

CN II

Cranial nerve II is a special sensory nerve responsible for vision. It partially decussates in the optic chiasm and exits the cranium through the optic canal.

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PLAY PICMONIC

Optic Nerve

Optics Nerve-guy

Cranial nerve II is also known as the optic nerve. Its cells of origin are located in the retina, and majority of axons terminate in the lateral geniculate body. It is derived from the diencephalon during embryonic development and is thus considered part of the central nervous system.

Sensory

Sensor

Cranial nerve II is classified as a special sensory nerve, carrying visual information from the retina.

Vision

Field of Vision

The optic nerve trasmits visual information from the retina via the retinal ganglion cells. The retina is composed of several interconnected neuronal layers, with light-sensitive photoreceptor cells known as rods and cones that encode visual information in their action potentials. The retina contains a blind spot in the location where the optic nerve exits the eye, as there are no photoreceptors in this location, while the fovea marks the location of highest visual acuity.