

# UPPER LIMB

## BONES OF UPPER LIMB

### CORACOID PROCESS(SE)

Coracoid process is one of the processes of scapula which resembles a bent finger.

#### Attachments

#### Muscles

Upper surface- Pectoralis minor-

Tip of the process- Short head of biceps brachii and coracobrachialis

Supraglenoid tubercle - Long head of biceps

#### Ligaments

Medial border- coracoclavicular ligament

Lateral border- coracoacromial ligament

Root- transverse scapular ligament

#### Fascia

Lateral attachment of clavipectoral fascia

### UPPER END OF HUMERUS (SE)

The upper end of humerus consists of head, neck, greater tubercle and lesser tubercle and intertubercular sulcus or bicipital groove.

#### Head

it is spheroidal( $\frac{1}{3}$  of sphere) and covered by articular cartilage

Articulates with glenoid cavity of scapula

#### Greater tubercle

To the upper surface, supraspinatus, infraspinatus, and teres minor (rotator cuff muscles) are attached.

#### Lesser tubercle

Subscapularis is inserted into it.

Intertubercular sulcus or bicipital groove

Long head of biceps passes through it.

Lateral lip of the sulcus gives insertion to pectoralis major

Medial lip gives insertion to teres major

Floor of the sulcus provides insertion to latissimus dorsi

### **PECULIARITIES OF CLAVICLE(SA)**

Clavicle is only long bone placed horizontally and is subcutaneous

It has no medullary cavity

Ossifies mostly in membrane

It is sometimes pierced by Cutaneous nerves.

It is ossified by two primary centers

It is first to start ossification and last to complete.

### **MUSCLES ATTACHED TO CLAVICLE (SA)**

#### **Medial 2/3**

Superior surface - sternocleidomastoid

Inferior surface - subclavian groove

Anterior surface- medial half provides origin to pectoralis major

Posterior surface - sternohyoid muscle near the sternal end

#### **Lateral 1/3**

Anterior border- deltoid muscle

Posterior border- trapezius

Inferior surface - conoid tubercle and trapezoid ridge gives attachment to the conoid and trapezoid part of coracoclavicular ligament

### **LIGAMENTS ATTACHED TO CLAVICLE (SA)**

*Costo-clavicular* ligament connects the sternal end of clavicle to the first rib

Coraco-clavicular ligament has two parts, conoid and trapezoid part which are attached to the conoid tubercle and trapezoid ridge of the lateral 1/3 of clavicle.

It is a very strong ligament and suspends the scapula from the lateral third of clavicle.

It transmits the weight of the upper limbs to the axial skeleton.

### **SPINE OF SCAPULA (SA)**

Spine of scapula is a triangular shelf like process present on the dorsal surface of scapula laterally it is continuous with acromion.

It has a base, apex upper and lower surfaces and posterior border (crest)

The upper surface provides attachments to supraspinatus

Inferior surface to the infrapinatus muscle

The crest of spine has upper and lower lips. Upper lip gives insertion to trapezius.

Lower lip gives origin to deltoid muscle.

### **MEDIAL BORDER OF SCAPULA (SA)**

Medial border of scapula extends from superior to inferior angle. The border has costal surface and dorsal surface.

Costal surface of medial border- gives attachments to serratus anterior

Dorsal surface of medial border receives insertion of levator scapulae from superior angle to apex of spine of scapula.

Rhomboids minor is attached opposite to the apex of the spine.

Rhomboids major is attached to the rest of the medial border.

### **BICIPITAL GROOVE OF HUMERUS(SA)**

#### **SURGICAL NECK OF HUMERUS(SA)**

Surgical neck is the constriction between the upper end and cylindrical shaft of humerus.

It is posteriorly related to the axillary nerve and posterior circumflex humeral vessels.

Fracture of surgical neck may injure axillary nerve , resulting in paralysis of deltoid muscle.

#### **SPIRAL GROOVE /RADIAL GROOVE OF HUMERUS(SA)**

Spiral groove is present in the posterior surface of the upper part of the shaft of the humerus.

Structures passing through

Radial nerve .while passing through the groove radial nerve gives branches to medial and lateral heads of triceps muscle

Profunda brachii vessels.

### **NERVES RELATED TO HUMERUS(SA)**

Axillary nerve related to surgical neck of humerus

Radial nerve passes through radial groove on the shaft of humerus.

Ulnar nerve is closely related to the posterior surface of medial epicondyle of humerus

### **POSTERIOR SURFACE OF SHAFT OF ULNA(SA)**

Posterior surface of ulna lies between the posterior and interosseous borders.

The surface is divided by an oblique into upper  $\frac{1}{4}$  and lower  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Lower  $\frac{3}{4}$  is further divided into lateral and medial part.

Upper  $\frac{1}{4}$  receives insertion of anconeus. Lower lateral part gives origin to abductor pollicis longus, extensor pollicis longus and extensor indicis.

The lower medial part is overlapped by extensor carpi ulnaris.

### **PISIFORM BONE(SA)**

Pisiform is a pea shaped carpal bone in the proximal row of carpals

It is considered as a sesamoid bone in the tendon of flexor carpi ulnaris.

Pisiform articulates only with triquetral bone. Compared to other carpal bones it ossifies last (12 years).

## PECTORAL REGION

### MAMMARY GLAND (LE)

### MAMMARY GLAND- BLOOD SUPPLY, LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE AND APPLIED ANATOMY. (SE )

The female mammary gland is a gland of lactation. Though it is present in males it is not functional.

#### **Extent**

Transversely from lateral margin of sternum to midaxillary line

Vertically from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> rib

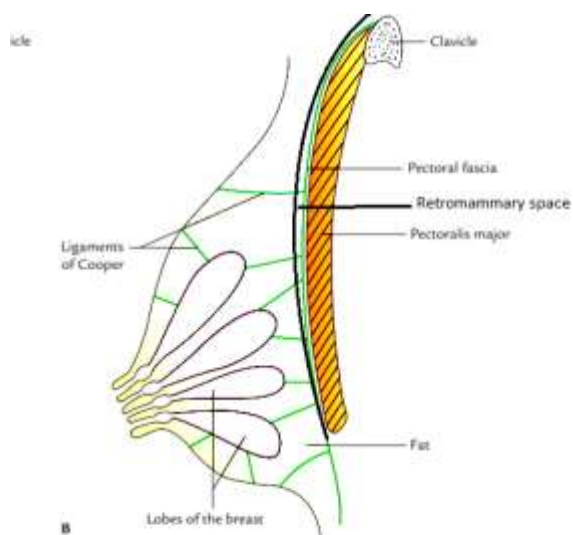
A small extension into the axilla is known as Axillary tail

#### **Structure-**

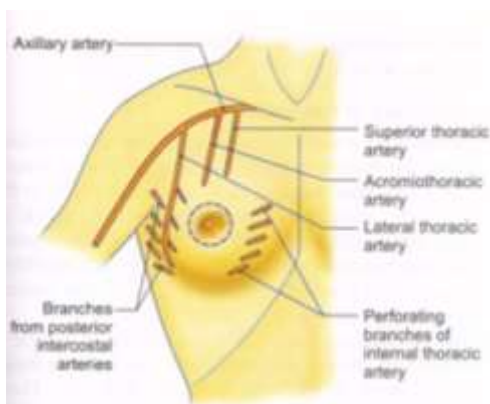
The mammary gland is made up of modified sweat glands and fibro-fatty tissue and lies wholly in the superficial fascia. In the central part there is a projection called the nipple and around it a pigmented area known as areola. The gland has 18 to 20 lobes, separated by connective tissue. Each lobe is made up of a number of acini which opens separately through the nipple by lactiferous duct and presents a dilatation close to the terminal part called lactiferous sinus.

Fibrous septae extending between skin and pectoral fascia called suspensory ligament, anchors the gland to the underlying deep fascia.

Loose areolar tissue lies between the gland and the pectoral fascia known as retromammary space. It allows movement of the breast over the fascia



### Blood supply:



### Arterial supply

Lateral thoracic branch of axillary artery, internal thoracic artery, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> intercostal arteries

### Venous drainage

Internal thoracic vein, Axillary vein, Intercostal veins.

### Lymphatic drainage

Skin:

Skin over the breast is divided into 4 quadrants- upper medial and lateral, lower medial and lateral.

upper and lower medial: into parasternal nodes and passes the midline to communicate with opposite parasternal nodes becoming bilateral.

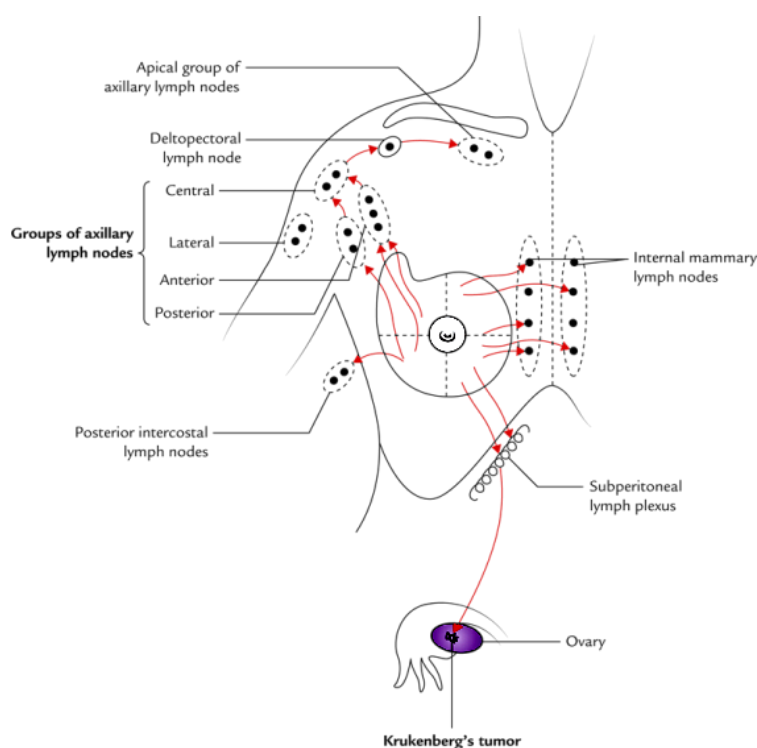
Lower medial: sub-diaphragmatic nodes

Upper and lower lateral: axillary nodes

Lower lateral : posterior intercostal nodes

Parenchyma:

75% drain into axillary lymph nodes, 20% into internal thoracic, and 5% into posterior intercostal nodes



### Nerve supply

Anterior and lateral cutaneous branches of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> intercostal nerves

### Applied anatomy

Incisions on breast should be radial so as not to cut the ducts.

Cancer of breast may spread along lymphatics to liver, lungs, bones and ovary.

Regional lymph nodes become stony hard and fixed in cancer.

There may be retraction/ puckering of skin due to involvement of ligaments of Cooper.

Peau d' orange or edema with pitting skin- Cancer cells may obstruct cutaneous lymphatics causing edema and there will be fixation of hair follicles leading to pitting of skin.

### Development

2 milk ridges appear as linear thickenings of ectoderm on the ventral part of the embryo extending from axilla to groin.

In the milk ridges of pectoral region ectodermal cells grow into underlying mesenchyme to form glands.

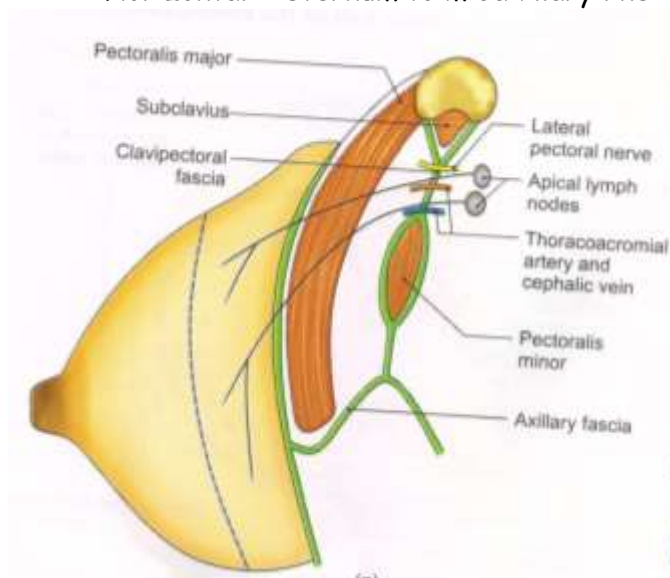
From puberty in female- Gland enlarges due to deposition of fat and glandular proliferation.

### CLAVIPECTORAL FASCIA (SE)

#### Extent-

Vertical- clavicle to axillary fascia

Horizontal- sternum to midaxillary line



#### Attachments

Medial: fuses with anterior intercostal membrane of upper two spaces, first costochondral junction

Lateral: coracoid process, blends with coraco-clavicular ligament

Above: splits to enclose subclavius muscle and attaches to clavicle



Below: splits to enclose pectoralis minor, reunites at lower border of the muscle and extends down as suspensory ligament of axilla.

**Structures piercing**

cephalic vein, lymphatics, lateral pectoral nerve, thoraco-acromial vessels.

**SERRATUS ANTERIOR (SE)**

**Attachments**

**Origin**

upper 8 ribs

**Insertion**

costal surface of medial border of scapula

**Nerve supply-**

Nerve to serratus anterior (C5, C6, C7)

**Actions**

Whole muscle- protraction of scapula (boxer's muscle)

Keeps medial border of scapula in firm apposition with chest wall

Lower 4 or 5 digitations- rotates scapula laterally and upwards

**Applied anatomy**

Injury to nerve to serratus anterior results in winging of scapula.

The medial border and inferior angle of scapula is raised when a person places hands on a wall and pushes.

**RETROMAMMARY SPACE (SA)**

It is present between base of mammary gland and deep fascia covering pectoralis major muscle.

It contains fat and allows the gland to move on it.

The space is relatively avascular with free flow of lymphatics.

Fibrous septae extending between skin and pectoral fascia called suspensory ligaments of Cooper.

They anchor the mammary gland to the underlying deep fascia.

Malignant tumors may invade deep fascia & pectoralis major muscle leading to fixation of breast.

**PEU DE ORANGE (SA)**

Peau d' orange refers to appearance of skin of breast affected by carcinoma. It resembles the skin of an orange.

Skin becomes edematous due to obstruction of cutaneous lymphatics by cancer cells.

There will be fixation of hair follicles leading to pitting of skin, resembling the skin of an orange.

**PECTORALIS MINOR MUSCLE (SA)****Origin**

Outer surface of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> ribs near costochondral junction

**Insertion**

Medial margin of coracoid process of scapula

**Nerve supply**

Medial and lateral pectoral nerves

**Action**

Forward movement of scapula and helps forced inspiration.

**PECTORALIS MAJOR MUSCLE (SA)****Origin**

One half of anterior surface of sternum

Medial 2/3 of clavicle

**Insertion**

Lateral lip of inter-tubercular sulcus of humerus

**Nerve supply**

Lateral and medial pectoral nerves

**Action**

Flexion, adduction and, medial rotation at the shoulder joint

**CLAVIPECTORAL FASCIA/ STRUCTURES PIERCING CLAVIPECTORAL FASCIA (SA)****Attachments****Medial:**

Fuses with anterior intercostal membrane of upper two spaces,

**Lateral:**

coracoid process, blends with coraco-clavicular ligament

**Above:**

Splits to enclose subclavius muscle and attaches to clavicle

**Below**

Splits to enclose pectoralis minor, reunites at lower border of the muscle and extends down as suspensory ligament of axilla.

**Structures piercing:**

Cephalic vein, lymphatics, laterals pectoral nerve, thoraco-acromial vessels.

**WINGING OF SCAPULA (SA)**

Winging of scapula is due to paralysis of serratus anterior muscle.

It is due to injury to nerve to serratus anterior also called long thoracic nerve.

The medial border and inferior angle of scapula is raised when a person places hands on a wall and pushes.

The name of this condition comes from its appearance, a wing-like resemblance, due to the [medial](#) border of the [scapula](#) projecting straight out from the back.

It can affect a person's ability to lift, pull, and push heavy objects. In some serious cases, the ability to perform [activities of daily living](#) such as changing one's clothes and washing one's hair may be hindered.

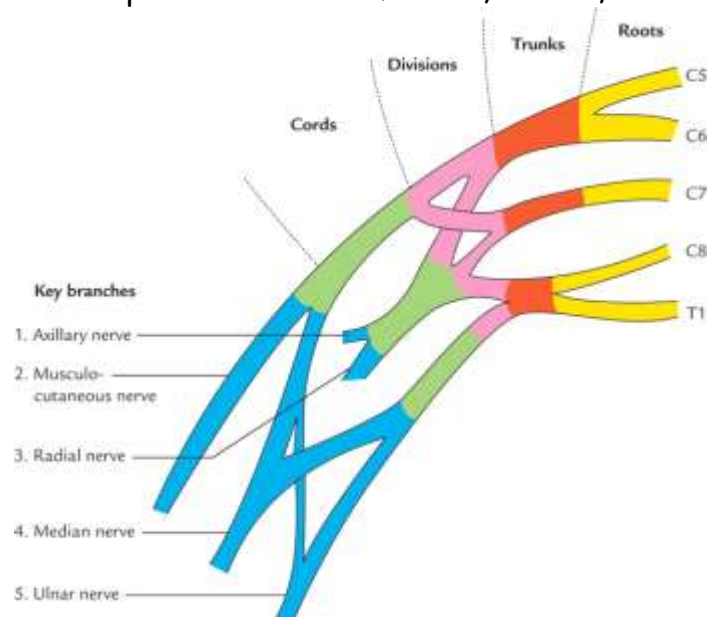
### 3. AXILLA

#### BRACHIAL PLEXUS (LE)

##### Formation:

Formed by the ventral rami of lower four cervical nerves and the first thoracic nerve (C5, C6, C7, C8, T1).

The brachial plexus consists of roots, trunks, divisions and branches.



##### PARTS:

##### Roots:

The roots are five in number. (C5-T1).

They emerge downwards and laterally between the scaleneus anterior and medius muscle.

**Trunks:** There are 3trunks. Upper - Middle - Lower. They appear in the posterior triangle of neck.

Upper trunk is formed by the union of C5 &C6.

Middle trunk is formed by C7

Lower trunk is formed by union on C8 & T1.

##### Divisions:

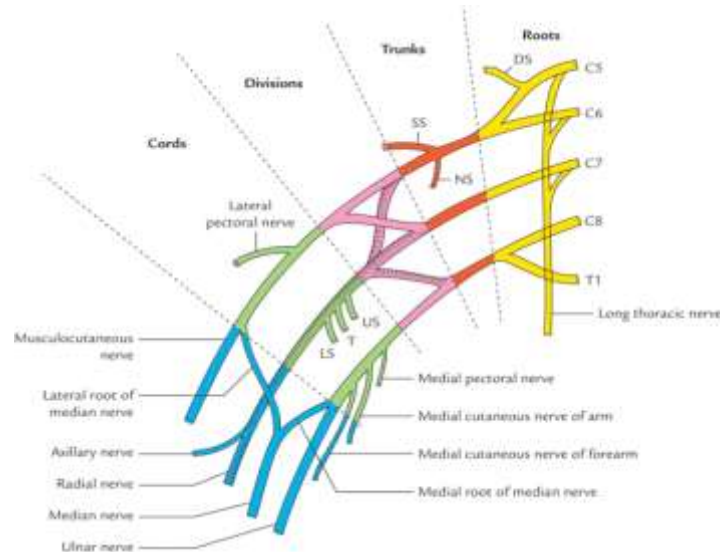
Each of the trunks splits into anterior and posterior divisions. Divisions unite or continue to form cords.

**Cords:** There are 3 cords.

Lateral cord-formed by anterior divisions of upper & middle trunks.

Medial cord-formed by anterior division of lower trunk.

Posterior cord-formed by posterior divisions of all the trunks.



**Branches:**

**Branches of the roots:**

Nerve to serratus anterior (long thoracic nerve) (C5,C6,C7)

Nerve to rhomboideus(dorsal scapular nerve) (C5).

**Branches of the trunks. (Upper trunk)**

suprascapular nerve (C5-C7).

nerve to subclavius (C5-C7).

**Branches of the cords.**

**Branches of lateral cord.**

Lateral pectoral(C5-C7).

Musculocutaneous(C5-C7).

Lateral root of median(C5-C7).

**Branches of medial cord.**

medial pectoral.(C8,T1).

medial cutaneous nerve of arm(C8,T1).

medial cutaneous nerve of forearm(C8,T1).

ulnar (C7,C8,T1).

medial root of median(C8,T1).

**Branches of posterior cord.**

upper subscapular(C5,C6).

nerve to latissimus dorsi(C6,C7,C8)

lower subscapular(C5,C6).

axillary(C5,C6).

radial(C5-C8,T1).

**Applied anatomy:**

Injury to the long thoracic nerve produces winging of scapula.

Injury to the axillary nerve due to fracture of the surgical neck of humerus results in inability to abduct the arm with loss of sensation over the lower part of the deltoid.

Erb's palsy: injury to the upper trunk at the Erb's point.

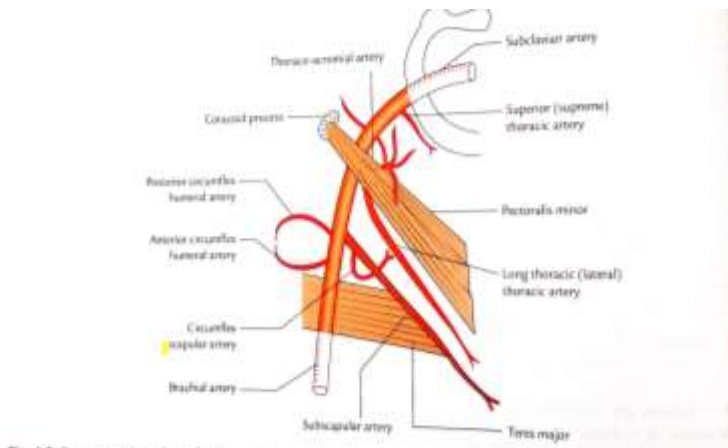
**AXILLARY ARTERY (LE)**

Axillary artery is the continuation of subclavian artery.

**Extent**

From the outer border of 1<sup>st</sup> rib to the lower border of teres major muscle.

It continues as brachial artery.



The pectoralis minor muscle crosses the artery and divides it into 3 parts-

1<sup>st</sup> part - proximal to the muscle

2<sup>nd</sup> part - deep to the muscle

3<sup>rd</sup> part - distal to the muscle

## Relations

### 1<sup>st</sup> part

Axillary artery with the cords of brachial plexus is enclosed within the axillary sheath.

Anterior - pectoralis major, loop of communication between lateral and medial pectoral nerves.

Posterior- medial cord, long thoracic nerve, serratus anterior.

Medial- axillary vein.

Lateral- lateral and posterior cords.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> part

Anterior - pectoralis minor

Posterior- posterior cord, subscapularis

Medial - medial cord of brachial plexus, axillary vein

Lateral - lateral cord of brachial plexus

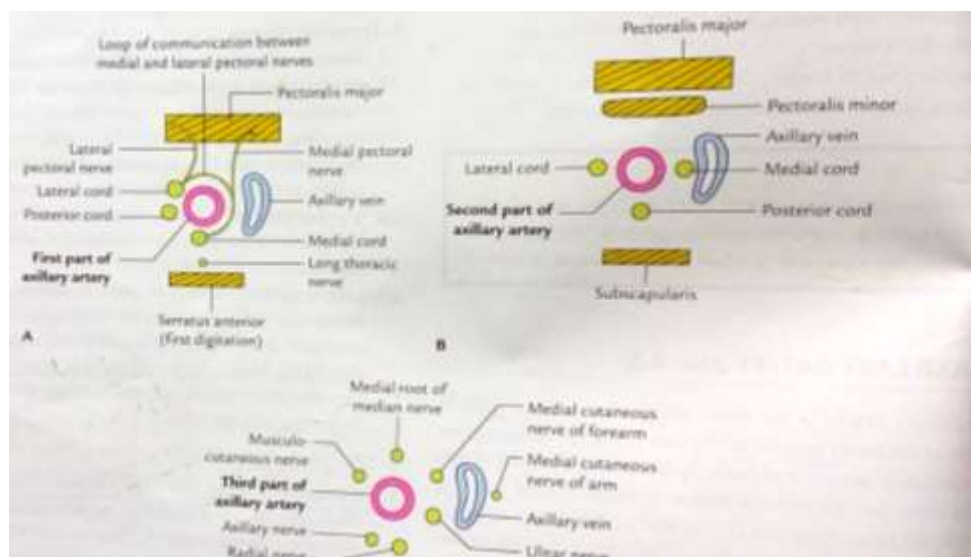
### 3<sup>rd</sup> part

Anterior- medial root of median nerve

Posterior - radial nerve, axillary nerve, subscapularis, teres major

Medial - axillary vein, medial cutaneous nerve of forearm, ulnar nerve

Lateral - musculocutaneous nerve.



Branches : Axillary artery gives 6 branches

From 1<sup>st</sup> part-

Superior thoracic artery

From 2<sup>nd</sup> part

Thoracoacromial artery

Lateral thoracic artery

In females the artery is large and gives off lateral mammary branches to the breast.

From 3<sup>rd</sup> part

Subscapular artery

It gives off a large branch - circumflex scapular artery which takes part in the anastomosis around scapula.

Anterior circumflex humeral artery

Posterior circumflex humeral artery

Passes through the quadrangular intermuscular space.

### **Applied anatomy**

Axillary artery pulsations can be felt against the lower part of lateral wall of axilla.

The artery can be effectively compressed against the humerus to check bleeding from distal part of the limb (in injuries, operations and amputation).

When the axillary artery is blocked, scapular anastomosis serves as a potential pathway (collateral circulation) between the subclavian artery and axillary artery.

### **AXILLARY ARTERY - EXTENT, RELATIONS AND BRANCHES (SE)**

Axillary artery is the continuation of subclavian artery

It extends from the outer border of 1<sup>st</sup> rib to the lower border of teres major muscle

It continues as brachial artery.

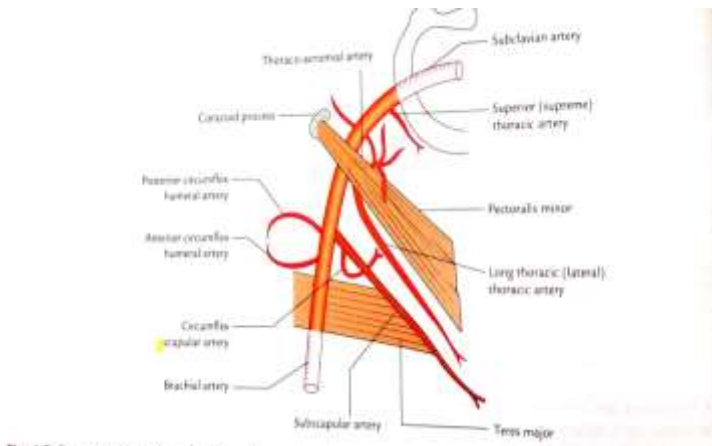
The pectoralis major muscle crosses the artery and divides it into 3 parts-

1<sup>st</sup> part - proximal to the muscle

2<sup>nd</sup> part - deep to the muscle

3<sup>rd</sup> part - distal to the muscle





## RELATIONS

### 1<sup>ST</sup> PART-

Axillary artery with the cords of brachial plexus is enclosed within the axillary sheath

Anterior - pectoralis major, loop of communication between lateral and medial pectoral nerves

Posterior- medial cord, long thoracic nerve, serratus anterior

Medial- axillary vein

Lateral- lateral and posterior cords.

### 2<sup>ND</sup> PART-

Anterior - pectoralis minor

Posterior- posterior cord, subscapularis

Medial - medial cord of brachial plexus, axillary vein

Lateral - lateral cord of brachial plexus

### 3<sup>RD</sup> PART

Anterior- medial root of median nerve

Posterior - radial nerve, axillary nerve, subscapularis, teres major

Medial - axillary vein, medial cutaneous nerve of forearm, ulnar nerve

Lateral - musculocutaneous nerve.

## Branches

Axillary artery gives 6 branches

Superior thoracic artery

Thoraco-acromial artery

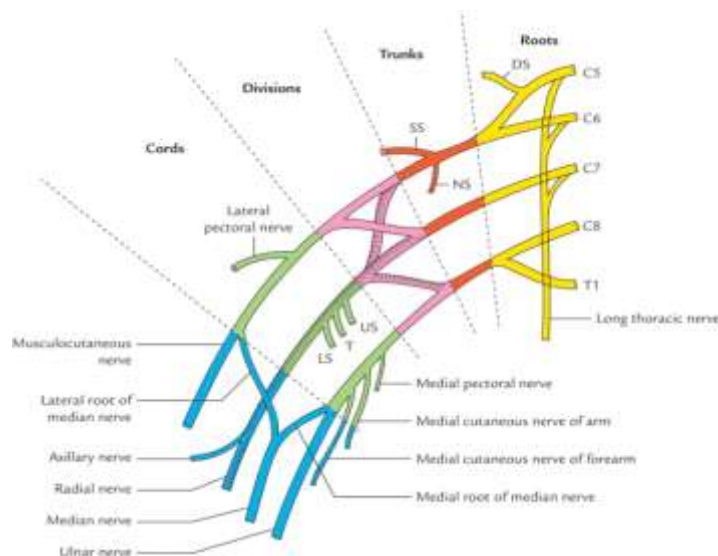
Lateral thoracic artery

Subscapular artery

Anterior circumflex humeral artery  
posterior circumflex humeral artery

**DRAW A NEAT LABELLED DIAGRAM OF FORMATION & BRANCHES OF BRACHIAL PLEXUS.(SE)**

**FORMATION OF BRACHIAL PLEXUS. (SE)**



**LATERAL CORD OF BRACHIAL PLEXUS. (SE)**

Lateral cord of brachial plexus is formed by the union of anterior divisions of upper & middle trunks.

It lies lateral to the axillary artery.

**Branches of lateral cord.**

Lateral pectoral(C5-C7).

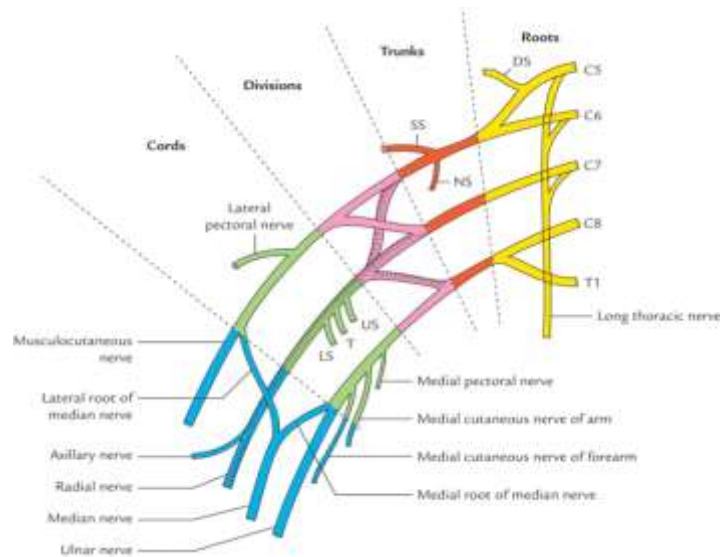
Musculocutaneous(C5-C7).

Lateral root of median(C5-C7).

Lateral pectoral nerve: it is a branch of the lateral cord,conveys the fibres from C5,C6,C7. It pierces the clavipectoral fascia & supplies the pectoralis major and minor muscles.

Musculocutaneous nerve: it is derived from the lateral cord.it pierces the coracobrachialis, & supplies it before it piercing it.

Lateral root of median nerve joins with medial root & forms the main trunk of median nerve.



### THIRD PART OF AXILLARY ARTERY(SE)

Axillary artery is divided into 3 parts by pectoralis minor muscle.

1<sup>st</sup> part - proximal to the muscle

2<sup>nd</sup> part - deep to the muscle

3<sup>rd</sup> part - distal to the muscle

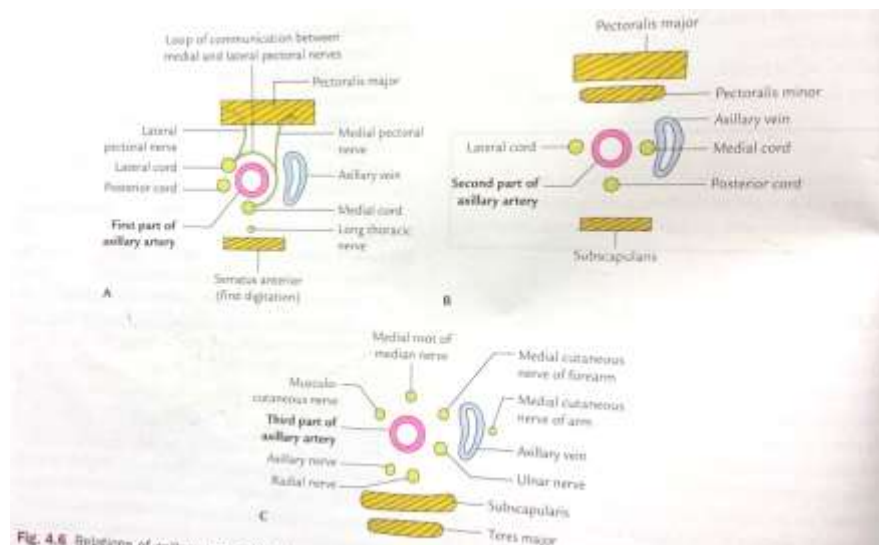


Fig. 4.6 Relations of axillary artery

### Relations of 3<sup>rd</sup> part of axillary artery

Anterior- medial root of median nerve

Posterior - radial nerve, axillary nerve, subscapularis, teres major

Medial - axillary vein, medial cutaneous nerve of forearm, ulnar nerve

Lateral - musculocutaneous nerve.

3 **branches** arise from the 3<sup>rd</sup> part of axillary artery

Subscapular artery

Anterior circumflex humeral artery

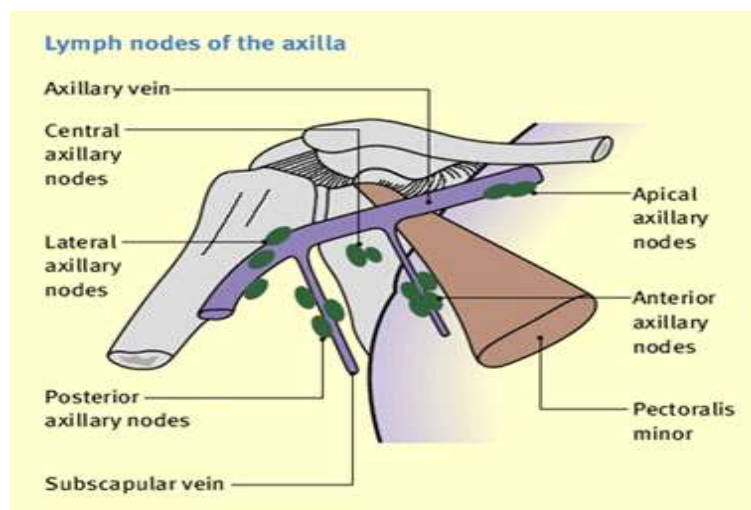
Posterior circumflex humeral artery

Arterial anastomosis around scapula is formed between the branches of 1<sup>st</sup> part of subclavian artery and 3<sup>rd</sup> part of axillary artery.

When the axillary artery is blocked, scapular anastomosis serves as a potential pathway (collateral circulation) between the subclavian artery and axillary artery.

### AXILLARY LYMPH NODES(SE)

Axillary lymph nodes are scattered in the fibro fatty tissue of axilla.



They are divided into 5 groups

**Anterior ( pectoral ) group**

They lie along lateral thoracic vessels

Receive lymph from upper half of anterior wall of trunk and mammary gland.

**Posterior ( scapular ) group**

They lie along subscapular vessels

Receive lymph from upper half of posterior wall of trunk and axillary tail of mammary gland.

**Lateral group**

They lie along upper part of humerus, medial to axillary vein.

They receive lymph from the upper limb.

**Central group**

They lie in the fat of upper axilla.

They receive lymph from anterior , posterior and central groups and drain into the apical group.

**Apical ( infraclavicular) group**

They lie along axillary vessels.

They receive lymph from central group, upper part of mammary gland and from the thumb and its web.

**ERB'S POINT & ITS APPLIED ANATOMY (ERB-DUCHENNE'S PARALYSIS)(SE)**

Erb's point present in one of the region of upper trunk.

Six points meet here. They are-

C5,

C6,

suprascapular nerve,

Anterior and posterior division of upper trunk.

Nerve to subclavius.

**Site of injury:** Erb's point. (six nerves meet here).

**Causes of injury:** Undue separate of the head from the shoulder caused due to

Birth injury

Fall on the shoulder

During anaesthesia

**Nerve roots involved:** mainly C5 partly C6

**Muscles paralysed:**

Biceps brachii  
Deltoid  
Brachialis  
Brachio radialis

**Deformity:** porters tip hand.

**Disability:** the following movements are lost.

Abduction and lateral rotation of the arm.  
Flexion and supination of the forearm.  
Biceps and supinator jerks are lost.  
Sensations are lost over a small area over the lower part of the deltoid.

### **STRUCTURES FORMING ANTERIOR WALL OF AXILLA. (SA)**

Pectoralis major in front .  
Clavipectoral fasciaPectoralis minor.

### **CONTENTS OF AXILLA.(SA)**

Axillary artery and its branches  
Axillary vein and its tributaries  
Infraclavicular part of brachial plexus  
Axillary lymph nodes and its associated lymphatics  
Long thoracic and intercostobrachial nerves  
Axillary fat and areolar tissue

### **LONG THORACIC NERVE.(SA)**

It is the nerve to serratus anterior.  
Arises from dorsal aspects of C5,C6,&C7 roots.  
The C5 & C6 roots pierce the scalenus medius and pass downwards behind the brachial plexus.  
They unite and enter the apex of axilla behind the first part of axillary artery.  
The nerve is closely applied to the serratus anterior,descends posterior to the midaxillary line & supplies the muscle segmentally.  
Applied anatomy:  
Injury to long thoracic nerve produces winging of scapula.

### BRANCHES OF MEDIAL CORD OF BRACHIAL PLEXUS.(SA)

medial pectoral.(C8,T1).  
 medial cutaneous nerve of arm(C8,T1).  
 medial cutaneous nerve of forearm(C8,T1).  
 ulnar (C7,C8,T1).  
 medial root of median(C8,T1).

### BRANCHES OF POSTERIOR CORD OF BRACHIAL PLEXUS.(SA)

upper subscapular(C5,C6).  
 nerve to latissimus dorsi(C6,C7,C8)  
 lower subscapular(C5,C6).  
 axillary(C5,C6).  
 radial(C5-C8,T1).

### BRANCHES OF AXILLARY ARTERY (2<sup>ND</sup>& 3<sup>RD</sup> PART) (SA)

Thoracoacromial artery(2<sup>nd</sup> part)  
 Lateral thoracic artery(2<sup>nd</sup> part)  
 subscapular artery(3<sup>rd</sup> part)  
 anterior circumflex humeral artery(3<sup>rd</sup> part)  
 posterior circumflex humeral artery(3<sup>rd</sup> part)

### ERB'S PARALYSIS.(SA)

**Site of injury:** Erb's point.(six nerves meet here).

**Causes of injury:** Undue separation of the head from the shoulder  
 caused due to

- birth injury
- fall on the shoulder
- during anaesthesia

**Nerve roots involved:** mainly C5 partly C6

**Muscles paralysed:**

Biceps brachii  
 Deltoid  
 Brachialis

Brachio radialis

**Deformity:** porters tip hand

**Disability:** the following movements are lost.

abduction and lateral rotation of the arm.

flexion and supination of the forearm.

biceps and supinator jerks are lost.

sensations are lost over a small area over the lower part of the deltoid.

### **KLUMPKE'S PARALYSIS.(SA)**

**Site of injury:**

lower trunk of the brachial plexus.

**Cause of injury:**

Undue abduction of the arm,as in clutching something with the hands after a fall from height.or in birth injury.

**Nerve roots involved:**

Mainly T1 and partly C8.

**Muscles involved:**

Intrinsic muscles of hand(T1)

Ulnar flexors of the wrist and fingers.

**Deformity:**

claw hand.

**Disability:**

Hyperextension at the metacarpo-phalangeal joints & flexion at the interphalangeal joints.



## 4. SCAPULAR REGION

**DESCRIBE THE ROOT VALUE, FORMATION, COURSE, RELATIONS AND BRANCHES OF AXILLARY NERVE. GIVE ITS APPLIED ANATOMY. WHAT ARE EFFECTS OF INJURY AT SURGICAL NECK OF HUMERUS (LE).**

**Root value:**

Its root value is ventral rami of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> cervical segments of spinal cord ( C5, C6 )

**Formation:**

The axillary nerve arises from the *posterior cord* of the brachial plexus near the lower border of subscapularis.

**Course:**

Runs backwards on subscapularis then enters the quadrangular space and terminates into anterior and posterior branches

**Relations:**

**In the lower part of axilla:**

The nerve runs downwards behind the third part of axillary artery

Lies on the subscapularis muscle and related

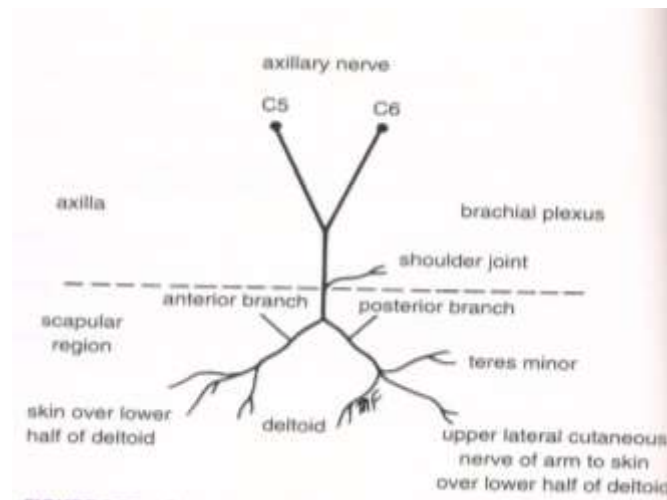
Medially - median nerve

Laterally - coracobrachialis

The nerve leaves the axilla by winding round the lower border of subscapularis and enters quadrangular space.

**In the quadrangular space:**

Here it is accompanied by posterior circumflex humeral vessels.



## Relations

### Superiorly:

- Subscapularis
- Lowest part of capsule of the shoulder joint
- Surgical neck of humerus

### Inferiorly:

- Teres major

### Medially:

- Long head of triceps brachii

In the quadrangular space, the nerve divides into anterior and posterior branches in relation to the deltoid muscle.

### Branches:

#### Anterior branch:

- Accompanied by posterior circumflex humeral vessels.
- Winds around surgical neck of humerus
- Supplies the deltoid and skin over its anteroinferior part

#### Posterior branch:

- Supplies teres minor and posterior part of the deltoid and continues as upper lateral cutaneous nerve of the arm.

The nerve to teres minor bears a pseudoganglion

### Applied anatomy:

Intramuscular injections are often given into the deltoid. They should be given in the middle of the muscle to avoid injury to the axillary nerve.

The axillary nerve may be damaged by dislocation of the shoulder or by the fracture of surgical neck of humerus.

### Effects of injury at surgical neck of humerus:

Rounded contour of shoulder is lost, greater tubercle of humerus becomes prominent.

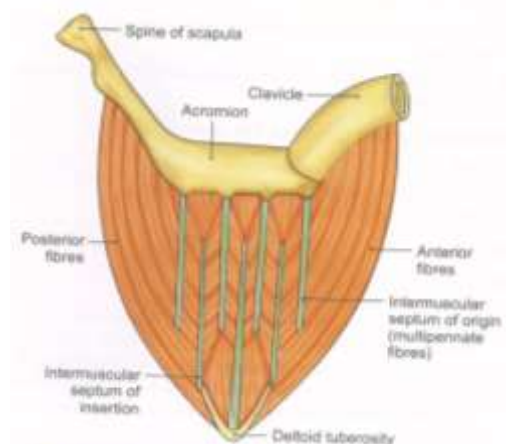
Deltoid is paralysed with loss of power of abduction upto  $90^\circ$  at the shoulder.

There is sensory loss over the lower half of deltoid in a badge like area called **regimental badge**.

### DELTOID MUSCLE - LOCATION, ATTACHMENTS NERVE SUPPLY AND ACTIONS (SE)

#### Location:

It is a scapulohumeral muscle



**Attachments:****Origin:**

The anterior clavicular part

Lateral third of clavicle - upper surface and anterior border

The middle acromial part:

Acromion - lateral margin and upper surface

The posterior spinous part:

Spine of scapula - lower lip of the crest of the spine

**Insertion:**

"V " shaped deltoid tuberosity

**Nerve supply:**

Axillary nerve (C5, C6)

**Actions:**

Clavicular fibres - flexors and medial rotators

Spinous fibres - extensors and lateral rotators

Acromial fibres - strong abductor of the arm  $15^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$

**ROTATOR CUFF OF SHOULDER (SE)**

Rotator cuff/*musculotendinous* cuff of the shoulder is the fibrous sheath formed by the tendons of

Supraspinatus

Infraspinatus

Teres minor

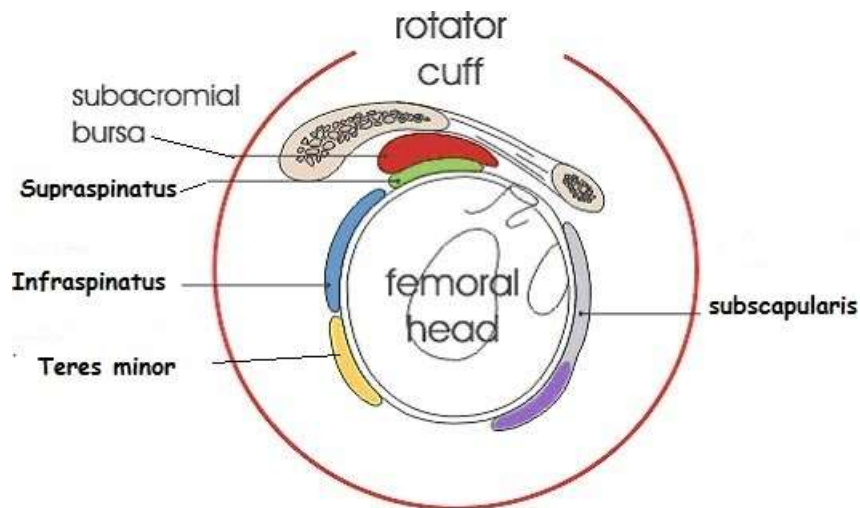
Subscapularis

They arise from scapula gets inserted into humerus and blend with the capsule of the shoulder joint.

Tendon of supraspinatus fuse superiorly

Tendon of infraspinatus and teres minor fuse posteriorly

Tendon of subscapularis fuse anteriorly



**Functions:** Stabilizes shoulder joint

Grasp the relatively large head of humerus and hold it against the smaller, shallow glenoid cavity.

## QUADRANGULAR AND TRIANGULAR SPACES (SE).

**Quadrangular space:**

**Boundaries:**

**Superior:**

Subscapularis anteriorly

Teres minor posteriorly

Capsule of the shoulder joint

**Inferior:**

Teres major

**Medial:**

long head of triceps brachii

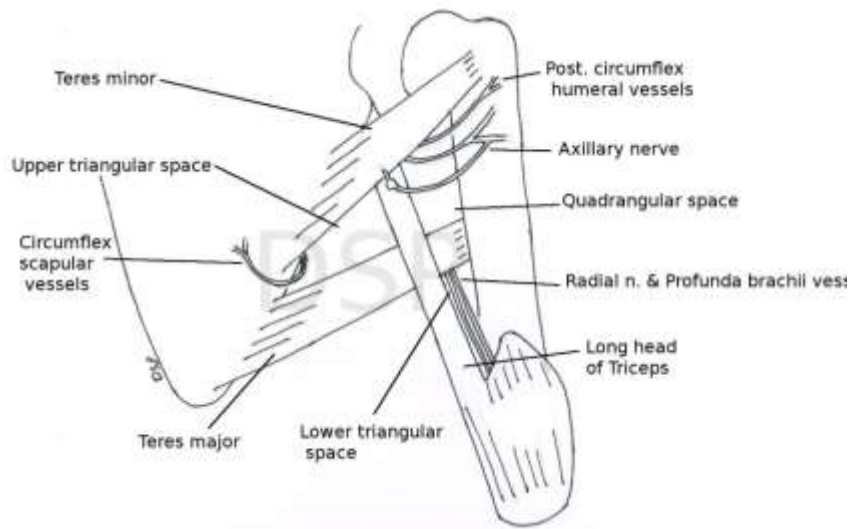
**Lateral:**

surgical neck of humerus

**Contents:**

Axillary nerve

Posterior circumflex humeral vessels



### **Upper triangular space:**

#### **Boundaries:**

##### **Medial:**

teres minor

##### **Lateral :**

long head of triceps

##### **Inferior:**

teres major

#### **Contents:**

Circumflex scapular artery

### **Lower triangular space:**

#### **Boundaries:**

##### **Medial:**

long head of triceps

##### **Lateral:**

shaft of humerus

##### **Superior:**

teres major

#### **Contents:**

Radial nerve

Profunda brachii vessels

## AXILLARY NERVE (CIRCUMFLEX NERVE) (SE)

### Root value:

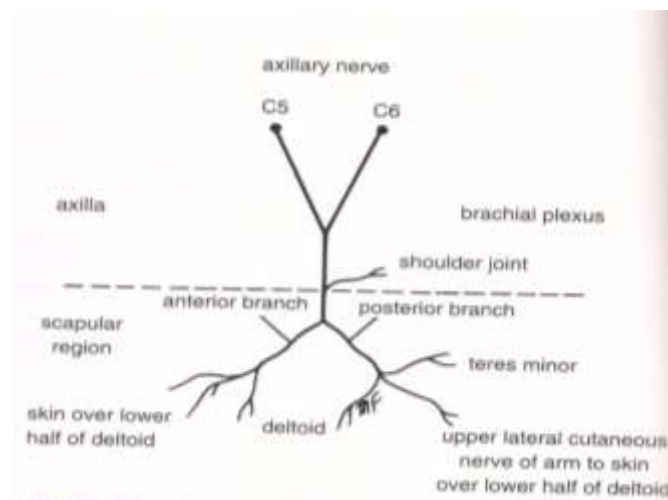
Its root value is ventral rami of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> cervical segments of spinal cord  
( C5, C6 )

### Formation:

The axillary nerve arises from the posterior cord of the brachial plexus near the lower border of subscapularis.

### Course:

Runs backwards on subscapularis, then enters the quadrangular space and terminates into anterior and posterior branches



### Branches:

#### Anterior branch:

Accompanied by posterior circumflex humeral vessels.

Winds around surgical neck of humerus

Supplies the deltoid and skin over its anteroinferior part

**Posterior branch:**

Supplies teres minor and posterior part of the deltoid and continues as upper lateral cutaneous nerve of the arm. The nerve to teres minor bears a pseudoganglion

**ANASTOMOSIS AROUND SCAPULA(SE)**

Arterial anastomoses - subclavian artery & axillary artery

<b>Sites:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> part of subclavian artery</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> part of axillary artery</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> part axillary artery</b>
<b>Body of scapula</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supra scapular artery &amp;</li> <li>• Deep branch of transverse cervical artery.</li> </ul>		<b>Circumflex scapular</b>
<b>Acromion process</b>	<b>Acromion branch of supra scapular artery.</b>	<b>Thoraco acromion artery</b>	<b>Posterior circumflex humoral artery.</b>

**NERVE SUPPLY AND ACTION OF DELTOID(SA)****Nerve supply:**

Axillary nerve (C5, C6)

**Actions:**

Anterior/Clavicular fibres - flexors and medial rotators

Posterior/Spinous fibres - extensors and lateral rotators

Middle/Acromial fibres - strong abductor of the arm 15° to 90°



## **MUSCLES ATTACHED TO GREATER TUBERCLE OF HUMERUS WITH NERVE SUPPLY(SA)**

Upper impression - supraspinatus

Middle impression - infraspinatus

Lower impression - teres minor

## **ROTATOR CUFF ( MUSCLES FORMING IT)(SA)**

Rotator cuff/musculotendinous cuff of the shoulder is the fibrous sheath formed by the tendons of

Supraspinatus

Infraspinatus

Teres minor

Subscapularis.

## **QUADRANGULAR SPACE - BOUNDARIES AND CONTENTS(SA)**

### **Boundaries:**

**Superior:** Subscapularis anteriorly

Teres minor posteriorly

Capsule of the shoulder joint

**Inferior:** Teres major

**Medial:** long head of triceps brachii

**Lateral:** surgical neck of humerus

### **Contents:**

Axillary nerve

Posterior circumflex humeral vessels

## **CONTENTS OF INFERIOR TRIANGULAR SPACE OF ARM(SA)**

Radial nerve

Profunda brachii vessels

## **AXILLARY NERVE - MUSCLES SUPPLIED AND CLINICAL IMPORTANCE.(SA)**

### **Muscles supplied:**

Anterior branch: deltoid

Posterior branch: deltoid and teres minor

### **Clinical importance:**

- (1) Intramuscular injections are often given into the deltoid. They should be given in the middle of the muscle to avoid injury to the axillary nerve.
- (2) The axillary nerve may be damaged by dislocation of the shoulder or by the fracture of surgical neck of humerus.

## **CLINICAL IMPORTANCE OF DELTOID MUSCLE(SA)**

**Intramuscular injections** are often given into the deltoid. They should be given in the middle of the muscle to avoid injury to the axillary nerve.

- **Paralysis of deltoid:** produced by any damage to the axillary nerve

Resulting in loss of power of abduction upto 90° at the shoulder.

Paralysis of Deltoid muscle ( inability to abduct the shoulder)

Sensory loss over the lower half of deltoid ( regimental badge anaesthesia)

## **ANTERIOR COMPARTMENT OF ARM**

### **CORACOBRACHIALIS (SE)**

#### **Origin-**

tip of the coracoid process of scapula

#### **Insertion-**

middle of medial border of humerus

#### **Nerve supply-**

musculocutaneous nerve

#### **Actions-**

flexion and adduction of arm

#### **Events occurring at the level of insertion-**

Ulnar nerve pierces medial intermuscular septum enters posterior compartment of arm

Radial nerve pierces lateral intermuscular septum enters anterior compartment of arm

Median nerve crosses in front of brachial artery from lateral to medial side

Basilic vein pierces deep fascia and becomes deep

Shaft of humerus becomes triangular in shape

Nutrient branch of brachial artery enters nutrient foramen of humerus

### **BICEPS BRACHII MUSCLE- ATTACHMENTS, NERVE SUPPLY AND ACTIONS(SE)**

#### **Origin:**

Long head- supraglenoid tubercle of scapula

Short head- tip of coracoid process of scapula

#### **Insertion-**

posterior part of radial tuberosity

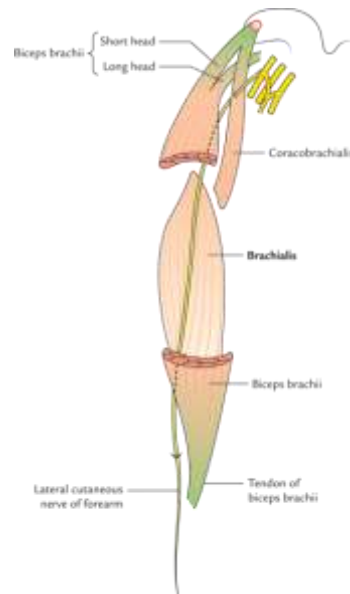
#### **Nerve supply-**

musculocutaneous nerve

#### **Actions-**

supination of forearm when elbow is flexed, flexion of elbow and shoulder

## MUSCULOCUTANEOUS NERVE- ROOT VALUE, ORIGIN, RELATIONS, COURSE, BRANCHES(SE)



### Root value-

C5, C6

### Origin-

from lateral cord of brachial plexus

### Course and relations-

it runs lateral to 3<sup>rd</sup> part of axillary artery, pierce coracobrachialis and descend in front of arm between biceps brachii and brachialis. Just above the elbow it pierces the deep fascia and becomes lateral cutaneous nerve of forearm.

### Branches-

Muscular branches- coracobrachialis, biceps brachii, brachialis

Cutaneous branch- musculocutaneous continues as lateral cutaneous nerve of forearm supplies skin over lateral side of forearm

Articular branches- elbow joint

## **BRACHIAL ARTERY(SE)**

### **Origin-**

it is the continuation of the axillary artery at the level of the lower border of teres major

### **Course-**

it runs downwards in front of arm till the neck of radius in cubital fossa where it terminates by dividing into terminal branches radial and ulnar arteries

### **Relations**

#### **Anterior-**

skin, superficial fascia, deep fascia, median nerve crossing from lateral to medial side, bicipital aponeurosis

#### **Posterior-**

long head of triceps, medial head of triceps, coracobrachialis, brachialis, radial nerve, profunda brachii artery

#### **Lateral-**

median nerve in upper part, biceps brachii in lower part

#### **Medial-**

ulnar nerve, basilica vein, medial cutaneous nerve of forearm in upper part, median nerve in lower part

### **Branches**

#### **Muscular branches**

Profunda brachii artery- supplies posterior compartment of arm

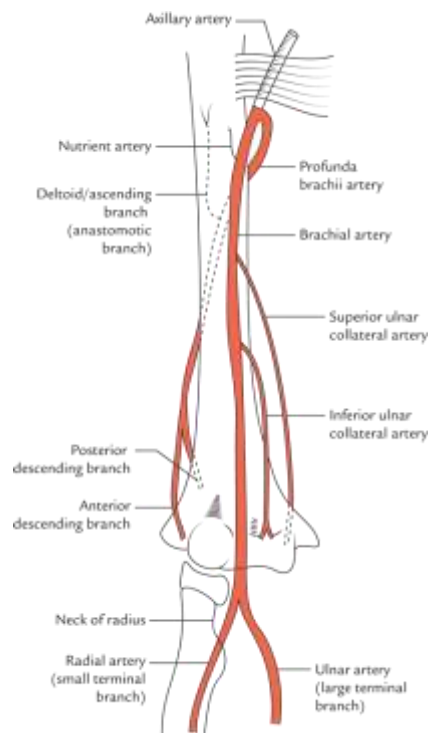
Superior ulnar collateral artery- runs along with ulnar nerve and takes part in anastomosis around the elbow joint

Inferior ulnar collateral artery- arises 5cm above elbow joint and takes part in anastomosis around elbow joint

Nutrient artery- to humerus

### **Applied anatomy-**

pulsations can be felt in front of elbow medial to biceps brachii tendon



### **ANASTOMOSIS AROUND ELBOW JOINT(SE)**

In front of lateral epicondyle of humerus-

anterior branch of profunda brachii with radial recurrent artery

Behind lateral epicondyle of humerus-

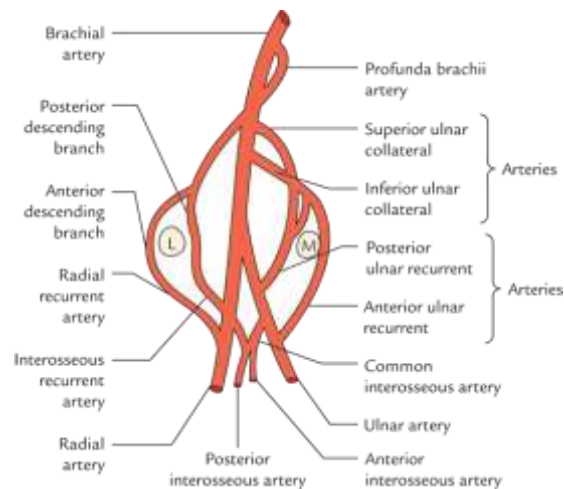
posterior branch of profunda brachii with interosseous recurrent artery

In front of medial epicondyle of humerus-

anterior branch of inferior ulnar collateral with anterior ulnar recurrent branch

Behind medial epicondyle of humerus-

superior ulnar collateral artery and posterior branch of inferior ulnar collateral with posterior ulnar recurrent artery



## CUBITAL FOSSA- BOUNDARIES AND CONTENTS(SE)

### Boundaries

Lateral- brachioradialis

Medial- pronator teres

Apex- crossing of brachioradialis over pronator teres

Base- imaginary line connecting two epicondyles of humerus

### Roof-

skin, superficial fascia, deep fascia, bicipital aponeurosis, median cubital vein, basilica vein, cephalic vein, medial cutaneous nerve of forearm, lateral cutaneous nerve of forearm

### Floor-

brachialis, supinator

### Contents

Brachial artery, ulnar artery, radial artery

Median nerve

Tendon of biceps brachii

### **EVENTS OCCURRING AT INSERTION OF CORACHOBRACHIALIS (SA)**

Ulnar nerve pierces medial intermuscular septum enters posterior compartment of arm

Radial nerve pierces lateral intermuscular septum enters anterior compartment of arm

Median nerve crosses in front of brachial artery from lateral to medial side

Basilic vein pierces deep fascia and becomes deep

Shaft of humerus becomes triangular in shape

Nutrient branch of brachial artery enters nutrient foramen of humerus

### **BICEPS BRACHII MUSCLE- NERVE SUPPLY AND ACTIONS(SA)**

Nerve supply- musculocutaneous nerve

Actions- supination of forearm when elbow is flexed, flexion of elbow and shoulder

### **BRACHIALIS - ATTACHMENTS, NERVE SUPPLY AND ACTION(SA)**

#### **Origin-**

lower half of anterior surface of shaft of humerus, adjacent surfaces of medial and lateral intermuscular septa

#### **Insertion-**

ulnar tuberosity, anterior surface of coronoid process of ulna

#### **Nerve supply-**

musculocutaneous, radial

#### **Actions-**

flexion of elbow

### **MUSCULOCUTANEOUS NERVE(SA)**

#### **Origin-**

from lateral cord of brachial plexus

#### **Course and relations-**

it runs lateral to 3<sup>rd</sup> part of axillary artery, pierce coracobrachialis and descend in front of arm between biceps brachii and brachialis. Just above



the elbow it pierces the deep fascia and becomes lateral cutaneous nerve of forearm.

### **Branches -**

Muscular branches- coracobrachialis, biceps brachii, brachialis

Cutaneous branch- musculocutaneous continues as lateral cutaneous nerve of forearm supplies skin over lateral side of forearm

Articular branches- elbow joint

### **NAME THE MUSCLES SUPPLIED BY MUSCULOCUTANEOUS NERVE(SA)**

Coracobrachialis, biceps brachii, brachialis

### **BRANCHES OF BRACHIAL ARTERY(SA)**

Muscular branches

Profunda brachii artery

Superior ulnar collateral artery

Inferior ulnar collateral artery

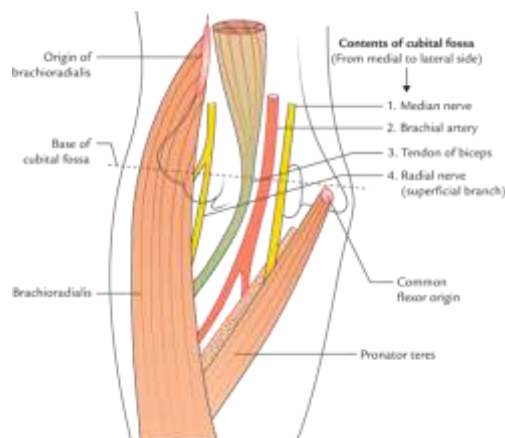
Nutrient artery

### **CUBITAL FOSSA- BOUNDARIES, CONTENTS AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS(SA)**

#### **Boundaries**

Lateral- brachioradialis

Medial- pronator teres



Apex- crossing of brachioradialis over pronator teres

Base- imaginary line connecting two epicondyles of humerus

### Roof-

skin, superficial fascia, deep fascia, bicipital aponeurosis, median cubital vein, basilica vein, cephalic vein, medial cutaneous nerve of forearm, lateral cutaneous nerve of forearm

### Floor-

brachialis, supinator

### Contents

Tendon of biceps brachii

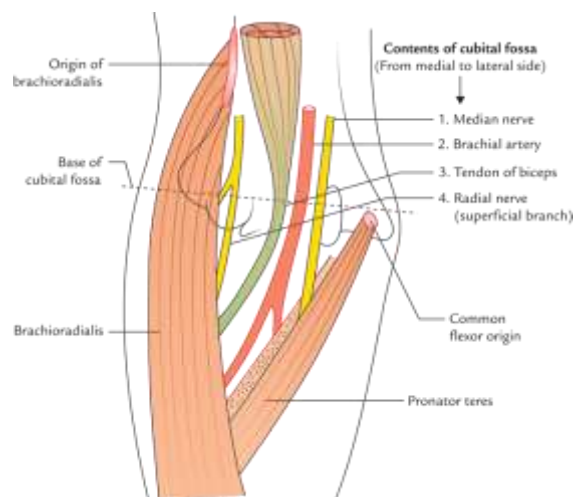
Brachial artery, ulnar artery, radial artery

Median nerve

### Clinical applications

Median cubital vein used for veni puncture, Intravenous injections and cardiac catheterizations

## DRAW A NEAT LABELED DIAGRAM OF BOUNDARIES AND CONTENTS OF CUBITAL FOSSA(SA)



Cubital fossa is a triangular hollow area situated in front of elbow.

**Boundaries:**

Laterally- Brachioradialis muscle

Medially- Pronator Teres muscle

Base- Directed upwards formed by imaginary line joining the two epicondyles of humerus

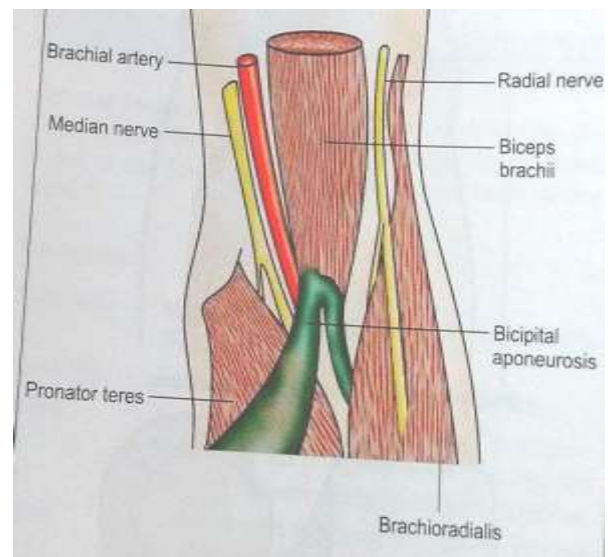
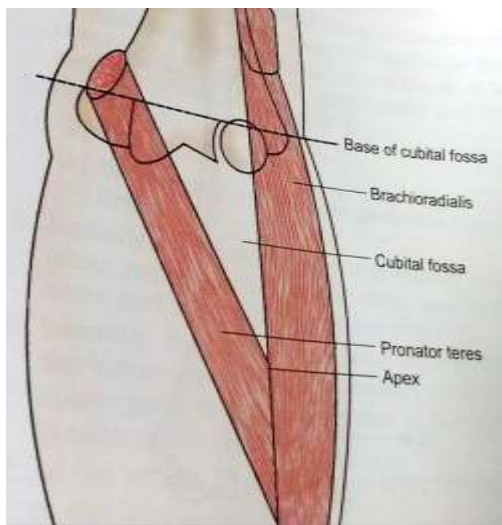
Apex - Directed downwards formed by meeting point of medial and lateral borders.

Roof- skin, superficial fascia containing median cubital vein, medial and lateral cutaneous nerves of forearm.

Deep fascia- Bicipital aponeurosis

Floor - formed by 2 muscles

Brachialis, Supinator

**Contents-** From medial to lateral,

Median Nerve

Brachial artery - terminates by dividing into Radial artery & Ulnar artery.

Tendon of Biceps Brachii

Radial Nerve

## **ORIGIN, ROOT VALUE , COURSE,RELATIONS , BRANCHES AND APPLIED ANATOMY OF RADIAL NERVE( TILL IT REACHES ELBOW) (LE)**

### **Origin**

Posterior cord of brachial plexus

### **Root value**

C5-C8 and T1

### **Course**

It runs behind the third part of axillary artery.

In the arm it runs behind the brachial artery and enters the lower triangular space to reach the radial groove on the back of the humerus.

The nerve reaches the lateral side of the arm 5 cms below the deltoid tuberosity, pierces lateral intermuscular septum and enters the anterior compartment of arm

It descends down across lateral epicondyle into cubital fossa.

It terminates by dividing into superficial and deep branch below the level of lateral epicondyle.

### **Relations**

In the lower part of axilla

Anteriorly

Third part of axillary artery

Posteriorly

Subscapularis, latissimus dorsi and teres major

Laterally

Axillary nerve, coracobrachialis.

Medially

Axillary vein

In the upper part of arm

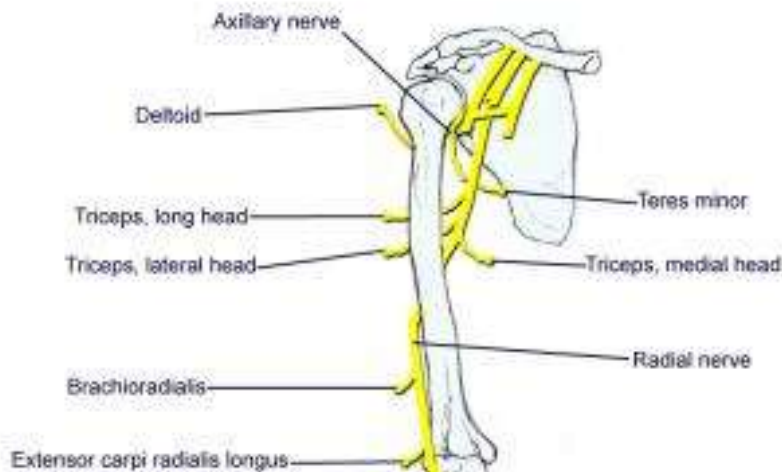
It continues behind brachial artery and passes through the lower triangular space with the profunda brachii vessels.

It then enters the radial groove.

In the radial groove

The nerve runs downwards and laterally between the lateral and medial heads of triceps brachii, in contact with the humerus. At the

lower end of the groove the nerve pierces the lateral intermuscular septum and passes into the anterior compartment of the arm to reach the cubital fossa.



## Branches

### Muscular branches -

- Long and medial head of triceps brachii
- Lateral head of triceps brachii
- Anconeus
- Brachialis (proprioceptive fibres)
- Brachioradialis
- Extensor carpi radialis longus.

### Cutaneous branches

- Posterior cutaneous nerve of the arm
- Lower lateral cutaneous nerve of the arm
- Posterior cutaneous nerve of the forearm

### Articular branches

- To elbow joint

## Applied anatomy

Radial nerve is commonly damaged in the radial groove.

The causes are

Saturday night palsy- sleeping in an armchair with the limb hanging by

the side of the chair

Crutch paralysis- pressure of the crutch.

Fracture of the shaft of the humerus resulting in wrist drop

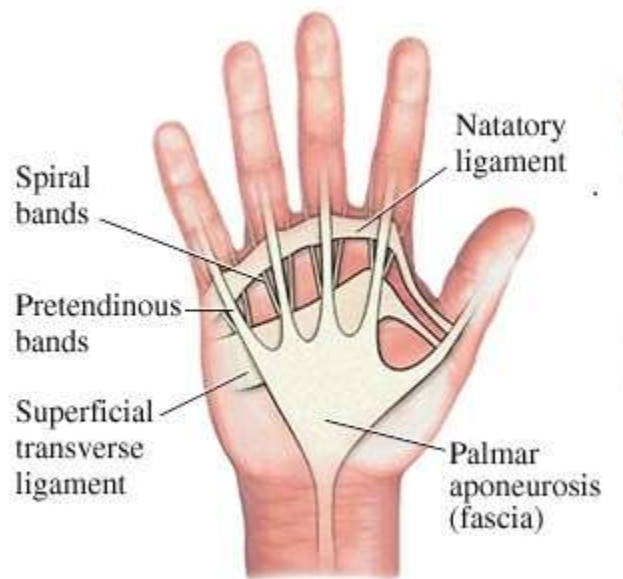
Wrist drop- weakness and loss of power of extension of the wrist and sensory loss over a narrow strip on the back of forearm and lateral side of dorsum of the hand

## **FOREARM AND HAND**

**NAME THE SPACES IN THE PALM. DESCRIBE THE BOUNDARIES OF MIDPALMAR SPACE.ADD A NOTE ON APPLIED ANATOMY.(LE)**

### **PALMAR APONEUROSIS (SE)**

Palmar aponeurosis is the deep fascia in the central region of the palm. It is regarded as the degenerated tendon of palmaris longus.



### Features

It is Triangular in shape and has

Apex, Base, Medial border and Lateral border

#### Apex

Is the narrow proximal end.

It blends with flexor retinaculum.

#### Base

is the broad distal end

divides into four longitudinal slips proximal to heads of metacarpals to medial four digits

each slip further divides into two slips which blend with fibrous flexor sheath of corresponding digits.

The digital nerves, vessels and tendon of lumbricals emerge through the interval between four longitudinal slips

#### Medial border

Continuous with deep fascia covering the hypothenar muscles

Gives origin to palmaris brevis

#### Lateral border

Continuous with deep fascia covering the thenar muscles

From the medial and lateral borders, medial and lateral palmar septa pass backwards and divide the palm into compartments.

**Functions:**

Helps to improve the grip of hand by fixing the skin  
Protects the underlying tendons, nerves and vessels

**ADDUCTOR POLLICIS MUSCLE (SE)**

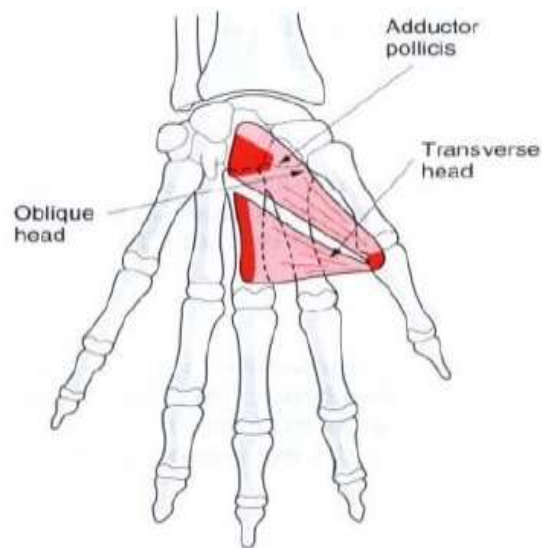
Adductor pollicis is a fan shaped muscle located deep in the palm.

**Origin**

Consists of two heads (a) **oblique** (b) **transverse**

Oblique head : base of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> metacarpal

Transverse head: shaft of 3<sup>rd</sup> metacarpal

**Insertion:**

Base of proximal phalanx of thumb

**Nerve supply:**

Deep branch of *ulnar nerve*( C8, T1)

**Action:**

Adduction of the thumb

**LUMBRICALS - ATTACHMENTS , NERVE SUPPLY AND ACTIONS (SE)****NERVE SUPPLY AND ACTIONS (SA)**

Lumbricals are four small, worm-like muscles in each hand.

**Origin**

All arise from 4 tendons of flexor digitorum profundus.

Lumbricals 1 and 2 (unipennate)

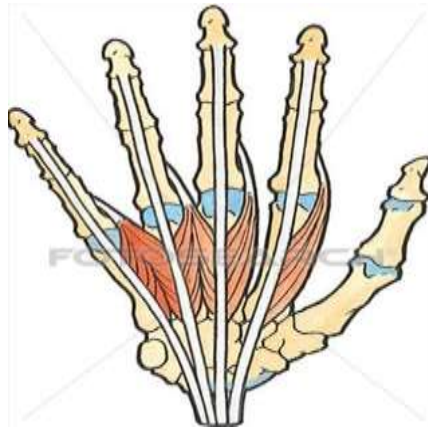


From lateral side of lateral two tendons of flexor digitorum profundus  
Lumbricals 3 and 4 (bipennate)

From adjacent sides of medial three tendons of flexor digitorum profundus

### **Insertion**

To lateral side of dorsal digital expansion of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> digits



### **Nerve**

### **SUPPL**

y

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> lumbricals - median nerve

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> lumbricals- deep branch of ulnar nerve

### **Actions**

Flexion at metacarpophalangeal joints

Extension at proximal and distal interphalangeal joints

### **PALMAR APONEUROSIS (SA)**

It is central part of the **deep fascia** of the palm and degenerated tendon of palmaris longus.

### **Features**

It is triangular in shape

It has Apex, Base, Medial border, & Lateral border

### **Apex**

Is the narrow proximal end.

It blends with flexor retinaculum.

### **Base**

Is the broad distal end

Divides into four longitudinal slips to medial four digits

Each slip further divides into two slips which blend with fibrous flexor sheath of corresponding digits.

The digital nerves, vessels and tendon of lumbricals emerge through the interval between four longitudinal slips

#### **Medial border**

Continuous with deep fascia covering the hypothenar muscles

Gives origin to palmaris brevis

#### **Lateral border**

Continuous with deep fascia covering the thenar muscles

#### **Functions**

- (1) Helps to improve the grip of hand by fixing the skin
- (2) Protects the underlying tendons, nerves and vessels

### **ADDUCTOR POLLICIS (SA)**

#### **Origin:**

Oblique head : base of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> metacarpal

Transverse head: shaft of 3<sup>rd</sup> metacarpal

#### **Insertion:**

Base of proximal phalanx of thumb

#### **Nerve supply**

Deep branch of ulnar nerve ( C8, T1)

#### **Actions**

Adduction of the thumb

### **MUSCLES OF HYPOTHENAR EMINENCE (SA)**

abductor digiti minimi

flexor digiti minimi

opponens digiti minimi

Supplied by deep branch of ulnar nerve.

### **NERVE SUPPLY OF DORSAL INTEROSSEI OF HAND (SA)**

All the four dorsal interossei are supplied by deep branch of ulnar nerve.

### **ACTIONS OF INTEROSSEI OF HAND (SA)**

#### **Palmar interossei:**

Adduct fingers towards centre of middle finger

**Dorsal interossei:**

Abduct fingers from centre of third digit.

Both palmar and dorsal interossei flex the metacarpophalangeal joints and extend the interphalangeal joints.

**DUPUYTREN'S CONTRACTURE (SA)**

It is a condition in which there is fixed forward curvature of one or more fingers,

**Cause**

Progressive fibrosis in the medial part of palmar aponeurosis



Results in permanent contraction



Causing fixed flexion deformity of little and ring fingers



Proximal and middle phalanges are acutely flexed but distal phalanges remain unaffected.

**SUPINATOR MUSCLE (SE)**

Supinator is a deep muscle of forearm.

**Origin**

Lateral epicondyle of humerus

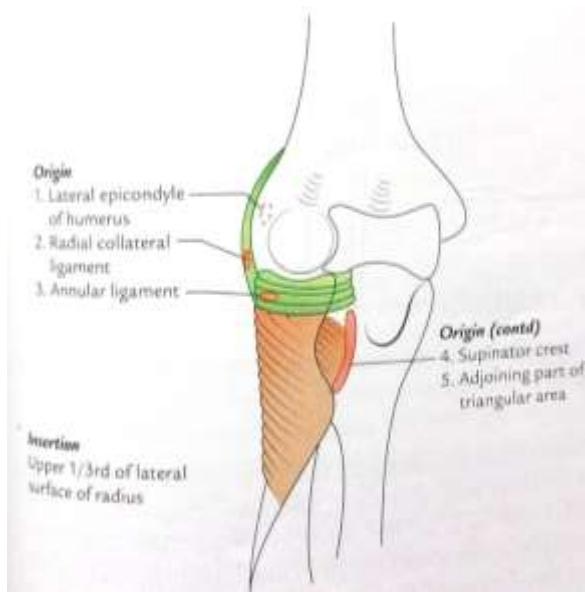
Lateral ligament of elbow joint

Annular ligament

Supinator crest of ulna.

**Insertion**

Upper 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of posterior, lateral and anterior surface of radius.



### Nerve supply

Posterior interosseous nerve - branch of radial nerve.

### Action

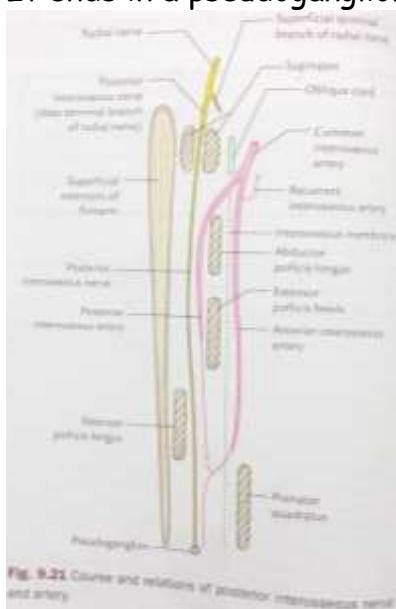
Supination of forearm.

### Posterior interosseous nerve (SE)

Posterior interosseous nerve is the deep terminal branch of radial nerve. It is the chief nerve of the back of forearm.

It begins at the cubital fossa and passes through supinator muscle to reach the back of forearm.

It ends in a pseudoganglion in the 4<sup>th</sup> compartment of extensor retinaculum.



## Branches

Muscular branches - to the extensor group of muscles

To extensor carpi radialis brevis, supinator, extensor digitorum, extensor digiti minimi, extensor carpi ulnaris, abductor pollicis longus, extensor pollicis brevis, extensor pollicis longus, extensor indicis.

Articular branches to wrist joint, distal radioulnar joint.

Sensory branches to radius and ulna.

## RETINACULA AND SPACES OF HAND

**Name the spaces in the palm. Describe the boundaries of midpalmar space. Add a note on its applied anatomy (LE)**

**Boundaries and contents of midpalmar space (SA)**

Spaces in the palm-

Midpalmar space

Thenar space

Web space

Pulp space

Midpalmar space

**Boundaries-**

Anterior

skin, superficial fascia, medial part of palmar aponeurosis, superficial palmar arch, ulnar bursa

Posterior

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> dorsal and palmar interossei with the anterior interosseous fascia covering them

Medial

hypothenar septum (medial palmar septum)

Lateral

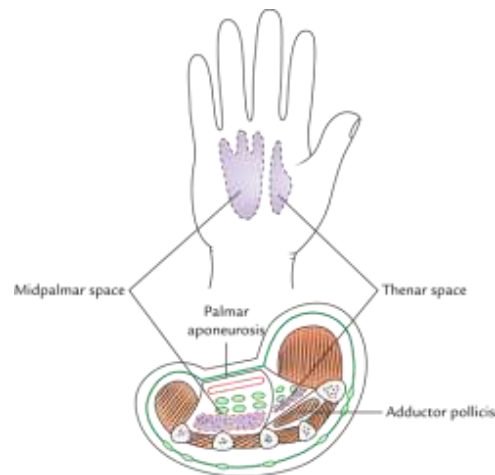
midpalmar septum separating it from the thenar space

Distal

space is continuous with medial 3 web spaces through  
lumbrical canals

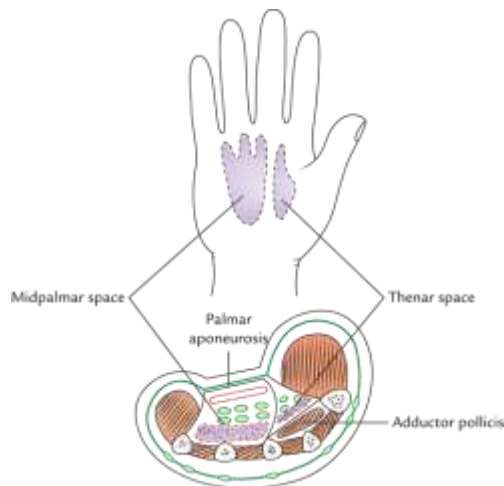
Proximal

space is continuous with space of parona in the forearm  
between flexor tendons and pronator quadratus



**Contents** - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> lumbrical muscles

**Applied anatomy** - Infections may spread into the midpalmar space through ulnar bursa and can spread to lumbrical canals and web space. The pus in the space is drained by putting vertical incision in the medial 2 web spaces



### **FLEXOR RETINACULUM OF HAND (SE)**

### **FLEXOR RETINACULUM ATTACHMENTS (SA)**

### **STRUCTURES SUPERFICIAL TO FLEXOR RETINACULUM (SA)**

It is thickened part of deep fascia over the carpus

Attachments

Medial

pisiform, hook of hamate

Lateral

tubercle of scaphoid, crest of trapezium. Near the trapezium it splits into two slips, superficial attaches to crest and deep to medial margin of groove on trapezium.

Upper margin-

continues with deep fascia of forearm and Palmaris longus

Lower margin-

gives attachment to the apex of palmar aponeurosis

It gives origin to thenar and hypothenar muscles of hand

#### Relations

Superficial to flexor retinaculum

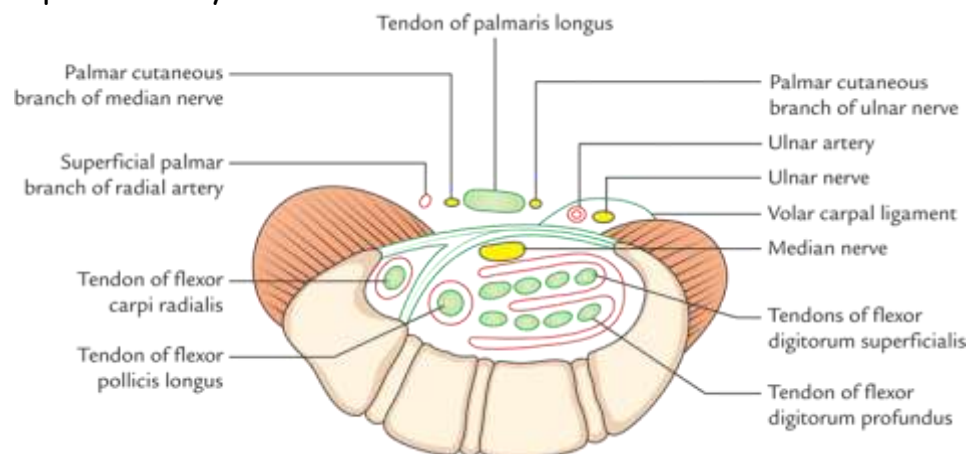
ulnar nerve, ulnar vessels, palmar cutaneous branch of ulnar nerve, tendon of Palmaris longus, palmar cutaneous branch of median nerve, superficial palmar branch of radial artery

Deep to flexor retinaculum

long flexor tendons of digits, median nerve

#### Applied anatomy-

carpal tunnel syndrome-



median nerve is compressed leading to burning pain along three and half fingers and wastage of thenar muscles

### CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME (SE)

**Carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS)** is a medical condition due to compression of the [median nerve](#) as it travels through the [wrist](#) at the [carpal tunnel](#)

**Causes-** Exact cause is not known

Risk factors include [obesity](#), repetitive wrist work eg computer work vibrating tools, pregnancy [hypothyroidism](#) and [rheumatoid arthritis](#).

#### Symptoms

The main symptoms are [pain](#), [numbness](#) and [tingling](#), in the thumb, index finger, middle finger, and the thumb side of the ring fingers.



Symptoms typically start gradually and during the night. Pain may extend up the arm. Weak grip strength may occur and after a long period of time the thenar muscles may waste away. In more than half of cases both sides are affected.

### **Treatment**

Symptoms can be improved by wearing a [wrist splint](#) or with [corticosteroid](#) injections. Surgery to cut the [transverse carpal ligament](#) is effective with better results

### **PALMAR APONEUROSIS (SE)**

It is triangular deep fascia which occupies central area of palm and has following features

#### **Apex**

It is directed proximally and attached to flexor retinaculum.

#### **Base**

Is directed distally and divides into 4 slips. Each slip divides into two bands one passing to skin, and the other passing deep to the root of finger and attached to fibrous flexor sheath and deep transverse ligaments.

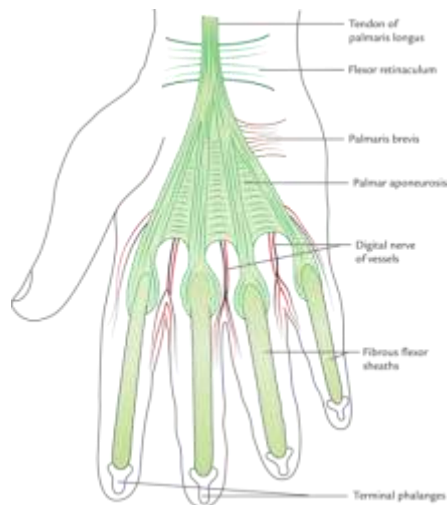
#### **Medial and lateral borders**

Are continuous with thinner deep fascia covering hypothenar and thenar muscles and sends septa posteriorly.

### **Functions**

The palmar aponeurosis give firm attachment to the overlying skin, improves the grip and protect the underlying tendons

**Clinical anatomy** - Dupuytren's contracture- localized thickening and contracture of palmar aponeurosis which limits the hand functioning and eventually disable the hand.



## EXTENSOR RETINACULUM OF WRIST (SE)

Attachments-

Medial-

triquetral, pisiform bones

Lateral-

lower part of anterior border of radius

The retinaculum sends five septa and divides the space beneath it into 6 compartments. The structures passing through the compartments are as follows

1<sup>st</sup> compartment- abductor pollicis longus, extensor pollicis brevis

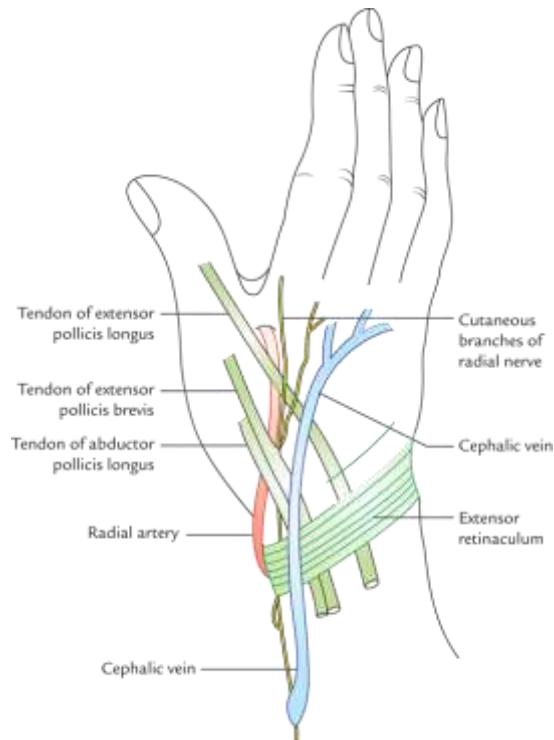
2<sup>nd</sup> compartment- extensor carpi radialis longus, extensor carpi radialis brevis

3<sup>rd</sup> compartment- extensor pollicis longus

4<sup>th</sup> compartment- extensor digitorum, extensor indicis, anterior interosseous artery, posterior interosseous nerve

5<sup>th</sup> compartment- extensor digiti minimi

### 6<sup>th</sup> compartment- extensor carpi ulnaris



### STRUCTURES PASSING THROUGH CARPAL TUNNEL (SA)

Tendons of Flexor digitorum superficialis  
 flexor digitorum profundus  
 median nerve

### STRUCTURES AFFECTED IN CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME (SA)

Tendons of Flexor digitorum superficialis  
 flexor digitorum profundus  
 median nerve

### PALMAR APONEUROSIS (SA)

The palmar aponeurosis give firm attachment to the overlying skin, improves the grip and protect the underlying tendons

Apex is directed proximally and attached to flexor retinaculum

Base is directed distally and divides into 4 slips. Each slip is attached to skin, fibrous flexor sheath and deep transverse ligaments.

Medial and lateral borders are continuous with thinner deep fascia covering hypothenar and thenar muscles and sends septa posteriorly.

### **FASCIAL SPACES OF HAND (SA)**

They are certain potential spaces which become obvious when infected

Dorsal spaces of hand-

- Dorsal subcutaneous space

- Dorsal subaponeurotic space posterior interosseous space

Palmar spaces-

- Midpalmar space

- Thenar space

- Web space

- Pulp space

### **CONTENTS OF 4<sup>TH</sup> COMPARTMENT UNDER EXTENSOR RETINACULUM OF HAND (SA)**

- extensor digitorum

- extensor indicis

- anterior interosseous artery

- posterior interosseous nerve

### **CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME (SA)**

median nerve is compressed due to thickening of synovial sheaths of fingers or fracture dislocation of carpal bones leading to burning pain along three and half fingers and wastage of thenar muscles

### **DUPUYTREN'S CONTRACTURE (SA)**

It is a localized thickening and contracture of palmar aponeurosis which limits the hand functioning and eventually disable the hand

