

## Medical Terminology: Directions and Positions

- **afferent:** carry nerve impulses from receptors in periphery toward the CNS
- **anterior:** in front of
- **asymmetrical:** not the same on both sides
- **bilateral:** present on both sides
- **contralateral:** opposite sides
- **distal:** farther/further from
- **dorsal:** back
- **efferent:** carry nerve impulses away from CNS to effectors
- **inferior:** below, lower
- **ipsilateral:** same side
- **lateral:** further away from midline
- **medial:** closer to midline
- **posterior:** in the back; back of
- **prone:** lying, face down
- **proximal:** closer to, nearer to
- **superior:** higher than
- **supine:** lying, face up
- **symmetrical:** same on both sides
- **ventral:** the front of

## Reference

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