Angle of Louis, Vertebral Levels

**KEY LEVELS IN THORAX**

Suprasternal notch

**ANGLE OF LOUIS**
(manubriosternal junction)

The direction of the arch is mostly posterior but also to the left

Vertebral bodies of T3 and T4 lie behind the manubrium

- a = Brachiocephalic trunk
- b = Left common carotid artery
- c = Left subclavian artery
- A = Left pulmonary artery
- B = Left bronchus
- V = Left pulmonary veins

& Thoracic Dermatomes
**ANGLE OF LOUIS** (sternomanothribial junction)

- Manubriosternal junction
- Division of superior & inferior mediastinum
- Second costal cartilage
- Under surface of aortic arch
- Bifurcation of pulmonary artery
- Bifurcation of trachea
- Ligamentum arteriosum
- Left recurrent laryngeal nerve
- Cardiac plexuses
- Azygos arch/vein enters superior vena cava
- Pleura initially meet superiorly

**VERTEBRAL LEVELS IN THORAX**

- C1
- C2
- T1
- T2
- T3
- T4
- T5
- T6
- T7
- T8
- T9
- T10
- T11
- T12
- L1
- L2

- Dermatomes
- Nipples in T4 dermatome

- T2/3 Supra sternum notch
- T3 Spinous process - posterior end of oblique fissure of lungs
- T3/4 Top of aortic arch
- T4/5 Manubriosternal junction (angle of Louis)
- T5 Thoracic duct crosses midline
- T8 Cav al opening in diaphragm + right phrenic nerve
- T10 Oesophageal opening in diaphragm + left gastric branches to oesophagus + vagi
- T12 Aortic opening in diaphragm (aorta, azygos veins, thoracic duct) + origin of coeliac axis