

Floor { anterior wall }

- popliteal surface of femur.
- Thick fascia -
• popliteal fascia. : covering popliteal muscle.
- Capsule of knee joint.

ROOF { posterior wall }

- popliteal fascia
- Roof is pierced by small saphenous vein,
posterior femoral cutaneous nerve,
superficial lymphatics.

CONTENTS.

- popliteal artery and its branches
- popliteal vein & its tributaries.
- Terminal branches of sciatic nerve.
- posterior cutaneous nerve of thigh.

- descending genicular branch of posterior division of the obturator nerve.
- popliteal lymph nodes.
- popliteal pad of fat.

Popliteal artery.

- continuation of femoral artery.
- at level of tendinous opening of adductor magnus.
- deepest structure.
- Runs obliquely --- terminate to anterior & posterior.

Branches in popliteal fossa of popliteal artery

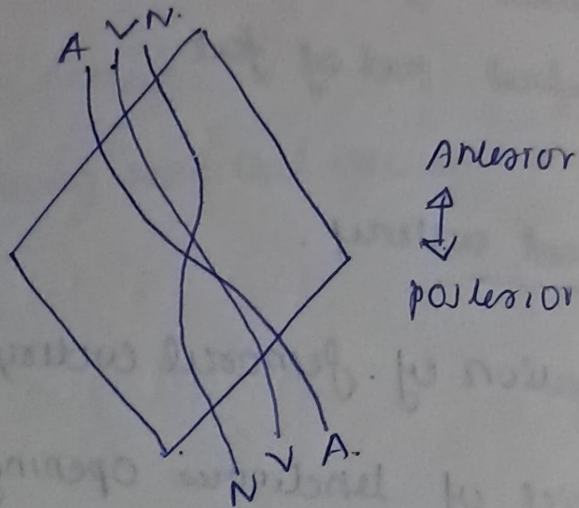
- (1) Muscular branches: supplies neighbouring muscles.
- (2) Superior genicular branches → medial & lateral
- (3) Inferior genicular branches → medial & lateral
- (4) medial genicular branch.
- (5) Tibial artery.

Arrangement.

Up

M → L.

A V N.



Lower border.

M → L.

N V A.

@ Centre, deepest structure is popliteal artery.

popliteal vein.

- Extent - from lower border of popliteus to adductor hiatus.
- formation - union of venae comitantes accompanying anterior & posterior tibial artery.
- Termination - as femoral vein at the adductor opening.

NERVES.

• Root value.

• Tibial nerve - ventral branches of ventral roots of
L4 L5 S1 S2 S3.

• Common peroneal nerve - dorsal branches of
ventral roots of L4, L5, S1, S2.

Tibial N

- muscles
- Sural cutaneous
- 5 mcs.
- 7 mcs.

Common peroneal.

- sural communicating branches
- lateral cutaneous nerve of
leg.
- 5 mcs.
- 5 mcs.

↓
terminal branches

superficial & deep
peroneal nerves.

popliteal lymph nodes.

- 6 in number.
- Size = at sapheno - popliteal jctns.
between popliteal artery and capsule of
Knee joint
- grouped around popliteal artery.
- drains into deep Inguinal lymph nodes.

• A 55 year old man complaining of swelling on
back of his knee joint visited hospital.

→ "pulsatile swelling" → unique for artery
aneurism.

1. Name the str from which swelling on back of
knee can originate.

• lipoma

• varicosity -

• aneurism - popliteal artery.

• oedema due to vein
compression.

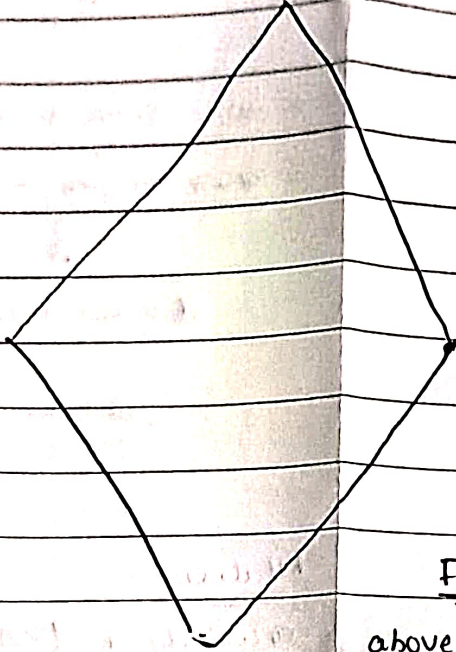
• Inflammation of knee joint.

• effusion of synovial fluid -
through capsule of knee joint
→ Baker's cyst

Popliteal fossa

INTRO: diamond shaped hollow on back of knee joint.

Boundaries:



- Superomedially: Semimem + Semiten.
- Superolaterally: long head of biceps femo
- Inferomedially: med h of gastrocnemius
- Inferolaterally: lat head of gastrocnemius + plantaris

not soleus

FLOOR - anterior wall.

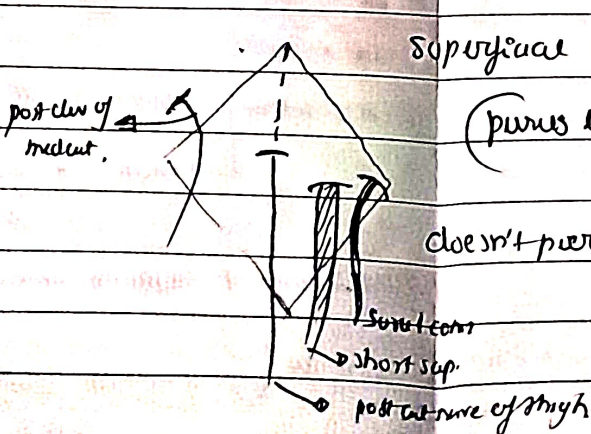
above ↓

- popliteal surface of femur.
- Capsule of knee joint
- Oblique popliteal ligament.
- fascia covering popliteus muscle.

not same

Roof

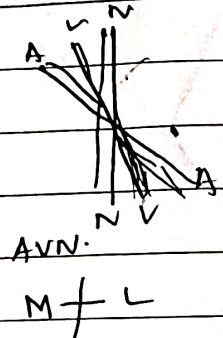
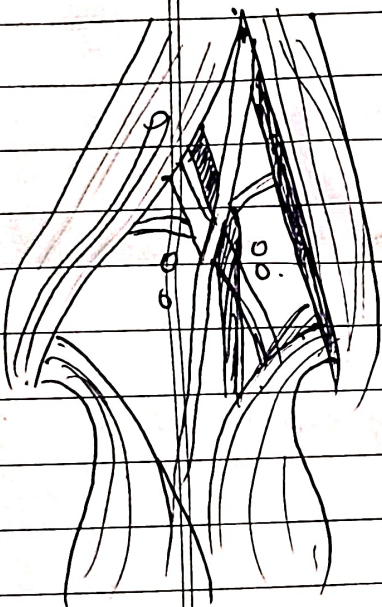
- skin
- superficial fascia
- popliteal fascia (dep fascia).



- Superficial fascia has ->
- ① Sural Comm. nerve.
 - ② posterior cut nerve of thigh (pirus thesop)
 - ③ short saphenous vein
 - ③ post. clav of med. cut nerve of thigh
- doesn't pierce X

CONTENTS

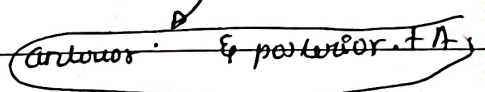
- ① popliteal artery & branches
- ② popliteal vein & tributaries.
- ③ Tibial nerve & branches
- ④ Common peroneal nerve & B
- ⑤ popliteal lymph node
- ⑥ popliteal pad of fat.



popliteal artery.

- continuation of femoral artery from adductor hiatus.
- runs from medial to lateral.
- runs lower border of popliteus

divided into tibial artery,



Relations

- anteriorly → floor of popliteal fossa.
 - popliteal surface of femur
 - capsule of knee joint
 - fascia covering popliteus

- posteriorly → Popliteal vein
- popliteal nerve.
- popliteal fascia,
- superficial fascia
- deep fascia.



Branches

- ① cutaneous
 - ② muscular
 - upper → adductor magnus + hamstring.
 - lower → gastrocnemius, soleus, plantaris.
 - ③ Genicular (knee joint)
 - superior → lateral & medial genicular artery
 - inferior → lateral & medial genicular artery
- peroneal oblique → middle genicular artery
- popliteal ligament → inferior → lateral & medial genicular