

## Anatomy Tip

# Trigeminal Nerve (CN 5)

**In an effort to aid Health Information Management Coding Professionals for ICD-10, the following anatomy tip is provided with an educational intent.**

**TIP: The Trigeminal Nerve is the largest of the cranial nerves, providing sensory information to the head and face, with motor nerves supporting the muscles of mastication.**

**The Trigeminal nerve has three major branches:**

- 1. The Ophthalmic Nerve (V1)**
- 2. The Maxillary Nerve (V2)**
- 3. The Mandibular Nerve (V2)**

The **Ophthalmic nerve** carries only sensory fibers. Branches include *nasociliary* nerve and its branches; posterior ethmoidal nerve, long ciliary nerve, infratrochlear nerve, anterior ethmoidal nerve, the *lacrimal* nerve, the *frontal* nerve and its branches; supratrochlear nerve, supraorbital nerve.

The **Maxillary nerve** carries sensory fibers. Branches include *middle meningeal* nerve, *Infraorbital* nerve, *zygomatic* nerve, *nasopalantine* nerves, *superior alveolar* nerves, *palatine* nerves, *pharyngeal* nerve, *inferior palpebral* nerve, *superior labial* nerve.

The **Mandibular nerve** has motor and sensory functions. Branches include *nervous spinosus*, *medial pterygoid* nerve (to tensor tympani and tensor veli palatini), *masseteric* nerve, *deep temporal* nerves, *buccal* nerve, *lateral pterygoid* nerve, *auriculotemporal* nerve, *lingual* nerve, inferior alveolar nerve, motor branch to mylohyoid and digastric muscles.

*References: Gray's Anatomy of the Human Body*

This Anatomy and Physiology tip sheet was developed by the CHIA Coding and Data Quality Committee as an educational resource 2012.  
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