



MED437  
KING SAUD UNIVERSITY



# Arm & Elbow

Lecture 10



Please check our [Editing File](#).

هذا العمل لا يغني عن المصدر الأساسي للمذاكرة

{ وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ }

# Objectives

- Describe the attachments, actions and innervations of: Biceps brachii, Coracobrachialis, Brachialis, Triceps brachii.
- Demonstrate the following features of the elbow joint: Articulating bones, Capsule, Lateral & medial collateral ligaments, Synovial membrane.
- Demonstrate the movements : flexion and extension of the elbow.
- List the main muscles producing the above movements.
- Define the boundaries of the cubital fossa and enumerate its contents.

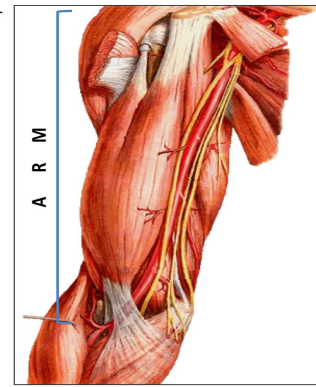
- Text in **BLUE** was found only in the boys' slides
- Text in **PINK** was found only in the girls' slides
- **Text in RED is considered important**
- Text in **GREY** is considered extra notes

# The ARM

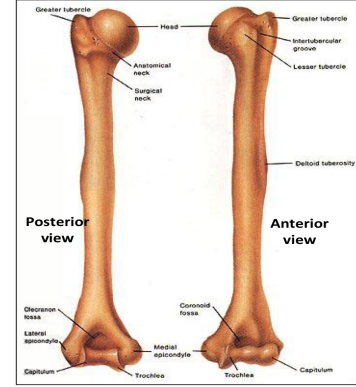
Deep fascia form the **lateral** and **medial intermuscular septa** which divide the distal part of the arm into two compartments:

\*Arm: is the region between the axilla and the elbow.

Shoulder  
A  
R  
M  
Elbow



Arm



Humerus

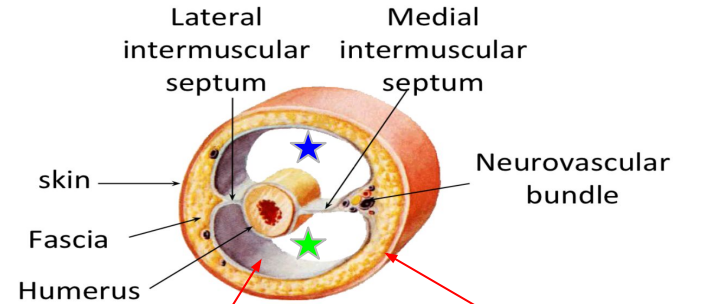
★ Anterior (Flexor) compartment.

★ Posterior (Extensor) compartment.

## Clinical importance:

this process of compartmentalizing is important because an infection in one part cannot spread to the next.

- Skin is only supplied by sensory nerves (no motor nerves).
- The skin does not attach to the muscle directly except in the face.
- The general arrangement of the body is:  
skin → fascia → muscle → bone.



Deep Fascia (does not contain fat)

\*The function of the deep fascia is: protection, compartmenting, and allowing neurovascular bundles to pass.

Superficial Fascia (contains fat)

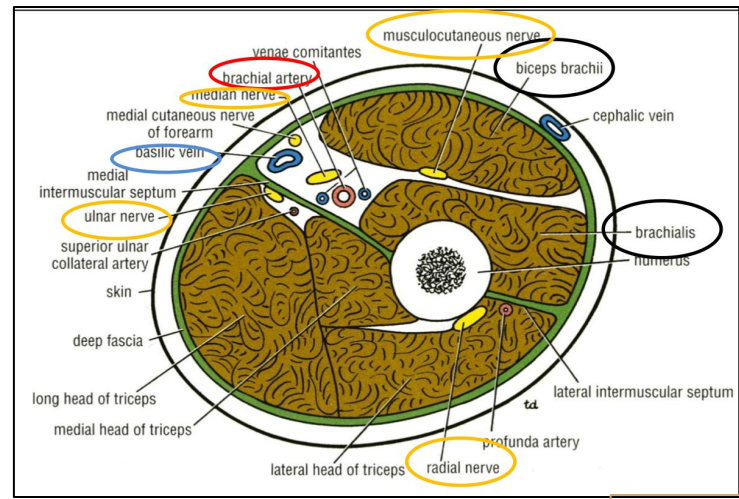
# Anterior Fascial Compartment Content

Muscles: **Biceps brachii**, **Coracobrachialis** and **Brachialis**.

Blood vessels: **Brachial artery** and **Basilic vein**. (the brachial artery is a continuation of the axillary artery)

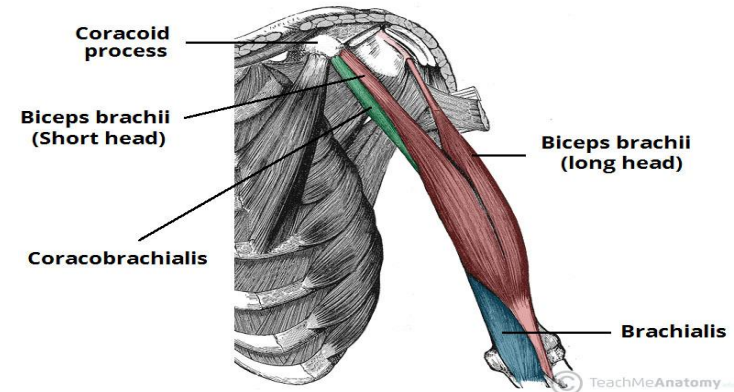
Nerves: **Musculocutaneous**, **Median**, **Radial** and **Ulnar**\*.

- Bi = Two, Ceps = Head (Biceps = Two Headed)
- Brachii = Arm
- **Coraco** = under the **Coracoid** process



\*the radial and ulnar nerves begin in the anterior compartment then pierce the intermuscular septum and enter the posterior compartment.

Team43  
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# Biceps Brachii

## Origin: Two heads:

- **Long Head (Lateral head):** from **supraglenoid tubercle** of scapula (intracapsular\*).
- **Short head (medial head):** from the tip of **coracoid** process of scapula.

The two heads join in the middle of the arm.

## Insertion:

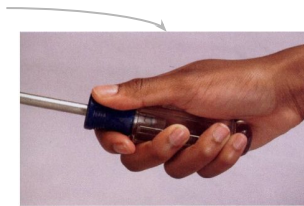
- Into the posterior part of **radial tuberosity**.
- Into the deep fascia of the medial aspect of forearm through bicipital aponeurosis.

Clinical importance: the median cubital vein passes above the bicipital aponeurosis, which makes it a safe and easy access point to draw blood.

Nerve supply: **Musculocutaneous.**

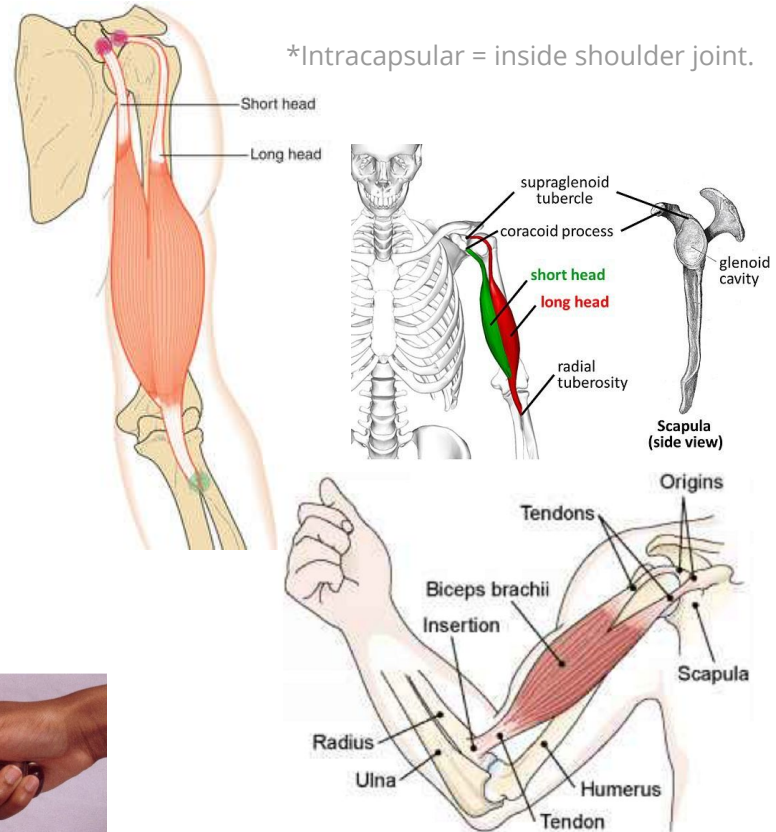
## Action:

- Strong **supinator** of the forearm (used in screwing).
- Powerful flexor of **elbow**.
- Weak flexor of shoulder.



Question: what are the primary and secondary actions of the biceps brachii?

- Strong supinator (primary action)
- Powerful flexor (secondary action)



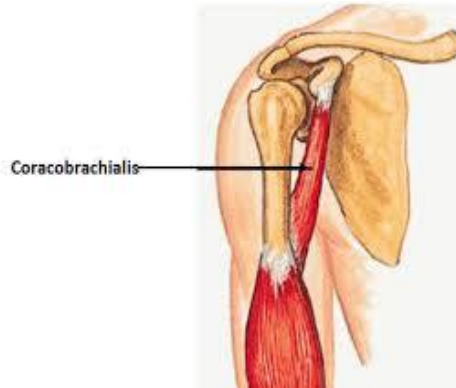
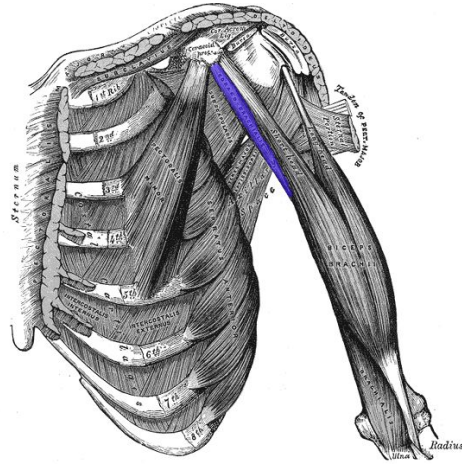
# Coracobrachialis

Origin: Tip of the **coracoid process** of **scapula**. (with short head of biceps brachii).

Insertion: Middle of the **medial side** of the **shaft** of the humerus.

Nerve supply:  
**Musculocutaneous**

Action: **Flexor** and a weak adductor of the arm.



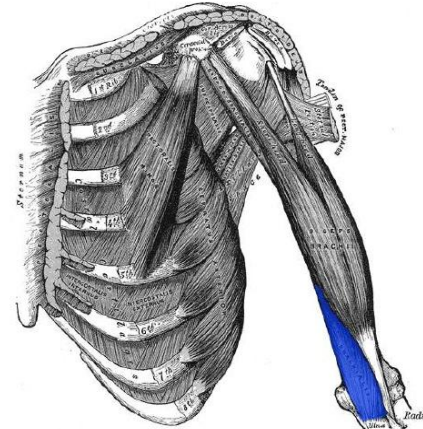
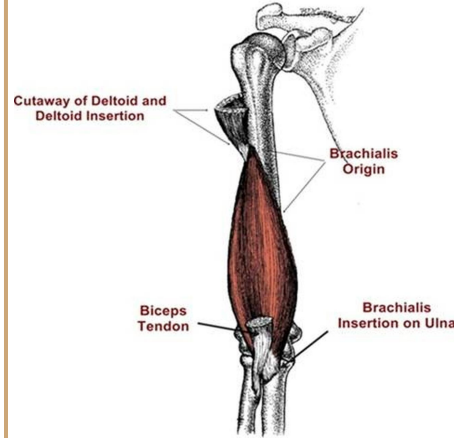
# Brachialis

Origin: Front of the **lower half** of **humerus**.

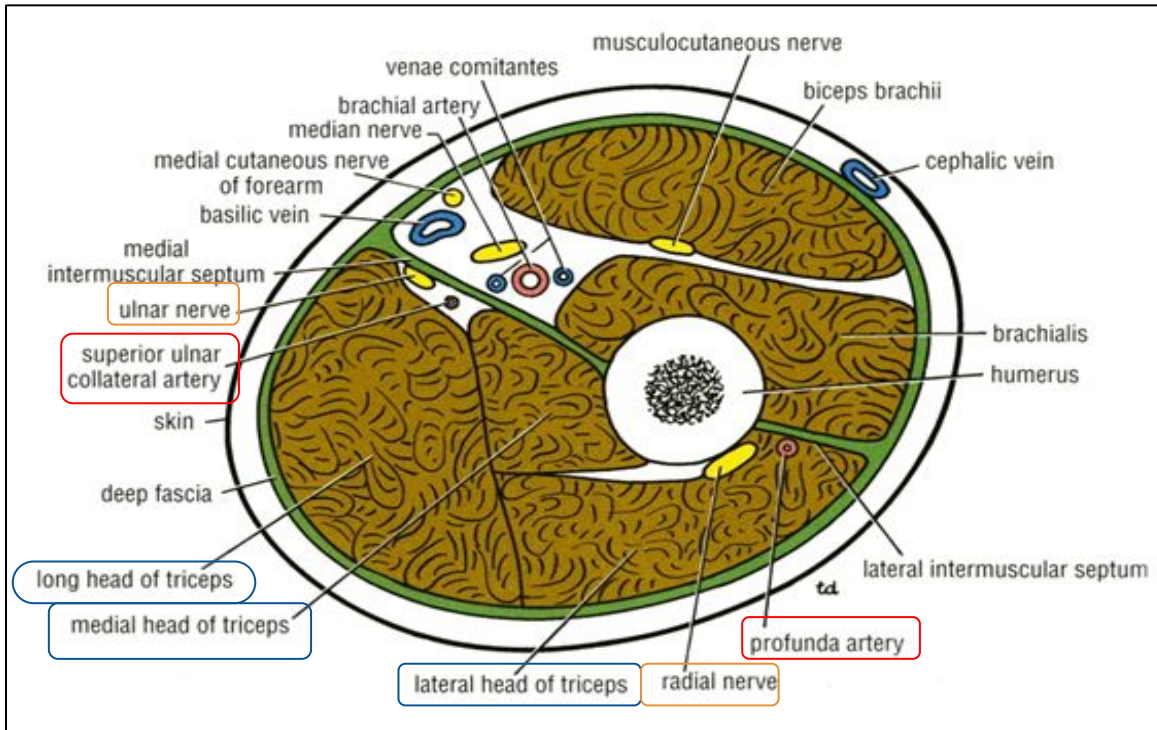
Insertion: Anterior surface of **coronoid process** of **ulna**.

Nerve supply:  
**Double nerve supply** by: the **M**usculocutaneous (**m**edial part) and **R**adial (lateral part).

Action: Strong **flexor** of the forearm.



# Posterior fascial compartment contents



Muscles: **Triceps brachii**

(tri- = three / -ceps = heads)

Vessels: **Profunda** (deep) **brachii** artery and **superior ulnar collateral arteries** (which enters the forearm behind the medial epicondyle)

Nerves: **Radial & Ulnar** (from the **medial cord**). The posterior compartment is only supplied by the radial nerve, the ulnar nerve only passes through it.

# Triceps brachii

Origin: Three heads (tri):

- 1- **Long Head** from **infraglenoid tubercle** of the scapula.
- 2- **Lateral Head** from the upper half of the posterior surface of the **shaft of humerus above the spiral groove**.
- 3- **Medial Head** from the lower half of the posterior surface of the **shaft of humerus below the spiral groove**.

Insertion:

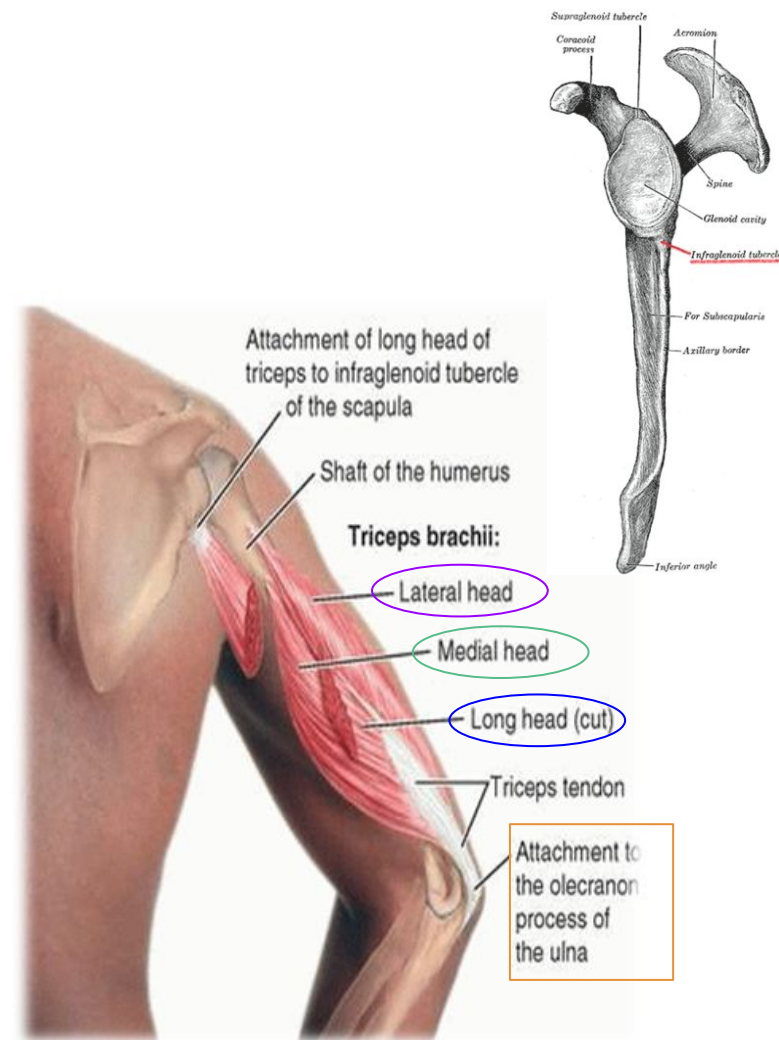
Common tendon inserted into the **upper surface of the olecranon process of ulna**.

Nerve supply:

**Radial nerve** (the main nerve of the posterior compartment of the arm).

Action:

Strong extensor of the elbow joint

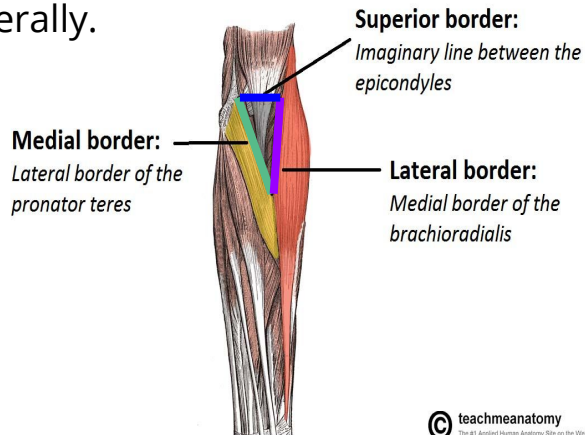




# Cubital Fossa

Is a triangular depression that lies in front of the elbow:

- ❑ **Base:** Line drawn through the two epicondyles of humerus
- ❑ **Laterally:** Brachioradialis
- ❑ **Medially:** Pronator teres
- ❑ **Roof:** Skin, superficial & deep fascia and bicipital aponeurosis
- ❑ **Floor:** Brachialis medially and supinator laterally.

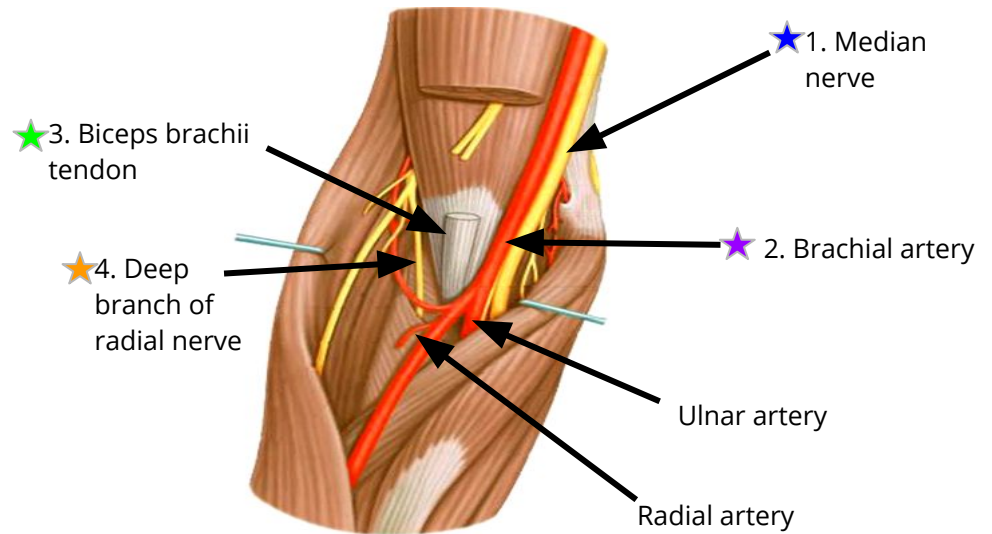


# Contents of Cubital Fossa (Very important)

From medial to lateral:

- ★ 1- Median nerve. (Most medial)
- ★ 2- Brachial artery.
  - Radial Artery
  - Ulnar Artery
- ★ 3- Biceps brachii tendon.
- ★ 4- Deep branch of radial nerve. (Most lateral)

Possible Question: Which of the following is from the contents of the cubital fossa?



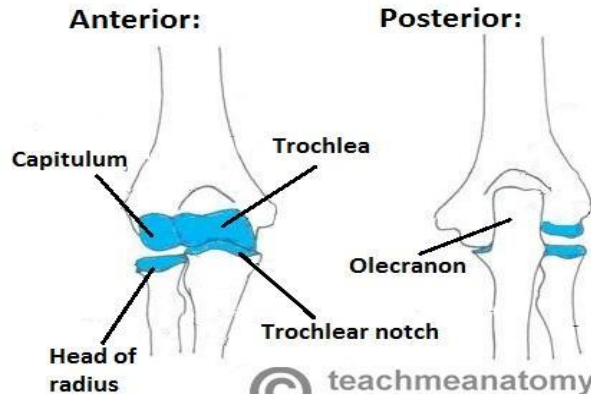
# Elbow Joint

- ❑ **Joint Type:** Uniaxial, Synovial Hinge joint
- ❑ The articular surfaces are covered with **articular (hyaline) cartilage**.

## Articulation:

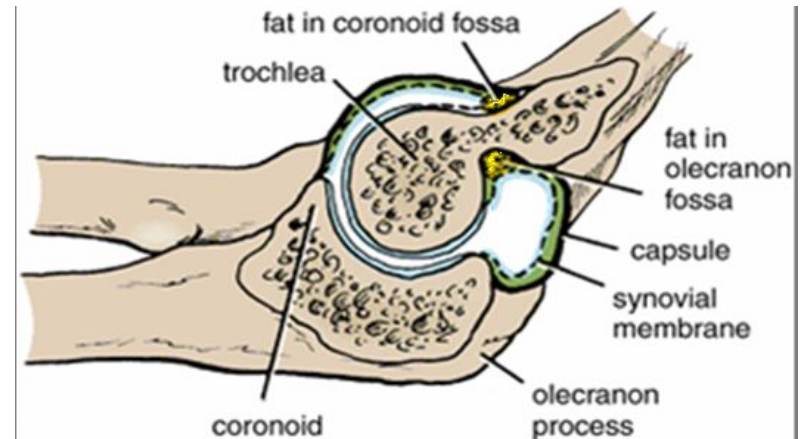
Above: Trochlea and capitulum of the humerus

Below: Trochlear notch of ulna and the head of radius



# Synovial Membrane (inner side of capsule)

- ❑ This lines the inner surface of the capsule and covers fatty pads in the floors of the coronoid, radial, and olecranon fossa.
- ❑ **Is continuous below with synovial membrane of the superior radioulnar joint.**



Synovial membrane produces fluid called Synovial fluid

# Capsule

(covers articular surface)

Anteriorly: attached

Posteriorly: attached

Above

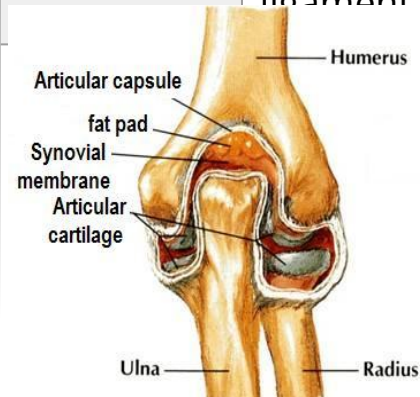
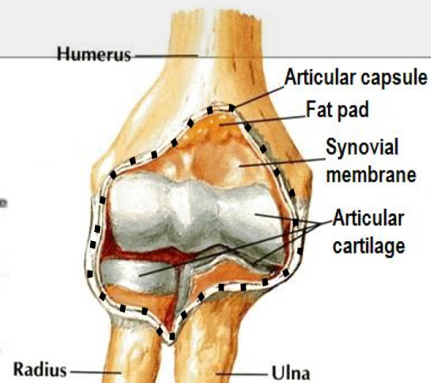
To the humerus along the upper margins of the coronoid and radial fossa and to the front of the medial and lateral epicondyles.

To the margins of the olecranon fossa of the humerus.

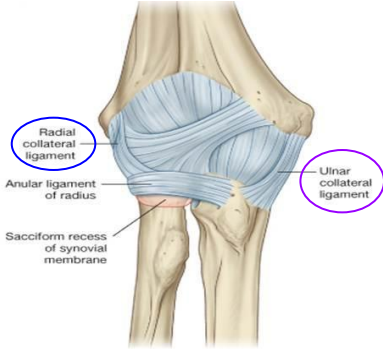
Below

To the margin of the coronoid process of the ulna and to the annular ligament, which surrounds the head of the radius.

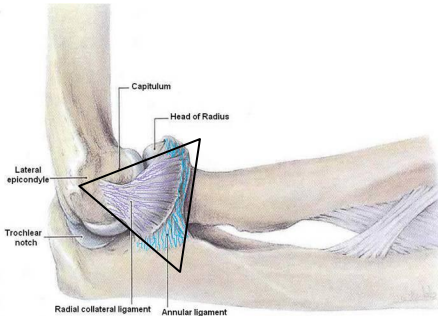
To the upper margin and sides of the olecranon process of the ulna and to the annular ligament



# Ligaments



\*Annular ligament: Circular ligament around the radius



## Lateral (radial collateral) ligament:

**Shape:**

**Triangular** ▲

**Apex:**

Attached to the **lateral epicondyle**

of humerus

**Base:**

Attached to the upper margin of **annular ligament\***.

## Medial (ulnar collateral) ligament:

**- Anterior strong cord-like band:**

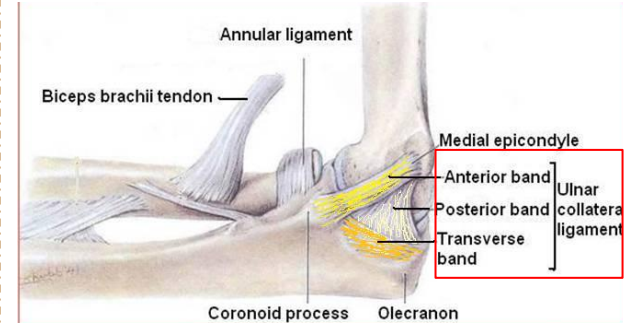
Between medial epicondyle and the coronoid process of ulna

**- Posterior weaker fan-like band:**

Between medial epicondyle and the olecranon process of ulna.

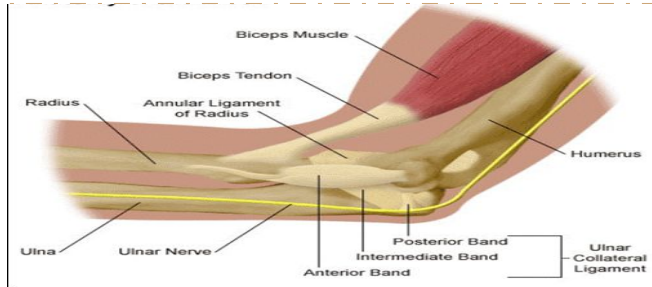
**- Transverse band:**

Passes between the anterior and posterior bands.



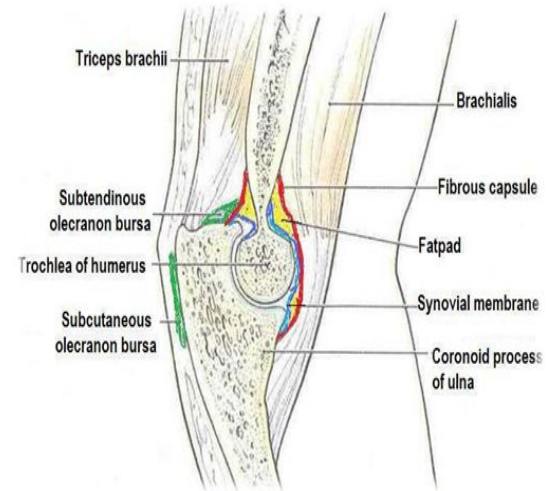
# Relations of Elbow Joint

Anterior	1-Brachialis. 2-tendons of biceps. 3-Median nerve. 4- <b>Brachial artery</b> .
Posterior	1-Triceps muscle. 2-small bursa intervening.
Lateral	1- Common extensor tendon (attached to lateral epicondyles of the humerus). 2- Supinator.
Medial	<b>Ulnar nerve</b> : (between the medial epicondyle and the skin) -Considered the <b>largest unprotected nerve</b> by muscle or bone. هذا هو سبب شعورنا بألم (كهرباء) عند ضرب الكوع



**Bursae** around the elbow joint:  
(a sac containing synovial fluid which protects the joint)

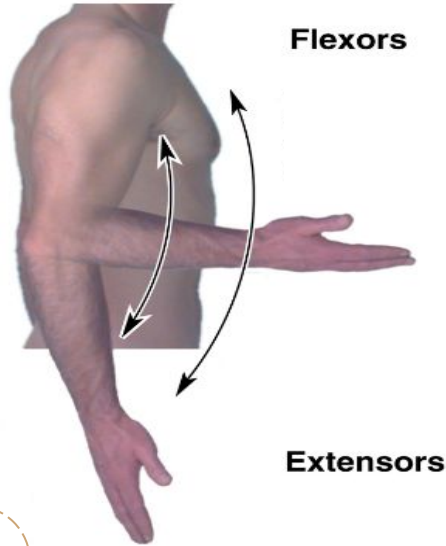
- 1- **Subcutaneous** (under the skin) olecranon bursa.
- 2- **Subtendinous** (under the tendon) olecranon bursa.



# Movements of Elbow Joint (Very Important)

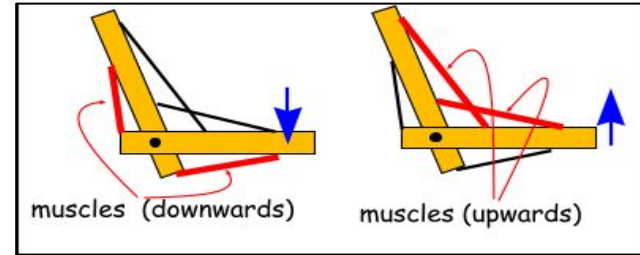
## Flexion:

Is limited by the **anterior surfaces** of the forearm and arm coming into contact.



## Extension:

Is limited by the **tension of anterior ligament** and the brachialis muscle.



The joint is supplied by branches from the nerves:

1. Median Nerve.
2. Ulnar Nerve.
3. Musculocutaneous Nerve.
4. Radial Nerve.

All the nerves in the arm supply the elbow joint.

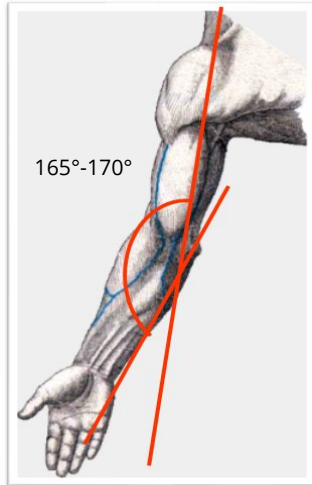
# Carrying Angle

## Angle

Between the long axis of the extended forearm and the long axis of the arm.

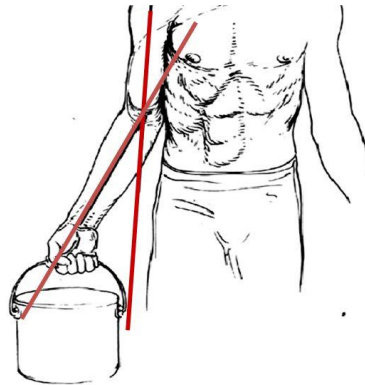
## Opens

Laterally.



## The Degree (About)

170° in male  
167° in females.



## Disappears

When the elbow joint is **flexed**.

## Permits

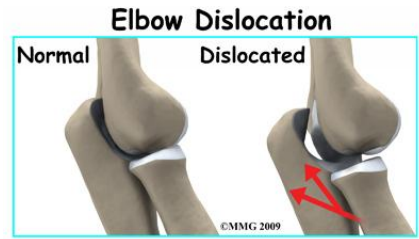
The forearms to clear the hips in swinging movements during walking, and is important when **carrying objects**.

# Articulations and Applied Anatomy

The elbow joint is stable because of

Wrench-shaped articular surface of the olecranon and the pulley-shaped trochlea of humerus

Strong medial and lateral ligaments.



Elbow dislocations are common and most are posterior dislocations:

- **Posterior dislocation** usually follows falling on the outstretched hand.
- **Posterior dislocations** of the joint are **common in children** because the parts of the bones that stabilize the joint are incompletely developed.

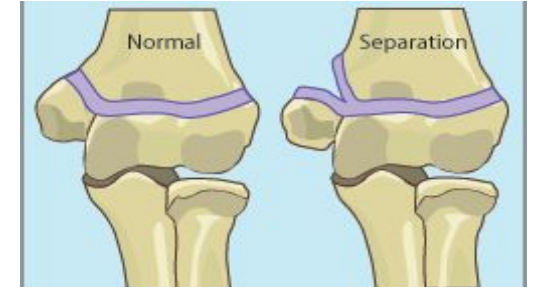




# Elbow Joint

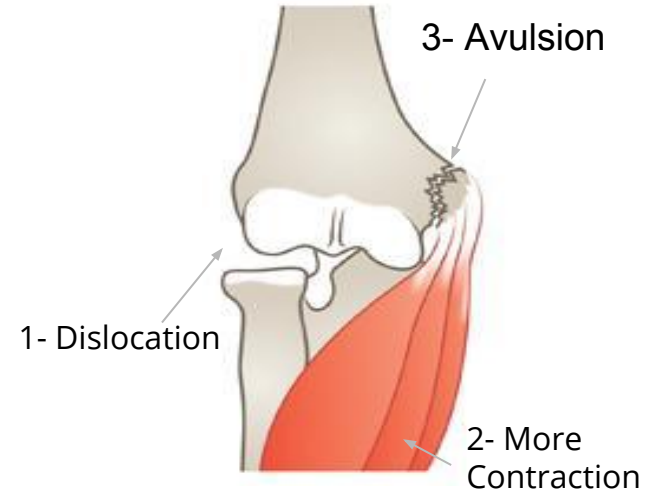
— **Avulsion** (نزع/تمزيق) **of the epiphysis** of the medial epicondyle, is also common in **childhood** because the medial ligament is much stronger than the bond of union between the epiphysis and the diaphysis.

(بمعنى انه منطقة ال epiphysis of the medial epicondyle عند الأطفال أكثر عرضة للخلع لأن الأربطة الي في ال medial أقوى من التي بين epiphysis and the diaphysis)



They are usually a result from an avulsion (pull off) injury caused by a **valgus stress** at the elbow and contraction of the **flexor muscles** as in:

- Fall on an outstretched hand with the elbow in full extension.
- Posterior elbow dislocation (**common in children**).
- Direct blow.



# MCQ:

Q1 : The brachialis muscle lies in which fascial compartment?

- A) Posterior B) Anterior

Q2: What is the origin of the long head of the biceps brachii?

- A) Coracoid process B) Supraglenoid tubercle.  
C) Infraglenoid tubercle D) Medial border of scapula

Q3: In males what is the degree of the carrying angle?

- A) 170 B) 180 C) 167 D) 200

Q4: Which of the following is in the medial boundary of the cubital fossa?

- A) Pronator teres B) Brachioradialis C) Brachialis  
D) Supinator

Q5: What type of nerve supplies the biceps brachii?

- A) Radial B) Median  
C) Ulnar D) Musculocutaneous

Q6: What nerve supplies the lateral part of brachialis?

- A) Median B) Ulnar C) Axillary D) Radial

Q7: What is the shape of the lateral ligaments of the elbow?

- A) Squared B) Triangular

Q8: The lateral epicondyle of the humerus is attached to which part of the elbow ligaments?

- A) Apex B) Base

Answers:

1)B

2)B

3)A

4)A

5)D

6)D

7)B

8)A

# Team Members

Lamia Abdullah Alkuwaiz (Team Leader)

Rawan Mohammad Alharbi

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Afnan Abdulaziz Almustafa  
Ahad Algrain  
Alanoud Almansour  
Albandari Alshaye  
AlFhadah abdullah alsaleem  
Arwa Alzahrani  
Dana Abdulaziz Alrasheed  
Dimah Khalid Alaraifi  
Ghada Alhaidari  
Ghada Almuhanha  
Ghaida Alsanad  
Hadeel Khalid Awartani  
Haifa Alessa  
Khulood Alwehabi  
Layan Hassan Alwatban  
Lojain Azizalrahman  
Lujain Tariq AlZaid

Maha Barakah  
Majd Khalid AlBarrak  
Norah Alharbi  
Nouf Alotaibi  
Noura Mohammed Alothaim  
Rahaf Turki Alshammari  
Reham Alhalabi  
Rinad Musaed Alghoraiby  
Sara Alsultan  
Shahad Alzahrani  
Wafa Alotaibi  
Wejdan Fahad Albadrani  
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Saad Aloqile  
Saleh Almoaiqel  
Abdulaziz Alabdulkareem  
Abdullah Almeaither  
Yazeed Aldossari  
Muath Alhumood  
Abdulrahman Almotairi  
  
Abdulelah Aldossari  
Abdulrahman Alduhayyim  
Hamdan Aldossari  
Abdullah Alqarni  
Mohammed Alomar  
Abdulrahman Aldawood  
Saud Alghufaily  
Hassan Aloraini  
Khalid Almutairi

Abdulmajeed Alwardi  
Abdulrahman Alageel  
Rayyan Almousa  
Sultan Alfuhaid  
Ali Alammari  
Fahad Alshughaihthy  
Fayez Ghyiath Aldarsouni  
Mohammed Alquwayfili

Abduljabbar Al-yamani  
Sultan Al-nasser  
Majed Aljohani  
Zeyad Al-khenaizan  
Mohammed Nouri  
Abdulaziz Al-drgam  
Fahad Aldhowaihy  
Omar alyabis