

Perineum Nerves & Arteries Program Transcript

This diagram shows the arteries on the left of the perineum and, on the right, the nerves of the perineum. The main artery coming into the perineum is the internal pudendal artery, which gives off an inferior rectal artery to the area of the anus in the anal triangle. It then divides into a perineal artery, which gives off a posterior scrotal or labial majora artery, and a deep artery to the clitoris or penis.

The nerve to this area is the pudendal nerve, which likewise gives off an inferior rectal nerve going to the area of the external anal sphincter, and then divides into a perineal nerve and a dorsal nerve to the penis or clitoris.

The perineal nerve ends at the posterior scrotal nerve, or posterior nerve, to the labia majora. Damage to the pudendal nerve will result in anal and urinary incontinence, while damage to only the perineal nerve will result in only urinary incontinence and no anal incontinence.