

A.3.6. The Electrical Synapse - Glossary

Connexon	A tubular structure that connects the intracellular space of a cell to that in a neighboring cell. Through these ‘tubes’, small molecules such as potassium and sodium can flow from one cell to the next. Connexons are present in excitable tissues such as nervous tissues, muscles and glandular tissues.
Electrical synapse	A structure that connects cells to each other and makes it possible for an action potential to propagate from one cell to the next cell.
Bi-directional	Structure (such as an electrical synapse) that allows an action potential to propagate in both directions.
Uni-directional	Structure (such as a chemical synapse) that allows an action potential to propagate in only one direction.