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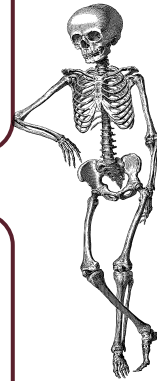


FINAL | Lecture 2

# Posterior Abdominal Wall (Pt.1)

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**Ahmad Abu Aisheh**

Reviewed by: **Ahmad Abu Aisheh**



وَإِنْ تَتَوَلَّوْا يَسْتَبَدِلْ قَوْمًا غَيْرَكُمْ ثُمَّ لَا يَكُونُوا أَمْثَلَكُمْ

اللهم استعملنا ولا تستبدلنا



*Dopamine ladies and gentlemen, hope this file finds you well,  
in this file we focused on what is really important and valuable for both exam purposes  
and our level of knowledge, executing any junky info mentioned here and there.*

*Also, we replaced the majority of illustrations in the original files by more clear and  
illustrative figures that blend with the words, as the original ones are junky, worthless  
and causes migraine according to any mentally healthy person, and according to us being  
OK with these illustrations is a marked sign of psychological issues.*

*Wish you all the best, please be generous with your prayers and wishes for us.*

*AAA*

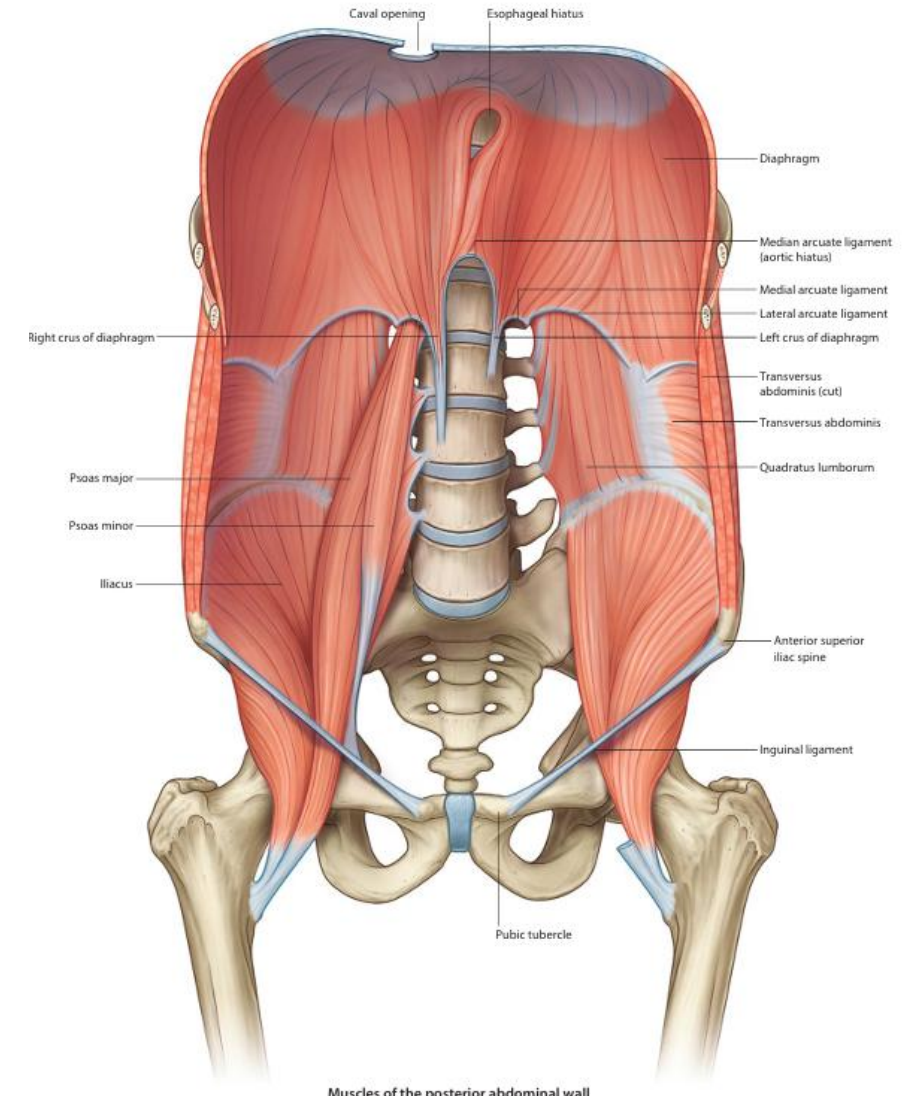
***Posterior abdominal wall***

## 1 – Structures

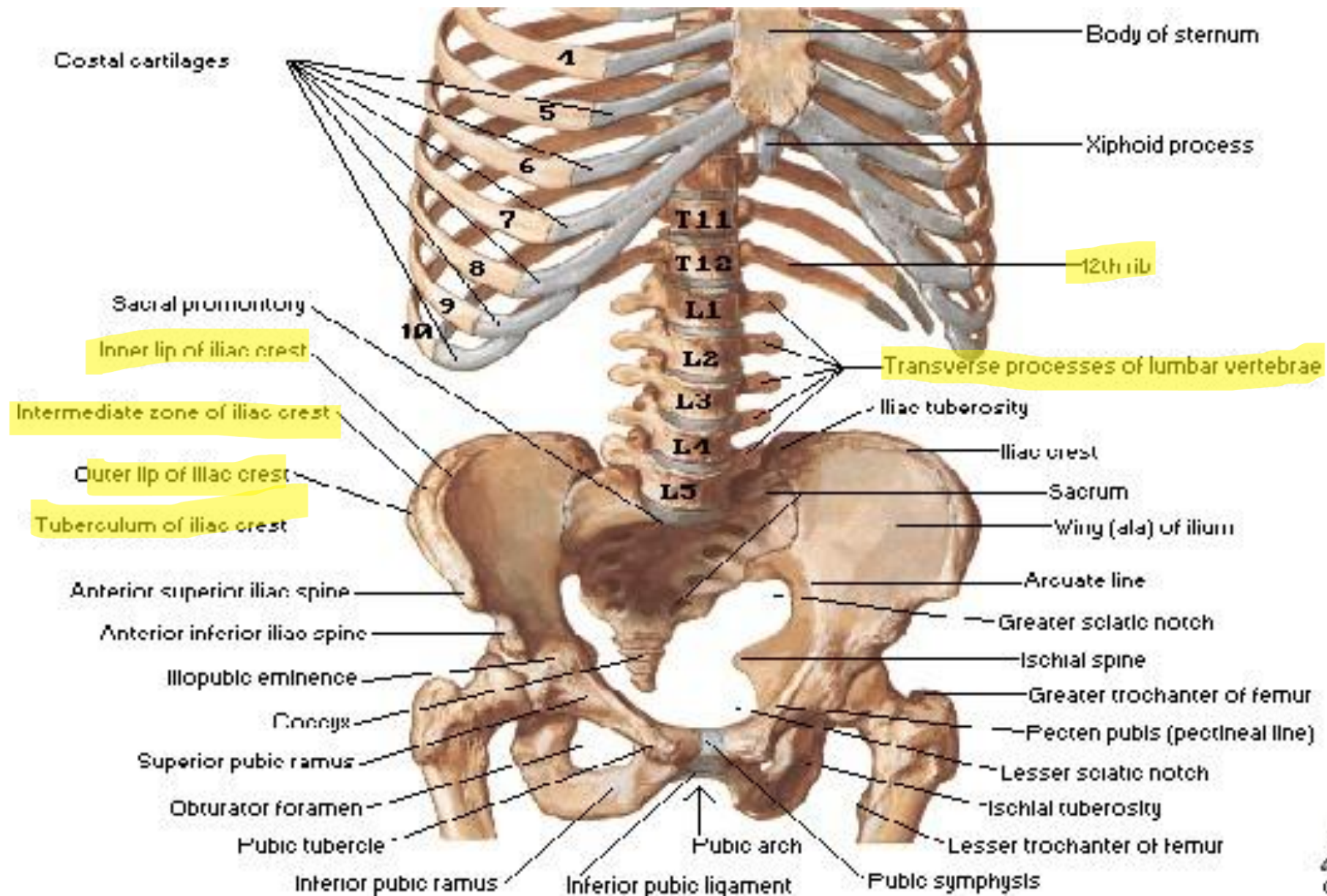
# Posterior abdominal wall

### Structures of post. Abdominal wall:

- ✓ 5 lumbar vertebrae & their intervertebral discs
- ✓ 12<sup>th</sup> rib (last rib)
- ✓ Upper part of the bony pelvis (especially iliac crest)
- ✓ Muscles:
  1. Psoas major
  2. Psoas minor
  3. Quadratus lumborum
  4. Iliacus muscle, which lies in the iliac fossa
  5. Aponeurosis of transversus abdominis muscle



# 1 – Structures: Bony Framework





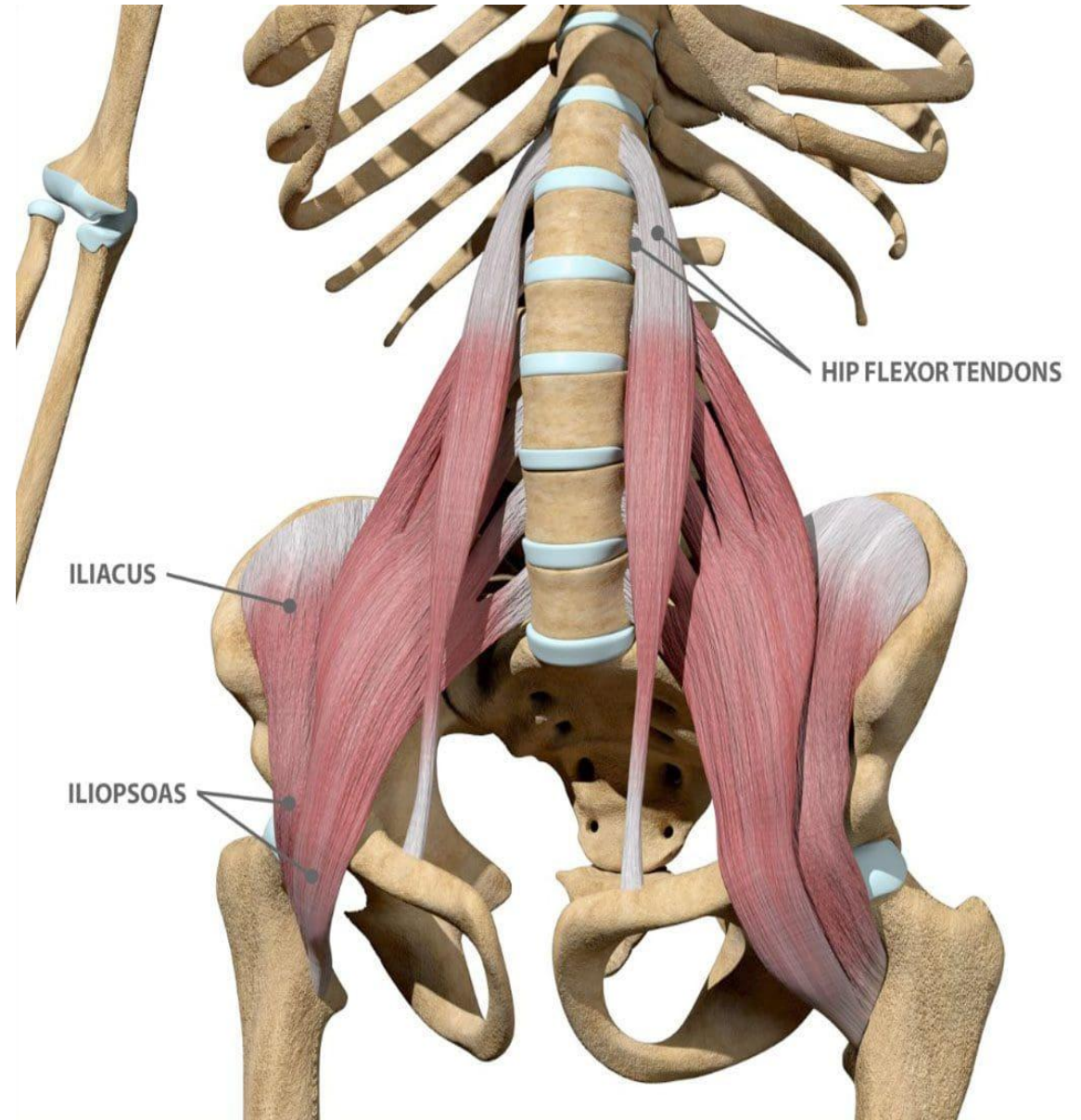
## 2 – Muscles

### ✓ Psoas major:

- Origin: Body & transverse process of lumbar vertebrae & their intervertebral discs
- Insertion: Lesser trochanter of femur
- Nerve Supply: Nerve plexus (T12, L1, L2, L3)
- Action:
  - 2 sides: bending forward
  - 1 side: bending towards that side
- 🙄: It's prone to diseases, where an abscess occurs and tracks downward, reaching the pelvis.

### ✓ Psoas minor:

- It may be absent



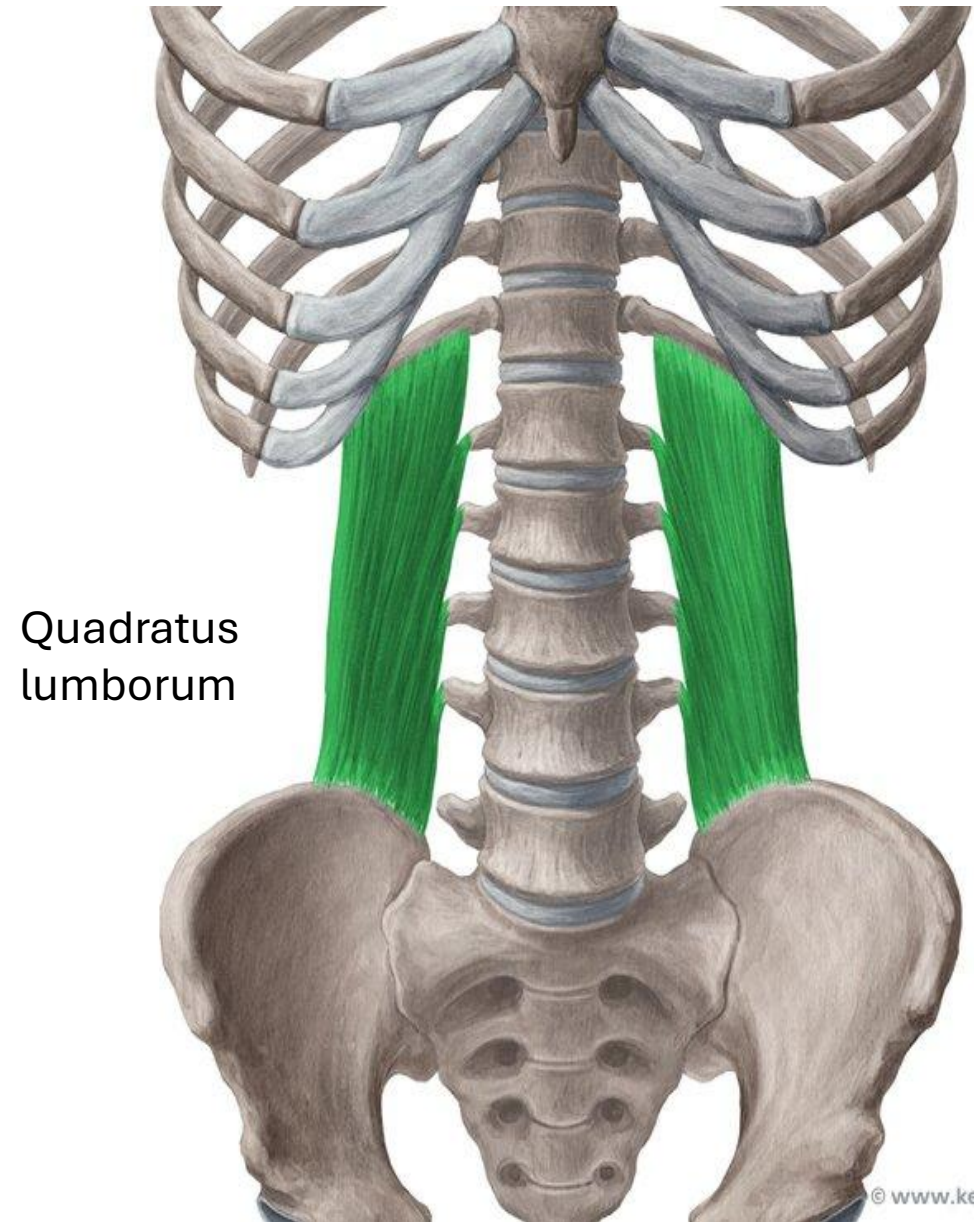
## 2 – Muscles

### ✓ Quadratus lumborum

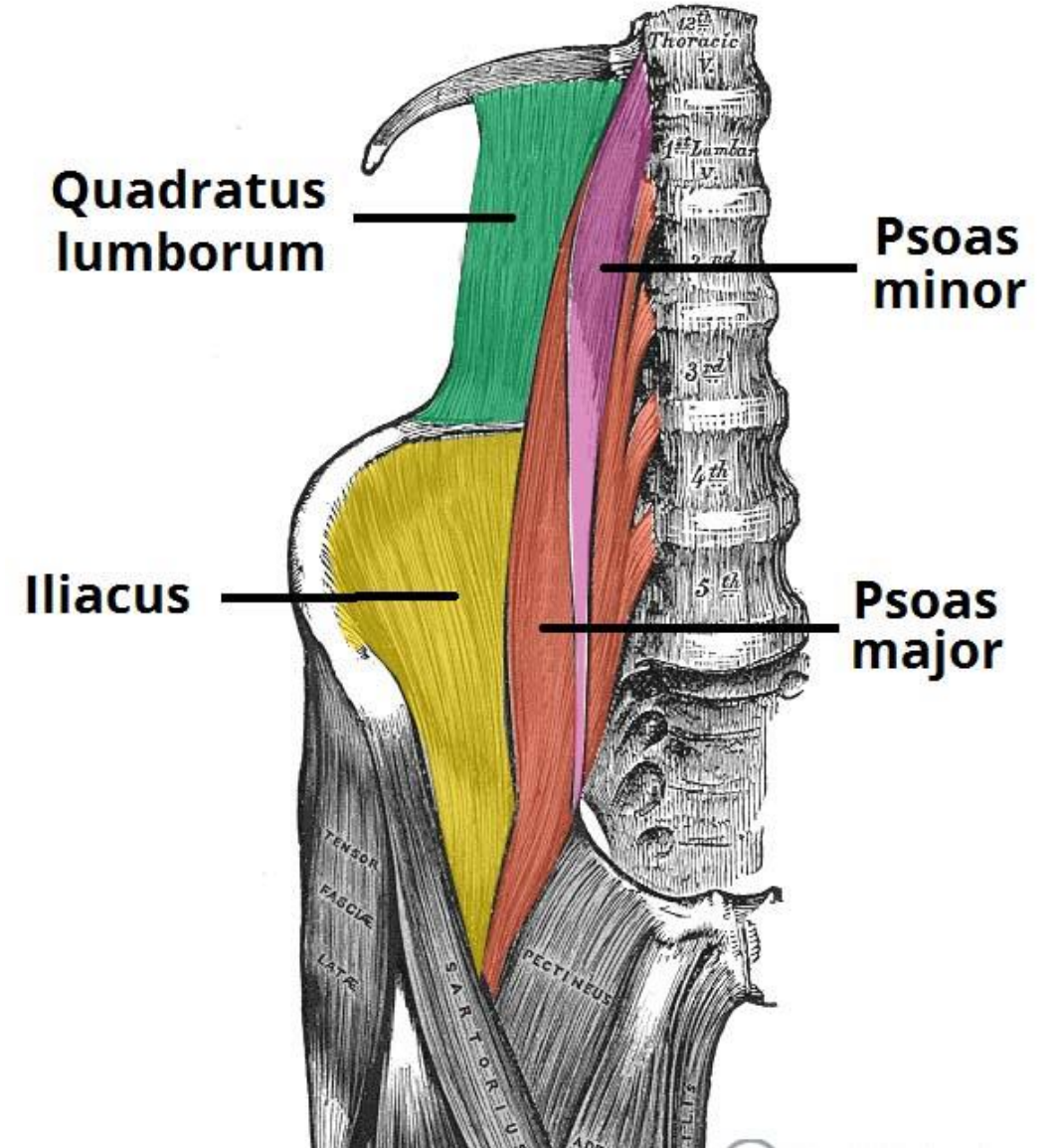
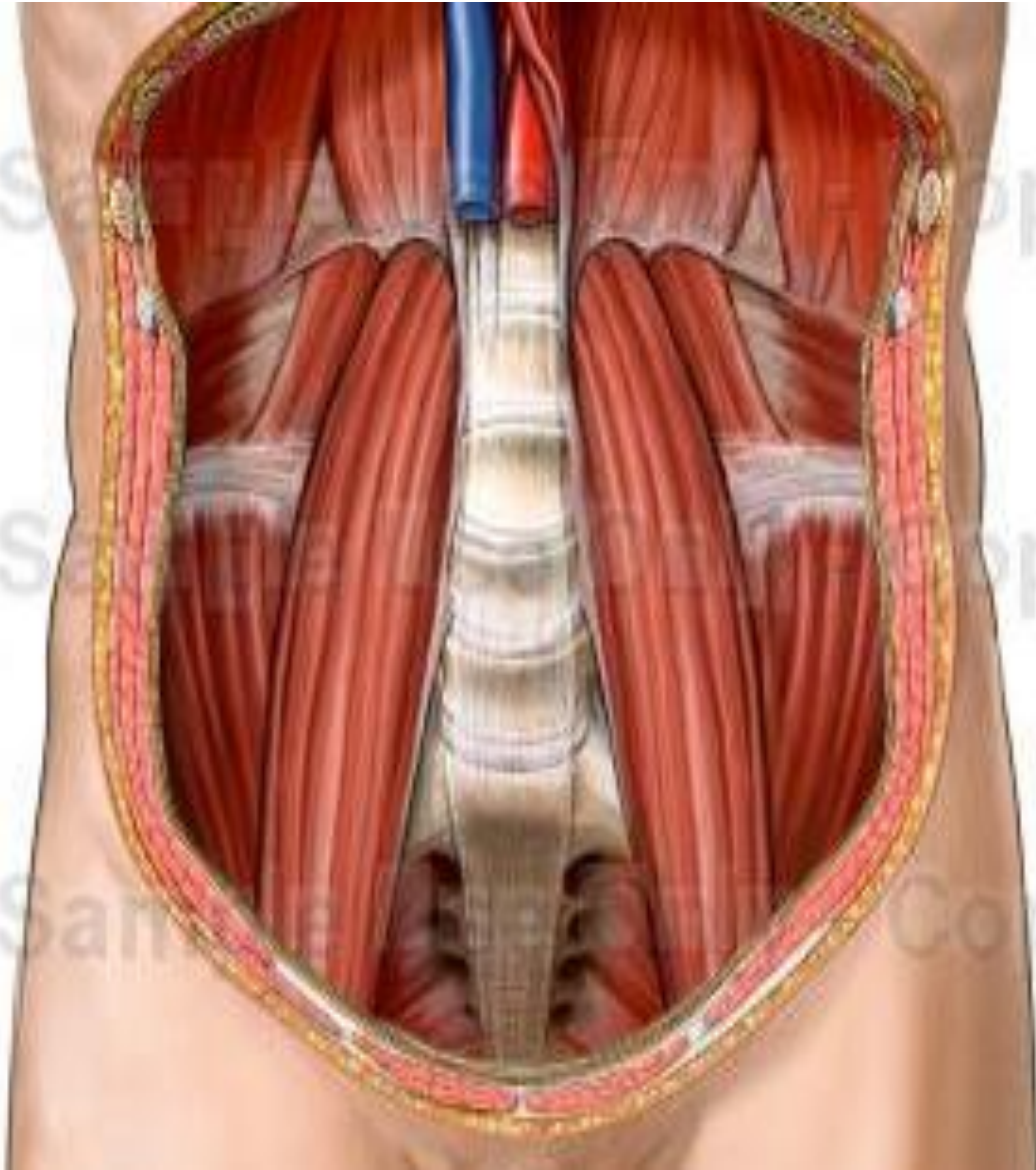
- Origin: Iliolumbar ligament & iliac crest
- Insertion: 12<sup>th</sup> rib
- Nerve Supply: Nerve plexus (T12, L1, L2, L3)
- Action: Fix or depresses 12<sup>th</sup> rib during respiration & lateral flexion of the trunk

### ✓ Iliacus muscle

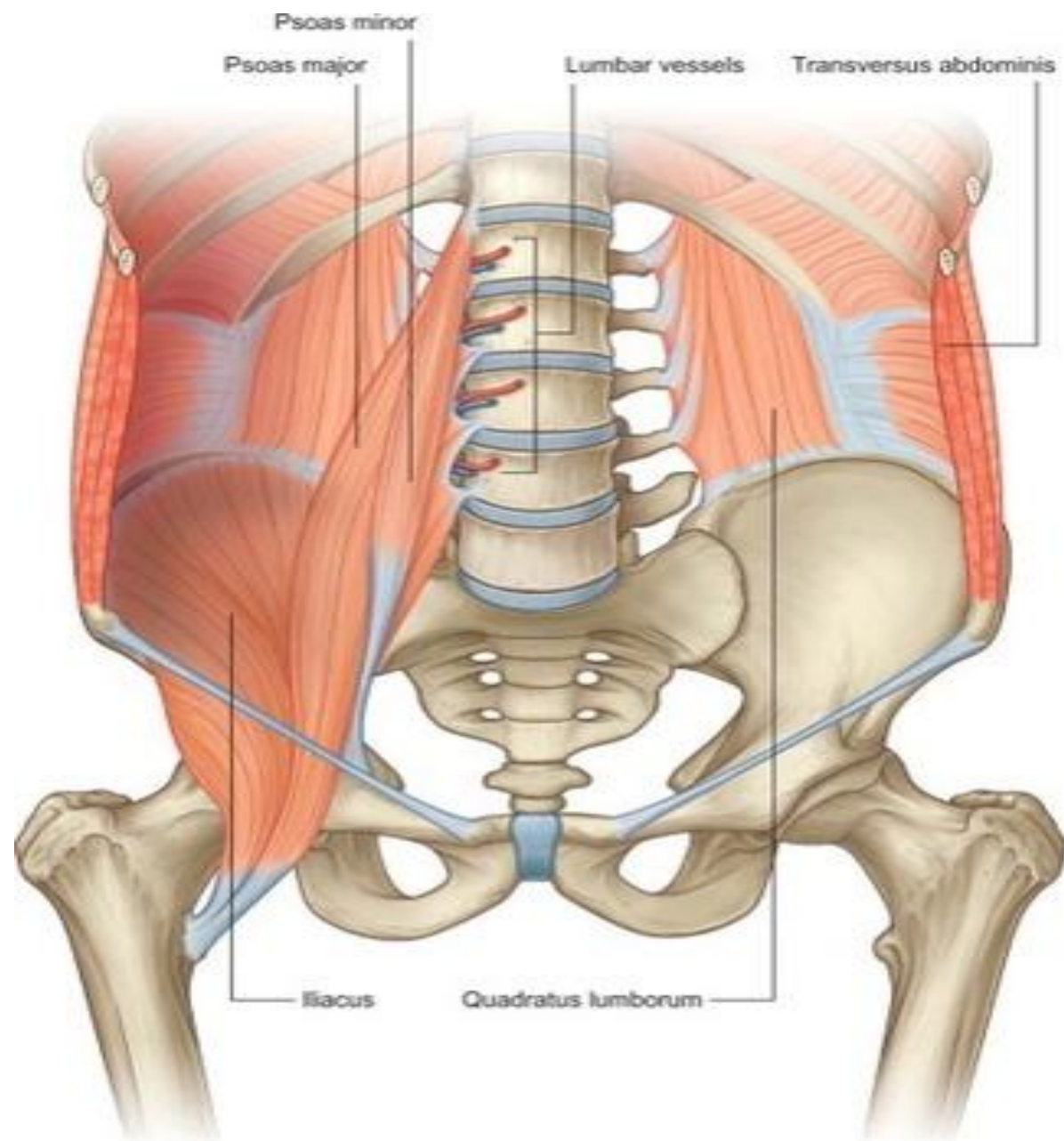
- Origin: Iliac fossa
- Insertion: Lesser trochanter of femur
- Nerve Supply: Femoral nerve
- Action: Lateral flexion of hip & thigh for lying position





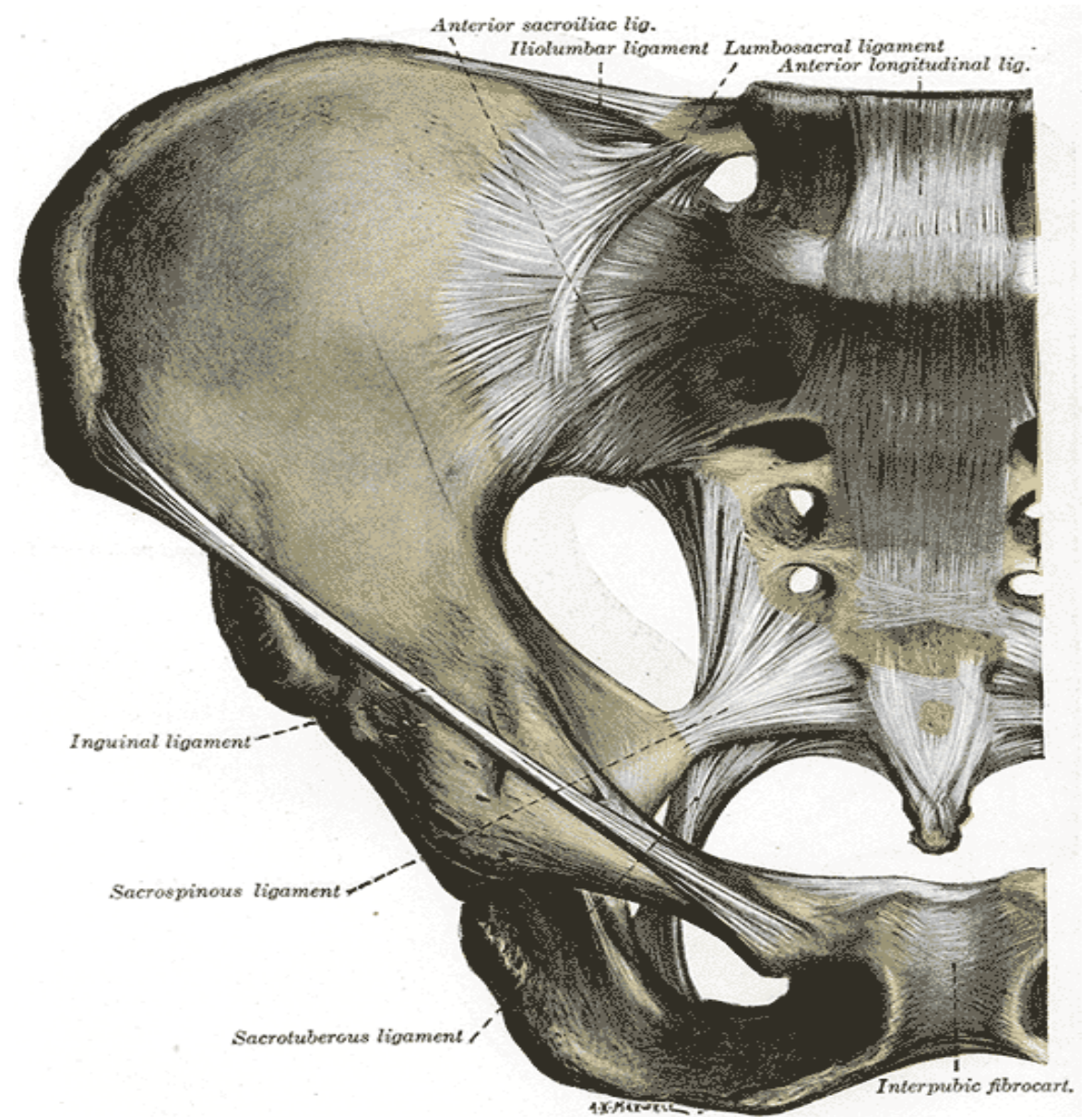






### 3 – Iliolumbar ligament

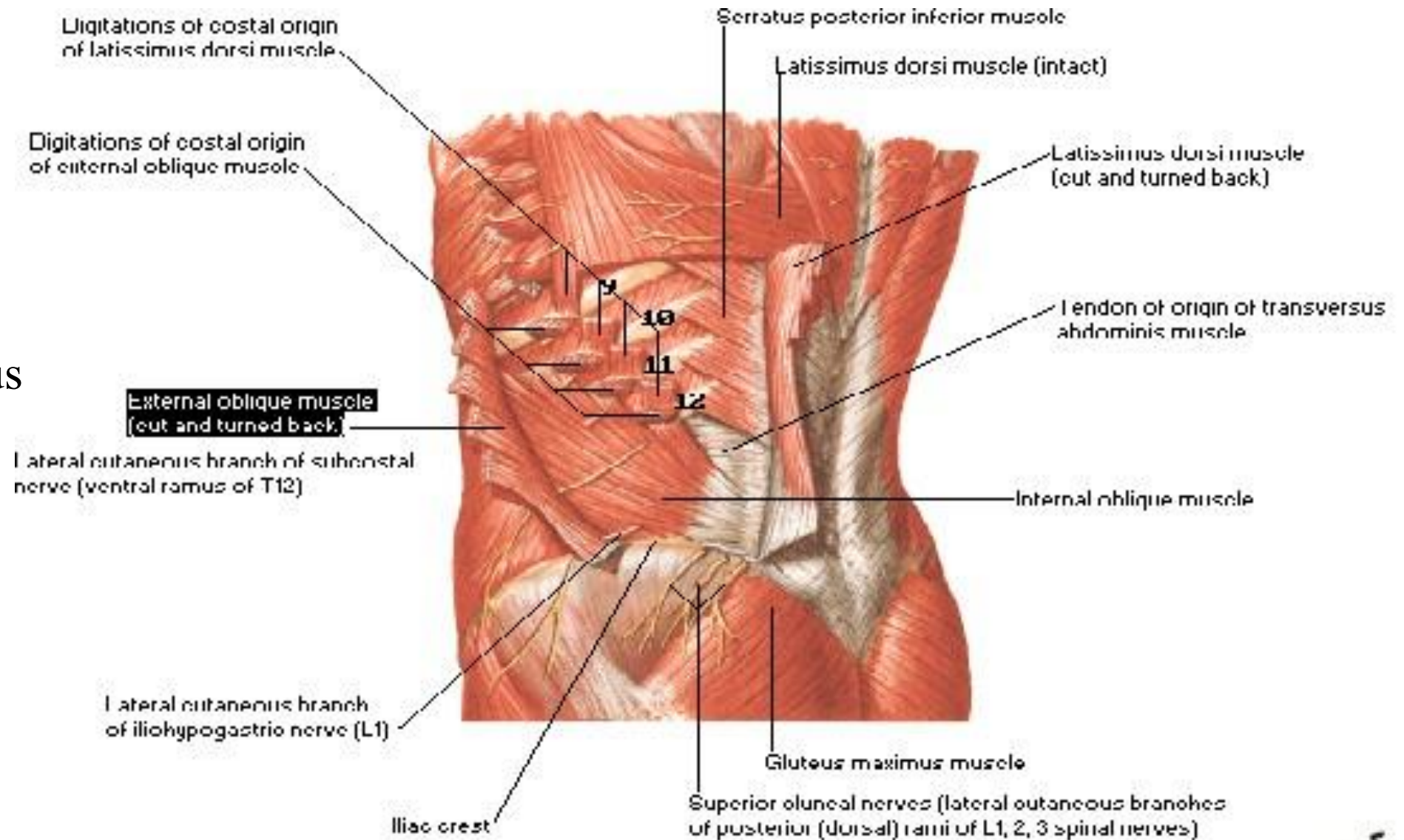
- ✓ The **Iliolumbar ligament** :
  - A strong ligament
  - Passing from the tip of the transverse process of the 5<sup>th</sup> lumbar vertebra → the iliac crest.
  - Giving origin for the Quadrates Lumborum muscle.





## 4 – Posterolateral Abdominal

Encompasses oblique muscles and transversus abdominis





## 5 – Abdominal Aorta: Course

- ✓ Posterior abdominal arteries all emerge from the abdominal aorta, which ends as the common iliac artery.
- ✓ **Course:**
  - Enters the diaphragm at the midline through the aortic opening, at the level of T12.
  - Descends behind the peritoneum on the anterior surface of the bodies of the lumbar vertebrae. It is **retroperitoneal**.
  - Ends at the level of the 4<sup>th</sup> lumbar vertebra, at the left side. It is just opposite to I.V.C., which starts at the level of 5<sup>th</sup> lumbar vertebra, to the right.

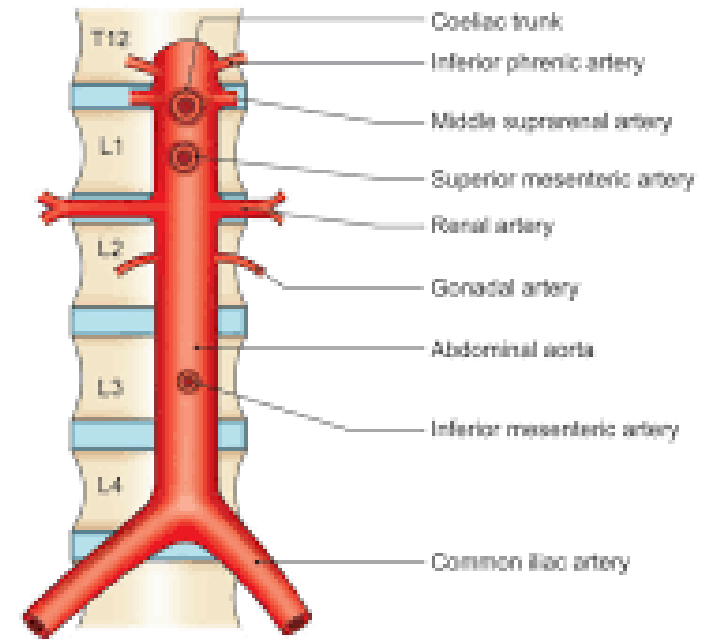
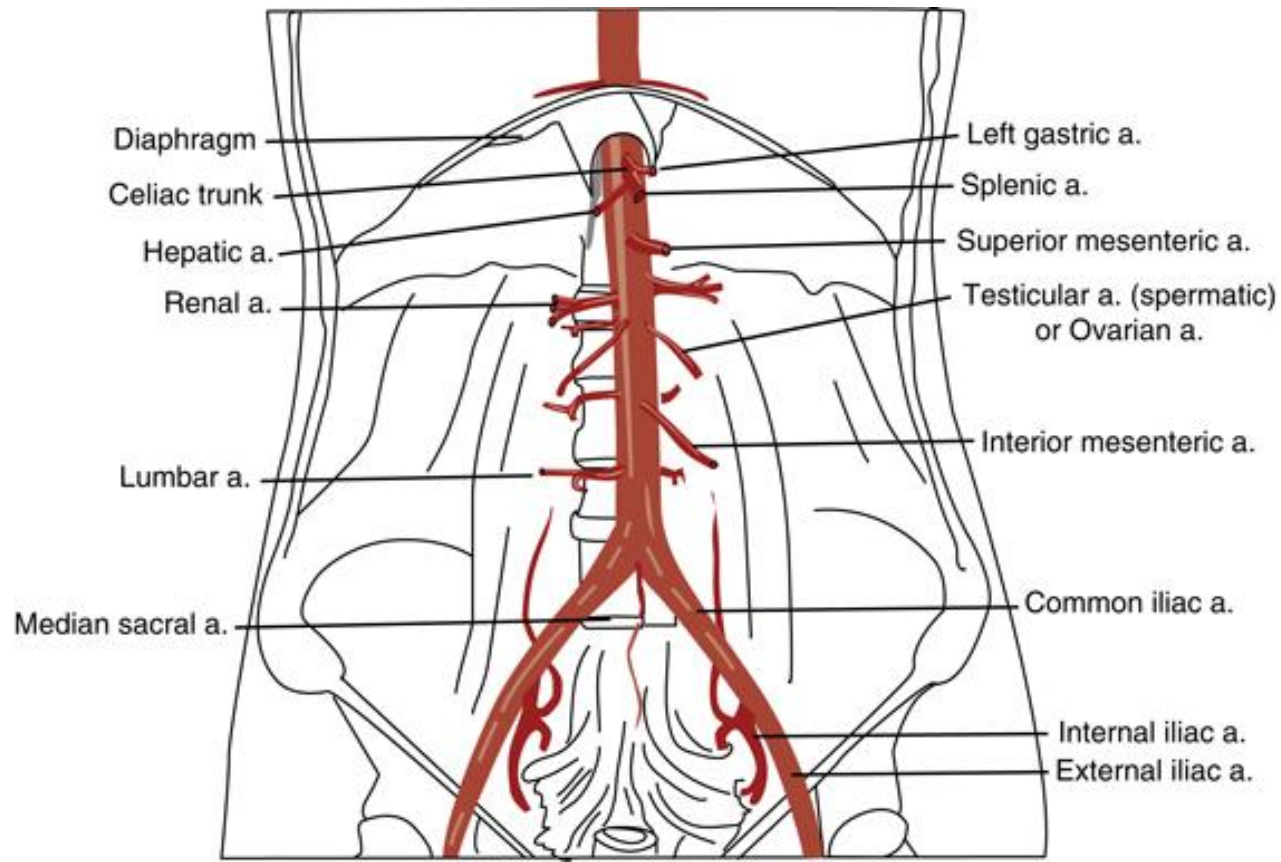


Fig. 21.1: Ventral and lateral branches of the abdominal aorta with their levels of origin

## 5 – Abdominal Aorta: Relations

### ✓ Anterior:

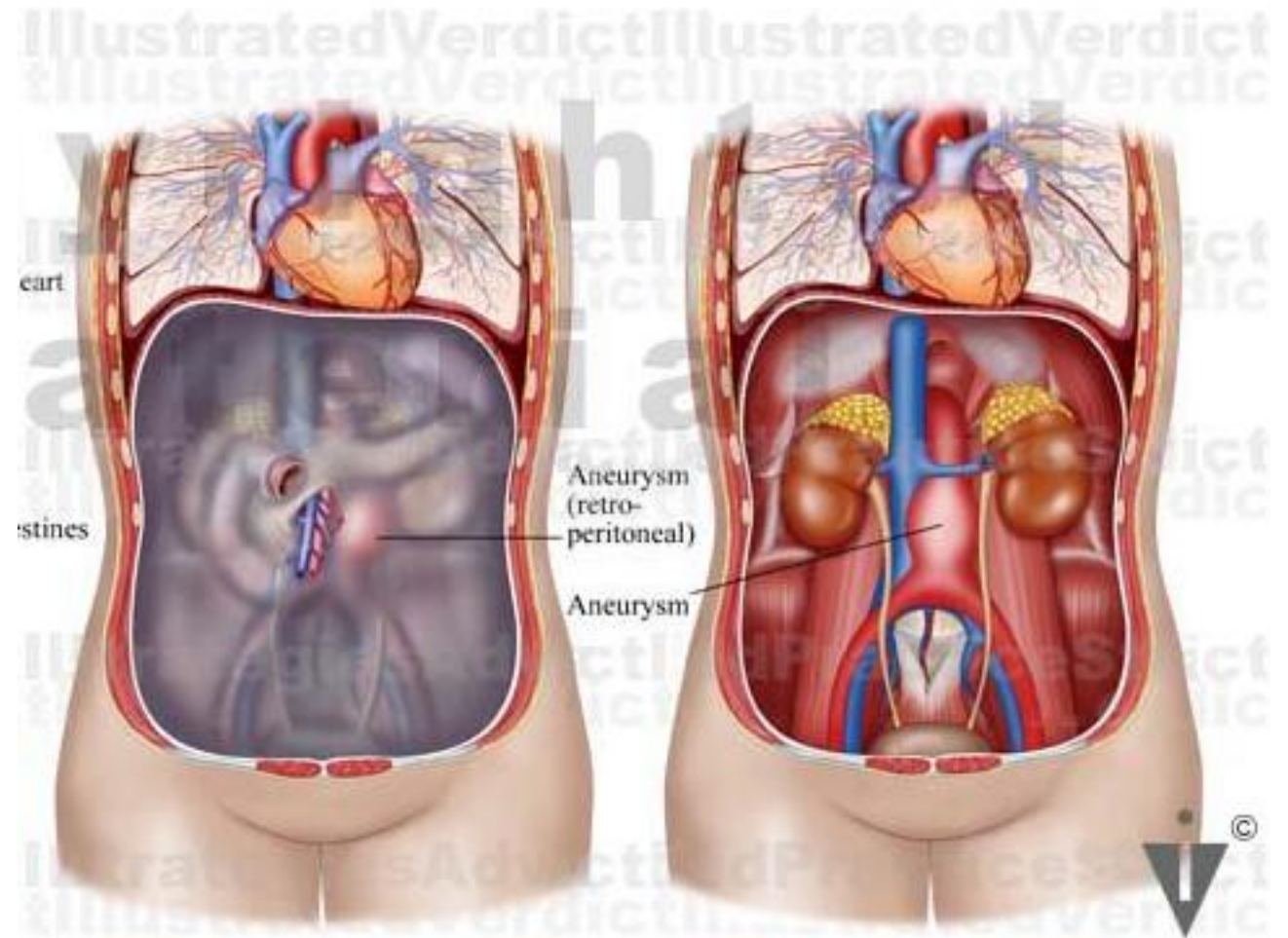
- Pancreas
- 3<sup>rd</sup> part of duodenum (horizontal part)
- Coils of small intestine
- Crossed by the left renal vein; to reach the I.V.C. on the right side

### ✓ Right:

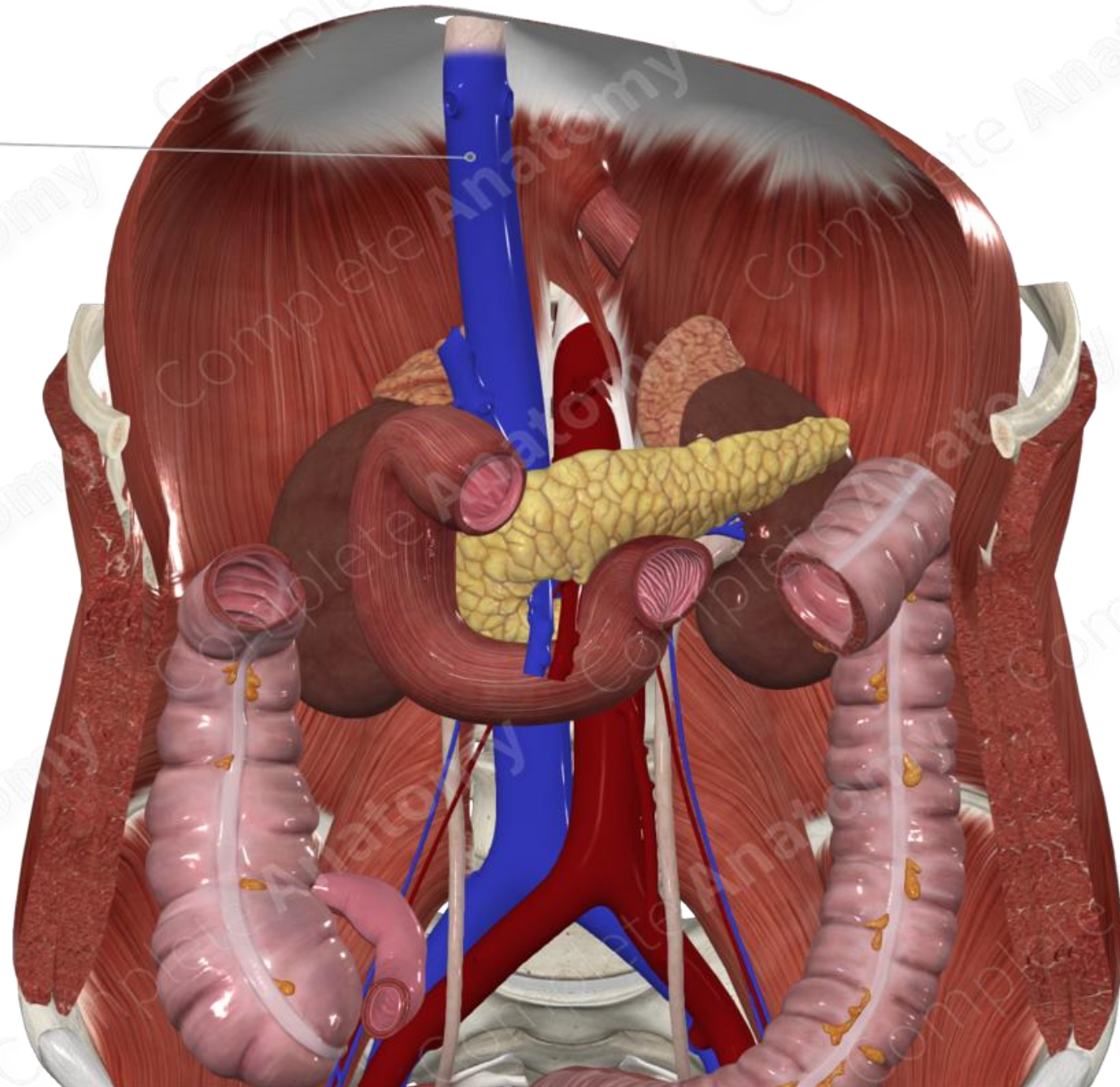
- I.V.C
- Cisterna chyle
- The start of thoracic duct and azygos vein

### ✓ Left:

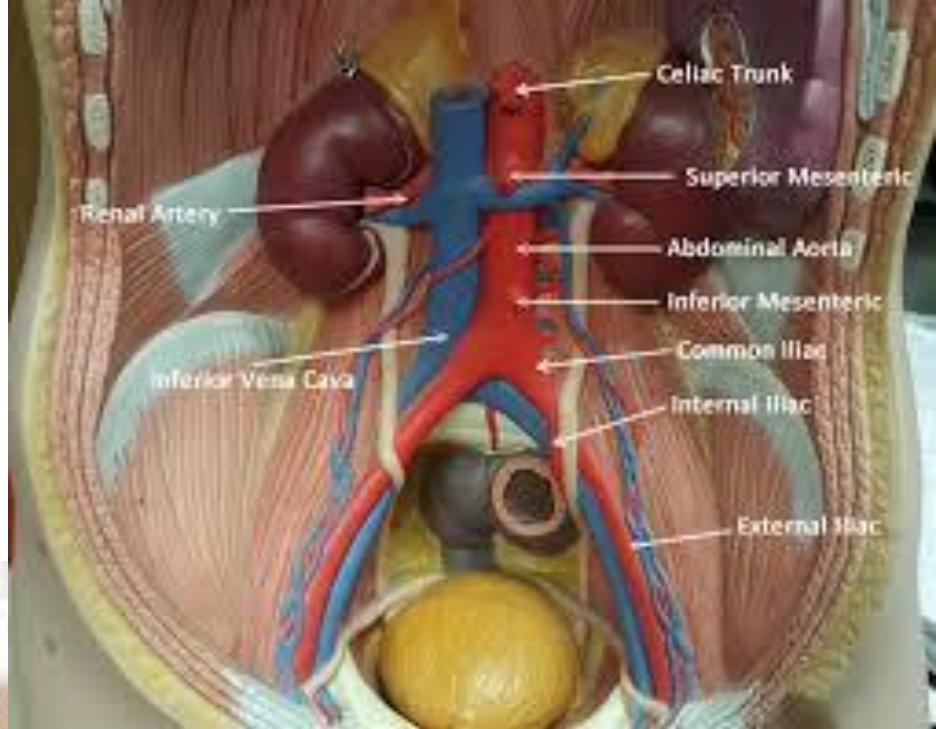
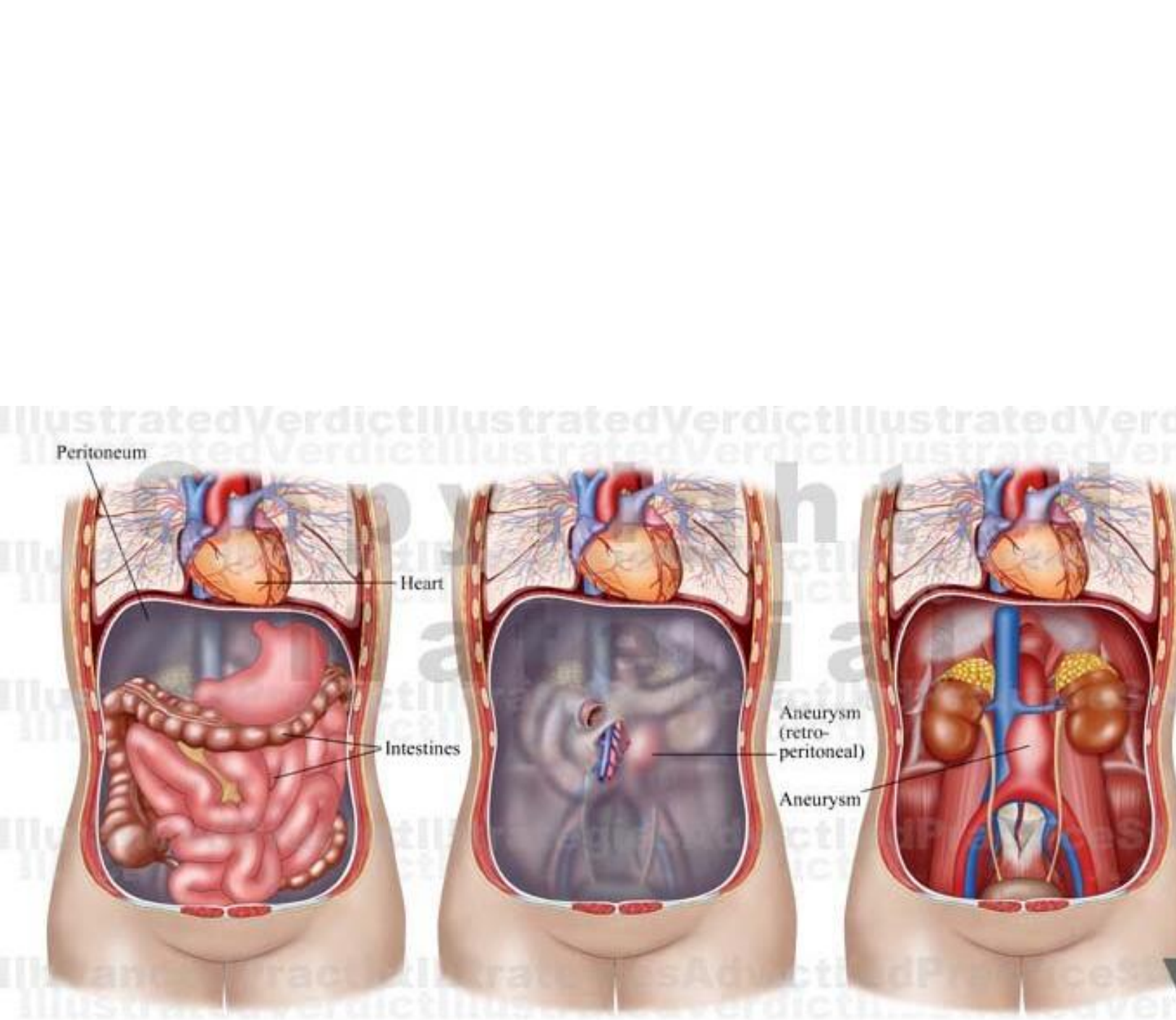
- Left sympathetic chain



Inferior Vena Cava  
(Vena cava inferior)

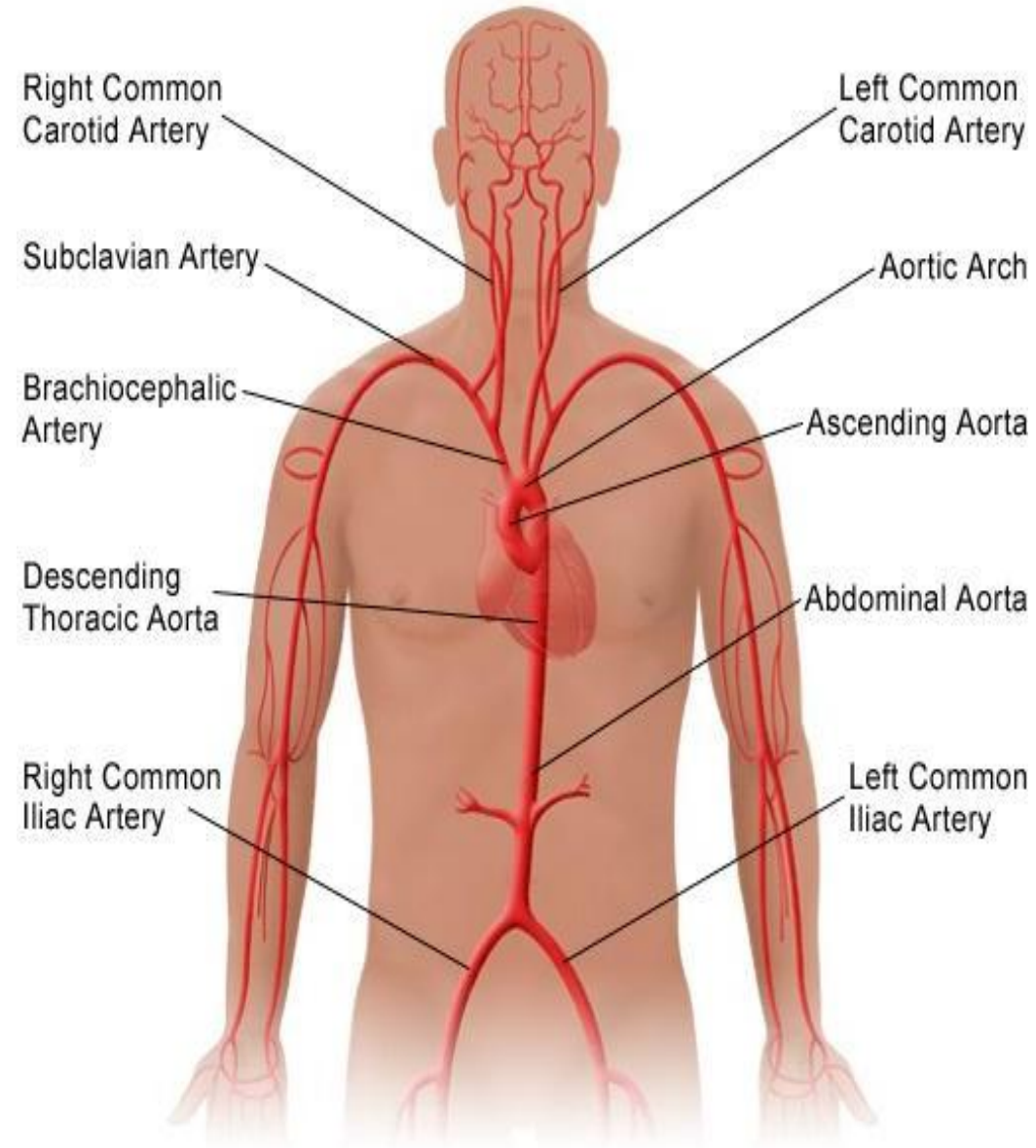






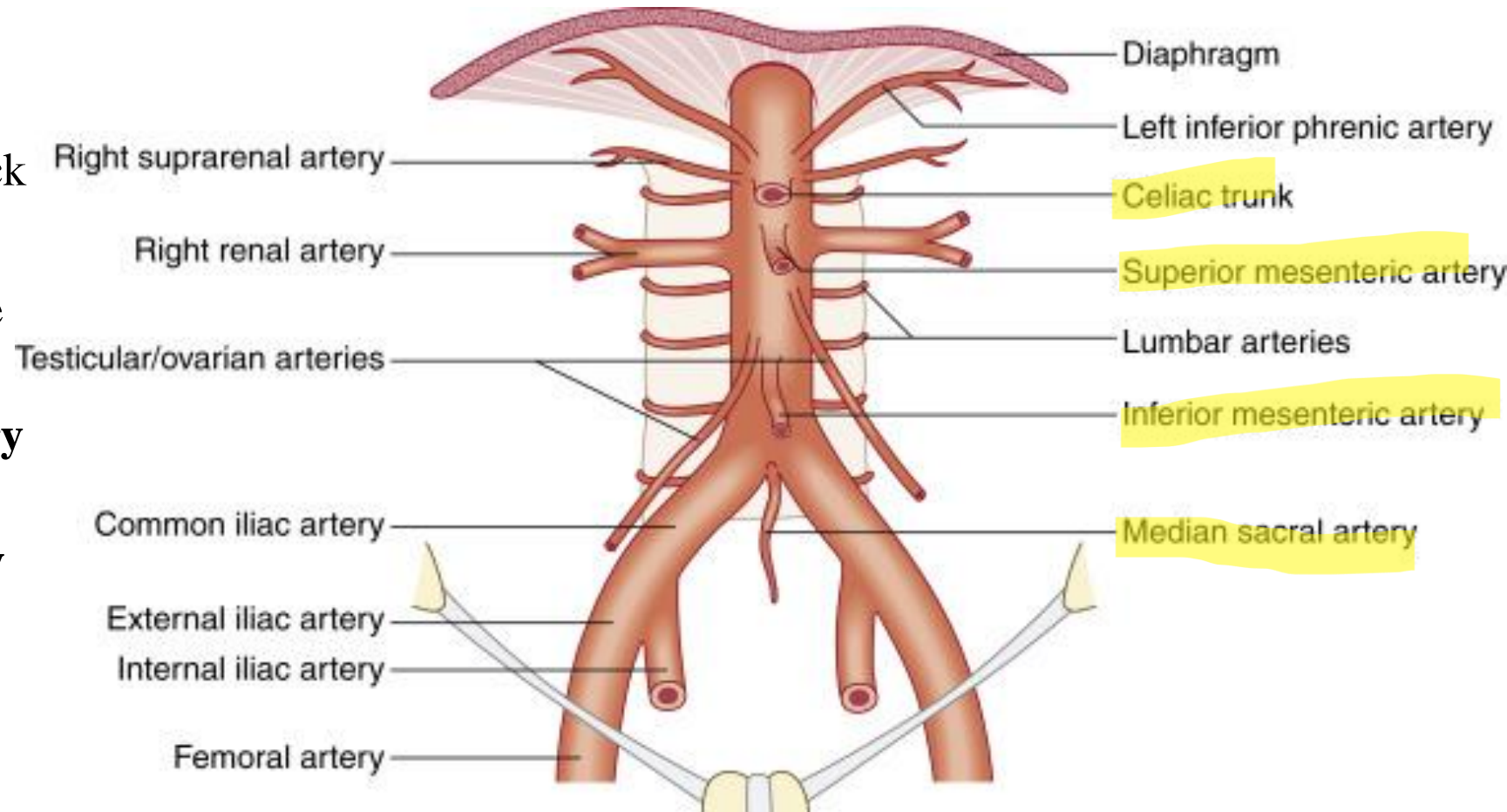
This pic is provided  
by Dr. Muhtaseb.  
Good luck trying to  
gain knowledge  
using it.

## Anatomy of the Aorta



## 5 – Aorta (branches)

- ✓ **Branches of the abdominal aorta:**
- **Single branches:** 3 front & 1 back
- **Front:**
  - **Celiac trunk** – supplies the foregut.
  - **Superior mesenteric artery** – supplies the midgut.
  - **Inferior mesenteric artery** – supplies the hindgut.
- **Back:**
  - **Median sacral artery**

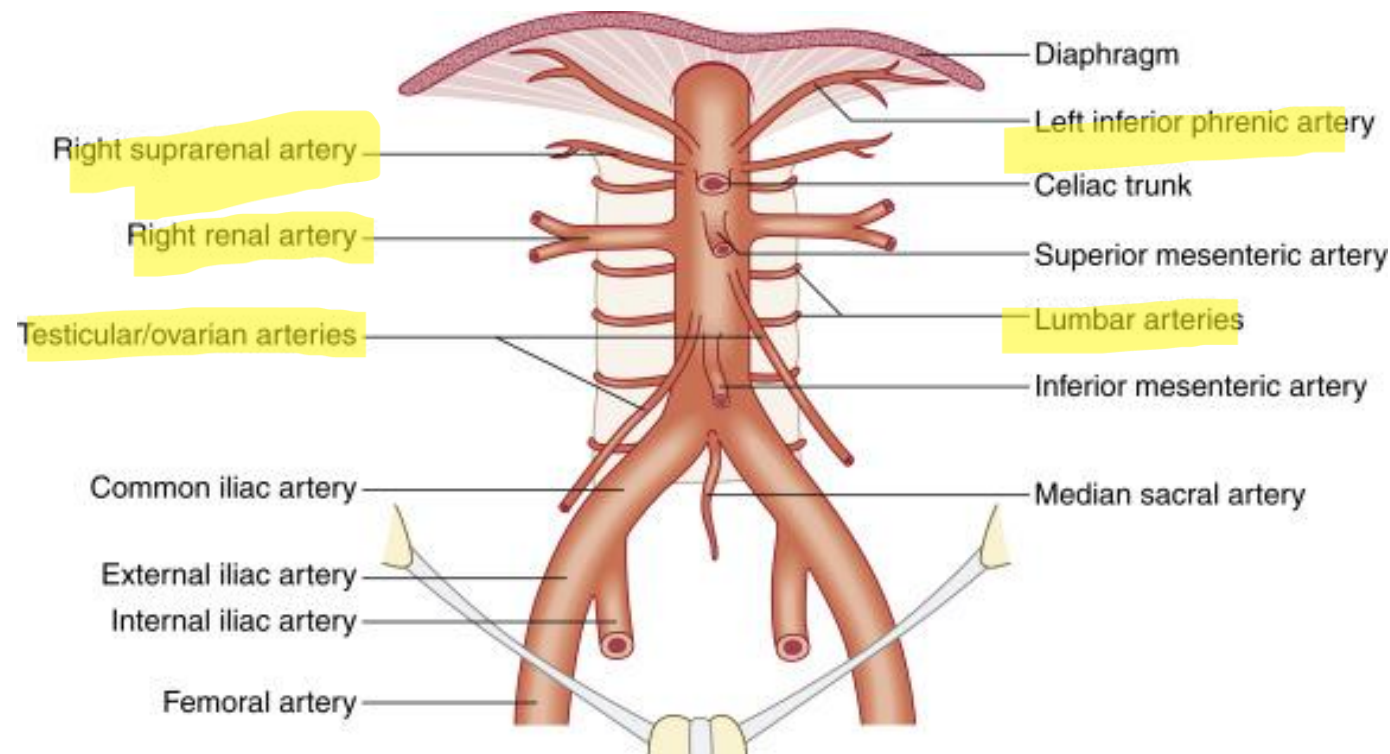




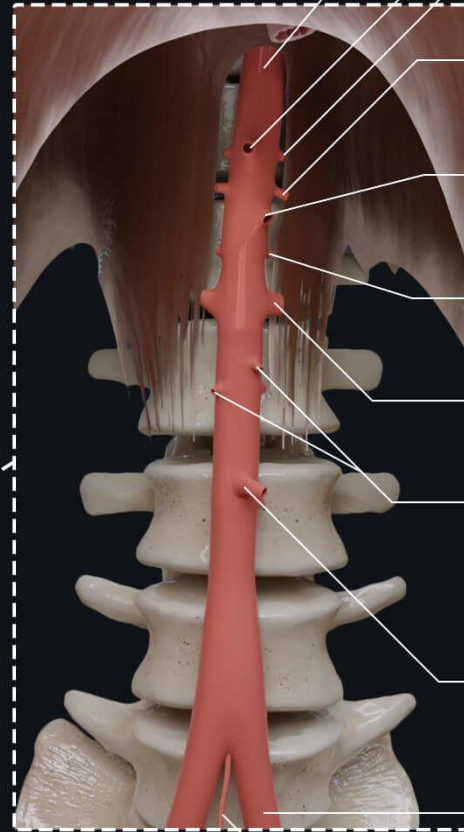
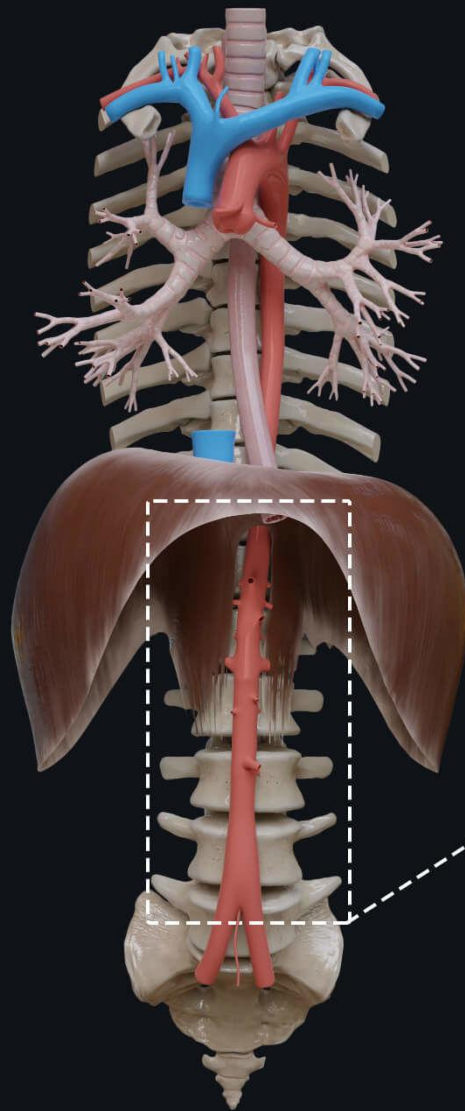
## 5 – Aorta (branches)

### Pairs branches:

- ✓ 1 front → **gonadal (testicular or ovarian) artery at level L2** {left and right}.
- ✓ 4 back → **lumbar arteries** {in front of the lumbar vertebrae}.
- ✓ 3 side of aorta →
  - **Inferior phrenic artery** arises just below the diaphragm and supplies the diaphragm.
  - **Middle suprarenal artery**: one of three arteries supplying the adrenal gland (superior, middle, and inferior); the middle suprarenal comes directly from the aorta.
  - **Renal arteries at the level of L2**: the right renal artery is longer than the left because the aorta lies closer to the left kidney, making the left renal artery shorter.



# Abdominal aorta



Abdominal aorta

Celiac trunk

Inferior phrenic artery

Middle suprarenal artery

Superior mesenteric artery

Lumbar artery

Renal artery

Gonadal (ovarian or testicular) arteries

Inferior mesenteric artery

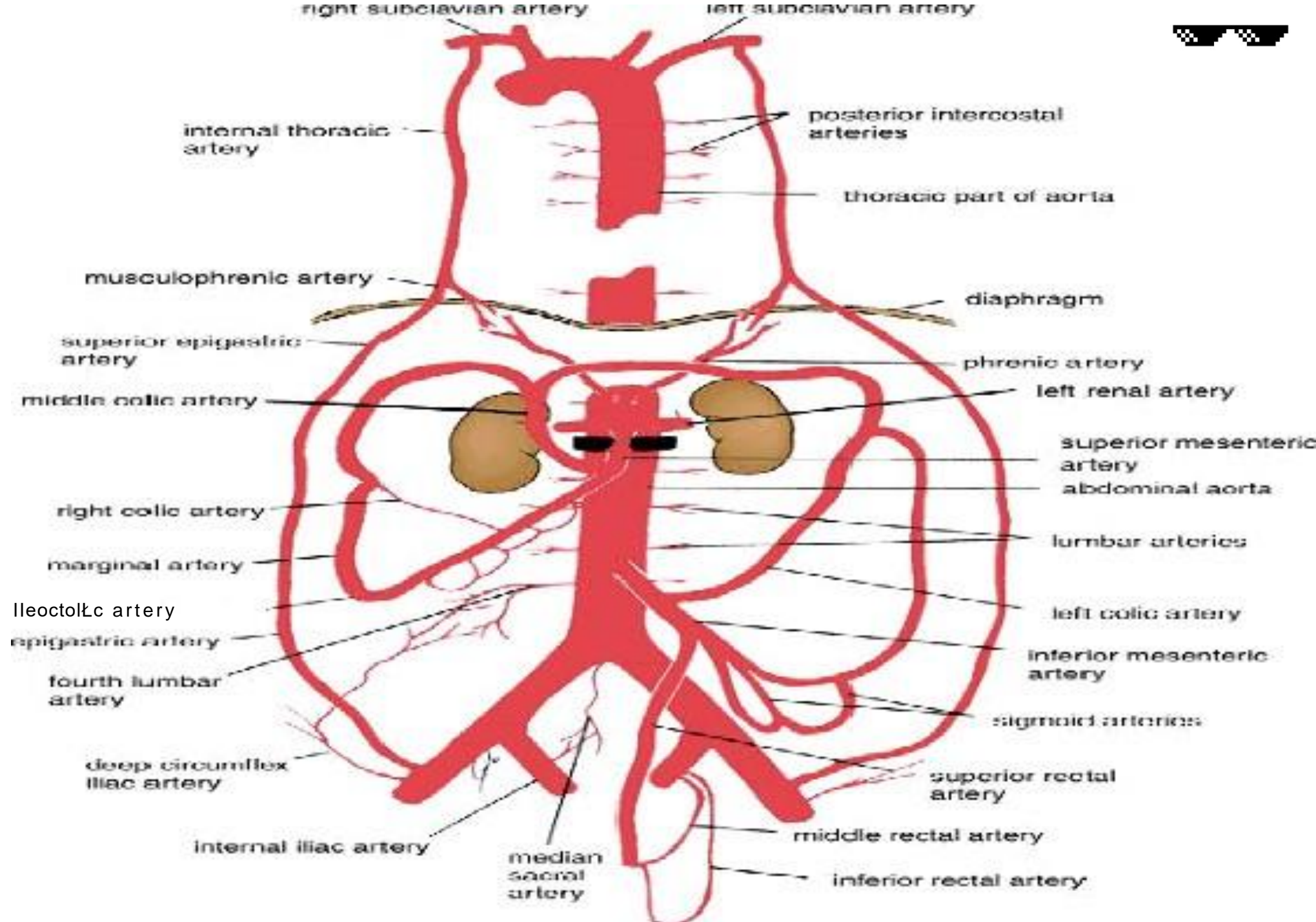
Common iliac artery

Median sacral artery

Anterior view



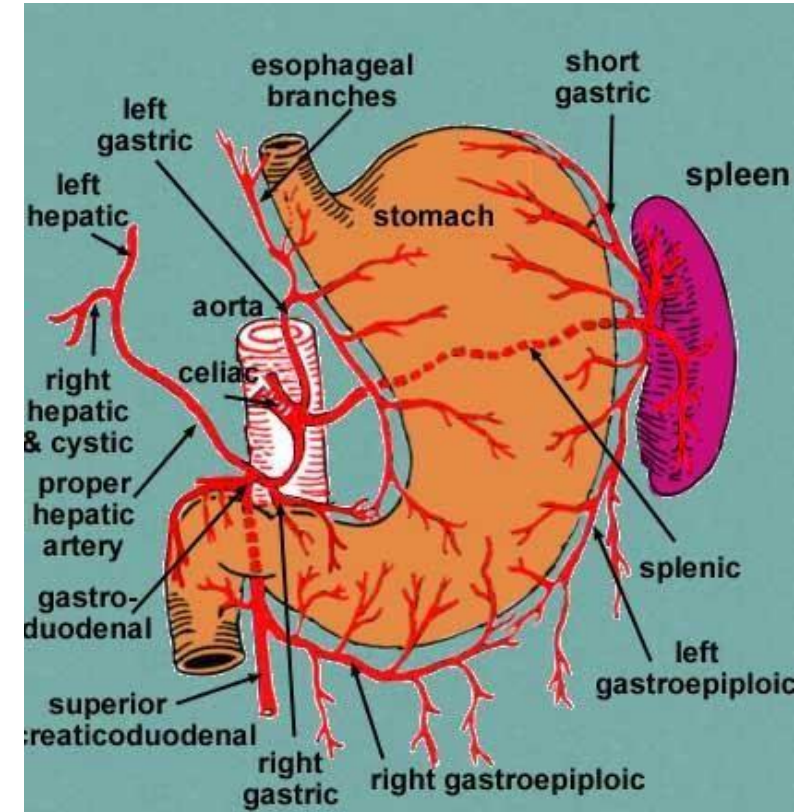
Anatomy.app



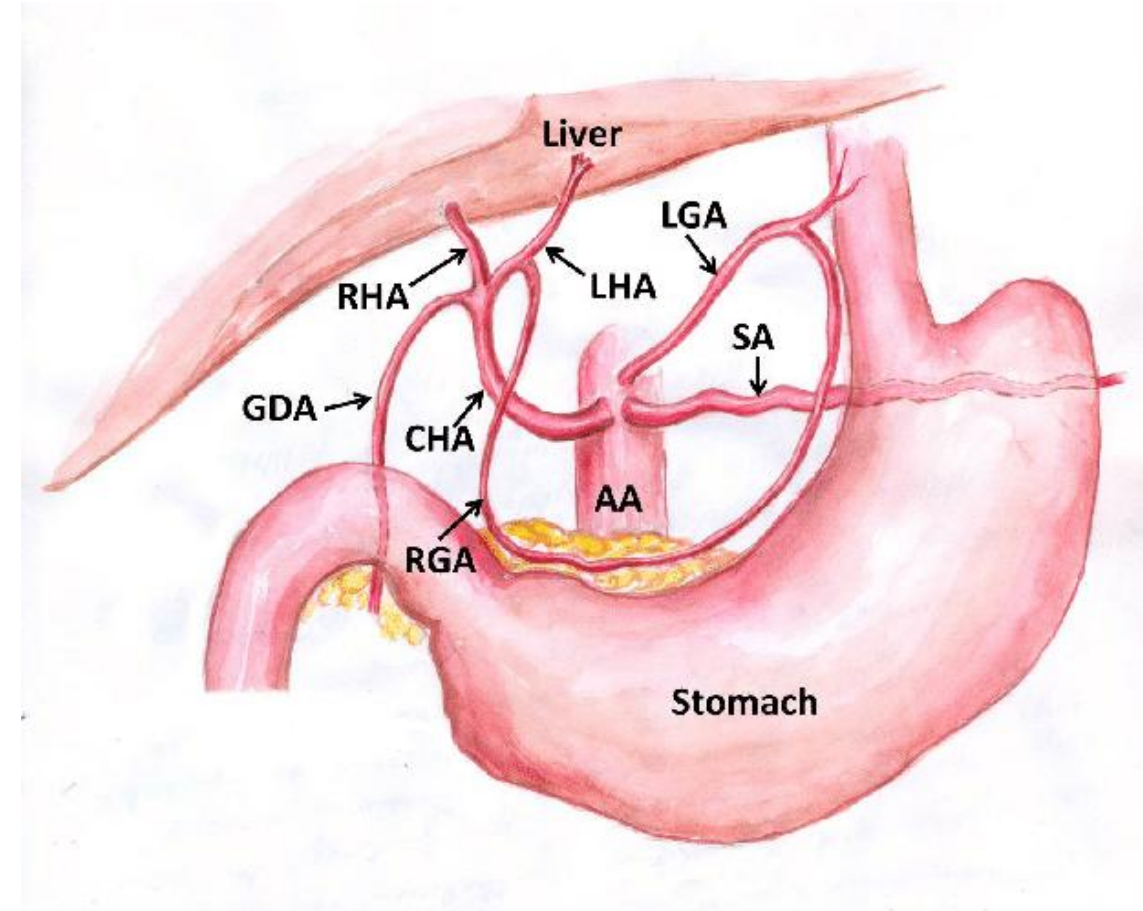
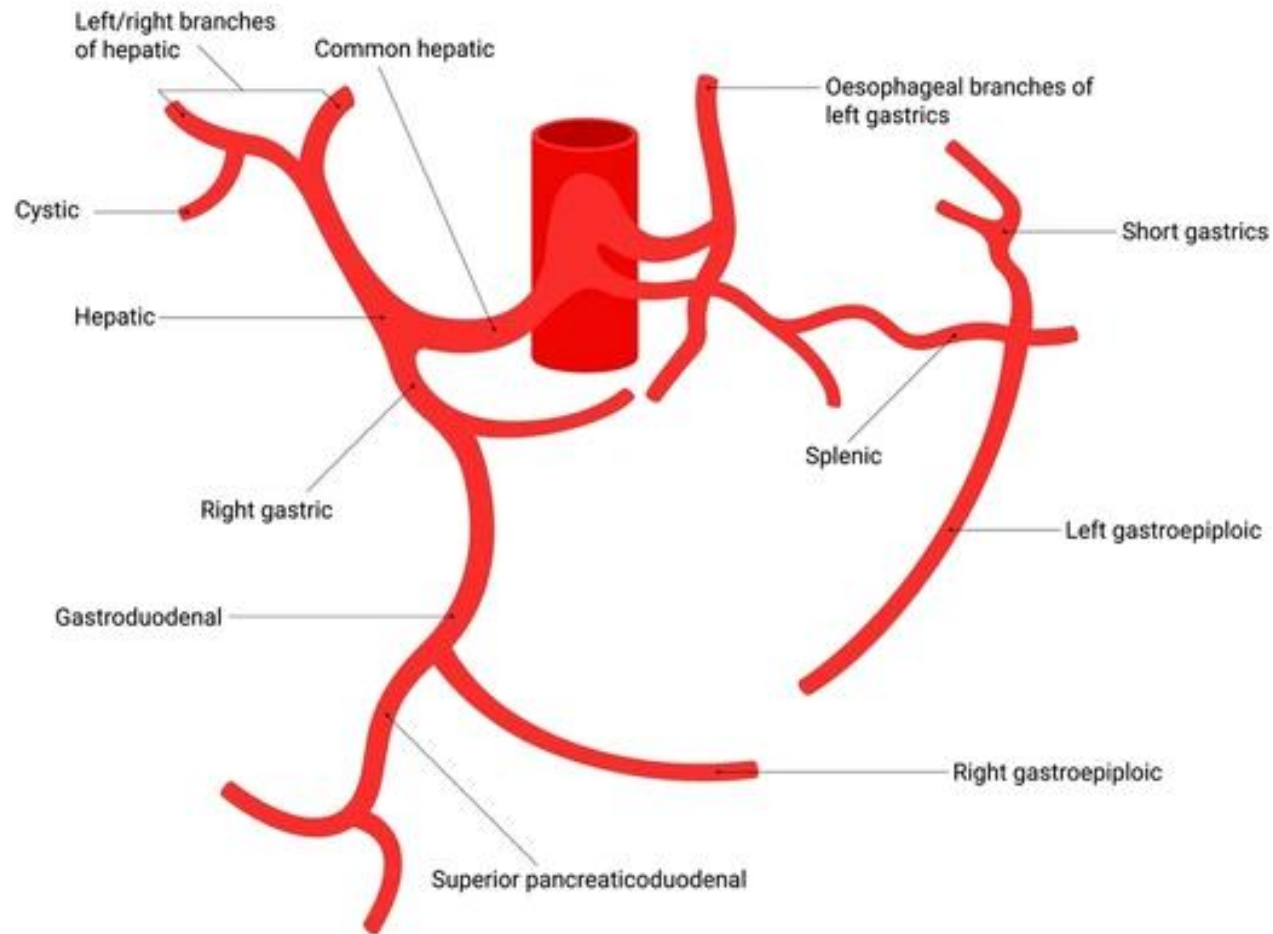


## 5 – Aorta (single front branches: celiac trunk)

- ✓ **The celiac trunk** is very short (~1 cm) and arises at **the upper border of L1** (or sometimes noted as the lower border of T12 in some sources).
- ✓ It gives three main branches:
  1. **Left gastric artery** – supplies the lower third of the esophagus and the lesser curvature of the stomach. It anastomoses with the right gastric artery. Both run in the **lesser omentum**.
  2. **Splenic artery** – a tortuous artery that runs along the upper border of the pancreas to the spleen. It gives:
    - Pancreatic branches (anterior and posterior)
    - Short gastric arteries to the fundus (via the gastrosplenic ligament)
    - Left gastroepiploic artery to the greater curvature of the stomach (in the greater omentum).
  3. **Common hepatic artery** – gives:
    - Right gastric artery (lesser curvature)
    - Gastroduodenal artery, which gives:
      - Right gastroepiploic artery
      - Superior pancreaticoduodenal artery
    - Continues as proper hepatic artery, which divides into right and left hepatic arteries. The right hepatic artery gives the cystic artery to the gallbladder.



## Coeliac Trunk



AA: Abdominal Aorta

SA: splenic A.

LGA: left gastric A.

CHA: common hepatic A.

RHA: Right hepatic A.

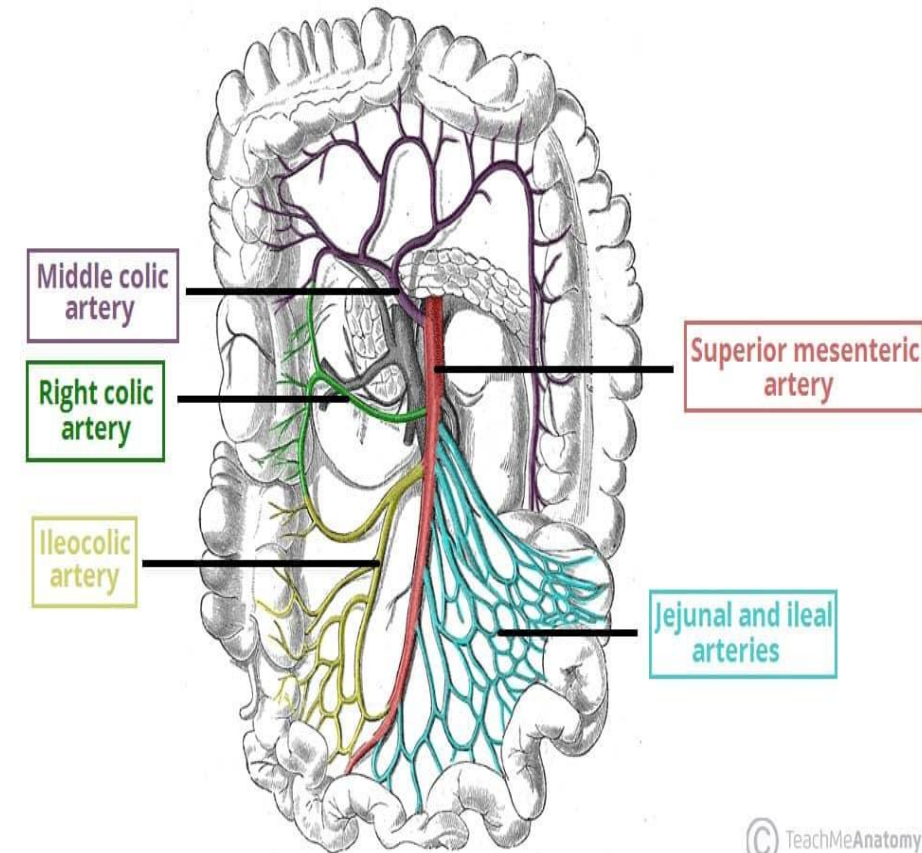
LHA: left hepatic A.

GDA: gastroduodenal

RGA: Right gastric

## 5 – Aorta (single front branches: sup. Mesenteric)

- ✓ **Superior Mesenteric Artery**
  - Origin: upper border of L2 or lower border of L1.
  - Supplies the **midgut**.
- ✓ **Branches:**
  1. **Inferior pancreaticoduodenal artery** – supplies the lower half of the duodenum and pancreas.
  2. **jejunal and ileal branches:** to the ileum and ascending colon
    - On the left side: run in the mesentery and form arterial arcades (anastomoses).
  3. **Ileocolic artery –Cecal branches:** anterior and posterior cecal arteries. **The posterior cecal artery** gives rise to the **appendicular artery**.
  4. **Right colic artery** – to the ascending colon.
  5. **Middle colic artery** – to the transverse colon (also gives branches to ascending colon).
- ✓ **The superior mesenteric vein lies to the right {lateral} of the artery.**



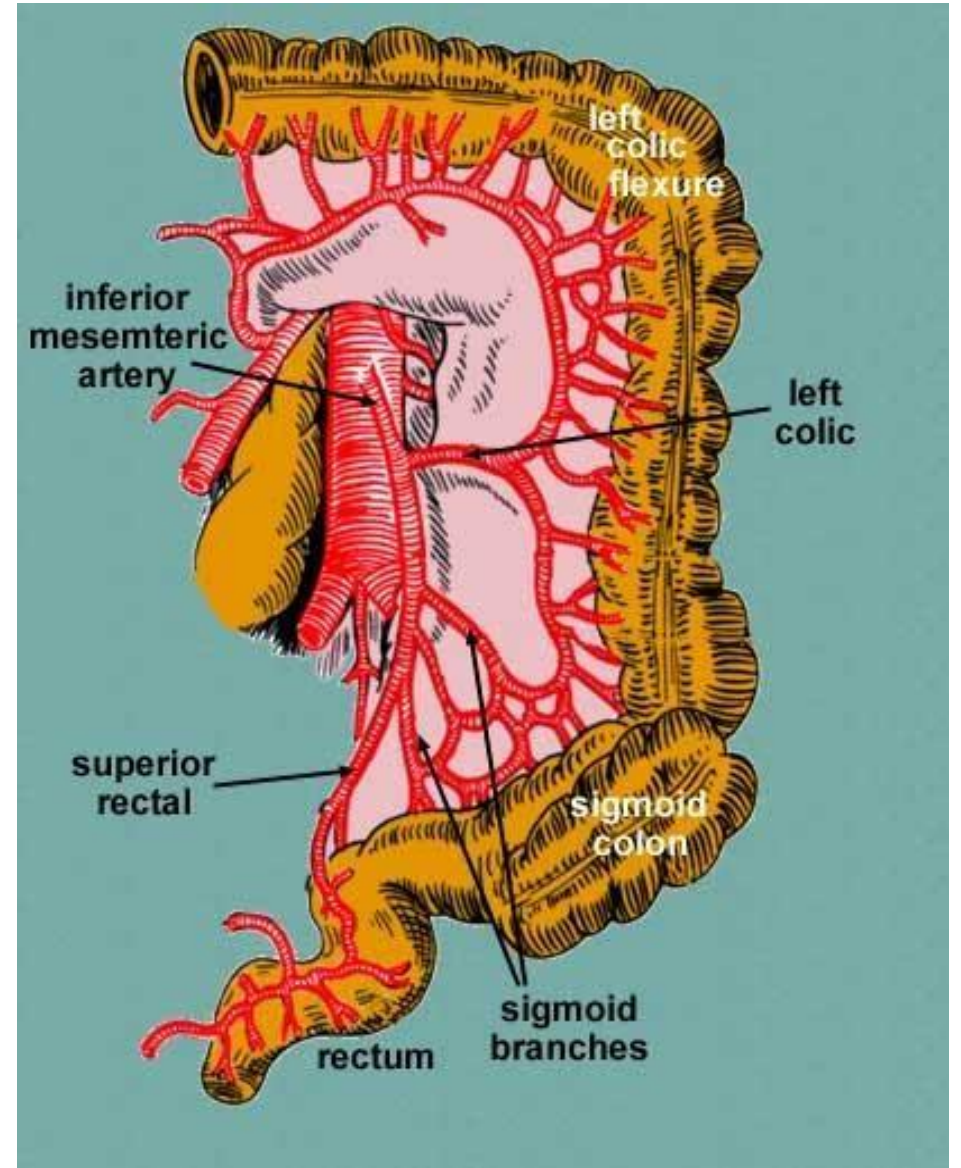


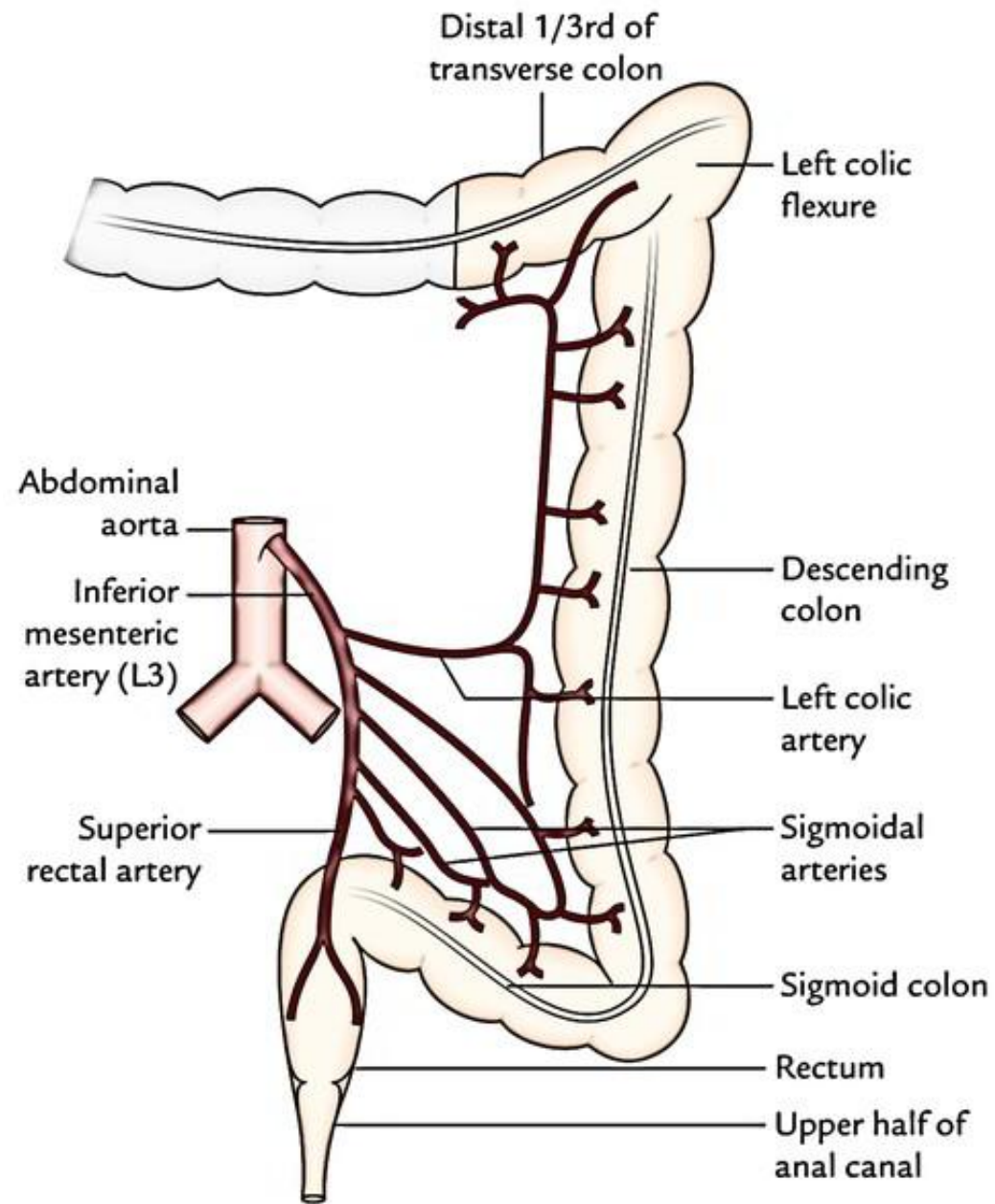
## 5 – Aorta (single front branches: Inferior mesenteric A.)

Inferior Mesenteric Artery (IMA)

- ✓ **The inferior mesenteric artery originates at the level of L3.**
- ✓ It supplies the **hindgut**, including:

- 1. Left colic artery** – supplies the lateral third of the transverse colon and the descending colon.
- 2. Sigmoidal arteries** – supply the sigmoid colon.
- 3. It continues as the superior rectal artery**, which supplies the **rectum** and the **upper half of the anal canal**.

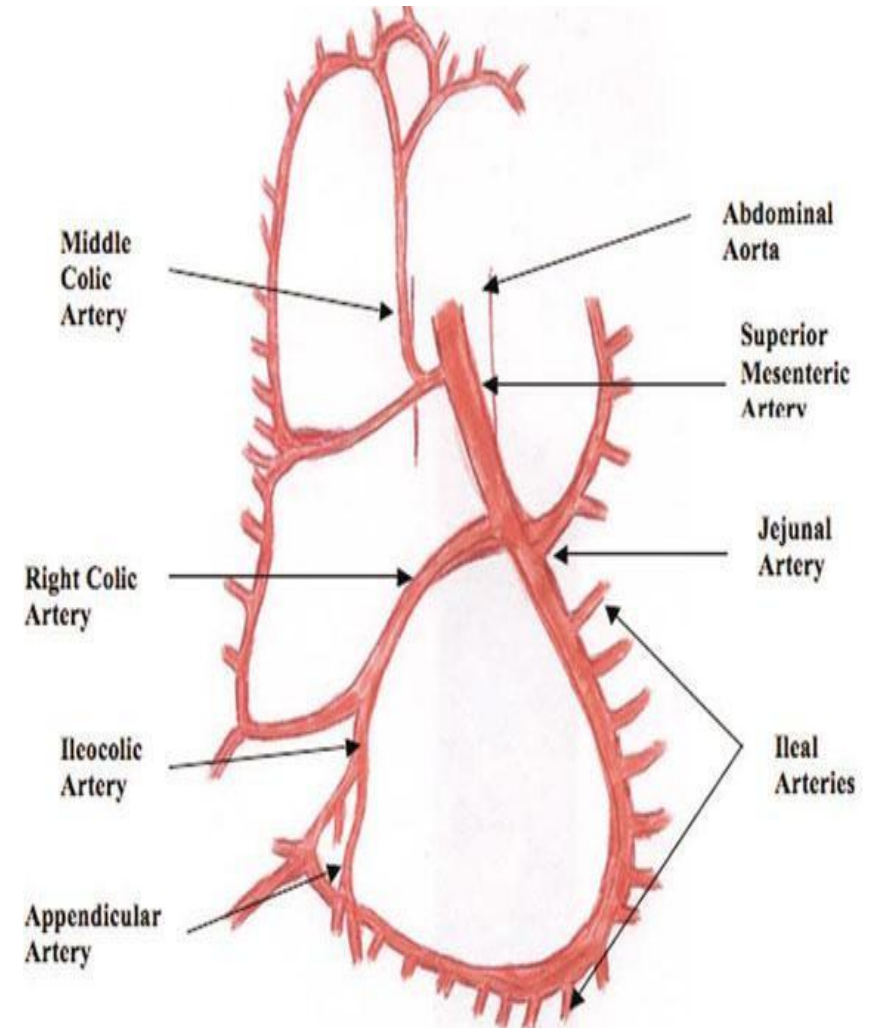




## 6 – Marginal Artery

### Marginal Artery:

- ✓ Along the **concave border** of the large intestine (transverse colon, ascending, descending, and sigmoid), the branches from different arteries form a continuous line of anastomoses.
- ✓ This continuous arterial loop is called the marginal artery.
- ✓ It provides **collateral circulation**, meaning if a main artery is blocked, the marginal artery can help maintain blood flow.





## 7 – Common Iliac Artery (the end of Aorta)

### Common Iliac Artery

The **abdominal aorta** ends at the level of **L4** (left side), where it divides into the **right and left common iliac arteries**.

Each common iliac artery then divides near the pelvic inlet into:

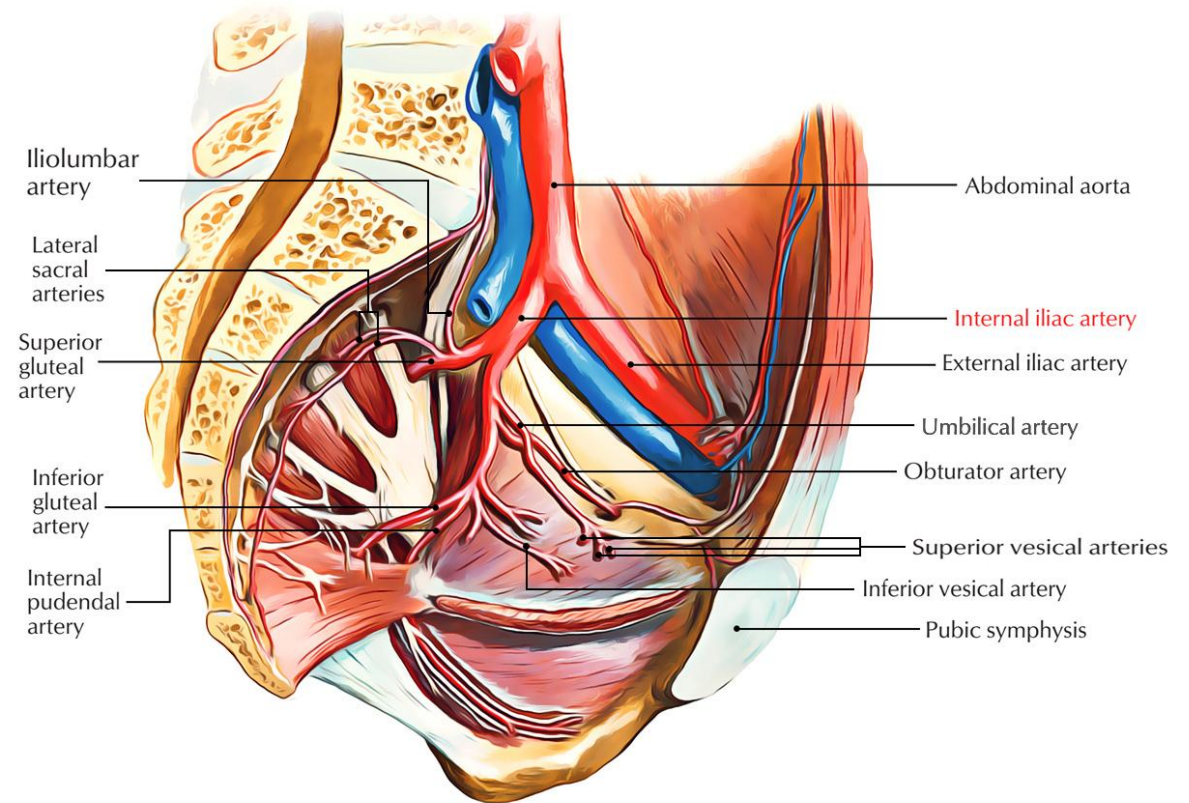
- ✓ **External iliac artery** – continues to the lower limb.
- ✓ **Internal iliac artery** – supplies the pelvic organs.

Before the **external iliac artery** becomes the femoral artery, it gives off:

- ✓ The **inferior epigastric artery**, which enters the **rectus sheath** and passes deep to the **rectus abdominis muscle**.

😬: This artery is clinically important for identifying **inguinal hernias**:

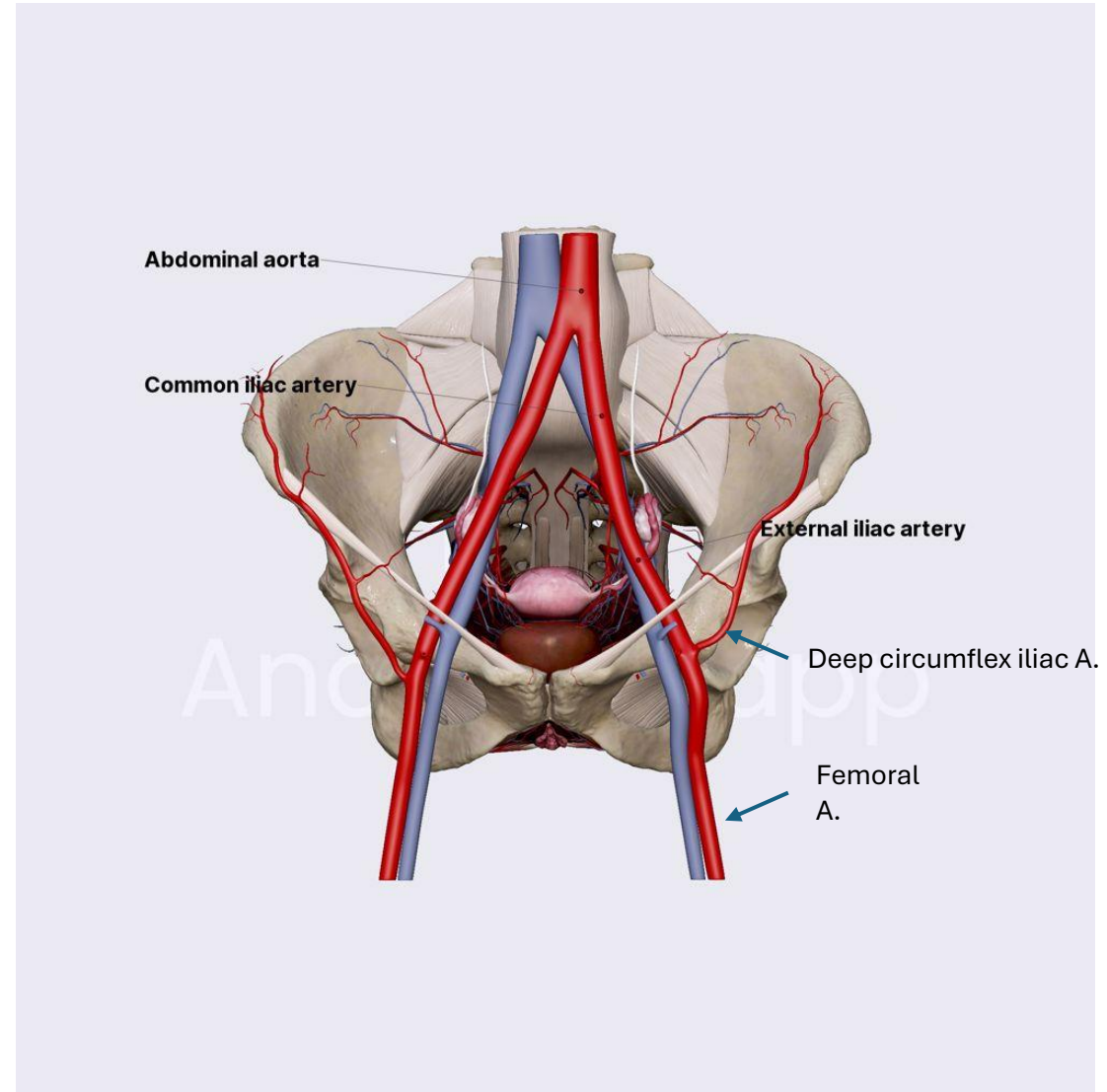
- **Direct hernia**: medial to the inferior epigastric artery.
- **Indirect hernia**: lateral to it.



## 8 - course of Ex. iliac artery

### External Iliac Artery

- ✓ Located on the **medial border** of the **psoas major muscle** in the abdomen.
- ✓ It reaches the **pelvic brim** and gives off the **deep circumflex iliac artery**, which runs toward the **anterior superior iliac spine (ASIS)**.
- ✓ This artery supplies the **muscles of the lower abdominal wall**.



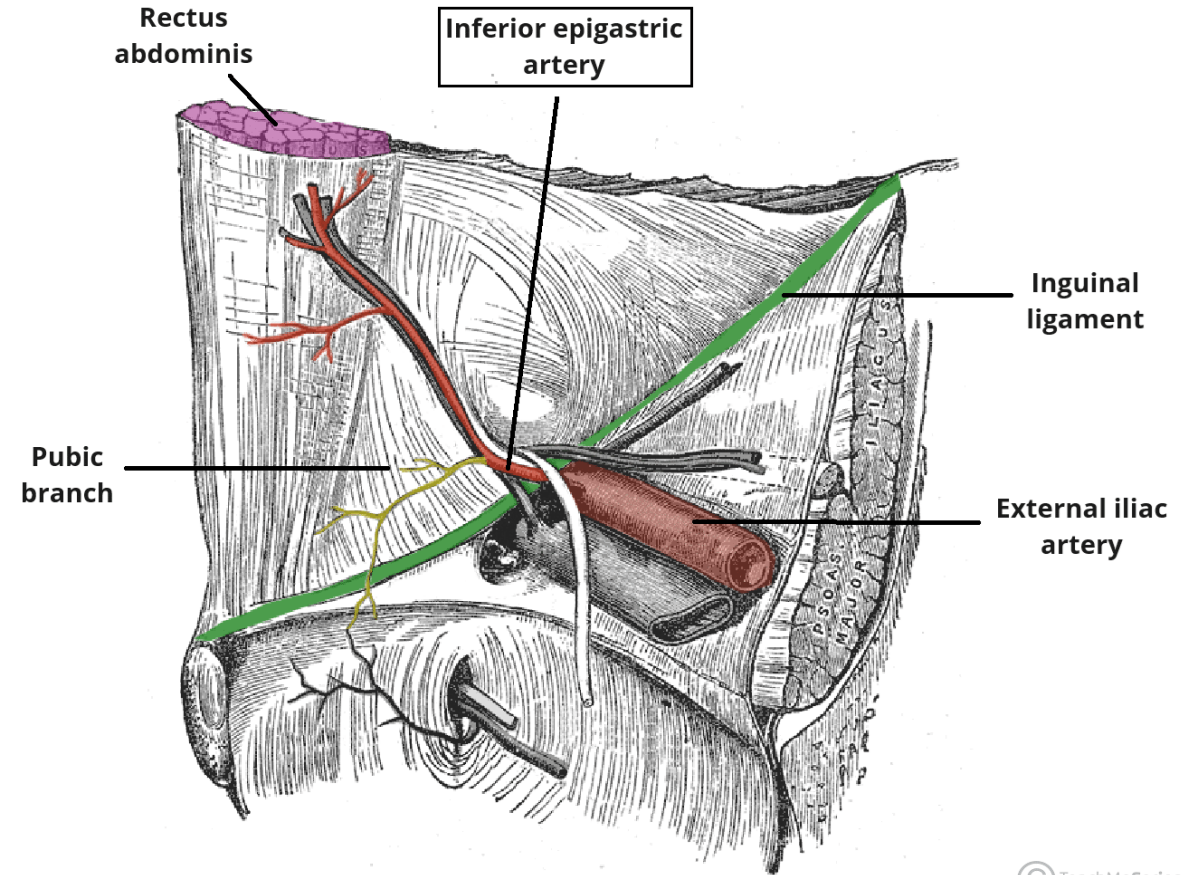
## 8- Branches of Ex. iliac artery

### 1- The inferior epigastric:

- ✓ artery arises just above the inguinal ligament.
- ✓ It passes upward and medially along the medial margin of the deep inguinal ring and enters the rectus sheath behind the rectus abdominis muscle.

### 2- The deep circumflex iliac - artery arises close to the inferior epigastric artery.

- ✓ It ascends laterally to the anterior superior iliac spine and the iliac crest, supplying the muscles of the anterior abdominal wall.





## 9 – Course and branches of int. iliac artery

- ✓ **Internal Iliac Artery**
  - The internal iliac artery supplies the **pelvic organs**.
- ✓ **External iliac Artery** goes to the lower limb and they are above each other.
- ✓ The internal iliac artery divides into:
  - **Posterior division.**
  - **Anterior division.**
- ✓ **Posterior Division Branches:**
  1. **Iliolumbar artery** – ascends to the **iliolumbar ligament**.
  2. **Lateral sacral arteries** – enter the **sacral foramina**, posterior relation to the rectum and sigmoid {the sacrum and content of it}.
  3. **Superior gluteal artery** – passes through the **greater sciatic foramen**, above the **piriformis muscle**, and supplies the **gluteus maximus** and surrounding muscles.

### Internal Iliac Artery Branches

Mnemonic: I love going places in my very own umbrella

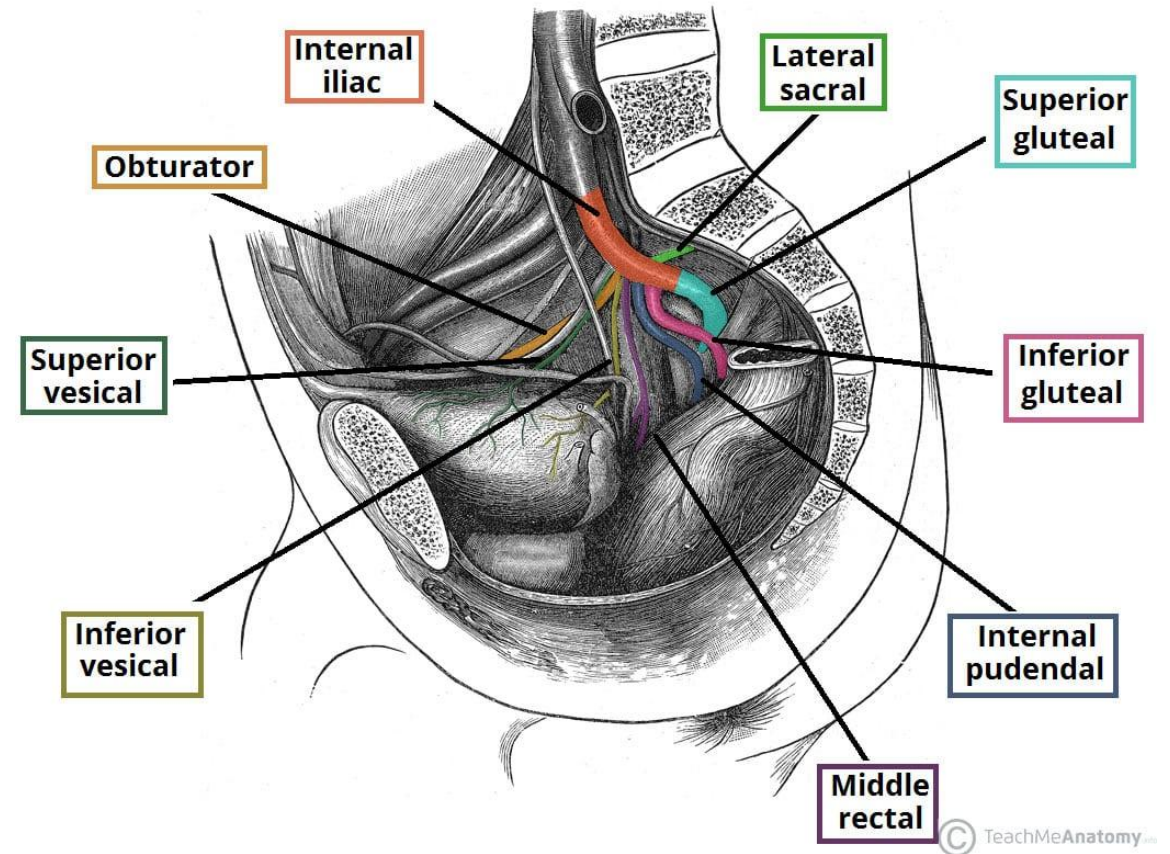
- \* I Ileolumbar
- \* L Lateral sacral
- \* G Gluteal
- \* P Pudendal
- \* I Inferior vesicle
- \* M Middle rectal
- \* V Vaginal
- \* O Obturator
- \* U Umbilical



## 9 – Course and branches of int. iliac artery

### Anterior Division Branches:

1. **Obturator artery** – runs with the **obturator nerve**, exits through the **obturator foramen**, and supplies the **medial compartment of the thigh**.
2. **Inferior gluteal artery** – passes below the piriformis through the greater sciatic foramen, supplying muscles in the gluteal region.
3. **Umbilical artery** – part of it becomes **obliterated at the distal part** and forms the medial umbilical ligament. (Not to be confused with the median umbilical ligament, which is the urachus, from the embryonic bladder to the umbilicus). **Give the superior vesical artery**, which supplies the upper part of the urinary bladder.
4. **Inferior vesical artery (in males)** – supplies the lower part of the bladder.



## 9 – Course and branches of int. iliac artery

### 5. In females:

- **Uterine artery** – supplies the uterus; it is tortuous to accommodate uterine expansion during pregnancy.
- **Vaginal artery** – supplies the vagina.

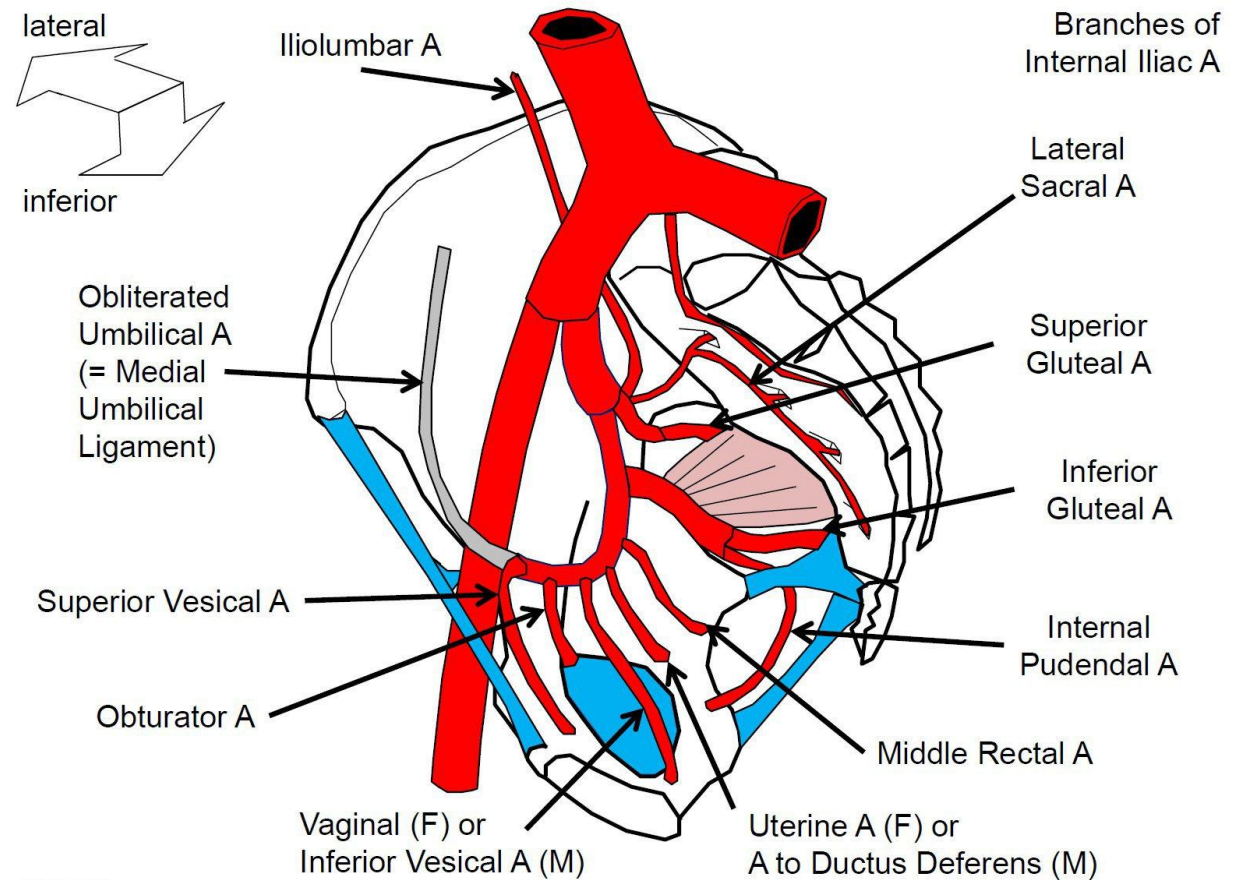
### 6. In males:

- Artery to the vas deferens – supplies the vas deferens.

### The terminal branches of the int. iliac artery:

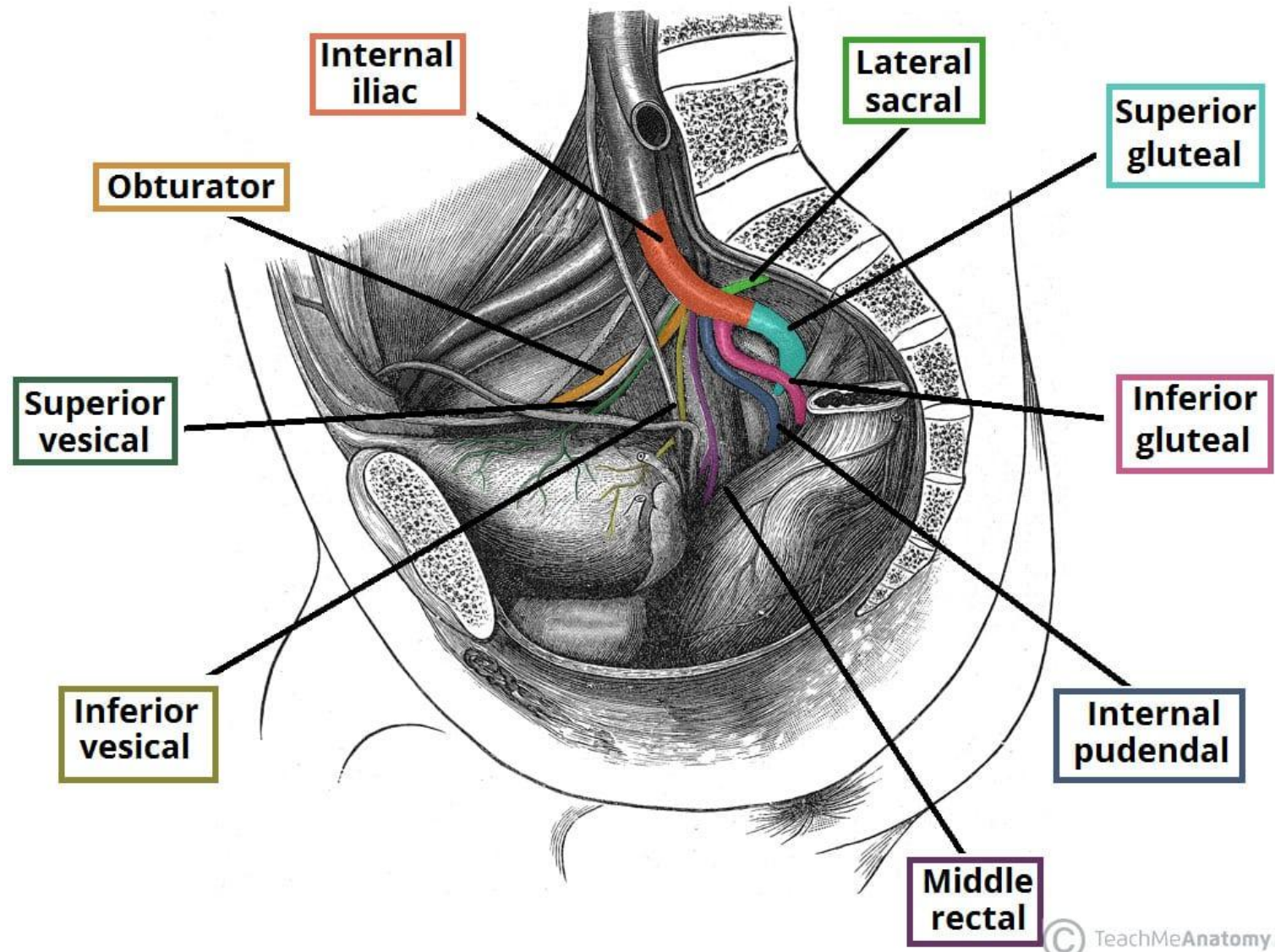
**7. Middle rectal artery** – supplies the middle part of the rectum.

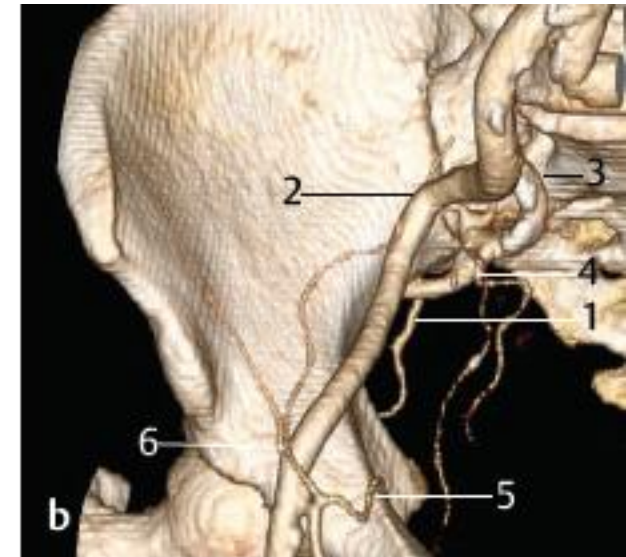
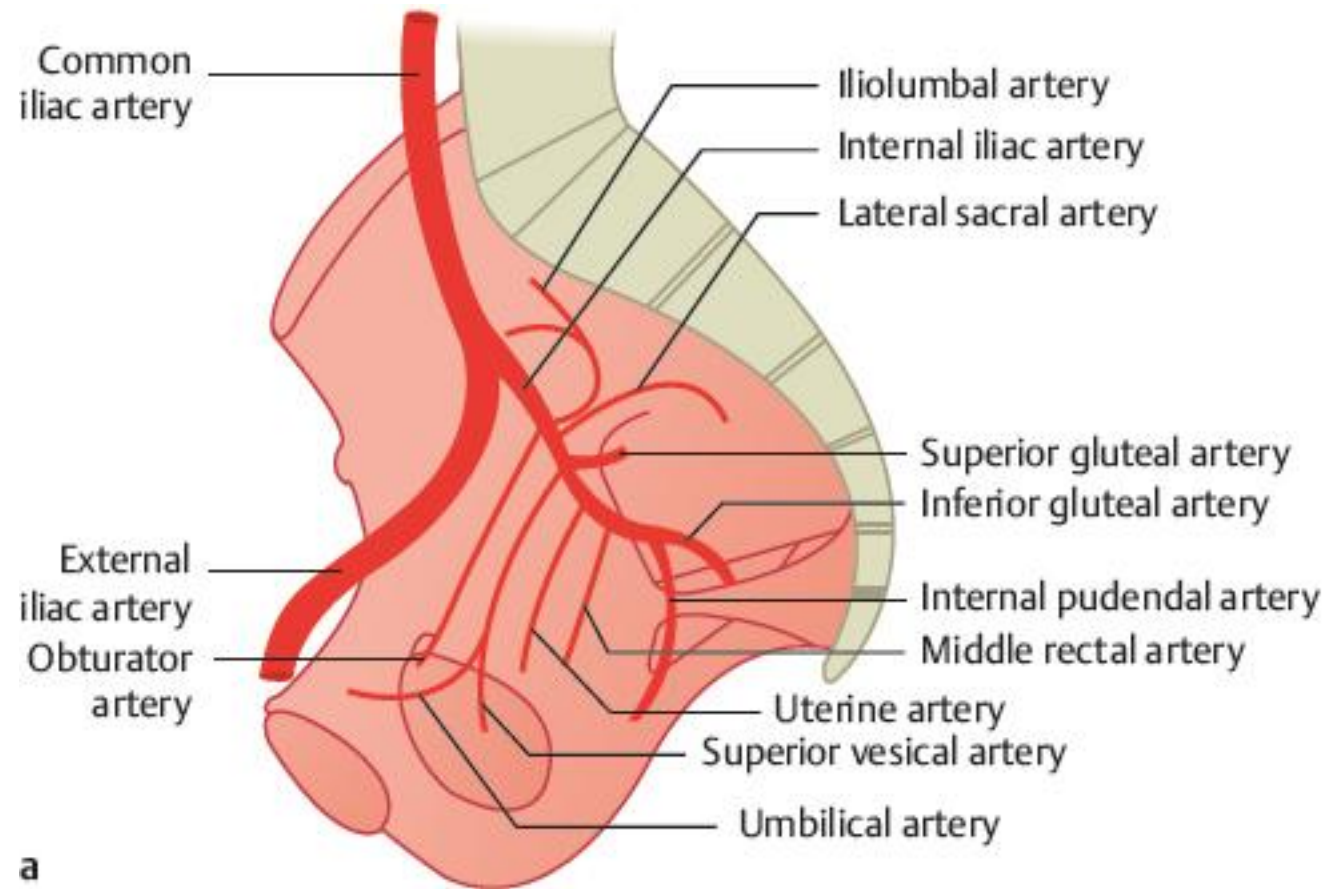
**8. Internal pudendal artery** – give inferior rectal artery.



MJW 2011

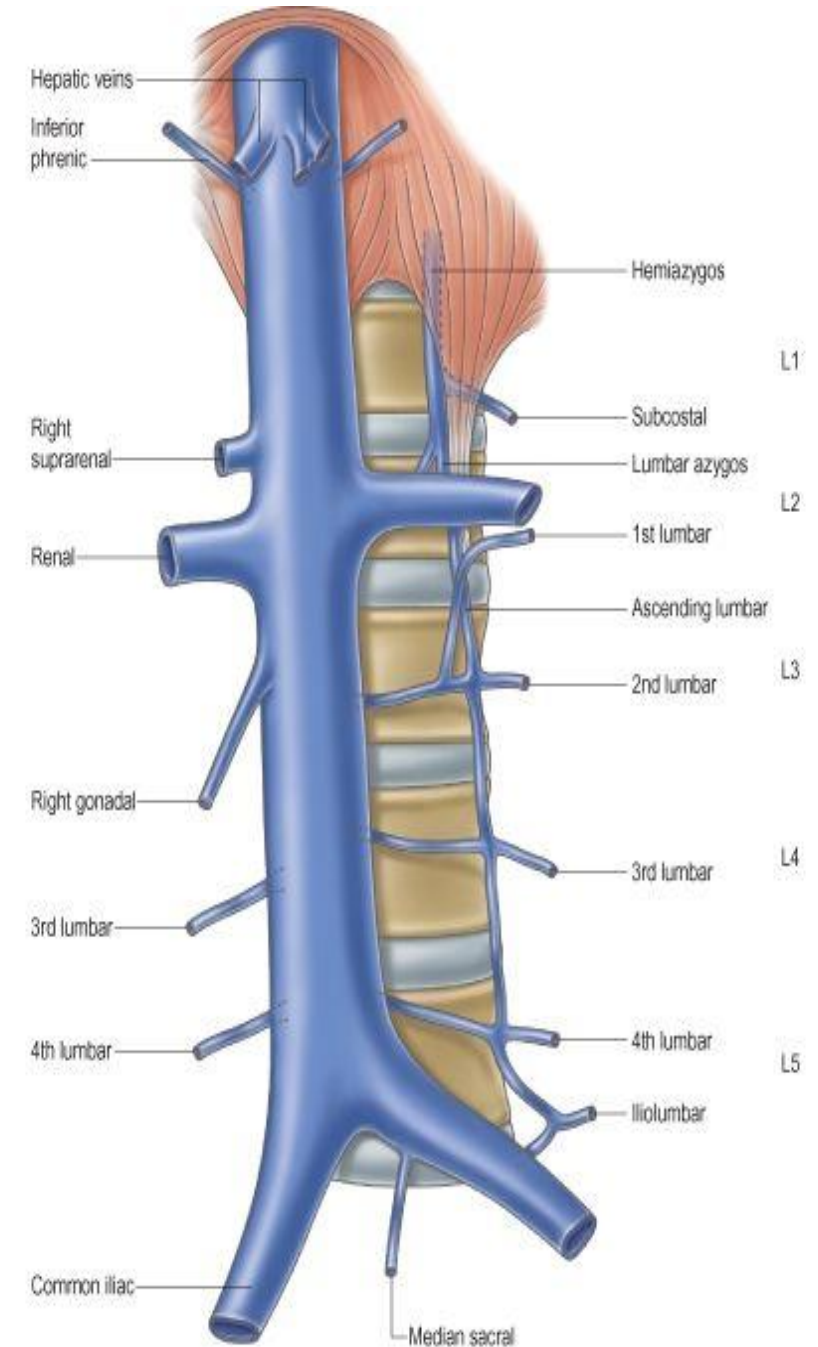






## 10 – I.V.C: course

- ✓ I.V.C is formed by the union of left and right common iliac veins at the level of 5<sup>th</sup> lumbar vertebra (L5).
  - ✓ It makes its way upward to the right piercing the diaphragm at central tendon at the level of 8<sup>th</sup> thoracic vertebra (T8).
  - ✓ It ends at the right atrium, as it drains most of the blood from the body below diaphragm.
  - ✓ In the veins are deeper than arteries, i.e., common iliac veins are deeper than arteries; to protect veins from pressure applied by pregnant uterus to thin-walled veins. Rather this pressure is applied to arteries which have thick walls, making them less vulnerable.
- 😞: even though veins are less prone to pressure here, pelvic varicocele is still seen in pregnant women.





## **10 – I.V.C: Relations**

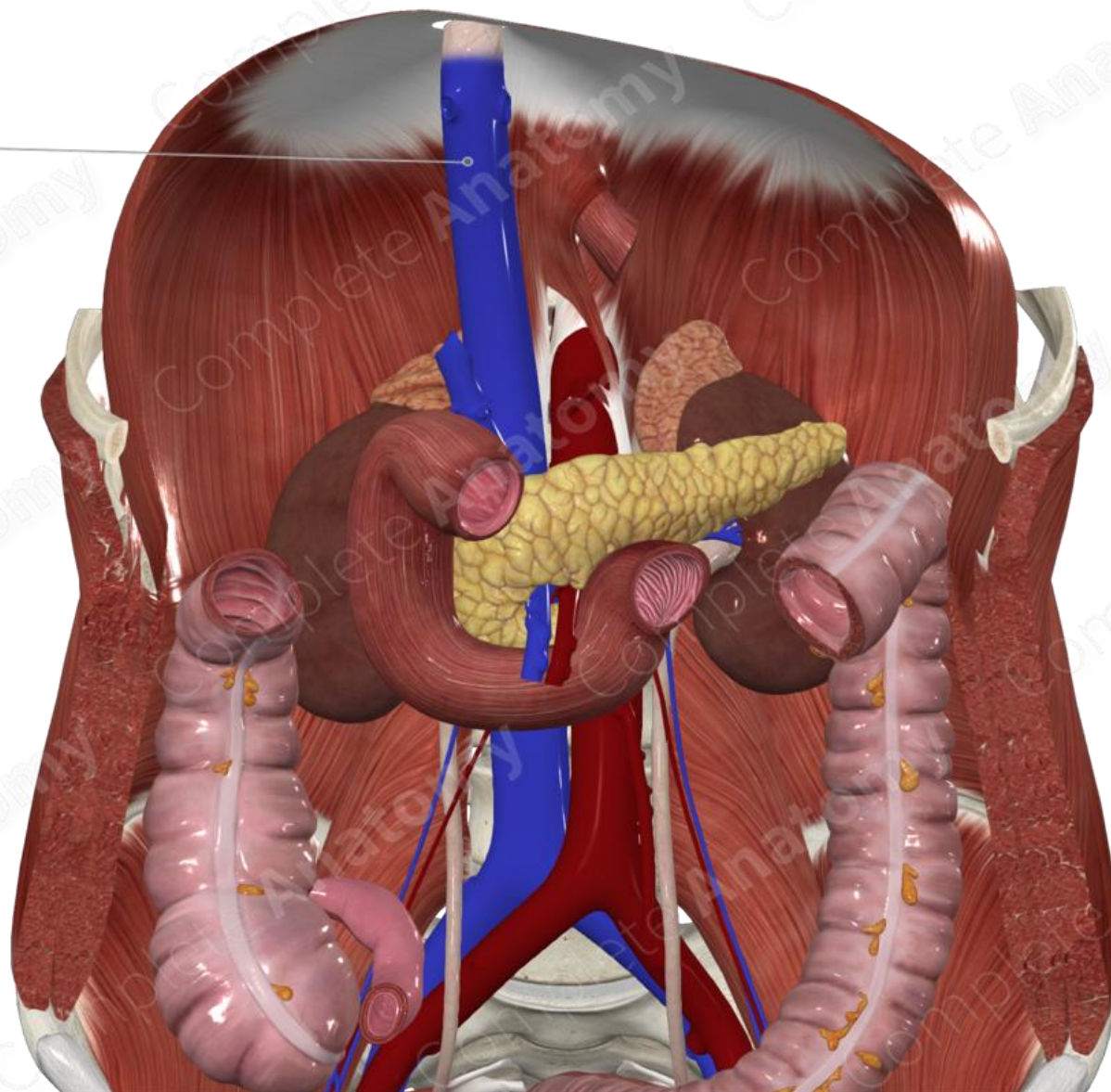
### **Anterior**

- Coils of small intestine
- 3<sup>rd</sup> part & 1<sup>st</sup> part of d.d
- Head of pancreas & Common bile duct
- Related to foramen of Winslow
- Portal vein
- Lies in deep groove of liver

### **Posterior:**

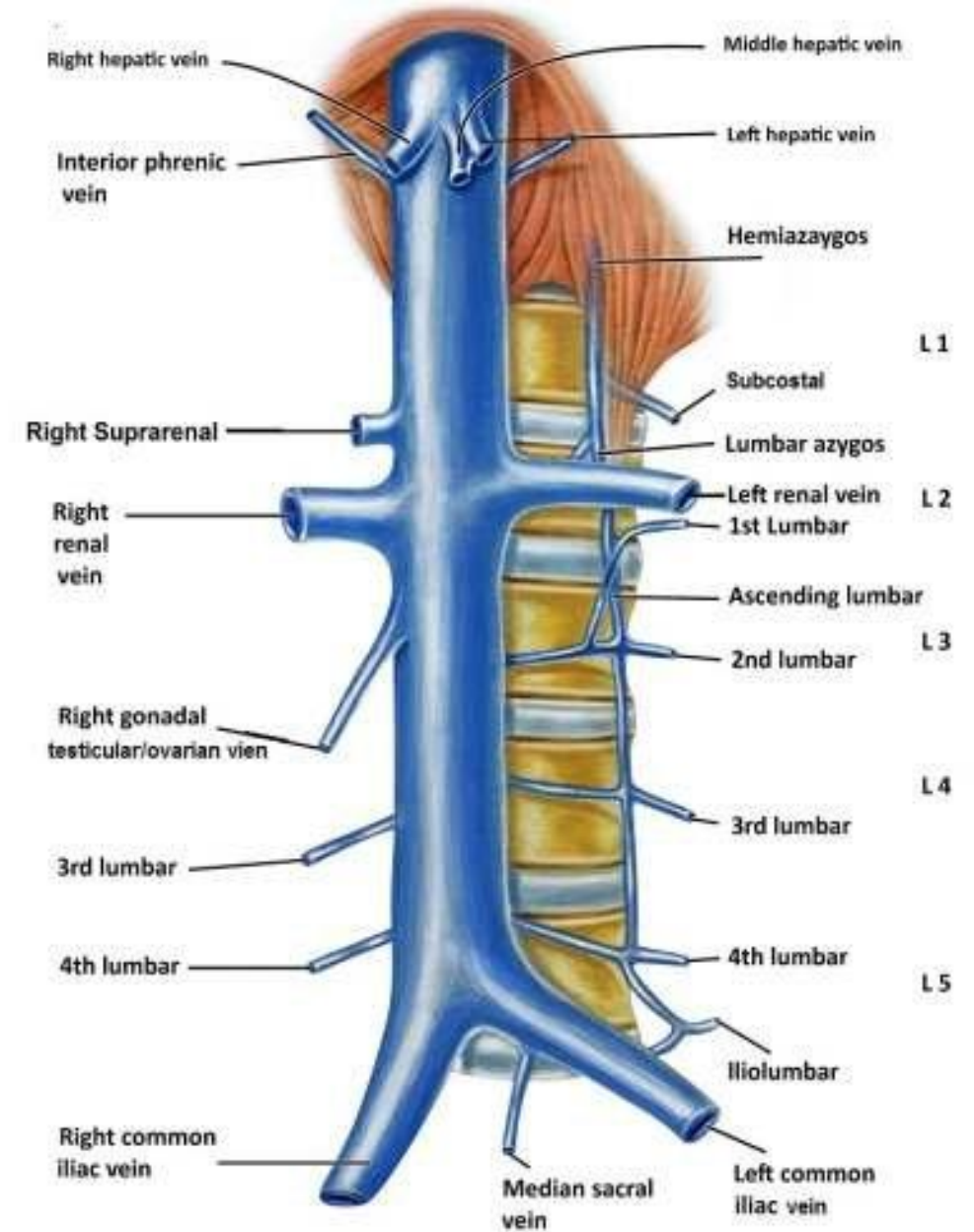
sympathetic chain, laying to the right margin  
posterior to I.V.C.

Inferior Vena Cava  
(Vena cava inferior)



## 10 – I.V.C: Tributaries

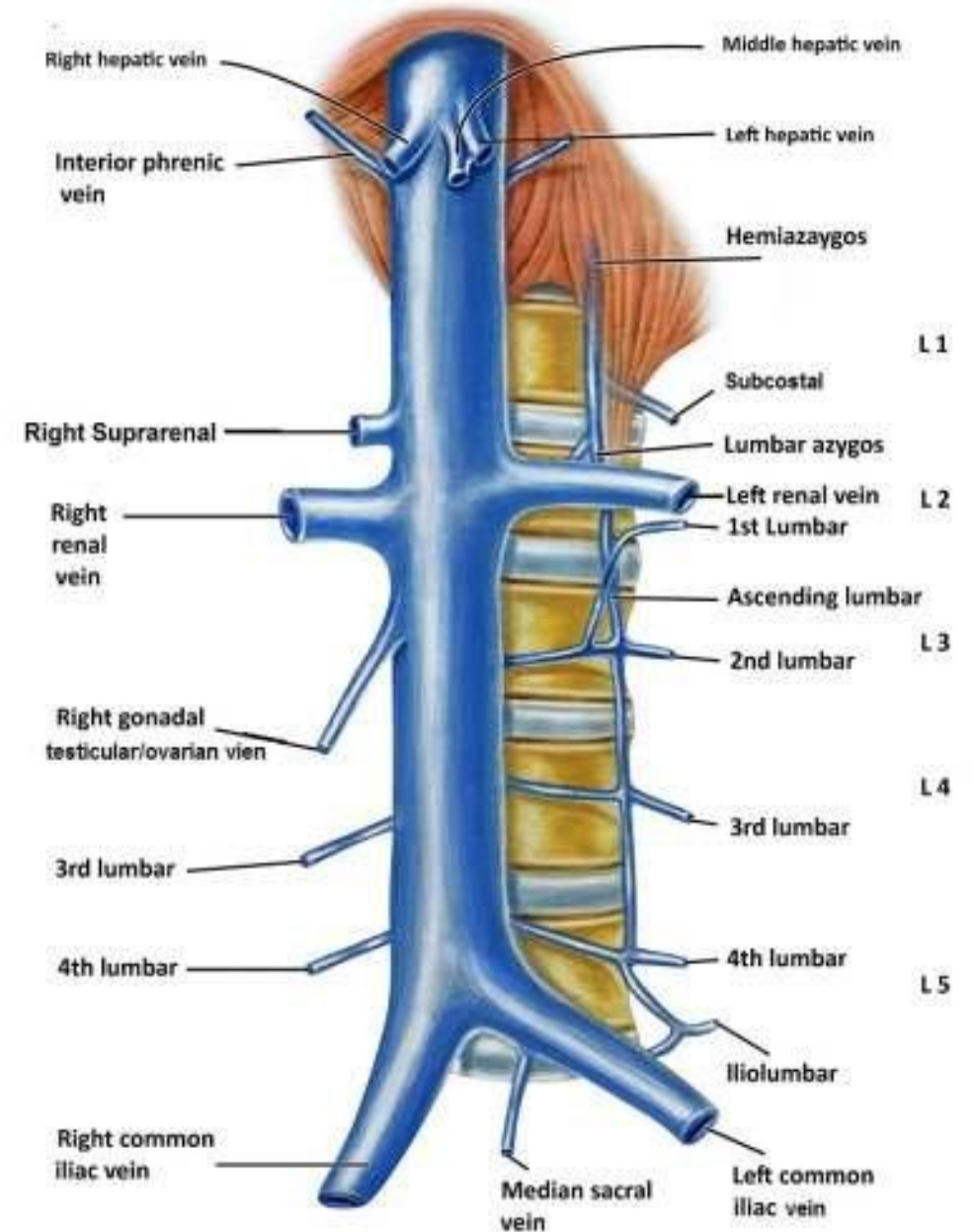
- ✓ Two anterior visceral tributaries:
  - the left and right hepatic veins coming from corresponding lobes.
  - A third one may be seen, as in the pic, which is central/middle hepatic vein, coming from caudate and quadrate lobes of liver.
- ✓ Three lateral visceral tributaries:
  1. the right suprarenal vein (the left vein drains into the left renal vein).
  2. renal veins. Note that the left renal vein is longer than the right one.
  3. right gonadal (testicular or ovarian) vein (the left vein drains into the left renal vein)
- 😞 : left gonadal vein is more prone to varicocoele; it longer and more perpendicular than the right one





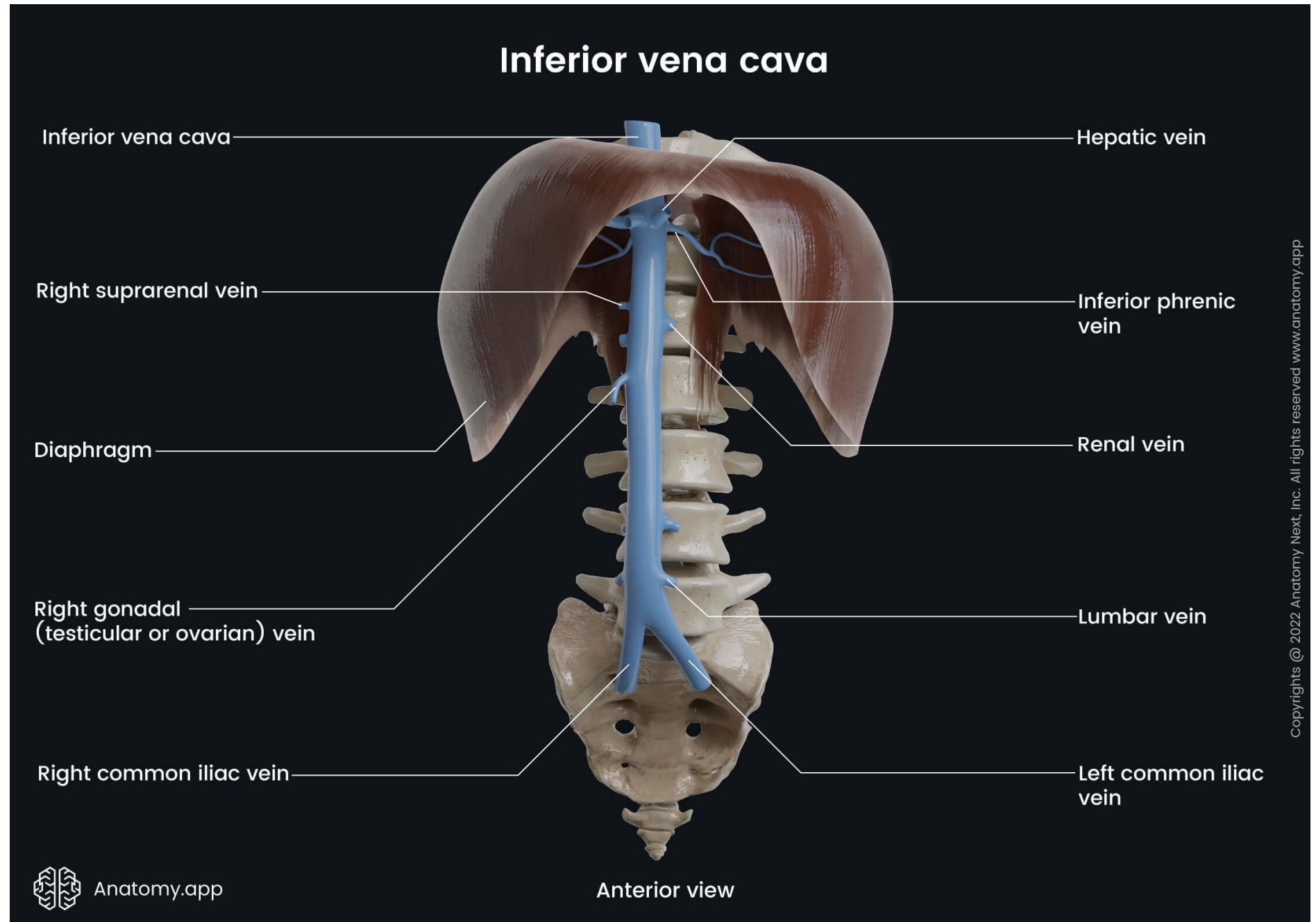
## 10 – I.V.C: Tributaries

- ✓ Five lateral abdominal wall tributaries:
  - The inferior phrenic vein
  - four lumbar veins
- ✓ Three veins of origin:
  - two common iliac veins. They unite at the level of L5 to form I.V.C
  - the median sacral vein.

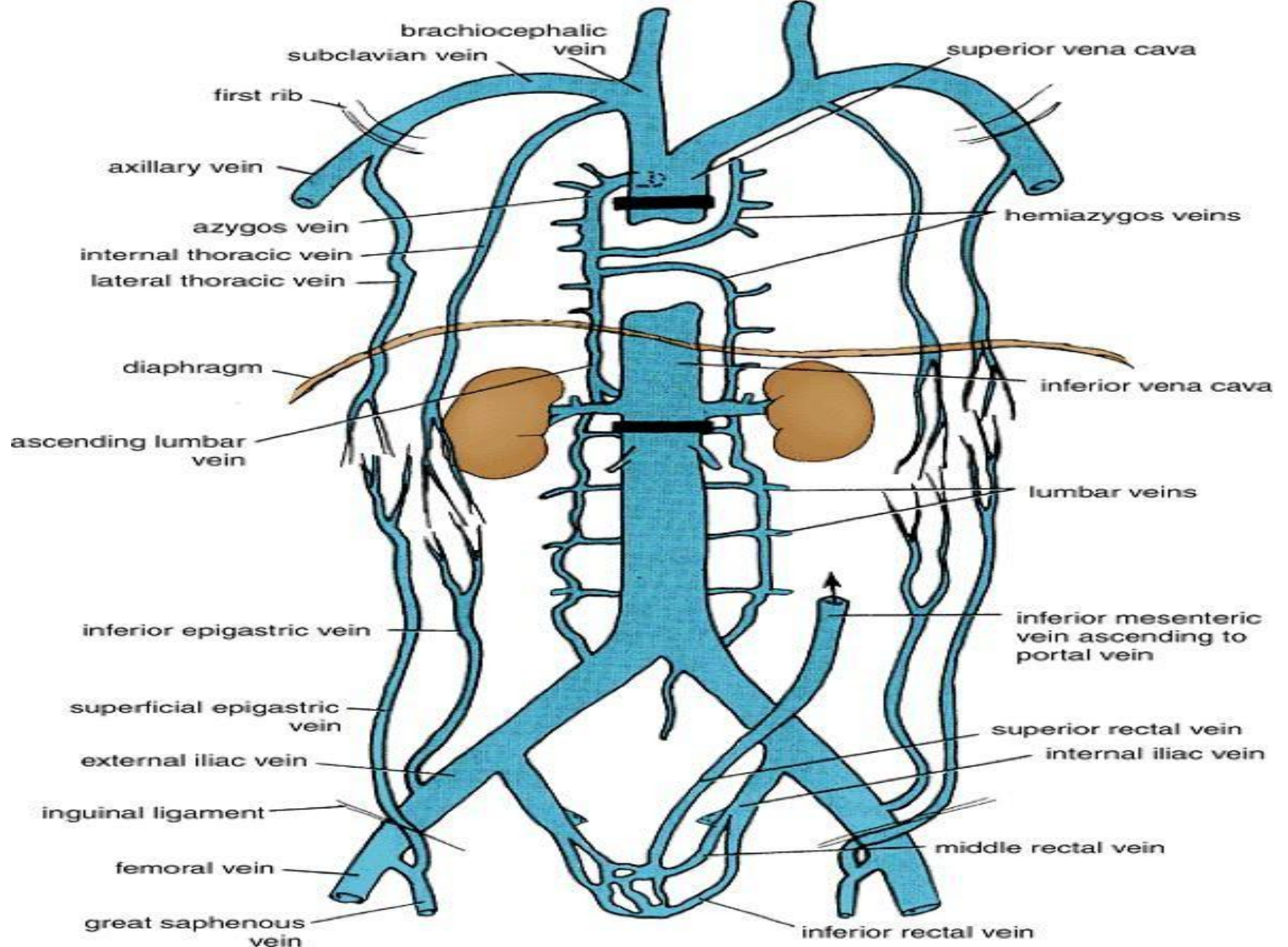


Note that:

- central/middle hepatic vein
- the median sacral vein  
**are not shown**  
in this pic.



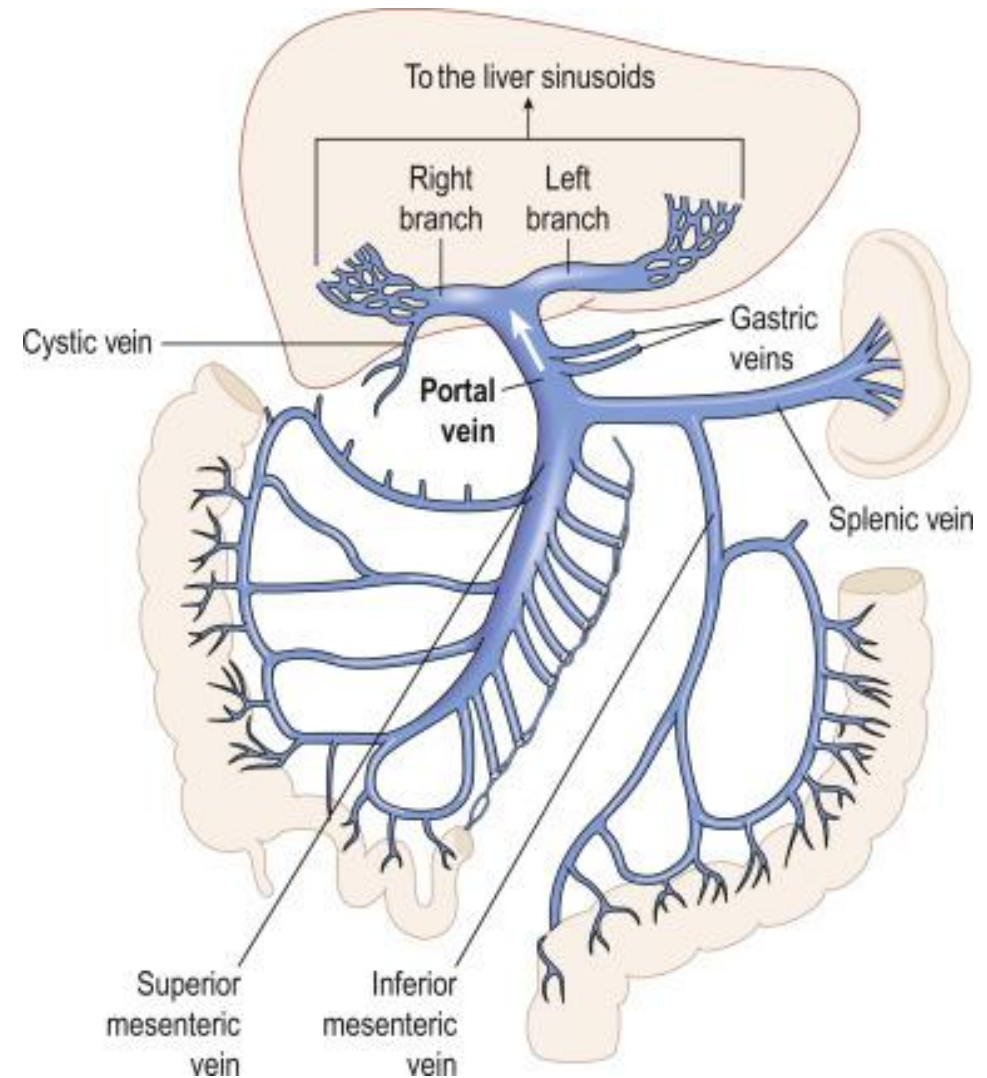
This pic is by  
Dr. muhtaseb  
Good luck trying  
to understand it.





# 11 – Portal vein: course

- ✓ Portal vein is 2 inches long ( 5 cm)
- ✓ start: behind the neck of pancreas by the union of splenic and superior mesenteric veins.
- ✓ ends: in porta hepatis as right and left branches.
- ✓ The portal vein enters the liver and breaks up into sinusoids, from which blood passes into hepatic veins that join I.V.C
- ✓ The portal vein drains blood from the abdominal part of G.I.T. from the lower third of esophagus to halfway down the anal canal.
- ✓ It also drains blood from the spleen, pancreas and gallbladder



# 11 – Portal vein: main tributaries

## Inferior Mesenteric Vein

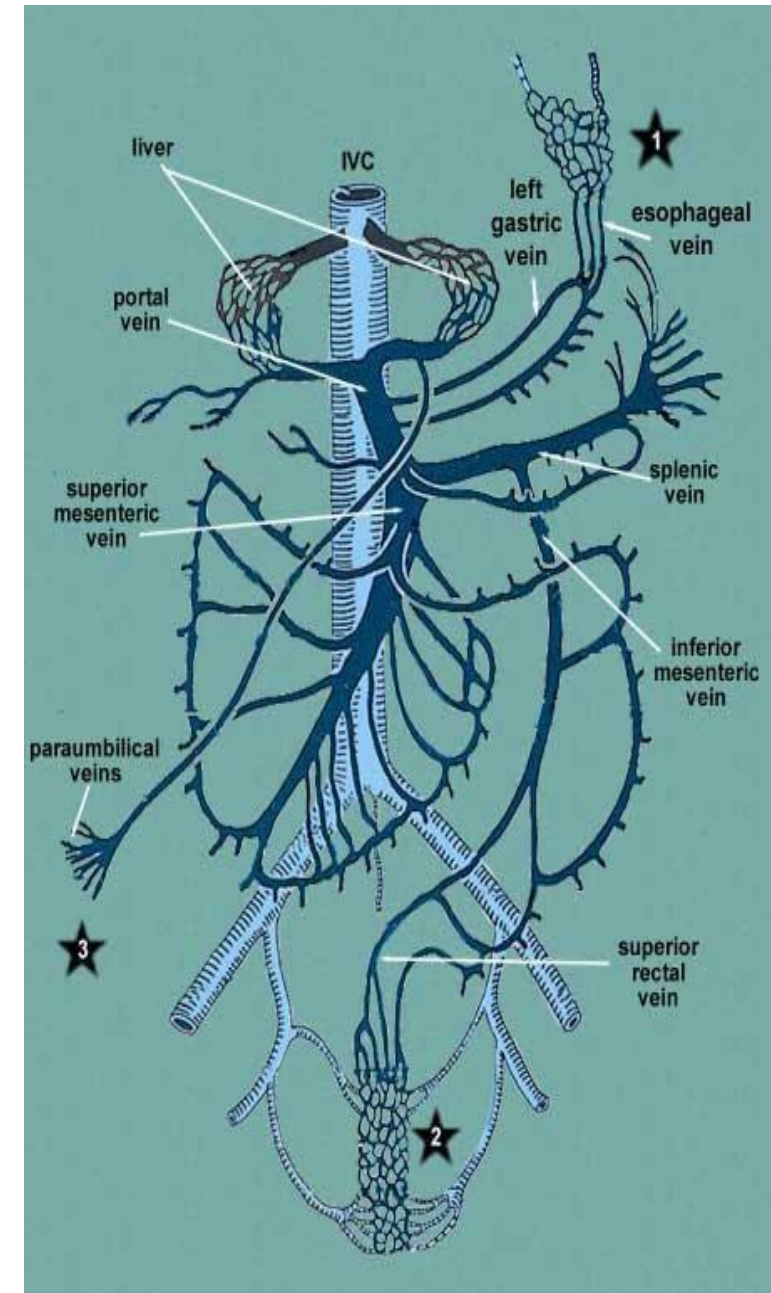
The inferior mesenteric vein is a tributary of the portal circulation. It begins halfway down the anal canal as the superior rectal vein.

- ✓ It passes up the posterior abdominal wall on the left side of the inferior mesenteric artery and the duodenojejunal flexure and joins the splenic vein behind the pancreas.
- ✓ It receives tributaries that correspond to the branches of the artery.

## The splenic vein

It is a tributary of the portal circulation. It begins at the hilum of the spleen by the union of several veins and is then joined by the short gastric and the left gastroepiploic veins.

- ✓ It passes to the right within the splenico-renal ligament and runs behind the pancreas.
- ✓ It joins the superior mesenteric vein behind the neck of the pancreas to form the portal vein.
- ✓ It is joined by veins from the pancreas and the inferior mesenteric vein.

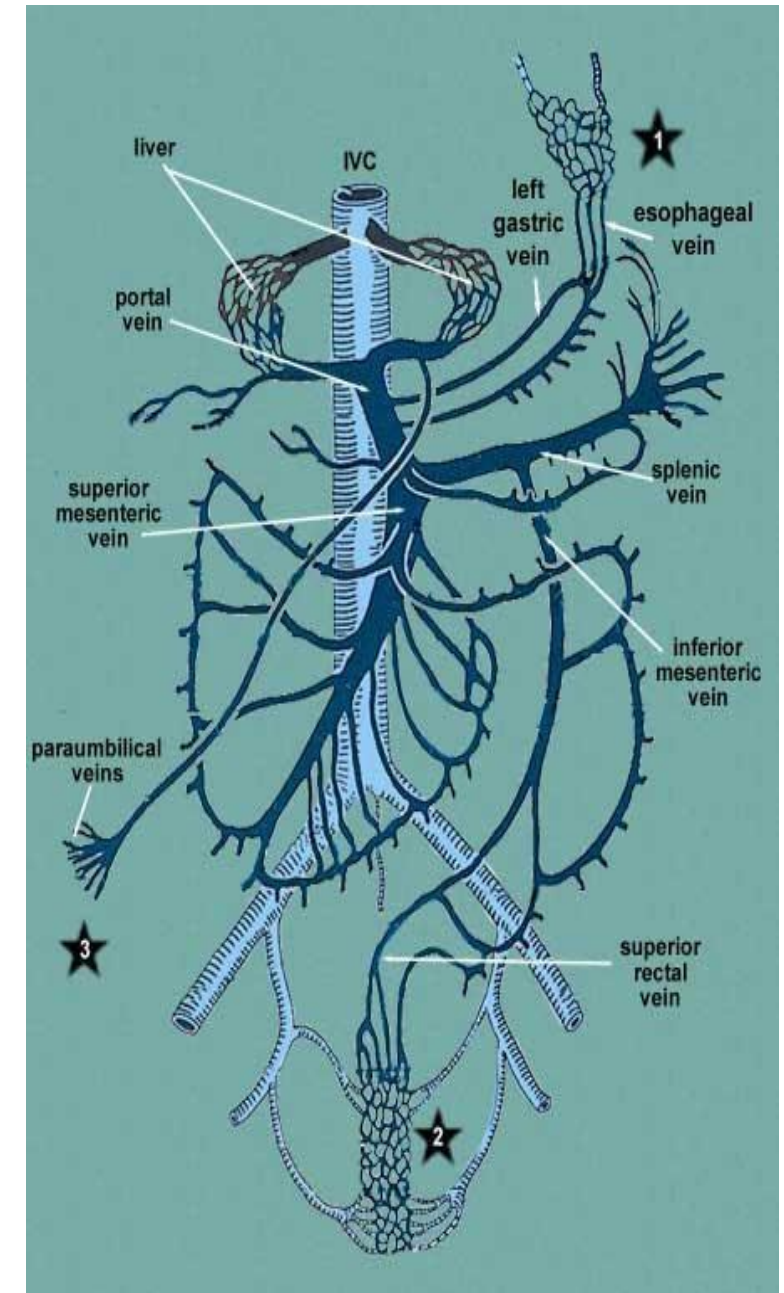


# 11 – Portal vein: main tributaries

## Superior Mesenteric Vein

The superior mesenteric vein is a tributary of the portal circulation.

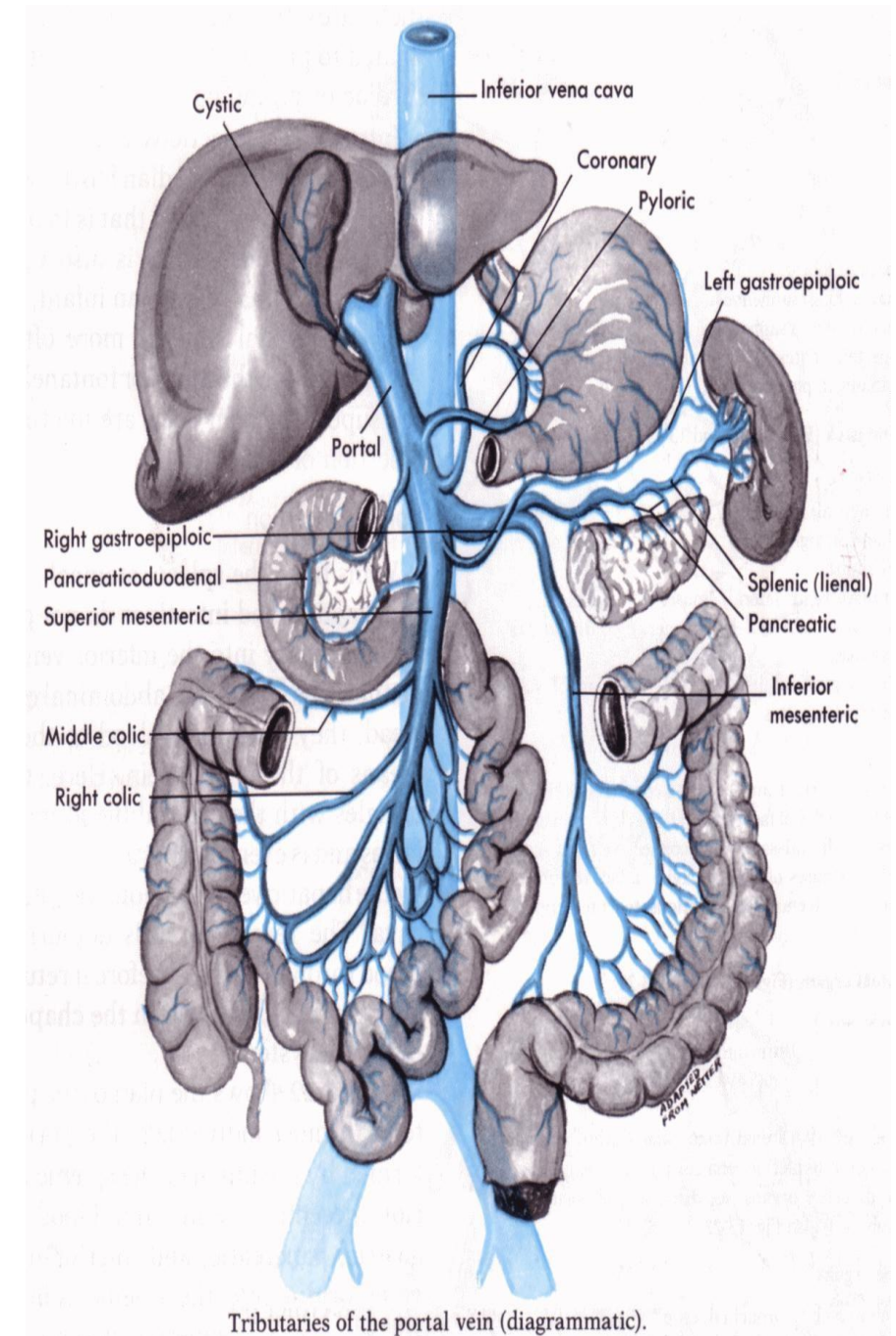
- ✓ It begins at the ileocecal junction and runs upward on the posterior abdominal wall within the root of the mesentery of the small intestine and on the right side of the superior mesenteric artery.
- ✓ It passes in front of the third part of the duodenum and behind the neck of the pancreas, where it joins the splenic vein to form the portal vein.
- ✓ It receives tributaries that correspond to the branches of the superior mesenteric artery and also receives the inferior pancreaticoduodenal vein and the right gastroepiploic vein .





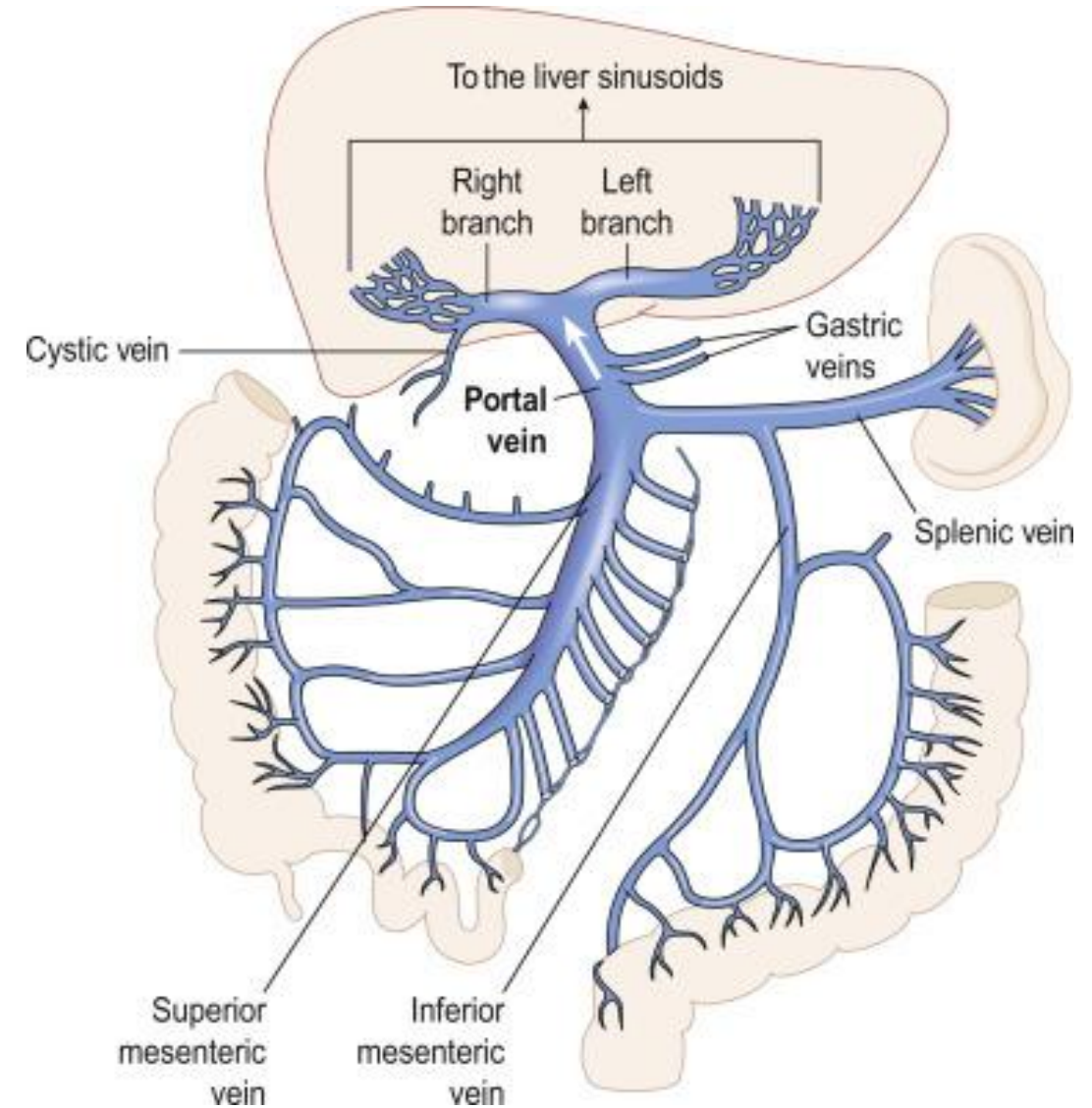
## 11 – Portal vein: tributaries

- ✓ Splenic vein:
  - Receives:
    - short gastric, left gastroepiploic, Inferior mesenteric, and pancreatic
  - Unite with sup. Mesenteric behind the neck of pancreas to form portal vein.
- ✓ Superior mesenteric vein:
  - Receives from:
    - jejunal, ileal, ileocolic, right colic, middle colic, inferior pancreaticoduodenal, and right gastroepiploic veins.
  - ascends in the root of mesentery of the small intestine.



## 11 – Portal vein: tributaries

- ✓ Inferior mesenteric vein:
  - Receives from:
    - superior rectal, sigmoid and left colic veins
  - Drains to splenic vein
- ✓ Left gastric:
  - Drains left portion of the lesser curvature and distal part of esophagus.
  - Opens directly to portal vein.
- ✓ Right gastric vein:
  - Drains right portion of the lesser curvature
  - Drains directly to portal vein
- ✓ Cystic vein
  - Either drain gall bladder directly to liver, or to portal vein

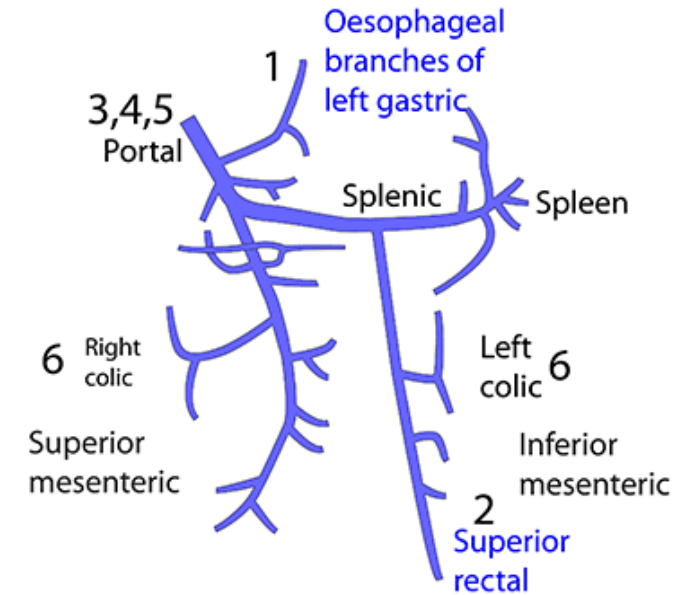


## 12 – Portal systemic anastomosis

- ✓ A portal-caval anastomosis (portal systemic anastomosis)
- ✓ Is a specific type of anastomosis that occur between veins of portal circulation and systemic circulation.
- ✓ The lower end of esophagus is one of the important sites for anastomosis.

😞: In cases of portal hypertension ( ex: liver cirrhosis) esophageal varices are seen  
More severe complication is rupture of these veins → hematemesis.

PORTOSYSTEMIC ANASTOMOSES



1 Lower oesophagus  
Portal: Oesophageal branches of left gastric veins  
Systemic: Azygos veins

2 Upper anal canal  
Portal: Superior rectal vein  
Systemic: Middle/inferior rectal veins

3 Umbilical  
Portal: Veins of ligamentum teres  
Systemic: Superior/inferior epigastic veins

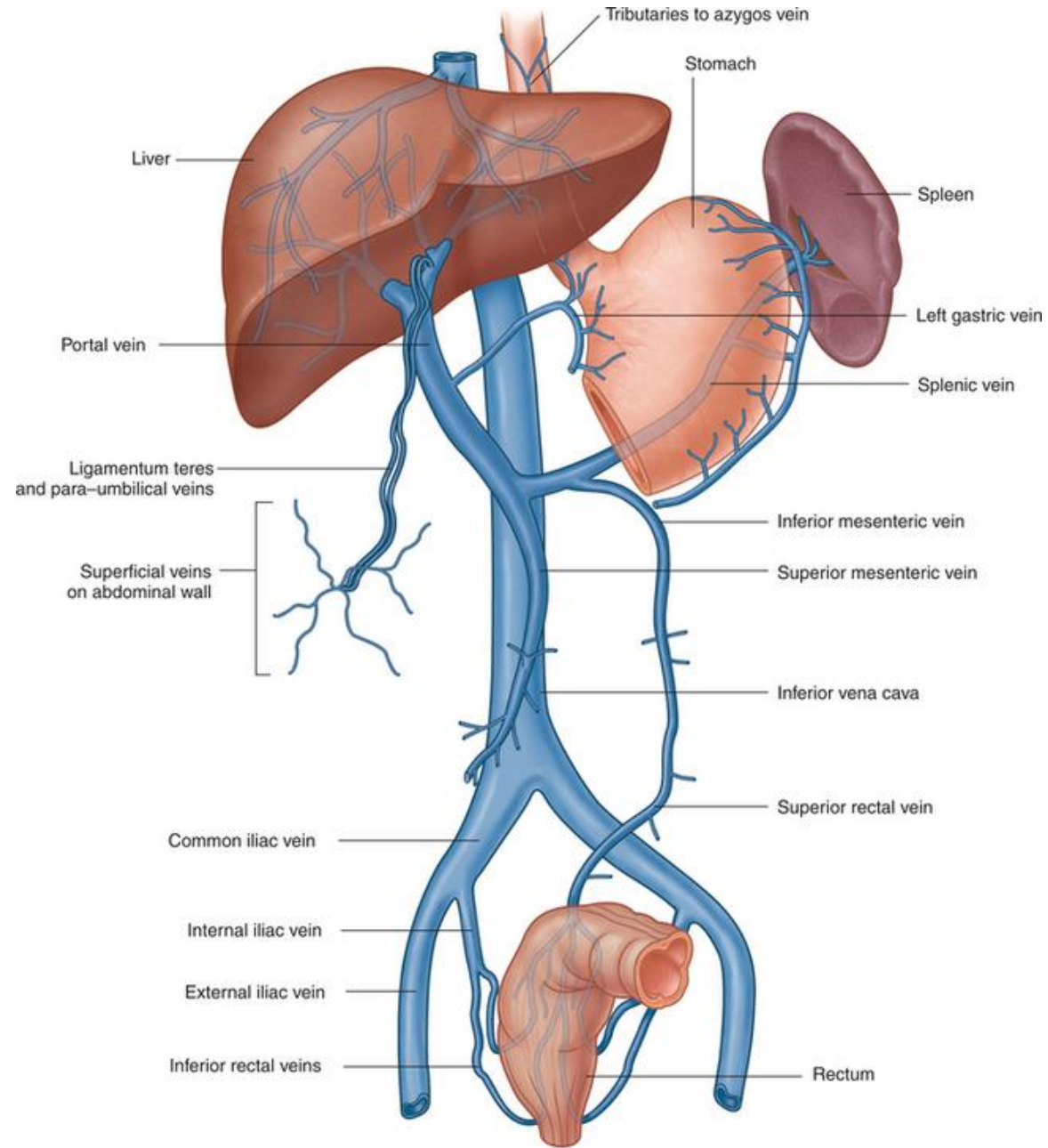
4 Bare area of liver  
Portal: Hepatic/portal veins  
Systemic: Inferior phrenic veins

5 Patent ductus venosus (rare)  
Portal: Left branch of portal vein  
Systemic: Inferior vena cava

6 Retroperitoneal  
Portal: Colonic veins  
Systemic: Body wall veins



# 12 – Portal systemic anastomosis



## **12 – Portal systemic anastomosis**

### **Causes of portal hypertension**

- Liver diseases → Cirrhosis, fibrosis ( bilharzial)
- Valvular diseases of the heart
- Congenital patent

## 12 – Portal systemic anastomosis

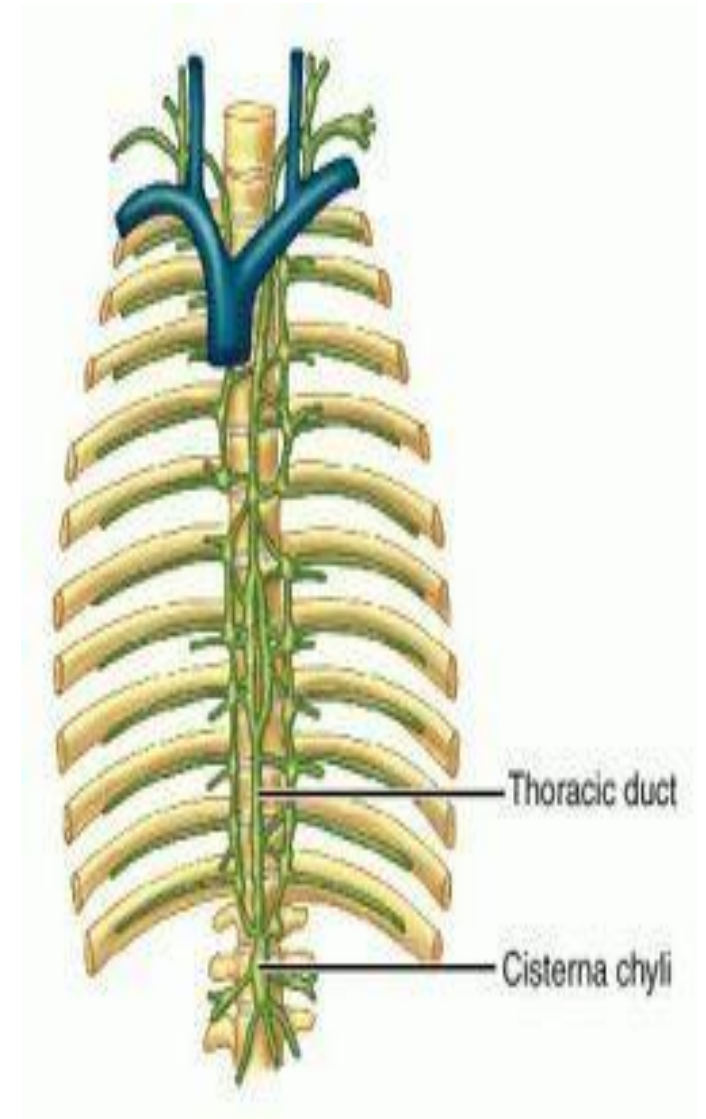
Region	Name of clinical condition	Portal circulation	Systemic circulation
<u>Esophageal</u>	<u>Esophageal varices</u>	<u>Esophageal branch of left gastric vein</u>	<u>Esophageal branches of Azygos vein</u>
<u>Rectal</u>	<u>Hemorrhoids</u>	<u>Superior rectal vein</u>	<u>Middle rectal veins and inferior rectal veins</u>
<u>Paraumbilical</u>	<u>Caput medusae</u>	<u>Paraumbilical veins</u>	<u>Superficial epigastric vein</u>
<u>Retroperitoneal</u>	(no clinical name)	<u>Right colic vein, middle colic vein, left colic vein</u>	<u>Renal vein, suprarenal vein, paravertebral vein, and gonadal vein</u>
<u>Intrahepatic</u>	<u>Patent ductus venosus</u>	<u>Left branch of portal vein</u>	<u>Inferior vena cava</u>



## 13 – cisterna chyli

### The cisterna chyli

- ✓ The right and left lumbar trunks under the diaphragm on the side of the aorta
- ✓ Receives lymph from
  - The intestinal trunk
  - Some small lymph vessels that descend from the lower part of the thorax.
- ✓ Rt & Lt vessels from lower thorax



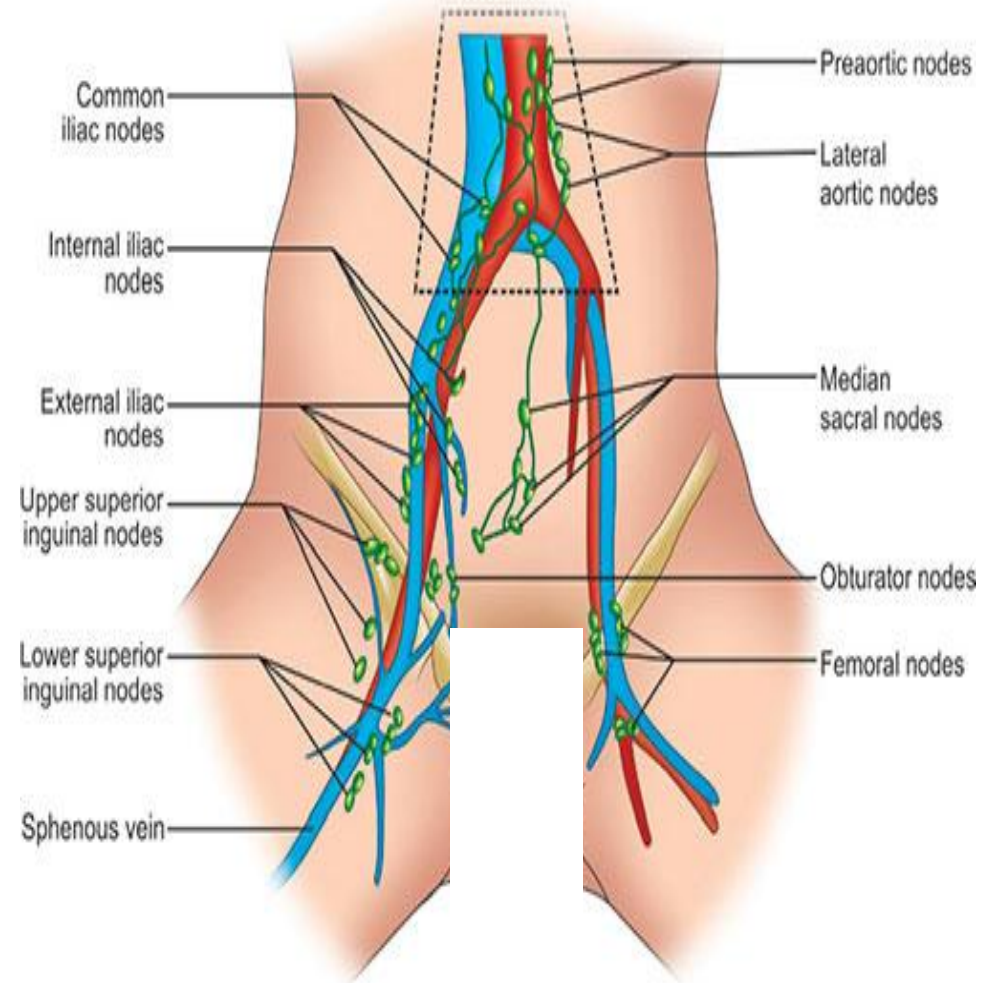
# 14 – Lymphatics on the Posterior Abdominal Wall

## Lymph Nodes

- ✓ The lymph nodes are closely related to the aorta and form a preaortic and a right and left lateral aortic (Para-aortic or lumbar) chain .

### The preaortic lymph nodes :

- ✓ lie around the origins of the celiac, superior mesenteric, and inferior mesenteric arteries and are referred to as the celiac, superior mesenteric, and inferior mesenteric lymph nodes, respectively.
- ✓ They drain the lymph from the gastrointestinal tract, extending from the lower one third of the esophagus to halfway down the anal canal, and from the spleen, pancreas, gallbladder, and greater part of the liver.
- ✓ The efferent lymph vessels form the large intestinal trunk.



## 14 – Lymphatics on the Posterior Abdominal Wall

- **The lateral aortic (para-aortic or lumbar) lymph nodes**
  - ✓ drain lymph from the kidneys and suprarenals; from the testes in the male and from the ovaries, uterine tubes, and fundus of the uterus in the female; from the deep lymph vessels of the abdominal walls; and from the common iliac nodes.
  - ✓ The efferent lymph vessels form the right and left lumbar trunk
  - ✓ The thoracic duct commences in the abdomen as an elongated lymph sac, the cisterna chyli.
  - ✓ This lies just below the diaphragm in front of the first two lumbar vertebrae and on the right side of the aorta .

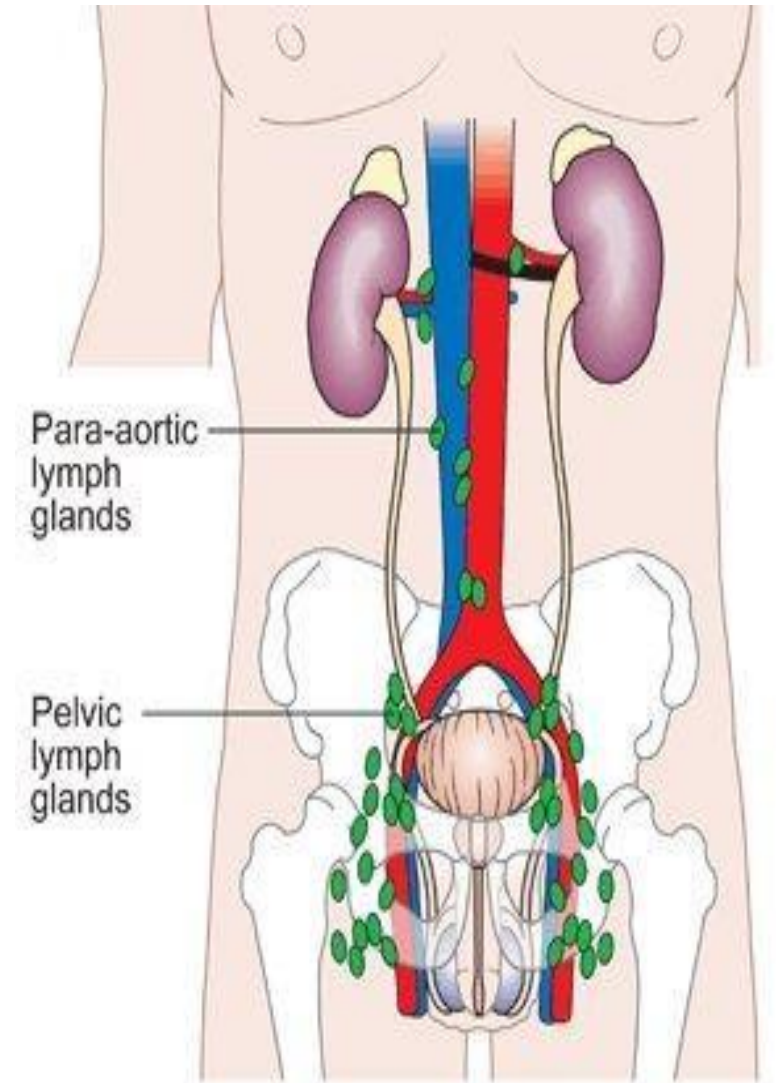
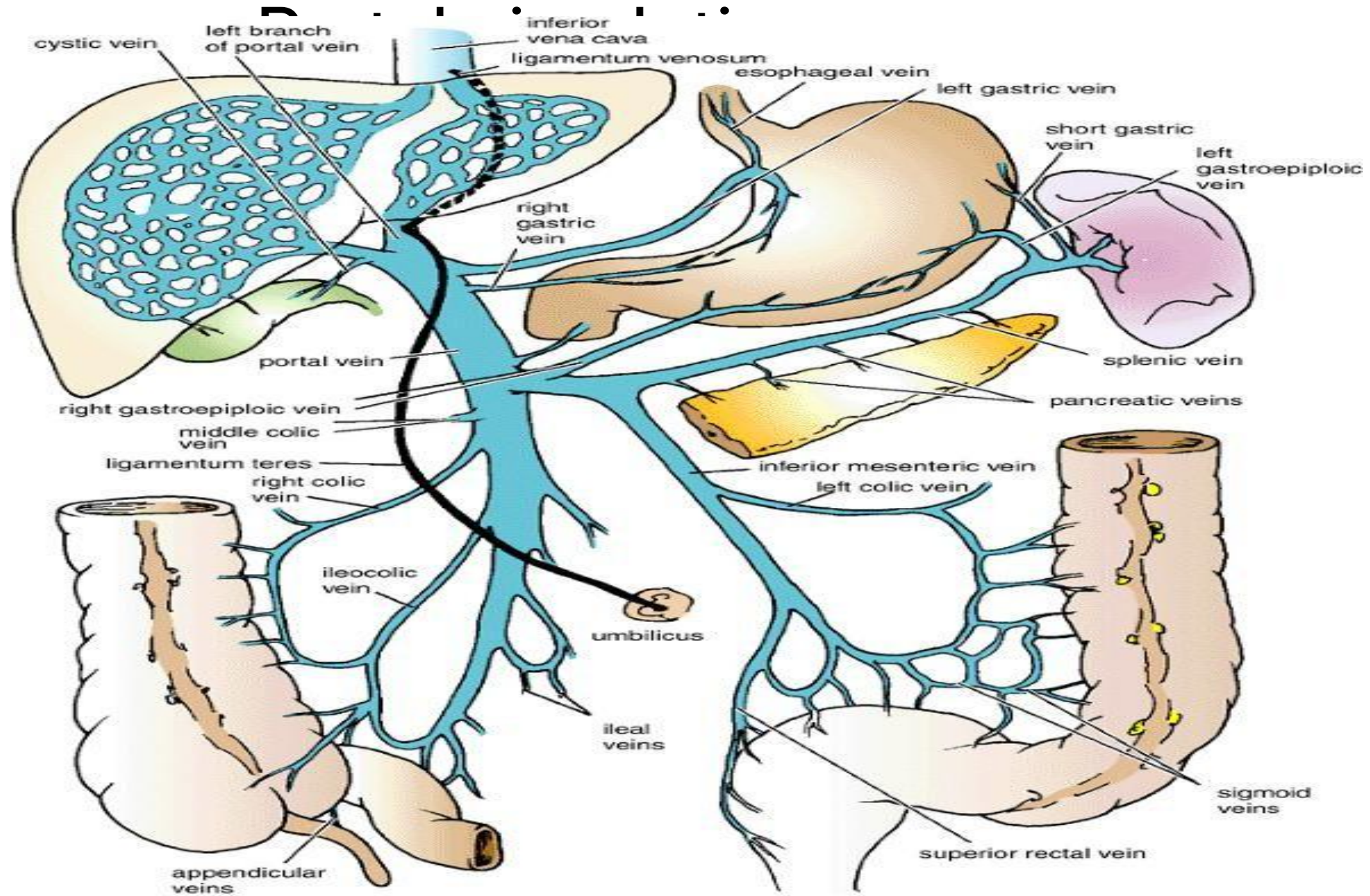
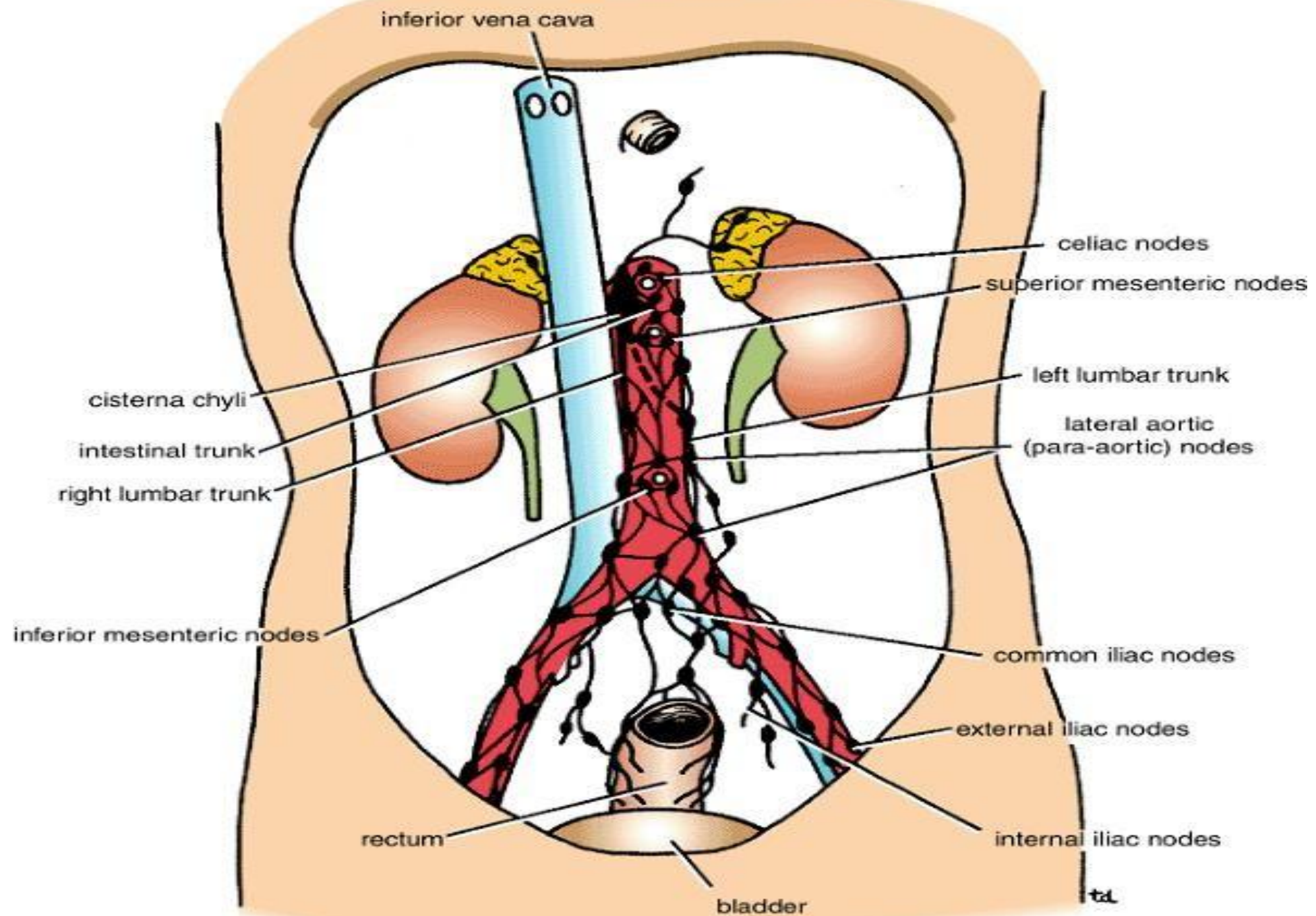


Diagram showing the pelvic and para-aortic lymph nodes  
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# For any feedback, scan the code or click on it.



Corrections from previous versions:

Versions	Slide # and Place of Error	Before Correction	After Correction
V0 → V1	12	I.V.C. which <u>starts</u> at the level of <b>4<sup>th</sup></b> lumbar vertebra	I.V.C. which <u>starts</u> at the level of <b>5<sup>th</sup></b> lumbar vertebra
	23	Ileocolic → jejunal and ileal	Jejunal and ileal are direct branches of SMA
	30	External iliac divides into...	Internal iliac divides into...
	45	portal starts behind head of pancreas	Behind <u>neck</u> of pancreas
V1 → V2			



# رسالة من الفريق العلمي:

اللَّهُ أَقْرَبُ جِيرَانِ الْفَقِيرِ لَهُ  
يُعْطِي إِذَا الْجَارُ أَكْدَى جَارَهُ وَكَدَى

اللَّهُ جَارُ الْوَرَى مِنْ شَرِّ أَنْفُسِهِمْ  
فَأَمْدُدْ إِلَيْهِ يَدًا يَمْدُدْ إِلَيْكَ يَدًا