

SNS COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCE
Affiliated to The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R Medical University, Chennai



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

COURSE NAME : ANATOMY

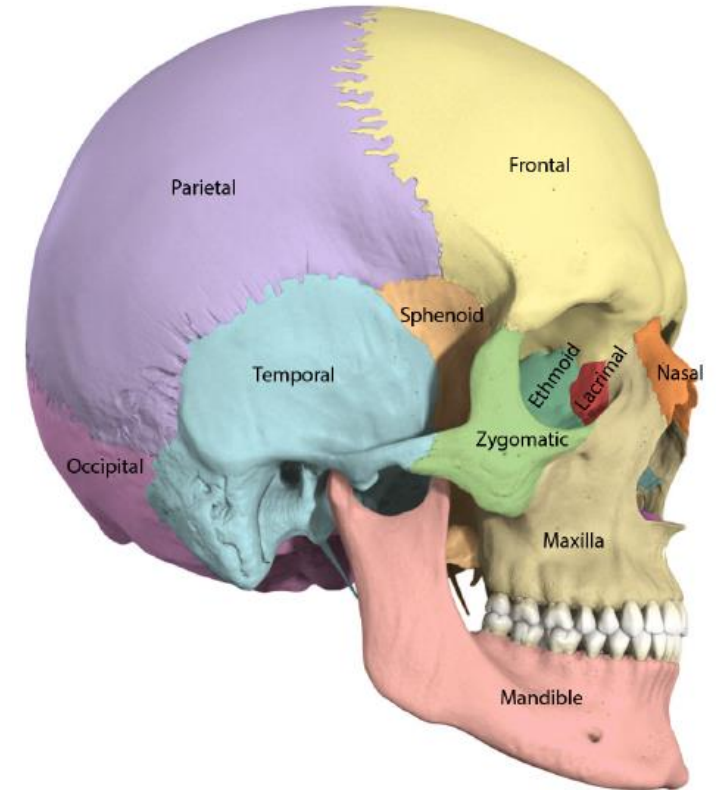
UNIT : SKELETAL SYSTEM

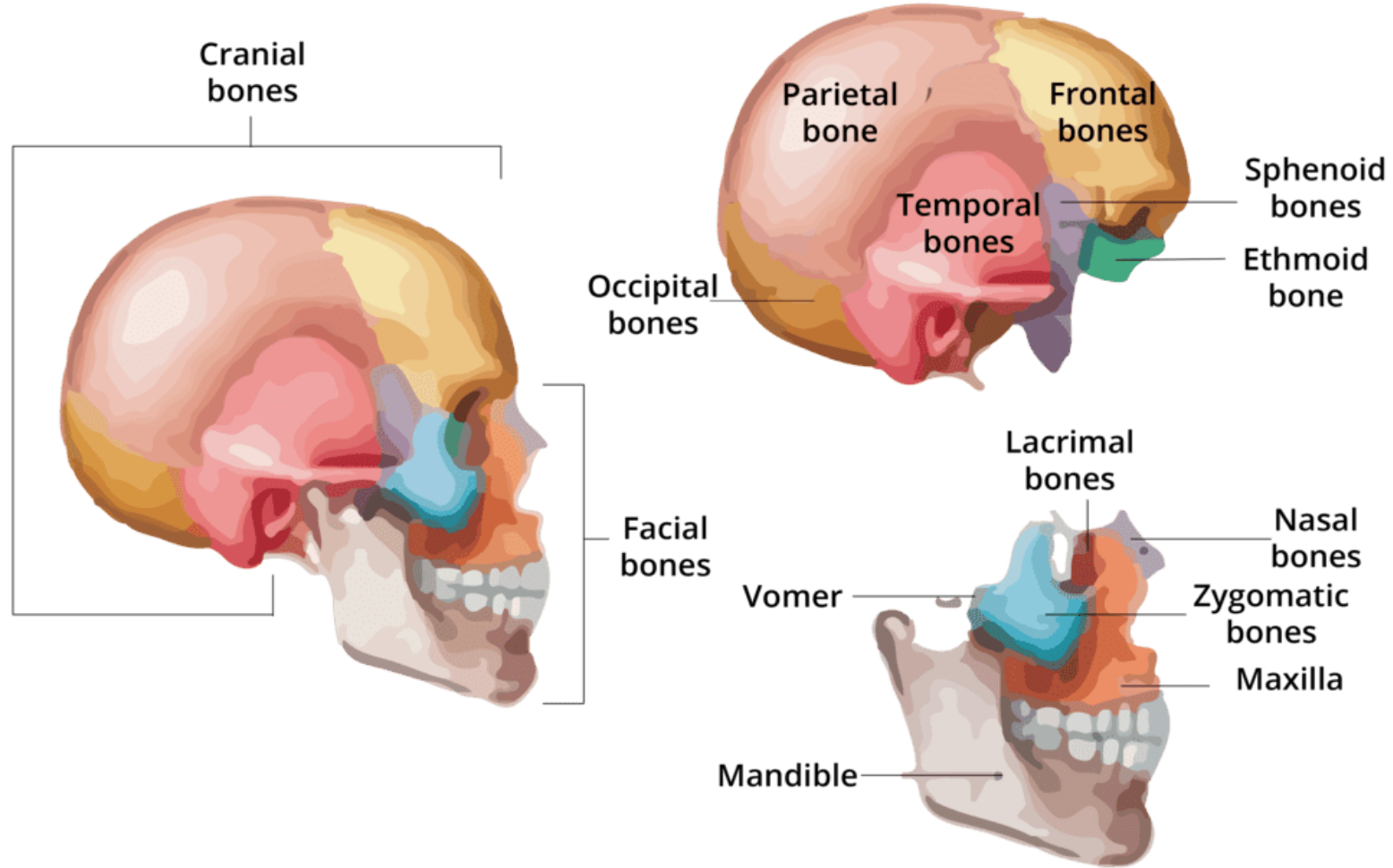
TOPIC : SKULL BONES

FACULTY NAME : Ms. SINEKA M

INTRODUCTION

- The **skull** is a bony structure that supports the face and forms a protective cavity for the brain.
- It is comprised of many bones, which are formed by intramembranous ossification, and joined by **sutures** (fibrous joints).

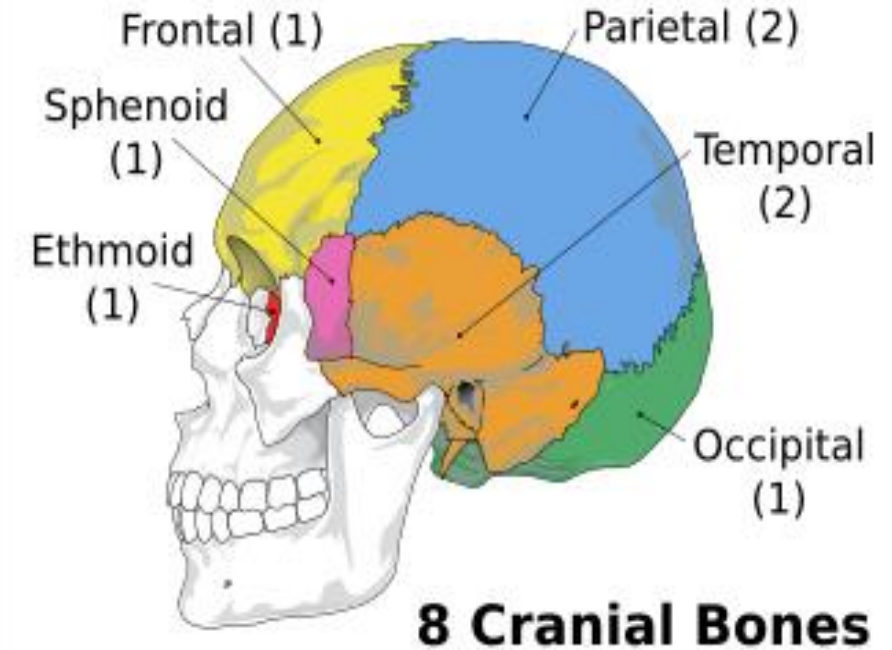




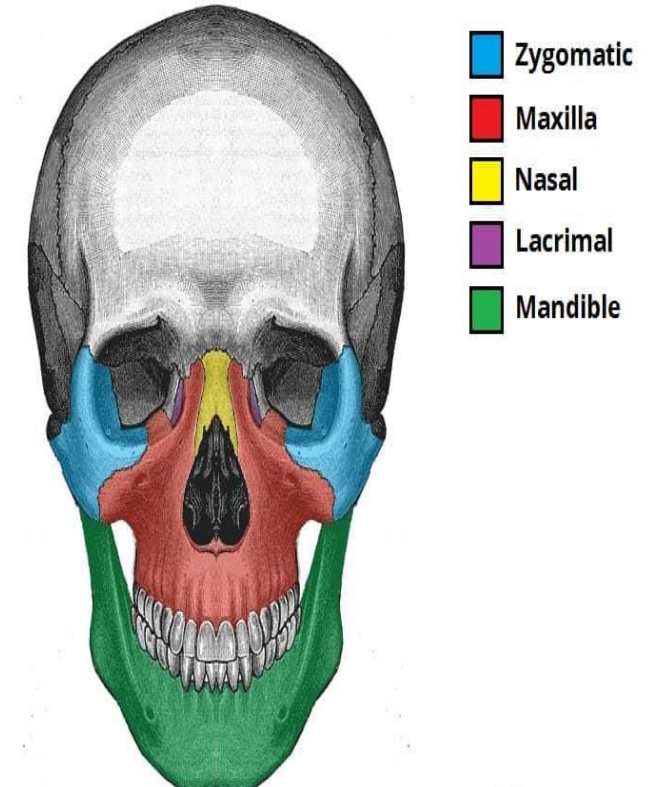
OVERVIEW OF SKULL BONES

They are divided into **two main** groups:

- **Cranial Bones (Neurocranium): 8 bones** that enclose and protect the brain.
- It includes Frontal, parietal (2), temporal (2), occipital, sphenoid, and ethmoid.

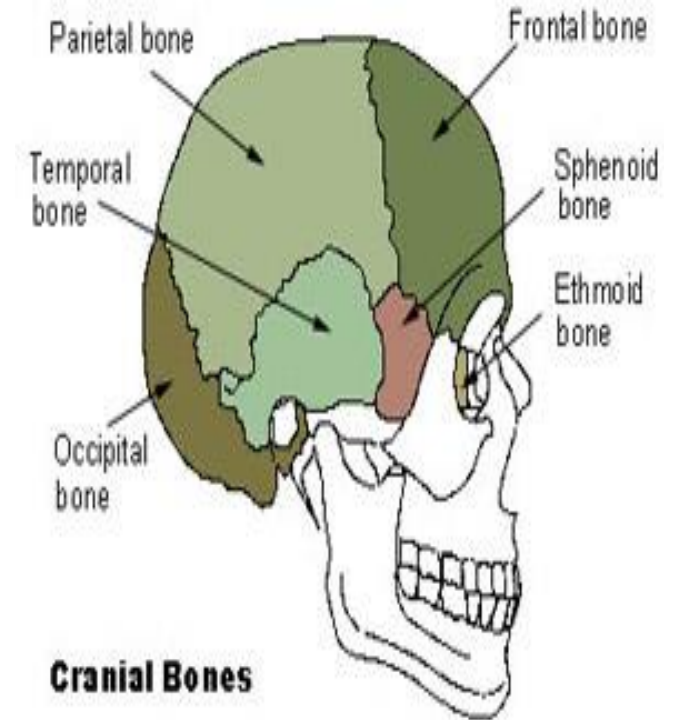


- **Facial Bones (Viscerocranium): 14 bones** that form the face, eyes, nose, and mouth.
- It includes Nasal (2), lacrimal (2), zygomatic (2), maxilla (2), palatine (2), inferior nasal concha (2), vomer, and mandible.
- The **mandible (jawbone)** is the only movable bone of the skull; the rest are joined via sutures.

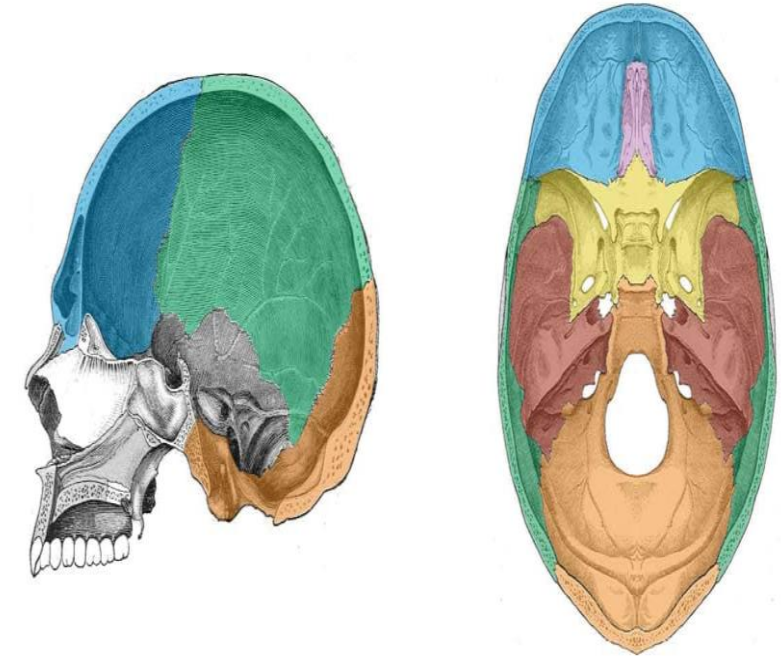


CRANIUM

- The **cranium** (also known as the neurocranium) is formed by the superior aspect of the skull.
- It encloses and protects the brain, meninges, and cerebral vasculature.
- Anatomically, the cranium can be subdivided into a **roof** and a **base**



- **Cranial roof** – comprised of the frontal, occipital and two parietal bones. It is also known as the calvaria.
- **Cranial base** – comprised of the frontal, sphenoid, ethmoid, occipital, parietal, and temporal bones.
- These bones articulate with the 1st cervical vertebra (atlas), the facial bones, and the mandible (jaw).

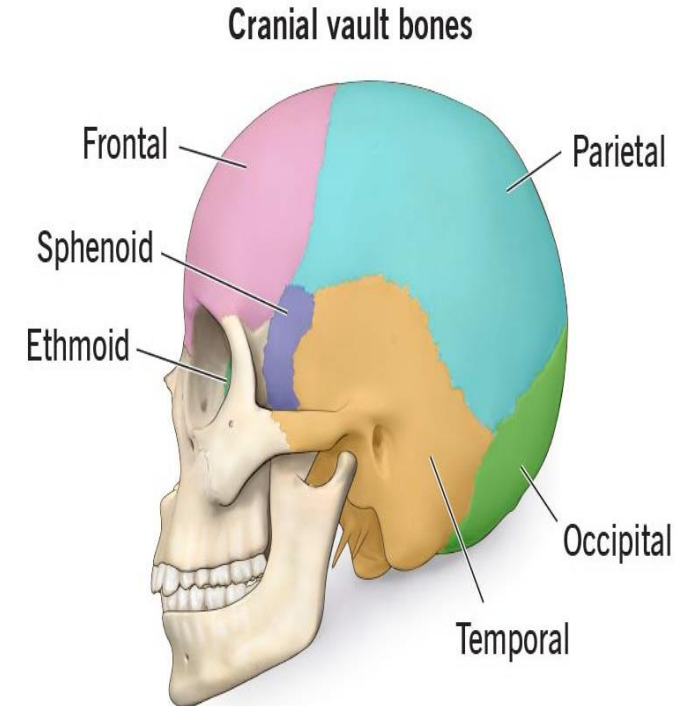


a) Bones of the calvarium

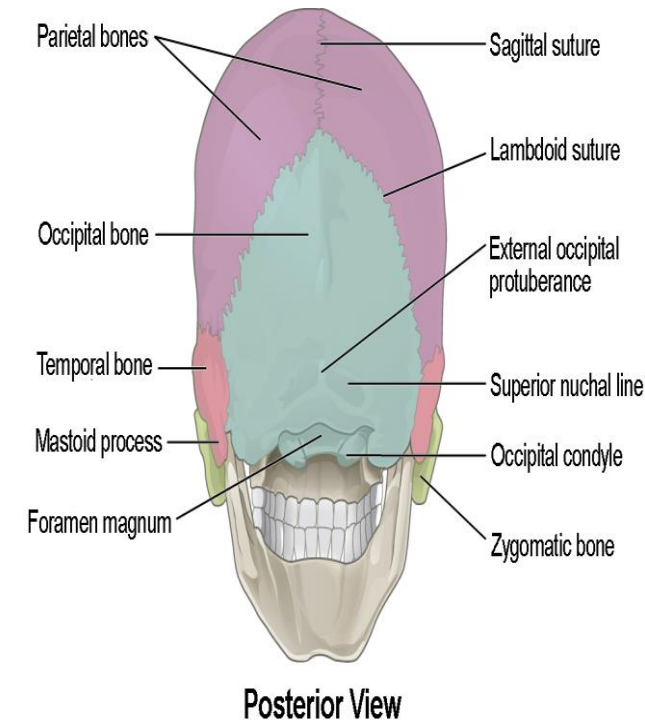
b) Bones of the cranial base

CRANIAL BONES

- **Frontal bone (1):** Forms the forehead and the roof of the eye sockets.
- **Parietal bones (2):** Form the top and sides of the skull.
- **Temporal bones (2):** Located on the lower sides of the skull, they house the structures of the inner and middle ear and form the temporomandibular joint with the mandible.

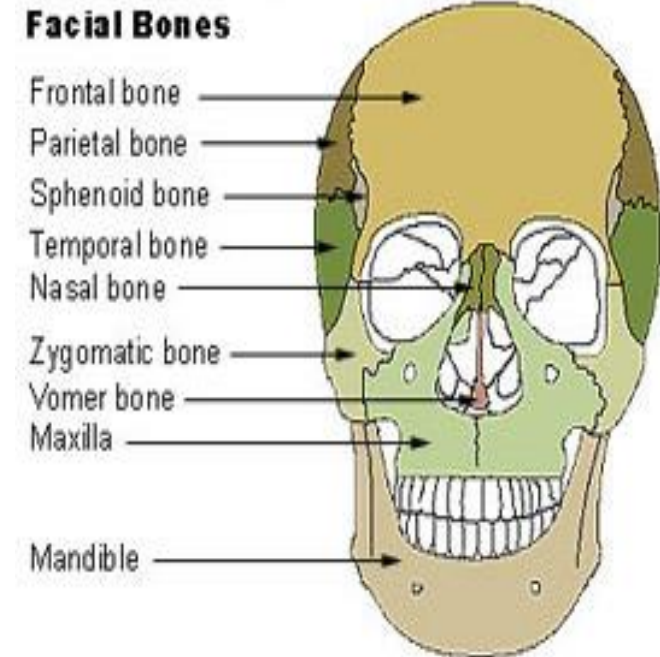


- **Occipital bone (1):** Forms the back and the posterior base of the skull, with a large opening (foramen magnum) for the spinal cord.
- **Sphenoid bone (1):** A complex, butterfly-shaped bone at the base of the skull that joins with almost every other skull bone.
- **Ethmoid bone (1):** A spongy bone located between the eyes, contributing to the nasal cavity and the medial wall of the orbit.

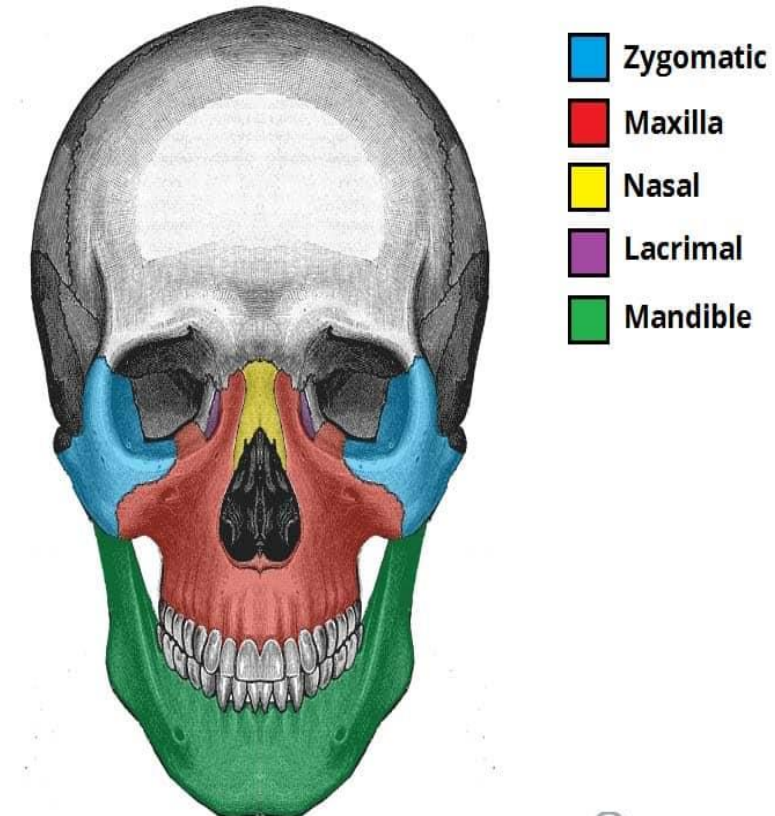


FACIAL BONES

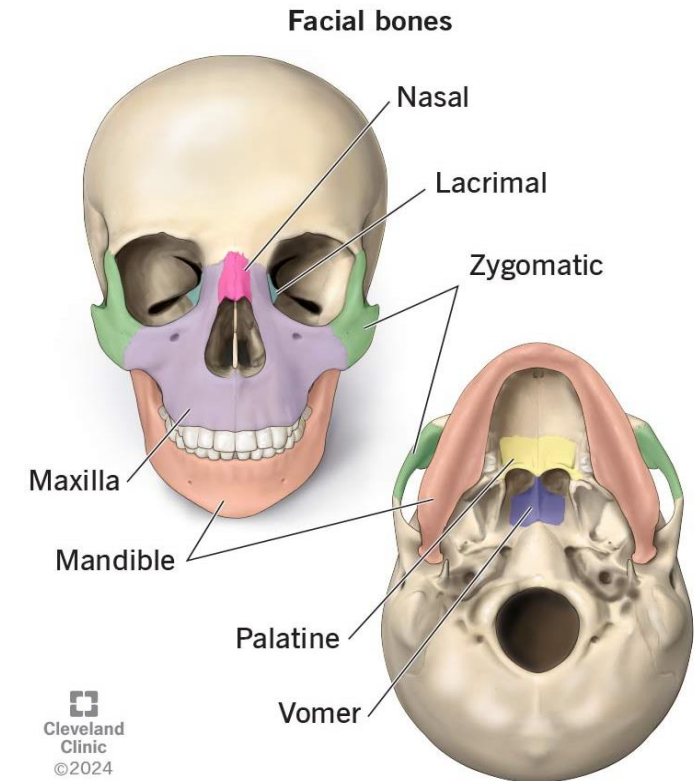
- **Maxillae (2):** The upper jaw bones, which also form part of the hard palate and the floor of the orbits.
- **Mandible (1):** The lower jaw and the only movable bone of the skull. Articulates with the base of the cranium at the temporomandibular joint (TMJ).
- **Zygomatic bones (2):** The cheekbones, which form much of the lateral wall of the orbit.



- **Nasal bones (2):** Form the bridge of the nose.
- **Lacrimal bones (2):** Small bones forming part of the medial wall of the orbit, near the tear ducts.
- **Palatine bones (2):** L-shaped bones that form the posterior part of the hard palate and the lateral walls of the nasal cavity.



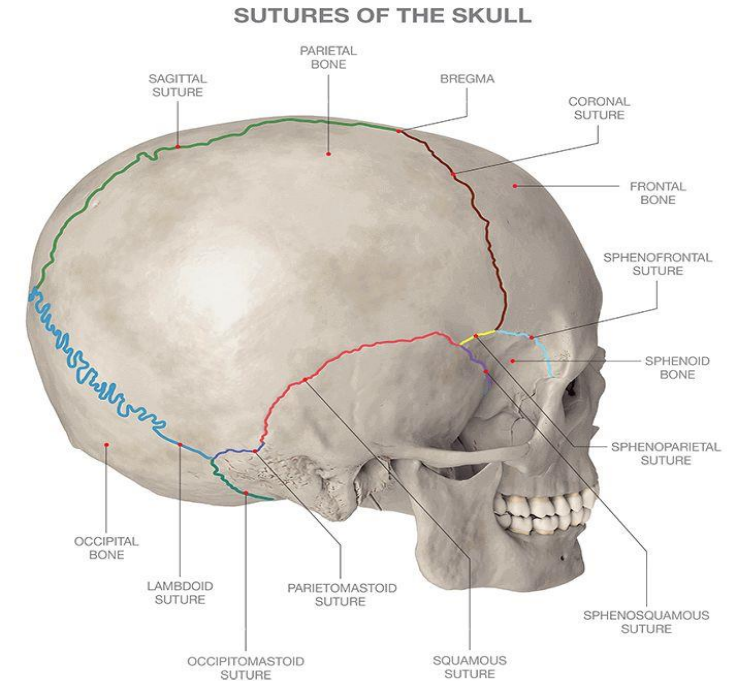
- **Inferior nasal conchae (2):** Curved bony plates that project into the nasal cavity to swirl and filter air.
- **Vomer (1):** A single bone that forms the posterior and inferior part of the nasal septum.



JOINTS OF SKULL BONES

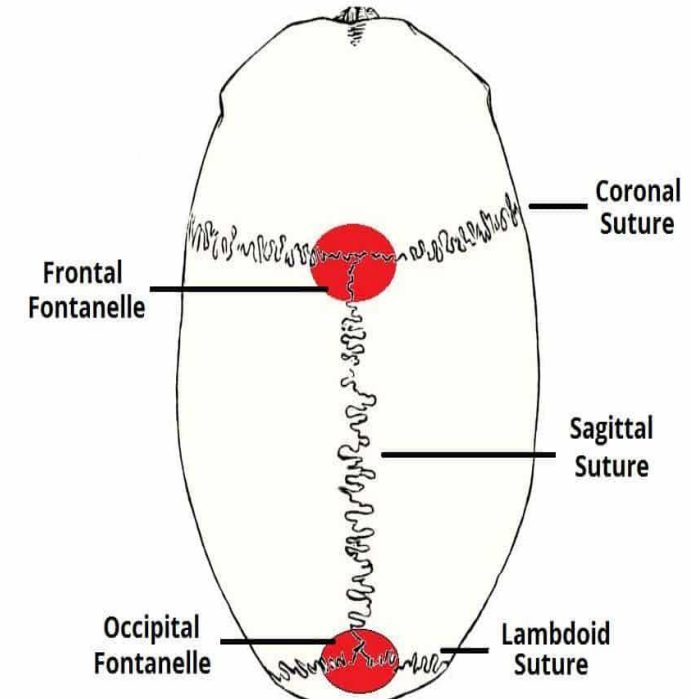
SUTURES OF THE SKULL

- Sutures are a type of **fibrous joint** that are unique to the skull.
- They are immovable and fuse completely around the age of 20.

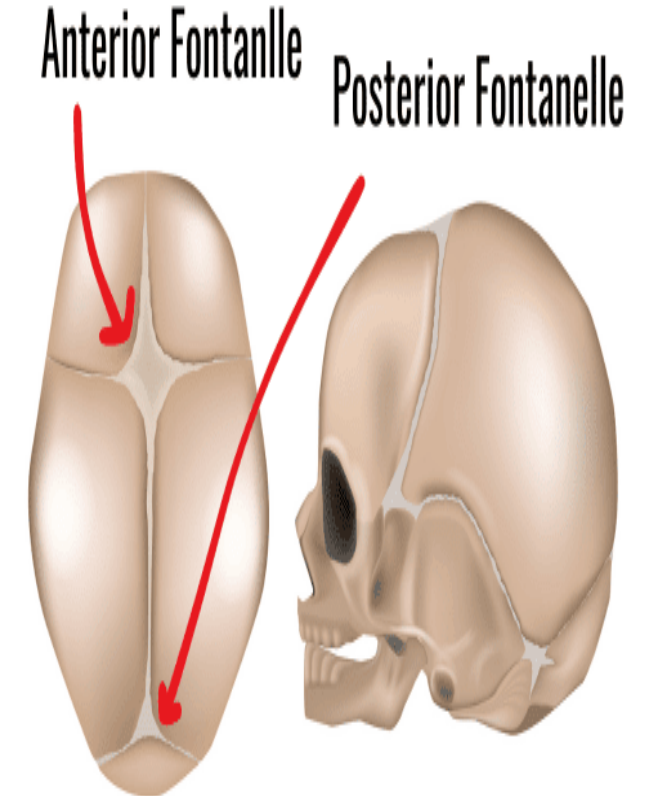


The main sutures in the adult skull are:

- **Coronal suture** – fuses the frontal bone with the two parietal bones.
- **Sagittal suture** – fuses both parietal bones to each other.
- **Lambdoid suture** – fuses the occipital bone to the two parietal bones.

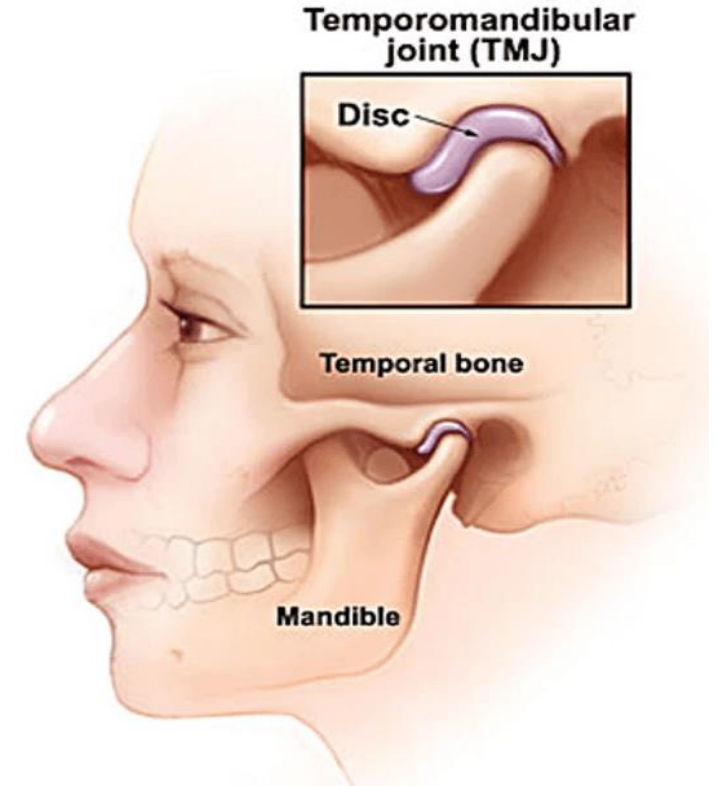


- In neonates, the incompletely fused suture joints give rise to membranous gaps between the bones, known as fontanelles.
- **The two major fontanelles are:**
 - **Frontal fontanelle** – located at the junction of the coronal and sagittal sutures
 - **Occipital fontanelle** – located at the junction of the sagittal and lambdoid sutures



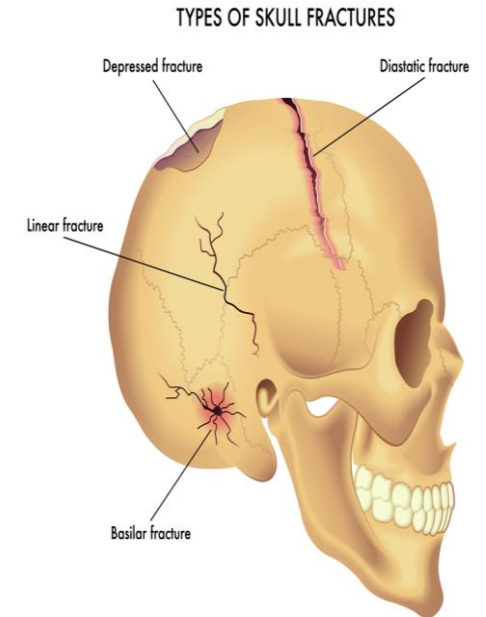
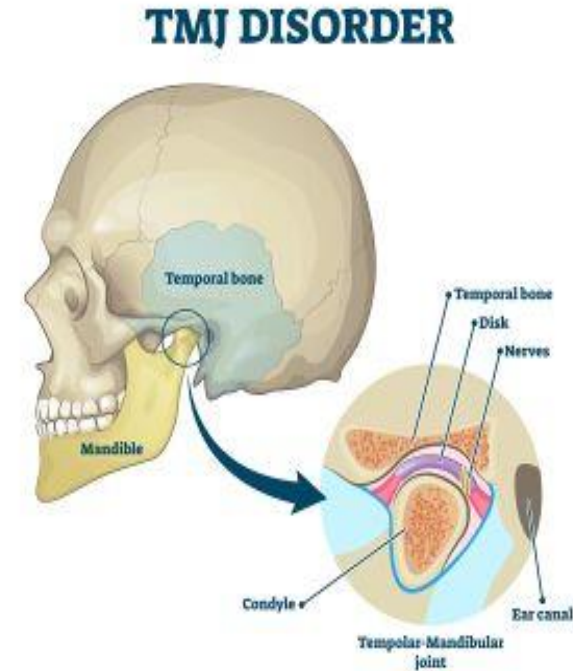
SYNOVIAL JOINT

- **Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ):** Articulates the mandibular condyle with the mandibular fossa of the temporal bone.
- Allowing movements such as opening, closing, and side-to-side motion of the jaw.

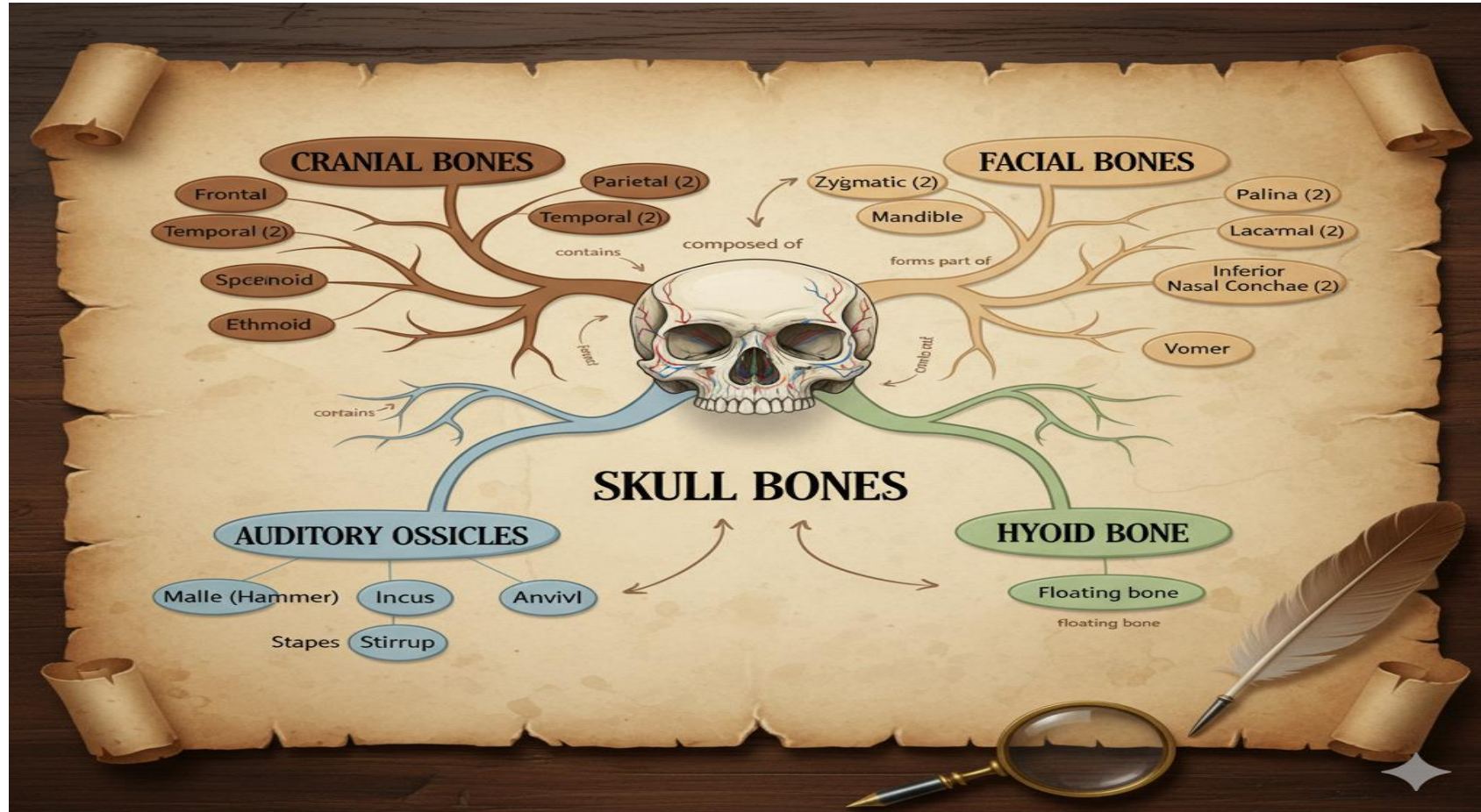


APPLIED ASPECTS

- Skull Fractures
- Nasal fracture
- Maxillary fracture
- Mandibular fracture
- Zygomatic arch fracture
- Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Disorder
- Osteomyelitis



SUMMARY



References

- <https://teachmeanatomy.info/head/osteology/skull/>
- <https://www.kenhub.com/en/library/anatomy/the-skull-joints>
- <https://www.healthline.com/health/skull-fracture>