

# What is Abdominal Wall Anatomy and Layers?

## Worksheet

From superficial to deep, the abdominal wall layers are: skin, Camper's fascia, Scarpa's fascia, external oblique, internal oblique, transversus abdominis, transversalis fascia, extraperitoneal fat, and parietal peritoneum.

## Questions

1. Which layer lies immediately deep to the skin?

- A) Scarpa's fascia
- B) Camper's fascia
- C) External oblique
- D) Transversalis fascia

2. Which is the innermost of the three flat abdominal muscles?

- A) External oblique
- B) Internal oblique
- C) Transversus abdominis
- D) Rectus abdominis

3. What lies between the transversus abdominis and the peritoneum?

- A) Scarpa's fascia
- B) Transversalis fascia and extraperitoneal fat
- C) Camper's fascia
- D) Rectus sheath only

4. Which fascial layer is membranous rather than fatty?

- A) Camper's fascia
- B) Scarpa's fascia
- C) Transversalis fascia
- D) Both b and c

5. A surgeon performs a Pfannenstiel incision. Which layers must be cut to reach the peritoneal cavity?

6. A patient presents with a fluid collection just deep to the skin but superficial to the muscle layer. Which fascial layers are involved?

7. Name the three flat muscles of the abdominal wall from outermost to innermost.

8. Define: What are the two subcutaneous fascial layers?

9. Define: Name the three flat abdominal muscles, superficial to deep.

10. Define: What lies deep to the transversus abdominis?

## Answer Key

1. B) Camper's fascia - Camper's fascia, the superficial fatty subcutaneous layer, lies directly beneath the skin.
2. C) Transversus abdominis - Transversus abdominis is the deepest flat muscle, with transversely running fibers.
3. B) Transversalis fascia and extraperitoneal fat - Deep to the muscle lies transversalis fascia, then extraperitoneal fat, then parietal peritoneum.
4. D) Both b and c - Scarpa's fascia (subcutaneous) and transversalis fascia (deep) are both membranous connective tissue layers, unlike fatty Camper's fascia.
5. Start superficial: skin, Camper's fascia, Scarpa's fascia Then the rectus sheath (formed by the flat muscle aponeuroses) is opened Finally transversalis fascia, extraperitoneal fat, and parietal peritoneum are opened to enter the cavity
6. Superficial to muscle = subcutaneous tissue This tissue has two named layers: Camper's fascia (fatty, superficial) and Scarpa's fascia (membranous, deep) The collection lies within or between these two layers
7. Outermost: external oblique Middle: internal oblique Innermost: transversus abdominis Their differing fiber directions add strength, like plywood layers
8. Camper's fascia (superficial, fatty) and Scarpa's fascia (deep, membranous).
9. External oblique, internal oblique, transversus abdominis.
10. Transversalis fascia, then extraperitoneal fat, then parietal peritoneum.

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