

# ANATOMY TEAM

## LECTURE (3) PRACTICAL Vertebral Column

## **OBJECTIVES**.

- Identify the bones (vertebrae) forming vertebral column.
- Identify the main general features and of each one.



## Vertebrae in general have :

Pedicle
Lamina
Those two form Arch

Arch + Body of vertebra (sometimes doesn't exist) = foramen Along the vertebral column -> vertebral foramen Where the spinal cord presents.

- Articular processes for articulation between vertebrae (synovial joints)

- Transverses processes for attachment of muscles or some bone (such as ribs articulate with thoracic vertebrae)

- Maningial covering surrounding the spinal cord (from inside) :

- 1) Pia
- 2) Archnoid
- 3) Dura



## <u>Cervical :</u>

## <u>General feature of cervical vertebrae</u>: The transverse processes are each pierced by the foramen transversarium

1) Typical C3 ,C4 ,C5 & C6 Features : \* The body of these four vertebrae is small ,broader from side to side than from front to back ,The upper surface is concave. \* The laminae are narrow, and thinner above than below; the vertebral foramen is large, and of a triangular form. \* The spinous process is short and bifid, the two divisions being often of unequal size. \* The articular facets are flat and of an oval form: the superior face backward, upward, and slightly medially. the inferior face forward, downward, and slightly laterally. \_ \* the foramen transversarium in the upper six vertebrae, gives passage to the vertebral artery, vein & nervs. (unique features) Bifid tip of Vertebral spinous arch process Spinous process Vertebral Lamina foramen Superior articular process Pedicle Superior articular facet Transverse Transverse foramen process Costal process Vertebral body

#### 2) Atypical

#### C1 : Atlas

#### Features:

the topmost vertebra. Its chief peculiarity is that it has no body, and this is due to the fact that the body of the atlas has fused with that of the next vertebra. The posterior surface of the anterior arch has three facets one in the middle provide a range of rotation movement called transverse ligament, while two on the sides for attachment of odontoid process by ligament called apical ligament stabilize



the odontoid process in the anterior arch of Atlas.

#### C2 : Axis

#### Features:

has a thick spinous process. forms the pivot upon which C1 rotates. The most distinctive characteristic of this bone is (dens) odontoid process that rises perpendicularly from the upper surface of the body.



#### C7 : prominens

#### Features:

The most distinctive characteristic is the existence of a long and prominent spinous process (not bifid). It is the first spine to be felt subcutaneously . The foramen transversaium is small because it doesn't pass any artery but only veins.



## **Thoracic:**

General features: Articulate\_with ribs of rib cage by demi-facets ,More rigid than cervical. Heart shaped body. Intermediate in size between those of the cervical and lumbar. they increase in size as one proceeds down the spine.



Typical thoracic general features : Present in : T2,T3,T4,T5,T6,T7,T8	Exception : T1,T9,T10,T11,T12
Heart shaped body.	Absent : T1
Sharp & long Spinous pointing downward.	Absent : T1(horizontal Spinous like C7)
two demi-facets (half moon) one near upper boarder on transverse process & one near lower boarder on the body in for articulation with ribs.	Circular not demi facets : T1. Two facets in the middle of the body instead of being in the upper & lower boarders : T9 & T10. Only one circular facet in each side(NO transverse facet here) : T11 & T12(T12 facet is near to pedicle)
Circular vertebral foramen	Triangular foramen : T1.
Superior articular processes are backward Inferior articular processes are forward	No exceptions

## Lumber :



General features for typical :	Exceptions for atypical :
L1, L2, L3, L4	L5
Larger & kidney shaped body, triangular vertebral foramen. superior Articular processes are upward and medial directed. Inferior articular processes are downward and lateral directed. Has two processes : mammillary & accessory (which present also in T12 only)	No exceptions
Spinous process is flat, short, thick & quadrangular shaped. Long and narrow transverse processes.	Smaller spine Thick transverse process

## Sacram: 5 vertebrae united togethere



### **Coccex : 4 vertebrae unite togethere**



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