

Outline of the Spinal Nerves

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Outline
of the
SPINAL NERVES

To the Memory of
PETER BASSOE, M.D.

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Formerly
President, American Neurological Association*

My chief and friend for many years who encouraged this project and appeared pleased with its dedication to him during the week before his sudden death on the fifth of November Nineteen hundred forty five.

FOREWORD

If full information on motor functions is wanted concerning either a root, nerve, or muscle, or if the neurologic aspects of a movement are desired, these cannot be found satisfactorily from a single table. Overlapping and space limitations are the difficulties. Most of such tables in neurologic texts are incomplete and contain errors and contradictions.

Hence in the first four parts I have prepared lists, as completely and correctly as I could, chiefly from Cunningham, Spalteholz, Morris, Benisty, Stookey, and Pollock and Davis, so that one can start with either root, nerve, muscle, or movement and obtain the data conveniently.

No attempt has been made to cover the numerous individual variations which are known, or the occasional disagreements between standard texts. In the latter cases I have made my own choices. The result represents an average human body.

The muscles have been numbered throughout the text in the order of their appearance under root origins, from above downward. This precludes an alphabetical arrangement but is more convenient if it is desired to refer quickly from one list to another. However, an alphabetical list is included for the reader who wishes to quickly refer to a particular muscle.

Origins and insertions of muscles are given in an abbreviated form but sufficiently for orientation and identification and to refresh the memory as to mechanisms. While many of the muscles are of little clinical importance and many cannot be specifically tested, they are all given here because, on occasions, one wishes he had a complete list including the rare offenders. An attempt has been made to bring some order to the chaos of the usually forgotten back muscles.

For the analysis of highly complex supplementary muscle actions and the varying sensory results in certain nerve lesions, the interested student is advised to consult Pollock and Davis.

I hope that additional data in Part V will fill the gaps and be sufficient for ordinary needs. In this section the diagrams of peripheral nerve and dermatome areas gave me the most trouble and the least satisfaction. The variations between standard texts in this field are amazing. The results are the best compromise I could reach and should be taken only as such.

In spite of repeated checking and double-checking I can hardly expect that such a body of details has been produced without errors. Information concerning such will be appreciated.

This volume is intended to supplement my previous *Outline of the Cranial Nerves* published by the University of Chicago Press, 1933.

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Mrs. Geraldine Feeney did an unusually difficult job in typing my manuscript and her efficiency was much appreciated.

J. F.

ALPHABETICAL KEY TO MUSCLE NUMBERS

Abductor Digitii Quinti (Foot).....	133
Abductor Digitii Quinti (Hand).....	74
Abductor Hallucis.....	117
Abductor Pollicis Brevis.....	56
Abductor Pollicis Longus.....	55
Adductor Brevis.....	97
Adductor Hallucis.....	132
Adductor Longus.....	98
Adductor Magnus.....	101
Adductor Pollicis.....	73
Anconeus.....	66
Biceps (Upper Arm).....	42
Biceps (Thigh).....	121
Brachialis.....	43
Brachioradialis.....	44
Bulbocavernosus.....	142
Coccygeus.....	137
Coracobrachialis.....	65
Cremaster.....	90
Deltoid.....	41
Diaphragm.....	22
Extensor Carpi Radialis Brevis.....	48
Extensor Carpi Radialis Longus.....	47
Extensor Carpi Ulnaris.....	49
Extensor Digiti Quinti Proprius (Hand).....	51
Extensor Digitorum Brevis (Foot).....	110
Extensor Digitorum Communis (Hand).....	50
Extensor Digitorum Longus (Foot).....	109
Extensor Hallucis Longus.....	108
Extensor Indicis Proprius.....	52
Extensor Pollicis Brevis.....	54
Extensor Pollicis Longus.....	53
Flexor Carpi Radialis.....	60
Flexor Carpi Ulnaris.....	72
Flexor Digitorum Brevis (Foot).....	119
Flexor Digitorum Longus (Foot).....	125
Flexor Digitorum Profundus (Hand).....	68

Flexor Digiti Quinti Brevis (Foot)	134
Flexor Digiti Quinti Brevis (Hand)	76
Flexor Digitorum Sublimis (Hand)	59
Flexor Hallucis Brevis	118
Flexor Hallucis Longus	124
Flexor Pollicis Brevis	58
Flexor Pollicis Longus	67
Gastrocnemius	131
Gemellus Inferior	103
Gemellus Superior	129
Geniohyoideus	9
Gluteus Maximus	120
Gluteus Medius	104
Gluteus Minimus	105
Gracilis	100
Iliacus	93
Iliocostalis	24
Infraspinatus	37
Intercostales	79
Interossei (Foot)	136
Interossei (Hand)	71
Interspinales	27
Intertransversarii	14
Ischiocavernosus	144
Latissimus Dorsi	63
Levator Ani	138
Levator Scapuli	21
Levatores Costarum	78
Longissimus	19
Longus Capitis	3
Longus Colli	4
Lumbricales (Foot)	116
Lumbricales (Hand)	70
Multifidus	25
Obliquus Capitis Inferior	11
Obliquus Capitis Superior	10
Obliquus Externus	85
Obliquus Internus	86
Obturator Externus	99
Obturator Internus	128

Omohyoideus	5
Opponens Digi ^t i Quinti (Hand)	75
Opponens Pollicis	57
Palmaris Brevis	77
Palmaris Longus	62
Pectineus	94
Pectoralis Major	35
Pectoralis Minor	64
Peroneus Brevis	113
Peroneus Longus	112
Peroneus Tertius	111
Piriformis	130
Plantaris	114
Popliteus	115
Pronator Quadratus	69
Pronator Teres	61
Psoas Major	91
Psoas Minor	92
Pyramidalis	88
Quadratus Femoris	102
Quadratus Lumborum	89
Quadratus Plantae	135
Quadriceps	96
Rectus Abdominis	82
Rectus Capitis Anterior	2
Rectus Capitis Lateralis	1
Rectus Capitis Posterior Major	12
Rectus Capitis Posterior Minor	13
Rhomboideus Major	32
Rhomboideus Minor	33
Rotatores	26
Sartorius	95
Scalenus Anterior	28
Scalenus Medius	29
Scalenus Posterior	30
Semimembranosus	123
Semispinalis	18
Semitendinosus	122
Serratus Anterior	34
Serratus Posterior Inferior	87

Serratus Posterior Superior.....	80
Soleus.....	126
Sphincter Ani Externus.....	139
Sphincter Urethrae Membranaceae.....	143
Spinalis.....	23
Splenius Capitis.....	16
Splenius Cervicis.....	17
Sternohyoideus.....	6
Sternocleidomastoideus.....	15
Sternothyroideus.....	7
Subclavius.....	31
Subcostales.....	83
Subscapularis.....	38
Supinator.....	45
Supraspinatus.....	36
Tensor Fasciae Latae.....	106
Teres Major.....	39
Teres Minor.....	40
Thyrohyoideus.....	8
Tibialis Anterior.....	107
Tibialis Posterior.....	127
Transversus Abdominis.....	84
Transversus Perinei Superficialis.....	140
Transversus Perinei Profundus.....	141
Transversus Thoracis.....	81
Trapezius.....	20
Triceps.....	46

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
ALPHABETICAL KEY TO MUSCLE NUMBERS	xv
PART I: ROOTS—NERVES—MUSCLES	3
PART II: NERVES—MUSCLES—ROOTS (Clinical and Etiology)	39
Phrenic	41
Dorsal Scapular	41
Long Thoracic	41
Anterior Thoracics	42
Suprascapular	42
Subscapulars	43
Thoracodorsal	43
Axillary	43
Musculo-cutaneous	44
Radial	44
Median	47
Ulnar	49
Ilio-hypogastric and Ilio-inguinal	52
Genito-femoral	52
Femoralis	52
Obturator	53
Superior Gluteal	53
Inferior Gluteal	54
Sciatic (Trunk)	54
Deep Peroneal	57
Superficial Peroneal	58
Common Peroneal	58
Medial Plantar	58
Lateral Plantar	59
Tibial	59
PART III: MUSCLES—ROOTS—NERVES (Origins, Insertions, Functions, Tests, Paralytic Effects)	61
PART IV: MOVEMENTS—MUSCLES—NERVES—ROOTS	123
Head	125
Cervical Spine	127
Thoracic Spine	128
Lumbar Spine	129

Pelvis.....	130
Tabular Summary of Head, Spine and Pelvis.....	132
Shoulder Girdle.....	133
Upper Arm (Shoulder Joint).....	134
Forearm (Elbow Joint).....	136
Hand (Wrist Joint).....	137
Finger 1 (Thumb).....	138
Fingers 2, 3 and 4.....	139
Finger 5 (Little).....	141
Thigh (Hip Joint).....	142
Leg (Knee Joint).....	145
Foot (Ankle Joints).....	145
Toe 1 (Big).....	146
Toes 2, 3 and 4.....	147
Toe 5 (Little).....	148
Hyoid.....	149
Chest.....	150
Abdomen.....	151
Perineal (Male and Female).....	151
PART V: SUPPLEMENTARY DATA.....	155
Cervical Plexus.....	157
Note on Diagrams.....	157
Brachial Plexus.....	160
Lumbo-sacral Plexus.....	164
Electrical Tests.....	168
Causalgia.....	174
Causes of Neuritis and Neuropathy.....	175
Causes of Low Back Pain.....	176
Classification of Muscle Disorders.....	178
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	191
NUMERICAL LIST OF MUSCLES.....	(Inside back cover)

LIST OF FIGURES

1. Diagram of the Sciatic System	55
2. Diagram of Lumbricales (Hand)	89
3. Diagrams of Interossei (Hand)	
a. Volar	91
b. Dorsal	91
4. Diagram of Lumbricales (Foot)	109
5. Diagrams of Interossei (Foot)	
a. Plantar	117
b. Dorsal	118
6. Diagram to explain effects of muscle insertions at base of skull	126
7. Diagrams of Plexuses	
a. Cervical	158
b. Brachial	159
c. Lumbo-sacral	165
8. Motor Points of Nerves and Muscles for Electrical Tests	
a. Upper Spinal and Cranial	169
b. Upper Extremity	170
c. Trunk	171
d. Lower Extremity	172
9. Diagram of Conus and Cauda	180
10. Relation of Segments to Vertebrae	181
11. Peripheral Sensory Areas	
a. Upper Spinal and Cranial	182
b. Upper Extremity, Trunk, and Lower Extremity (Front)	183
c. Head, Upper Extremity, Trunk, and Lower Extremity (Rear)	184
d. Perineal Region	185
12. Dermatome Areas	
a. Upper Spinal and Cranial	186
b. Upper Extremity	187
c. Trunk	188
d. Lower Extremity	189
e. Perineal Region	190

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