

## **IMMUNOHISTOCHEMICAL ASPECTS OF NEURONAL NITRIC OXID SYNTHASE**

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Nitric oxide synthase (NOS) which generates the physiological messenger molecule nitric oxide (NO) and its associated NADPH diaphorase (NADPHd) activity are distributed throughout selective neuronal populations in the central and peripheral nervous system. In the present study, immunohistochemical methods for NOS and histo-chemistry of NADPHd activity, allowed us to observe that neuronal-NOS is present in non-pyramidal cortical neurons, in neurons in the olfactory bulb, in striatal neurons, in hypothalamic magnocellular neurons, in mesopontine neurons and in cerebellar interneurons. We consider that histochemistry of nitric oxide-synthase may represent a valuable marker not only in normal conditions but also in neuro-chemical alterations observed in neural diseases, regeneration and transplantation of the nervous tissue.