MUSCLES OF THE APPENDICULAR SKELETON

UPPER LIMB

The muscles that act on the upper limb fall into four groups: those that stabilize the pectoral girdle, those that move the arm, those that move the forearm, and those that move the wrist, hand, and fingers.

Muscles Stabilizing Pectoral Girdle (Marieb / Hoehn – Chapter 10; Pgs. 346 – 349; Figure 1)

MUSCLE:	ORIGIN:	INSERTION:	INNERVATION:	ACTION:
ANTERIOR THORAX:				
Pectoralis minor*	anterior surface of ribs 3 – 5	coracoid process of scapula	pectoral nerves	protracts & depresses scapula
Serratus anterior*	ribs 1 – 8	medial border of scapula	long thoracic nerve	rotates scapula laterally
Subclavius*	rib 1	inferior surface of clavicle		stabilizes / depresses pectoral girdle
POSTERIOR THORAX:				
Trapezius*	occipital bone / spinous processes of $C_7 - T_{12}$	acromion / spine of scapula; lateral third of clavicle	accessory nerve (cranial nerve XI)	stabilizes / elevates / retracts / rotates scapula
Levator scapulae*	transverse processes of $C_1 - C_4$	upper medial border of scapula	dorsal scapular nerve	elevates / adducts scapula
Rhomboids* (major / minor)	spinous processes of $C_7 - T_5$	medial border of scapula	dorsal scapular nerve	adducts / rotates scapula



Posterior

Figure 1: Muscles stabilizing pectoral girdle, posterior and anterior views

MUSCLE:	ORIGIN:	INSERTION:	INNERVATION:	ACTION:
Pectoralis major*	sternum / clavicle / ribs 1 – 6	intertubercular sulcus / greater tubercle of humerus	pectoral nerves	flexes / medially rotates / adducts arm
Deltoid*	acromion / spine of scapula; lateral third of clavicle	deltoid tuberosity of humerus	axillary nerve	abducts arm
Latissimus dorsi*	spinous processes of $T_7 - L_5 / ribs 9 - 12 / iliac crest of os coxa$	intertubercular groove of humerus	thoracodorsal nerve	extends / adducts arm
Subscapularis*	subscapular fossa of scapula	lesser tubercle of humerus	subscapular nerves	rotates arm medially
Supraspinatus*	supraspinous fossa of scapula	greater tubercle of humerus	suprascapular nerve	abducts arm
Infraspinatus*	infraspinous fossa of scapula	greater tubercle of humerus	suprascapular nerve	rotates arm laterally
Teres minor*	lateral border of scapula	greater tubercle of humerus	subscapular nerves	rotates arm laterally
Teres major*	inferior border of scapula	lesser tubercle of humerus	subscapular nerves	rotates medially / adducts arm
Coracobrachialis*	coracoid process of scapula	medial shaft of humerus	musculocutaneous nerve	flexes / adducts arm

Muscles Moving Arm (Marieb / Hoehn – Chapter 10; Pgs. 350 – 352; Figure 2)



Figure 2: Muscles that move the arm, anterior and posterior views (note: subscapularis not shown)

MUSCLE:	ORIGIN:	INSERTION:	INNERVATION:	ACTION:
POSTERIOR MUSCLES:				
Triceps brachii*	below glenoid cavity of scapula / posterior shaft of humerus	olecranon process of ulna	radial nerve	extends forearm
Anconeus	lateral epicondyle of humerus	olecranon process of ulna	radial nerve	extends forearm
ANTERIOR MUSCLES:				
Biceps brachii*	coracoid process / above glenoid cavity of scapula	radial tuberosity of radius	musculocutaneous nerve	flexes forearm
Brachialis*	anterior face of distal humerus	coronoid process of ulna	musculocutaneous nerve	flexes forearm
Brachioradialis*	lateral epicondyle of ulna	styloid process (radius)	radial nerve	flexes forearm

Muscles Moving Forearm (Marieb / Hoehn – Chapter 10; Pgs. 352 – 353; Figure 3)



Figure 3: Muscles that move the forearm, anterior and posterior views

MUSCLE:	ORIGIN:	INSERTION:	INNERVATION:	ACTION:
SUPERFICIAL MUSCLES:				
Pronator teres*	medial epicondyle of humerus; coronoid process of ulna	lateral shaft of radius	median nerve	pronates forearm
Flexor carpi radialis*	medial epicondyle of humerus	metacarpals 2 – 3	median nerve	flexes / abducts wrist
Palmaris longus	medial epicondyle of humerus	palmar aponeurosis	median nerve	tenses skin of palm during hand movement
Flexor carpi ulnaris*	medial epicondyle of humerus; olecranon process of ulna	pisiform / hamate bone of carpals	ulnar nerve	flexes / adducts wrist
Flexor digitorum superficialis*	medial epicondyle of humerus; coronoid process of ulna ; shaft of radius	middle phalanges 2 – 5	median nerve	flexes wrist / fingers
DEEP MUSCLES:				
Flexor digitorum profundus*	coronoid process / anteriomedial surface of ulna	distal phalanges 2 – 5	ulnar / median nerves	flexes wrist / fingers
Flexor pollicis longus	anterior surface of radius	distal phalanx of thumb	median nerve	flexes thumb
Pronator quadratus	distal surface of anterior ulna	distal surface of anterior radius	median nerve	pronates forearm

Muscles Moving Wrist, Hand, and Fingers - Anterior (Marieb / Hoehn – Chapter 10; Pgs. 354 – 356; Figure 4)



Figure 4: Anterior muscles that move the wrist, hand, and fingers

MUSCLE:	ORIGIN:	INSERTION:	INNERVATION:	ACTION:
SUPERFICIAL MUSCLES:				
Extensor carpi radialis* (longus / brevis)	lateral epicondyle of humerus	metacarpals 2 – 3	radial nerve	extends / abducts wrist
Extensor digitorum*	lateral epicondyle of humerus	distal phalanges 2 – 5	radial nerve	extends fingers
Extensor carpi ulnaris*	lateral epicondyle of humerus	metacarpal 5	radial nerve	extends / adducts wrist
DEEP MUSCLES:				
Supinator	lateral epicondyle of humerus; proximal end of ulna	proximal end of radius	radial nerve	supinates forearm
Abductor pollicis longus*	posterior surface of radius and ulna	metacarpal 1 / trapezium of carpals	radial nerve	abducts / extends thumb
Extensor pollicis* (longus / brevis)	dorsal shaft of radius / ulna	proximal / distal ends of phalange 1	radial nerve	extends thumb
Extensor indicis	posterior surface of distal ulna	phalange 2	radial nerve	extends index finger

Muscles Moving the Wrist, Hand, and Fingers - Posterior (Marieb / Hoehn - Chapter 10; Pgs. 356 - 357; Figure 5)



Figure 5: Posterior muscles that move the wrist, hand, and fingers

Out-of-Class Assignment: Intrinsic Muscles of the Hand

Intrinsic muscles are found only in the palm of the hand (none on the dorsal surface). These small, relatively weak muscles control the precise movements of the metacarpals and the fingers, leaving the powerful movements of the fingers (e.g., power grip) to the forearm muscles. The intrinsic muscles of the palm are divided into three groups: those in the *thenar eminence* (ball of thumb), the *hypothenar eminence* (ball of the little finger), and the *midpalm*. The thenar and hypothenar eminence groups are responsible for flexing, abducting, and opposing the respective digits. The midpalm muscles extend the fingers at the interphalangeal joints.

Below is a table listing the individual muscles in each functional group. For each muscle, fill in the appropriate origin, insertion, innervation, and action and then correctly label the muscle on the associated figure(s). This exercise is to introduce you to these muscles; you will not be responsible for these groups of muscles for the practical exam.

MUSCLE:	Origin:	INSERTION:	INNERVATION:	ACTION:
THENAR MUSCLES:				
Abductor pollicis brevis				
Flexor pollicis brevis				
Opponens pollicis				
Adductor pollicis				

MUSCLE:	Origin:	INSERTION:	INNERVATION:	ACTION:
Hypothenar Muscles:				
Abductor digiti minimi				
Flexor digiti minimi brevis				
Opponens digiti minimi				
MIDPALMAR MUSCLES:		•		
Lumbricals				
Palmar interossei				
Dorsal interossei				





Superficial

Deep