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# **Bipennate Extensor Indicis Brevis muscle: an extraordinary**

# variant

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### ABSTRACT

During routine cadaveric dissection authors found extensor indices brevis muscle on the dorsal surface of the hand which originates from the capsule of wrist joint & inserted at the base of proximal phalanx, lies medial to the tendon of extensor digitorum for index finger. Length & width of muscle was also noted. Rare variation with incidence of 1%. The superficial location of muscle makes it easily accessible for harvesting tendons and its presence may compress posterior interosseous nerve leading to pain in dorsal wrist.

KEYWORDS: Extensor indicis brevis muscle, variant muscle, tendon transfer

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# INTRODUCTION

Hand & its various muscles give us the ability to perform the everyday task with ease. Variant muscle, arose from extensor retinaculum, lies medial to extensor digitorum & insertedon the base of promixal phalanx via narrow tendon, found on the dorsum of wrist & hand, called as extensor indices Brevis EIB. Minor belly with tendon is the most common type reported [1].With male dominance & incidence of 2-3% reported in previous studies [2,3]. Reconstructive procedures on hand require detailed anatomical knowledge to take its full advantage & at the same time its presence may narrow the dorsal compartments of the wrist.

## **CASE REPORT**

In the course of routine academic dissection of the upper limb of 65 years old male cadaver carried out in the Department of Anatomy of SGT Medical College, Gurugram. Skin and superficial fascia were removed to expose the dorsum of the right hand and we found an anomalous presence of Extensor Indicis Brevis (EIB)muscle originating from the wrist capsule, which runs beneath the extensor retinaculum. It narrows to a single tendon, gets inserted into the ulnar side of base of proximal phalanx & in due course passes above 3<sup>rd</sup> metacarpal and second dorsal interossei muscle. The muscle belly was 2.5cms in length with bipennate in shape, with a width of 1 cm& tendon length of 3.5 cm. It was observed to be supplied by the posterior interosseus nerve and blood supply by the posterior interosseus artery.



Figure 1: shows Extensor Indicis Brevis (EIB) muscle origination from the wrist joint capsule underneath the extensor retinaculum (ER) and inserted into the base of the proximal phalanx (PP) of the

### DISCUSSION

Embryologically, the primitive extensor group forms the muscles of the extensor compartment. It divides into a radial group, which further divides into superficial & deep groups [4]. The deep group shows developmental changes like regression, and persistence, which results in the formation of anomalous muscle & tendon. As a result, deep group forms extensor policis indices, extensor indices brevis & extensor policis may co-exist together in about 2% population [5,6]. The presence of added tendon could be utilized for tendon transfer in cases of dysfunction of thenar muscles [7,8]. As index finger has got tendon of the extensor digitorum for its normal functioning [7]. Extensor indicis brevis can be mistaken as a dorsal wrist ganglion [9,10]. EIB & dorsal wrist ganglion may occur together, on exploration muscle was found over ganglion [10]. Clinically, the extension of the wrist joint makes EIB more prominent & flexion of the wrist delineates cyst [11]. MRI detects muscle very well, whereas ultrasound outlines fluid-filled cysts [ 10,12].

#### RESULT

The previous study also reported findings similar to our study with origin from wrist capsule & insertion on the medial side of extensor digitorum, length of 3.6cms, a width of 1.1cm, supplied by posterior interosseous nerve except that it was found in left hand & ours was right hand [13]. A slight longer length of variant muscle was also found, with origin from ligament over scaphoid & trapezium & insertion on the dorsal digital expansion of index finger, different from our study in origin, insertion & length [14]. The presence of variant muscle needs to be documented due to its varied implications & also to prevent injury during surgery.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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