

Teres minor muscle

The teres minor (Latin teres meaning 'rounded') is a narrow, elongated muscle of the rotator cuff. The muscle originates from the lateral border and adjacent posterior surface of the corresponding right or left scapula and inserts at both the greater tubercle of the humerus and the posterior surface of the joint capsule.

The primary function of the teres minor is to modulate the action of the deltoid, preventing the humeral head from sliding upward as the arm is abducted. It also functions to rotate the humerus laterally.

The muscle is innervated by the posterior branch of the [axillary nerve](#) where it forms a [pseudoganglion](#). Damage to the fibers innervating the teres minor is clinically significant.

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