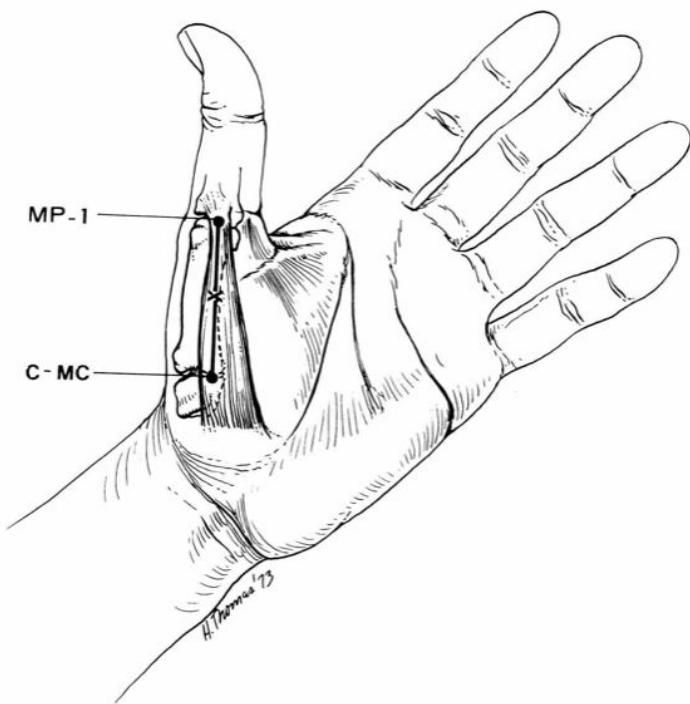


## ***ABDUCTOR POLLICIS BREVIS***



### ***Innervation***

Median Nerve, Medial Cord, Anterior Division, Lower Trunk, *C8, T1.*

### ***Origin***

From the palmar retinaculum, the tubercle of the scaphoid and that of the trapezium.

### ***Insertion***

Lateral side of the base of the proximal phalanx of the thumb.

### ***Position***

Hand in full supination.

***Electrode Insertion (X)***

Midpoint of a line drawn between the volar aspect of the first metacarpophalangeal joint (MP-1) and the carpometacarpal joint (C-MC). Insert to depth of one-fourth to one-half inch.

***Test Maneuver***

Palmar abduction of the thumb.

***Pitfalls***

If the electrode is inserted too deeply it will be in the opponens pollicis.

***Comments***

- (a) Frequently used as recording muscle for median nerve motor conduction study.
- (b) May be involved in all median nerve entrapment syndromes (carpal tunnel; pronator teres, ligament of Struthers) except anterior interosseous syndrome.
- (c) Involved in Klumpke's palsy (avulsion of C8, T1 roots).
- (d) This is the most superficially located muscle in the thenar eminence.
- (e) Its function is to palmarly abduct the thumb to about 90-degree angle.
- (f) In comparative anatomy we found that this muscle is not present in the monkey's hand which cannot make terminal pinch with the other fingers. The monkey hand has 5 fingers, while the human hand has 4 fingers and 1 thumb.