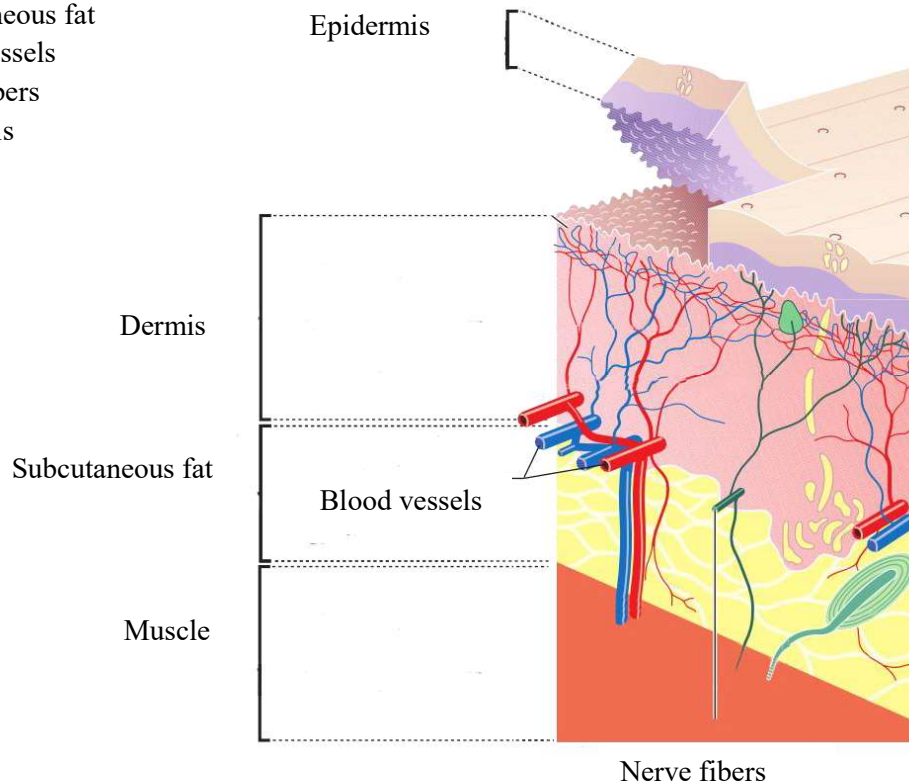


Introduction to Intramuscular Injections (Focus on Anatomy) Instructor Resource

Intramuscular is defined as “situated within, occurring within, or administered by entering a muscle” (Merriam-Webster). Below is a diagram of the layers of the skin. Label the diagram with the words listed and answer the questions below.

1. Subcutaneous fat
2. Blood vessels
3. Nerve fibers
4. Epidermis
5. Dermis
6. Muscle



1. Can intramuscular injections bleed? Why or why not?

Yes. The vessels are larger in the muscle. We want to make sure that the medication is being placed in the muscle and not the blood vessels.

2. Do intramuscular injections hurt? Why or why not?

Yes. As you can see, the nerve fibers do go throughout the dermis, subcutaneous fat and muscle so intramuscular injections are the most painful injections.

Modified work.

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Merriam-Webster (2016). Dictionary. Retrieved from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/>