

MCA

- **Horizontal (M1) segment**

- Extends from terminal ICA bifurcation to sylvian fissure
- Lies lateral to optic chiasm, behind olfactory trigone
- Courses laterally under anterior perforated substance
- Usually bi- or trifurcates just before sylvian fissure
- Post bifurcation trunks enter sylvian fissure then turn upwards in gentle curve (MCA "genu")

- **Insular (M2) segments**

- 6-8 "stem" arteries arise from post bifurcation trunks, course superiorly within sylvian fissure, ramify over surface of insula
- M2 segments end at top of sylvian fissure

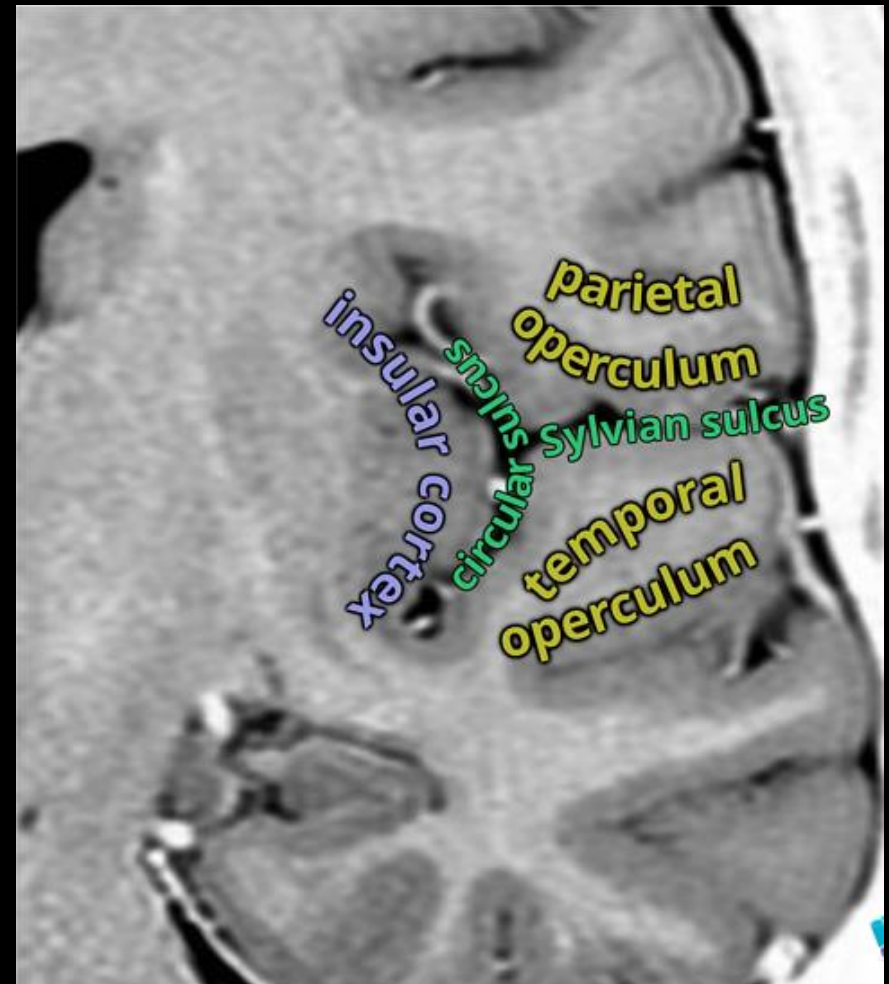
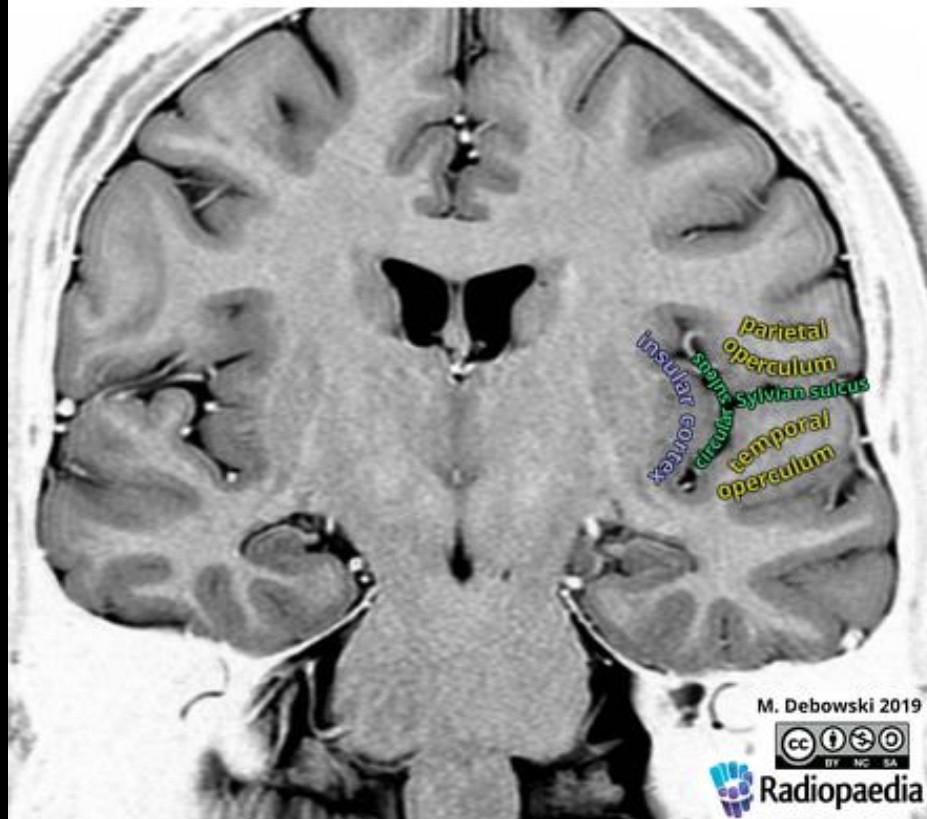
- **Opercular (M3) segments**

- M3 segments begin at top of sylvian fissure, course infer laterally through sylvian fissure
- Exit sylvian fissure at surface of brain

- **Cortical (M4) segments**

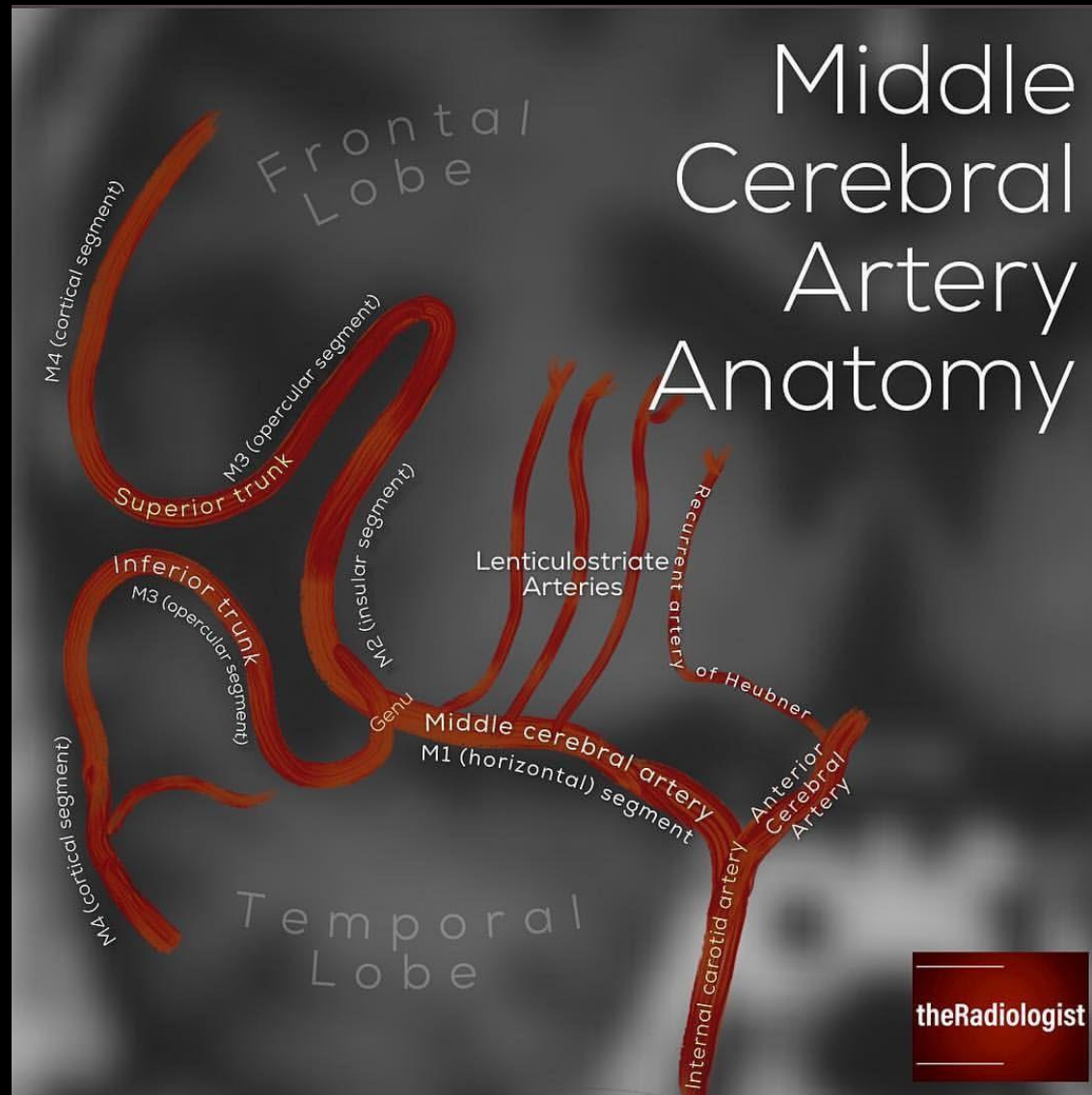
- Exit sylvian fissure and ramify over lateral surface of hemisphere

Insula and operculum

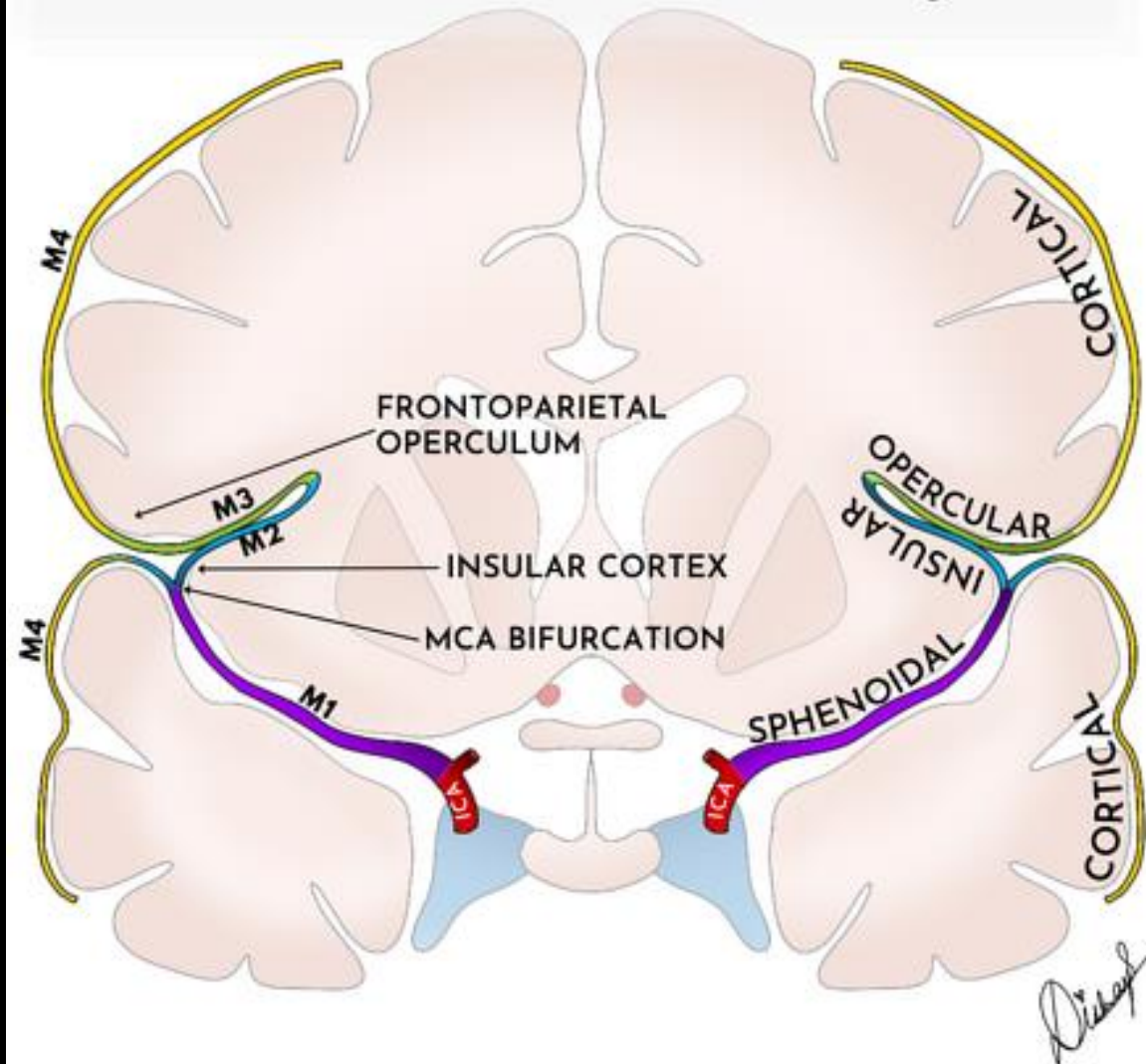


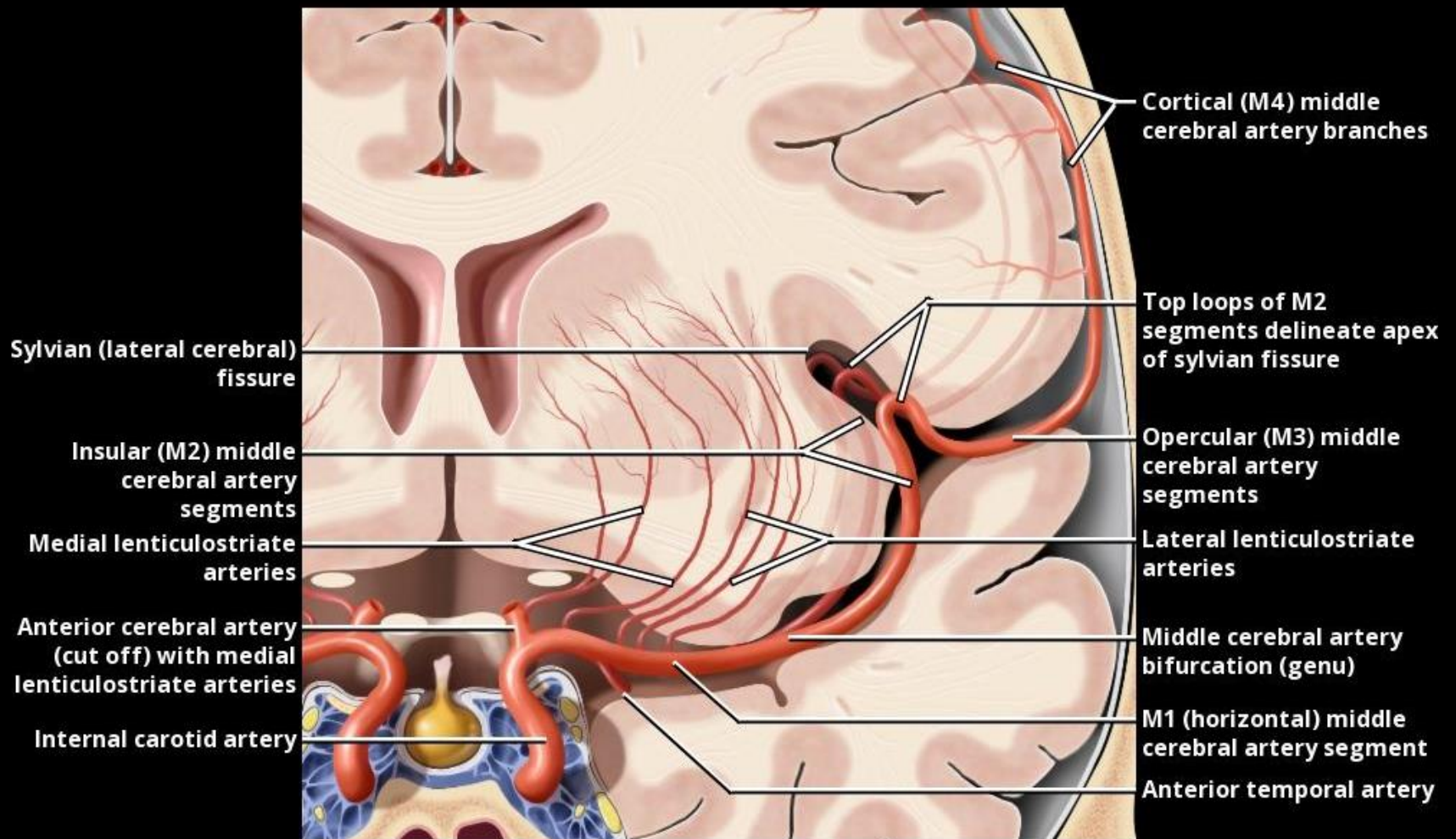
MCA

Middle Cerebral Artery Anatomy



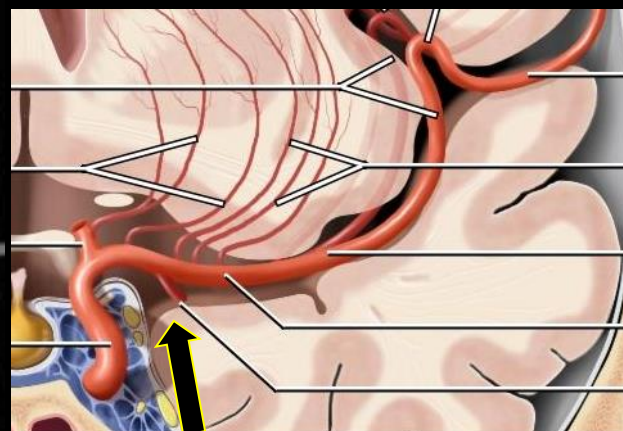
Middle cerebral artery





Anterior temporal artery

- Usually a branch of the M1 segment
- that curves out of the Sylvian fissure and runs over the temporal lobe
- supply the anterior third of the superior, middle and inferior temporal gyri.



Anterior temporal artery