

VETERINARY ANATOMY  
UNIT 5,  
BOUNDARIES AND  
CLINICAL IMPORTANCE  
OF THE FLANK AND PARA  
LUMBAR FOSSA.

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## Boundary of abdominal cavity

- Abdominal cavity is the largest body cavity. it is oval in form .it is separated from the thoracic cavity by the diaphragm and posteriorly it communicates with the pelvic cavity . The line of demarcation of pelvic to abdominal cavity is the pelvic inlet or brim of the pelvic or terminal line

Conti..

➤ This line is formed by:-

-base of the sacrum above iliopectineal line on the side and brim of pubis or pecten pubis below.

➤ The dorsal wall is formed by –lumbar vertebrae, sub lumbar muscle ,lumbar part of diaphragm.

Conti..

- Ventral wall is formed by :-
  1. rectus abdominis muscle
  2. aponeurosis of transverse and oblique muscle (linea alba)
  3. abdominal tunic
  4. xyphoid cartilage

## Conti

➤ Lateral wall is formed by:-

1. Part of post. Ribs (last 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>)
2. Costal cartilage of asternal ribs
3. Obliquus abdominis and transverse abdominis muscle , part of illium and illiacus muscle abdominal fascia
4. It is very strong sheet of elastic tissue that bears the weight of the abdominal viscera.

## Conti...

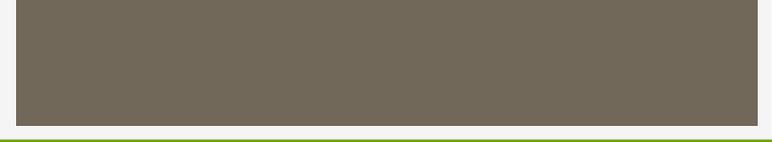
- Internally the cavity is lined by a layer of serous membrane called peritoneum.
- Abdominal cavity is closed cavity having five openings:-
  1. Hiatus aorticus –for posterior aorta.
  2. Hiatus oesophagi – for oesophagus
  3. Foramen venacavae-for post. Venacava
  4. Two openings for inguinal ring or canal

## Flank and its importance

It is lateral softer part of abdominal cavity and has got triangular depression behind last rib known as paralumbar fossa. This fossa is bounded dorsally by longissimus dorsi muscle , ventrally and posteriorly by anterior border of internal oblique muscle of abdomen and anteriorly by last rib.

Conti...

- Para lumbar fossa is site for incision of abdomen for laparotomy.
- Vertical incision is given because fibres of muscle are usually vertical and heal up very easily after operation.



Thanks