

Cerebral localization in antiquity

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Cerebral localization theories ascribe human functions to specific areas of the brain. These functions concern not only data of the senses but also of the intellect and emotion. Cerebral localization has become a topic of research for various disciplines, such as cognitive sciences, psychology, especially the experimental, neuropsychology, neurophysiology, psychiatry, neurology, psychosomatic medicine, philosophy (especially philosophy of the mind) and even theology. Although research on this field has made significant progress since the 19th century, the idea of cerebral localization of human faculties is not new but goes back in time as far as at least 3700 years. In this paper will be presented the most important theories on cerebral localization in antiquity as well as their evolution throughout the centuries.