

MUSCLES OF THE HEAD, TRUNK AND ARMS (SECOND DISSECTION OF CAT):

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4 Nov 1987, rvsd 15Sept 93, 12Sept 95, 16Nov95, 23Sept96, 21Nov96, 19Sept99, 19Sept00, 29Sept02, 15Sept04, 20Nov08
http://Biology.clc.uc.edu/Fankhauser/Labs/Anatomy_&_Physiology/A&P201/Muscles/Muscles_Head&Trunk.htm

(Page numbers refer to *Pictorial Anatomy of the Cat*, rvsd, by Gilbert.)

Remove cutaneous muscle layer (allows cat to twitch its skin) and a white layer of superficial fascia to better see muscle fiber directions and make the muscles more apparent. Carefully outline, separate and lift the muscles by use of a blunt probe. If the structure in question has multiple fibers in it, it is muscle. Look for intersections between fiber directions, this often indicates two muscles. Fingers are the best blunt probes...

When you need to cut separated superficial muscles to see deep muscles, the superficial muscle to be reflected should be snipped midway between insertion and origin, and laid back to its origin and insertion, noting where they are located. Make two illustrations:

I. VENTRAL NECK, CHEST AND ABDOMEN: (p. 18)

1. Lift deltoid and pectoantibrachialis as a unit and separate from trunk. Cut and reflect.

deltoid	clavicle and scapular spine to humerus	called clavobrachialis in the cat
pectoralis major	sternum+clavicle to greater tubercle of humerus	
pectoralis minor	ribs to coracoid process of scapula.	See also p. 24
triceps brachialis	three origins, to olecranon	cut epitrochlearis to see triceps and biceps
retinaculum	carpal ligament on cat, holds down tendons of insertion	

2. Separate pectoralis major from pectoralis minor, cut both, reflect to see: (p. 24)

biceps brachii	two origins to radial tuberosity	epitrochlearis reflected back from step I.1.
subscapularis	on underside of scapula to humerus	
teres major	closest to axillary border of scapula to humerus	
serratus anterior	ribs to vertebral border of scapula	ventralis in cat

3. Identify the external muscles of the abdomen (p. 24)

external oblique	fibers run diagonally down abdomen toward pubis
rectus abdominis	prominent overlying origins of serratus anterior

II. BACK: (p. 22)

Caution: the trapezius is very thin and easily torn when outlining it with the probe. Remove cutaneous muscle layer, note the boundary between trapezoid and the latissimus dorsi which plunges below it.

1. Lift trapezius from underlying latissimus dorsi.

trapezius	vertebral spines to spine of scapula	acromio- and spinotrapezius in cat
latissimus dorsi	fr. spine of lower back to medial humerus	

2. Cut and reflect trapezius to see: (p. 25)

infraspinatus	
supraspinatus	muscles of the glenohumoral joint
teres major	
rhomboideus major and minor	
levator scapulae	superior to rhomboideus muscles
rhomboideus & r. capitis	from spine to vertebral border of scapula
splenius capitis	under prev two, from spine to mastoid process