

A Study on the Anatomical Variations of Median Nerve Formation

Mohammed HM Badawoud, MBBCh, MMed.Sci, PhD*

Objectives: To study the anatomical variations of the formation of the median nerve.

Methods: Forty-eight upper limbs obtained from 24 embalmed adult cadavers were used for this study. They were carefully dissected and examined to detect any anatomical variations of the formation of the median nerve.

Results: Four anomalies of the median nerve formation were detected in this study. In one anomaly, two interconnecting branches were present between the two roots of the median nerve. These two branches had a very close relation to the axillary artery. One interconnecting branch was found between the roots of the median nerve in three upper limbs. An interconnecting branch was found between the median and musculocutaneous nerve in one upper limb. The median nerve was formed at a lower level than normal in one case.

Conclusion: The knowledge of the abnormal communicating branches mentioned in this study has a clinical importance. The injury of these branches may give rise to unusual clinical symptoms. The presence of these branches must be kept in mind during the performance of surgery to avoid their injury