4 - Veterinary Anatomy

PO-049 - (23759) - VARIATIONS OF THE ARTICULARIS HUMERI, CORACOBRACHIALIS, AND BICEPS BRACHII MUSCLES IN THE CAT (FELIS CATUS)

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The domestic cat (*Felis catus*) belongs to the order Carnivora and family Felidae. This species has an articularis humeri muscle caudal to the shoulder joint capsule, a biceps brachii with a head, and a coracobrachialis muscle medial to the shoulder. This latter muscle inserts caudal to the crest of the lesser tubercle of humerus, and as an anatomical variation, it can have a long portion that inserts distally. The present study aimed to review the anatomical arrangements of these muscles in *Felis catus*.

Fifteen limbs from nine formaldehyde-fixed specimens were dissected.

We only found the articularis humeri muscle in one limb, which originated from the caudal extreme of the margin of glenoid cavity of the scapula and inserted onto the proximal extreme of the accessory head of the triceps brachii muscle. The long portion of the coracobrachialis muscle was present in six limbs with different arrangements. In three limbs, it was underdeveloped and formed a distal aponeurosis that fused to the deep brachial fascia between the biceps brachii and medial head of the triceps brachii. In one specimen bilaterally, it united to the biceps brachii muscle as a vestigial head of this muscle (caput breve). In one limb, it was well-developed and inserted via a tendon proximal to the supracondylar foramen, and via fleshy fibers along the margin of this foramen.

These anatomical variations in *Felis catus* could potentially be in the last common ancestor of Carnivora and should be considered in evolutionary studies and gross dissections of the brachium.

Palavras-chave : Evolution, Innervation, Myology