



Dissection of the Muscles: Cat

► PROCEDURAL INQUIRIES ◀

Preparation

1. What terminology should one be familiar with before beginning muscle dissection?
2. Which dissecting instruments should be used in working with cat muscles?
3. What is fascia and how should it be worked with?
4. What guidelines should be used for identification of individual muscles?

Dissection

5. What are the major deep and superficial muscles of the ventral thorax and abdomen?

6. What are the major deep and superficial muscles of the head and neck?
7. What are the major deep and superficial muscles of the dorsal area?
8. What are the major deep and superficial muscles of the forelimb?
9. What are the major deep and superficial muscles of the hind limb?

Additional Inquiries

10. How is the cat musculature analogous to the human musculature?
11. When and how should a muscle be transected?

HUMAN CORRELATION: Cadaver Atlas in Applications Manual.

Key Terms

Deep Fascia	Head and Neck
Epimysium	Hind Limb
Grain	Ventral Thorax and Abdomen
Insertion	
Linea Alba	Origin
Muscles of the Dorsal Area	Superficial Fascia
Forelimb	Transecting

Materials Needed

- Preserved Cat*
- Dissecting Kit*
- Dissecting Pan*
- Gloves*
- Disinfectant*
- Optional: Human Torsos or Limb Models for Comparative Purposes*
- Other Equipment as Indicated by Your Instructor*

Muscle systems are basically analogous throughout the mammalian world. This means the muscles of the cat are structurally and functionally similar to our own. Therefore, learning the muscles of one mammal by handling, separating, and identifying them means you have almost learned the muscles for all mammals (including the human).

Muscle variations do exist. Muscle fusion is the variation you should be most aware of. Many of the non-human animals have more individual muscles than we do. For instance, the cat has eight superficial shoulder muscles, and we have only three. The proportionate muscle mass is approximately the same, but developmentally our muscles fuse whereas the cat's do not. Nevertheless, we can readily correlate most feline muscles with human muscles. In working through the muscle dissection, you should concentrate on this correlation. Look for the similarities.

This laboratory exercise is designed to help you develop a conceptual understanding of the human

