



## Guido Guidi's Short Biography And His Eponyms (The Vidian Artery, Nerve and Canal)

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Guido Guidi (Vidianus) was Professor of Medicine at College of France and physician to Francis I. In 1548 he returned to Italy and appointed Professor of Philosophy and Medicine at the University of Pisa where remained for 20 years. Today he is remembered in part by having given his name to the pterygoid canal or Vidian Canal and the artery and nerve of the pterygoid canal-the Vidian Artery and the Vidian Nerve.

**Key Words:** Guido Guidi, Eponyms (The Vidian Artery, Nerve and Canal)

### Guido Guidi'nin Kısa Biyografisi ve eponimleri (Vidian Arter, Sinir ve Kanal)

Guido Guidi (Vidianus) Fransa'da tıp kolejinde Profesör ve Fransa Kralı Francis I'in hekimi olarak görev yaptı. 1548 yılında İtalya'ya döndüğünde Profesör olarak tayin edildiği Pisa Üniversitesinde Felsefe ve Tıp bölümlerine 20 yıl süreyle hizmet verdi. Bugün, kendisinin isimlendirdiği pterygoid kanal ya da Vidian kanalı ve pterygoid kanal içinde yer alan arter ve sinir (Vidian Arter, Vidian Sinir) ile hatırlanmaktadır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Guido Guidi, Eponimler (Vidian Arter, Sinir ve Kanal)

Guido Guidi [*Guiliano Guido - L. Videus or Vidianus or Vidius Vidus*] (Floransa, Italy 1500/1509 - Pisa 1567/1569) Giuliano Guido was a physician from a family of physicians. (Picture 1)

Videus was Professor of Medicine at the College of France and physician to Francis I. He carried out important anatomical investigations at Pisa after 1548, recorded in a manuscript, *Anatomia*, which was composed around 1560. His name is attached to the *canalis vidianus* of the sphenoid bone and to the nerve that traverses this canal. He also made original studies of the mechanism of articulation in the human body resulting from its vertical position in relation to the mechanism of quadruped articulations.

Guidi was the author of a book on surgery that he translated from the Greek (of Hippocrates, Galen, and Oribasius- from a manuscript that Cardinal Ridolfi furnished to him) and to which he added a commentary of his own.

Guidi's *Ars medicalis*, in three volumes, was essentially complete at the time of Guidi's death; it was published finally in 1596.

He also made original studies of the mechanism of articulation in the human body resulting from its vertical position in relation to the mechanism of quadruped articulations. It also appears that Guidi elaborated and improved upon various devices in Hippocrates for setting fractures and reducing dislocations. After becoming a doctor of medicine, he practiced in Rome and Florence. In 1542 he went to Paris, where he was named royal physician and became the first professor of medicine at the College Royal. In his *Chirurgia* of 1544 Guidi presents himself above all as a humanist anxious for the faithful restoration of classical knowledge. On the other hand, the *Anatomia* is the work of a scientist fully conscious of the Vesalian revolution and seeking his inspiration from nature. Unfortunately, this treatise was printed, under the title *De anatome corporis humani*, in a posthumous edition with hideous illustrations and maladroit additions by Guido Guidi, Jr., Guidi's nephew. This explains the negative judgments of several historians of medicine and their claims that Guidi plagiarized Vesalius and Falloppio. In his writing on practical medicine Guidi remained within classical Galenism. Nevertheless, this conservatism did not prevent him

from describing a new childhood disease (chicken pox) or from inventing an original method for tracheotomy

Picture 1. Guido Guidi



He left Paris in 1647 upon the death of Francis I and became professor of philosophy and medicine at the University of Pisa in 1548 and physician to Cosimo I de' Medici. He became a priest and was given ecclesiastical benefices, including the rectorship of Pescia.

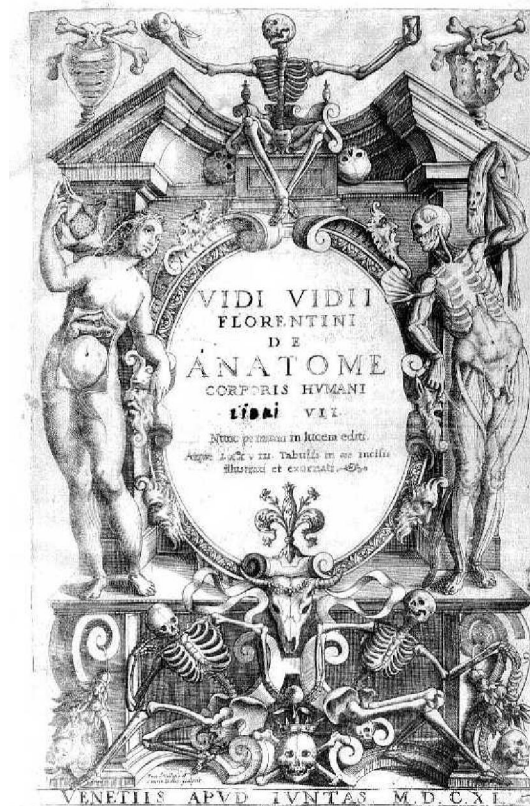
Guidi, discovered the Vidian nerve, the Vidian canal, and the Vidian artery. The above was edited by his nephew.

Another important description of an anatomical theater appeared in Vidus Vidius's treatise on anatomy, which was published posthumously in 1611 (Picture 2). Its instructions provide important details on construction, and the book recognized the need for adequate lighting.

He is remembered in part by having given his name to the pterygoid canal, or Vidian Canal, which traverses the greater wing of the sphenoid, and the artery and nerve of the pterygoid canal- the Vidian Artery and Vidian Nerve. The Vidian Artery is small branch of the intrapetrous internal carotid artery. The Vidian Artery has peripheral anastomoses with the external carotid artery via branches of the internal maxillary artery. He also made original studies of the

mechanism of articulation in the human body resulting from its vertical position in relation to the mechanism of quadruped articulations.

Picture 2. De anatomic corporis humani libri VII- 1611



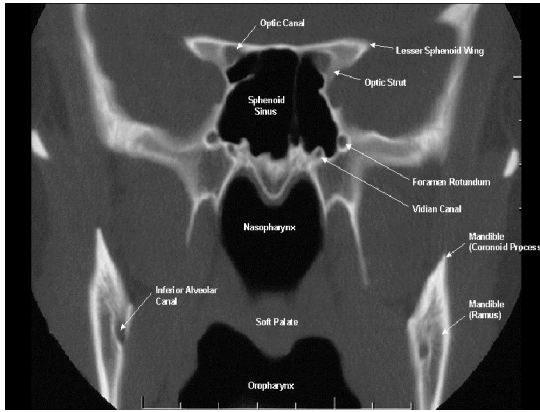
## THE VIDIAN CANAL

A horizontally running canal that passes forward through the base of the medial pterygoid plate of the sphenoid bone to open into the posterior wall of the pterygopalatine fossa just medial and inferior to the foramen rotundum; it transmits the pterygoid vessels and nerves. Called also *canal of Guidi*, *recurrent canal* and *vidian canal*.

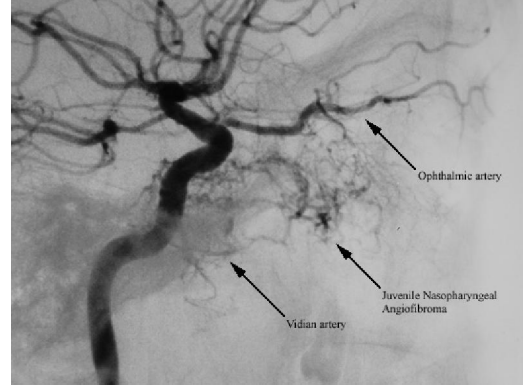
The *Vidian Canal* (Pterygoid canal) traverses the greater wing of the sphenoid bone. It transmits the Vidian (pterygoid) Nerve and Artery and runs anteriorly from the anterior border of the foramen lacerum, to end in the pterygopalatine fossa. The Vidian Nerve (nerve of the pterygoid [Vidian]) canal transmits parasymphathetic fibers of the greater petrosal nerve, itself a branch of the facial nerve (VII), to the pterygopalatine ganglion. Sympathetic

fibers from the internal carotid artery sympathetic neural plexus, initially transmitted within the deep petrosal nerve, and the Vidian Artery (artery of the pterygoid canal), a branch of the distal internal carotid artery, also traverses the Vidian Canal. The parasympathetic fibers will subsequently join the palatine, nasopalatine and pharyngeal nerves, themselves branches of the maxillary nerve (V-2), as secretomotor fibers of the mucosa of the nasal passageways, palate, pharynx and the lacrimal gland. The sympathetic fiber supply the same mucosal areas as well as the lacrimal gland. <sup>2,3</sup> (Picture 3, 4)

**Picture 3.** CT image showing the Vidian Canal



**Picture 4.** Lateral internal carotid angiogram demonstrating a juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma. The vidian artery is seen to originate from the petrous internal carotid and supply the mass. ([http://bubbasoft.org/carotid\\_collaterals/Maxillary\\_ICA.htm](http://bubbasoft.org/carotid_collaterals/Maxillary_ICA.htm))



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