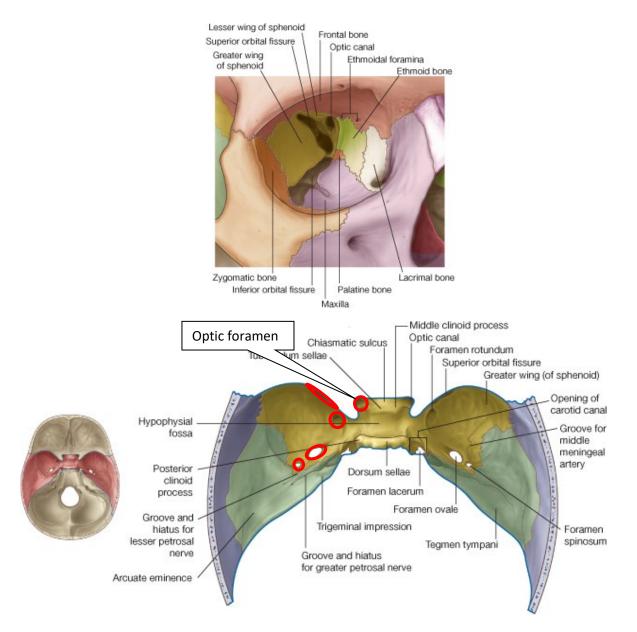
# THE ORBIT & EYE

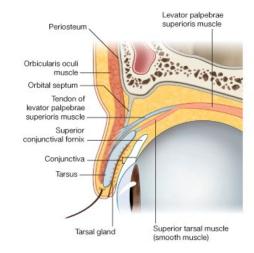
## **ORBITAL CAVITY**

- Composed of several bones
  - The sphenoid bone is perforated with:
    - Optic foramen
    - Superior orbital fissure
- Roof: is formed by orbital process of the frontal bone
- Lateral wall: zygomatic bone
- Medial wall:
  - o Lacrimal bone
  - o <u>Ethmoid bone</u>
  - Palantine bone (insignificant, at posterior of medial wall)
- Floor: maxilla
- Medial wall lies in the saggital plane
- Lateral wall diverges outwards as it moves anteriorly.



#### EYELIDS, CONJUNCTIVA & LACRIMAL APPARATUS:

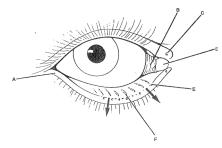
- In cross-section, from outside  $\rightarrow$  inside
  - o Skin
  - o Orbicularis oculi (sphincter muscle)
  - Fibrous tarsal plates
  - Conjunctiva
- These is <u>no</u> subcutaneous fat deep to the skin of the eyelids.
- Skin is devoid of hair, except at eyelashes.
- Tarsal plates act to stiffen the eyelids
- Inferior tarsus is attached to the lower orbital margin
- Superior tarsal plate is larger
- **Conjunctiva** is adherent to the deep surface of the tarsal plates.
- Palprebral fascia forms an orbital septum which attaches each tarsal plate to the orbital margin.
- The *tendon* of levator palpebrae superioris enter the eylid and attach to:
  - Tarsal plates
  - o Orbicularis oculi
- Levator palpebrae superioris is supplied by both voluntary & involuntary fibres:
  - Voluntary: oculomotor nerve (III)
  - o Involuntary: sympathetic neurons
- Contraction of the levator palebrae superioris  $\rightarrow$ 
  - o Raise upper eyelid
- The eyelid can only be raised properly if both the voluntary and involuntary parts of the muscle are functioning.



- Lateral & medial palpebral ligaments which connect lateral tarsal plate to sides of the orbit.
- Medial ligament:
  - $\circ$  Strong
  - o Lies in front of the lacrimal sac (apparatus which collects tears)

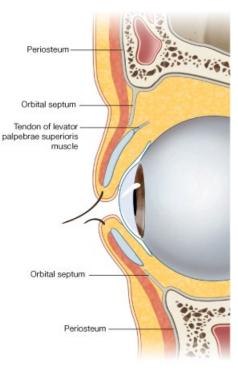
#### Glands of the eyelids:

- <u>Cillary glands</u>
  - Directly behind roots of eyelashes
  - When infected cause a red swelling 'stye'
- <u>Tarsal glands</u>
  - Vertical rows on deep surface of tarsal plates
  - o Ducts open onto lid margin



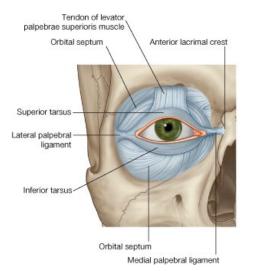
Tarsal glands open along the margin of the eyelid. The lacrimal puncta are located on the lacrimal papillae in the medial canthus. The plica semilunaris and the lacrimal caruncle are also found in the medial canthus of the eye.

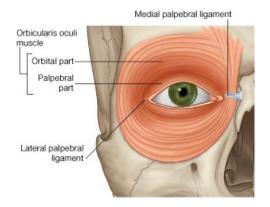
- A Lateral canthus
- B Plica semilunarisC Lacrimal papilla and punctum
- C Lacrimal papilla and p D Lacrimal caruncle
- E Opening of tarsal gland
- F Vertical ridges raised by tarsal glands



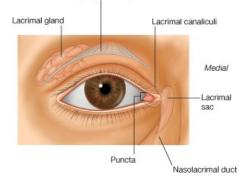
#### Nerves to eyelids:

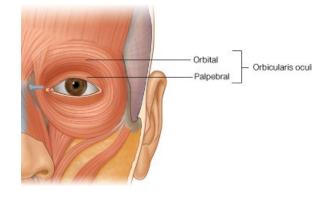
- Nerve supply to upper lid: opthalmic division of trigeminal nerve (cranial V)
- Nerve supply to lower lid: infraorbital nerve (branch of maxillary division of trigeminal nerve)
- Branches of the opthalmic nerve (of trigeminal) to the orbital region include:
  - Palpebral branch of lacriminal
  - Supraorbital
  - o Supratrochlear
  - $\circ$  Infratrochlear





Tendon of levator palpebrae superioris muscle





#### Orbicularis oculi:

- Large muscle
- Surrounds eye
- Consists of several parts
- Orbital part:
  - Large & wide
  - Fibres arise from medial palpebral ligament & surrounding bone
  - o Sweep round forehead, temple & cheek to reinsert into medial point of origin
  - Screws up the eyes for added protection
- <u>Palpebral part</u>:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Also arises from medial palpebral ligament, and loops round eye
  - $\circ$  BUT found entirely within eyelid
  - Responsible for closing the eyes when sleeping / blinking
  - o Lies in front of lacrimal apparatus

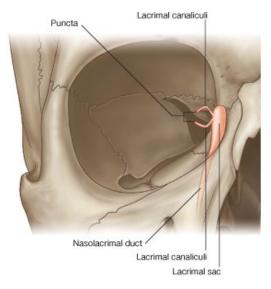
- Lacrimal part:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Arises from behind lacrimal sac and passes laterally into eyelid
  - ο Δ runs behind the lacrimal aparatus

## Conjunctiva:

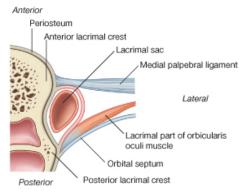
- Lines deep surface of eyelid & exposed surface of eye
- Continuous with anterior epithelium of the cornea
- **Fornices:** the recesses of the conjunctiva above and below where the palpebral part reflects onto the eyeball.
- Conjunctiva is kept moist at all times.
- Palpebral fissure: elliptical space between the 2 eyelids.
- The medial and lateral corners of the palpebral fissure are called the medial & lateral canthus
- The medial canthus contains:
  - Lacrimal caruncle (small red mass)
  - Plica semilunaris

#### Lacrimal gland

- Lies mainly in the orbit
- Does have a small palpebral part which extends into upper lid
- 12+ small ducts from lacrimal gland in upper fornix.
- Lacriminal fluid produced here flows towards medial angle of conjunctival sac
- At the medial canthus there is a small duct called the lacrimal canaliculus
- The lacrimal canaliculus is visible on examination called lacrimal punctum
- Puntum opens at a swelling lacrimal papilla
- Tears are drawn through the lacrimal canaliculus into the lacrimal sac
- From the lacrimal sac tears are drawn downwards through nasolacrimal duct into nasal cavity.
- Secretion of tears by the lacrimal gland is initiated by <u>parasympathetic fibres</u>.

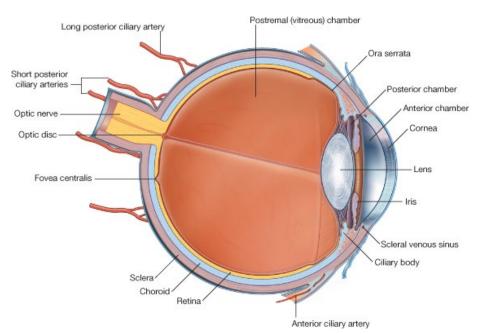


- The <u>palpebral</u> part (in front) of the orbicularis orbis, and the <u>lacrimal part</u> (behind) attach either side of the lacrimal sac.
- $\Delta$  contraction of this muscles squeezes the lacrimal sac
- When the muscle relaxes → tears are drawn into the sac → nasolacrimal duct → lateral wall of nose.



## EYEBALL:

- Wall of the eye is composed of 3 coats:
  - o Sclera
  - $\circ$  Choroid
  - o Retina
- The sclera is transparent in front the cornea
- Cornea is continuous with the conjunctiva at its margin
- Behind, the sclera is dense & white
- The cornea has a covering layer of epithelia
- **Posterior limiting lamina** is a layer on posterior surface of cornea which is elastic.
- At its <u>periphery</u>, around the posterior margin of the cornea, the posterior limiting lamina breaks up into bundles with spaces with spaces between them
- Δ the posterior limiting lamina becomes a permeable structure the **pectinate ligament** of the iris.
- The spaces in the pectinate ligament allow aqueous humour from the anterior chamber of the eye to pass into a venous sinus in the sclera.
- Means by which aqueous humour is filtered back into the venous system.
- Damage to this drainage mechanism  $\rightarrow$  glaucoma.

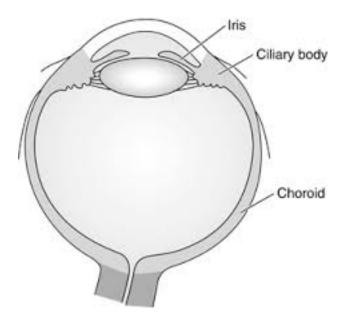


## Sclera:

- Scelra is dense
- Optic nerve enters through sclera 3mm to the medial side of the posterior pole
- Optic nerve at this point is still covered by the 3 layers of meninges
- The meninges fuse with the sclera
- Nerve passes throug hole in the sclera along with BVs
- Short & long cillary nerves & BVs also pierce the sclera.

# Middle coat of eye: iris & choroid

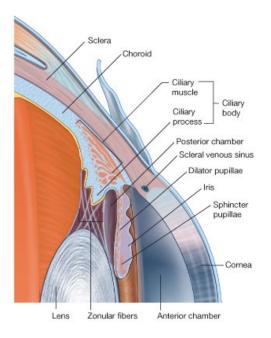
- In front: iris
- Behind: choroid
- Cillary body lies between the 2



- Cillary body:
  - $\circ$  ~ Iris attached to anterior surface
  - Lens attached to <u>ciliary process</u>
- The outer part of the cillary body is composed of ciliary muscle
- Posterior surface of the ciliary *process* is raised into <u>radial ridges</u> by the **suspensory ligament of the lens** which attaches here.
- Iris lies in front of eye:
  - Cornea in front of it
  - Lens posterior to it
- Anterior chamber of eye: between cornea & iris
- Posterior chamber of eye: between iris & lens
- The anterior and posterior chamber are continuous through the aperture of the iris
- They are filled with aqueous humour.

#### Aqueous humour:

- Produced by anterior surface of ciliary process in the posterior chamber
- Filtered off into venous sinus of sclera in the anterior chamber



- Periphery of iris is attached to:
  - o Pectinate ligament
  - Anterior part of cillary body
- Iris contains pigment giving it colour

#### Pupil:

- Aperture of the iris = **pupil**
- Pupil varies in diameter depending on light conditions
- Sympathetic: dilate pupil
- Parasympathetic: constrict pupil
- Muscles of the iris  $\rightarrow$  pupillary constriction / dilation
- Muscles of the ciliary body → lense changes
- It is the **sphincter pupillae (circular)** in the pupillary margin of the iris which constricts the pupil.
- Sphincter pupillae is innervated by <u>parasympathetic</u> fibres which enter the eye through the <u>short</u> <u>cillary nerves</u>
- **Dilator pupillae (radial)** consists of muscle fibres which radiate outwards from the pupillary margin of the iris.
- Supplied by sympathetic fibres in the long cillary branches of the nasocilary nerve
- **Cillary muscle** lies within cillary body
- Has both radial and circular fibres
- <u>Radiating fibres</u>:
  - Arise from the scleral spur (near where cornea joins sclera)

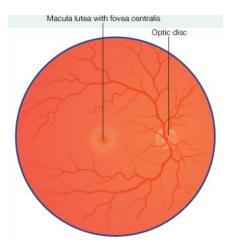
- Radiate back into the cillary process
- <u>Circular fibres:</u>
  - Form a muscular ring near periphery of the iris
- Cillary muscle is supplied by parasympathetic fibres
- Looking @ something in the distance lens is flat:
  - o <u>Suspensory ligaments</u> pull on periphery of lens to keep it flat
- Looking @ something nearby lens is relaxed, thick & fat (natural shape of lens)
  - <u>Cillary muscles contract:</u>
    - → draws suspensory mechanism of the lens forwards (*i.e. changes position of the lens in the eye*)
    - $\rightarrow$  reuces the diameter of the rim to which the suspensory ligaments are attached
    - This leads to relaxation of the peripheral pull of the suspensory ligaments on the lens → allowing it to resume is natural thickened state.
- Cillary muscles  $\Delta$  contract when shifting gaze from something far away to something near.
- It is accomodated by:
  - Constriction of the pupil (also parasympathetic)
  - Convergence of the eyes.
- The ability to change focus when looking at objects at different distances is called accommodation.
- Accomodation  $\Delta$  consists of the above processes:
  - o Contraction of cillary muscles
  - Pupillary constriction
  - Convergence of eyes.

#### Choroid:

- The choroid is the largest part of the <u>middle layer</u> of the eye
- Contains many blood vessels

## Inner layer of the eye – the <u>retina</u>

- Retina can be studied in patients by using an <u>opthalmoscope</u>
- Opthalmoscope gives a view of the whole of the back of the retina the **fundus**:
  - Optic disc
  - Macula lutea
  - o Retinal arteries
- Optic disc:
  - $\circ$   $\ \$  Found 3mm to the nasal side of the anteroposterior axis of the eye
  - $\circ$   $\;$  It is where the optic nerve fibres and blood vessels leave the eye
  - Fibres build up into a circular zone as they leave giving the disc a 'raised edge'
  - Central part of the disc is depressed.
- Retinal arteries:
  - Central artery of retina enters at the optical disc, and its branches can be clearly seen
  - o Retinal veins are also clearly visible (wider vessels than the arteries)
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Retinal arteries radiating towards the nose are known as 'nasal arteries'



- o Retinal arteries radiating towards the lateral temple are known as 'temple arteries'.
- Macula lutea:
  - Lies exactly in the visual axis
  - Small yellow-ish spot
  - It is the area of most distinct vision
  - In the centre of the macula is a small depression the **fovea centralis**
  - It is at this point that the resolving power of the retina is at its greatest most accurate central vision.
- $\uparrow$  intracranial pressure  $\rightarrow$  margins of the optic disc become swollen.
- This is a useful sign for diagnosis & monitoring
- The retina is the only place in the body where vessels can be directly viewed.
- In patients with hypertension:
  - o The vessels will often have thick walls and appear rigid
  - $\circ$  Where arteries cross veins they will compress them  $\rightarrow$ 
    - Haemorrhage into retina
    - Or white fluffy areas of exudate from vessels
- Diabetes will also give charateristic features of the fundus.

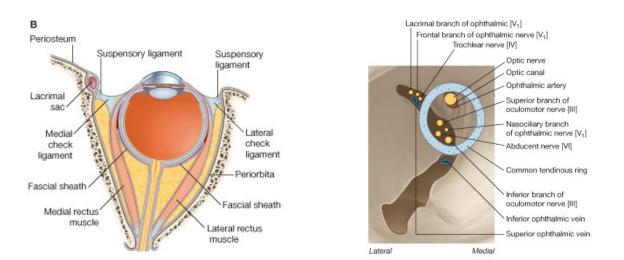
#### Vitreous humour:

- Contained within the cavity behind the lens
- Jelly consistency
- In front, the posterior surface of the lens and the ciliary processes form a concavity in the jelly the <u>hyaloid fossa</u>
- **Hyaloid canal** is a minute canal which runs from the optic disc to the posterior surface of the lens.
- The hyaloid canal represents the remains of a small branch of the central artery of the retina, which degenerates before birth.
- The vitreous body is condenced superficially to form an envelope the vitreous membrane
- The vitreous membrane is thickened in front to form the capillary zonule
- The capillary zonule itself consists of 2 layers:
  - Posterior layer: thin
  - o Anterior layer: thick, forming the suspensory ligament of the lens
- Suspensory ligament of the lens holds the lens in the hyaloid fossa
- Also maintains tension on periphery of the lens when eye is at rest or fucused on a distant object.

#### **EXTRAOCULAR STRUCTURES**

- Eye in the orbit is surrounded by a fascial sheath
- Fascial sheath seperates the eyeball from the orbital muscles and fat
- Eyeball diameter: 2.5cm
- Cornea is much more curved than the globe of the eye.
- Posteriorly, the fascial sheath fuses with the dura over the optic nerve
- Each extraocular muscle must pierce the sheath to insert into the sclera.

- The extraocular muscles pierce the sheath close to the equator of the eye, and the sheath continues up over the muscles for a short distance.
- Near their point of attachment the **medial and lateral rectus muscles** are attached to the boney walls of the orbit by small fascial attachments **check ligaments**
- Check ligaments:
  - Stabilise the eye in the orbital cavity
  - o Resist compression of the eye when the EO muscles contract

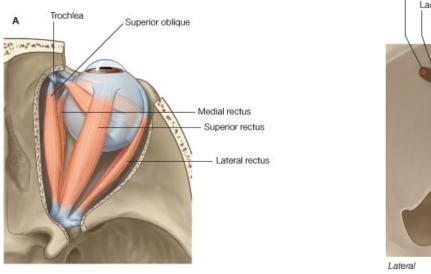


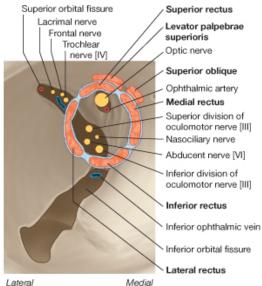
Inside the common tendinous ring:

- Optic canal (optic nerve [II] + ophthalmic artery
- V1 nasocillary branch
- CNIII (superior + inferior branch of occulomotor nerve)
- CNVI (abducens)

Outside the common tendinous ring:

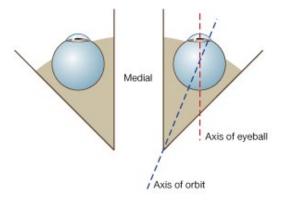
- CNIV (trochlear)
- V1 frontal + lacrimal branches
- Superior + inferior ophthalmic veins
- Tendinous ring surrounds the apex of the orbit, enclosing:
  - Optic foramen
  - Medial part of superior orbital fissure
- <u>4</u> muscles arise from this tendinous ring, and insert into the front of the coronal equator of globe of eye:
  - o Lateral rectus muscle
  - o Medial rectus muscle
  - o <u>Superior rectus muscle</u>
  - Inferior rectus muscle
- Pass forwards from tendinous ring, forming a cone around the eye.





- <u>**2 oblique muscles**</u> also arise arise from the boney orbit, outside the cone of muscle:
  - o Superior oblique
  - o Inferior oblique
- Superior oblique:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Arises from bone above the tendinous ring
  - Travels along upper border of medial rectus
  - Passes through fibrous pully trochlea (attached to roof of boney orbit)
  - Changes direction, travels posteriorly, and inserts <u>behind the coronal equator</u> of the eye.
- Inferior oblique:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Arises from anterior section of orbital floor  $\;$
  - o Runs backwards to insert into the eye *behind the coronal equator*
- The **levator palpebrae superioris** arises from arises from bony orbit above superior rectus, and inserts into the upper eyelid (causing it to rise)

## VISUAL AXIS AND FUNCTION OF THE EO MUSCLES:



• When looking directly forwards at a distant object, the visual plane lies in the saggital plane

- This visual plane is  $\Delta$  parallel with the medial wall of the orbit but <u>not</u> the lateral wall.
- The **axis of the orbit** does not correspond with the visual plane when looking directly forward.
- Only when the eye is turned *laterally* does the visual plane correspond with the orbital axis, and <u>Δ</u> with the line of pull of the superior and inferior recti.
- Δ the superior and inferior rectionly pull powerfully up/down on the eye when the eye is looking laterally.
- When the eye is looking *medially / directly fowards*, their superior/inferior recti tend to cause **torsion** of the eyeball, instead of elevation and depression.
- Torsion = rotation of eyeball around transverse anteroposterior axis.
- When the eye is facing <u>medially</u>, it is the **<u>obliques</u>** which carry out elevation and depression.
- Because the obliques insert behind the coronal equator of the eye:
  - Superior oblique  $\rightarrow$  depression of eye
  - Inferior oblique  $\rightarrow$  elevation of eye
- When the eye is directed more *laterally*, the obliques tend to cause *intorsion*.
- Δ When the eye is looking directly forwards, elevation and depression are combined actions of obliques & superior/inferior recti.
- To separate the actions of the obliques and superior/inferior recti, the patient must look medially & laterally, and follow an object up and down in these positions.
- Look laterally: S + I rectus do up/down
- Look medially: S + I oblique do up/down

|                  | Medial     | Directly forwards | Lateral    |
|------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| Lateral rectus   | Abduction  | Abduction         | Abduction  |
| Medial rectus    | Adduction  | Adduction         | Adduction  |
| Superior rectus  | Torsion    | Torsion           | Elevation  |
| Inferior rectus  | Torsion    | Torsion           | Depression |
| Superior oblique | Depression | Intortion         | Intortion  |
| Inferior oblique | Elevation  | Intortion         | Intortion  |

#### Testing the functions of individual muscles:

| Lateral / medial rectus            | Patient looks direcly forwards, then looks towards their nose and away from it. |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Superior/inferior recti + obliques | Patient looks directly forwards then looks up and down                          |
| Superior/inferior recti            | Patient looks laterally, then looks up and down                                 |
| Superior/inferior obliques         | Patient looks medially, then looks up and down                                  |

#### When the eye is <u>medially</u> positioned:

- Elevation/depression: obliques
- **Torsion:** *superior/inferior recti*

#### When the eye is *laterally* positioned:

- Elevation/depression: superior/inferior recti
- Intorsion: obliques

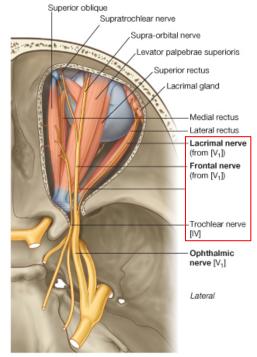
#### NEUROVASCULAR STRUCTURES OF THE ORBIT

- Enter/leave the orbit through either the:
  - Optic foramen
  - Superior orbital fissure
- Structures entering through optic foramen or <u>medial</u> part of superior orbital fissure <u>lie within the</u> <u>cone of recti muscle</u>
- Structures passing through <u>lateral</u> part of superior optic fissure <u>lie outside the cone of muscle</u>.

#### Outside the cone of muscle:

- Lie just deep to the periosteum of the roof of the orbital cavity
- I.e. remove the frontal bone on top of orbit, and the underlying periosteum, and these are the first structures you see
- Enter through lateral part of superior orbital fissure, and <u>lie above the levator palpebrae</u> superioris.
- 3 nerves
  - Lacrimal nerve (V<sub>i</sub>)
  - Frontal nerve (V<sub>i</sub>)
  - Trochlear nerve (IV)
- The lacrimal and frontal nerves are both branches of the **opthalmic division** of **V cranial nerve**
- The opthalmic division of the cranial nerve V is <u>entirely sensory</u>, Δ the lacrimal and frontal nerves are entirely <u>sensory</u>.
- The trochlear nerve (IV) is entirely motor

| Lacrimal (V1)        | Branch of ophthalmic (V)  | Sensory | Sensory inpulses from conjunctiva & eyelids                                 |
|----------------------|---|---------|---|
| Frontal (V1)         | Branch of opthalmic (V)<br>Itself divides into supraorbital &<br>supratrochlear nerves. | Sensory | Skin from side of eye<br>upwards, over the scalp<br>to the top of the head. |
| Trochlear nerve (IV) | Small thread-like nerve   | Motor   | Superior oblique  |



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#### Inside the cone of muscle:

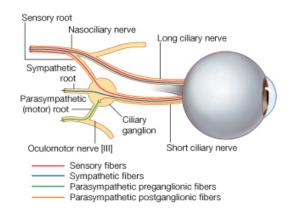
- Pass through optic foramen and the medial side of the superior optic fissure:
  - Optic nerve (II)
  - Oculomotor nerve (III)
  - o Abducent nerve (VI)
  - Nasociliary nerve (V<sub>i</sub>) branch of opthalmic division of V
- Optic nerve (II):
  - Passes through optic foramen
  - Reaches eyeball 3mm medial of posterior pole
  - Forms the **optic disc** at point where it inserts into interior of the eye.

#### • Nasociliary nerve (V<sub>i</sub>):

- Passes through superior orbital fissure
- Branch of opthalmic division of V
- o <u>Entirely sensory</u>
- Passes *above* the optic nerve  $\rightarrow$  medial wall of orbit
- Carries sensation from:
  - Surface & bridge of nose
  - Air sinuses of ethmoid bone
- Nasociliary nerve gives off the:
  - Long ciliary nerves
  - Short ciliary nerves
- Long ciliary nerve:
  - Sensory to eyeball
  - <u>Sympathetic</u> innervation to the eye ( $\rightarrow$  pupillary dilation)

#### o Short ciliary nerve:

- Sensory fibres + postgang. parasympathetic + sympathetic fibres
- Pass through the ciliary ganglion (without synapsing)
- Sensory: pass through short ciliary nerve → ciliary ganglion → join nasociliary nerve.
- Ciliary ganglion Δ appears to hang from nasociliary nerve, on <u>lateral side of optic</u> <u>nerve</u>.
- Short ciliary nerves are the <u>only nerves of eye with postganglionic</u> <u>parasympathetic fibres in them.</u>

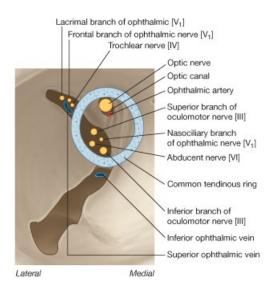


#### • Occulomotor nerve (III):

- Enters through superior orbital fissure
- Divides into 2 divisions which supply <u>all the extraocular muscles</u> except superior oblique (IV) and <u>lateral rectus</u> (VI)
- Also carries **preganglionic parasympathetic** fibres from the brain:
  - Parasymp. fibres leave the occulomotor nerve and jump into ciliary ganglion
  - Synapse
  - Postganglionic parasymp. fibres pass into the eye within short ciliary nerves
  - Cause contraction of ciliary muscles & pupillary constriction.

#### • Adjucent nerve (VI):

- o Enters through superior orbital fissure
- Motor to lateral rectus



| Muscle                       | Nerve supply            |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Superior oblique             | Trochlear nerve (IV)    |  |
| Lateral rectus               | Abducent nerve (VI)     |  |
| Medial rectus                |                         |  |
| Superior rectus              |                         |  |
| Inferior rectus              | Occulomotor nerve (III) |  |
| Inferior oblique             |                         |  |
| Levator palpebrae superioris |                         |  |

 Damage to cranial nerves III, IV or VI can Δ lead to paralysis of one of the extraocular muscles → strabismus (abnormal alignment of eye).

#### *Summary of <u>sympathetic</u> innervation to the eye:*

- Sympathetic nerves in the head and neck accompany <u>arteries</u> most arteries in the head and neck are joined in their course by 'hitch-hiking' sympathetic fibres.
- Preganglionic symp. leaves thoracic spinal cord
- Ascend in sympathetic trunks to upper cervical sympathetic ganglion
- Synapse
- Postganglionic sympathetic fibres travel along carotid arteries
- Travel within nasociliary branch of opthalmic branch (V) into the orbit

- Within the orbit they either:
  - Pass directly to eye in long ciliary nerve
  - Pass without synapse through ciliary ganglion  $\rightarrow$  short ciliary nerve
- There is clearly a long course between the origin of symp. in thoracic spinal cord, and the supply to the eye.
- $\Delta$  lesions anywhere along course can distrupt sympathetic supply to the eye.
- → inability of the eye to dilate (constant pupillary contstriction)

#### *Summary of <u>parasympathetic</u> innervation to the eye:*

- Parasymp. fibres leave the **occulomotor nerve** and jump into ciliary ganglion
- Synapse
- Postganglionic parasymp. fibres pass into the eye within short ciliary nerves
- Compression of the occulomotor nerve in the brain → interupted parasympathetic supply → inability to constrcit eyeball (constant dilation).
- Occulomotor nerve may be compressed by head injury  $\rightarrow$  swelling & oedema of the brain.

#### **BLOOD SUPPLY TO THE ORBIT:**

- Arterial blood supply is via **opthalmic artery** (branch of **internal carotid** immediately after it leaves the cavernosus sinus).
- Enters through the optic foramen
- Lies below the optic nerve in the foramen
- Spirals around to lateral side of optic nerve
- Supplies many branches to:
  - o Muscles
  - o Eyelids
  - Conjunctiva
  - o Other orbital structures

#### Branches of the opthalmic artery

- Anterior and posterior ethmoidal arteries
  - Pass through foramen of the same name in the medial wall of the orbit
  - Supply mucous membrane of ethmoidal air sinuses & root of nose

#### • Central artery of the retina

- Passes into the substance of the optic nerve
- Enters the eye within the optic nerve
- Only artery to the retina  $\Delta$  blockage  $\rightarrow$  complete blindness.
- Venous drainage of the eye is mainly into the cavernosus sinus
- Veins from the face & forehead also drain  $\rightarrow$  orbital cavity  $\rightarrow$  cavernosus sinus
- <u>No valves</u> in these veins blood flow can be in either direction.

#### **APPLIED ANATOMY OF THE EYE & ORBIT**

## FRACTURES

- Fractured orbits are common.
  - Often fracture of the zygomatic bone
  - $\circ \rightarrow$  'seeing double' (diplopia)
  - Diplopia results because either:
    - Suspensory ligament, holding the eye in its horizontal plane, is no longer fixed.
    - Fractured bone obstructs movement of the rectus muscle
- 'Blow-out' fractures can occur if a hard ball hits the eye
  - $\circ \rightarrow$  increased pressure in the orbital cavity
  - $\circ$   $\rightarrow$  fracture of thin bones which make up the medial & inferior walls of the orbital cavity

## INFECTIONS

- Foreign bodies can often lodge in the superior fornix (under upper eyelid)
  - May damage the cornea  $\rightarrow$  corneal abrasion
  - May lead to corneal ulceration
- Infections of the conjunctiva  $\rightarrow$  conjunctivitis
- Infections of the cornea and cillary body are more serious iridocyclitis
- **Cateract** is a developing opacity of the lens.
- If the lens becomes completely opaque it will need to be surgically removed.

## SQUINT / STRABISMUS

- Squint / stabismus is a deviation of the eyes such that their axes are no longer paralell with each other.
- The normal exception is when the eyes converge to look normally at an close object.
- Squint may be the result of:
  - Lesion of one of the cranial nerves which supplies the EO muscles
  - Problem localised to the muscle itself
- Squints can be in any direction, but they are frequently horizontal
  - o Eyes looking towards each other: convergent squint
  - Eyes looking away from each other: divergent squint
- The <u>occulomotor nerve (III)</u> supplies the volunaty part of the levator palpebrae superioris and all the other EO muscles (except the lateral rectoris & and superior oblique).
- The occulomotor nerve also carries parasympathetic fibres which:
  - o Constricts the pupil
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Acts on the cillary muscle during the accomodation reflex
- $\Delta$  occulomotor nerve lesion  $\rightarrow$ 
  - $\circ$  Unoposed sympathetic action on the dilator pupilae muscle  $\rightarrow$  permanently dilated pupil.
  - Inability to accommodate to close object
  - Closure of the upper eyelid (as loss of voluntary part of the levator palpebrae superioris

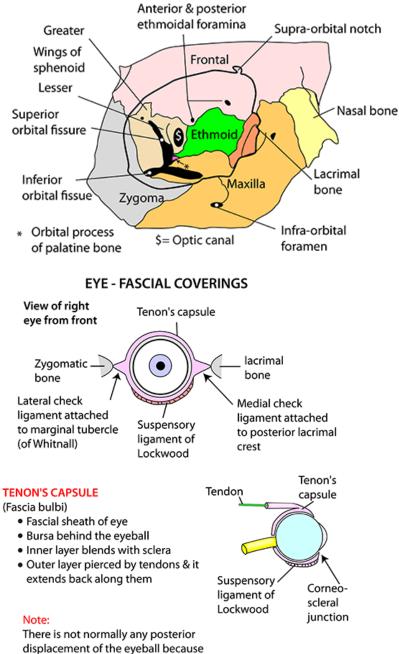
     and the involuntary part is on its own inadequate)
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Unoposed action of the lateral rectus muscle  $\rightarrow$  abduction of the eye.
  - Because eye is abducted, the superior oblique muscle can only **intort** the globe

- Oculomotor nerve lesions are often partial
- CNIII palsy:
  - o Ptosis
  - o Mydriasis
  - Down + out eye position
- The abducens nerve (VI) innervates the lateral rectus muscle
- Lesion of this nerve  $\Delta$  leads to an inability to abduct the eye on the side of the lesion.
- Attempts at abduction may → double vision as the unnafected eye abducts, but the afffected on fails to do so.
- Lesions of trochlear nerve (IV) are extremely rare on their own.
- Trochlear nerve supplies the superior oblique, causing depression of the eyeball (as it inserts behind the coronal equator of the eye)
- ∆ a lesion would lead to an inability to look downwards towards the nose → difficulty walking down stairs
- **HORNERS SYNDROME** results from a distruption of the sympathetic trunk
- E.g. if a lung tumour invades the sympathetic trunk (in thorax or neck of 1<sup>st</sup> rib)
- E.g. poorly placed anaesthetic into the sympathetic trunk
- $\rightarrow$  unopposed parasympathetic activity:
  - o Constricted pupil
  - Hot, flushed, dry face (i.e. loss of sympathetic vasoconstriction and sweating)
  - Drooping of eyelid (loss of sympathetic innervation of involuntary portion of levator palpebrae superioris voluntary supply is insufficient on its own).

## ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM LECTURE:

- Vascularity of the conjunctiva decreases towards the front of the eye
- Cornea:
  - Layered structure
  - Highly organised
  - $\circ$  ~ Fibrils are smaller than the wavelength of light  $\Delta$  cornea is transparent
  - Contains no BVs or lymphatics
- In the eye, the sympathetic NS is responsible only for pupillary dilation
- Accomodation constriction of the pupil + cillary muscle action is all due to parasympathetic
- Short ciliary nerves are the <u>only nerves of eye with postganglionic parasympathetic fibres in</u> <u>them.</u>
- Lens is avascular and asensory

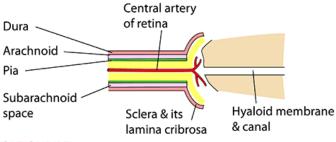
## **EYE - BONES OF RIGHT ORBIT**



of the following factors:

- Medial/lateral check ligaments
- Presence of orbital fat
- Forward pull of 2 oblique muscles

## **EYE - OPTIC NERVE & ITS COVERINGS**



#### **OPTIC NERVE**

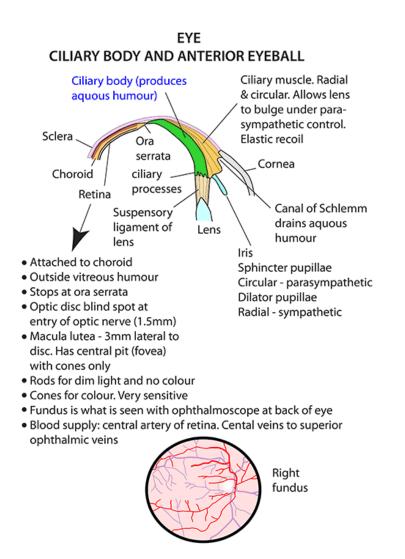
- 3cm in orbit
- Blood supply
  - Intracranial portion Anterior cerebral artery
  - Posterior 2cm in orbit Ophthalmic artery
  - Anterior 1cm in orbit Central artery of retina
- COVERINGS

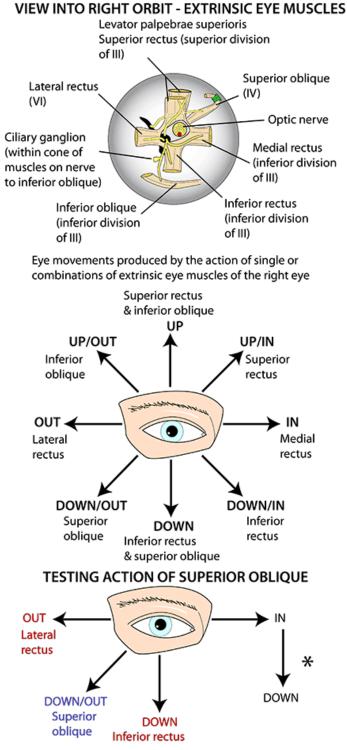
# FIBROUS

- Sclera (nearly avascular)
- Canal of Schlemm (drains aqueous)
- Cornea (anteriorly is stroma between Bowman's
- membrane, posteriorly is Descement's membrane)

#### VASCULAR

- Choroid (thin, pigmented, capillaries & 4-5 venae vorticosae)
- Ciliary body and muscle
- Iris
- NERVOUS
  - Retina

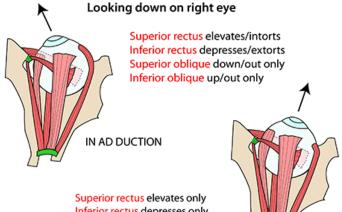




We know that the isolated action of superior oblique is to turn the eye downwards & outwards. BUT lateral rectus & inferior rectus, acting together, could achieve the same action. By asking the patient to first look inwards (to negate the action of lateral rectus) & then downwards **X** (inferior rectus is largely disabled when the eye is turned in) we test the isolated downward action of superior oblique

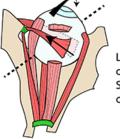
#### **EYE - TORSION**

Because of the oblique angle of the orbit and the way that the muscles attach distal to the equator of the eye there is a tendency for some of the muscles to twist the eye in addition to its main action. This torsion, which can be internal (intorsion) or external (extorsion), is important as it counteracts the tilting movements of the head. The degree of twisting for any one muscle is determined by whether the eyeball is abducted or adducted



Inferior rectus depresses only Superior oblique down/out/intorts Inferior oblique up/out/extorts

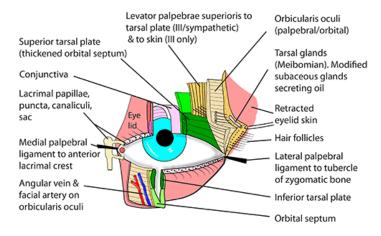
IN ABDUCTION



SUPERIOR OBLIQUE Looking down on right eye. Superior rectus cut away

The action of SUPERIOR OBLIQUE is to pull its attachment to the globe upwards and medially. This will turn the cornea/eye downwards and outwards. Similarly the inferior oblique does the opposite, turning the cornea/eye upwards and outwards. The dotted line indicates the axis on which the eye "rotates" which is at right angles to the line of pull

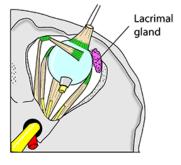
#### EYE - EXPLODED VIEW OF LEFT EYELIDS



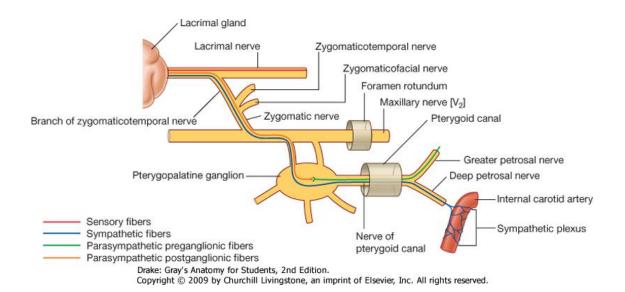
Orbital septum: Anterior lacrimal crest and margins of orbit Tarsal plates: Fibrous thickening of orbital septum Meibomian glands: In tarsal plates, modified sebaceous glands secreting oil Blood supply: Of lids - palpebral branches of ophthalmic artery Nerves: Upper skin/conjunctiva - lacrimal, Supra-orbital, supra- & infratrochlear Lower skin/conjunctiva - infra-orbital

#### LACRIMAL GLAND

Looking down into right orbit

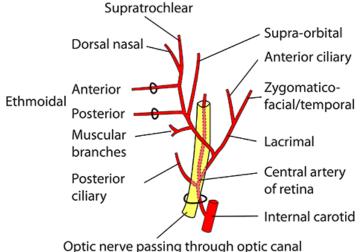


- Serous gland
- · In lacrimal fossa (lateral roof of orbit)
- 10-12 ducts draining into lateral/superior fornix of conjunctiva
- Tears swept medially by progressive lid closure
- Nerve supply secretomotor. Superior salivary nucleus to facial nerve to greater petrosal nerve to pterygopalatine ganglion to zygomatic branch of maxillary division of trigeminal (Vb) to zygomaticotemporal nerve to connecting branch in orbit to lacrimal nerve (Va) to gland
- Blinking achieved by palpebral part of obicularis oculi (no tear spill)
- Screwing up achieved by orbital part of obicularis oculi (tear spill and squeezes lacrimal sac)
- Lacrimal sac lies between anterior & posterior lacrimal crests with palpebral fibres of orbicularis oculi inserting into its walls to draw it open & suck in tears
- Lacus lacrimalis (lacrimal lake) lies above it.
- · Nasolacrimal duct is 2cm long, drains into inferior meatus of
  - lateral wall of nose & its mucosal folds are valvular to stop air ascending



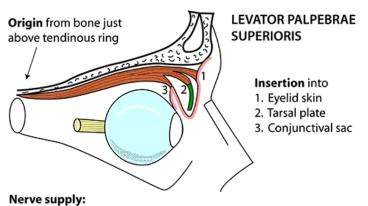
- The parasympathetic secretomotor nerve supply is from facial nerve. The preganglionic fibers are carried by great petrosal nerve & nerve of pterygoid canal to reach pterygopalatine ganglion (sphenopalatine ganglion). The postganglionic fibers leave the ganglion and join the maxillary nerve where they pass into its zygomatic branch and the zygomaticotemporal nerve. Then, they reach the lacrimal gland within the lacrimal nerve.
- The sympathetic postganglionic nerve supply is from the internal carotid plexus and travels in the deep petrosal nerve, nerve of pterygoid canal, maxillary nerve, zygomatic nerve, zygomaticotemporal nerve, and finally lacrimal nerve.

EYE - RIGHT OPHTHALMIC ARTERY (viewed from above)



& tendinous ring with ophthalmic artery

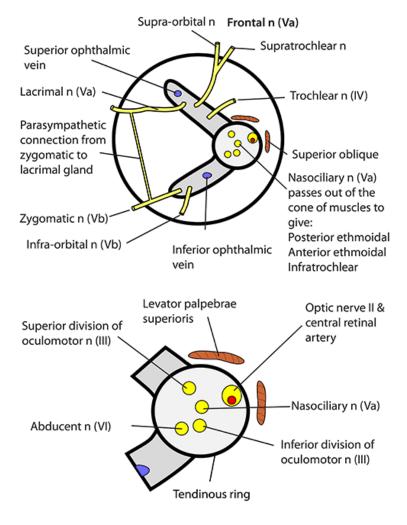
#### LEVATOR PALPEBRAE SUPERIORIS

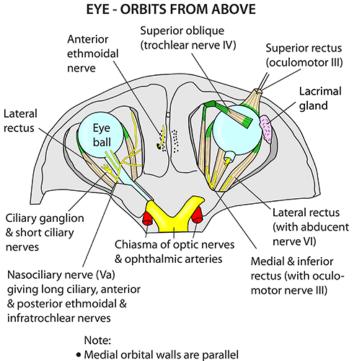


- III (oculomotor) to all three insertions (somatic) so defect gives complete ptosis
- Sympathetic to tarsal plate only (autonomic) so defect gives only partial ptosis

**Note:** For the muscle to function correctly both somatic and sympathetic supply must be intact

#### EYE - STRUCTURES PASSING THROUGH RIGHT SUPERIOR/INFERIOR ORBITAL FISSURES





- Lateral walls are at right angles
- Orbital fascia is the periostium of orbit which is continuous with dura over optic nerve