

Neurotransmitters and Their Effects

Define neurotransmitter:

Chemicals released by neurons that stimulate other neurons by diffusing across the synapse.

Read p. 150-151 and fill in the following chart:

| Neurotransmitter | Effect |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Acetylcholine | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- primary neurotransmitter of the sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous systems- stimulates skeletal muscles to contract- inhibits cardiac muscles |
| Noradrenaline (norepinephrine) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- primary neurotransmitter of sympathetic nervous system |
| Glutamate | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- responsible for 75 percent of all excitatory transmission in brain |
| GABA | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- most common inhibitory neurotransmitter in the brain- important in level of consciousness, inhibition of pain |
| Dopamine | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- elevates mood and controls skeletal muscles |
| Serotonin | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- regulates mood, alertness, sleepiness, thermoregulation |