**Original article:**

**An evaluation of the system of classifications of the median and musculocutaneous**

**nerves: A study in West Bengal population**

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**Abstract:**

**Introduction**: Anomalies of the brachial plexus are of interest to academicians and clinicians. The present study provides an assessment concerning the present classification criteria of median & musculocutaneous nerve among the Eastern Indian population. The related causative factors, developmental background and clinical relevance have also been elaborated.

**Methods:** Meticulous dissection of brachial plexus was performed bilaterally on 54 embalmed adult human cadavers in selected Medical colleges in West Bengal as a part of the undergraduate medical curriculum.

**Results:** Among 41male cadavers (75.93%), 6 cases (14.63%) were found on the right side and 3 cases (7.32%) on the left side. Among the females, only 1 case (7.69%) was found on the right side. The average distances (±Standard Deviation) of formation of median and musculocutaneous nerves and nerve to coracobrachialis, biceps brachii, brachialis from tip of coracoid process were 2.83(±0.65)cm, 4.55(±1.41)cm, 4.27(±0.42)cm, 7.65(±0.43)cm and16.04(±1.04)cm respectively. Arterial relations as well as side and gender predisposition of the anomalies were also tabulated.

**Conclusion:** The median & musculocutaneous nerves as well as their different muscular branches in the arm vary considerably in levels of origin, location and course which have paramount clinical significance. The prevalent classification system may be revised in the background of distinctive new pattern of anomalies.

**Key words**: Brachial Plexus, Median Nerve, Musculocutaneous Nerve