

## Anatomic aspects of the thoracic duct in corpses

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The receptaculum chyli (cistern of Pecquet) is formed, most in 54% of times, by the intestinal trunk (transporting most of the lymph mass from the digestory system), right and left lumbar trunks; emerging from them we have the thoracic duct that crosses the abdomen, the posterior mediastinum till the left cervical area, where is formed an arc over the subclavian artery and in front of the Scalenus anticus muscle and terminates in the left subclavian vein at its angle of junction with the left internal jugular vein, the termination may vary. The aim of this work is to evaluate the formation of the receptaculum chyli, morphologic and macroscopic aspects of the thoracic duct. It has been studied nine adult corpses conserved in formalin 10% in the laboratory of Anatomy from the Department of Morphology from the Federal University of Amazon; in each corpse it has been identified and dissected the thoracic duct through, all its extension and we followed until we reached the receptaculum chyli, and the drainage point of the neck. Analyzing the cervical vertebra related to its origin, anatomic relations, total length and point of drainage; besides the formation of the receptaculum chyli. The data was analyzed in terms of frequency, average and standard deviation. The thoracic duct had total average length of  $33,4 \pm 2,4$  cm (28-37 cm). The receptaculum chyli was identified at level of L1 (56%); T12 (33%); L2 (11%); the thoracic duct ascends through the aortic opening in the (78%) with posterior trajectory to the abdominal aorta and thoracic esophagus, slightly to the right in all cases and implies to the left toward cervical, where it drains to the jugular-subclavian trunk in 56%, left internal jugular vessel in 33% and subclavian vessel in 11%. The lymphatic system has great importance in nutritional performance, vascular studies and evolution of oncologic diseases and trauma, requiring a study qualifying its anatomy and physiology, for a proper diagnosis and treatment of their diseases.