



Nomina Anatomica. Anatomic Terminology and the Old French Terminology

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ABSTRACT

A surprising finding in our seminars in Latin America and Spain was that approximately half of the participants continued to use the old French anatomical nomenclature. The substance of this paper is a table in which we compare the anatomical names for the items reviewed in our seminar, in a Spanish version of the old French nomenclature and in the Spanish, Portuguese, and English versions of the currently employed anatomical terms.

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Nómina anatómica, Terminología Anatómica y la antigua terminología francesa

RESUMEN

Una sorpresa que tuvimos en los seminarios de anatomía clínica que dimos en Latinoamérica y España fue comprobar que aproximadamente la mitad de los participantes utilizaban la antigua nomenclatura anatómica Francesa. Esta mentalización obsoleta nos hace extranjeros en el cauce del progreso. La médula de este artículo es una tabla en la cual comparamos los términos utilizados en nuestro seminario en la antigua nomenclatura francesa traducida al español y en las versiones en español, inglés, portugués y latín de la terminología anatómica hoy en uso.

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By the mid-1900s scientific progress made it necessary that a set of anatomical terms be agreed on to be used consistently across the world. German anatomists initiated these efforts in 1887 and they were soon joined by British, Italian and American anatomists. French anatomists, led by Testut, refused to participate in this collective endeavor.^{1,2} The end result of this massive work was the Nomina Anatomica which was first published in 1895 and had its last edition in 1983.³ The basic tenets of the Nomina Anatomica were these: one name for each anatomical structure, the correct use of Latin in the designations, and the elimination of eponyms.⁴ The Terminologia Anatomica, sanctioned by an international body of anatomists and published in 1998, comprises 7635 anatomical terms presented in a hierarchical structure and coding scheme.

Each item has a unique alphanumeric code and is presented in both Latin and English.^{5,6} The Latin list of terms, which are similar to the Nomina Anatomica, was recommended for subsequent translations into the individual national languages. Nowadays, most authorities support this standard terminology and most anatomy textbooks use it as a guide and reference.

Perhaps, because of the vast influence that French medicine had in Latin America, tied with the slow turnover of expensive anatomy textbooks and the need to use anonymous, cheaper lecture notes that in some of the countries are handed down across student generations, the old French nomenclature remains in wide use in Latin America. Indeed, in the pre-seminar examinations that we took in 7 Latin American countries both terminologies had to be used. Also, in our seminars, had we used the Spanish translation of the Terminologia Anatomica, most participants would have considered that the anatomy we taught was new! With these concerns in mind we compiled lists of anatomical terms in the old French

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Table 1
The Old French Anatomical Nomenclature in Spanish and Terminologia Anatomica in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Latin.

Old French Nomenclature Translated into Spanish	Terminologia Anatomica Translated into English	Terminologia Anatomica Translated into Spanish	Terminologia Anatomica Translated into Portuguese	Terminologia Anatomica	Comments
<i>Bones of the upper extremity</i>					
Sesamoideos	Sesamoideos	Sesamoideos	Sesamóide	Ossa sesamoidea	
Escafoides	Scaphoid	Escafoides	Escafoíde	Os scaphoideum (os naviculare)	
Tubérculo del escafoides	Scaphid tubercle	Tubérculo escafoides	Tubérculo do escafoíde	Tuberculum ossis scaphoidei	
Trapecio	Trapezium	Trapecio	Trapézio	Os trapezoideum ^a ; os multangulum minus	
Tubérculos interno y externo del trapecio	Tubercle of trapezium	Tubérculo del trapecio	Tubérculo do trapézio	Tuberculum ossis trapezii	
Pisiforme	Pisiform	Pisiforme	Pisiforme	Os pisiforme	
Ganchudo	Hamate	Ganchoso	Hamato	Os hamatum	
Apófisis unciforme	Hamulus of hamate	Gancho ganchoso	Hâmulo do hamato	Hamulus ossis hamati.	
Apófisis estiloides del radio	Styloid process of the radius	Proceso estilodeo del radio	Processo estilóide	Processus styloideus radii	
NA	Radial dorsal tubercle	Tubérculo dorsal del radio	Tubérculo dorsal do rádio	Tuberculum dorsale	Also known as Lister's tubercle
Apófisis estiloides del cúbito	Styloid process of ulna	Proceso estilodeo del cúbito	Processo estilóide da ulna	Processus styloideus ulnae	
Tuberosidad bicipital	Radial tuberosity	Tubérculo radial	Tuberosidade do rádio	Tuberositas radii	
Cóndilo del húmero	Condyle of humerus	Cóndilo humeral	Côndilo do úmero (Capítulo + Tróclea)	Condylus humeri	
Tróclea humeral	Humeral trochlea	Tróclea humeral	Tróclea	Trochlea humeri	
Canal bicipital	Intertubercular groove	Canal bicipital	Sulcus intertubercular	Sulcus intertubercularis	
Omóplato	Scapula	Omóplato	Escápula	Scapula	
Espina del omóplato	Spine of the scapula	Espina de la escápula	Espinha da escápula	Spina scapulae	
Acromion	Acromion	Acromion	Acrômio	Acromion	
<i>Bones, lower extremity</i>					
Trocánter mayor	Greater trochanter	Trocánter mayor	Trocanter maior	Trochanter major	
Cóndilo interno	Medial condyle	Cóndilo interno	Côndilo femoral medial	Condylus medialis	
Cóndilo externo	Lateral condyle	Cóndilo externo	Côndilo femoral lateral	Condylus lateralis	
Tubérculo de Gerdy para el tibial anterior	Anterolateral tibial tubercle	Tubérculo lateral de la tibia	Tubérculo lateral intercondiliano	Tuberculum intercondylare laterale	
Cabeza del peroné	Head of fibula	Cabeza del peroné	Cabeça da fíbula	Caput fibulae	
Astrágalo	Talus	Astrágalo	Tálus	Talus	
Calcáneo	Calcaneus	Calcáneo	Calcâneo	Calcaneus	
Escafoides	Navicular	Escafoides	Navicular	Os naviculare	
Cuboides	Cuboid	Cuboides	Cubóide	Os cuboideum	
Cuñas	Cuneiform	Cuneiformes	Cuneiforme	Os cuneiforme	
Tuberosidad interna de la cara inferior del calcáneo	Medial process of calcaneus	Proceso medial de la tuberosidad calcánea	Processo medial do calcâneo	Processus medialis tuberis calcanei	
Apófisis menor del calcáneo	Sustentaculum tali	Sustentaculum tali	Sustentáculo do tálus	Sustentaculum tali	
<i>Joints, upper extremity</i>					
Metacarpofalángica	Metacarpophalangeal	Metacarpofalángica	Metacarpofalangianas	Metacarpophalangeae	
Acromioclavicular	Acromioclavicular	Acromioclavicular	Acromioclavicular	Acromioclavicularis	
Escapulotorácica	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	Scapulothoracic
Escapulohumeral	Glenohumeral	Glenohumeral	Glenoumeral	Glenohumeralis	
Esternocostoclavicular	Sternoclavicular	Esternoclavicular	Esternoclavicular	Sternoclavicularis	
<i>Joints, lower extremity</i>					
Coxofemoral	Hip	Coxofemoral	Coxofemoral	Coxofemoralis	
Tibiofemoral	Femorotibial	Femorotibial	Femorotibial	Genus	
Patelofemoral	NA ^b	NA ^b	Patelofemoral	NA ^b	Femoropatellar
Tibioperonea	Tibiofibular	Tibioperonea	Tibiofibular	Tibiofibularis	
Tibiotarsiana	Ankle	Tibioastragalina	Tibiotársica	Talocruralis	
Astragalocalcánea	Subtalar ^a ; talocalcaneal	Subastragalina	Talocalcânea Articulação subtalar ^a	Subtalaris ^a ; talocalcanea	

Mediotarsiana	Transverse tarsal ^a ; talocalcaneonavicular plus calcaneocuboid	Mediotarsiana	Calcaneacubóidea mais talocalcaneocubóidea	Tarsi transversa ^a ; talocalcaneonavicularis ^a ; calcaneocuboidea	
Metatarsofalángica	Metatarsophalangeal	Metatarsofalángica	Metatarsofalangianas	Metatarsophalangeales	
<i>Ligaments, upper extremity</i>					
Laterales (interno y externo) de las metacarpofalángicas	collaterals of the metacarpophalangeal joints	Colaterales de las metacarpofalángicas	Colaterais metacarpofalangianas	Metacarpophalangea ligg collateralia	
Transverso profundo del metacarpo	Deep transverse metacarpal	Transverso metacarpiano profundo.	Metacarpal transverso profundo	Metacarpale transversum profundum	
Anular anterior del carpo	Flexor retinaculum	Transverso del carpo o retináculo flexor	Retináculo dos flexores ^a Ligamento transverso do carpo	Retinaculum musculorum flexorum	
NA	NA ^b	NA ^b	Carpal palmar	NA ^b	Palmar carpal ligament
Anular posterior del carpo	Extensor retinaculum	Retináculo extensor	Retináculo dos extensores	Retinaculum extensorum	
Expansión aponeurótica del bíceps	Bicipital aponeurosis	Aponeurosis bicipital ^a ; lacertus fibrosus	Aponeurose do músculo bíceps braquial	Aponeurosis m. bicipitis brachii	
Coracohumeral	Coracohumeral	Coracohumeral	Coracoumeral	Coracohumerale	
Glenohumeral (superior de Morris; supraglenosuprahumeral de Farabeuf, medio de Morris; supraglenoprehumeral de Farabeuf e inferior de Morris; preglenoinfrahumeral de Farabeuf)	Glenohumeral ^b	Glenohumerales ^b	Glenoumeral (superior, médio e inferior)	Glenohumeralia ^b	Superior, middle and inferior
Acromioclavicular	Coracoacromial	Coracoacromial	Coracoacromial	Coracoacromiale	
<i>Ligaments, lower extremity</i>					
Iliofemoral ^a ; en Y de Bigelow ^a ; de Bertin	Iliofemoral	Iliofemoral	Iliofemoral	Iliofemorale	
Isquiofemoral	Ischiofemoral	Isquiofemoral	Isquiofemoral	Ischiofemorale	
Pubiofemoral	Pubofemoral	Pubofemoral	Pubofemoral	Pubofemorale	
Poplíteo arqueado	Arcuate popliteal	Poplíteo arqueado	Poplíteo arqueado	Popliteum arcuatum	
Lateral externo	Fibular colateral	Colateral lateral de la rodilla	Colateral fibular	Collaterale fibulare	
Lateral interno	Tibial colateral	Colateral medial	Colateral tibial	Collaterale tibialis	
Cruzado anterior y posterior	Cruciate of knee	Cruzados de la rodilla	Cruzado (anterior e posterior)	Cruciata genus	
Lateral interno con haz superficial (ligamento deltoideo) y haz profundo	Medial or deltoid; (tibionavicular, anterior tibiotalar, posterior tibiotalar, tibioalcaneal)	Medial o deltoideo del tobillo (tibioescafoideo, tibioastragalino anterior, tibioastragalino posterior, tibioalcáneo)	Deltóideo (tibiotalar posterior e anterior, lig. talonavicular, tibioalcáneo e tibioalcáneo)	Mediale; deltoideum (tibionavicularis, tibiotalaris anterior, tibiotalaris posterior, tibioalcaneal)	
Calcaneoescafoideo inferior	Plantar calcaneonavicular ^a ; spring	Calcáneo-navicular plantar	Calcaneonavicular plantar	Calcaneonavicularare plantare	
Lateral externo, anterior, medio y posterior	Anterior talofibular, posterior talofibular, calcaneofibular	Colaterales laterales del tobillo (astrágaloperoneo anterior, astrágaloperoneo posterior y calcaneoperoneo)	Talofibular anterior. Talofibular posterior. Calcaneofibular	Talofibulare anterior, Talofibulare posterior, Calcaneofibulare	
Laterales de las metatarsofalángicas	Collateral of the metatarsophalangeal joints	Colaterales de las metatarsofalángicas	Colateral metatarsofalangianas	Metatarsophalangea ligg collateralia	
Ligamento transverso del metatarso	Deep transverse metatarsal	Lig. transverso profundo del metatarso	Metatarsal transverso profundo	Metatarsale transversum profundum	
<i>Muscles, upper extremity</i>					
Interóseos dorsales	Dorsal interossei	Interóseos dorsales	Interósseos dorsais	Interossei dorsales	
Interóseos palmares	Palmar interossei	Interóseos palmares	Interósseos palmares	Interossei palmares	
Lumbricales de la mano	Lumbricales	Lumbricales	Lumbricais	Lumbricales	
Palmar cutáneo	Palmaris brevis	Palmar breve	Palmar curto	Palmaris brevis	
Flexor común superficial de los dedos	Superficial digital flexor	Flexor común superficial de los dedos	Flexor superficial dos dedos	Flexor digitorum superficialis	

Table 1 (Continued)

Old French Nomenclature Translated into Spanish	Terminología Anatómica Translated into English	Terminología Anatómica Translated into Spanish	Terminología Anatómica Translated into Portuguese	Terminología Anatómica	Comments
Flexor común profundo de los dedos	Deep digital flexor	Flexor común profundo de los dedos	Flexor profundo dos dedos	Flexor digitorum profundus	
Extensor común de los dedos	Extensor digitorum	Extensor digital común	Extensor dos dedos	Extensor digitorum	
Extensor largo del pulgar	Extensor pollicis longus	Extensor largo del pulgar	Extensor longo do polegar	Extensor pollicis longus	
Extensor corto del pulgar	Extensor pollicis brevis	Extensor corto del pulgar	Extensor curto do polegar	Extensor pollicis brevis	
Abductor largo del pulgar	Abductor pollicis longus	Abductor largo del pulgar	Abductor longo do polegar	Abductor pollicis longus	
Abductor corto del pulgar	Abductor pollicis brevis	Abductor breve del pulgar	Abductor curto do polegar	Abductor pollicis brevis	
Palmar mayor	Flexor carpi radialis	Flexor radial del carpo	Flexor radial do carpo	Flexor carpi radialis	
Palmar largo; palmar menor	Palmaris longus	Palmar largo	Palmar longo	Palmaris longus	
Primer radial externo	Extensor carpi radialis longus	Extensor radial largo del carpo	Extensor radial longo do carpo	Extensor carpi radialis longus	
Segundo radial externo	Extensor carpi radialis brevis	Extensor radial breve del carpo	Extensor radial curto do carpo	Extensor carpi radialis brevis	
Supinador largo	Brachioradialis	Braquioradial	Braquioradial	Brachioradialis	
Anconeus	Anconeus	Ancóneo	Ancóneo	Anconeus	
Bíceps braquial	Biceps brachii	Bíceps braquial	Bíceps braquial	Biceps brachii	
Braquial anterior	Brachialis	Braquial	Braquial	Brachialis	
Tríceps braquial	Triceps brachii	Tríceps braquial	Tríceps braquial	Triceps brachii	
Deltoides	Deltoid	Deltoides	Deltóide	Deltoideus	
Supraespinoso	Supraspinatus	Supraespinoso	Supraespinhal	Supraspinatus	
Infraespinoso	Infraspinatus	Infraespinoso	Infraespinhal	Infraspinatus	
Subescapular	Subscapularis	Subescapular	Subescapular	Subscapularis	
Redondo menor	Teres minor	Redondo menor	Redondo menor	Teres minor	
Manguito de los rotadores	NA ^b	NA ^b	Manguito rotador	NA ^b	Rotator cuff is in common use in all languages
Redondo mayor	Teres major	Redondo mayor	Redondo maior	Teres major	
<i>Muscles, lower extremity</i>					
Tensor de la fascia lata	Tensor of fascia lata	Tensor de la fascia lata	Tensor da fásia lata	Tensor fasciae latae	
Glúteo mayor	Gluteus maximus	Glúteo máximo	Glúteo máximo	Gluteus maximus	
Glúteo mediano	Gluteus medius	Glúteo medio	Glúteo medio	Gluteus medius	
Glúteo menor	Gluteus minimus	Glúteo mínimo	Glúteo mínimo	Gluteus minimus	
Piramidal	Piriformis	Piriforme	Piriforme	Piriformis	
Cuadriceps crural	Quadriceps femoris	Cuádriceps femoral	Quádriceps femoral	Quadriceps femoris	
NA ^b	Articular of the knee	Articular de la rodilla	Articular do joelho	Articularis genus	
Bíceps crural	Biceps femoris	Bíceps femoral	Bíceps femoral	Biceps femoris	
Sartorio; costurero	Sartorius	Sartorio	Sartório	Sartorius	
Recto interno	Gracilis	Grácil	Grácil	Gracilis	
Semitendinoso	Semitendinosus	Semitendinoso	Semitendinoso	Semitendinosus	
Semimembranoso	Semimembranosus	Semimembranoso	Semimembranoso	Semimembranosus	
Poplíteo	Popliteus	Poplíteo	Poplíteo	Popliteus	
Gemelos interno y externo	Gastrocnemius	Gastrocnemios	Gastrocnêmio	Gastrocnemius	
Plantar delgado	Plantaris	Plantar	Plantar	Plantaris	
Soleo	Soleus	Soleo	Sóleo	Soleus	
Peroneo anterior	Peroneus tertius	Peroneo tercero	Fibular terceiro	Peroneus tertius	
Peroneo lateral corto	Fibularis brevis ^a ; peroneus brevis	Peroneo breve	Fibular curto	Fibularis brevis ^a ; peroneus brevis	
Peroneo lateral largo	Fibularis longus ^a ; peroneus longus	Peroneo largo	Fibular longo	Fibularis longus ^a ; peroneus longus	
Tibial posterior	Tibialis posterior	Tibial posterior	Tibial posterior	Tibialis posterior	
Flexor largo común de los dedos	Flexor digitorum longus pedis	Flexor largo de los dedos	Flexor longo dos dedos	Flexor digitorum longus pedis	
Flexor largo del dedo grueso	Flexor hallucis longus	Flexor largo del dedo gordo	Flexor longo do hálux	Flexor hallucis longus	
Accesorio del flexor largo ^a , cuadrado carnososo de Sylvius	Quadratus plantae; flexor accessorius	Cuadrado plantar	Quadrado plantar	Quadratus plantae; flexor accessorius	
Flexor corto del quinto dedo	Flexor digiti minimi brevis	Flexor propio del quinto dedo	Flexor curto do dedo Mínimo	Flexor digiti minimi brevis	

Flexor corto de los dedos del pie	Flexor digitorum brevis pedis	Flexor breve de los dedos del pie	Flexor curto dos Dedos	Flexor digitorum brevis pedis	
Tibial anterior Extensor propio del dedo grueso	Tibialis anterior Extensor hallucis longus	Tibial anterior Extensor largo del dedo gordo	Tibial anterior Extensor longo do Hálux	Tibialis anterior Extensor hallucis longus	
Extensor común de los dedos	Extensor digitorum longus	Extensor común de los dedos	Extensor longo dos Dedos	Extensor digitorum longus	
Abductor del dedo grueso Abductor del dedo pequeño	Abductor hallucis Abductor digiti minimi ^a ; abductor of fifth metatarsal	Abductor del dedo gordo Abductor del quinto dedo	Abductor do hálux Abductor do dedo Mínimo	Abductor hallucis Abductor digiti minimi ^a ; abductor metatarsi quinti	
Interóseos dorsales Interóseos plantares Lumbricales	Dorsal interossei Plantar interossei Lumbricales	Interóseos dorsales Interóseos plantares Lumbricales	Interósseos dorsais Interósseos plantares Lumbricais	Interossei dorsalis pedis Interossei plantaris pedis Lumbricalis pedis	
<i>Bursae, upper extremity</i>					
Sinovial digitocarpiana interna	Common flexor sheath ^a ; carpal tendinous sheath	Cubital	Bainha dos flexores Comuns	Vagina communis tendinum musculorum flexorum	
Del olécrano Subacromial Subdeltoidea	Subcutaneous olecranon Subacromial Subdeltoide	Olecraniana Subacromial Subdeltoidea	Olecraniana Subacromial Subdeltoidea	Subcutanea olecrani Subacromialis Subdeltoidea	
<i>Bursae, lower extremity</i>					
Iliopsoas Trocantérea NA	Iliopectineal Subcutaneous trochanteric Trochanteric of gluteus maximus	Iliopéctinea Trocantérica subcutánea Del glúteo máximo	Iliopéctinea Trocantérica Trocantérica do glúteo Máximo	Iliopectineal Subcutanea trochanterica Trochantericae m. glutei maximi	
NA	Trochanteric of gluteus medius	Del glúteo medio	Trocantérica do glúteo Médio	Trochantericae m. glutei medii	
NA	Trochanteric of gluteus minimus	Del glúteo mínimo	Trocantérica do glúteo Mínimo	Trochantericae m. glutei minimi	
Gemelo-semimembranosa	Gastrocnemius medialis, semimembranous	Del gastrocnemio medial, del semimembranoso	Gastrocnêmico-semimembranosa	Subtendinea m. gastrocnemii medialis, m. semimembranosi	Terminologia Anatomica mentions two independent bursae; clinical experience indicates a single bursa: gastrocnemius-semimembranosus
Pretibial profunda Prepatelar Anserina Intermetatarsianas NA	Deep infrapatellar Prepatellar Anserine NA ^b NA ^b	Infrapatelar profunda Prepatelar Anserina NA ^b NA ^b	Infrapatelar profunda Prepatelar Anserina NA ^b NA ^b	Infrapatellaris profunda Subfascialis prepatellaris Anserina NA ^b NA ^b	Intermetatarsal Subcutaneous calcaneal (retroachilleal) Retrocalcaneal
NA	NA ^b	NA ^b	Bursa do calcâneo	NA ^b	
<i>Arteries, upper extremity</i>					
Radial Cubital	Radial Ulnar	Radial Ulnar	Radial Ulnar	Radialis Ulnaris	
<i>Arteries, lower extremity</i>					
Tibial posterior Pedia	Posterior tibial Dorsal foot	Tibial posterior Pedia	Tibial posterior Pediosa	Tibialis posterior Dorsalis pedis	
<i>Nerves, upper extremity</i>					
Ramos colaterales de los dedos Ramos colaterales de los dedos Mediano Interóseo del mediano Radial Rama anterior superficial	Proper palmar digital Dorsal digital Mediano Anterior interosseous Radial Superficial branch of the radial	Digitales palmares Digitales dorsales Mediano Interóseo anterior Radial Rama superficial del radial	Digitais palmares comuns Digitais dorsais Mediano Inteósseo anterior Radial Ramo superficial do n. radial	Digitales palmares proprii Digitales dorsales Medianus Interosseus anterior Radialis Ramus superficialis n. radialis	

Table 1 (Continued)

Old French Nomenclature Translated into Spanish	Terminologia Anatomica Translated into English	Terminologia Anatomica Translated into Spanish	Terminologia Anatomica Translated into Portuguese	Terminologia Anatomica	Comments
Rama posterior profunda	Deep branch of the radial ^a ; posterior interosseous branch	Rama profunda del radial ^a ; interóseo posterior	Ramo profundo do n. Radial	Ramus profundus n. radialis	
Cubital	Ulnar	Ulnar	Ulnar	Ulnaris	
Circunflejo	Axillary	Axilar ^a ; circunflejo	Axilar	Axillaris	
Supraescapular	Suprascapular	Supraescapular	Supraescapular	Suprascapularis	
<i>Nerves, lower extremity</i>					
Abdominogenital menor	Ilioinguinal	Ilioinguinal	Ilioinguinal	Ilioinguinalis	
Abdominogenital mayor	Iliohypogastric ^a ; iliopubic	Iliohipogástrico	Ilio-hipogástrico	Iliohypogastricus ^a ; iliopubicus	
Genitocrural	Genitofemoral	Genitofemoral	Genitofemoral	Genitofemoralis	
Ciático poplíteo interno	Tibial	Tibial	Tibial	Tibialis	
Ciático mayor; rama terminal del plexo sacro	Sciatic	Ciático	Isquiático ^a	Sciaticus	
Ciático poplíteo externo	Common peroneal	Peroneo común	Fibular comum	Fibularis communis.	
Safeno externo; safeno tibial	Sural	Sural	Sural	Suralis	
Plantar interno	Medial plantar	Plantar medial	Plantar medial	Plantaris medialis	
Plantar externo	Lateral plantar	Plantar lateral	Plantar lateral	Plantaris lateralis	
<i>Miscellaneous</i>					
Envoltura serosa de los flexores de los dedos	Fibrous synovial tunnel for the digital flexor tendons	Vaina común de los flexores	Bainha fibrosa dos dedos da mão	Vaginae fibrosae digitorum manus	
Vaina sinovial digitocarpiana	Synovial sheaths of digits	Vaina sinovial digital	Bainha sinovial dos dedos da mão	Vaginae synoviales digitorum manus	
Bandeleta fibrosa triangular	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA	NA ^b	Dorsal expansión
NA	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA	NA ^b	Sagittal bands
Tabaquera anatómica	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	Anatomical snuffbox
Arco supinador	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	Frohse's arcade
Rodete fibrocartilaginoso	Glenoid labrum	Labrum glenoideo	Labrum (lábio)	Labrum glenoidale	
Rodete cotiloideo	Acetabular labrum	Labrum acetabular	Glenóide	Labrum acetabulare	
Fascia lata	Iliotibial tract	Banda iliotibial	Fáscia lata	Tractus iliotibialis	
Paquete adiposo anterior	Infrapatellar fat pad	Cojinete graso infrapatelar	Coxim gorduroso ninfapatelar (Gordura de Hoffa)	Corpus adiposum infrapatellare	Hoffa's fat pad
Pes anserina	Pes anserinus	Pata de ganso	Pata de ganso	Pes anserinus	
Masa adiposa pretendinosa	NA ^b	NA ^b	Pé anserino	NA ^b	Kager's fat pad
Seno del tarso ^a ; hueso calcaneostragalino	Tarsal sinus	Seno del tarso	Seio do tarso	Sinus tarsi	
Aponeurosis plantar	Plantar aponeurosis	Aponeurosis plantar	Aponeurose plantar	Aponeurosis plantaris	
NA	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	Enthesis
NA	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	Entheseal organ

NA: these terms do not appear.

^a More than one name is indicated by an asterisk. The most commonly used name is the one appearing first in the old French nomenclature or the Terminologia Anatomica.

^b These terms are in common use in English, Spanish and other Languages.

Table 2
Usual Anatomical Designations in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

English	Spanish	Portuguese
Hand	Mano	Mão
Finger	Dedo	Dedo
Thumb	Pulgar	Polegar
Wrist	Muñeca	Punho
Elbow	Codo	Cotovelo
Shoulder	Hombro	Ombro
Head	Cabeza	Cabeça
Neck	Cuello	Pescoço
Spine	Columna	Coluna
Thorax	Torax	Tórax
Abdomen	Abdomen	Abdômen
Hip	Cadera	Quadril
Knee	Rodilla	Joelho
Ankle	Tobillo	Tornozelo
Foot	Pie	Pé
Big toe	Dedo gordo	Halúx

terminology translated into Spanish, and Terminologia Anatomica translated into English, Spanish and Portuguese and in its original Latin version (Table 1). This listing is of course incomplete as it only includes the names of the structures that are discussed in the seminar. We fully agree with the suggestion of Professor Maria-Cristina Manzanares-Céspedes that a complete on-line listing of the Terminologia Anatomica should be made available to all interested parties.⁷ We further suggest that such listing should be free of charge, perhaps through the support of an international foundation or the World Health Organization. Meanwhile, partial listings such as ours, targeted to specific audiences, should be of help. Additionally, in Table 2 the usual names for anatomical regions are listed in Spanish, English and Portuguese.

Needless to say, at the level of practicing rheumatologists and trainees there is a language gap in Latin America that should be addressed. The responsibility falls, first of all in the departments of anatomy. Anatomy teachers should move fast and strong – as we know they are doing – into steering anatomical terminology into the right tract. Nowadays, Latin American medical graduates may experience difficulties in reading international orthopedic, hand surgery, physiatry, neurology and rheumatology journals simply because they see names they have never seen before. It is incumbent on us, teachers of rheumatology, to see that this appalling gap is corrected, i.e. by looking at the old French terminology list in Table 1, learning the correct terms where there are differences, and teaching them right.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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