

ANATOMICAL TERMINOLOGY

- a-** (G. prefix: without) both muscles inserting on the clavicle bone of the pectoral girdle.
- ab-, abs-** (L. prefix: away from) Abductor muscles draw a part away from the mid-line point of reference.
- ad-, -ad** (L. prefix: toward, upon) Adductor muscles draw a part toward a midline point of reference. **Craniad** means toward the head.
- axilla-** (L. axilla: armpit)
- basi-** (L. prefix: at the base of)
- bi, bis-** (L. two) double or twice. The **biceps** brachii muscle has two "heads"--it has two origins.
- brachial, brachialis, brachium** (L. brachium) refers to the arm or brachium.
- capit-, -ceps-** (L. caput: head) The **capitulum** is a "little head" or eminence on the humerus. The **biceps** is a two-headed muscle.
- caudal, caudad, caudo-** (L. cauda: tail) Refers to the tail or with reference to the tail, e.g., caudad means "toward the tail."
- cephal-, cephalic** (G. kephale: head) pertaining to the head or with reference to the head.
- cervical** (L. cervix: neck) Cervical vertebrae are the neck vertebrae. The cervix is the neck of the uterus.
- clavo-, cleido-** (L. clavis: key; G. kleis: key) referring to the **clavicle**. (L. clavicula: little key) The **clavotrapezius** and **cleidomastoid** are
- costal** (L. costa: rib) refers to the ribs. The **intercostal** muscles are located between the ribs.
- cranial, craniate, craniad, cranium** (G. Kranium, skull) refers to the head. **Cranium** is used specifically for the braincase.
- ep-, epi-** (G. prefix: upon, outside of)
- ex-** (L. prefix: out, outside)
- femur, femoral, femoris** (L. femur: thigh) refers to the thigh.
- gastric, gastro-** (L. gaster: stomach)
- gloss-** (G. glotta: tongue)
- hetero-** (G. heteros: different) other, dissimilar.
- homo-** (G. homos: the same) similar, same.
- hyper-** above, beyond, over.
- hypo-** under, below or less than.
- ilium, iliac-** (L. Ilium: flank)
- infra-** (L. prefix: below)
- inter-** (L. prefix: between)
- intra-** (L. prefix: within)
- imus, issimus** (L. suffix: -est) **maximus** is the **largest**; **latissimus** is the **widest**; **longissimus** is the **longest**.

major (L. the greater)

medius, med-, (L. middle)

meso (G. prefix: middle)

met-, meta- (L. or G. prefix: between, after, beyond)

minimum- (L. the least)

minor- (L. the lesser)

-oid resemblance, form, shape. A **styloid** process is a projection of bone shaped like a stylus or pencil.

pectus-, pectoral- (L. pectus: chest)

peri- (L. or G. prefix: around)

pre- (L. prefix: before)

pro- (L. or G. prefix: before)

pseudo- (G. prefix: false)

quadri- (L. quattuor, four)

raphe- (G. seam)

renal- (L. renes: kidney)

retro- (L. prefix: back, backward)

sterno- (G. sternon, sternum) referring to the sternum or breastbone.

sub- (L. prefix: under)

supra- (L. prefix: above)

syn- (L. or G. prefix: together, with)

thoracic, thoraco- (G. thorax) refers to the chest region

tri- (L. tres: three) the **triceps** is a three-headed muscle.