

# Deep Fascia of the Pectoral Region

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### 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.

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### 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.**

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## 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).

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## 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.