

"Parotid Gland"

- Largest salivary gland
- Has serous acini mostly
- Pyramidal/wedge shaped with apex directed downwards

-> Boundaries

- Lies in a deep hollow below the external auditory meatus
 - Behind the ramus of mandible
 - In front of SCM
- Facial nerve divides the gland into superficial and deep lobes

-> Borders (3)

- Anterior border
- Posterior border
- Medial border

-> Surfaces (4)

- Superior surface (Base)
- Anteromedial surface
- Posterolateral surface

- Superficial surface

→ Capsule of Gland

- Made up of investing layer of deep cervical fascia

» Superficial lamina

- Thick
- Adherent to parotid gland
- Attached superiorly to zygomatic arch

» Deep Lamina:

- Thin
- Attached to →
 - Styloid process
 - Posterior border of ramus of mandible
 - Angle of mandible
 - Tympanic plate
- [A portion of deep gland forms stylomandibular ligament]

-> Processes of Parotid gland

» Glenoid process

- Superior margin of gland extends upwards behind TMJ into posterior part of mandibular fossa

» Facial Process

- Anterior margin extends forward superficial to masseter forming facial process

» Pterygoid process

- Deep part may extend forward between the medial pterygoid and ramus of mandible

» Accessory Part

- Small part of facial process may be separated from main gland → forms accessory part of the gland

-> Relations of Parotid Gland

» Posteromedial relations:

- Mastoid process
 - SCM
- Styloid process + attached muscles
 - ECA
 - ICA

» Superficial relations:

- Parotid lymph nodes
 - Skin
 - Fascia
- Greater auricular nerve
 - Platysma
 - Risorius

» Superior Relations (Base)

- External Auditory Meatus
- Posterior surface of TMJ
- Superficial temporal Vessels
 - Auriculatemporal nerve

» Anteromedial Relations

- Posterior border of ramus of mandible, [TMJ], Masseter, Medial Pterygoid

- At the union of anteromedial and posteromedial surfaces the gland lies in contact with pharyngeal wall

-> Parotid Duct

- Also called Stenson's duct
- Emerges from anterior border of the gland
- Passes forward over the lateral surface of the masseter
 - Pierces the buccinator muscle
- Enter the vestibule of mouth upon a small papillae opposite the upper 2nd molar teeth

-> Structures within the Parotid gland

Medial -----> Lateral
(AVFP)

i) Arteries

- ECA
- Maxillary artery (terminal branch of ECA)
- Superficial temporal artery (terminal branch of ECA) + its transverse facial branch

ii) Veins

- Retromandibular vein

iii) Facial nerve + its 5 branches

iv) Parotid lymph nodes

-> Blood Supply to Parotid Gland

- ECA + its branches
- Venous drainage into external and internal jugular vein through retromandibular vein

→ Nerve Supply

Inferior Salivatory Nucleus → Preganglionic PS fibers carried by Glossopharyngeal nerve → Pass into tympanic nerve → Synapse in otic ganglion → Post-ganglionic fiber, get attached to Auriculotemporal nerve → Pass into gland

→ Lymphatic Drainage

- Deep cervical lymph nodes
- Parotid nodes lie on the parotid gland partly in superficial and partly in deep fascia