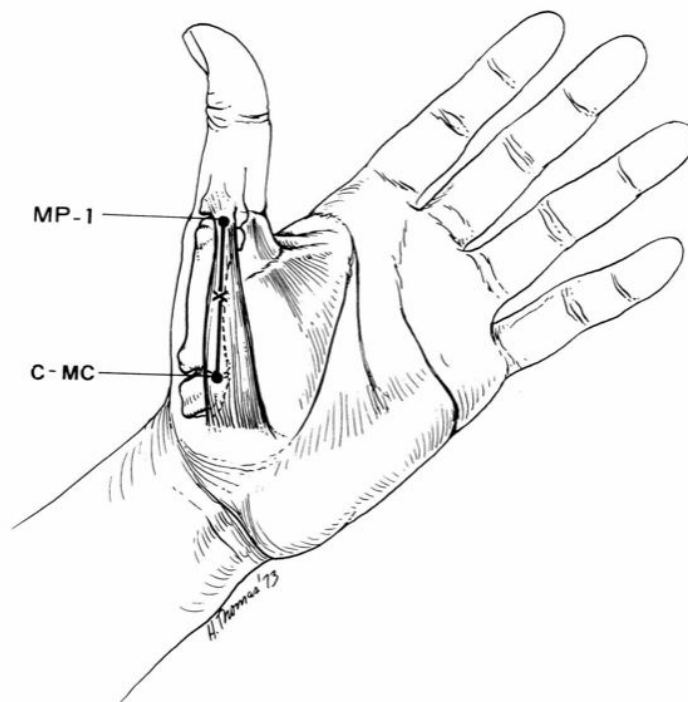


ABDUCTOR POLLICIS BREVIS



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 interosseus 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.