2C: Normal Anatomy of The Bronchial Tree

Series of Web-based Bronchoscopic Images



Prepared By Bronchoscopy International

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Tracheobronchial anatomy

From www.vh.org



Main carina: Concepts of anterior and posterior



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RUL RML

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LUL-Lingula

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3 Lobes



2 Lobes



Inverted Y Simulating Main Carina





Normal Right Bronchial Tree Cast Courtesy Joseph Tomashefski MD, Metro Health Center, Cleveland, OH

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Interventional Pulmonary Services, UCSD San Diego, CA

Lobar Anatomy : as seen on xray

Modified from : www.vh.org



Minor fissure: from R hilum to the 6th rib Major fissure: from T4-T5 to the diaphragm 11/1/2014 BI, All Rights Reserved, 2005

Lobar Anatomy

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Posterior Projection of the Lungs

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Pathology correlates



Note Vertical RMB

Tumor RLL

Posterior View: Lung Cancer in Right Lower Lobe

Courtesy Eunhee Yi MD, Curator, Averill A. Liebow Pulmonary Pathology Collection, San Diego, CA

Segmental anatomy

Excerpted from www.vh.org





From Oho and Matsukawa 11/1/2014

Horizontal and vertical main bronchi Focus on Right Main Bronchus

Horizontal Take-Off Left Main Bronchus

Posterior Membrane



Seen from head of patient

Vertical Right main bronchus

Seen from in front of patient BI, All Rights Reserved, 2005

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Right bronchial anatomy



The right main bronchus is 2 cm long on average and has an internal diameter of 10-16 mm. This is slightly larger than the diameter of the left main bronchus.

The bronchus intermedius of the right bronchial tree is actually quite short, extending for 1.0-2.5 cm until its anterior wall extends into and becomes the middle lobe bronchus. Its posterior wall extends into and becomes the right lower lobe bronchus.

Volume loss caused by pleural effusion, atelectasis, elevated right hemidiaphragm, as well as traction or torsion from a fibrotic or scarred upper lobe often cause shortening of this bronchus.

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The Right Bronchial Tree: Classification

JACKSON-HUBER NOMENCLATURE	BOYDEN SURGICAL ANATOMY	JAPANESE BRONCHOSCOPY SYSTEM
Right Upper lobe		
Apical	B ¹	B1
Anterior	B ²	B ₃
Posterior	<i>B3</i>	B ²
Right middle lobe		
Lateral	B ⁴	B ⁴
Medial	B ⁵	B ⁵
Right lower lobe		
Superior	B ⁶	B ⁶
Medial basal	B ⁷	B ⁷
Anterior basal	B ⁸	B ⁸
Lateral basal	B ⁹	B ⁹
Posterior basal	B10	B ¹⁰

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Note: The Boyden surgical anatomical focus refers to the anterior and posterior segments of the upper lobe as B2 and B3 (Anatomical Focus 1983;206:103-114). This nomenclature IS NOT USED by bronchoscopists, who prefer the Japanese System using anterior as B3 and posterior as B2

Right upper lobe bronchus and bronchus intermedius



Right Upper Lobe Bronchus Courtesy Henri Colt MD,



Middle Lobe Bronchus Courtesy Henri Colt MD,

RB 3, RB 1, RB 2 11/1/2014

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RB 6

RB 4 and 5

The Right main bronchus

The right main bronchus is short and vertical, rapidly dividing into

- The right upper lobe bronchus which in turn divides into
 - The apical bronchus
 - The anterior bronchus
 - The posterior bronchus

The right middle lobe and lower lobe bronchus

 Distally just beyond the bronchus intermedius, another division occurs into :
 The Middle lobe bronchus with its anterior direction, dividing into a medial and lateral segmental bronchus.
 The Right lower lobe bronchus

Anatomy: secondary carina: right side



On the right, the carina between the right middle lobe bronchus and the bronchus to the right lower lobe is named the right carina 2 or RC-2,

The carina dividing the right upper lobe from the bronchus intermedius is called the right carina 1 or RC-1.



The right lower lobe bronchus

 The right lower lobe bronchus divides immediately into a superior segmental bronchus (jsut across from the right middle lobe bronchus), and

- A medial basal segmental bronchus a bit more distally and along its medial wall.
- Finally dividing into three lower lobe bronchi (Three musketeers):
 - Antero-basal
 - Latero-basal
 - Postero-basal

Bronchus intermedius and Right lower lobe bronchus

RB₇

B 4, 5 Middle Lobe Bronchus



Superior Segment

Distal Right Bronchus Intermedius Courtesy Henri Colt MD.





RB6

RB7

RB 8, 9 and 10

B6

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Using the figure below, and imagining the interior of the airway as a clock face and using the carina as the central reference point. Where is the superior segment of the lower lobe bronchus?

A) 3 o'clock
B) 7 o'clock
C) 5 o'clock
D) 9 o'clock



Posterior

Click here for correct answer:

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Horizontal and vertical main bronchi Focus on Left main bronchus

Horizontal Take-Off Left Main Bronchus





Seen from head of patient

Vertical Right main bronchus BI, All Rights Reserved, 2005 from in front of patient 24

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Left bronchial Anatomy



The left main bronchus is usually 4-5 cm long. its lumen is narrow and relatively horizontal. The usual length of the left lower lobe bronchus beyond the origin of the superior segmental bronchus is 1 cm.



Left Bronchial Tree Classification and nomenclatures

JACKSON-HUBER	JAPANESE SYSTEM
Left upper lobe	
Upper division	
Apical-posterior	B ^{1 & 2}
Anterior	B ³
Lingular/division	
Superior	B ⁴
Inferior	B ⁵
Left lower lobe	
Superior	B ₆
Anteromedial	B ^{7&8}
Lateral basal	B ⁹
Posterior basal	B ¹⁰

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The Left main bronchus

Divides into a upper and lower lobe bronchus
 The upper lobe bronchus divides into a upper division and lingular bronchus
 The lingular bronchus divides into a superior and inferior segmental bronchus

Left upper lobe bronchus



Left upper lobe bronchus: Upper division and Lingula



Left Upper Lobe Bronchus



Left Upper Lobe Upper Division Bronchus





Courtesy Henri Colt MD,

Lingula Superior segment LB 4, LB 5 Inferior segment₂₉

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The Left lower lobe bronchus

The left lower lobe bronchus is longer than the right lower lobe bronchus, and there is a greater distance between its superior segment and its basal pyramid bronchi (three musketeers). The basal pyramid bronchi are in mirror shape compared to those on the right, and the medial basal segmental bronchus is usually but not always absent.

Left lower lobe bronchus





Lower Lobe Bronchus Courtesy Henri Colt MD,

From the head

LB 6, LB 8, LB 9, LB 10 11/1/2014

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From the front LB 10, LB 9, LB 8

Anatomy: secondary carina left side



From in front



The carina separating the anterior segment of the upper division of left upper lobe bronchus from the lingula is termed LC-1.

On the left, the carina separating the lingular segment of the left upper lobe from the left lower lobe bronchus is called LC-2.



All of the following approximate airway dimensions are correct **except**

A) The usual length of the left lower lobe bronchus beyond the origin of the superior segment is 1 cm.

B) The usual length of the right upper lobe bronchus is 1.0 cm.

C) The usual length of the left main bronchus is 4-5 cm. It bifurcates sharply from the midline of the trachea at an angle of 45 degrees.

D) The usual length of the right main bronchus is 1.0 cm. It bifurcates at an angle of 25 degrees from the midline of the trachea.

Click here for correct answer:

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The Essential Bronchoscopist



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1. The bronchoscope wants to do the bronchoscopy 2. Stay in the midline

(Get off the wall).

1.

5.

3. Moderation in everything; slow down, think, act.

4. If you don't know where you are you probably shouldn't be there

5. Force is wrong. Return to what you know; then move on and grow. 6. Slow down to finish faster.

7. Treasure basic values: peace. harmony and kindness

You and the bronchoscope are one

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