

# MAJOR ARTERIES OF THE BODY

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## **OBJECTIVES**

#### At the end of the lecture, the student should be able to:

- Define the word 'artery' and understand the general principles of the arterial system.
- Define arterial anastomosis and describe its significance.
- Define end arteries and give examples.
- Describe the aorta and its divisions & list the branches from each part.
- List major arteries and their distribution in the head & neck, thorax, abdomen and upper & lower extremities.
- List main pulse points.

#### "ARTERIES"

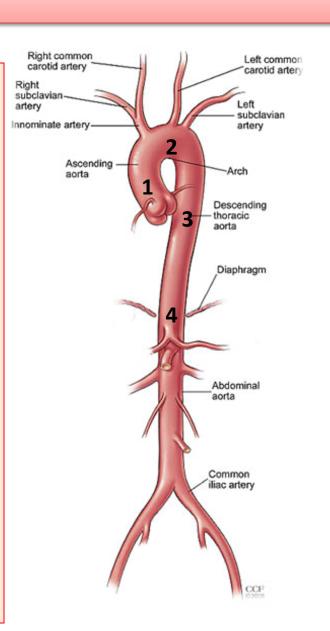
- Arteries carry blood from the heart to the body.
- All arteries, carry oxygenated blood,
   EXCEPT the PULMONARY ARTERY which carry deoxygenated blood to the lungs.

#### GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ARTERIES

- The flow of blood depends on the pumping action of the heart.
- Arteries have ELASTIC WALL containing NO VALVES.
- The branches of arteries supplying adjacent areas normally ANASTOMOSE with one another freely providing backup routes for blood to flow if one artery is blocked, e.g. arteries of limbs.
- The arteries whose terminal branches do not anastomose with branches of adjacent arteries are called "END ARTERIES". End arteries are of two types:
  - Anatomic (True) End Artery: When NO anastomosis exists, e.g. artery of the retina.
  - Functional End Artery: When an anastomosis exists but is incapable of providing a sufficient supply of blood, e.g. splenic artery, renal artery.

### **AORTA**

- The largest artery in the body
- Carries oxygenated blood to all parts of the body
- Is divided into 4 parts:
  - 1. Ascending aorta
  - 2. Arch of aorta
  - 3. Descending thoracic aorta
  - 4. Abdominal aorta

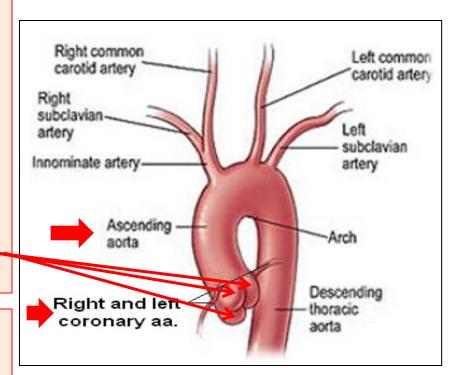


### **ASCENDING AORTA**

- Originates from left ventricle.
- Continues as the arch of aorta
- Has three dilatations at its base, called aortic sinuses.

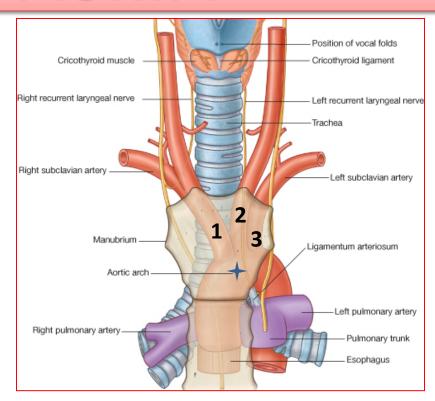
#### Branches:

Right & Left coronary arteries (supplying heart), arise from aortic sinuses



## **ARCH OF AORTA**

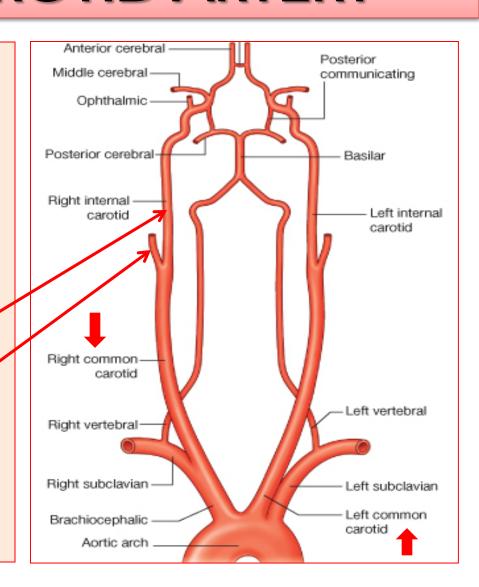
- Continuation of the ascending aorta.
- Leads to descending aorta.
- Located behind the lower part of manubrium sterni and on the left side of trachea.



- Branches:
  - 1. Brachiocephalic trunk.
  - 2. Left common carotid artery.
  - 3. Left subclavian artery.

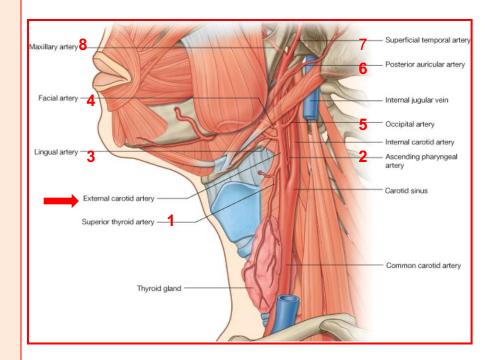
### **COMMON CAROTID ARTERY**

- Origin:
  - LEFT from aortic arch.
  - ➤ RIGHT from brachiocephalic trunk.
- Each common carotid divides into two branches.
  - > Internal carotid
  - > External carotid



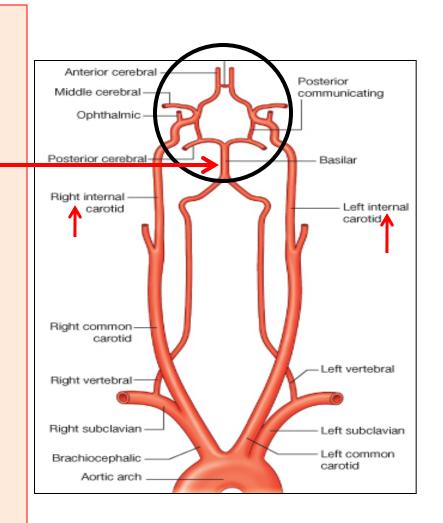
### **EXTERNAL CAROTID ARTERY**

- It divides behind neck of mandible into: Superficial temporal & maxillary arteries
- It supplies:
  - Scalp: Superficial temporal, occipital, & posterior auricular arteries
  - Face: Facial artery
  - Maxilla & mandible: Maxillary artery
  - Tongue: Lingual artery
  - Pharynx: ascending pharyngeal artery
  - Thyroid gland: Superior thyroid artery



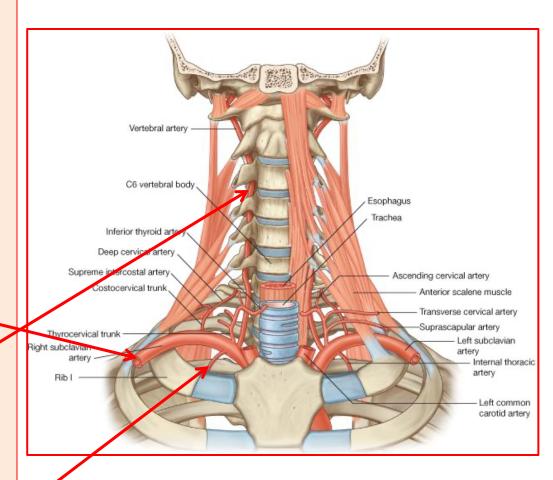
#### INTERNAL CAROTID ARTERY

- Has NO branches in the neck
- Enters the cranial cavity, joins the basilar artery (formed by the union of two vertebral arteries) and forms 'arterial circle of Willis' to supply brain.
- In addition, it supplies
  - **≻**Nose
  - **≻**Scalp
  - Eye

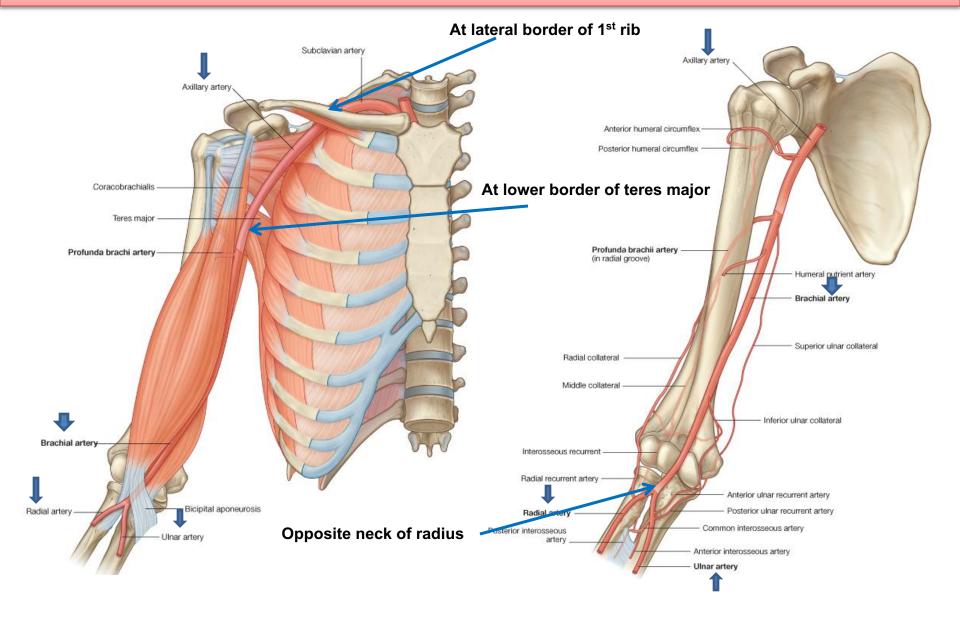


#### SUBCLAVIAN ARTERY

- Origin:
  - LEFT: from arch of aorta
  - RIGHT: from brachiocephalic trunk
- It continues, at lateral border of first rib, as axillary artery: artery of upper limb
- Main branches:
  - Vertebral artery: supplies brain & spinal cord
  - Internal thoracic artery: supplies thoracic wall



# **ARTERIES OF UPPER LIMB**

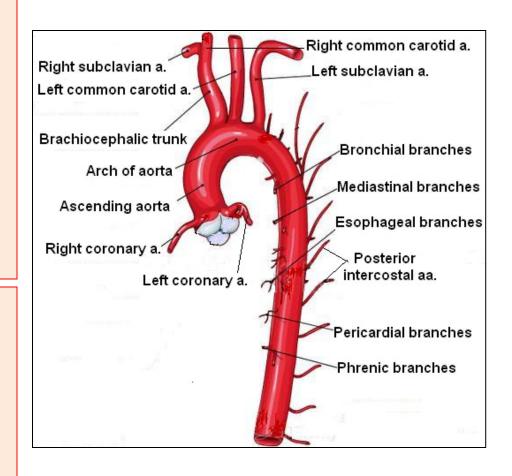


#### DESCENDING THORACIC AORTA

- It is the continuation of aortic arch
- At the level of the 12<sup>th</sup>
   thoracic vertebra, it
   passes through the
   diaphragm and continues
   as the abdominal aorta

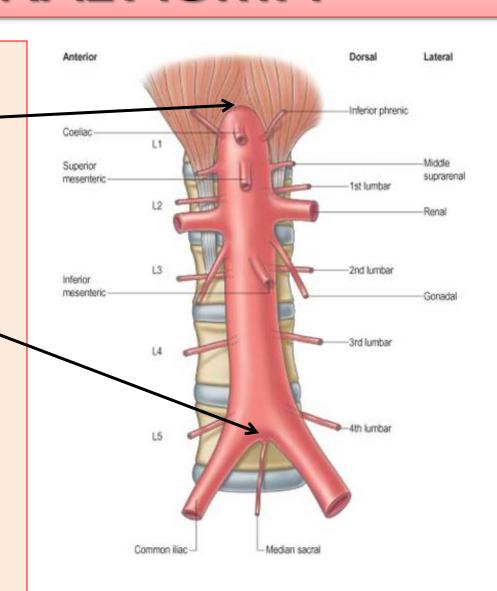
#### Branches:

- Pericardial
- > Esophageal
- Bronchial
- Posterior intercostal



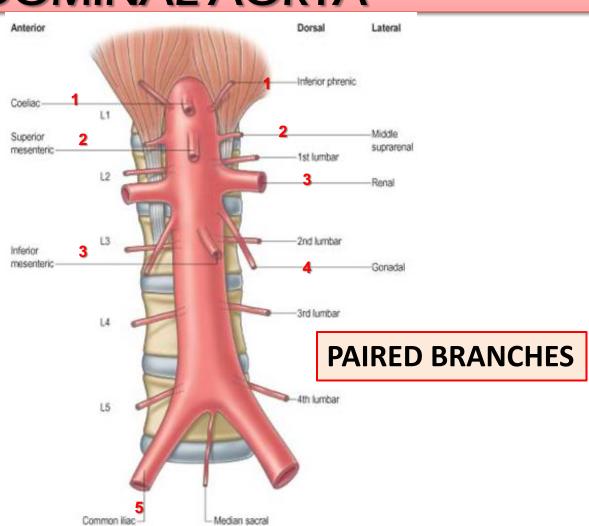
## ABDOMINAL AORTA

- It enters the abdomen through the aortic opening of diaphragm.
- At the level of lower border of L4, it divides into two common Iliac arteries.
- Branches: divided into two groups:
  - Single branches
  - Paired branches



# MAIN BRANCHES OF ABDOMINAL AORTA

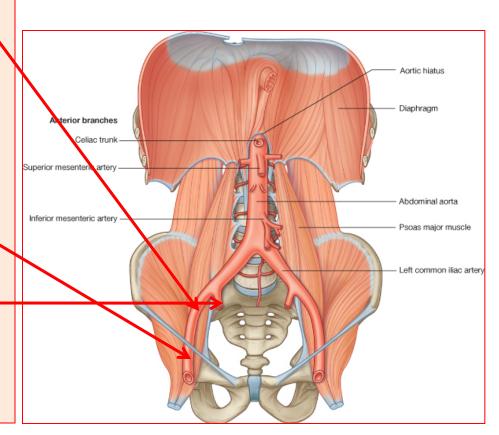
SINGLE BRANCHES
SUPPLYING
GASTROINTESTINAL
TRACT



#### BRANCHES OF COMMON ILIAC ARTERY

EXTERNAL ILIAC ARTERY:
 continues (at midpoint of
 inguinal ligament) as
 femoral artery the main
 supply for lower limb

 INTERNAL ILIAC ARTERY: supplies pelvis



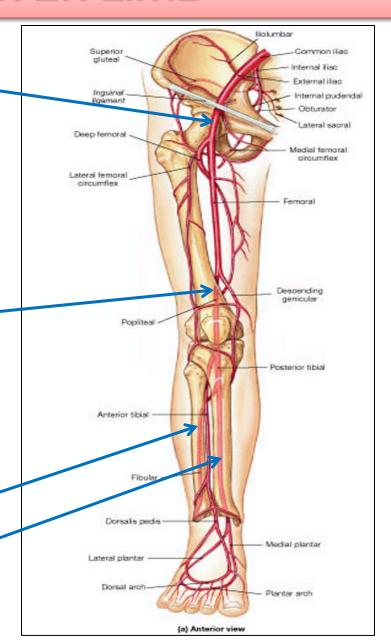
#### **ARTERIES OF LOWER LIMB**

#### Femoral Artery

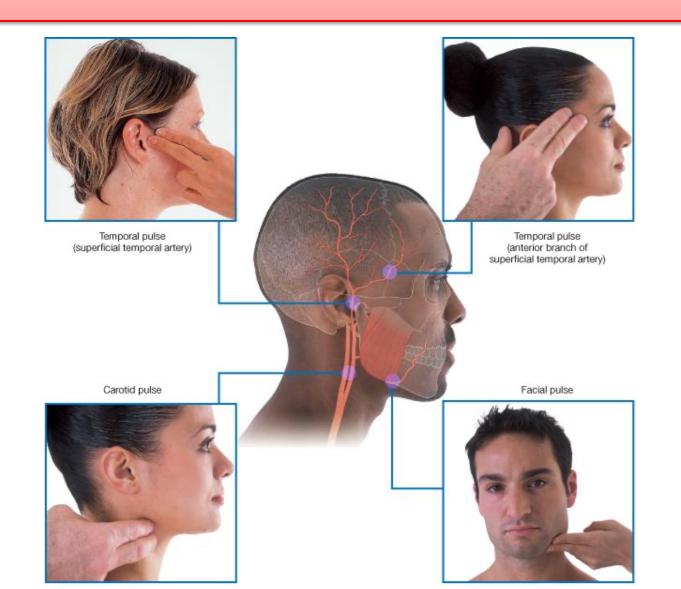
- Is the main arterial supply to lower limb
- ➤ Is the continuation of external iliac artery **behind the midpoint of the inguinal ligament**
- Passes through adductor hiatus and continues as:

#### Popliteal Artery

- Deeply placed in the popliteal fossa.
- Divides, at lower end of popliteal fossa into:
  - 1-Anterior Tibial Artery2-Posterior Tibial Artery



## PULSE POINTS IN HEAD & NECK



# PULSE POINTS IN UPPER LIMB



# PULSE POINTS IN LOWER LIMB



# THANK YOU