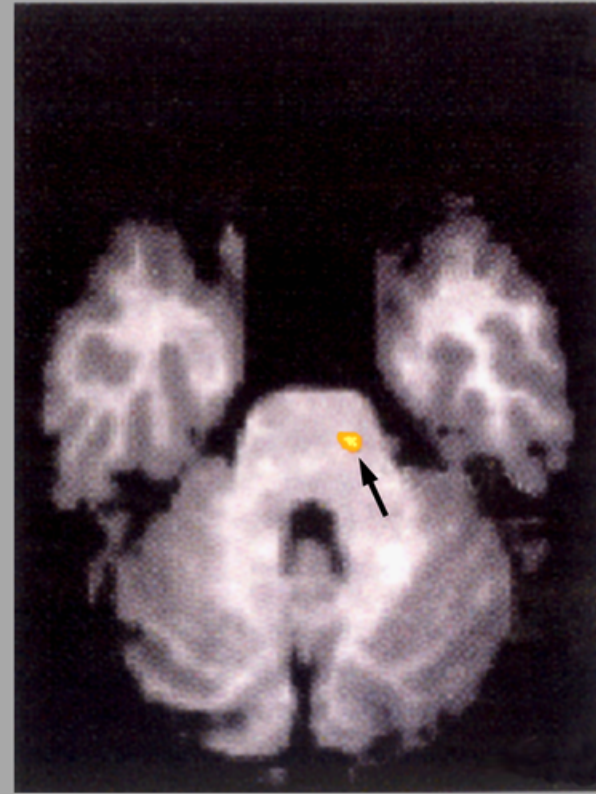
Neural Control - PET Scan



PET scanning in healthy men during micturition & continence



Activation of the *pontine micturition centre* during succesful voiding



Activation of the *pontine storage centre* during non-successful micturition



(Blok et al, Brain, 10:111, 1997)

Urodynamics Simplified

	Bladder	Outlet
Filling/storage	P_{ves} P_{det} (FCMG) DLPP	UPP VLPP Fluro
Emptying phase	P_{ves} P_{det} (VCMG)	MUPP Fluro EMG
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
		Flow RU

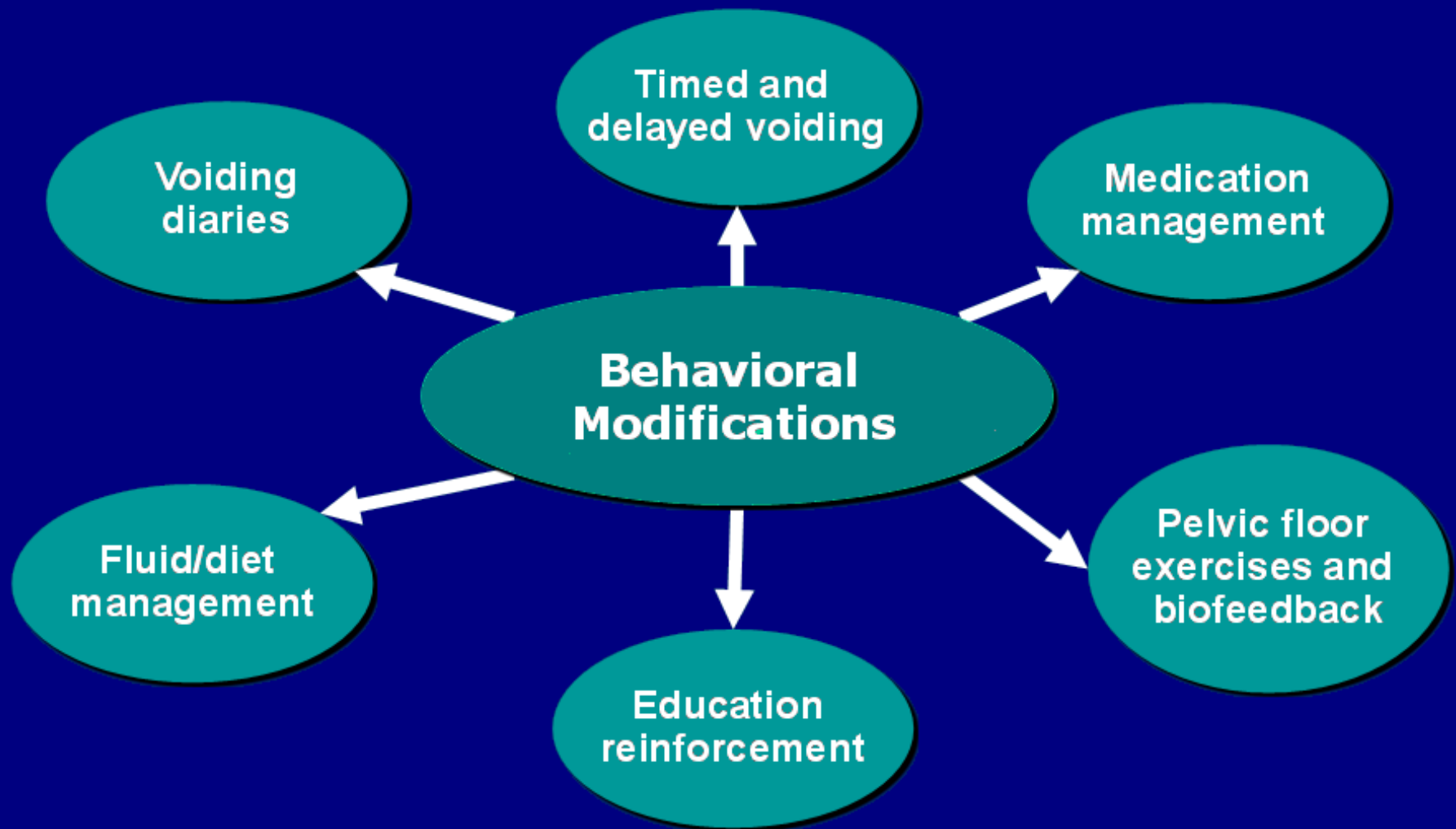




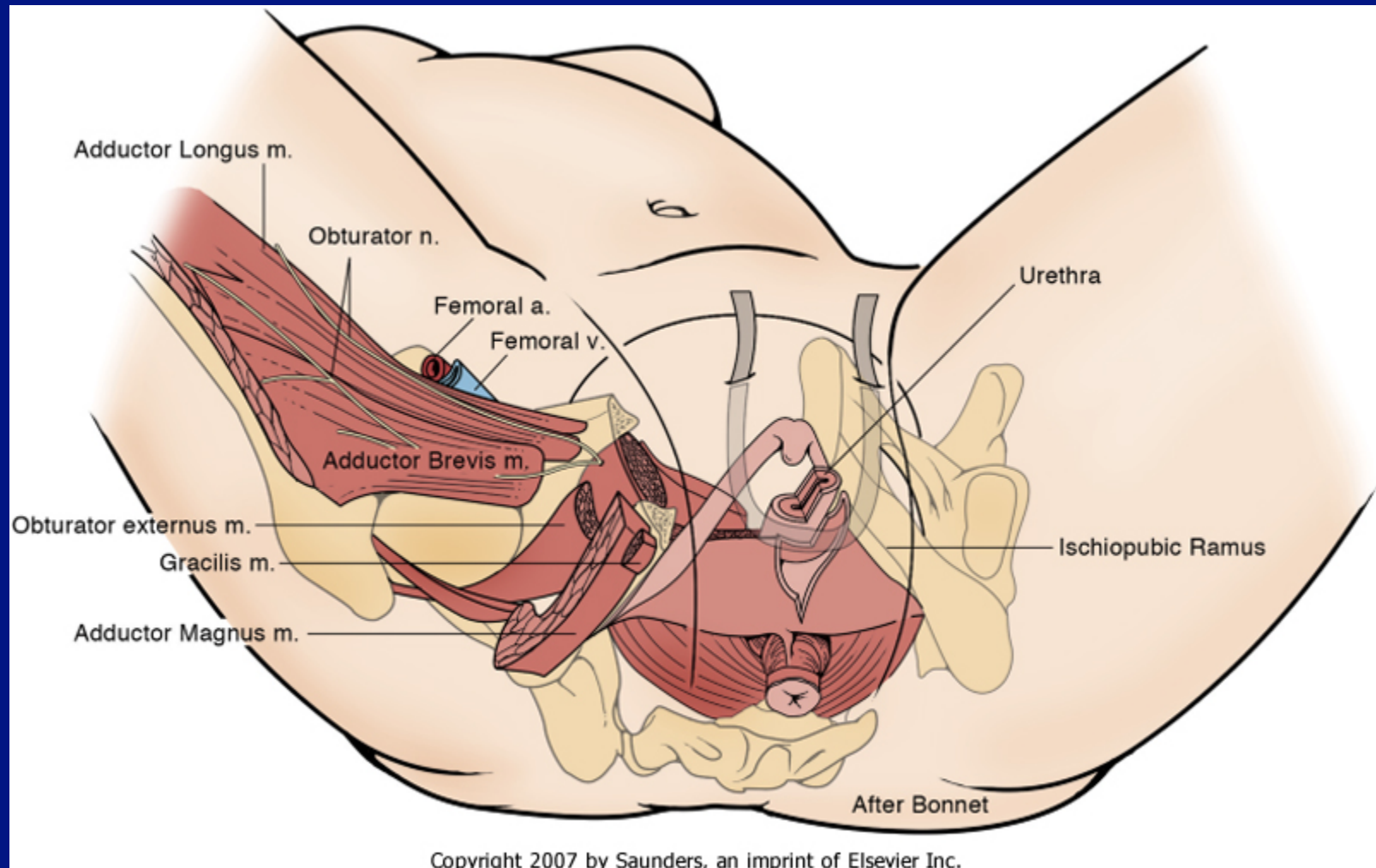
Please try to void normally.



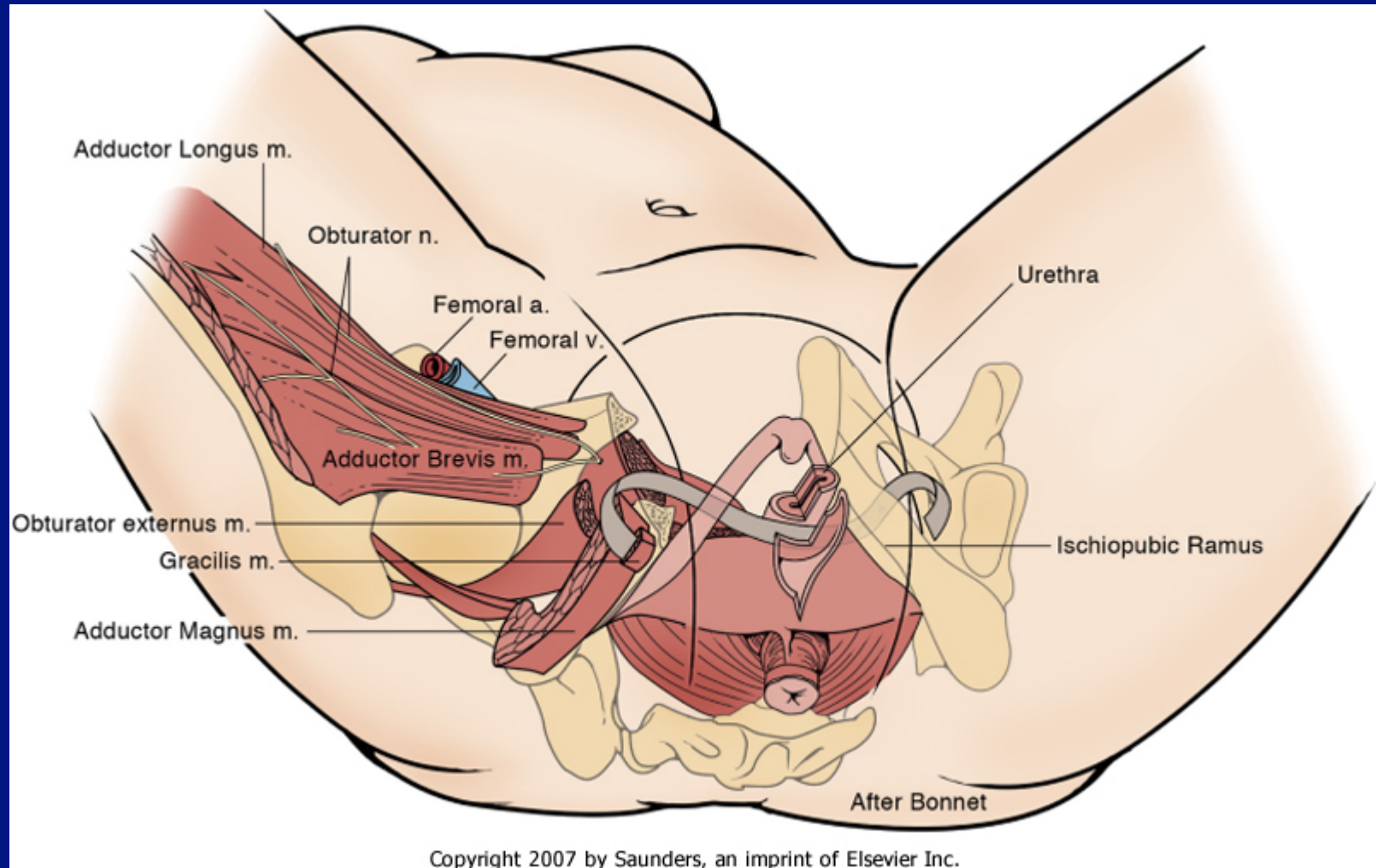
Behavioral Modifications



Surgical Therapy – Mid-Urethral Sling



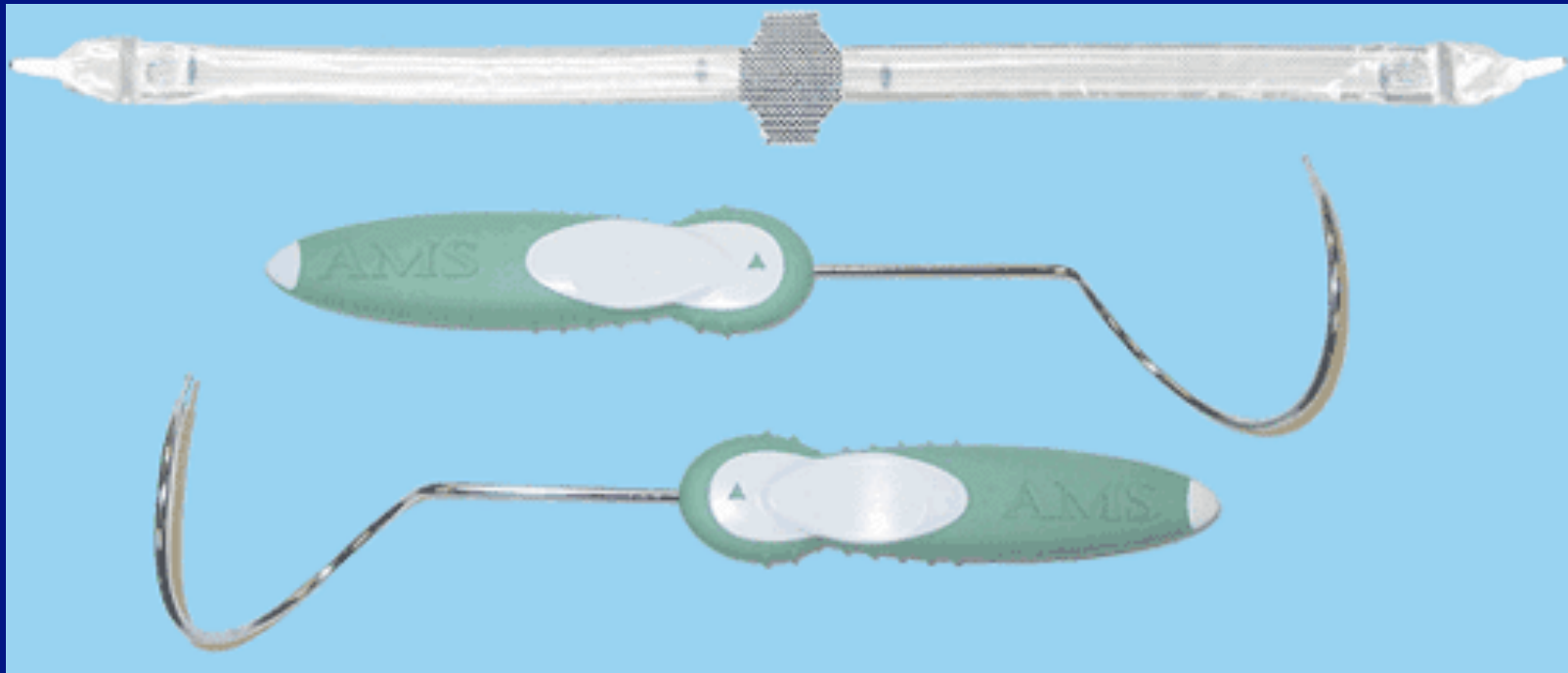
Surgical Therapy – Mid-Urethral Sling



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Advance Male Sling



Artificial Urinary Sphincter



Urinary Incontinence: Accurate Statement

“I am not certain why humans or animals are continent of urine and feces and I am not convinced that anyone knows.”

J Berry, 1961



What We Don't Know: General

- Are the “Risk Factors” Pathophysiologic elements, or just Associations?
 - If Pathophysiologic, what is (are) the mechanism(s)?
- Can any be altered as treatment modalities? Or, better yet, as preventative modalities (e.g. weight loss)



Risk Factors and Prevention / Treatment

- **Either:**

- Remove causes (risk factors) before symptoms
- Detect at early stage and remove (alter) causes
- Intervene after symptoms develop, hope to improve or prevent progression

- **Requires:**

- Definite proof of cause vs. association and mechanism
- Identify at risk individuals
 - ◆ Ideally before symptoms develop
- Early Treatment

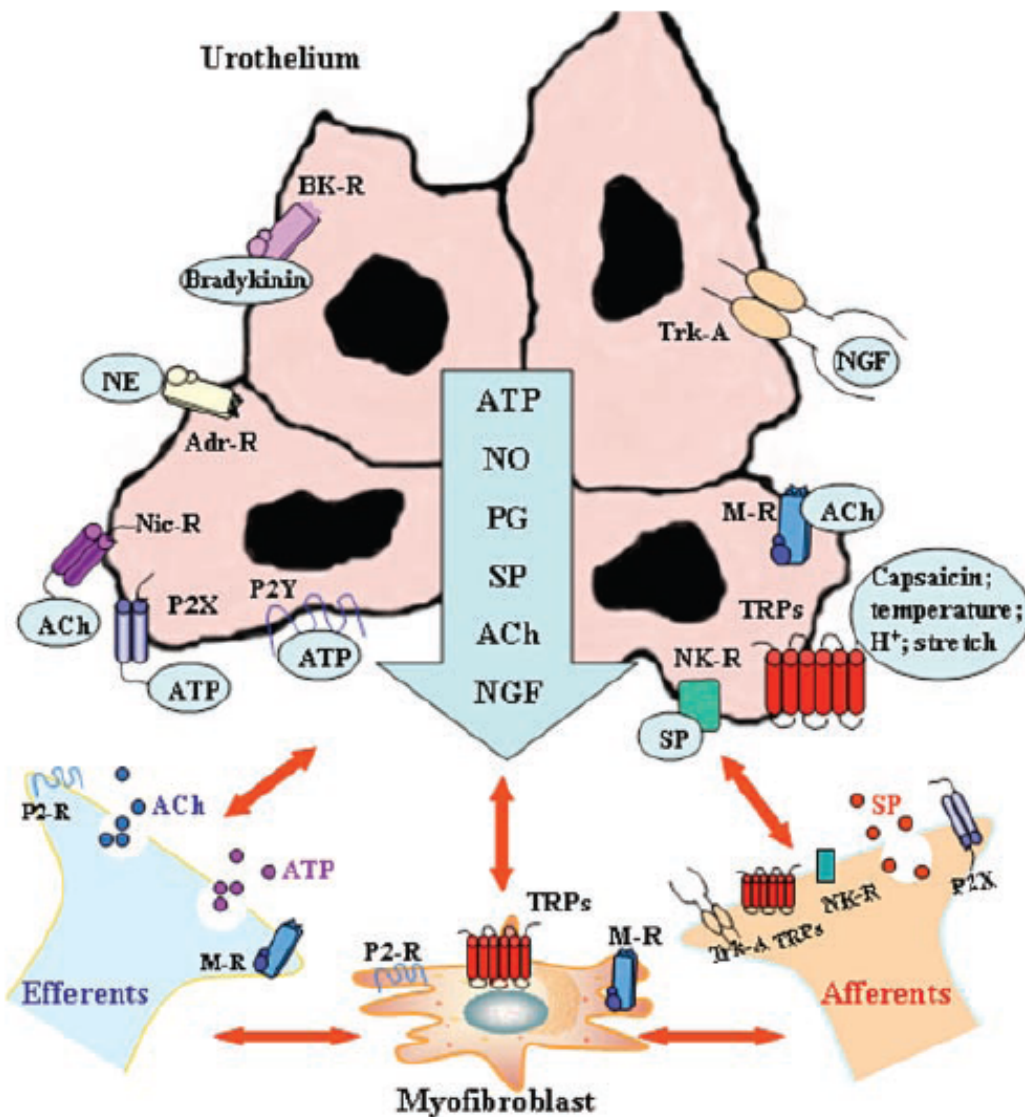


What We Don't Know: Basics (Human)

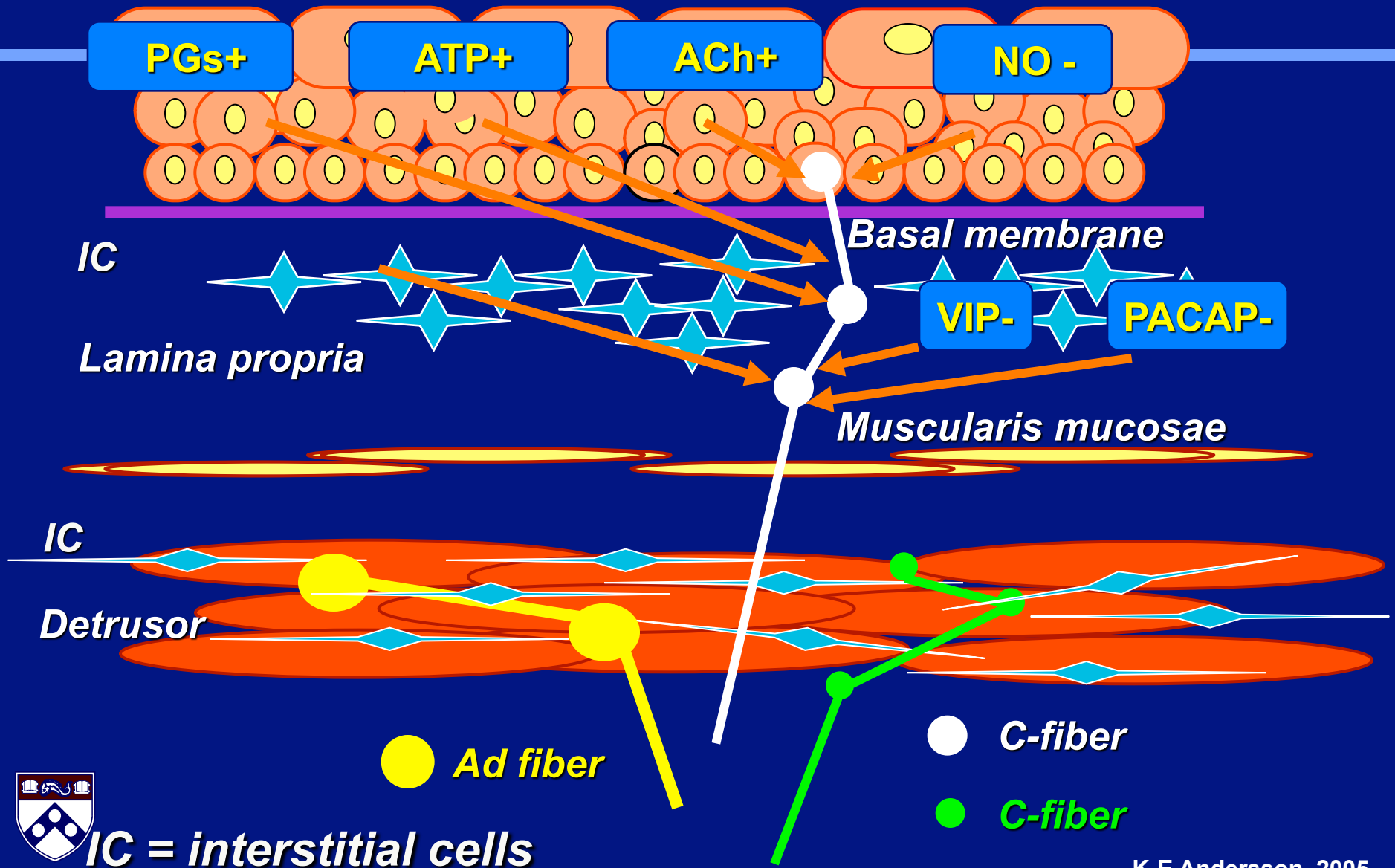
- Peripheral receptors and pathways associated with afferent and efferent innervation and their interaction(s) and the potential for agonist/antagonist therapy.
- The “real” role(s) of the urothelium and the myofibroblast in normal and abnormal filling/storage and the potential for agonist/antagonist therapy.



Birder, et al



Urothelium



Proposed Neurotransmitters and Neuromodulators in Addition to Acetylcholine and Norepinephrine

	Central	Peripheral
Adenosine triphosphate (ATP)		x
Prostaglandins (F₂, E₁, E₂)		x
Peptides		
Opioids	x	x
Vasoactive intestinal polypeptide (VIP)	x	x
Substance P	x	x
Neuropeptide Y		x
Somatostatin		x
Bradykinin		x



Proposed Neurotransmitters and Neuromodulators in Addition to Acetylcholine and Norepinephrine

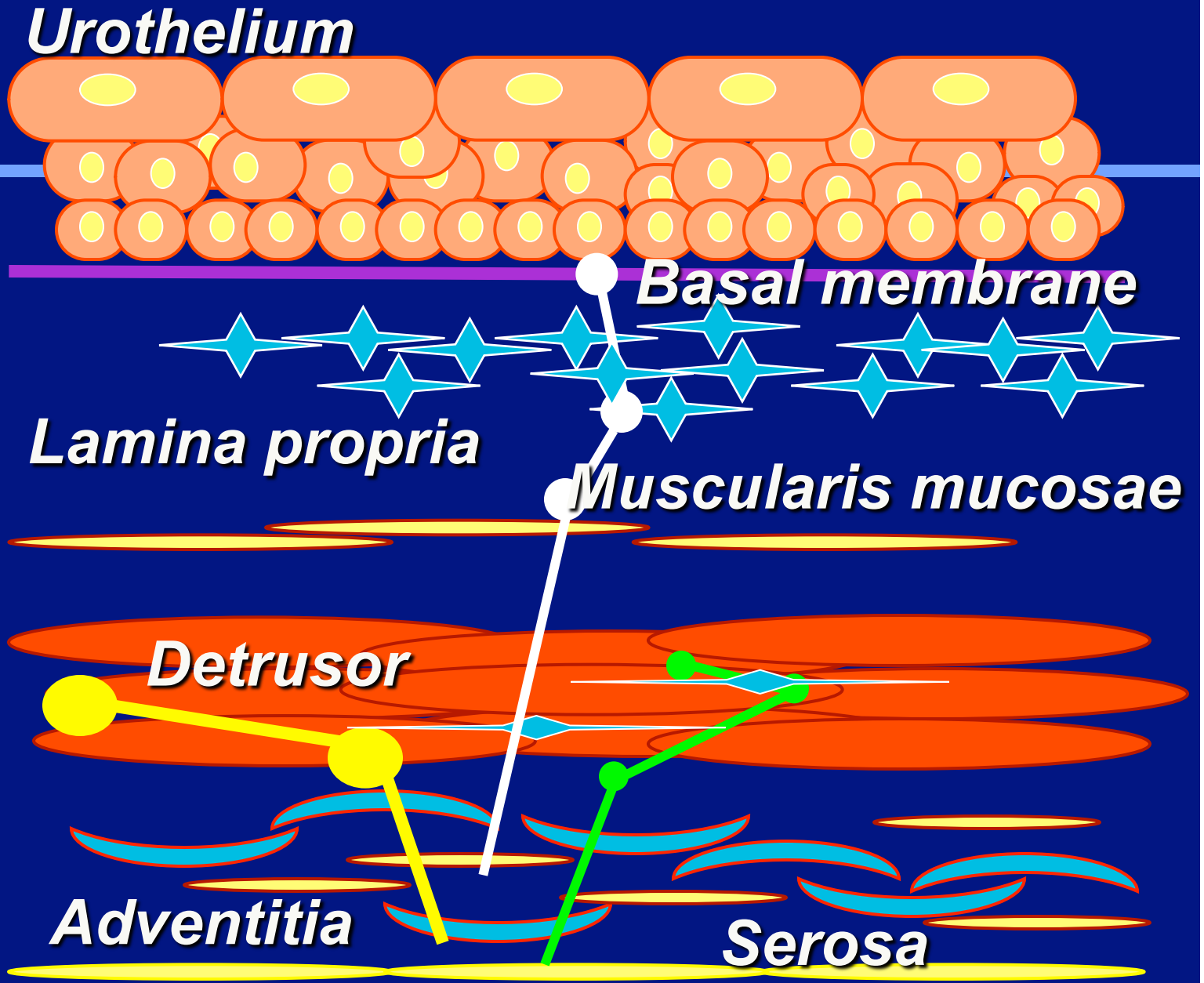
	Central	Peripheral
Amines and amino acids		
Dopamine	x	x
Serotonin	x	x
Histamine	x	x
γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA)	x	x
Glycine	x	x
Glutamate	x	x
Taurine	x	
Proline		x
Carnosine		x
Octopamine		x



Nitric Oxide

- major inhibitory NT
- mediates **relaxation** of urethral SM during micturition
 - via a parasympathetic cholinergic pathway
- ?role in controlling bladder afferent nerve activity
 - role in suppressing detrusor overactivity





What We Don't Know: Basics

- **Central receptors and pathways associated with afferent and efferent transmission and their interaction(s) and the potential for agonist/antagonist therapy**



CNS Transmitters: Numerous

●NE:

- α_1 receptors facilitate some continence reflexes
- α_2 receptors inhibit some continence reflexes

●Serotonin:

- Depression of micturition reflex
- Facilitation of “continence reflexes” (striated sphincter) @ spinal and supraspinal levels

●GABA:

- Inhibitory at multiple sites

●Dopamine:

- Facilitates voiding @ level of brain, ? SC



●Glutamate:

- Facilitates bladder contractility at all sites @ brain and SC

What We Don't Know: SUI in the Female



Pathophysiology of Female SUI

- Einhorning
- Petros-Ulmsten
- Delancey

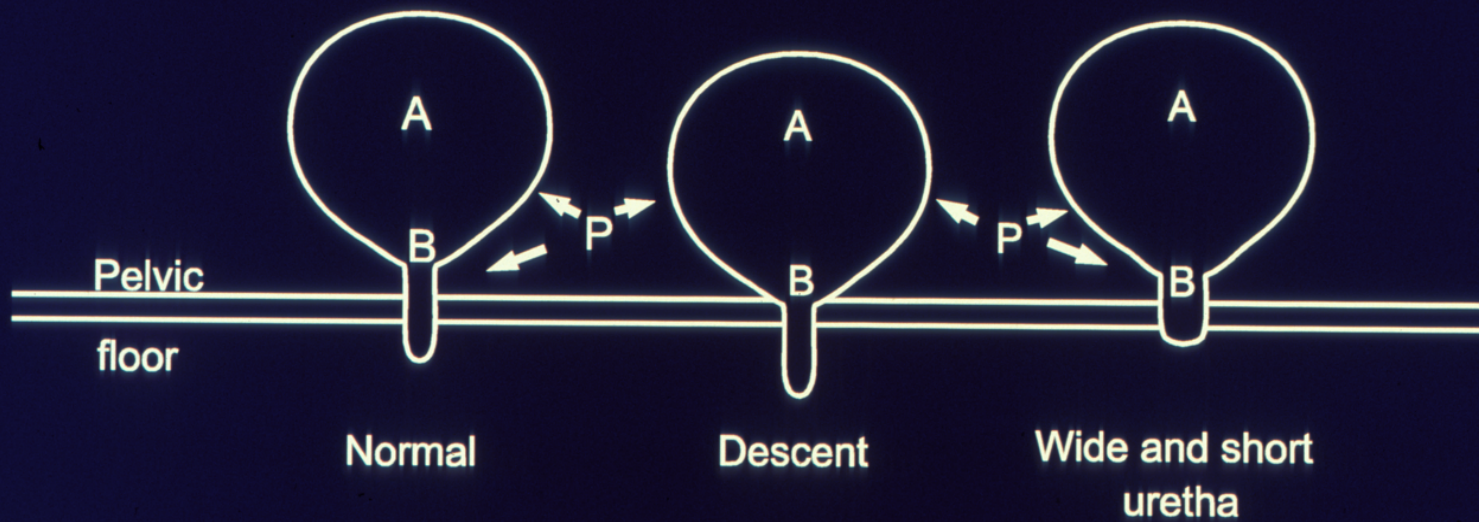


Does it matter?

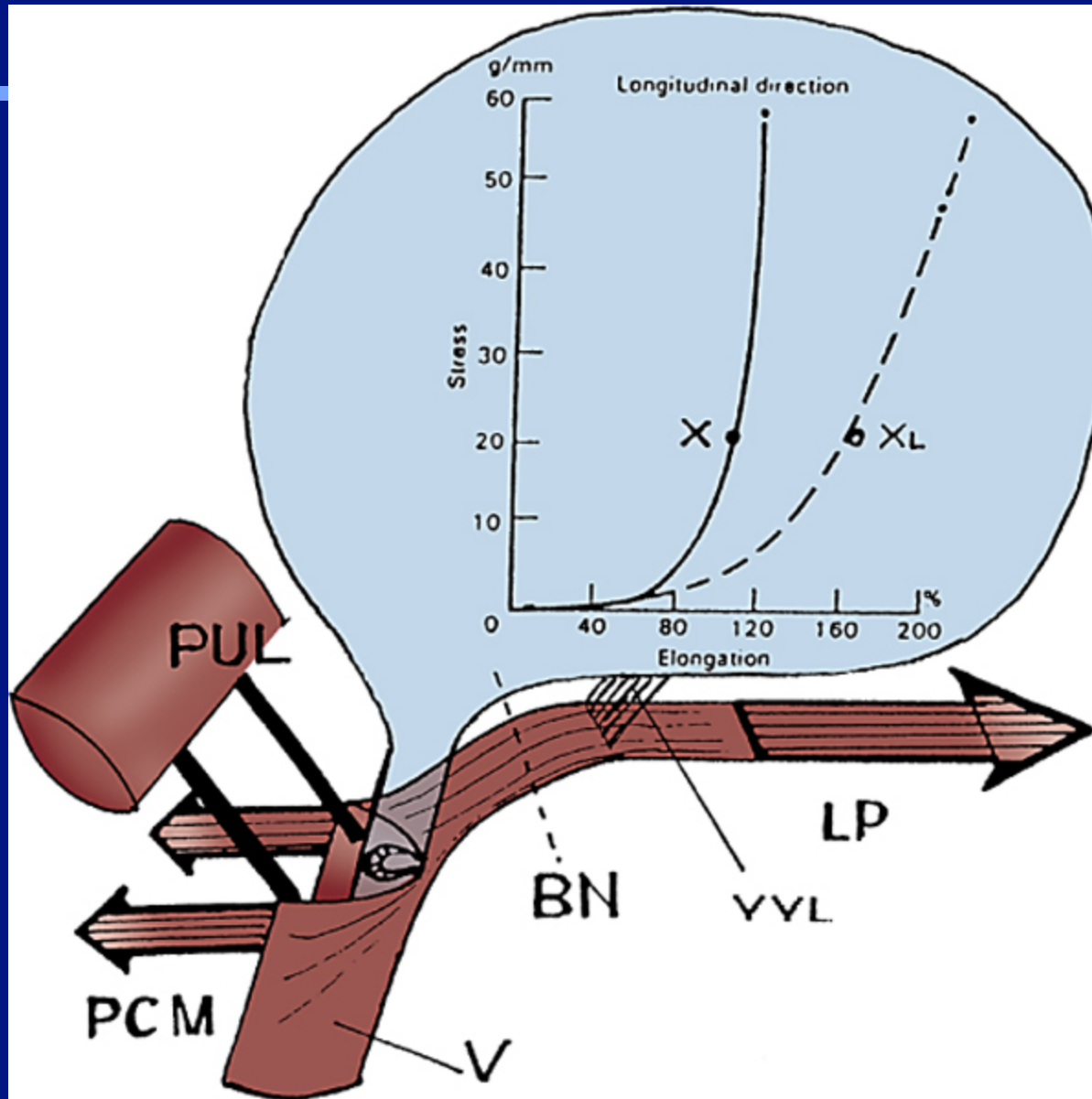
- Role of:
 - Collagen/Elastin synthesis and metabolism
 - Estrogen environment



Anatomic localization of the sphincter unit

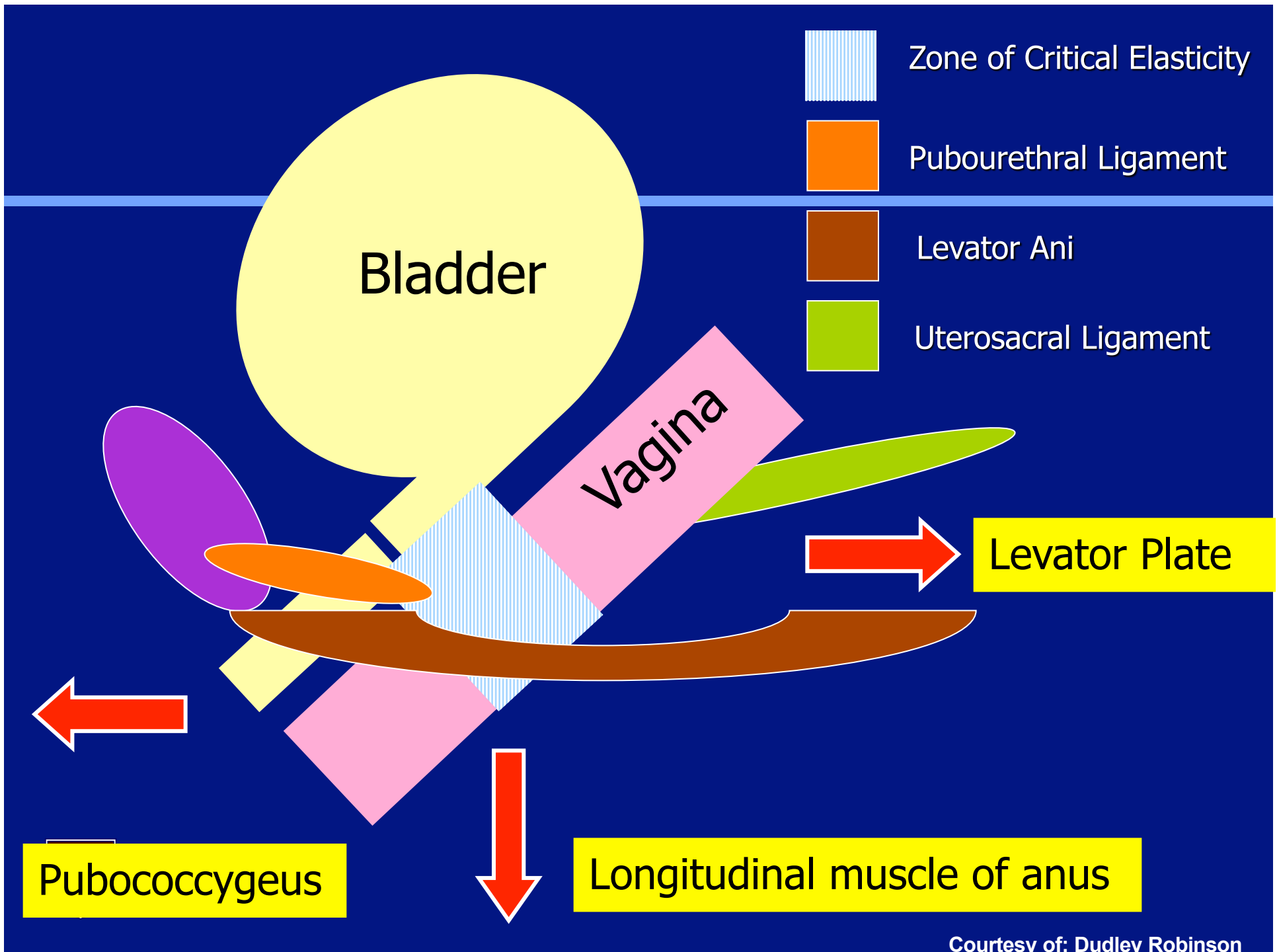


Petros-Ulmsten: "Integral Theory"

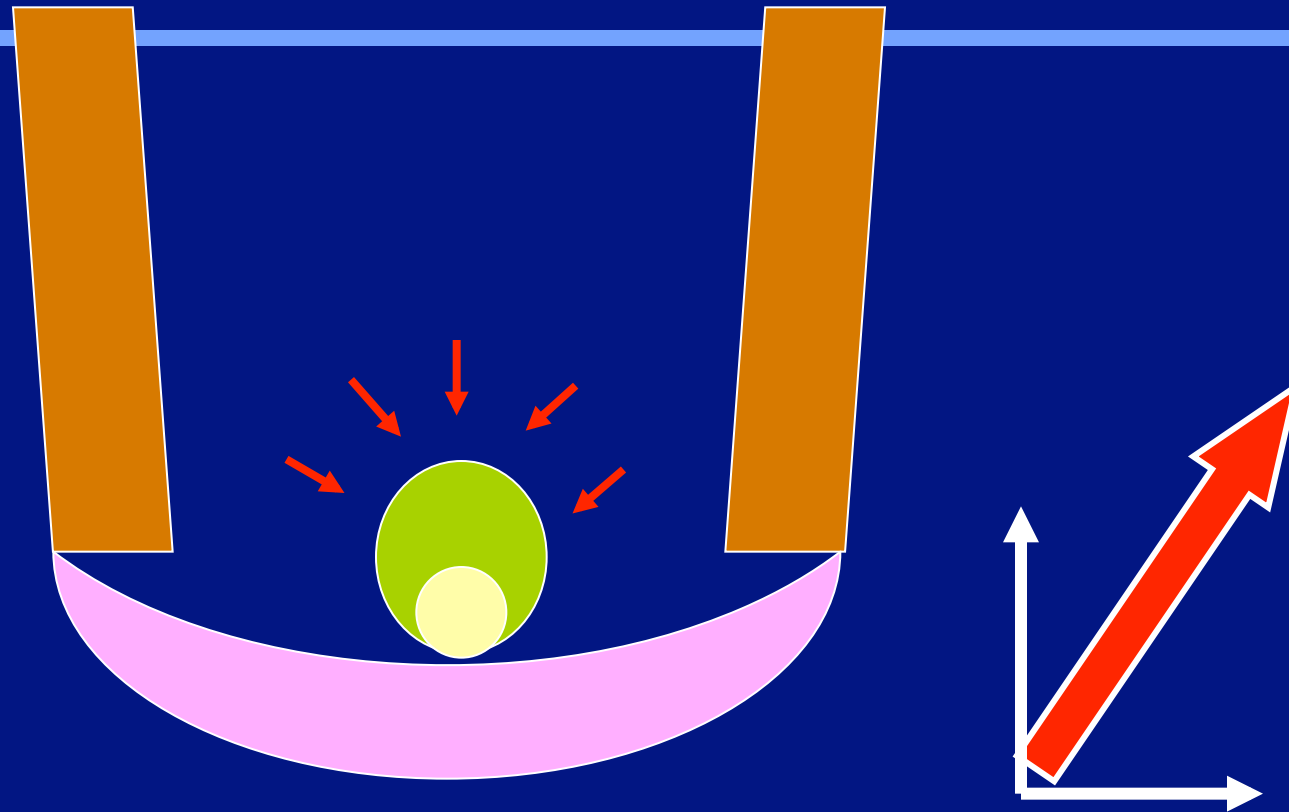


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Urethral Closure Mechanism



Pubococcygeus



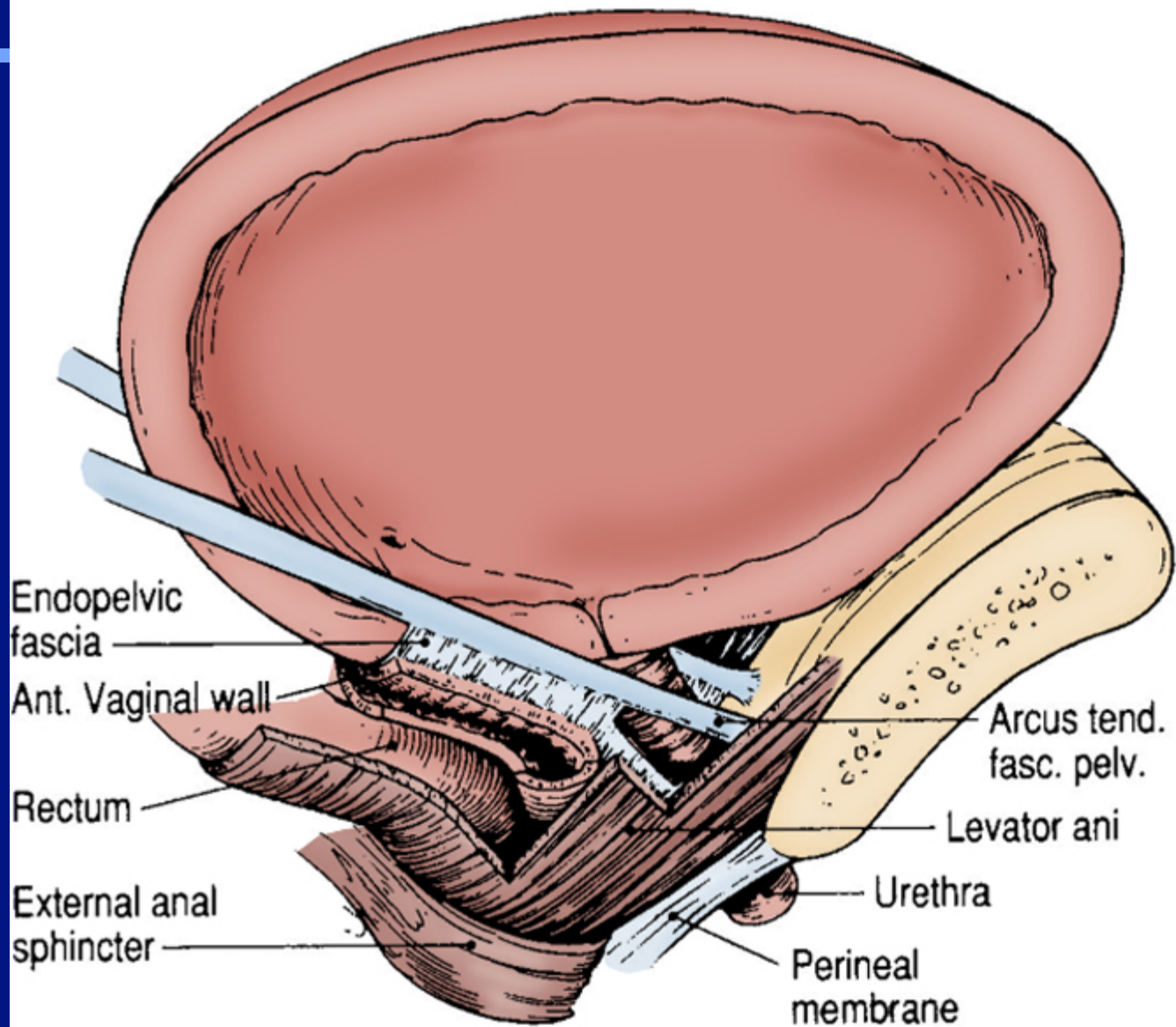
Vagina



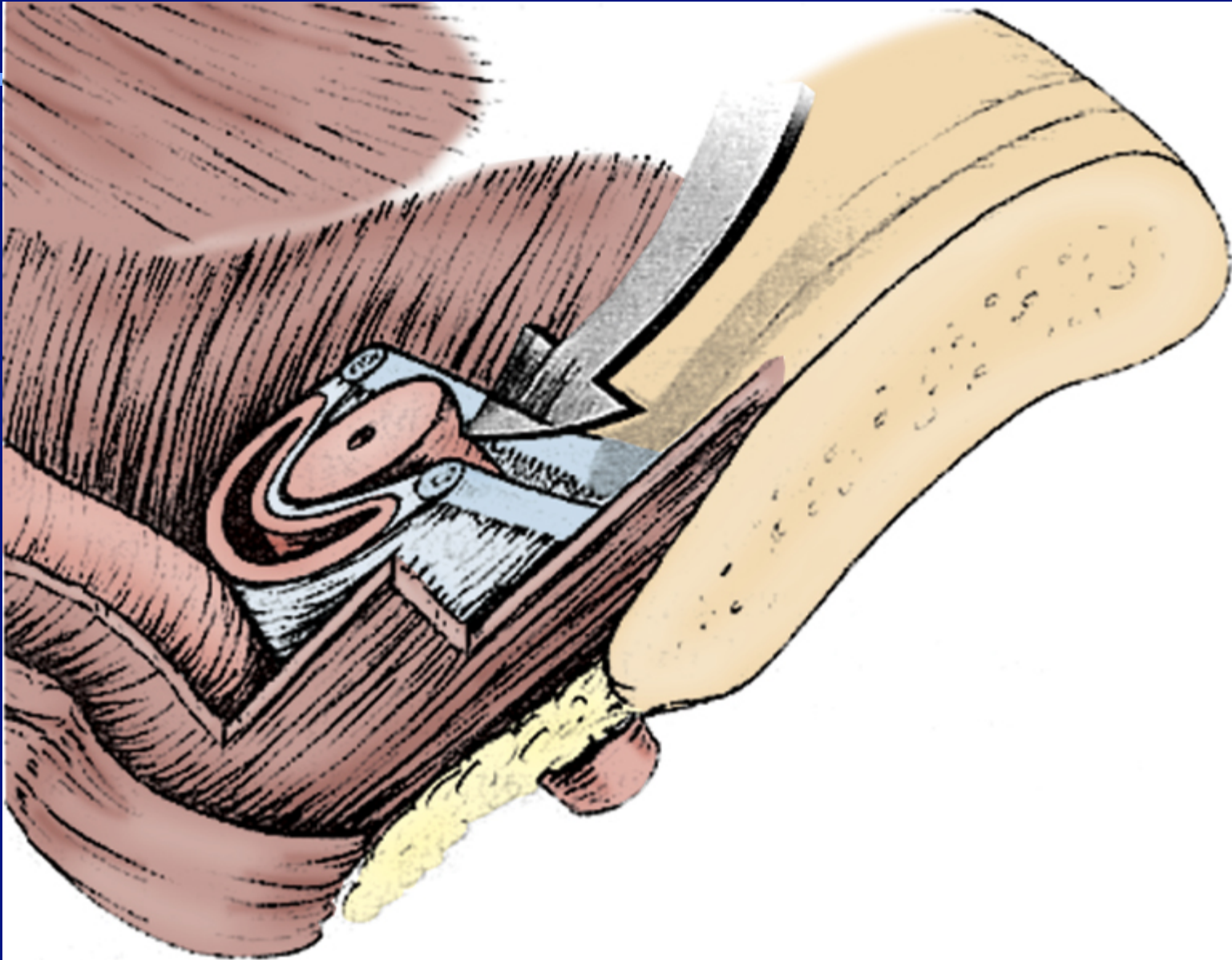
Periurethral Striated Muscle



Urethra



Delancey: Suburethral Hammock



SUI in the Female: Evaluation

- **UDS, PFUDS, VUDS, Ambulatory UDS**
 - Absolute Indications?
 - Is it important to DDX “ISD” vs. Hypermobility?
 - Importance of ALPP and MUCP?
 - Importance of DO?
 - VUDS vs. PFUDS?
 - Ambulatory UDS?
 - What does EMG contribute?

In “Index” case, failed SUI surgery (incontinence, and voiding dysfunction), OAB symptoms, prolapse, neurogenic disease.



SUI in the Female: Conservative Management

- Behavioral modification with PFMT
 - Short and long-term results by grade of incontinence?
 - Contributions of each component?
 - Does PFMT change the characteristics of the “striated” sphincter?
 - ◆ If so → How?
 - How much, how long, by whom or what?



SUI in the Female: Conservative Management

- **Periurethral Bulking**
 - Mechanisms of action?
 - New materials better than old?
 - Results and satisfaction?
 - Stem cell therapy: Promise or Reality?



SUI in the Female: Surgical Management

- Colposuspensions (Multiple)
- Traditional Sling
- Mid-Urethral Sling, TVT, TOT
- “Mini”-Sling, Adjustable Sling, or Balloons



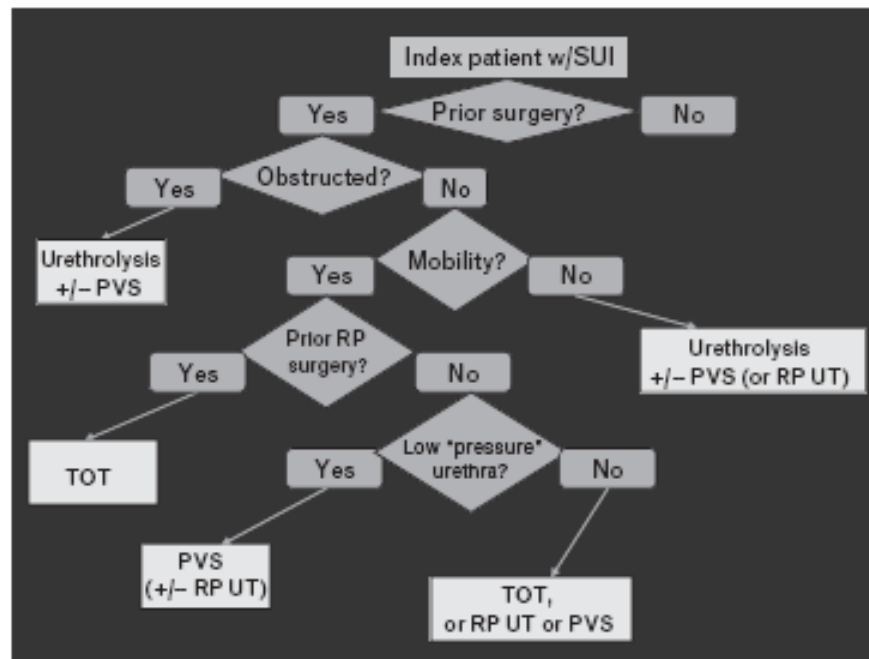
SUI in the Female: Surgical Management

- Is it possible to construct algorithm for:
 - Index case
 - SUI + POP
 - ◆ POP + (+) Stress Test
 - ◆ POP + (-) Stress Test + (+) Reduction Test
 - ◆ POP + (-) Stress Test + (-) Reduction Test
 - Failed colposuspension
 - Failed MUS
 - SUI + OAB
 - SUI + concomitant urethral pathology

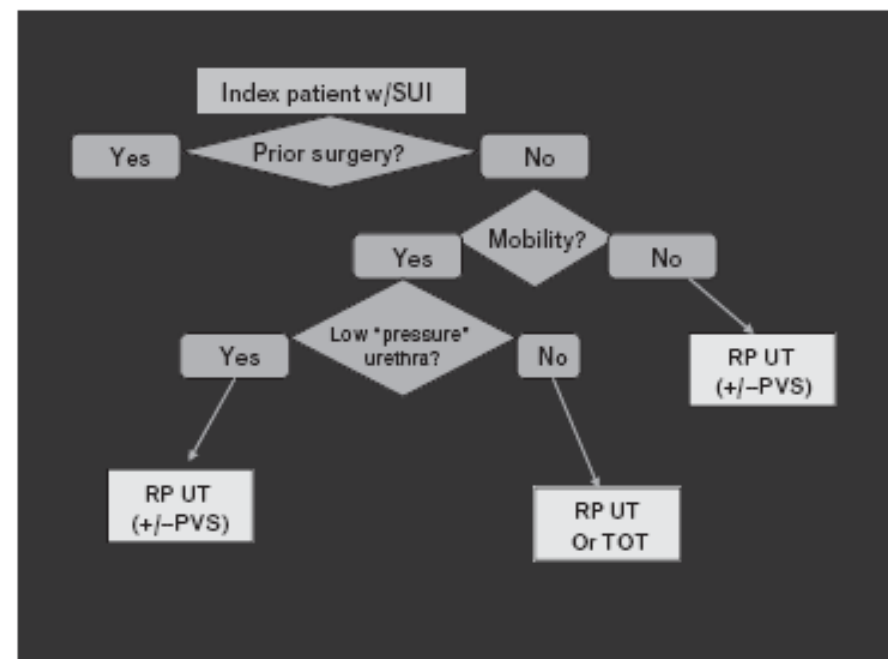


Rovner's Algorithm

(a)



(b)



Prior Failed SUI Surgery

Without Prior Surgery



SUI in the Female: Pharmacologic Therapy

- **Activation of smooth or striated muscle of the outlet – Possible?**
 - Selectivity
 - ◆ Receptors
 - ◆ During filling/storage only
 - ◆ What happened to Duloxetine?
 - ◆ Other SNRI or Selective NRI Compounds?
- **Estrogen**
 - No, Maybe, or Yes?
 - Therapy
 - ◆ Sole?
 - ◆ Adjunct to drug or surgical therapy
 - ◆ Oral or Vaginal



SUI in the Female: Outcomes

- What is cure, satisfaction, success?
- Outcomes
 - Objective
 - Semi-Objective
 - Subjective
 - ◆ Global
 - Adverse
- Can we establish a common reporting system?
 - “Truth among friends”



Patient Global Impression of Improvement (PGI-I)

- Very much better
 - Much better
 - A little better
 - No change
 - A little worse
 - Much worse
 - Very much worse
-
- Validated for treatment of Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI)



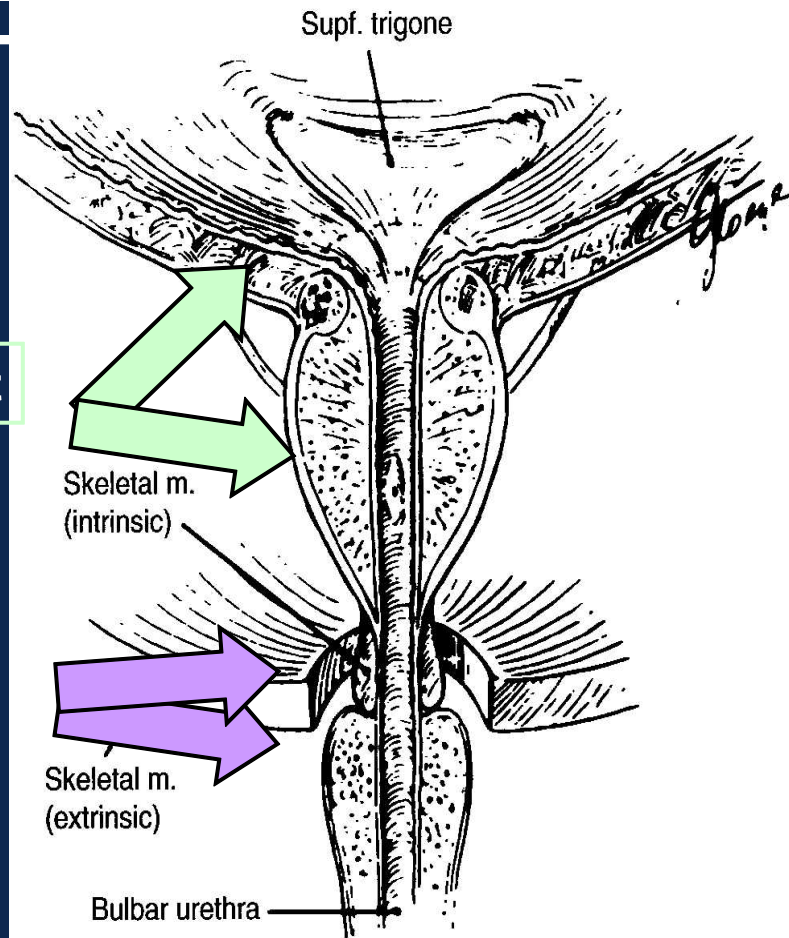
What We Don't Know:
SUI in the Male (Post-Prostatectomy)



Native Sphincters (Male)

Proximal sphincter unit

Distal sphincter unit



Hadley: Campbell's Urology (1986)

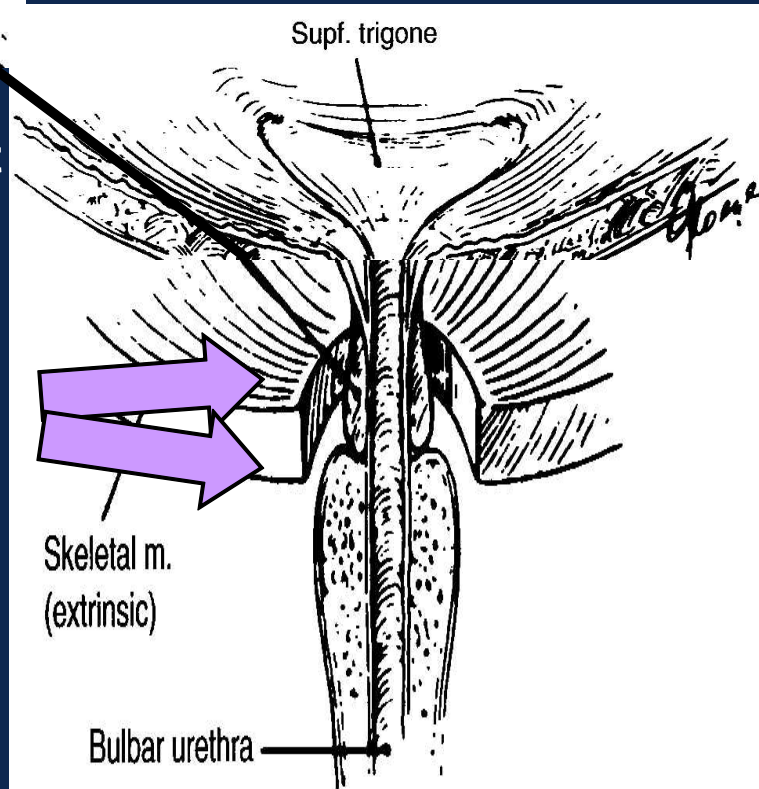


Post Prostatectomy

Skeletal m.
(intrinsic)

Proximal sphincter unit

Distal sphincter unit



PPI: Pathophysiology

- Contributions of:

- Neural
- Vascular
- Muscular
 - ◆ Smooth
 - ◆ Striated



Components

- Can Knowledge Aid Prevention?



PPI: Risk Factors

- Age?
- Prostate Size?
- Membranous Urethral Length?
- Diabetes?
- Other Neuromuscular Diseases?
- Can knowledge aid prevention or a better informed choice of therapy?



PPI: Evaluation

- Predictive value of UDS, PFUDS, VUDS?
- Significance of DO?
- Significance of “DUA”?
 - How do we diagnose this?
- Significance of ALPP, MUCP?
- What does EMG contribute?

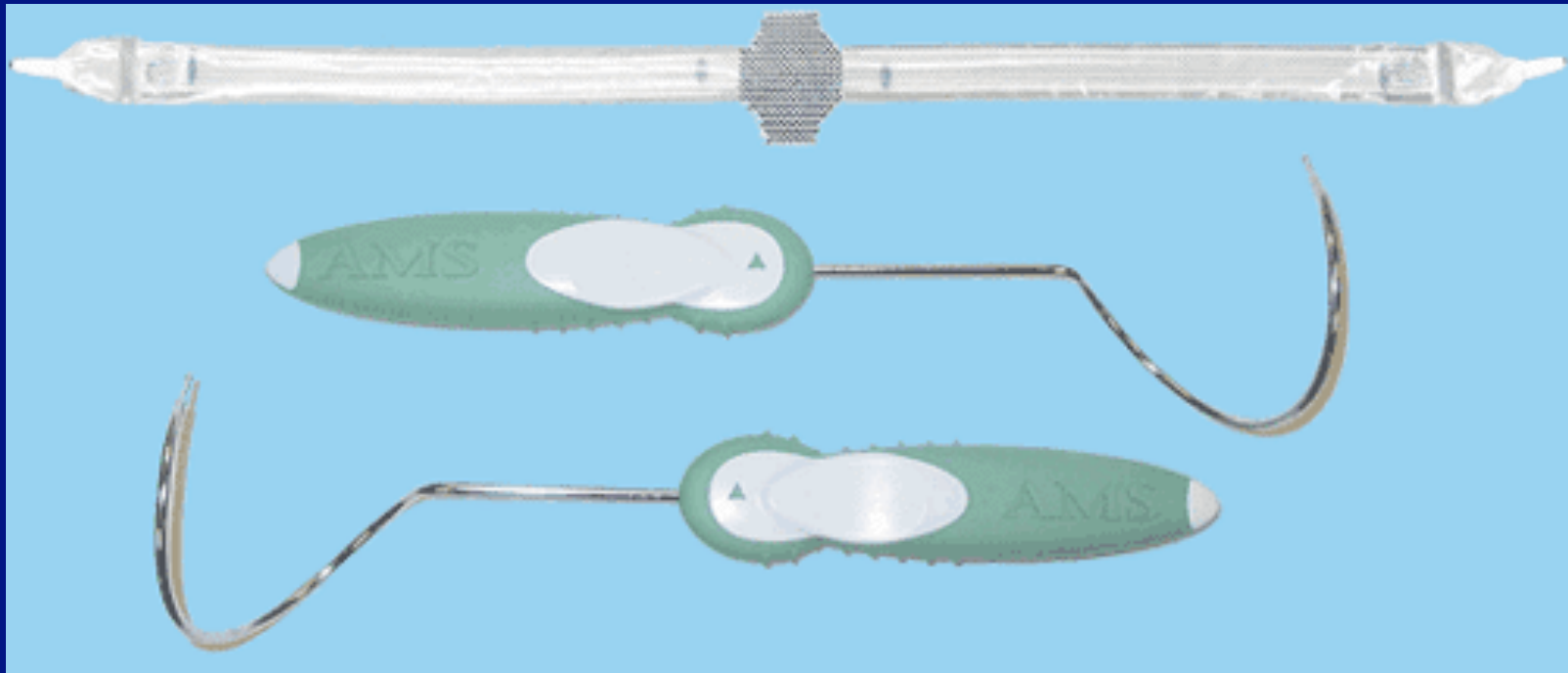


PPI: Treatment

- **Role of Slings vs. AGUS**
 - Mechanism
 - ◆ Compressive, “Repositioning”, Both?
 - Durability?
 - ◆ Further treatment if failure?
 - Stem Cell Therapy
 - ◆ Promise or Reality?



Advance Male Sling



Artificial Urinary Sphincter



What We Don't Know: OAB Incontinence



OAB Incontinence: Pathophysiology

- No single set of data or hypothesis explains all IVC (abnormal micturition reflex) or occurrences of urgency/frequency
- 5 concepts seem potentially valid



OAB Incontinence: Pathophysiology

1. **Faulty central inhibition - true neurogenic (DeGroat and others)**
2. **Myogenic (combination of Brading-Gillespie concepts)**
3. **ACh leak – micromotion concept (Andersson)**
4. **Urothelial Initiation (Birder, Andersson)**
5. **Pelvic Floor Laxity (Petros-Ulmsten)**



OAB Incontinence: Pathophysiology

- Does this have implications for different types of drug therapy?
 - Yes
 - What are they?
 - ◆ Depends on the transmitters involved and the level of the pathology.



OAB: Pathophysiology as it Relates to Therapy

- If the pathophysiology options are “True”, OAB can be due to only one or a combination.
- For #2 (Myogenic) and #5 (Pelvic Floor Laxity) and for non-muscarinic modes of activation in #1 (Neurogenic) and #4 (Urothelial Initiation) antimuscarinics would be minimally or less effective



Potential Targets for Pharmacotherapy of OAB

Central

- Cerebral cortex
- Midbrain (pontine micturition center)
- Spinal cord

Peripheral

- Motor (efferent) systems
 - Autonomic
 - Somatic
- Sensory (afferent) systems
 - C-fibers
 - A δ -fibers



OAB: Future Pharmacotherapy Ideas

- Potassium Channel Openers (M,S)
- Calcium Channel Blockers (M)
- 5-HT1a Antagonists (M)
- P2X3 Antagonists (M)
- P2X2, P2X, Antagonists (M)
- NK1 Antagonists (S)
- **B3 Agonists** (M, ?S)



M= Motor

S= Sensory

OAB Incontinence: Drug Therapy

- **Beyond Antimuscarinics**
 - Beta Agonists
 - ◆ Alone, or In Combination?
 - ◆ Drug-Drug Interactions?
 - Which others are possible?



OAB: Future Pharmacotherapy Ideas

- PG Synthesis Inhibitors (M, S)
- PG Antagonists (EP 1, 3 Receptors) (M)
- Vit D3 Analogues (M)
- Rho Kinase Inhibitors (M)
- Na Channel Blockers (S)
- SNRIs (M, ?S)



M= Motor

S= Sensory

OAB: Future Pharmacotherapy Ideas

- **Vanilloid Receptor Antag/Agonists** (S)
- **Botulinum Toxin** (M,S)
- **PDE Inhibitors** (M)
- **TPRV1 and 8 Antagonists** (S)
- **Centrally Acting Drugs** (M,S)
- **Cannabinoids** (?)
- **Nociceptin/Orphanin FQ** (S)
- **Gene Therapy** (S)



OAB Incontinence: Botulinum Toxin Therapy

- Does demonstration of DO make a difference?
- Mechanism of action?
 - Afferent, Efferent, or Both
 - Transmitters Involved
- For Neurogenic and Non-Neurogenic
 - Location(s)?
 - ◆ Relates to sensory locations and spread of impulses.
 - Depth?
 - Dose?



OAB Incontinence: Estrogen

- No, Maybe, or Yes?
- Physiologic Role in sensory and motor function of the LUT in the adult?
- Pharmacologic effects on the sensory and motor function of the LUT?
- Oral or vaginal?



Central Neurotransmitters Involved in LUT Function

- GABA
- Dopamine
- Glutamic acid
- Enkephalins
- Serotonin
- Norepinephrine

Problems: Entry into CNS and specific site of action



OAB Incontinence: Neuromodulation

- Mechanism(s) of Action?
- Sacral vs. Posterior Tibial vs. Vaginal vs. Magnetic (?). Transcutaneous?
 - Same MOA, just different effects based on distance from CNS and type(s) of fibers activated?



OAB Incontinence: Surgical Therapy

- Ingleman – Sundberg (54) ?
- Detrusor Myomectomy (63) ?
- SUI Surgery and OAB
 - How much SUI needs to be present?
 - Resolution of OAB symptoms?
 - Worsening? De Novo?
 - Persistence?
 - Mechanism, when effective?



OAB Incontinence: Outcomes

- What is cure, satisfaction, success?
- Outcomes
 - Objective
 - Semi-Objective
 - Subjective
 - ◆ Global
 - Adverse
- Follow-up: how long is long enough?
- Can we establish a common reporting system?
 - “Truth among friends”



Patient Global Impression of Improvement (PGI-I)

- Very much better
 - Much better
 - A little better
 - No change
 - A little worse
 - Much worse
 - Very much worse
-
- Validated for treatment of Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI)



What We Don't Know:
Pelvic Organ Prolapse as It Relates to
Incontinence



POP

- **“Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery”**
- **So, cant ignore it or just “throw a few stitches”**



POP: As it relates to incontinence

- What is the relation (and pathophysiologic mechanism of any effect) to:
 - OAB?
 - SUI?
- Could Petros be correct?
- POP correction can favorably or unfavorably affect OAB, make manifest or worsen SUI (if no SUI correction).



POP: Pathophysiology

- **Risk factors**

- Contributors or Associations?
- Possible Points of Alteration

- **Common to SUI**

- Role of Collagen/Elastin synthesis and metabolism?
- Role of Estrogen?



POP: Conservative Therapy

- **Defining outcomes and satisfaction (SUI, OAB)**
- **Conservative Management (Pessaries)**
 - Long term persistence and success?



POP: Surgical Therapy

- **Surgical Management**
 - Anterior
 - Posterior
 - Apical
- **Role of open, vaginal, lap/robotic techniques?**
- **Use of synthetics?**
- **Concomitant SUI procedure?**
 - Colposuspensions (Multiple)
 - Traditional Sling
 - Mid-Urethral Sling, TVT, TOT
 - “Mini”-Sling, Adjustable Sling, or Balloons



Thank You



With a Little Help from Some Friends

- Paul Abrams
- Linda Cardozo
- Chris Chapple
- Roger Dmochowski
- Howard Goldman
- Bill Jaffe
- Gary Lemack
- Ray Rackley
- Eric Rovner
- Ariana Smith
- David Staskin
- Chris Winters

