

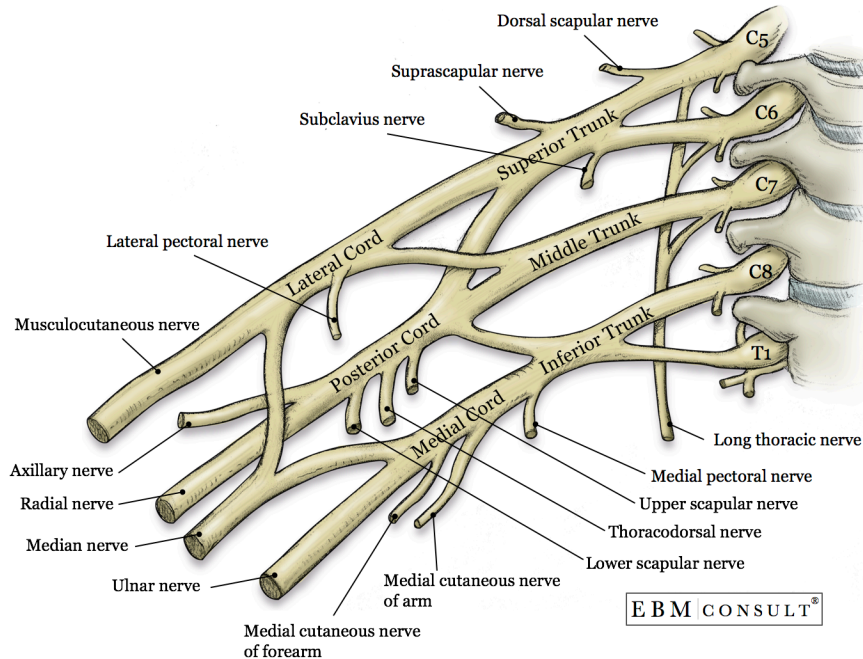
## Brachial Plexus Anatomy

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Figure:



### Axillary Nerve

- Origin: Receives fibers from C5 and C6 and terminal branch of the posterior cord
- Innervation:
  - Glenohumeral joint (Shoulder)
  - Deltoid muscle
  - Teres minor muscle
  - Skin over the superolateral arm (just inferior to the deltoid)

### Dorsal Scapular Nerve

- Origin: The posterior of the anterior ramus of C5 (mainly) and some contribution of C4
- Innervation:
  - Rhomboids
  - Levator scapulae (not completely)

### Lateral Pectoral Nerve

- Origin: Receives fibers from C5, C6 (mainly), C7 and lateral cord
- Innervation:
  - Pectoralis major muscle (mainly)
  - Pectoralis minor muscle (some fibers extend)

### **Long Thoracic Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from posterior aspect of anterior ramus of C5 and C6 mainly and some C7
- Innervation:
  - Serratus anterior

### **Lower Subscapular Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C6 and side branches of posterior cord
- Innervation:
  - Subscapularis (inferior aspect)
  - Teres major

### **Medial Cutaneous Nerve of the Arm**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C8 and T1 and side branches of the medial cord
- Innervation:
  - Skin overlying the medial side of the forearm (from medial epicondyle of the humerus to olecranon of the ulna)

### **Medial Cutaneous Nerve of the Forearm**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C8 and T1 and side branches of the medial cord
- Innervation:
  - Skin overlying the medial side of arm (extends down to the wrist)

### **Medial Pectoral Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C8 and T1 and side branches of the medial cord
- Innervation:
  - Pectoralis minor muscle
  - Pectoralis major muscle (sternocostal portion)

### **Median Nerve**

- Origin: The lateral root of the median nerve comes from the terminal branch of the lateral cord from C6 and C7 whereas the medial root of the median nerve comes from the terminal branch of the medial cord from C8 and T1
- Innervation:
  - Muscles in the compartment of the anterior forearm except flexor carpi ulnaris and the ulnar half of flexor digitorum profundus.
  - Intrinsic muscles of the palm (ulnar half)
  - Palmar skin

### **Musculocutaneous Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C5 – C7 and the terminal branch of the lateral cord
- Innervation:
  - Muscles in the anterior compartment of the arm which include coracobrachialis, biceps brachii, and brachialis
  - Skin over the lateral aspect of the forearm

### **Radial Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C5 – T1 and the terminal branch of the posterior cord
- Innervation:
  - Muscles of the posterior compartment of the arm and forearm
  - Skin overlying the posterior and inferolateral arm, posterior forearm, and dorsum of the hand (lateral to the 4<sup>th</sup> digit)

### **Subclavian Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C5, C6 (mainly), and some C4.
- Innervation:
  - Subclavius muscle
  - Sternoclavicular joint

### **Suprascapular Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C5 (mainly), C6, and some C4
- Innervation:
  - Infraspinatus muscle
  - Supraspinatus muscle

### **Thoracodorsal Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C6, C7, C8 and a side branch of the posterior cord
- Innervation:
  - Latissimus dorsi

### **Ulnar Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C8, T1, and some C7 and the terminal branch of the medial cord
- Innervation:
  - Flexor carpi ulnaris
  - Flexor digitorum profundus (basically the forearm)
  - Intrinsic muscles of the hand
  - Skin overlying the medial aspect of the hand from 4<sup>th</sup> digit

### **Upper Subscapular Nerve**

- Origin: Receives fibers from C5 and branch of the posterior cord
- Innervation: Superior portion of subscapularis