

Anatomy

Anterior Abdominal Wall

Comprises:

- 3 flat muscles:
 - External Oblique
 - Internal Oblique
 - Transversus Abdominis
- 1 strap muscle:
 - Rectus Abdominis

Inferior epigastric vessels located by elevating lateral edge of rectus muscle.

Blood supply of the Ovaries

	Left	Right
Ovarian artery	Branch of Aorta	Branch of Aorta
Venous drainage	Left Renal Vein	Inferior Vena Cava

Hypogastric Artery

- 3 cm long
 - originates from common iliac artery at pelvic brim over the sacro-iliac joint and underlying the ureter
 - divides into 2 branches:
 - 1) Anterior division: supplies genitalia
 - 2) Posterior division (avoid ligation of this branch as this may cause sloughing of gluteus maximus)
 - Branches of posterior division:
 - Superior gluteal artery
 - Ilio-lumbar artery
 - Lateral sacral artery
- (Remember: HGSIL, or I Love Sex)*

Dermatomes

Important in any discussion on “epidural level”

(Nipple	T4)
Xiphisternum	T 8
Umbilicus	T 10
Pubis	T 12

(Remember 8, 10, 12)

Pudendal nerve

- roots = S 2, 3, 4
- exits pelvis through greater sciatic notch, traverses lateral to ischial spine and then enters ischiorectal fossa through lesser sciatic notch. Found within Alcock’s canal. This effectively carries the nerve from above to below the pelvic diaphragm without actually piercing the muscle.
- innervates perineum

Nerve innervation of labor pain