

\* Pleura :- A cavity that contains the lungs  
↳ 2 membranes → Visceral: adherent to the lung tissue

↳ Parietal: lining of thoracic cage  
The space between them: potential pleural space / cavity  
↳ contains 5-10 ml of viscous fluid

For: lubrication of the lungs (During inflation / deflation)

\* Visceral layer: Adherent to the lung → so: its nerve supply + blood supply + venous drainage + lymphatics } Same as the lung  
↳ Also enters the fissures of the lung (like the oblique + transverse in the right)

\* Functions of the pleura :-

- Protection

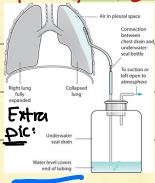
- Produces fluids for lubrication (between the 2 layers) during inspiration / expiration  
infection / inflammation in the pleura: this fluid is decreased → ↑ Friction between the 2 layers

Pain in the parietal layer NOT the visceral } bcz  
↳ Visceral: sensitive for stretch only (only supplied by Sympathetic + Parasymp)  
↳ Parietal: sensitive for pain + touch + temperature (Has sensory N.S)

↳ Pleuritis → severe pain with breathing ⇒ Doesn't resolve on its own (needs treatment)  
↳ (If bacterial for eg) Antibiotics  
is segmental ⇒ if the infection is in the 5th intercostal space  
↳ Supplied by the 5th intercostal nerve  
↳ At the pain is in this area (5th intercostal space)

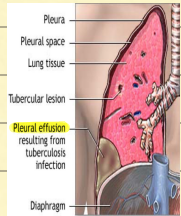
\* In the Pleural cavity :- (between the parietal / visceral)

\* Pneumothorax → Air gets inside the pleural cavity and accumulates



Treatment: Underwater seal  
① Fill a bottle with water ② Put a cannula between the bottle & the pleural cavity ③ Suction of the air from the cavity  
(Usually due to a stab wound on the chest)  
↳ Leading to: Lung collapse & shrinkage

\* Pleural effusion → Fluid accumulation (can reach 300 ml instead of 5-10 normally)



↳ after infection, trauma, tumor or spontaneously  
↳ Usually in the lower part of the pleural cavity  
↳ ↓ Lung expansion + ↓ breath sound in stethoscope + Dullness in percussion pain & cough (during breathing)

\* Empyema → pus accumulation in the pleural cavity after a chronic infection

\* Hemothorax → Blood accumulation in the pleural cavity / sac

↳ Treatment: Aspiration of the fluid / pus / blood

\* And all of these cases cause difficulty in breathing bcz the sac is filled with other substance than the lubricating fluid impeding lung inflation & deflation

\* Parietal pleura → has different types ⇒ According to its site

① → cervical pleura (surrounding the apex of the lung) Remember! 1 inch above the medial 1/3rd of clavicle or 3-4 cm above the 1<sup>st</sup> C.C  
 Clinically: Here we put a cannula in the subclavian vein in the upper surface of the 1st rib

3 pleural layers at the apex/dome:  
 1- Visceral pleura  
 2- Parietal pleura (cervical)  
 3- Suprapleural membrane  
 ceiling the thoracic cage + induce a pressure inside the thoracic cage

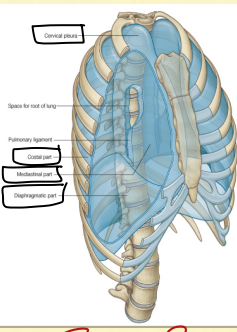
↳ in this area we have a groove containing the artery + vein (ant to the artery)  
 ↳ If you missed this surface anatomy, you will cut the pleura → Lung collapse

So: a lung x-ray should be performed after putting the cannula to make sure that the lung is intact & able to inflate normally

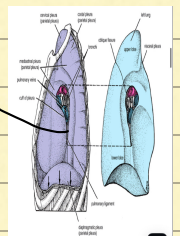
② → Costal pleura → related to costal cartilages  
 ↳ Largest surface (from C.C 1 → C.C 8+9+10) between the ribs / costal cartilages

③ → Diaphragmatic pleura (covering the base / diaphragmatic surface inferiorly)

④ → Mediastinal pleura (covering the medial surface of the lung)



Around the hilum → Fusion between parietal + visceral forming a sleeve around the hilum ⇒ to form the pulmonary ligament inferiorly  
 \* Location of the hilum: between T5 & T7 (the 5th + 7th thoracic vertebrae)



\* Surface anatomy of pleura

↳ Sup: 3-4 cm above 1st costal cartilage / 1-3 inches above medial 1/3rd of clavicle  
 ↳ (same as the surface anatomy of the lung apex)

↳ Ant. border: (Different between the right + left)  
 • Right: Instead of ending at the 6th C.C (like the lung), in the pleura it ends at the 7th costal cartilage

• Left: We have the cardiac notch! (between the 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> C.C)  
 ↳ the same in pleura + lung ⇒ 1cm deviated to the left (this 1cm is the radius (the diameter = 2 cm))  
 \* importance of the notch: aspiration of fluids in cardiac tamponade  
 ↳ between 4th + 6th C.C (No pleura / No lung)

↳ Post. border: Same as the lung but the pleura descends 2 more intercostal spaces

↳ Base / lower border:

- midclavicular line → 6th C.C. → Lung
- midaxillary line → 8th C.C. → pleura (2 spaces below)
- scapular line / paravertebral line (posteriorly) → 10th thoracic vertebra → 12th thoracic vertebra

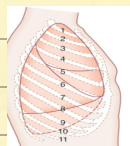
\* importance: In inflation of the lung ⇒ filling of the 2 spaces  
 → so: if fluids/air accumulated in these 2 spaces → no available space for the lung inflation ⇒ ↓ ability to breathe normally

↳ Aspiration ⇒ But where? in the costodiaphragmatic recess (in 3 points):  
 OR underwater seal

- midclavicular line: 7th intercostal space (1 inch)  
 (between the lung (6th C.C) & pleura (8th C.C))  
 to avoid injury of the lung

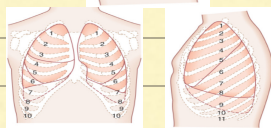
- Midaxillary line: 9th intercostal space (3 inches)  
 (between 8th + 10th C.C)

- Scapular line dorsally: 11th intercostal space (2 inches)  
 But where exactly in the space?? ↓

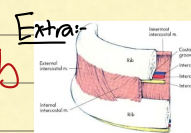


Best place → cuz it's wide (3 inches)

Rare →



\* Where is the subcostal groove? Lower border of the rib



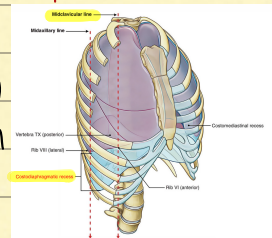
To avoid injury of the space contents (BVs + nerve)

So: the needle is inserted on the lower border of the intercostal space & on the upper border of the rib

\* Recesses/reflections/angles: The angle between 2 types of parietal pleura (Giving a space for inflation of the lung)  
 (الزوايا بين الغشيتين الصدرية)

- Costo-diaphragmatic → inspiration / انقباض الصدر → filled with lung tissue during inspiration  
 ↳ in midaxillary → 3 inches in size (widest space) → so: it's the preferred site for aspiration (in the 9th intercostal space)

- Costo-mediastinal  
 - mediastino-diaphragmatic (costodiaphragmatic is the most common site for accumulation of fluids/blood/pus)

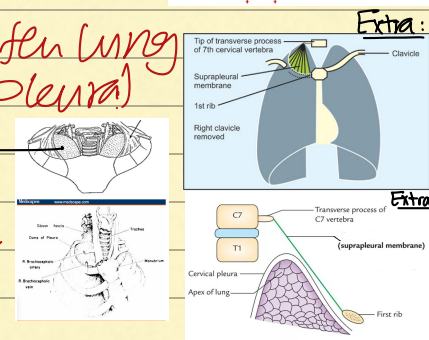


\* Suprapleural membrane → above the apex of the lung (above the 2 layers of pleura)

↳ Attachments:

\* Laterally → inner / medial border of 1st C.C

\* medially → blends with sibson's fascia (investing deep fascia at the root of the neck)



\* Apex → Tip of the transverse process of the 7th cervical vertebra (C7)

عشان تحافظ على ال intrathoracic pressure

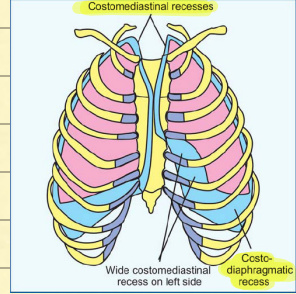
All these attachments (esp. with the sibson's fascia): Complete ceiling of the thoracic cavity

\* importance of the supra pleural membrane :-

- Protection of apex

- Resists changes in intrathoracic pressure during respiration

Extra pic: The recesses:-



\* Normal person breathes 18-24 times per min  
ولا يتغير الا قليلا

↳ The respiratory center sends impulses to phrenic nerve to diaphragm

Inspiration  
(Active process)

So: the diaphragm contracts & descends downwards

+ Increasing the intra-abdominal pressure  
Decreasing the intra-thoracic pressure (below P<sub>atm</sub>)

↓  
Rush of air through the nose (دون فانشرفي) ⇒ Filling the lungs

expiration  
(passive process)

\* Completely the opposite: Relaxation of diaphragm  
→ moving upwards → ↑ intra-thoracic pressure → pressing on the lungs

\* Same as when we perform tracheostomy → air rushes in & enters the trachea

\* Stab wound at the root of the neck

سيف  
↳ Cut of the pleura → Reaching the lung ⇒ Pneumothorax → Lung collapse

↳ Hitting the supra pleural membrane only without reaching parietal pleura

↳ The breathing is normal (Lung is intact)

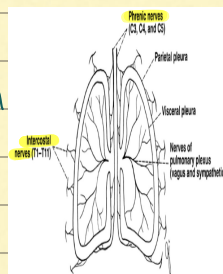
But: intra-thoracic pressure would be affected ⇒ so: the supra pleural membrane bulges upwards with breathing (During changes in intrathoracic P)

\* nerve supply of parietal pleura → sensitive to pain, touch & temp

- Costal pleura → intercostal nerves (\*segmentally\*)  
For e.g) 3rd intercostal space → 3rd intercostal nerve

- Mediastinal } Phrenic nerve motor to diaphragm  
- Diaphragmatic } (From C3+C4+C5) Sensory to pleura

- Cervical pleura → intercostal nerves



\* Nerve supply of visceral pleura → Autonomic N.S. (sympathetic & parasympathetic) → (pulmonary plexus)  
 ↳ So: sensitive to stretch + insensitive to pain, touch & temp.

\* Blood supply of pleura:

- Visceral → same as the lung = Branchial arteries

- Parietal → Ant surface / post  
 ↳ Anterior intercostal arteries (Branches of the internal thoracic A.)  
 ↳ Posterior intercostal arteries (Branches of descending thoracic aorta)

- 1- Intercostal arteries (ant + post)
- 2- Internal thoracic / mammary A.
- 3- Musculophrenic A. → to 6th + 7th + 8th intercostal spaces

(Subclavian artery → Internal thoracic / mammary A. → Ant. intercostal A. / Musculophrenic A. ↳ end branch)

(Descending thoracic aorta → Gives the post. intercostal arteries from 3rd to subcostal (12th))

\* Venous drainage → Right side: Azygous vein  
 ↳ Anteriorly: internal mammary / thoracic vein  
 ↳ subclavian vein

\* Lymphatic drainage

- Visceral → with the lung → along the bronchial arteries  
 ↳ to: bronchopulmonary L.Ns

