6.1: Neurological Assessment Introduction

Learning Objectives

- Perform a neurological assessment, including mental status, cranial nerves, sensory function, motor strength, cerebellar function, and reflexes
- Modify assessment techniques to reflect variations across the life span
- Document actions and observations
- Recognize and report significant deviations from norms

The neurological system is a complex and intricate system that affects all body functions. A neurological assessment includes collecting subjective and objective data through an interview and detailed physical examination of the central nervous system and the peripheral nervous system. Let’s begin by reviewing the anatomy of the neurological system.