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Murlimanju BV

*Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore*, murali.manju@manipal.edu

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# **Morphological variants of the human spleen, a cadaveric study**

B.V. Murlimanju, Vasudha V. Saralaya, Latha V. Prabhu, Mangala M. Pai

## **Abstract**

**Background:** The aim of the present study was to study the anatomical variations of spleen in South Indian population.

**Subjects and Methods:** This study included 126 adult human embalmed spleens, which were available at the department of anatomy. The cadaveric spleens were macroscopically observed for the various shapes, notches and the fissures. The length, breadth and thickness of the spleen was also determined.

**Results:** It was observed that, 99 spleens (78.6%) revealed notches either in the superior or inferior border. The notches were absent in 27 (21.4%) spleen specimens. The notches were rarely observed in the inferior border and found only in 16 (12.7%) cases. The fissures on the diaphragmatic surface were observed in 18 spleens (14.3%). The length, breadth and thickness of the spleens ranged from 9 to 27 cms, 6.1 to 15.7 cms and 1.3 to 6.1 cms respectively.

**Conclusion:** This study has provided information about the dimensions of spleen and anatomical variations, which are enlightening to the operating surgeon. The knowledge is important during the procedures like laparotomy, laparoscopy and robotic platforms. The details are essential to the radiologists during their diagnostic procedures and it will prevent the misinterpretation.

**Key Words:** fissure, morphology, notch, variant