

Lab 21 Dissection Steps:

- ❑ In this lab we will be looking at nerves arising from the **lumbosacral plexus** (some of these have already been dissected). In general you will not see/dissect the entire lumbosacral plexus.
- ❑ Identify the **obturator n.** on the medial side of the RIGHT ilium; trace it as it emerges ventrally from the obturator foramen and enters the adductor m.
- ❑ Identify the **femoral n.** near the lateral circumflex femoral artery (emerging from the iliopsoas m.)
 - ❑ Identify the **saphenous n.** given off of the femoral n. and trace it distally on the limb, running alongside the saphenous a. and medial saphenous v.
- ❑ In the right ischiorectal fossa, look for nerves coursing alongside the ventral perineal a. and trace them back toward the gluteal region. Attempt to find the **caudal cutaneous femoral n.** near the sacrotuberous ligament as it becomes superficial on the proximal (and caudal) part of the thigh. (This nerve often is removed with the skin or gets accidentally cut during dissection.)
- ❑ Carefully transect and reflect the sacrotuberous ligament without cutting the caudal cutaneous femoral n.
- ❑ Identify the **pubdental n.** as it emerges near the pudental vessels, medial to the superficial gluteal m.
 - ❑ Identify the **caudal rectal n.** going to the external anal sphincter m.
 - ❑ Identify the **perineal nerves** following the ventral perineal a.
 - ❑ Identify the **dorsal nerve of the penis/clitoris** following the dorsal artery of the penis/clitoris
- ❑ Identify the **lumbosacral trunk** emerging near the caudal gluteal a.
 - ❑ Identify the **caudal gluteal n.**, which innervates the superficial gluteal m.
 - ❑ Identify the **cranial gluteal n.** (running alongside your cranial gluteal a.) as it wraps around the caudal aspect of the ilium
 - ❑ Identify the **sciatic n.**
 - ❑ Trace the path of the sciatic nerve and identify the following (cut muscles & retinacula as needed):
 - ❑ **common fibular (peroneal) n.**
 - ❑ **lateral cutaneous sural n.**
 - ❑ **superficial fibular (peroneal) n.**
 - ❑ **deep fibular (peroneal) n.**
 - ❑ **tibial n.**
 - ❑ **caudal cutaneous sural n.**
- ❑ On the cranial aspect of the limb, find the cranial tibial a. and trace its path as it continues distally down the hind limb. As the cranial tibial a. passes over the talocrural joint it becomes the **dorsal pedal a.**

- ❑ The dorsal pedal artery will have an **arcuate branch** that runs transversely to the lateral side of the metatarsus. Expose the arcuate branch of the pedal a.
- ❑ The dorsal pedal a. will also have a **perforating branch**; this branch courses distally in the space between the second and third metatarsal bones.
 - ❑ Expose the perforating branch dorsally on the paw, then remove the proximal half of the interosseous muscle on the plantar side of the second metatarsal bone to see where it emerges on the plantar surface.