

# MIDBRAIN

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- **Brainstem – mid brain, pons and medulla**
  - **Mid brain continuous above with CH**
  - **Medulla continuous below with the spinal cord.**

- **The upper part of the brainstem is called the midbrain**
- **Connects the pons and cerebellum with the forebrain**
- **Shortest brain stem segment, not more than 2.5 cm in length**
- **The aqueduct of the midbrain (cerebral aqueduct) passes through the midbrain, connecting the third ventricle above with the fourth ventricle below.**

# Divisions

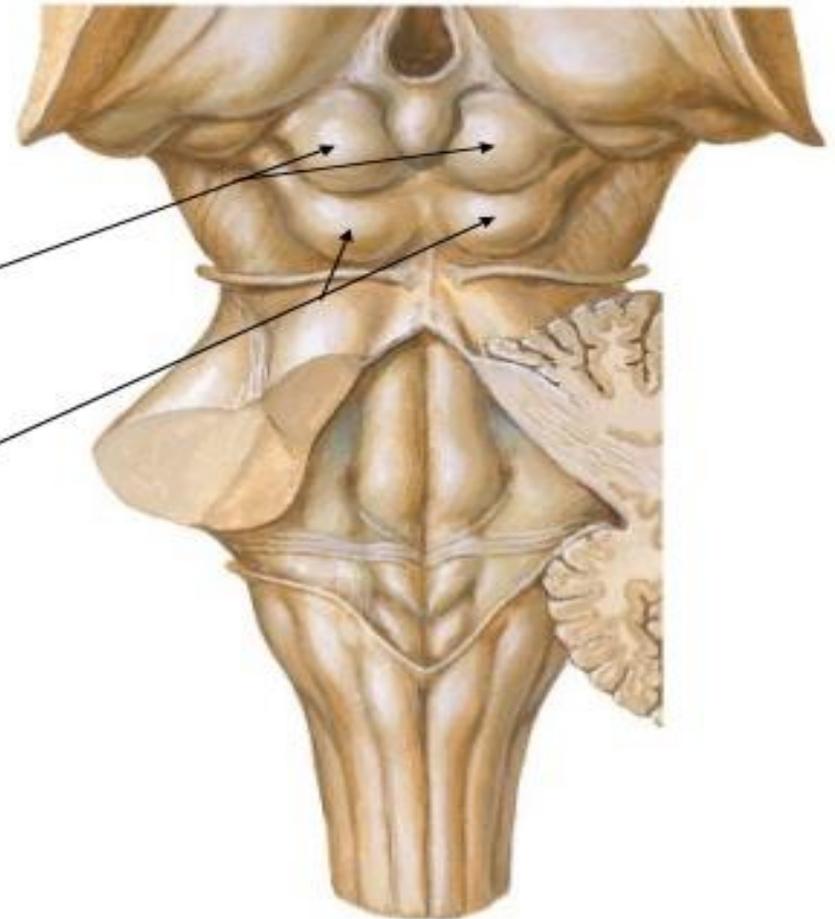
- **Midbrain is formally divided into dorsal and ventral parts at the level of cerebral aqueduct**
- **The dorsal portion is known as tectum (roof) which largely consists of inferior and superior colliculi (corpora quadrigemina).**

## posterior surface

### 1. Four colliculi

These are rounded eminences that are divided by a vertical and a transverse groove into :

- Superior colliculi :  
are centers for visual reflexes
- Inferior colliculi :  
are lower auditory centers.



- Superior colliculus



- Superior brachium



- Lateral geniculate body

- Inferior colliculus

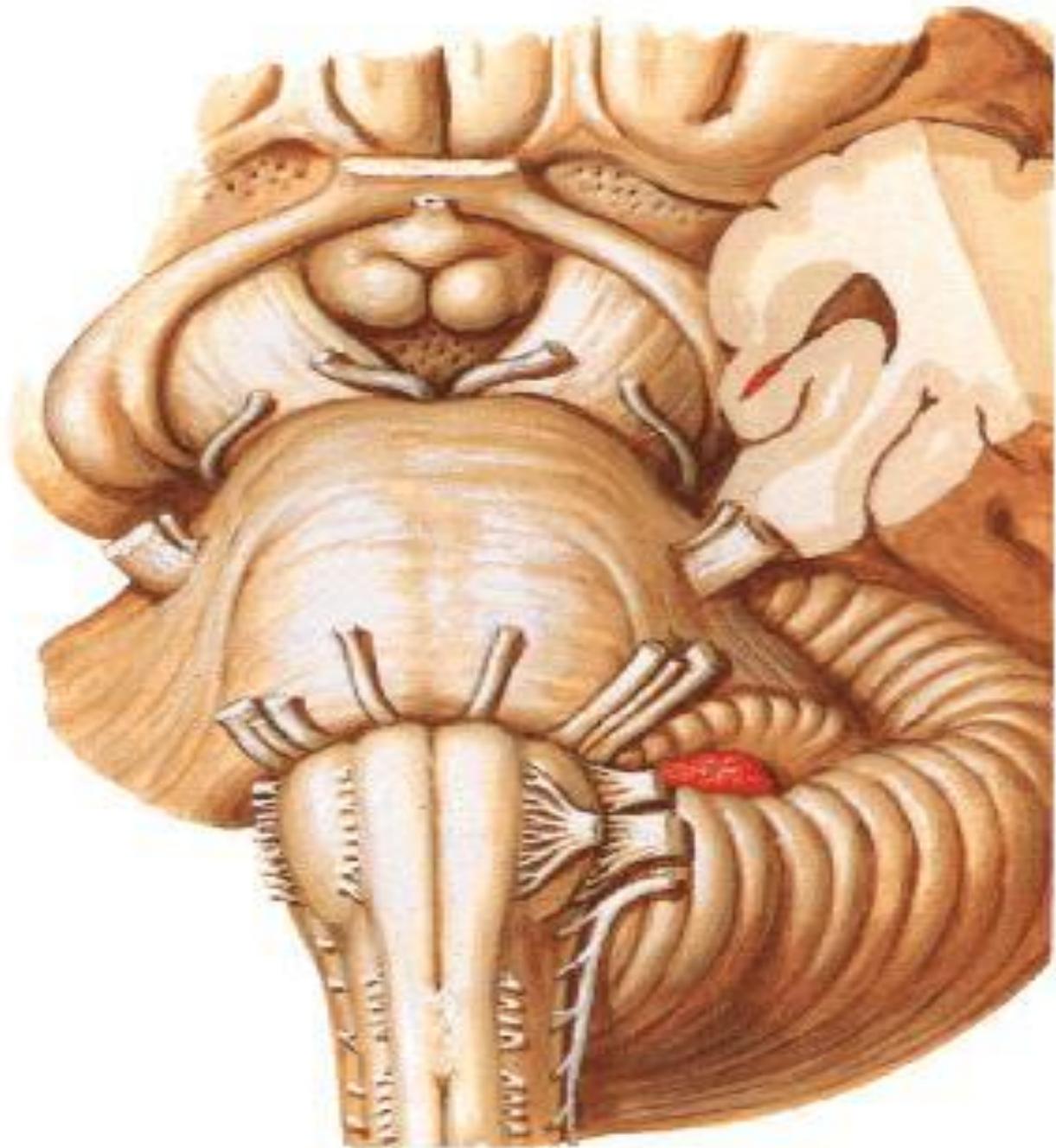


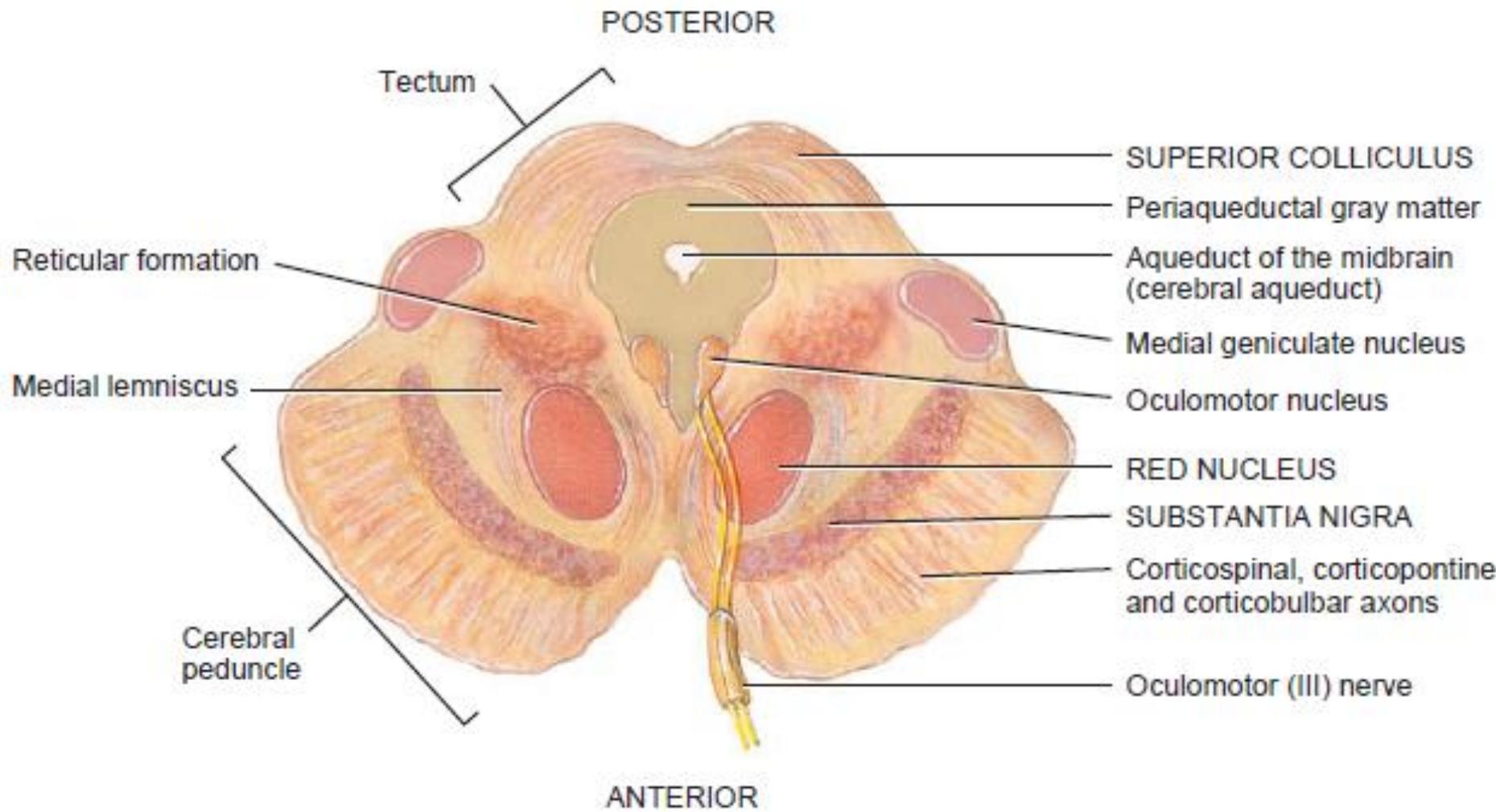
- Inferior brachium



- Medial geniculate body

- The ventral portion is known as cerebral peduncle. It consists axon of the corticospinal, corticopontine and corticobulbar tracts.
- Parts of cerebral peduncle- 3 (AP direction)
  1. Crus cerebri- 2 crura, separated with deep fissure c/d interpeduncular fossa.
  2. Substantia nigra- dopamin. Loss of these neurons- parkinsons disease
  3. Tegmentum- consist red nucleus and reticular formation.





(b) Transverse section of midbrain

