

The pterion is a point of sutural confluence seen in the norma lateralis of the skull where frontal, parietal, temporal and sphenoid bones meet. The position of the pterion exhibits population-based variations. Location of this point is important in surgical approaches to the anterior and middle cranial fossae. Specific measurements were taken on both sides of 90 (51 male, 39 female) Kenyan human skulls. The distances from the center of pterion to the frontozygomatic suture were 38.88 ± 3.49 mm on the right side and 38.24 ± 3.47 mm on the left side. The pterion was 30.35 ± 3.40 mm and 30.34 ± 4.34 mm above the midpoint of the zygomatic arch on the right and left sides, respectively. Males had statistically significant higher pterion compared to females being 39.31 ± 3.28 mm and 37.35 ± 2.97 mm above the midpoint of the zygoma, respectively. Frontozygomatic suture and midpoint of the zygoma can reliably be used in locating the pterion. This information may be useful in planning prior to surgery especially where neuronavigation devices equipments are scarce.