

# Upper Limb

### Lecture 6 Anterior compartment of the Forearm

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# **Compartments of the forearm**



### Forearm

Layers:
1. Skin
2. Superficial fascia.
3. Deep fascia,
thickened distal to form flexor retinaculum.



# **Cubital Fossa**

#### Triangular space anterior to the elbow. Borders:

- Base ⇒ Line
- Lat ⇒ Brachioradialis
- Med ⇒Pronator Teres
  Floor: 2Ms
- Brachialis.
- Supinator.
   Roof:
- Fascia.
- Median cubital vein.
- Biceptal aponeurosis.
   Contents:

1-4





# Carpal tunnel

 Carpal bones form a concave arch anterior.
 Flexor retinaculum bridge the concave carpal arch to form the carpal tunnel below.



# Flexor retinaculum

Carpal Tunnel: Act as a subway for the long flexor tendons between the forearm and the hand.

#### **Function:**

- Hold long flexor tendons to direct their pull while in action.
- 6 Structures pass above the FR.
- 10 Structures pass below the FR.



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Muscles of the Anterior compartment of Forearm

Three layers:
1.Superficial 4M
2.Middle 1M.
3.Deep 3M.











### **Deep layer**

### 3 muscles (1-3)

- 1 & 2 are flexors.
- No. 3 pronate forearm.
- 2 flexors pass below flexor retinaculum.
- All by median nerve except tendons to the little and ring fingers of FDP.





# **Arteries**

#### 1. Ulnar artery

- Larger branch of Brach. a.
- Course:
  - Begin: At neck of radius.
  - End: Above Flexor Retinaculum.
- Branches:
  - <u>At cubital fossa</u>, gives
    - Common interosseous A.
      - Ant. interosseous to anterior compt.
      - **Post. Interosseous** to posterior compt.
  - <u>Above flex. Retinaculum</u> divides into:
    - Superficial branch.
    - Deep branch.



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### **Radial artery**

- Smaller branch.
- Course:
  - Pass between,
    - Brachioradialis.

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 Flex. carpi. radialis.

### Radial pulse site:

- At distal ¼ of anterior surface of radius.
- Before FR, Divides into:
  - Superficial branch.
  - Deep branch.



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# Ulnar N.

#### Course:

- Behind medial epicondyle.
- Above FR⇒2 branches
   ⇒ Superf. & Deep.
- Lat. to pisiform.
- Medial to ulnar A.

#### Branches:

- Dorsal  $\Rightarrow$  M1/3 hand.
- Palmar → M1/3 hand.
- Superficial (Ms).
- Deep branch (Ms).

#### Supply:

- Elbow & wrist joints.
- <u>Forearm:</u> 1½ Ms.
- <u>Hand:</u> All small Ms except 5.
- M1/3 Skin of hand, palmar and dorsal.



### **Median nerve**

- Course:
  - Medial inside cubital fossa.
  - Between FDS, FDP.
  - <u>At wrist:</u>
    - Deep to palmaris Longus tendon.
    - Deep to **FR**.
- Branches:
  - Ant. interosseous N.
    - To deep layer of anterior compt.
  - Palmar branch⇒ skin
- Supply:
  - <u>Forearm:</u> All Ms except (1 & 1/2) by ulnar N.
  - Hand: 5 muscles.
  - Elbow, Wrist joints.
  - Skin the of hand.



### **Median Nerve**

