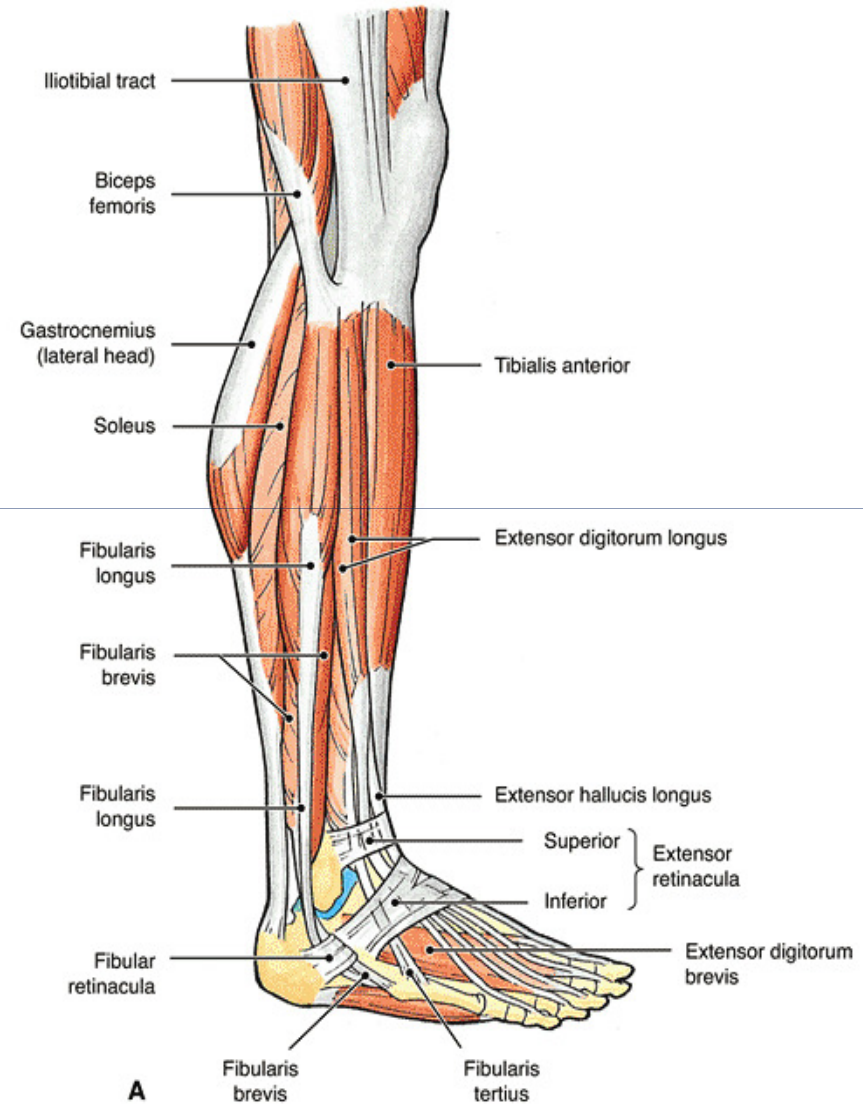


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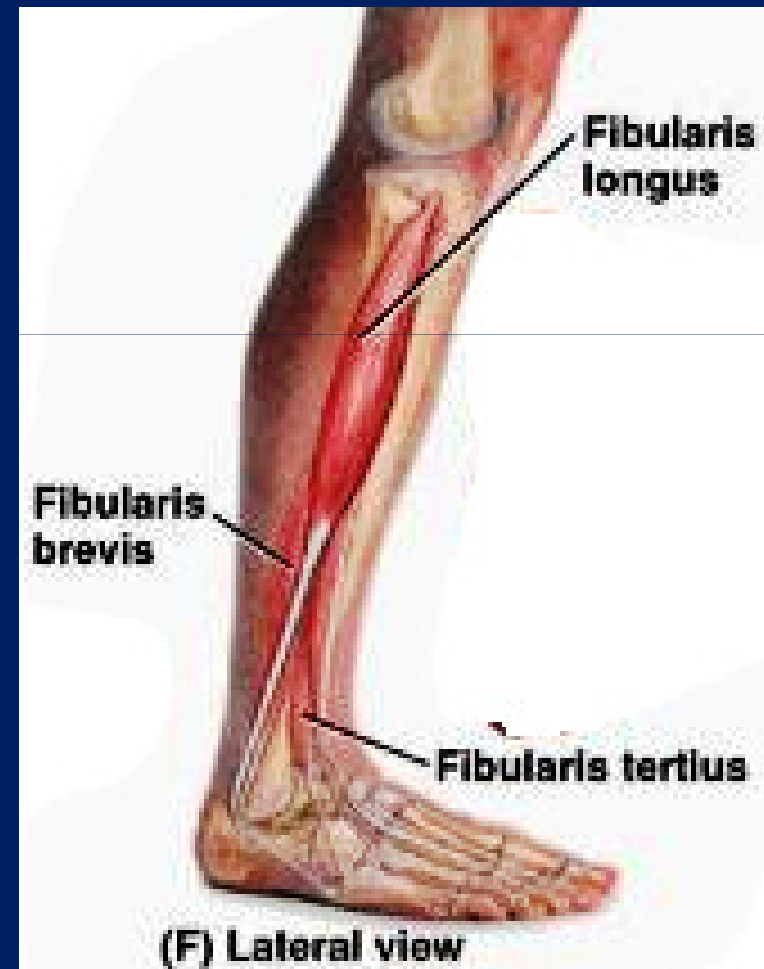
■ Contents of the Lateral Fascial Compartment of the Leg:

- ◆ Muscles
- ◆ Vessels
- ◆ Nerves



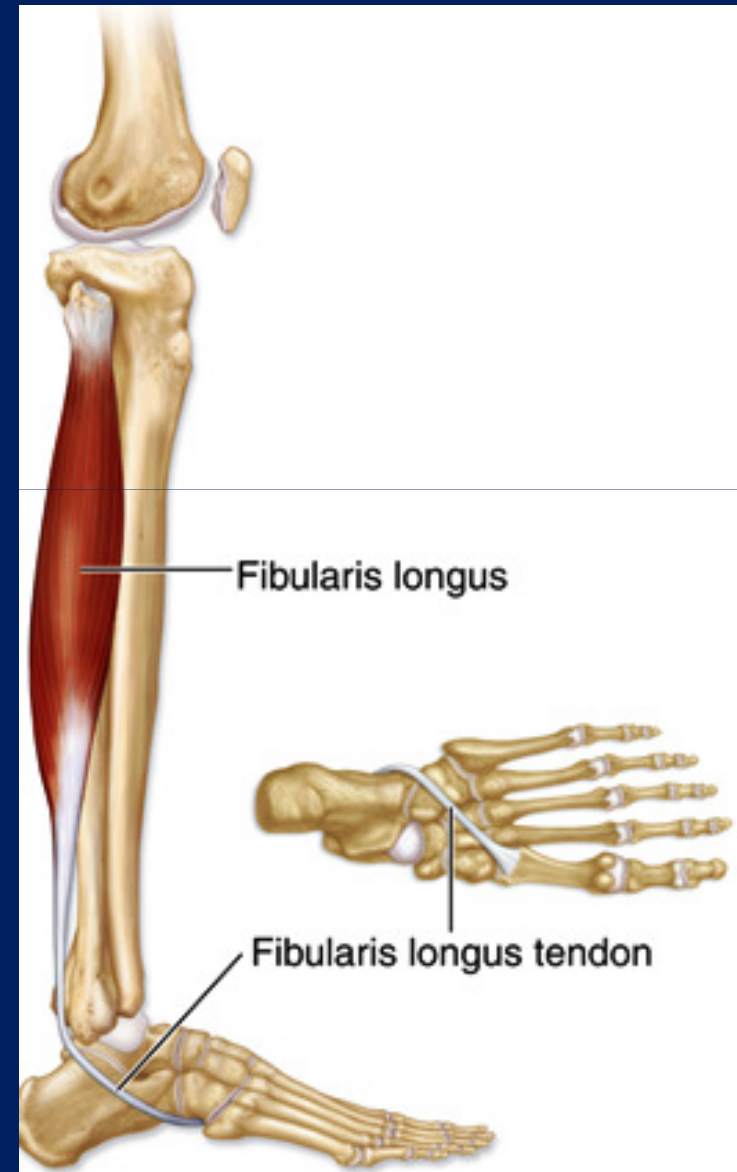
Contents of the Lateral Fascial Compartment of the Leg

- Peroneus longus and
- peroneus brevis



Peroneus longus

- Origin:
- Lateral surface of shaft of fibula
- Insertion:
Base of first metatarsal and the medial cuneiform
- Nerve supply:
 - ◆ Superficial peroneal nerve
 - ◆ L5; S1, 2
- Actions: Plantar flexes foot at ankle joint; everts foot at subtalar and transverse tarsal joints; supports lateral longitudinal and transverse arches of foot



Peroneus brevis

- Origin:

- Lateral surface of Shaft of fibula

- Insertion:

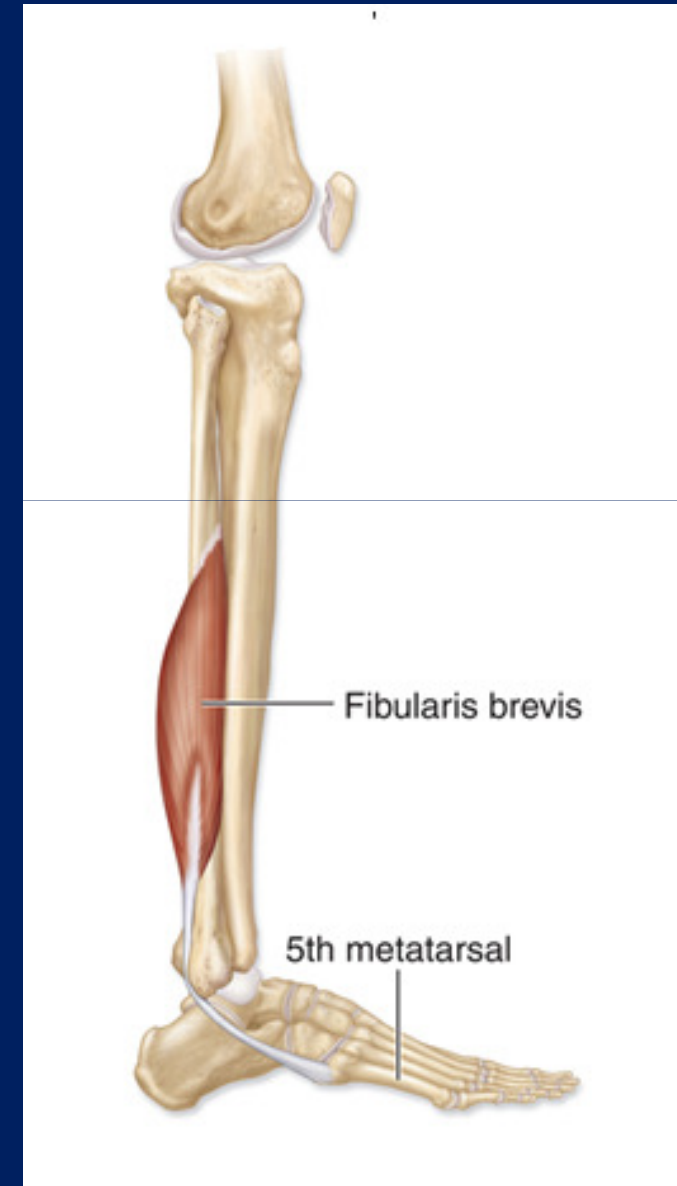
Base of fifth metatarsal bone

- Nerve supply:

- ◆ Superficial peroneal nerve
- ◆ L5; S1, 2

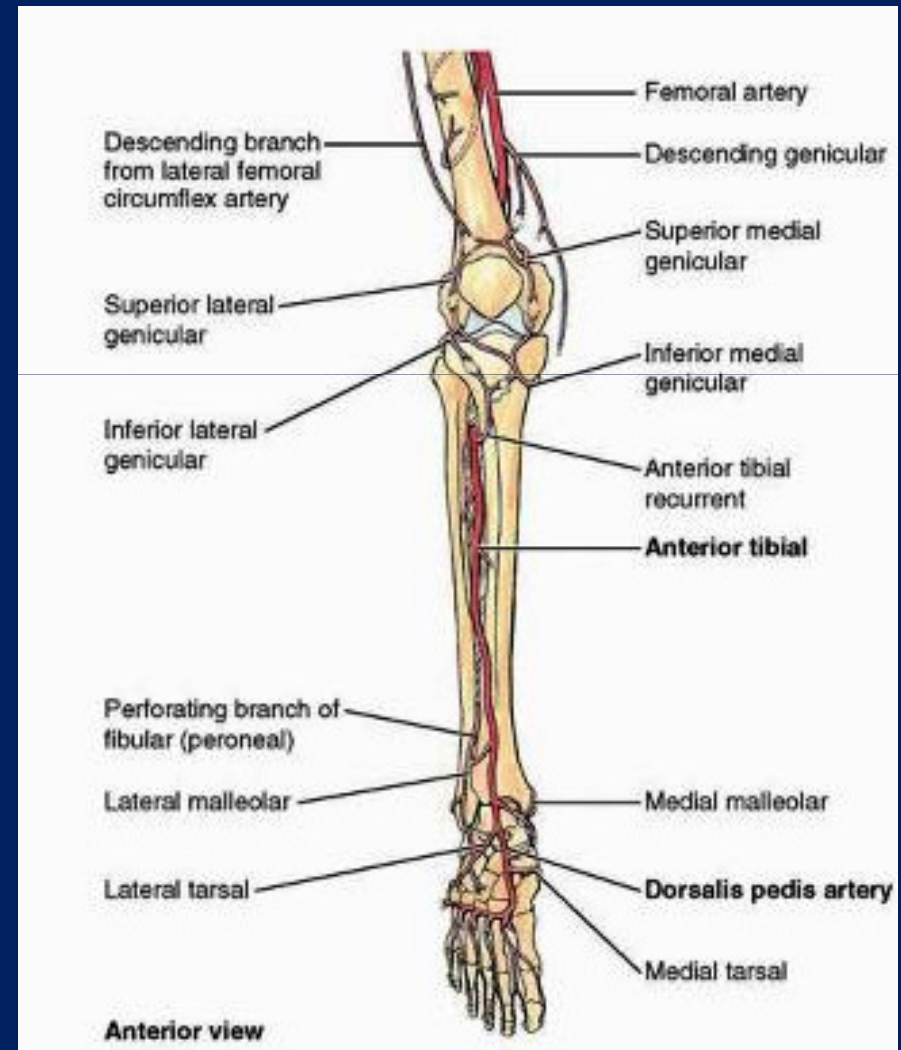
- Actions:

Plantar flexes foot at ankle joint; everts foot at subtalar and transverse tarsal joint; supports lateral longitudinal arch of foot



Artery of the Lateral Fascial Compartment of the Leg

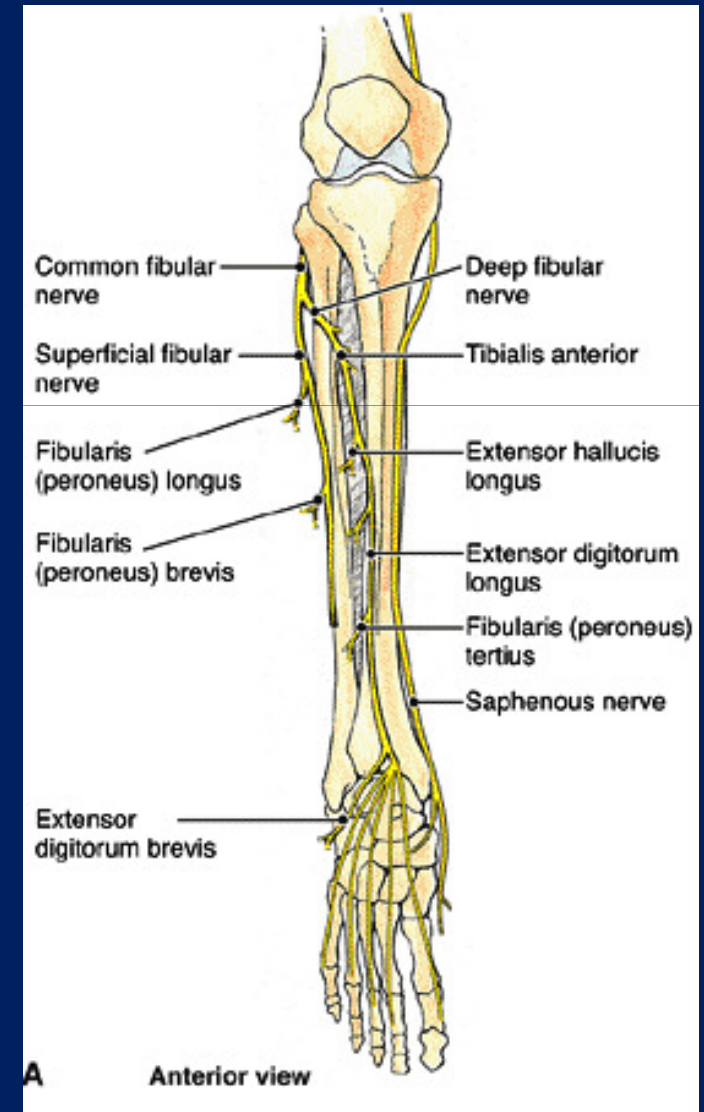
- Numerous branches from the **peroneal** artery, which lies in the posterior compartment of the leg, pierce the posterior fascial septum and supply the **peroneal** muscles.



Nerve of the Lateral Fascial Compartment of the Leg

■ Superficial Peroneal Nerve

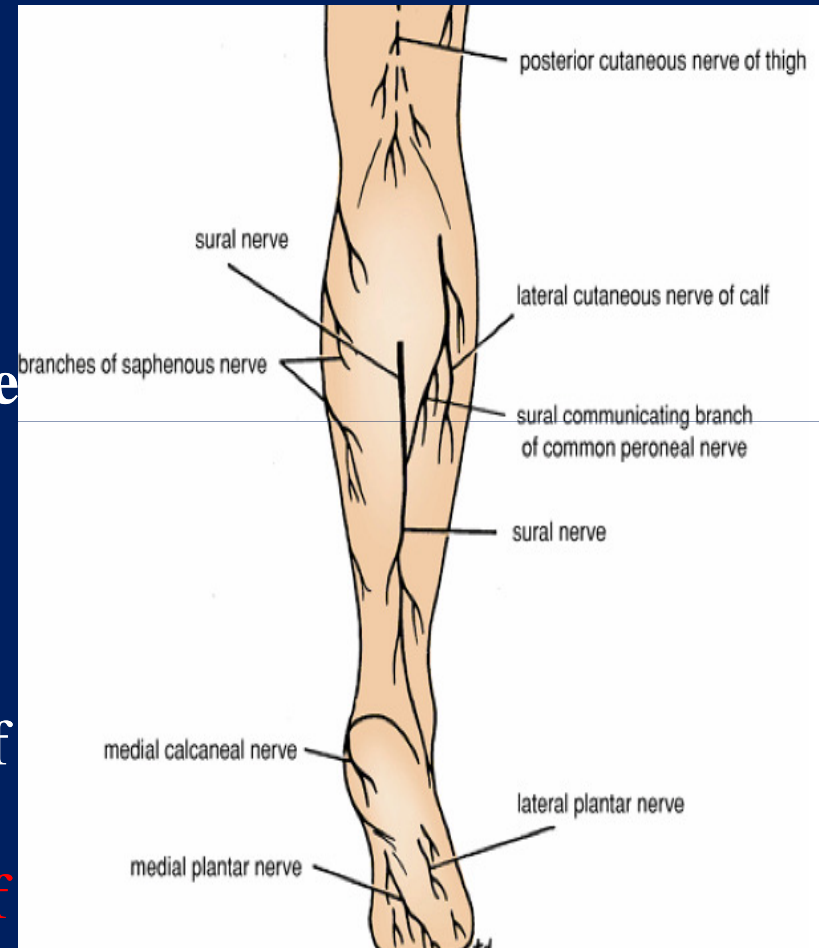
The superficial peroneal nerve is one of the terminal branches of the common peroneal nerve. It arises in the substance of the **peroneus longus muscle** on the lateral side of the neck of the fibula. It descends between the **peroneus longus** and **brevis** muscles, and in the lower part of the leg it becomes cutaneous Branches



Posterior Compartment of the Leg

Cutaneous Nerves

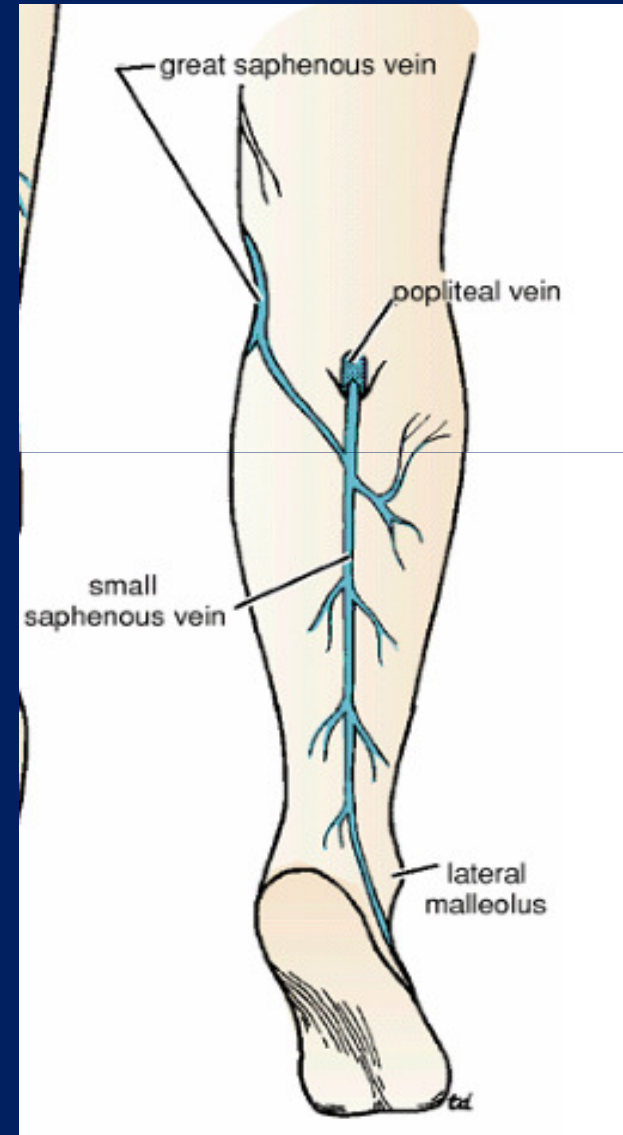
- Skin over the **popliteal fossa and the upper part of the back of the leg** supplied by **posterior cutaneous nerve of the thigh**
- Skin on the **upper part of the posterolateral surface of the leg** supplied by **lateral cutaneous nerve of the calf**, a branch of the common peroneal nerve
- Skin on the **lower part of the posterolateral surface of the leg** supplied by **sural nerve**, a branch of the tibial nerve
- Skin on the **posteromedial surface of the leg** supplied by **saphenous nerve**, a branch of the femoral nerve



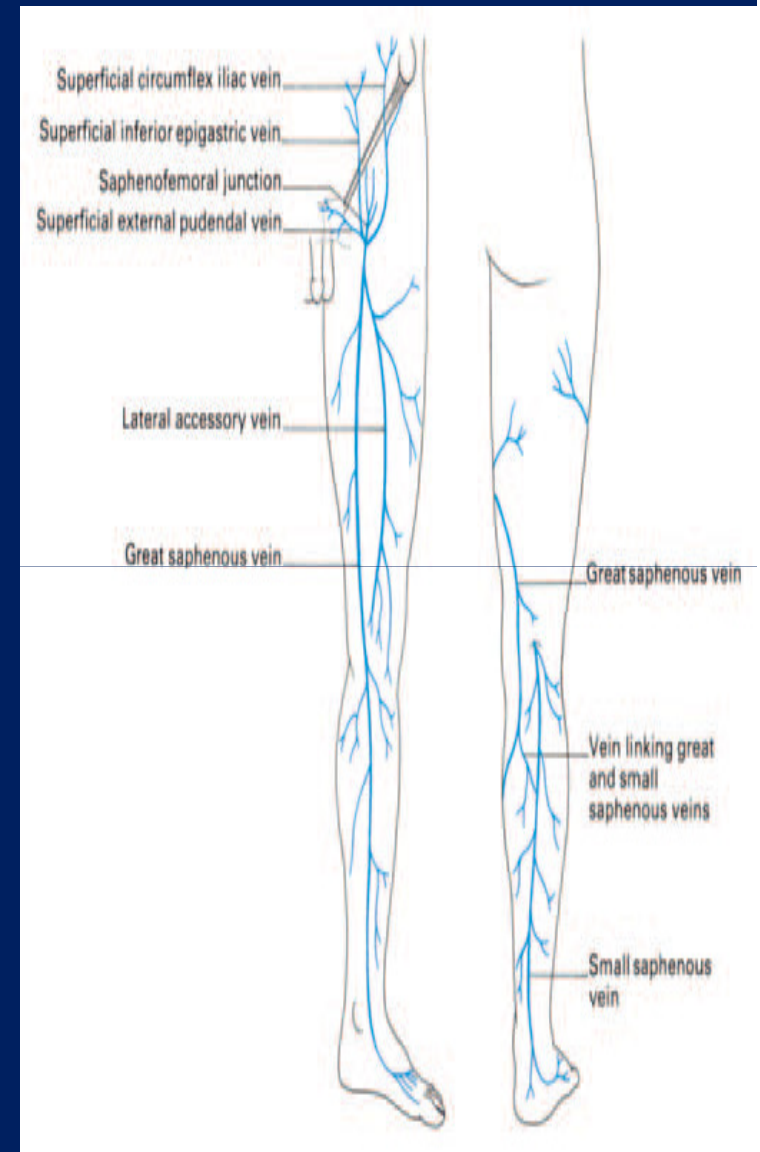
Superficial Veins

The small saphenous vein:

- Arises from the lateral part of the dorsal venous arch of the foot
- Ascends behind the lateral malleolus in company with the sural nerve
- Follows the lateral border of the tendo calcaneus and then runs up the middle of the back of the leg
- Pierces the deep fascia and passes between the two heads of the gastrocnemius muscle in the lower part of the popliteal fossa
- Has numerous valves along its course.

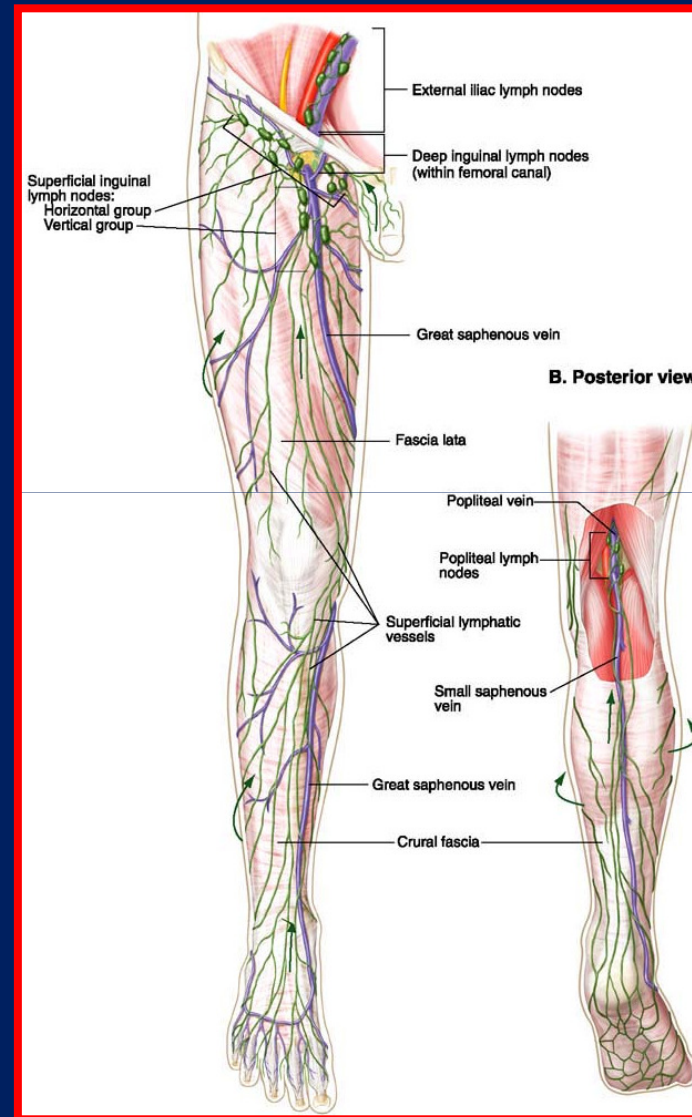


- Terminates by:
 - joining the **popliteal vein**, or
 - joining the **great saphenous vein**, or
 - splitting in two, one division joining the popliteal and the other joining the great saphenous vein
- Receives numerous **small veins from the back of the leg**
- Communicates with the:
 - **Deep veins of the foot**
 - **Great saphenous vein** via anastomotic vessels that run upward and medially



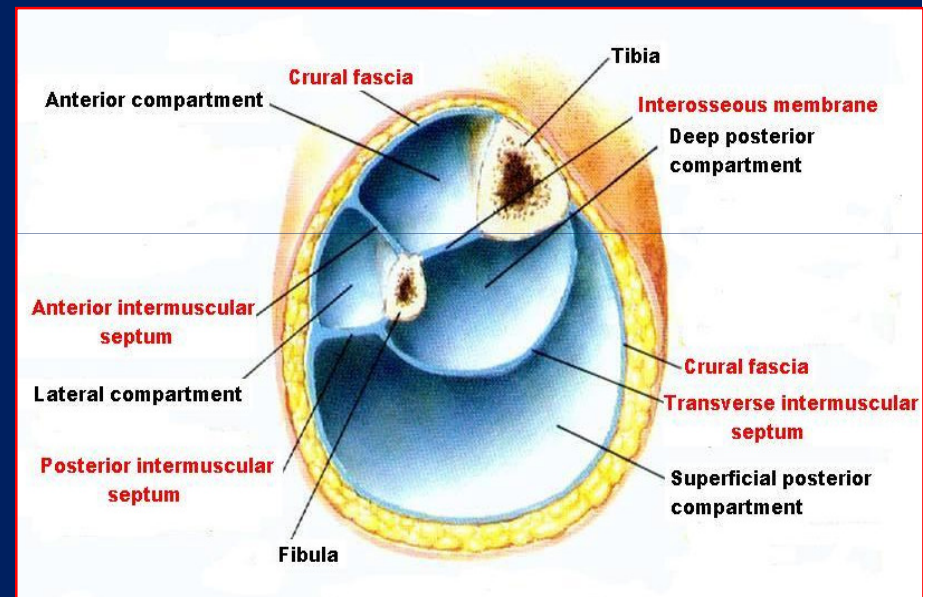
Lymphatics

- Lymph vessels run upward and:
 - Either pass forward around the medial side of the leg to drain into the **vertical group of superficial inguinal nodes** Or
 - Drain into the **popliteal nodes**



Contents of the Posterior Fascial Compartments of the Leg

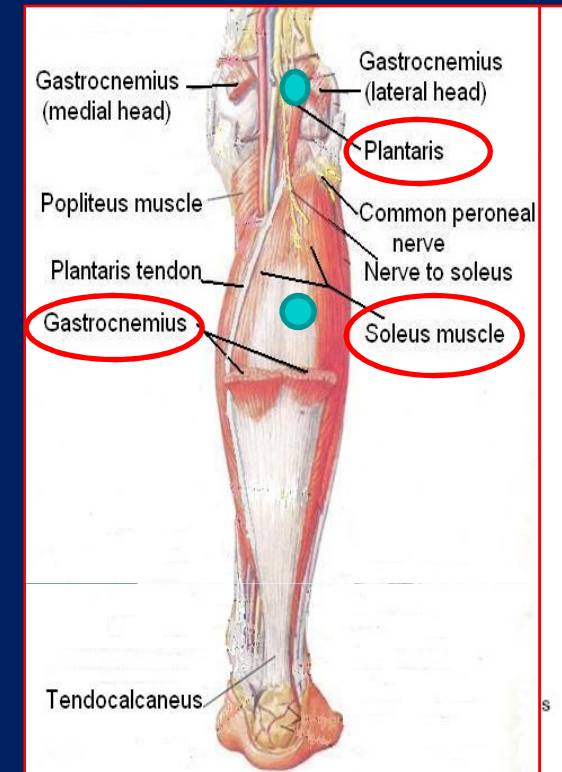
- **Muscles:**
- The **deep fascia** of the leg forms a **transverse intermuscular septum** that divides the muscles of the posterior compartment into superficial and deep groups
- **Blood supply:** Posterior tibial artery
- **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve



- **Superficial group of Muscles:**

- **Gastrocnemius**
- **Plantaris**
- **Soleus**

- **Triceps surae** = soleus + two heads of gastrocnemius.
Have common insertion on calcaneus via Achilles tendon (tendo calcaneus)



Together, the soleus, gastrocnemius, and plantaris:

- (1) Act as powerful plantar flexors of the ankle joint
- (2) Provide the main forward propulsive force in walking and running by using the foot as a lever and raising the heel off the ground.

Gastrocnemius

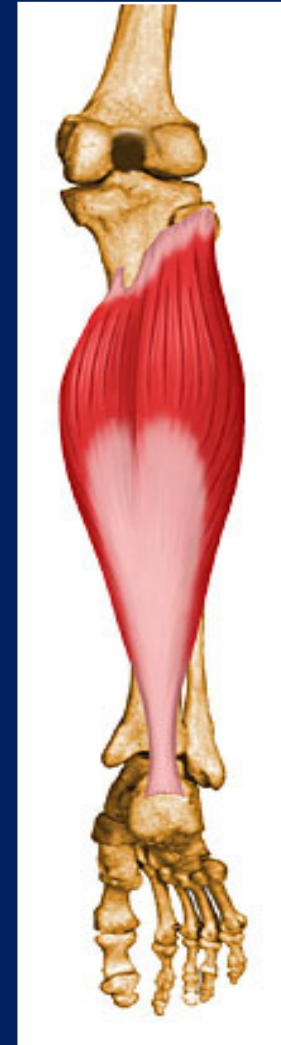
- **Origin:**
 - Lateral head: Lateral condyle of femur
 - Medial head from above medial femoral condyle
- **Insertion:** Posterior surface of calcaneum via Achilles tendon (tendo calcaneus)
- **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve
- **Action:**
 - **Ankle:** Planter flexion
 - **Knee:** Assists flexion



Lateral head may have a sesamoid bone

Soleus

- Broad multipennate muscle
- **Origin:**
 - Shafts of tibia and fibula
- **Insertion:** Posterior surface of calcaneum via Achilles tendon (tendo calcaneus)
- **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve
- **Action:**
 - **Ankle:** Powerful planter flexion
 - Provides main propulsive force in walking and running



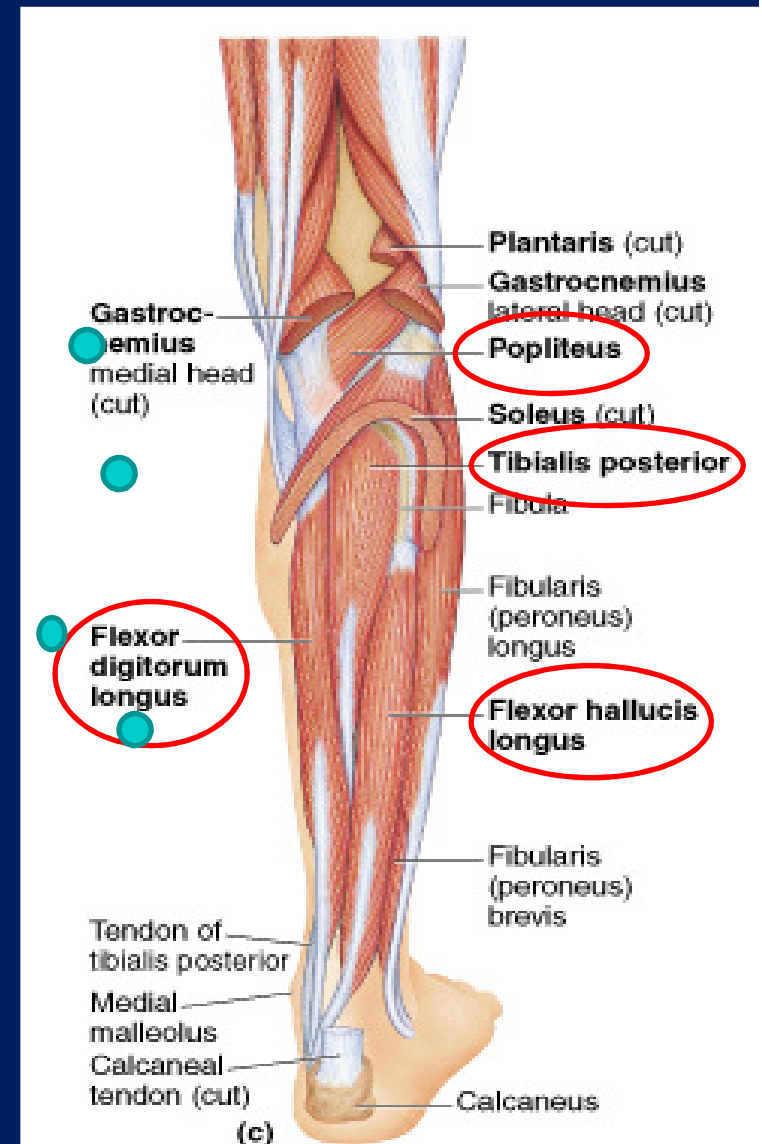
Plantaris

- **Origin:**
 - Lateral supracondylar ridge of femur
- **Insertion:** Posterior surface of calcaneum
- **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve
- **Action:**
 - **Ankle:** Planter flexion
 - **Knee:** Assists flexion

May be absent. Tendon may be used for hand surgery



- **Deep group of Muscles:**
 - Popliteus
 - Flexor digitorum longus
 - Flexor hallucis longus
 - Tibialis posterior



Tibialis Posterior

- **Origin:**
 - Posterior surface of shafts of tibia & fibula and interosseous membrane
- **Insertion:** Tuberosity of navicular bone and via slips into sustentaculum tali, cuneiforms, cuboid and bases of 2nd-4th metatarsals
- **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve
- **Action:**
 - Planter flexion at ankle joint
 - Inversion of foot at subtalar and transverse tarsal joints
 - Supports medial longitudinal arch of foot



Flexor Hallucis Longus

- **Origin:** Distal 2/3 of posterior surface of shaft of fibula
- **Insertion:** plantar surface of base of distal phalanx
- **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve
- **Action:**
 - Flexes distal phalanx of big toe
 - Plantar flexion at ankle joint
 - Supports medial longitudinal arch of foot



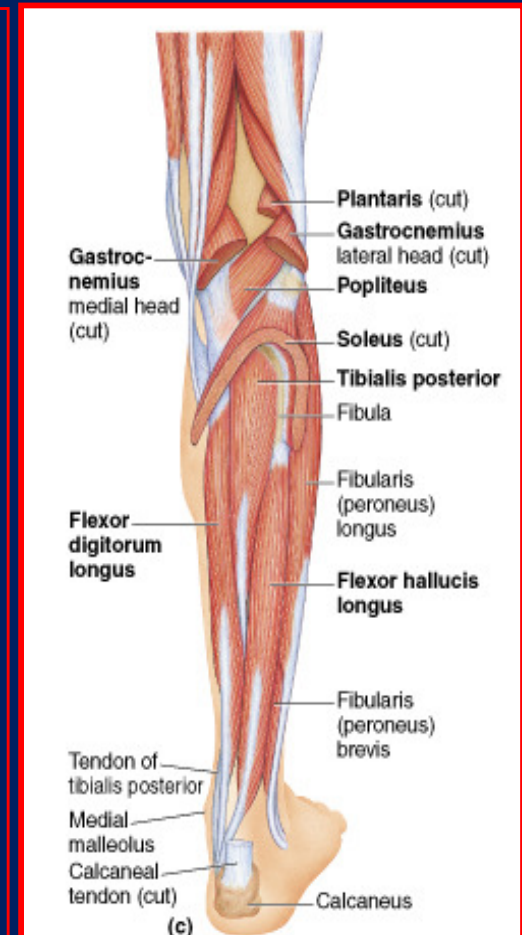
Flexor Digitorum Longus

- **Origin:** Posterior surface of shaft of tibia
- **Insertion:** plantar surface of base of 2nd-5th distal phalanges
- **Nerve supply:** Tibial nerve
- **Action:**
- Flexion of 2nd-5th toes (PIP/DIP/MP joints)
- Assists with foot inversion and plantar flexion
- Supports medial and lateral longitudinal arches of foot

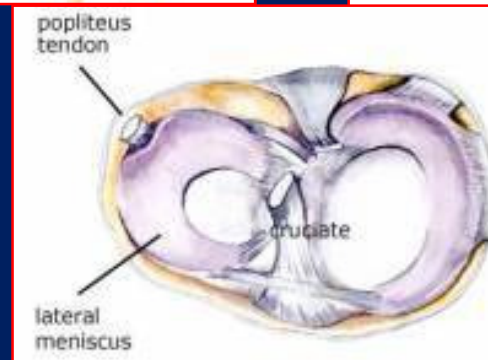
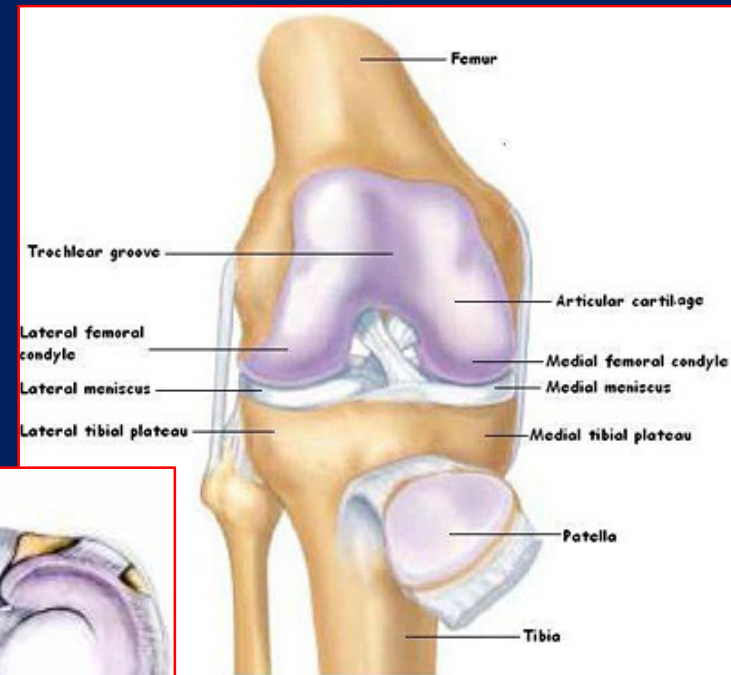
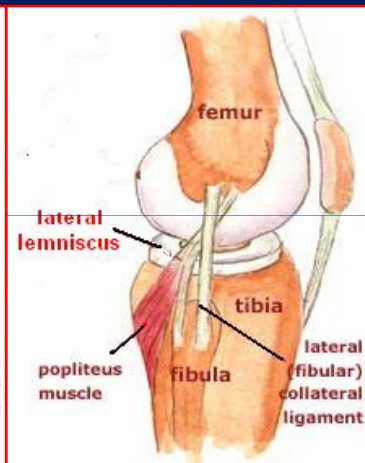
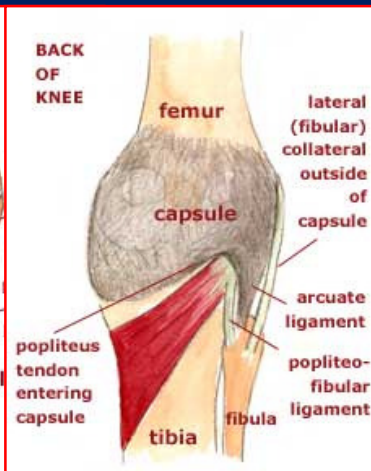
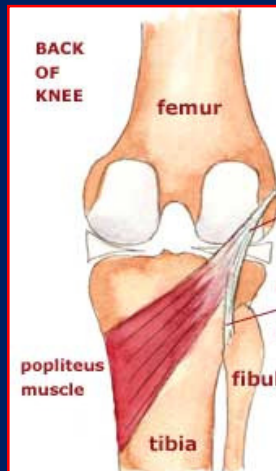


Popliteus

- Lies in floor of popliteal fossa.
- **Origin:** from the lateral surface of lateral condyle of femur
- **Insertion:** Posterior surface of shaft of tibia above soleal line
- **Nerve Supply:** Tibial nerve
- **Action:**
 - Flexes leg at knee joint
 - Unlocks knee joint by lateral rotation of femur on tibia



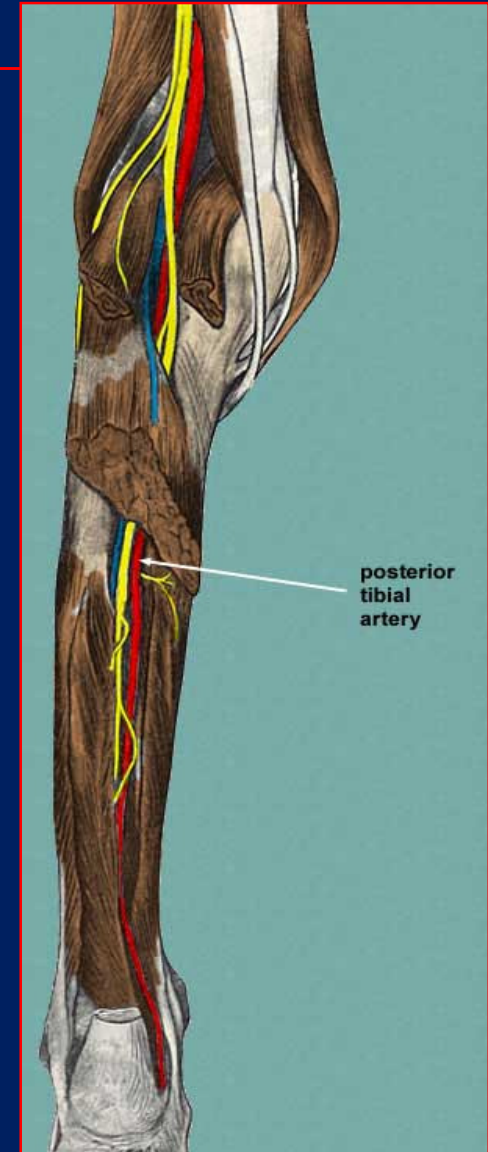
- The popliteus arises **inside the capsule** of the knee joint
- The tendon separates the lateral ligament of the knee joint from the lateral meniscus **so that the meniscus is free to move and is less prone (as compared to right meniscus which is fused to right collateral ligament) to get damaged in knee joint injuries**



Artery of the Posterior Compartment

Posterior Tibial Artery

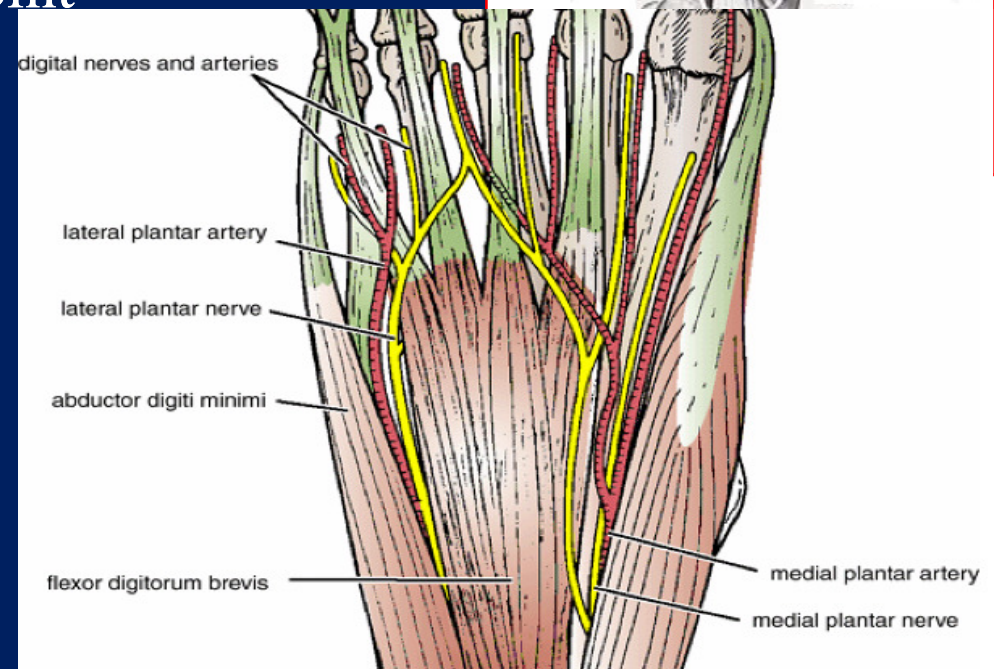
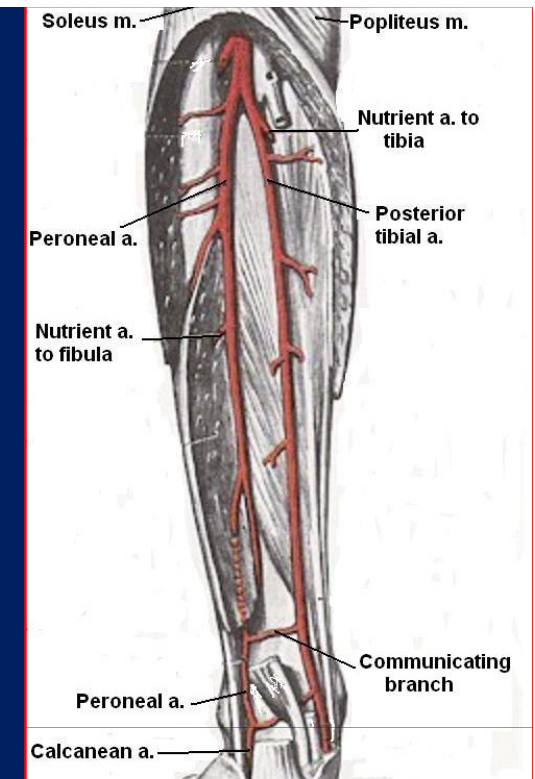
- One of the **terminal branches of the popliteal artery**
- Begins at the level of the **lower border of the popliteus muscle**
- Passes downward deep to the gastrocnemius and soleus and the deep transverse fascia of the leg
- Lies on the posterior surface of the tibialis posterior muscle above and on the posterior surface of the tibia below.
- In the lower part of the leg the artery is covered only by skin and fascia.
- Passes **behind the medial malleolus**, deep to the **flexor retinaculum** and
- Terminates by dividing into **medial and lateral plantar arteries**



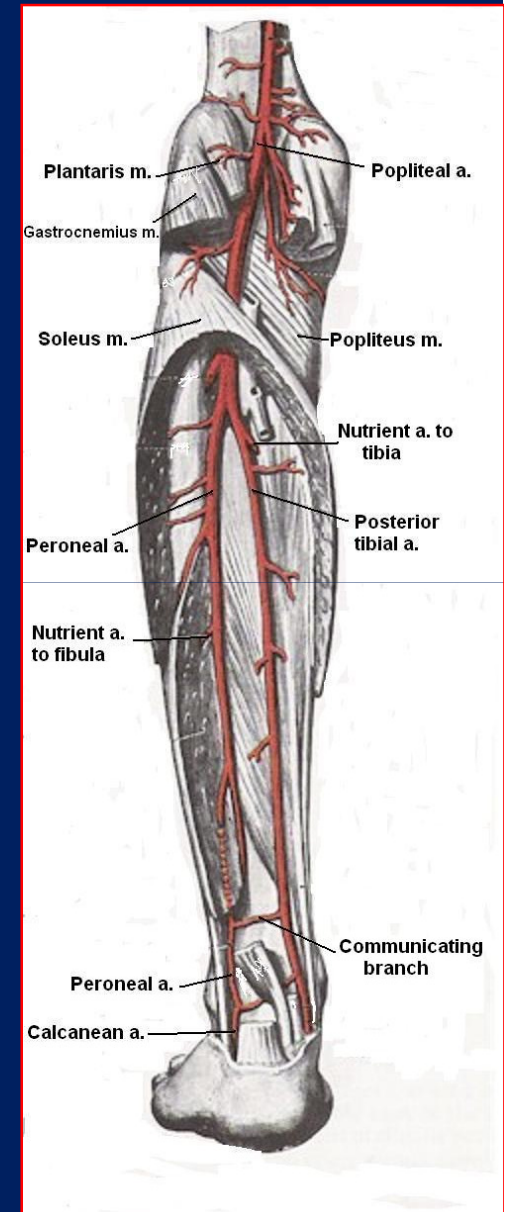
■ Branches

- **Peroneal artery**
- **Muscular branches** are distributed to muscles in the posterior compartment of the leg.
- **Nutrient artery** to the tibia
- **Anastomotic branches**, which join other arteries around the ankle joint
- **Medial and lateral plantar AA**

Venae comitantes of the posterior tibial artery join those of the anterior tibial artery in the popliteal fossa to form the popliteal vein.



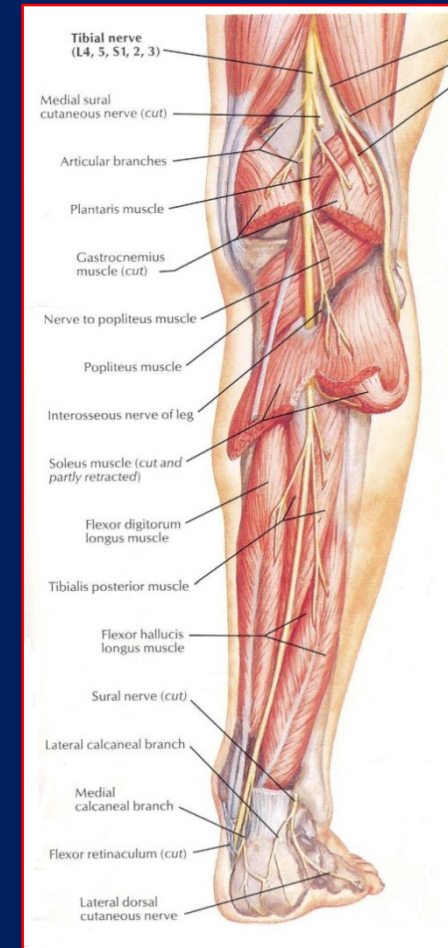
- **Peroneal artery:**
- A large artery that arises close to the origin of the posterior tibial artery
- Descends behind the fibula, either within the substance of the flexor hallucis longus muscle or posterior to it.
- Gives off:
 - Numerous **muscular branches**
 - A **nutrient artery to the fibula**
 - A **perforating branch** pierces the interosseous membrane to reach the lower part of the front of the leg.
- Ends by taking part in the **anastomosis around the ankle joint.**



Nerve of the Posterior Compartment

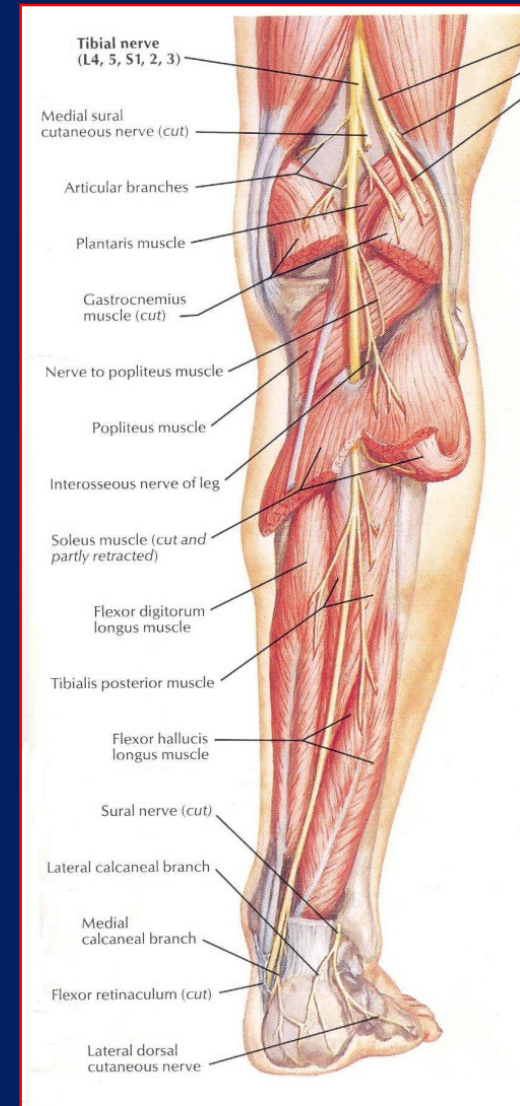
Tibial Nerve

- Larger terminal branch of the **sciatic nerve**
- Descends **through the popliteal fossa** and passes deep to the gastrocnemius and soleus muscles
- Lies on the posterior surface of the tibialis posterior and, lower down the leg, on the posterior surface of the tibia
- **Accompanies the posterior tibial artery** and lies at first on its medial side, then crosses posterior to it, and finally lies on its lateral side.
- The nerve, with the artery, **passes behind the medial malleolus**, between the tendons of the flexor digitorum longus and the flexor hallucis longus
- Lies **deep to the flexor retinaculum** and divides into the **medial and lateral plantar nerves**.



- **Branches**

- **Muscular** branches to the soleus, flexor digitorum longus, flexor hallucis longus, and tibialis posterior
- **Cutaneous:** The medial calcaneal branch supplies the skin over the medial surface of the heel
- **Articular** branch to the ankle joint
- Divides into **Medial and lateral plantar nerves** inferior and posterior to medial malleolus



Clinical notes

- Gastrocnemius and Soleus muscle tears
 - Produce severe localized pain & swelling over the damaged muscle
- Ruptured Tendocalcaneus
 - Common in **middle-aged men** and frequently occurs in tennis players.
 - Occurs at its **narrowest part**, about 2 in. (5 cm) above its insertion
 - A sudden, sharp pain is felt, with immediate disability. The gastrocnemius and soleus muscles retract proximally, leaving a palpable gap in the tendon.
 - **It is impossible for the patient to actively plantar flex the foot.**
 - The tendon should be sutured as soon as possible and the leg immobilized with the ankle joint plantar flexed and the knee joint flexed.
- Plantaris tendon
 - Rupture is rare
 - Can be used for autografts in repairing severed flexor tendons to the fingers (like the tendon of the palmaris longus muscle)

Thank You & Good Luck

