



CNS 2 BASAL GANGLIA

GROSS

- The basal ganglia is a collection of **gray matter in the cerebrum** including the corpus striatum, amygdala and claustrum.

SALIENT FEATURES:

- **Mercury** acts mainly upon cerebellum, basal ganglia and corpus callosum
- Persons surviving after **severe CO exposure** and in delayed deaths bilateral, symmetrical necrosis and **cavitation of the basal ganglia** in the brain, especially the putamen and globus pallidus is the **most characteristic lesion**.

Fixation of Brain:

- For complete examination of the brain, it is fixed in **10 percent formalin for one week**.
- In foetuses and infants, **acetic acid may be added to formalin** which makes the tissues firmer.
- The **weight** of the brain is increased by about **8% due to fixation** in formalin.