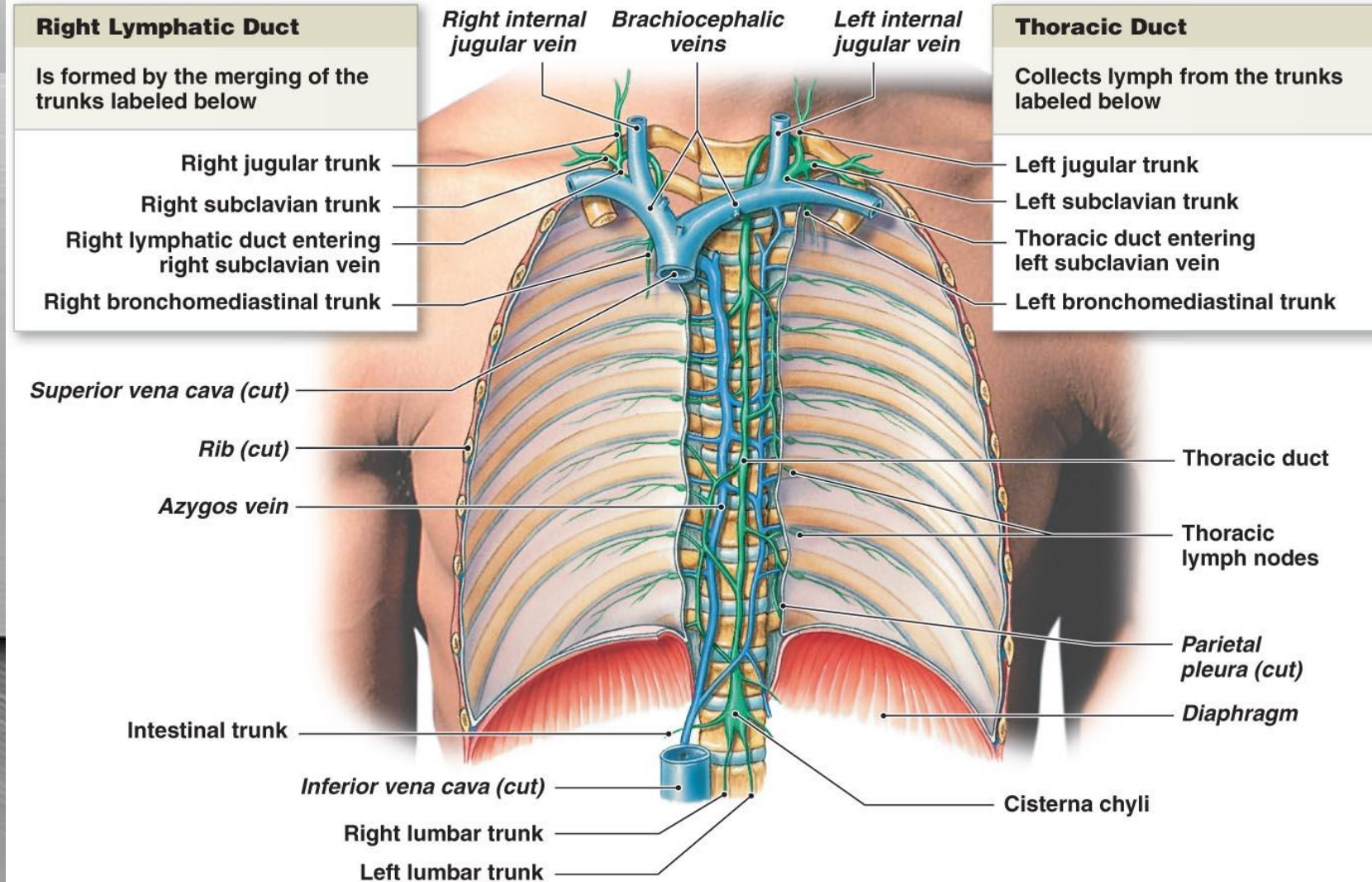


Imaging

- Tubular structure with same density/intensity as CSF
- Average diameter: 4-5 mm
- Courses cranially in **left** lower neck posterior to common carotid artery
- Laterally drains to junction of internal jugular vein & subclavian vein

Thoracic Duct

The relationship between the right lymphatic and thoracic ducts and the venous system

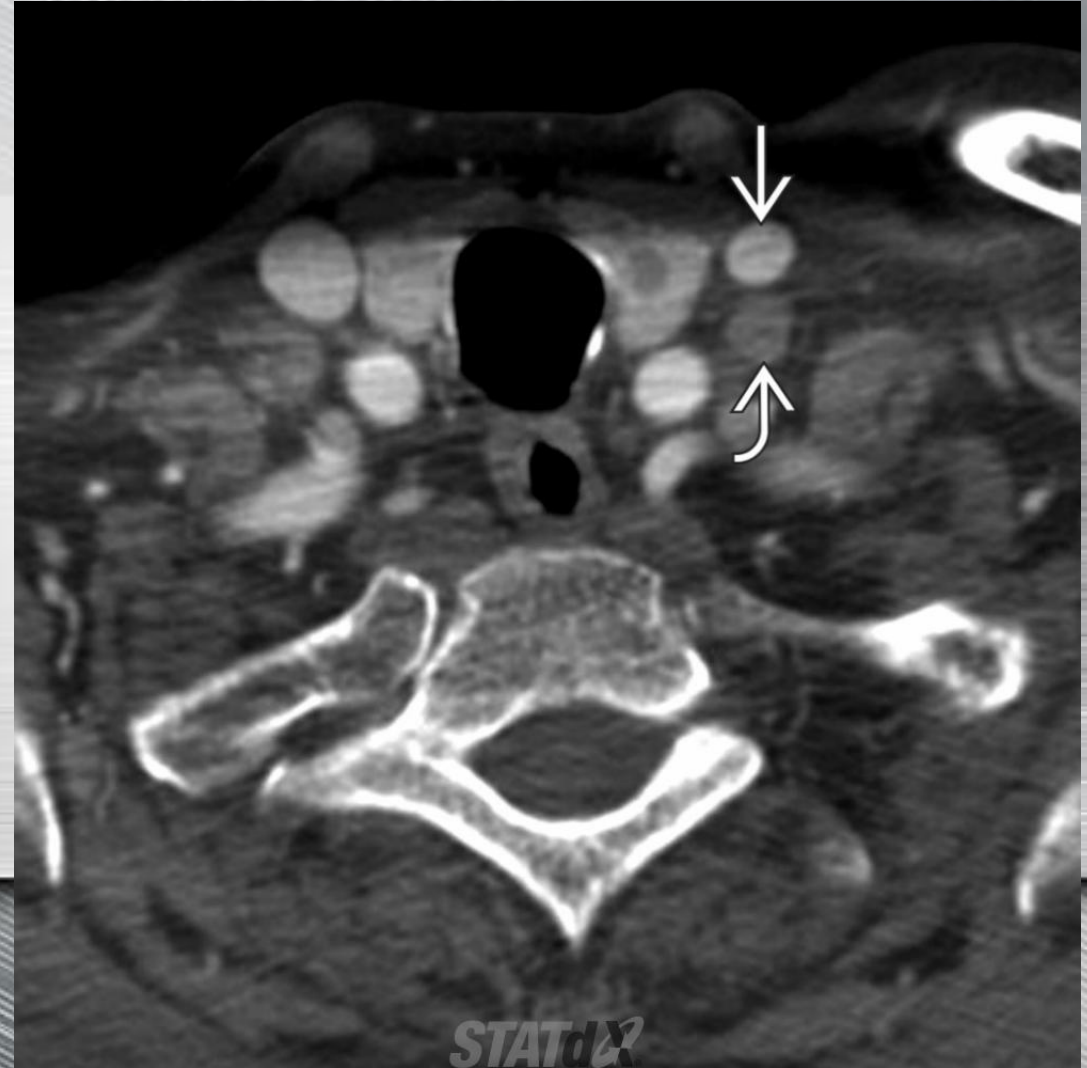


Thoracic Duct Lymphocele

- Thoracic duct dumps in at jugular and subclavian vein junction.
- Commonly see after LN dissection.
- Can be bright on T1



Axial CECT shows a more lateral location of the thoracic duct (white curved arrow) as it courses toward the terminus at the junction of the internal jugular vein (IJV) and subclavian vein (white solid arrow). The thoracic duct mimics a node in its axial cross section contour.



Sagittal reformat CECT demonstrates a tubular, low-density thoracic duct (white curved arrow) ascending from the chest posterior to the left carotid artery (white open arrow), which may be mistaken for a thrombosed vessel.



