

Thoracic Wall

DR. AHMED SALMAN

Associate professor of anatomy

Thoracic wall

Boundaries :

Anteriorly : sternum and costal cartilages

Posteriorly : vertebral column

On either side : ribs and intercostal spaces

The thoracic wall is composed of :

1- Skeleton (Thoracic cage)

2-Intercostal muscles

3-Intercostal vessels

4-Intercostal nerves

I-Skeleton of the thorax

This is an Osseo cartilaginous cavity composed of :

1-Sternum

2-Ribs

3-Costal cartilage

4-Thoracic Vertebrae

Sternum

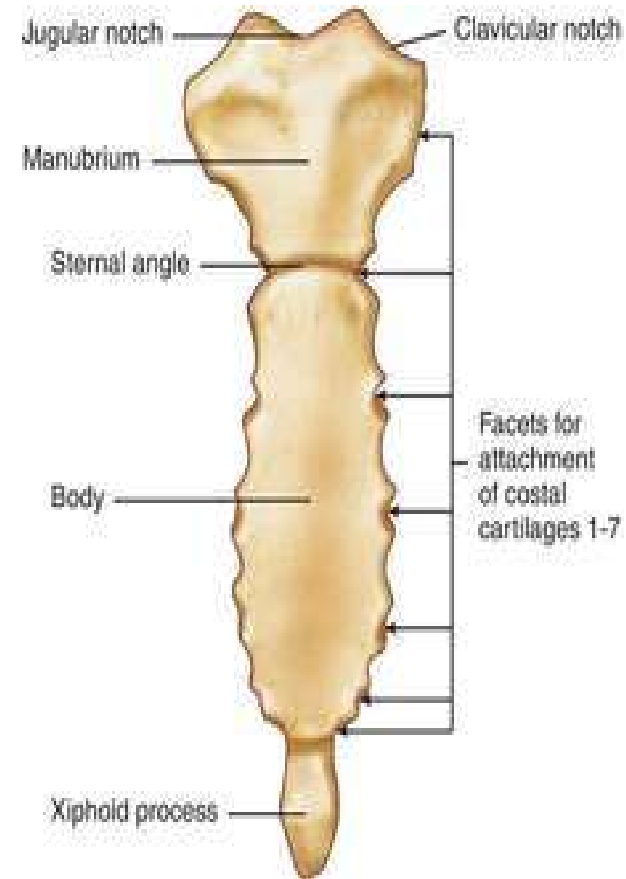
It has Three parts

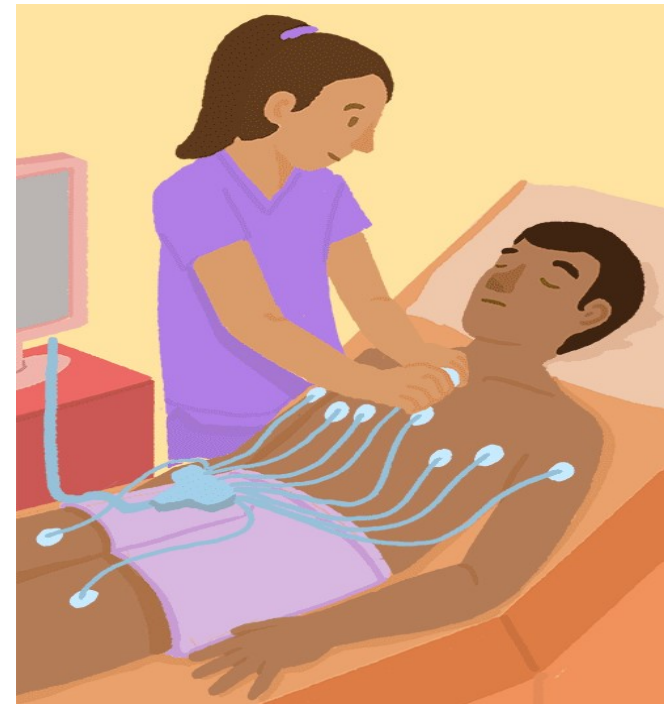
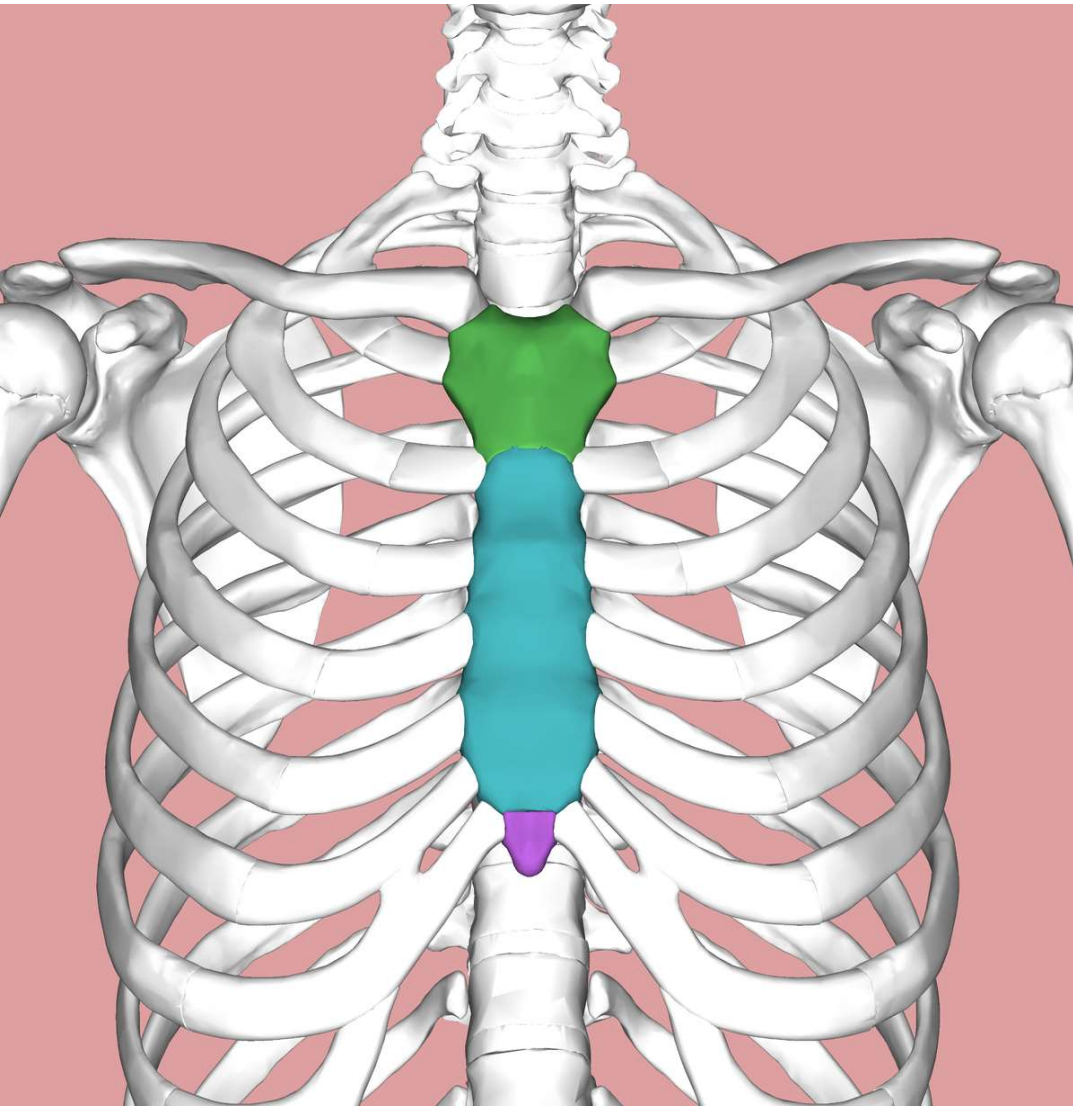
- Manubrium
- Body
- Xiphoid process
- The sternal angle (angle of Louis) it formed by the articulation of the manubrium with the body of the sternum
- It is at the level of the second costal cartilage

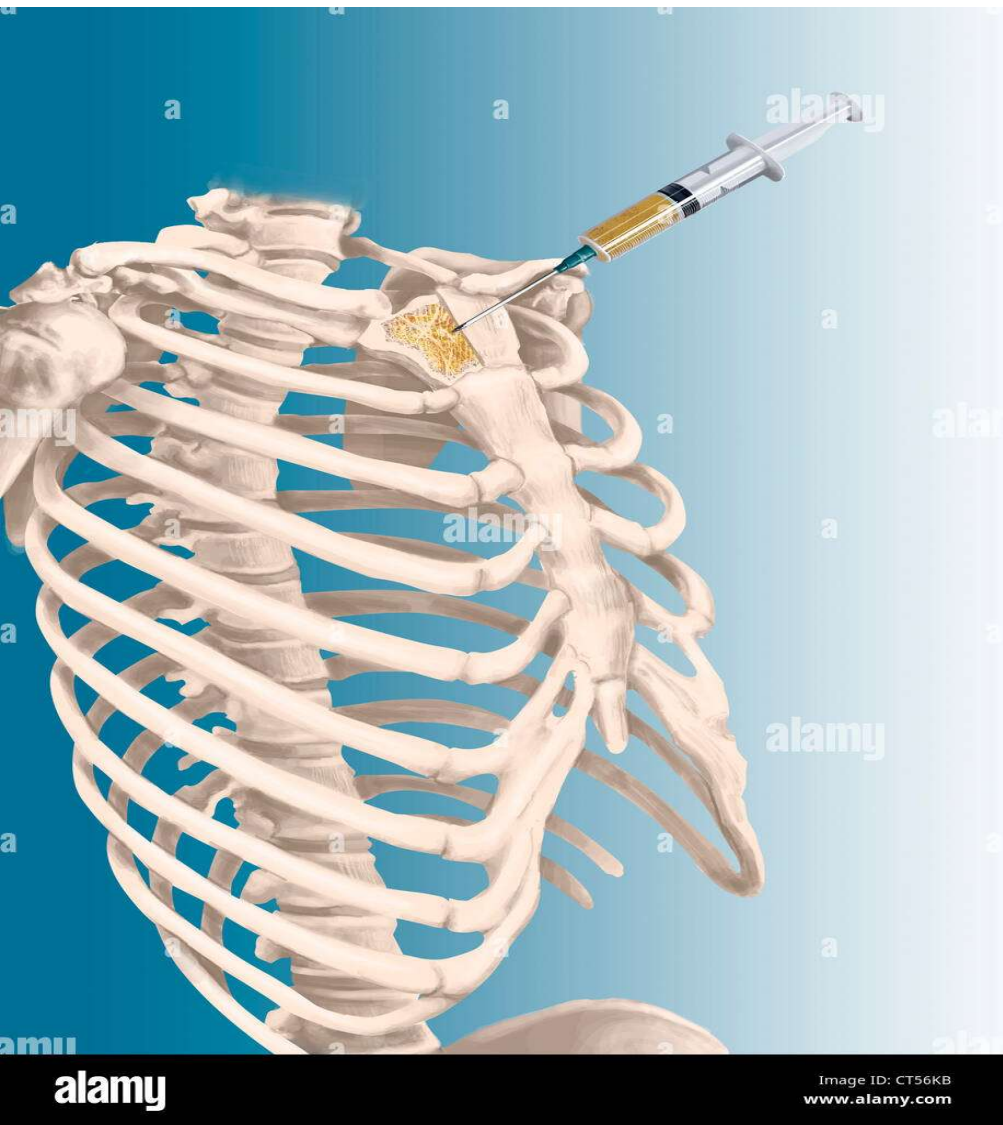
Q. What is function of sternal angle ?

A. Counting of the ribs

N.B : Sternum is one of sites to take Bone marrow biopsy







Bone marrow biopsy

Ribs

12 Pairs

True ribs

1st to 7th ribs

Attach to thoracic vertebrae and sternum

False ribs

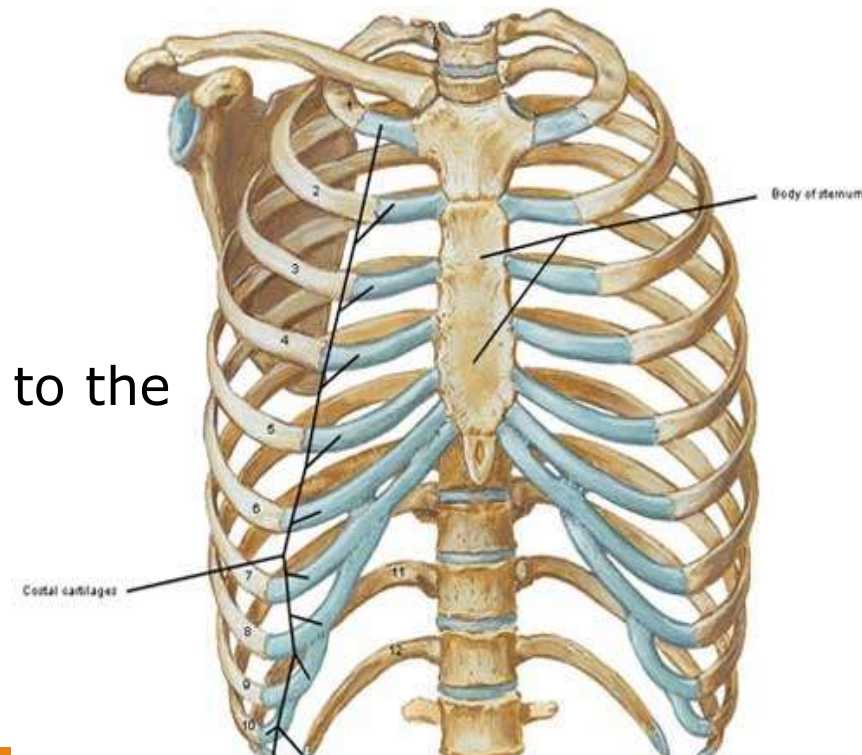
8th ,9th ,10th ribs

are attached anteriorly to each other and to the 7th rib

Floating ribs

11th ,12th ribs

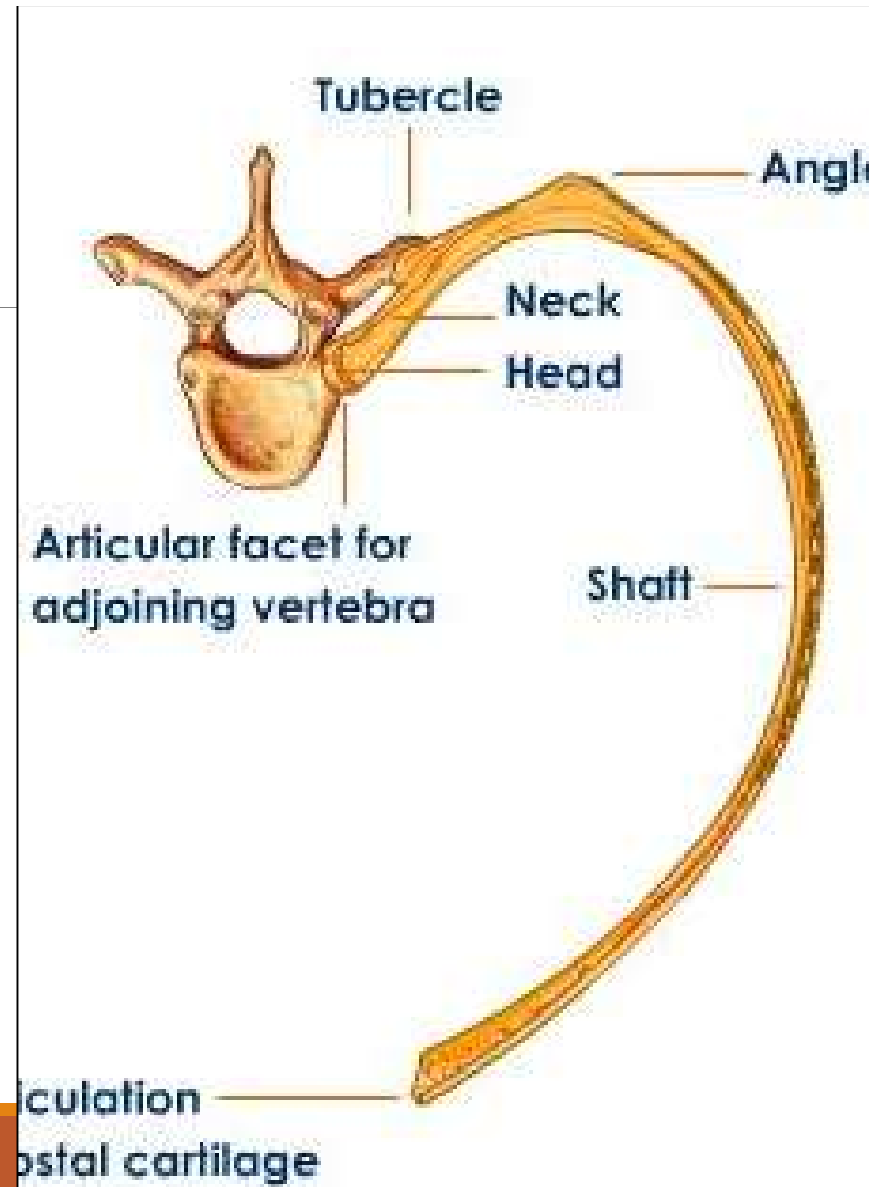
Have no attachment in the front

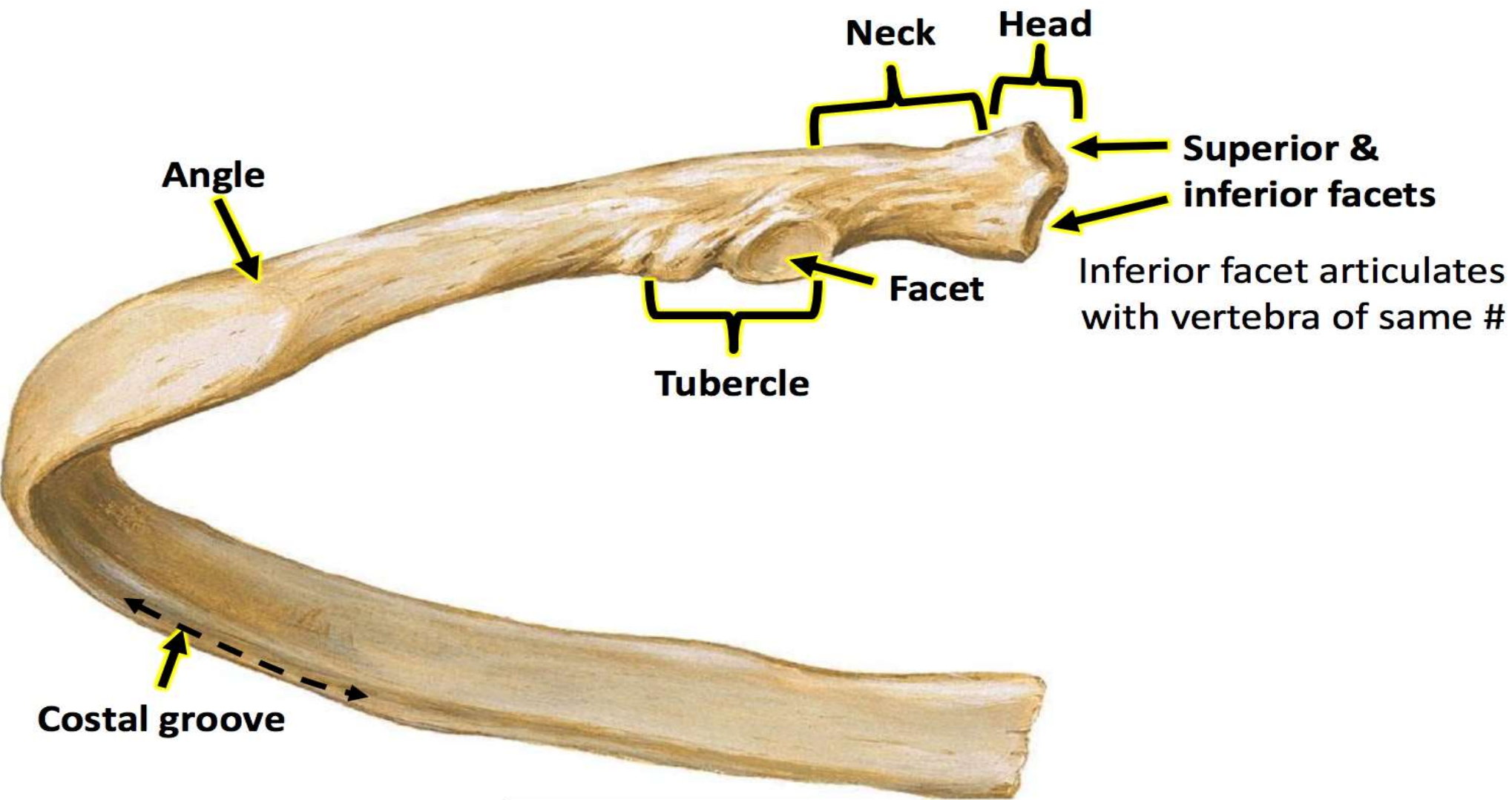


Ribs

Typical Rib should has this landmarks

- Head
- Neck
- Tubercle
- Angle
- Shaft or body
- **Subcostal Groove** , contains
 - A-Intercostal **V**ein
 - B-Intercostal **A**rtery
 - C-Intercostal **N**erve

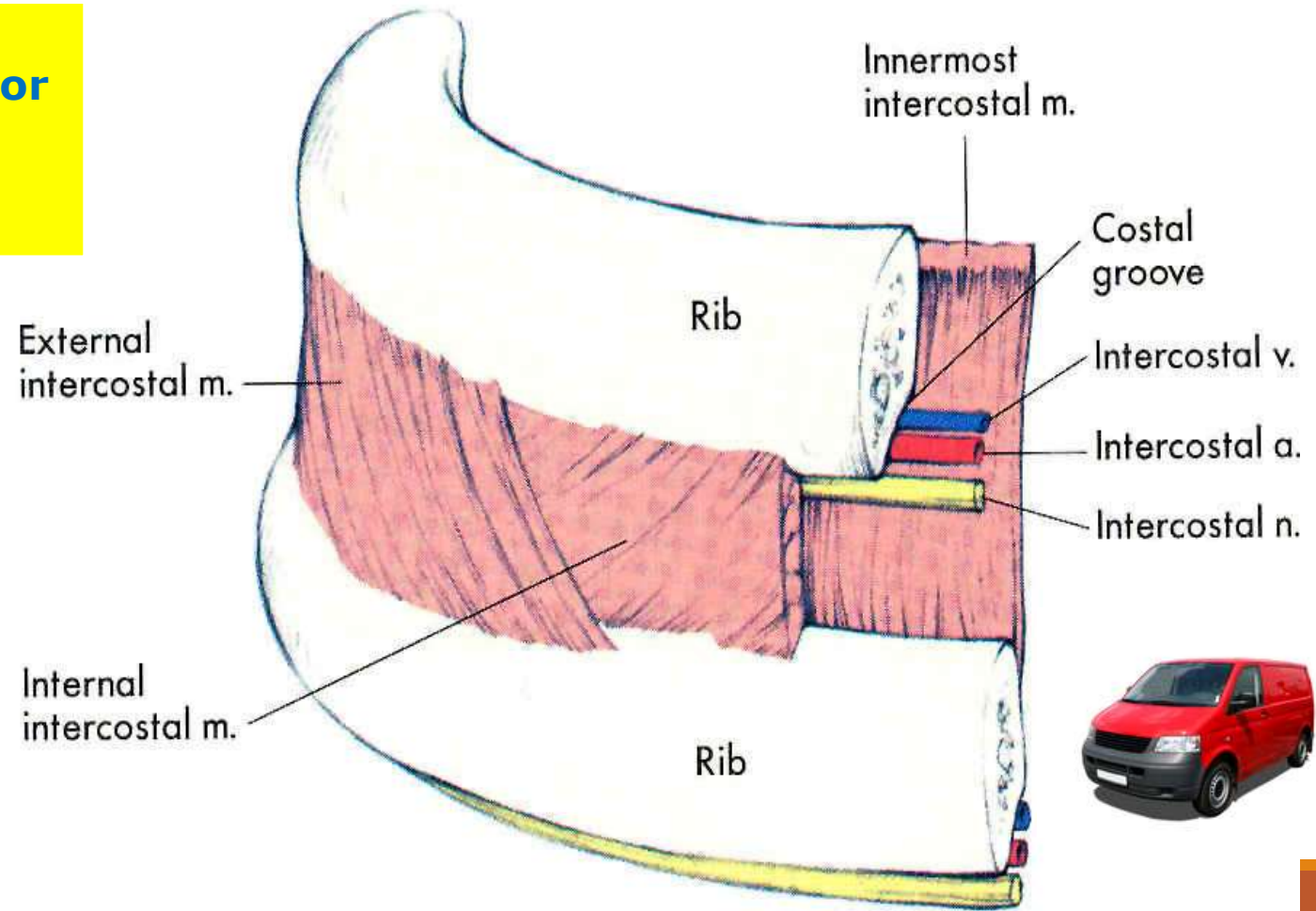
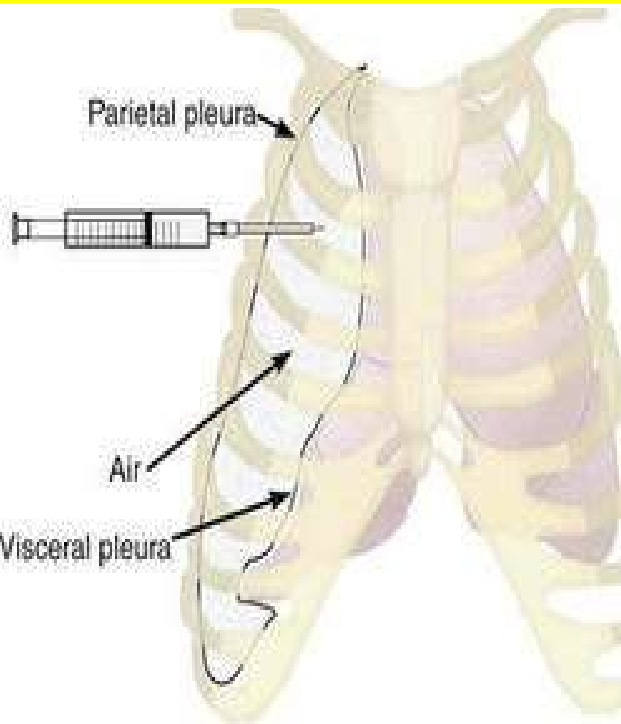




Left rib: Posterior view

Subcostal Groove : contains; Intercostal vein Intercostal artery and Intercostal nerve
VAN

The needle should be inserted above the superior border of the rib



Openings of the Thorax

Thoracic outlet

It is an opening between chest cavity and the root of the neck .

Boundaries :

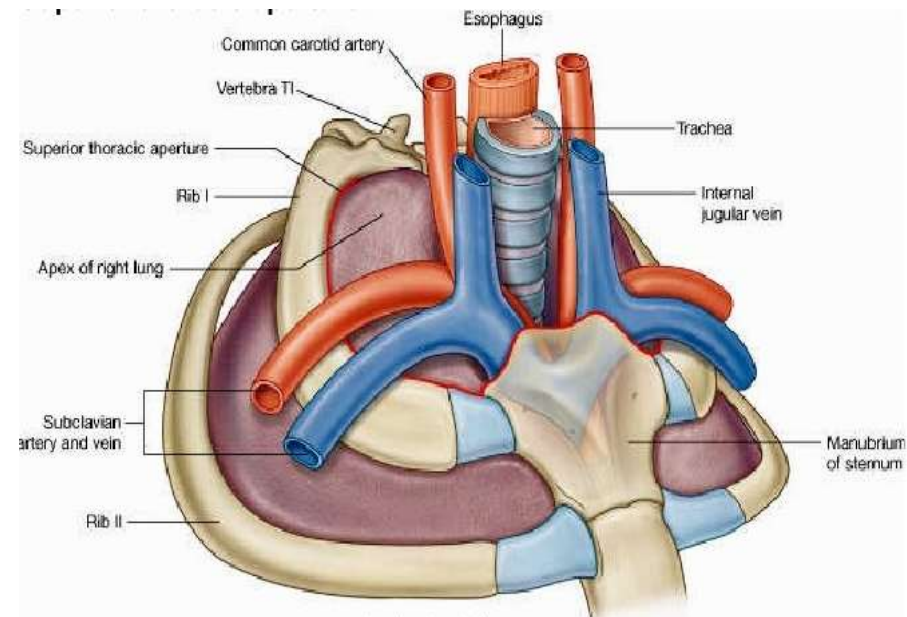
Anteriorly: Superior border of the manubrium sterni

Posteriorly : First thoracic vertebra

Laterally : Medial borders of the first ribs and their costal cartilages

Structure passing :

Esophagus , trachea and many vessels and nerves.



REED ONLY

Inferior thoracic aperture

The thoracic cavity communicates with the abdomen through a large opening.

• Boundaries :

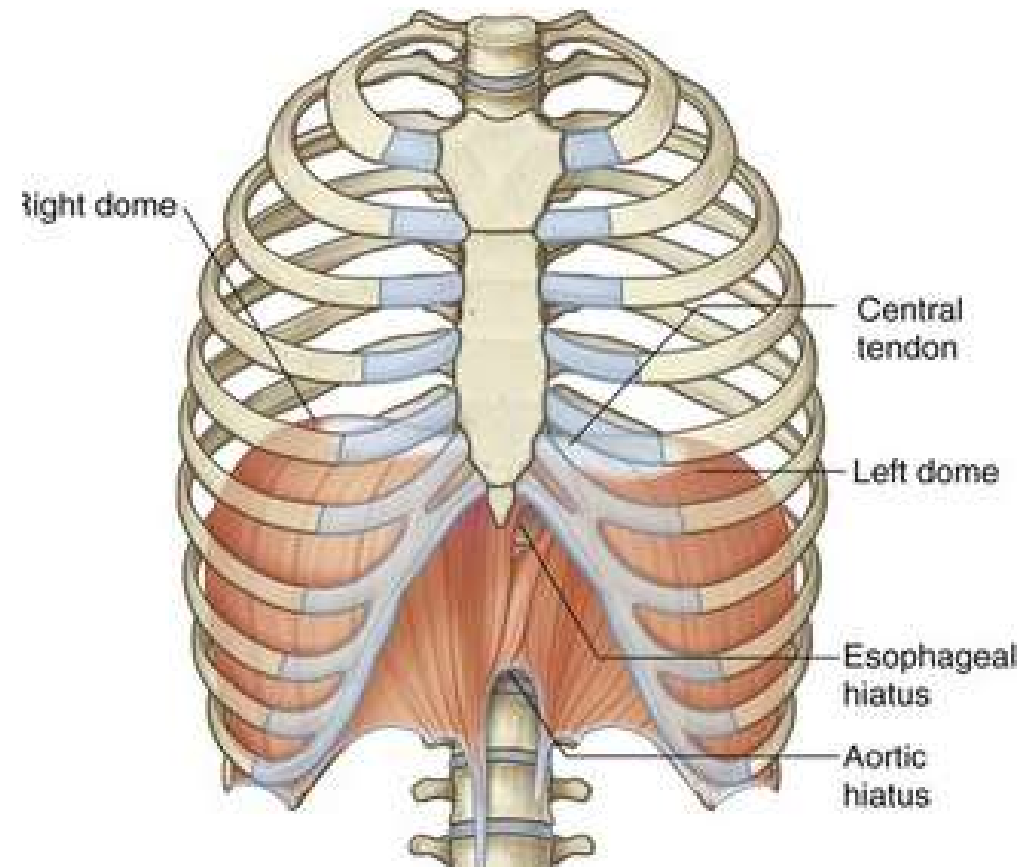
Anteriorly : Xiphisternal joint

Posteriorly : 12th thoracic vertebra

Laterally : Costal margin

Structure passing :

esophagus and many large vessels and nerves,
through diaphragm foramina



The Thoracic Outlet Syndrome

Cause :

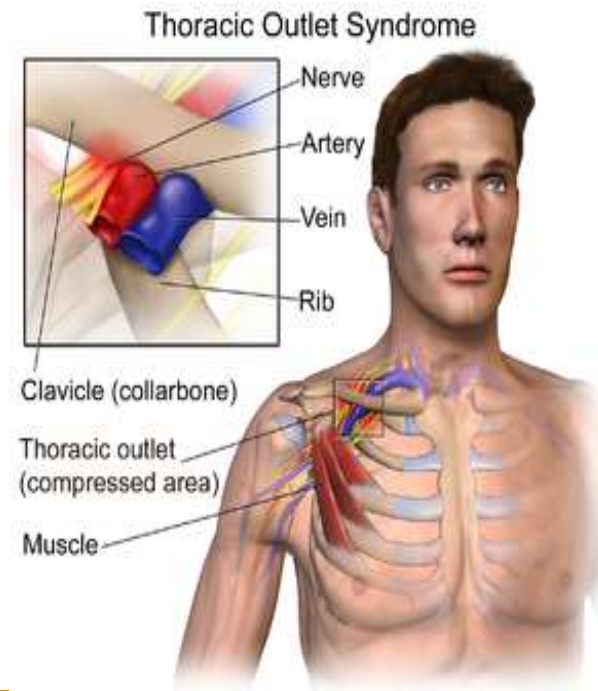
Compression of roots of brachial plexus (C5, 6, 7, and 8 and T1) and the subclavian artery and vein against 1st rib

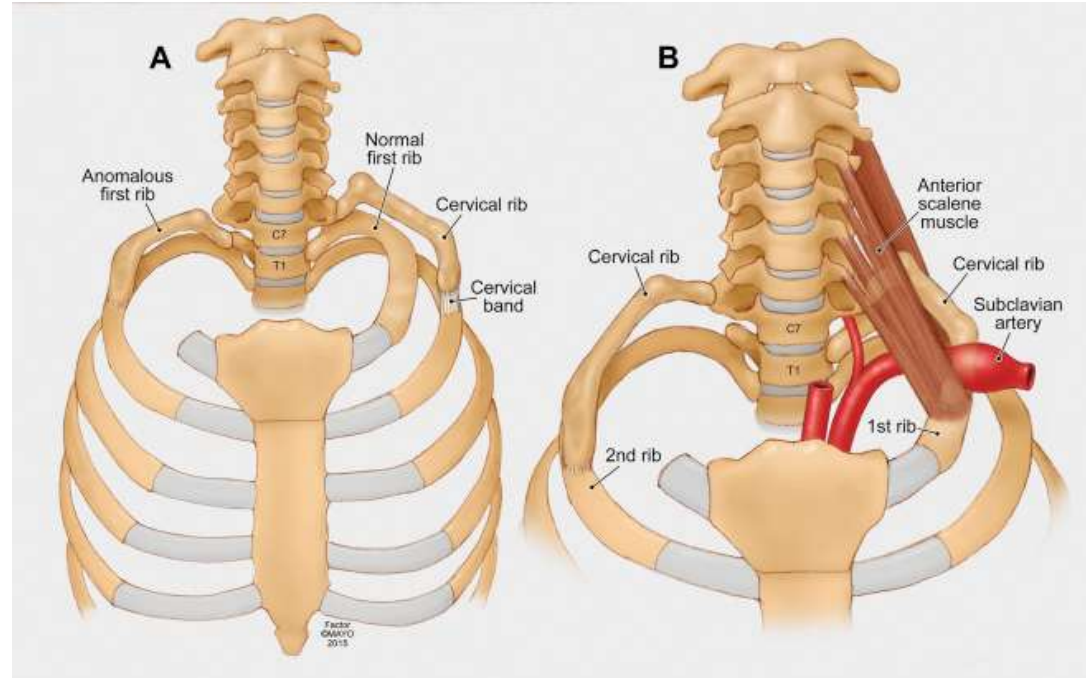
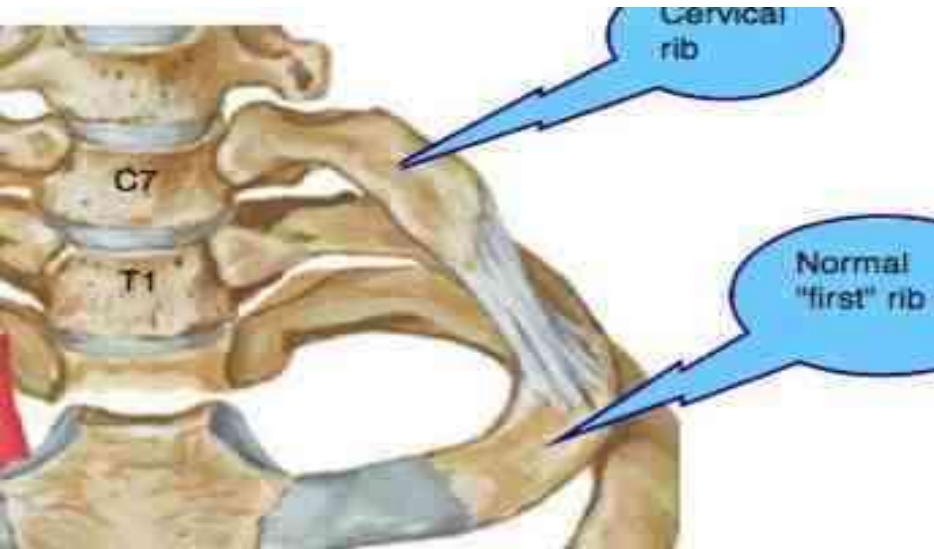
Cervical Rib

A cervical rib (a rib arising from the anterior tubercle of the transverse process of the 7th cervical vertebra) It may have a free anterior end or connected to the 1st rib by a fibrous band.

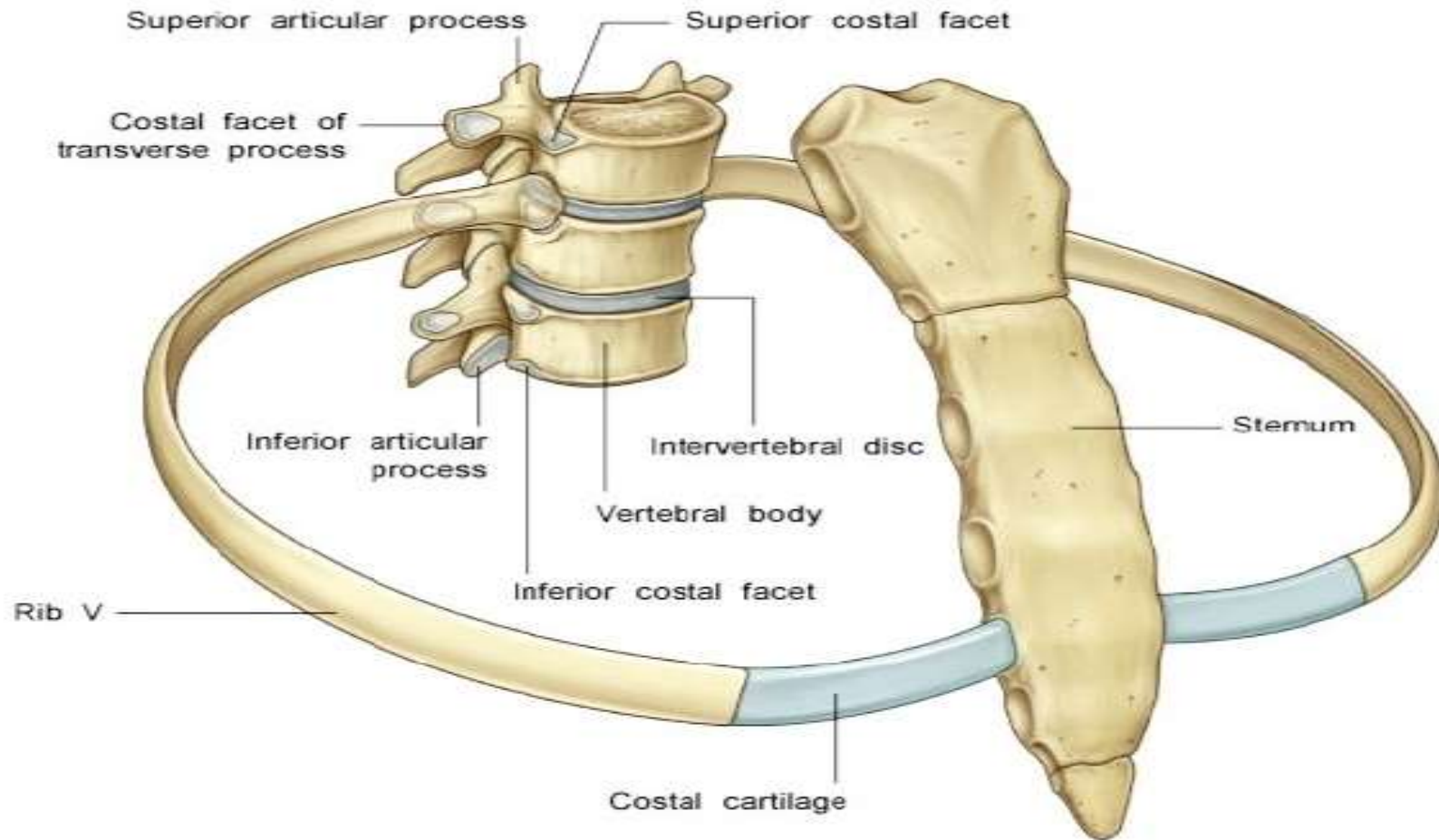
Symptoms :

Compression of nerves leads to pain down the medial side of the forearm and hand and wasting of the small muscles of the hand





Joints of the Chest Wall



I- Joints of the Sternum

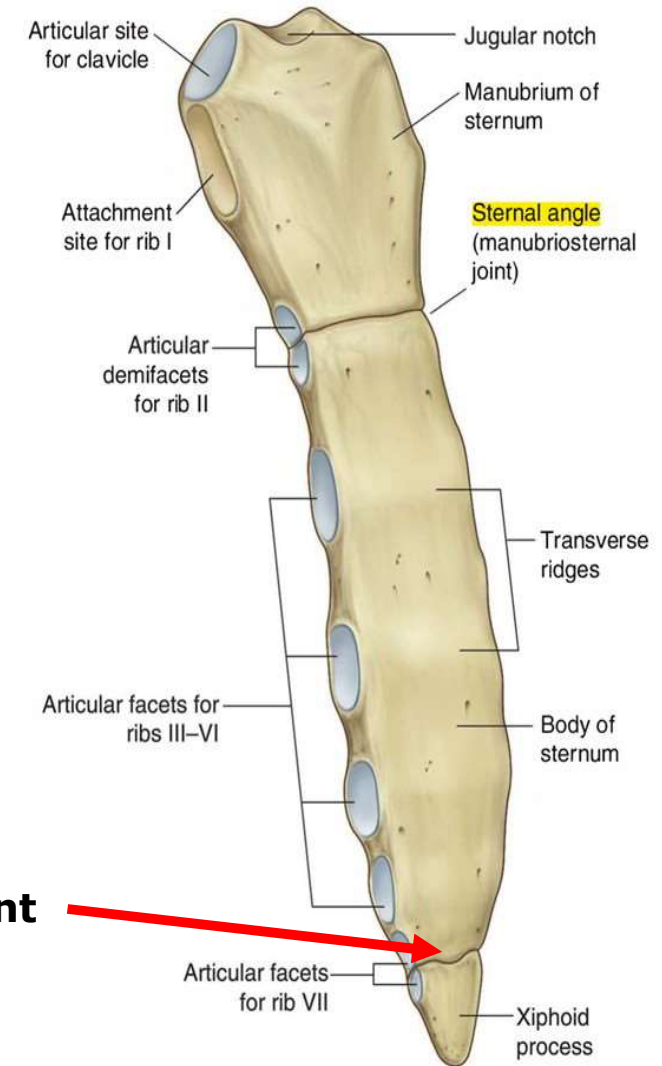
A. Manubriosternal joint

Secondary cartilaginous joint between the manubrium and the body of the sternum.

A small amount of angular movement is possible during respiration.

B. Xiphisternal joint

Secondary cartilaginous joint between the xiphoid process and the body of the sternum.



Xiphisternal joint

II- Costovertebral Joints

A. Costocorporeal joint (Joints of the Heads of the Ribs)

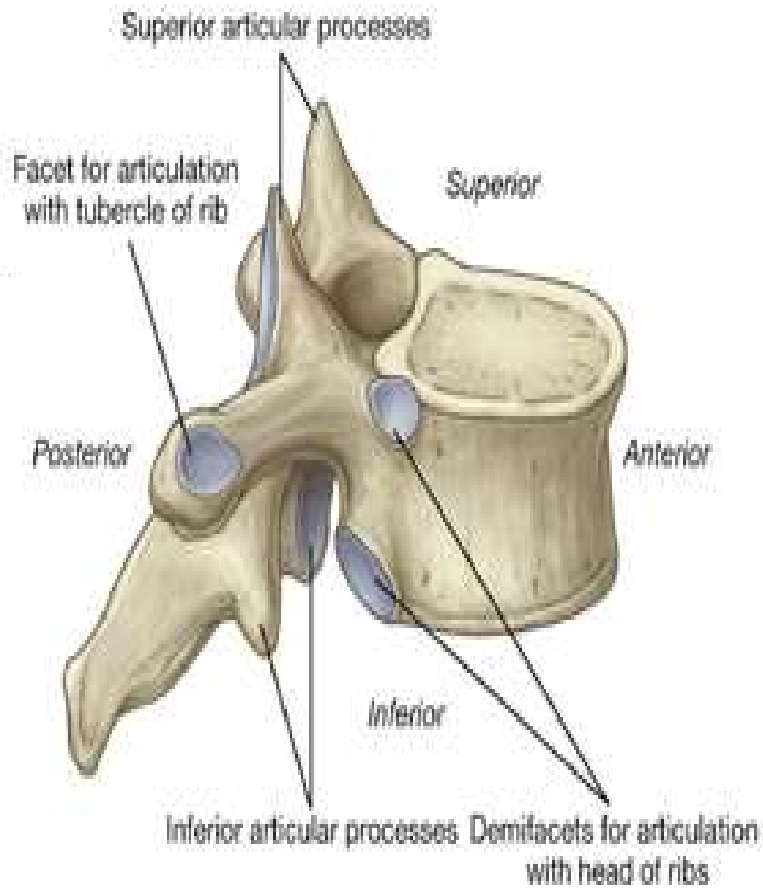
- Plane Synovial joint
- Between the head of typical rib and corresponding vertebrae
- The ribs articulate with corresponding vertebral body and that of the vertebra above it.
- 1st rib and last three ribs articulate with corresponding vertebral body only.
- There is a strong **intraarticular ligament** that connects the head to the intervertebral disc.

B. Costotransverse Joint

- Plane Synovial joint
- Between tubercle of ribs and transverse process of corresponding vertebrae

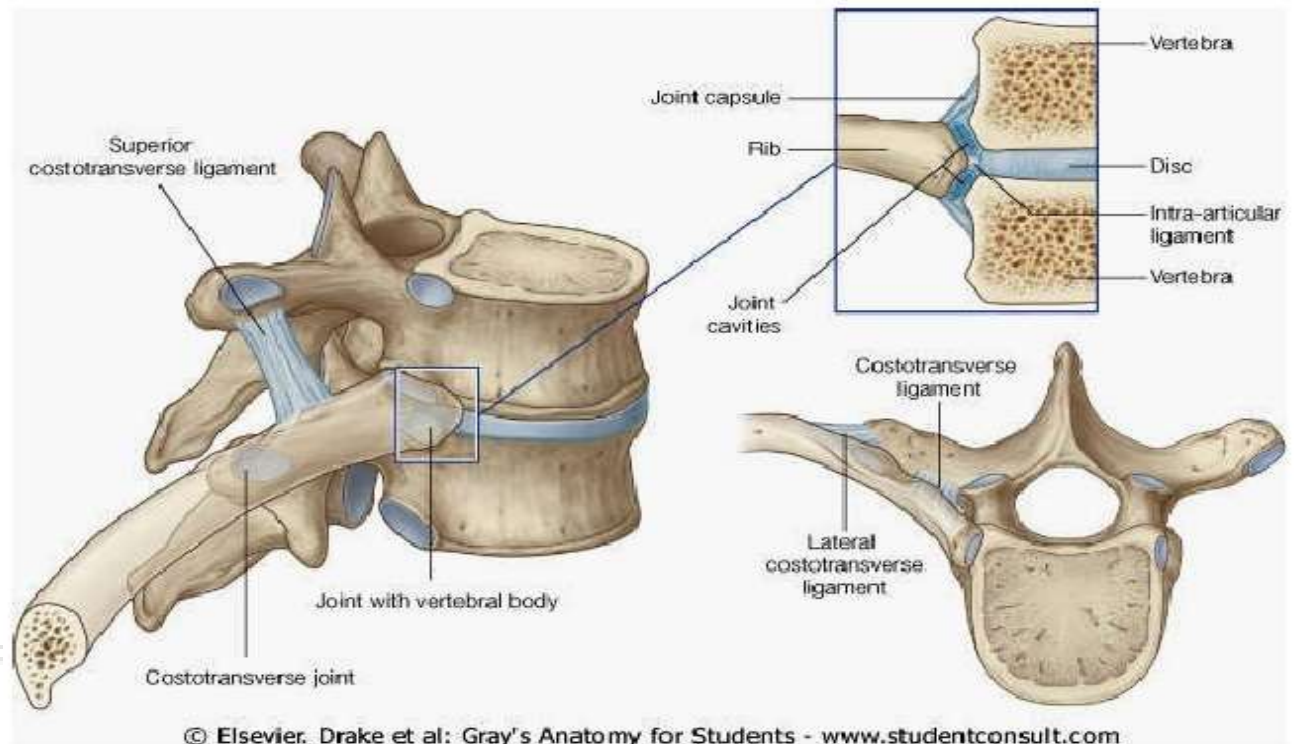
N.B This joint is absent on the 11th and 12th ribs

Articulation of Ribs with Vertebra



Superolateral view

Costovertebral joints.



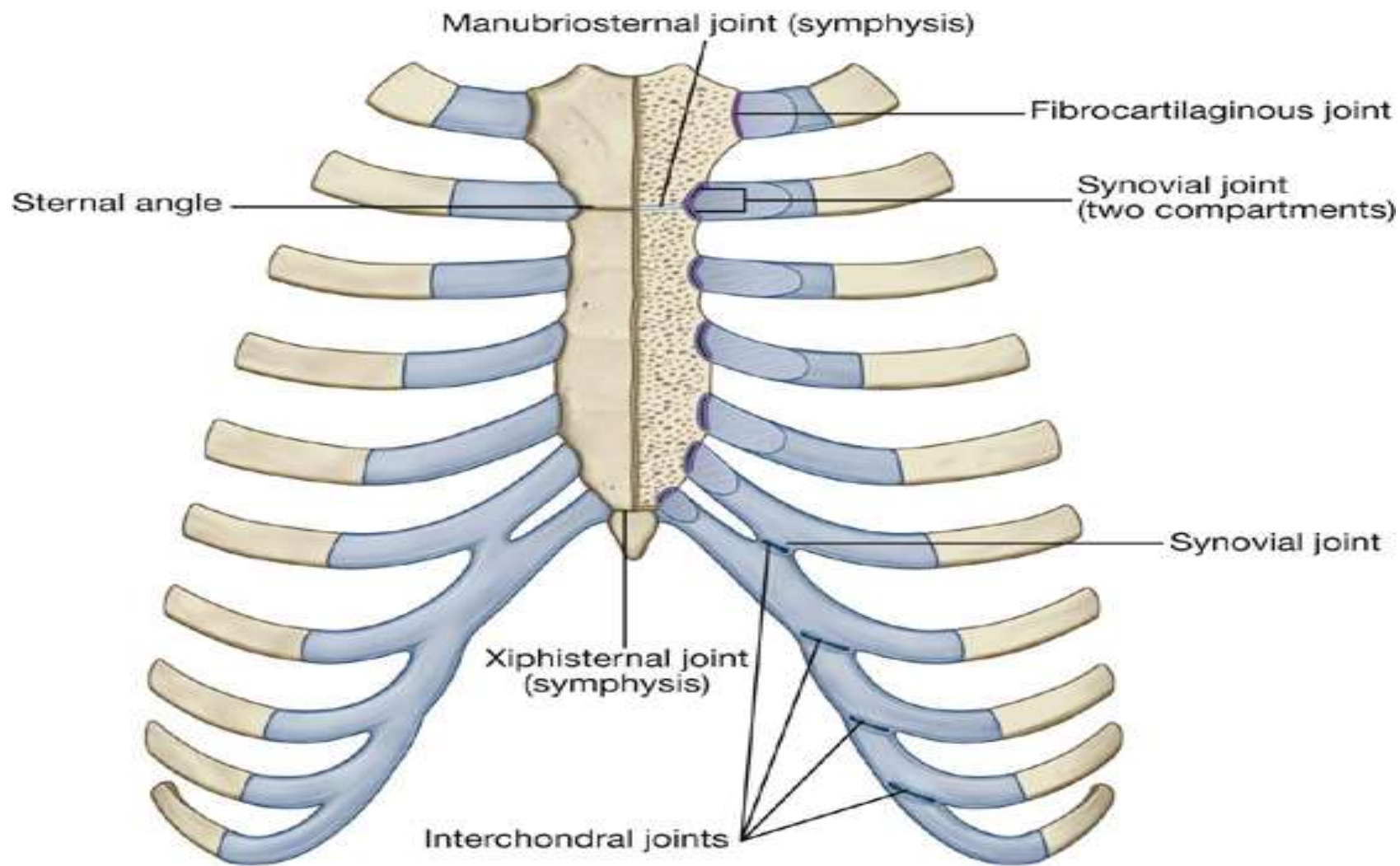
III- Joints of the Costal Cartilages

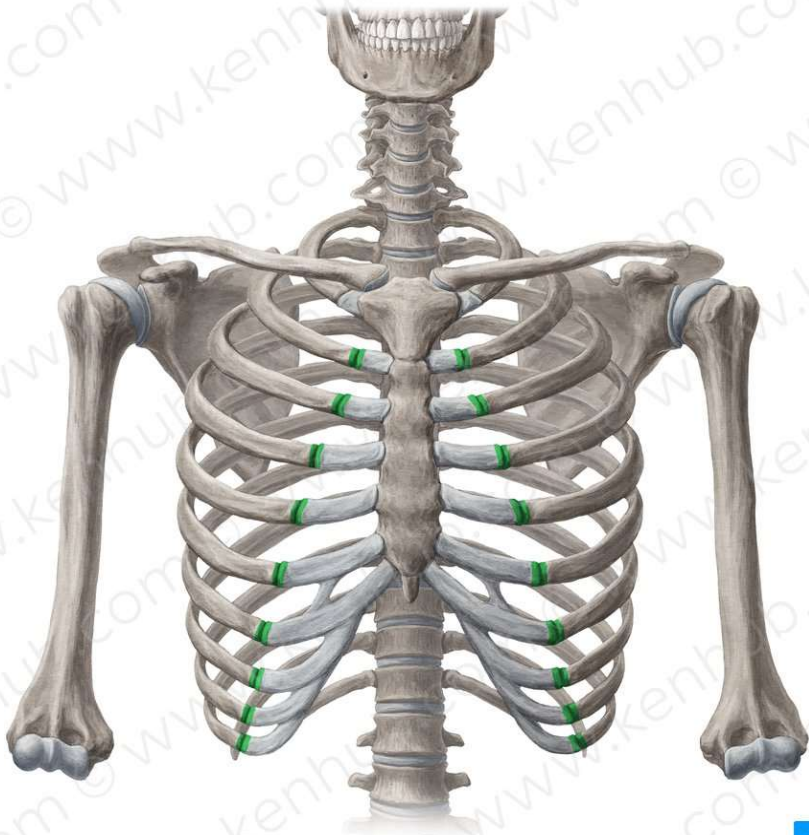
A. Sternocostal Joint

- Plane Synovial joint
- Between sternum and costal cartilage of true ribs
- The 1st costal cartilages articulate with the manubrium, by cartilaginous joints with no movement

B. Chostochondral Joint

- Cartilaginous joints.
- Between ribs and costal cartilage .
- No movement is possible.

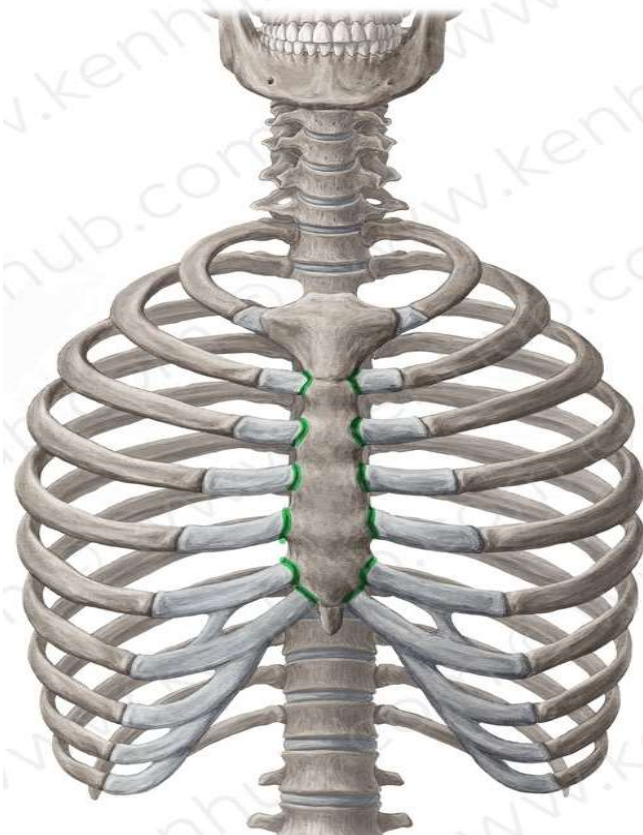




© www.kenhub.com



Costochondral joints



© www.kenhub.com



Sternochondral joints

Intercostal muscles

1-External intercostal muscle

Its fibres are directed **downward and forward**

It extends from the inferior border of the rib above to the superior border of the rib below .

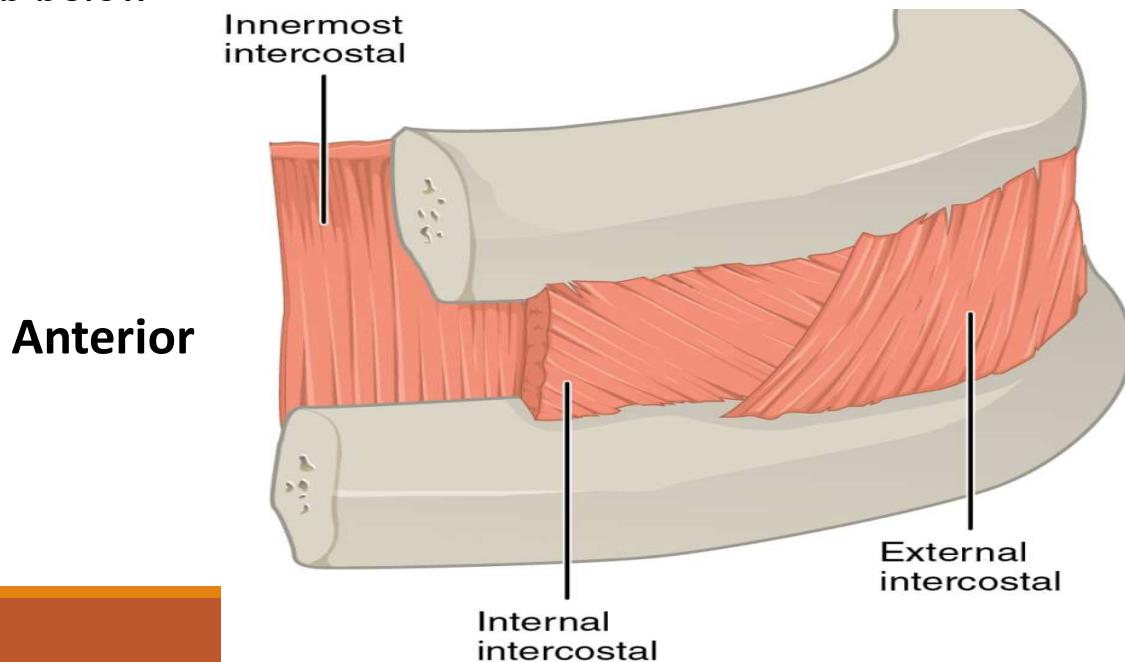
2-Internal intercostal muscle

Its fibres are directed **downward and backward**

It extends from inferior border of the rib above to the upper border of the rib below

3-Innermost intercostal muscle

It is an incomplete muscle layer , It extends from inferior border of the rib above to the upper border of the rib below



4-Subcostal muscle:

Arise from internal surface of the rib to internal surface of the rib 2-3 levels below the origin

Transversus thoracis muscle

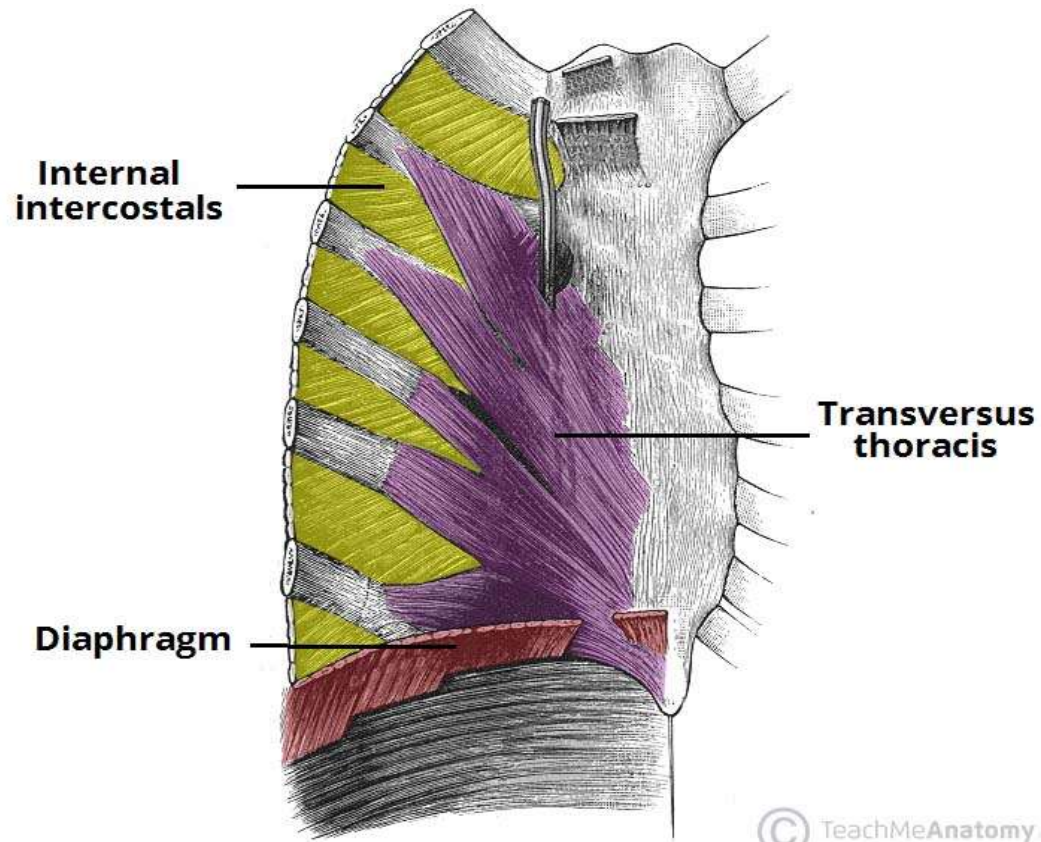
Posterior surface of lower sternum to internal surface of 2-6 costal cartilage

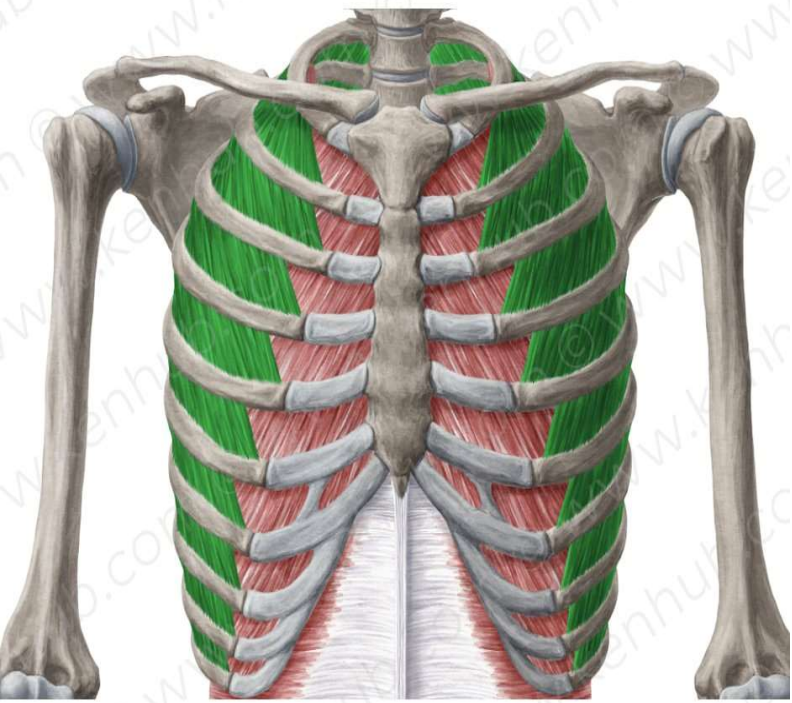
Nerve Supply

Intercostal nerves

Action :

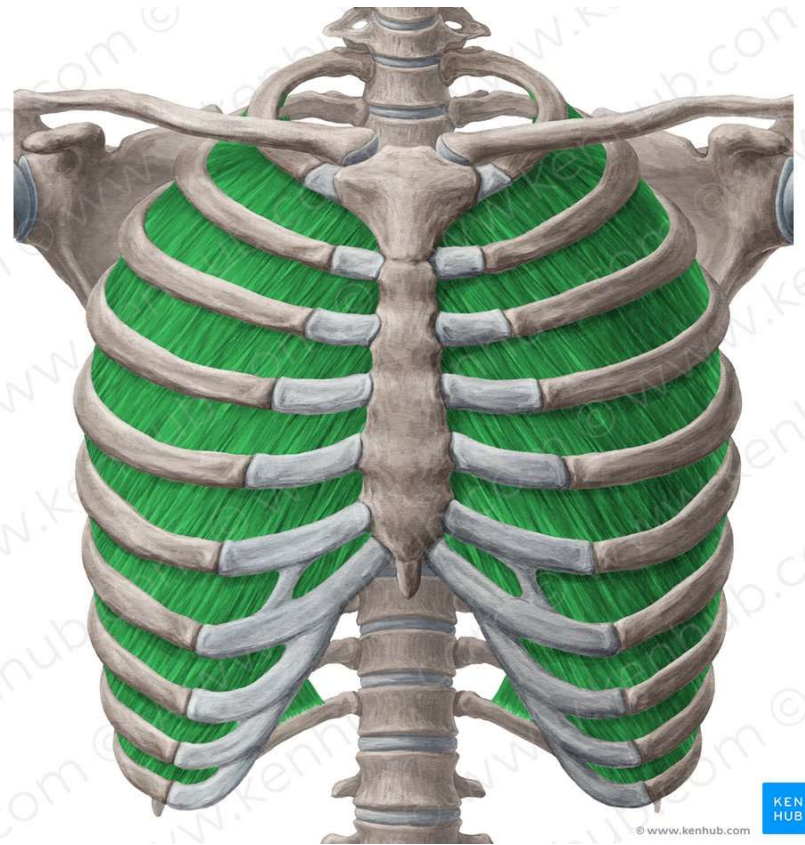
- Respiration
- Strengthen the intercostal spaces





External intercostal muscle

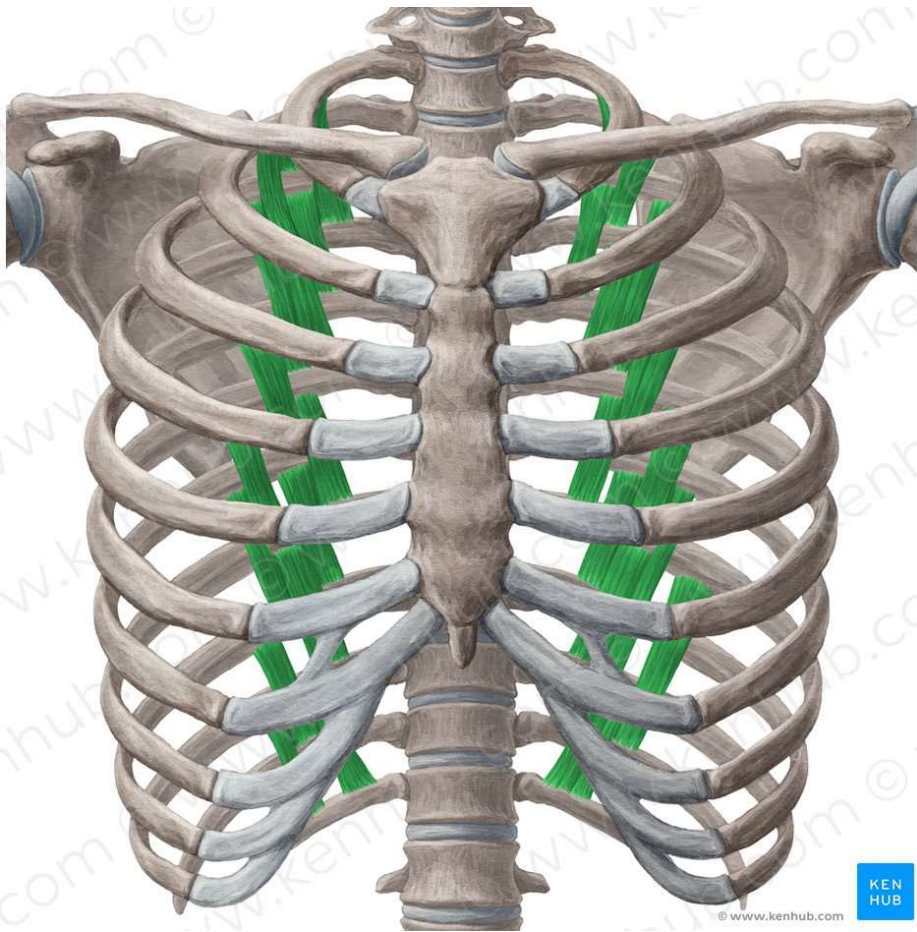
© www.kenhub.com



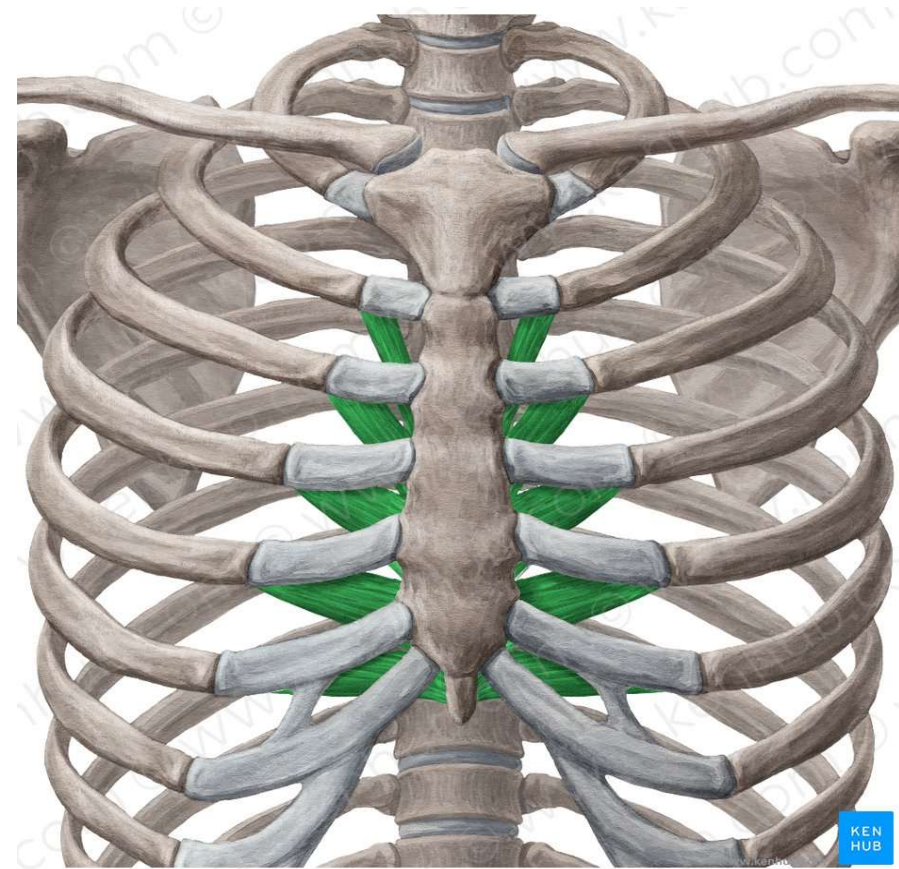
Internal intercostal muscle

© www.kenhub.com





Subcostal muscle



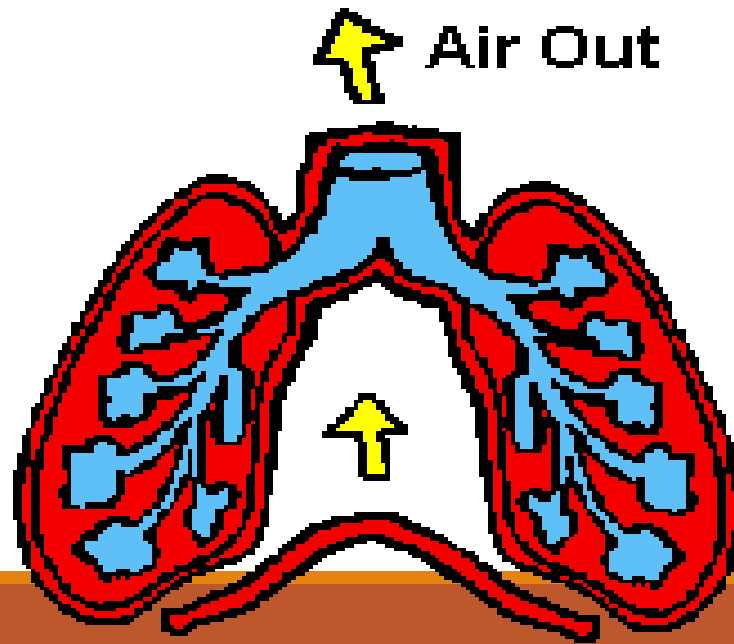
Transversus thoracis muscle

Mechanism of Respiration

Normal respiratory rate is 16-20 /minute in resting .

It is faster in children and slower in elderly.

Respiration consists of two phases; inspiration and expiration



Inspiration

Quiet Inspiration

Thoracic cavity as a box with a single entrance at the top, which is a tube called the trachea

It has three diameters ;

Vertical Diameter

The roof is formed by the suprapleural membrane and is fixed , the floor is formed by the mobile diaphragm.

When the diaphragm contracts, the level of the diaphragm is lowered.

Anteroposterior Diameter (Pump Handle movement)

The ribs were raised at their sternal ends, and the lower end of the sternum would be pushed forward .

This can be brought about by fixing the 1st rib and contracting the intercostal muscles.

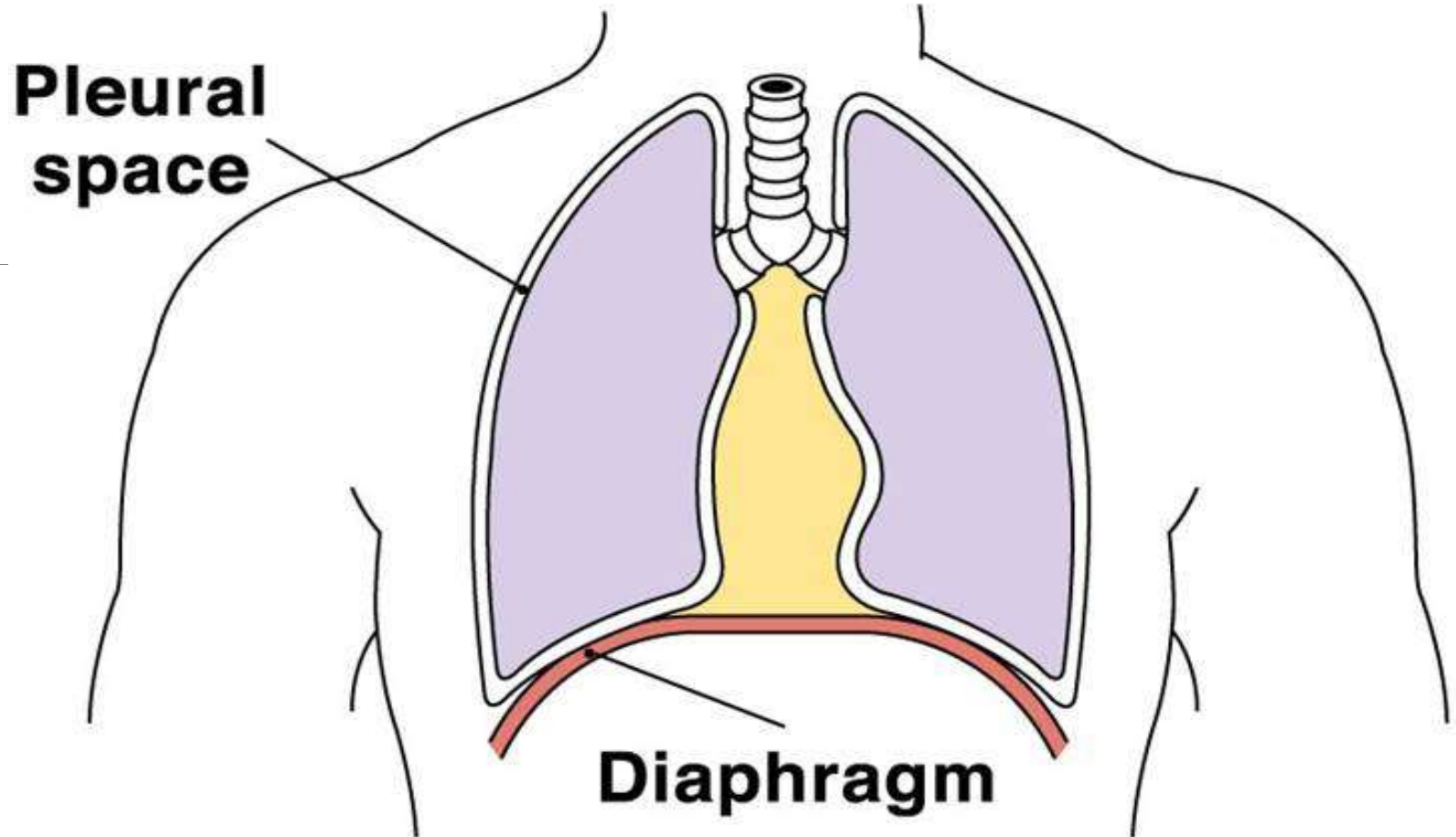
Transverse Diameter (bucket handles)

The ribs are raised , the transverse diameter of the thoracic cavity will be increased.

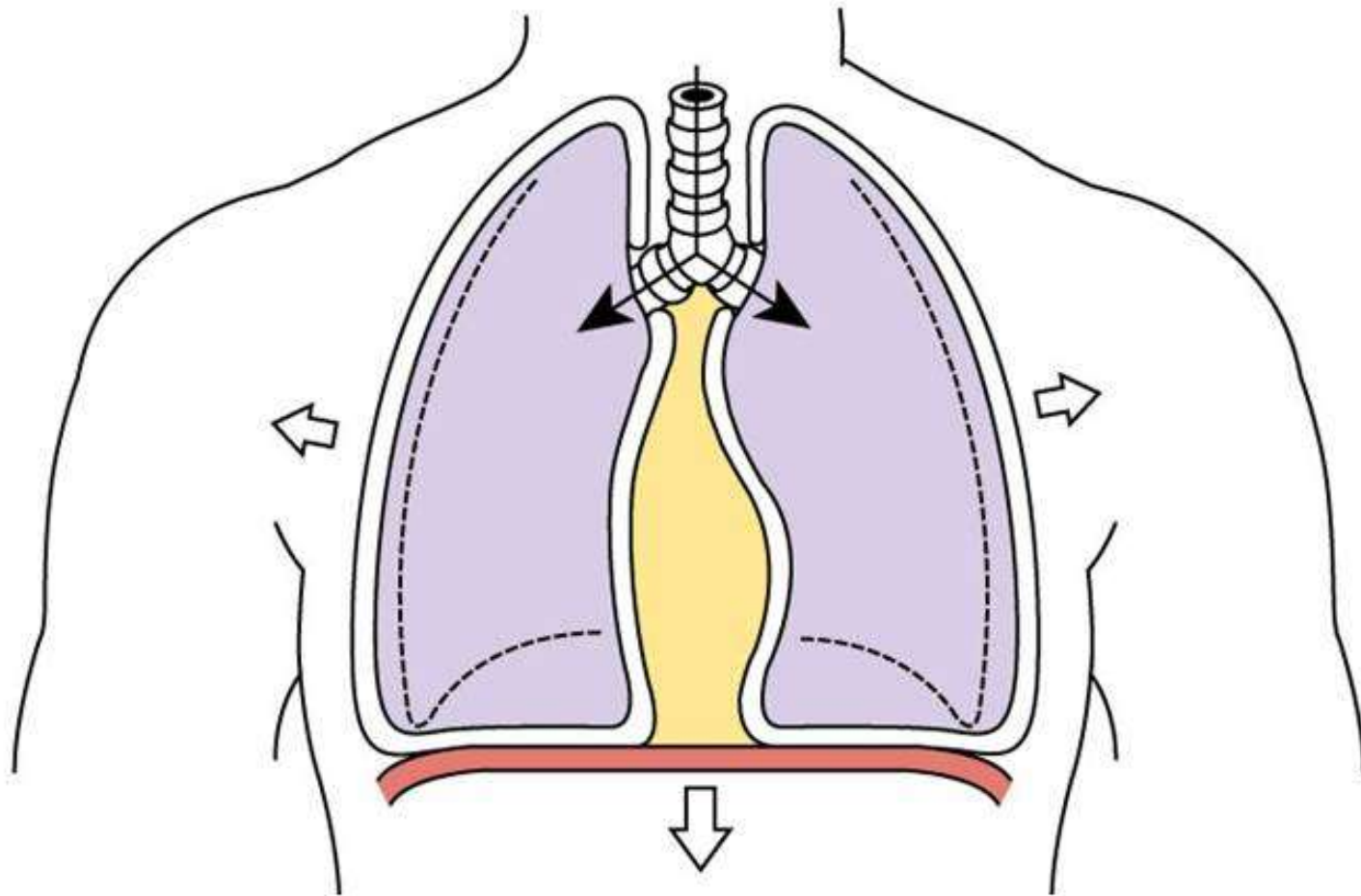
Expiration

Quiet Expiration

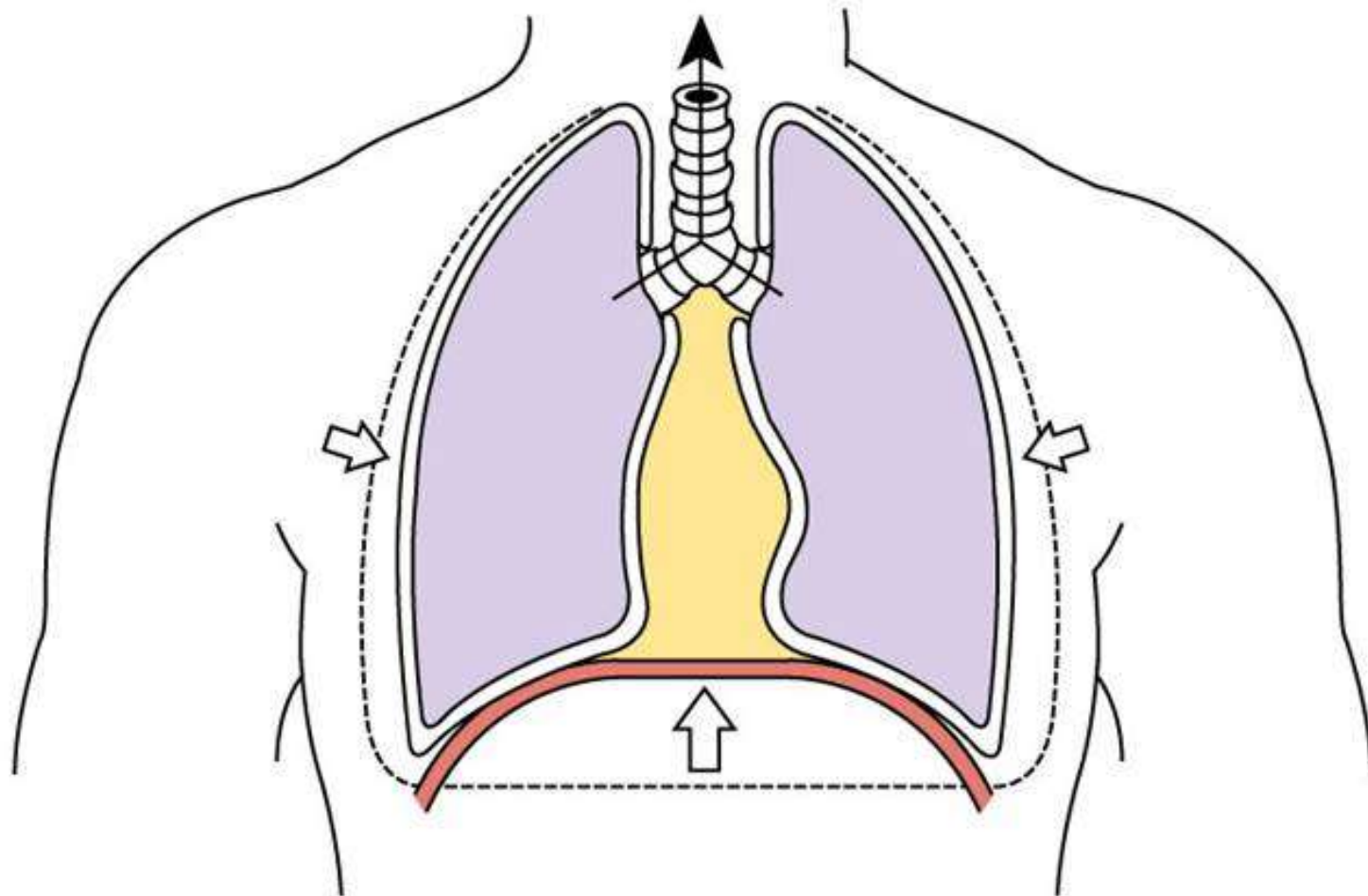
It is a passive phenomenon and is carried about by the elastic recoil of the lungs, the relaxation of the intercostal muscles and diaphragm, and an increase in tone of the muscles of the anterior abdominal wall muscles.



At rest, diaphragm is relaxed



Diaphragm contracts, thoracic volume increases.



Diaphragm relaxes, thoracic volume decreases.

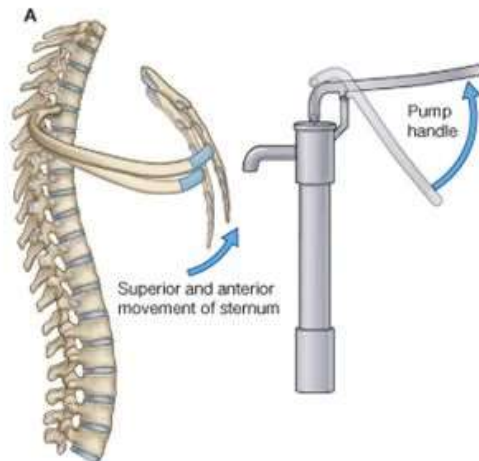
RESPIRATORY MOVEMENTS

B- MOVEMENTS OF RIBS

PUMP HANDLE MOVEMENT

Elevation of ribs

Increase in antero-posterior diameter of thoracic cavity

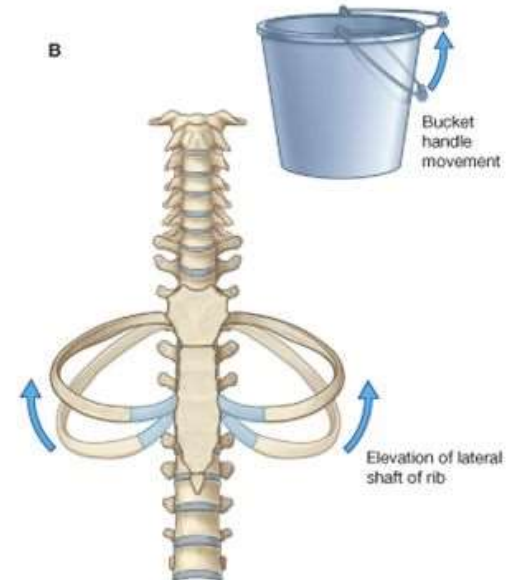


© Elsevier. Drake et al: Gray's Anatomy for Students - www.studentconsult.com

BUCKET HANDLE MOVEMENT

Elevation of ribs

Increase in lateral diameter of thoracic cavity



© Elsevier. Drake et al: Gray's Anatomy for Students - www.studentconsult.com

Respiratory Muscles

REED ONLY

Main Muscles of respiration

- Diaphragm
- Intercostal muscles

Accessory Muscles of respiration

They help in respiration especially in respiratory distress

Accessory muscles of inspiration:

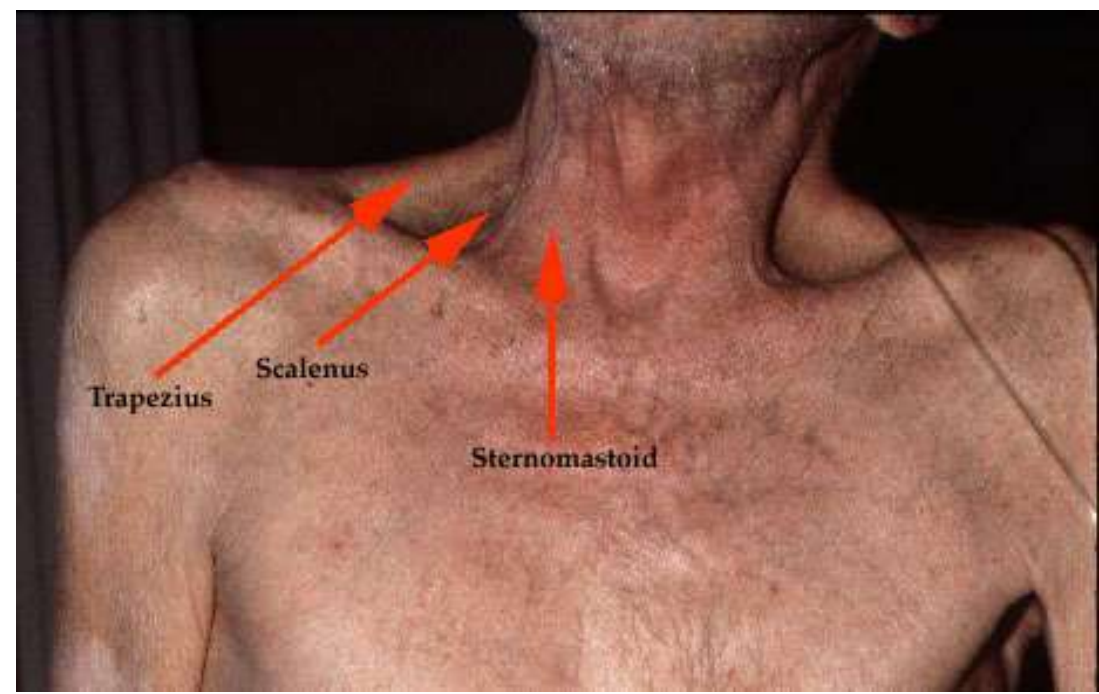
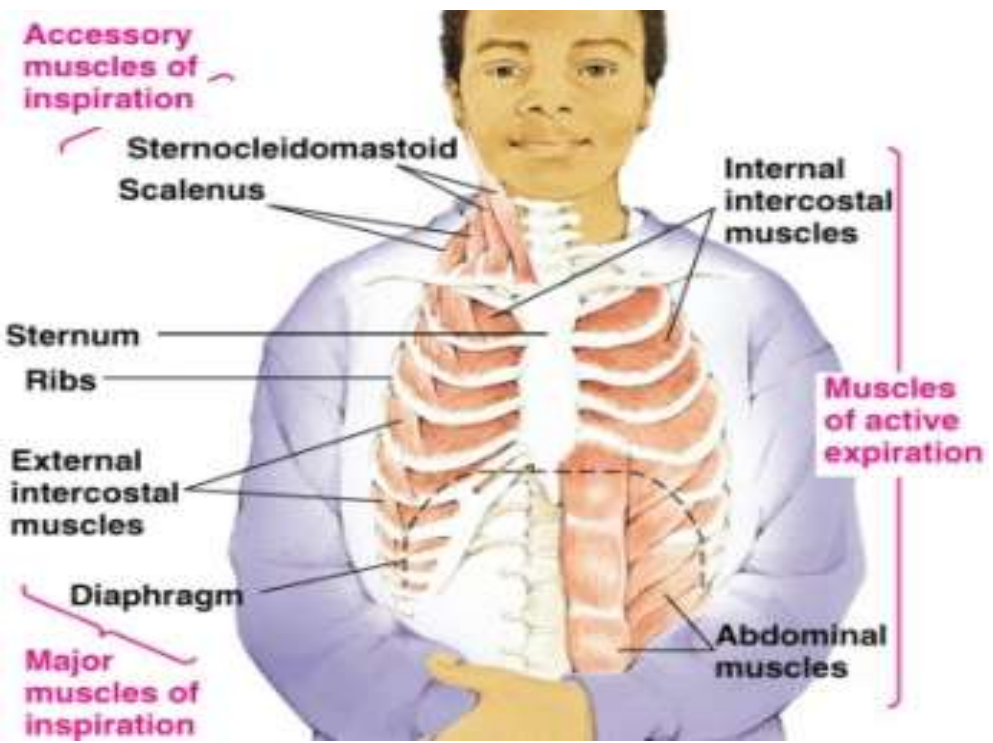
Pectoralis major and minor, Serratus anterior, Scalene group of muscles and sternocleidomastoid

By elevation of first and second ribs.

Accessory muscles of Expiration

Muscles of anterior abdominal wall, quadratus lumborum, latissimus dorsi and serratus posterior inferior.

Muscles of anterior abdominal wall compress the lower part of thorax and increase the intra-abdominal pressure whereas quadratus lumborum fixes the 12th rib

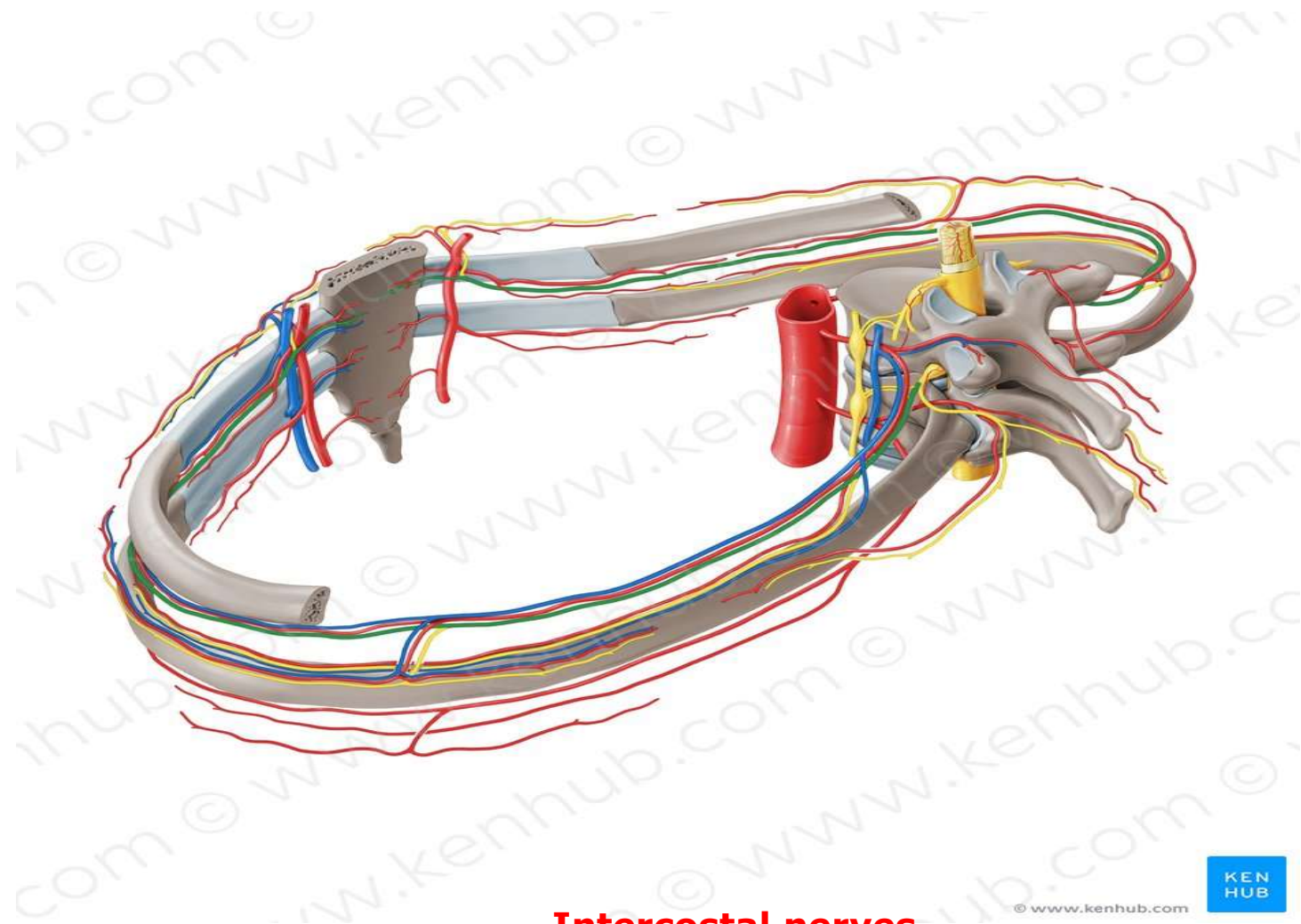


Intercostal nerves

- ❑ It is a ventral ramus of thoracic nerves
- ❑ There are 12 nerves on each side
- ❑ The last one is called subcostal nerve

Branches of intercostal nerves

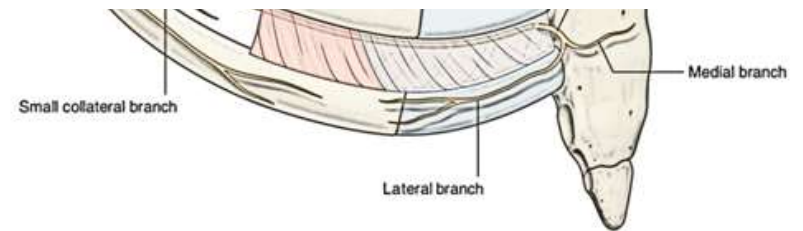
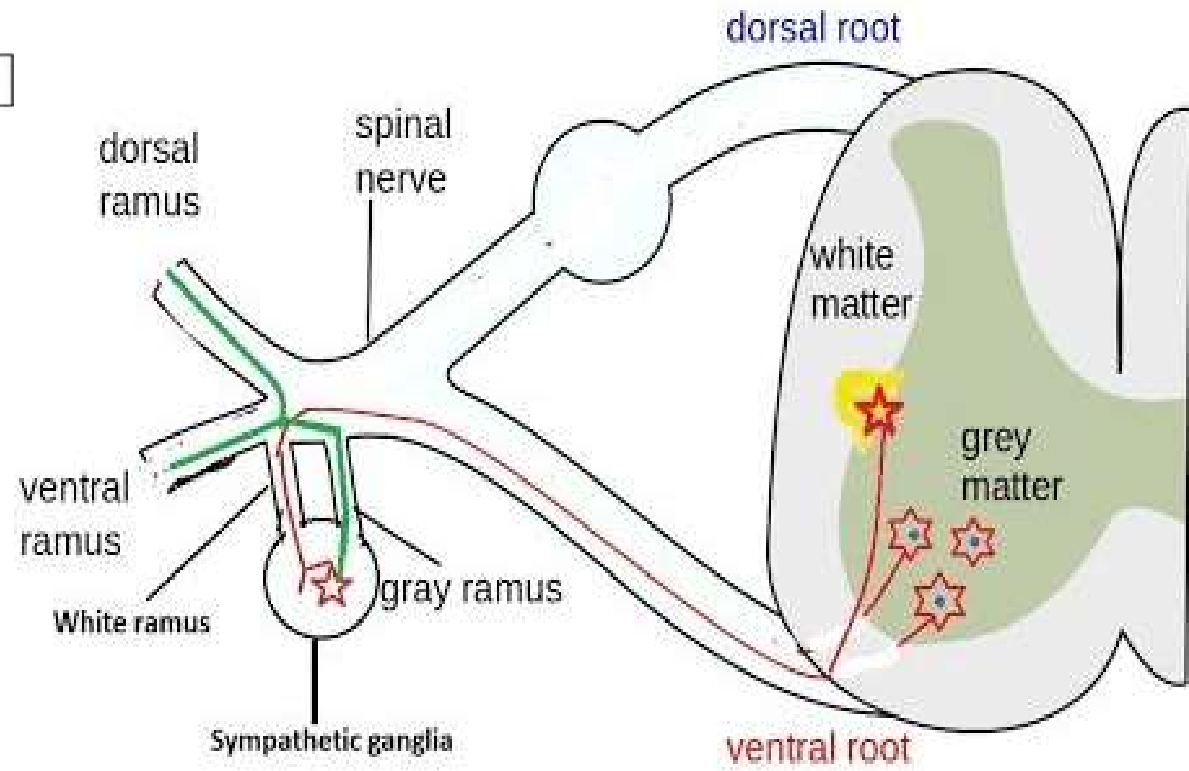
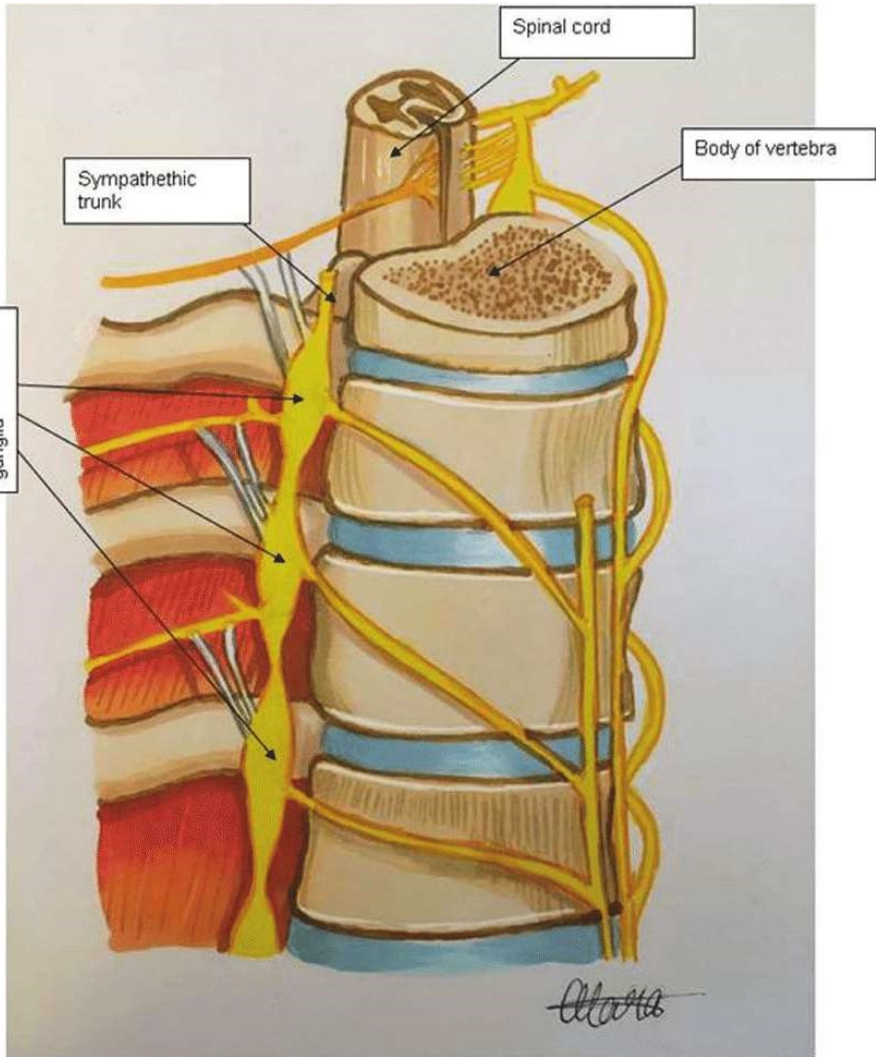
- ✓ **Collateral :supply :** Supply Intercostal muscles and parietal pleura
- ✓ **Rami communicating :**
 - White rami (preganglionic) sympathetic fibers to sympathetic trunk
 - Grey rami (preganglionic) sympathetic fibers to be distributed with spinal nerves
- ✓ **Muscular :** muscles of anterior thoracic & abdominal walls.
- ✓ **Anterior cutaneous :** Skin of anterior thoracic and abdominal wall
- ✓ **Lateral cutaneous :** Skin of lateral thoracic and abdominal wall



Intercostal nerves

© www.kenhub.com





Arterial supply of thoracic wall

```
graph TD; A[Arterial supply of thoracic wall] --> B[Anterior wall]; A --> C[Posterior wall];
```

Anterior wall

9 on each side

2 in each space

Upper 6 from internal thoracic artery.

7,8,9 from musculophrenic artery

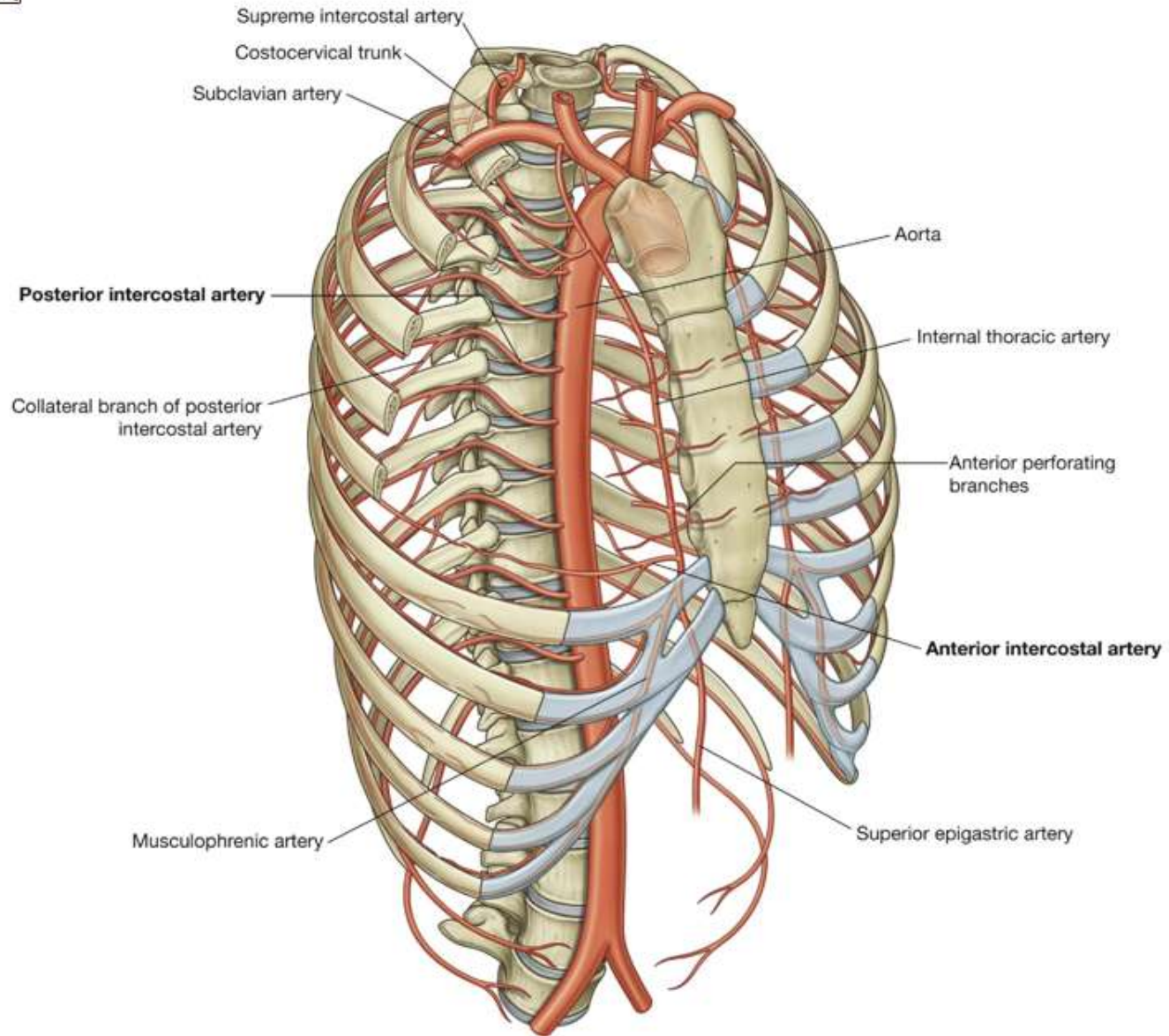
Posterior wall

11 on each side

One in each space

1st, 2nd from superior intercostal artery.

3 -11 from descending thoracic aorta.



Internal Thoracic (Mammary) artery

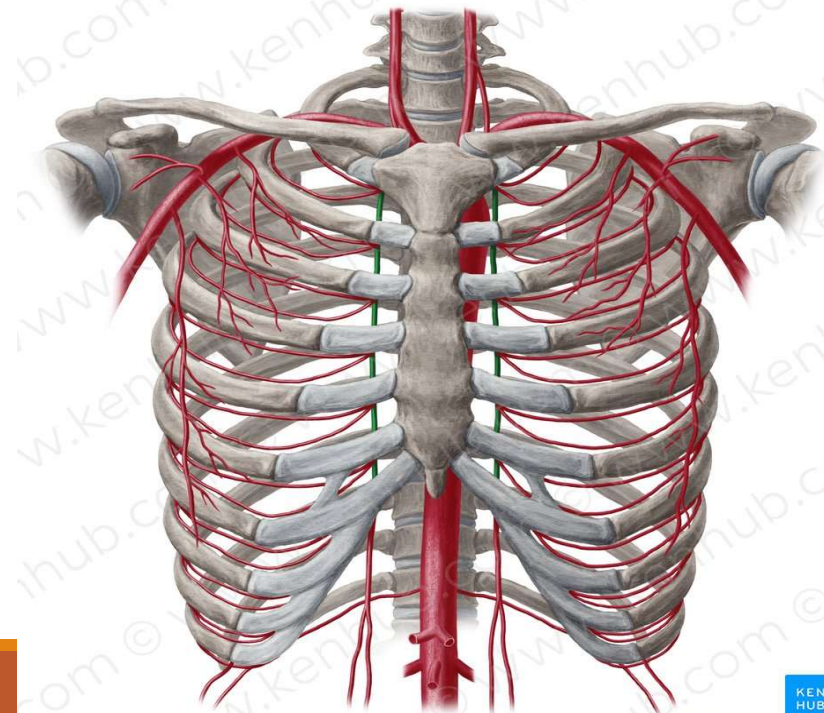
Origin: branch of 1st part of subclavian artery

Course: it descends vertically behind upper 6 costal cartilages and intercostal spaces

Termination: opposite the 6th intercostal space into : superior epigastric A. and Musculophrenic A.

Branches : REED ONLY

- 1-Pericardio-phrenic
- 2- Pericardial branches
- 3- Anterior intercostal a to upper six spaces.
- 4- Perforating branches to skin , muscles and mammary gland.



Venous drainage of thoracic wall

Anterior wall

Anterior intercostal veins
Drain into Internal thoracic vein

Posterior wall

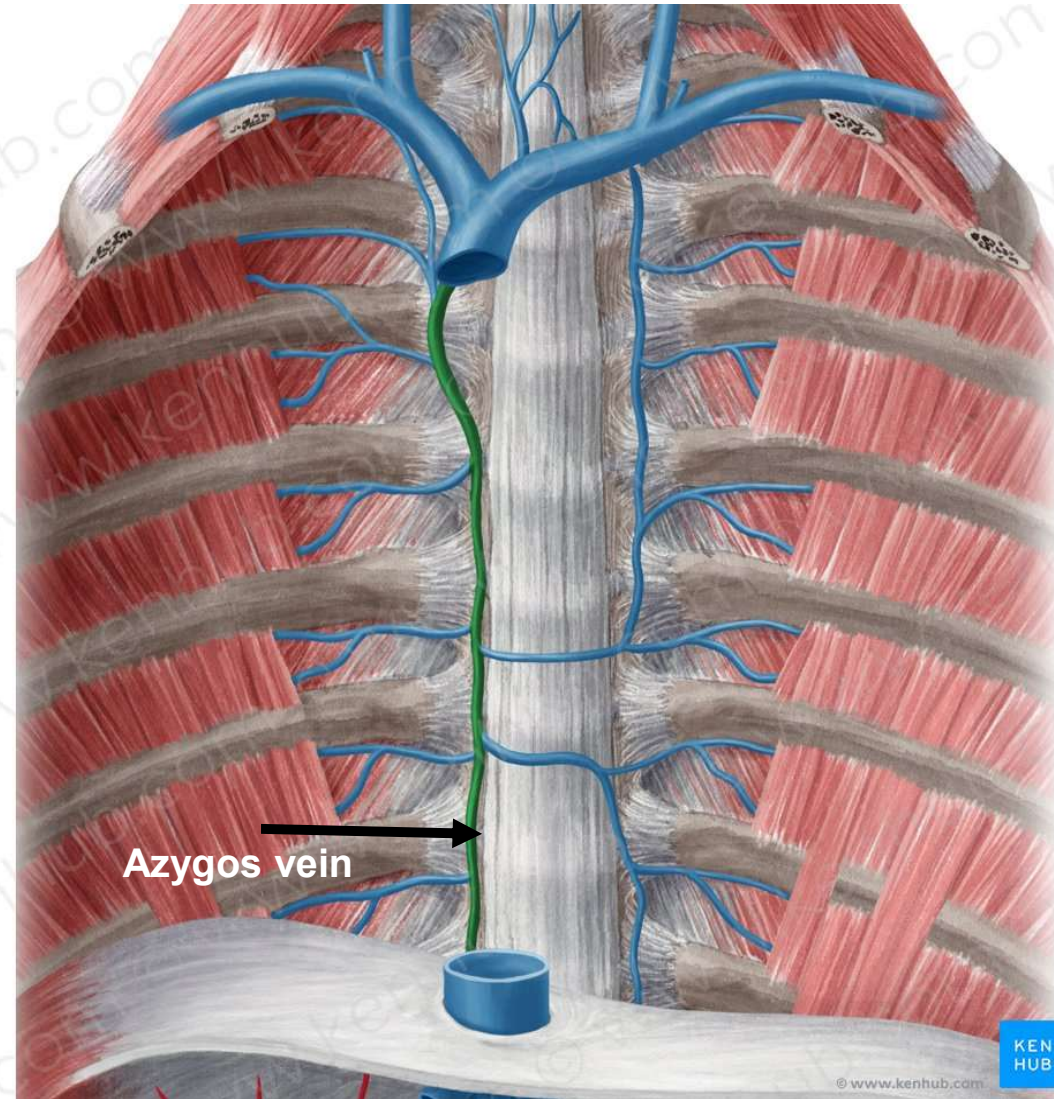
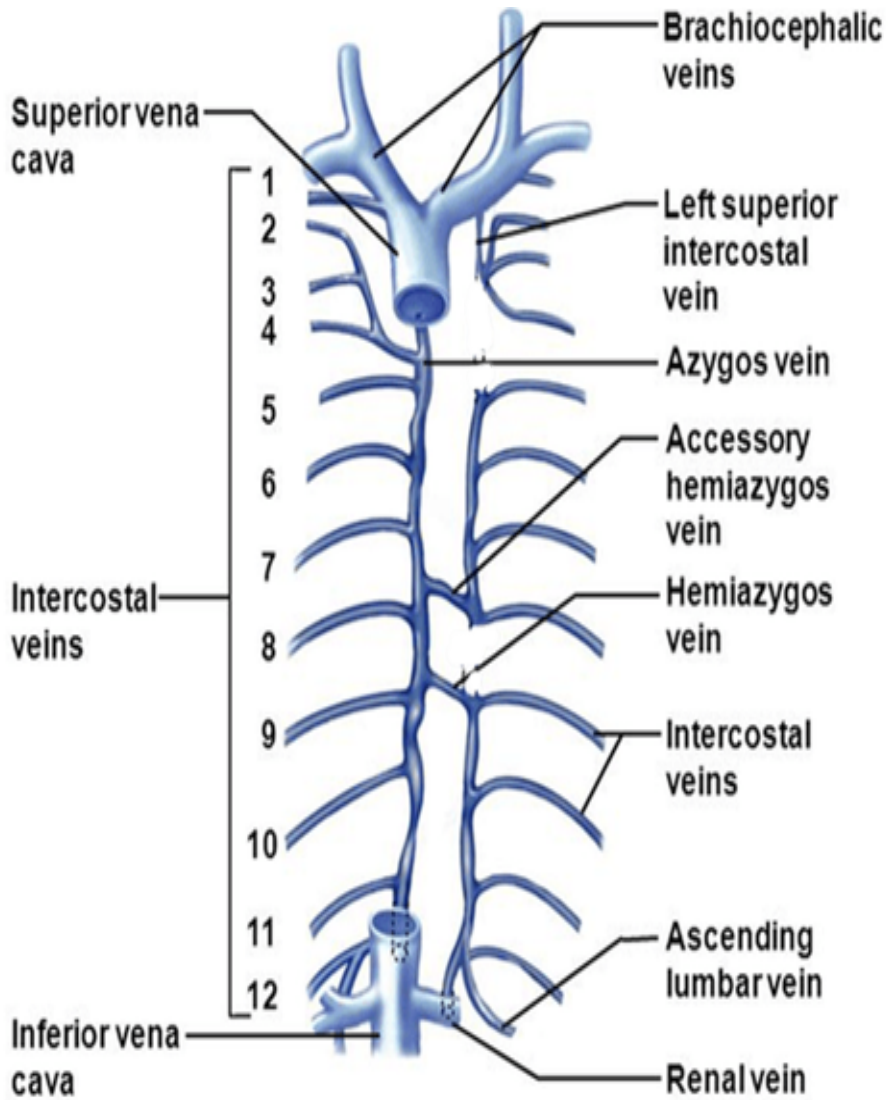
1st intercostal vein drains into
brachiocephalic vein

Right

2nd -11th drain into azygos vein

Left

- 2nd ,3rd drain into left brachiocephalic vein
- 4th -8th drain into superior hemiazygos vein
- 9th -11th drain into inferior hemiazygos vein



Chest wall abnormalities

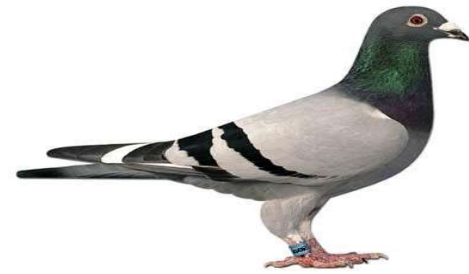
1- Pectus excavatum (sunken or funnel chest)

It is a congenital deformity in which several ribs and the sternum grow abnormally, producing a concave, or caved-in, appearance in the anterior chest wall.



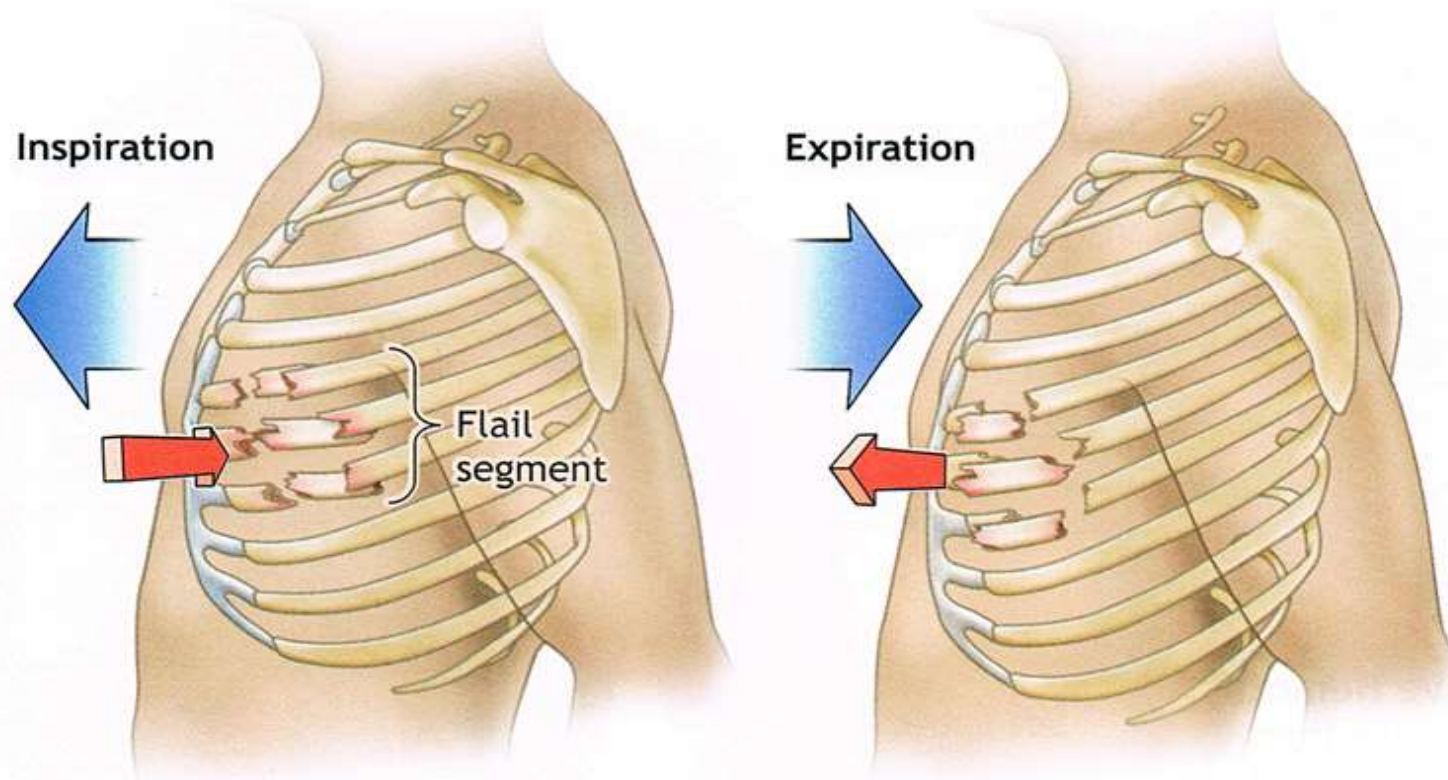
2- Rectus carinatum (pigeon chest)

is a deformity of the chest characterized by a protrusion of the sternum and ribs .



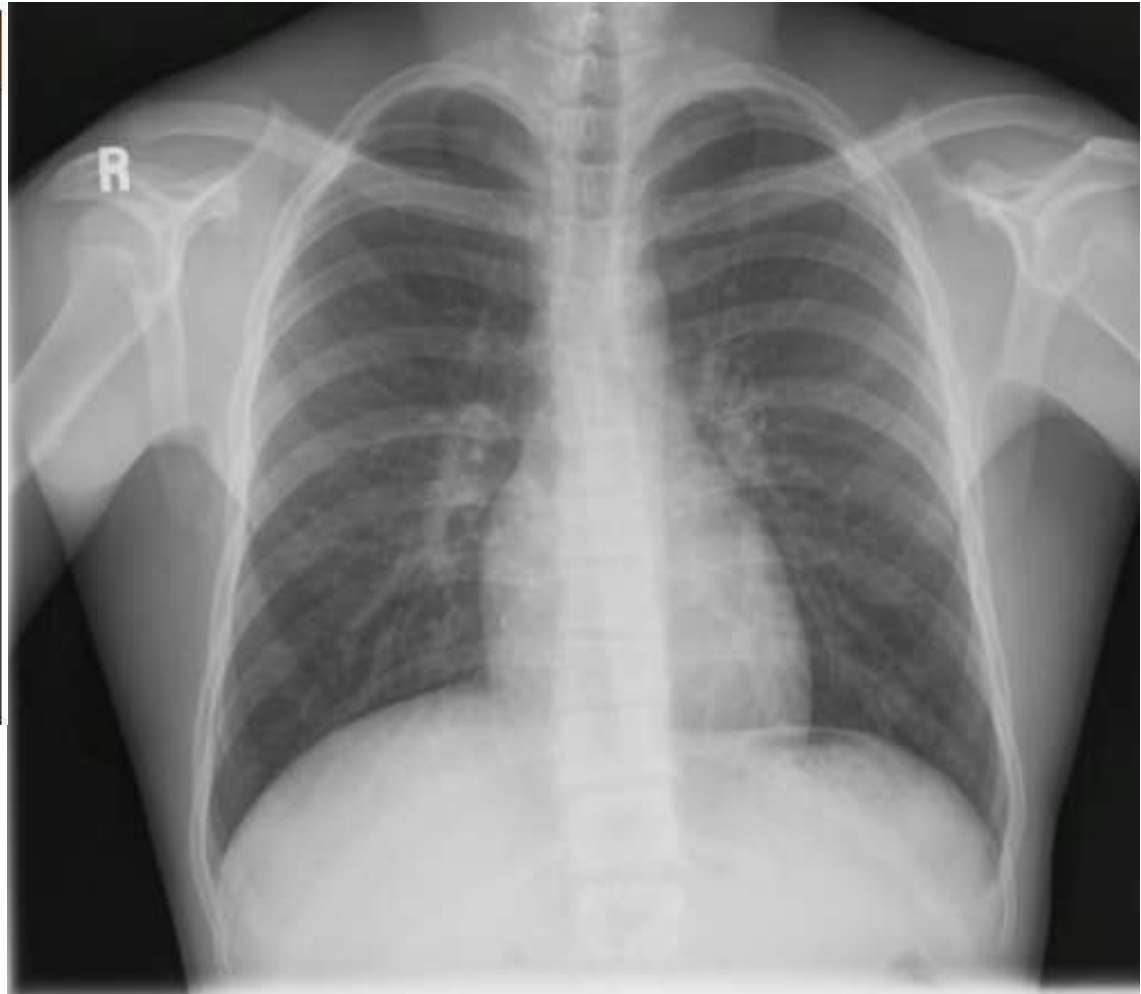
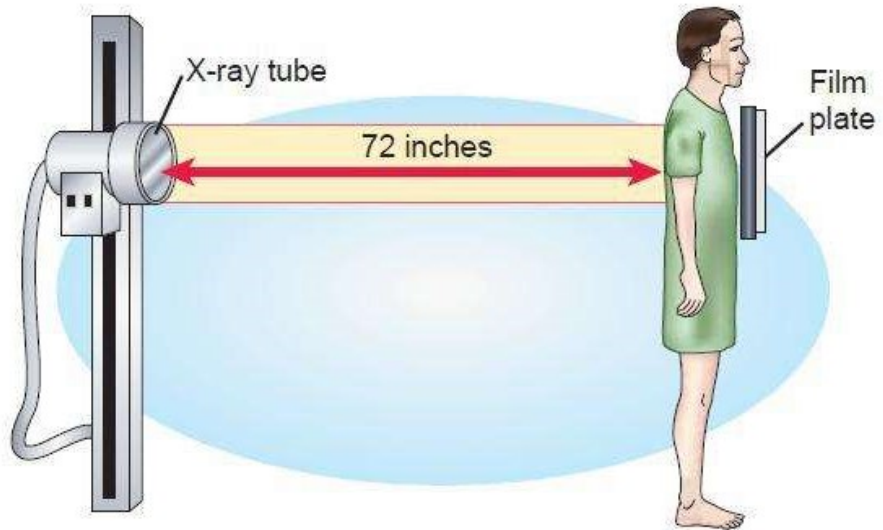
Flail Chest

- ✓ It is a life-threatening medical condition that occurs when a segment of the rib cage breaks due to trauma .
- ✓ In this case ; multiple adjacent ribs are broken in multiple places, separating a segment, so a part of the chest wall moves independently
- ✓ Two of the symptoms of flail chest are chest pain and shortness of breath.



Common Radiographic Views

Posterior–Anterior (PA)



Chest X ray Posterior anterior view



**THANK
YOU!**