

Comment on chest and heart X ray

Main points to comment on :

1. Type
2. View
3. Dose
4. Centralization
5. Mediastinum
6. Soft Tissue
7. Bone
8. Diaphragm
9. Chest
10. Heart

+ Diagnosis

1. Type

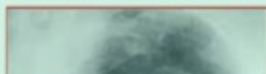
- X ray may be plain or with contrast.
- **Radiopaque agents** : are substances that absorb the x-ray photons and does not allow them to be detected by the x-ray film or CT scanner.
- So they give the shape or appearance of the part of the body they pass through.
- The commonly used element or dye is the barium, that is delivered in the compound barium sulfate.
- **Examples :**
 - inhalation bronchogram
 - ingested orally (to show the upper gut),
 - inserted into the rectum (to show the lower gut).

Plain X ray

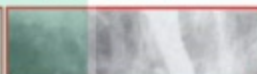


X ray with Contrast

Inhalation bronchography



Barium swallow





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2. Veiw / Projection

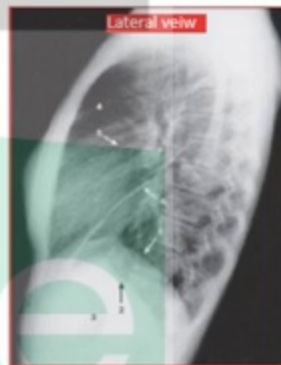
It is the direction of the x-ray beam in relation to the patient.

posteroanterior veiw

- the Standard film used is the PA veiw.
- In a PA film, the beam is fired from behind the patient and the film placed in front.
- Anterior chest against film plate to minimize magnification of the heart size.

lateral veiw

- better visualization of retrocardiac space and thoracic spine (more sensitive at picking up pleural effusions)
- helps localize lesions when combined with PA view.



NB :

- **anteroposterior (AP)** : for bedridden patients.
- **lateral decubitus** : to assess for P. eff. in bed ridden patients
- **lordotic** : angled beam allows better visualization of apices normally



4. Centralization

- The medial ends of the clavicles should be equidistant from the spinous process.
- If one clavicle is nearer than the other, then the patient is rotated and the lung on that side will appear whiter.

NB : Patient centralization is a must to comment on the mediastinum

Comment on Centralization by :

- equal distance between the medial ends of both clavicle and midline (vertebral spine).
- Or pateint is centralized



5. Mediastinum

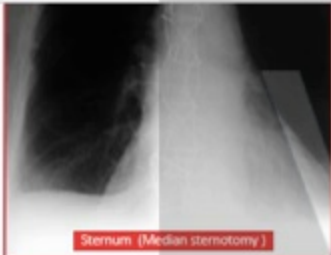
1. By trachea (column of air)
2. By Heart (2 / 3 to the left)



6. Soft Tissue

- As esophagus or breast tissue
- Usually no abnormalities were detected .
- If present try to describe it







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