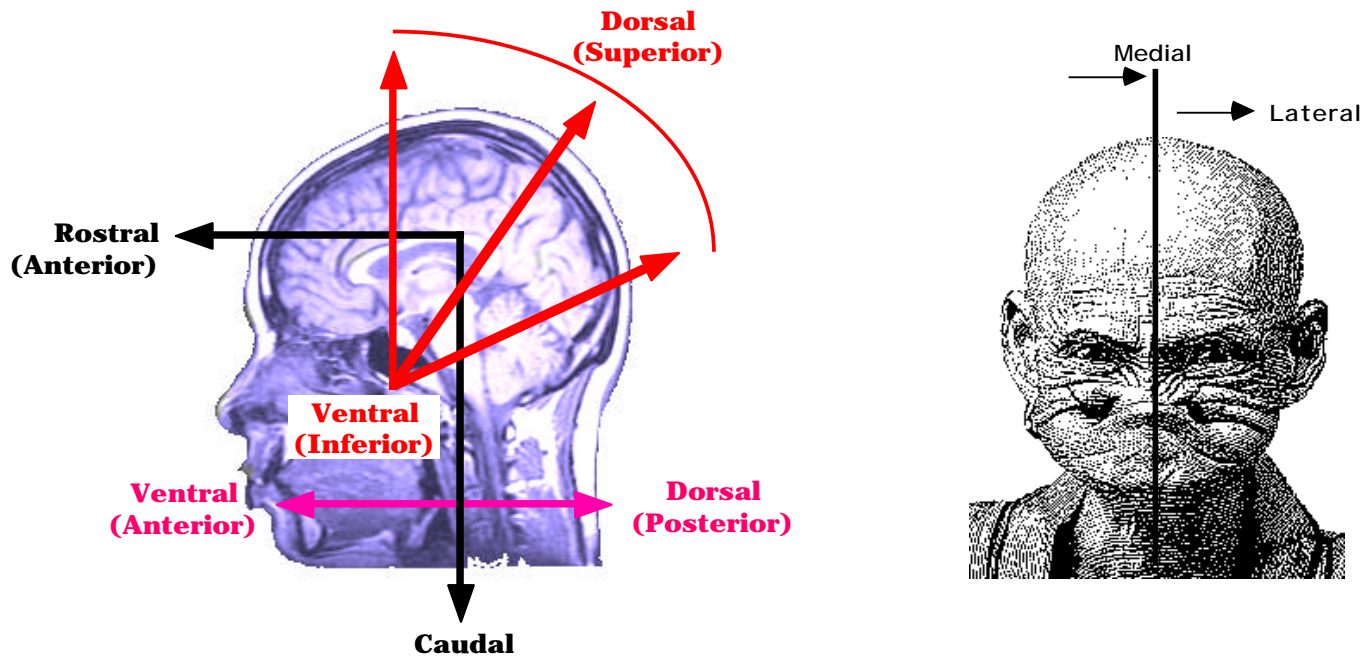


Orientation and Direction Within the Central Nervous System

Rostral from **ROSTRUM** — A bird's beak [& the prow of a ship]

- A conquering Roman admiral would address his forces from the prow of a ship captured in a sea battle. A ship's prow reminded people of a bird's beak. Hence, a rostrum became a place someone spoke from.

Dorsal from **DORSUM** — An animal or person's back

Ventral from **VENTER** — The belly or abdomen

- A ventriloquist speaks from the belly.

Caudal from **CAUDA** — The tail of a horse

- The origin of the word, *coward*, since one sees the tail of the horse when a horse rider flees from battle

Superior is **ABOVE** while  
Inferior is **BELOW**

Proximal is **NEAR** while  
Distal is

**FAR**

