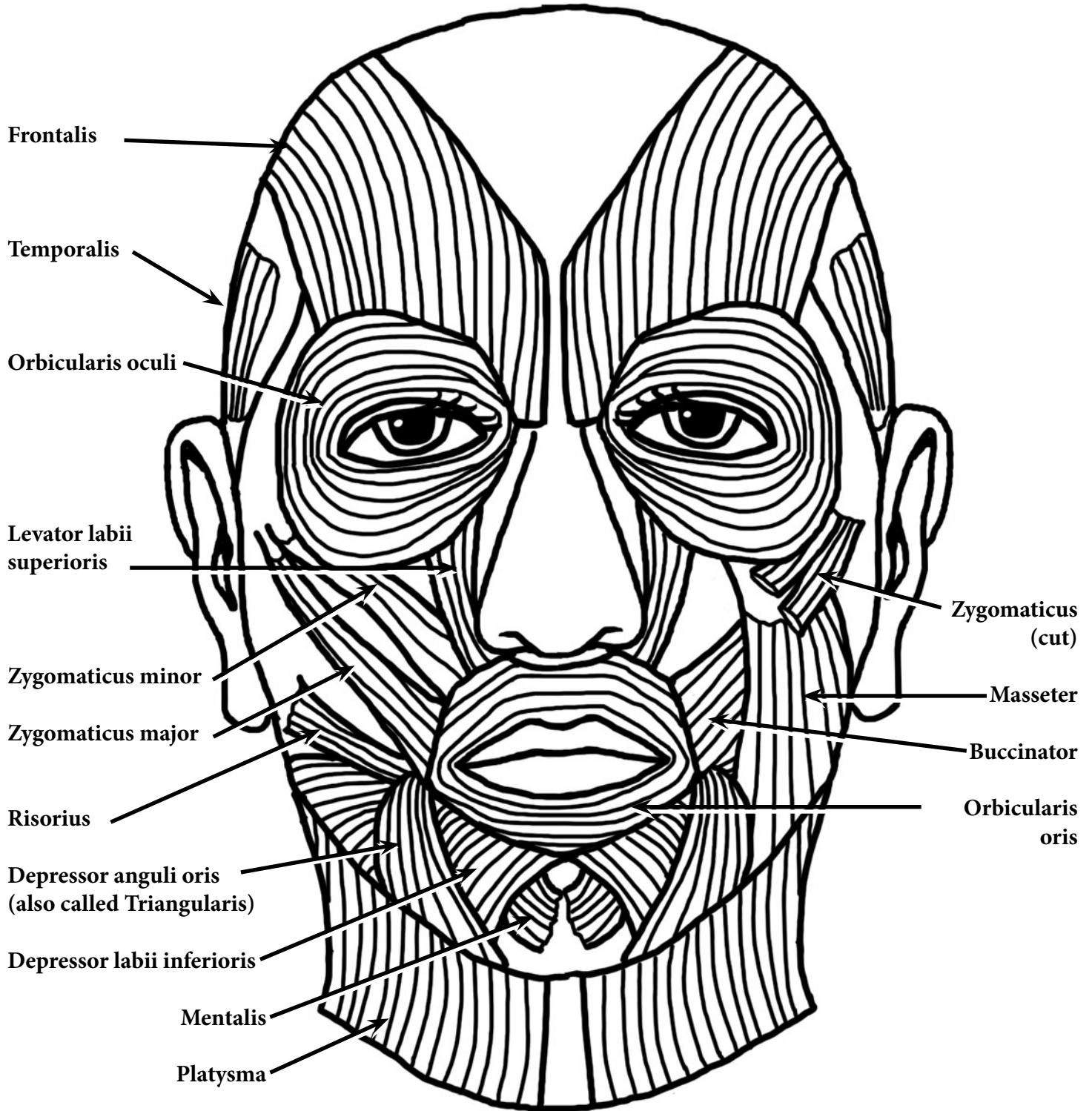


# Muscles of the Face



# Muscles of Facial Expression

**Blood Supply:** External Carotid Artery

**Motor Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)

**Sensory Innervation:** Trigeminal Nerve (V)

## 1) Frontalis (worry muscle):

- Actions:** Raises eyebrows, furrows brow
- Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)
- Origin:** from galea aponeurotica
- Insertion:** to skin above the eyebrows

## 2) Occipitalis – not shown on diagram (in back):

- Actions:** pulls scalp back
- Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)
- Origin:** from posterior back of skull
- Insertion:** to anteriorly with the galea aponeurotica

## 3) Orbicularis oculi (sphincter muscle of the eyelid):

- Actions:** squinting, closes eye, crowsfeet, eye bags
- Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)
- Origin/Insertion:** surrounds rim of orbit

## 4) Zygomaticus (major and minor) (smiling muscle):

- Actions:** raises corners of mouth upward
- Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)
- Origin:** from corners of mouth
- Insertion:** to zygomatic bone

## 4a) Risorius:

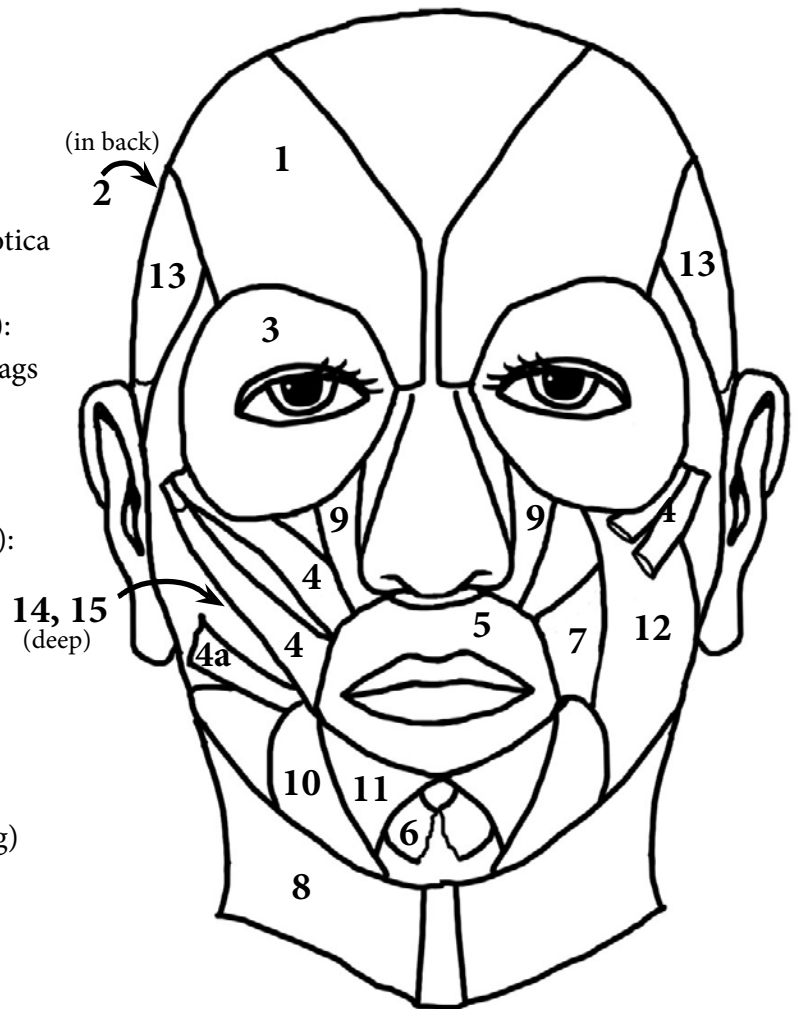
- Actions:** pulls lips laterally (helps with smiling)
- Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)
- Origin:** from fascia of masseter
- Insertion:** to skin at corner of mouth

## 5) Orbicularis oris (kissing muscle):

- Actions:** closes lips, purses and protrudes lips
- Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)
- Origin/Insertion:** surrounds mouth

## 6) Mentalis (pouting muscle):

- Actions:** protrudes lower lip, wrinkles chin
- Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)
- Origin:** v-shaped pair from point of chin
- Insertion:** to Orbicularis oris



## Muscles of Facial Expression (continued)

### 7) Buccinator:

a. **Actions:** compresses cheeks for whistling, blowing and sucking (infants), holds food between teeth during chewing

b. **Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)

c. **Origin:** from Orbicularis oris across cheek

d. **Insertion:** back to maxilla and mandible by molars

### 8) Platysma (grimace muscle):

a. **Actions:** helps depress mandible

b. **Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)

c. **Origin:** from mandible

d. **Insertion:** to skin over clavicle

### 9) Levator labii superioris:

a. **Actions:** opens the lips and flares the nostrils

b. **Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)

c. **Origin:** from the zygomatic arch and infraorbital margin of the maxilla

d. **Insertion:** to the skin and muscle of the upper lip

### 10) Depressor anguli oris or Triangularis (frowning muscle):

a. **Actions:** pulls corners of the mouth down

b. **Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)

c. **Origin:** from corners of mouth

d. **Insertion:** to mandible

### 11) Depressor labii inferioris (pouting muscle):

a. **Actions:** pulls lower lip down down

b. **Innervation:** Facial Nerve (VII)

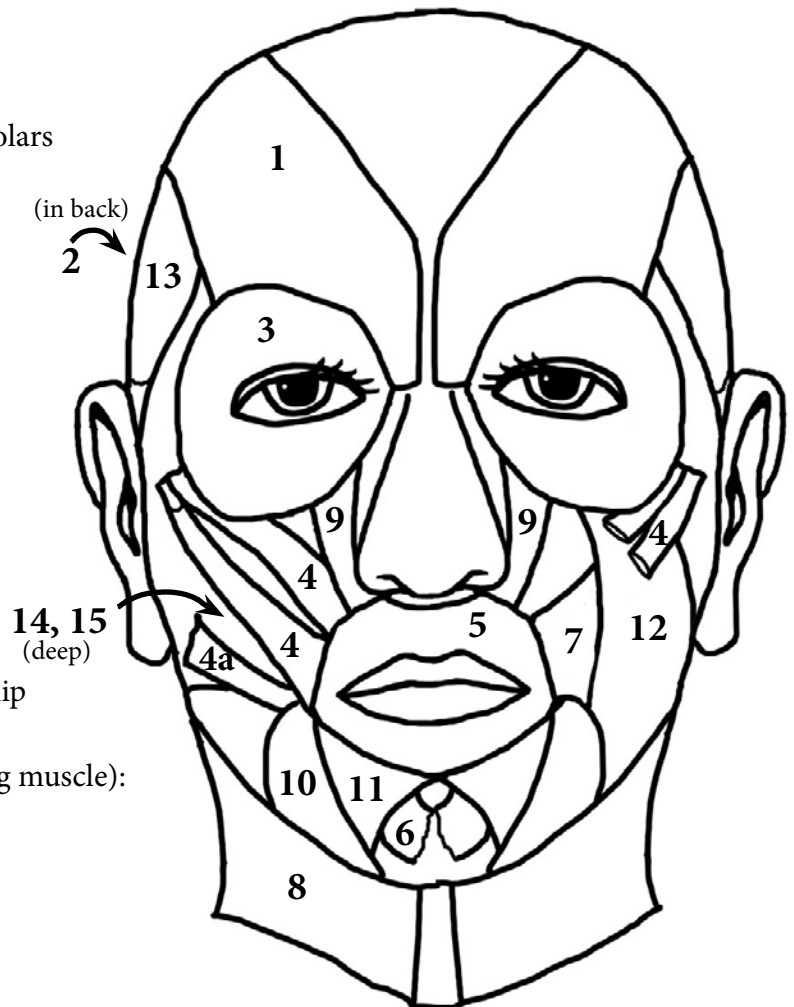
c. **Origin:** from mandible

d. **Insertion:** to the skin and muscle of lower lip

**Clinical Significance:** Bell's Palsy (Facial Nerve by ear)

Symptoms:

- Tearing (cannot blink, so irritation)
- Food collects in cheeks behind (buccinators paralyzed)
- Cannot whistle (Orbicularis oris paralyzed)



## Muscles of Mastication (Chewing)

**Blood Supply:** Maxillary Artery (off External Carotid Artery)

**Innervation:** Trigeminal Nerve (V)

### 12) Masseter:

- a. **Actions:** closes (elevates) mandible  
(powerful for chewing)
- b. **Innervation:** Trigeminal Nerve (V)
- c. **Origin:** from angle of mandible (cheek)
- d. **Insertion:** to zygomatic arch (lateral jaw)

### 13) Temporalis:

- a. **Actions:** closes (elevates) mandible  
and retracts jaw
- b. **Innervation:** Trigeminal Nerve (V)
- c. **Origin:** from carotid process
- d. **Insertion:** to temporal bone

### 14) Medial pterygoid (deep below zygomatic arch)

– not shown on diagram:

- a. **Actions:** closes (elevates) mandible, side to side movement
- b. **Innervation:** Trigeminal Nerve (V)
- c. **Origin:** from sphenoid bone, maxilla and palatine bone
- d. **Insertion:** to medial (deep) mandible surface near angle

### 15) Lateral pterygoid (deep below zygomatic arch) – not shown on diagram:

- a. **Actions:** protrudes mandible, side to side grinding, stabilizes temporal-mandibular joint
- b. **Innervation:** Trigeminal Nerve (V)
- c. **Origin:** from sphenoid bone
- d. **Insertion:** to the condyle of the mandible and the TMJ capsule

7) **Buccinator:** though a muscle of facial expression, it also helps with chewing.

