

# **DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEAD AND NECK**

**Placodes and the development of  
organs of special sense**

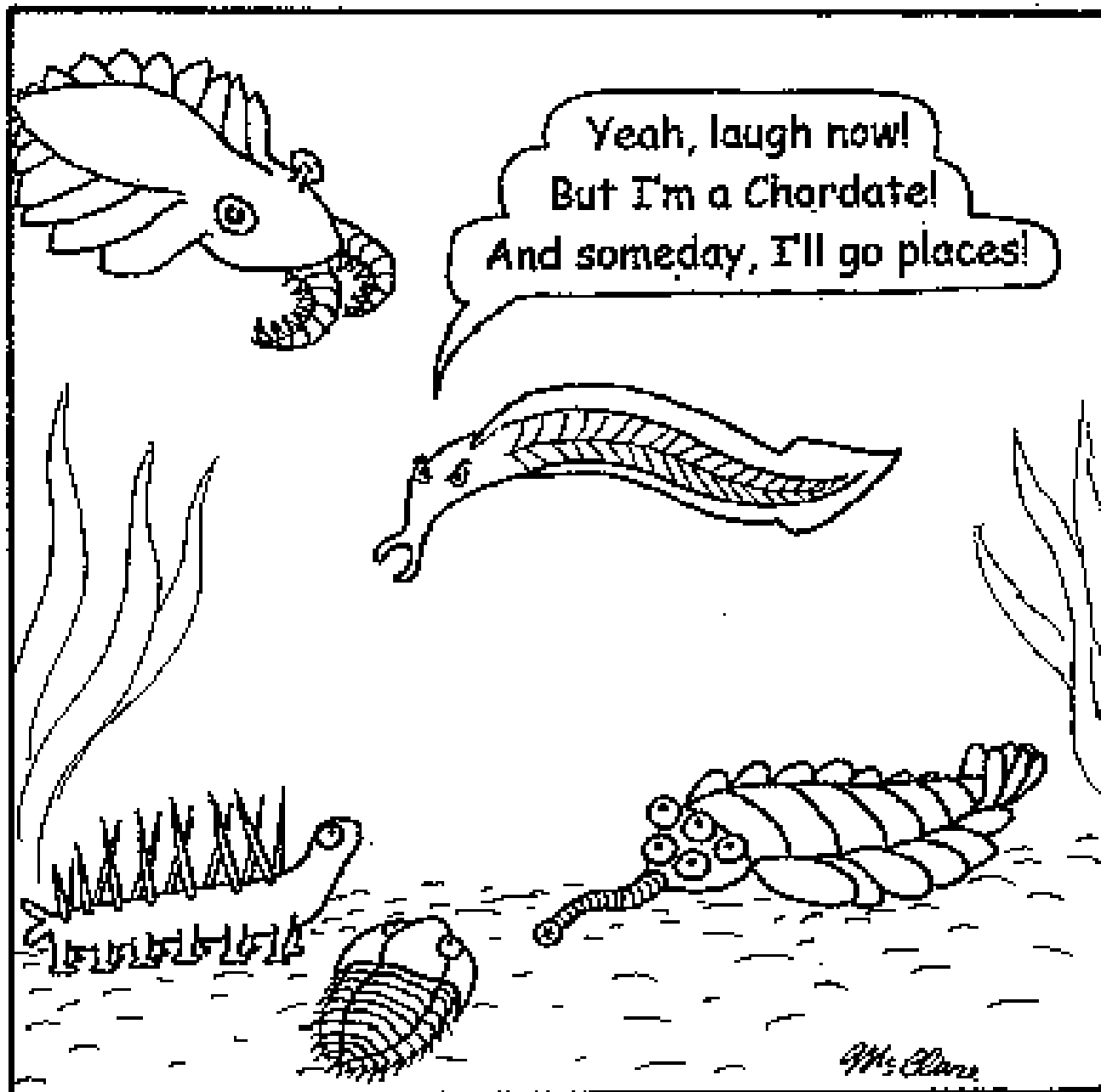
L. Moss-Salentijn

# **PLACODES**

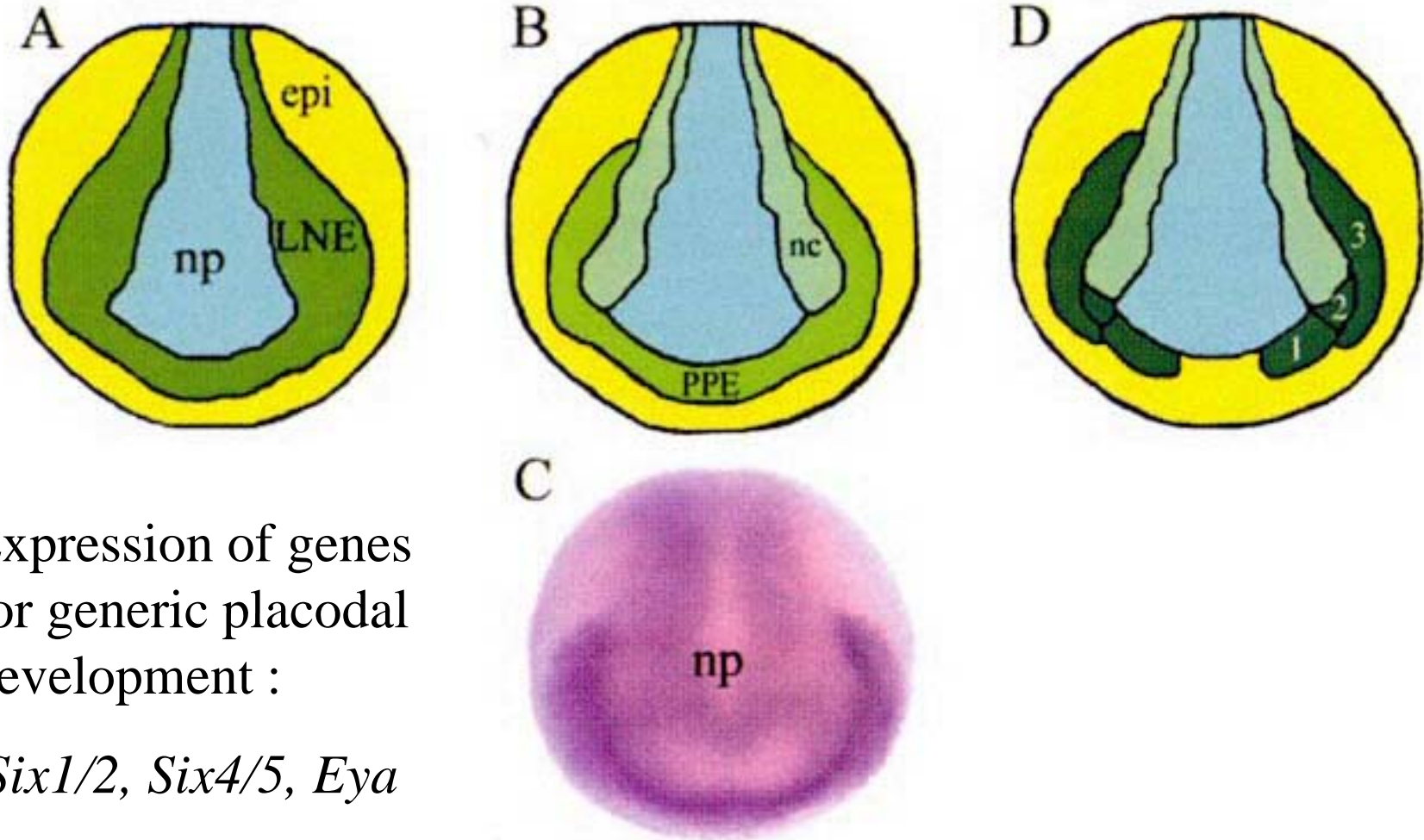
**Localized thickened areas of specialized ectoderm, lateral to the neural crest, at the border between neural plate and the future epidermis**

# **Placodes give rise to several evolutionary novelties in the “new heads” of vertebrates:**

- Specialized paired sense organs. However, structures analogous to placodes are present in non-vertebrate chordates.
- Cranial ganglia of the branchiomic nerves in pharyngeal arches.



# Panplacodal ectoderm



Expression of genes  
for generic placodal  
development :

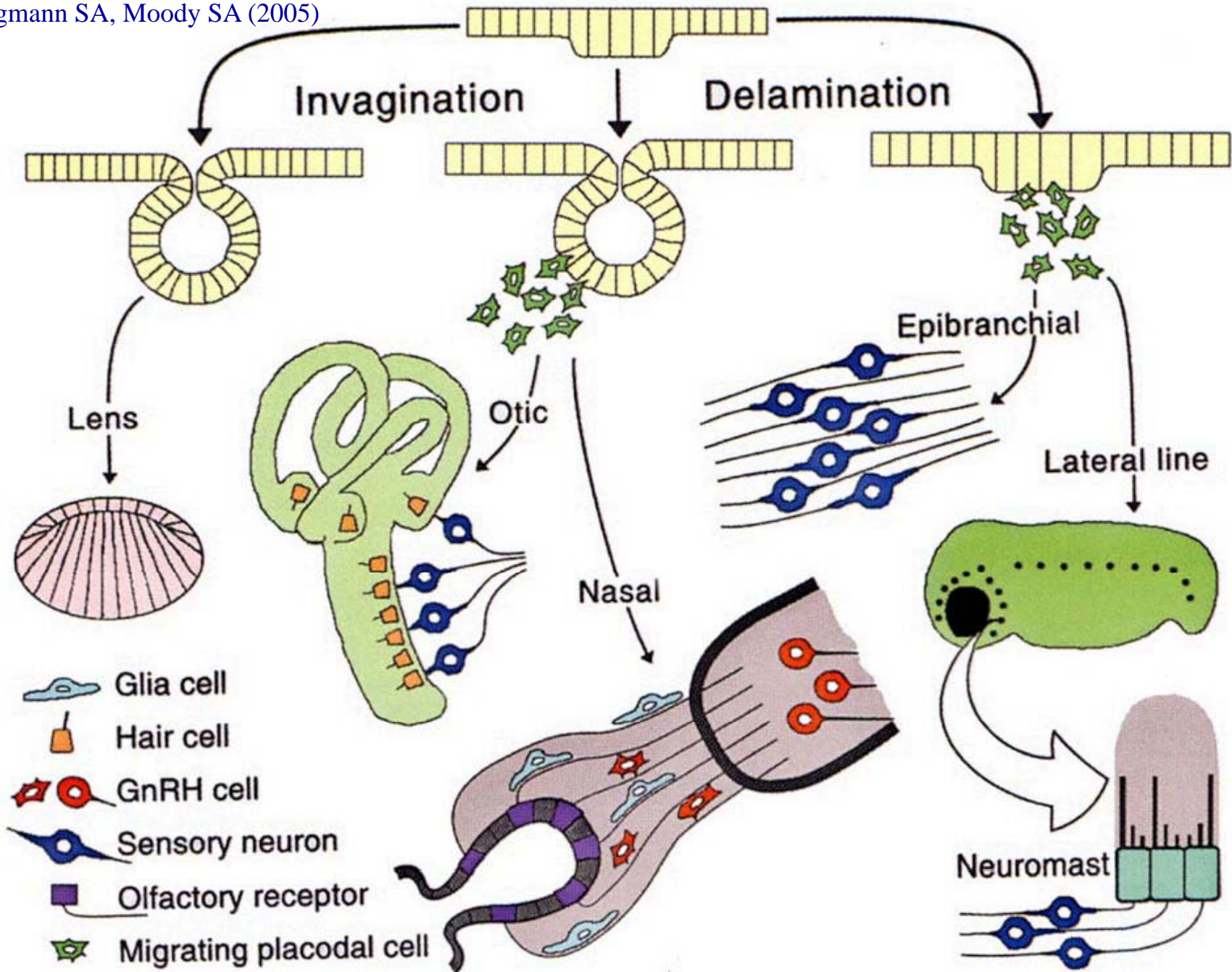
*Six1/2, Six4/5, Eya*

Brugmann SA, Moody SA (2005)

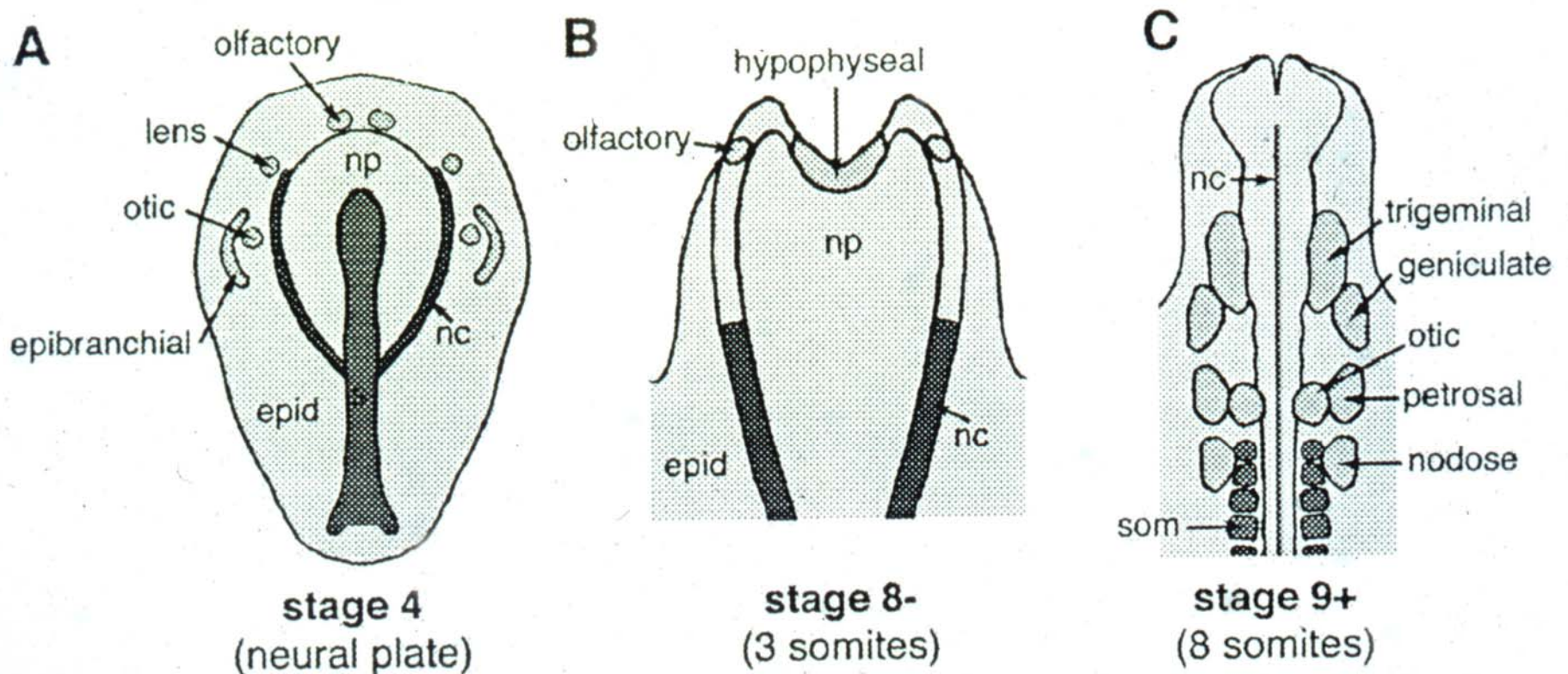
# Different kinds of placodes

- Contributing to organs of special sense:
  - ◆ Olfactory
  - ◆ Lens (only placode that does not have neural fate)
  - ◆ Otic
- Contributing to distal ganglia of branchiomic nerves:
  - ◆ Trigeminal (profundal + V 2/3)
  - ◆ Epibranchial (3)
- Hypobranchial (2) (contribute to hypobranchial ganglia - frog only; not in chick, mouse, zebrafish)

Brugmann SA, Moody SA (2005)

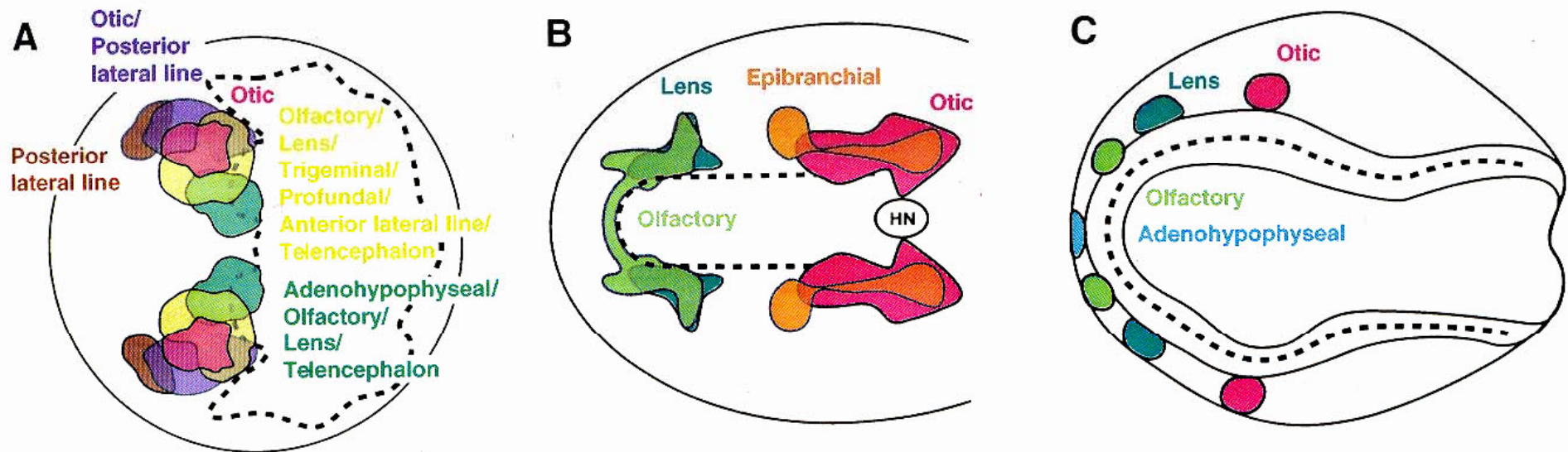


# Distribution of placodes at 3 developmental stages



- A. Initial induction of placodes in pre-placodal ectoderm field
- B. Olfactory placodal cells are incorporated in outer folds of anterior neural ridge

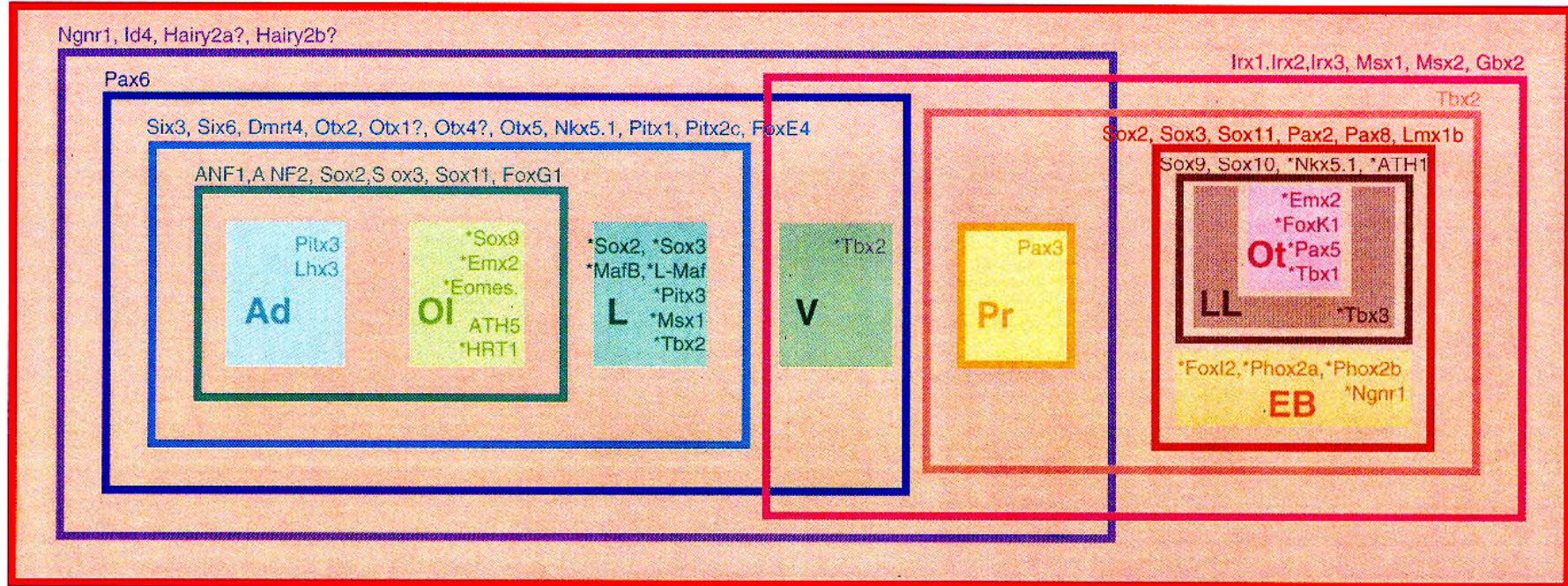
# Fate maps of cephalic placodes in zebrafish, chick and salamander



Schlosser G (2006)

# Transcription factor expression domains in panplacodal primordium

Six1, Six2, Six4, Eya1, Grg4, Grg5, Dlx3, Dlx5, Dlx6, GATA1, GATA2, GATA3, NZFB, Foxl1, Id3, Hes6?, ESR6e



Xenopus

Schlosser G (2006)

# Development of placodes: similarities

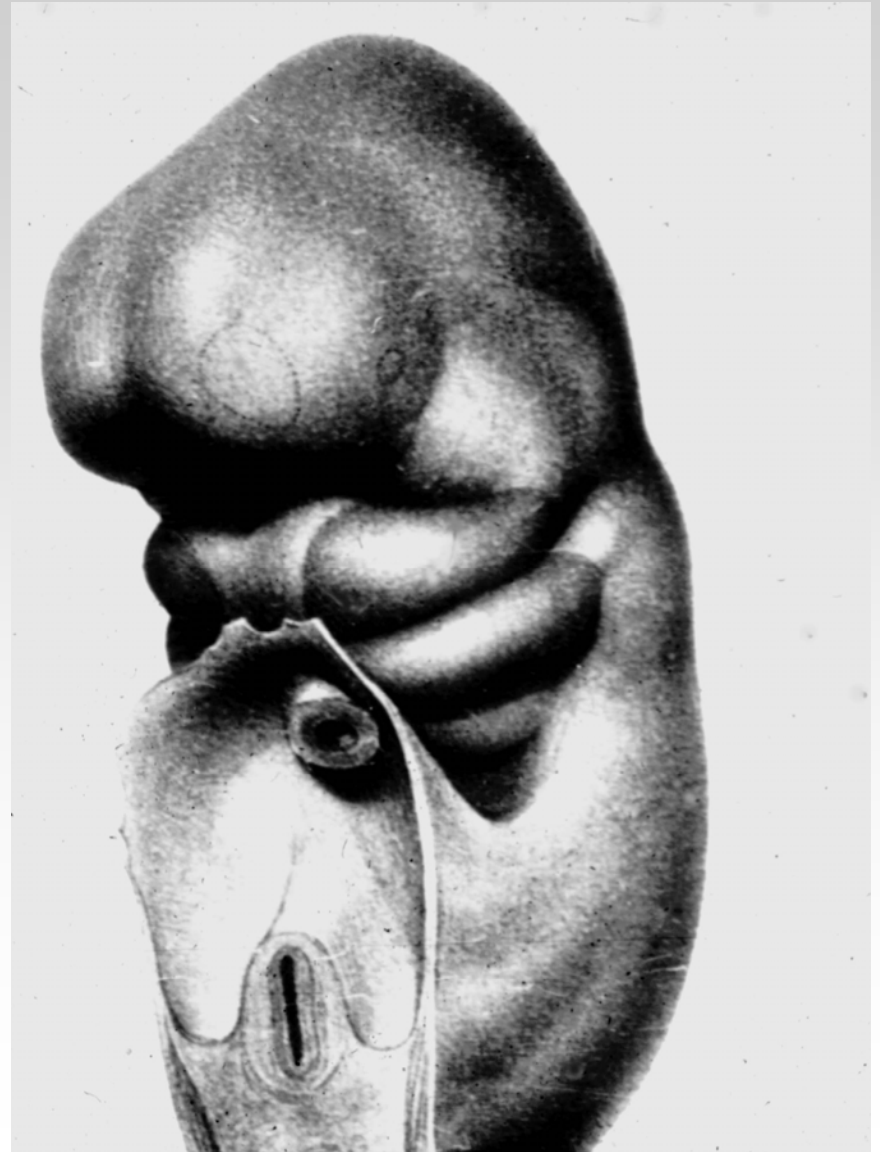
- Under influence of surrounding tissues – **no evidence for role of neural crest in this process**
- All express one or more members of Pax family of genes early in development

# Development of placodes - differences

- Epibranchial placodes: pharyngeal endoderm (BMP-7 signal), Pax2 and Sox3
- Ophthalmic placode of V: neurectoderm of mesencephalon (diffusible signal ?), Pax3
- Otic placode: initially axial and non-axial mesoderm, Pax 8; later hindbrain (FGF-3,-8,-10 signals), Pax2, Sox3, Notch
- Lens placode: forebrain & anterior mesoderm (BMP-4, later BMP-7 signals), Pax6, later Pax2
- Olfactory placode: anterior mesoderm (and forebrain? – no signal identified as yet), Pax6

# Location of placodes (1)

- *Near forebrain :*
  - ◆ **Olfactory placode**
  - ◆ **Lens placode**

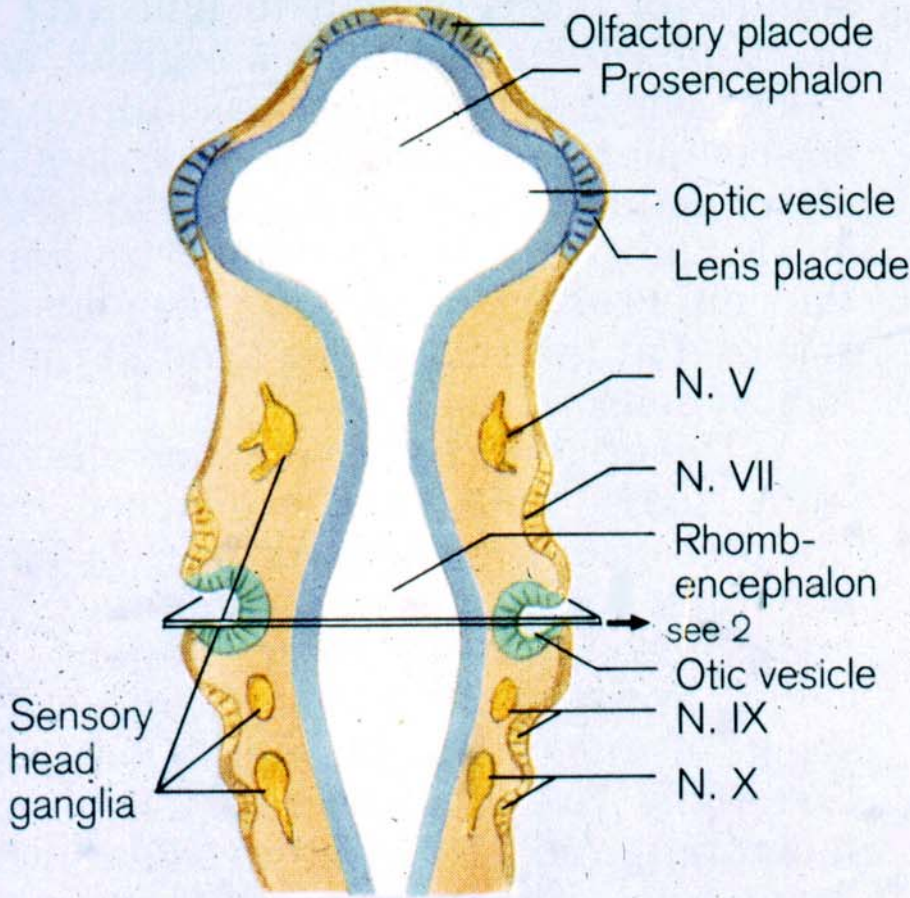


# Location of placodes (2)

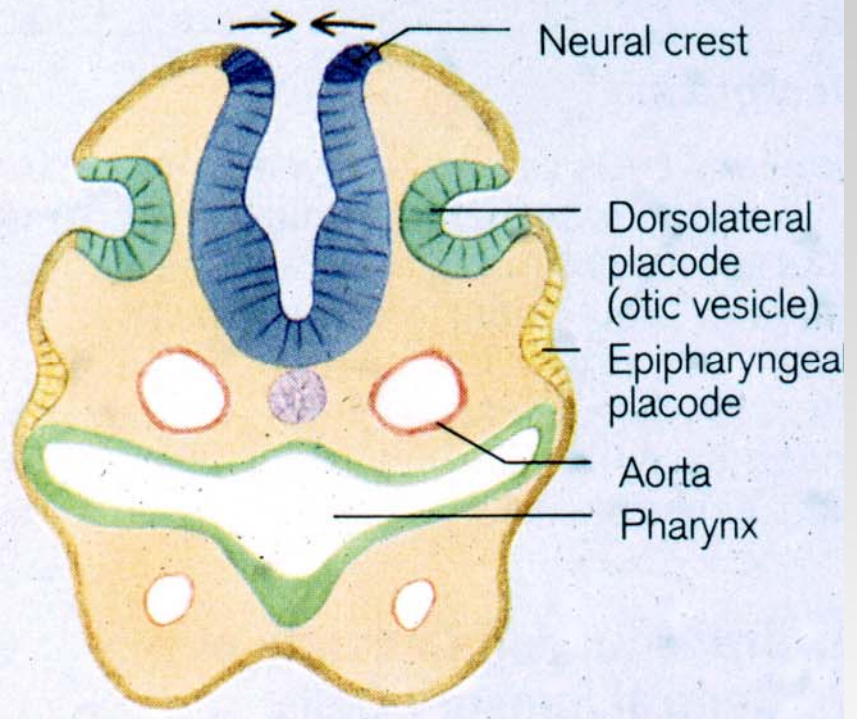
- *Dorsolateral* :

**Otic placode: related to (= evolved from or having common origin with) lateral line system**





1  
 Sensory placodes

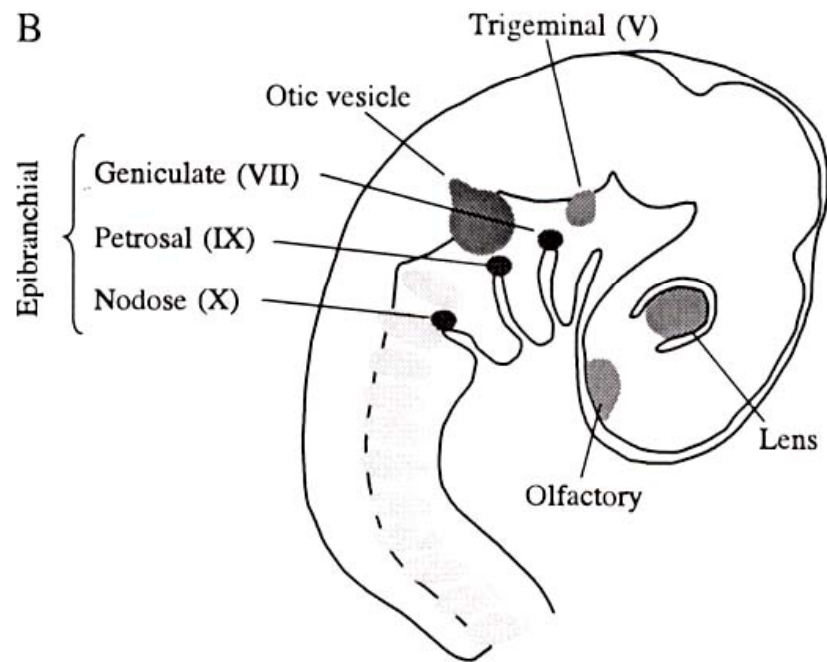
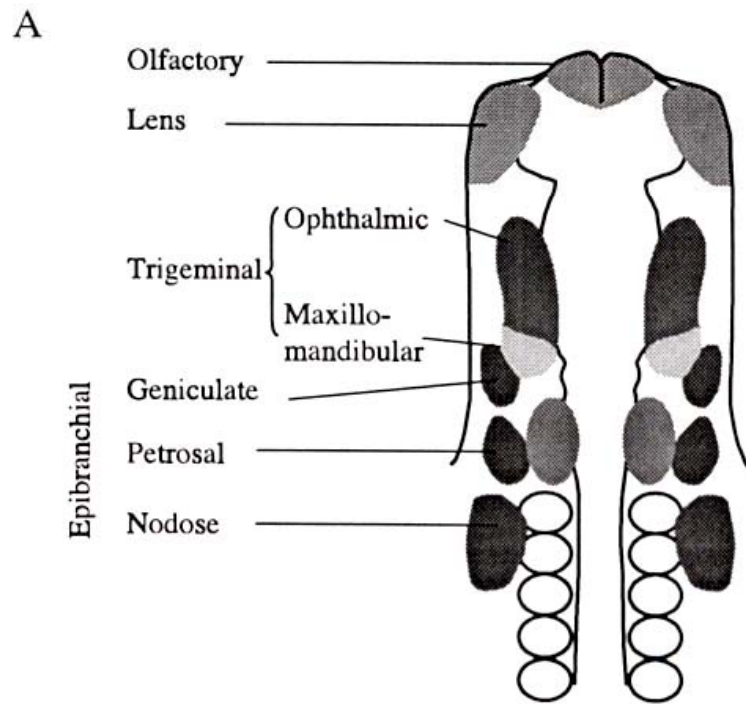


2  
 Dorsolateral and epipharyngeal placodes

Classification of placodes

## Location of placodes (3)

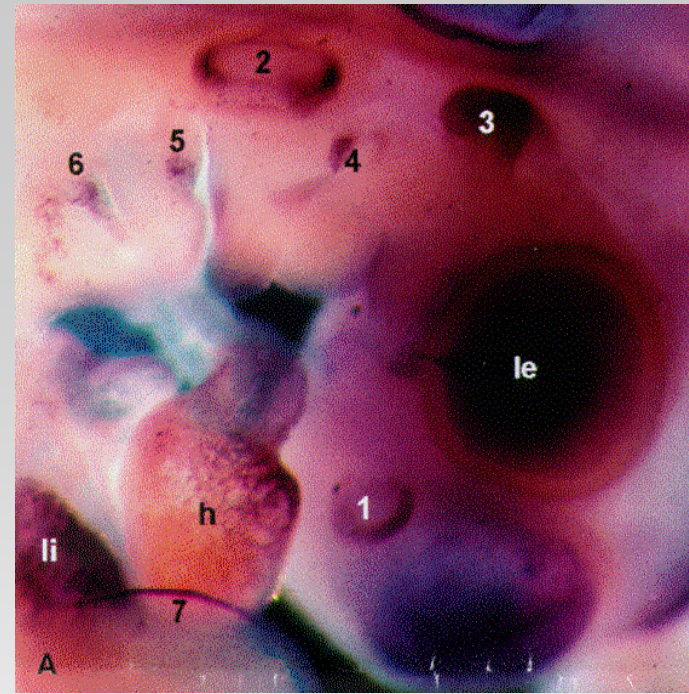
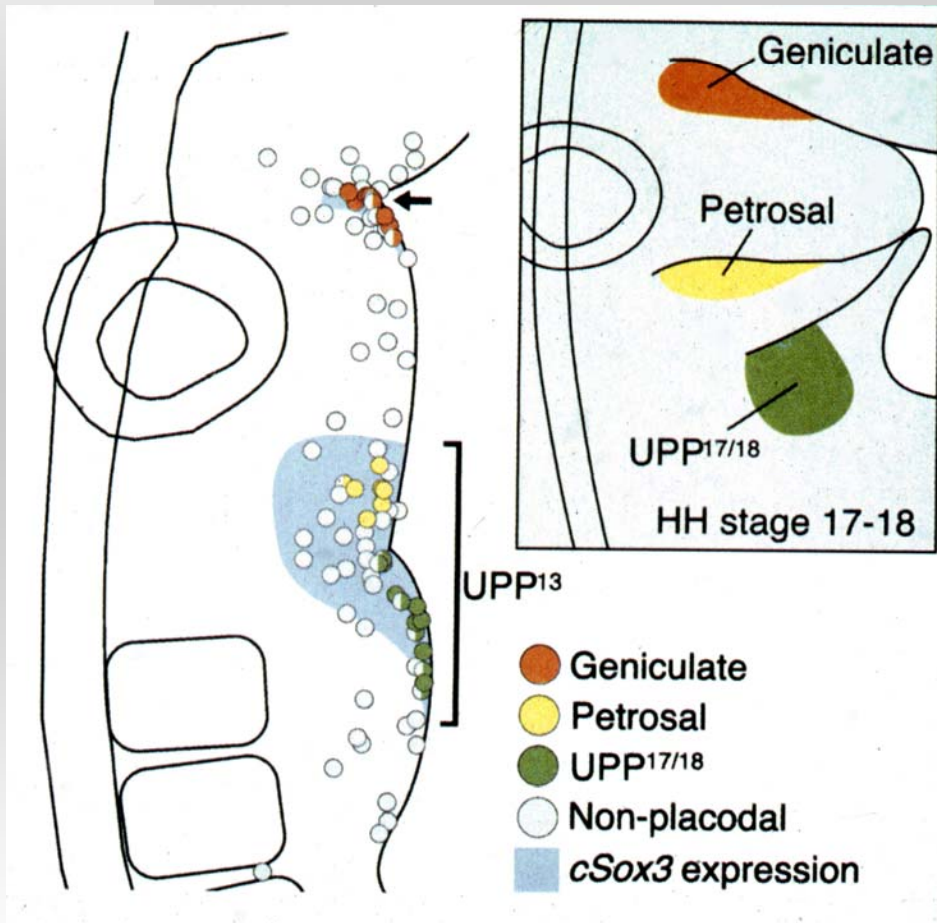
- ***Intermediate*** between otic placode and epibranchial placodes :  
**Ophthalmic (profundal component) and trigeminal placode**



Streit A (2004)

## Location of placodes (4)

- *Epibranchial series* – dorsal ends of 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> pharyngeal grooves
- *Hypobranchial series* in frogs – ventral ends of 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> pharyngeal grooves ?



1. Olfactory
2. Otic
3. Trigeminal (V)
4. Facial (VII)
5. Glossopharyngeal (IX)
6. Vagal (X)

# NEURAL CREST CELLS

# PLACODES

LOCATION  
DERIVATIVES

LOCATION  
DERIVATIVES

Ciliary  
Trigeminal

Proximal VII (Root)  
Ethmoidal  
Sphenopalatine

Proximal IX  
(Superior)

Proximal X  
(Jugular)

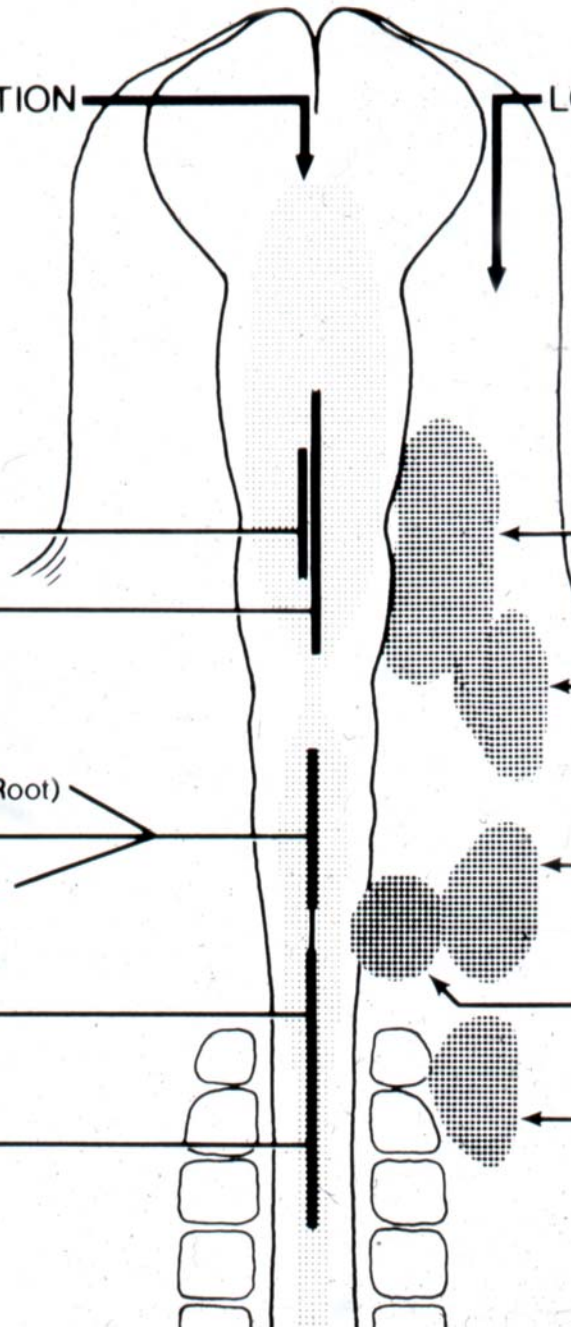
Trigeminal

Distal VII  
(Geniculate)

Distal IX  
(Petrosal)

Vestibulo-acoustic

Distal X  
(Nodose)



# Branchiomic nerves: origins and axon projection patterns

## Origins of Branchial Nerves

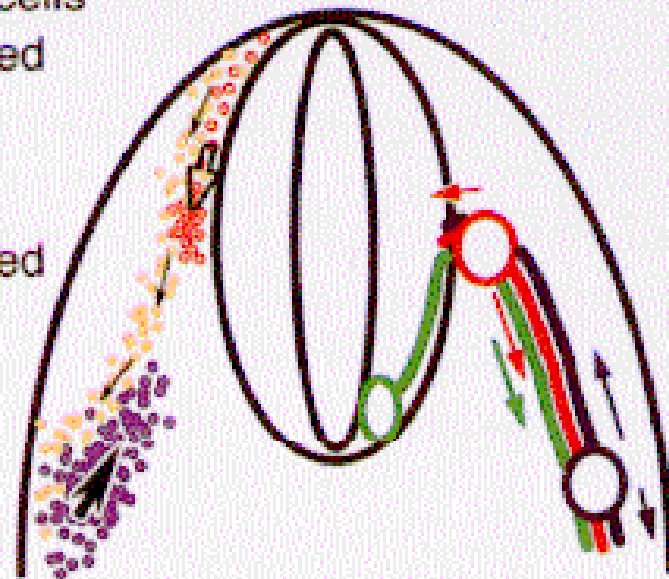
neuronal precursor cells

● neural crest-derived

● placode-derived

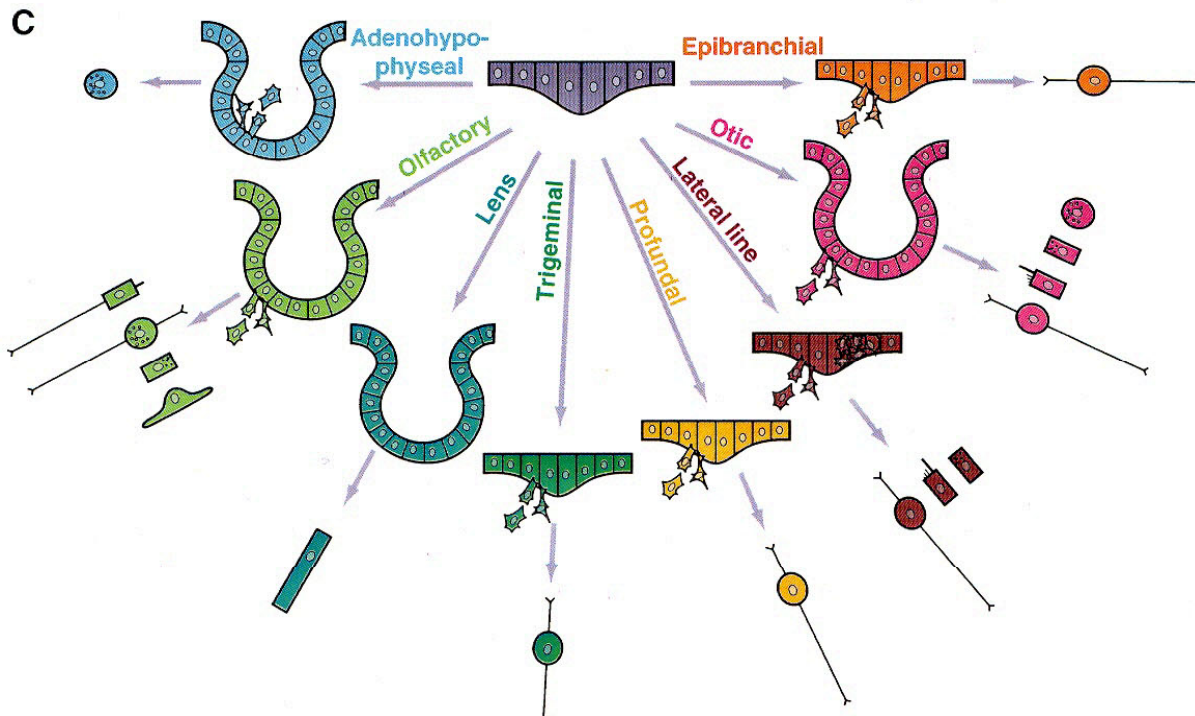
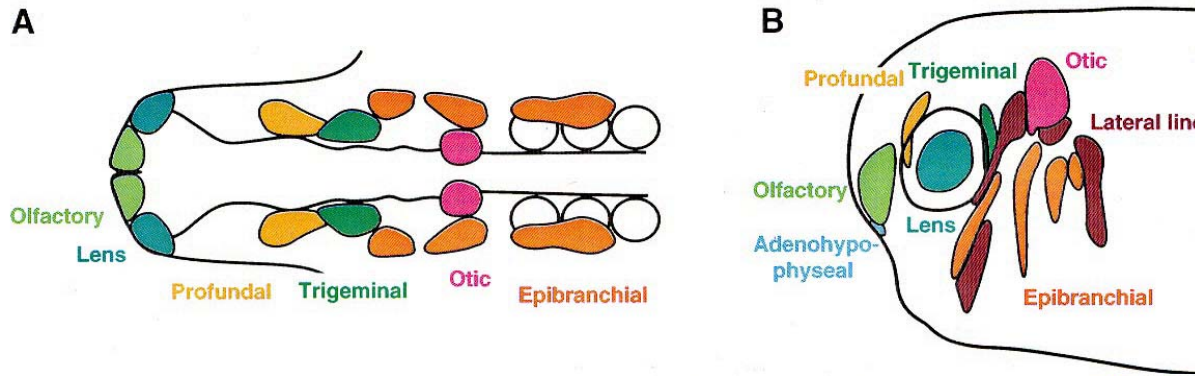
glial precursor cells

● neural crest-derived



## Axon Projection Pattern

- sensory neurons in the proximal ganglion
- sensory neurons in the distal ganglion
- motor neurons

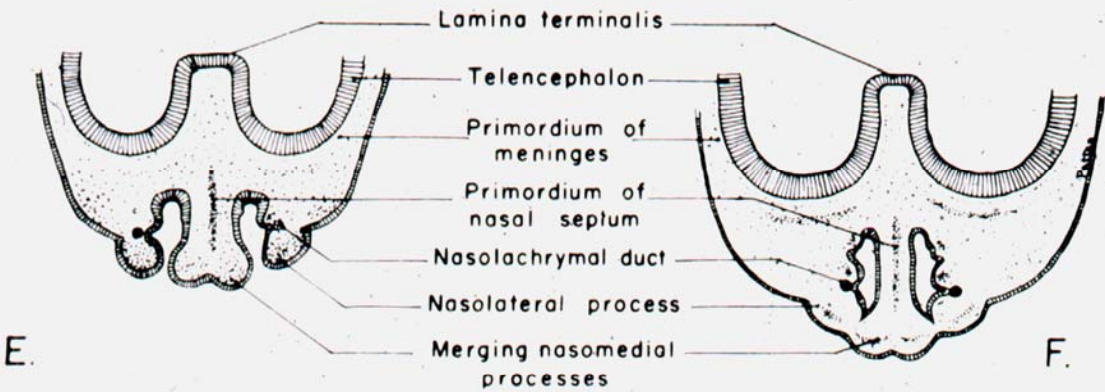
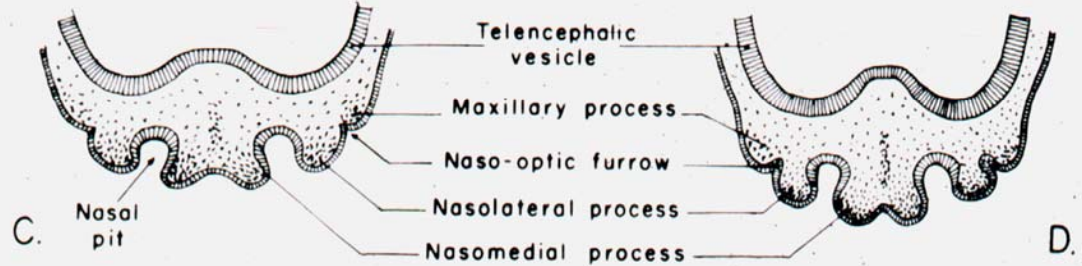
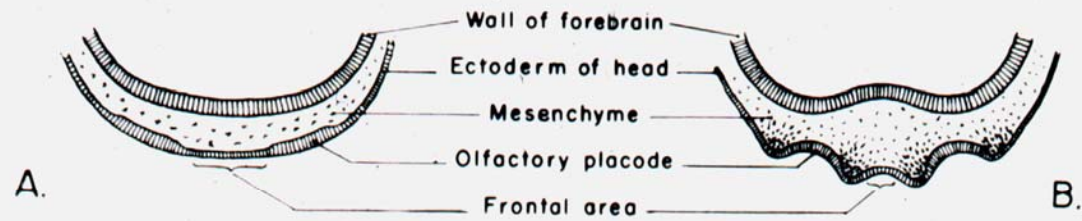


- primary sensory cell
- secondary sensory cell
- sensory neuron
- secretory neuron
- secretory cell
- supporting cell
- glial cell
- crystallin-containing cell
- mesenchymal cells

Schlosser G (2006)

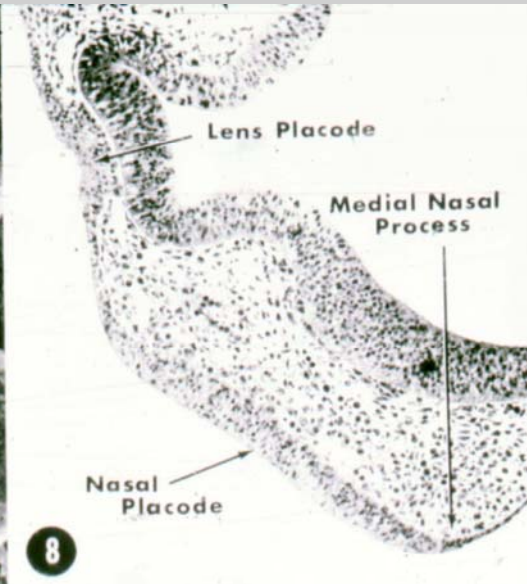
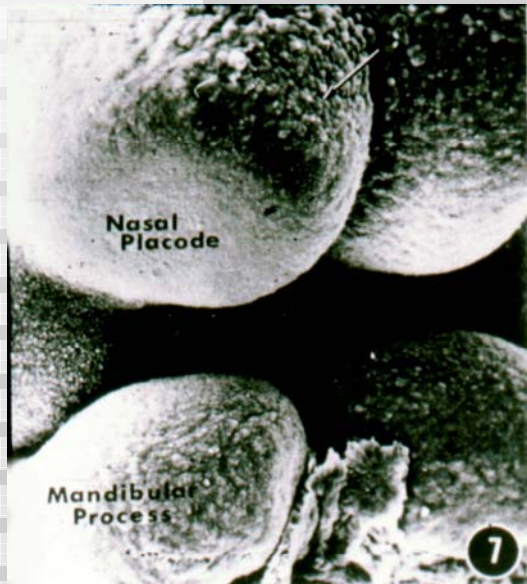
# Development of organs of special sense

		Surface ectoderm	Nervous System		ORIGIN OF SENSORY ELEMENTS	ORIGIN OF NERVOUS CONDUCTORS
Gan- glionic cell	I			OL- FACTION	Placode	Placode
	II			VISION	Neural tube	Neural tube
	VIII			AUDITION BALANCE	Placode	Placode
	IX			TASTE	Sensory differentiation of certain cells of surface ectodermal covering of tongue	Neural crest (spinal ganglia)
	L M			PAIN TOUCH	Free nerve endings (L) : neural crest. Mesenchymal cells (M)	Neural crest (spinal ganglia)

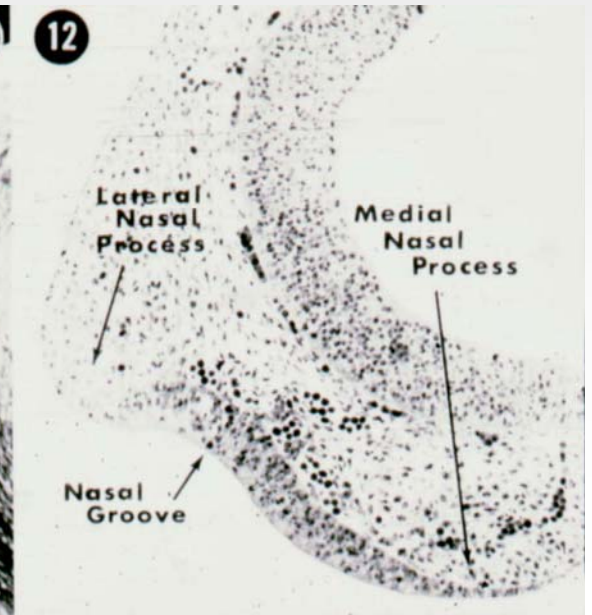
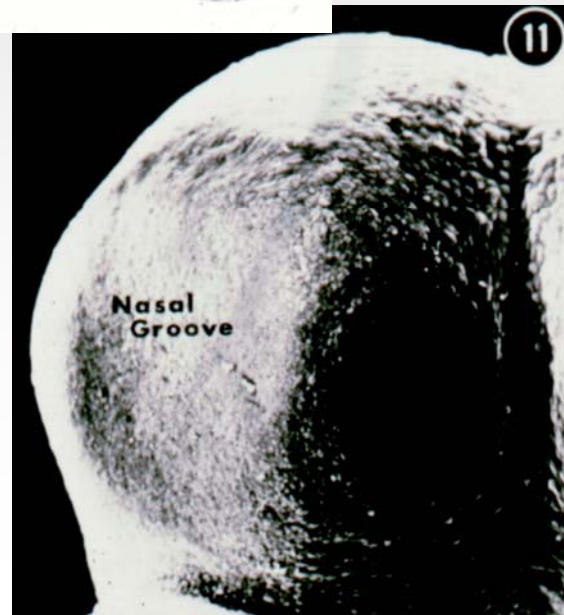


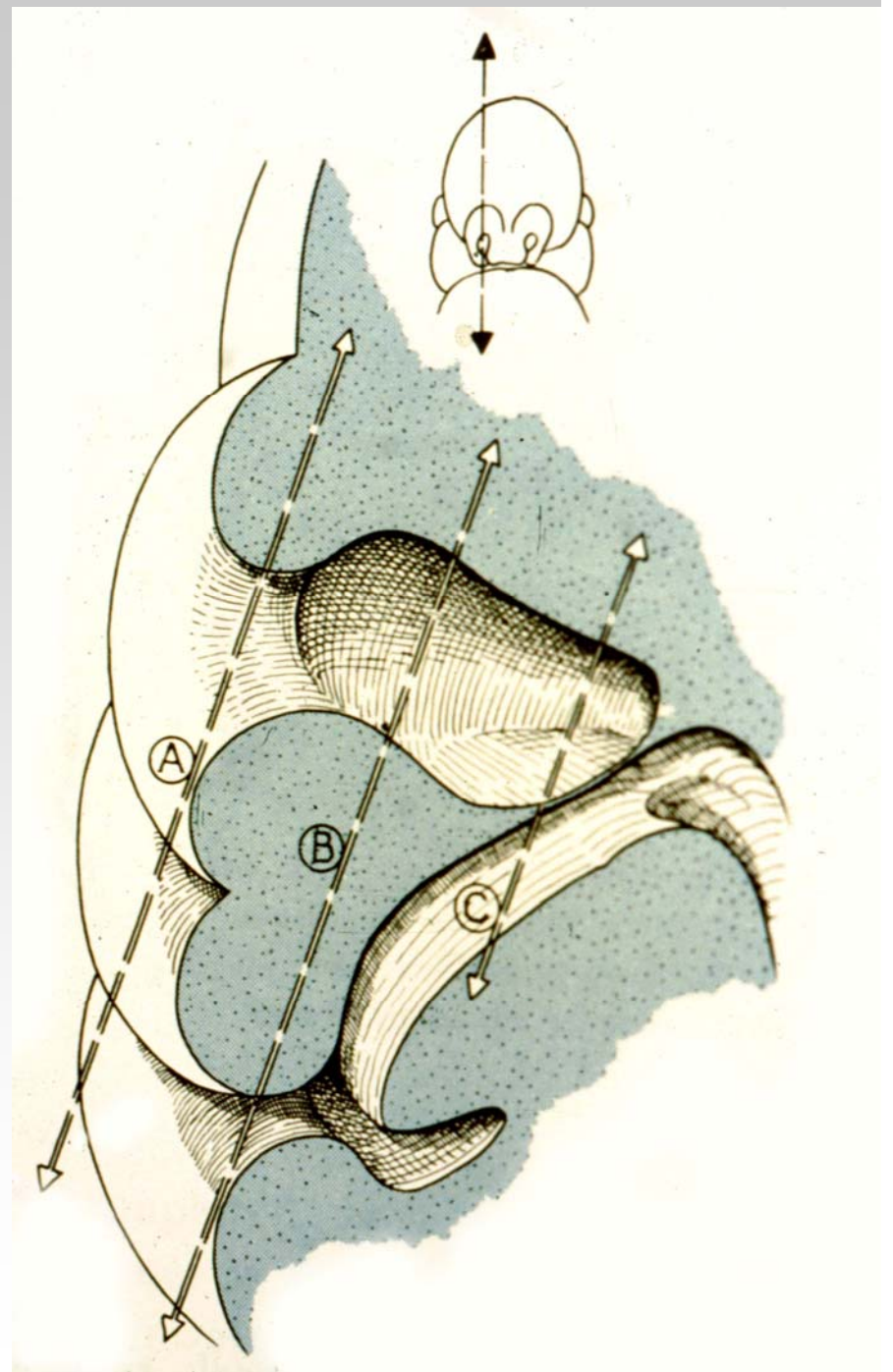
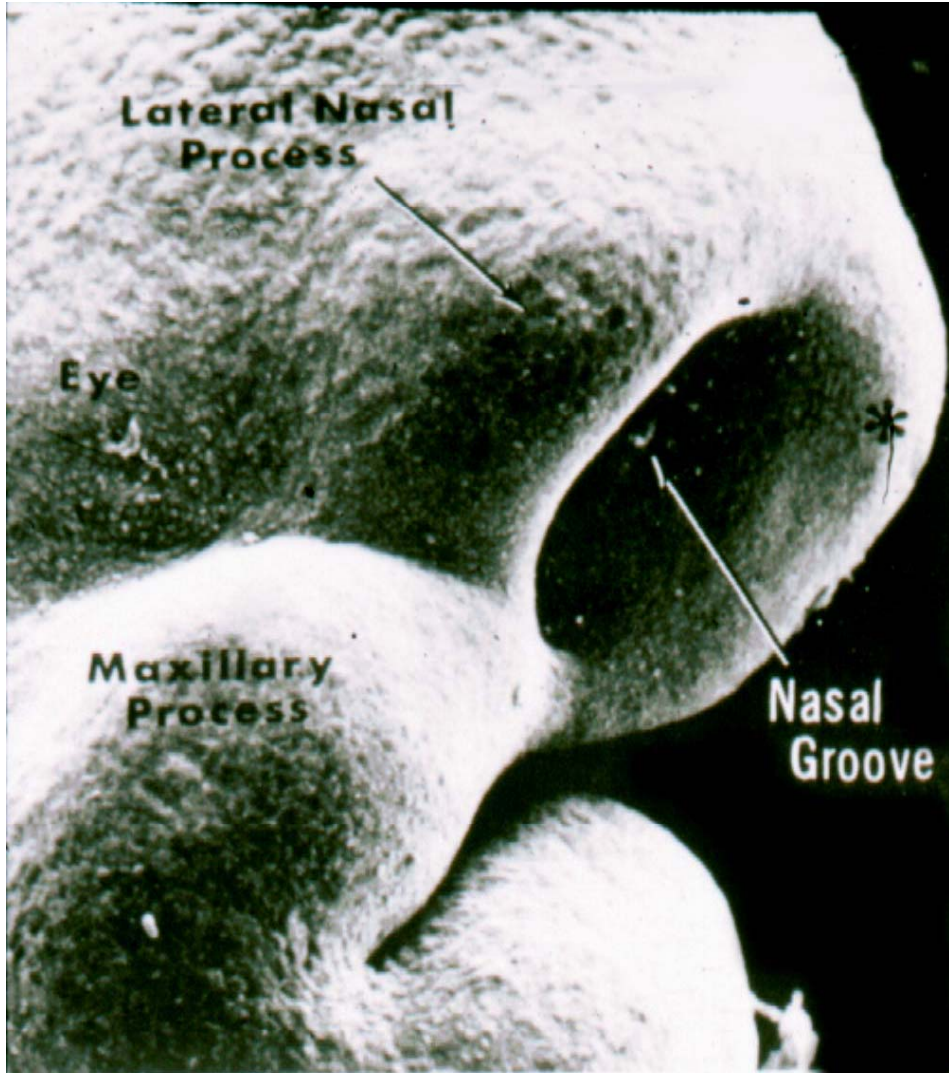
# Olfactory epithelium: development of the nose

# Olfactory epithelium: development of the nose



Transient pioneer neurons set up scaffold







**Olfactory  
epithelium**

68-84 days

Fibers of olfactory nerve

Olfactory epithelium

*a*

Primordium of bulb

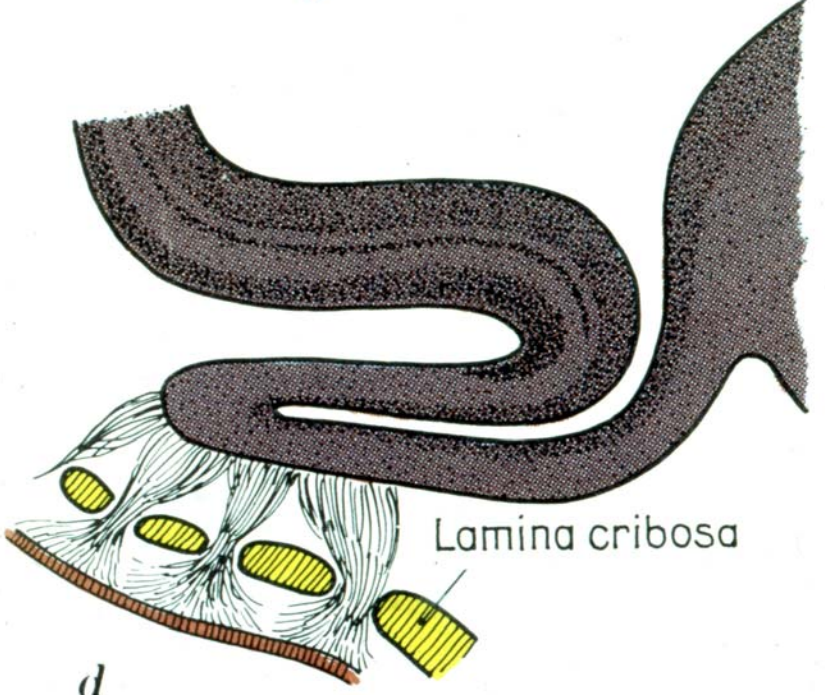
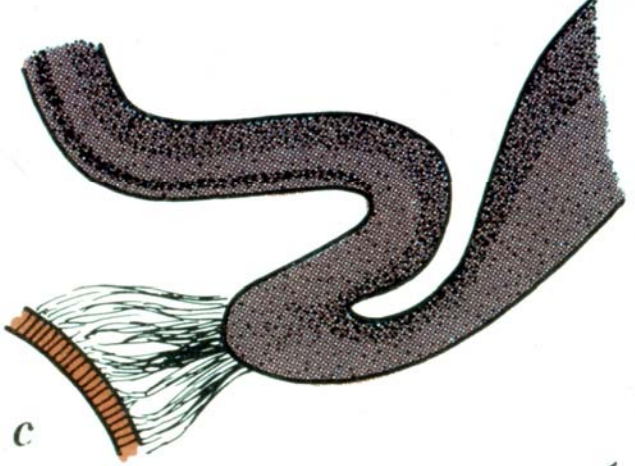
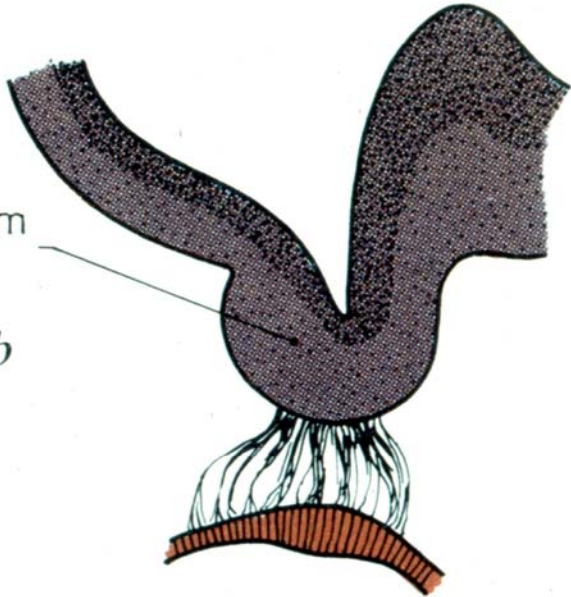
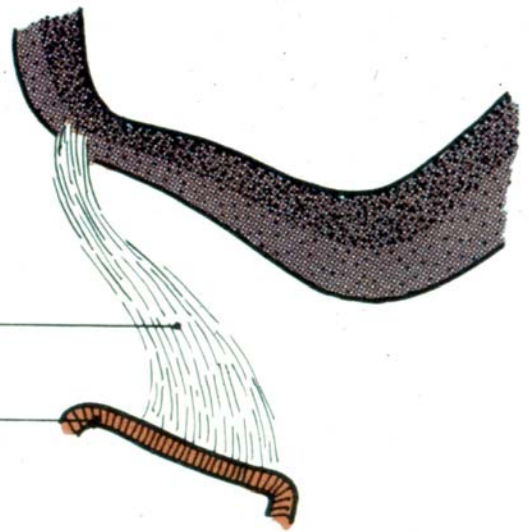
*b*

46-54 days

*c*

Lamina cribrosa

*d*

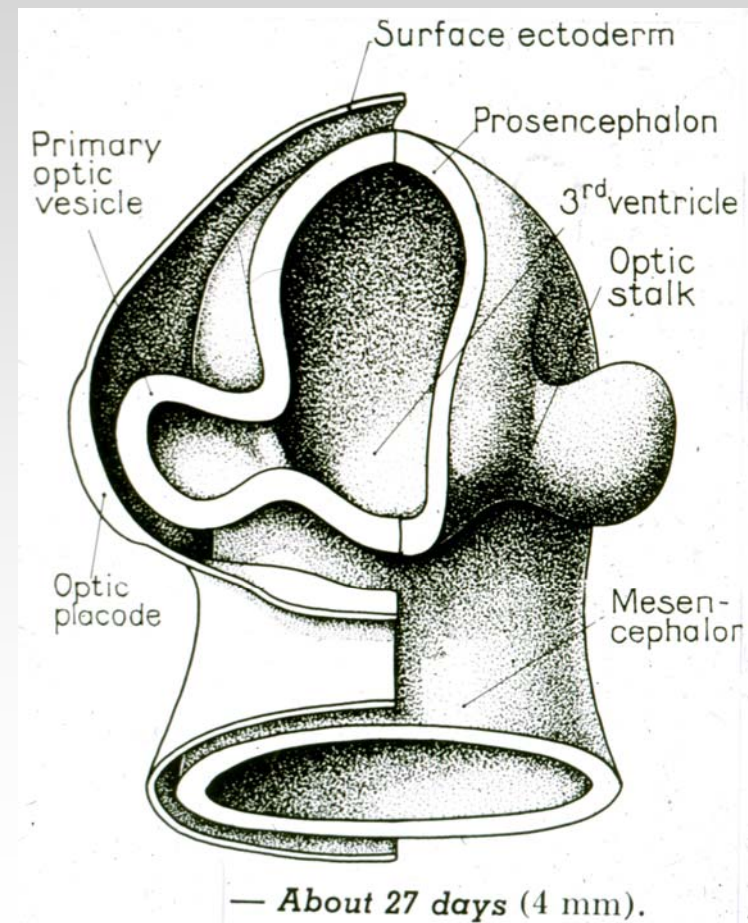
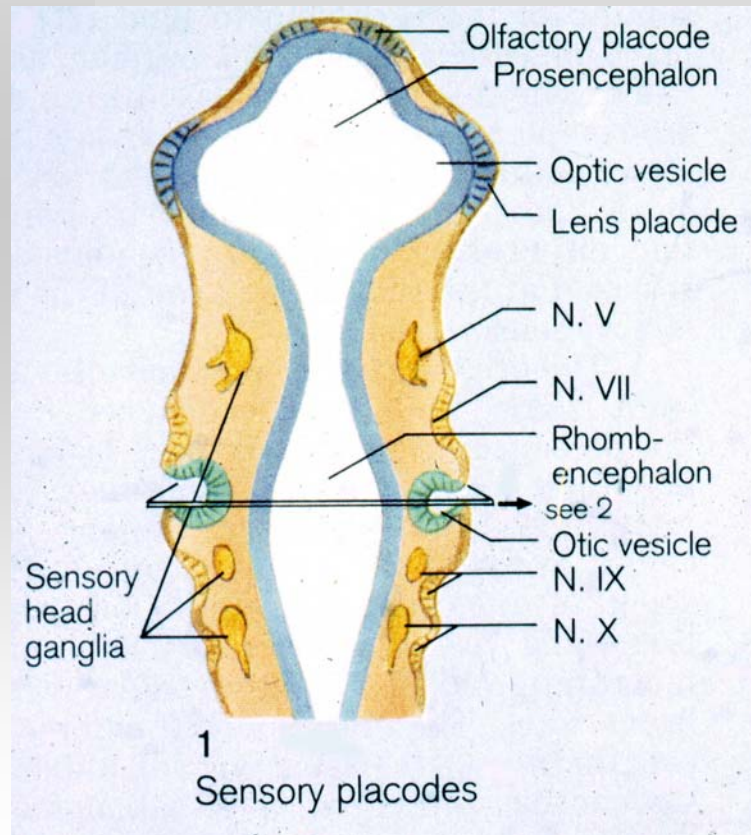


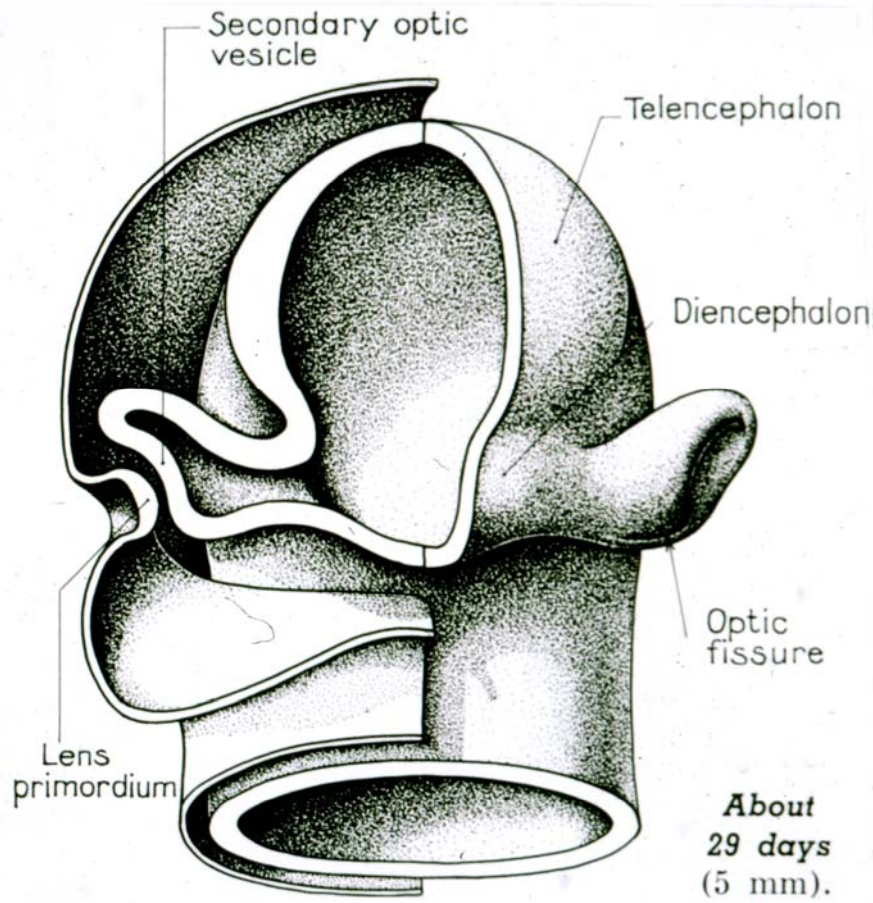
# Olfactory placode gives rise to:

- Sensory receptor cells of olfactory epithelium of the nose (odorant sensing)
- Sensory receptor cells of vomeronasal epithelium (pheromone sensing)
- Basal cells and support cells (olfactory ensheathing cells - glia)

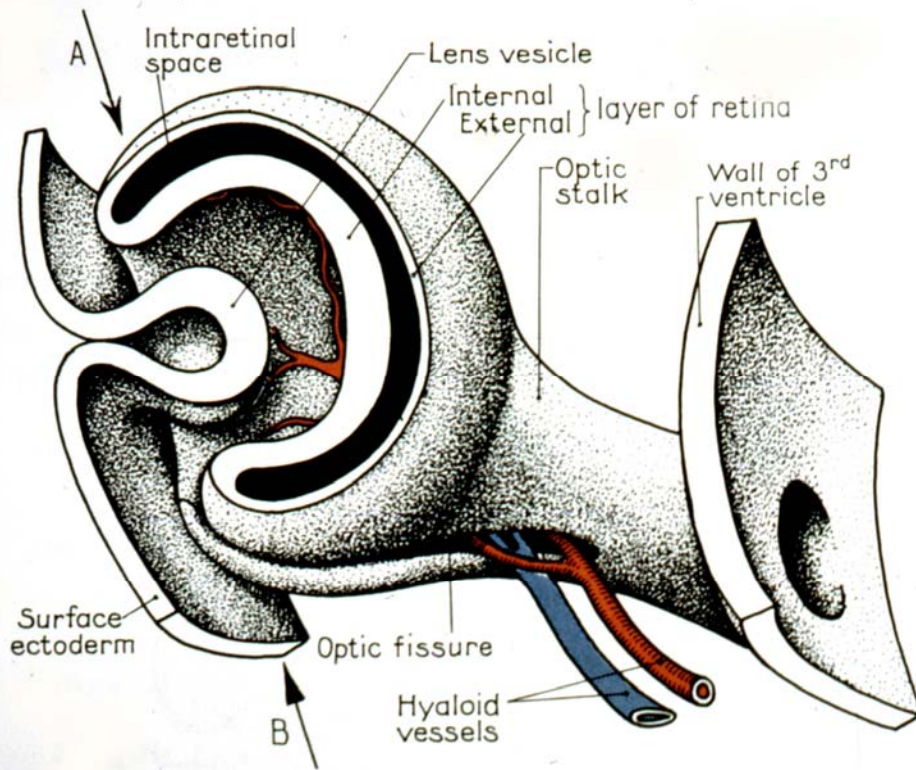
# Development of the eye :

1. evagination of forebrain (optic vesicle)
2. invagination of lens placode





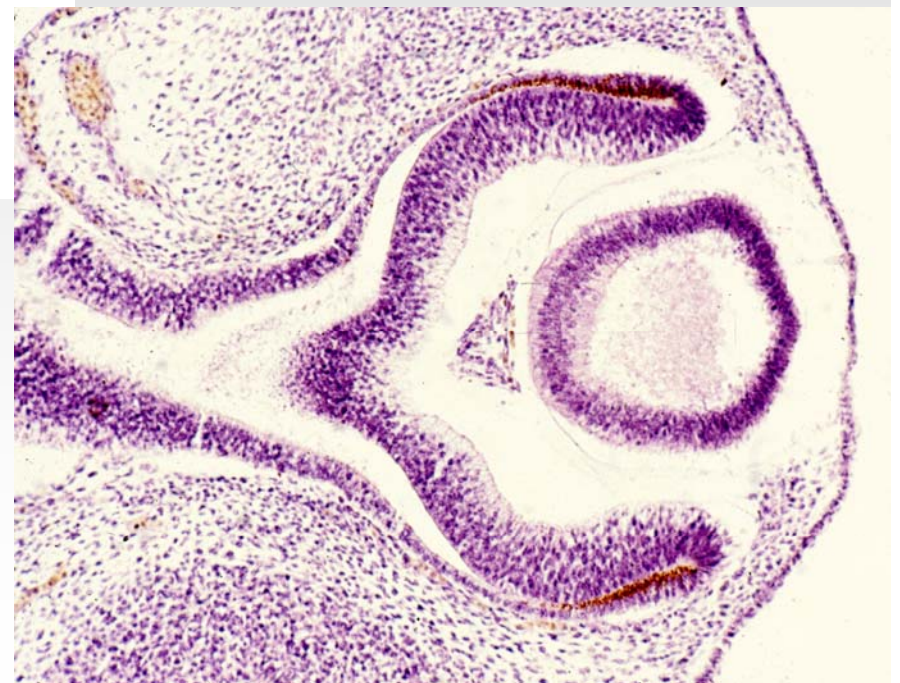
Optic vesicle forms optic cup under influence of lens primordium. Between developing lens vesicle and optic cup : primary vitreous body.



*Human ocular primordium.* Embryo of about 33 days.

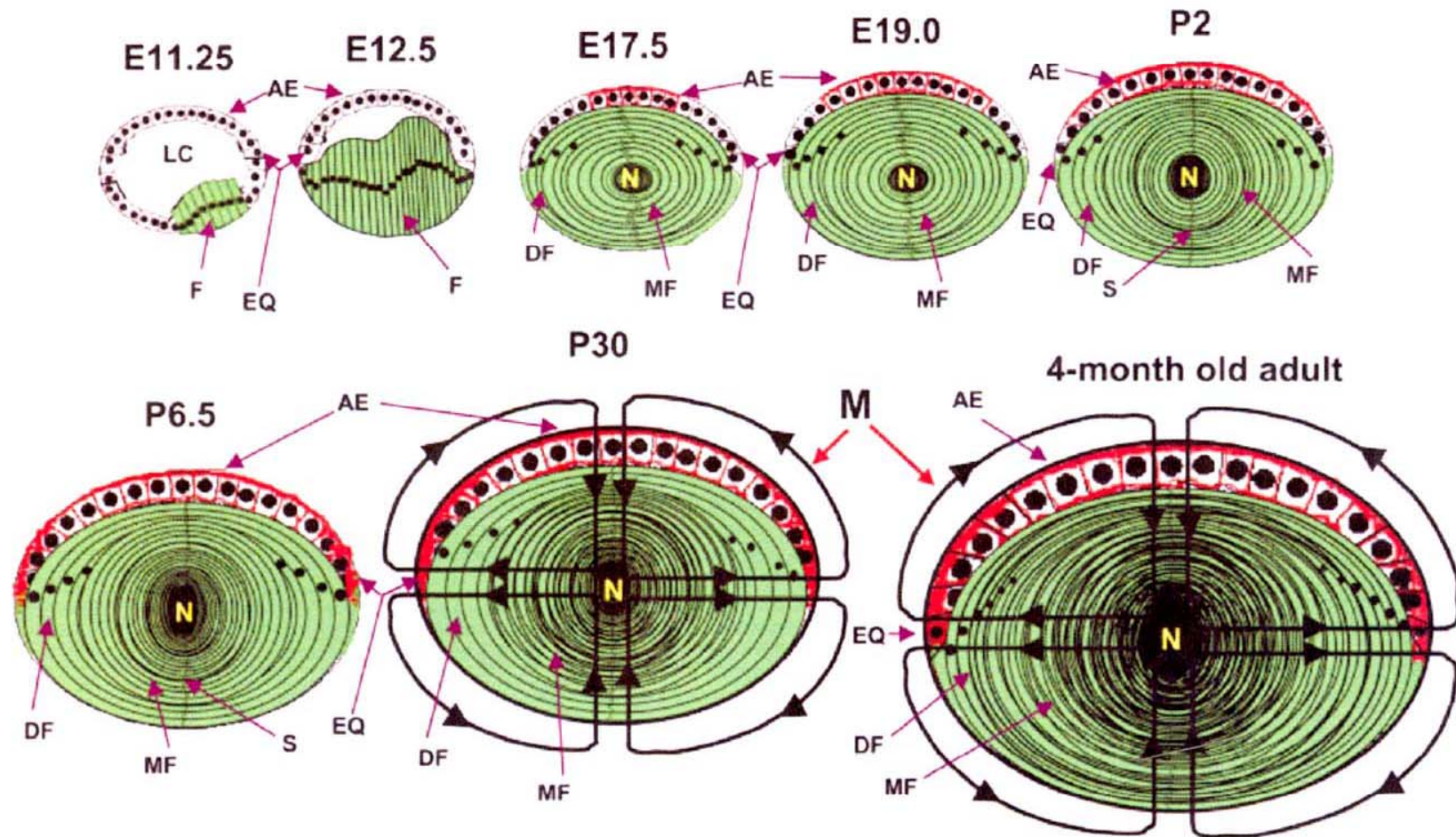
**Hyaloid A.:**  
**terminal branch of**  
**ophthalmic A.**  
**(future central**  
**artery of retina)**

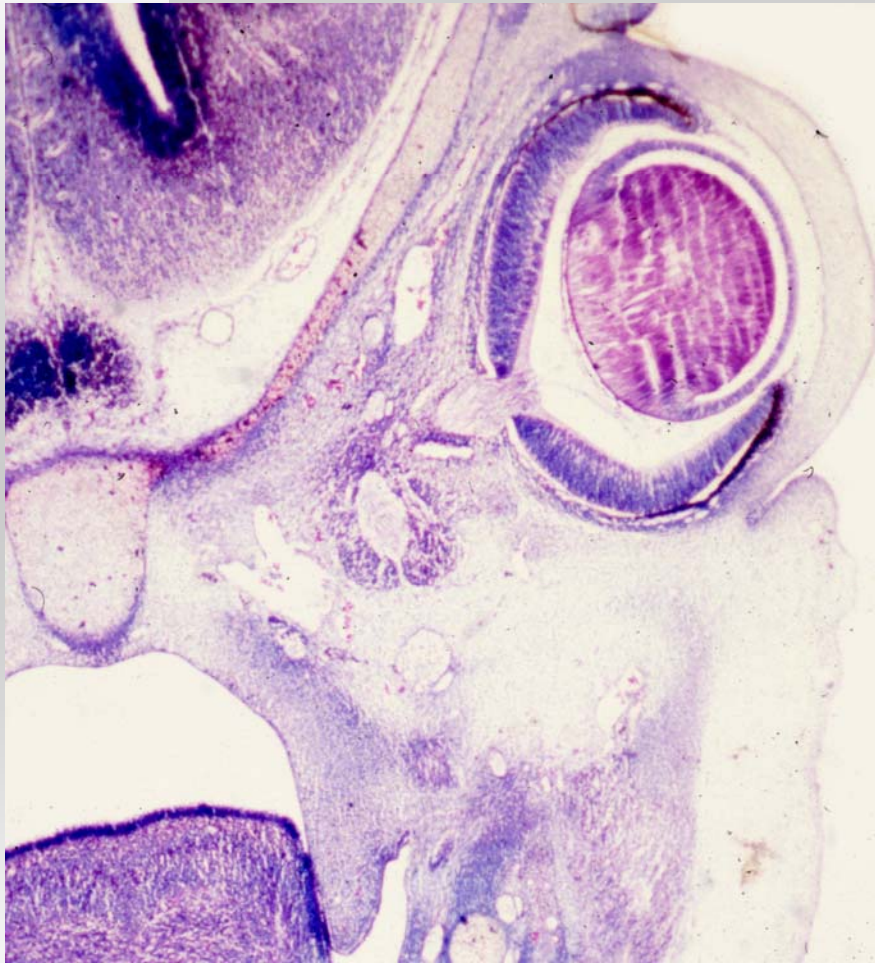
In lens vesicle posterior cells elongate to form primary lens fibers. In third month the equatorial cells of the anterior epithelium form secondary lens fibers (most of mature lens).



# Primary and secondary lens fibers

Varadaraj K et al (2007)





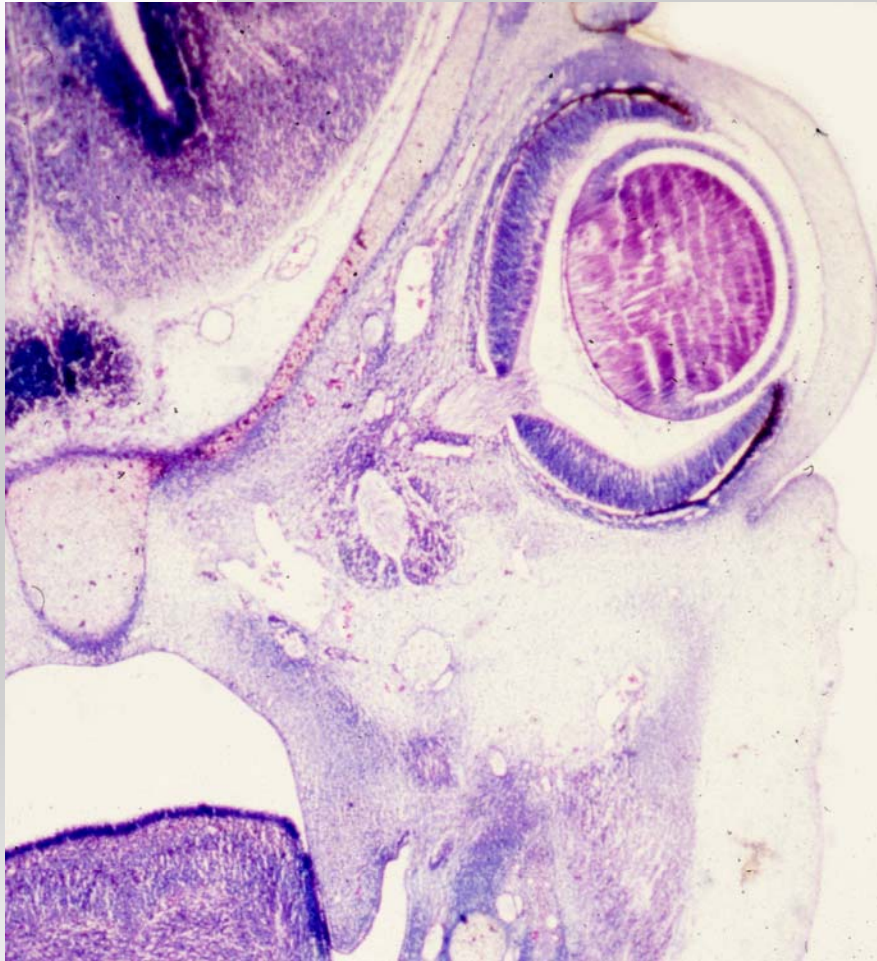
### **Optic cup:**

Inner layer —→ **neural retina**

Outer layer —→ **pigment retina**

### **Optic stalk:**

Axons from neural retina grow  
through the choroidal fissure to  
brain —→ **optic nerve**



## **NC derived mesenchyme around the optic cup:**

Thin inner choroid

Outer fibrous sclera

## **NC derived mesenchyme anterior to lens:**

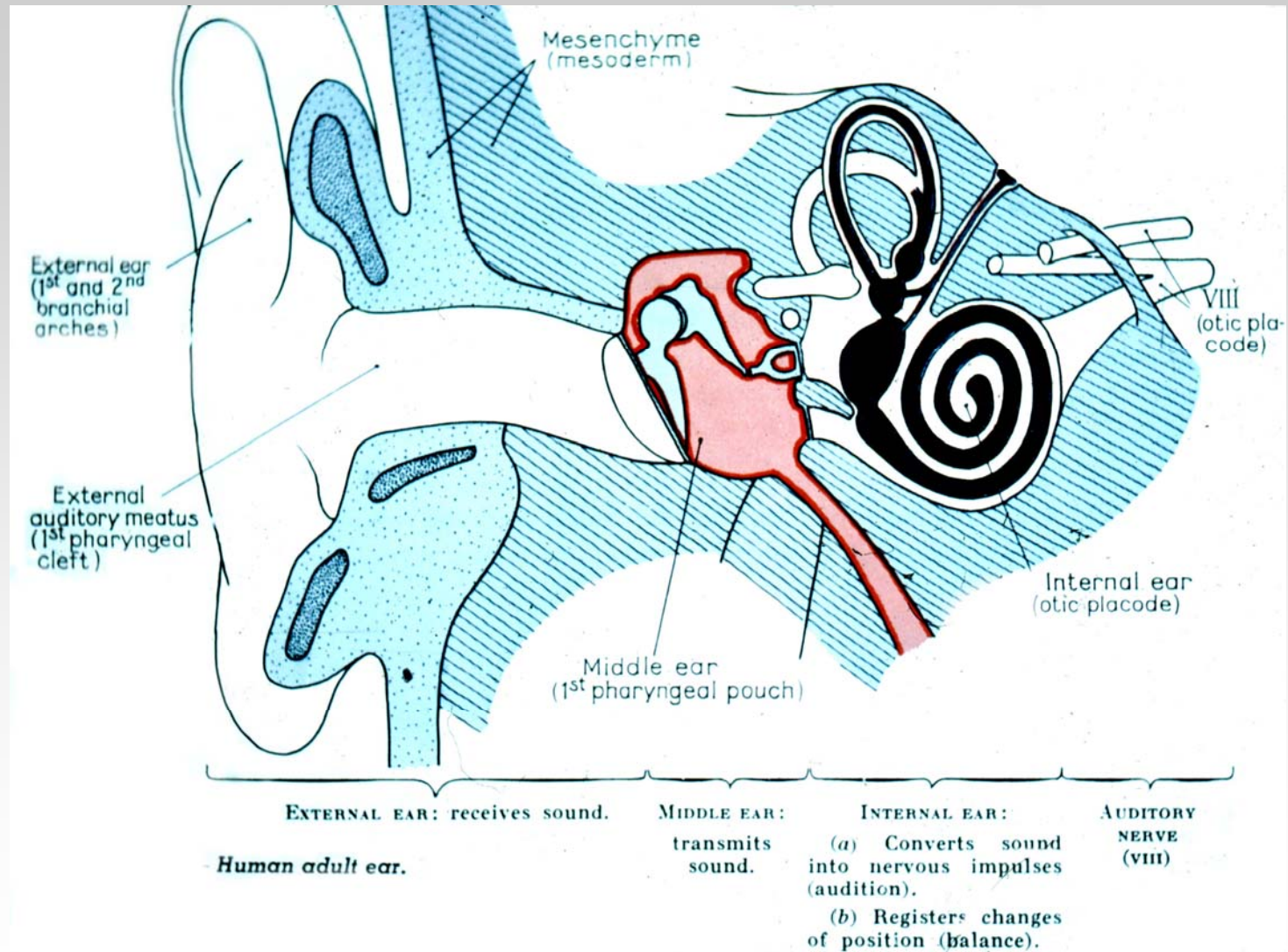
Anterior layer →  
contributes to cornea

Posterior layer →  
pupillary membrane

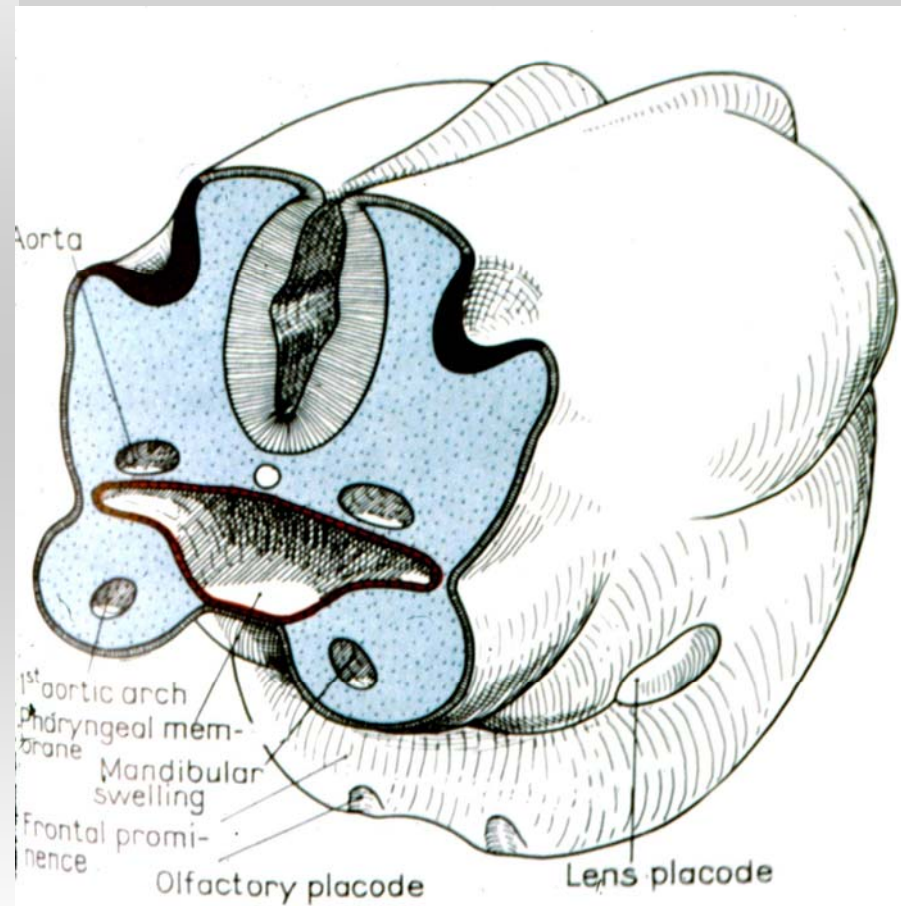
Between anterior and posterior layers: anterior chamber of eye

Behind posterior layer: posterior chamber.

# Development of inner ear



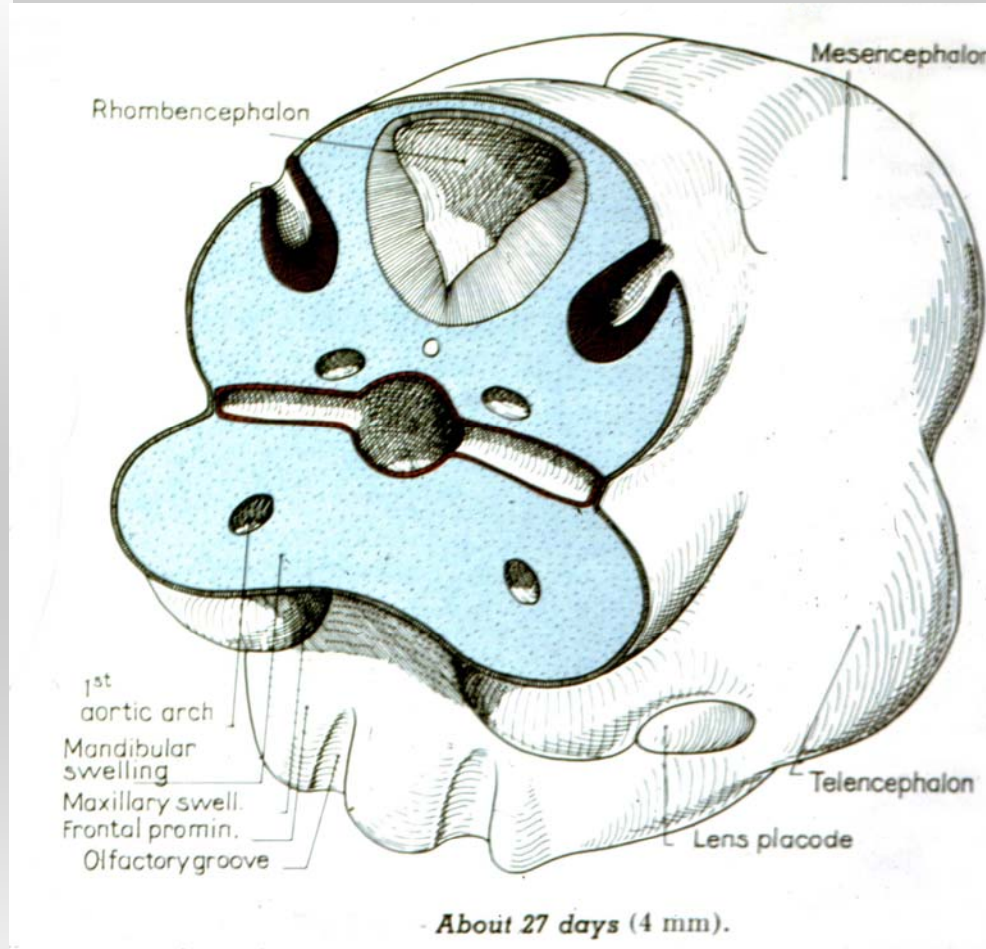
# Otic placode invagination: otic pit



**About 24 days (3 mm).**



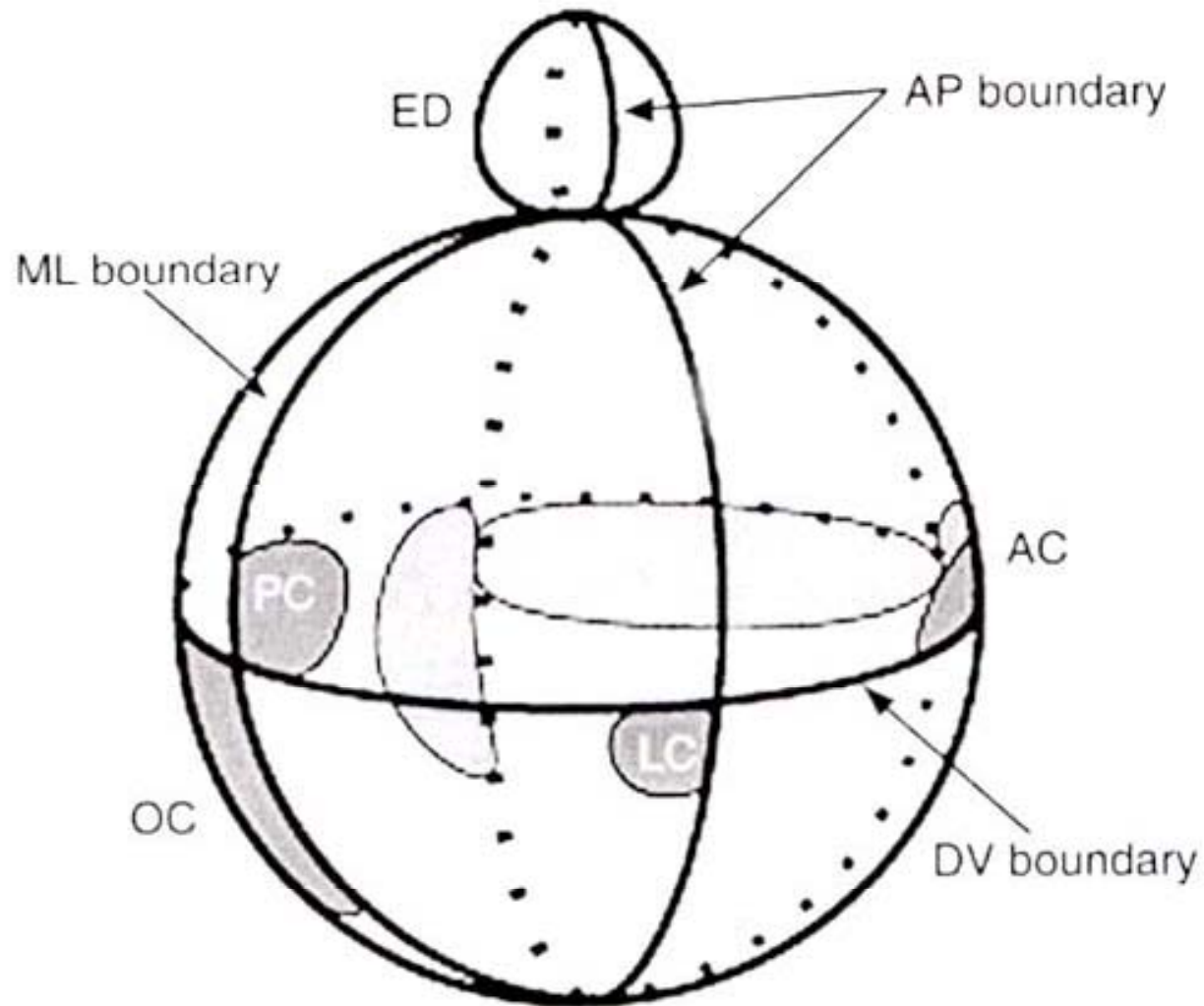
# Otic pit to otic vesicle



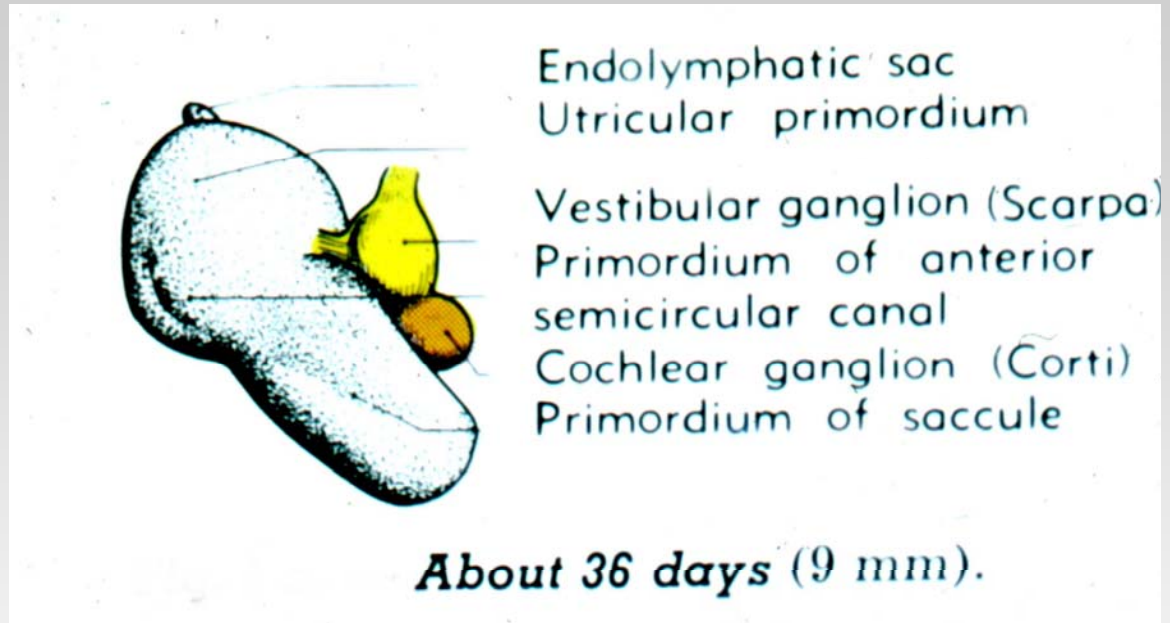
Some placodal cells migrate out of vesicular wall: → statoacoustic ganglion of CN VIII

# Differentiation compartments in the otocyst

Choo, D (2007)

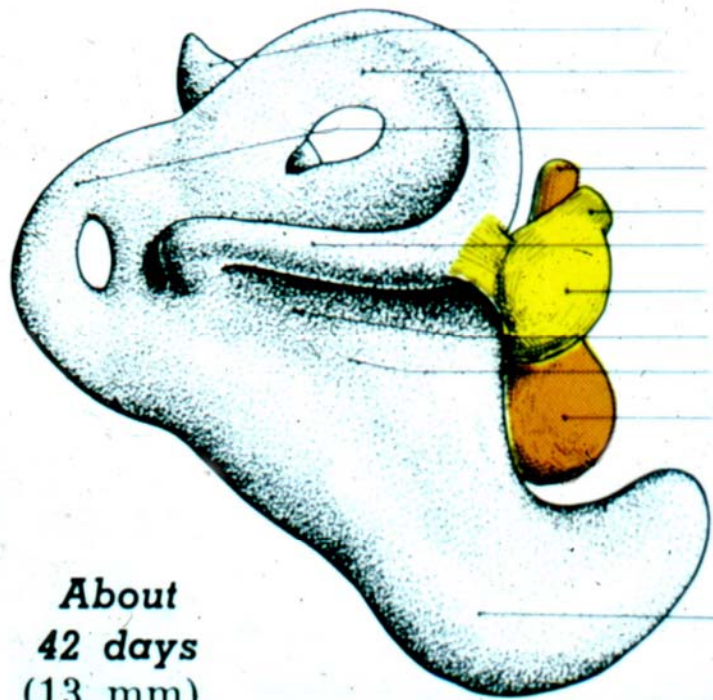


# Differential growth of otic vesicle



**Saccule:** ventral, will give rise to mature saccule and cochlea.

**Utricle:** dorsal, will give rise to mature utricle, semicircular canals and endolymphatic duct.

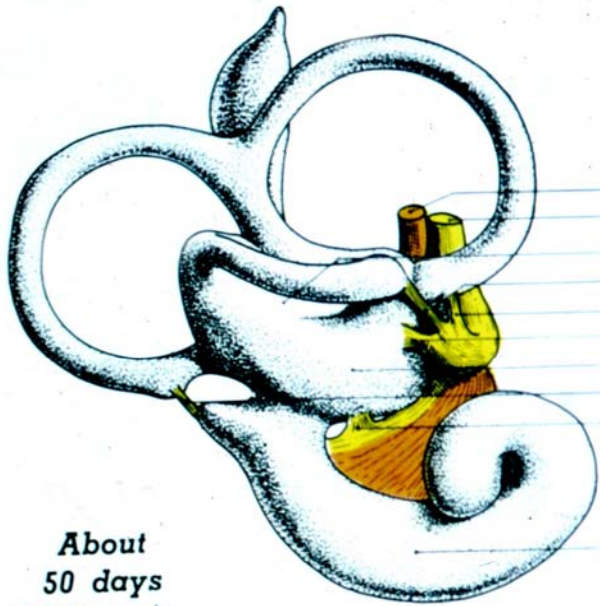


Endolymphatic sac  
 Anter-semicircular canal  
 Poster-semicircular canal  
 Cochlear nerve  
 Vestibular nerve  
 Extern-semicircular canal  
 Vestibular ganglion  
 Utricle  
 Saccule  
 Cochlear ganglion

About  
 42 days  
 (13 mm).

Cochlea

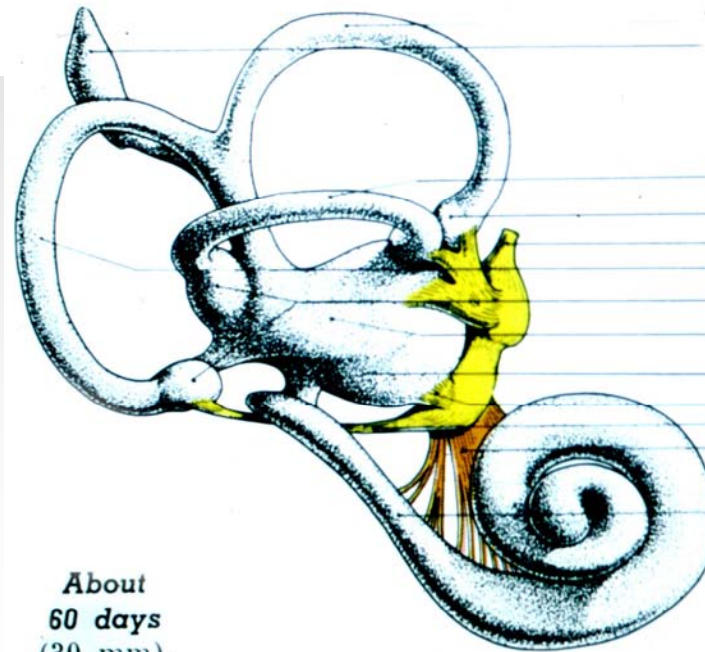




Cochlear nerve  
 Vestibular nerve  
 Utricle  
 External ampullary nerve  
 Anterior ampullary nerve  
 Utricular nerve  
 Sacculle  
 Posterior ampullary nerve  
 Saccular nerve

Cochlea

**About  
 50 days  
 (20 mm).**

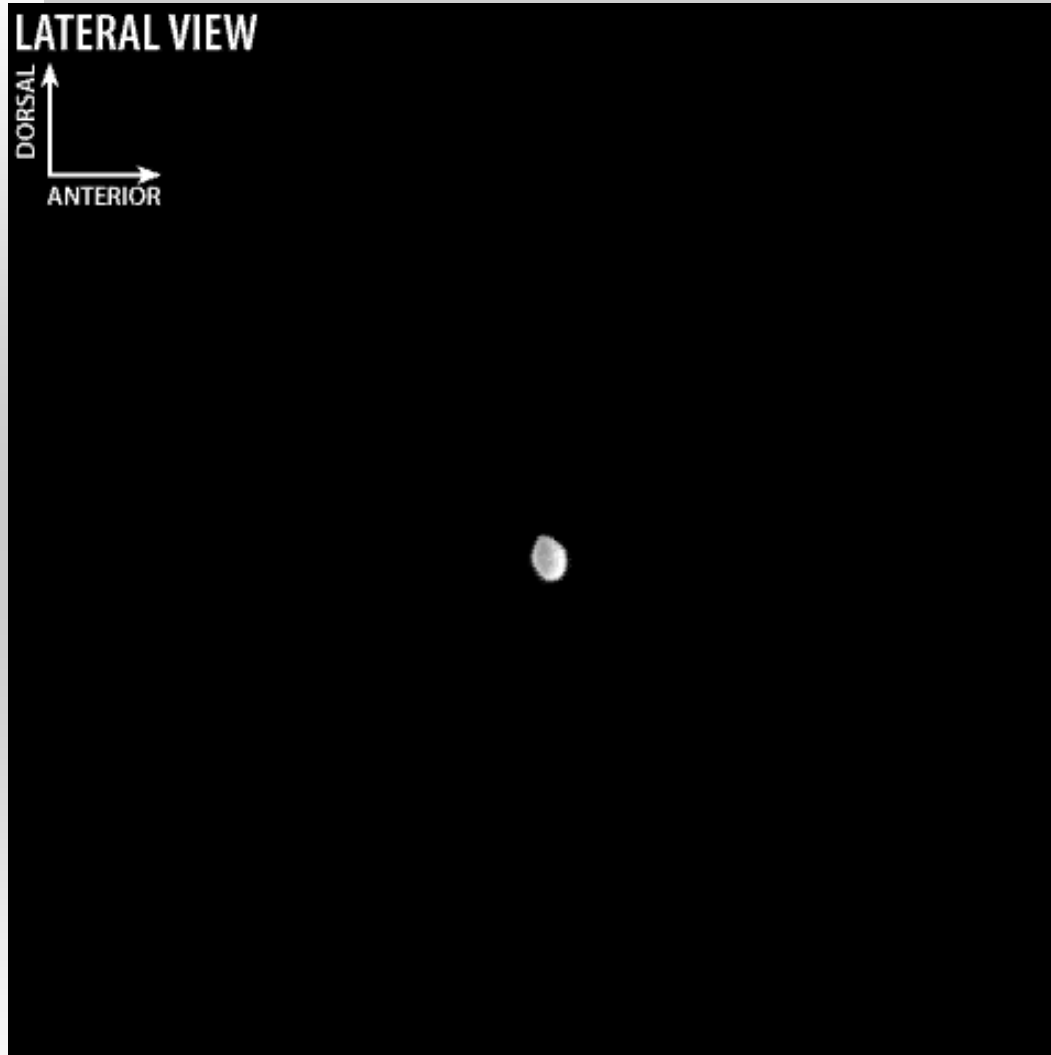


Anter-semicircular canal  
 Endolymphatic sac

External-  
 semicircular canal  
 Ampulla  
 Vestibular nerve  
 Poster-semicircular canal  
 Ampullae  
 UTRICLE } VESTIBULE  
 SACCULE }  
 Saccular nerve  
 Posterior ampullar nerve  
 Cochlear nerve  
 Cochlea

**About  
 60 days  
 (30 mm).**

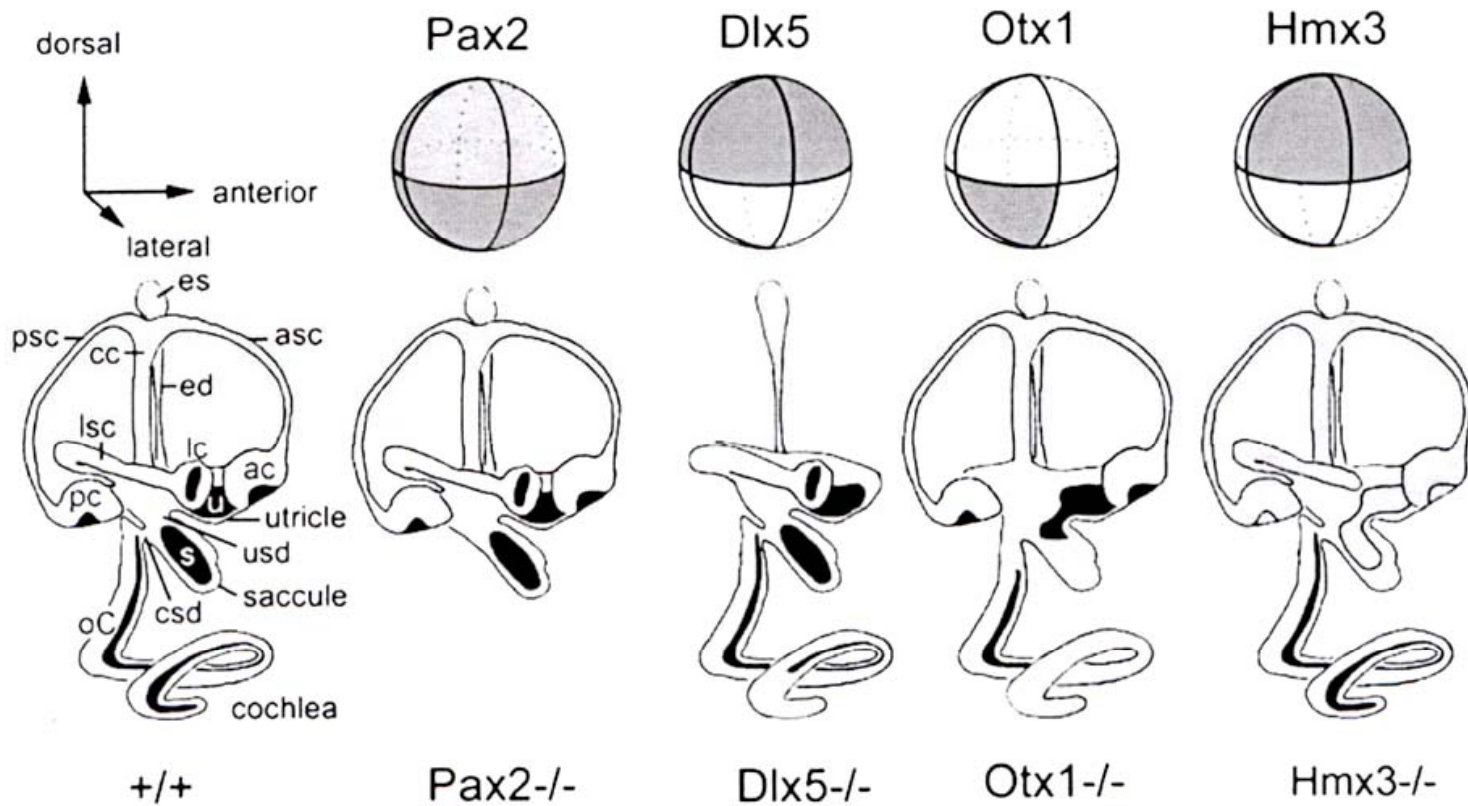
# Animation of inner ear morphogenesis in chick embryos



Brigande JV et al (2000)

Movie produced by Donna Fekete & Laurie Iten (Purdue University)

# Factors controlling the patterning of the otocyst



Choo, D (2007)

**Otic capsule:  
future  
petrous part  
of temporal  
bone**

