

Bio 112 Handout for Physiology 5

This handout contains:

- Today's iClicker Questions

iClicker Question #25A - before lecture

Which of the following are true?

- A. Nerve cells communicate to one another electrically.
- B. Neurotransmitters are destroyed by the receiving channels after they cause the channels to open or close.
- C. Neurotransmitters "self-destruct" after they have interacted with their receptors.
- D. All of the above.
- E. None of the above.

iClicker Question #25B - after lecture

Consider the imaginary neurotransmitter, neurotransmitter X (NT-X). Suppose that there is a NT-X-gated Na^+ channel that has the following behavior:

- with no NT-X around the channel is OPEN.
- with NT-X around, the NT-X binds to this channel and CLOSES it.

Suppose further that these NT-X-gated Na^+ channels are located on the dendrite of a neuron - neuron Y. Which of the following statements is true:

- A. If another neuron sprays NT-X on these NT-X-gated Na^+ channels on the dendrite of neuron Y, an action potential will be MORE likely in neuron Y (a stimulatory synapse).
- B. If another neuron sprays NT-X on these NT-X-gated Na^+ channels on the dendrite of neuron Y, an action potential will be LESS likely in neuron Y (an inhibitory synapse).
- C. If another neuron sprays NT-X on these NT-X-gated Na^+ channels on the dendrite of neuron Y, there will be NO EFFECT on neuron Y.
- D. I don't know.

Beaming in your answers

1. Figure out your answer and select the appropriate letter (A-E).
2. Turn on your iClicker by pressing the "ON/OFF" button; the blue "POWER" light should come on. If the red "LOW BATTERY" light comes on, you should replace your batteries soon.
3. Transmit your answer as follows:
 - a. Press the button corresponding to the answer you've selected (A thru E).
 - b. The "STATUS" light will flash green to indicate that your answer has been received. If the "STATUS" light flashed red, your answer was not received; you should re-send it until you get a green "STATUS" light.

For further reading, if you are interested in the history of these discoveries, you might want to read *The War of the Soups and the Sparks : The Discovery of Neurotransmitters and the Dispute Over How Nerves Communicate* by Elliot S. Valenstein.

