

A visual guide to surface anatomy

Systemic Anatomy

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The Respiratory System



The Respiratory System

- Respiratory system
 - Surface anatomy of the lungs
 - The bifurcation of the trachea
 - The horizontal fissure
 - The oblique fissures

Video resources

The Nervous System

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-5N3lb9jSnI>

The Respiratory System

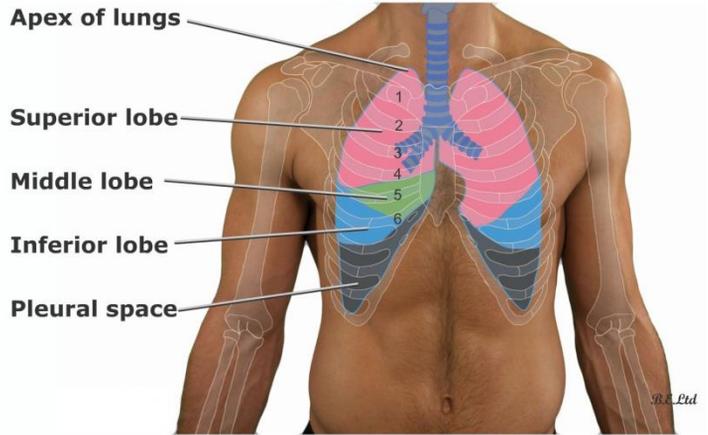
SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

1. Where is the apex of the lungs located?
2. Where is the base of the lungs located?
3. How far do the parietal pleurae of the lungs extend to in relation to the ribs, costal cartilages and vertebrae.
4. Anteriorly, where does the trachea bifurcate?
5. Posteriorly, where does the trachea bifurcate?
6. Trace the horizontal fissure (of the right lung) over structures of the thorax.
7. Trace the oblique fissures (of the both lungs) over structures of the thorax.

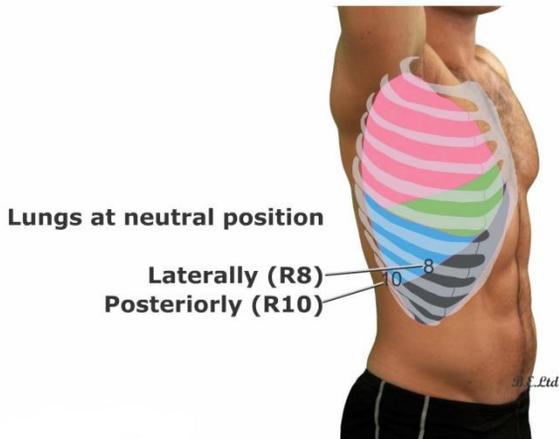
The Surface Anatomy of the Lungs

- The apex of the lungs can be palpated behind the clavicles especially on deep inspiration.
- In their neutral position anteriorly their bases are the level of the 6th costal cartilage. Laterally the lungs extend until the 8th rib.
- Posteriorly the lungs extend until rib 10 and the parietal pleurae extend down to the 12th rib.

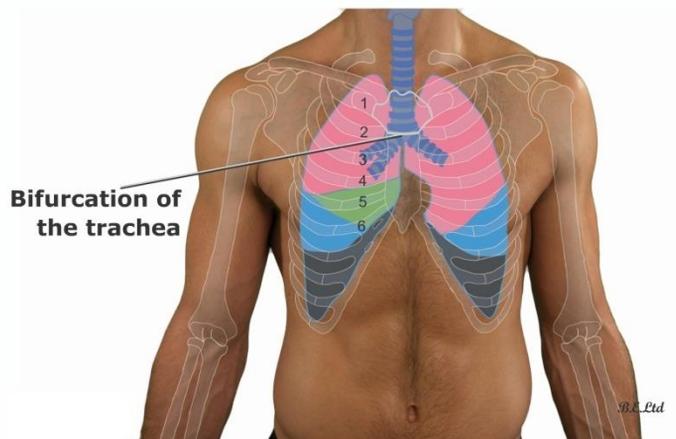
The lungs



The lungs



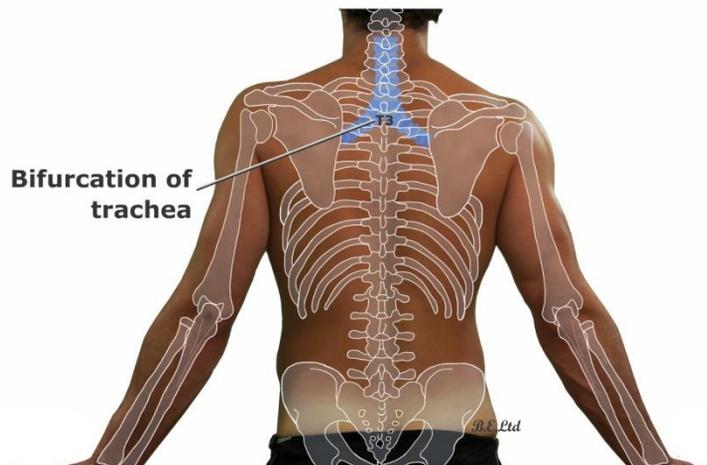
The lungs



The Bifurcation of the Trachea

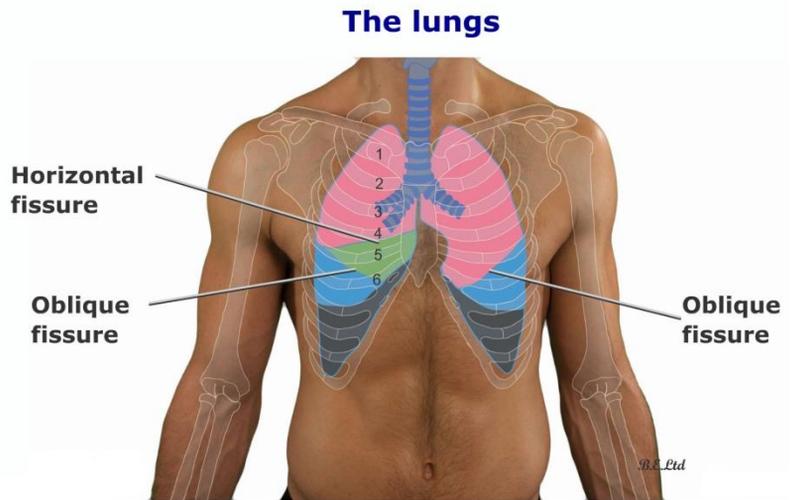
- Anteriorly the trachea bifurcates behind the manubriosternal angle.
- Posteriorly the trachea bifurcates at the level of T3 vertebra.

Bifurcation of trachea - posterior view



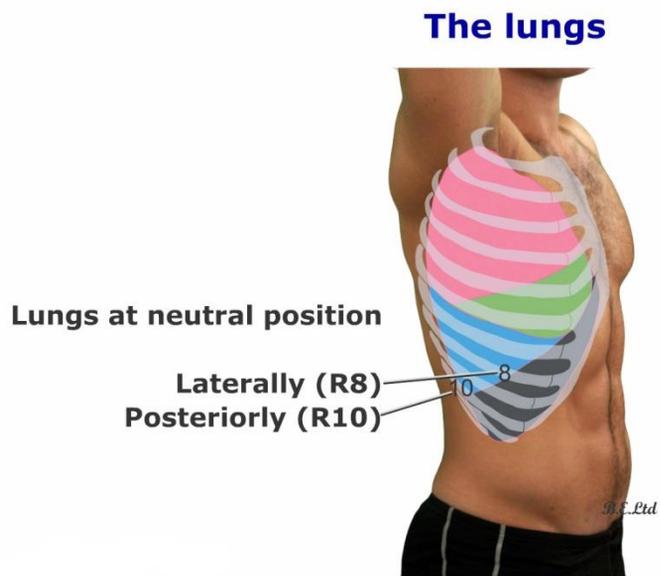
The Horizontal Fissure of the Right Lung

- It starts from the 4th costal cartilage at the sterno-costal joint.
- It continues laterally at the mid axillary line at the level of the 5th rib where it meets with the oblique fissure.

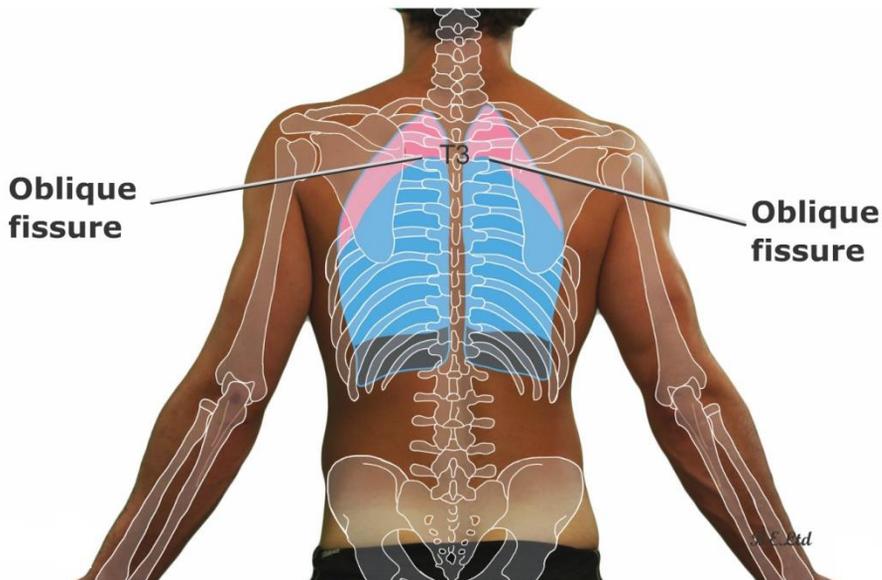


The Oblique Fissures of Both Lungs

- Anteriorly it starts behind the 6th costo-chondral joint.
- The oblique fissure of the left lung starts a bit more laterally than the right lung, due to the cardiac notch.
- They ascend obliquely and laterally then posteriorly until the spinous process of T3 vertebrae



The lungs



References

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Wikipedia online encyclopaedia

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