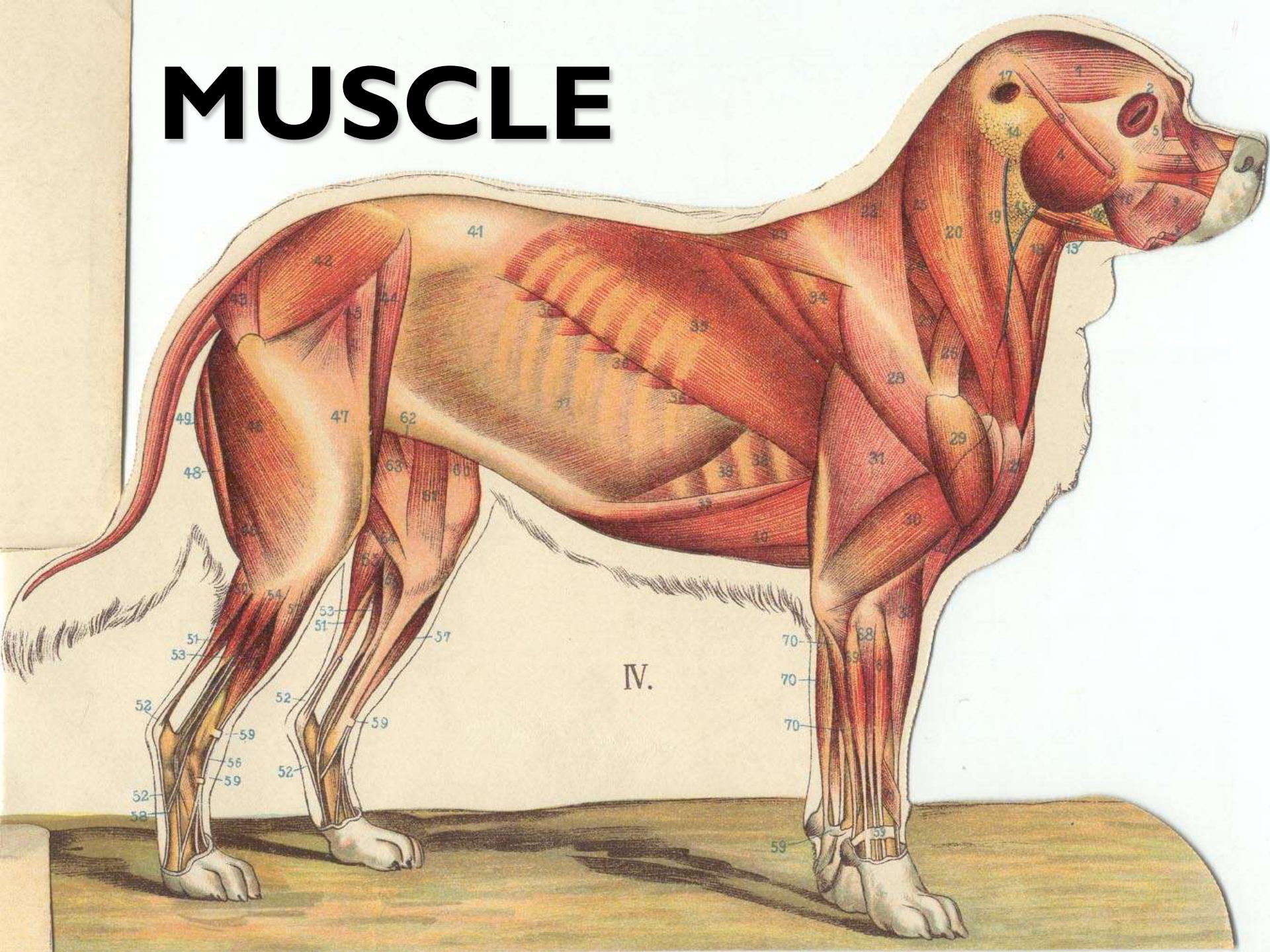


MUSCLE



IV.

MUSCLE IS A BASIC TISSUE

- **DEFINITION:** Muscle is *a tissue specialized for contraction and transmission of impulses*
- **Extreme example of specialization and differentiation for limited, specific functions**
- **Always associated with CT's**
- **Almost always associated with nervous tissue**

THINGS COMMON TO ALL MUSCLE TYPES

- **Contraction is due to ACTIN and MYOSIN microfilaments**
- **Contraction is an “all or none” response**
- **Force of contraction is transmitted through a network of collagenous fibers**
 - **Always associated with CT!**
- **Origin is from embryonic mesoderm**
- **Specialization has caused loss of other capabilities**
 - **Loss of ability to divide**

SMOOTH MUSCLE

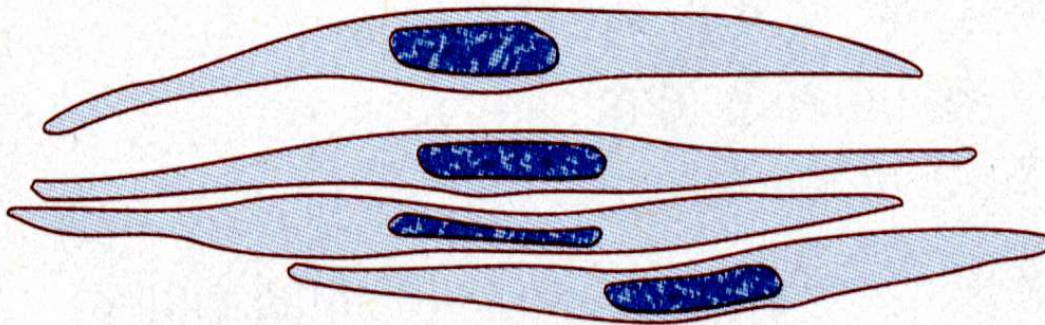


- **Hormonal, nervous, and physical stimuli**
 - *Prolactin*: uterine smooth muscle
 - *Responsive contraction* in intestine
 - *Nervous stimulation* via sympathetic and parasympathetic routes
- **Contractions usually strong, sustained, and slow**
- **“Involuntary” or “visceral” designation not always accurate**
 - Occurs widely in most organs and in fibrous CT's
- **Can be single cells, small aggregates or large sheets**
- **Also in skin & eye, among other places**

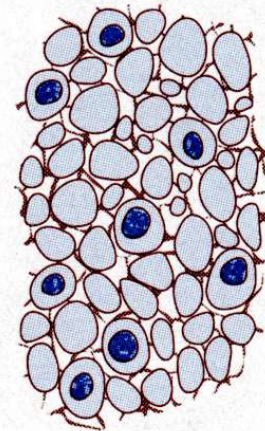
SMOOTH MUSCLE CELLS

- **“Spindle shaped”**
- **Lie adjacent to each other in sheets**
- **Single central nucleus**
- **Nuclei are blunt-ended or “cigar” shaped**
- **EM shows microfilaments & pinocytotic vacuoles**

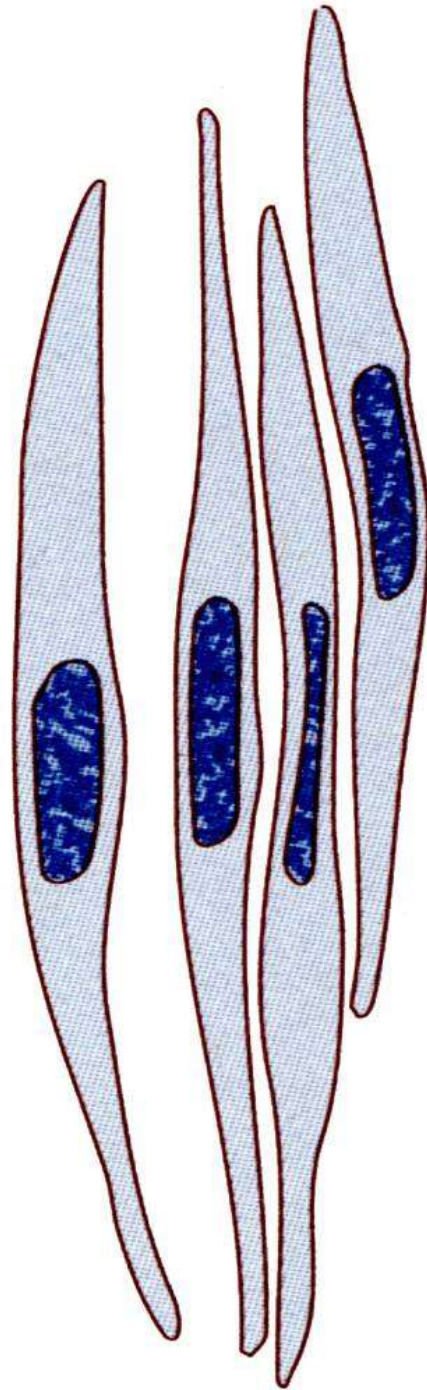
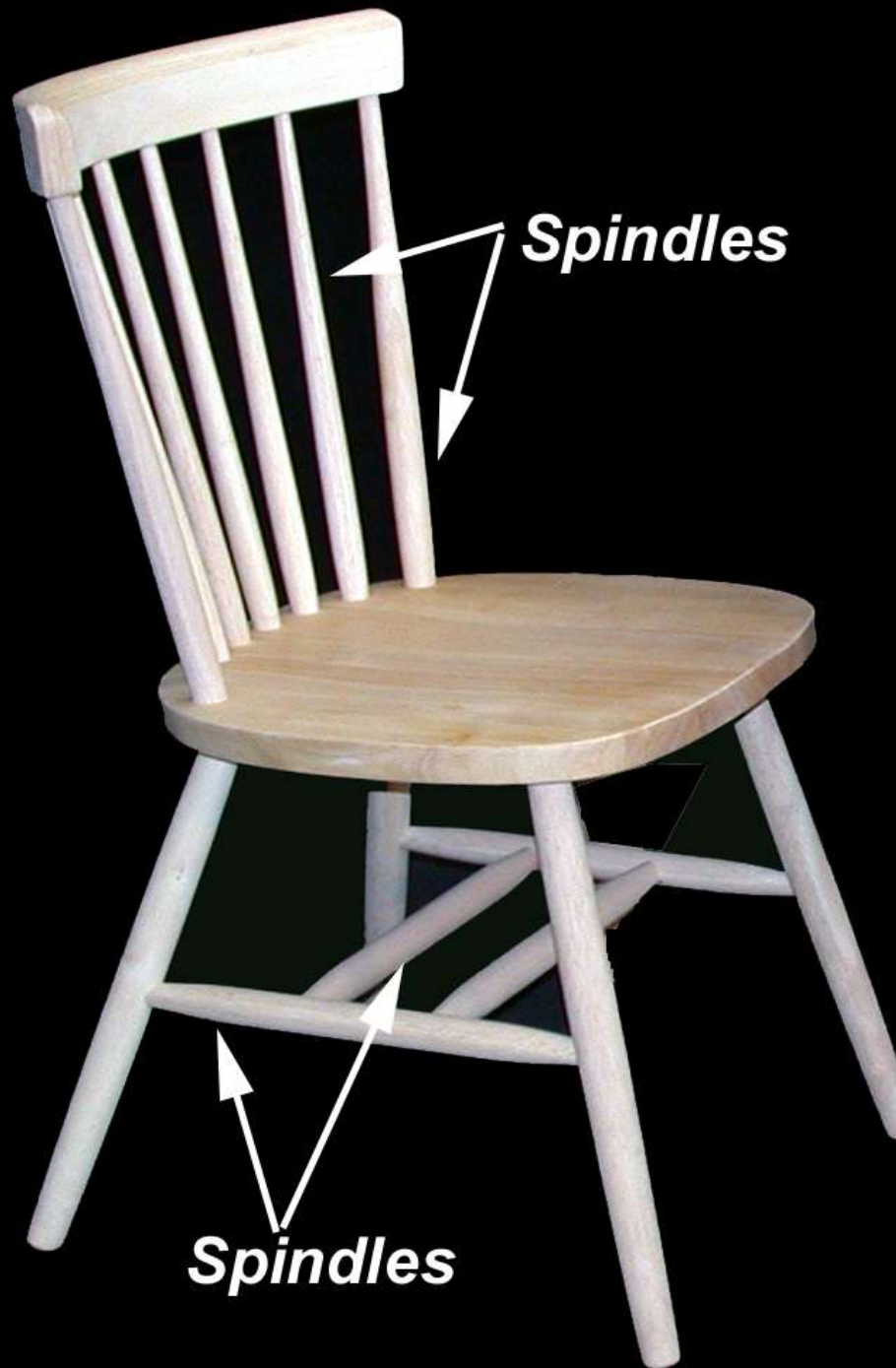
Smooth Muscle Cells



Teased Individual
Cells

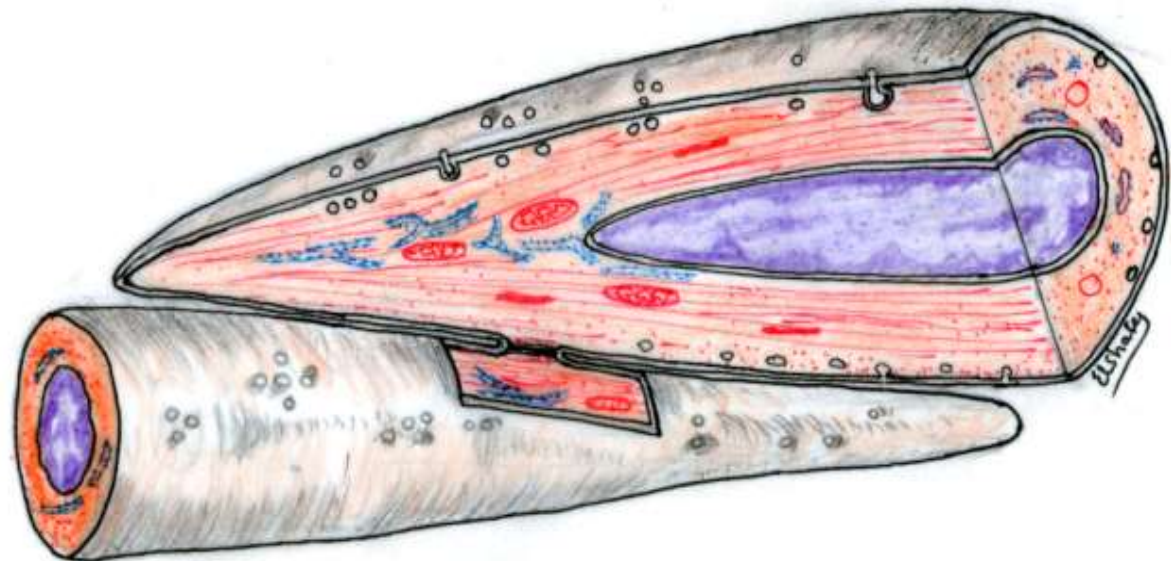
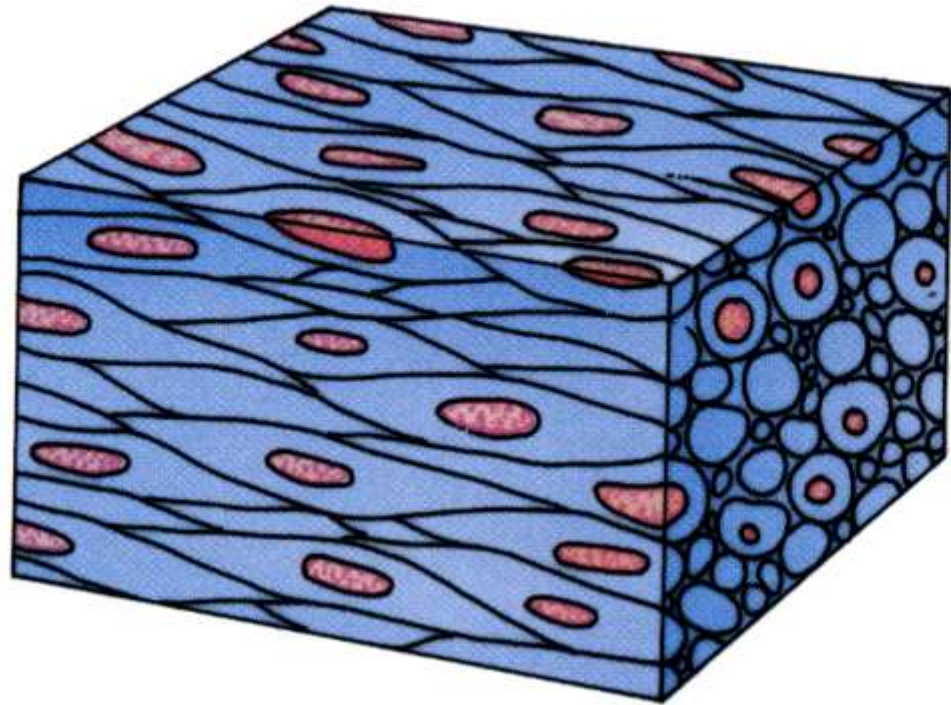


Bundle of Cells
cut in cross-section



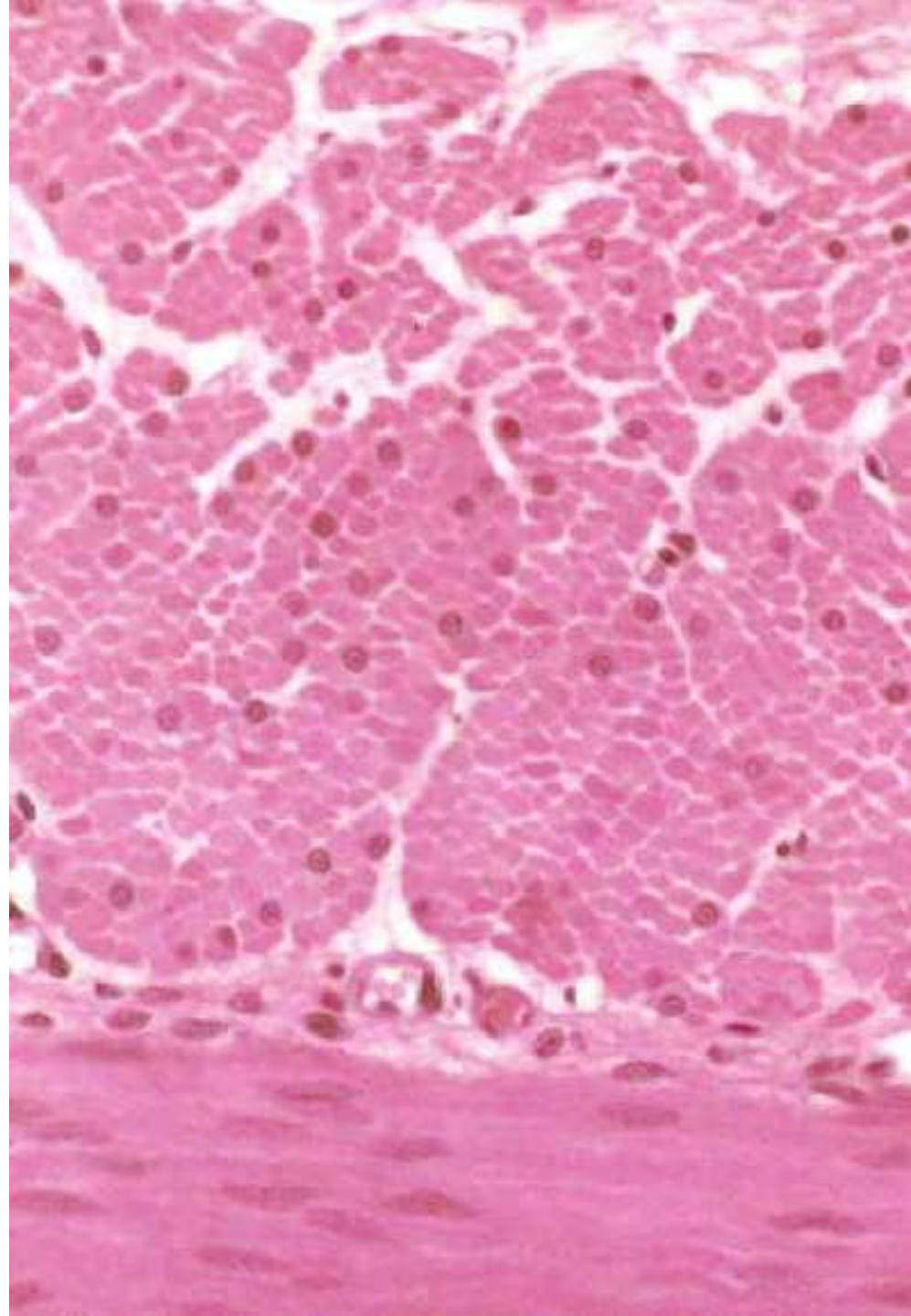
ASSOCIATION OF SMOOTH MUSCLE CELLS

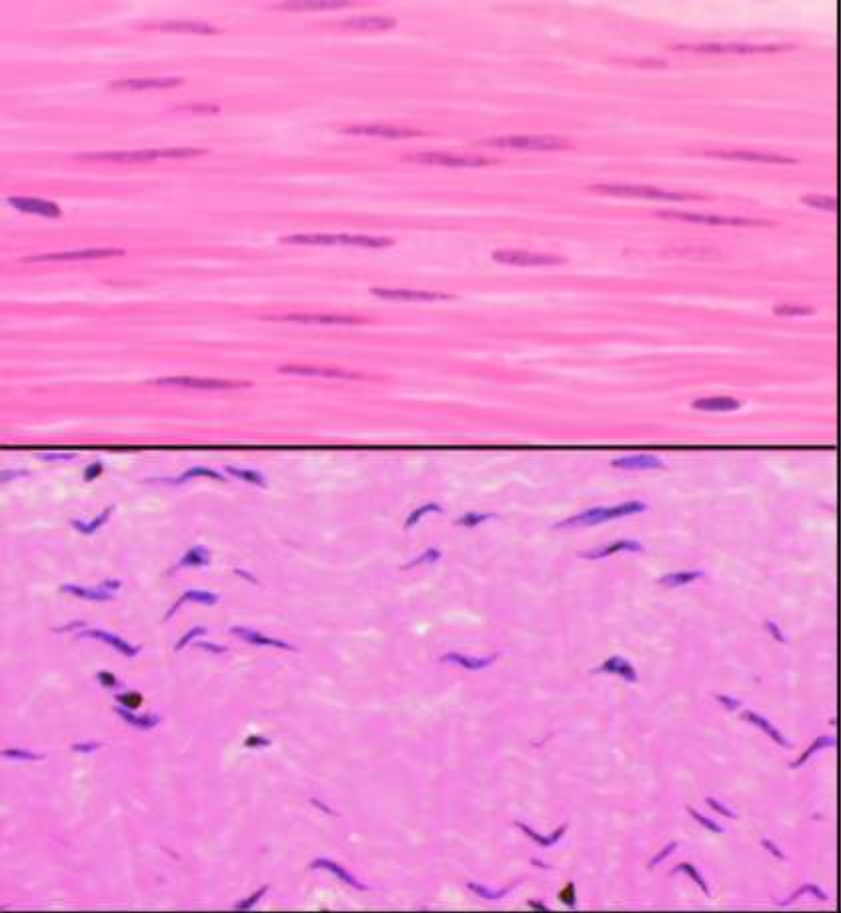
- **Adjacent cells have *gap junctions* to communicate**
- **Pinocytotic vesicles present**
 - Ingestion of hormones, neurotransmitters, etc.



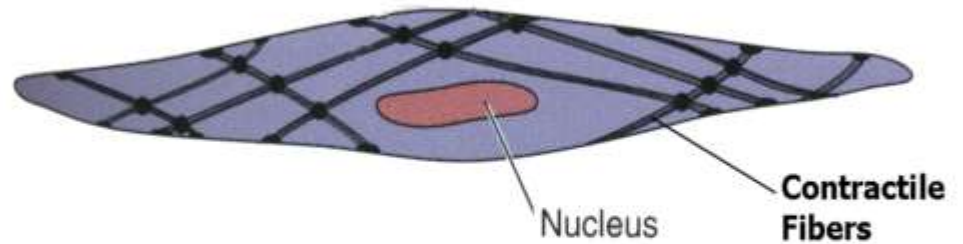
HISTOLOGY OF SMOOTH MUSCLE

- **Cross sections have characteristic appearance**
- **Longitudinal sections easily mistaken for CT**
- **Tonus causes nuclei to “wrinkle” or “corkscrew” in LS**

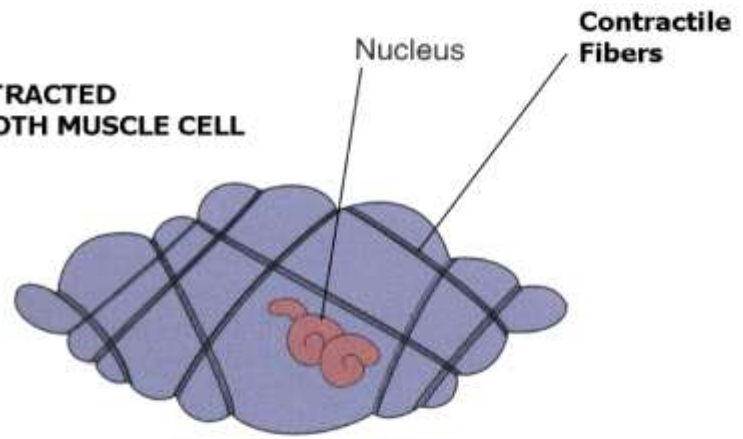




**EXTENDED
SMOOTH MUSCLE CELL**



**CONTRACTED
SMOOTH MUSCLE CELL**



*Histology of Smooth Muscle
In the Extended State (top)
In the Contracted State (bottom)*

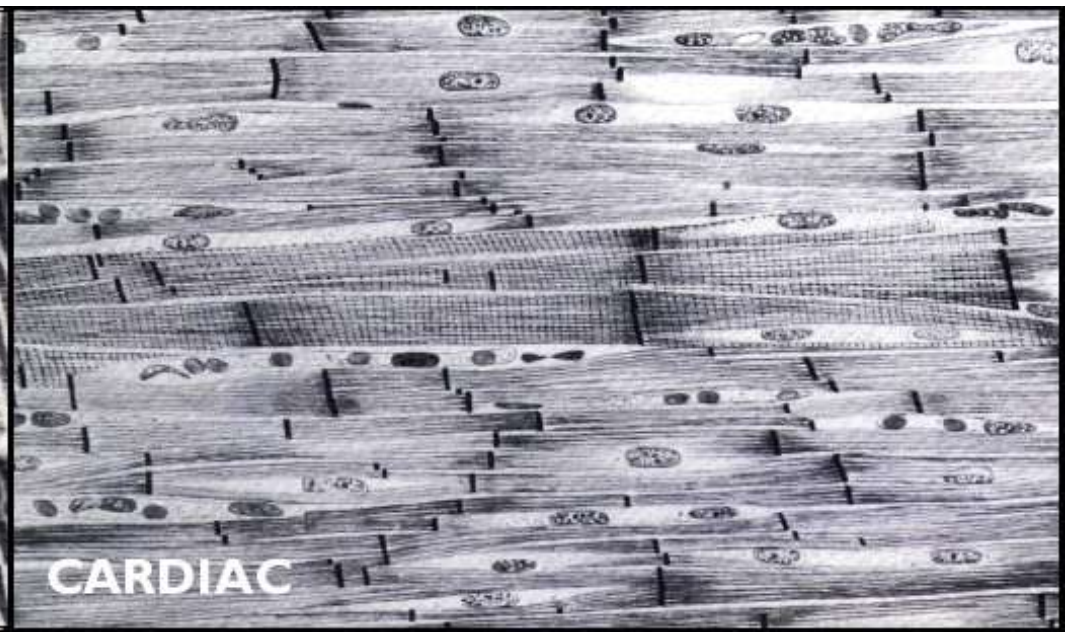
*Contraction causes "corkscrew" appearance
of the nuclei*

HISTOLOGY OF SMOOTH MUSCLE

- **State of contraction affects appearance!**

STRIATED MUSCLE

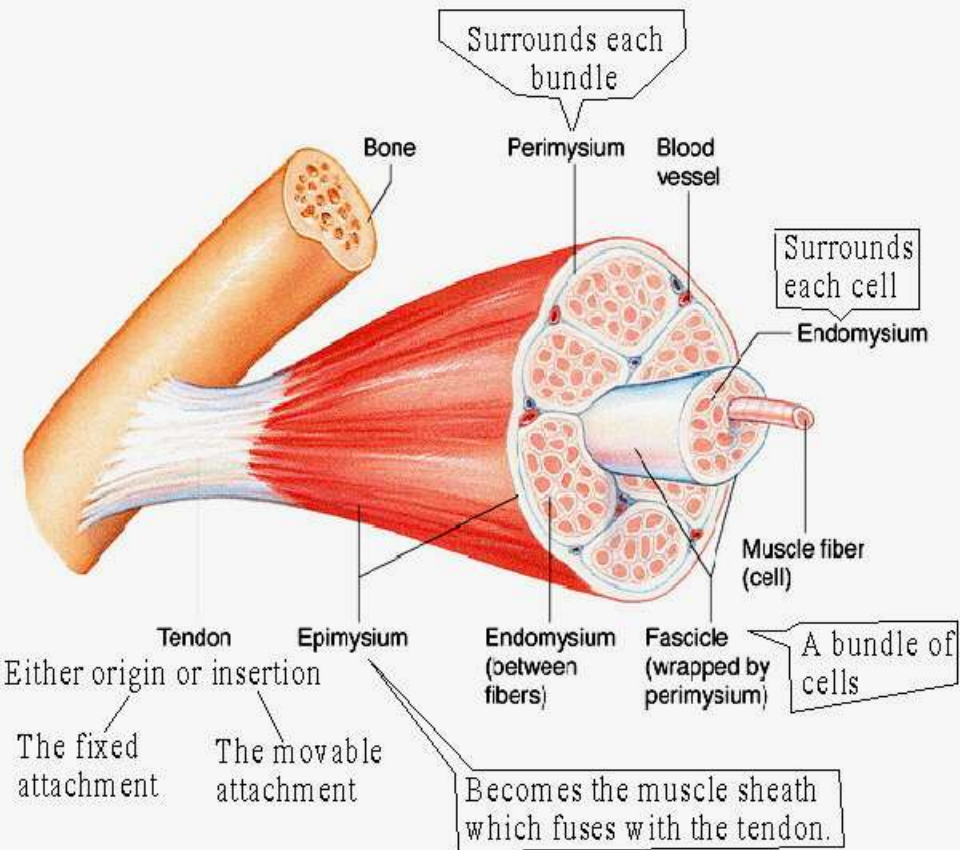
- **Two types: SKELETAL and CARDIAC**
- **More similar than they are different**
- **Skeletal muscle the archetype for both**



“Muscle” vs “Muscles”

- **Anatomic muscles can be considered *organs***
 - **All have names**
- **Principal *tissue* in them is muscle**
 - **CT is also present**
 - **Blood vessels, etc., also present**
- **Terminology of levels of organization is hierarchical**
 - **Terminology reflects different levels of activity**

Structure of a Skeletal Muscle

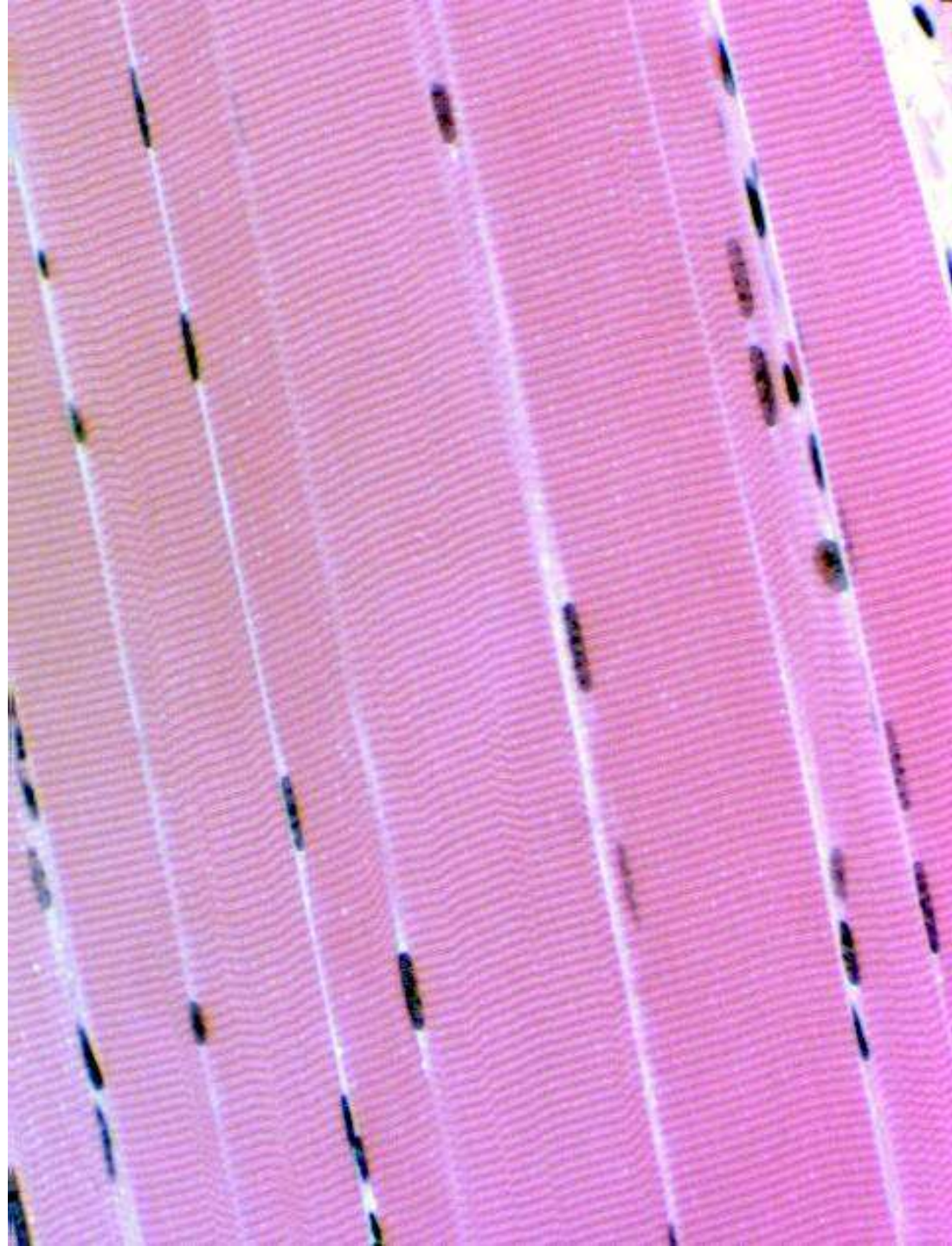


ORGANIZATION IN SKELETAL ANATOMIC MUSCLES

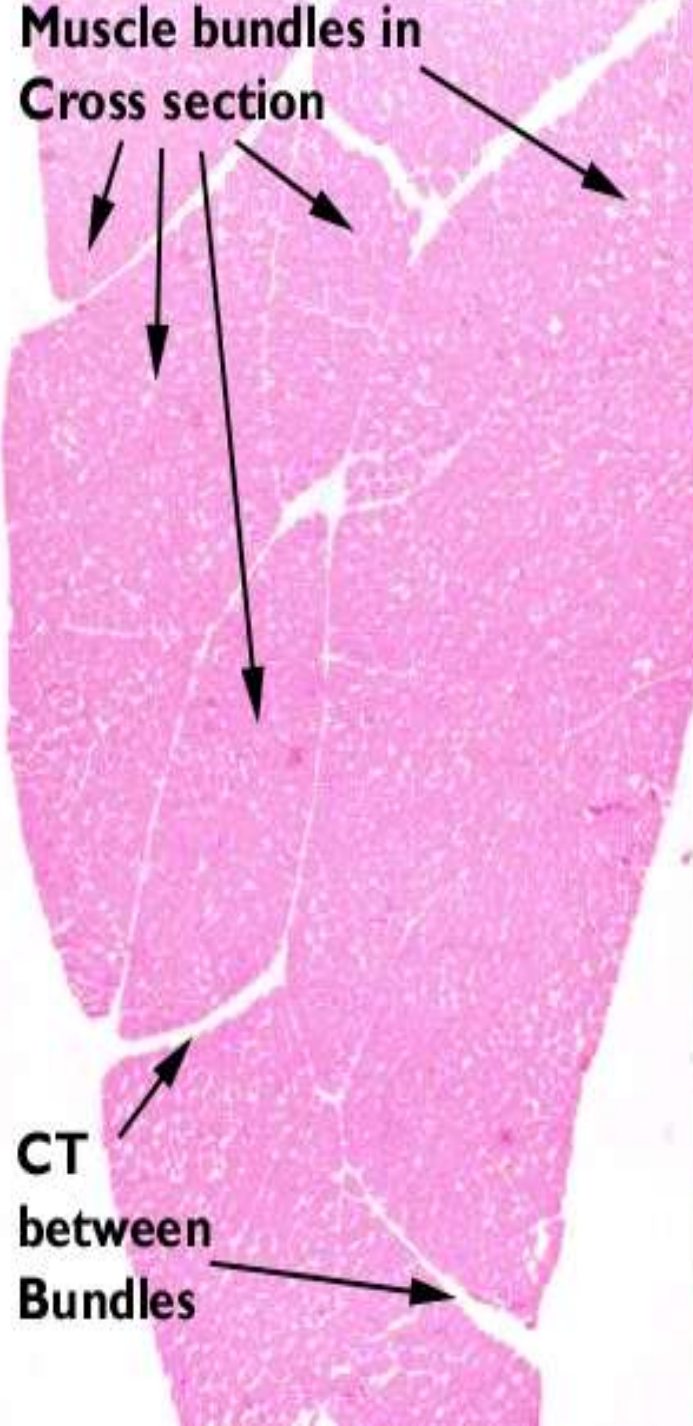
- **CT bundles demarcate FASCICLES**
- **Fascicles composed of MYOFIBERS**
- **Myofibers are cells**
- **Myofibers contain MYOFIBRILS**
 - **Orderly arrays of filamentous subunits**
- **Myofibrils are made of MYOFILAMENTS**
 - **Actin and Myosin**

SKELETAL MUSCLE

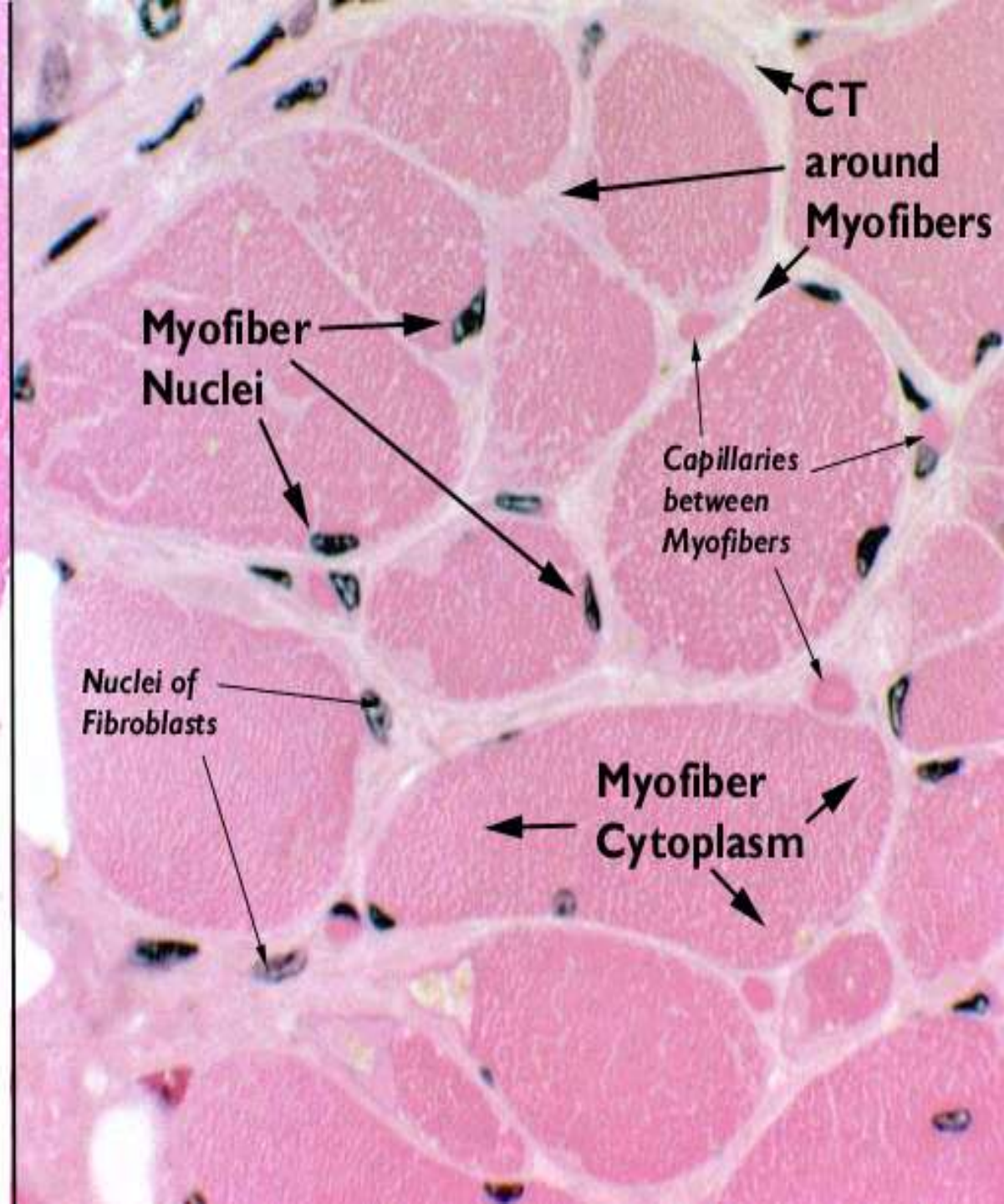
- **“Voluntary” i.e., usually under conscious control**
 - **Intimate, absolutely necessary interaction with nervous tissue**
 - **Responds *only* to nervous stimuli**
- **Most abundant form**
- **Function to provide for movement**
- **Affected by hormones, nutrition, disease, etc.**
- **Cross striations are hallmark**
 - **Very large cells**
 - **Blood vessels between**



**Muscle bundles in
Cross section**



**CT
between
Bundles**



**CT
around
Myofibers**

**Myofiber
Nuclei**

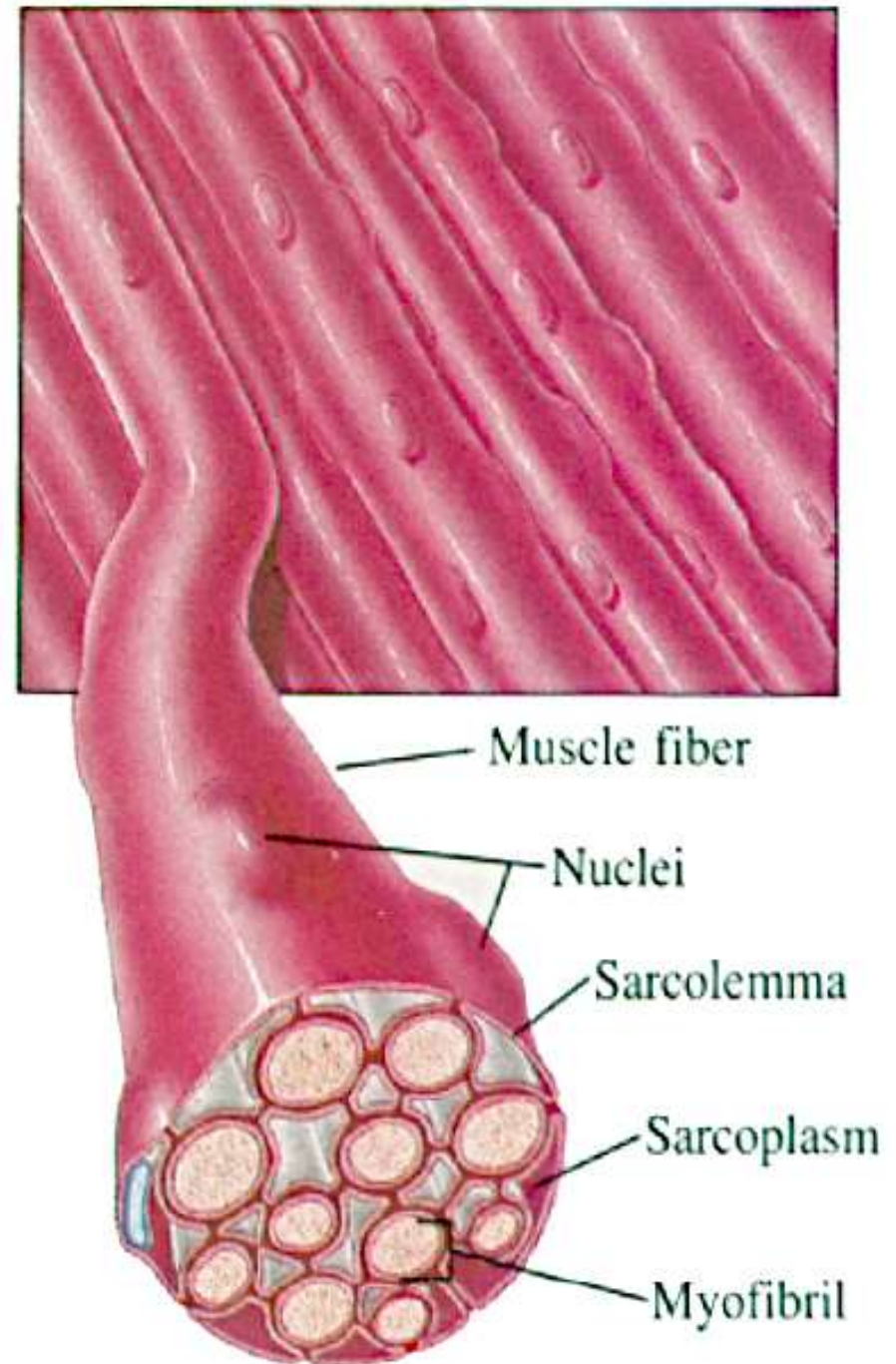
*Capillaries
between
Myofibers*

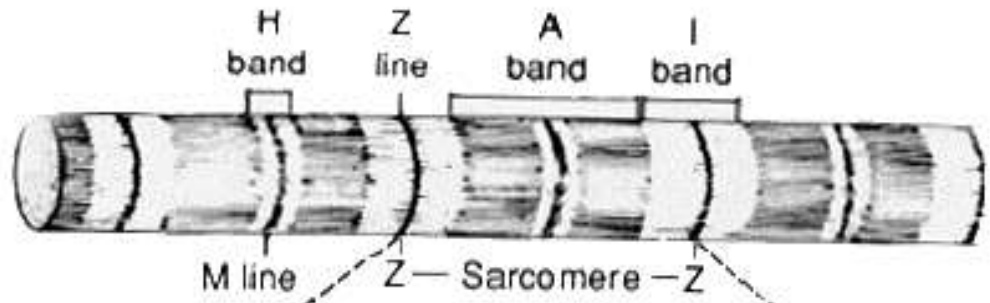
*Nuclei of
Fibroblasts*

**Myofiber
Cytoplasm**

MYOFIBER

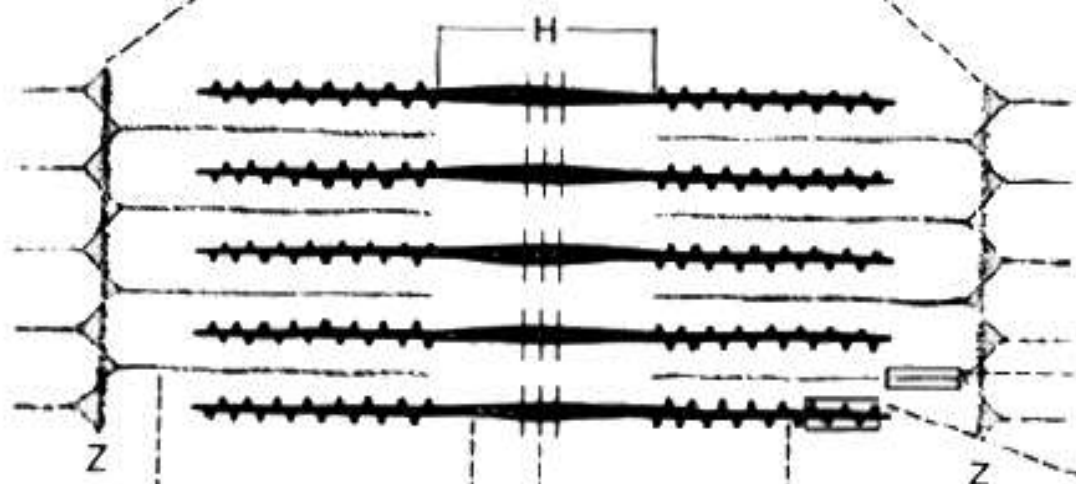
- **Basic cell of skeletal muscle**
 - **EACH myofiber is a SINGLE CELL**
- **Packed with contractile elements in PARALLEL and in REGISTER with each other**
 - **Cytoplasm almost wholly contractile material**
 - **Sarcomeres laid end to end like railroad cars**
 - **Each myofibril is anchored at the ends of the myofiber**



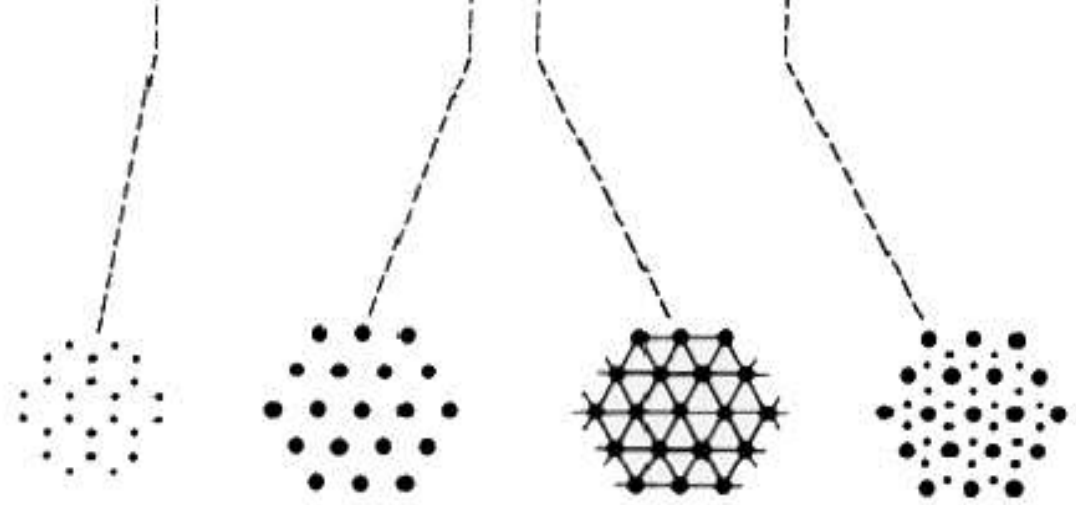
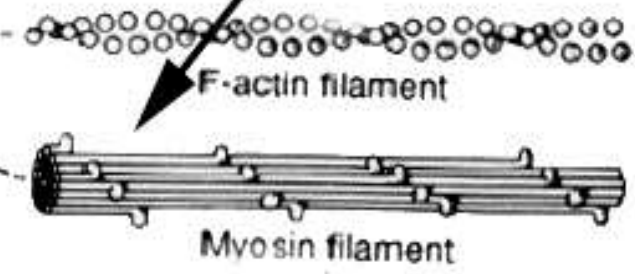


MYOFIBRIL

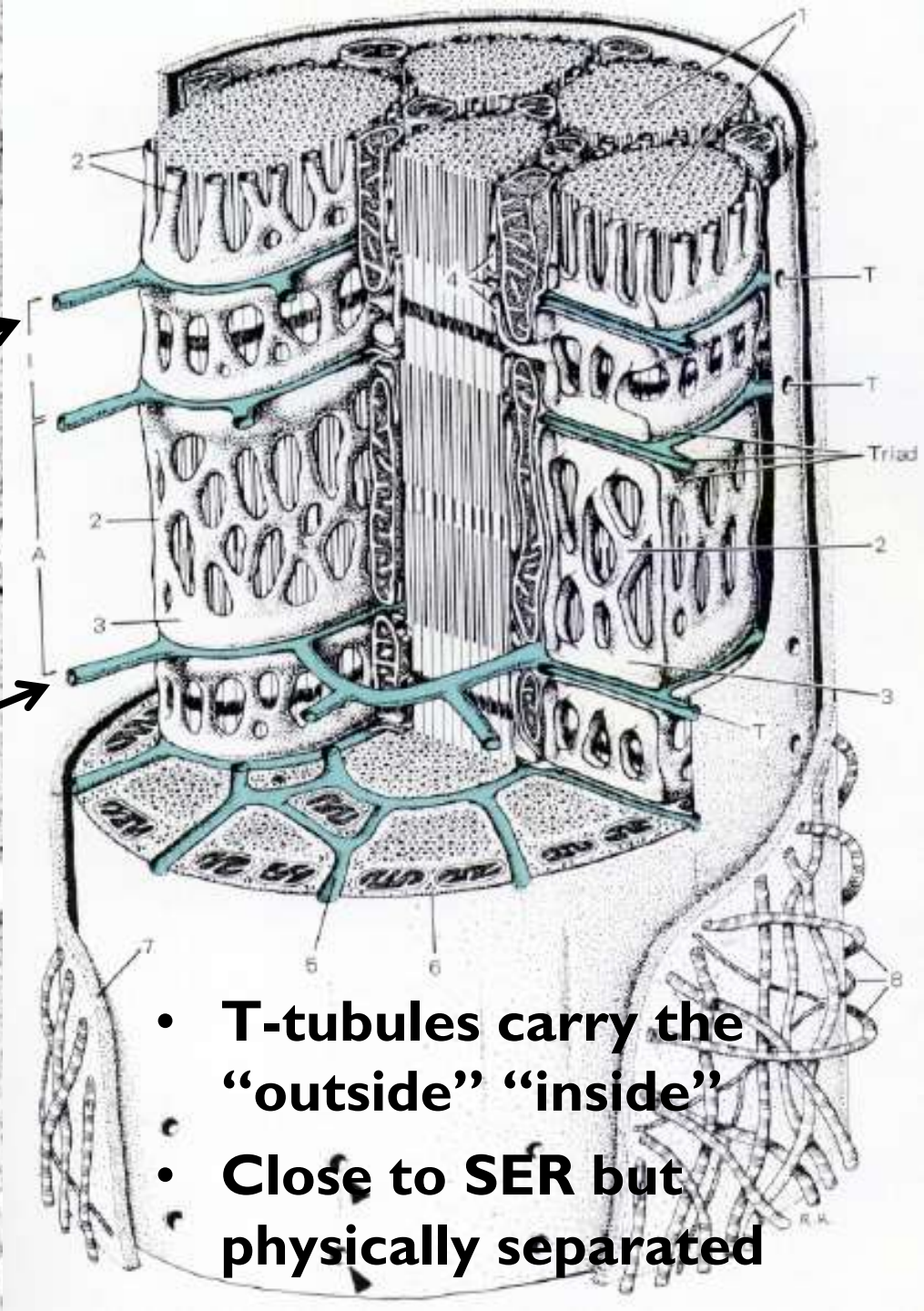
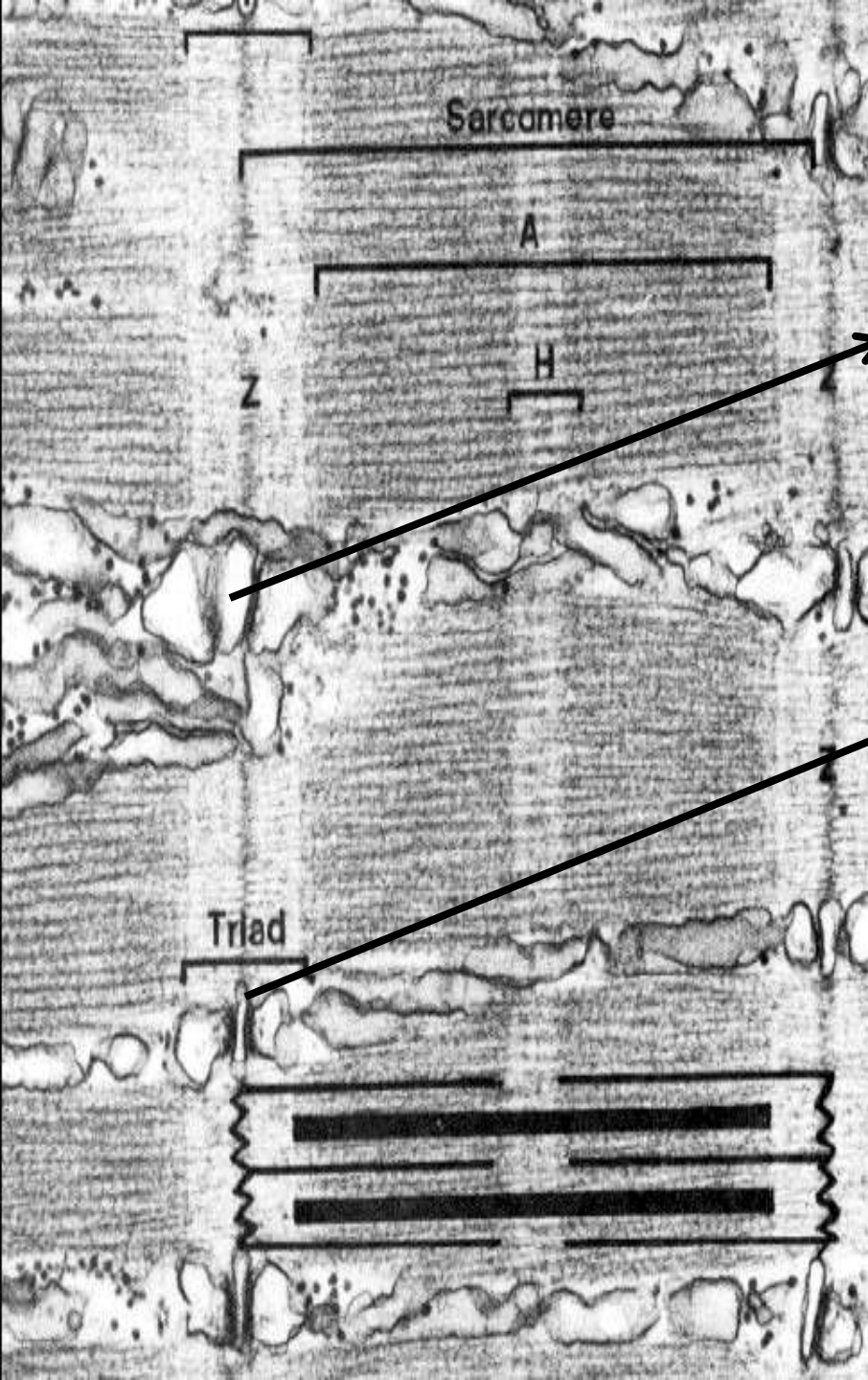
SARCOMERE TO MYOFILAMENTS



MYOFILAMENTS



Left to Right: Cross sections of sarcomeres at different levels: through the I-band, the H-zone, the M-band, and the A-band. Note organization of filaments.



- T-tubules carry the “outside” “inside”
- Close to SER but physically separated

CARDIAC MUSCLE

An electron micrograph of cardiac muscle tissue. The image shows multiple muscle fibers with a striated appearance. The fibers are interconnected by gap junctions, which are visible as small, dark, horizontal lines between adjacent cells. The nuclei are located at the periphery of the cells. The overall structure is highly organized and shows the characteristic branching and coupling of cardiac muscle cells.

- **A form of striated muscle**
- **Found only in the heart**
- **Structurally similar to skeletal**
 - **Cells are smaller**
 - **Specialized communication structures**
- **Histology somewhat different**
- **Responsive to different stimuli**
 - **Contraction is an *inherent* property**
 - **No *direct* neural stimulation needed**
 - **No NMJ!**

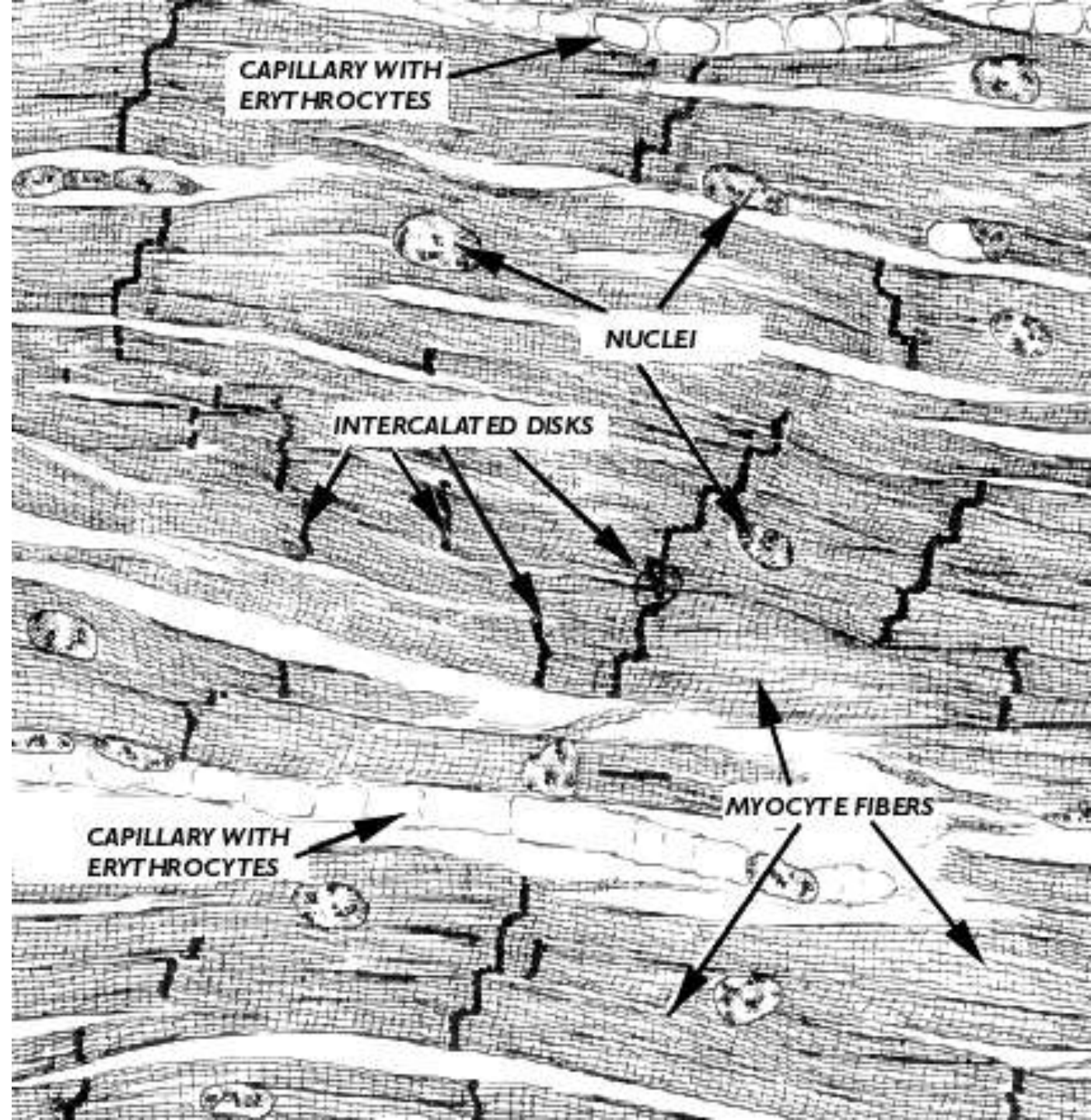
HISTOLOGY OF CARDIAC MUSCLE

A light micrograph of cardiac muscle tissue. The image shows numerous elongated, striated muscle fibers arranged in a somewhat parallel but slightly wavy pattern. The fibers are stained pink, and their nuclei are stained dark purple. The nuclei are small, round, and located at the periphery of the fibers. The overall appearance is that of a dense, organized tissue with a clear striated pattern.

- **Anastomosing fibers**
- **Cells are much smaller than skeletal**
 - **Mono-nucleated**
- **Many capillaries visible**

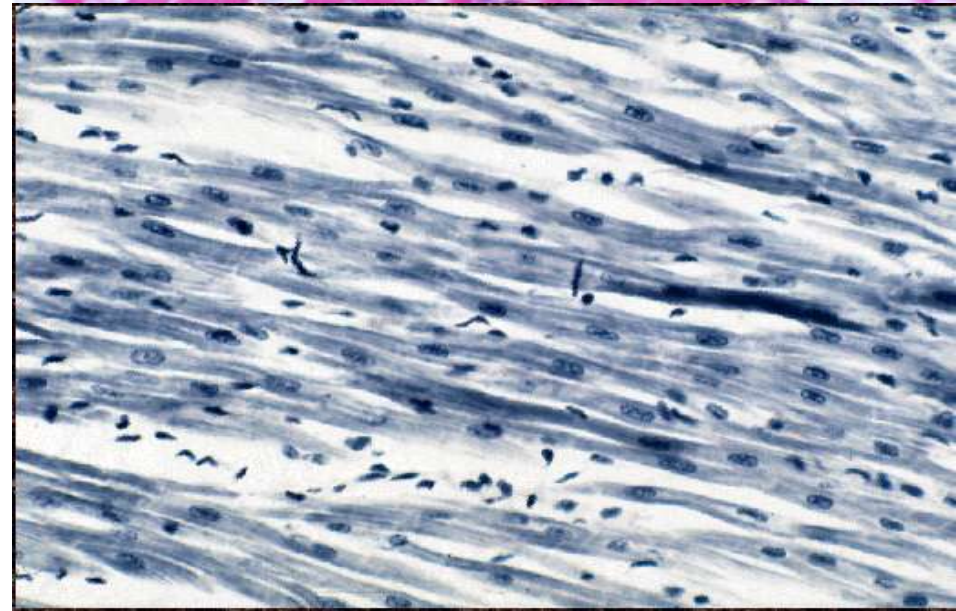
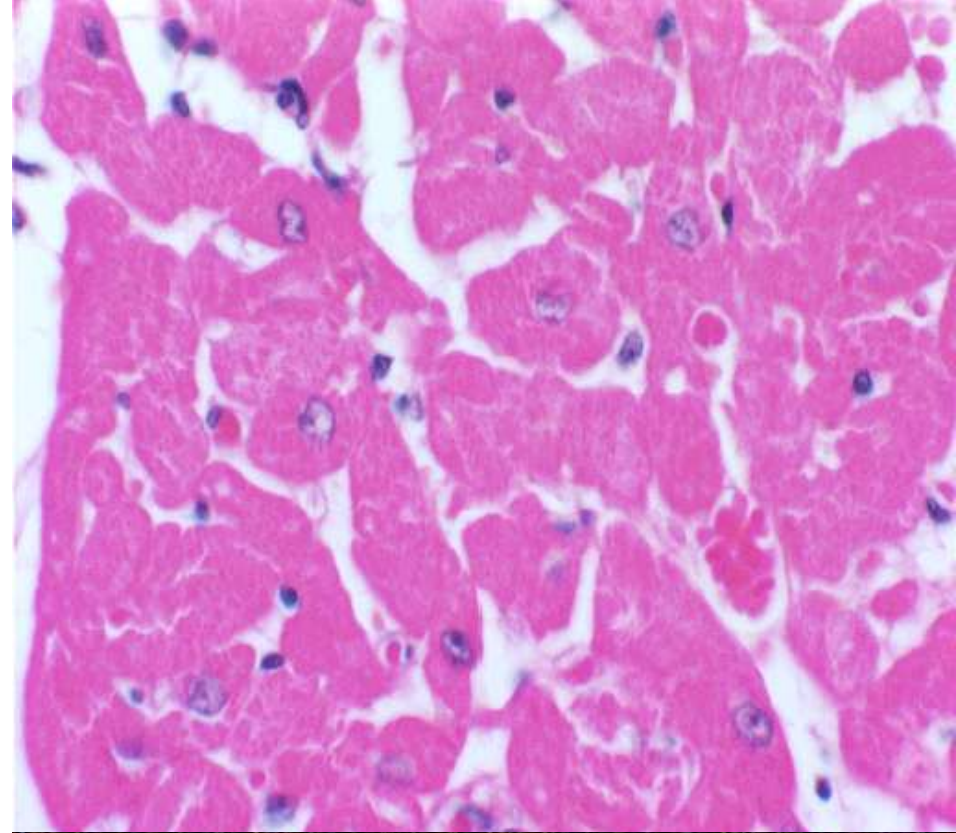
CARDIAC MUSCLE

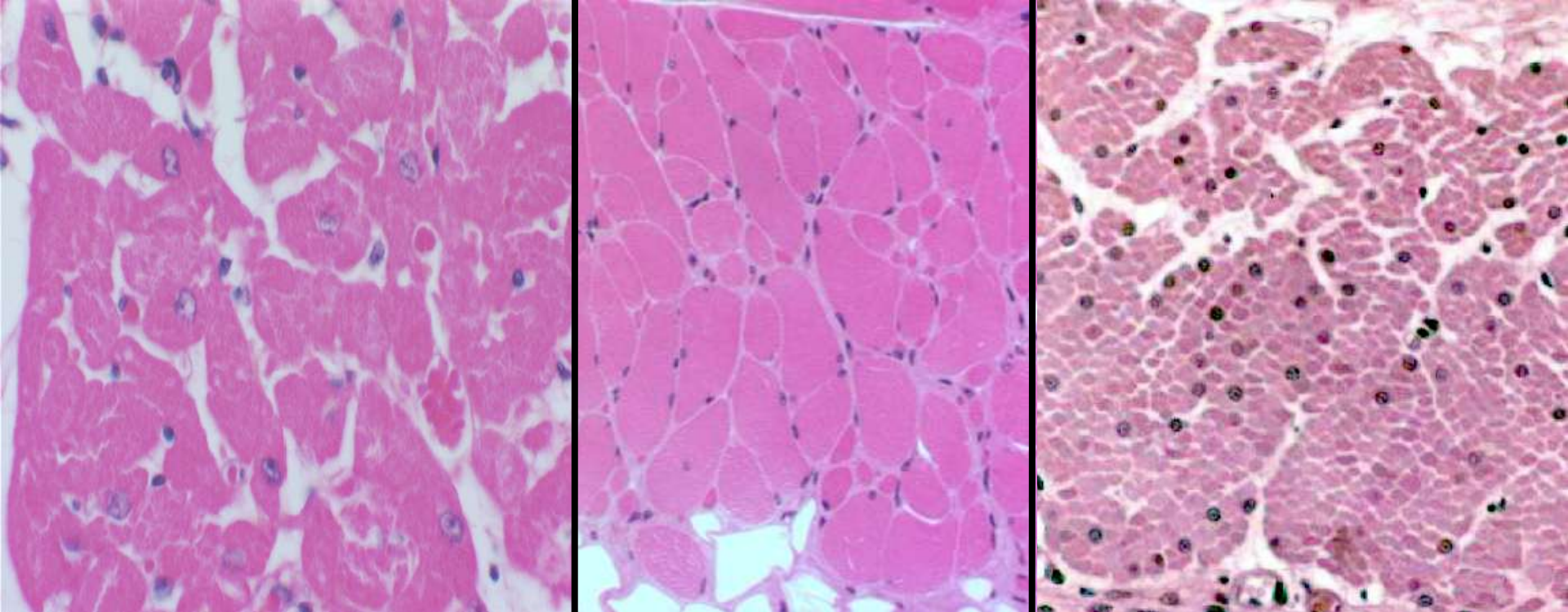
- **Individual cells**
 - Nucleus in center
- **Striations faint**
- **Unique INTER-CALATED DISK**
 - Diagnostic feature of CM!



- **In Cross Section:**

- **Nuclei in CENTER of cell**
- **Cells all about the same size**
- **Proportionally more nuclei per unit area than Smooth muscle**





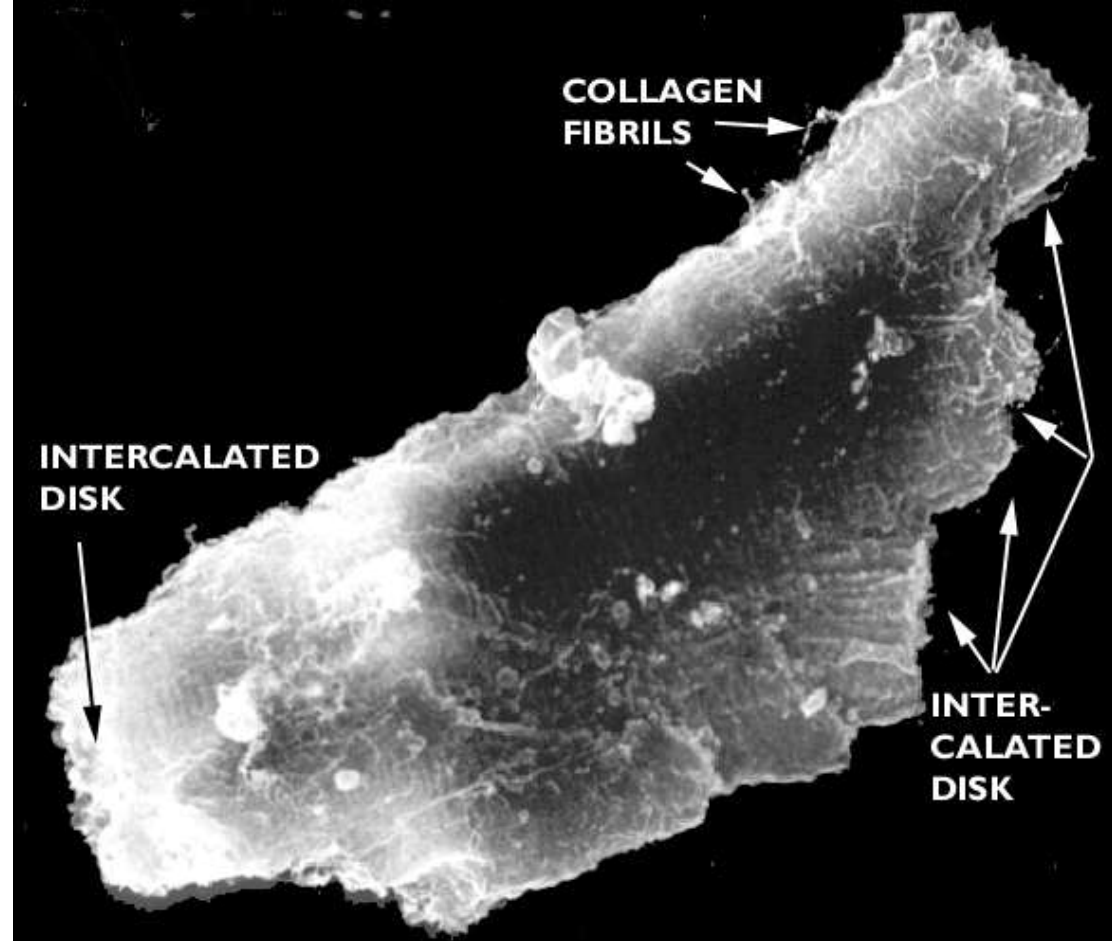
THREE CROSS SECTIONS

ALL AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME MAGNIFICATION

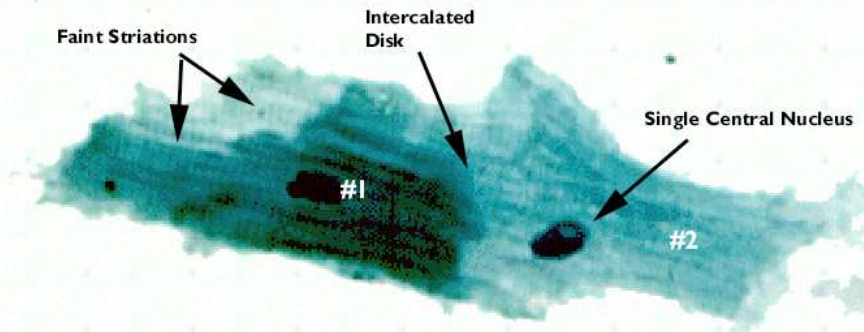
LEFT TO RIGHT: Cardiac, Skeletal, Smooth

CARDIAC MYOCYTES

- **Striations have same origin as Skeletal cells**
- **Length 70-100 microns**
- **Width 10-20 microns**
 - **CM Fibers composed of cells attached end-to-end!**



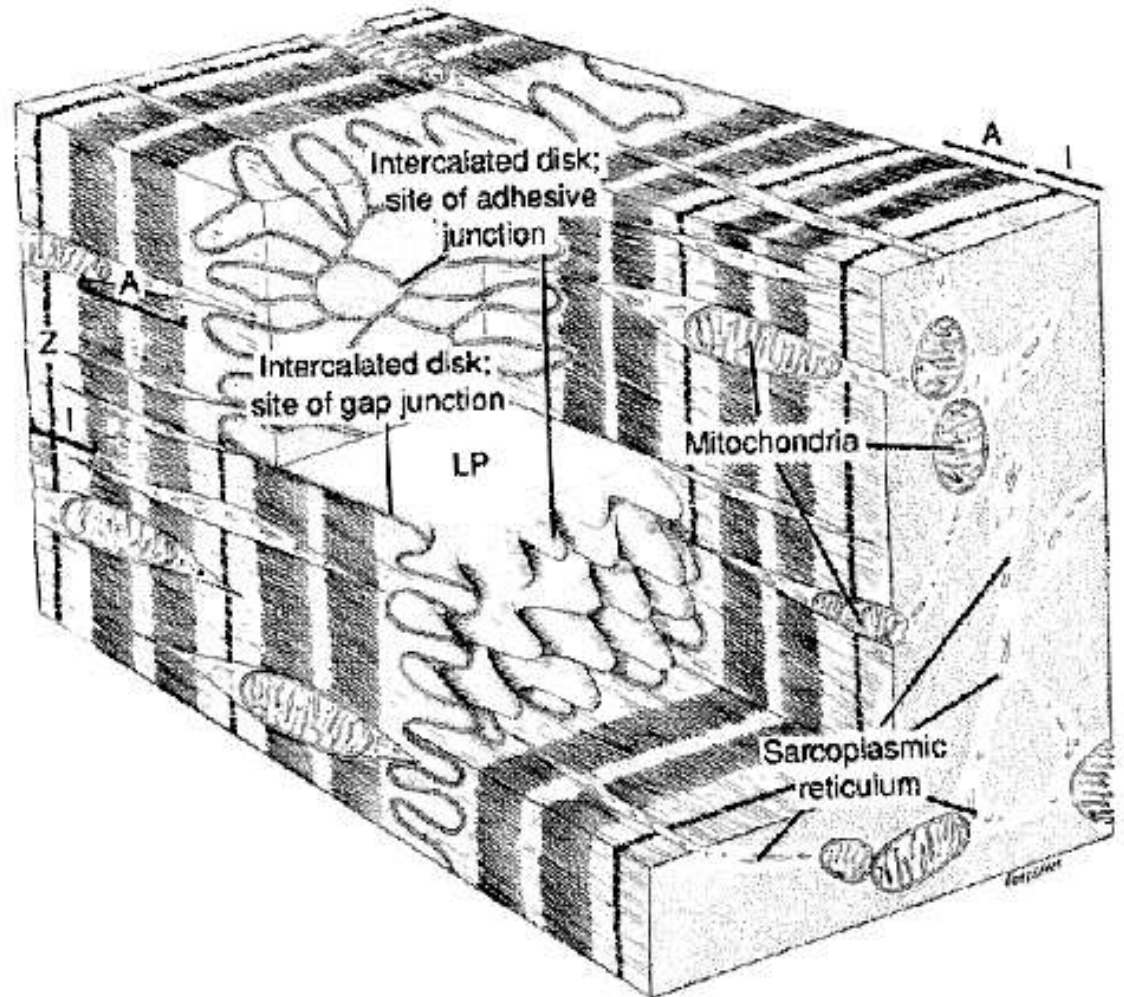
TWO CARDIAC MYOCYTES



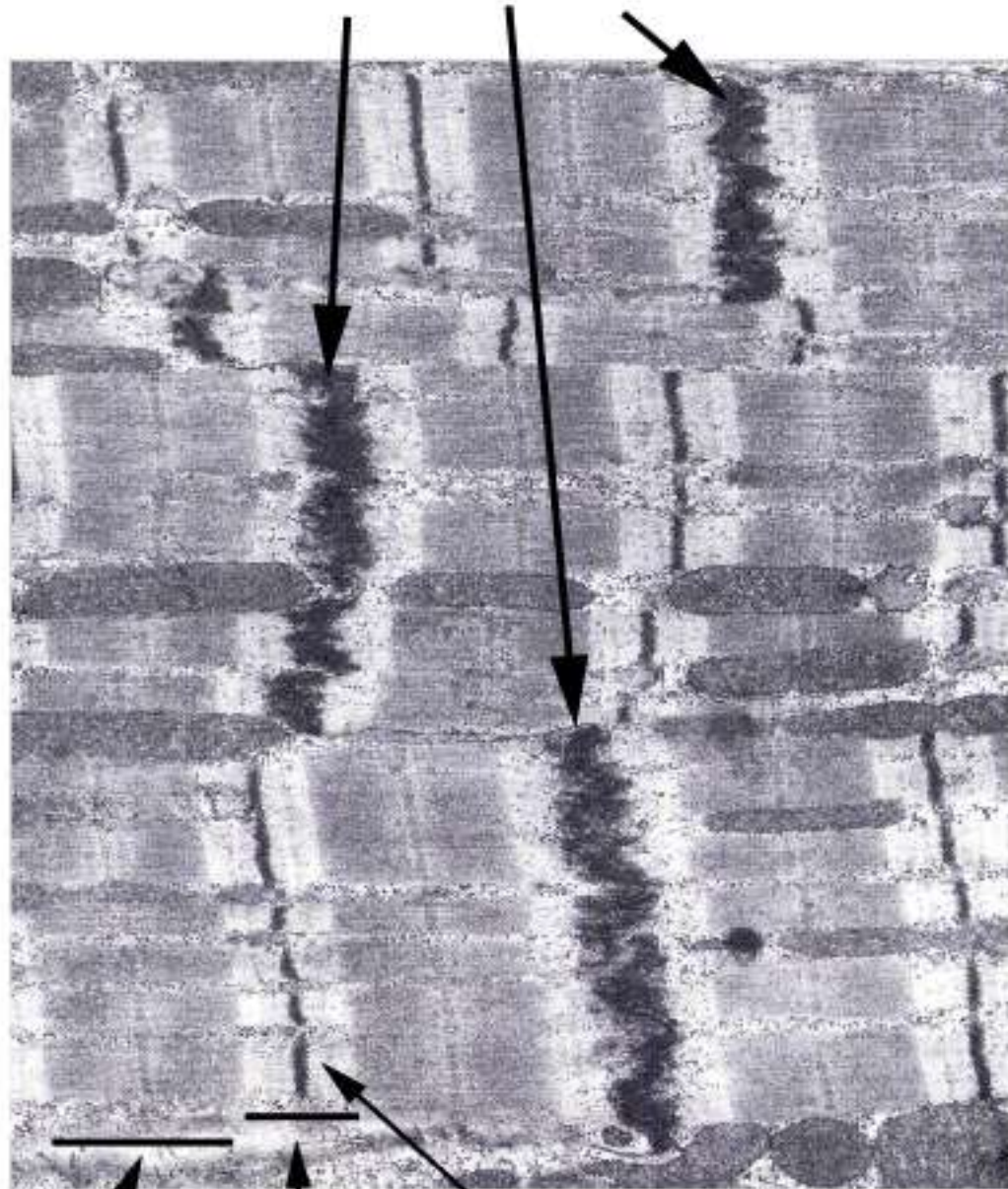
Light Micrograph of myocyte fibers from isolated cells

INTERCALATED DISKS

- **Special structure for COMMUNICATION & ADHESION**
- **3-D interlocking of adjacent cells at ends**
- **ID includes adhering junctions & gap junctions**
- **Communication & adhesion site for CM**



INTERCALATED DISKS



A-BAND

I-BAND

Z-LINE

DISK AT ABOUT 50,000x



ZONA
ADHERENS

DESMOSOME

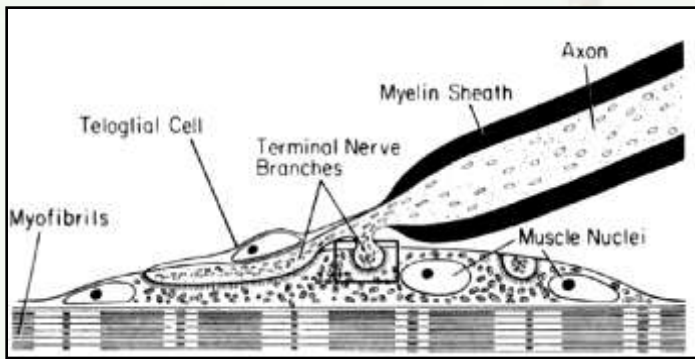
NEURAL RELATIONSHIPS IN MUSCLE

- **Vary with type**
 - **SKELETAL** muscle most elaborate
 - **SMOOTH** muscle simple but direct
 - **CARDIAC** muscle controlled by non-neural network & internally
- **Control is monitored closely by CNS**
 - Structures exist for this purpose

MOTOR END PLATE

A microscopic image of skeletal muscle tissue, stained with a pinkish-red dye. The image shows several parallel muscle fibers with visible striations. A prominent, dark, elongated structure is visible on the surface of one of the fibers, which is the motor end plate.

- **Skeletal muscle ONLY**
- **Lacking in smooth and cardiac muscle**
- **Transmission of signal from nervous system to muscle is chemical in nature**
- **Specialized structure in PM of myofiber**
- **ONE AND ONLY ONE NMJ ON ANY GIVEN MYOFIBER**



Motor End Plate



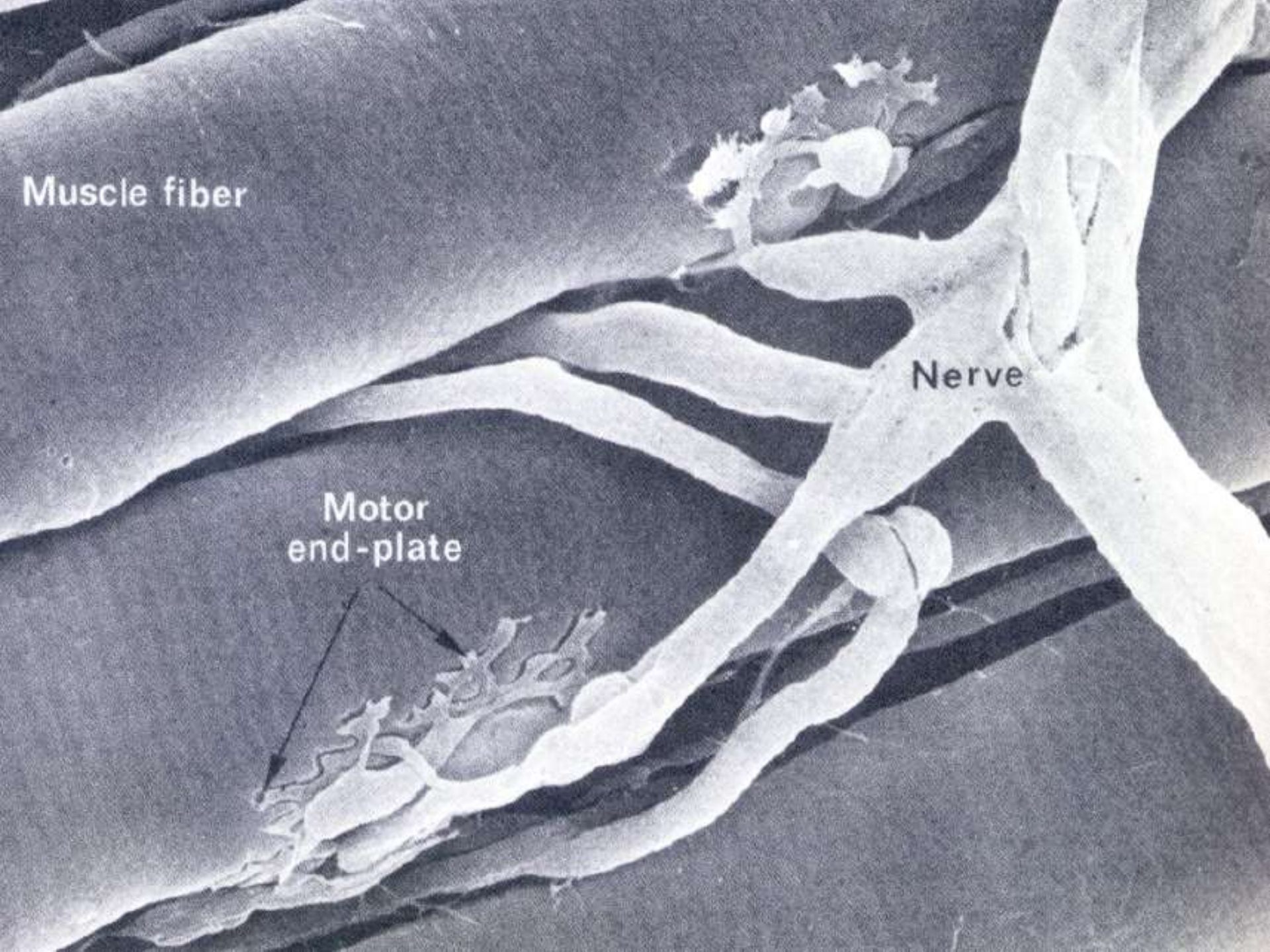
Muscle Fiber



Muscle fiber

Nerve

Motor
end-plate



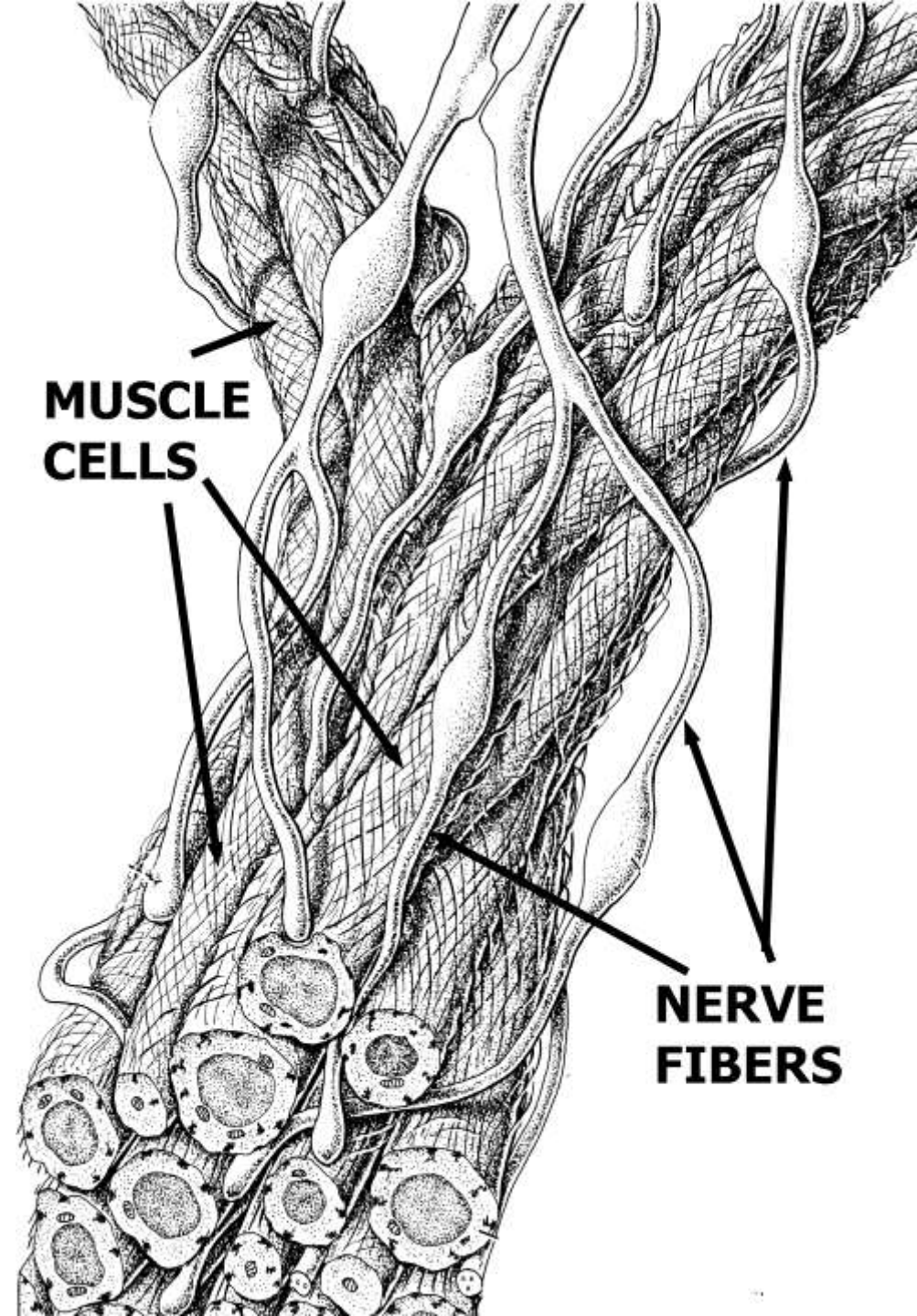
MOTOR UNIT

A microscopic image of skeletal muscle tissue, stained with a reddish-purple dye. The image shows several parallel muscle fibers with visible striations. A single axon is seen branching out to innervate multiple muscle fibers, illustrating the concept of a motor unit. The axon is dark and appears to be surrounded by a myelin sheath. The muscle fibers are arranged in a regular, repeating pattern, with light and dark bands (sarcomeres) visible. The overall structure is organized and shows clear cellular boundaries and internal structures.

- **ONE** axon controls several myofibers
- **The axon and its fibers comprise a single MOTOR UNIT**
- **Switching motor units on and off regulates & sustains force**
- **Feedback loops control mechanism**

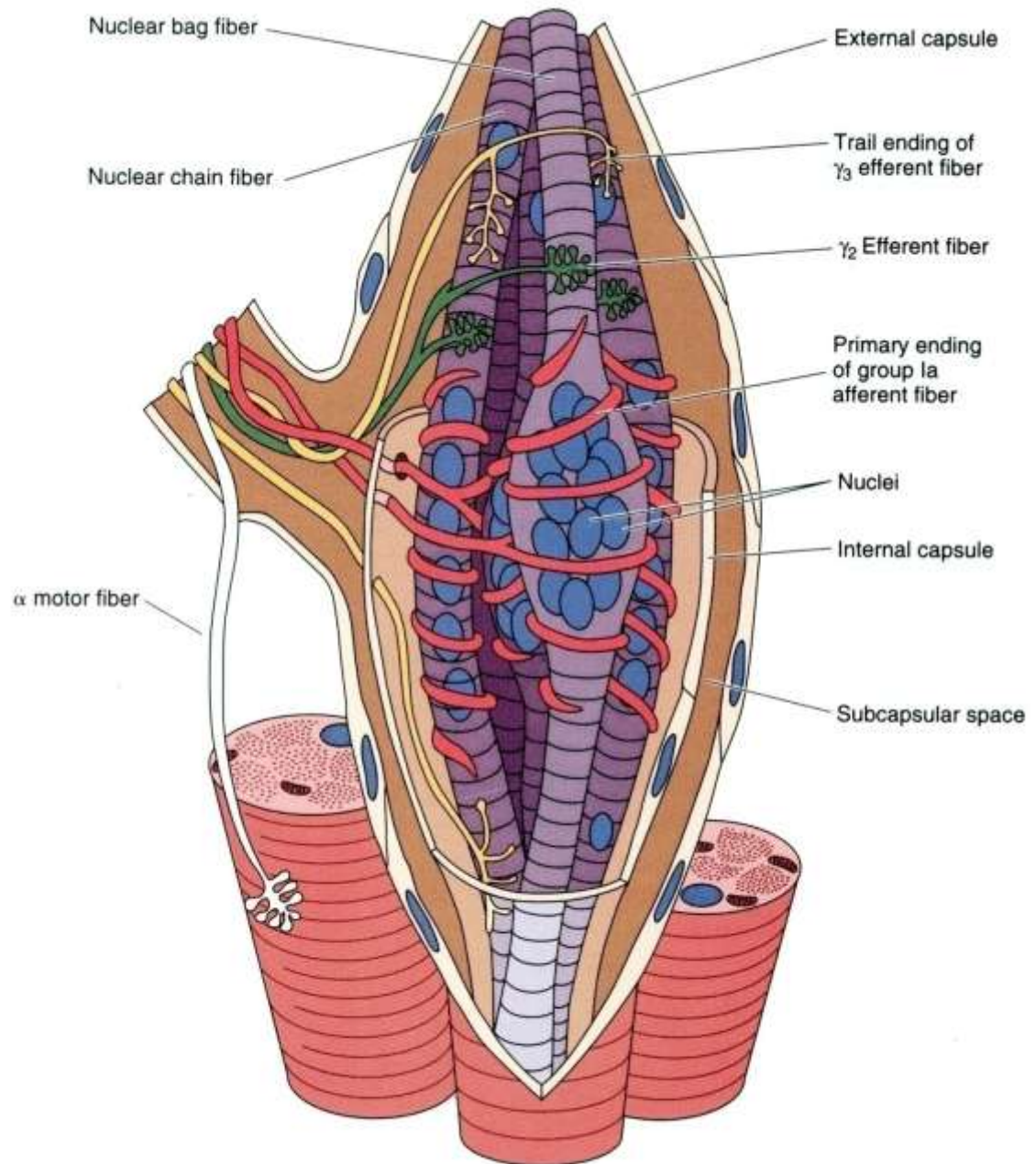
NEURAL RELATIONSHIPS IN SMOOTH MUSCLE

- **NO** elaborate NMJ
- **Nerve fibers** end on cells
- **Neurotransmitter uptake** by pinocytosis and/or diffusion



MUSCLE SPINDLE

- **A control device for skeletal muscle**
- **Works like a thermostat**
 - **Sensory & neural fibers**
 - **Modified skeletal muscle fibers**
 - **“Set point” can be modified as needed**
- **More numerous where fine control is needed**

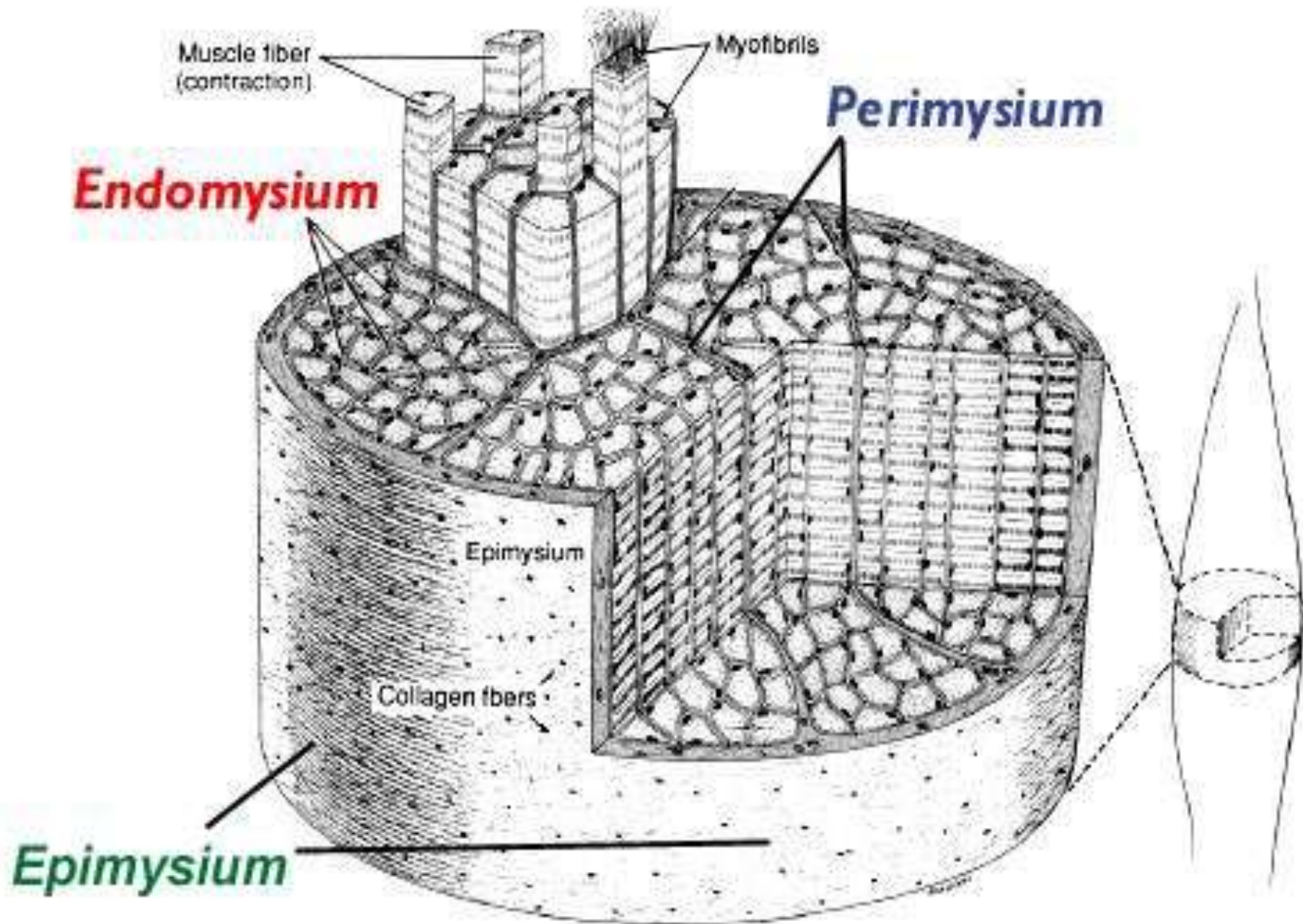




- **SPINDLE LIES AMONG FIBERS**
 - Detects tension changes & reports
 - Brain re-sets as needed

INTERCELLULAR COLLAGEN NETWORK

- **All muscle cells are invested by CT**
- **CT forms a basketwork around cells and connects to higher levels**
- **Force is transmitted through CT**
- **No CT, no work!**



REGENERATION AND REPAIR

- **Muscle cells can't divide**
 - Injury usually causes some loss of material, part or all of a myofiber
- **Scarring “fills in” the space with collagen**
 - Collagen is non-contractile
- **A scanty reserve of myoblasts exists in skeletal muscle**
 - Not in smooth or cardiac
 - **MAY** be some **LIMITED** regeneration from these, but not much!
 - **Never** in cardiac muscle