

The large **second sacral ventral spinal rami** exit the sacral canal through the second ventral sacral foramina between the fused second and third sacral vertebrae, where they are connected to adjacent sympathetic ganglia by grey rami communicantes. Visceral efferent rami leave as pelvic splanchnic nerves containing parasympathetic nerve fibers.

Each ventral ramus of S2 lies anterior to the piriformis muscle and posterior to the internal iliac vessels and ureters and divides into a ventral and dorsal branch. The ventral branches join with the ventral branches of the lumbosacral trunks (L4, L5), thereby participating in the formation of the sacral plexus. The lumbosacral trunks then join with the ventral branches of the ventral rami of S1 and S3 to form the tibial component of the sciatic nerves. Also a small branch from the ventral branches of S2 join with the ventral rami of S3 and S4 to form the pudendal nerves. The dorsal branches join with the dorsal branches of the lumbosacral trunk (L4, L5) and the dorsal branches of the ventral rami of S1 and S3 to form the common peroneal component of the sciatic nerves.

Relations

The inferior gluteal vessels pass between either the ventral rami of S1 and S2 or S2 and S3.

Supply

The second sacral ventral spinal rami supply the muscles of the buttock and lower limb via the sacral plexus. Cutaneous fibers are also distributed via branches of the sacral plexus.