Superior Vena Cava & Azygos Venous Systems

VEINS IN UPPER MEDIASTINUM AND LOWER NECK

RIGHT

R internal jugular
Right subclavian

Azygos venous arch

Superior vena cava

Angle of Louis

LEFT

L internal jugular
L subclavian

First costal cartilage
Second costal cartilage
Third costal cartilage

A  Left brachiocephalic vein
B  Right brachiocephalic vein
C  Formation of brachiocephalic veins posterior to the sternoclavicular joints
D  Formation of the superior vena cava in the first right intercostal space, just inferior to the first costal cartilage
Note: Left and right supreme intercostal veins may drain into vertebral veins.
ALTERNATIVE VENOUS RETURN IN IVC BLOCKAGE

- Vertebral & inferior thyroid veins
- SVC
- Azygos veins
- Internal & external vertebral venous plexus
- Lumbar & pelvic valveless veins

- Right atrium
- Superior & inferior epigastric veins
- IVC