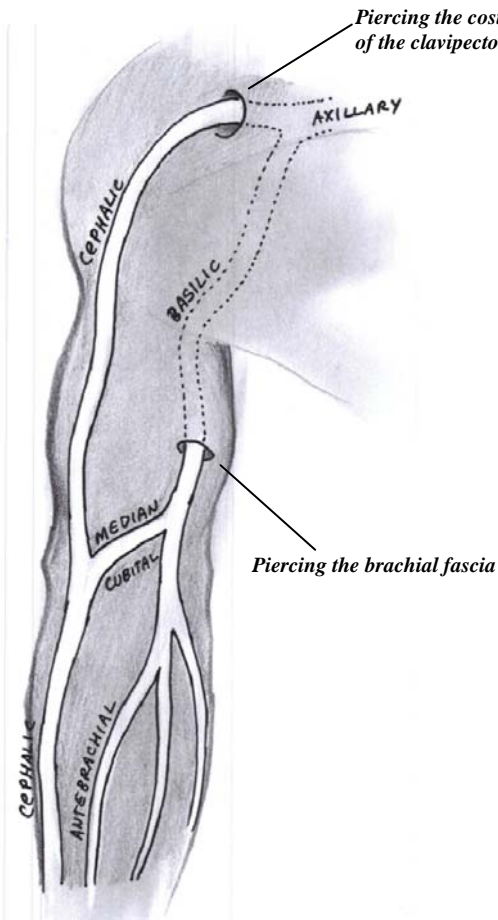


## Veins and lymphatic drainage patterns of the upper limb



### Cephalic vein:

- spends all of its time in subcutaneous tissues
- drains the radial dorsum of hand

### Basilic vein:

- is subcutaneous right up until the middle of the biceps; then it dives deep and runs parallel to the brachial artery
- drains the ulnar dorsum of the hand

both merge to form the axillary vein

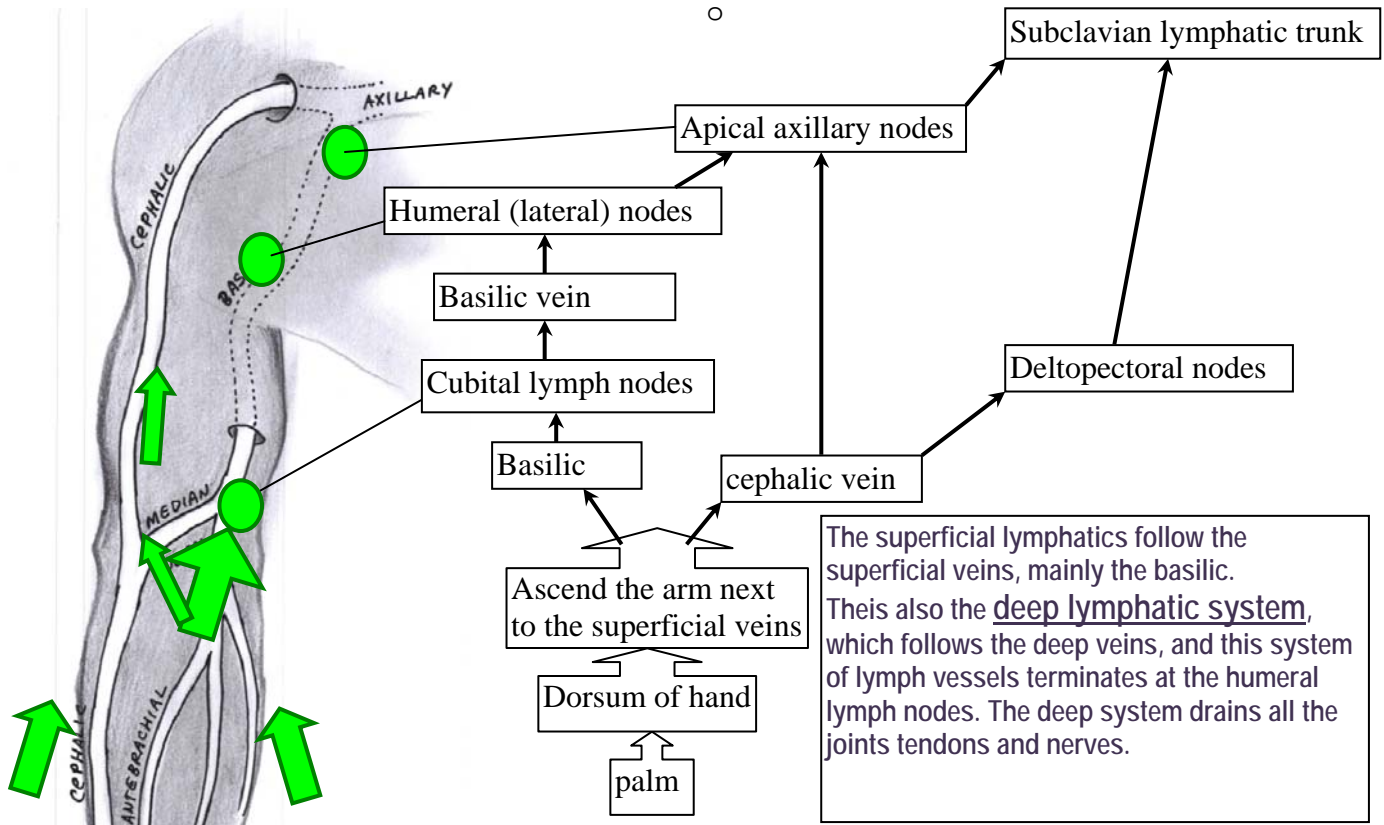
### Median cubital vein:

- communicates between the two in the cubital fossa

### Antebrachial vein:

- highly variable
- begins at the dorsum of the thumb
- sometimes divides into a median basilic vein, which joins the basilic vein, and a median cephalic vein, which joins the cephalic vein.

- **DRAINAGE OF THE PALM PASSES INTO THE DORSUM OF THE HAND**
- **Vessels converge mainly on the basilic, but also the cephalic vein**



The superficial lymphatics follow the superficial veins, mainly the basilic. This is also the **deep lymphatic system**, which follows the deep veins, and this system of lymph vessels terminates at the humeral lymph nodes. The deep system drains all the joints tendons and nerves.