

Fig. E-1

Gross dissection photograph illustrating medial side contribution. The medial superior genicular artery bifurcates, and the distal branch courses at the level of the joint line and supplies the peripatellar anastomotic ring.

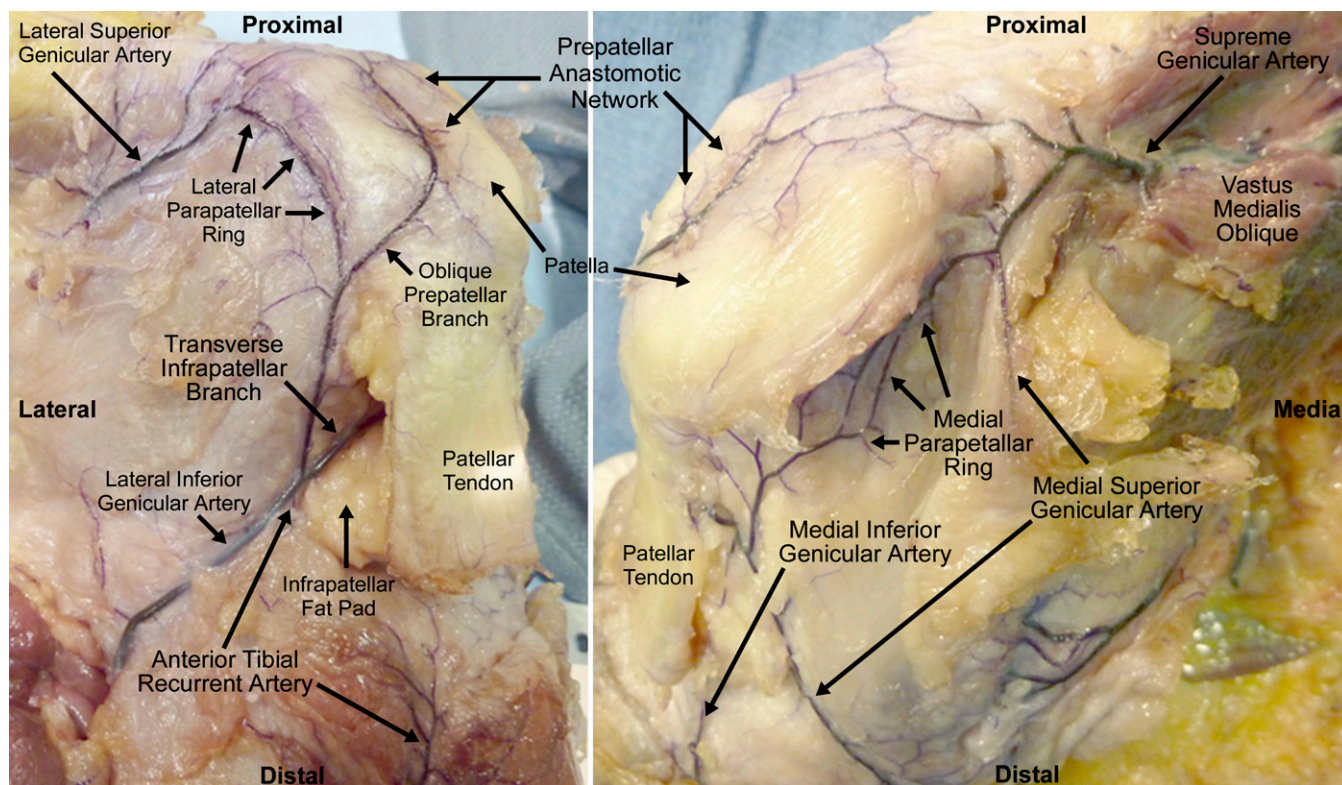


Fig. E-2

Images made after gross dissection of a control specimen, illustrating the lateral side (left image) and medial side (right image) of the knee. Note the lateral and medial parts of the peripatellar anastomotic ring deep within the retinaculum. The medial view illustrates the path (within the vastus medialis oblique) and contribution of the supreme genicular artery.

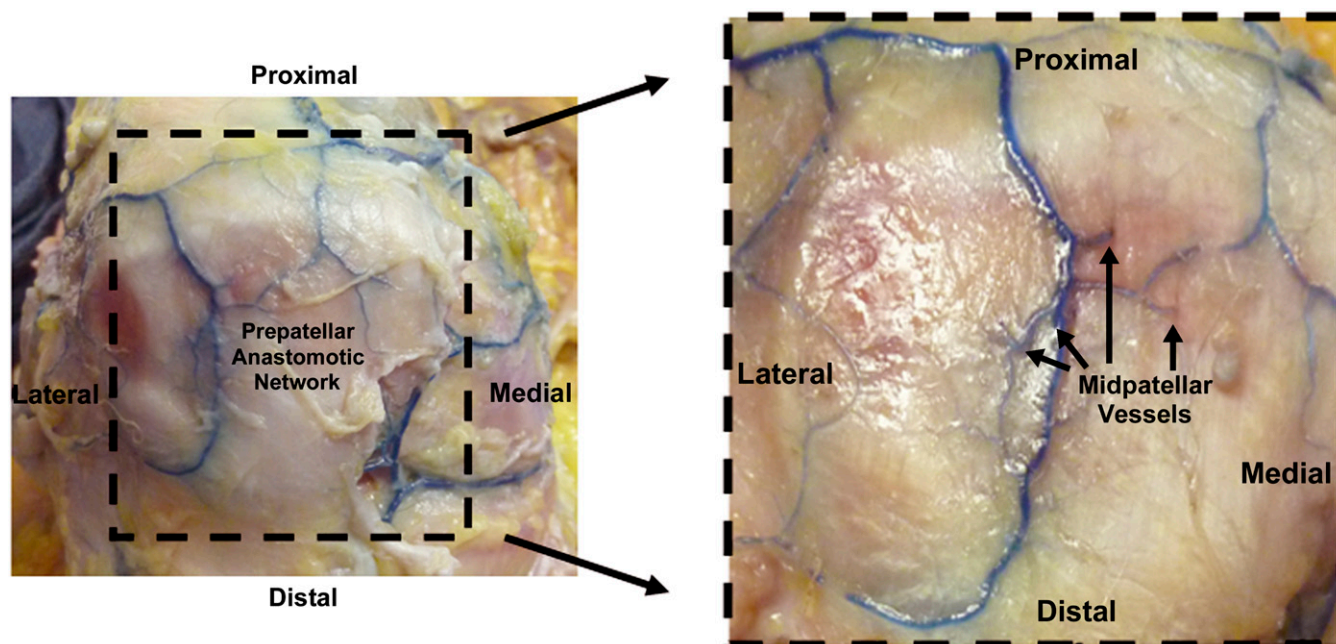


Fig. E-3

Gross dissection of the prepatellar area, illustrating the prepatellar vessel network, the source of the midpatellar vessels (dorsal vessel system) penetrating the anterior surface of the patella.



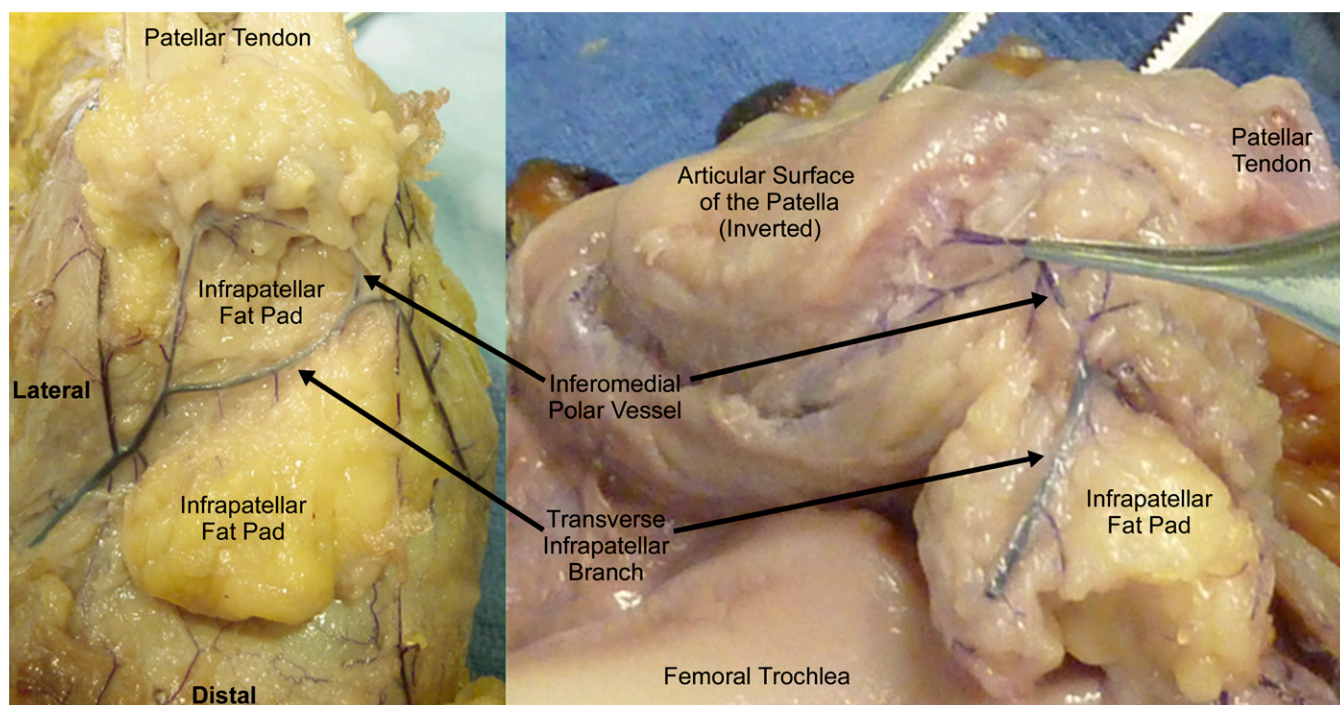


Fig. E-4

Gross dissection of the infrapatellar area posterior to the patellar tendon, demonstrating the transverse infrapatellar branch coursing within the infrapatellar fat pad, connecting the medial and lateral vessels of the peripatellar anastomotic ring, and giving off the polar vessels. On the left, the patellar tendon was detached from the tibial tubercle and elevated proximally to illustrate the infrapatellar area posterior to the patellar tendon. On the right, a lateral arthrotomy was performed and the patella was inverted to fully illustrate the polar vessels penetrating the patella on the inferomedial aspect of the distal pole, posterior to the patellar tendon and anterior to the articular cartilage.