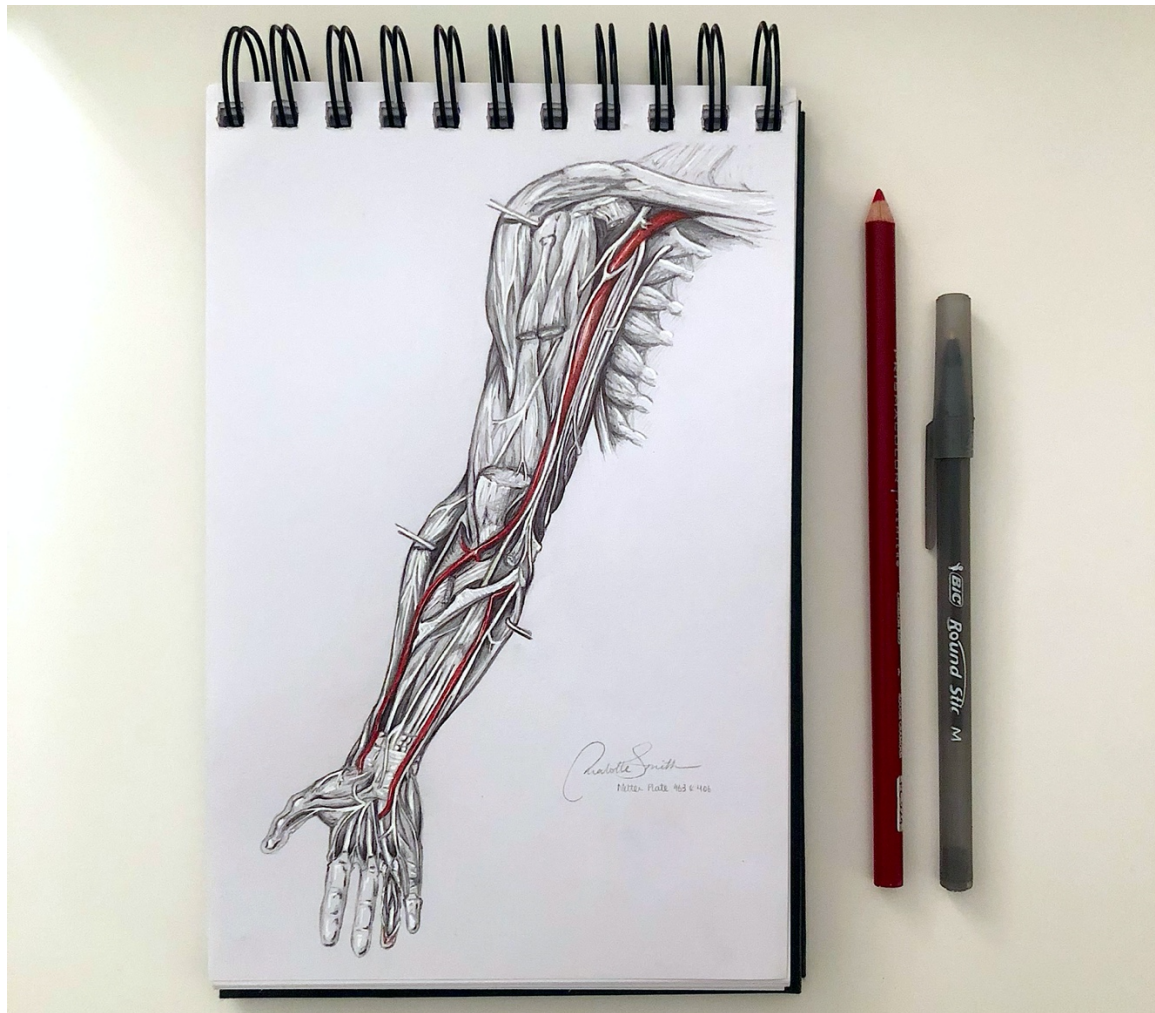




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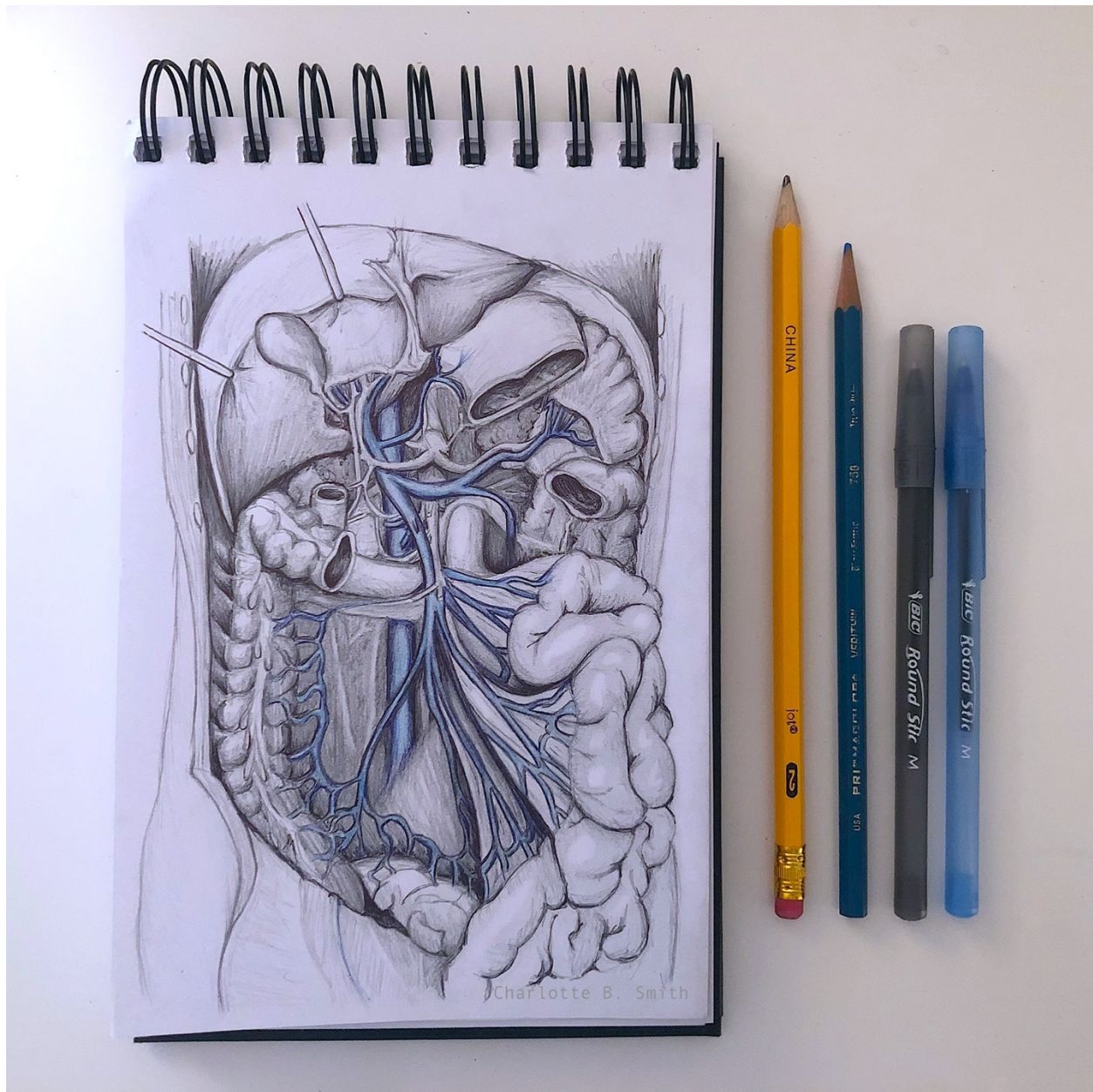
Early Explorations of Medical Illustration

By Charlotte Smith



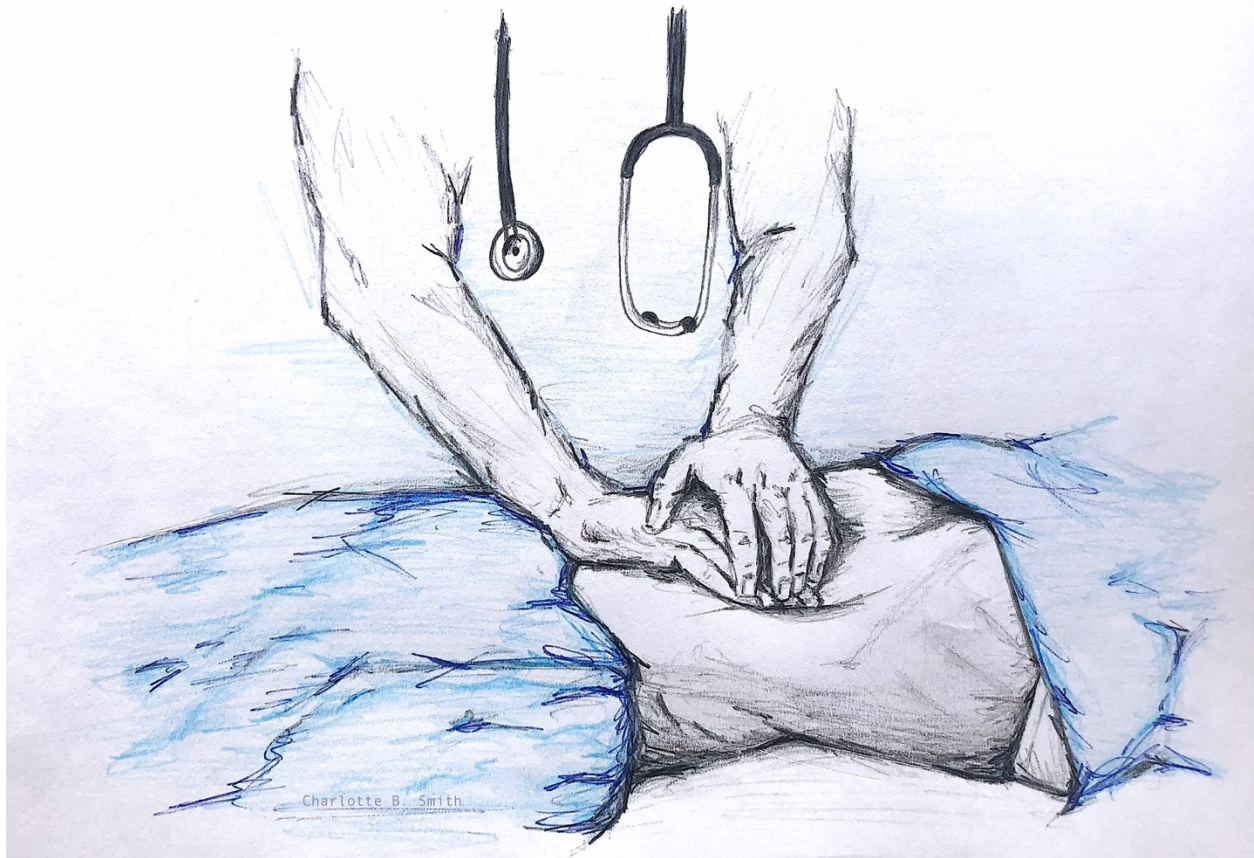
Arteries and Nerves of the Upper Limb (1/3)

This piece was inspired by my experience dissecting the upper limb in the Musculoskeletal block. In the anatomy lab, I carefully isolated the muscles of the forearm and tendons in the palmar aspect of the hand. As reflected in the final drawing, I admired the complexity and functionality of the brachial plexus and how each nerve branched out to innervate a distinct section of the upper limb. This sketch served as both a study technique to cement my understanding of human anatomy and as a creative outlet during my first year of medical school.



Hepatic Portal System (2/3)

As my first attempt at drawing the human anatomy, this piece was inspired by my dissection of the abdominal cavity in the Gastrointestinal block. Supplemented by reference images from Frank H. Netter, I pieced together my observations in the anatomy lab after carefully dissecting the portal triad, visualizing the mesentery of the small bowel, and tracing the gastrointestinal tract from the esophagus to the rectum. In this illustration, I decided to highlight the beautiful vasculature from the small and large intestine to the portal triad and finally to the liver.



Tools of the Trade (3/3)

As my first drawing during medical school, this piece was sketched while preparing for an upcoming Clinical Skills Exam for my Patient-Centered Care course. This sketch highlights the tools medical students learn to use to perform a competent abdominal exam: their stethoscope and their hands.

Charlotte B. Smith is a medical student at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine and Director of Social Media and Community Engagement at *Iris*. She received a B.A. in Chemistry and English Literature from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2019. Furthering her interests in art, science, and surgery, she has experimented with medical illustration while in medical school. Learn more about her work on Twitter [@cblythesmith](https://twitter.com/cblythesmith).

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