

LESSON 5: Descending (Motor) Pathways and Clinical Integration

Note-Taking Guide

All Module Resources: <https://bettybroadbent.com/home/human-anatomy/spinal-cord/>

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, I will be able to:

- Distinguish upper motor neurons vs. lower motor neurons
- Trace the corticospinal pathway
- Understand other descending pathways
- Explain conscious vs. unconscious motor control
- Integrate all concepts with Marge case

Required Viewing BEFORE This Lesson

- [Spinal White Matter](#)
- [Motor Spinal Pathways](#)

Key Vocabulary

Define these terms in your own words:

Descending pathway:

Efferent pathway:

Upper motor neuron (UMN):

Lower motor neuron (LMN):

Corticospinal pathway:

Primary motor cortex:

Neuromuscular junction:

Key Questions

Where is the cell body of an upper motor neuron located?

Where is the cell body of a lower motor neuron located?

What motor problem did Marge experience?

Why did the motor pathway require physical therapy to recover?

Connection to Marge Case Study

Read: [Spinal Injury Case Study](#)

Use this space to connect the concepts to Marge case:

Watch AFTER This Lesson

- [Spinal Injury Case Study](#)