

Q18 – Femoral Triangle

Definition Note

The femoral triangle is a triangular intermuscular space situated in the upper part of the anterior thigh, just below the inguinal ligament. It serves as an important passage for major neurovascular structures passing from the abdomen to the lower limb.

Boundaries

The base is formed by the inguinal ligament. The lateral boundary is formed by the medial border of sartorius muscle, while the medial boundary is formed by the medial border of adductor longus muscle. The apex is directed inferiorly where sartorius crosses adductor longus.

Roof

The roof is formed by skin, superficial fascia containing great saphenous vein and superficial inguinal lymph nodes, and deep fascia (fascia lata) with saphenous opening.

Floor

The floor of the femoral triangle is formed by iliopsoas muscle laterally and pectineus muscle medially.

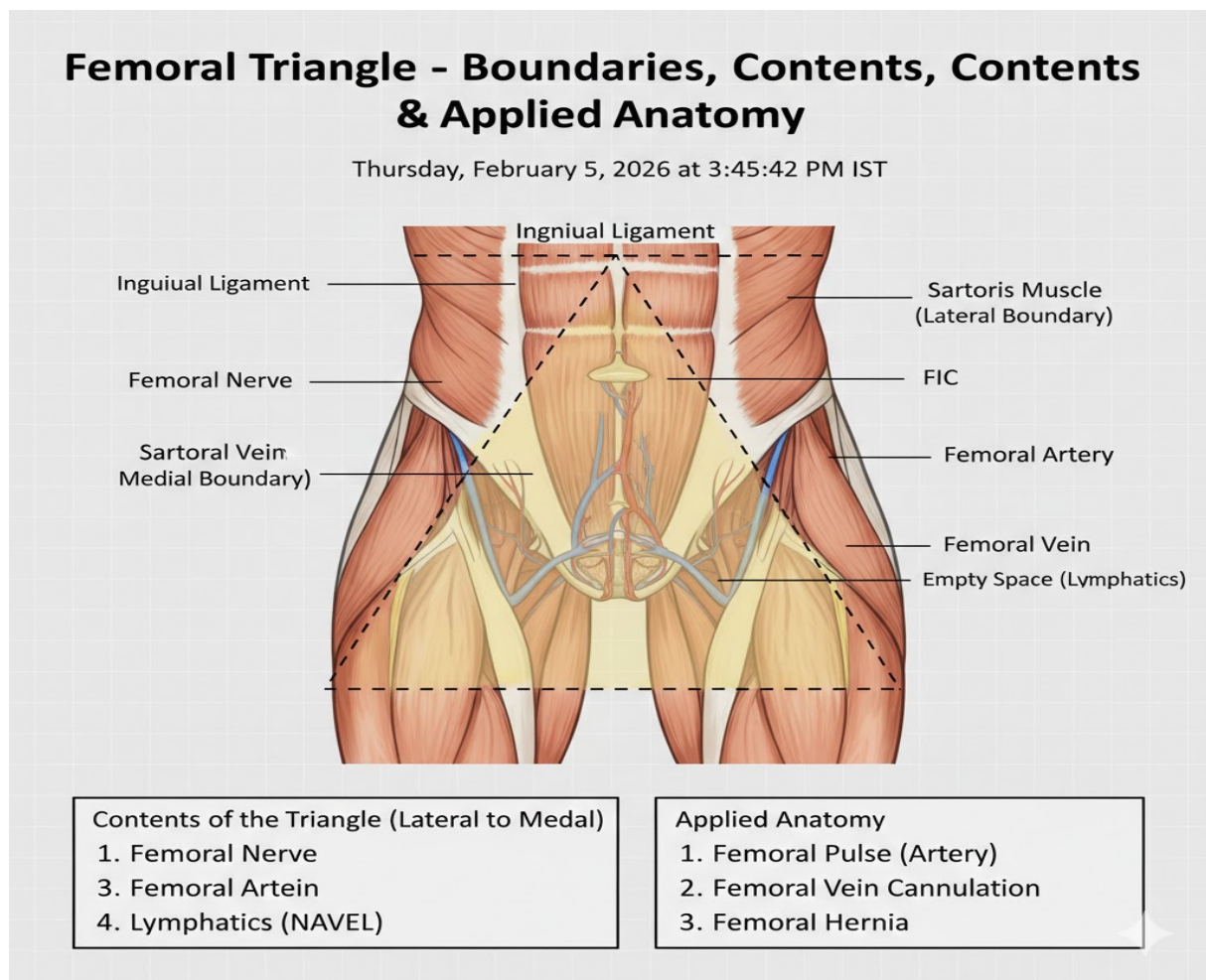
Contents

The contents are arranged from lateral to medial as femoral nerve, femoral artery, femoral vein, and femoral canal. This arrangement is remembered by the mnemonic NAVEL.

Applied Anatomy

The femoral artery is palpated for femoral pulse at the mid-inguinal point. The femoral vein is used for venous cannulation and cardiac catheterization. Femoral hernia occurs through the femoral canal and is more common in females.

Labeled Diagram – Femoral Triangle



Conclusion: The femoral triangle is a clinically important region of the thigh containing major vessels and nerves. Its anatomy is essential for surgical procedures, vascular access, and diagnosis of femoral hernia.