

# Digastric muscle or digastricmastoid muscle? [¿Músculo Digástrico o Músculo Digastricomastoideo?]

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The digastric muscle appears mentioned in Terminologia Anatomica with the code A04.2.03.006, it belongs to the group of the suprahyoid muscles and is formed by two bellies (latin: gaster) joined by an intermediate tendon. The anterior belly originates in the digastric fossa of the mandible and posterior belly in the mastoid notch of the temporal bone, both are inserted through a fibrous band, derived from the pretracheal layer of the deep cervical fascia on the body and greater horn of hyoid bone. Anterior and posterior bellies originate from the first and second arc gill respectively, the anterior belly being innervated by the mylohyoid nerve and the posterior belly by the facial nerve. In its name, the digastric muscle refers to the origin of the anterior belly and to the muscular classification according to form, not mentioning the origin of its posterior belly. The aim of this study was to review this term and recommend including in the name the "mastoid" origin of the digastric muscle, denominating it digastricomastoid muscle. This change is based on the different embryological origin and innervation of both bellies and is related to the objectives proposed by Terminologia Anatomica, which recommends descriptive, informative and harmonic names with related bone structures, favoring scientific communication and teaching-learning morphology. © 2017, Universidad de la Frontera. All rights reserved.

Digastric Muscle

Digastricomastoid Muscle

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