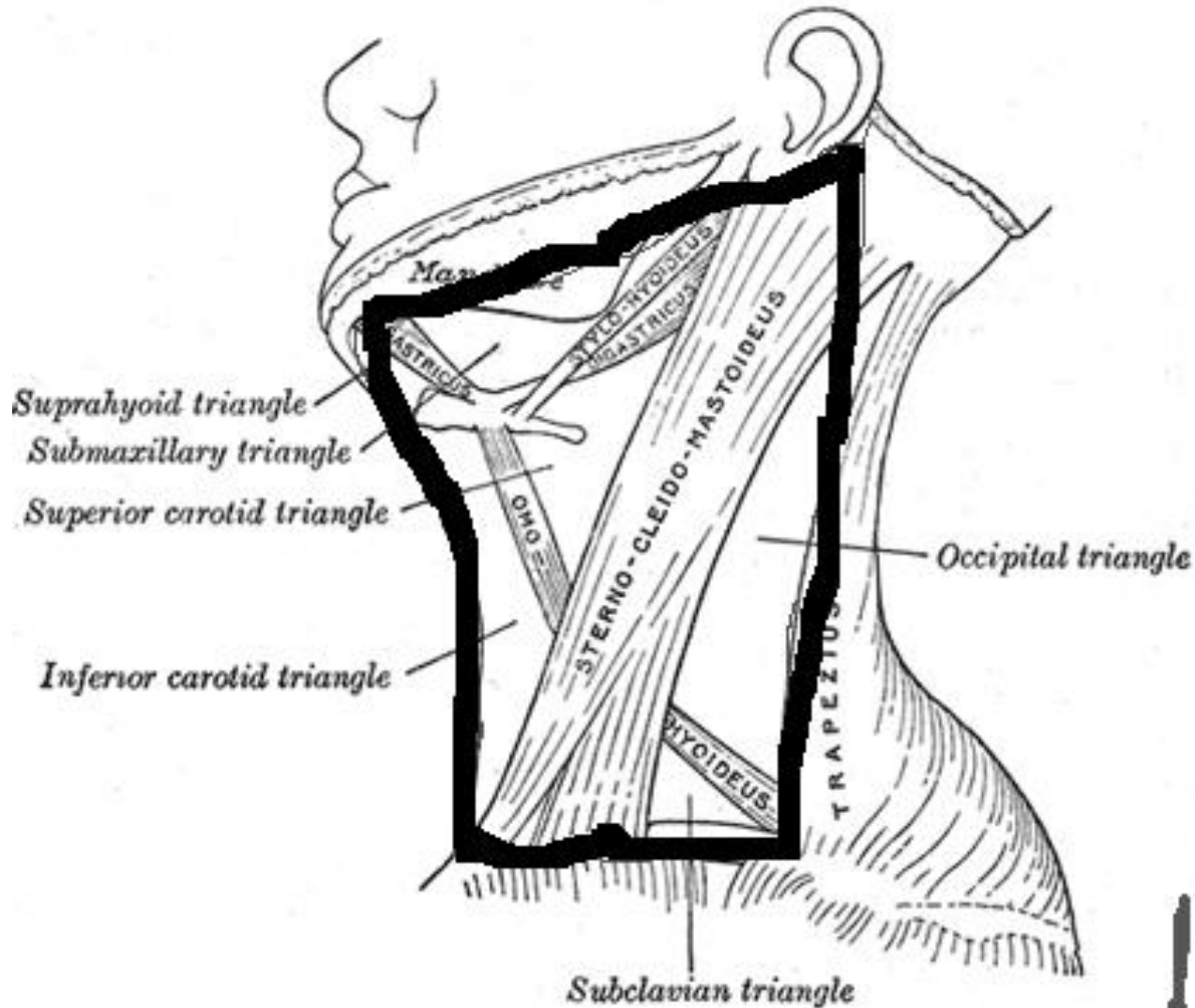


TRIANGLES OF THE NECK

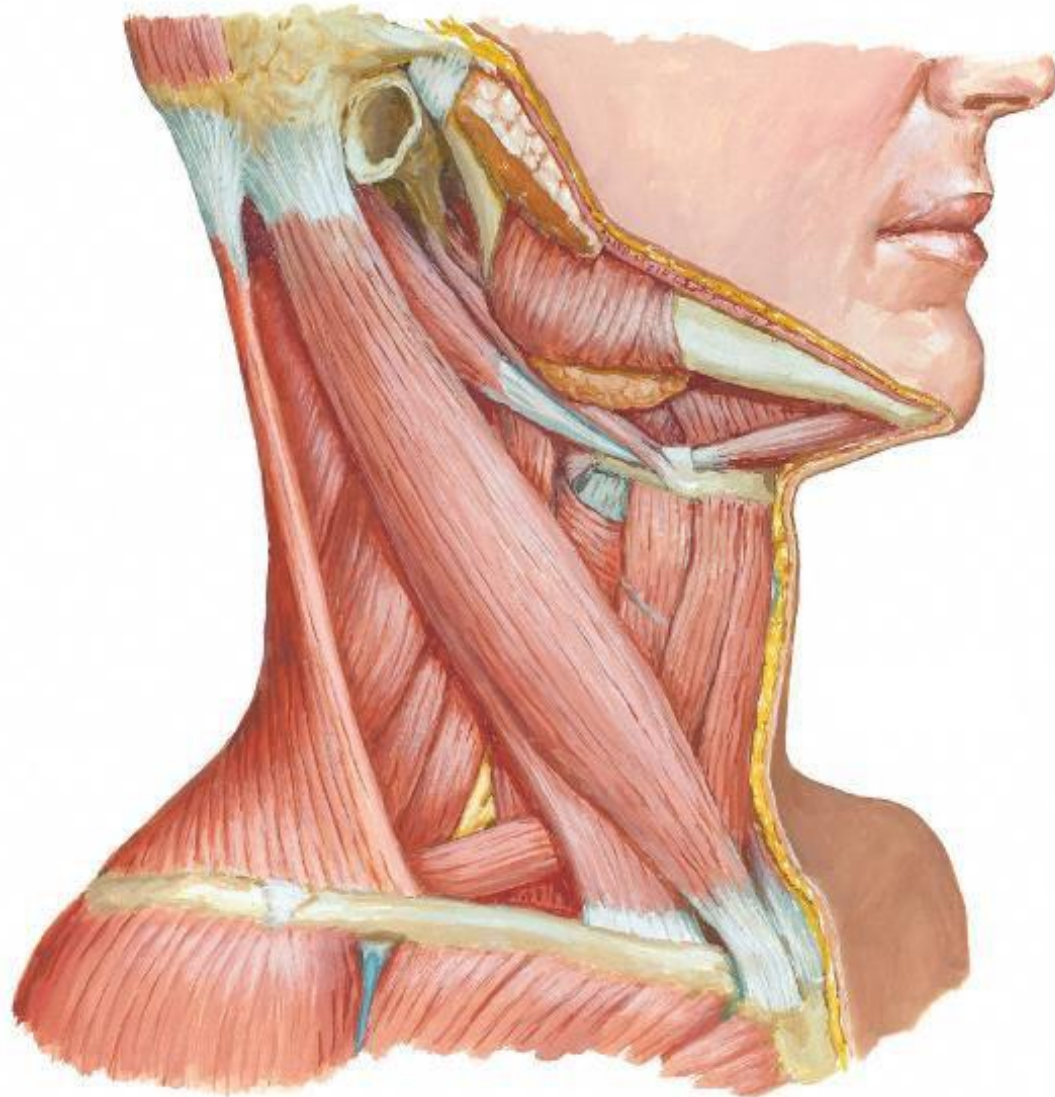
Introduction

- The side of the neck presents a quadrilateral outline .
- It is limited **above** by the lower border of the body of the mandible and an imaginary line drawn from the angle of the mandible to the mastoid process.
- **Below** it is limited by the upper border of the clavicle.
- **Medially** by the midline of the neck.
- **Posteriorly** by the anterior border of the Trapezius muscle .

Quadrilateral outline in the neck



Sternocleidomastoid Muscle



Sternocleidomastoid Muscles

- This quadrilateral space is divided by the **Sternocleidomastoid** muscle into two main triangles .
- It passes obliquely upwards and backwards from its site of origin at the **clavicle** and **sternum** to its point of insertion on the **mastoid process** and the **occipital bone** .
- The triangle in front of this muscle is the **anterior triangle** and the one behind it is the **posterior triangle** .

Neck Triangles

1. Anterior triangles

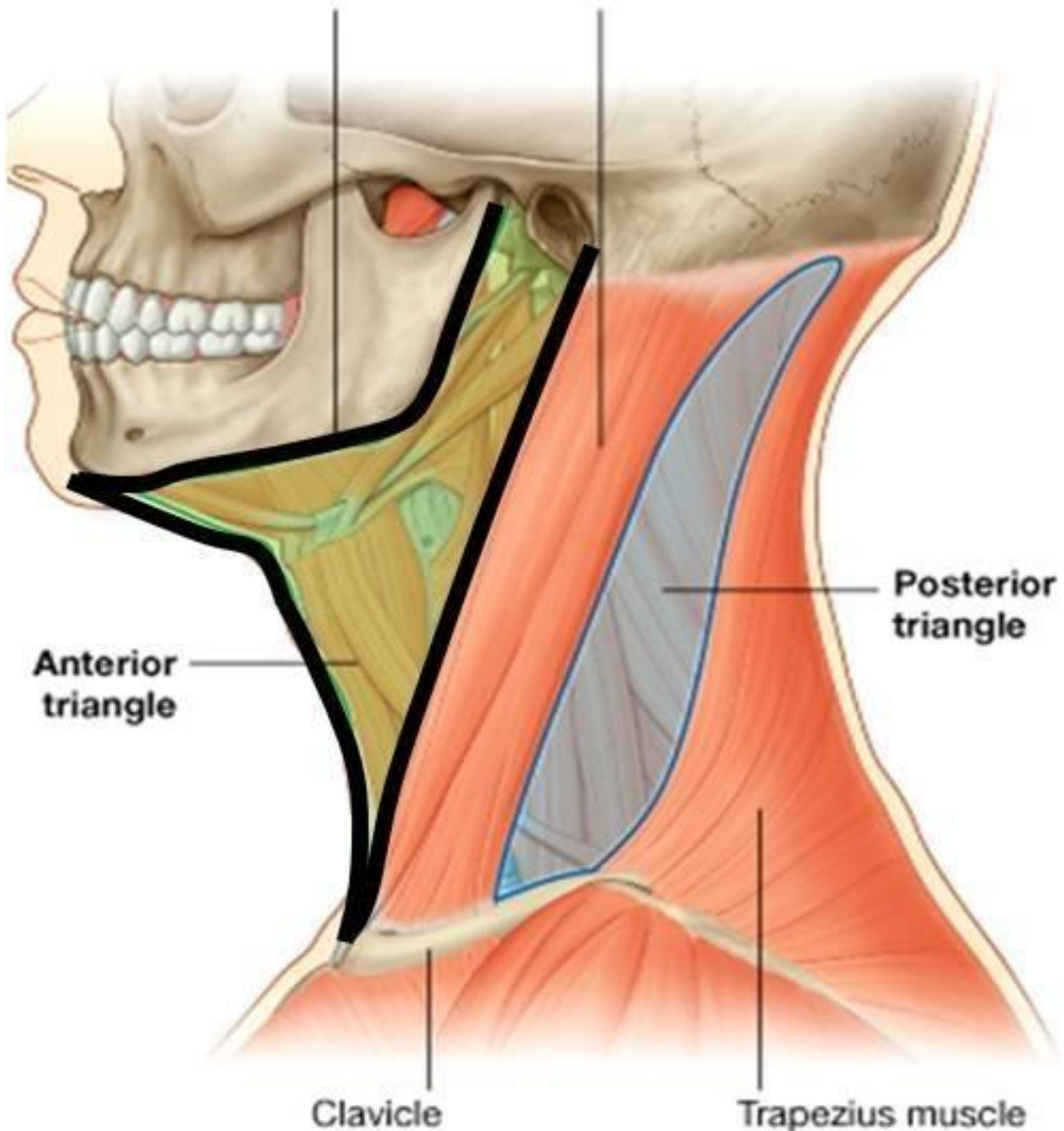
- Submental triangle
- Submandibular triangle
- Carotid triangle
- Muscular triangle

2. Posterior triangles

- Supraclavicular triangle
- Occipital triangle

Inferior border of mandible

Sternocleidomastoid muscle

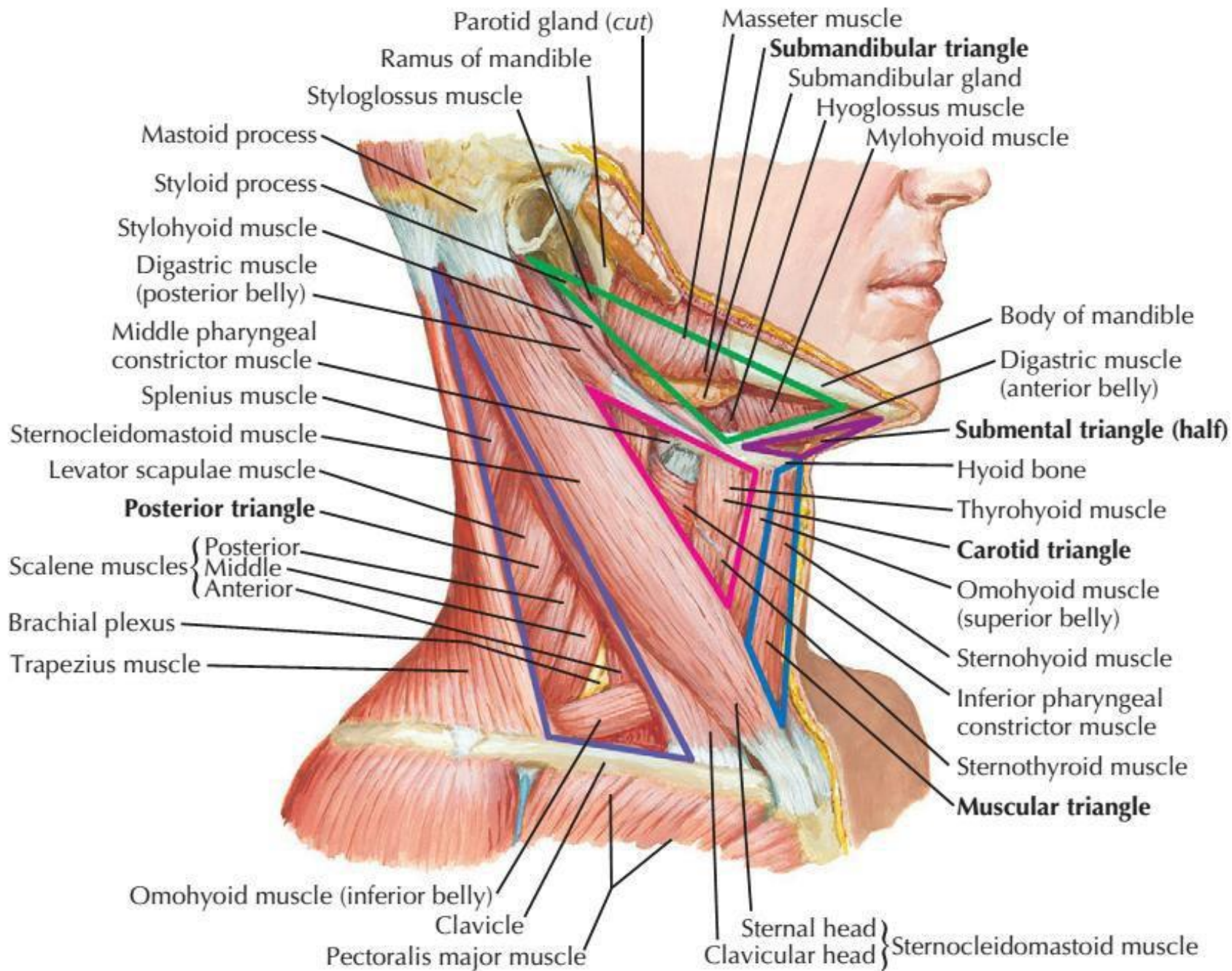


Anterior triangle

Posterior triangle

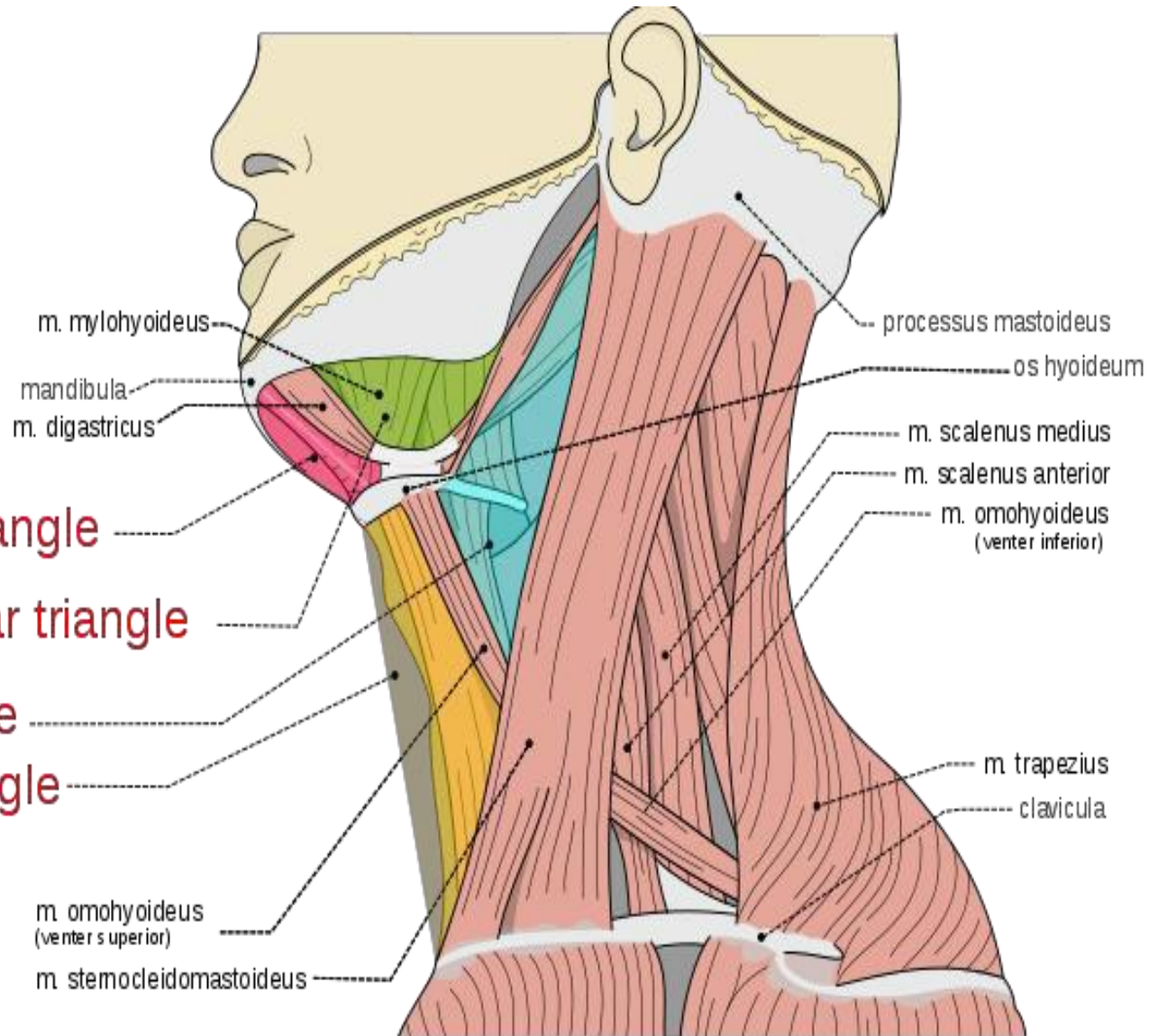
Clavicle

Trapezius muscle

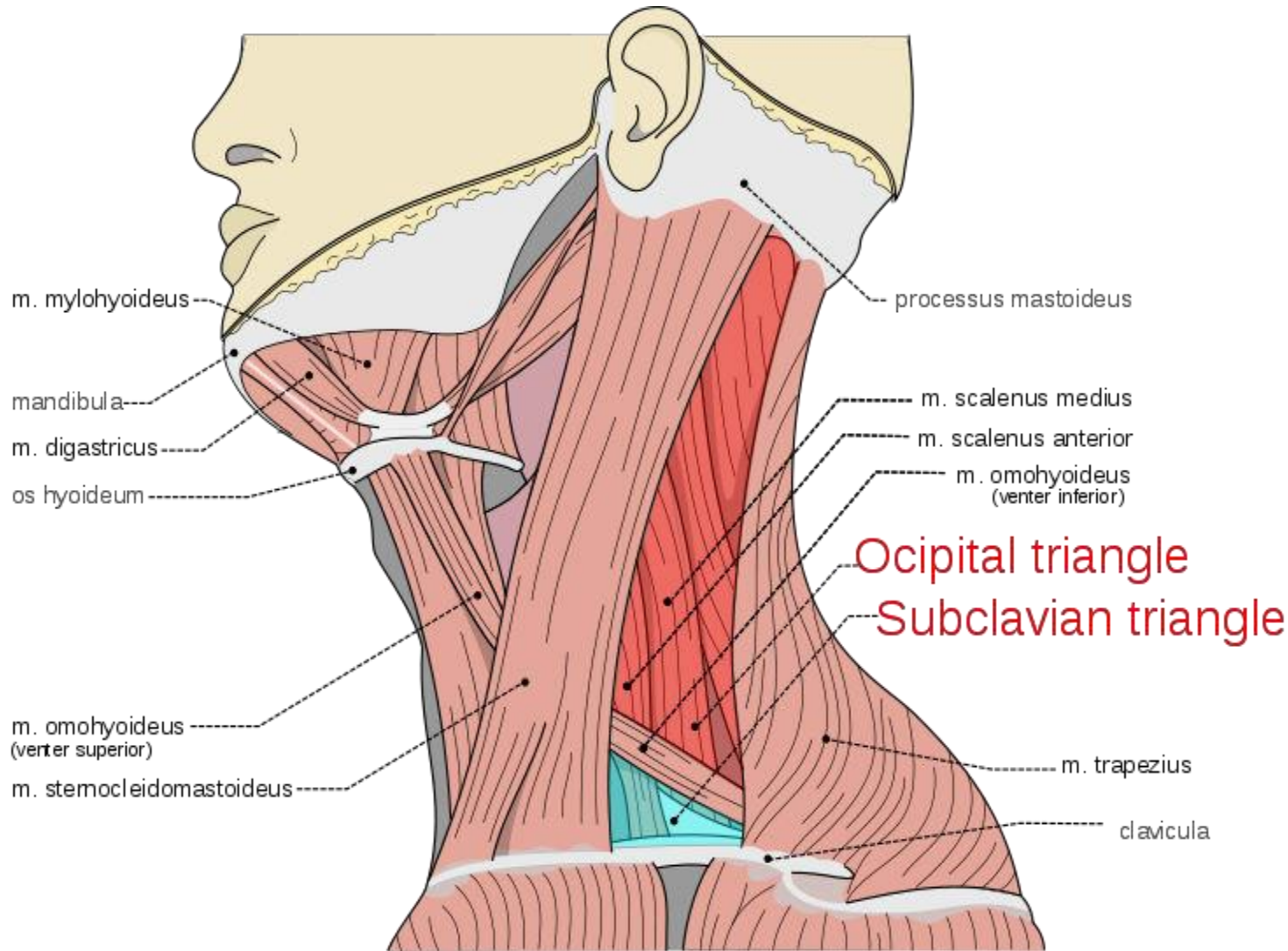


Anterior Triangle

Anterior triangle



Posterior triangle



Posterior triangle

Boundaries Posterior triangle

Anteriorly: Posterior border of sternomastoid

Posteriorly: Anterior border of trapezius

Inferiorly: Middle third of the clavicle.

- The **apex** of the triangle is formed by the occipital bone.
- The **ROOF** of the posterior triangle is formed by:
 - Skin
 - Superficial fascia
 - Platysma muscle
 - Investing layer of the deep cervical fascia

Occipital triangle
crossed by the
occipital artery and
the accessory
nerve (XI)

Splenius muscle

Sternocleidomastoid muscle

Levator scapulae muscle

Posterior scalene muscle

Middle scalene muscle

Anterior scalene muscle

Brachial plexus

Trapezius muscle

Hyoid bone

Thyroid muscle

Omohyoid muscle
(superior belly)

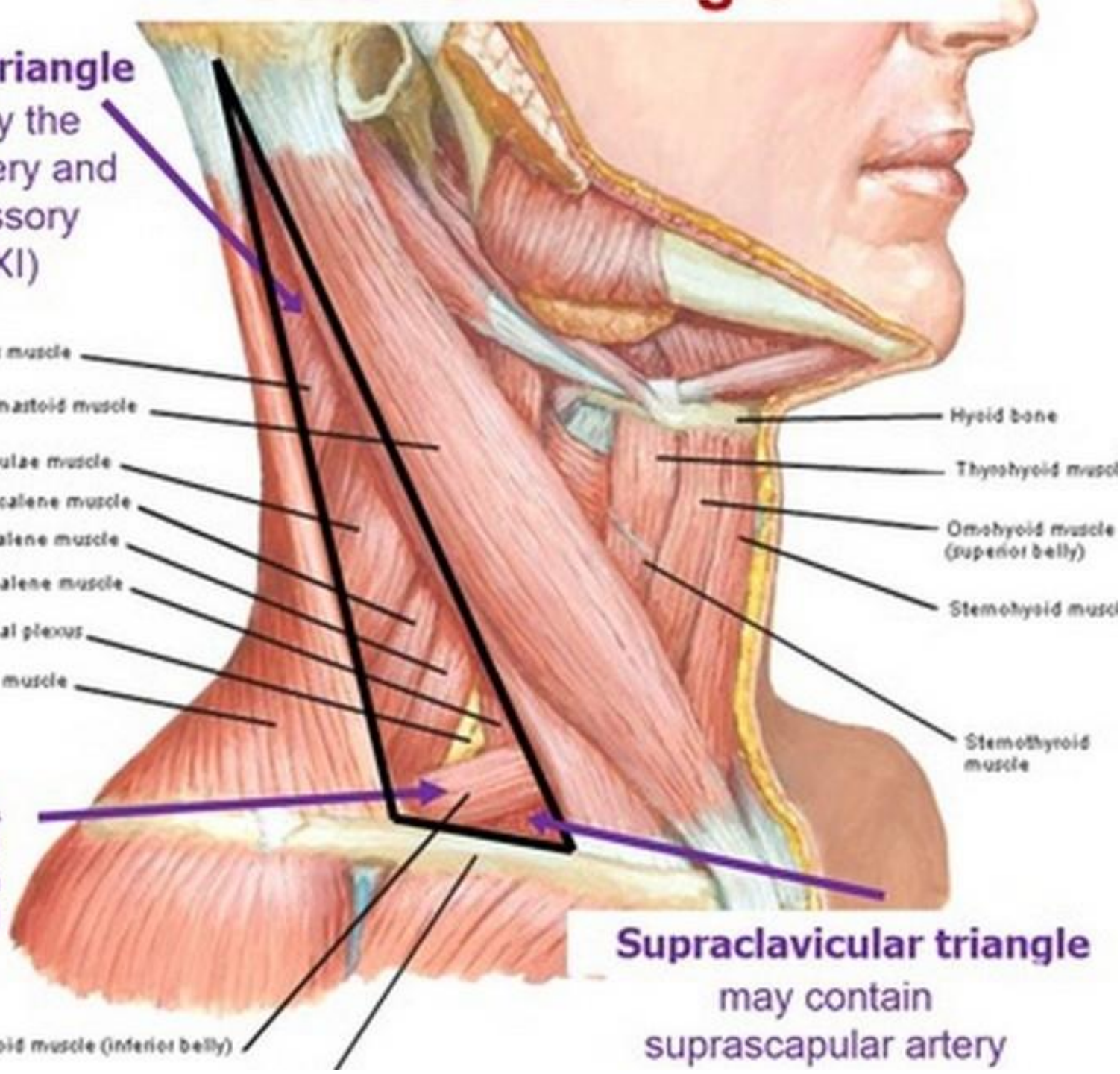
Sternohyoid muscle

Sternothyroid muscle

Omohyoid m., inf. belly: Divides the Posterior triangle into Occipital and Supraclavicular triangles

Omohyoid muscle (inferior belly)

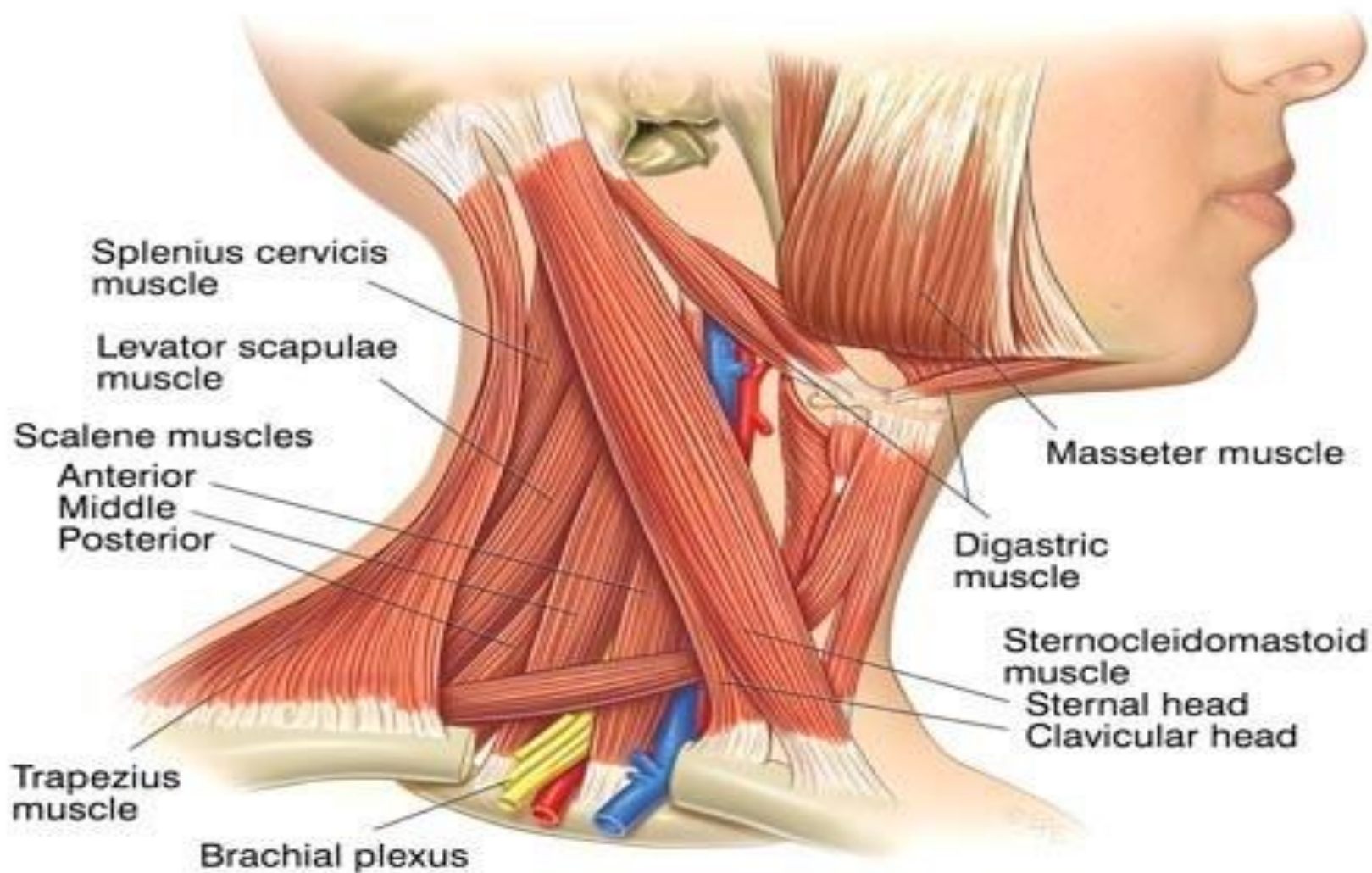
Supraclavicular triangle
may contain
suprascapular artery



FLOOR

Formed by the following muscles from above downwards:

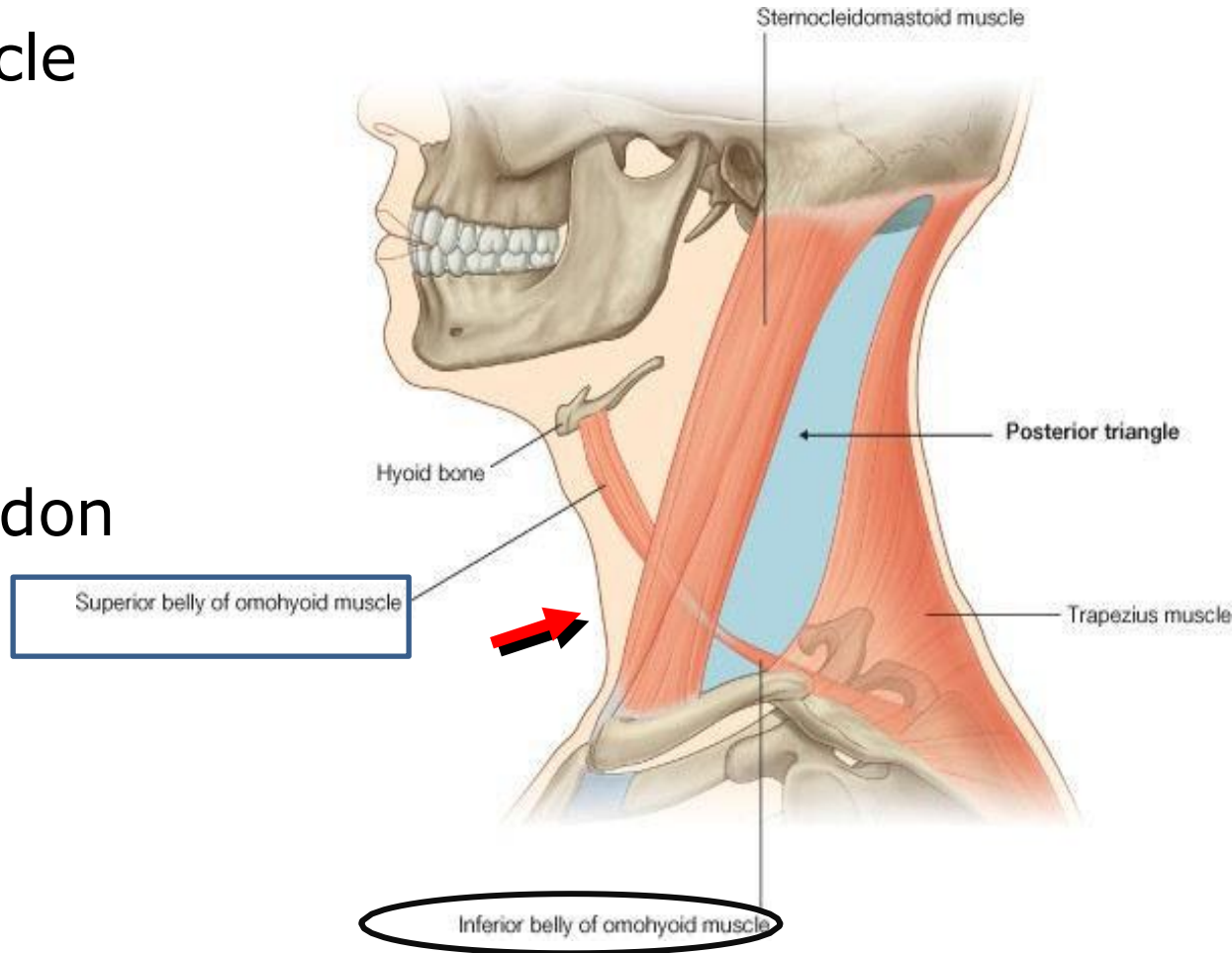
- Splenius Cervicis
- Levator scapulae
- Posterior scalene
- Middle scalene
- Anterior scalene



OMOHYOID MUSCLE

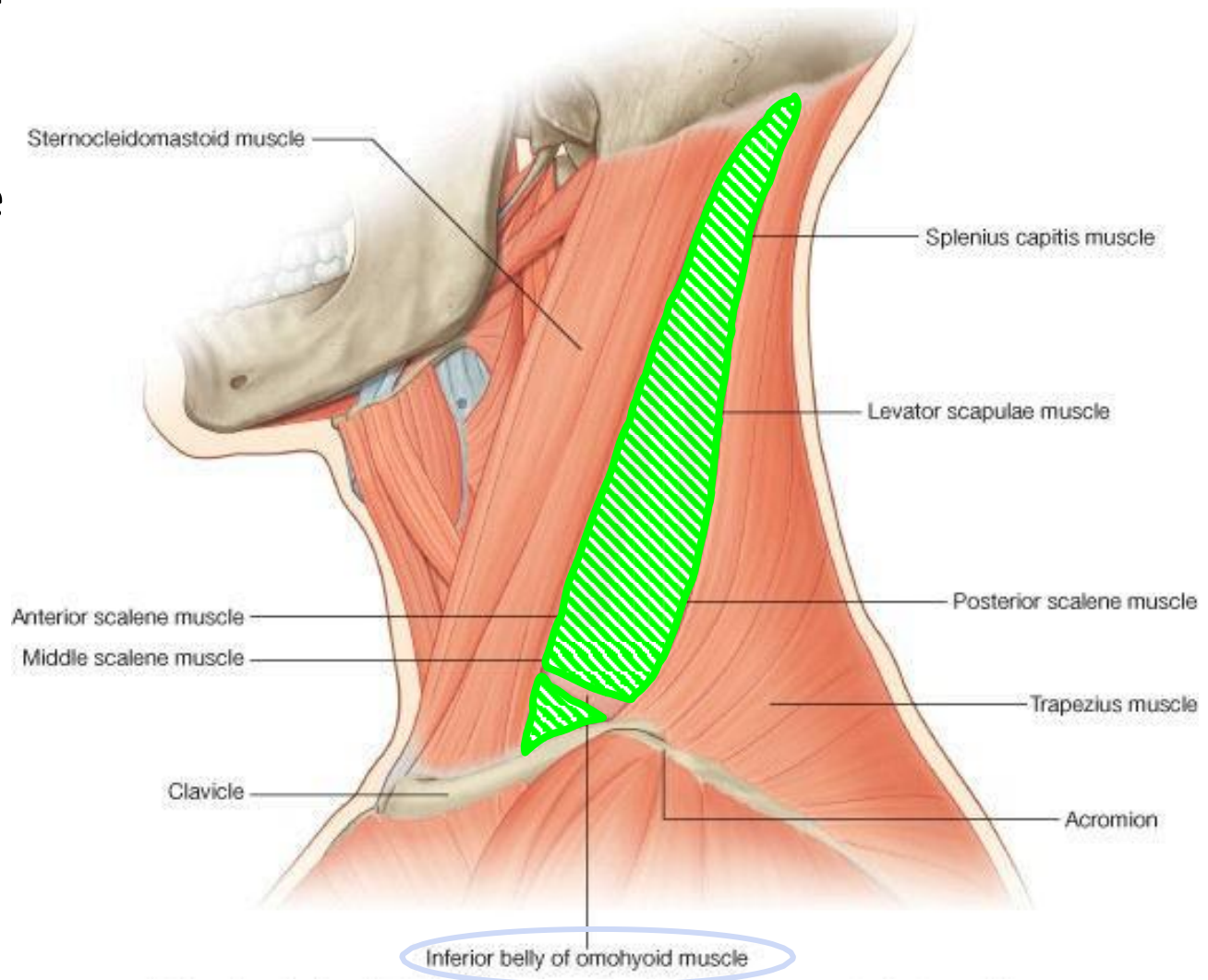
The omohyoid muscle has:

- Inferior belly
- Intermediate tendon
- Superior belly.



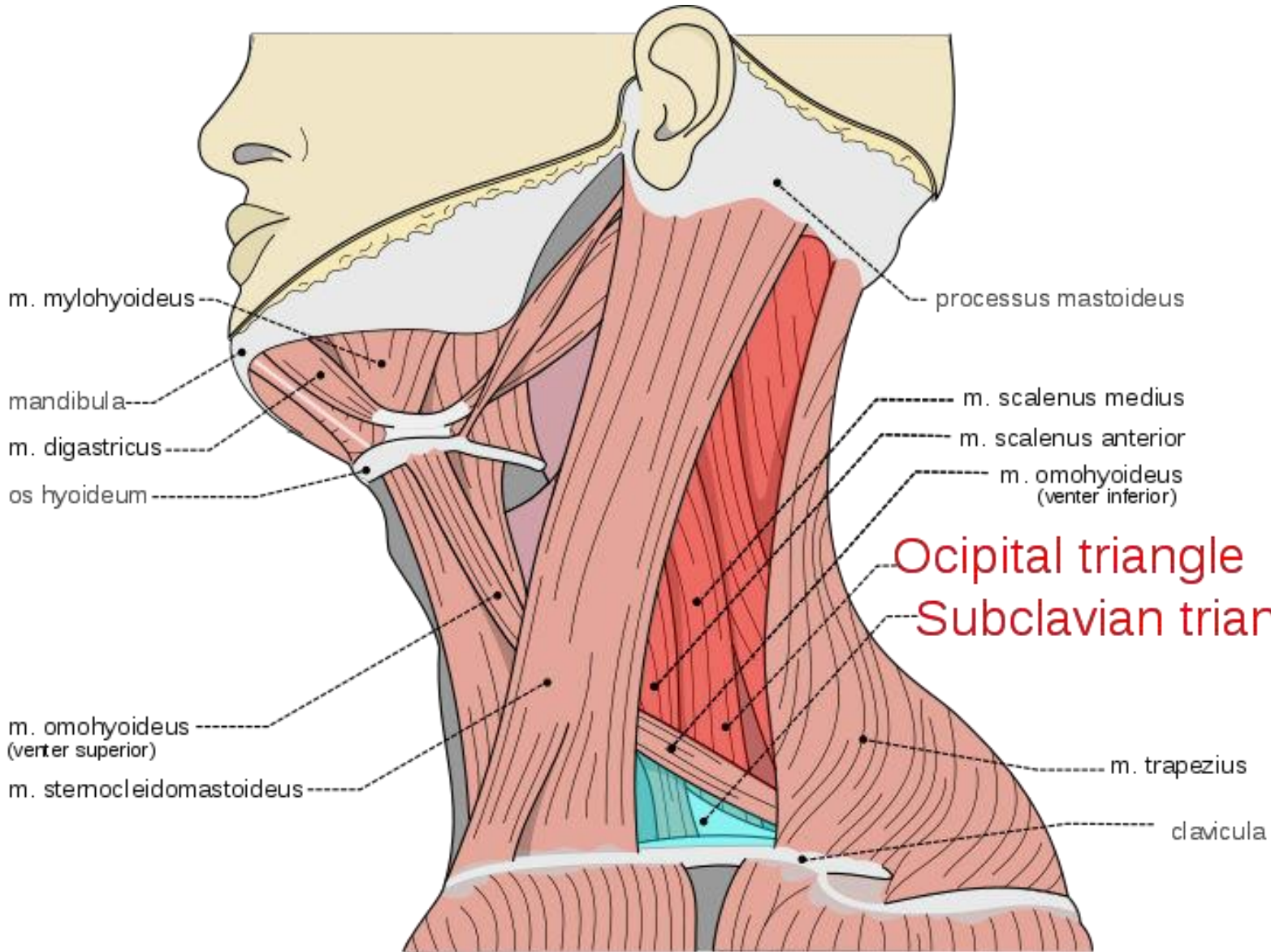
The **inferior belly of omohyoid** subdivides the posterior triangle into:

- a large **occipital triangle** above
- a small **supraclavicular triangle** below.



Subdivisions of the posterior triangle

- **Supraclavicular triangle**
 - Inferior belly of the Omohyoid
 - The Clavicle
 - Sternocleidomastoid muscle
- **Occipital triangle**
 - Inferior belly of the Omohyoid
 - Trapezius muscle
 - Sternocleidomastoid muscle

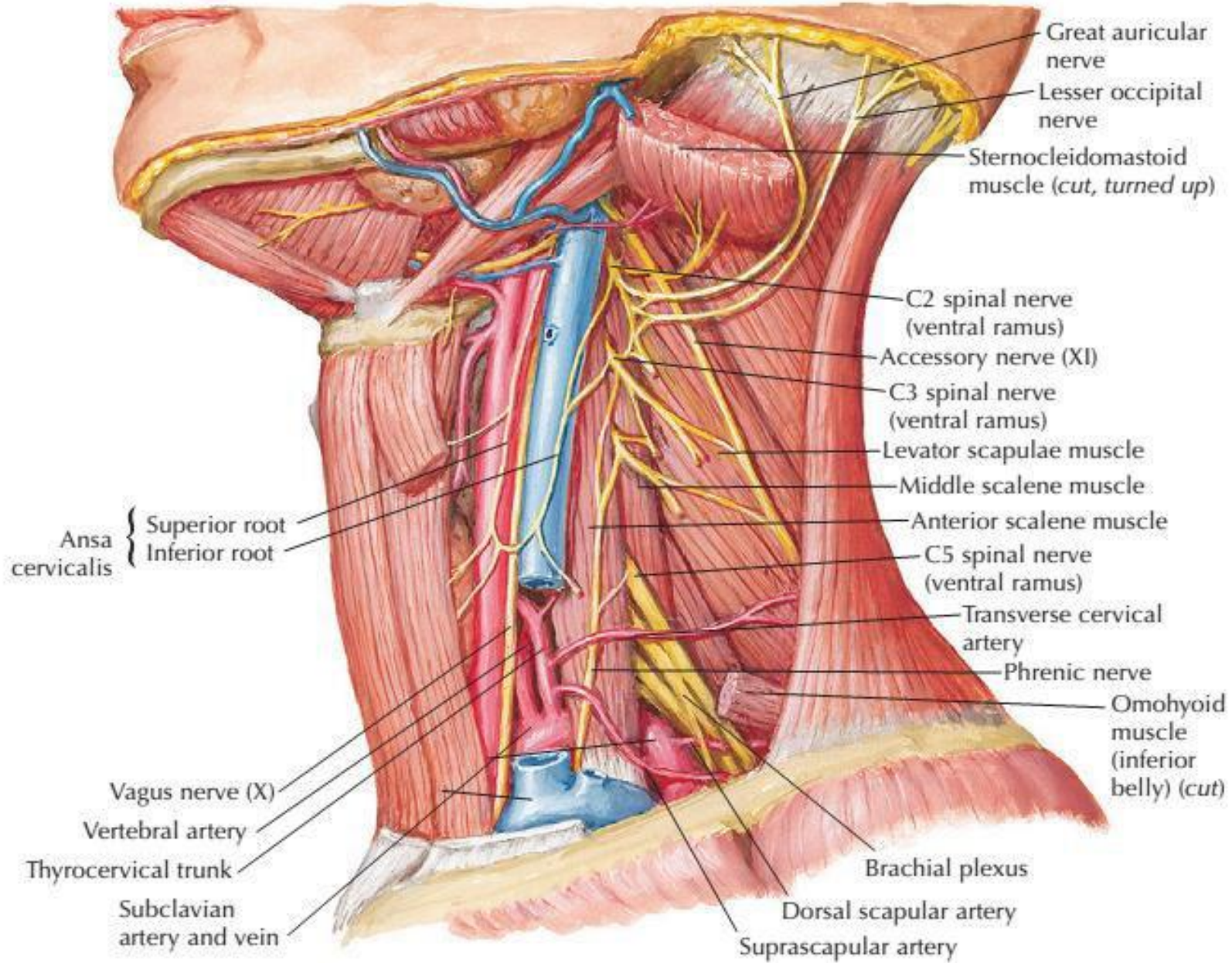


Occipital triangle
Subclavian triangle

Posterior triangle

CONTENTS: NERVES

- Spinal accessory nerve.
- Branches of Cervical plexus
 - Lesser occipital
 - Transverse cervical
 - Great auricular
 - Supraclavicular
- Roots and trunks of brachial plexus.
- Dorsal scapular
- Long thoracic
- Phrenic



VESSELS

- **Arteries**

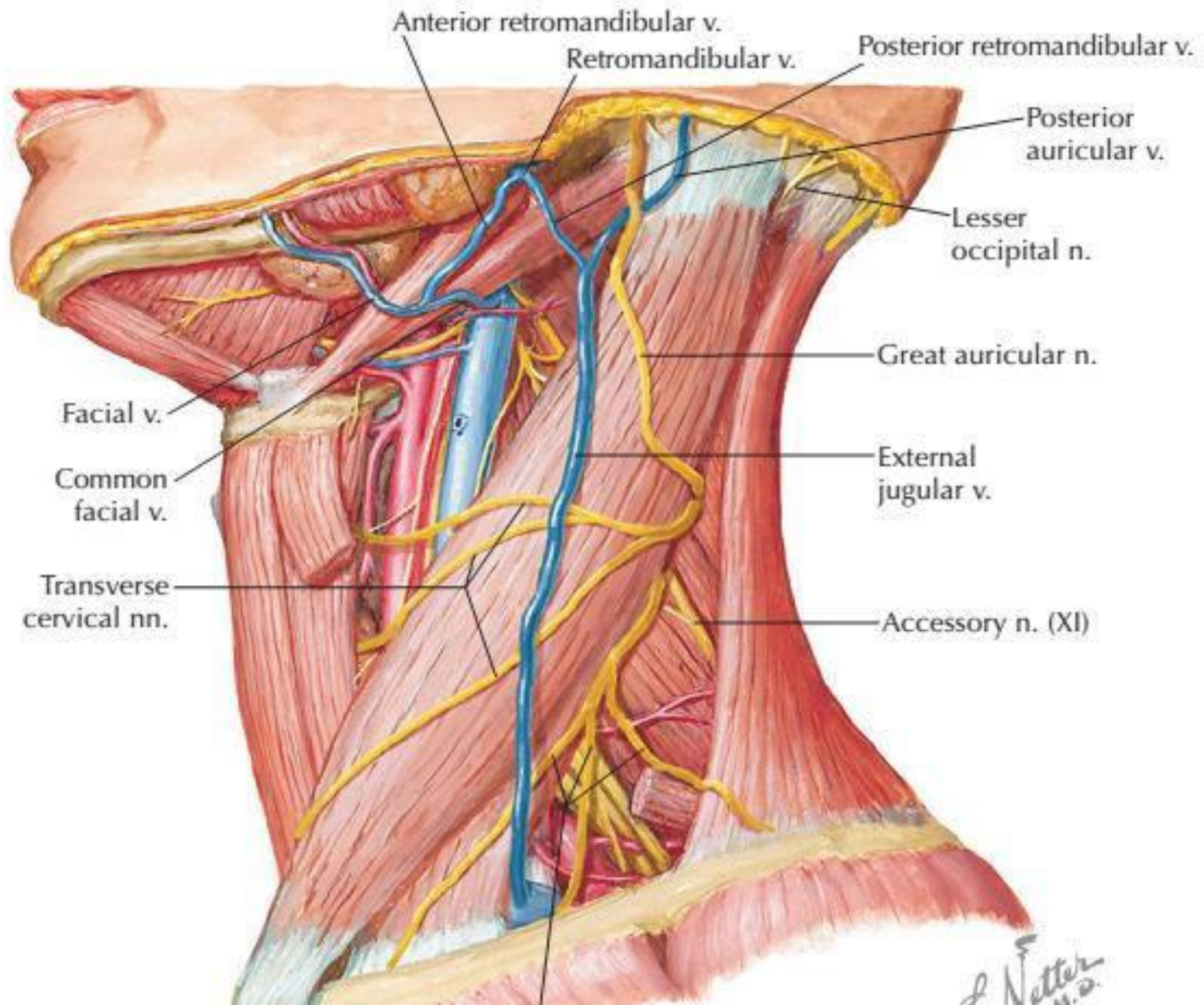
- Subclavian artery
- Transverse Cervical artery
- Suprascapular artery

- **Vein**

- External jugular vein (terminal part)

- **Lymph Nodes**

- Occipital
- Supraclavicular



Contents of occipital triangle

- Spinal part of accessory nerve
- Nerve to rhomboidus
- Four cutaneous branches of cervical plexus
- Upper trunk of brachial plexus
- Occipital artery

Contents of supraclavicular triangle

- Third part of subclavian artery
- External jugular vein
- Trunks of brachial plexus
- Superficial cervical artery
- Suprascapular artery.
- Supraclavicular Lymph Node