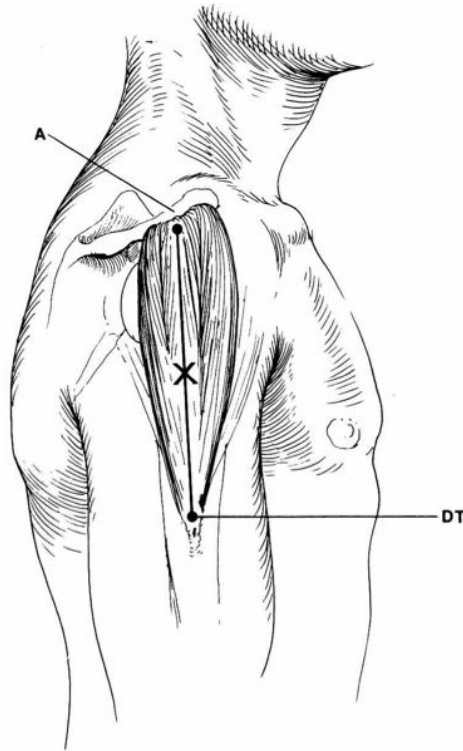


DELTOID, MIDDLE



Innervation

Axillary Nerve, Posterior Cord, Posterior Division, Upper Trunk, C5, C6.

Origin

Acromion.

Insertion

Deltoid tubercle of the humerus.

Position

Patient supine with arm at side.

Electrode Insertion (X)

Halfway between the tip of the acromion (A) and the deltoid tubercle (DT).

Test Maneuver

Abduction of arm.

Pitfalls

None.

Comments

- (a) Generally used as recording muscle in axillary nerve motor conduction study.
- (b) If patient has a history of multiple injections into this muscle electromyographic findings may be misleading.
- (c) Involved in axillary nerve injuries secondary to fractures, or joint dislocations and in upper brachial plexus injury (traction) during delivery.
- (d) The function of this part of the deltoid is of a powerful abductor of the arm but in order to do this it needs the assistance of the supraspinatus muscle in order to prevent the head of the humerus from raising and hitting the acromion. Therefore, the specific function of the supraspinatus muscle is to fix the head of the humerus against the glenoid cavity of the scapula.
- (e) This portion is also very active in controlling the gravitational descent of the arm, avoiding to drop abruptly against the body.

(For cross section, see posterior deltoid on page 109.)