

**A.4.8. The Smooth Muscle - Glossary**

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Smooth muscle | A type of muscle, often located in internal organs such as stomach or bladder, which does not show striation (=anisotropy) when viewed under the microscope, in contrast to the striated muscles (skeletal- and cardiac muscles). |
| Spike         | Brief action potential, often seen in smooth muscles such as bladder and small intestine. The depolarization is due to a calcium influx while the repolarization is due to potassium efflux.                                      |