



# DEEP FASCIA OF THIGH

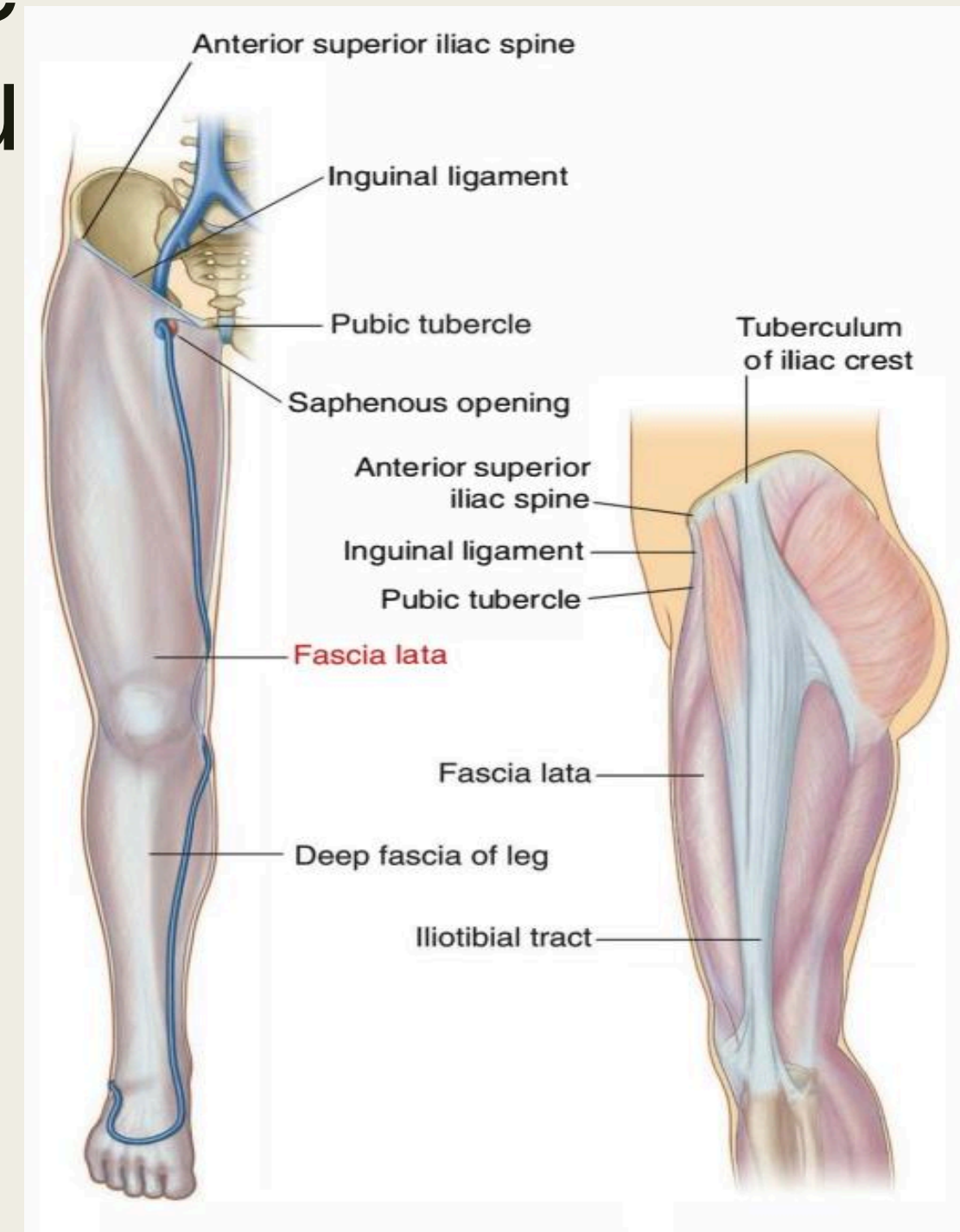


envelope the thigh like a sleeve  
It is called fascia Lata ie becau  
it encloses wide area of thigh

Has 2 attachments

Superior

- Front ASIS, Inguinal ligament, pubic tubercle
- Laterally iliac crest
- Posteriorly sacrum, coccyx, sacrotuberous ligament
- Medially pubis, pubic arch, ischial tuberosity



- Inferiorly

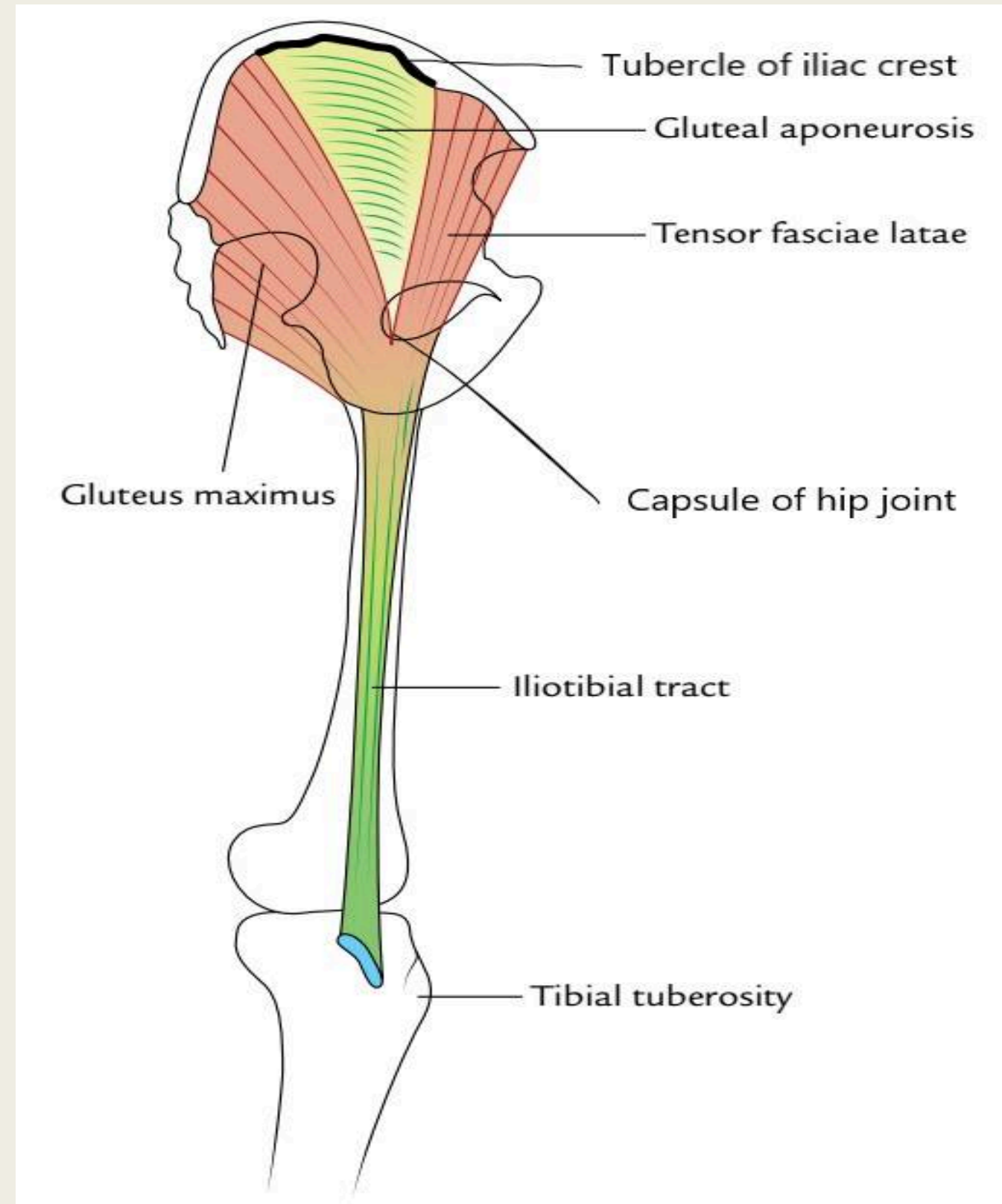
Subcutaneous bony prominence and capsule of knee joint

# *Three modifications*

- Iliotibial tract
- Saphenous opening
- Intermuscular septa

# Iliotibial tract

- Fascia Lata is thickened on lateral aspect of thigh to form about 5 cm wide band
- In superiorly along the iliac crest, the tract splits into 2 layers and encloses 2 muscles
- Superficial lamina is attached to tubercle of iliac crest
- Deep lamina is attached to capsule of hip joint
- Inferiorly tract is attached to smooth triangular area on the anterolateral aspect of lateral condyle of tibia called gerdy's tubercle.

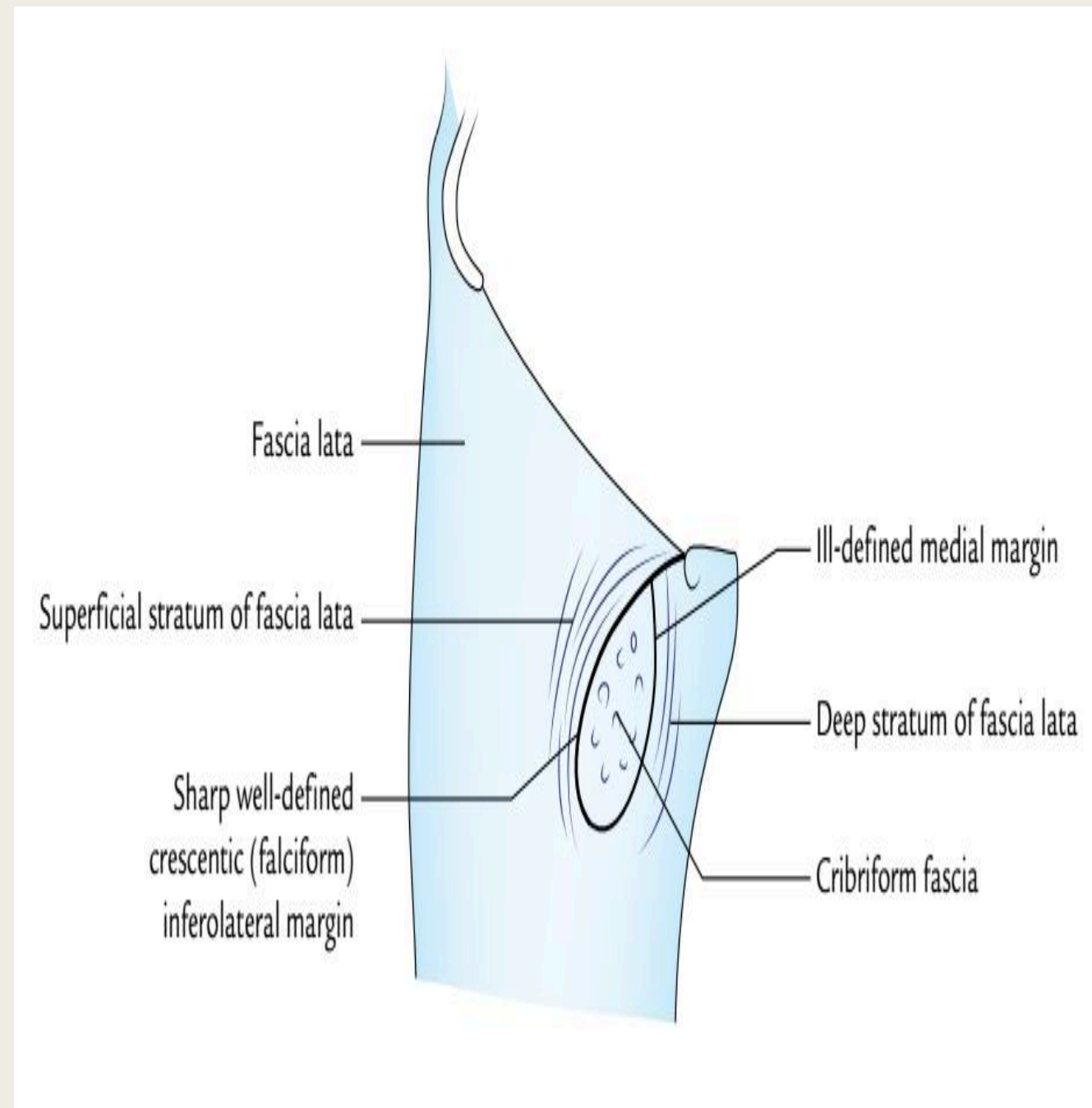


# Functional significance

- The iliotibial tract stabilises the hip and knee, both in extension and in partial flexion, hence used constantly during walking and running
- On leaning forward with slightly flexed knees, the iliotibial tract is the main support of knee against gravity and prevents the individuals from talking forward.

# Saphenous opening

- Oval shaped opening in the fascia Lata on the upper medial part of front of thigh.
- The centre of opening is about 4cm below and lateral to pubic crest.
- Opening is bounded inferolaterally by well defined sharp crescentic margin.
- Inferolateral angle is formed by the superficial stratum of fascia Lata. SS found in front of the femoral sheath
- Medial margin is Ill defined and is formed by the deep stratum.
- Deep stratum lies at the deeper level and become continuous with the fascia over pectineus muscle ie pectineal fascia.



- Saphenous opening is closed by the cribriform fascia which is pierced by number of structures making it sieve-like
- Structures passing through the saphenous opening
  1. Great saphenous vein
  2. Superficial epigastric
  3. Superficial circumflex iliac
  4. Superficial external pudendal arteries
  5. Lymph vessels connecting superficial and deep inguinal lymph nodes

# Clinical significance

The fascia Lata is attached to the undersurface of the inguinal ligament . When the thigh is extended, it pulls the abdominal wall downward and make it tense, therefore, in order to relax the abdomen , the patient is asked to draw the legs ul to overcome the pull of fascia Lata on the abdominal wall.

# Intermuscular septa

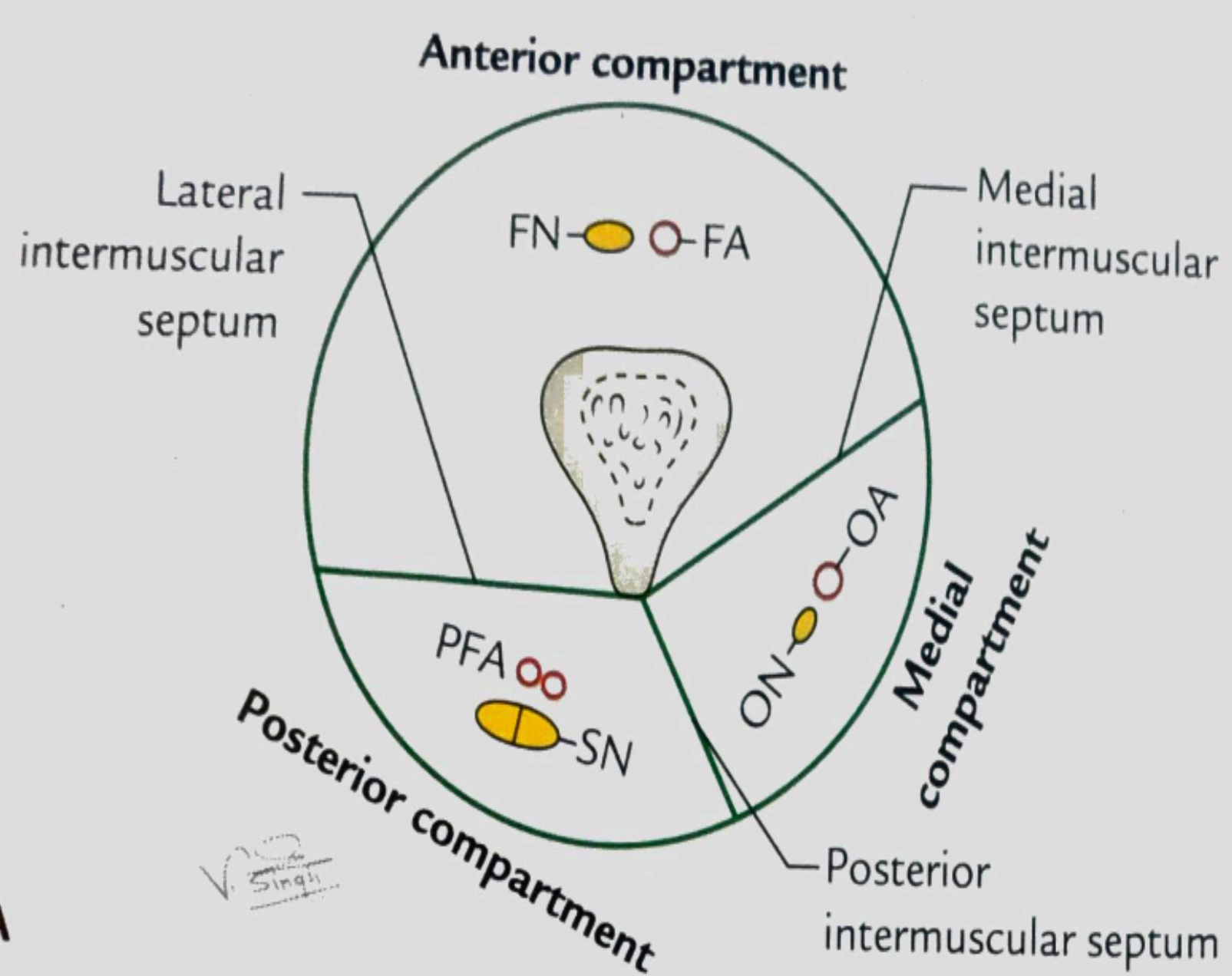
There are three intermuscular septa that passes from inner aspect of fascial sheath of thigh to linear aspera of femur and divide the thigh to 3 compartments

- Anterior compartment
- Medial compartment
- Posterior compartment

The lateral intermuscular septum is the strongest and extends from iliotibial tract to lateral lip of linea aspera

the medial intermuscular septum is attached to medial lip of linea aspera

The posterior intermuscular septum is poorly defined



Nerve and vessels  
of compartments of thigh

**Anterior compartment**

- Nerve: Femoral nerve
- Artery: Femoral artery

**Medial compartment**

- Nerve: Obturator nerve
- Artery: Obturator artery

**Posterior compartment**

- Nerve: Sciatic nerve
- Artery: Profunda femoris artery (perforating branches)

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**Thank you!**