



Case presentation

# High origin of radial artery from the axillary artery: Case report



Merve Özgür <sup>a,\*</sup>, Murat Gölpınar <sup>b</sup>, Yasin Arifoğlu <sup>c</sup>,  
Safiye Çavdar <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Anatomy, School of Medicine, Koç University, Sarıyer, Istanbul, Turkey

<sup>b</sup> Department of Anatomy, School of Medicine, 19 Mayıs University, Samsun, Turkey

<sup>c</sup> Department of Anatomy, School of Medicine, Bezmialem University, Istanbul, Turkey

Received 24 August 2016; accepted 11 January 2017

Available online 9 February 2017

## KEYWORDS

Radial artery;  
Variation;  
Anterior interosseous  
nerve compression

**Abstract** The axillary artery is the main artery supplying the shoulder region and is clinically important. In the present case we report an arterial variation of the left upper extremity of a 65 year-old female cadaver. The radial artery arose from the axillary artery 2.5 cm below the anterior humeral circumflex artery and above the teres major muscle. It first coursed along the medial aspect of the arm, then it passed laterally between the biceps brachii and the brachialis muscle. Reaching the upper part of the elbow, it coursed medial to the brachioradialis muscle. It did not give off any branches in either the arm or in the forearm regions. It contributed to the formation of the superficial palmar arch in the palm of the hand. Further, the brachial artery entered the cubital fossa and divided into ulnar and common interosseous arteries. The right upper extremity had a normal arterial branching pattern.

Being aware of the variations of the axillary artery may help to prevent diagnostic errors and avoid complications during the surgery of the region.

© 2017 Association for Research into Arterial Structure and Physiology. Published by Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

## Introduction

The axillary artery is the continuation of the subclavian artery. The axillary artery lies between the lateral border of the 1st rib and lower border of the teres major muscle.

Throughout its course in the axillary region, it is in close relation with the cords and branches of brachial plexus. The artery is customarily divided into three parts according to its relation with the pectoralis minor muscle. Conveniently, each segment gives off a corresponding number of branches. The axillary artery may bifurcate into 2 branches and this is referred to as the “doubling of brachial artery”.<sup>1</sup> The axillary artery at the distal border of the teres major muscle continues as the brachial artery. The brachial artery ends about a centimeter distal to the elbow joint, at the level of the neck of the radius. The brachial artery normally

\* Corresponding author. Koç University, School of Medicine, Department of Anatomy, 34450, Sarıyer, Istanbul, Turkey. Fax: +90 216 338 10 73.

E-mail address: [merveozgur@ku.edu.tr](mailto:merveozgur@ku.edu.tr) (M. Özgür).



**Figure 1** a, b. Cadaveric appearance of the high origin of radial artery from the axillary artery. Abbreviations. 1: Musculo-cutaneous nerve 2: Axillary nerve 3: Radial artery 4: Median nerve 5: Anterior circumflex humeral artery 6: Biceps brachii muscle 7: Long head of the biceps brachii muscle 8: Teres major 9: Medial cutaneous nerve of arm/forearm.

bifurcates into the radial and ulnar arteries at the elbow region. Anatomical variations of this artery occur in almost 20% of the cases and are commonly found in routine dissections or in clinical practice.<sup>2,3</sup> Six different variations have been identified so far, with the brachial artery following a superficial course (superficial brachial artery) being the most common, whereas the existence of a doubled brachial artery, or a high origin of the radial artery (brachioradial artery) is rarer.<sup>1,4</sup> The brachial artery may be absent in rare cases (accessory brachial artery),<sup>5</sup> may be divided at a higher level,<sup>6</sup> it may trifurcate<sup>7,8</sup> or there may be accessory branches that may or may not bifurcate into radial and ulnar arteries.<sup>9</sup> Being aware of vascular variations is important for both surgeons and radiologists, and may prevent diagnostic errors.<sup>10</sup>

### Case report

The region of the right arm of a 65 year-old female cadaver was exposed during routine dissection. The

axillary artery and its branches were identified. The first two parts of the axillary artery and its branches were normal. The third part of the axillary artery gave rise to the radial artery 2.5 cm below the origin of the anterior humeral circumflex artery and above the teres major (Fig. 1a and b). The radial artery ran along the medial aspect of the arm (Fig. 2a and b) and continued laterally between the biceps brachii and the brachialis muscles (Fig. 1a, b). At the elbow, the radial artery coursed along the medial aspect of the brachioradialis muscle. It gave off no branches either in the arm or in the forearm region. The remaining axillary artery followed its normal anatomical course as the brachial artery to the cubital fossa where it divided into ulnar and common interosseous arteries. The right upper extremity had a normal arterial branching pattern. The radial artery contributed to the formation of the superficial palmar arch in the palm of the hand. The right upper extremity had a normal arterial branching pattern.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5599175>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5599175>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)