

# VIRTUAL HISTOLOGY LABORATORY

## CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

**SLIDES:** Spinal cord slides.

Identify **glial** cells. These are most easily identified in the gray matter. The **oligodendrocytes** have rounded nuclei. The **astrocytes** (protoplasmic in the gray matter and fibrous in the white matter) have irregular-shaped nuclei that are somewhat larger than the nuclei of the oligodendrocytes. The small, dark, somewhat flattened nuclei belong to the **microglia**. The central canal appears to have material in it so the ependymal cells are difficult to identify structurally.



Locate the large motor neurons in the ventral horn of the gray matter. Are these cells Golgi type I or II?

**SLIDE:** Cerebral Cortex

Not yet available

**SLIDE:** Cerebellar Cortex

Identify the **Molecular**, **Purkinje**, and **Granular** layers. You do not need to identify the cell types in the molecular and granular layers, but notice to density of nuclei in each of these two layers. Locate the large **Purkinje** cells. Numerous dendrites project towards the surface of the cerebellum. A single axon projects deep into the cortex. More will be said about this cell later.

