

## Lower Division of the Common Carotid Artery – A Case Report

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Expressed variations in division of the common carotid artery are not rare. Low division (30% of the variations) is usually at the level of the middle part of the larynx. The dividing at the level of the annular cartilage is very rare and we found only one reported case of separation below the annular cartilage – at the base of the neck. The aim of the study was to determine, analyze, document and assess the presence of a rare variation – lower division of common carotid artery discovered during a dissection. Cadaveric dissection material was used. We detected a low separation of the common carotid artery – below the level of the lower edge of the annular cartilage. Knowledge of the variations of the common carotid artery and its branches is required, as in the diagnosis of disease in the neck and head, and in carrying out manipulations in these areas.

*Key words:* common carotid artery, division, variations, hyoid bone, neck.