Face

The human face is the most anterior portion of the human head. It refers to the area that extends from the superior margin of the forehead to the chin, and from one ear to another.

The basic shape of the human face is determined by the underlying facial skeleton and the amount of subcutaneous tissue present.

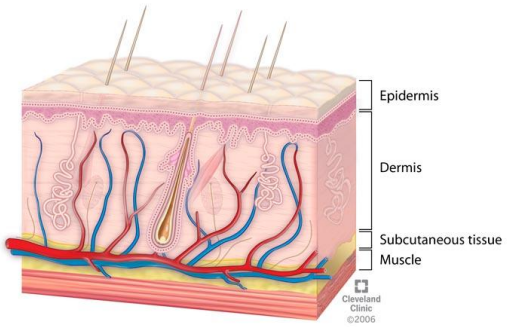
Skin of face

There are three layers of the skin. From superficial to deep, they are:

1- Epidermis

2- Dermis

3- Hypodermis



Epidermis

It is the outer layer that acts as the first line of defense against the external environment. It has no blood vessels and it acquires its nutrient through diffusion from underlying dermis.

Dermis

The dermis is a layer of connective tissue that supports the epidermis and binds it to the subcutaneous tissue (hypodermis).

The dermis contains blood vessels, nerves, sweat glands, hair follicles, and various other structures embedded within the connective tissue.

The dermis is made up of two layers: papillary and reticular

Papillary layer (superficial) it forms finger-like projections into the epidermis,

known as dermal papillae, and consists of highly vascularized, loose connective tissue.

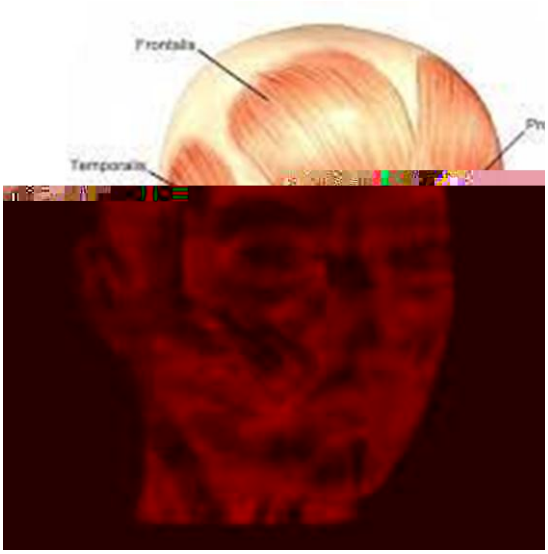
Reticular layer(deep): has dense connective tissue that forms a strong network

Hypodermis (subcutaneous layer)

It consists of loose connective tissue that binds the skin loosely to the subjacent organs, making it possible for the skin to slide over them.

Muscles of face

The facial muscles are also known as the muscles of the facial expression. They are divided into four different groups according to their location and function. These groups include:



1- Forehead group

2- Orbital group

3- *Nasal group*

4- *Oral group*

All facial muscles originate from the bony and fibrous structures of the skull and insert into the skin.

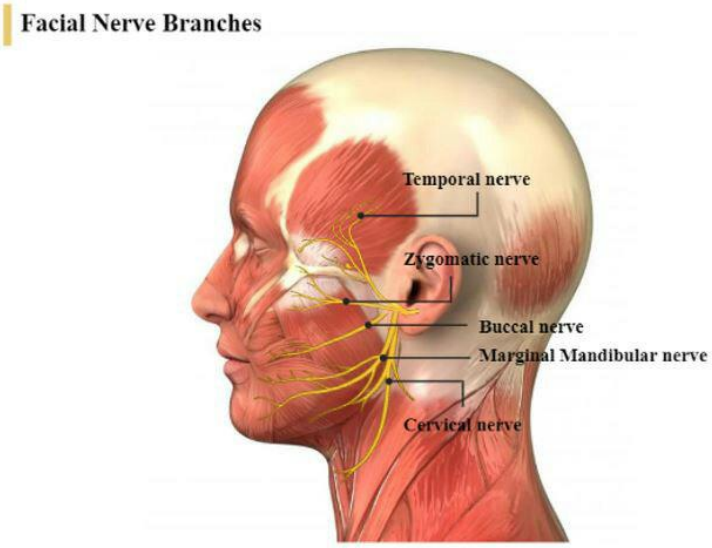
Main functions of facial muscles is making facial expressions such as smiling and raising eyebrows in surprise. They also helping in closing of the eyes.

Nerve supply of face and scalp

The nerve supply of face and scalp are derived from facial nerve and trigeminal nerve

Facial nerve (Cranial nerve VII), which provides innervation to the muscles of the face .This nerve has 5 primary divisions, which are:

1. Temporal
2. Zygomatic
3. Buccal
4. Marginal mandibular
5. Cervical



Blood supply of face

The face is richly perfused by a subdermal plexus formed mainly by arteries coming from

1. Superficial temporal artery
2. Facial artery

Both of the above arteries are branches of external carotid artery

The Neck

The neck is the bridge between the head and the rest of the body

Superficial layers of the neck (covering):

The neck is covered with

1. Skin
2. Superficial fascia which is loosely connected to the overlying skin, therefore the skin here is freely mobile
3. Platysma muscle which originates from upper thoracic and shoulder regions and inserts on the mandible, the skin and subcutaneous tissue of the lower face.
4. Deep fascia

Triangles of the neck

Each side of the neck is divided into anterior and posterior triangles by the obliquely placed sternocleidomastoid muscle.

The anterior triangle is bounded

Superiorly :Inferior border of mandible

Medially: Midline of neck

Laterally: Anterior border of sternocleidomastoid muscle

Contents of anterior triangle

Structures: Pharynx and larynx.

Arteries: Common carotid, internal carotid and external carotid arteries..

Vein: Internal jugular vein.

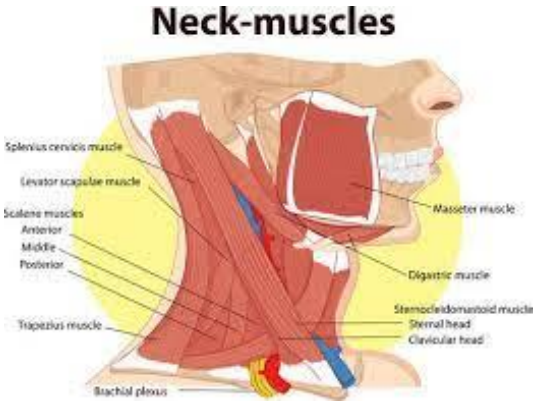
Nerves: 7th, 9th, 10th and 12th cranial nerves.

Muscles of anterior triangle

are grouped depending on their position to the hyoid bone; as the Suprahyoid muscles and Infrahyoid muscles

Suprahyoid muscles:

1. Digastric muscle
2. Stylohyoid muscle
3. Mylohyoid muscle
4. Geniohyoid muscle

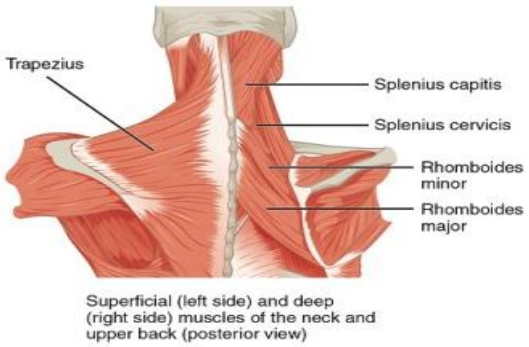


Infrahyoid muscles:

1. Omohyoid muscle
2. Sternohyoid muscle
3. Thyrohyoid muscle

4. Sternothyroid muscle

Muscles of posterior triangle:



Superficial (left side) and deep (right side) muscles of the neck and upper back (posterior view)

1. Sternocleidomastoid
2. Trapezius
3. Splenius capitis
4. Levator scapulae
5. Omohyoid

The posterior triangle is bounded by

Anteriorly: posterior edge of sternocleidomastoid muscle

Posteriorly: anterior edge of trapezius muscle

Inferiorly: middle one-third of clavicle