Homeostasis

Homeostasis—maintenance of relatively stable internal conditions

- A dynamic state of equilibrium, or balance
- Necessary for normal body functioning and to sustain life
- Main controlling systems
 - Nervous system
 - Endocrine system
- Homeostatic imbalance
 - A disturbance in homeostasis results in **death**

- All homeostatic control mechanisms have at least three components:
- 1. Receptor
- 2. Control center
- 3. Effector



- Receptor
 - Responds to changes in the environment (stimuli)
 - Sends information to control center along an afferent pathway (afferent:approaches)



Control center

- Determines set point
- Analyzes information
- Determines appropriate response



- Effector
 - Provides a means for response to the stimulus
 - Information flows from control center to effector along efferent pathway (efferent:exit)



Types of Feedback Loops

- There are two types of feedback:
 - Negative
 - Positive

Negative feedback

- Decreases the intensity or shuts off the original stimulus
- Most common type of feedback loop

Positive feedback

- Increases the original stimulus
- Rare in the human body











EXIT SLIP

