

## HIGH DIVISION ABDOMINAL AORTA WITH TORTUOUS ILIAC ARTERIES

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### INTRODUCTION

Abdominal Aorta is considered as principle artery of the abdominal cavity through which the various branches will be arises to supply different parts of the gut according to their developmental relationship.

As per the standard Anatomical text book description, abdominal aorta begins at the median, aortic hiatus of the diaphragm, anterior to the inferior border of the 12th thoracic vertebra and the thoracolumbar intervertebral disc. It descends anterior to the lumbar vertebrae to end at the lower border of the fourth lumbar vertebra, a little to the left of the midline, by dividing into two common iliac arteries.

Variations in the abdominal aorta are not common. According to Quain(1982), in 10 out of every 13 (about 80%) subjects examined, the bifurcation of the aorta occurred within 1.2 cm (~0.5 in) above or below the level of the highest point of the iliac crest, more frequently below the crest than above it. The most common place for its bifurcation, which is opposite the lower border of the body of the fourth lumbar vertebra, but it may divide opposite the disc between L4 and L5 or rarely opposite the body of the fifth lumbar vertebra.

Bifurcation of the abdominal aorta occurs in about 75% of cases at this level. A higher division is less common (9%) than a lower division (11%). The artery has been found, however, dividing as high as the origin of the renal arteries, or even as high as the second lumbar vertebra.

### CASE REPORT

During the routine anatomy dissection practical 45 years old male cadaver shown an rare anatomical variation of high bifurcation of the abdominal aorta with tortuous course starting from the level of lower border of the 2<sup>nd</sup> lumbar vertebra, it is about 1.5 cm in relation with highest point of the iliac crest like earlier studies done by the Quain (1982).



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