

A Rare Case of Bilateral Occipitoscapular Muscle

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In the present study, we described a variation of the neck muscles of a 73-year-old male cadaver during a routine anatomical dissection. The finding was represented by bilateral occipitoscapular muscle – a muscle that is normally not present in human. On the right side, the muscle was composed of inferior oblique, middle straight and superior oblique parts. The left muscle was represented by inferior and superior oblique parts. The muscles originated from the superior angle of the scapula and the tendons inserted on the lateral half of superior nuchal line of occipital bone. We observed and described the relations of these supernumerary muscles with the adjacent structures and their blood supply. In addition, we discussed the presence of this variation in the context of the embryonic development of neck muscles and phylogenetic development of mammals, as well as its clinical significance.

Key words: neck muscle, bilateral variation, occipitoscapular muscle