

### Introduction

The sympathetic nervous system (SNS) is one of the two main divisions of the autonomic nervous system, the other being the parasympathetic nervous system.

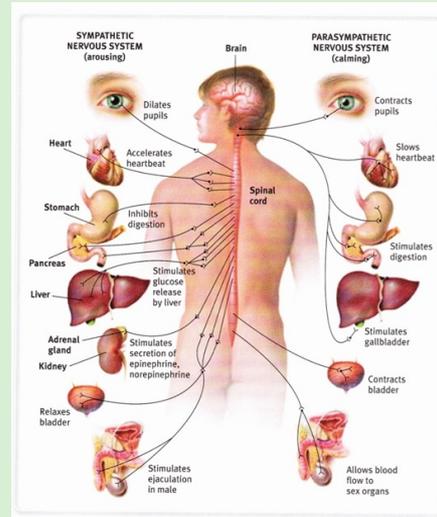
The autonomic nervous system functions to regulate the body's unconscious actions. The sympathetic nervous system's primary process is to stimulate the body's fight-or-flight response. It is, however, constantly active at a basic level to maintain homeostasis. The sympathetic nervous system is described as being complementary to the parasympathetic nervous system which stimulates the body to "Rest-and-Digest" or "Feed-and-Breed".

Credit: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sympathetic\\_nervous\\_system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sympathetic_nervous_system)

### Autonomic nervous supply to organs

Organ	Nerves	Spinal column
stomach	<b>PS:</b> anterior & posterior vagal trunks <b>S:</b> greater splanchnic nerves	T6-T9, sometimes T10
duodenum	<b>PS:</b> vagus nerves <b>S:</b> greater splanchnic nerves	T5-T9, sometimes T10
pancreatic head	<b>PS:</b> vagus nerves <b>S:</b> thoracic splanchnic nerves	T8-T9
jejunum & ileum	<b>PS:</b> posterior vagal trunks <b>S:</b> greater splanchnic nerves	T5-T9
colon	<b>PS:</b> vagus nerves & pelvic splanchnic nerves <b>S:</b> greater splanchnic nerves	T10-T12 (proximal colon) L1-L3, (distal colon)
spleen	<b>S:</b> greater splanchnic nerves	T6-T8
vermiform appendix	nerves to superior mesenteric plexus	T10
gallbladder & liver	<b>PS:</b> vagus nerve <b>S:</b> celiac plexus <b>right</b> phrenic nerve	T6-T9
Kidneys & Ureters	<b>PS:</b> vagus nerve <b>S:</b> thoracic & lumbar splanchnic nerves	T11-T12

### Sympathetic Nervous System



### Organ & Effect

Organ	Effect
Eye	Dilates pupil
Heart	Increases rate & force of contraction
Lungs	Dilates bronchioles via circulating adrenaline
Blood Vessels	Dilate in skeletal muscle Constricts in gastrointestinal organs
Sweat Glands	Activates sweat secretion
Digestive tract	Inhibits peristalsis
Kidney	Increases renin secretion
Penis	Inhibits Tumescence
Ductus deferens	Promotes emission prior to ejaculation



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