



The orbit-2

Dr. Heba Kalbouneh Associate Professor of Anatomy and Histology

Eyelids

The eyelids (act like the curtains)
protect the eye from injury and
excessive light by their closure

The upper eyelid is larger and more mobile than the lower because of its attachment to the levator palpebrae superioris

The upper and lower eyelids meet each other at the medial and lateral angles.

 The palpebral fissure is the space between the eyelids when they are open
 The palpebral fissure is the entrance into the conjunctival sac



The layers of the eyelids: (from anterior to posterior)

Skin
 Subcutanous tissue
 Voluntary muscle
 The orbital septum (tarsus)
 Conjunctiva



Structure of the eyelids

1 & 2: Skin and subcutaneous tissue:

- Thin

- Only a thin layer of connective tissue (can be easily become edematous (with fluid or blood))

Contains: ≻The <u>sebaceous glands (Glands of</u> <u>Zeis)</u> open directly into the eyelash follicles

➢ The <u>ciliary glands (Glands of</u> <u>Moll)</u> are modified <u>sweat glands</u> that open separately between adjacent lashes



3- Voluntary muscle Palpebral part of orbicularis oculi





each eyelid

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Medial palpebral ligament

The tarsal glands are long, modified sebaceous glands that pour their oily ... secretion onto the free margin of the lid; their openings lie behind the eyelashes
 This oily material prevents the overflow of tears and helps make the closed eyelids airtight. (Meibomian glands)







5-The conjunctiva

Is a thin mucous membrane that lines the eyelids and covers the sclera

It is reflected at the superior and inferior fornices









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Palpebral conjunctiva

The part that lines the inside of the eyelids



The eyelids are closed by: 1-The contraction of the orbicularis oculi and 2-The relaxation of the levator palpebrae superioris muscles in the upper eyelids

> The upper eyelid is elevated by: THE LEVATOR PALPEBRAE SUPERIORIS







Levator palpebrae superioris

Origin: posterior part of the roof of the orbit **Insertion:** anterior surface of superior tarsus with some fibers attaching to the skin of upper eyelid

Nerve supply: oculomotor nerve/ superior division

There is a collection of smooth muscle fibers insert into the upper edge of the superior tarsus (**superior tarsal muscle**)



Ptosis: drooping of the upper Proptosis: bulging of the eyeball anteriorly out of the orbit exophthalmous

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Superior tarsal muscle which is part of the levator palpebrae superioris, helps maintain upper eyelid elevation and are innervated by postganglionic **sympathetic fibers** from **the superior cervical ganglion**

Loss of oculomotor nerve [III] function results in **complete ptosis** whereas loss of sympathetic innervation to the **superior tarsal muscle results in partial ptosis**

Horner's syndrome

Horner's syndrome is caused by a lesion in the **sympathetic trunk** in the neck that results in sympathetic dysfunction. It is characterized by three typical features:

1-Pupillary constriction due to paralysis of the dilator pupillae muscle

2- Partial ptosis (drooping of the upper eyelid) due to paralysis of the superior tarsal muscle of the levator palpebrae superioris

3-Absence of sweating (anhidrosis) on the ipsilateral side of the face and the neck due to absence of innervation of the sweat glands





ORBITAL FAT

 \checkmark The spaces between the main structures of the orbit are occupied by fat

 \checkmark The fat helps to stabilize the position of the eyeball and also acts as a socket within which the eye can rotate.

Conditions resulting in an increased overall volume of orbital fat, e.g. hyperthyroidism (Graves' disease), may lead to forward protrusion of the eyeball **Exophthalmos/ proptosis**



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Infra-orbital nerve

Lacrimal apparatus

Tendon of levator palpebrae superioris muscle

Lacrimal gland

✓ The lacrimal apparatus is involved in the production, movement, and drainage of fluid from the surface of the eyeball

✓ Its made up of:
 Lacrimal gland and its ducts
 Lacrimal canaliculi
 Lacrimal sac
 Nasolacrimal duct



Lacrimal Apparatus of the Eye



Lacrimal Gland

Lacrimal fossa is a depression on the inferior surface of the orbital plate of frontal bone

 It is anterior in the superolateral region in the orbit
 (posterior to the orbital septum)

The lacrimal gland consists of:
 1- a large orbital part

 (in the lacrimal fossa)

 2- a small palpebral part

which are continuous with each other around the **lateral edge of the aponeurosis of the levator palpebrae superioris**.

The gland opens into the lateral part of the superior fornix of the conjunctiva by **12 ducts**.

Fluid is continually being secreted by the lacrimal gland and moved across the surface of the eyeball from lateral to medial as the eyelids blink



Orbital region, anterior



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Medial canthus structures, anterior





Lacrimal Ducts

The tears circulate across the cornea and accumulate medially in the lacus lacrimalis (lacrimal lake). From here the tears enter the lacrimal canaliculi through the lacrimal puncta. The canaliculi lacrimales open into the lacrimal sac which is the upper blind end of the nasolacrimal duct.

Lacrimal punctum is the opening through which fluid enters each canaliculus

The nasolacrimal duct is about 0.5 inch long and emerges from the lower end of the lacrimal sac

➤ The duct descends in a bony canal and opens into the nasal cavity



The upper dilated blind part of the nasolacrimal duct is the lacrimal sac

Nasolacrimal canal





Sensory: The lacrimal nerve (ophthalmic nerve)Parasympathetic: The greater petrosal nerve (facial nerve)Sympathetic (postganglionic fibers): originate from the superior cervical ganglion



Foramen lacerum

Has an anterior opening for the pterygoid canal And a posterior opening for the carotid canal







Lacrimal nerve is joined by a branch of the zygomatic nerve (or zygomaticotemoral nerve) (parasympathetic to lacrimal gland)









Pterygopalatine fossa

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Anatomically, it's connected to maxillary nerve (through a ganglionic branch) Functionally, it's associated with the facial nerve



Nerves of the Orbit

Optic Nerve

The optic nerve enters the orbit from the middle cranial fossa by passing through the optic canal
It is accompanied by the optic artery
The nerve is surrounded by sheaths of pia mater, arachnoid mater, and dura mater
It pierces the sclera at the posterior pole of the eyeball (optic disc)



Remember that the meninges fuse with the sclera so that the subarachnoid space with its contained cerebrospinal fluid extends forward from the middle cranial fossa, around the optic nerve, and through the optic canal, as far as the eyeball. Thus, the subarachnoid space extends around the optic nerve as far as the eyeball A rise in pressure of the cerebrospinal fluid within the cranial cavity therefore is transmitted to the back of the eyeball.

Papilledema



A swollen optic disc caused by increased intracranial pressure

Can be seen when retina is examined using an **Ophthalmoscope**

Any increase in intracranial pressure results in increased pressure in the subarachnoid space surrounding the optic nerve

Optic disc: the point of exit of the optic nerve, lacking visual receptors (blind spot)

In cavernous sinus thrombosis

Venous consestion within the retina

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Lacrimal Nerve

The lacrimal nerve arises from the ophthalmic division of the trigeminal nerve

It enters the orbit through **the superior orbital fissure**

It is joined by a branch of the zygomatic nerve (or zygomaticotemporal nerve) *(parasympathetic to lacrimal gland)*





Frontal Nerve

The frontal nerve arises from the ophthalmic division of the trigeminal nerve

It enters the orbit through **the superior** orbital fissure

It divides into the supratrochlear and supraorbital nerves that wind around the upper margin of the orbital cavity to supply the skin of the forehead





Nasociliary Nerve

The nasociliary nerve arises from the ophthalmic division of the trigeminal nerve.
It enters the orbit through the superior orbital fissure





Branches of the Nasociliary Nerve

Read only © 1- The communicating branch to the ciliary ganglion is a sensory nerve. The sensory fibers from the eyeball pass to the ciliary ganglion via the short ciliary nerves without interruption, and then join the nasociliary nerve by means of the communicating branch.

2- The long ciliary nerves, two or three in number, arise from the nasociliary nerve as it crosses the optic nerve. They contain sympathetic fibers for the dilator pupillae muscle. The nerves pass forward with the short ciliary nerves and pierce the sclera of the eyeball. They continue forward between the sclera and the choroid to reach the iris.

3-The posterior ethmoidal nerve supplies the ethmoidal and sphenoidal air sinuses

4-The infratrochlear nerve supplies the skin of the medial part of the upper evelid and the adjacent part of the nose

5-The anterior ethmoidal nerve passes through the anterior ethmoidal foramen. After supplying an area of mucous membrane in the nasal cavity, it appears on the face as the external nasal nerve at the lower border of the nasal bone, and supplies the skin of the nose down as far as the tip





Trochlear Nerve

The trochlear nerve enters the orbit through **the superior orbital fissure** It supplies **the superior oblique muscle**





Abducent nerve

The abducent nerve enters the orbit through **the superior orbital fissure** It supplies **the lateral rectus muscle**



Oculomotor Nerve

The superior division of the oculomotor nerve enters the orbit through the superior orbital fissure ≻It supplies **superior rectus** and levator palpebrae superioris

SO4 LR6

The inferior division of the oculomotor nerve enters the orbit through the superior orbital fissure > It supplies inferior rectus, medial rectus, and inferior oblique muscles. The nerve to the inferior oblique gives off a branch that passes to the **ciliary ganglion** and carries parasympathetic fibers to the sphincter pupillae and the ciliary muscle

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Ciliary Ganglion

Is a parasympathetic ganglion
About the size of a pinhead and situated in the posterior part of the orbit.

➢It receives its preganglionic parasympathetic fibers from the oculomotor nerve via the nerve to the inferior oblique muscle

The postganglionic fibers leave the ganglion in the short ciliary nerves, which enter the back of the eyeball and supply the sphincter pupillae and the ciliary muscle.

It receives its postganglionic **sympathetic fibers** from the internal carotid sympathetic plexus (superior cervical ganglion) and run through the ganglion without <u>interruption.</u>

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Communicating branch to ciliary ganglion





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Anatomically, it's connected to nasociliary nerve (through a ganglionic branch) Functionally, it's associated with the oculomotor nerve





The ophthalmic artery

✓ Is the first branch of the internal carotid artery distal to the cavernous sinus

 \checkmark Passes through the optic canal with the optic nerve

✓ Runs along the medial wall of the orbit. It gives off numerous branches, which accompany the nerves in the orbital cavity

✓ Branches:

Central retinal artery: supplies the inner retinal layers. Lacrimal artery

Posterior ciliary arteries (long and short)

Muscular branches: supplies extra ocular muscles

Anterior and posterior ethmoidal arteries Supraorbital artery Supratrochlear artery External nasal artery

Supratrochlear artery





The central artery of the retina is a small branch that pierces the meningeal sheaths of the optic nerve to gain entrance to the nerve ≻It runs in the

substance of the optic

nerve and enters the eyeball at the center of the optic disc. Here, it divides into branches, which may be studied in a patient through an **ophthalmoscope**



Occlusion of central artery of retina results in blindness



Ophthalmoscopic (Fundoscopic) exam



Ophthalmic Veins

Superior ophthalmic vein

✓ Communicates in front with the facial vein
 ✓ Leaves the orbit through the superior orbital fissure and enters

the cavernous sinus

Inferior ophthalmic vein

✓ Leaves the orbit by:
1-Joining the superior ophthalmic vein

OR

2-Passing through the superior orbital fissure on its own to join the cavernous sinus

OR

3- <u>Passing through the inferior</u> orbital fissure to join with pterygoid venous plexus.







Danger area of the face

Remember that pterygoid venous plexus drains also nasal sinuses, teeth, ears, nose and deep structures

Infection spreading from the nose, sinuses, ears, or teeth May cause

Septic cavernous sinus thrombosis (the formation of a blood clot within the cavernous sinus)

> Staphylococcus aureus and Streptococcus are often the associated bacteria.

