

Exercise walk-through

3.6

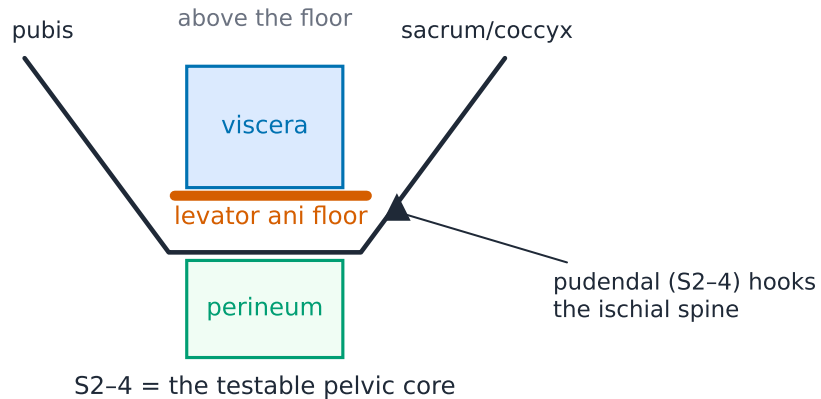
Pelvis and perineum

University Medicine

The floor and its nerve

- 1 **Floor Levator ani** + coccygeus sling pubis-to-coccyx, carrying viscera; perineum below.
- 2 **Core** S2-4: detrusor, sphincter, perineal sensation, bulbocavernosus - one cone, one bedside exam.
- 3 **Hook** Pudendal (S2-4) wraps the ischial spine: palpable, blockable, compressible in delivery.

Pelvis - the floor and its nerve



Muscle floor, viscera above, perineum below, nerve at the spine.

Exercises 2.1-2.3

2.1 Which landmark guides a pudendal block? [3]

2.2 What structures does the pelvic floor separate? [3]

2.3 Which segments form the pelvic core? [3]

Exercises 2.1-2.3

2.1 Which landmark guides a pudendal block? [3]

2.1

- Ischial spine.
-

2.2 What structures does the pelvic floor separate? [3]

2.2

- The pelvic viscera above from the perineum below.
-

2.3 Which segments form the pelvic core? [3]

2.3

- S2, S3, S4 ✓.

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 After a prolonged delivery (fictional), perineal numbness.

Name the compressed nerve and the bony landmark. Explain why the deficit is usually transient. State the test for S2–4 integrity. [7]

3.2 A third-degree tear is identified.

State what “third degree” includes (external sphincter). Explain why continence is at risk anatomically. Distinguish nerve injury from sphincter injury in management. [7]

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3.1 After a prolonged delivery (fictional), perineal numbness.

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3.1

- Pudendal nerve compressed against the ischial spines by the fetal head.
- Neurapraxia from stretch recovers; the nerve is intact.
- Test: perineal sensation, anal squeeze, bulbocavernosus reflex.

3.2 A third-degree tear is identified.

State what “third degree” includes (external sphincter). Explain why continence is at risk anatomically. Distinguish nerve injury from sphincter injury in management. [7]

3.2

- Third degree: tear through the external anal sphincter ($\pm$ rectal mucosa = fourth).
- Continence is the sphincter’s mechanical closure; a divided muscle cannot squeeze until repaired.
- Nerve injury (observe/recover) vs sphincter injury (surgical repair and protection of the wound).