

Table : muscles of the palate (Drake et al., 2014).

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Innervation	Function
Tensor Veli Palatini	Scafoïd fossa of sphenoid bone, fibrous part of pharyngeotympanic tube and spine of sphenoid	Palatine aponeurosis	Mandibular nerve via the branch to medial pterygoid muscle	Tenses the soft palate. Opens the pharyngeotympanic tube
Levator Veli Palatini	Apex of the petrous portion of the temporal bone anterior to opening for carotid canal	Superior surface of Palatine aponeurosis	Vagus nerve via pharyngeal branch to pharyngeal plexus	Only muscle to elevate the soft palate above neutral position
Palato-pharyngeus	Superior surface of Palatine aponeurosis	Pharyngeal wall	Vagus nerve via pharyngeal branch to pharyngeal plexus	Depresses the soft palate. Moves the palatopharyngeal arch toward midline. Elevates pharynx.
Palato-glossus	Inferior surface of Palatine aponeurosis	Lateral margins of the tongue	Vagus nerve via pharyngeal branch to pharyngeal plexus	Depresses the soft palate. Moves the palatoglossal arch toward midline. Elevates back of the tongue .
Musculus Uvulae	Posterior nasal spine of the hard palate	Connective tissue of the uvula	Vagus nerve via pharyngeal branch to pharyngeal plexus	Elevates and retracts uvula. Thickens central portion of the soft palate.