

Patella

The **patella** is the largest sesame bone in the human body. It lies in the tendon of m. quadriceps femoris.

Description:

- **facies anterior** (anterior surface of the patella) is covered by the tendon of m. quadriceps femoris,
- **facies articularis** (posterior, articular surface) adjacent to the facies patellaris of the femur and is coated there with thick cartilage,
- **the basis patellae** is the proximal wider margin of the bone,
- **The apex patellae** represents a distal pointed section.

The front surface of the patella is palpable, except for the apex.

Ossification of the **patella** Between the ages of 3 and 5, it begins to ossify from the center of several nuclei, which eventually merge. Later, marginal nuclei appear, merging with the central one.

In case of imperfect ossification of the patella, it may be divided into two separate bones – **patella bipartite**.



Facies posterior patellae



Facies anterior patellae



Patella in situ



Patella in situ

Links

Related Articles

- Articulatio genus
- Fractures of the patella
- Patella luxation

Bibliography

- ČIHÁK, Radomír – GRIM, Miloš. *Anatomie*. 2., uprav. a dopl. edition. Praha : Grada Publishing, 2001. 497 pp. vol. 1. ISBN 80-7169-970-5.