











**Palatoglossus**

This anatomical illustration shows a cross-section of the human oral cavity. The upper teeth are visible at the top. The soft palate (velum) is shown above the oral cavity. The tonsils are located on either side of the base of the tongue. The floor of the mouth is visible at the bottom. Two muscles are labeled: the **Palatoglossus** (in green) and the **Palatopharyngeus** (in pink). The **Palatoglossus** is a small muscle that originates from the palatine aponeurosis and the pterygopalatine process of the sphenoid bone, and it inserts into the lateral margin of the tongue. The **Palatopharyngeus** is a larger muscle that originates from the palatine aponeurosis and the pterygopalatine process of the sphenoid bone, and it inserts into the pharyngeal constrictor muscle. Both muscles are involved in the closure of the oral cavity.

**Palatopharyngeus**