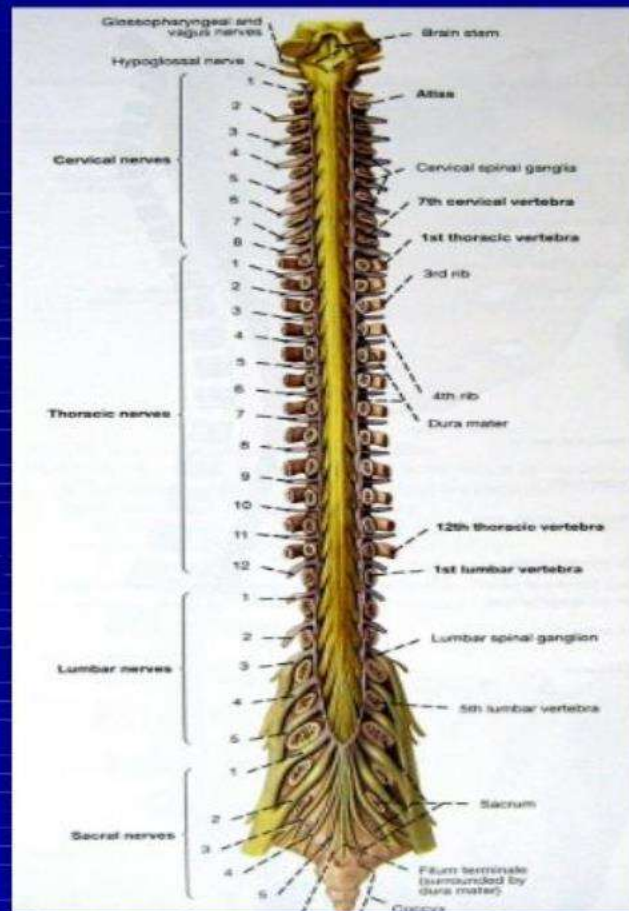
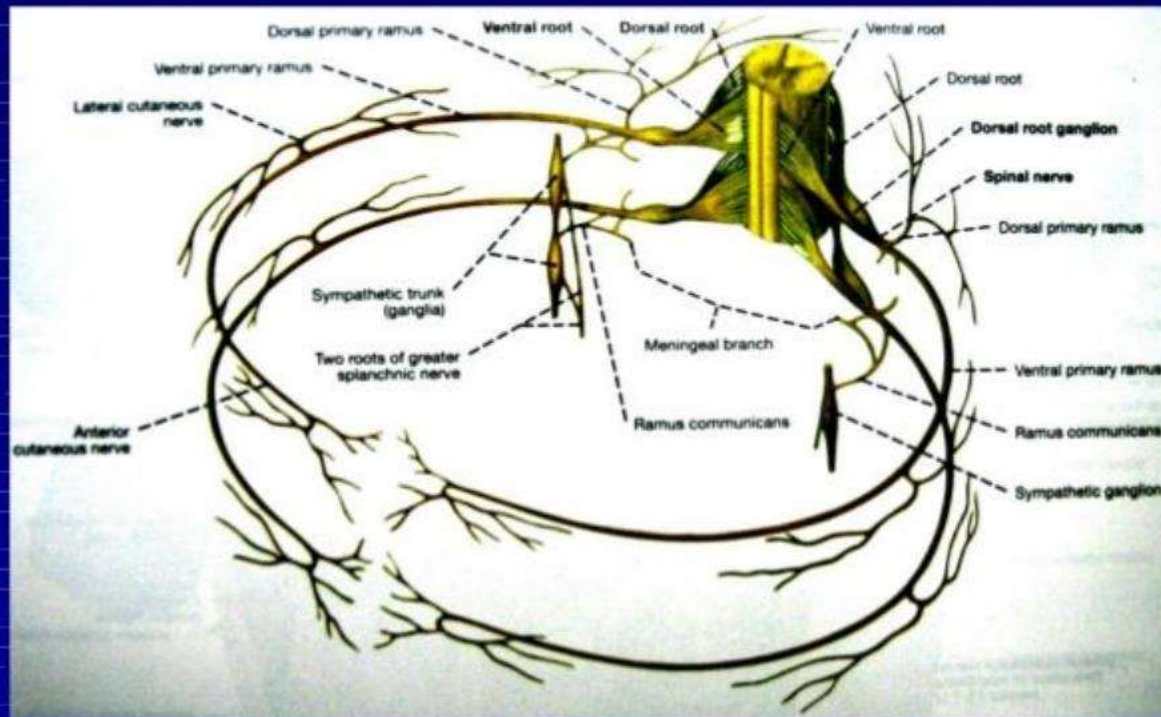


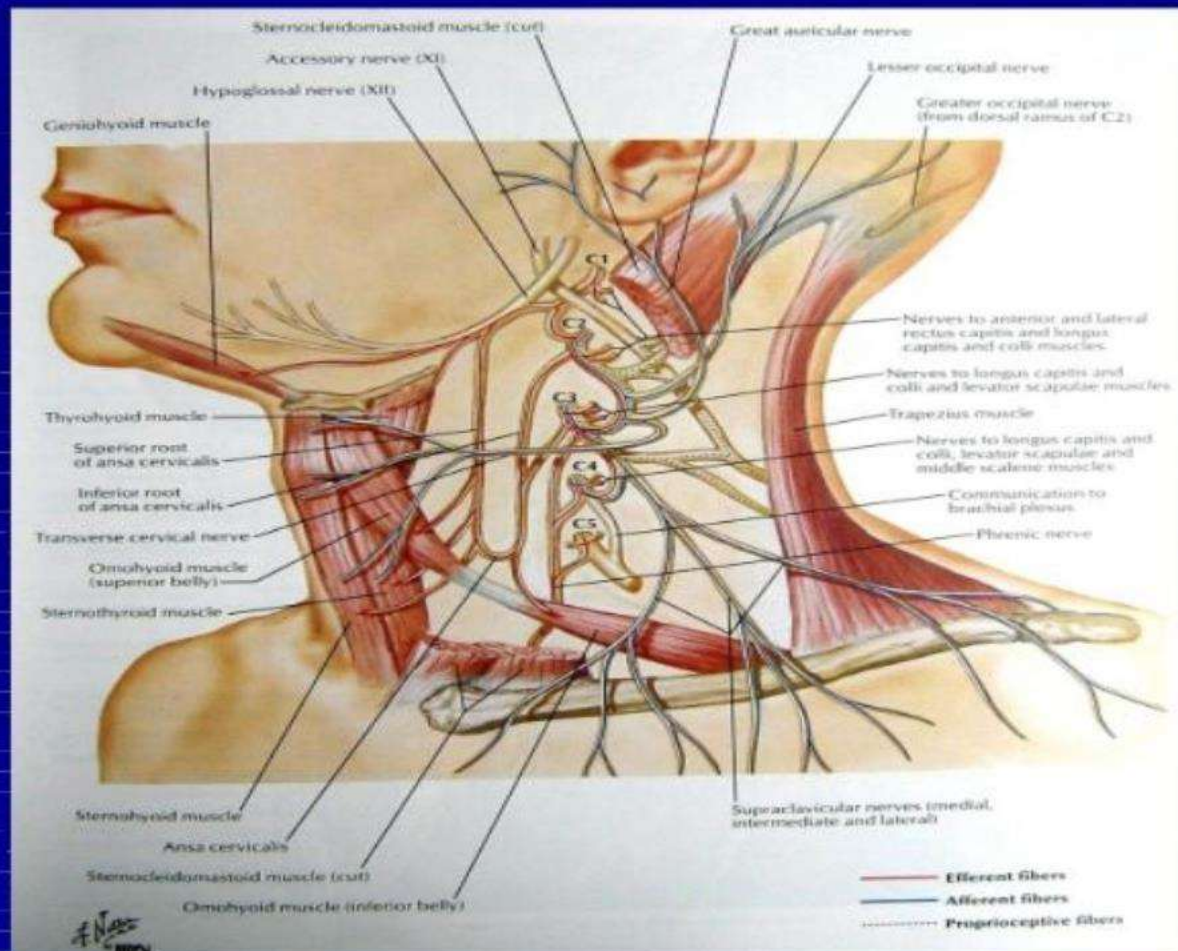
The Cervical Plexus

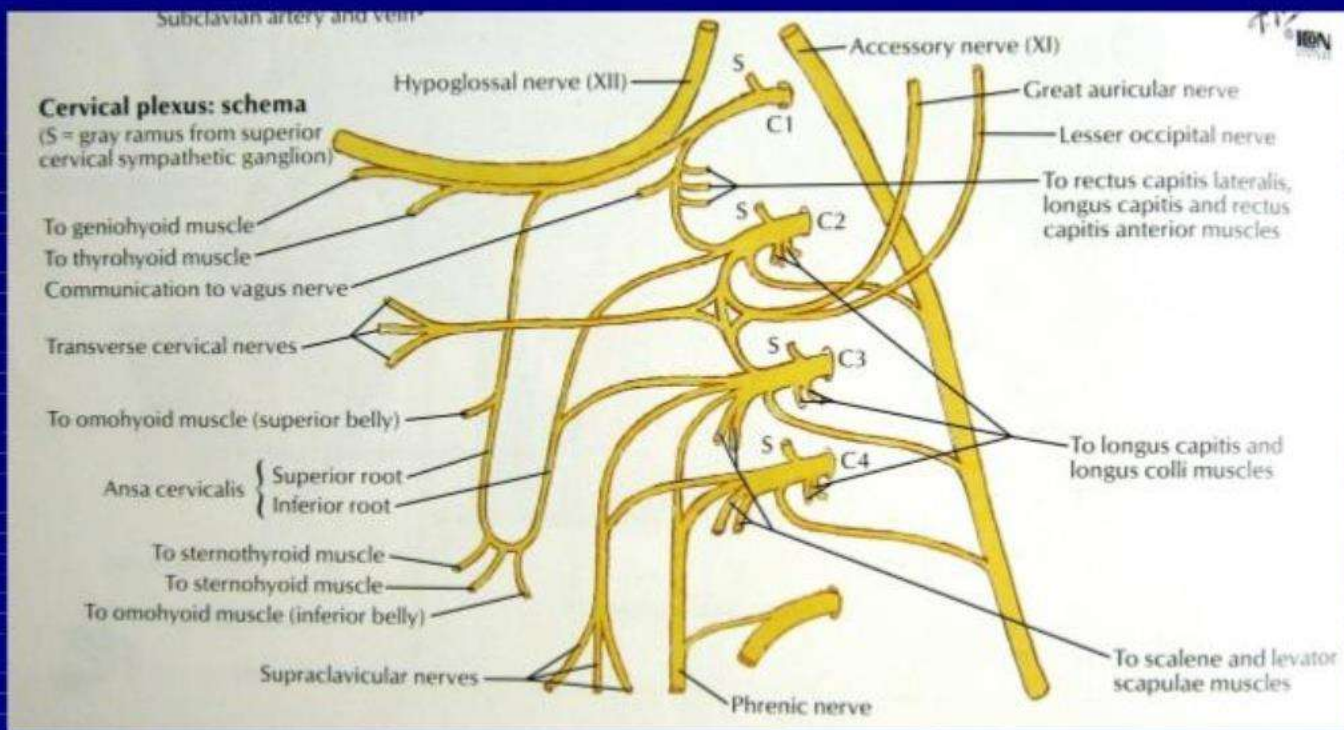


- The cervical plexus is a network of nerves formed by communications between the anterior rami of the upper 5 cervical nerves.
- It lies posterior to the internal jugular vein and the SCM muscles.

The Spinal Nerve







Branches of the Cervical Plexus

Branches of the Cervical Plexus

- A. Superficial or Cutaneous Branches
- Deep branches or muscular and communicating branches

**A. Superficial or
Cutaneous Branches**

1. *Ascending branches*

- a. Lesser occipital nerve
- b. Great auricular nerve
- c. Nervus cutaneus colli

2. *Descending branches*

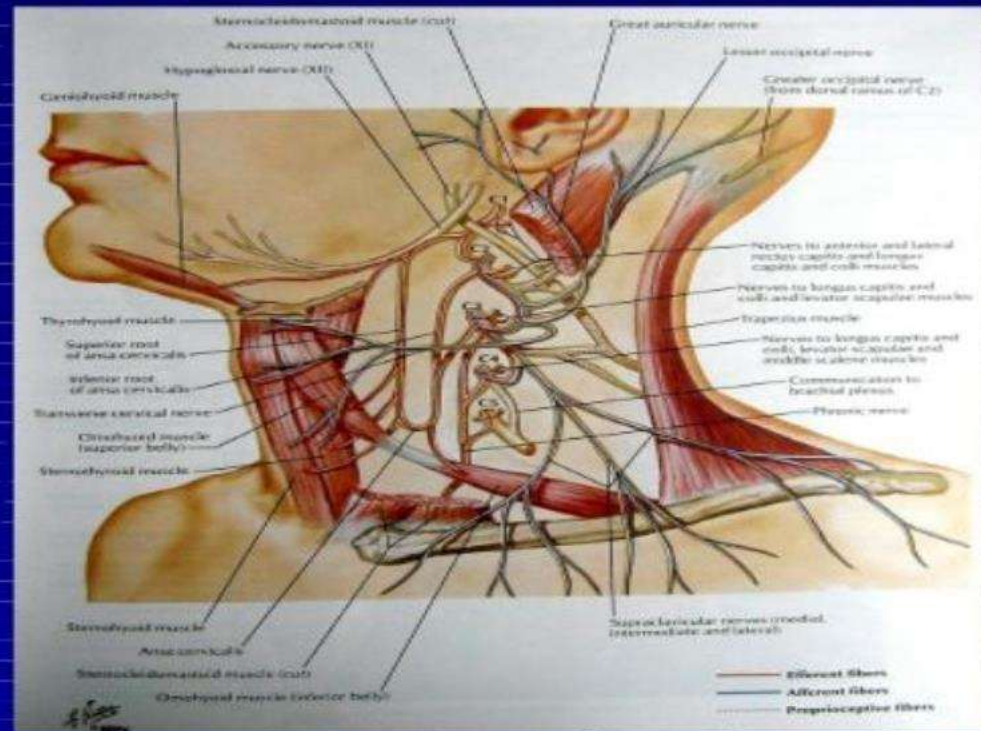
- a. Medial supraclavicular
- b. Intermediate supraclavicular
- c. Lateral supraclavicular

1. Ascending branches

a. Lesser occipital nerve

c. Great auricular nerve

c. Transverse cervical nerve

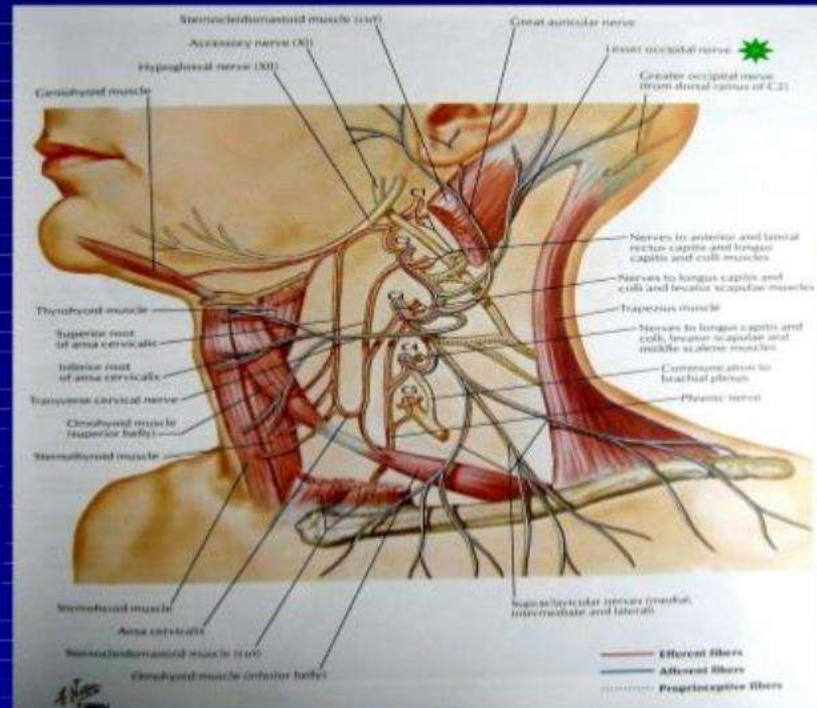


a. Lesser occipital nerve

- Comes from the second cervical ventral ramus and sometimes also from the third

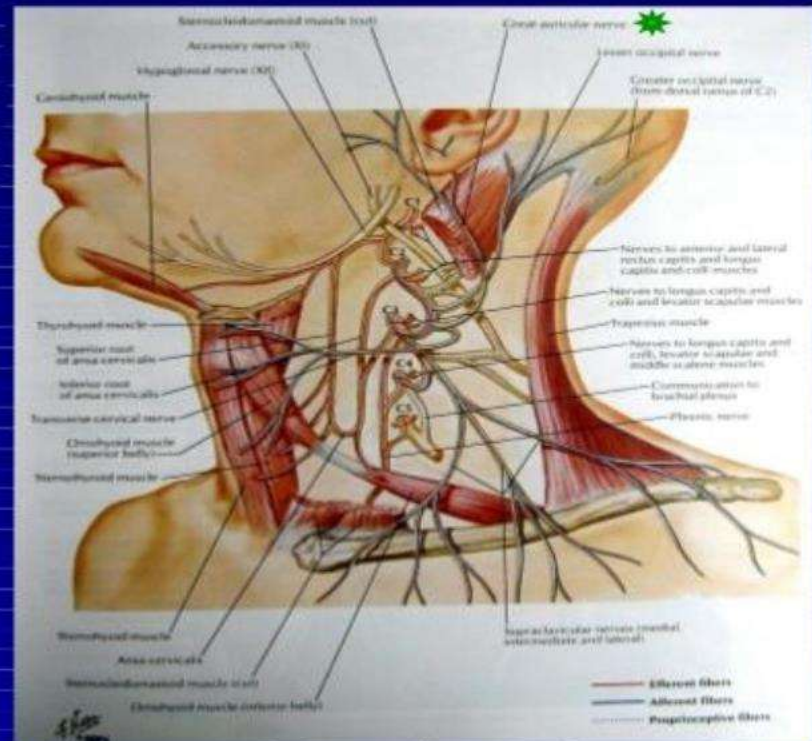
- supplies the skin on the upper third of the medial auricular aspect

- connects with the posterior branch of the great auricular nerve.



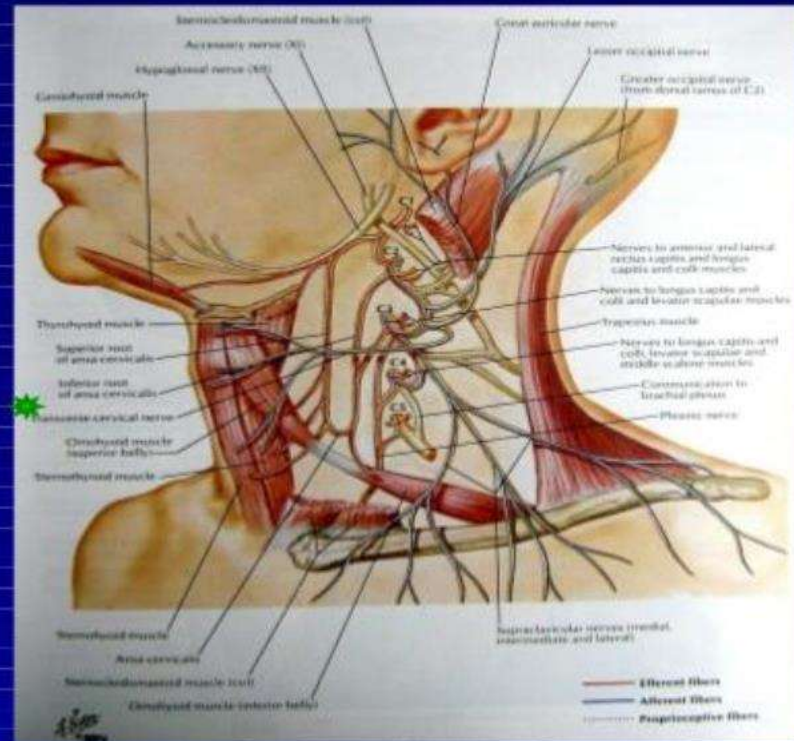
b. The Great Auricular Nerve

- This is the largest ascending branch.
- It arises from the second and third cervical rami, encircles the posterior border of the sternocleidomastoid
- supplies the skin over the mastoid process and on the back of the auricle, the lobule and concha.



c. Transverse Cutaneous Nerve

- This arises from the second and third cervical rami, curves round the posterior border of the sternocleidomastoid
- distributed to the skin of the upper anterior areas of the neck and anterolaterally to the skin of the neck, as low as the sternum.

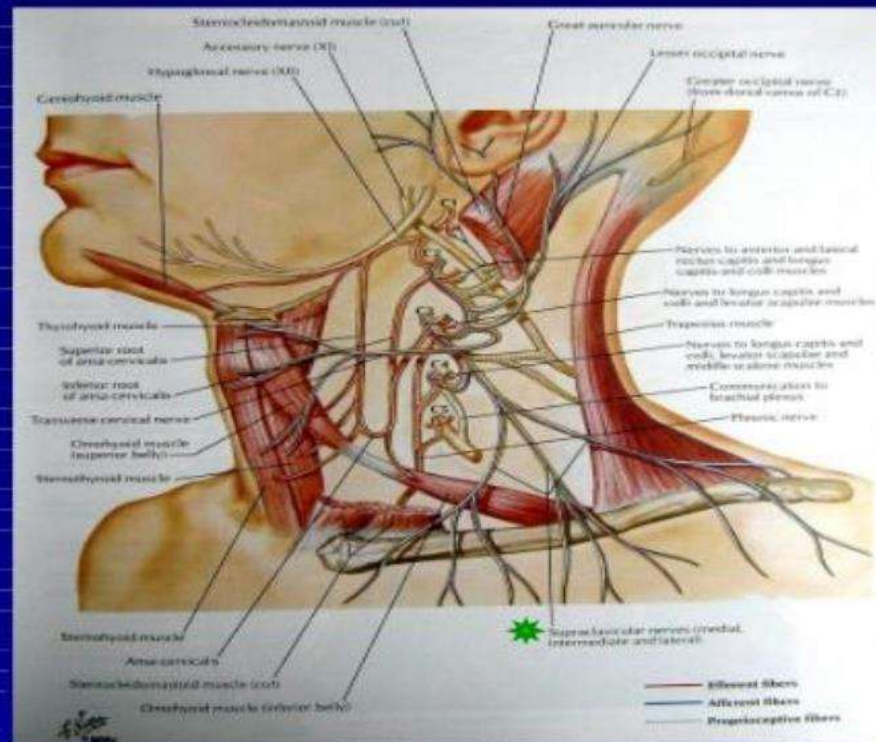


2. Descending branches

a. Medial
supraclavicular

b. Intermediate
supraclavicular

c. Lateral
supraclavicular



Supra Clavicular Nerves

- These arise by a common trunk from the third and fourth cervical ventral rami and emerge from the posterior border of the sternocleidomastoid, to descend under the platysma and the deep cervical fascia;

3 branches:

1. The medial supraclavicular nerves supply the skin as far as the midline and as low as the second rib. They supply the sternoclavicular joint.
2. The intermediate supraclavicular nerves cross the clavicle to supply the skin over the pectoralis major and deltoid down to the level of the second rib
3. The lateral supraclavicular nerves supply the skin of the upper and posterior parts of the shoulder.

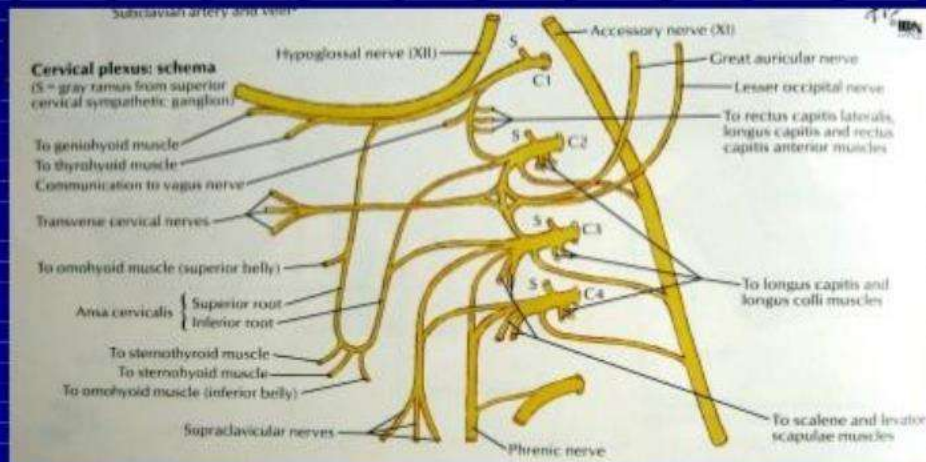
**Deep branches or
muscular and
communicating
branches**

1. Lateral branches:

b. Muscular branches going to the following:

- i. SCM
- ii. Trapezius
- iii. Levator scapula
- iv. Scalenius medius
- v. Scalenius posterior

b. Communicating branches to spinal accessory nerves



Deep Branches—Lateral Series

Muscular branches

Sternocleidomastoid	C2, 3, 4
Trapezius	C2, (3)
Levator scapulae	C3, 4
Scalenus medius	C3, 4

Communicating branches

Accessory Nerve	C2, 3, 4
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2. Medial branches:

- a. Muscular branches going to the following muscles:
 - i. Prevertebral muscles
 - ii. Infrahyoid muscles thru the ansa hypoglossi
 - iii. Diaphragm thru the phrenic nerve
- b. Communicating branches to the vagus, hypoglossal and sympathetic nerves
- c. Phrenic nerve is the most important branch because it supplies the diaphragm which is the chief muscle for respiration. It is derived from cervical nerves 3, 4, and 5.

Communicating and Muscular Branches (Medial Series)

Communicating branches with

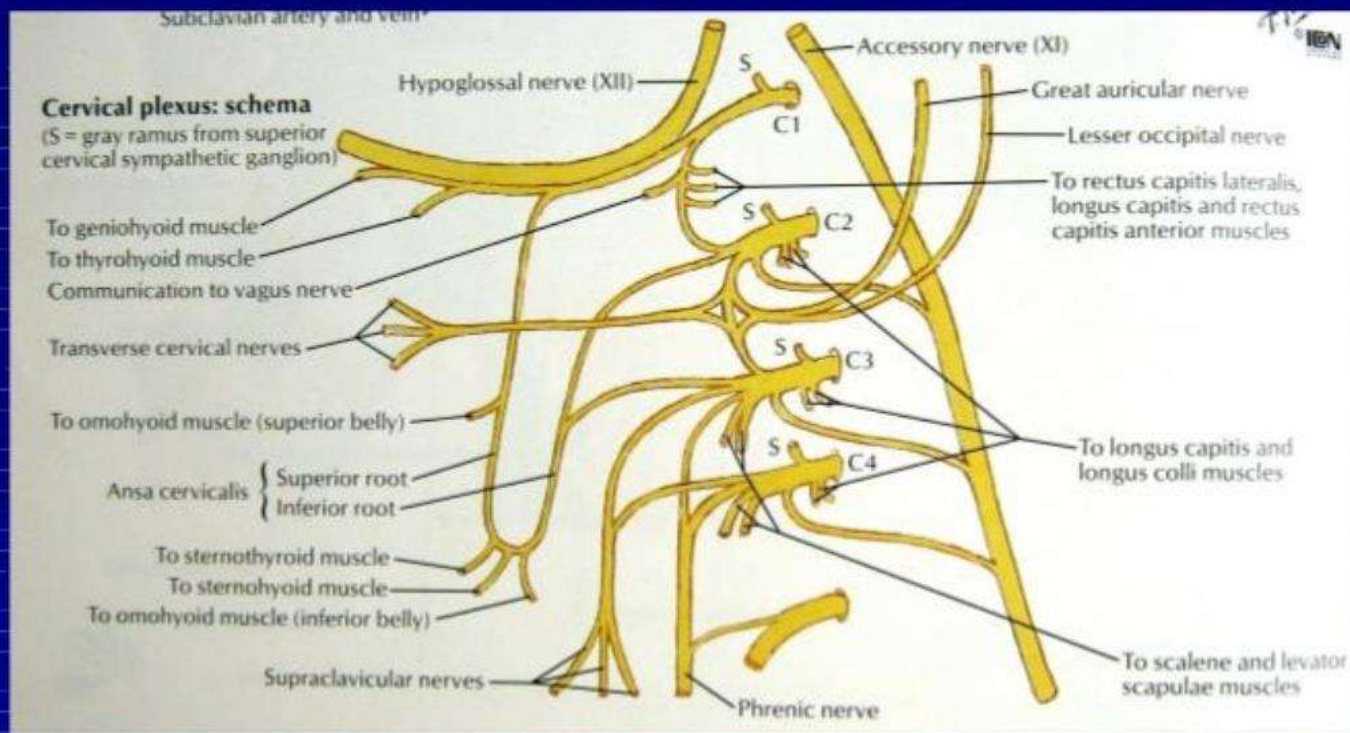
Hypoglossal	C1, 2
Vagus	C1–4
Sympathetic	C1, 2

Muscular branches to

Rectus capitis lateralis	C1
Rectus capitis anterior	C1, 2
Longus capitis	C1–3
Longus colli	C2–4
Inferior root of ansa cervicalis	C2, 3
Phrenic nerve	C3–5

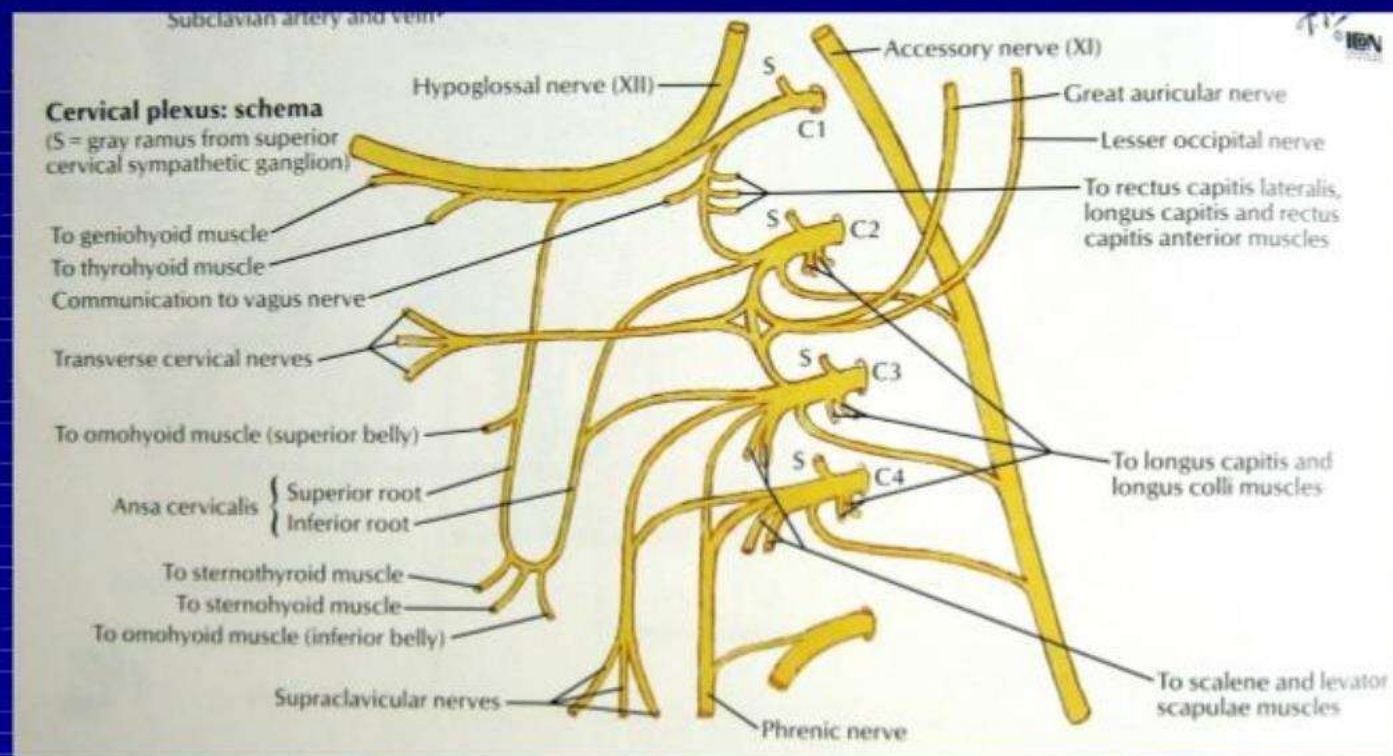
The Ansa Hypoglossi

- Formed by spinal nerves C1, C2, and C3.
- 3 parts:
 1. Superior root C1
 - innervates the superior belly of omohyoid
 2. Inferior root C2, C3
 3. Loop of ansa cervicalis
 - innervates the sternothyroid, sternohyoid, inferior belly of omohyoid



The Phrenic nerve

- Arises from the converging APR of spinal nerves C3, C4, and C5.
- This is the sole motor supply to the diaphragm, and also contains widespread sensory fibres.



Give your loved ones the
warmest hugs and kisses you
can give today!!

