## Frames of Reference



## Directional Terms in Human Anatomy:

Anterior Towards the front
Ventral Towards the front
Posterior Towards the back
Dorsal Towards the back
Deep
Superficial
Away from the surface
the surface
Proximal Near the point of attachment or origin
Distal
Inferior Far from the point of attachment or origin
Below another structure
Superior Above another structure
Medial Towards the midline
Lateral Away from the midline
Supine Lying on back
Prone Lying on belly
Contralateral On the opposite side of the body Ipsilateral On the same side of the body Rostral Towards the forehead or nose
Caudal Towards the tail or inferior end
Cephalic Towards the head or superior end

## Abdomen Quadrants:

Right Upper
Right Lower
Left Upper Left Lower


## Regional Terms:

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cephalic = head
mammary = breast
nasal = nose
orbital = eye
oral = mouth
cervical \(=\) neck
acromial = shoulder
sterna = breast bone
axillary = armpit
vertebral = spinal
occipital = base of skull
perineal = between anus \& genitalia
femoral = thigh
thoracic \(=\) chest
costal = rib
brachial = arm
```



Divisions of Spinal Column:
Cervical Neck region C1-C8
Thoracic Chest region T1-T12
Lumbar Between ribs \& hipbone L1-L5
Sacral S1-S5 fused to form sacrum
Coccygeal Coccyx (tailbone)

