

Deep Fascia of the Pectoral Region

Deep Fascia of the Pectoral Region

Pectoral Fascia

- Thin layer covering the **pectoralis major** muscle.
- Superiorly ? attaches to **clavicle**.
- Medially ? to **sternum**.
- Inferiorly ? continues with **anterior abdominal wall fascia**.
- Laterally ? forms **axillary fascia** (floor of axilla).
- Clinical: provides a plane for spread of infections or abscesses from chest wall to axilla.

Clavipectoral Fascia

- Strong fascia deep to pectoralis major, enclosing **subclavius** and **pectoralis minor**.
- Extent:
 - Superiorly ? splits to enclose subclavius, attaches to **clavicle**.
 - Inferiorly ? splits around pectoralis minor, continues as **suspensory ligament of axilla** (maintains concavity of axilla).
- Pierced by:

- **Cephalic vein.**
 - **Thoracoacromial artery and vein.**
 - **Lymphatics from breast to apical nodes.**
 - **Lateral pectoral nerve.**
-

Axillary Fascia

- Continuation of **pectoral fascia** laterally.
 - Forms the **floor of axilla** along with skin and subcutaneous tissue.
 - Suspended by the **suspensory ligament of axilla** (extension of clavipectoral fascia).
-

Clinical Importance

- **Clavipectoral fascia** ? key landmark in surgical procedures; incised during axillary clearance.
- **Suspensory ligament of axilla** ? maintains hollow of axilla; loss of elasticity causes axillary sagging.
- **Infections/abscesses** can track along deep fascia planes into axilla or anterior chest wall.
- **Cephalic vein cutdown** and central line placements ? require piercing clavipectoral fascia.