

Adaptations to cursoriality and digit reduction in the forelimb of the African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*)

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Background. The African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*), an endangered canid native to southern and eastern Africa, is distinct among canids in being described as entirely tetradactyl and in its nomadic lifestyle and use of exhaustive predation to capture its prey instead of speed, strength, or stealth. These behavioral and morphological traits suggest a potentially unique set of adaptations. **Methods.** Here, we dissected the forelimbs of an adult male *L. pictus* specimen and performed detailed descriptions and quantitative analyses of the musculoskeletal anatomy. **Results.** Statistical comparisons of muscle masses and volumes revealed that *L. pictus* has relatively smaller wrist rotators (mm. pronator teres, pronators quadratus, supinator) than any other included carnivoran taxon, suggesting adaptive pressures for antebrachial stability over rotatory movement in the carpus of *L. pictus*. While a complete digit I is absent in *L. pictus*, a vestigial first metacarpal was discovered, resulting in changes to insertions of mm. extensor digiti I et II, abductor (et opponens) digiti I, and flexor digiti I brevis. Mm. anconeus, brachialis, and flexor carpi ulnaris caput ulnare all have more extensive origins in *L. pictus* than other canids suggesting an emphasis on posture and elbow stability. M. triceps brachii caput laterale has a larger origin in *L. pictus*, and m. triceps brachii caput longum has an additional accessory head. Electromyographic (EMG) studies have shown this muscle is active during the stance phase of trotting and galloping and is important for storing elastic energy during locomotion. We interpret these differences in size and attachments of muscles in *L. pictus* as adaptations for long distance running in this highly cursorial species, likely important for exhaustive predation. Absence of a full digit I in *L. pictus*, typically used to reduce torque during quick turns and for lightly gripping onto objects, may be related to a reduced need for gripping and quick agile movements in its cursorial lifestyle. The fossil congeneric species, *Lycaon sekowei*, from the Plio-Pleistocene of

southern Africa possessed a metacarpal I that was larger than both *L. pictus* and *Canis lupus*. Its dentition was specialized for hypercarnivory suggesting that dietary specializations evolved prior to cursoriality in this lineage. While our finding of a vestigial first metacarpal in *L. pictus* does not contradict this interpretation, it suggests that a complete absence of metacarpal I is not required for the cursorial adaptations in extant *L. pictus*, and that endurance running may have appeared earlier in the genus than previously inferred.

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16

17 Abstract

18 **Background.** The African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*), an endangered canid native to southern
19 and eastern Africa, is distinct among canids in being described as entirely tetradactyl and in its
20 nomadic lifestyle and use of exhaustive predation to capture its prey instead of speed, strength,
21 or stealth. These behavioral and morphological traits suggest a potentially unique set of
22 adaptations.

23 **Methods.** Here, we dissected the forelimbs of an adult male *L. pictus* specimen and performed
24 detailed descriptions and quantitative analyses of the musculoskeletal anatomy.

25 **Results.** Statistical comparisons of muscle masses and volumes revealed that *L. pictus* has
26 relatively smaller wrist rotators (mm. pronator teres, pronators quadratus, supinator) than any
27 other included carnivoran taxon, suggesting adaptive pressures for antebrachial stability over
28 rotatory movement in the carpus of *L. pictus*. While a complete digit I is absent in *L. pictus*, a
29 vestigial first metacarpal was discovered, resulting in changes to insertions of mm. extensor
30 digiti I et II, abductor (et opponens) digiti I, and flexor digiti I brevis. Mm. anconeus, brachialis,
31 and flexor carpi ulnaris caput ulnare all have more extensive origins in *L. pictus* than other
32 canids suggesting an emphasis on posture and elbow stability. M. triceps brachii caput laterale
33 has a larger origin in *L. pictus*, and m. triceps brachii caput longum has an additional accessory
34 head. Electromyographic (EMG) studies have shown this muscle is active during the stance
35 phase of trotting and galloping and is important for storing elastic energy during locomotion. We
36 interpret these differences in size and attachments of muscles in *L. pictus* as adaptations for
37 long distance running in this highly cursorial species, likely important for exhaustive predation.
38 Absence of a full digit I in *L. pictus*, typically used to reduce torque during quick turns and for
39 lightly gripping onto objects, may be related to a reduced need for gripping and quick agile
40 movements in its cursorial lifestyle. The fossil congeneric species, *Lycaon sekowei*, from the
41 Plio-Pleistocene of southern Africa possessed a metacarpal I that was larger than both *L. pictus*
42 and *Canis lupus*. Its dentition was specialized for hypercarnivory suggesting that dietary
43 specializations evolved prior to cursoriality in this lineage. While our finding of a vestigial first
44 metacarpal in *L. pictus* does not contradict this interpretation, it suggests that a complete

45 absence of metacarpal I is not required for the cursorial adaptations in extant *L. pictus*, and that
46 endurance running may have appeared earlier in the genus than previously inferred.

47

48 Introduction

49 The African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*), also known as the African painted dog or Cape hunting
50 dog, is unique among canids in many ways. Phylogenetically, it falls as the outgroup of the
51 “wolf” clade of canids (Toh et al., 2005). However, unlike other canid species, *L. pictus* utilizes
52 exhaustive predation instead of speed, strength, or stealth to hunt and capture its prey.
53 Sophisticated hunting behaviors are deployed, and some packs exhibit quorums on decisions to
54 hunt (Walker, 2017). They communicate their vote via “sneezing” or a sharp exhale through their
55 nostrils (Walker, 2017). They feed primarily on antelope, which they hunt by running the prey to
56 exhaustion. Larger prey are hunted in packs, while smaller prey such as rodents and hares are
57 hunted by individual dogs (Woodroffe, 2007). *L. pictus* achieves higher successful hunt rates
58 (greater than 60%) than even lions (27-30%) and hyenas (25-30%), although they frequently lose
59 their kills to these larger predators (Creel, 1998). It is a hypercarnivore, a dietary adaptation
60 which results in specialized craniodental morphology compared to other canids. *L. pictus* also
61 exhibits a nomadic lifestyle with packs traveling up to 50 km per day (Woodroffe, 2004) and
62 geographically extensive home ranges of between 560 to 3000 km² (Castello, 2018). These
63 unique hunting and behavioral characteristics suggest that the anatomy of *L. pictus* should be
64 adapted for long-distance, endurance running. In particular, their forelimb anatomy likely
65 exhibits adaptations to compensate for this type of lifestyle. However, this hypothesis has not
66 been tested.

67

68 An additional morphological trait distinguishing *L. pictus* from other caniforms is its reported
69 absence of a manual digit I (pollex) or “dewclaw”. Despite the fact that the dewclaw does not
70 contact the ground during standing in canids, it has been found to perform crucial stabilization
71 functions during running (Zink, 2005). In particular, it has been suggested to function to grip the
72 ground during cantering, galloping, and turning, and to resist torque on the antebrachium (Zink,
73 2005). Domestic dogs in which the dewclaw has been amputated have higher rates of pedal
74 injuries and arthritis resulting from this absence of stabilization (Zink, 2005). Given these
75 purported adaptive functions of the dewclaw, its reported absence in *L. pictus* is intriguing, and
76 suggests that antebrachial torque may not be a driving force in this cursorial species, which relies
77 more heavily on endurance running while hunting than on sprinting and rapid turns.

78 Nevertheless, it is currently unknown how the lack of digit I in *L. pictus* may affect the
79 morphology and attachment points of the numerous muscles of the antebrachium and manus.

80

81 In addition to its unique anatomical and behavioral adaptations, *L. pictus* is also an important
82 study subject due to its conservation status. It is classified as Endangered by the International
83 Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) with as few as 1400 mature individuals present in the
84 wild (Woodroffe & Sillero-Zubiri, 2012). Much of the population inhabits savanna and arid
85 zones in southern and southeastern Africa. The population size is declining, primarily due to
86 human-caused habitat fragmentation (McNutt, 2008), and there is currently no detailed
87 documentation of their anatomy. The descriptions, illustrations, and comparative quantitative
88 analyses of their forelimb morphology provided here can serve as a useful reference for exotic
89 animal veterinarians and other clinicians, as well as conservation scientists who work with these
90 animals.

91

92 **Materials & Methods**

93

94 **Dissection and Muscle Descriptions**

95 This research was conducted on the left and right forelimbs of an adult male African wild dog (*L.*
96 *pictus*), ARC-M-069. The specimen was donated to the Arizona Research Collection for
97 Integrative Vertebrate Education and Study (ARCIVES) at Midwestern University by the
98 Arizona Center for Nature Conservation/Phoenix Zoo. The specimen was received by ARCIVES
99 post-necropsy, and consequently the limbs had been disconnected from the trunk. Following
100 necropsy, the forelimbs were preserved by submersion in a 10% formaldehyde solution.

101

102 Dissections took place in the Department of Anatomy, College of Veterinary Medicine at
103 Midwestern University (Glendale, AZ). Photodocumentation for all structures was performed
104 using a Nikon DSLR camera throughout the dissection process. Using a veterinary atlas and
105 published descriptions as reference, exposed muscles and neurovasculature were compared to
106 other caniforms for identification and comparison purposes. In particular, we utilized descriptive
107 studies on the myology of the domestic dog, *Canis familiaris*, (Evans & de Lahunta, 2013),
108 pampas fox, *Lycalopex gymnocercus* (de Sousa et al., 2018) red panda, *Ailurus fulgens* (Fisher et
109 al., 2008), and lesser grison, *Galictis cuja* (Ercoli et al., 2015) as primary comparative
110 references. Each muscle was described in detail, including its gross morphology, fiber direction,
111 number of bellies, attachment points, and relationships to other structures. As the dissection
112 progressed, muscles were carefully detached from the forelimb bones to identify specific
113 osteological attachment sites. We mapped the origins and insertions of muscles by drawing onto
114 transparent sheet protectors over printed photographs of comparative bones. These maps were
115 then converted into digital illustrations to clarify muscle descriptions. We also collected
116 quantitative muscle data: Mass was recorded with an Accuteck® electronic balance, and lengths
117 and widths were assessed using Mitutoyo digital calipers. Ultimately, morphology was compared
118 to that of other published carnivoran species to identify adaptations for cursoriality, long-
119 distance endurance running, and digit reduction in *L. pictus*.

120

121 After dissection and removal of the muscles, we scanned the forelimb bones of ARC-M-069 with
122 a medical Siemens Somatom Force CT scanner (dual source) (voltage: 120 kV, X-ray tube
123 current: 1365 μA) at the Companion Animal Clinic at Midwestern University.

124

125 **Quantitative analyses**

126 To assess how forelimb muscular proportions of *L. pictus* compare to those of other carnivorans,
127 we conducted quantitative statistical analyses of muscle data, primarily following the approach
128 of Taverne et al. (2018). First, the mass of each muscle (Table 1) was used to calculate the
129 volume using the known muscle density value of 1.06 g cm^{-3} (Mendez & Keys, 1960). Volumes
130 were then \log_{10} transformed to normalize the data and regressed against the combined weight of
131 the forelimb muscles as this accounts for differences in overall body size in comparisons to other
132 carnivoran taxa.

133 We combined muscles into functional groups as defined by Taverne et al. (2018): elbow
134 extensors, elbow flexors, wrist extensors, wrist flexors, and wrist rotators. The additional
135 categories of humeral and scapular muscle groups in Taverne et al. (2018) could not be applied
136 to the current dataset due to the damage of certain key muscles (e.g., mm. trapezius,

137 rhomboideus, latissimus dorsi) in our *L. pictus* specimen during necropsy. We compiled
138 Comparative data on forelimb muscle volume proportions for 17 felid and canid species from
139 Taverne et al. (2018) and compared those to *L. pictus*. We conducted a Principal Components
140 Analysis using the aforementioned volume proportions for the forelimb muscle groups using
141 SPSS 25 (IBM Corp.).

142 We also compiled comparative data on individual muscle masses from published literature,
143 including *Cuon alpinus* and *Vulpes vulpes* (Taverne et al., 2018), *Galictis cuja* (Ercoli et al.,
144 2015), *Lynx lynx* (Viranta et al., 2016), and *Leopardus pardalis* (Julik et al., 2012). Relative
145 proportions of muscles were calculated as described above and compared graphically and via
146 Principal Components Analysis in SPSS 25 (IBM Corp.). This step permits the evaluation of
147 separate muscles within each functional group, as well as the inclusion of additional scapular
148 muscles not included in the functional group analyses.

149

150 **Results**

151

152 **Vestigial digit 1**

153 While the majority of the bony anatomy of *L. pictus* generally coincides with standard canid
154 osteological patterns, there is one notable exception. During reflection of the fascia around the
155 medial carpus, a small bony protrusion emerged (Figure S1). Extensive cleaning revealed an
156 unexpected vestigial metacarpal I. The bone is slender, tapering in the center and rounded on
157 both ends, resembling an elongated dumbbell. It is 19.8 mm long, making it approximately 30%
158 the length of metacarpal II (65 mm long). It measures 4.5 mm wide at the base, 2.9 mm wide at
159 the midshaft, and 4.7 wide at its head. No accompanying sesamoid bone was observed, and there
160 were no associated phalanges. The metacarpal I serves as a muscle attachment site for several
161 typical carnivoran pollical muscles, discussed in further detail below.

162

163 **Quantitative analyses**

164 In the Principal Components Analysis, the first three PCs explain greater than 90% of the
165 variance: PC1 51.3%, PC2 30.0%, and PC3 10.9%. Terrestrial and arboreal species separated
166 along PC1 axis. The elbow extensor group loaded most negatively along this axis (-0.989), while
167 wrist rotator group loaded most positively (0.854). Since these muscle groups generated the
168 greatest degree of separation among locomotor groups, we performed a follow-up Regression
169 Analysis regressing wrist rotator values over elbow extensor values. The resulting plot illustrates
170 an almost-perfect separation between arboreal and terrestrial taxa (Fig 1, Table 2). Additionally,
171 larger-bodied terrestrial species that spend more time running cluster together, separate from the
172 smaller-bodied short-distance scampering taxa (Fig 1). *L. pictus* clusters with the runners, along
173 with *Vulpes vulpes* (red fox), *Cuon alpinus* (dhole), *Acinonyx jubatus* (cheetah), and *Hyaena*
174 *hyaena* (striped hyena). In particular, these species are characterized by relatively smaller
175 proportions of wrist rotators and relatively larger elbow extensors. Of all included taxa, *L. pictus*
176 has the smallest wrist rotator group.

177

178 Of the taxa for which individual muscle mass data were available, *L. pictus* was found to possess
179 smaller proportions of m. pronator teres, pronator quadratus, supinator, abductor digiti I
180 longus, extensor digiti I et II than any other included taxon (Table 3). *L. pictus* has the highest
181 values in the sample of m. acromiodeltoideus (also high m. spinodeltoideus) and m.

182 infraspinatus. The teres minor of *L. pictus* is also relatively large, a trait shared with *L. pardalis*.
183 Compared to the felids in the sample, all three canids shared larger mm. articularis humeri and
184 triceps brachii, and smaller mm. teres major, biceps brachii, abductor digiti I longus, supinator,
185 pronator teres, and pronator quadratus.

186
187 Compared to the other canids in the sample, *Cuon alpinus* and *Vulpes vulpes*, *L. pictus* has
188 dramatically proportionally larger mm. deltoideus, infraspinatus, brachialis, flexor carpi ulnaris
189 caput humerale, and flexor carpi radialis. It has relatively smaller mm. triceps brachii (all heads
190 combined), anconeus, extensor digitorum communis, abductor digiti I longus, supinator, pronator
191 teres, pronator quadratus, flexor digitorum superficialis, and flexor carpi ulnaris caput ulnare.
192 The two larger-bodied canids (> 15 kg), *C. alpinus* and *L. pictus*, share larger mm. supraspinatus,
193 extensor carpi ulnaris, extensor digitorum lateralis, and smaller m. extensor digiti I et II.

194

195 **Muscle Descriptions**

196 **Extrinsic muscles of the shoulder**

197

198 ***M. trapezius***: This muscle was extensively damaged during necropsy, so its origin and the
199 morphology of its proximal fibers could not be evaluated. Its distal fibers consist of a thin muscle
200 belly with muscle fibers coursing inferolaterally towards the spine of the scapula (Fig. 2). The
201 muscle lies superficial to the supraspinatus (Fig. 2). Near its insertion, it courses adjacent to the
202 m. omotransversarius, and their bellies adhere to each other by a thin band of fascia. It inserts
203 onto the proximal two-thirds of the cranial aspect of the scapular spine via fleshy fibers (Figs. 2,
204 3A). A separable pars thoracica and pars cervicalis could not be identified in this specimen,
205 likely due to damage during necropsy. *M. trapezius* acts to move the scapula cranially and
206 dorsally, thus elevating the forelimb, as well as stabilize the scapula.

207

208 ***M. latissimus dorsi***: The origin of this muscle was damaged during necropsy. It is a thick sheet
209 of muscle, slightly thicker than m. teres major (Fig. 4). Remaining muscle fibers run
210 perpendicular to the length of the humerus (Fig. 4). There is an aponeurosis between the m.
211 latissimus dorsi and m. teres major, and the muscles fuse distally to insert on the teres major
212 tuberosity of the humerus via a thick conjoined tendon (Figs. 3A, 5). *M. latissimus dorsi* acts to
213 retract and abduct the forelimb. When the forelimb is fixed, it moves the trunk cranially.

214

215 ***M. omotransversarius***: The origin of this muscle was damaged during necropsy. It is a thin
216 muscle belly similar in appearance to the m. trapezius but narrower (Fig. 2). Muscle fibers course
217 caudolaterally, perpendicular to the spine of the scapula (Fig. 2). The muscle lies superficial to
218 the craniodistal edge of m. supraspinatus and is proximal to the origin of m. deltoideus pars
219 acromialis (Fig. 2). It inserts onto the distal 1/3 of the scapular spine adjacent to the insertion of m.
220 trapezius, and onto the proximal acromion just proximal to the insertion of m. deltoideus pars
221 acromialis (Figs. 2, 3A). *M. omotransversarius* pulls the scapula cranially, advancing the
222 forelimb. When the forelimb is fixed, it flexes the neck.

223

224 ***M. cleidobrachialis***: The origin of this muscle was damaged during necropsy. It consists of a
225 long round muscle belly on the cranial portion of the brachium which tapers towards its insertion
226 (Figs. 2, 4). Muscle fibers run parallel to the long axis of the muscle (Figs. 1, 3). The muscle

227 travels cranial to the m. deltoideus pars acromialis and lateral to the m. pectoralis superficialis
228 (Figs. 2, 4). M. cleidobrachialis inserts onto a small area of the craniodistal humerus between the
229 m. biceps brachii and m. brachialis muscle bellies (Figs. 2, 4, 5A). M. cleidobrachialis draws the
230 forelimb cranially, or flexes the neck if the forelimb is fixed.

231

232 **M. pectoralis superficialis:** This muscle was extensively damaged during necropsy; however, its
233 attachment to the humerus was preserved. Muscle fibers are positioned medial to the m.
234 cleidobrachialis and lateral to the m. biceps brachii (Figs. 2, 4). Muscle fibers course
235 perpendicular to the long axis of the humerus (Figs. 2, 4). It inserts along the proximal $\frac{2}{3}$ of the
236 cranial surface of the humerus (Figs. 2, 4, 5A-B). M. pectoralis superficialis adducts the forelimb
237 and may draw the forelimb cranially or caudally depending on the portion of the muscle that is
238 active and the position of the limb.

239

240 **M. deltoideus:**

241 *Pars scapularis:* This muscle originates from the scapular spine indirectly via a
242 connection to the aponeurosis of m. infraspinatus (Fig. 2). It is a flat fusiform muscle which lies
243 superficial to the inferior portion of the infraspinatus and completely overlies the m. teres minor
244 (Fig. 1). The muscle fibers run parallel to the length of the spine of the scapula (Fig. 2). It inserts
245 onto the m. deltoideus pars acromialis and has no direct connection to the humerus (Fig. 2).

246

247 *Pars acromialis:* The origin of this muscle is from the acromion process of the scapula
248 distal to the insertion of m. omotransversarius (Figs. 2, 3A). Its muscle belly is fusiform and has
249 a prominent aponeurosis covering it proximally (Fig. 2). The proximal muscle fibers course
250 parallel to the scapular spine, and then slowly curve distally to become parallel to the humerus
251 (Fig. 2). It has a large insertion onto the deltoid tuberosity on the lateral humerus (Figs. 2, 5B).
252 M. deltoideus flexes the glenohumeral joint and abducts the humerus.

253

254 **M. supraspinatus:** This muscle has a large, thick muscle belly originating from and fully filling
255 the supraspinous fossa to the tip of the spine of the scapula (Figs. 2, 3A). The muscle is elliptical
256 in shape, similar to- but wider than the m. infraspinatus. Muscle fibers run obliquely from the
257 spine of the scapula to the distal margins of the muscle belly. An aponeurosis covers the
258 proximal $\frac{1}{3}$ of the muscle surface. There is a thick tendon in the middle of the muscle which
259 travels $\frac{2}{3}$ proximally up the muscle from the glenohumeral joint to the proximal point and
260 dissipates, similar to the pattern in m. infraspinatus. It inserts onto the greater tubercle of the
261 humerus along its cranial aspect, proximal to the insertion of m. infraspinatus (Figs. 2, 3, 5B). As
262 with the other muscles of the rotator cuff, m. supraspinatus stabilizes the shoulder. It also extends
263 the glenohumeral joint, resulting in advancement of the forelimb.

264

265 **M. infraspinatus:** This muscle originates from and occupies the infraspinous fossa (Fig. 3A). It
266 has a thick muscle belly with an elliptical shape that tapers on its proximal and distal ends. Distal
267 portions of the muscle are deep to the m. deltoideus pars scapularis. The muscle has various
268 muscle fiber directions with the cranial and caudal fibers coursing diagonally to converge on the
269 midline of the muscle. The tendon adhering to the humerus is located within the muscle belly

270 and travels 3/4 of the length of the m. infraspinatus before widening and inserting on the greater
271 tubercle of the humerus (Fig. 5B). The flat portion of the tendon parallels the spine of the
272 scapula. The infraspinatus has an extensive aponeurosis on its cranial portion covering about
273 one-third of the superficial muscle. It inserts onto the greater tubercle of the humerus inferior to
274 the insertion of m. supraspinatus (Fig. 5B). M. infraspinatus acts to laterally rotate the humerus
275 and stabilize the glenohumeral joint. It can also contribute to flexion or extension of the
276 shoulder, depending on the position of the humeral head relative to the glenoid when the muscle
277 contracts.

278

279 **M. teres minor:** M. teres minor originates from the distal three quarters of the infraspinous fossa
280 margin (Fig. 2, 3A). Proximally, the muscle is thin and wide, and then it thickens quickly to a
281 spindle shape and tapers distally (Figs. 2, 5B). Its insertion is the teres minor tuberosity on the
282 lateral proximal aspect of the greater tubercle of the humerus (Figs. 2, 5B). M. teres minor flexes
283 the glenohumeral joint.

284

285 **M. teres major:** The origin of this muscle was damaged during necropsy. The muscle forms a
286 thick sheet which courses adjacent to m. latissimus dorsi and adheres to it near the origin of the
287 m. tensor fascia antebrachii on m. latissimus dorsi (Fig. 3). It inserts broadly onto the teres major
288 tuberosity (Figs. 3, 5A) cranial to the insertion of m. triceps brachii caput mediale. The
289 attachment of m. teres major onto the humerus is thicker and stronger than the attachments of the
290 rotator cuff muscles. M. teres major flexes the glenohumeral joint, drawing the humerus
291 caudally. It may also medially rotate the humerus, resisting lateral rotation.

292

293 **M. subscapularis:** This is a large, thick muscle which originates from the distal 2/3 of the
294 subscapular fossa (Fig. 3B) distal to the presumed insertion of m. serratus ventralis. Its broad
295 fibers are divided into four pennate portions which occupy much of the subscapular fossa. The
296 two cranialmost pennations are broad and triangular, while the two caudalmost pennations are
297 elongated and course parallel to the caudal border of the scapula. Its tendon contributes to the
298 glenohumeral joint capsule and inserts onto the tip of the lesser tubercle (Fig. 5A). M.
299 subscapularis adducts and extends the glenohumeral joint. It also stabilizes the glenohumeral
300 joint by medially rotating the humerus in order to prevent undesired lateral rotation.

301

302 **Intrinsic muscles of the arm**

303

304 **Cranial brachium**

305 **M. biceps brachii:** M. biceps brachii has a single, spindle-shaped belly that originates from the
306 supraglenoid tubercle of the scapula (Figs. 3A, 4). Its thick tendon crosses over the head of the
307 humerus through the intertubercular groove of the humerus (Fig. 4), and it courses the length of
308 the muscle. An aponeurosis covers the muscle superficially and also the proximal, deep two-
309 thirds of the muscle (Figs. 2, 4, 6, 7). The muscle belly lies on the medial side of the humerus
310 with fiber orientation parallel to the humerus (Figs. 4, 7). The tendon of the m. biceps brachii
311 combines with the m. brachialis tendon before bifurcating and inserting on the radial and ulnar
312 tuberosities (Figs. 9B, 10A). M. biceps brachii flexes the elbow and extends the glenohumeral
313 joint. It also acts to stabilize the glenohumeral joint when the forelimb is fixed.

314

315 ***M. tensor fasciae antebrachii***: This is a thin, flat, wide muscle that arises via a thin aponeurosis
316 on the surface of m. latissimus dorsi (Fig. 4). The muscle belly tapers distally and inserts onto the
317 medial ulna and the antebrachial fascia (Figs 4, 9B). This muscle tenses the antebrachial fascia
318 and assists m. triceps brachii in extending the elbow.

319

320 ***M. articularis humeri (coracobrachialis)***: This is a thin, delicate fusiform slip of muscle whose
321 origin cannot be determined definitively due to necropsy damage (Fig. 4). The muscle belly lies
322 over the lesser tubercle of the humerus, and is medial to the m. teres major insertion, m. triceps
323 brachii medial head origin, and belly of m. brachioradialis (Fig. 4). It inserts onto the
324 craniomedial aspect of the proximal humerus (Fig. 5A). *M. articularis humeri* stabilizes the
325 glenohumeral joint.

326

327 ***M. brachialis***: The origin site of this muscle begins at a caudolateral divot on the proximal
328 greater tubercle of the humerus (Fig. 5B). Its two lines of origin diverge distally from this divot.
329 One origin follows the lateral side of the tricipital line along the deltoid tuberosity in the
330 proximal half of the humerus and courses medially and distally to the cranial side, half-way
331 down the humerus (Fig. 5B). The other line of origin is straight on the caudal aspect of the
332 proximal two-thirds of the humerus, ending at the origin of the anconeus (Fig. 5A-B). The fibers
333 of the muscle belly are minimally apparent, giving the belly a flat appearance (Figs. 2, 4, 6, 7). It
334 occupies the entire lateral brachium and passes craniomedially in its distal half (Figs. 4, 6, 7).
335 The muscle becomes tendinous and fuses with the tendon of m. biceps brachii before bifurcating
336 and inserting onto the radial and ulnar tuberosities (Figs. 9B, 10A). *M. brachialis* flexes the
337 elbow joint.

338

339 **Caudal brachium**

340 ***M. triceps brachii***:

341 *Caput magnum*: This head is positioned caudally and laterally in the m. triceps brachii
342 complex. It originates from the caudal two-thirds of the scapular margin and neck, medial to the
343 origin of m. teres minor (Fig. 3B). The muscle belly has a tear-drop appearance, with the tip
344 oriented distally towards the insertion (Fig. 2). It fuses via a strong tendon with the caput longum
345 along the distal half of the lateral aspect of the humerus (Figs. 2, 4).

346

347 *Caput longum*: This head of m. triceps brachii originates from the inferior border of the
348 scapula lateral to the origin of the m. triceps brachii caput magnum (Fig. 3B). It has an elongated
349 spindle-shaped appearance that tapers as it travels distally towards its insertion. It fuses with the
350 caput magnum distally (Figs. 2, 4).

351

352 *Caput mediale*: This head of m. triceps brachii originates from the intertubercular groove
353 cranial to the insertion of m. teres major (Fig. 5A). The muscle is long and spindle-shaped,
354 narrow near its origin and thicker distally (Fig. 4).

355

356 *Caput laterale*: The lateral head of m. triceps brachii has a thick parallelogram shape
357 (Fig. 2). It originates via a thin, tendinous band from the proximolateral third of the humeral

358 shaft (Figs. 2, 9A). The muscle belly decreases in width but increases in thickness toward its
359 insertion (Figs. 2, 9A).

360

361 *Caput accessorium*: The accessory head of m. triceps brachii is long and thin with a
362 broad origin from the lateral aspect of the humeral neck (Fig. 2, 5B). The attachment resembles
363 an inverted tick mark (Fig. 5B). The muscle is situated between the caput mediale and caput
364 magnum of the m. triceps brachii (Fig. 2). Most of the muscle is on the caudal aspect of the
365 humerus and it slightly covers m. articularis humeri and m. brachialis proximally and m.
366 anconeus distally (Fig. 2).

367

368 The heads of m. triceps brachii fuse distally and share a stout tendon of insertion onto the
369 entirety of the proximal portion of the olecranon process, and part of the olecranon tuber on the
370 lateral side of the ulna (Fig. 9A-B). General contributions to this large insertion site include: a
371 strong round tendon formed by the caput accessorium that enters the olecranon groove, the caput
372 laterale insertion on the lateral side of the olecranon, and a crescent-shaped caput
373 magnus+longum tendon that covers the tendon of the caput accessorium (Fig. 9A-B). Together,
374 the m. triceps brachii are powerful extensors of the elbow and stabilize the joint during standing.

375

376 **M. anconeus**: The muscle belly of m. anconeus is triangular and generally thin (Figs. 2, 4, 6). Its
377 origin is V-shaped on the caudal aspect of the distal humerus and lies between the midpoint of
378 the caudal shaft to the medial and lateral supracondylar crests (Fig. 5A-B). On the lateral
379 supracondylar crest, it is adjacent to the m. extensor carpi radialis and m. brachialis (Fig. 5B).
380 There is a large fat deposit in the olecranon fossa deep to the muscle at the caudal humerus. M.
381 anconeus has a broad, fleshy insertion from the lateral side of the olecranon to the lateral aspect
382 of the coronoid process (Fig. 5A-B). M. anconeus may assist the m. triceps brachii with
383 extension of the elbow. However, it is likely that its more important role maybe in resisting
384 elbow flexion during standing and maintaining stability at the joint.

385

386 **Muscles of the forearm**

387 **Caudal antebrachium**

388 **M. brachioradialis**: This muscle has a long, thin, flat belly overlying m. extensor carpi radialis
389 longus and brevis (Fig. 6, 8). It originates from approximately the lateral aspect of the distal
390 quarter of the humerus (Figs. 5B, 6). The muscle belly is covered with an extensive fascia, and
391 crosses from lateral to medial, distal to m. extensor carpi radialis (Fig. 6). It inserts onto the
392 distal quarter of radius (Fig. 10B). M. brachioradialis flexes the elbow joint. It may also weakly
393 supinate the antebrachium, but the tight attachment between the radius and ulna limits such
394 rotatory movements.

395

396 **M. extensor carpi radialis**: This muscle is generally spindle-shaped and has a fanning origin
397 from lateral supracondylar ridge of the humerus (Figs. 5B, 6). An aponeurosis covers the
398 proximal half of the caudal portion of the muscle (Fig. 6, 8). It has two distinct bellies which are
399 fused at the origin and separate in its distal half (Fig. 6). Each belly gives rise to a tendon in the
400 distal third of the radius and insert as described below (Fig. 6).

401 *M. extensor carpi longus*: The portion comprising m. extensor carpi radialis longus is
402 approximately a third the size of m. extensor carpi radialis brevis (Fig. 6, 8). Its muscle fibers are
403 parallel with the radius, and it is superficial to the m. extensor carpi radialis brevis (Fig. 6). M.
404 extensor carpi radialis longus has a smaller tendon than m. extensor carpi radialis brevis, which
405 inserts onto the base of metacarpal II (Fig. 11).

406 *M. extensor carpi radialis brevis*: M. extensor carpi radialis brevis is approximately three
407 times larger than its counterpart (Fig. 6). Its belly originates in a fan-like arrangement and gives
408 rise to a tendon that is significantly larger than the tendon for m. extensor carpi radialis longus
409 (Fig. 6). M. extensor carpi radialis brevis lies deep to the belly of m. extensor carpi radialis
410 longus and has a tendinous insertion onto the base of metacarpal III (Fig. 11).

411 Both mm. extensor carpi radialis muscles primarily extend the carpal joint and may
412 weakly flex the elbow.

413

414 *M. extensor digitorum communis*: This muscle originates from the proximal portion of the
415 lateral epicondyle of the humerus (Figs. 5B, 6). A thick band of fascia covers the edges of the
416 muscle belly proximally and also connects to m. extensor digitorum lateralis near its insertion
417 (Fig. 6). The muscle belly is triangular and has an aponeurosis on its cranial aspect which lies
418 deep to the m. extensor carpi radialis (Fig. 6). Its fibers converge in the middle of the muscle,
419 and give rise to a tendon in the distal half of the radius (Fig. 6). The tendon of the m. extensor
420 digitorum communis is approximately 50% thicker than that of m. extensor digitorum lateralis
421 (Fig. 6). The muscle remains undivided until reaching the wrist, where it divides into four
422 tendons serving digits II-V. A dorsal sesamoid bone is embedded in each tendon as it crosses the
423 metacarpophalangeal joint. Each sesamoid is a small, flat, elliptical bone and those of digits III
424 and IV are largest. The tendons each insert on the extensor expansion at the distal phalanx of
425 digits II-V (Fig. 11). The tendons of m. extensor digitorum communis attaching to metacarpal IV
426 and V are fused with the tendons of m. extensor digitorum lateralis. M. extensor digitorum
427 communis extends the carpal joint, metacarpophalangeal, and interphalangeal joints of digits II-
428 V.

429

430 *M. extensor digitorum lateralis*: This muscle is fusiform and its fibers originate from the lateral
431 epicondyle of the humerus and lateral collateral ligament (Figs. 5B, 6). Its muscle belly gives rise
432 to a tendon in the distal half of the radius along its caudal edge (Fig. 6). The muscle is covered
433 by an aponeurosis on its cranial and caudal edges, and it lies between m. extensor digitorum
434 communis and m. extensor carpi ulnaris, superficial to m. extensor digiti I et II (Fig. 6). The
435 tendons of m. extensor digitorum lateralis travel deep to m. extensor digitorum communis over
436 metacarpal III and IV. The tendons insert on the extensor expansion at the distal phalanx of their
437 respective digits IV-V (Fig. 11). As they do so the two tendons fuse with m. extensor digitorum
438 communis on the distal aspect of the proximal phalanges of digits IV and V (Fig. 11). M.
439 extensor digitorum lateralis does not serve digit III in either limb, which differ from the domestic
440 dog (Evans & de Lahunta, 2013). This muscle extends the carpal joint, metacarpophalangeal, and
441 interphalangeal joints of digits IV-V.

442

443 ***M. extensor digiti I et II (m. extensor pollicis longus et indicis proprius)***: This muscle has an
444 elongated, thin belly on the lateral side of the antebrachium located between the ulna and radius.
445 It originates from the middle third of the ulna on its cranio-lateral aspect. The muscle lies deep to
446 *m. digitorum lateralis* and travels through the concavity between the radius and ulna superficial
447 to the interosseous membrane (Fig. 7). *M. extensor digiti I et II* lies immediately lateral to *m.*
448 *abductor digiti I longus*, and its fibers travel approximately parallel to the ulna. It becomes
449 tendinous in the distal third of the ulna (Fig. 7). Its tendon is thin and crosses medially over the
450 dorsal aspect of the manus beginning at the wrist. The tendon bifurcates on the proximal dorsal
451 surface of metacarpal III. One branch travels medially along metacarpal II, and at its middle, the
452 tendon courses deep to the tendon of *m. extensor digitorum communis*, before it fuses on the
453 lateral side of *m. extensor digitorum communis*, on the proximal phalanx of digit II. The other
454 belly travels further medially and also inserts on metacarpal II (Fig. 11). There is no insertion
455 onto the vestigial digit I. *M. extensor digiti I et II* therefore acts to weakly extend the carpal joint,
456 metacarpophalangeal, and interphalangeal joints of digit II, but does not act on vestigial digit I.

457

458 ***M. extensor carpi ulnaris***: This is a spindle-shaped muscle originating from the lateral
459 epicondyle of the humerus (Figs. 5B, 6, 7). Muscle fibers are oriented caudally near the origin
460 but become distally parallel with the ulna in its distal half (Figs. 6, 7). The tendon arises
461 superficially in the proximal third of the ulna but appears distally from the deep aspect in the
462 distal quarter of the ulna (Fig. 6). The belly is covered by an aponeurosis that is thicker on its
463 deep surface. The tendon of insertion is more robust and stiffer than those of the other
464 antebrachial muscles. It inserts onto the lateral side of the pisiform and the base of metacarpal V
465 (Figs. 6, 11). In the domestic dog, the insertion on the pisiform (accessory carpal) is described as
466 having two fiber bundles that leave the pisiform to fuse with *m. extensor carpi ulnaris* (Evans &
467 de LaHunta, 2013). We did not observe this pattern in *L. pictus*. *M. extensor carpi ulnaris*
468 abducts the carpal joint and supports the carpus, especially when it is extended and weight-
469 bearing.

470

471 ***M. abductor digiti I longus***: The muscle belly of *m. abductor digiti I longus* is long and flat,
472 filling the entire interosseous space between the radius and ulna (Fig. 7). The muscle originates
473 from the caudolateral radius, cranio-lateral ulna, and interosseous membrane (Fig. 9A, 10). It lies
474 deep to *m. extensor digiti I et II* on the lateral side of the antebrachium in the concavity between
475 the radius and ulna. Muscle fibers travel diagonally, oriented cranially across the forearm. A
476 wide, flat tendon arises and tapers distally at the cranial-most aspect of the radius. The tendon
477 crosses obliquely from lateral to medial over the tendon of *m. extensor carpi radialis* toward the
478 medial side of the manus. There is a sesamoid bone in its tendon as it becomes thinner just
479 before its insertion onto the medial base of vestigial metacarpal I (Fig. 7). *M. abductor digiti I*
480 *longus* primarily acts to abduct the manus. While it attaches to the vestigial metacarpal I, the
481 bone is tightly adhered to the carpus and is unlikely to experience any notable movement at the
482 MC1-carpal joint.

483

484 ***M. supinator***: This deep muscle completely covers the proximal quarter of the cranial radius. It
485 is thin, flat, and fan-shaped with a heavy aponeurosis across most of its superficial surface (Fig

486 7). The muscle originates from the lateral epicondyle of the humerus and lateral collateral
487 ligament (Fig. 5B). Its fibers are oriented medially, oblique to the radius. The muscle insertion is
488 “U”-shaped on the proximal quarter of the radius (Fig. 10B). The medial portion of the insertion
489 extends approximately twice that of the lateral portion (Fig. 10B). Unlike the domestic dog, there
490 is no sesamoid bone within the tendon, (Evans & de LaHunta, 2013). *M. supinator* acts to
491 stabilize the elbow and weakly supinates the antebrachium, but limited rotatory movement is
492 possible due to a tightly connected radius and ulna.

493

494 **Cranial antebrachium**

495

496 ***M. pronator teres***: The belly of *m. pronator teres* is spindle-shaped proximally and flatter distally
497 (Fig. 8). An aponeurosis covers its distal half, and the muscle slightly overlaps *m. supinator*
498 medially (Fig. 8). The muscle originates from the craniodistal aspect of the medial epicondyle
499 (Figs. 5A, 8). Its fibers are obliquely oriented in a cranial direction, and it inserts onto the
500 proximal third of the craniomedial radius, distal to the insertion of *m. supinator* (Fig. 10B). As its
501 name implies, *m. pronator teres* weakly pronates the antebrachium, however, since antebrachial
502 rotation is limited in *L. pictus*, its primary action may be to flex the antebrachium at the elbow.

503

504 ***M. flexor carpi radialis***: This muscle is spindle-shaped. The cranial aspect of its distal half is
505 covered by a thick aponeurosis near its origin (Fig. 8). The muscle originates from the medial
506 epicondyle of the humerus (Fig. 5A). The caudal surface of the muscle is also covered by
507 aponeurosis, adjacent to *m. flexor digitorum profundus caput humerale* (Fig. 8). The muscle
508 becomes tendinous at the distal half of the radius (Fig. 8). The proximal muscle fibers travel
509 parallel to the radius, but at the midline of the muscle they converge distally as they form a
510 tendon (Fig. 8). the tendon inserts onto the palmar aspects of the bases of metacarpals II and III.
511 *M. flexor carpi radialis* flexes and stabilizes the carpal joint.

512

513 ***M. flexor carpi ulnaris***: This muscle includes two heads.

514 *M. flexor carpi ulnaris caput ulnare* is short and flat, originating from the distomedial
515 aspect of the olecranon (Figs. 6, 7). The muscle belly gives rise to a tendon at the level of the
516 distal half of the ulna. The muscle fibers are oriented slightly obliquely toward the medial side.

517 *M. flexor carpi ulnaris caput ulnare caput ulnare* lies superficial to *m. flexor digitorum profundus*
518 *caput ulnare* and is lateral to *m. flexor digitorum superficialis* (Figs. 6, 7). It inserts on the
519 pisiform (accessory carpal bone), cranial to the insertion of *m. flexor carpi ulnaris caput*
520 *humerale* (Figs. 11, 12).

521

522 *M. flexor carpi ulnaris caput humerale* is flat proximally, becoming spindle-shaped in its
523 distal half (Figs. 6, 7). It originates from the caudal aspect of the medial epicondyle of the
524 humerus (Figs. 4, 5). Fascia covers most of the muscle on its superficial and deep surfaces (Figs.
525 6, 7). The muscle fibers are oriented parallel to the ulna, and the muscle inserts onto the pisiform,
526 cranial to the insertion of *m. flexor carpi ulnaris caput humerale* (Figs. 11, 12).

527 Together the two heads of *m. flexor carpi ulnaris* flex and abduct the manus.

528

529 ***M. flexor digitorum superficialis***: This muscle is spindle-shaped and somewhat flat (Fig. 8, 12).
530 It is superficial to m. flexor digitorum profundus and m. flexor carpi ulnaris caput humerale (Fig.
531 8). The muscle originates from the medial epicondyle of the humerus (Fig. 5). The muscle
532 becomes tendinous at the wrist and travels deep to the flexor retinaculum before passing medial
533 to the pisiform (Fig. 11, 12). It then bifurcates over the proximal phalanges of digits II-V,
534 allowing passage of m. flexor digitorum profundus. The muscle inserts bilaterally on the palmar
535 aspects of the middle phalanges of digits II-V (Fig. 11, 12). *M. flexor digitorum superficialis*
536 flexes the carpal, metacarpophalangeal, and proximal interphalangeal joints of digits II-V.

537

538 ***M. flexor digitorum profundus***: *M. flexor digitorum profundus* has five heads of various sizes,
539 including three with a shared humeral origin, one ulnar, and one radial. It serves digits II-V and
540 does not contact the vestigial digit I (Figs. 5, 8, 9, 10, 12).

541 *Caput humerale laterale*: This is the largest of the humeral heads, and accounts for
542 approximately half of the entire humeral component, which has a fused origin (Fig. 8). It is
543 spindle-shaped, with fibers that fan out from its origin at the caudodistal aspect of the medial
544 epicondyle (Fig. 5). It lies adjacent to the caput humerale mediale, to the caput profundus, and
545 deep to m. flexor digitorum superficialis (Fig. 8). Approximately three fourths of the medial
546 surface of the muscle is covered by parallel-fibered aponeurosis.

547 *Caput humerale mediale*: This is the most superficial of the humeral heads (Figs. 5, 8). It
548 is spindle-shaped, covered by a thick aponeurosis, and about half the size of the caput humerale
549 laterale. This medial head lies lateral to m. flexor carpi radialis, medial to caput humerale laterale
550 and m. flexor digitorum superficialis, and superficial to caput humerale profundus.

551 *Caput humerale profundus*: This is the smallest humeral head. It is spindle-shaped and its
552 fibers travel parallel to the ulna (Fig. 5). The medial aspect of its proximal half is covered by an
553 aponeurosis. It gives rise to a tendon in the distal third of the radius, which is enclosed by the
554 capita humerale laterale and mediale.

555 *Caput ulnare*: This belly lies caudal to the ulna (Fig. 9B). It originates from the base of
556 the olecranon and the proximal quarter of the ulnar shaft (Fig. 9B). The entire muscle belly is
557 slightly adhered via fascia to the ulna. Its tendon arises unattached to the bone, and joins the
558 three humeral heads. The muscle's fibers are parallel to the ulna, and a thick aponeurosis covers
559 the medial half of the superficial surface.

560 *Caput radiale*: This is the smallest head of m. flexor digitorum profundus, located on the
561 medial side of the antebrachium, superficial to m. pronator quadratus. Its thin muscle belly
562 originates from the proximal third of the caudomedial radius (Fig. 10A). The muscle fibers travel
563 parallel to the radius, and the insertion tendon arises at the level of the distal quarter of the bone.

564 Tendons of the m. flexor digitorum profundus fuse at the distalmost radius, and the
565 combined tendon passes deep to the flexor retinaculum and medial to the pisiform. It divides into
566 four smaller parts deep to the retinaculum, which serve digits II-V (Figs. 10, 11). The tendon of
567 caput ulnare primarily serves digit V, but such a distinction cannot be made for the tendons

568 serving digits II-IV. *M. flexor digitorum profundus* flexes the carpal, metacarpophalangeal,
569 proximal interphalangeal, and distal interphalangeal joints of digits II-V.

570 ***M. pronator quadratus***: This muscle lies deep to *m. flexor digitorum profundus*, occupying the
571 entire space between the radius and ulna on the medial side of the antebrachium. It originates
572 from the craniomedial aspect of the distal ulna and interosseous membrane (Fig. 9B). Its fibers
573 are oriented obliquely to perpendicular to the radius and ulna. An aponeurosis covers the
574 superficial surface of the proximal three quarters of the muscle belly. The muscle inserts on
575 almost the entire caudomedial aspect of the radial shaft (Fig. 10). Unlike the muscle attachments
576 in the domestic dog, these are situated more proximally on the radius and ulna (Evans & de
577 LaHunta, 2013). *M. pronator quadratus* weakly pronates, but likely primarily acts to stabilize the
578 antebrachium.

579

580 **Muscles of the manus**

581

582 ***M. palmaris brevis***: This muscle was not observed in *L. pictus*.

583

584 ***M. flexor digitorum brevis manus (m. interflexorius)***: This muscle originates from a fascial
585 sheet from *m. flexor digitorum profundus* capita humerale mediale and laterale in the distal one-
586 quarter of the antebrachium (Fig. 12A). It lies on the palmar side of *m. flexor digitorum*
587 *profundus*, deep to *m. flexor digitorum superficialis*, and it courses with the digital flexors
588 through the carpus deep to the flexor retinaculum (Fig. 12A). The muscle belly is fusiform,
589 becoming tendinous immediately proximal to the pisiform. The tendon splits and fuses onto the
590 distal tendons of *m. flexor digitorum superficialis* serving digits II-V inserting with the latter
591 (Fig. 12A). This muscle therefore assists *m. flexor digitorum superficialis* in flexing the carpal,
592 metacarpophalangeal, and proximal interphalangeal joints of digits II-V.

593

594 ***Mm. lumbricales***: These three thin muscles originate from the tendons of *m. flexor digitorum*
595 *profundus*. They are superficial to *mm. flexores breves profundi* (Fig. 12A). The muscle fibers
596 course parallel to the long axes of the metacarpals between adjacent tendons of *m. flexor*
597 *digitorum profundus* (Fig. 12A). The *m. lumbricalis* belly between the *m. flexor digitorum*
598 *profundus* tendons to digits III and IV is the largest, while the bellies between the tendons of
599 digit II and III and between IV and V are smaller (Fig. 12A). The tendons of *mm. lumbricales*
600 wrap dorsally to insert onto the medial sides of the extensor expansions of digits III-V (Fig.
601 12A). The *mm. lumbricales* flex the metacarpophalangeal joints and extend the interphalangeal
602 joints of digits III-V.

603

604 ***Mm. adductores digitorum***: The three *mm. adductores digitorum* have adjacent origins from the
605 ligamentum carpi transversum before traveling to digits I, II, and V (Fig. 12B).

606 ***M. adductor digiti I (m. adductor pollicis)***: This small belly originates from the
607 ligamentum carpi transversum cranial to *m. flexor brevis profundus* to digit II (Fig. 12B). It is a
608 short, fan-shaped muscle that is wide at the origin and tapers at its insertion (Fig. 12B). It is
609 superficial to *m. flexor brevis profundus* I and lateral to *m. abductor digiti I brevis* and *m. flexor*

610 digiti I brevis (Fig. 12B). It inserts onto the palmomedial surface of the vestigial first metacarpal
611 distal to the insertion of m. abductor (et opponens) digiti I (Fig. 12B). As there appears to be
612 little mobility of the vestigial MC1, m. adductor digiti I may stabilize the reduced digit I.

613 **M. adductor digiti II:** This belly originates from the ligamentum carpi transversum
614 between m. flexor brevis profundus digiti I and m. adductor digiti V (Fig. 12B). It is a relatively
615 thick band of muscle lying on the palmar side of the carpometacarpal joint (Fig. 12B). Its muscle
616 fibers are parallel with the metacarpals (Fig. 12B). The muscle lies deep to m. flexores breves
617 profundi II and III and courses distally between metacarpals II and III (Fig. 12B). The muscle
618 becomes tendinous at the distal aspect of the metacarpophalangeal joint and inserts onto the
619 palmolateral base of the proximal phalanx of digit II (Fig. 12B). M. adductor digiti II adducts
620 digiti II and weakly flexes its metacarpophalangeal and proximal interphalangeal joint.

621

622 **M. adductor digiti V:** This muscle originates from the pisiform and center of the
623 ligamentum carpi transversum on the palmar aspect of the carpometacarpal joint (Fig. 12B). It is
624 a flat, fan-shaped muscle with slight aponeurosis on the proximal two-thirds of its palmar surface
625 (Fig. 10B). It inserts onto the distomedial aspect of metacarpal V and partially attaches to the
626 base of the proximal phalanx of digit V (Fig. 12B). M. adductor digiti V adducts digit V and
627 weakly flexes the associated metacarpophalangeal and proximal interphalangeal joints.

628

629 **Mm. flexores breves profundi (mm. interossei):** The four mm. flexores breves profundi
630 originate from the bases of metacarpals II-V and also from the carpometacarpal joint capsules of
631 digits II-V (Fig. 12B). They are located palmar to metacarpals II-V and lie deep to mm.
632 adductores digitorum, the tendons of mm. flexor digitorum profundus and superficialis (Fig.
633 10B). At their distal third, each M. flexore brevis profundus splits into medial and lateral bellies
634 that diverge to either side of the associated metacarpal (Fig. 12B). At the metacarpophalangeal
635 joint, each belly abruptly becomes tendinous and inserts onto the medial and lateral proximal
636 sesamoids (Fig. 12B). At the middle of metacarpal II, the tendons wrap collaterally to the dorsal
637 side of the manus and fuse with the tendons of m. extensor digitorum communis (Fig. 12B). This
638 pattern was not observed in any other digit but may perhaps vary among individuals. The mm.
639 flexores breves profundi flex the metacarpophalangeal joints of digits II-V. In those digits in
640 which the tendons also insert onto the extensor expansion, they may also extend the
641 interphalangeal joints.

642

643 **M. flexor digiti I brevis:** This muscle originates from the flexor retinaculum proximal to
644 the origin of m. flexor brevis profundus to digit II (Fig. 12B). It is a short, thick muscle with
645 muscle fibers travelling parallel to the metacarpals (Fig. 12B). Distally, it dives deep to the
646 vestigial metacarpal I (Fig. 12B). Since minimal mobility is possible at the vestigial MC1, m.
647 flexor digiti I brevis may stabilize the reduced digit I.

648

649 **M. abductor (et opponens) digiti I:** This short, cylindrical muscle originates from the flexor
650 retinaculum (Fig. 12B). It lies superficial to m. flexor digiti I brevis and inserts onto fascia

651 superficial to vestigial metacarpal I (Fig. 12B). Unlike in the domestic dog, there is no osseous
652 insertion. Due to its lack of bony attachment, this muscle may weakly stabilize the wrist.

653

654 ***M. abductor digiti V***: This is a small, flat muscle that arises from the distal aspect of the pisiform
655 (Fig. 12B). Its fibers course obliquely and laterally from the pisiform to the lateral manus (Fig.
656 12B). The muscle produces a thin, transparent aponeurosis at the proximal quarter of metacarpal
657 V, which courses distally and inserts on the lateral base of the proximal phalanx of digit V (Fig.
658 12B). *M. abductor digiti V* abducts digit V and flexes the metacarpophalangeal joint.

659

660 ***M. flexor digiti V***: This muscle originates from the flexor retinaculum of the pisiform. It is a
661 small muscle that lies distal to the origin of *m. abductor digiti V* and travels laterally over *m.*
662 *flexor digitorum brevis digiti IV* (Fig. 12B). The muscle becomes tendinous and fuses with the
663 tendon of *m. abductor digiti V*, then inserts onto the base of the proximal phalanx of digit V (Fig.
664 12B). *M. flexor digiti V* flexes and abducts digit V.

665

666 **Noteworthy Ligaments**

667 The ligaments of the upper limb of *L. pictus* were generally comparable to those of other
668 published canids and are thus presented in detail in the Supplementary Information (Table S1).
669 However, three notable ligamentous differences are worthy of full consideration here.

670

671 ***Membrana interossea antebrachii***: This is a thick syndesmosis between the diaphyses of the
672 radius and ulna. It courses along the entirety of both bones from immediately distal to the radial
673 head through to the radiocarpal joint. The ligament holds the radius and ulna in a tight
674 connection such that very little pronation or supination is possible. The membrane contained no
675 apparent perforations for neurovasculature. The *m. pronator quadratus* attaches along almost the
676 entire length of the membrane.

677 ***Ligamentum interossei antebrachii***: This short, thick ligament tightly connects the radius and
678 ulna. At approximately one-third of the way along the antebrachium, it courses from a roughened
679 area on the lateral radial shaft to a roughened area on the ulnar shaft. Its fibers run slightly
680 obliquely distally. It is approximately 3.5 cm in length, substantially longer than the 2 cm length
681 of the domestic dog. On the right side, it was partially ossified at its attachment to the ulna. As
682 with the *membrana interossea antebrachii*, this ligament prevents rotatory movement of the
683 radius around the ulna.

684 ***Ligamentum accessorimetacarpeum (pisimetacarpeum) V***: This ligament is incredibly robust,
685 5.3 mm thick and 18.5 mm long. It attaches proximally to the lateral surface of the pisiform
686 (accessory carpal bone). Its fibers course parallel to the orientation of the antebrachium and
687 attach distally to the lateral aspect of the base of metacarpal V (Fig. 11). Unlike the domestic
688 dog, there is no attachment to metacarpal IV. This is the thickest and most powerful of the carpal
689 ligaments. The natural position of the carpal joint in *L. pictus* appears to be in a flexed position,
690 held tightly by the *ligamenta accessorimetacarpea*. The pisiform is more heavily involved in the
691 ligamentous apparatus of the carpus than in domestic dogs.

692

693 **Discussion**

694 **Vestigial digit I**

695 An unexpected finding of the present study was the presence of a small vestigial first metacarpal
696 in *L. pictus*, challenging previous assumptions of complete tetradactyly in this species. While
697 metacarpal I is diminutive and not associated with any phalanges, it still serves as the attachment
698 site for several pollical muscles. Thus, we interpret *L. pictus* as being functionally, but not fully
699 morphologically, tetradactyl.

700 The presence of a “dew claw” in canids has been argued to serve as an important pivot
701 mechanism, facilitating tight turns and direction changes during running (Zink, 2005). While the
702 vestigial digit I of *L. pictus* lacks a claw and thus cannot grip the substrate during locomotion,
703 the muscles associated with digit I may provide additional stability to the forefoot during
704 endurance running. While early studies on energy expenditure estimated that energy costs for *L.*
705 *pictus* during hunting are high (e.g., Gorman et al., 1998), recent studies based on more
706 comprehensive models have concluded that hunting is less energetically costly for *L. pictus* than
707 originally calculated (Hubel et al., 2016). Although *L. pictus* groups may travel an average of 14
708 km per day, including long-distance endurance chases (Hubel et al., 2016), they also utilize short
709 high-speed bursts of opportunistic predation. These energetically efficient hunting opportunities
710 effectively balance out the energy expended during exhaustive predation episodes.

711 **Quantitative forelimb muscle proportions**

712 The quantitative muscle proportion analyses indicated that canids generally possess relatively
713 smaller pronators and supinators than felids, which is unsurprising given their divergent uses of
714 the forelimb in locomotion and prey capture and manipulation. However, *L. pictus* is notable,
715 even among canids, in its diminutive rotatory muscle mass. *L. pictus* has a smaller proportion of
716 wrist rotators than any other comparative carnivoran taxon, followed by other large-bodied
717 terrestrial taxa known to run and travel long distances. This finding supports the anatomical
718 descriptive analyses which revealed a radius and ulna that were tightly adhered by a robust
719 interosseous membrane and interosseous ligament. Minimal rotatory movement is possible
720 between the radius and ulna in *L. pictus* suggesting adaptations for stability in the forelimb.

721
722 Additionally, the muscles associated with digit I were found to be reduced in *L. pictus* compared
723 to all other taxa in the sample, exaggerating the reduced condition observed in other canids. In
724 particular, mm. abductor digiti I and extensor digiti I et II are smaller and their attachment sites
725 differ due to the absence of a full digit I. M. extensor digiti I et II does not insert onto the
726 vestigial first digit, and instead possesses only a single tendon inserting onto digit II. While the
727 belly of m. abductor digiti I is broad, its tendon is gracile and thin, and has only a small
728 attachment site onto the base of the vestigial metacarpal I.

729
730 The similarities in forelimb muscle proportions between *L. pictus* and the Dhole (*Cuon alpinus*)
731 provide further insight into adaptations to cursoriality in canids. While not as highly cursorial as
732 *L. pictus*, *C. alpinus* is also hypercarnivorous, hunts communally, and focuses on medium to
733 large-bodied ungulates (Durbin et al., 2004). Most of its predatory chases are short, around 500
734 m (Fox, 1984), but it has been documented occasionally chasing prey for hours (Heptner &
735 Naumov, 1998). However, *C. alpinus* has a fully formed digit I (e.g., Castelló, 2018) making it

736 an interesting comparative taxon. In both *L. pictus* and *C. alpinus*, m. flexor digitorum
737 profundus, m. extensor digiti I et II, and abductor digiti I longus are reduced compared to all
738 other included taxa, likely reflecting the reduced need for fine digital manipulation in these
739 cursorial taxa. They also share relatively smaller mm. supinator and pronator teres, further
740 supporting the interpretation that reduction of the rotatory muscles facilitates stability in the
741 forelimb of long-distance runners. However, it should be noted that these reductions are more
742 pronounced in *L. pictus*. The two species share an enlarged m. supraspinatus, which is an
743 important stabilizer of the glenohumeral joint and acts to prevent collapse of the shoulder
744 (Goslow et al., 1981).

745

746 **Comparisons of qualitative muscular morphology to other published carnivoran** 747 **taxa**

748 **Musculature of the vestigial digit I:**

749 The forelimb myology of *L. pictus* is generally similar to other canids; however, it displays some
750 notable exceptions. The presence of a vestigial first metacarpal results in changes to insertions of
751 mm. extensor digiti I et II, adductor digiti I longus, abductor (et opponens) digiti I, and flexor
752 digiti I brevis compared to other canids. The origin of m. extensor digiti I et II is smaller than in
753 the domestic dog, *Canis familiaris* (Evans & de Lahunta, 2013) and pampas fox (de Sousa et al.,
754 2018), and it inserts exclusively onto digit II, bypassing the vestigial digit I entirely.

755 Interestingly, the tendon of insertion still bifurcates, but rather than inserting onto digit I as in
756 other canids, one tendon fuses with the insertion of extensor digitorum communis to digit II and
757 the other inserts directly onto metatarsal II. Thus, the muscle does not act on the vestigial first
758 digit. M. adductor digiti I longus of *L. pictus* has a substantially reduced origin compared to
759 other canids, and its tendon of insertion onto metacarpal I is wispy and diminutive. It appears
760 unlikely that it has sufficient leverage to move MC1.

761

762 **Muscles and ligaments involved in forelimb stability and endurance running**

763 The m. triceps brachii complex is expanded in *L. pictus* compared to other canids. In particular,
764 m. triceps brachii caput laterale has a larger origin in *L. pictus* compared to other carnivorans,
765 and m. triceps brachii long head consist of two large bellies, referred to herein as caput longum
766 and caput magnum. Electromyographic (EMG) studies have shown that M. triceps brachii,
767 especially caput laterale, is active during the stance phase of trotting and galloping and is
768 important for storing elastic energy during locomotion (Goslow et al., 1981). Around the elbow,
769 m. anconeus also has a more extensive and proximal origin in *L. pictus* compared to other canids.
770 In addition to extending the elbow, this muscle plays an important role in resisting elbow flexion.
771 It is composed almost entirely of Type I fibers and has been suggested to provide proprioceptive
772 information about the elbow joint to the central nervous system (Buxton & Peck, 1990).

773

774 M. brachialis has a more extensive origin in *L. pictus* than in other canids. In *C. familiaris*, this
775 muscle has relatively high proportion of Type I "slow-twitch" fibers but is also electrically active
776 during the swing phase of locomotion (Goslow et al., 1981). M. flexor carpi ulnaris caput ulnare
777 of *L. pictus* is a larger muscle with a more extensive origin than *C. familiaris*. In domestic dogs,
778 this muscle belly contains a large percentage (mean 77%) of Type I muscle fibers, suggesting

779 that it is resistant to fatigue (Armstrong et al., 1982). Also, in addition to its role in flexion of the
780 forepaw with abduction, it has also been argued to play an important postural role in the forelimb
781 (Evans and de Lahunta, 2013). While electromyographic studies and assessments of Type I
782 versus Type II fibers in the forelimb muscles of *L. pictus* is out of the scope of the present study,
783 it is reasonable to assume that the general patterns would not be dramatically divergent from
784 those of *C. familiaris*. M. flexor digitorum profundus capita ulnare and radiale have smaller
785 origins in *L. pictus* than all other comparative taxa, and the muscle's combined bellies have a
786 smaller mass than most other comparative carnivoran taxa. This may reflect a reduced need for
787 fine digital flexion. The mm. biceps brachii and brachialis appear to function as a unit, fusing
788 distally to insert together onto both the radius and ulna. This pattern contrasts with the domestic
789 dog in which the m. brachialis tendon courses through a split in that of the m. biceps brachii to
790 insert exclusively onto the ulna (Fig 13). This difference may provide additional stability at the
791 elbow joint in *L. pictus*. Overall, the forelimb muscles of *L. pictus* demonstrate a definitive
792 pattern of stability and resistance to fatigue, with a concomitant reduction of rotatory
793 movements, mobility of digit I, and fine digital flexion. The membrana interossea antebrachii
794 and ligamentum interossei antebrachii are expanded compared to other canids, adhering the
795 radius and ulna tightly together.

796

797 The extensor and flexor muscles of the carpus in *L. pictus* are generally comparable in size and
798 attachments to other canids. However, the wrist is supported by an incredibly stout ligamentum
799 accesoriometacarpeum V attached to a prominently projecting pisiform, which may act as a strut
800 for assisting with passive flexion and rebound of the forefoot during sustained locomotion.
801 During touchdown of the manus, the carpus becomes extended passively due to gravity. The
802 natural tautness of the robust ligamentum accesoriometacarpeum V would tend to pull the wrist
803 back into flexion as soon as the forefoot starts leaving the ground, likely providing non-muscular
804 propulsion during push-off. This passive mechanism may help sustain endurance running and
805 prevent the wrist muscles from tiring.

806

807 We interpret these differences in size and attachments of muscles in *L. pictus* compared to other
808 canids as adaptations for long distance running in this highly cursorial species, likely important
809 for exhaustive predation. Absence of a complete digit I in *L. pictus*, typically used to reduce
810 torque during quick turns and for lightly gripping onto objects, may be related to a reduced need
811 for gripping and quick agile movements in its cursorial lifestyle.

812 **Fossil record of *Lycaon* spp.**

813 The fossil history of *Lycaon spp.* prior to the late Pleistocene is poorly understood, and little is
814 known about the relationship between Miocene and Pleistocene canids (Stiner et al., 2001).
815 *Lycaon*, *Canis*, and *Cuon* may have diverged from a common ancestor in the Pliocene (Kurtén,
816 1968; Wayne, 1993, Stiner et al., 2001). Current *Lycaon* populations exist only in Africa, but the
817 geographic distributions of its ancestors is unknown (Savage, 1978). A single fossil *Lycaon sp.*
818 specimen (H-K21-547, a mandible) has been recovered outside Africa, from the middle
819 Pleistocene in Hayonim Cave, Israel (Stiner et al., 2001). Also, a distal left tibia from late middle

820 Pleistocene deposits in Yarimburgaz Cave (western Turkey) is distinct from *Cuon*, *Canis lupus*,
821 and *C. (X.) falconeri* and may represent a second non-African fossil *Lycaon sp.* (Farrand and
822 McMahon, 1997; Stiner et al., 2001).

823 An Early Pleistocene specimen (PN 7-10) from Pirro Nord in Italy indicates tetradactyl similar
824 to recent *L. pictus* (Rook, 1994). However, body size and dental differences support the tendency
825 to preserve the name *Xenocyon africanus* for African members of this lineage from the Early
826 Pleistocene and designate the genus *Lycaon* for middle and late Pleistocene forms (Stiner et al.,
827 2001). However, undescribed material from Olduvai Gorge suggests that this conclusion is
828 oversimplified (Stiner et al., 2001).

829 The discovery of *Lycaon sekowei* (maxillary sections CD 8280/8281/8285 and partial skeleton
830 GV 466) from the Sterkfontein valley in South Africa casts doubt on *Xenocyon* spp. as the likely
831 ancestor of *L. pictus* (Hartstone-Rose et al., 2010). *Xenocyon* spp. apparently lacked a first
832 metacarpal and displayed significant dental differences from both *L. sekowei* and *L. pictus*
833 (Stiner et al., 2001; Hartstone-Rose, 2010). Instead, *Xenocyon* may be ancestral to *Cuon alpinus*,
834 as some authors have suggested (Mouille et al., 2006; Baryshnikov et al., 2012; Cherin et al.,
835 2013). In addition, the appearance of *L. sekowei* in sub-Saharan Africa around 2 Ma occurs after
836 the molecularly supported divergence time between *L. pictus* and other large canids (4-6 Ma)
837 (Lindblad-Toh et al., 2005; Hartstone-Rose et al., 2010). The vestigial metacarpal I of *L. pictus*,
838 discovered here, is approximately 30% the length of its metacarpal II, compared to 38% in *L.*
839 *sekowei* (Fig. 14). This pattern indicates a functional loss, but not complete loss, of metacarpal I
840 over time in the *Lycaon* lineage. Morphological evidence from the fossil record and the presence
841 of a vestigially developed first metacarpal thus support *L. sekowei* as the most likely fossil
842 ancestor of *L. pictus* (Fig 13). This is further evidence of the suggested evolutionary progression
843 that places the shift toward hypercarnivory prior to the locomotor shift toward greater
844 cursoriality (Hartstone-Rose et al., 2010). However, due to the difficulty of diagnosing skeletal
845 elements as yet unknown in the fossil record, the discovery of a first metacarpal in *Xenocyon*
846 spp. may require a reevaluation of this interpretation.

847 **Conclusions**

848

849 A vestigial first digit was discovered in *L. pictus*, in the form of a diminutive first metacarpal,
850 demonstrating for the first time that this species is not fully tetradactyl. The forepaw is supported
851 by a stout ligamentum accessorimetacarpeum V, which holds the wrist in passive flexion. Wrist
852 rotator muscles are reduced compared to other carnivorans, and robust interosseous ligaments
853 bind the radius tightly to the ulna. Several muscles associated with joint stability and known to
854 store elastic energy are expanded. The unexpected metacarpal I results in dramatic
855 morphological alterations to associated digit I musculature. Natural tautness of ligamentum
856 accessorimetacarpeum V may provide passive propulsion during the toe-off phase of
857 locomotion, helping to sustain endurance running. These traits represent adaptations for long
858 distance running and would facilitate exhaustive predation. We discuss the implications of the

859 vestigial first metacarpal for the evolution of endurance running in *Lycaon*, suggesting that
860 cursoriality may have evolved earlier than previously recognized in the fossil record.

861 **Data Availability**

862

863 The 3D files of this specimen ARC-M-0069 are published online in the repository
864 MorphoSource: https://www.morphosource.org/Detail/MediaDetail/Show/media_id/66470

865

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867

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874

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- 994 **Figure Captions**
- 995 **Figure 1.** Regression plot of relative proportions of wrist rotator functional group to elbow
996 extensor functional group in *L. pictus* and the comparative carnivoran sample (Taverne et al.,
997 2018). Note the position of *L. pictus* which has the smallest wrist rotator group in the sample.
998 **Figure 2.** Lateral view of the right shoulder and brachium in *Lycaon pictus*.
- 999 **Figure 3.** Scapula muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) lateral view; (B) medial view.
- 1000 **Figure 4.** Medial view of the right shoulder and brachium in *L. pictus*.
- 1001 **Figure 5.** Humerus muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) medial view; (B) lateral view.
- 1002 **Figure 6.** Lateral view of the superficial right antebrachium in *L. pictus*, including mm. biceps
1003 brachii, brachialis, and anconeus.
- 1004 **Figure 7.** Lateral view of the deep right antebrachium in *L. pictus*.
- 1005 **Figure 8.** Medial view of the right antebrachium in *L. pictus*, including mm. biceps brachii and
1006 brachioradialis.
- 1007 **Figure 9.** Ulna muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) lateral view; (B) medial view.
- 1008 **Figure 10.** Radius muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) medial view; (B) lateral view.
- 1009 **Figure 11.** Dorsal manus muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side).
- 1010 **Figure 12.** Palmar view of manus muscles in *L. pictus* (right side): (A) superficial view; (B) deep
1011 view.
- 1012 **Figure 13.** Insertions of mm. biceps brachii and brachialis: (A) photograph of *Lycaon pictus*; (B)
1013 illustration of *L. pictus*; (C) illustration of *Canis familiaris*. Numbers indicate: 3 = m. biceps
1014 brachii; 9 = m. brachialis; 42 = m. flexor digitorum superficialis; 43 = m. flexor digitorum
1015 profundus; 44 = m. flexor carpi radialis. Note that in *L. pictus*, the tendons of mm. biceps brachii
1016 and brachialis fuse to insert together onto both the radius and ulna, while in *C. familiaris* the m.
1017 brachialis tendon travels through a split in the tendon of m. biceps brachii to insert exclusively
1018 onto the ulna.
- 1019 **Figure 14.** Comparative sizes of metacarpal I in: A) *Lycaon pictus*; B) *Lycaon sekowei*; 3)
1020 *Xenocyon ex gr. falconeri*; D) *Canis lupus*. Left manus, dorsal view.

Table 1 (on next page)

Quantitative data on forelimb muscles of the adult male *Lycaon pictus* specimen dissected in the present study.

1 **Table 1.**

Muscle	Mass (g)	Proportion (%)
M. acromiodeltoideus	19.0	0.0233
M. spinodeltoideus	23.0	0.0282
M. supraspinatus	124.0	0.1522
M. infraspinatus	95.0	0.1166
M. subscapularis	75.0	0.0921
M. teres major	34.0	0.0417
M. teres minor	5.0	0.0061
M. biceps brachii	32.0	0.0393
M. brachialis	18.0	0.0221
M. triceps brachii	240.0	0.2947
M. anconeus	5.0	0.0061
M. brachioradialis	10.0	0.0123
M. extensor carpi ulnaris	13.0	0.0160
M. extensor digitorum lateralis	5.0	0.0061
M. extensor digitorum communis	10.0	0.0123
M. extensor digiti I and II	0.5	0.0006
M. abductor digiti I longus	1.0	0.0012
M. extensor carpi radialis- longus + brevis	27.0	0.0331
M. supinator	0.5	0.0006
M. pronator teres	1.0	0.0012
M. palmaris longus	16.0	0.0196
M. flexor carpi ulnaris, ulnar head	6.0	0.0074
M. flexor carpi ulnaris, humeral head	14.0	0.0172
M. flexor carpi radialis	6.0	0.0074
M. flexor digitorum profundus	43.0	0.0528
M. pronator quadratus	0.5	0.0006
Total mass of included muscles	814.5	1.0000

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Table 2 (on next page)

Volumes and relative proportions of functional forelimb muscle groups in *Lycaon pictus* and comparative carnivoran taxa (Taverne et al., 2018).

L. pictus has the lowest proportion of wrist rotators and among the largest elbow extensors in the sample (values indicated in bold).

1 Table 2.

Taxon	Sum	Elbow extensors	Elbow flexors	Wrist extensors	Wrist flexors	Wrist rotators	Elbow extensors-proportion	Elbow flexors-proportion	Wrist extensors-proportion	Wrist flexors-proportion	Wrist rotators-proportion
<i>Lycaon pictus</i>	554.72	318.87	99.06	52.83	80.19	3.77	0.575*	0.179	0.095	0.145	0.007*
<i>Mustela putorius</i>	24.62	12.68	3.86	2.46	4.53	1.09	0.515	0.157	0.100	0.184	0.044
<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	144.07	87.70	22.82	12.42	19.06	2.07	0.609	0.158	0.086	0.132	0.014
<i>Herpestes auropunctatus</i>	5.25	2.89	0.79	0.52	0.79	0.26	0.550	0.150	0.099	0.150	0.050
<i>Procyon lotor</i>	34.52	16.93	6.68	3.40	5.67	1.84	0.490	0.194	0.098	0.164	0.053
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	1060.2	606.00	209.00	83.00	136.20	26.00	0.572	0.197	0.078	0.128	0.025
<i>Martes martes</i>	41.86	21.58	7.14	4.16	7.13	1.85	0.516	0.171	0.099	0.170	0.044
<i>Martes foina</i>	31.31	16.00	5.14	3.25	5.35	1.57	0.511	0.164	0.104	0.171	0.050
<i>Meles meles</i>	250.04	134.94	33.12	22.24	48.81	10.93	0.540	0.132	0.089	0.195	0.044
<i>Galidia elegans</i>	12.03	6.52	1.99	1.12	1.96	0.44	0.542	0.165	0.093	0.163	0.037
<i>Cryptoprocta ferox</i>	64.06	31.74	11.18	6.83	10.62	3.69	0.495	0.175	0.107	0.166	0.058
<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>	34.97	16.47	6.80	3.84	5.04	2.82	0.471	0.194	0.110	0.144	0.081
<i>Potos flavus</i>	42.09	18.52	8.21	4.52	8.07	2.77	0.440	0.195	0.107	0.192	0.066
<i>Cuon alpinus</i>	496.92	293.00	76.00	42.49	78.00	7.43	0.590	0.153	0.086	0.157	0.015
<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>	1162	661.00	201.00	105.90	181.00	13.10	0.569	0.173	0.091	0.156	0.011
<i>Nasua nasua</i>	54.97	25.43	9.03	4.41	12.83	3.27	0.463	0.164	0.080	0.233	0.059
<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	42.4	20.75	8.44	5.39	6.27	1.55	0.489	0.199	0.127	0.148	0.037
<i>Arctictis binturong</i>	434	237.40	72.90	35.20	63.90	24.60	0.547	0.168	0.081	0.147	0.057

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Table 3(on next page)

Relative proportions of individual forelimb muscles in *L. pictus* and comparative sample.

Comparative data were taken from Julik et al., 2012 (*Leopardus pardalis*), Ercoli et al. 2015 (*Galictis cuja*), Viranta et al. 2016 (*Lynx lynx*), and Taverne et al. 2018 (*Cuon alpinus* and *Vulpes vulpes*).

1 **Table 3.**

Muscle	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>	<i>Cuon alpinus</i>	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	<i>Galictis cuja</i>	<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	<i>Lynx lynx</i>
Taxonomic group	Caniformia	Caniformia	Caniformia	Caniformia	Feliformia	Feliformia
M. acromiodeltoideus	0.0233	0.0191	0.0147	0.0193	0.0199	0.0195
M. spinodeltoideus	0.0282	0.0143	0.0273	0.0126	0.0244	0.0211
M. supraspinatus	0.1522	0.1561	0.1161	0.1184	0.1243	0.1069
M. infraspinatus	0.1166	0.0860	0.0883	0.0525	0.0990	0.0742
M. subscapularis	0.0921	0.0780	0.0899	0.0744	0.1457	0.0838
M. teres major	0.0417	0.0350	0.0484	0.0172	0.0664	0.0639
M. teres minor	0.0061	0.0023	0.0054	0.0009	0.0066	0.0048
M. biceps brachii	0.0393	0.0398	0.0390	0.0368	0.0635	0.0643
M. brachialis	0.0221	0.0191	0.0208	0.0340	0.0238	0.0278
M. triceps combined	0.2947	0.3328	0.3586	0.3392	0.1935	0.2581
M. anconeus	0.0061	0.0096	0.0074	0.0081	0.0177	0.0084
M. brachioradialis	0.0123	0.0000	0.0000	0.0172	0.0085	0.0033
M. extensor carpi ulnaris	0.0160	0.0159	0.0117	0.0221	0.0181	0.0156
M. extensor digitorum lateralis	0.0061	0.0064	0.0049	0.0095	0.0064	0.0083
M. extensor digitorum communis	0.0123	0.0127	0.0127	0.0134	0.0100	0.0196
M. extensor digiti I and II	0.0006	0.0008	0.0012	0.0032	0.0021	0.0000
M. abductor digiti I longus	0.0012	0.0048	0.0064	0.0124	0.0125	0.0122
M. extensor carpi radialis- longus + brevis	0.0331	0.0271	0.0342	0.0321	0.0256	0.0358
M. supinator	0.0006	0.0021	0.0020	0.0074	0.0082	0.0054
M. pronator teres	0.0012	0.0048	0.0065	0.0197	0.0199	0.0163
M. palmaris longus	0.0196	0.0255	0.0215	0.0266	0.0247	0.0228
M. flexor carpi	0.0074	0.0239	0.0045	0.0254	0.0080	0.0057

ulnaris, ulnar head						
M. flexor carpi ulnaris, humeral head	0.0172	0.0064	0.0126	0.0146	0.0108	0.0159
M. flexor carpi radialis	0.0074	0.0064	0.0059	0.0077	0.0077	0.0133
M. flexor digitorum profundus	0.0528	0.0621	0.0518	0.0716	0.0502	0.0643
M. pronator quadratus	0.0006	0.0050	0.0036	0.0029	0.0059	0.0045
Total mass of included muscles	814.50	627.97	172.70	97.58	258.83	626.09

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3

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Figure 1

Regression plot of relative proportions of wrist rotator functional group to elbow extensor functional group in *L. pictus* and the comparative carnivoran sample (Taverne et al., 2018).

Note the position of *L. pictus* which has the smallest wrist rotator group in the sample.

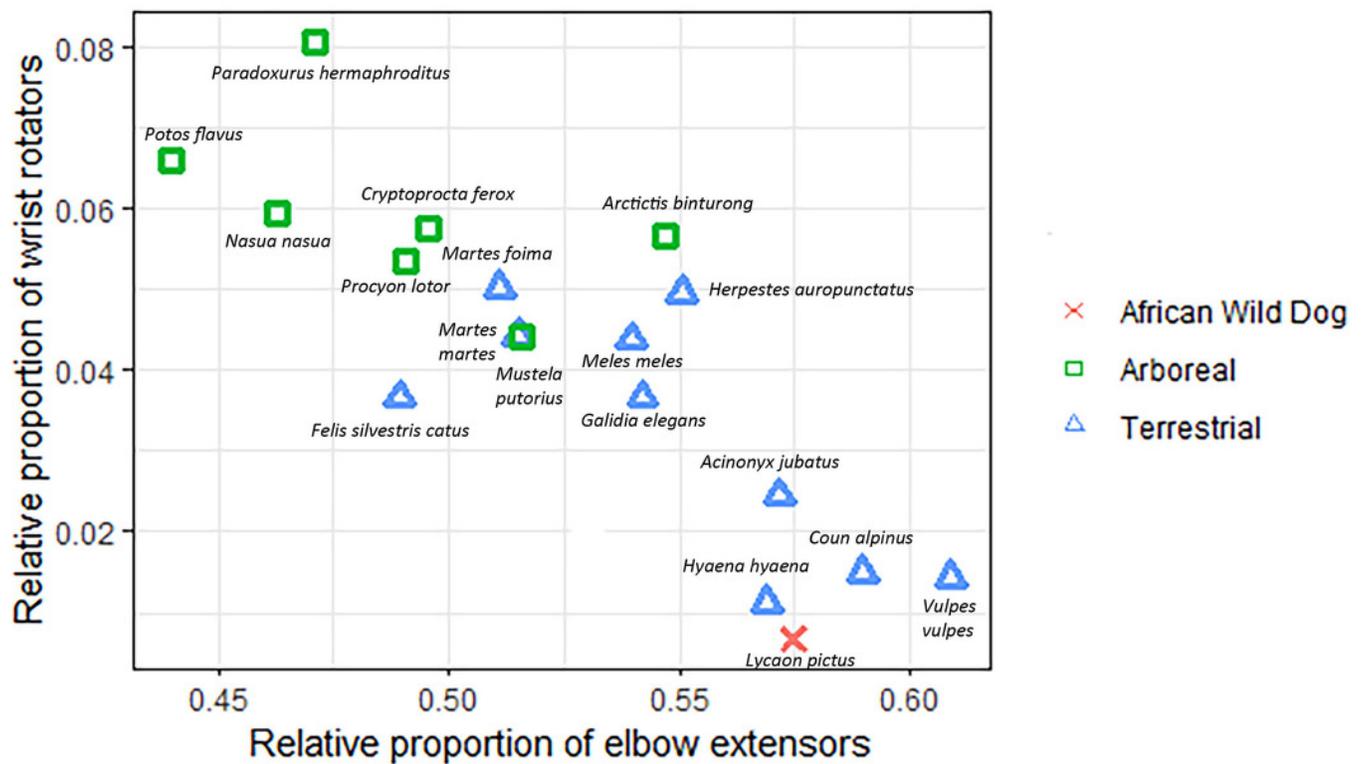


Figure 2

Lateral view of the right shoulder and brachium in *Lycaon pictus*.

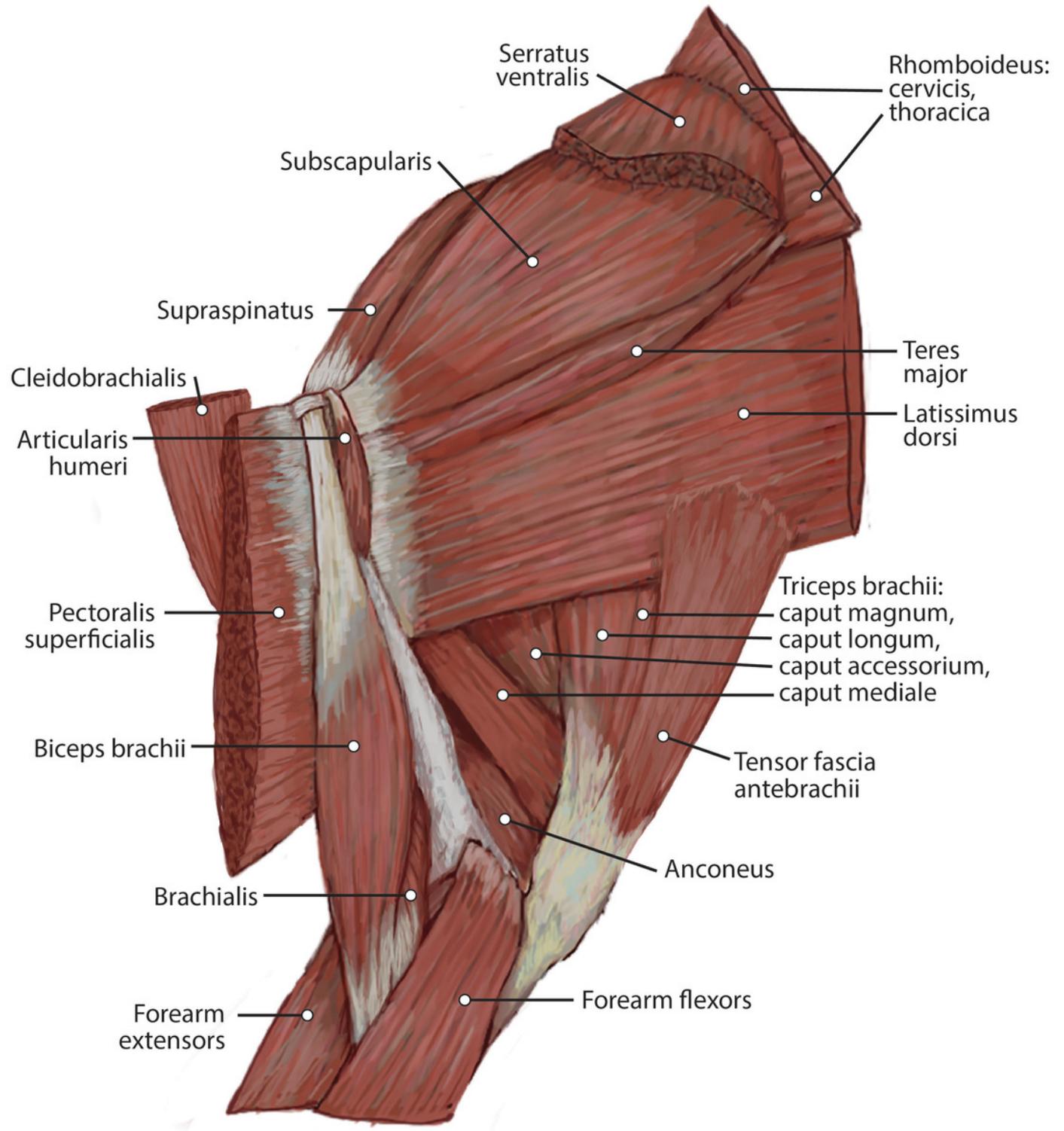


Figure 3

Scapula muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) lateral view; (B) medial view.

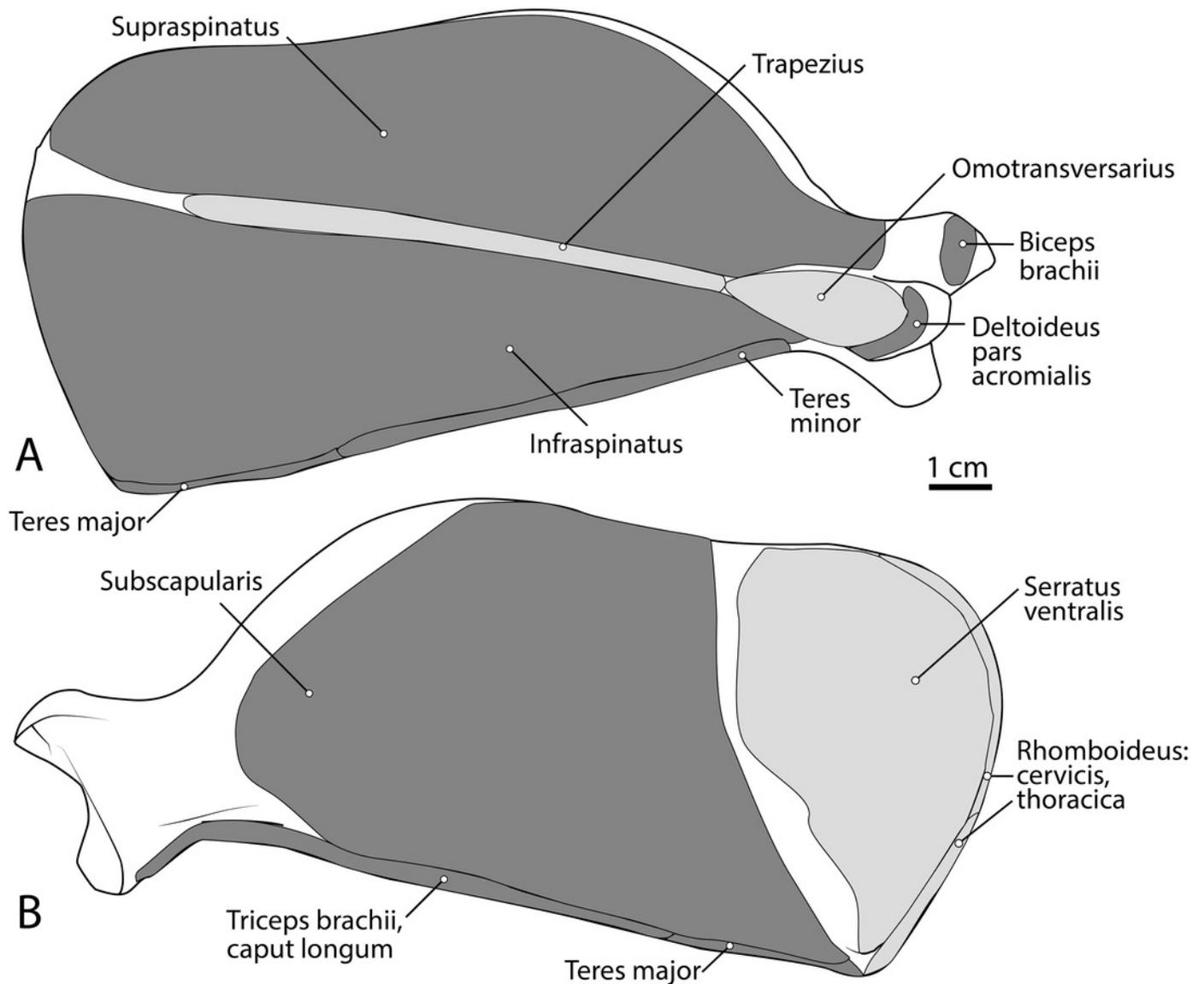


Figure 4

Medial view of the right shoulder and brachium in *L. pictus*.

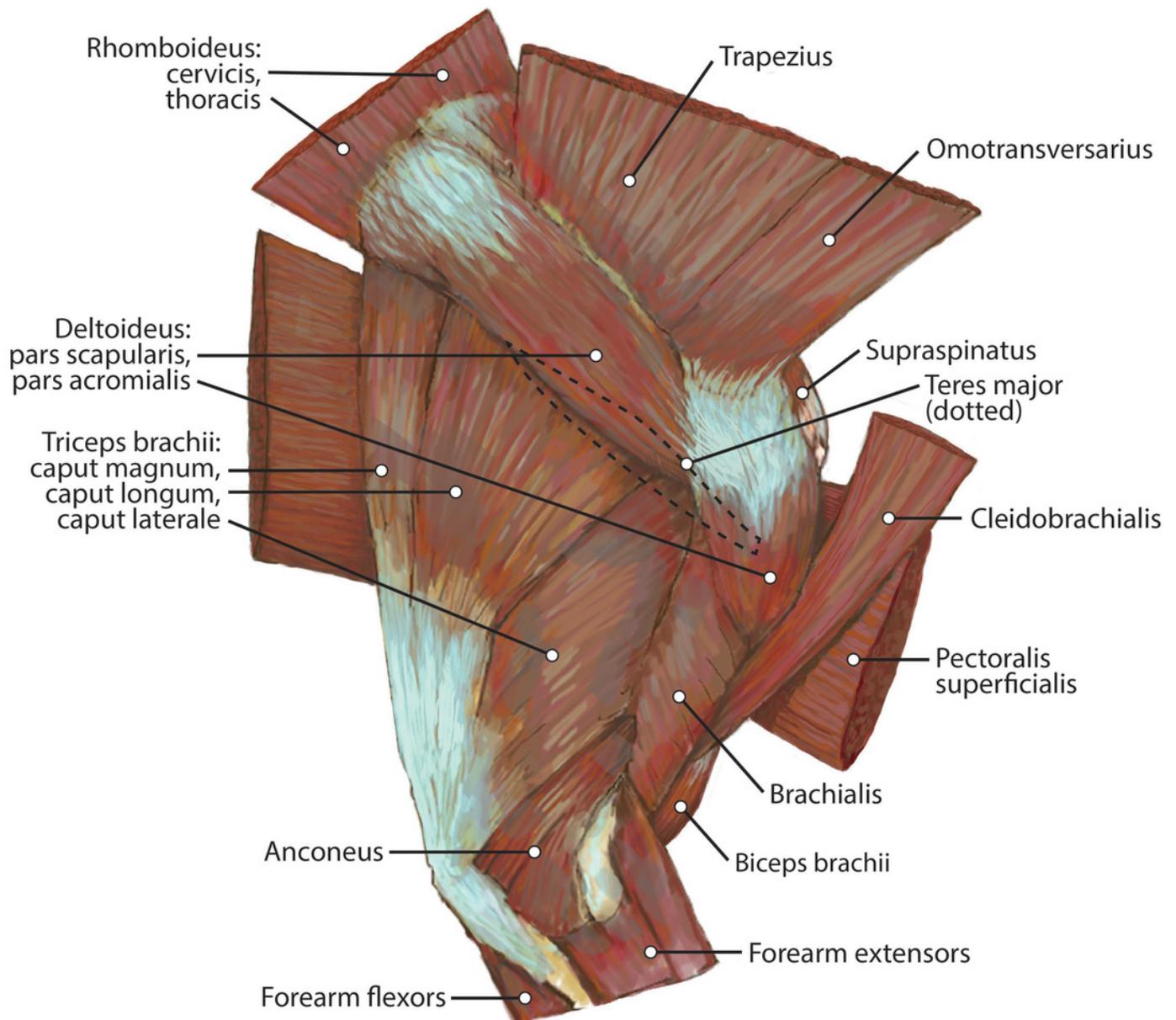


Figure 5

Humerus muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) medial view; (B) lateral view.

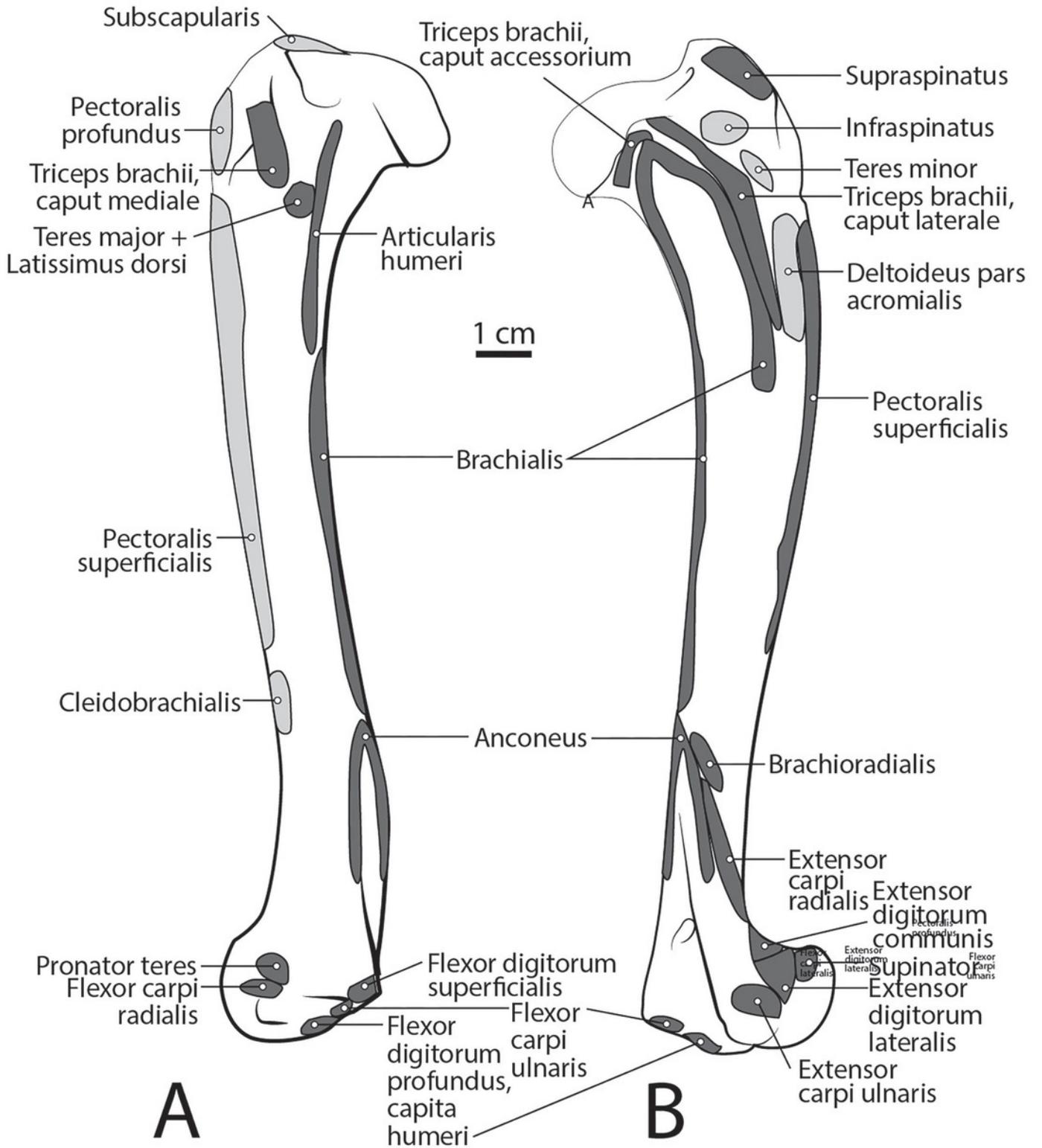


Figure 6

Lateral view of the superficial right antebrachium in *L. pictus*, including mm. biceps brachii, brachialis, and anconeus.

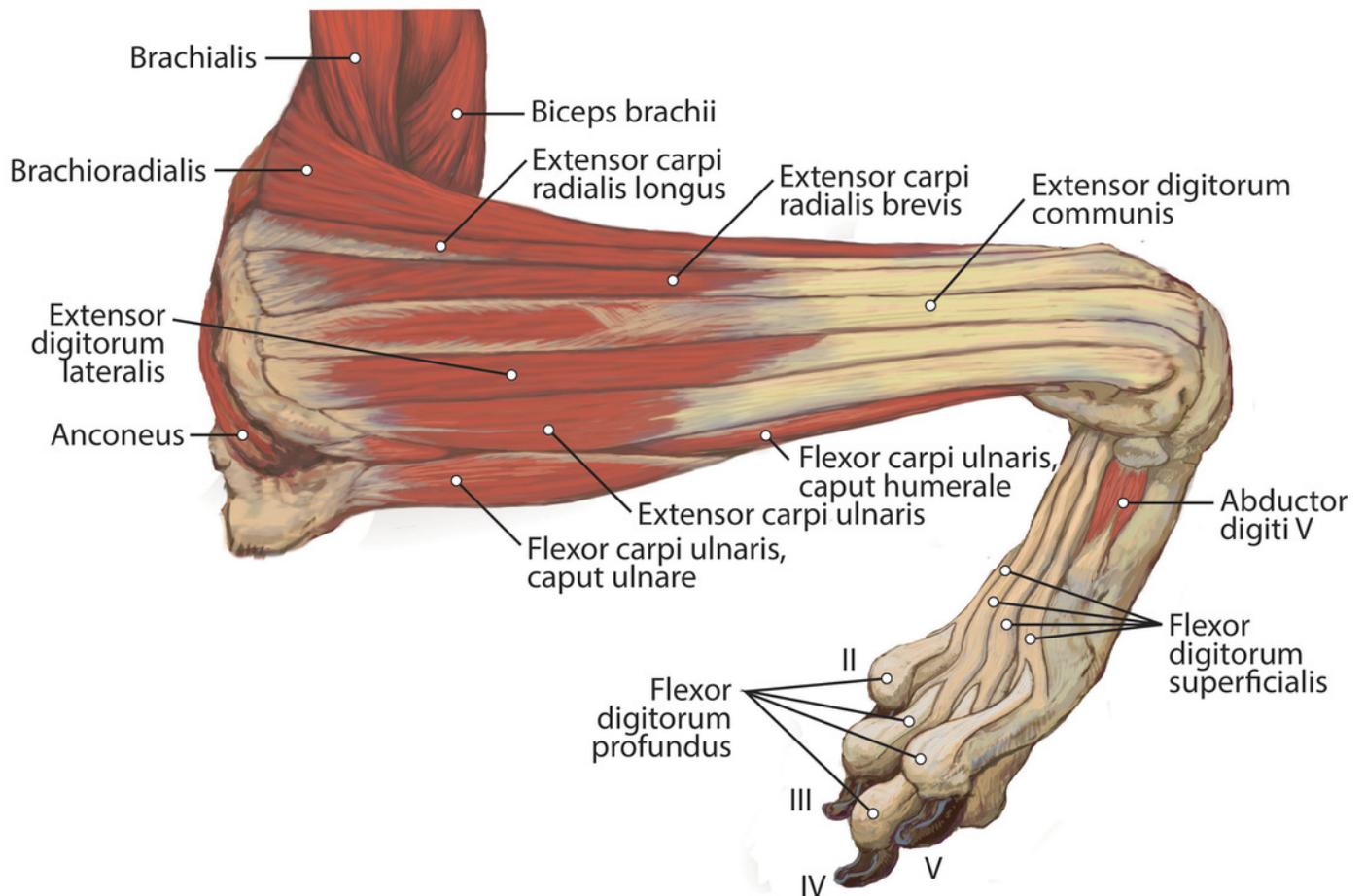


Figure 7

Lateral view of the deep right antebrachium in *L. pictus*.

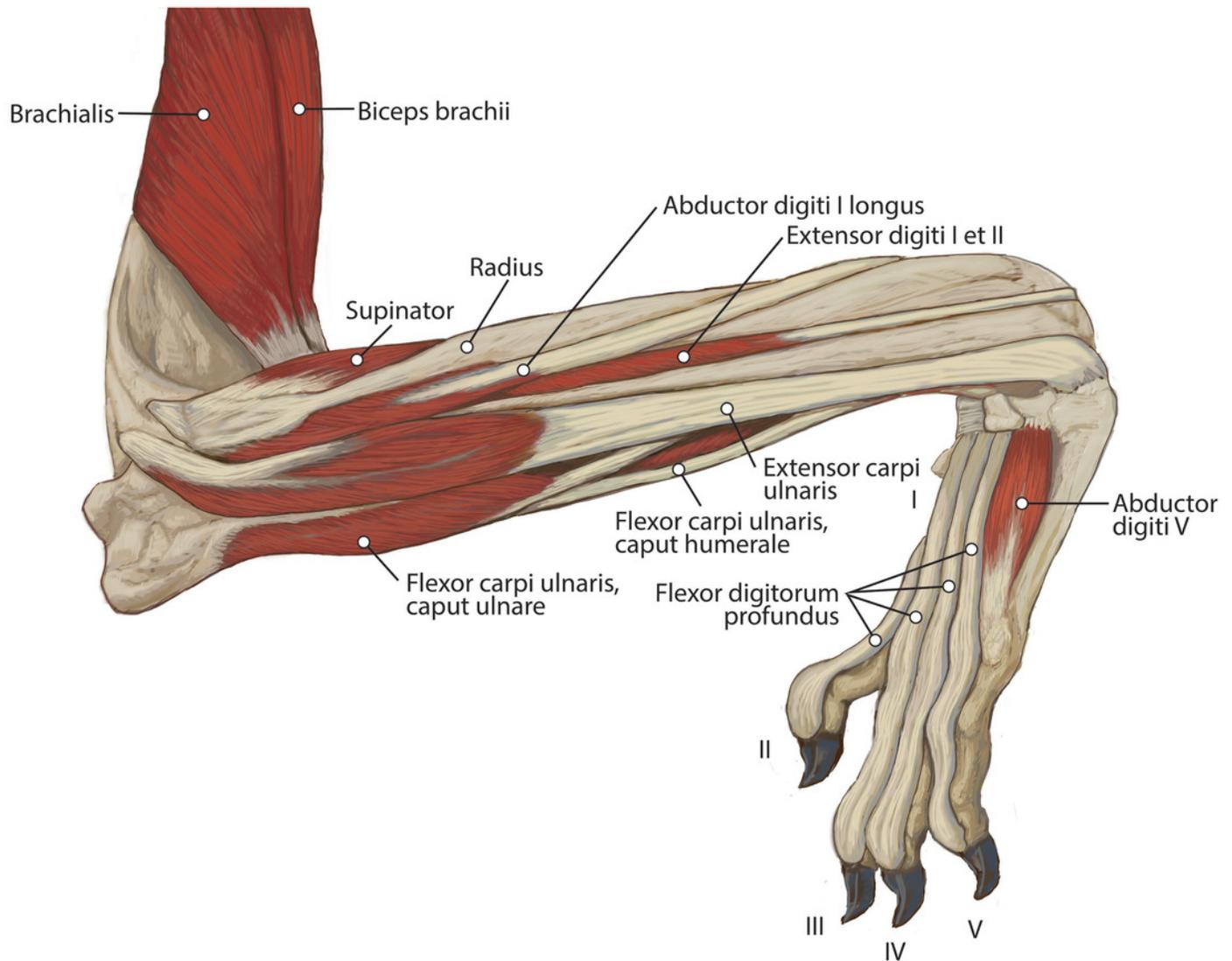


Figure 8

Medial view of the right antebrachium in *L. pictus*, including mm. biceps brachii and brachioradialis.

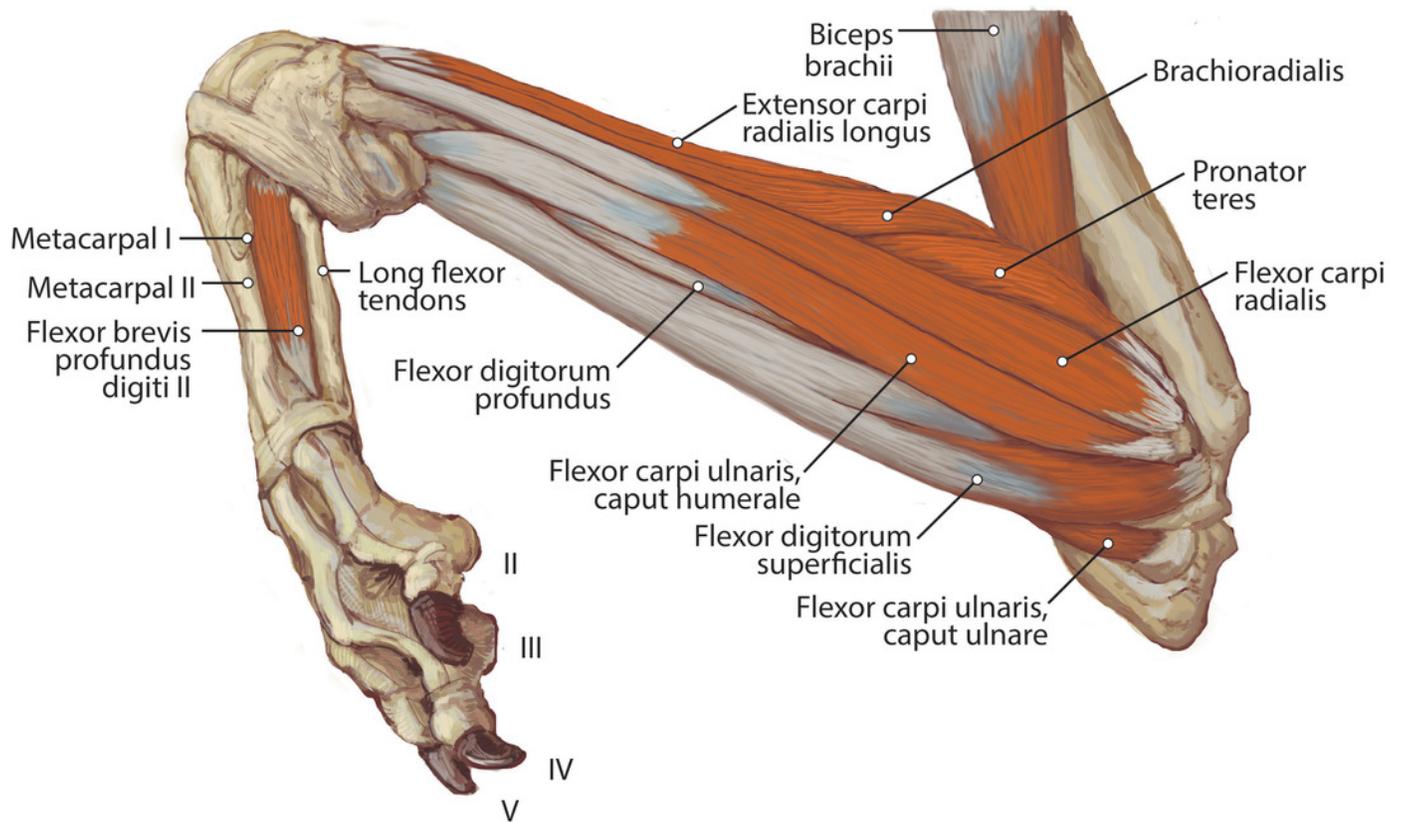


Figure 9

Ulna muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) lateral view; (B) medial view.

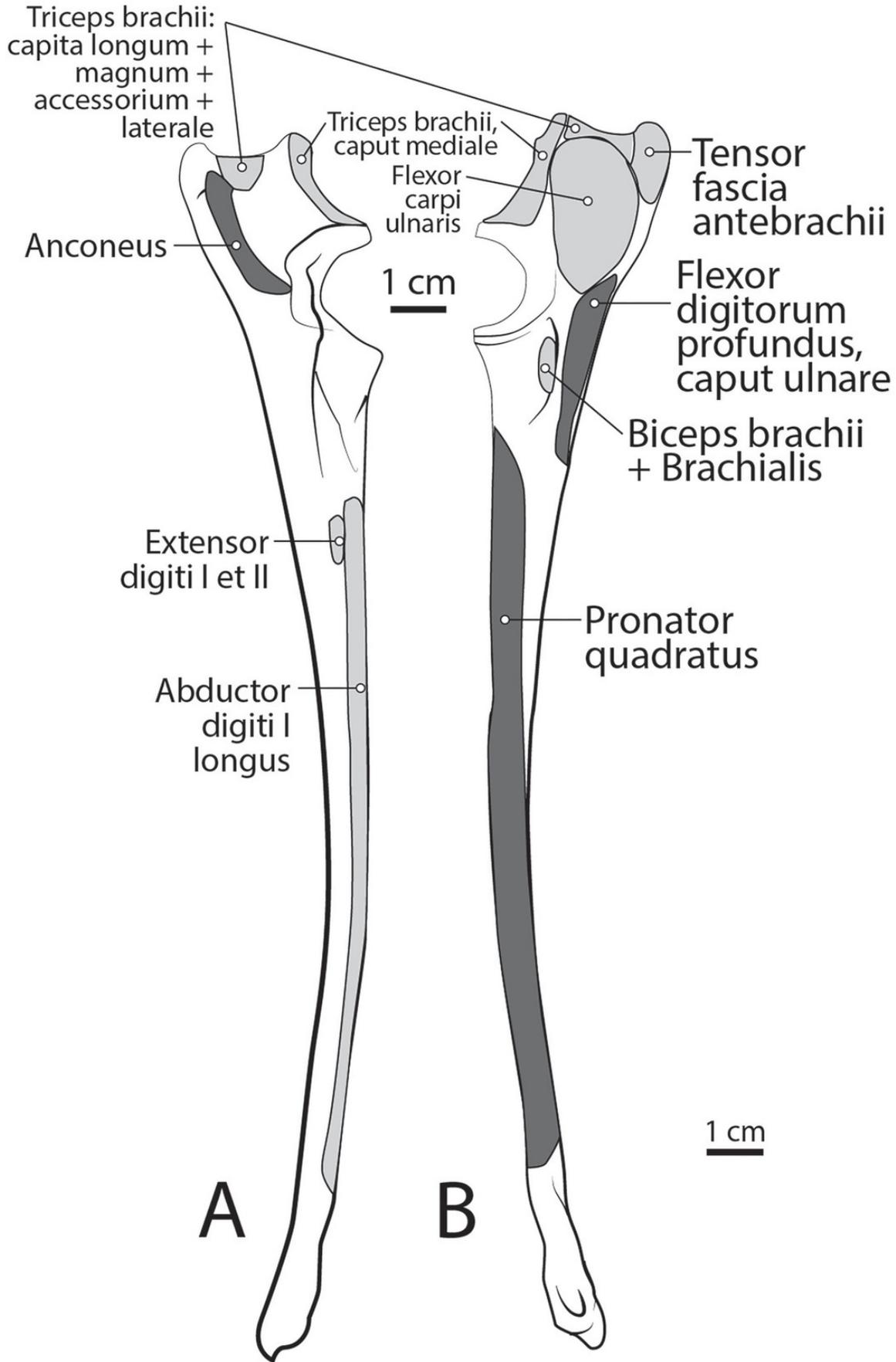


Figure 10

Radius muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side): (A) medial view; (B) lateral view.

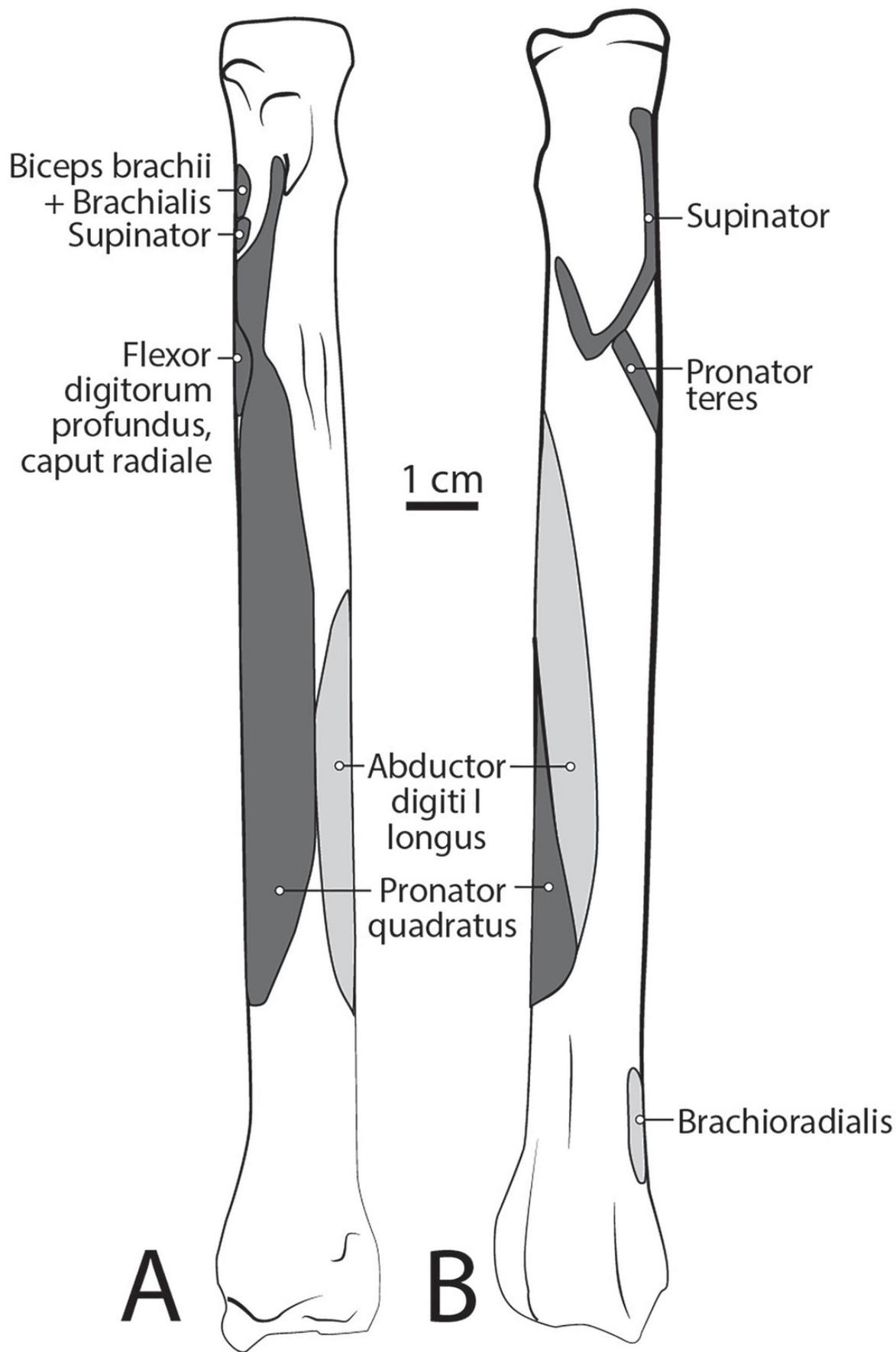


Figure 11

Dorsal manus muscle maps for *L. pictus* (right side).

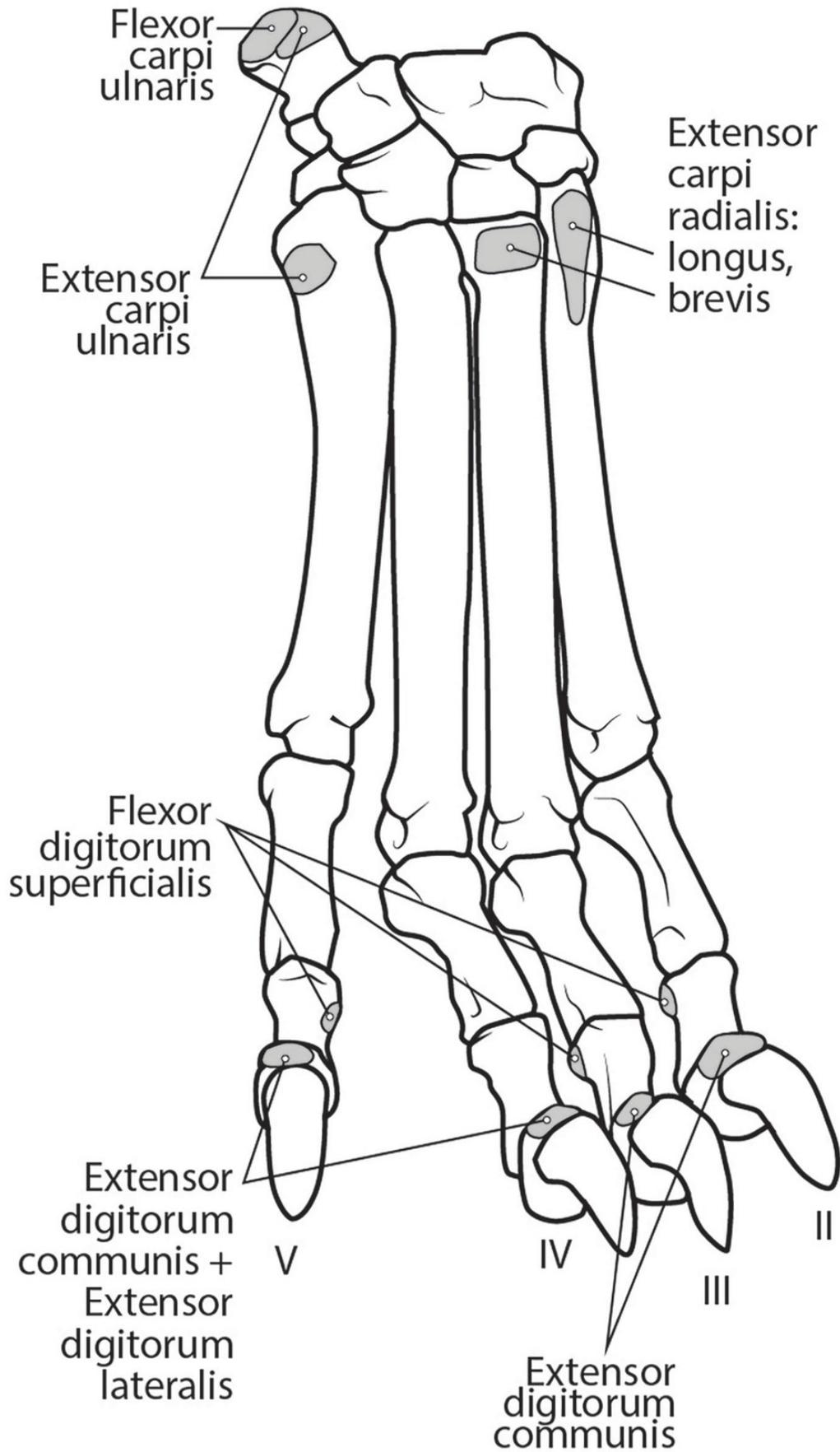


Figure 12

Palmar view of manus muscles in *L. pictus* (right side): (A) superficial view; (B) deep view.

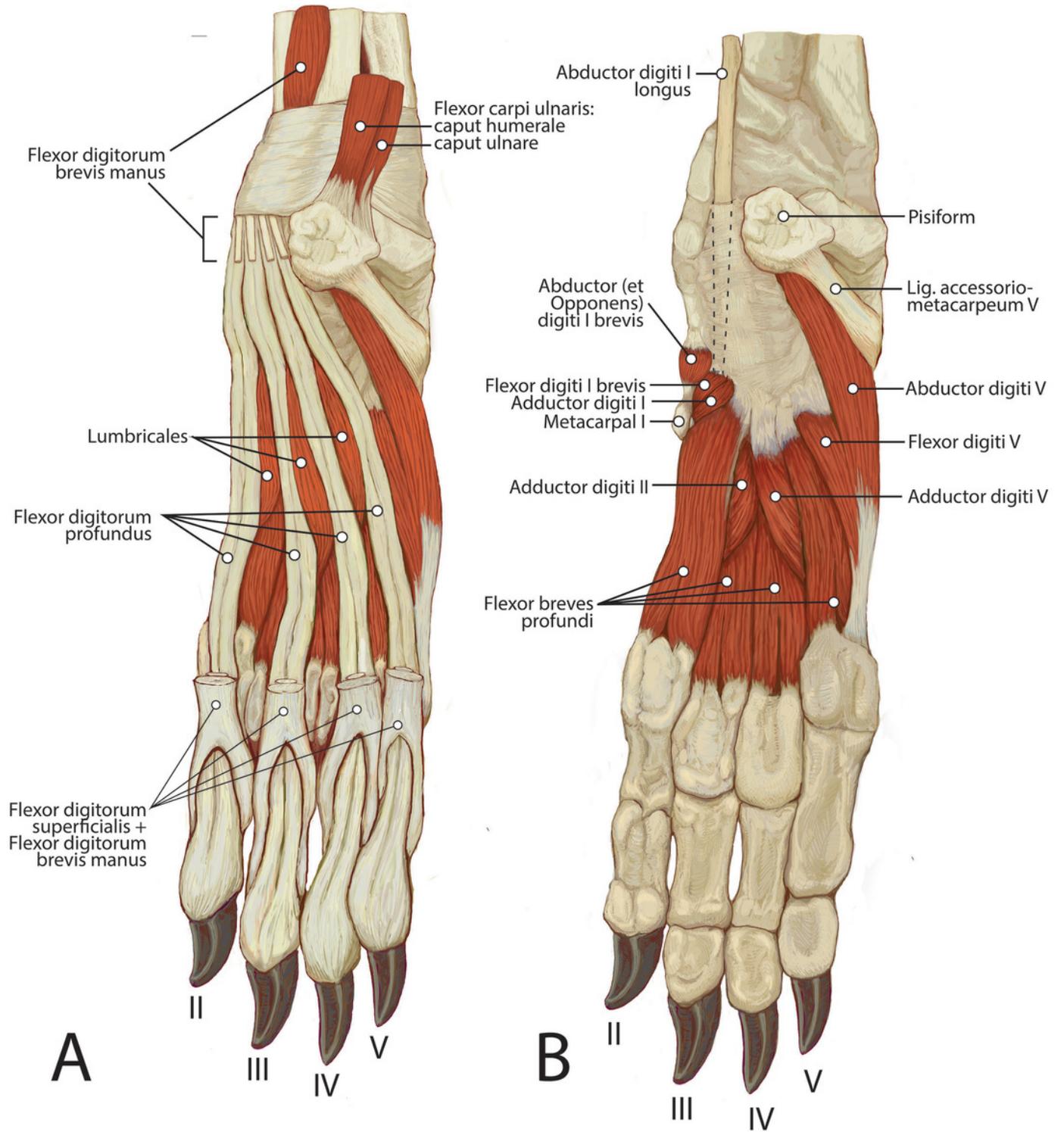


Figure 13

Insertions of mm. biceps brachii and brachialis: (A) photograph of *Lycaon pictus*; (B) illustration of *L. pictus*; (C) illustration of *Canis familiaris*.

Numbers indicate: 3 = m. biceps brachii; 9 = m. brachialis; 42 = m. flexor digitorum superficialis; 43 = m. flexor digitorum profundus; 44 = m. flexor carpi radialis. Note that in *L. pictus*, the tendons of mm. biceps brachii and brachialis fuse to insert together onto both the radius and ulna, while in *C. familiaris* the m. brachialis tendon travels through a split in the tendon of m. biceps brachii to insert exclusively onto the ulna.

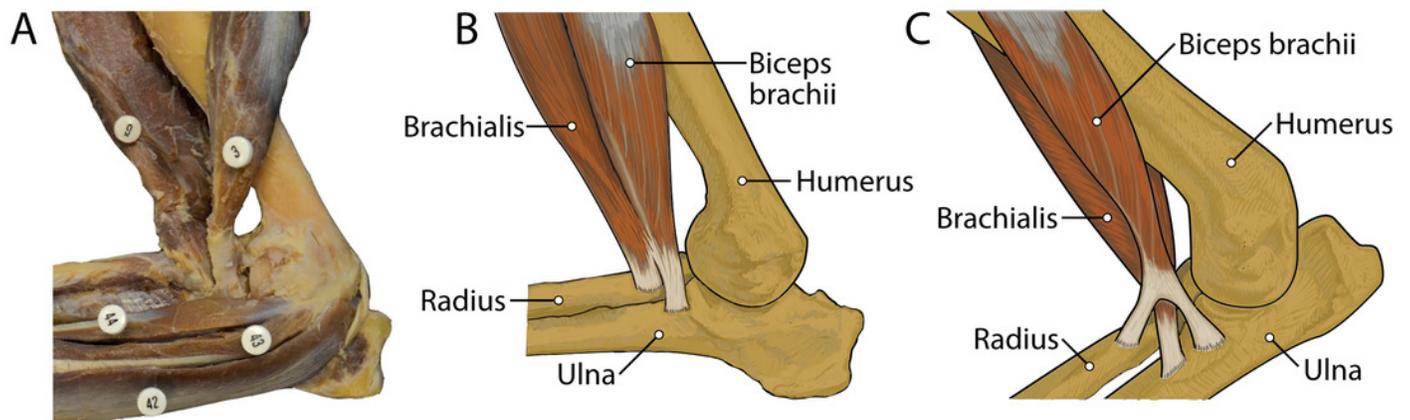


Figure 14

Comparative sizes of metacarpal I in: A) *Lycaon pictus*; B) *Lycaon sekowei*; 3) *Xenocyon ex gr. falconeri*; D) *Canis lupus*.

Left manus, dorsal view.

