

BODY PLANES

a. Median, Midsagittal – Color Red

Divides the body into left/right halves.

b. Sagittal – Color Green

Divides the body into unequal left and right parts and parallel to the median plane.

c. Frontal, Coronal – Color Blue

Divides the body into anterior and posterior parts.

d. Transverse, Cross Horizontal – Color Yellow

Divides the body into upper and lower parts.

ANATOMICAL DIRECTIONS

e. Cranial, Superior – Color Orange

These terms refer to a structure being closer to the head or higher than another structure in the body.

f. Caudal, Inferior – Color Brown

These terms refer to a structure being closer to the feet or lower than, another structure in the body

g. Anterior, Ventral – Color Gray

These terms refer to a structure being more in front than another structure in the body.

h. Posterior, Dorsal – Color Purple

These terms refer to a structure being more in back than another structure in the body.

i. Medial – Color Pink

This term refers to a structure being closer to the median plane than another structure in the body

j. Lateral – Color Dark Green

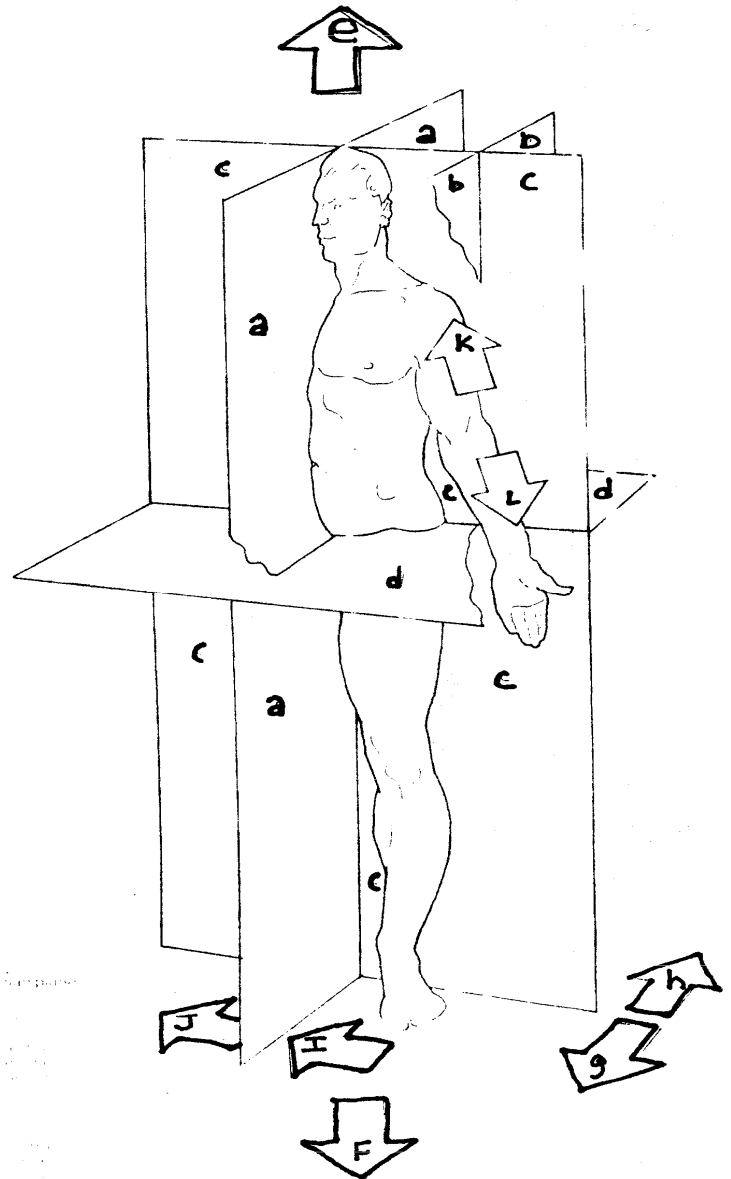
This term refers to a structure being further away from the median plane than another structure in the body

k. Proximal – Color Dark Blue

Employed only with reference to the limbs, term refers to a structure being closer to the median plane or root of the limb than another structure in the limb

l. Distal – Color Black

Employed only with reference to the limbs, term refers to a structure being further away from the median plane or the root of the limb than another structure in the limb.



Section E: Directional Terminology

1. What is the advantage for the medical community to use a “universal” language?
2. Describe the anatomical position. Why might it be confusing if we did not use this position as a reference point?
3. Identify the correct directional term.
 - a. _____ means toward the front
 - b. _____ means further away from the point of attachment of a limb
 - c. _____ means towards the head or up
 - d. _____ means closer to the body surface
 - e. _____ means towards the midline