



Introduction to Anatomy

1st Year Medical Students

2025-2026

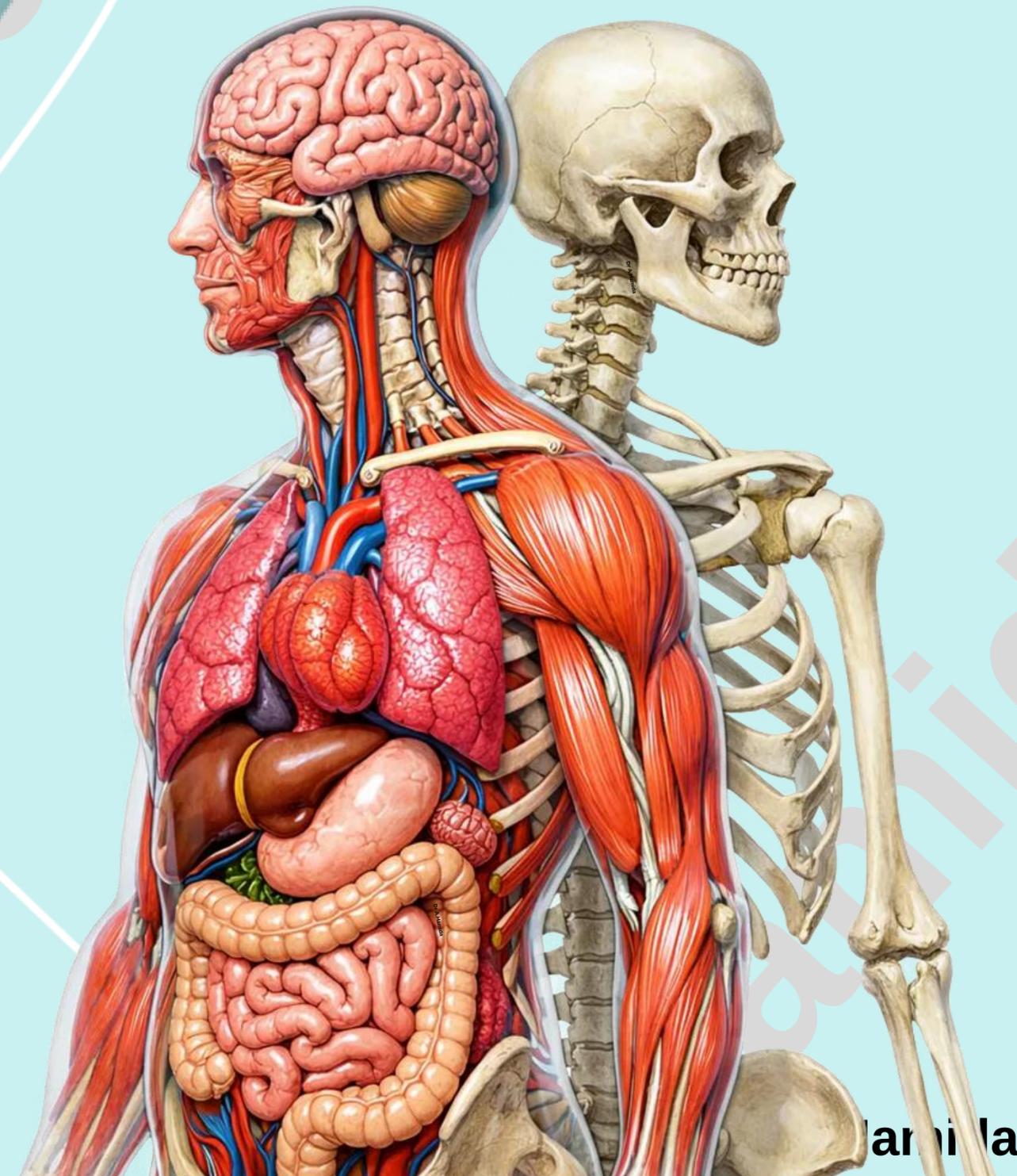
Second Semester

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Hamida

Course Outline:

1 Introduction and Terminology

2 Skeletal System

3 Cardiovascular System

4 Lymphatic System

5 Nervous System

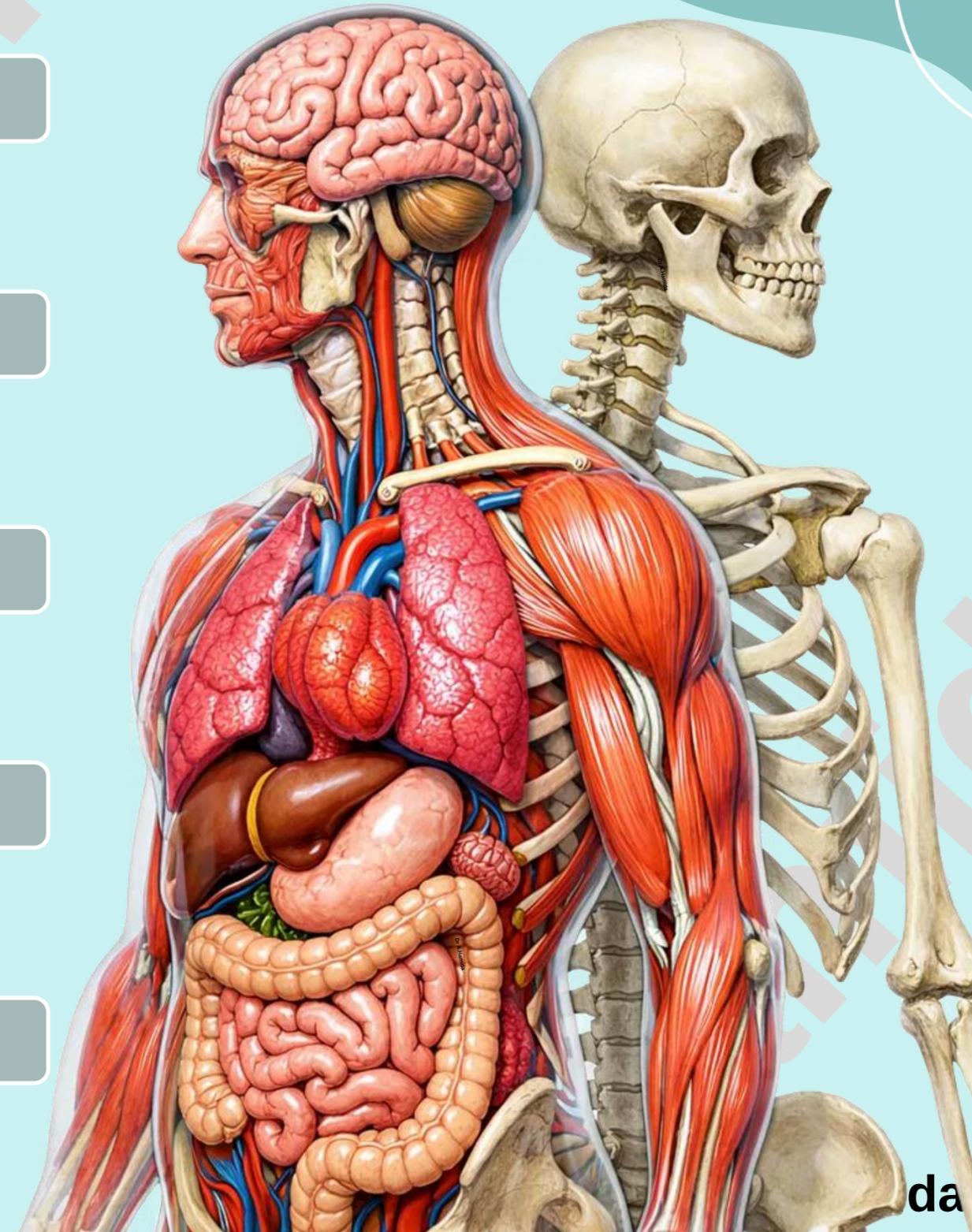
6 Muscular System

7 Respiratory System

8 Digestive System

9 Urinary System

10 Endocrine System



2

Skeletal System

System Outline:

2.1

Axial Skeleton

2.2

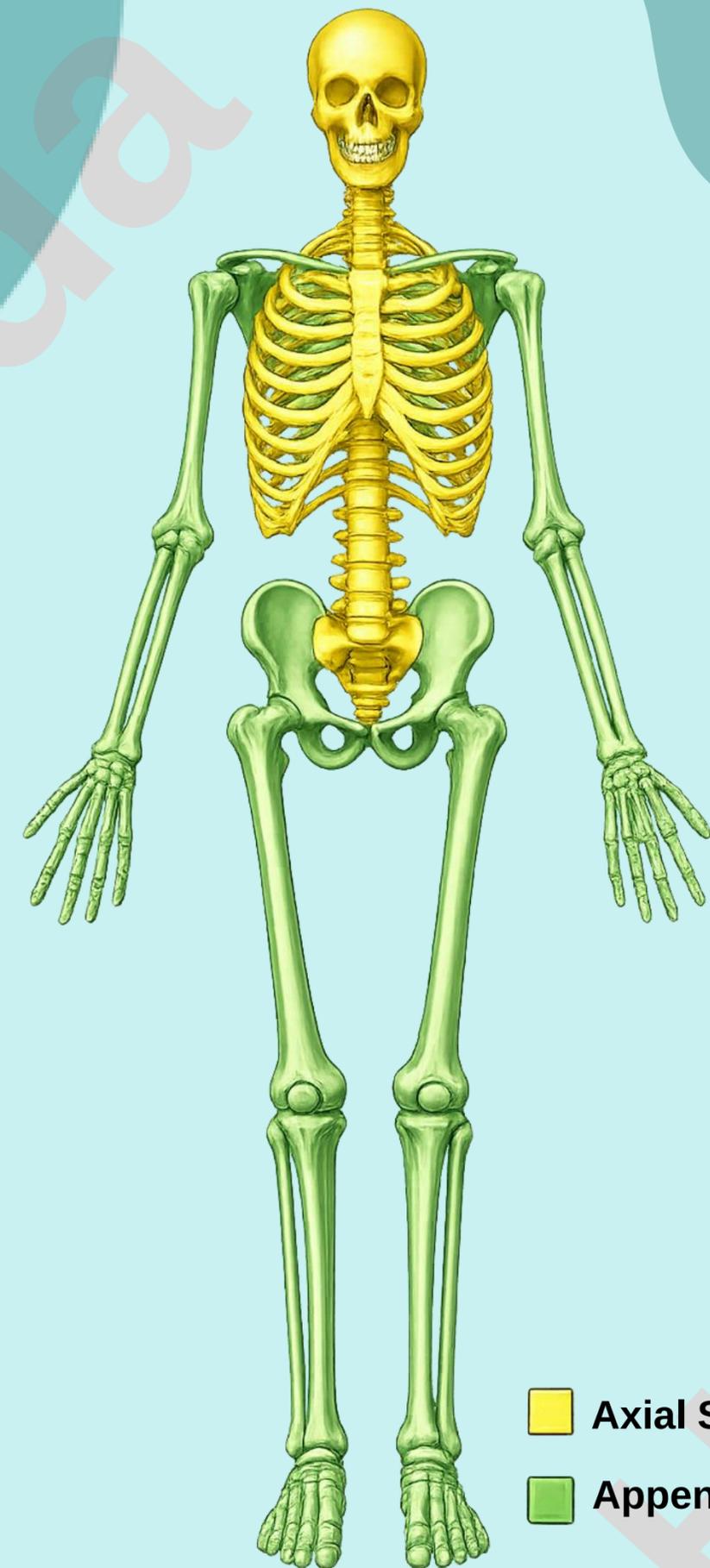
Appendicular Skeleton

2.3

Joints

Skeletal system

1. Axial Skeleton-2



■ Axial Skeleton

■ Appendicular Skeleton

2

Skeletal System

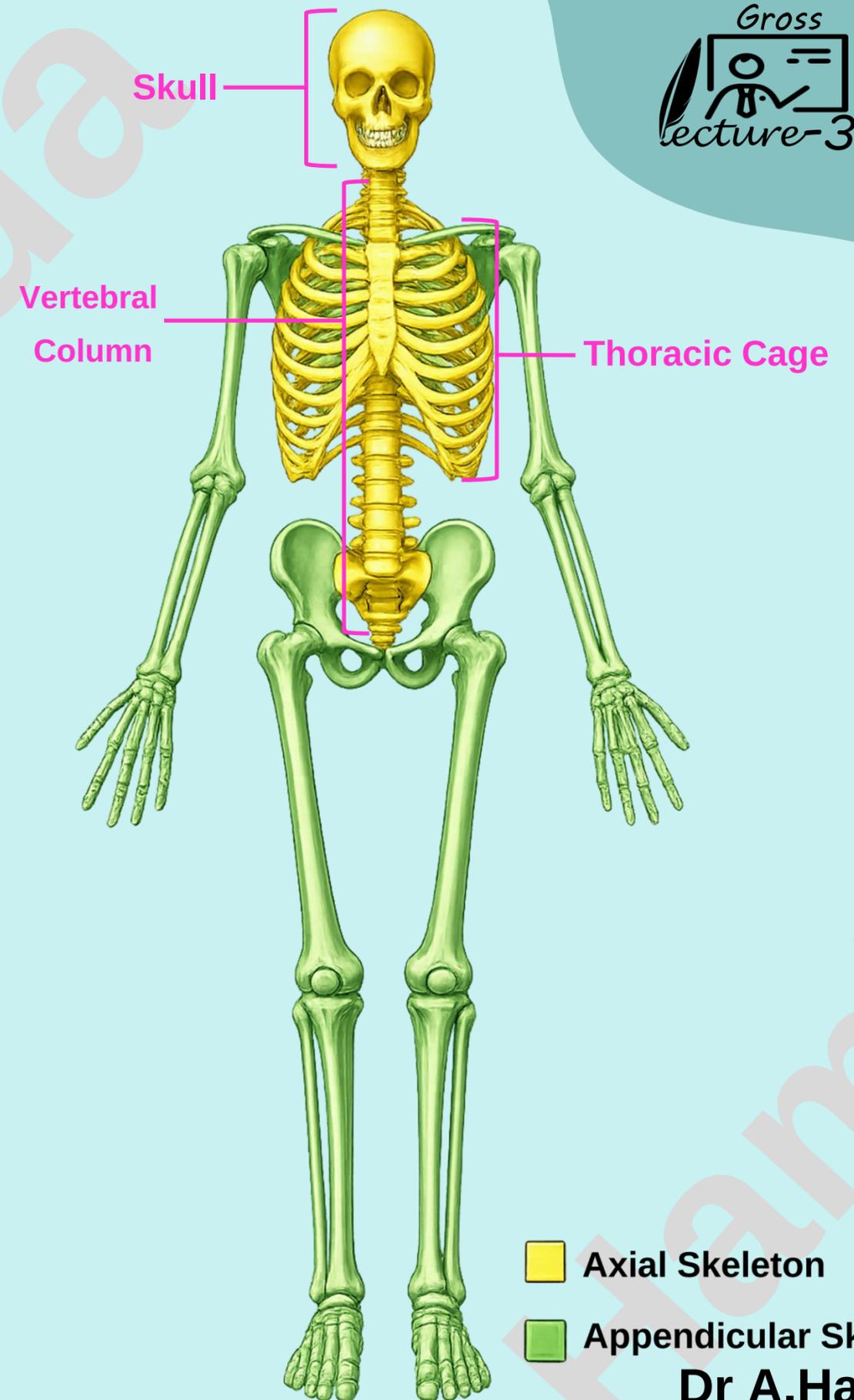
- The human skeletal system consists of 206 bones
- The skeletal system is classified functionally into:

1. Axial Skeleton :

- Consists of the bones and cartilages that lie close to the central axis of the body.
- It includes the bones of the
 1. Skull
 2. Vertebral Column
 3. Thoracic Cage

2. Appendicular Skeleton :

- It is bilaterally symmetrical and consist of the bones and cartilages of the:
 1. Upper Limb
 2. Lower Limb



2.1 Skeletal System–Axial Skeleton

Lecture Outline:

2.1.1

Skull

2.1.2

Vertebral Column

2.1.3

Thoracic Cage

➤ The Vertebral Column consist of:

1. Vertebrae
2. Intervertebral Discs



Posterior



Lateral view

Vertebral Column

1. Vertebrae

➤ The vertebral column consists of 33 vertebrae:

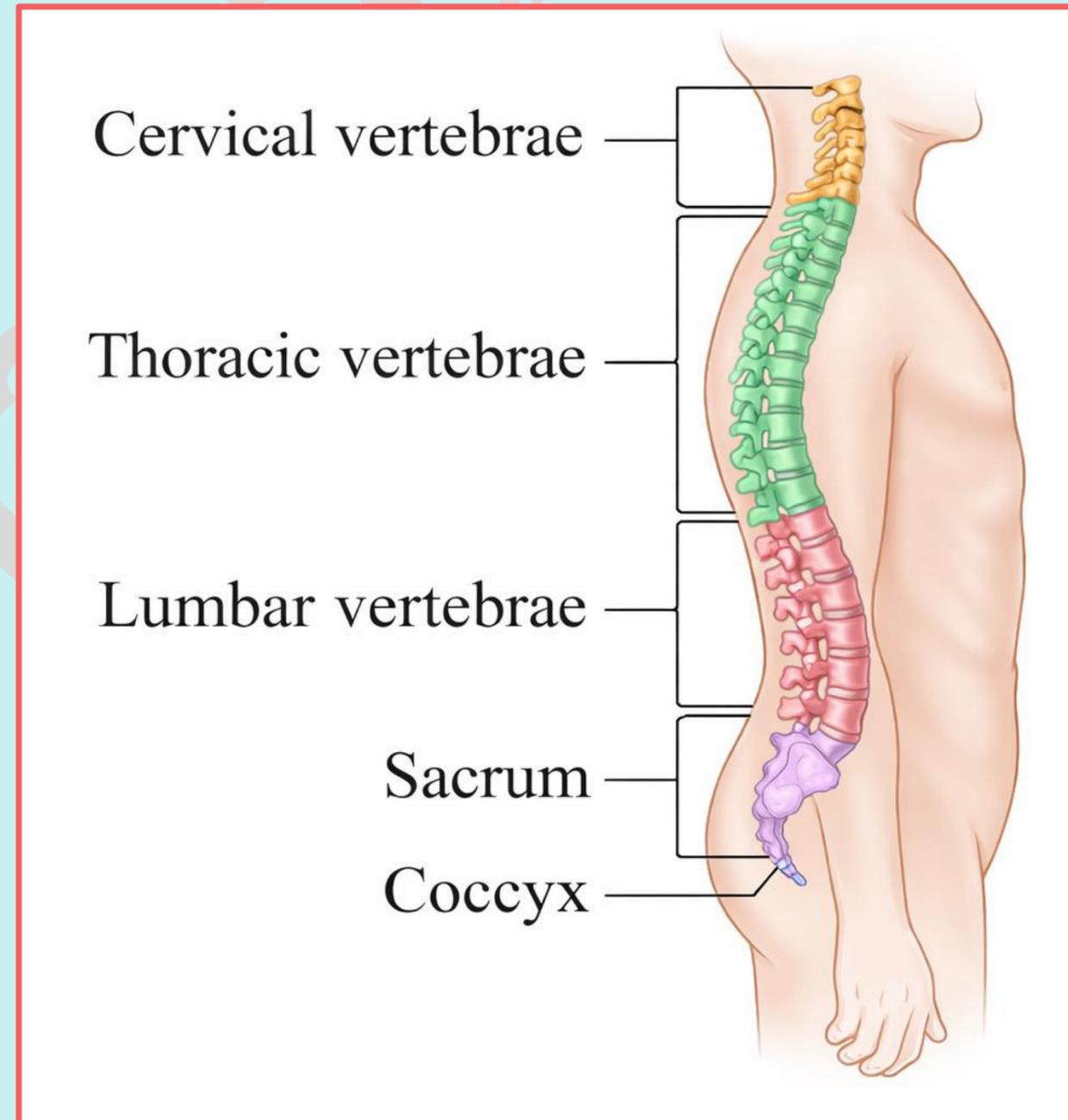
7 Cervical Vertebrae

12 Thoracic Vertebrae

5 Lumbar Vertebrae

5 Sacral Vertebrae (fused)

4 Coccygeal Vertebrae (fused)



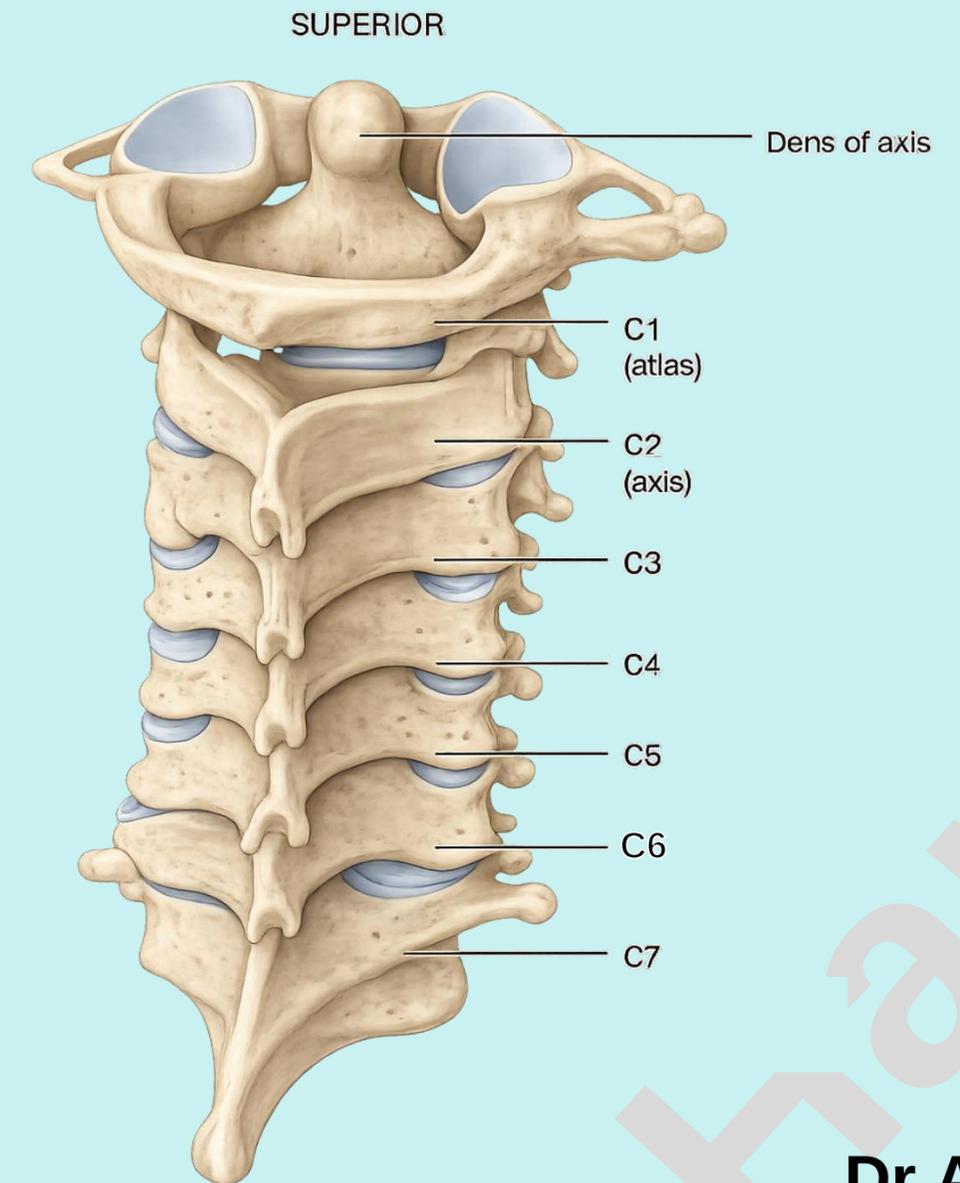
Vertebral Column

1. Vertebrae

1. Cervical Vertebrae (7)



- Found in the neck region.
- Have intervertebral discs between every two vertebrae.
- The 1st cervical vertebra (atlas) articulates with the base of skull.



Vertebral Column

1. Vertebrae

2. Thoracic Vertebrae (12)



- Found in the thoracic region (posterior to the thoracic cavity).
- Have intervertebral discs between every two vertebrae.
- Articulates with the ribs.



Posterior

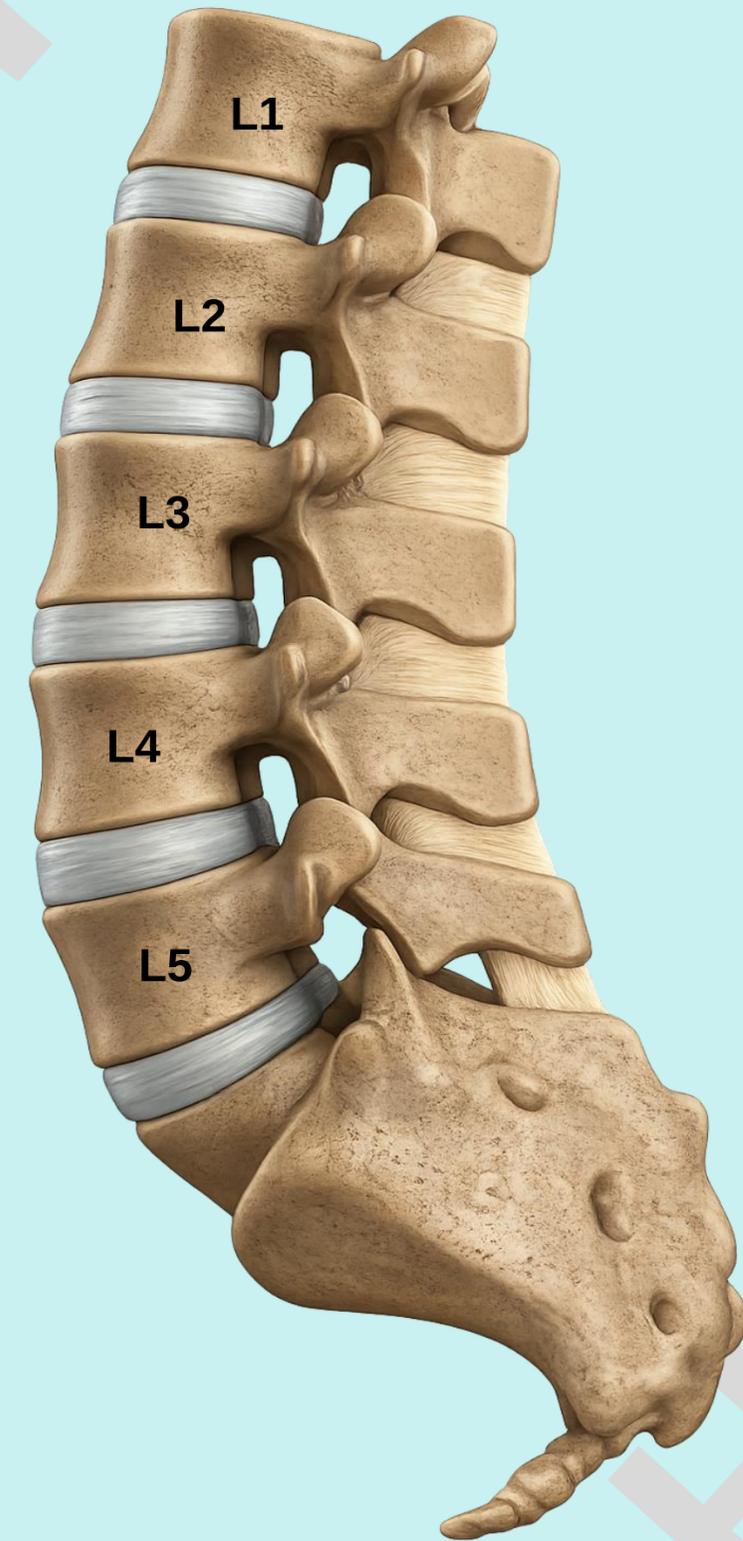
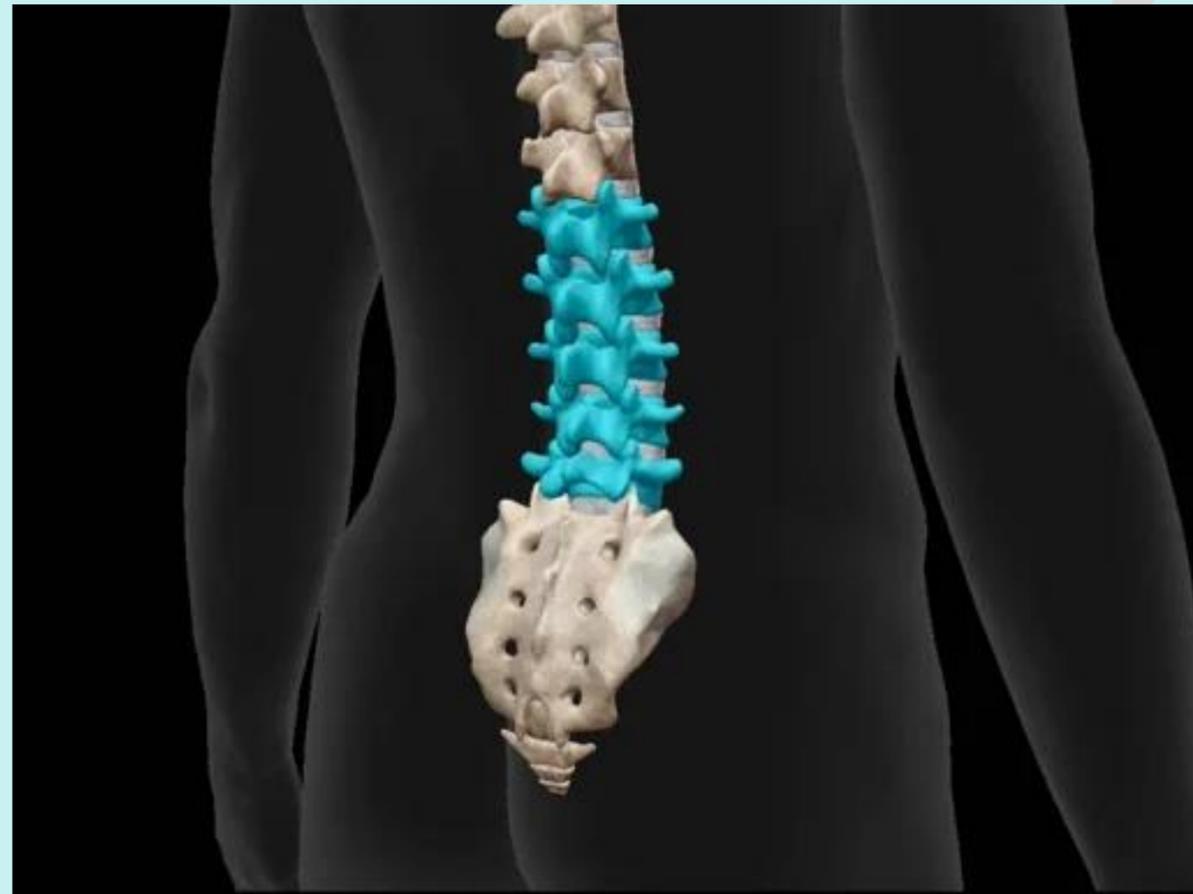


1. Vertebrae

3. Lumbar Vertebrae (5)



- Found posterior to the abdomen.
- Have intervertebral discs between every two vertebrae.



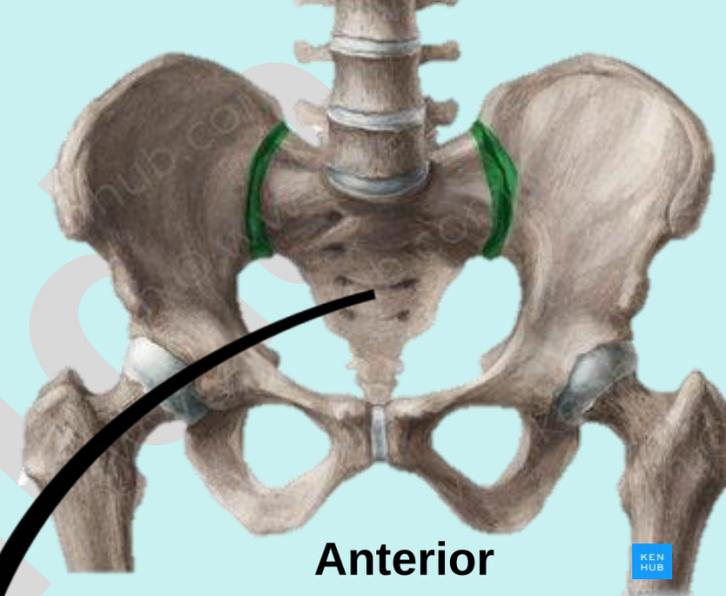
Vertebral Column

1. Vertebrae

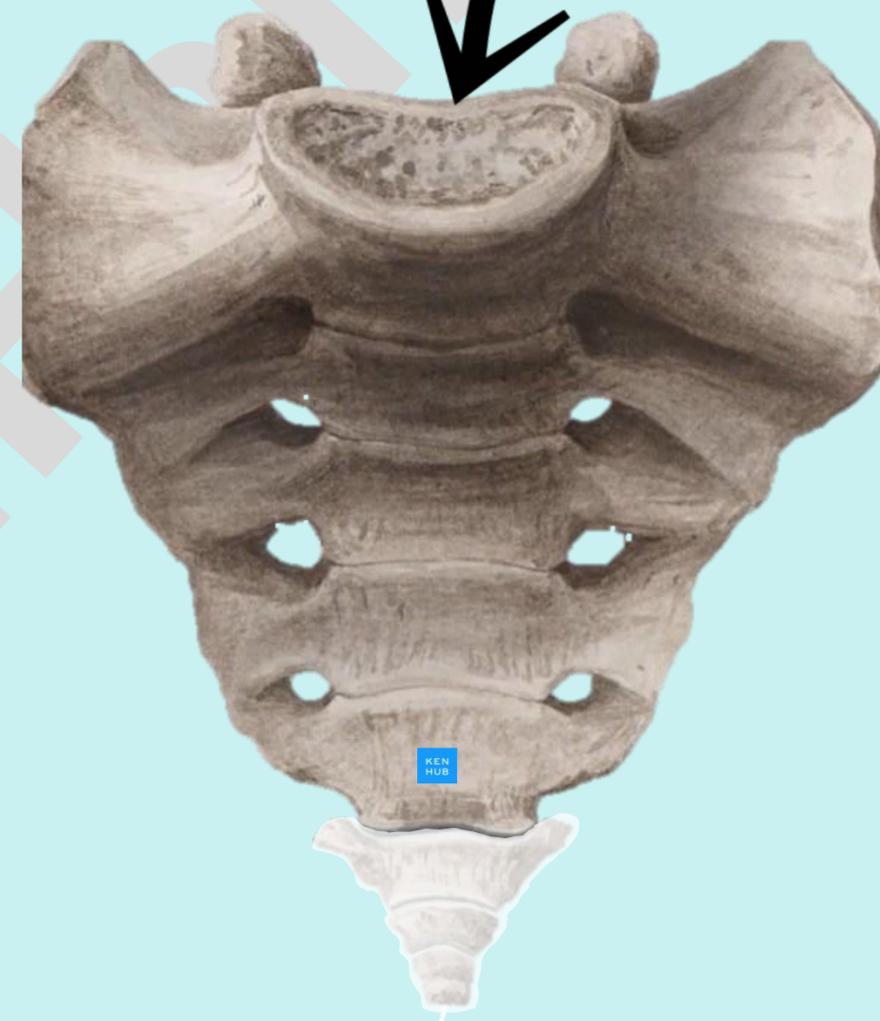
4. Sacral Vertebrae (5)



- Found in the posterior portion of the pelvic cavity.
- Fused vertebrae, have no intervertebral discs.
- Articulates with the hip bones (sacroiliac joint)



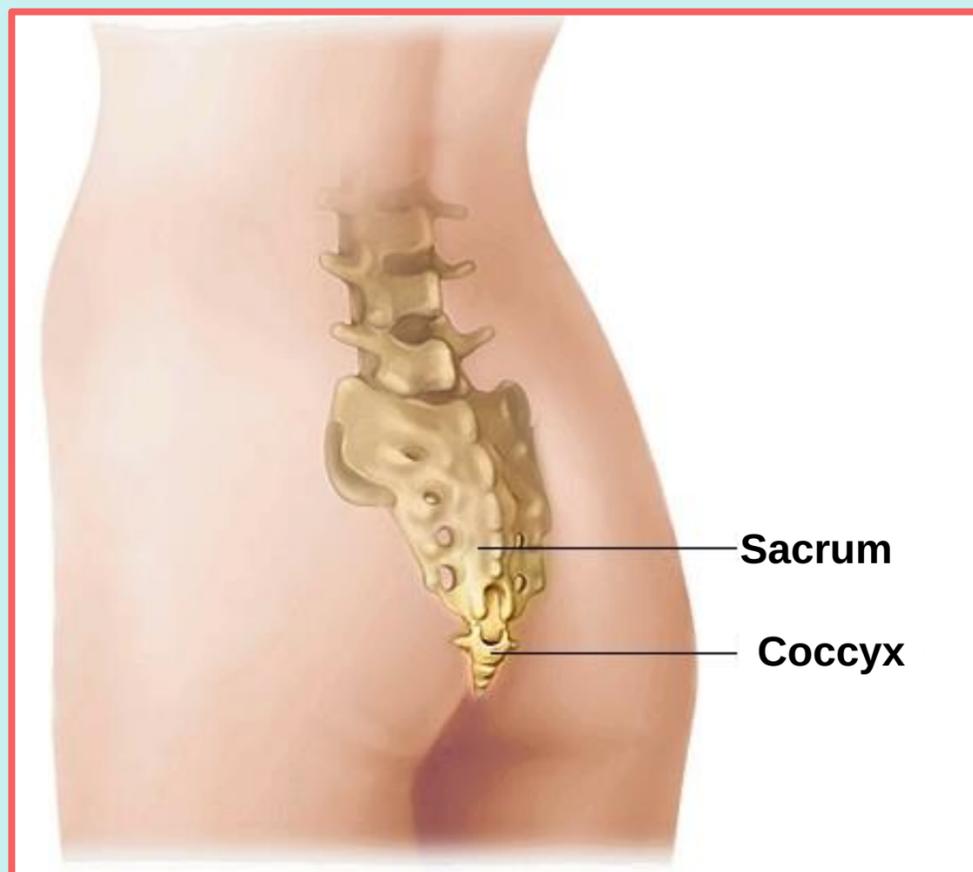
Anterior



Anterior view



Posterior view



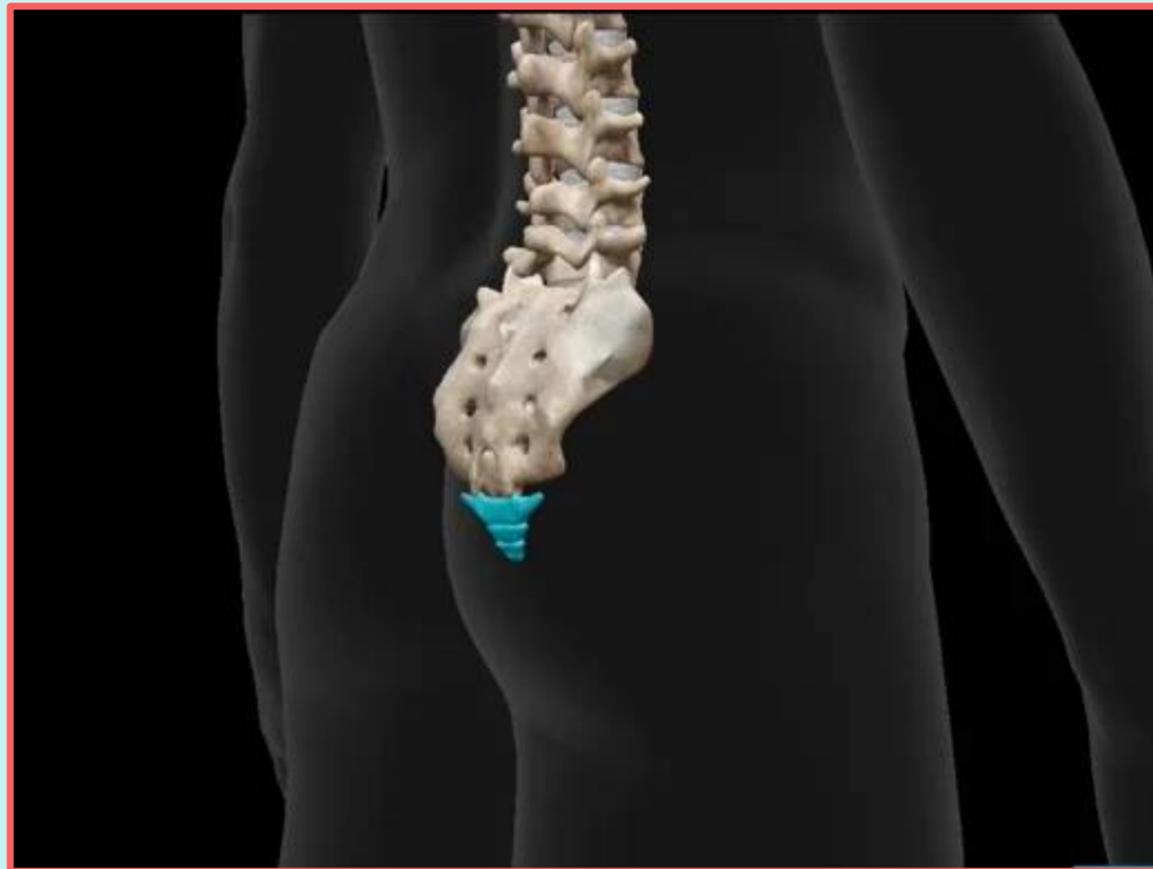
Sacrum

Coccyx

5. Coccygeal Vertebrae (4)



- Found at the lower end of the vertebral column.
- Fused vertebrae, have no intervertebral discs.
- Articulates with the sacrum.



Anterior

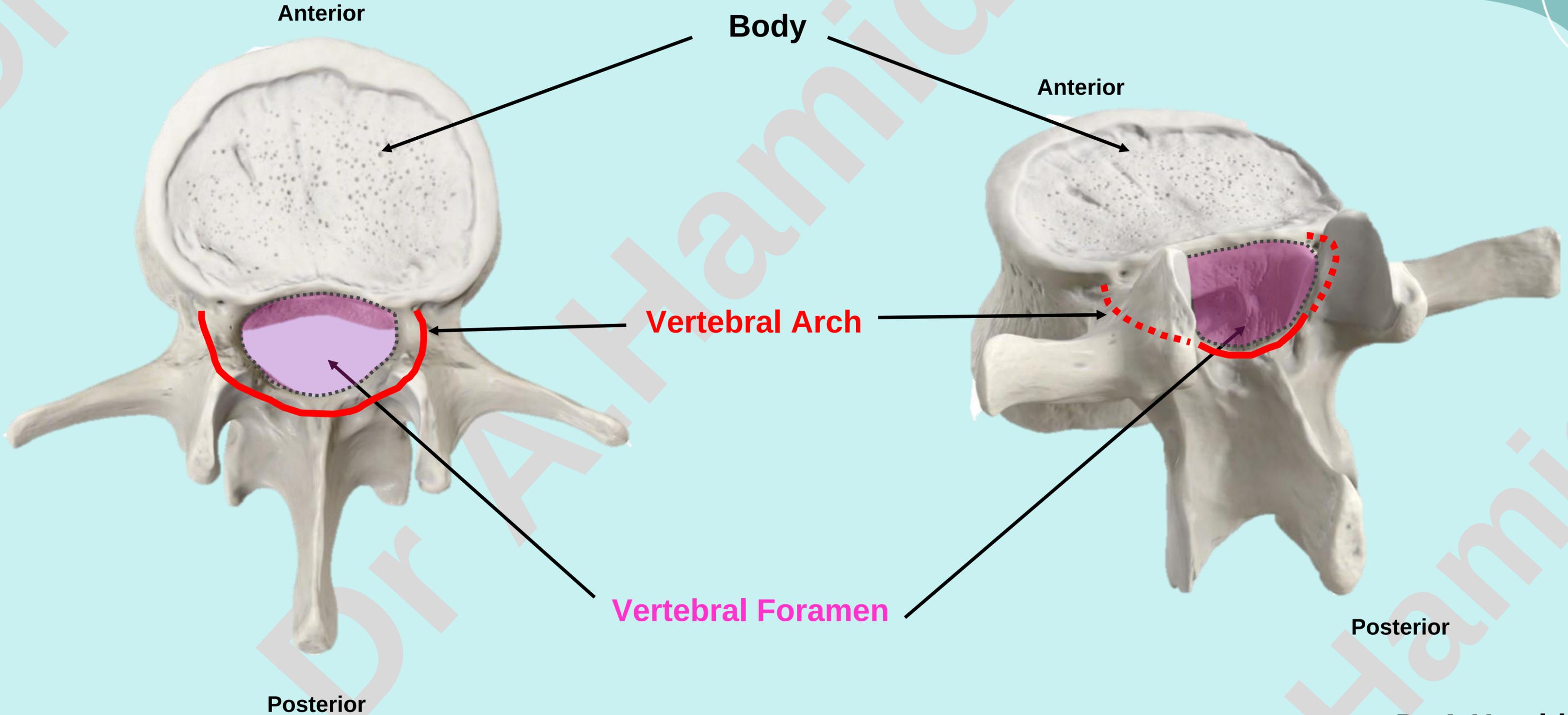


Posterior

➤ Structure of a Typical Vertebra:

1. **Body**: Thick, disc-shaped anterior portion.
2. **Vertebral Arch**: Extends posteriorly from the body of the vertebra.
3. **Processes (7)**:
 - i. **Two transverse Processes**: Extend laterally on each side.
 - ii. **Spinous Process**: Spin-like structure projecting posteriorly.
 - iii. **Two superior articular processes**: Project superiorly and articulate with the two inferior articular processes of the vertebra immediately above them.
 - iv. **Two inferior articular processes**: Project inferiorly and articulate with the two superior articular processes of the vertebra immediately below them.
4. **Vertebral Foramen**
 - Central space.
 - The vertebral foramina of all vertebrae form the vertebral (spinal) canal, which houses the spinal cord.

➤ Structure of Typical Vertebra

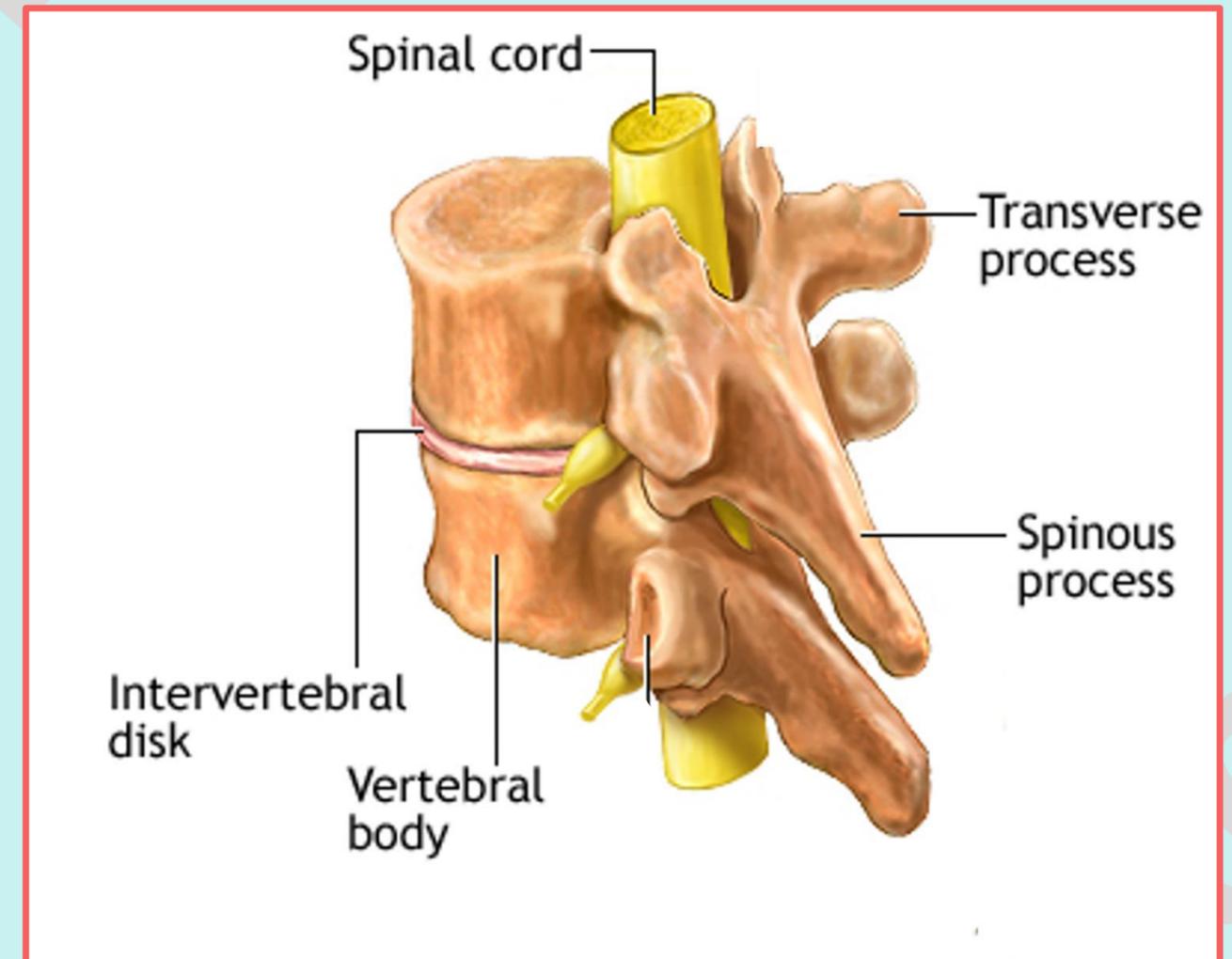
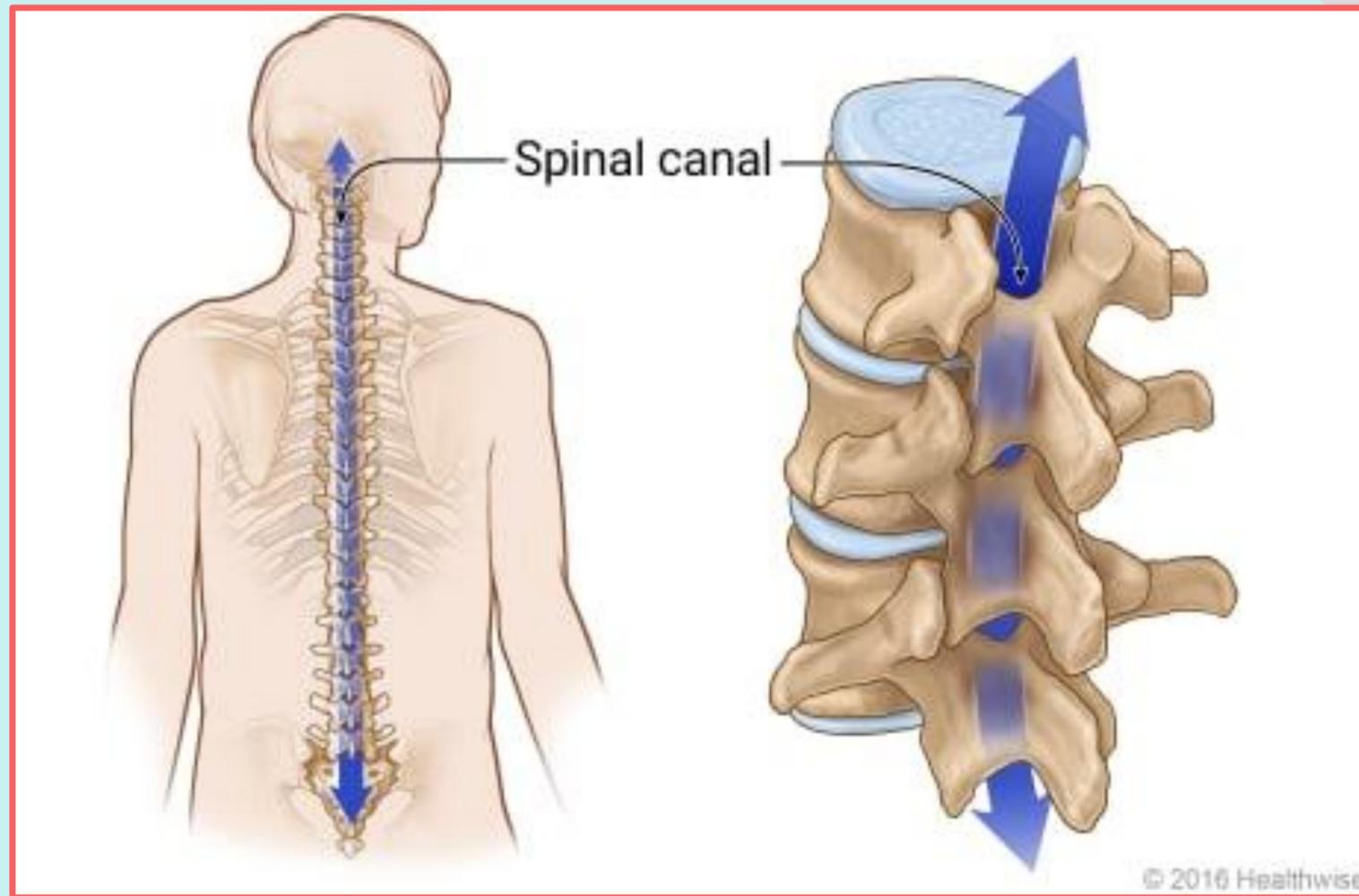


Vertebral Column

1. Vertebrae

➤ Structure of Typical Vertebra Spinal Canal

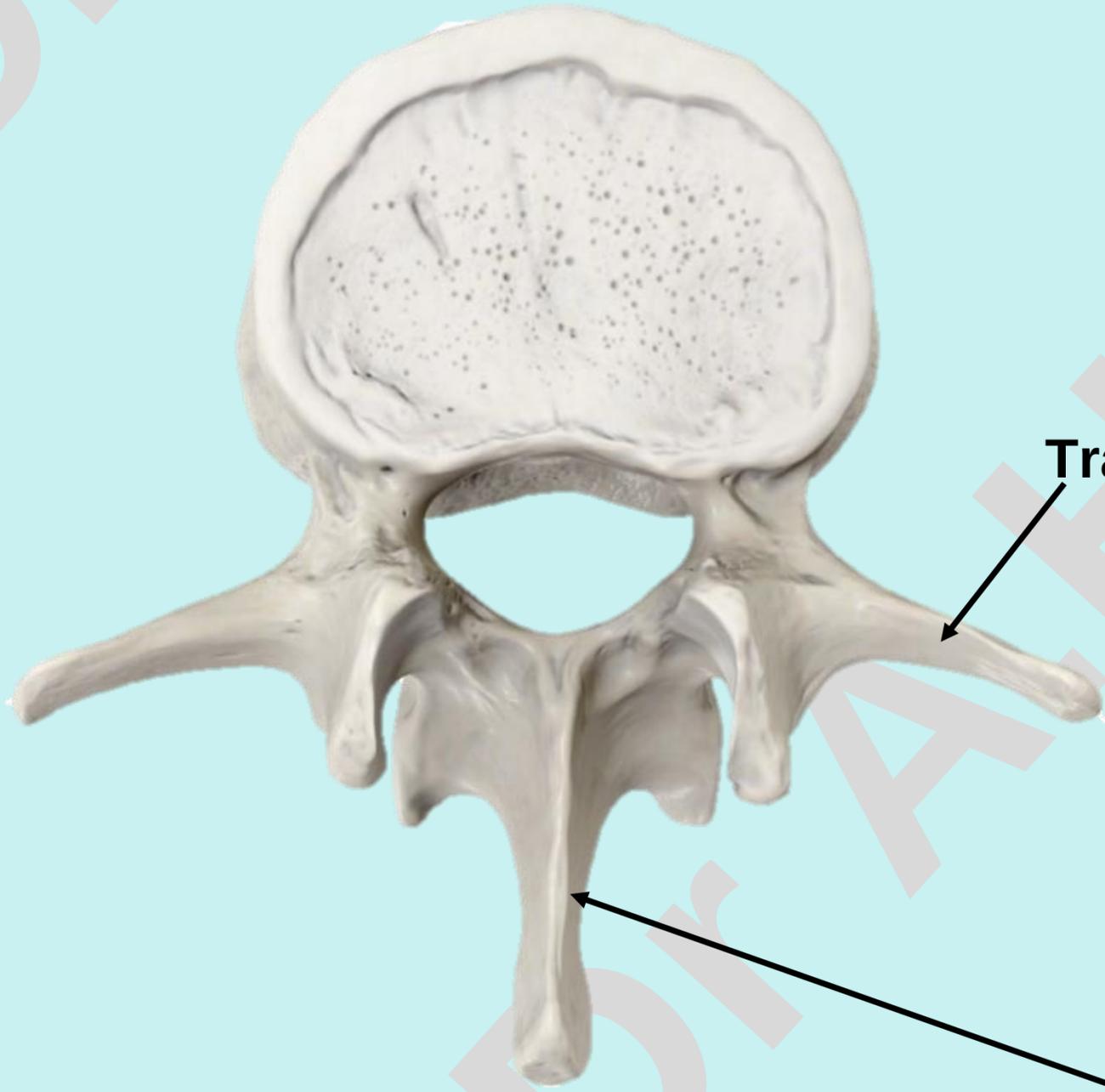
- Vertebral foramina of all vertebrae form the vertebral (spinal) canal, which houses the spinal cord.



➤ Structure of Typical Vertebra



Anterior



Posterior

Transverse processes

Spinous process

Superior articular processes

Anterior



Posterior

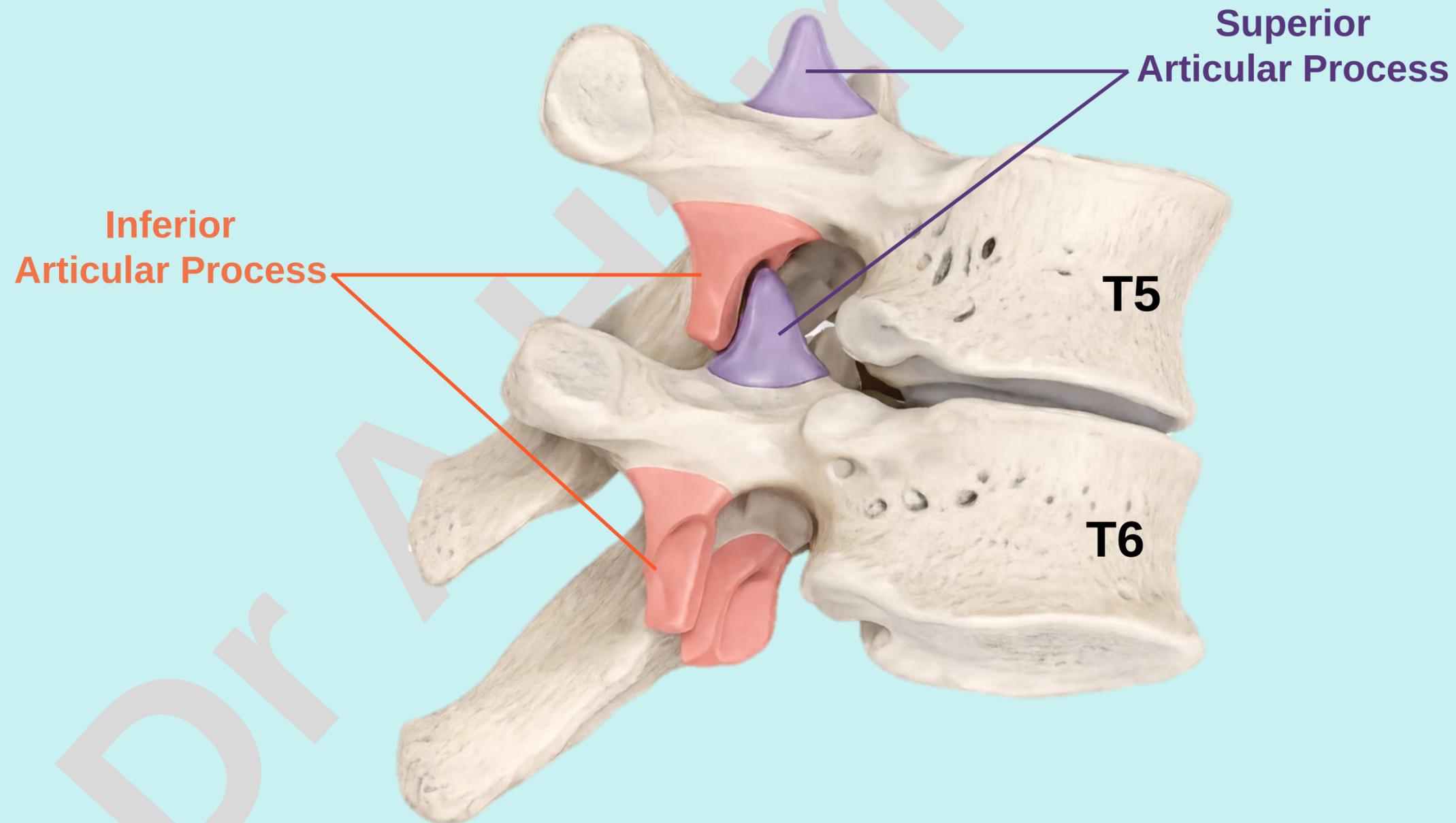
Inferior articular processes

Vertebral Column

1. Vertebrae

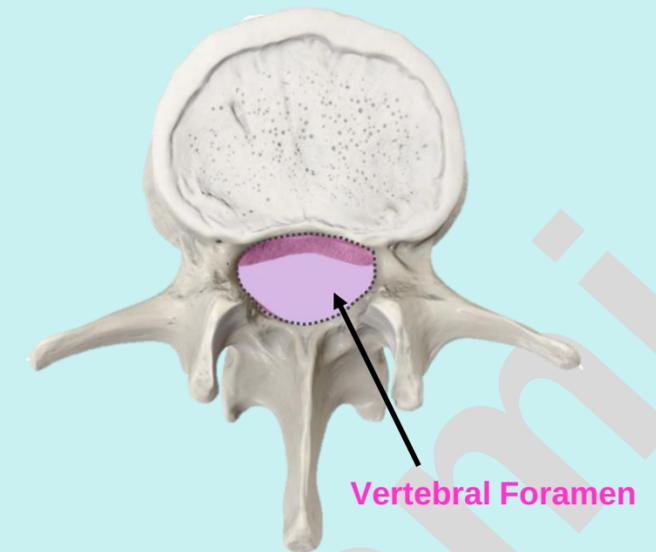
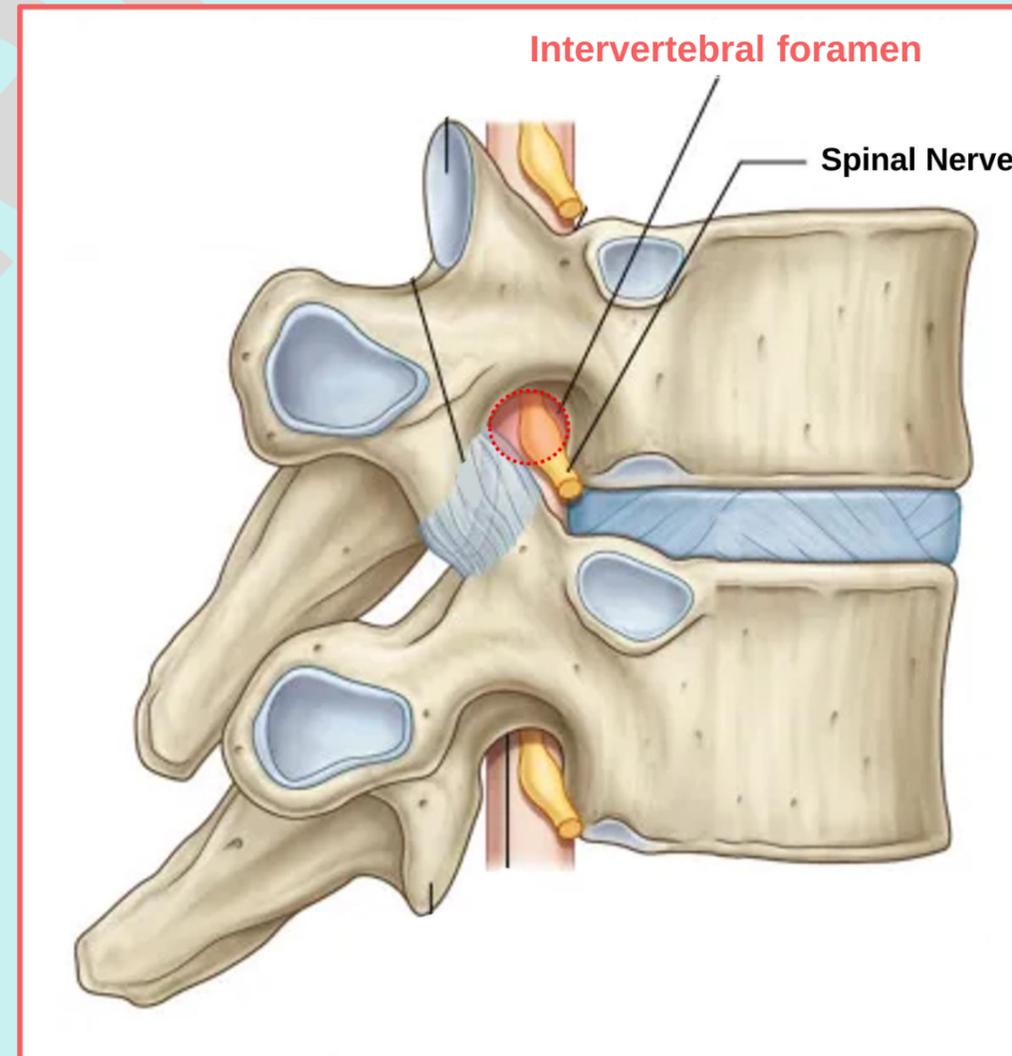
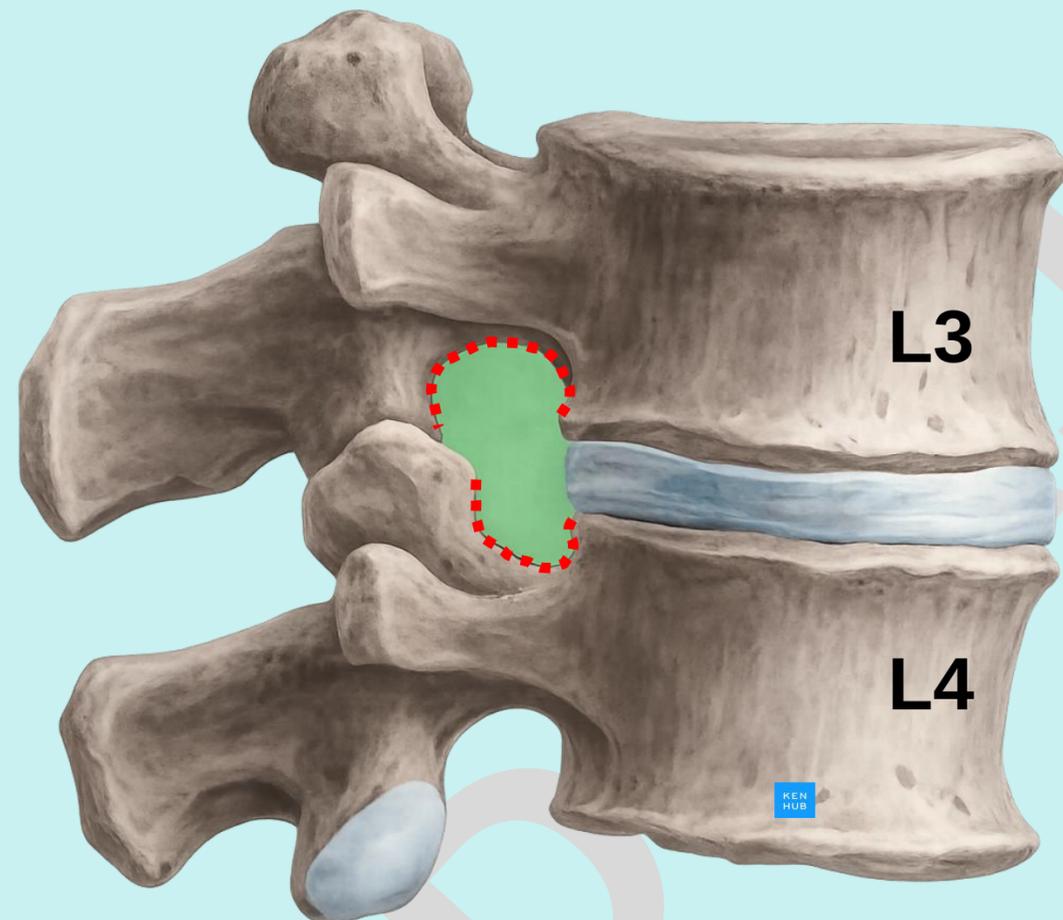
➤ Structure of Typical Vertebra

- Superior articular processes
- Inferior articular processes



➤ Intervertebral Foramen:

- It is a lateral opening between adjacent vertebrae formed by the superior and inferior notches.
- The foramina allow structures, such as spinal nerves and blood vessels, to pass in and out of the vertebral canal.

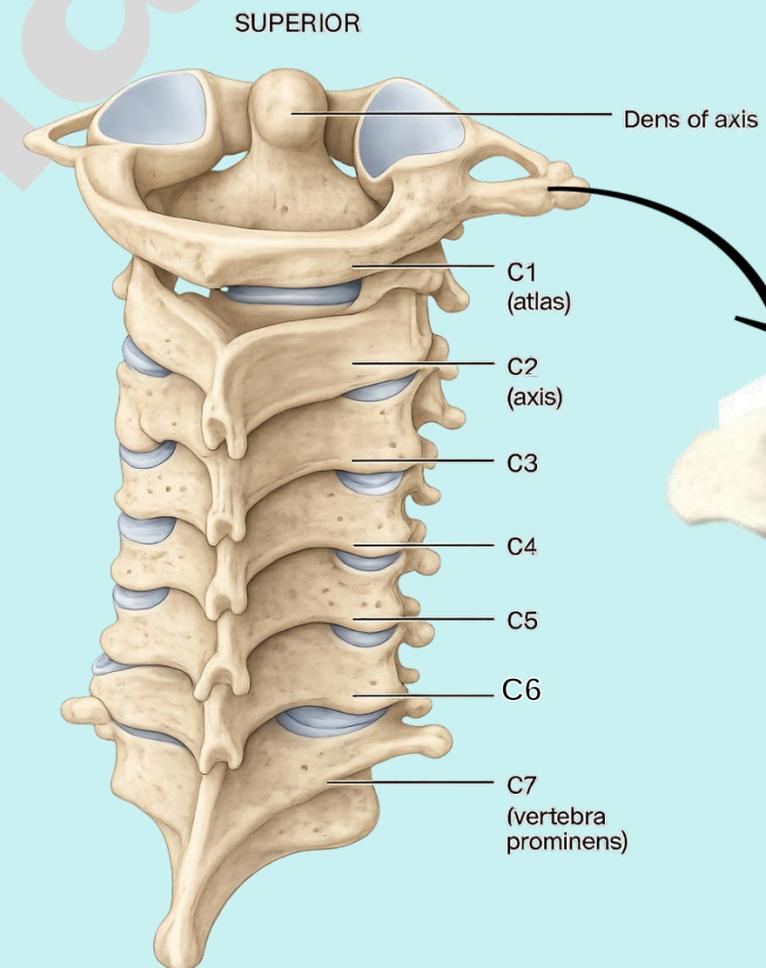
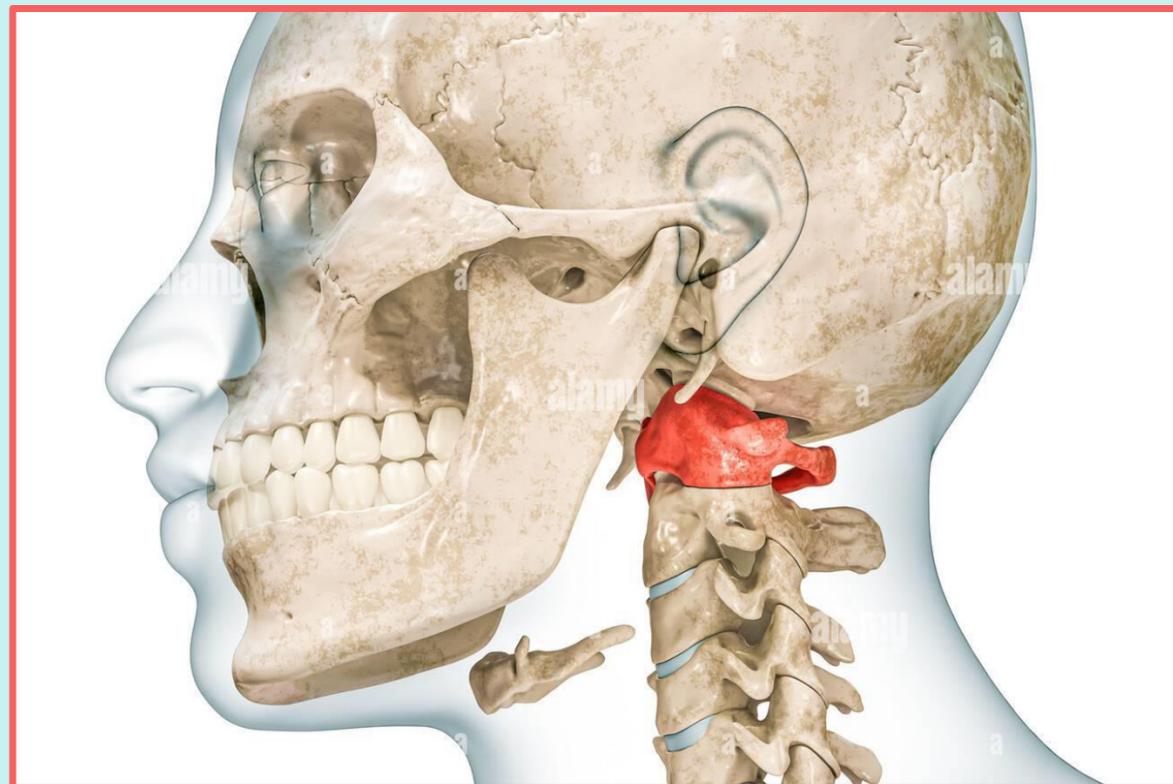


➤ Structure of Atypical Vertebra

- 1st Cervical Vertebra (Atlas)



- Named after the mythological Atlas who supported the world.
- Ring-shaped vertebra with no body or spinous process.
- Articulates with the base of the skull.
- Function: Allows nodding movement of the head, as when you move your head to signify “yes”.



Vertebral Column

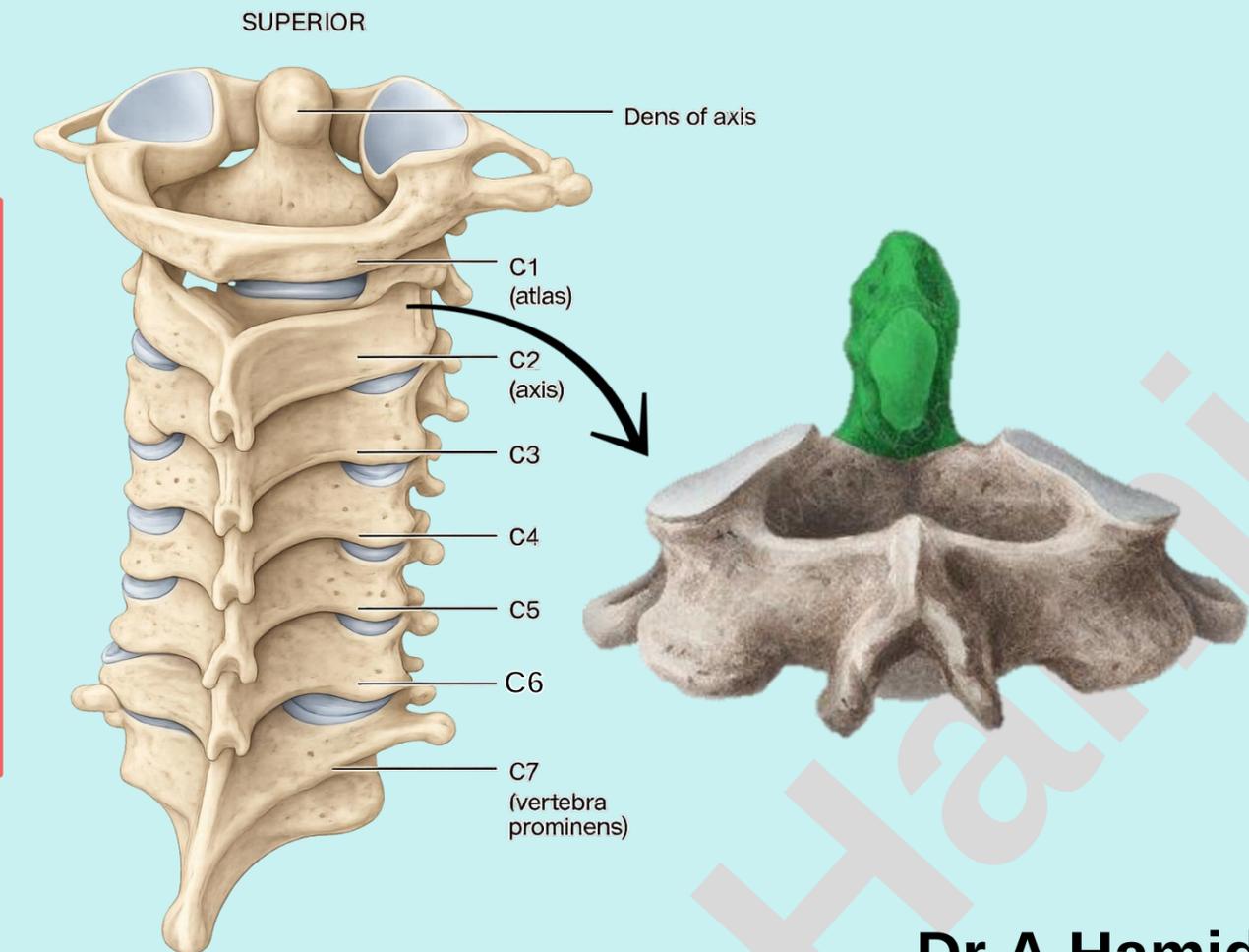
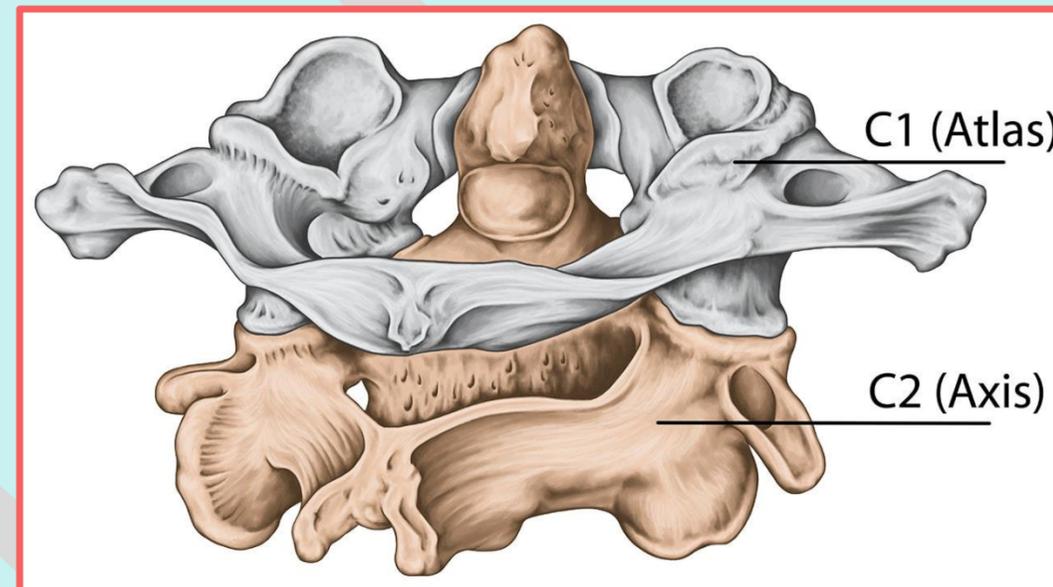
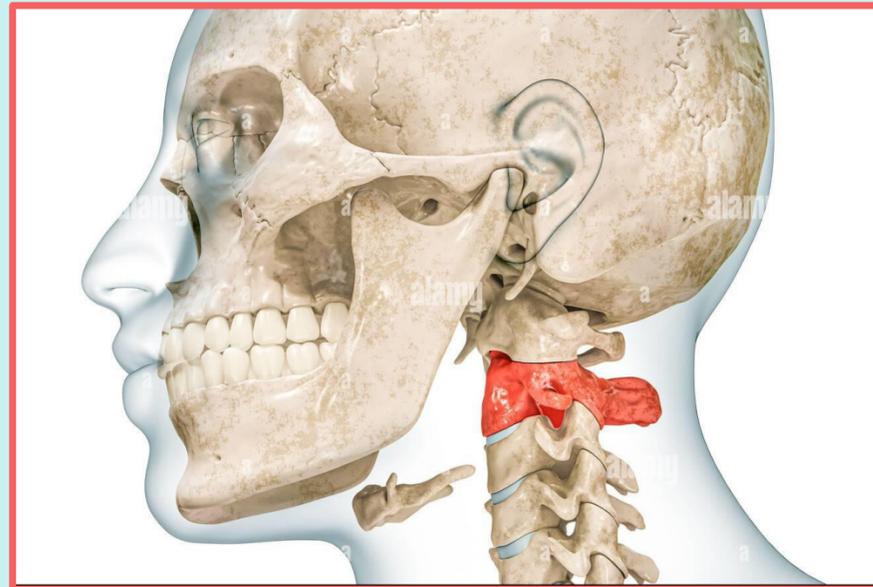
1. Vertebrae

➤ Structure of Atypical Vertebra

- 2nd Cervical Vertebra (Axis)



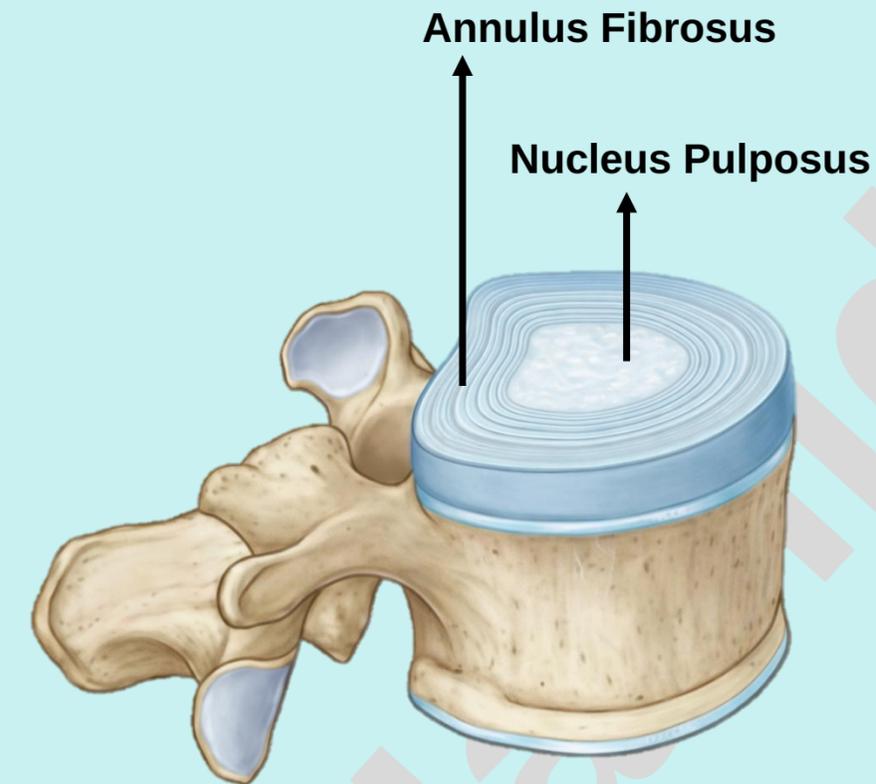
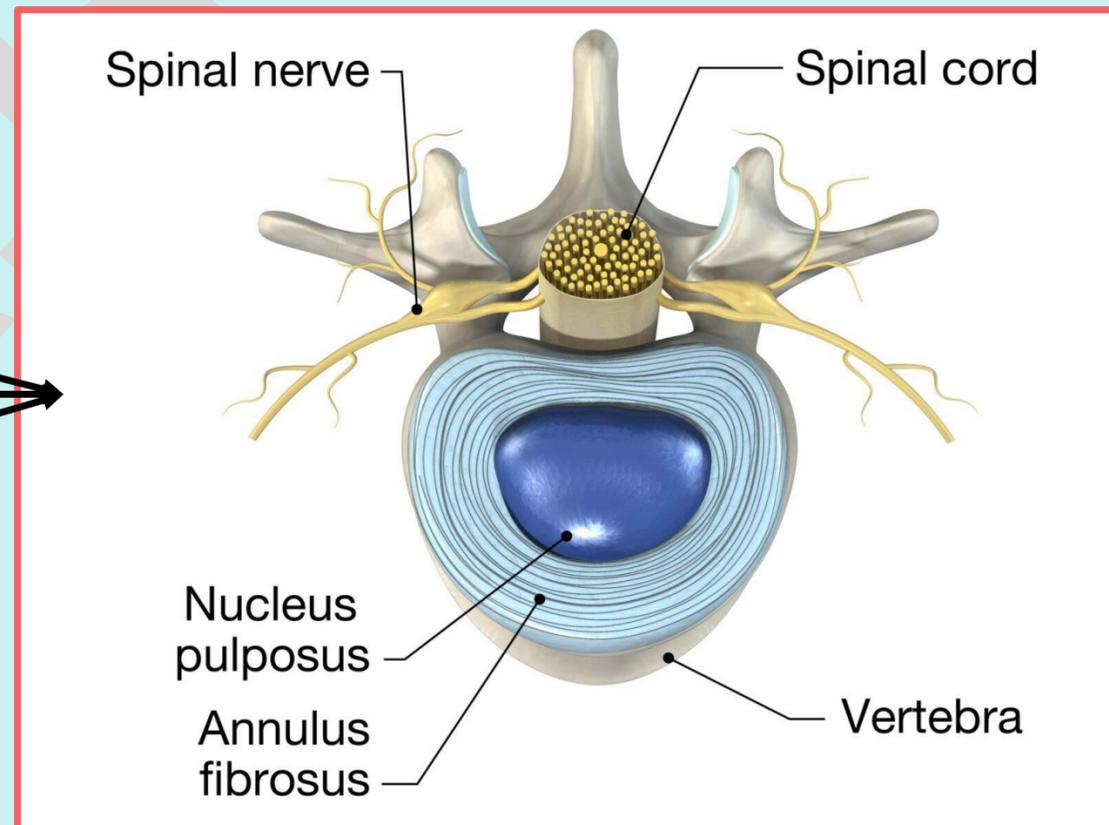
- Features a peg-like projection called the dens (= tooth) or odontoid process, which projects superiorly through the anterior portion of the vertebral foramen of the atlas.
- The dens acts as a pivot on which the atlas and head rotate.
- Function: Allows side-to-side movement of the head, as when you move your head to signify “no”.



Vertebral Column

2. Intervertebral Discs

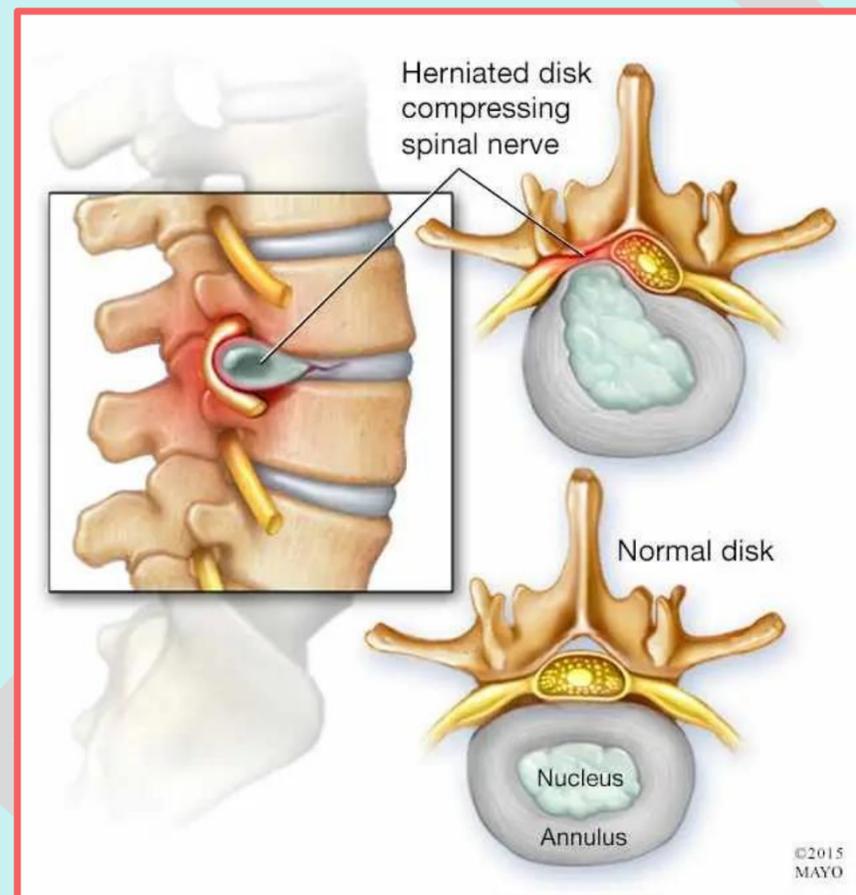
- The bodies of adjacent vertebrae are united by intervertebral discs.
- The disc consists of two parts:
 - Annulus Fibrosus
Outer fibrocartilage ring that protects the central part.
 - Nucleus Pulposus
Inner gelatinous core (jelly-like material) acting as a cushion or shock absorber.





Herniated (Slipped) Disc

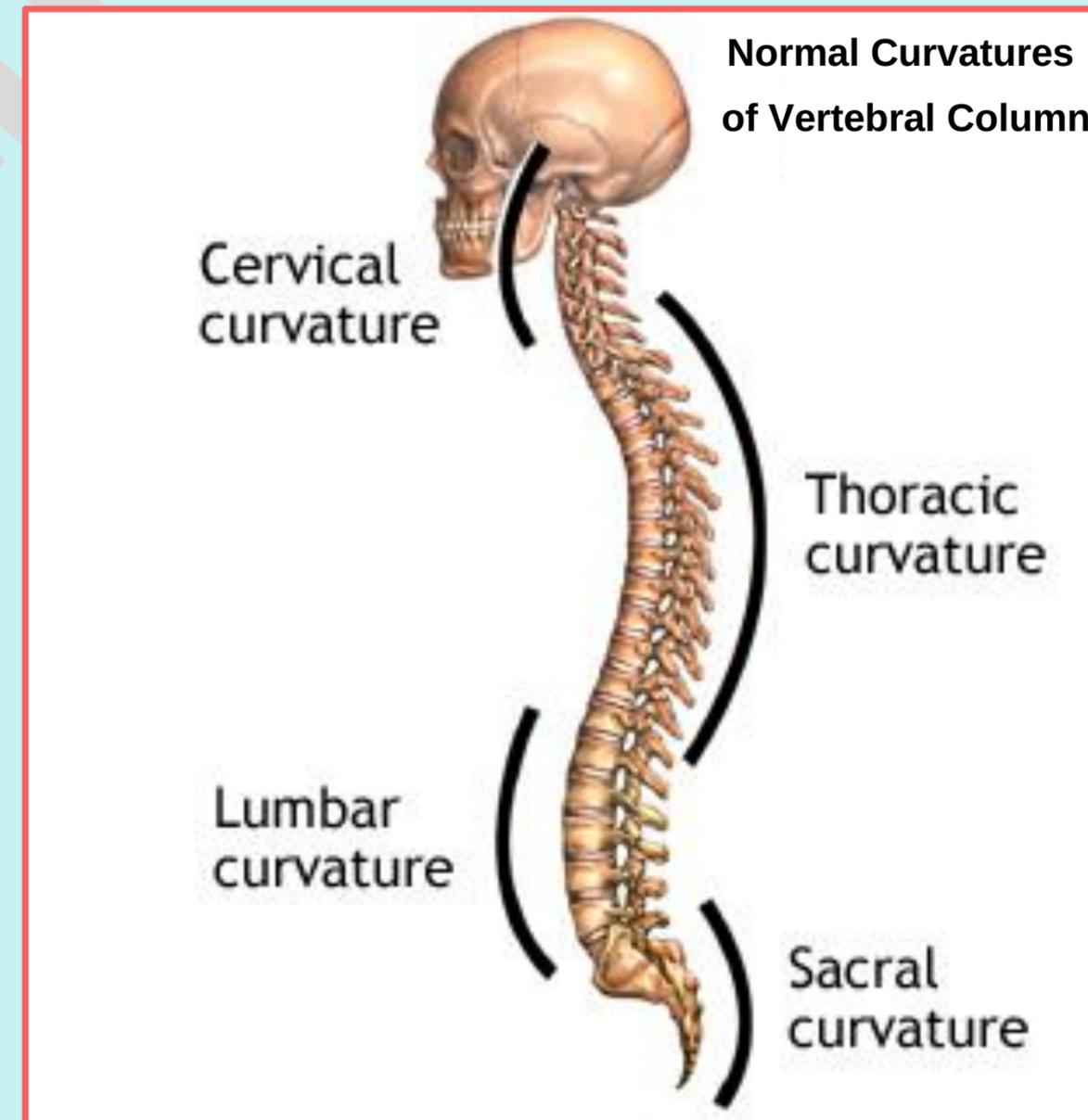
- Excessive pressure on the nucleus pulposus can rupture the annulus fibrosus, causing the nucleus to herniate posteriorly or into adjacent vertebrae.
- This movement exerts pressure on spinal nerves, causing acute pain and weakness.
- Most common in the lumbar region due to high weight-bearing and mobility.



Vertebral Column

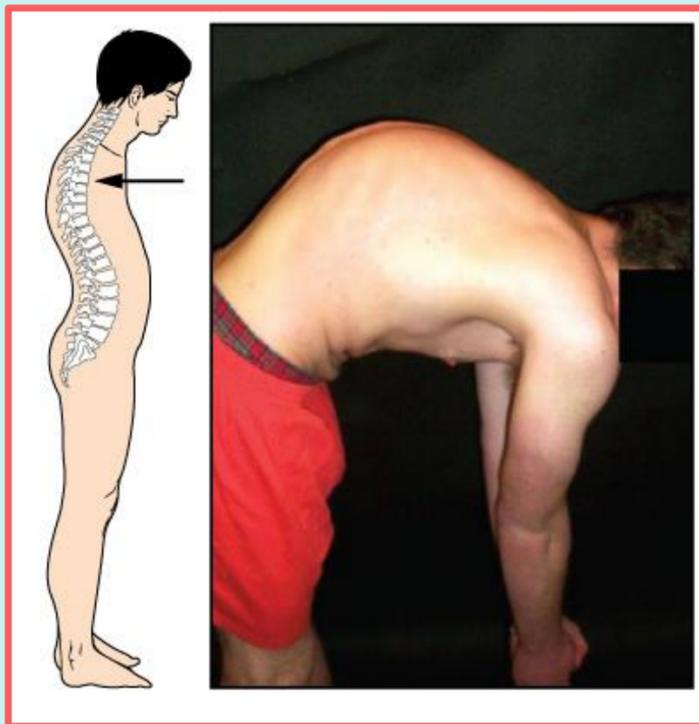
➤ Curvatures of Vertebral Column

- When vertebral column viewed from the anterior or posterior, a normal adult vertebral column appears straight.
- When vertebral column viewed from the side, the adult vertebral column has four normal curvatures:
 1. **Cervical curvature** -- (convex forward)
 2. **Thoracic curvature** - (concave forward)
 3. **Lumbar curvature** --- (convex forward)
 4. **Sacral curvature** ---- (concave forward)
- The curves of the vertebral column increase its strength, help maintain balance in the upright position, absorb shocks during walking.

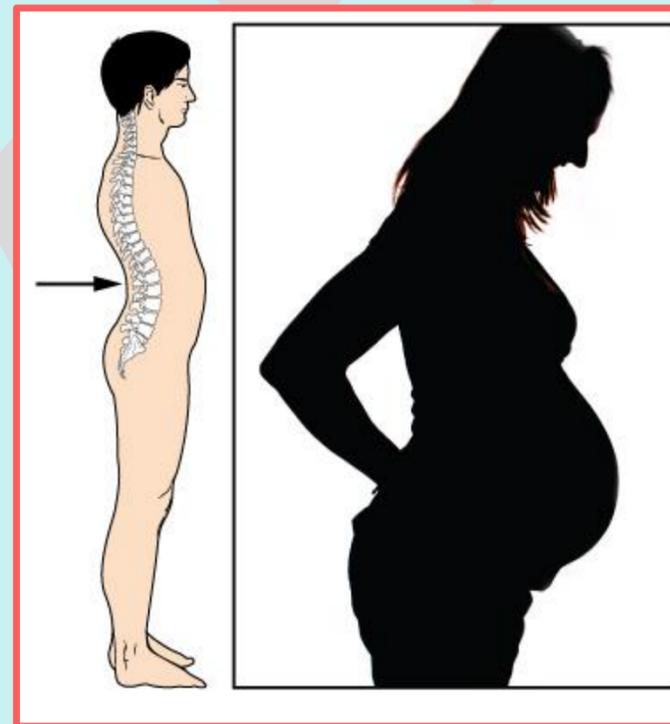


Clinical
CorrelationAbnormal Curvatures

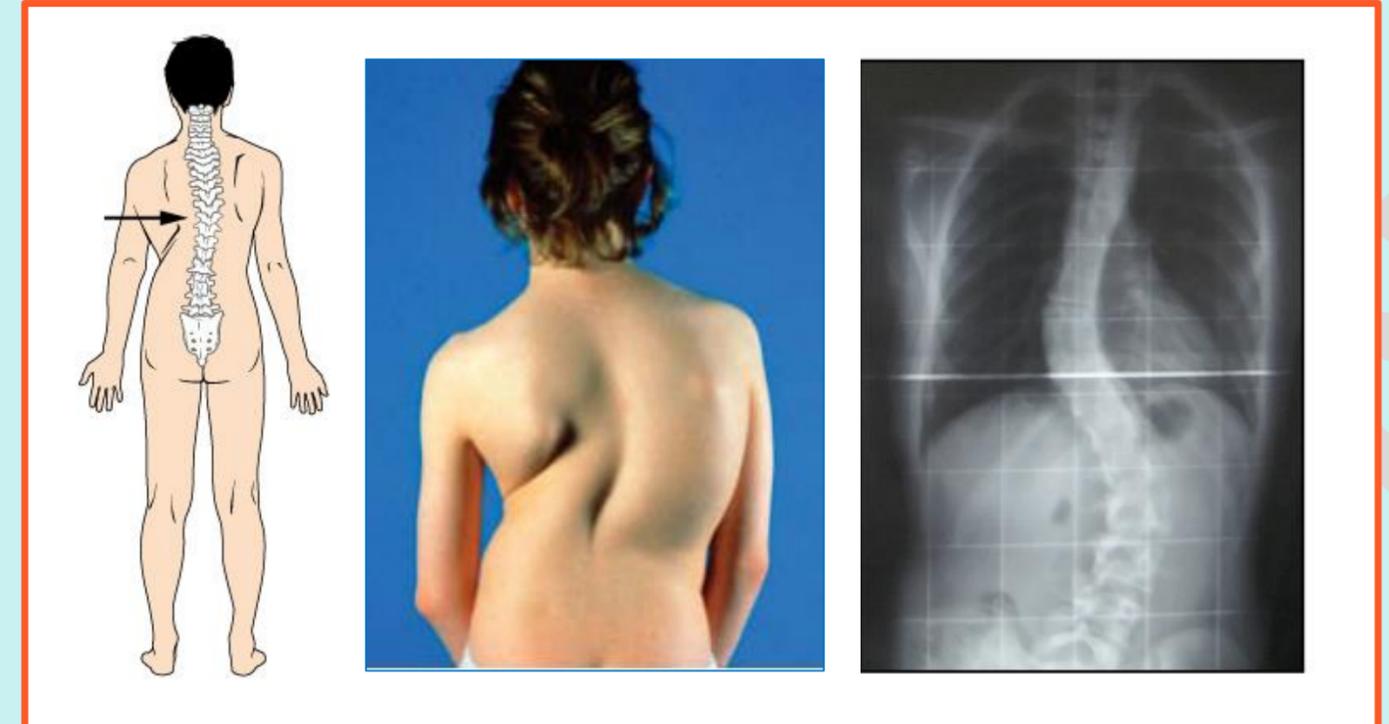
1. **Kyphosis**: Increased thoracic curve; may occur with age due to osteoporosis or disc degeneration.
2. **Lordosis**: Increased lumbar curve; may result from pregnancy or obesity.
3. **Scoliosis**: Abnormal lateral curvature either to the right or to the left, often in the thoracic region; may be caused by poliomyelitis, leg length discrepancy, or hip disease.



Kyphosis



Lordosis

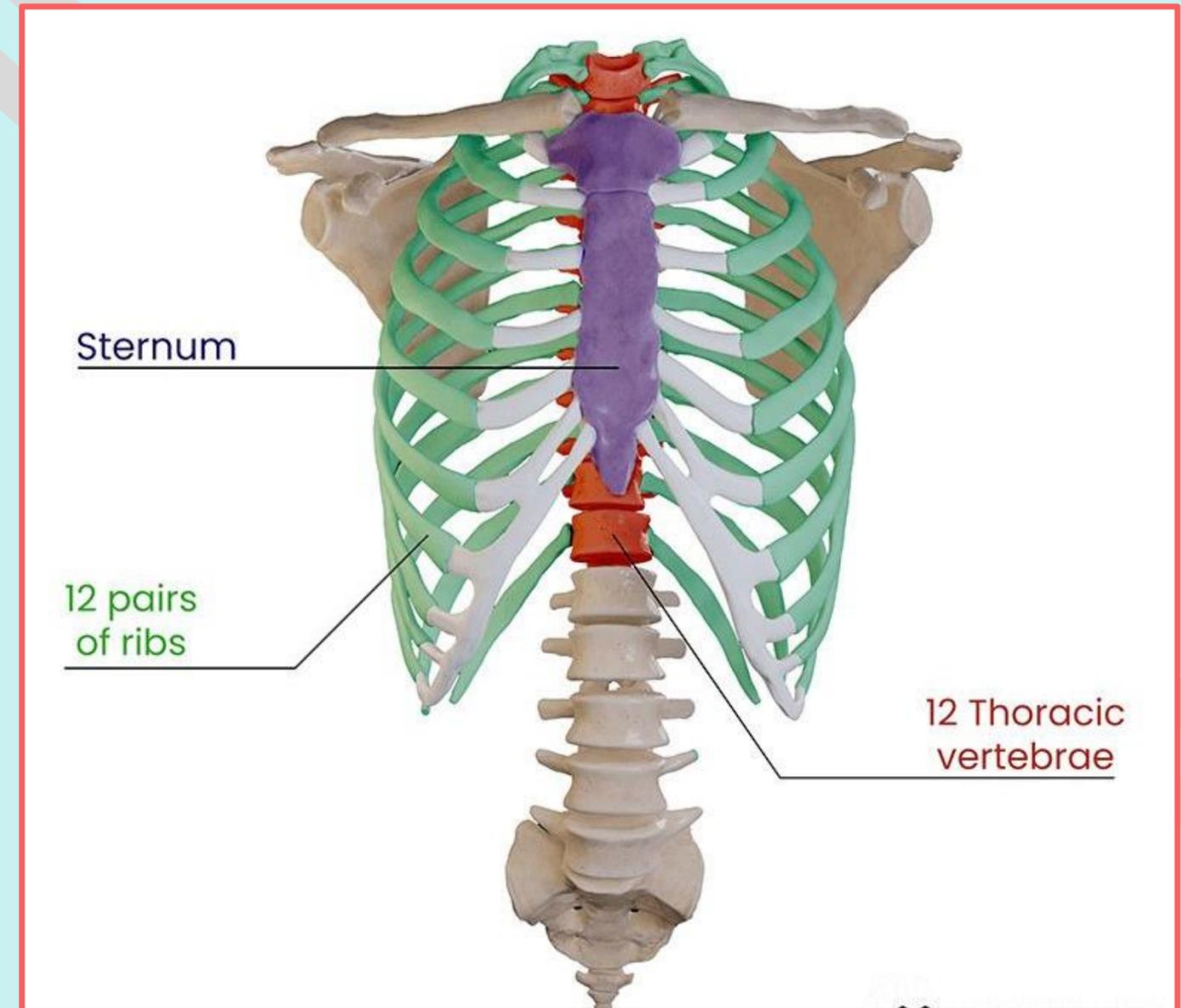


Scoliosis



➤ The thoracic cage consists of:

1. Sternum (anteriorly).
2. 12 pairs of ribs & costal cartilages (laterally).
3. 12 thoracic vertebrae (posteriorly).



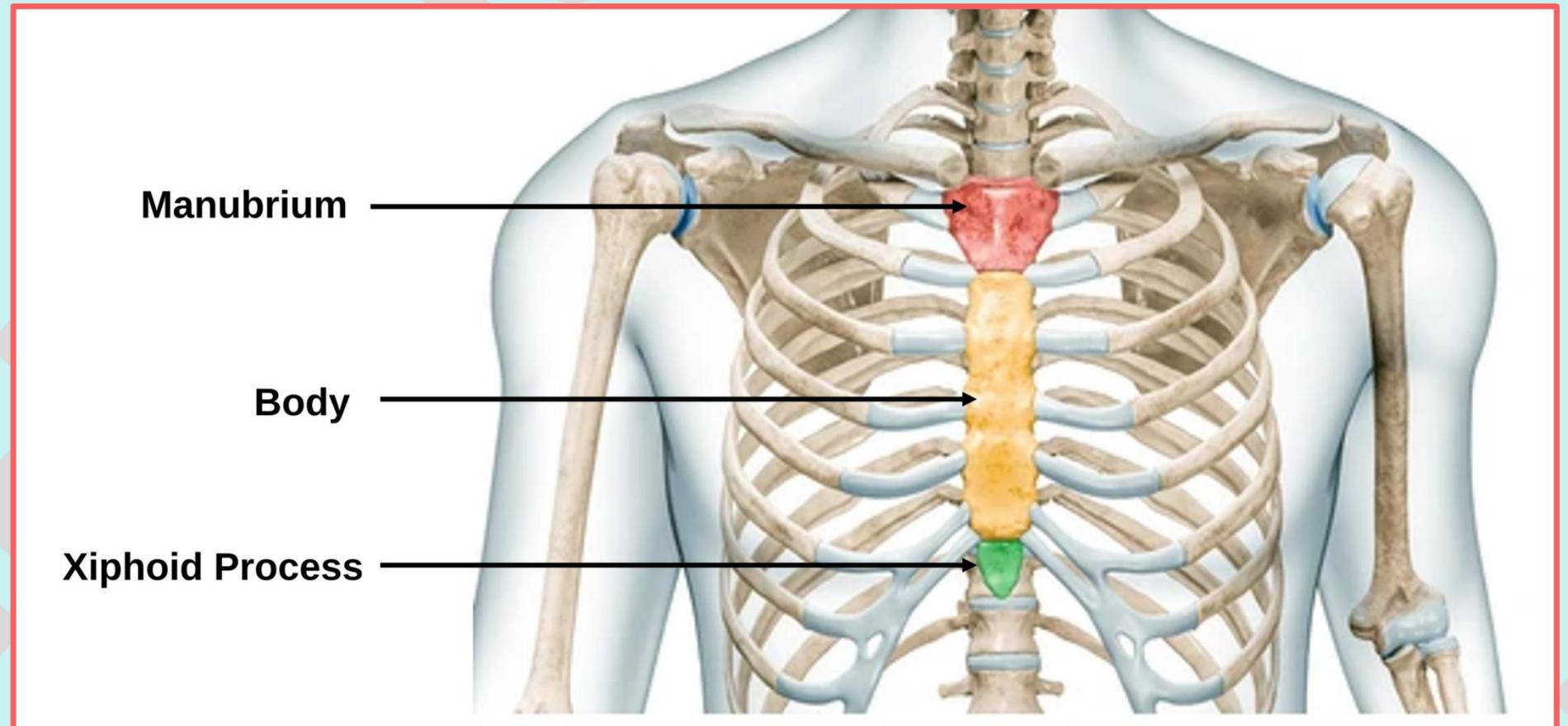
➤ Sternum

- It is a flat bone located in the center, consists of the following three parts:

1. **Manubrium.**

2. **Body.**

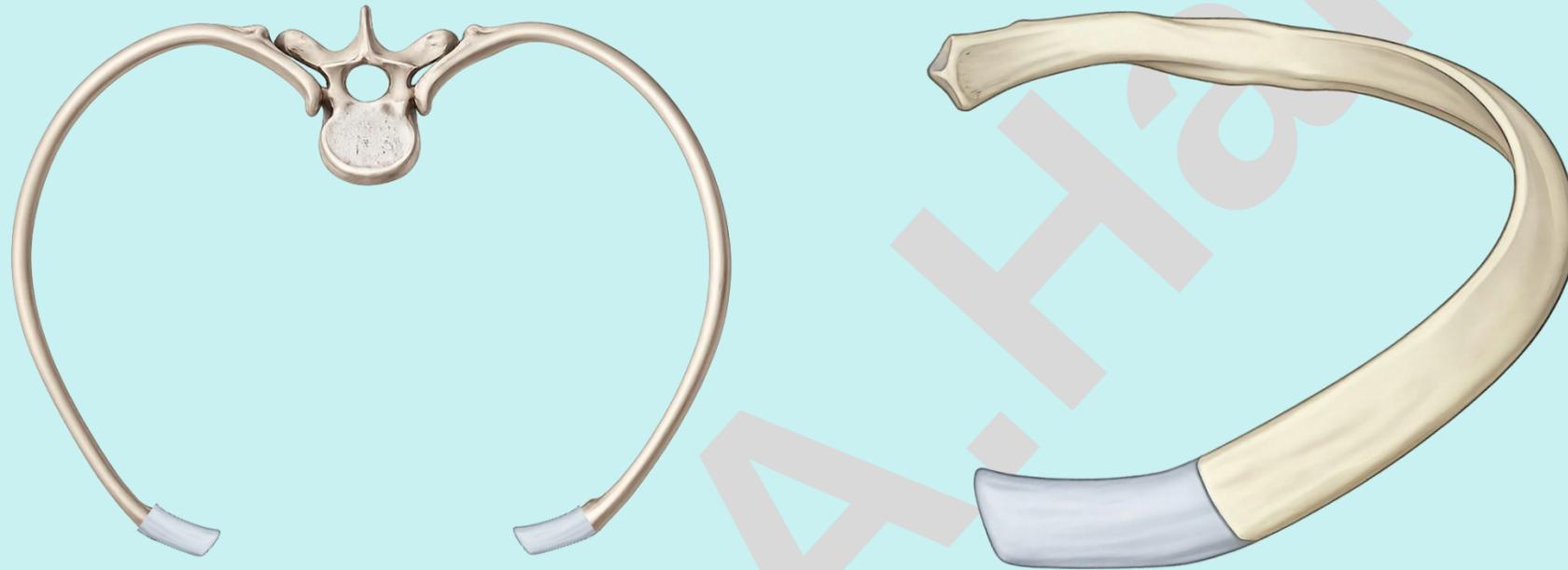
3. **Xiphoid Process.**



➤ Ribs

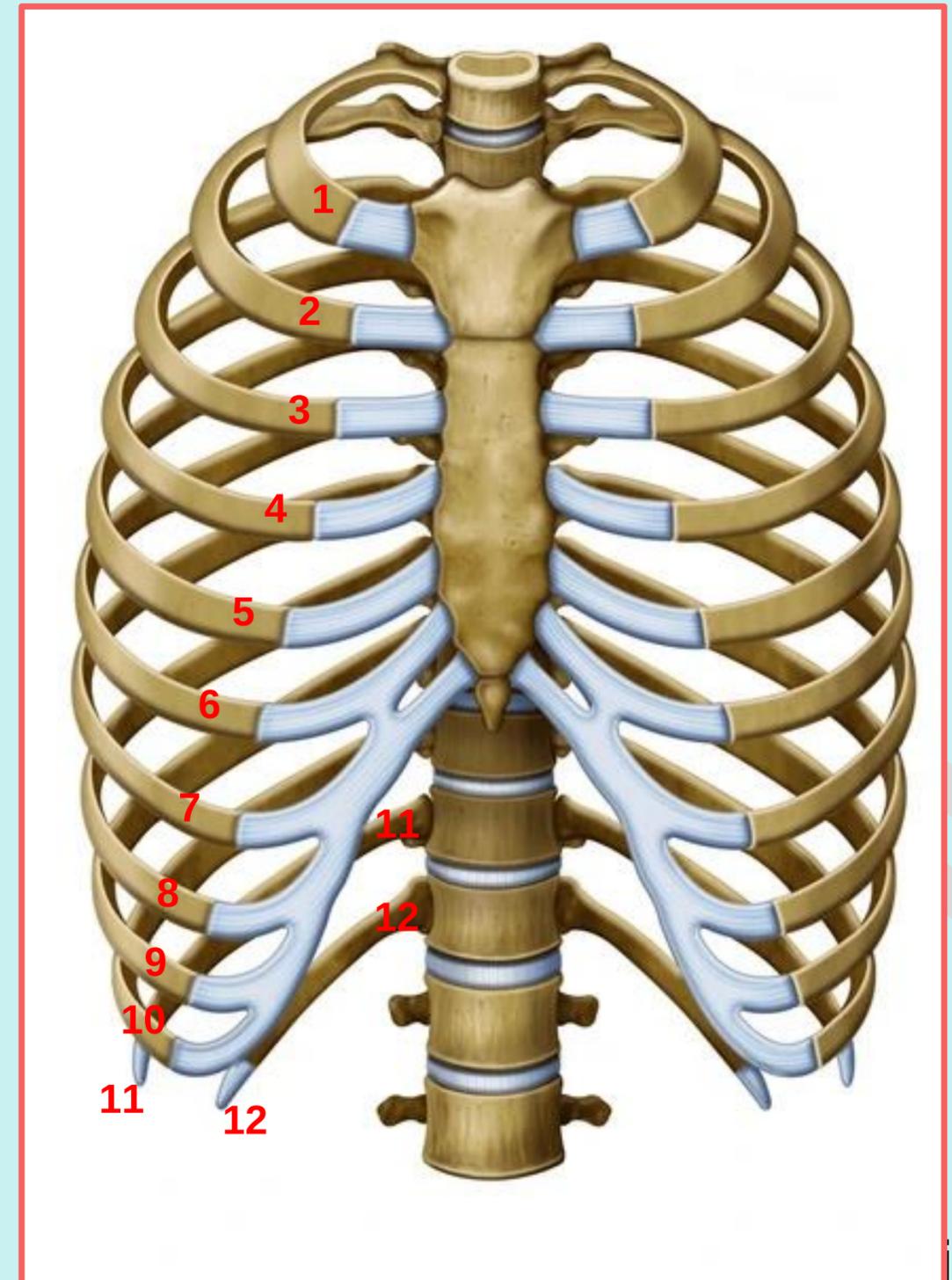


- Elastic bony arches, there are 12 pairs of ribs.
- Extend from thoracic vertebrae posteriorly to the lateral borders of the sternum anteriorly.



➤ Costal Cartilages

- Each rib continues anteriorly as a costal cartilage, which mostly articulates directly or indirectly with the sternum.
- The costal cartilages contribute to the elasticity of the thoracic cage.



➤ There are three types of ribs based on their anterior articulation:

- True Ribs (1st-7th ribs):

They are attached directly to the sternum by their own costal cartilage.

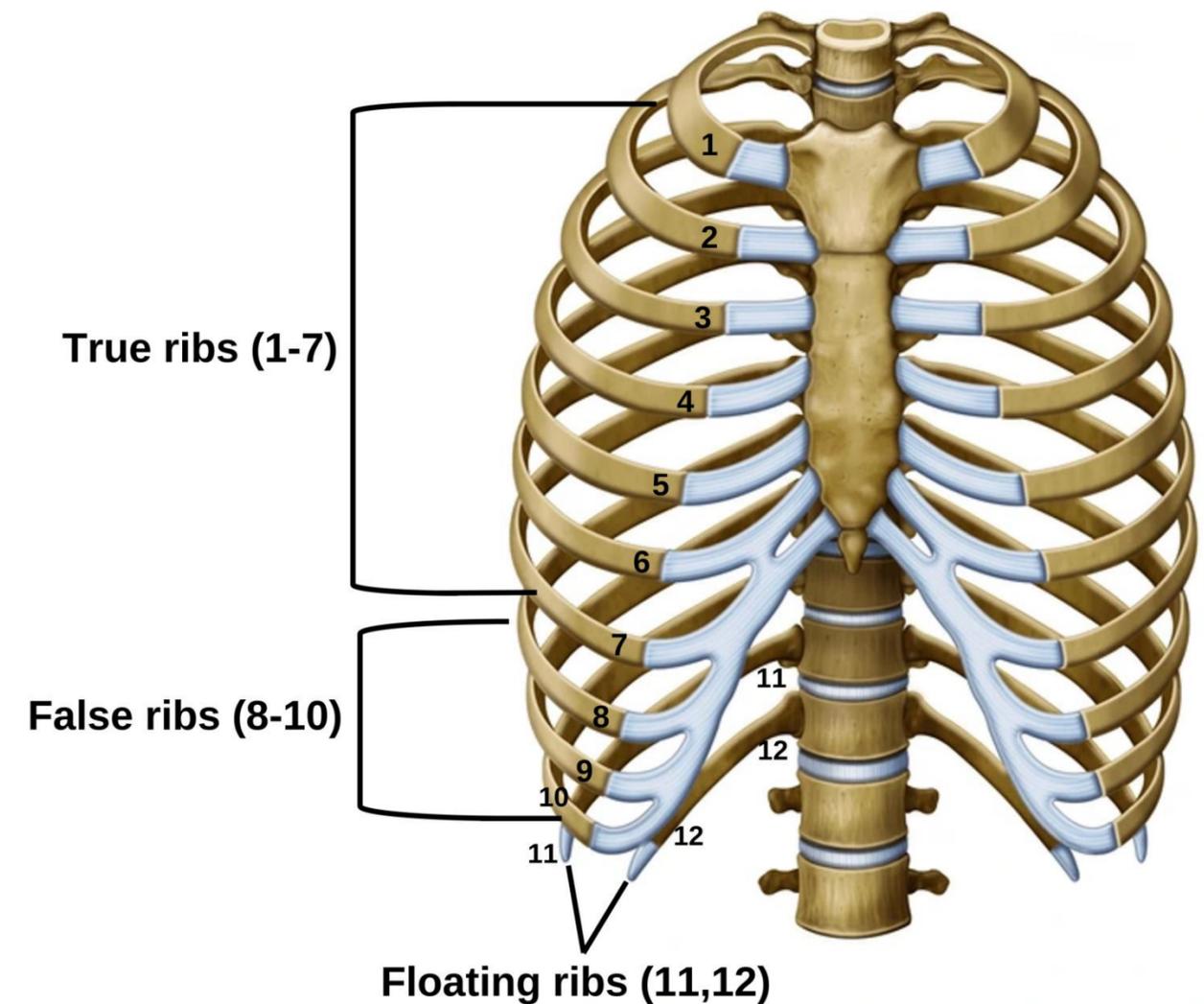
- False Ribs (8th -10th ribs):

They are attached indirectly to the sternum. Their costal cartilages join together and then connect to the cartilage of the 7th rib.

- Floating Ribs (11th - 12th ribs):

They are smaller than the others and do not reach the front of the body.

They do not articulate with the sternum, and the anterior ends of their costal cartilages are free.

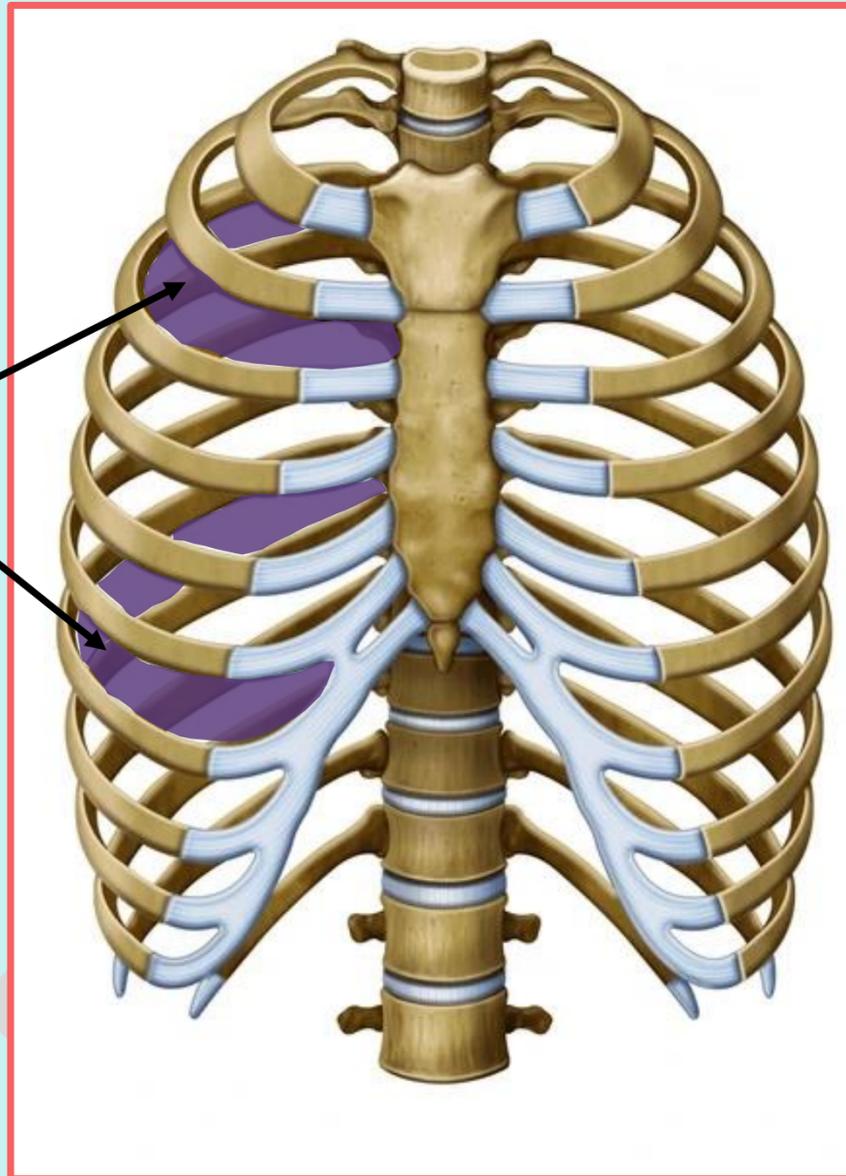


➤ The posterior ends of all ribs articulate with the thoracic vertebrae.

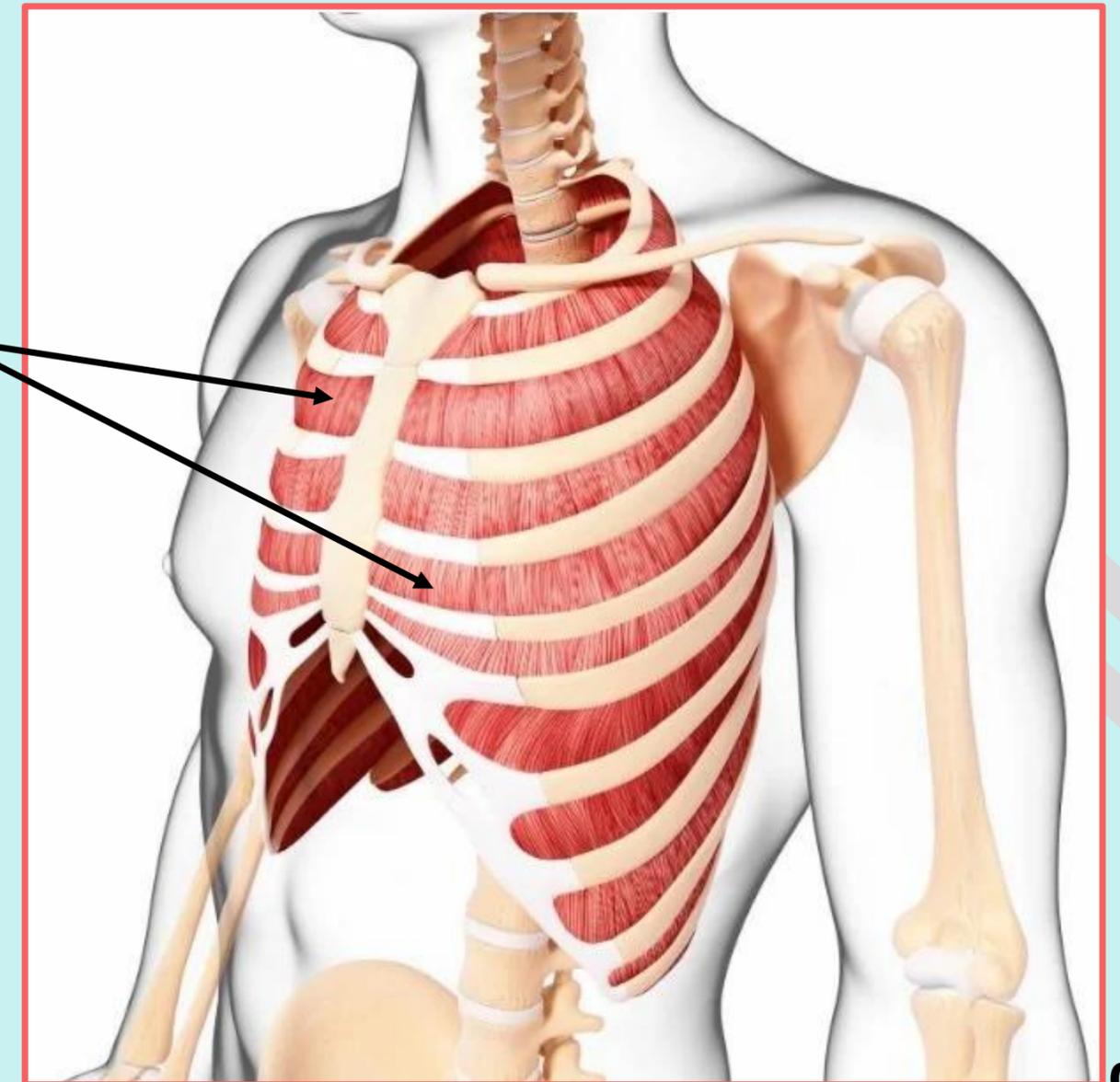
➤ Intercostal Spaces:

- The gaps between the adjacent ribs are called Intercostal Spaces.
- Intercostal spaces filled by Intercostal Muscles.

Intercostal Spaces



Intercostal Muscles



➤ Thoracic vertebrae

- The 12 thoracic vertebrae, along with their intervertebral discs, form the posterior part of the thoracic cage.

