A STUDY OF BRACHIAL ARTERY, ITS BRANCHING PATTERN AND VARIATIONS WITH CLINICAL APPLICATIONS

ABSTRACT

The Brachial artery is the continuation of Axillary artery at the level of lower border of teres major tendon. Variations in the origin, course and branching pattern of Brachial artery are very common and of interest to anatomists and clinicians. Brachial artery is being increasingly used for various interventional and investigative procedures like diagnostic angiography, Carotid artery stenting, Transbrachial access for endovascular renal artery intervention. Knowledge about the origin, course and branches of Brachial artery is important for vascular and plastic surgeries.

Present study was done to document and provide information of both normal and variant morphology of the Brachial artery. 25 adult human cadavers (50 Upperlimbs) from the Institute of Anatomy, Madras medical College were used for the study.

In the present study it was found that, the mean length of Brachial artery was 22.25cms. Superficial Brachial Artery was 4%, High division of Brachial Artery was 8%.Profunda Brachii Artery arose from Common trunk with superior ulnar collateral artery in 2% and from Axillary artery in 2% of spec imens.Superior ulnar collateral artery arose from common trunk with profunda Brachii artery in
2% of specimens. High Origin of Radial Artery with superficial course was found in 2%. Median nerve is posterior to the Brachial artery in 4% of specimens.

The data obtained will be useful for physicians, interventionists, cardiovascular surgeons, plastic surgeons and orthopaedic surgeons.

**Key words:** Brachial Artery, Radial Artery, Median Nerve, Profunda Brachii Artery.