Venous drainage of the limbs

SUPERFICIAL VEINS AND PULSES IN UPPER LIMB

Deltoid

Pectoralis major

Brachial artery Pulse. In the cubital fossa, lateral to the median nerve

Cephalic vein
Pierces the clavipectoral fascia at upper end of the deltopectoral groove to enter axillary vein

Radial artery Pulse. Lateral to the tendon of flexor carpi radialis

Medial epicondyle

Basilic vein
Pierces the fascia in the medial mid arm to join the venae commitantes which together, at the inferior border of teres major, become the axillary vein

Dorsal venous arch

Commencement of the basilic vein (medial side)

Commencement of the cephalic vein (lateral side)
VEINS AND PULSES IN THE LOWER LIMB

ANTEROMEDIAL

1. Anterior view of left lower limb to show:
   GREAT (LONG) SAPHENOUS VEIN

2. Perforating veins at 3, 6, 9 cm above ankle

3. Saphenous nerve

POSTERIOR

2. Posterolateral view of right lower limb to show:
   SMALL (SHORT) SAPHENOUS VEIN

Pulses
1. Femoral in groin
2. Popliteal in popliteal fossa
3. Posterior tibial behind medial malleolus
4. Dorsalis pedis on dorsum of foot between extensor hallucis longus & extensor digitorum

Great saphenous vein commences at the medial side of the dorsal venous arch and passes just anterior to the medial malleolus with the saphenous vein lying alongside it. It passes a hand's breadth posteromedial to the patella.

The small saphenous vein commences at the lateral side of the dorsal venous arch and passes just behind the lateral malleolus. It passes upwards on the posterior aspect of the calf with the sural nerve lying alongside it. It perforates the popliteal fascia and joins the popliteal vein at a variable site.