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BACK OF NECK 3

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- Back
- Back of neck or nape
- Nerve supply
- Medial branches of dorsal Rami of
- C2 greater occipital
- C3 third occipital nerve
- Intrinsic muscles of back
- Ligamentum nuchae
- Separates muscles of two sides
- Muscles of nape
- 4 layers superficial to deep
- 1. Trapezius and latissimus dorsi
- 2. Levator scapulae , rhomboids , serratus posterior superior
- Splenius (capitis and cervicis
- 3. Erector spinae or sacrospinalis
- Iliocostalis
- Longissimus
- Spianlis
- 4. Multifidus , rotatores , interspinales , intertransversarii and suboccipital muscles
- Suboccipital triangle
- Suboccipital muscles
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- Inferior oblique capitis muscle
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- Posterior arch of atlas
- Posterior atlantooccipital membrane
- Contents
- Third part of vertebral artery

- Dorsal ramus of C1 [nerve](#) (suboccipital [nerve](#))
- Suboccipital plexus of veins
- Occipital artery
- Arises opposite to facial artery from ECA
- Course
- Runs backwards and upwards
- Deep to lower border of belly of digastric [muscle](#)
- Crosses carotid sheath and accessory and hypoglossal nerves
- Prevertebral muscles (anterior vertebral muscles)
- Lognus colli (cervicis)
- Longus capitis
- Rectus capitis anterior
- Rectus capitis Lateralis
- Vertebral artery
- First part
- Origin of artery to transverse process of 6 th cervical vertebra
- Course
- Runs upwards
- Scalenovertebral triangle
- Present at root of neck
- Boundaries
- Lateral Scalenus anterior
- Medial : oblique part of longus colli [muscle](#)
- Apex : transverse process of cervical vertebra
- Base : first part of subclavian artery
- Posterior wall : transverse process of C7 , ventral ramus of C8 [nerve](#) , neck of first rib
- Relations
- Anterior
- Carotid sheath with common carotid artery
- Vertebral vein
- Inferior thyroid artery
- Thoracic duct on left side
- Posterior
- Transverse process of 7 th cervical vertebra
- Stellate ganglion
- Ventral Rami of nerves C7 , C8
- Second part
- Runs through foramina transversaria of upper 6 cervical vertebra
- Finally reaches foramen of atlas
- Relations
- .accompanied by venous plexus and a large branch from stellate ganglion
- Ventral Rami of second to 6 th cervical nerves
- Third part
- Lies in suboccipital triangle
- Emerges from atlas
- Winds medially around posterior aspect of arch of atlas
- Relations
- Medial : ventral ramus of first cervical [nerve](#)
- Lateral : rectus capitis Lateralis
- Posterior : semispinalis capitis
- Anterior : lateral mass of atlas

- Fourth part
- Atlantooccipital membrane to pons
- Vertebral canal it pierces duramater
- At lower border of pons it joins to form basilar artery
- Branches
- Cervical branches
- Arise from 4 th part
- Anterior spinal artery
- Posterior spinal artery
- Posterior inferior cerebellar artery
- Meningeal branches

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