

Table of Contents

Article Archive

[VETMED \(63\) 2018](#)
[VETMED \(62\) 2017](#)
[VETMED \(61\) 2016](#)
[VETMED \(60\) 2015](#)
[VETMED \(59\) 2014](#)
[VETMED \(58\) 2013](#)
[VETMED \(57\) 2012](#)
[VETMED \(56\) 2011](#)
[VETMED \(55\) 2010](#)
[VETMED \(54\) 2009](#)
[VETMED \(53\) 2008](#)
[VETMED \(52\) 2007](#)
[VETMED \(51\) 2006](#)
[VETMED \(50\) 2005](#)
[VETMED \(49\) 2004](#)
[Issue No. 1 \(1-34\)](#)
[Issue No. 2 \(35-64\)](#)
[Issue No. 3 \(65-100\)](#)
[Issue No. 4 \(103-147\)](#)
[Issue No. 5 \(149-185\)](#)
[Issue No. 6 \(187-223\)](#)
[Issue No. 7 \(225-270\)](#)
[Issue No. 8 \(271-316\)](#)
[Issue No. 9 \(317-358\)](#)
[Issue No. 10 \(359-399\)](#)
[Issue No. 11 \(401-446\)](#)
[Issue No. 12 \(447-475\)](#)
[VETMED \(48\) 2003](#)
[VETMED \(47\) 2002](#)
[VETMED \(46\) 2001](#)

Editorial Board

Ethical Standards

Reviewers 2017

For Authors

Author Declaration

Instructions for Authors

Submission Templates

Authors' Guide

Fees

Login – submissions till 2017

Submission / Login 2018

Nerves originating from brachial plexus in the porcupine (*Hystrix cristata*)

A. Aydin

<https://doi.org/10.17221/5685-VETMED>

Citation: Aydin A. (2004): Nerves originating from brachial plexus in the porcupine (*Hystrix cristata*). *Veterinari Medicina*, 49: 123-128.

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In this study, dissemination of forelimb's nerves of the porcupine (*Hystrix cristata*) was investigated. Four porcupines (two males and two females) were used and nerves originating from brachial their plexus were dissected. Origin and dissemination of forelimb's nerves originated from brachial plexus constituted from cranial and caudal trunks were examined. Suprascapular nerve and the first branch of subscapular nerve originated from cranial and caudal part of cranial trunk, respectively. Nerves originated from caudal trunk, pectoral cranial nerves, constituted four branches spreading in pectoral muscles. Musculocutaneous nerve gives a branch to brachial muscle and, after giving medial cutaneous antebrachii nerve was divided to two branches (digital dorsal commun I and II nerve). Axillary nerve gives a branch to subscapular muscle and ends as cranial cutaneous antebrachii. Radial nerve separated to branches as ramus profundus and ramus superficialis which also was divided to digital dorsal commun III and IV nerve and lateral cutaneous antebrachial nerve. Thoracodorsal nerve spreaded to latissimus dorsi muscle. Median nerve was divided to digital dorsal commun I, II, III and IV nerve. Ulnar nerve was divided to digital dorsal commun V and digital dorsal commun V nerve after giving caudal cutaneous antebrachii. An undefined nerve branch originated from caudal trunk entered coracobrachial muscle and biceps brachii muscle. Lateral thoracic and caudal pectoral nerves originated from caudal trunk. In the porcupine, branch which goes to coracobrachial muscle directly from caudal trunk of the brachial plexus and distributions of musculocutaneous, radial, ulnar and median nerves were different from rodentia and other mammals.

Keywords:nerves; forelimb; porcupines (*Hystrix cristata*); brachial plexus
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