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COURSE: GROSS ANATOMY

LEVEL: 200 LEVEL

ASSIGNMENT

1)Vascular control of tuberculosis immunity

Angiogenesis, vascular leakiness, and haemostasis are seen around sites of active TB infection called granulomas. We have shown that stopping the growth of blood vessels towards granulomas (anti-angiogenic therapy), inhibition of vascular leakiness, or inhibiting the activation of platelets also reduce mycobacterial growth. Current projects at include determining the mechanism(s) of action of these therapies using a range of experimental models, and validating these therapies into mammalian models of TB infection.

2)The adductor canal (Hunter’s canal, subsartorial canal) is a narrow conical tunnel located in the thigh.

It is approximately 15cm long, extending from the apex of the femoral triangle to the adductor hiatus of the adductor magnus. The canal serves as a passageway from structures moving between the anterior thigh and posterior leg.

Borders

The adductor canal is bordered by muscular structures:

Anteromedial: Sartorius.

Lateral: Vastus medialis.

Posterior: Adductor longus and adductor magnus.

The adductor canal runs from the apex of the femoral triangle to the adductor hiatus – a gap between the adductor and hamstring attachments of the adductor magnus musle

Contents

The adductor canal serves as a passageway for structures moving between the anterior thigh and posterior leg.

It transmits the femoral artery, femoral vein (posterior to the artery), nerve to the vastus medialis and the saphenous nerve – the largest cutaneous branch of the femoral nerve.

As the femoral artery and vein exit the canal, they are called the popliteal artery and vein respectively.

Clinical Relevance - Adductor Canal Block

In the adductor canal block, local anaesthetic is administered in the adductor canal to block the saphenous nerve in isolation, or together with the nerve to the vastus medialis.

The block can be used to provide sensory anaesthesia for procedures involving the distal thigh and femur, knee and lower leg on the medial side. The sartorius and femoral artery are used as anatomical landmarks to locate the saphenous nerve.

Clinical Relevance - Adductor Canal Compression Syndrome

Adductor canal compression syndrome describes entrapment of the neurovascular bundle within the adductor canal. A rare condition, it is usually caused by hypertrophy of adjacent muscles such as vastus medialis.

It is most common in young males, who may present with claudication symptoms due to femoral artery occlusion (more common) or neurological symptoms due to entrapment of the saphenous nerve.

3)The extraocular muscles are located within the orbit, but are extrinsic and separate from the eyeball itself. They act to control the movements of the eyeball and the superior eyelid.

There are seven extraocular muscles – the levator palpebrae superioris, superior rectus, inferior rectus, medial rectus, lateral rectus, inferior oblique and superior oblique. Functionally, they can be divided into two groups:

Responsible for eye movement – Recti and oblique muscles.

Responsible for superior eyelid movement – Levator palpebrae superioris.

Levator Palpebrae Superioris

The levator palpebrae superioris (LPS) is the only muscle involved in raising the superior eyelid. A small portion of this muscle contains a collection of smooth muscle fibres – known as the superior tarsal muscle. In contrast to the LPS, the superior tarsal muscle is innervated by the sympathetic nervous system.

Attachments: Originates from the lesser wing of the sphenoid bone, immediately above the optic foramen. It attaches to the superior tarsal plate of the upper eyelid (a thick plate of connective tissue).

Actions: Elevates the upper eyelid.

Innervation: The levator palpebrae superioris is innervated by the oculomotor nerve (CN III). The superior tarsal muscle (located within the LPS) is innervated by the sympathetic nervous system

Muscles of Eye Movement

There are six muscles involved in the control of the eyeball itself. They can be divided into two groups; the four recti muscles, and the two oblique muscles.

Recti Muscles

There are four recti muscles; superior rectus, inferior rectus, medial rectus and lateral rectus.

These muscles characteristically originate from the common tendinous ring. This is a ring of fibrous tissue, which surrounds the optic canal at the back of the orbit. From their origin, the muscles pass anteriorly to attach to the sclera of the eyeball.

The name recti is derived from the latin for ‘straight’ – this represents the fact that the recti muscles have a direct path from origin to attachment. This is in contrast with the oblique eye muscles, which have an angular approach to the eyeball.

Superior Rectus

Attachments: Originates from the superior part of the common tendinous ring, and attaches to the superior and anterior aspect of the sclera.

Actions: Main movement is elevation. Also contributes to adduction and medial rotation of the eyeball.

Innervation: Oculomotor nerve (CN III).

Inferior Rectus

Attachments: Originates from the inferior part of the common tendinous ring, and attaches to the inferior and anterior aspect of the sclera.

Actions: Main movement is depression. Also contributes to adduction and lateral rotation of the eyeball.

Innervation: Oculomotor nerve (CN III).

Medial Rectus

Attachments: Originates from the medial part of the common tendinous ring, and attaches to the anteromedial aspect of the sclera.

Actions: Adducts the eyeball.

Innervation: Oculomotor nerve (CN III).

Lateral Rectus

Attachments: Originates from the lateral part of the common tendinous ring, and attaches to the anterolateral aspect of the sclera.

Actions: Abducts the eyeball.

Innervation: Abducens nerve (CN VI).

Oblique Muscles

There are two oblique muscles – the superior and inferior obliques. Unlike the recti group of muscles, they do not originate from the common tendinous ring.

From their origin, the oblique muscles take an angular approach to the eyeball (in contrast to the straight approach of the recti muscles). They attach to the posterior surface of the sclera.

Superior Oblique

Attachments: Originates from the body of the sphenoid bone. Its tendon passes through a trochlear, and then attaches to the sclera of the eye, posterior to the superior rectus.

Actions: Depresses, abducts and medially rotates the eyeball.

Innervation: Trochlear nerve (CN IV).

Inferior Oblique

Attachments: Originates from the anterior aspect of the orbital floor. Attaches to the sclera of the eye, posterior to the lateral rectus

Actions: Elevates, abducts and laterally rotates the eyeball.

Innervation: Oculomotor nerve

Clinical Relevance: Cranial Nerve Palsies

The extraocular muscles are innervated by three cranial nerves. Damage to one of the cranial nerves will cause paralysis of its respective muscles. This will alter the resting gaze of the affected eye. Thus, a lesion of each cranial nerve has its own characteristic appearance:

Oculomotor nerve (CN III) – A lesion of the oculomotor nerve affects most of the extraocular muscles. The affected eye is displaced laterally by the lateral rectus and inferiorly by the superior oblique. The eye adopts a position known as ‘down and out’.

Trochlear nerve (CN IV) – A lesion of CN IV will paralyse the superior oblique muscle. There is no obvious affect of the resting orientation of the eyeball. However, the patient will complain of diplopia (double vision), and may develop a head tilt away from the site of the lesion.

Abducens nerve (CN VI) – A lesion of CN VI will paralyse the lateral rectus muscle. The affected eye will adducted by the resting tone of the medial rectus.

(A good tool to remember the innervation of the extraocular muscles is LR6 – SO4 – R3)