

Radiological Anatomy of Upper Limb

Shoulder Joint

- **X-ray Appearance:**

The **glenoid cavity** articulates with the **lower half of the head of the humerus** in the anatomical position.

The **greater tuberosity** appears as the most **lateral bony point**.

- **Key Landmarks Visible:**

- Head and neck of humerus
- Acromion process
- Clavicle's lateral end
- Coracoid process (anterior projection)

- **Clinical Importance:**

Used to assess **dislocations, fractures of the humeral head, and acromioclavicular separation**.

Elbow Joint

- **Anteroposterior (AP) View:**

Shows the **lower end of humerus** with its **medial and lateral epicondyles, trochlea, capitulum, and olecranon fossa**.

Upper ends of **radius** and **ulna** with **head, neck, and radial tuberosity** also visible.

- **Lateral View:**

Demonstrates **olecranon** and **coronoid processes** of ulna and the **trochlear notch** between them.

- **Clinical Use:**

For detecting **supracondylar fractures**, **elbow dislocations**, and the **carrying-angle** relationship.

Hand and Wrist

- **Structures Recognizable:**

- **Lower ends of radius and ulna**
- **Carpal bones:** scaphoid, lunate, triquetral, pisiform, trapezium, trapezoid, capitate, hamate
- **Metacarpals and phalanges**

- **Overlapping Bones:**

- *Triquetral* overlaps *pisiform*
- *Trapezium* overlaps *trapezoid*

- **Clinical Note:**

Essential for identifying **fractures of the scaphoid**, **dislocation of lunate**, and **alignment in Colles' fracture**.