

AXILLARY LYMPH NODES

Axillary Lymph Nodes

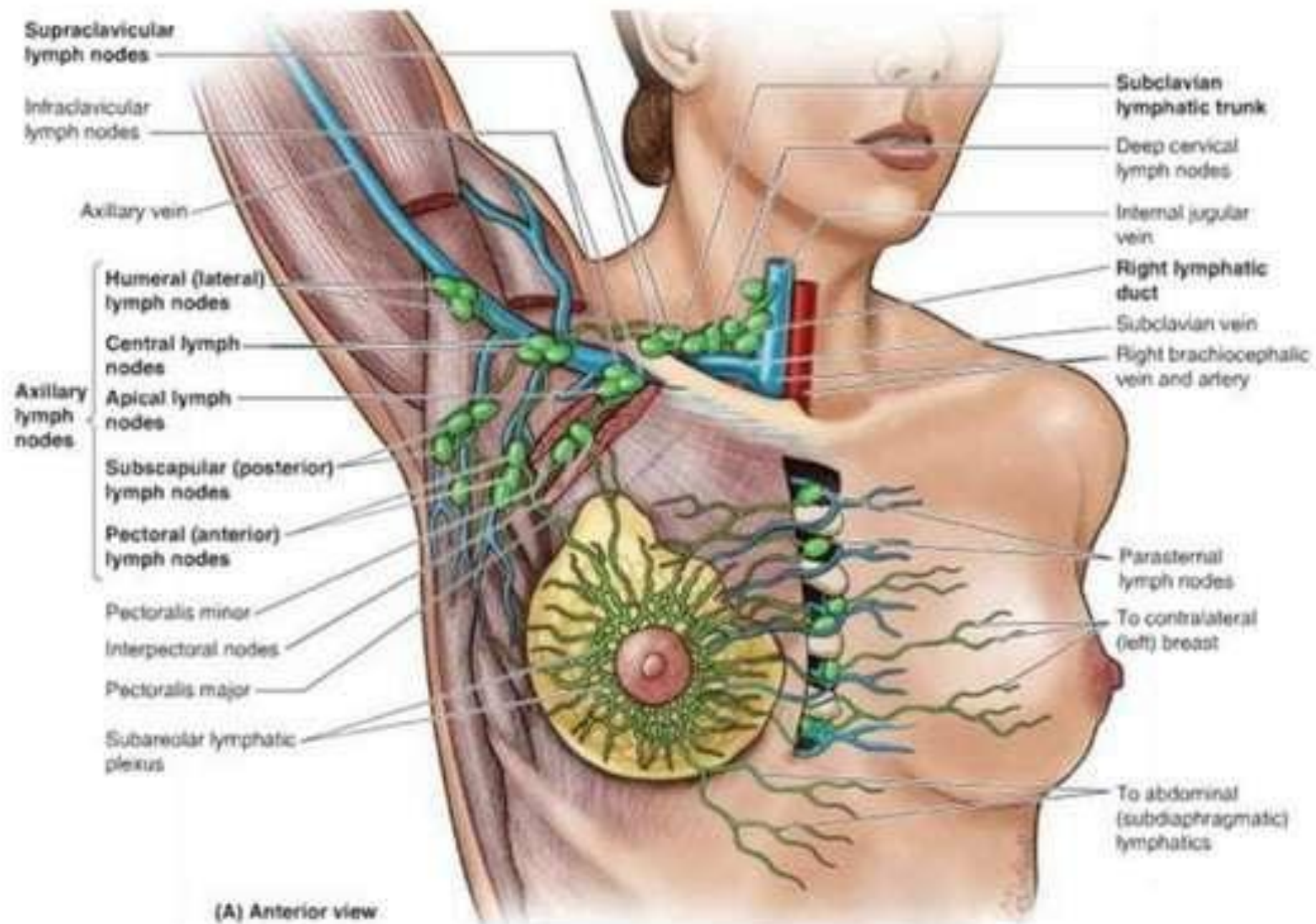
- All lymphatics from the upper limb drain into axillary lymph nodes
- Receives drainage from
 - The upper back and shoulder
 - The lower neck
 - The chest
 - The upper anterolateral abdominal wall
 - 75% of the mammary gland

Axillary Lymph Nodes

- 20 – 30 lymph nodes

They are divided into 5 groups on the basis of locations

- Humeral (lateral) nodes
- Pectoral (anterior) nodes
- Subscapular (posterior) nodes
- Central nodes
- Apical nodes



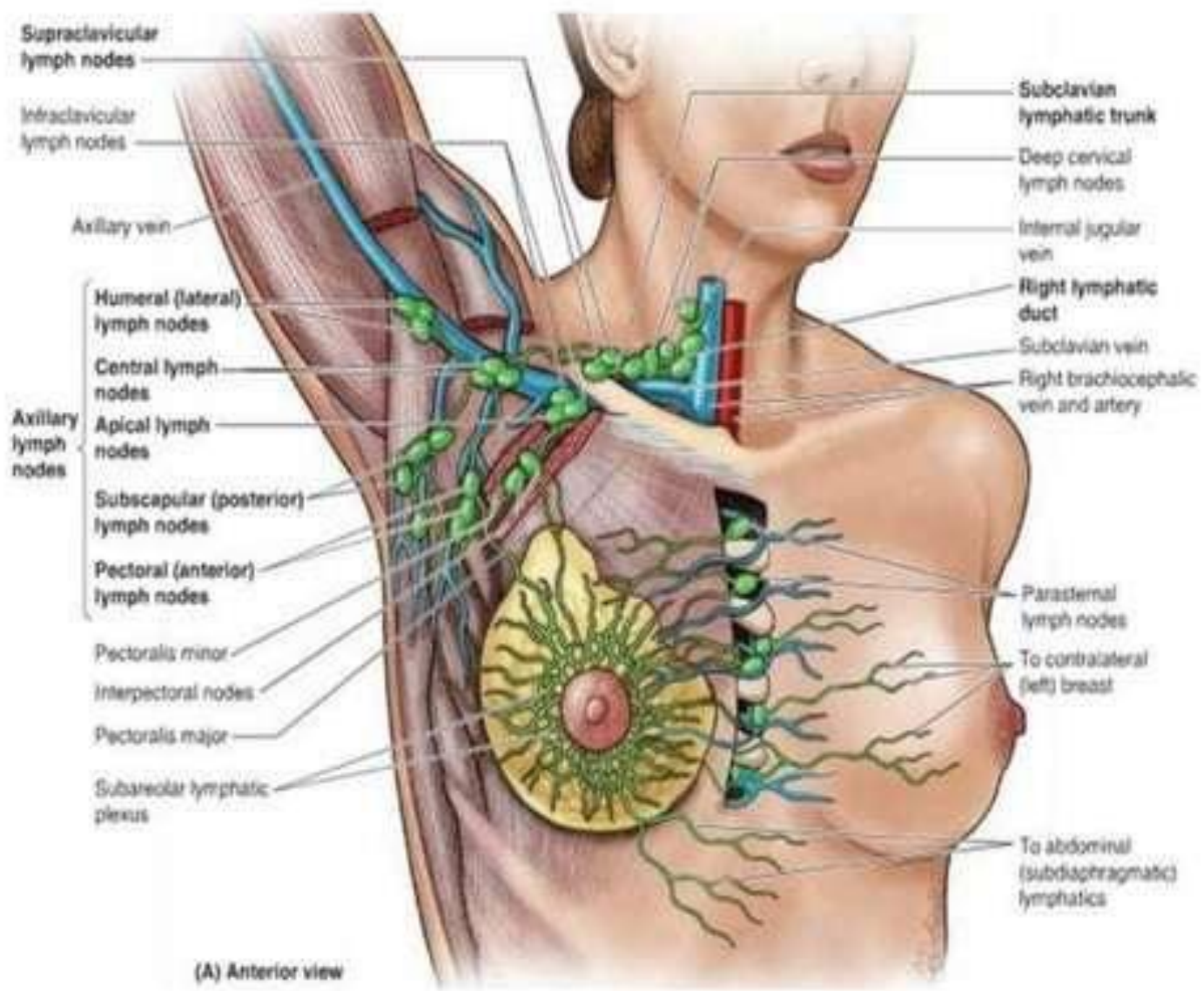
Axillary lymph nodes

Humeral (lateral) nodes

- Lies along the upper part of humerus, medial to axillary vein
- Receives lymph from
 - The upper limb

Pectoral (anterior) nodes

- Lies along the lateral thoracic vessels
- Receives lymph from:
 - ✓ Upper half of the anterior wall of trunk
 - ✓ Major part of the breasts



(A) Anterior view

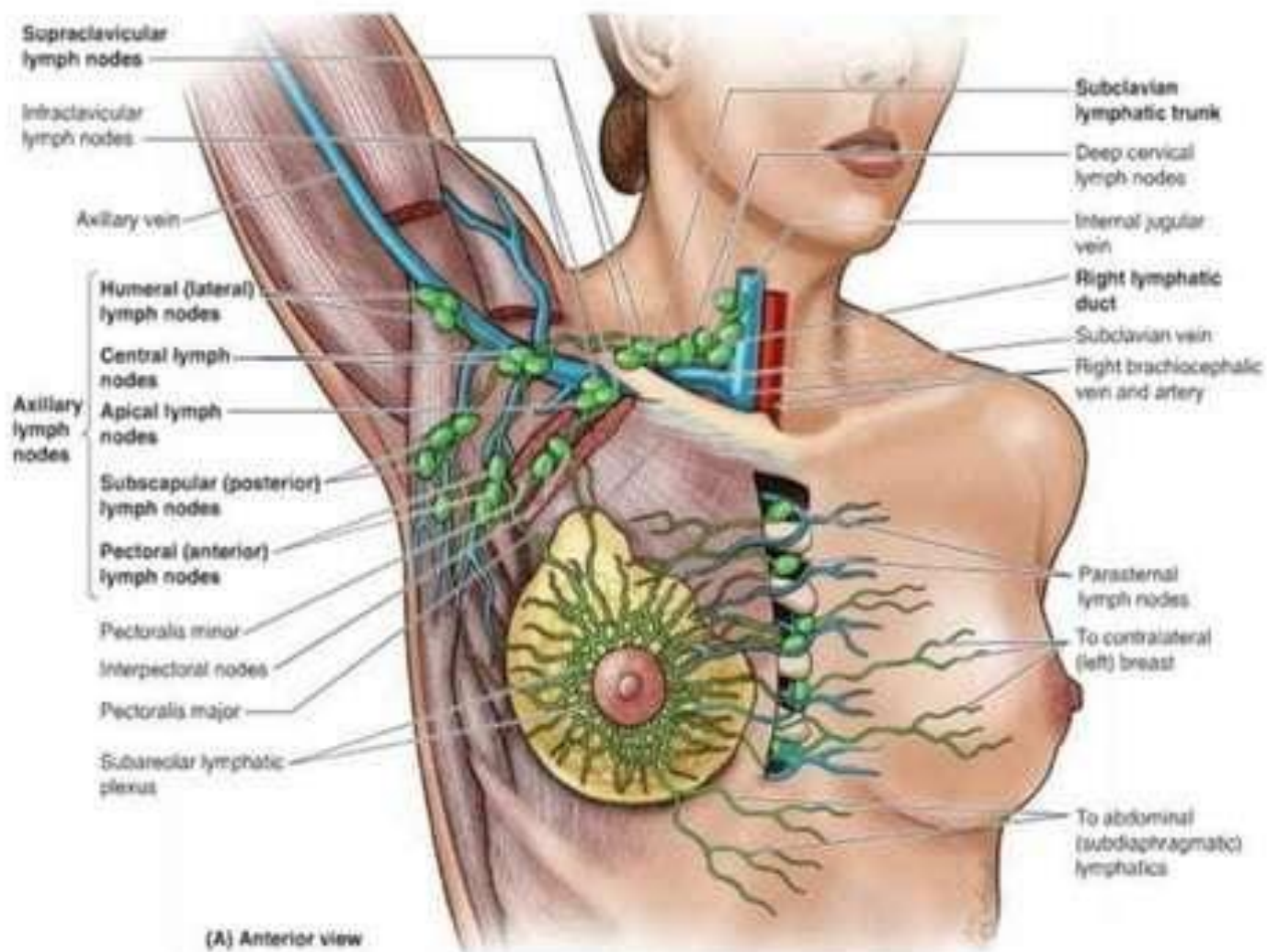
Axillary Lymph Nodes

Subscapular (posterior) nodes

- Lies along the subscapular vessels , on the posterior fold of the axilla
- Receives lymph from:
 - ✓ The posterior wall of the upper half of the trunk
 - ✓ The axillary tail of the breast

Central nodes

- Lies in the fat of the upper axilla
- Receives lymph from:
 - Anterior, posterior, lateral groups



Axillary Lymph Nodes

Apical nodes

- Lies deep to the clavipectoral fascia along the axillary vessels
- Receives lymph from:
 - ✓ The central group
 - ✓ The upper part of breast
 - ✓ The thumb and its web

Clinical Anatomy

- Lymphadenopathy
- Examination of axillary lymph nodes is important in clinical practice.



References:

- Richard L. Drake, A. Wayne Vogl, Adam W. M. Mitchell. *GRAY'S Anatomy for Students*. Canada: Churchill Livingstone Elsevier, 2010. English.
- Chaurasia, BD. *Human Anatomy*. New Delhi: CBS Publishers & Distributors Pvt Ltd, 2010. English.

THANK YOU