

Week 7 – Questions – Brain Function

1. Why might sensory perception be considered an active process?
2. How can we map presynaptic neurons (e.g. premotor neurons)?
3. What data suggest that primary somatosensory cortex participates in the conversion of a whisker sensory stimulus into licking motor output in the whisker detection task of Sachidhanandam et al., 2013?
4. When do dopamine neurons fire action potentials?
5. How might dopamine be involved in reward-based learning? Where does dopamine act?
6. List a number of important brain disorders. Give an estimate of patient numbers and costs?
7. What causes Parkinson's disease? What treatments currently exist?