



(A) The organs of balance: the semicircular canals, utricle, and saccule. Each semicircular canal ends in a bulge called an *ampulla*. (B) Rotational equilibrium. Rotating fluid bends the stereocilia in the cupula, and the hair cells send a message through the vestibular nerve to the brain. (C) Gravitational equilibrium. The hair cells of the utricle and saccule bend in response to head position.