3 - Clinical Anatomy

PO-044 - (23969) - VARIANT STRUCTURE OF LEFT SUBCLAVIAN BRACHIAL PLEXUS

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Knowledge of the variants of the structure of the brachial plexus is important for performing surgical procedures on the upper extremity, for assessing traumatic lesions of the peripheral nerves, and for performing reconstructive and plastic corrections. This work studies a rare variant of the structure and topography of the brachial plexus.

The study was done using a 40-year-old male cadaver fixed in 10% formalin for anatomical dissection and examination. It focused on the nerves of the brachial plexus and their relationships with blood vessels and muscles of the upper limb. The structure of brachial plexus on right side was common. In the left axillary cavity, medial root of the median nerve is joined by a thin root of lateral cord. Then, remaining part of lateral cord pierces coracobrachialis muscle, where first a cutaneous branch leaves lateral cord, and then the musculocutaneous nerve pierces the remaining part of the coracobrachialis muscle and continues between biceps and brachialis muscles. The lateral root of the median nerve, formed after the divergence of the musculocutaneous nerve, in the middle third of the arm, joins the medial root to form the median nerve. At the border of the upper and middle third of the arm, a branch of the brachial artery bends around the medial root of the median nerve and enters the muscles between the two roots that form the median nerve.
The rare variant of brachial plexus structure described in the study has practical implications for minimizing risk of nerve damage during surgery.

Palavras-chave : brachial plexus, variant anatomy, median nerve