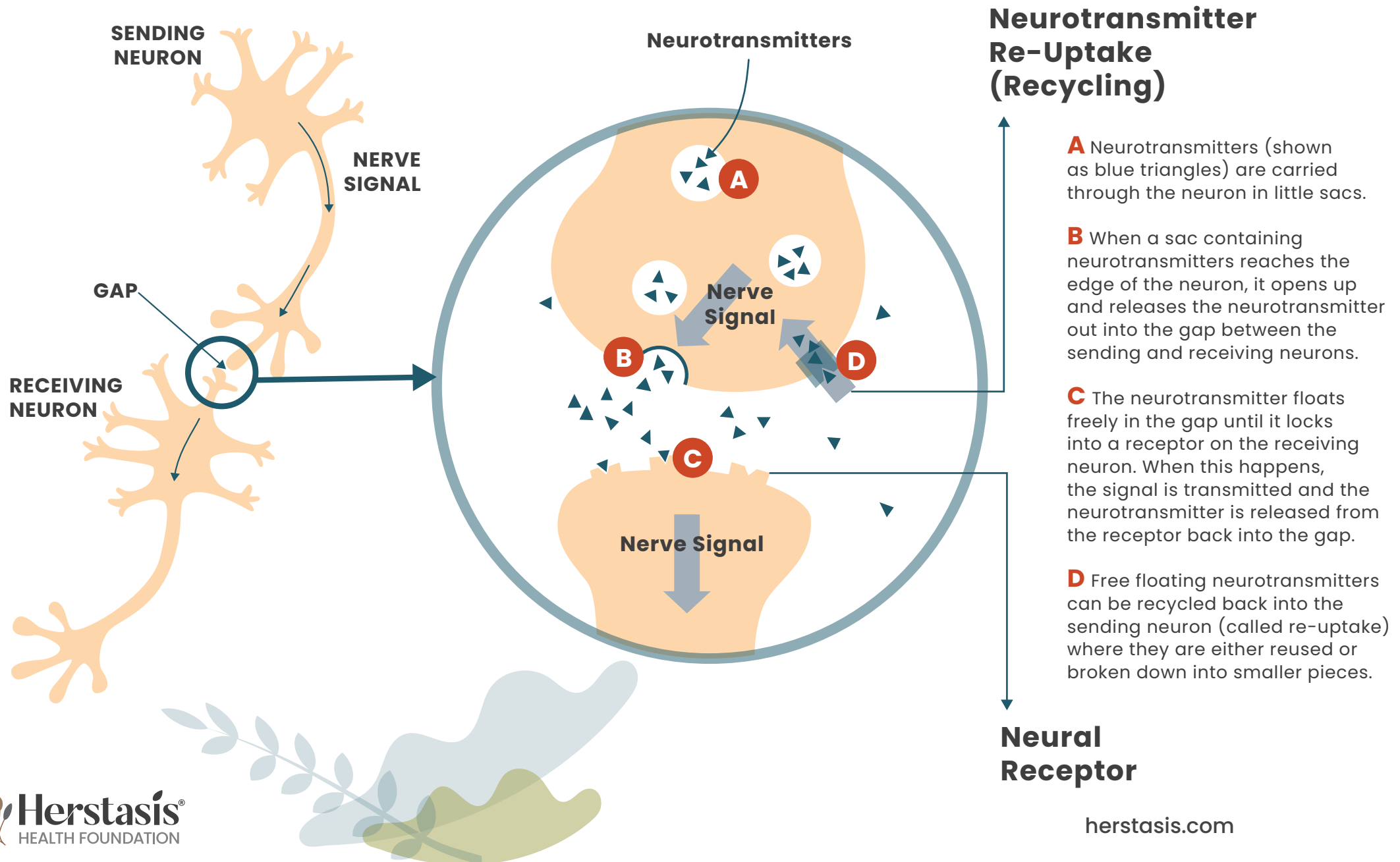


How Neurotransmitters Work



Neurotransmitter Re-Uptake (Recycling)

- A** Neurotransmitters (shown as blue triangles) are carried through the neuron in little sacs.
- B** When a sac containing neurotransmitters reaches the edge of the neuron, it opens up and releases the neurotransmitter out into the gap between the sending and receiving neurons.
- C** The neurotransmitter floats freely in the gap until it locks into a receptor on the receiving neuron. When this happens, the signal is transmitted and the neurotransmitter is released from the receptor back into the gap.
- D** Free floating neurotransmitters can be recycled back into the sending neuron (called re-uptake) where they are either reused or broken down into smaller pieces.

Neural Receptor