

PRODUCT REVIEW / ÉVALUATION DE PRODUIT

Product: Acland's Video Atlas of Human Anatomy

URL: <https://aclandanatomy.com/>

Cost: Price based on the number of users (FTE); must contact for individualized quote.

Purpose and Product Description

Acland's Video Atlas of Human Anatomy is an online database that contains high-quality videos of real human cadaver dissections, organized by anatomical region. It includes audio narration that explains in detail what the viewer is seeing, and each video contains a clickable menu that is conducive to self-directed learning.

Intended Audience and Users

This product is intended for anatomy instructors at the undergraduate or postgraduate level, students in health-related programs, undergraduate or postgraduate medical trainees, and anyone else who has an interest in human anatomy.

Special Features

The Acland's platform contains an A-Z index that helps locate videos quickly, along with a detailed glossary that provides interpretations for the Greek, Latin, or Arabic anatomical structure names. The videos are accompanied by closed captioning and transcripts, can be stopped and started at anytime, and can be embedded within learning management systems or shared via a link. It is worth noting that a link to a video can be shared with users who do not have a subscription to Acland's, and this link remains active for five days with a maximum of ten clicks permitted [1].

In the spirit of self-directed learning, Acland's has a built-in exams feature that is accessible to users after creating their personal account. These exams include content across all of the Acland's volumes that the institution has licensed, and the exam-taker can customize their exam parameters and see their progress as they work through the questions.

Compatibility

Acland's is fully functional in Chrome, Firefox, and Internet Explorer using a computer. When using Acland's via your web browser on a mobile device, the transcript option becomes unavailable and the video menu does not display, which prohibits the viewer from jumping to a different section of the video. Closed captioning is still present in videos when viewing on a mobile device. Acland's is not available as a mobile app but has been optimized for mobile devices [2].

Platform

Acland's is housed on an intuitive platform that is maintained by Wolters Kluwer, and library professionals who have used the *Bates Guide to Physical Examination* product through Wolters Kluwer will recognize this layout and its functionality. Wolters Kluwer has considered accessibility needs in designing this product, as Acland's videos are equipped with closed captioning, transcripts, the ability to maximize or minimize the screen, the option to speed up the video if desired, and embedded volume controls.

Acland's offers the option to view the platform in English or Spanish, and it has a helpful search box on the home screen where users can enter keywords to jump to videos that match the search. There is a clear menu along the top of the home

screen that includes exams, a glossary of terms in Greek, Latin, or Arabic, A-Z index of all videos in the database arranged by anatomical terms, and an about page.

Usability

This product is very easy to use and its home screen is intuitive and simple. After accessing it through an institution's web portal, users can choose from five volumes that cover the upper extremity, lower extremity, the trunk, the head and neck, and the internal organs. This home screen also gives the user the option to log in to their personal account and doing so will bring up their exam-taking history. However, not logging in to a personal account will still allow users to access all of the video content in Acland's.

Strengths and Weaknesses

Acland's strengths include its simple platform, self-directed learning features (such as exams and video menus), clear and descriptive videos with accessibility features (such as transcripts, closed captioning, embedded volume controls, and speed-up capabilities), and an A-Z index and search box that let the user find what they need fast.

This product has a few weaknesses. The first is that Acland's would appeal to more users if the platform was available in languages other than English and Spanish. A second weakness is that the videos are dated in appearance, and they remind the viewer of instructional tapes from the late nineties. However, it is worth noting that the video content is exceptional, therefore the quality of the content far outweighs the videos' aesthetic. Lastly, Acland's would be more appealing to modern users if it was available as an app rather than just being mobile optimized.

Comparison and Currency

While Acland's provides complete anatomical coverage of the human body, there are other

interactive products on the market that teach these concepts differently. Some of the main competitors are Primal Pictures' Anatomy.tv, Visible Body, and E-Anatomy. For the purposes of this review these products will be compared with Acland's.

Anatomy.tv allows viewers to see 360-degree views of human anatomical structures, and it breaks regions down into multiple layers starting with the skeletal system and moving up to include nerves, muscles, etc. It is completely self-directed, and users can interact with the product in various ways to facilitate learning. While it does not appear to be available as an app, it is optimized to be viewed on a tablet [3]. Visible Body offers 3D models of the human body where users can interact and dissect the region and see sliced models in comparison to scans from real human cadavers [4]. It is available in seven languages and comes in app format so users have more flexibility with how they access it. It also operates in augmented reality [5], so 3D models can be manipulated within a virtual space unlike other products on the market. E-Anatomy is an interactive human atlas that can be accessed through your web browser or as an app. It is available in multiple languages and includes exam preparation materials. Looking at this product's homepage, it appears that images are interactive with a mix of labeled drawings, surgical video, as well as MRI scans [6].

While these three products provide interactive content that would be helpful for teaching or learning anatomy, none appear to offer human dissection in video format with voiceover narration that way Acland's does. However, two of these products are available as a mobile app, making them more in line with modern access preferences when compared to Acland's.

Conclusion

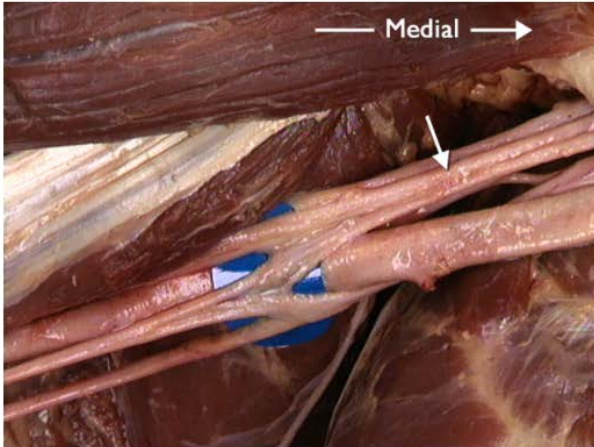
Acland's Video Atlas of Human Anatomy is a standout product, as it gives anatomy instructors and students the opportunity to view real human cadaver dissections at multiple points in the

dissection process, while also hearing clear descriptions of what the viewer is seeing. Libraries that are looking to offer a flashier product with technologically impressive features or mobile app access may want to look elsewhere

in the market. However, if you want a simple, accessible interface that focuses solely on human dissection with detailed explanations that stand the test of time, Acland's is the product for you.

Volume 1: The Upper Extremity [Save Exam & Review Later](#)

0 Incorrect | 0 Correct | 52 Unanswered



In this anterior view of the right axilla, identify the structure indicated by the arrow.

- ☐ A Medial cord of brachial plexus
- ☐ B Musculocutaneous nerve
- ☐ C Lateral cord of brachial plexus
- ☐ D Posterior cord of brachial plexus
- ☐ E Ulnar nerve

[Submit & View Next Question](#) [Skip & Answer Later](#)

[Save Exam & Review Later](#)

Fig. 1: Exam question with progress bar

English Jackie Phinney

ACLAND'S VIDEO ATLAS OF HUMAN ANATOMY®

Wolters Kluwer

HOME VIDEOS ^ EXAMS GLOSSARY A-Z INDEX ABOUT Search...

Welcome Jackie Phinney,
Access Provided By: **Dalhousie University**

Videos





-  VOLUME 1
The Upper Extremity
-  VOLUME 2
The Lower Extremity
-  VOLUME 3
The Trunk
-  VOLUME 4
The Head and Neck
-  VOLUME 5
The Internal Organs

Fig. 2: Landing screen in Acland's with menus and video collections by volume

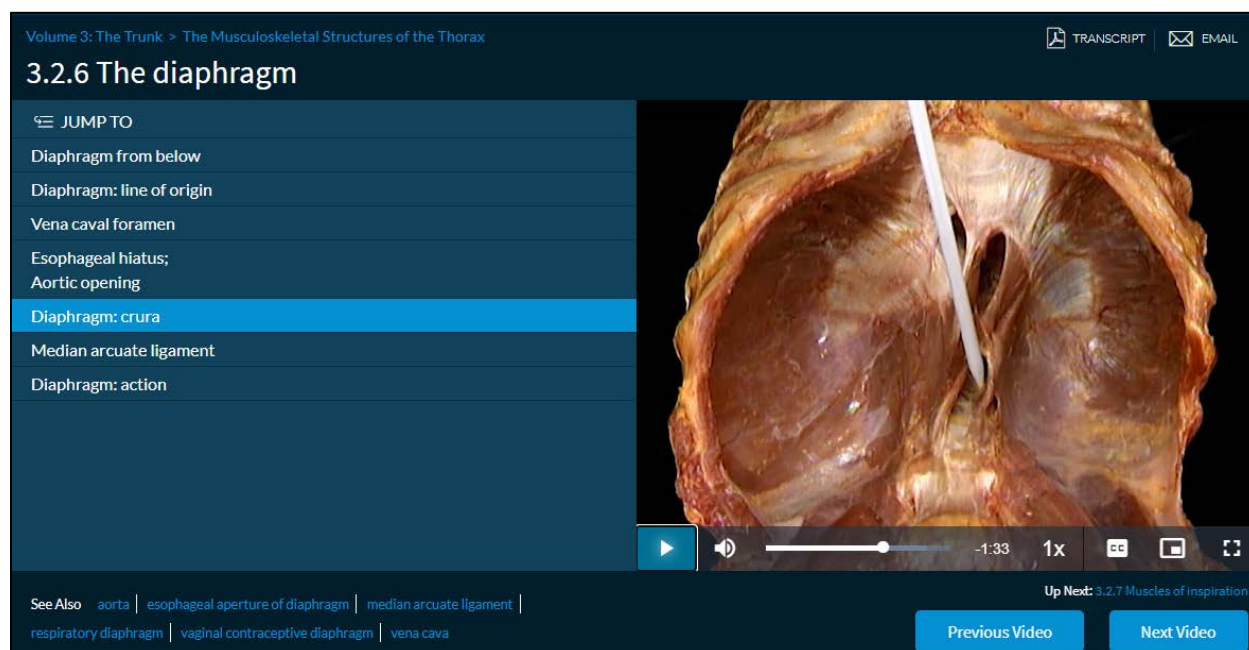


Fig. 3: Screenshot of a video in Acland's.

On the left, a menu allows users to jump to a different section of the video. Accessibility features can also be seen on the video platform.

References

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Statement of Competing Interests

No competing interests declared.

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