## Volgograd State Medical University Department of Normal Physiology



# Mechanisms of purposeful behavior (part 2)

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#### Plan

- 1. Memory. Types of memory.
- 2. Understanding the mechanisms of short-term and longterm memory.
- 3. Doctrine of I. P. Pavlov about types of higher nervous activity.
- 4. Role of upbringing in the formation of the typological properties of HNA.
- 5. Features of human HNA.
- 6. Doctrine of I. P. Pavlov about I and II signaling systems.

## 1. Memory. Types of memory

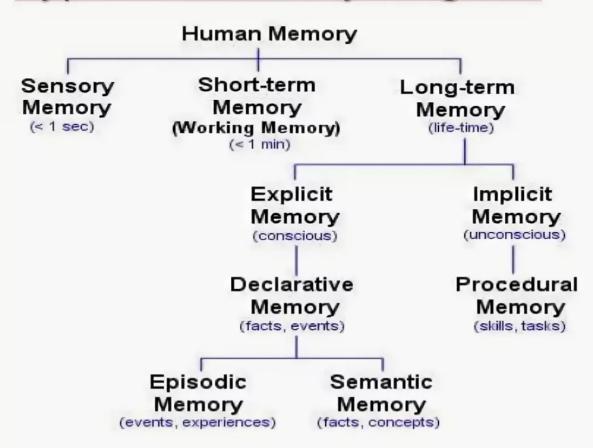


Memory — structure and processes involved in the encoding, storage, and retrieval of information, including both

procedural and declarative information.

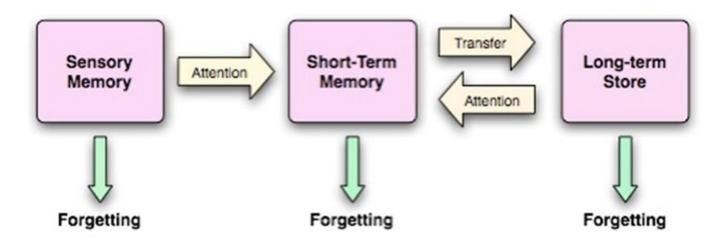


## Types of memory diagram

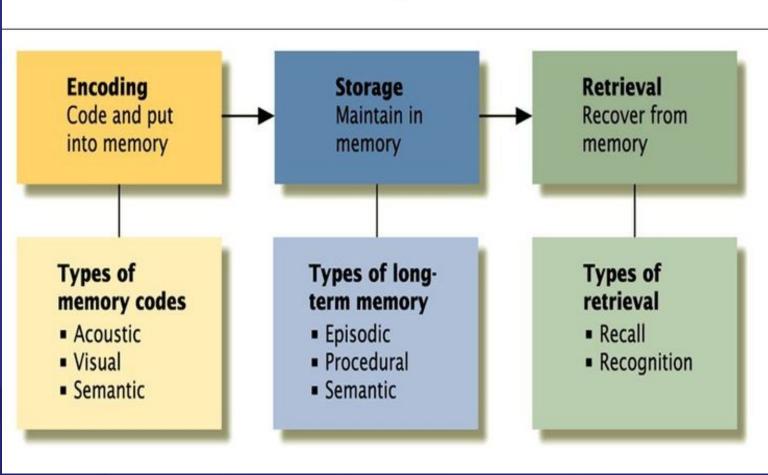


## Types of memory

 Atkinson-Shiffrin's multi store model of memory describes three levels of memory.



## **Basic Memory Processes**

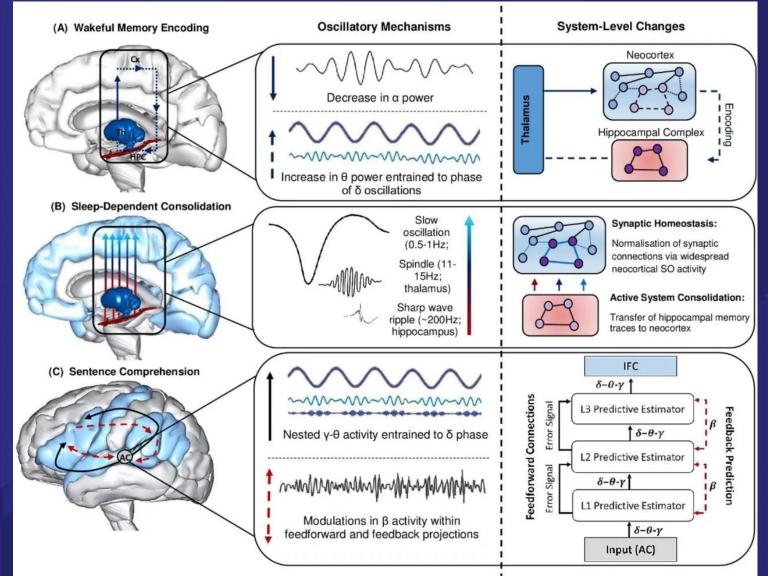


## 2. Understanding the mechanisms of short-term and long-term memory

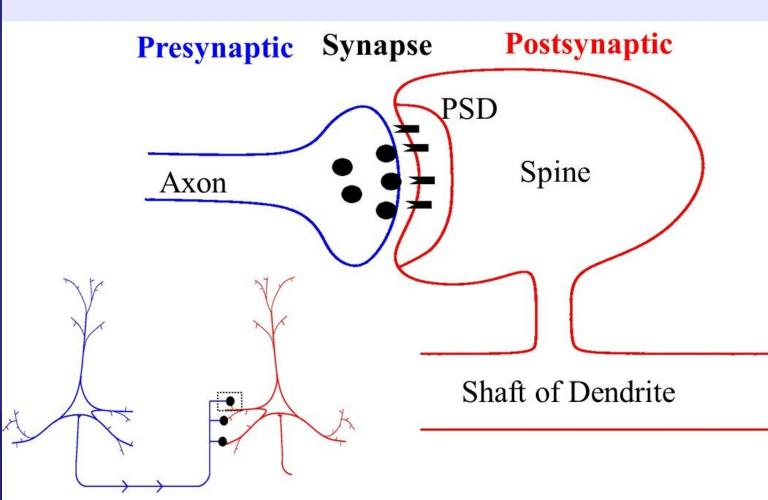
#### ▲ TABLE 5-3

#### **Comparison of Short-Term and Long-Term Memory**

Characteristic	Short-Term Memory	Long-Term Memory
Time of Storage after Acquisition of New Information	Immediate	Later; must be transferred from short-term to long-term memory through consolidation; enhanced by practice or recycling of information through short-term mode
Duration	Lasts for seconds to hours	Retained for days to years
Capacity of Storage	Limited	Very large
Retrieval Time (remembering)	Rapid retrieval	Slower retrieval, except for thoroughly in- grained memories, which are rapidly retrieved
Inability to Retrieve (forgetting)	Permanently forgotten; memory fades quickly unless consolidated into long-term memory	Usually only transiently unable to access; relatively stable memory trace
Mechanism of Storage	Involves transient modifications in functions of preexisting synapses, such as altering amount of neu- rotransmitter released	Involves relatively permanent functional or structural changes between existing neurons, such as formation of new synapses; synthesis of new proteins plays a key role

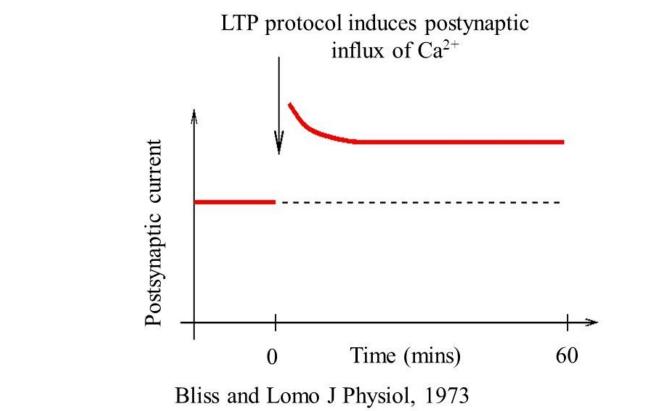


## Molecular mechanisms of long-term memory



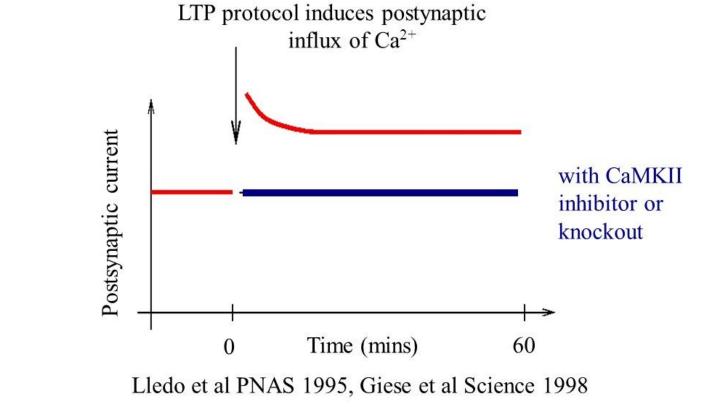
## LTP: an increase in synaptic strength

Long-term potentiation (LTP)

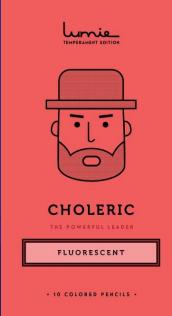


## LTP: an increase in synaptic strength

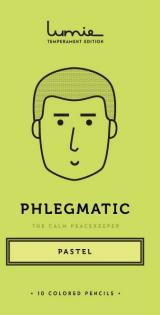
Long-term potentiation (LTP)



# 3. Doctrine of I.P. Pavlov's about types of higher nervous activity (HNA)









### **Features of human HNA**

Even ancient doctors correctly drew attention to individual differences temperament of people, manifested not only in their character, actions, but also in their attitude to diseases, and they tried to understand the nature of this difference.

- So, **Hippocrates**, based on the doctrine of the "juices of the body", believed that the predominance of:
- hot blood (sangvis) makes a person an energetic and determined sanguine;
- an excess of chilled mucus (phlegma) gives him the features of a cold-blooded and slow phlegmatic;
- acrid bile (chole) causes hot temper and irritability of the choleric;
- black spoiled bile (melan chole) determines the behavior of a sluggish and dull melancholic.

The true nature of temperaments has been revealed in the light of the teachings of I.P. Pavlov about the highest nervous activity, which, by studying features of the formation of conditioned reflexes in animals, drew attention to the fact that the rate of their formation, strength, development of differentiation in different dogs are different.

This gave rise to the division of animals into several types, depending on the individual properties of their nervous system.

The type of HNA is understood as a set of properties of nervous processes caused by hereditary characteristics of the organism and acquired in the process of its individual life.

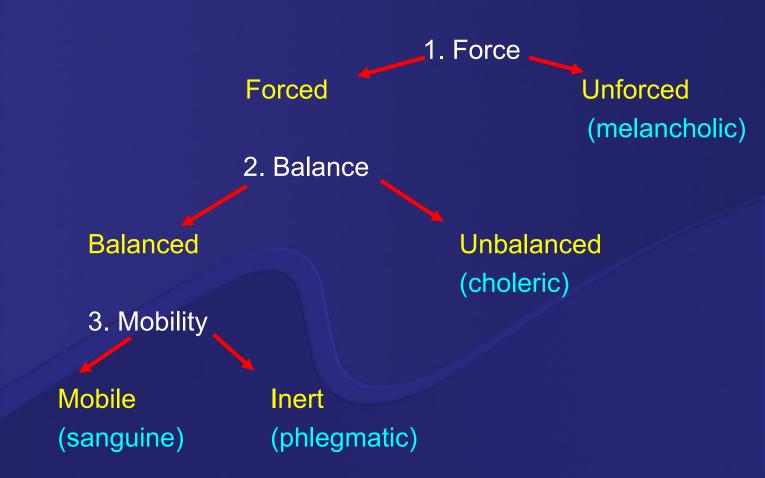
The separation into **types of higher nervous activity** is based on the properties of nervous processes — **excitation** and **inhibition**:

- force;
- balance;
- mobility.

The **force** of nervous processes is understood as the ability of the cells of the cerebral cortex to maintain adequate responses to strong and superstrong stimuli.

For example, if a conditioned reflex to strong stimulation is developed and a state of inhibition does not occur, then the nerve cells of the cortex are highly efficient.

- Balance is understood to mean the same intensity of excitation and inhibition processes.
- Nervous processes can be balanced or one of them can prevail over the other (more often excitement).
- The **mobility** of nervous processes characterizes the rapidity of the transition of the process of excitation into inhibition, and vice versa.
- This property was determined by Pavlov according to the ability of animals to retrain.
- Based on this, the main types of HNA were identified.



- · Daring
- Direct
- Decisive
- Insensitive
- Unemotional
- Fearless
- Tactless

### Choleric

### **Phlegmatic**

- Kind
- Caring
- Gentle
- Soft-spoken
- · Timid
- Relaxed
- · Peaceful

#### Fun

- Enthusiastic
- Energetic
- · Popular
- Expressive
- Insincere
- Noisy

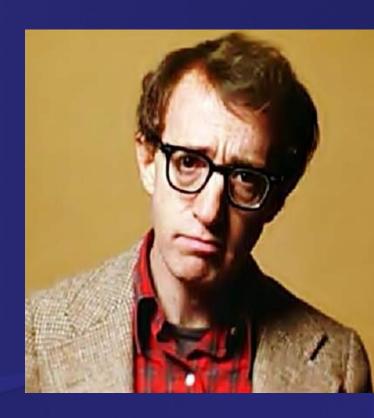
### Sanguine

## Melancholic

- Perfectionist
- Accurate
- Detailed
- Diplomatic
- Thoughtful
- Cautious
- Critical

choleric		sarguire	
Strengths	Weakness	Strengths	Weakness
D Ambitious	DDemanding	▶ Sociable	DImpulsive
▶ Planner	⊳Intolerant	⊳Out-going	▷Often Late
▷ Efficient	PToo Busy	DOptimistic Doptimistic	⊳Selfish
D Leader	⊳Impatient	D Forgives	DExaggerates
⊳Confident	⊳Tense	⊳Confident	⊅Forgetful
⊳Motivator	Pinflexible	⊳Fun-Loving	PShameless
melav	cholic	Phleg	matic
Melav Strengths	Cholic Weakness	Phleg Strengths	Matic Weakness
		The second secon	
Strengths	Weakness	Strengths	Weakness
Strengths  D Thoughtful	Weakness PMoody	Strengths  > Calm	<b>Weakness</b> PShy
Strengths  > Thoughtful  > Considerate	Weakness  DMoody  Discontent	Strengths  ▷ Calm  ▷ Reliable	<b>Weakness</b> ÞShy  ÞPassive
Strengths  > Thoughtful  > Considerate  > Organized	Weakness  DMoody  Discontent  DObsessive	Strengths  > Calm  > Reliable  > Diplomatic	Weakness PShy PPassive PIndecisive

Melancholic people are characterized by low efficiency, fatigue, indecision, inability to overcome difficulties, to achieve goals. These people are easily suggested, show inadequate pessimistic reactions, and are prone to nervous breakdowns.



Sanguine people are characterized by a balance between the processes of excitation and inhibition. These are people with a rapid development of conditioned reflexes and their rapid extinction.



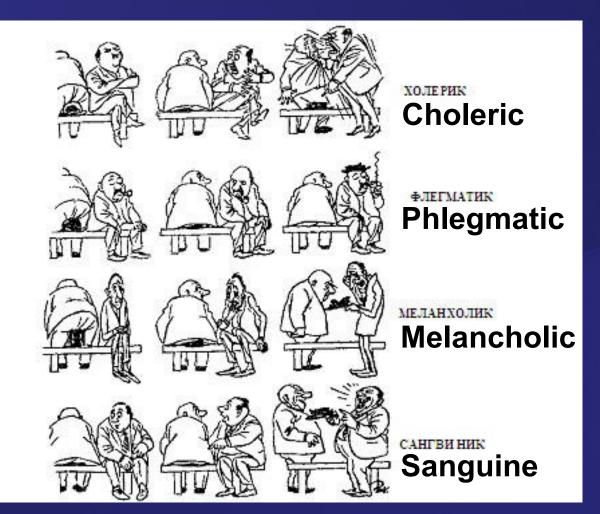
Choleric people are characterized by great force of nervous processes, where excitement prevails over inhibition. These are very excitable people with a high working capacity. Such people are very irritable, hurried. They don't hold back emotions. They have expressed motor restlessness.



Calmness and good working capacity are characteristic of phlegmatic persons. However, they do not switch well to new types of activity, they do not get used to the new environment well, they are distinguished by inertness and tenacity of thinking, they remember grievances for a long time, and do not

get along well with people.

### Types of temperaments (by Bidstrup, 1968)



Personality can be defined as a separately taken concrete person with inherent individual biological and socially determined properties and qualities of the psyche.

Intelligence is the most important characteristic of a person and is a complex mental phenomenon that includes in its structure:

- attention;
- memory;
- thinking.



The condition for intellectual activity and its characteristics are mental abilities. The development of abilities occurs throughout life.

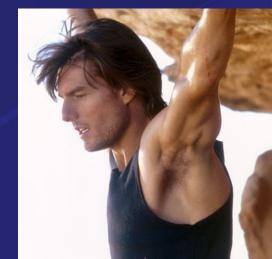
Intelligence manifests itself in cognitive activity and includes acquired knowledge, experience and the ability to further use them in practice. Speech is of great importance, which plays an essential role in shaping and using concepts,

acquired knowledge and experience.

Another important aspect of the personality is the **emotional-volitional sphere**. Emotionality is understood as a complex of characteristics that determine the dynamics of the emergence, course and termination of various emotional states.

Allocate general activity, which, along with emotionality, is

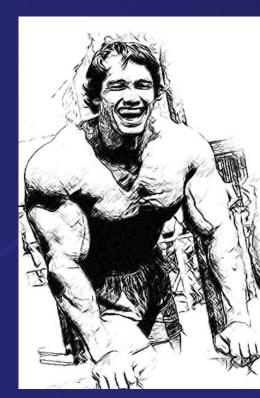
included in temperament based on mobility and balance of excitation and inhibition processes.



There is a close connection between temperament and character.

I.P. Pavlov on the prevalence of influence heredity or environment on the body defined temperament as genotype and character as a phenotype, emphasizing dependence character formation from external impacts in the process of individual personal development.

Separate character traits are mutually connected and form a holistic body organization — structure of character.



The character is laid down in childhood, but individual properties can change and be brought up throughout life, since the character properties are determined not by biological, hereditary laws, but by the social relations of the individual.

A study of homozygous twins with exactly the same hereditary characteristics showed that raised in

different material and cultural level of conditions they found similar properties of temperament and various character traits.



The ability to regulate the formation of personality in the desired direction is achieved:

- training;
- exercise;
- training;
- education.

Moreover, in the formation of the psyche the leading role is played by education, realized through learning.



## 4. Features of human HNA

### **Features of human HNA**

Mental processes are closely related to physical phenomena, but not reducible to them.

Psychic phenomena are based not on elementary processes of excitation and inhibition, but on systemic processes that combine individual physiological manifestations into an integrated whole.



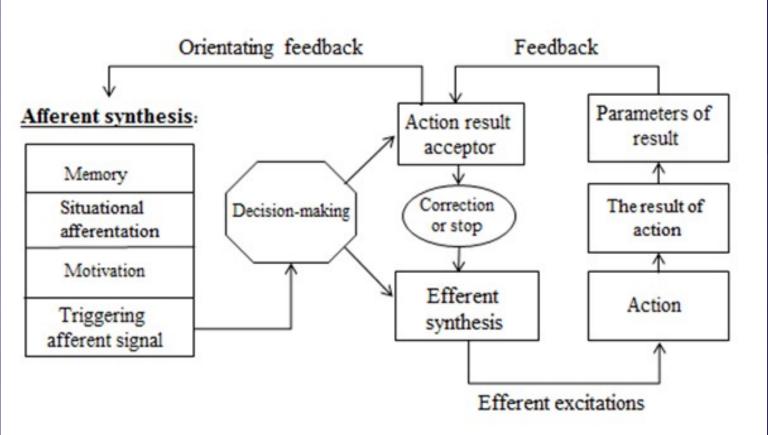
### **Features of human HNA**

The concept of P. K. Anokhin about functional systems, where the system in which physiological processes are involved is an internal reflection of the external environment.

Systemic processes of a behavioral act are informational processes for which physiological processes act as a material carrier.

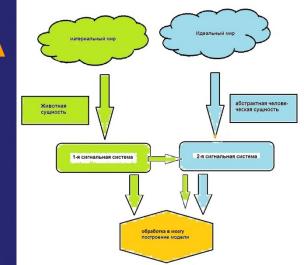
In this sense, the mental image and its neurodynamic equivalent are not only simultaneous phenomena, but they constitute an indivisible whole.

# Theory of functional systems (P. K. Anokhin)



#### **Features of human HNA**

I.P. Pavlov singled out specific human types of HNA in depending on the prevalence of the 1st or 2nd signaling systems in perception of reality.



The strength of the nervous processes in the cortical system, where the traces are recorded in the form of kinesthetic, acoustic or optical symbols, accumulating traces of direct effects on a person, was taken into account as the main indicator.

#### **Features of human HNA**

Pavlov attributed people with a predominance of the function of cortical projections responsible for **primary signaling stimuli** to the **artistic type**.

If the second signaling system turns out to be stronger in the dynamic relation, suppressing the first — to the

thinking type.



#### **Features of human HNA**

To the average or mixed type, Pavlov attributed people in whom neither 1st nor 2nd signaling systems exert a dominant influence on human behavior.

At the same time, depending on the nature of the perception of reality and thinking and art type people can be assigned to any of these types.



Overstrain of the main nerves processes can cause functional disorders of the central nervous system — neuroses.



The causes of neuroses are emotional stress, social conflicts, strong physical and psychological influences, insurmountable obstacles, severe and long-term illnesses.

As a result of such influences, there is a "breakdown" of the HNA, which can be expressed in a sharp predominance of the excitatory or inhibitory process.

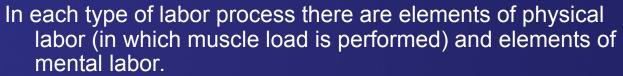
With a predominance of excitement, inhibitory conditioned reflexes are suppressed, motor and autonomic excitement appears.

With the predominance of the inhibitory process, positive conditioned reflexes are weakened or disappear.

Weakness, drowsiness appear, motor activity is limited.

Human labor activity is the basis of its existence.

Any work takes place in a specific environment that determines working conditions.



Therefore, any work is divided according to its severity (4-6 groups) and intensity (4-6 groups).

As a rule, any work is accompanied by an increase in nervous tension against the background of decreasing muscle efforts.

New types of work have appeared — work with a sharp restriction of physical activity (the work of an astronaut in conditions of weightlessness, when the gravitational load on the locomotor apparatus is completely absent).



Such work is carried out in hypokinesia conditions,



which is the cause of asthenization of the body and is accompanied by muscle atrophy, which is a risk factor for cardiovascular diseases.

The reason for the increase in nervous and psychoemotional stress in modern production is not only a decrease in the proportion of physical labor and muscle activity.

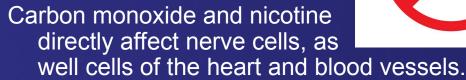
The main thing is an increase in information that needs to be processed in the face of a growing time pressure, an increase in the scale of production, an increase in the speed of production processes, and an increase in responsibility.

The consequence of excessive psycho-emotional stress there may be increased fatigue, autonomic neuroses, mental disorders, cardiovascular diseases, gastric ulcer, etc.



- As a result of psycho-emotional stress, bad habits are often formed, which include smoking and drinking alcohol.
- In this way, a person tries to disconnect from the surrounding reality or relieve emotional stress.
- When **smoking**, the main damaging factor is nicotine and carbon monoxide, which, getting into the blood, bind to hemoglobin, disrupting the transport of O2 to the tissues of the body.

The cells of the nervous system and myocardium are especially sensitive to a lack of oxygen (hypoxia).





The consequence is a violation of the functions of the nervous system, as well as sclerosis and vascular thrombosis.

As a result of alcohol intake, a special state of the psyche arises — euphoria, which is characterized by an elevated mood, anxiety and worries disappear, false self-confidence appears (one's strengths and capabilities are overestimated), pleasant relaxation, drowsiness can occur.

The danger of euphoria lies in the fact that a person who has experienced this condition several times gradually develops the desire to experience it constantly (alcohol dependence is formed).

Alcoholism, like any addiction, makes a person socially inferior and often dangerous for society (since the attitude of a person to the environment changes completely, weak character, deceit, dishonesty, inability to mental and physical work develop).

When a person's existence is meaningless, there is no work, study, family, positive emotional coloring of activity, then he makes up for this deficiency artificially (intake of alcohol, toxic substances, drugs).

Receiving pleasure from this, he seeks to repeat it, thus developing a conditioned reflex of negative quality.



# 5. Doctrine of I. P. Pavlov's about I and II signaling systems

### Doctrine of I. P. Pavlov's about I and II signaling systems

Common to animals and humans are analysis and synthesis direct concrete signals of objects and phenomena of the surrounding world, coming from visual, auditory, and other receptors of the body and constituting the first signaling system.

In the process of work and social development, a person has appeared, developed and improved a second signaling system associated with verbal signals and speech.

### Doctrine of I. P. Pavlov's about I and II signaling systems

This signaling system consists of the perception of words — heard, spoken (aloud or silently) and visible (while reading).

The ability to understand and then pronounce words develops in a child as a result of the association of

certain sounds (words) with visual, tactile and other impressions of external objects.



### Development of signaling systems in a child

The development of signaling systems in a child goes through several stages.

The formation in the cortex of temporary connections of the first signaling system in a child begins several days after birth.

At 7-10 days of age, the first conditioned reflexes can be developed.

By the end of the 1st month, conditioned reflexes to sound, and on the 2nd month — on light signals.



### Rate of conditioned reflexes formation

The rate of formation of conditioned reflexes increases rapidly during the first months of life.

At the age of 1 month, to develop a conditioned reflex, it is necessary to produce many combinations of conditioned and unconditioned stimuli, at 2-4 months — only a few combinations are enough.

Conditioned inhibition is developed at 2-4 months, while it occurs earlier differentiating inhibition,

late — retarded.



The first signs of development of the 2nd signaling system appear in a child during second half of 1 year of life.



As it develops, it begins to serve as a means of active communication between the child and other people.

The second signaling system is inextricably linked with the social life of a person.

Verbal signaling, speech, language are the means of communication between people. Outside of society, without communication with other people, the second signaling system does not develop.

A person becomes a person only in the society of other people. In the process of communication, a person determines the guidelines for his behavior, constantly checks what he is doing with what others expect from him, coping with their opinions, feelings, requirements.

According to modern psychology, the prevailing assessment of one's own "I" (self-esteem) is the result of comparing what each observes in himself, with what he sees in other people, and with

what, as it seems to him, other people see in him.

We are talking about the "reference group", with the opinion of which a person is considered.



The upbringing of goals, aspirations, character is determined by the influences of reference groups.

The personality structure includes 3 indicators:

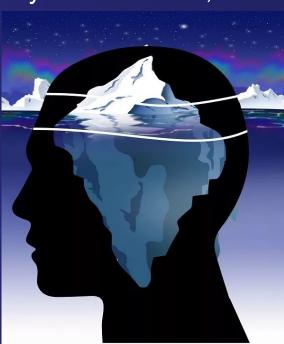
- self-esteem;
- expected score;
- personality assessment group with whom man is forced to be considered.



The person himself often does not even suspect about their presence, but a person checks against this "internal manometer" of personality assessments,

entering into communication, actively acting.

It always happens, but predominantly subconsciously.



To deliberately manage processes education,

prevention and treatment,

it is necessary to clearly imagine the action of these unconsciously emerging forms of managing behavior and well-being, to pay attention to the entire system of assessments that a person characterizes himself and others with, to see the dynamics of their changes.

That is, the social essence of the individual must not be overlooked. Early childhood is especially important; establishing normal relationships with peers will help in the future rapid adaptation to the environment.



Speaking about the second signal system, it should be remembered that a word is perceived by a person not just as a separate sound, but as a definite concept, that is, its semantic meaning is assimilated.

The word is a powerful reinforcement on the basis of which strong conditioned reflexes can be formed.



The 1st and 2nd signaling systems are inseparable; in a person, all perceptions, ideas and most sensations are designated by a word.

That is, excitations of the 1st signal system caused by specific signals from objects and phenomena of the

surrounding the world, are transmitted in the 2nd signaling system.



There are various forms of reflection of the surrounding reality by the thinking brain.

**Concretely sensory reflection**, which is manifested by sensations, perceptions, representations, is relatively simple.

More complex — abstract-generalized reflection of the surrounding world, manifested by logical thinking — in

concepts, judgments and inferences arising from basis abstractive work human brain.



Thus, the patterns of conditioned reflex activity are common to humans and animals.



In this case, conditioned reflexes are formed as a result of the action of external and internal stimuli (sound, light, heat, cold, metabolic products, etc.).

Such stimuli constitute the **first signaling system**.

In humans, due to the social nature of life and the presence of speech, a new property of higher nervous activity has arisen:

the ability to perceive words spoken aloud and silently, audible and visible (when reading).

These special influences constitute the **second signaling system**.

Verbal designations replace the impact of real objects and phenomena.

Verbal signaling made possible the distraction and generalization of phenomena (concepts).

Improvement of the second signal system in humans occurs continuously in the learning process.

Due to the first signaling system



The development of the second signaling system provided an *abstract-generalized perception* of the surrounding world in the form of concepts, judgments, and inferences.

The first and second signaling systems are closely related to each other, since the second signaling system arose on the basis of the first.

In humans, the second signaling system prevails over the first. However, different people have different relationships between them.



# Types of HNA based on dominance of signaling system

This helped to identify four special human type HNF (by I. P. Pavlov):

art type — second signal the system is less dominant over the first. People of this type are characterized by concrete and figurative-emotional thinking. They are distinguished by vivid representations and fantasies;

**thinking type** — the second signal system prevails over the first to a greater extent. These people are reasonable, inclined to analyze all phenomena and events;

*mixed type* — relative balance between systems;

**genius type** — exceptional development of the first and second signaling systems. These people are equally capable of artistic and scientific creativity.



# Thank you for your attention!