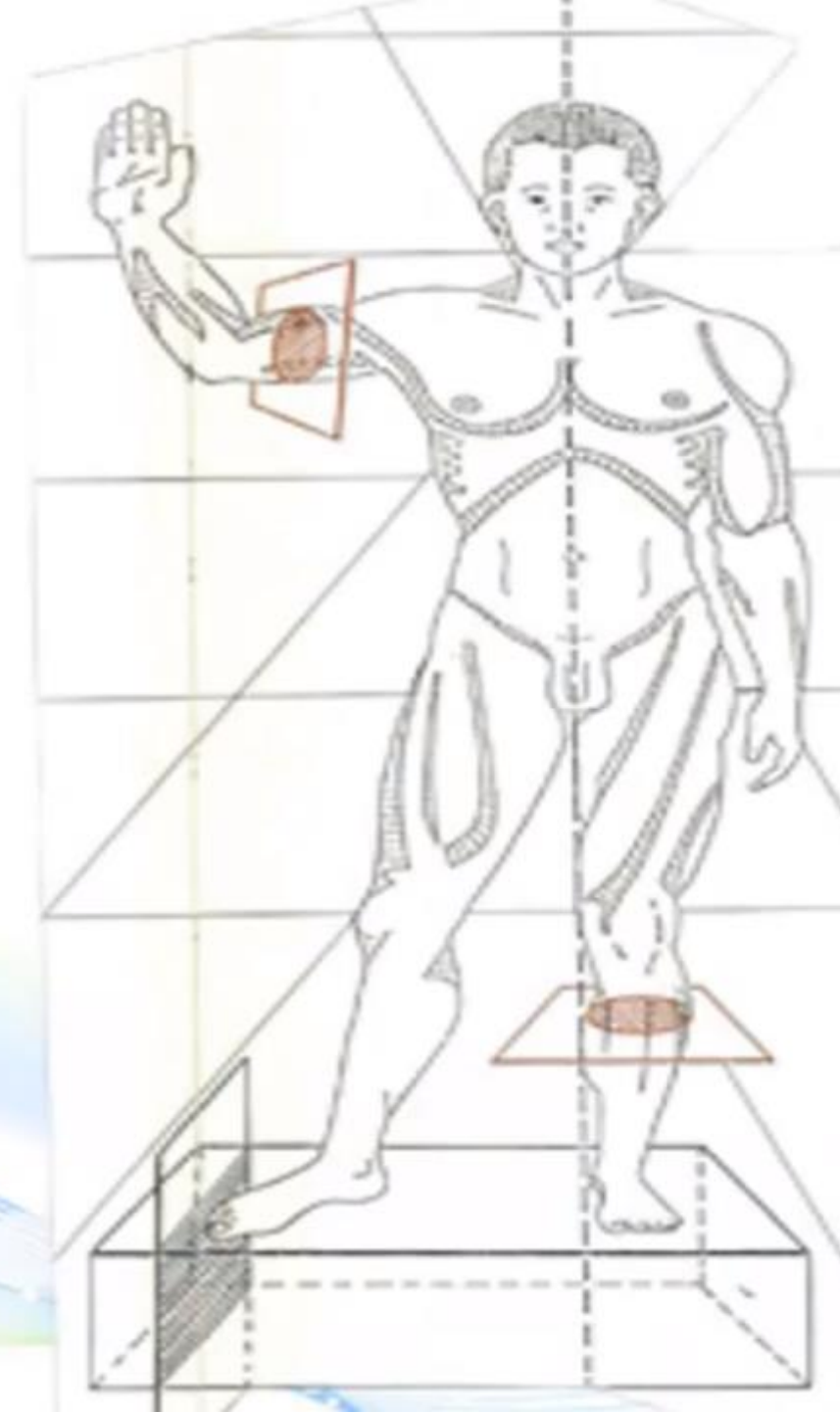


ILIAC VEINS



Plan

I. INTRODUCTION

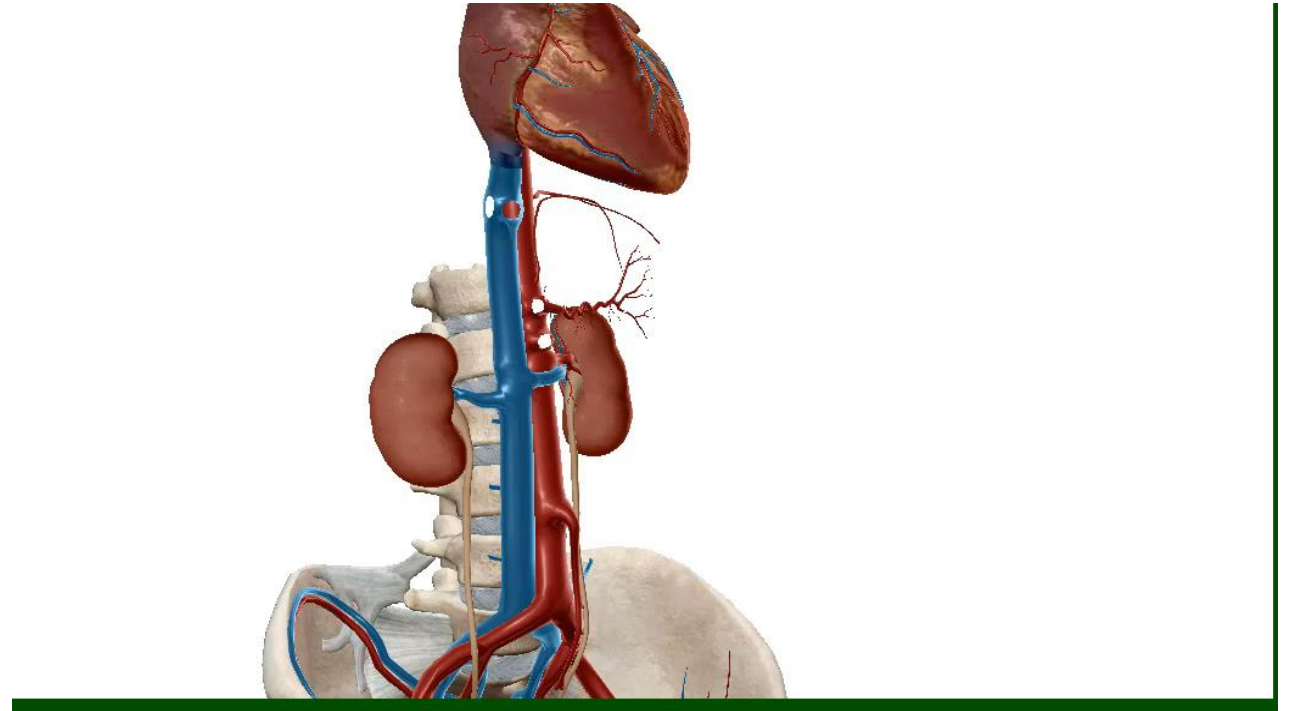
II. COMMON ILIAC VEINS

III. EXTERNAL ILIAC VEINS

IV. INTERNAL ILIAC VEINS

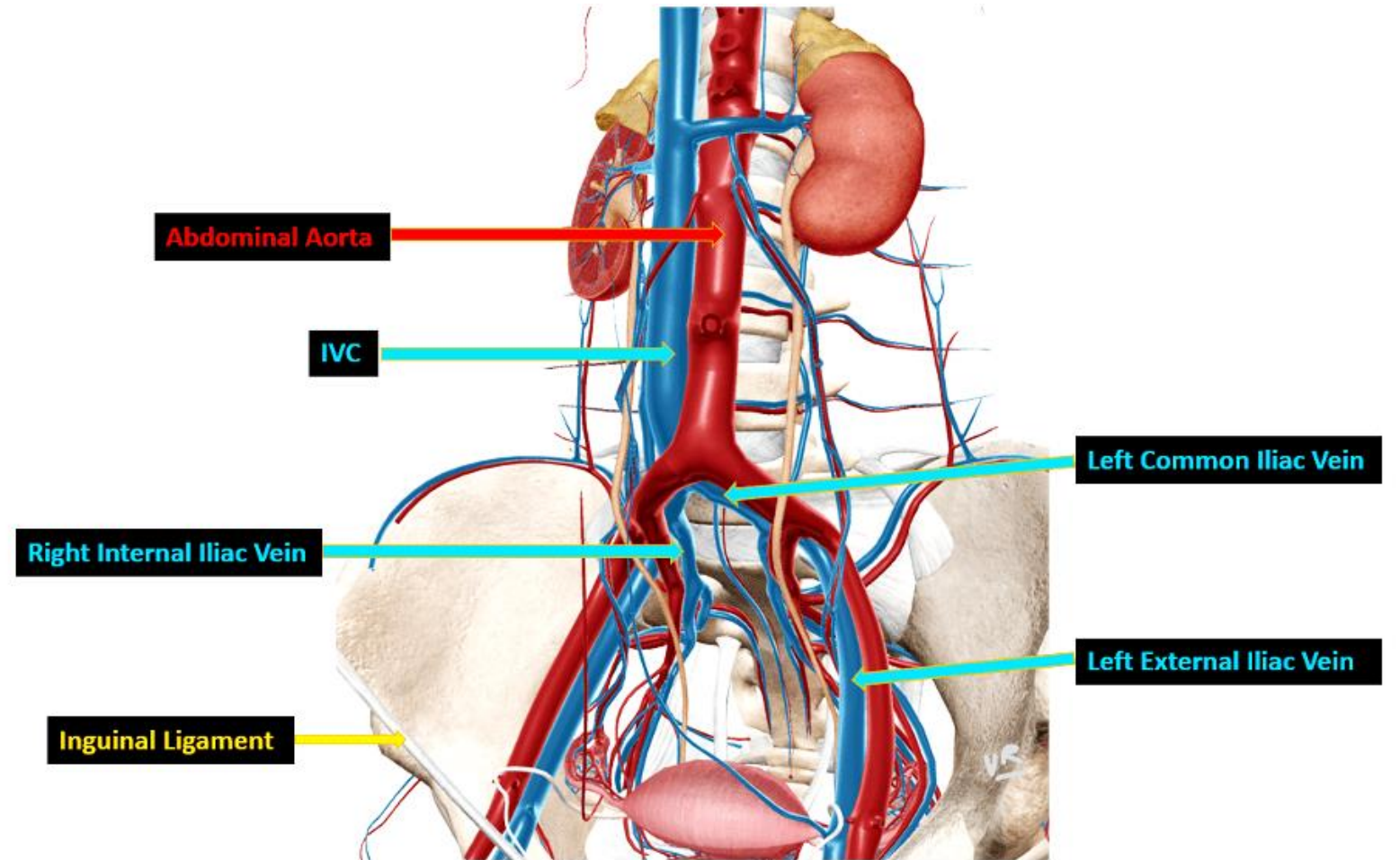
V. CLINICAL APPLICATIONS

VI. CONCLUSION



I- INTRODUCTION:

- The common iliac veins are two in number and are branches of the inferior vena cava.
- They arise from the union of the external iliac vein and the internal iliac vein, draining the pelvis and the lower limb.

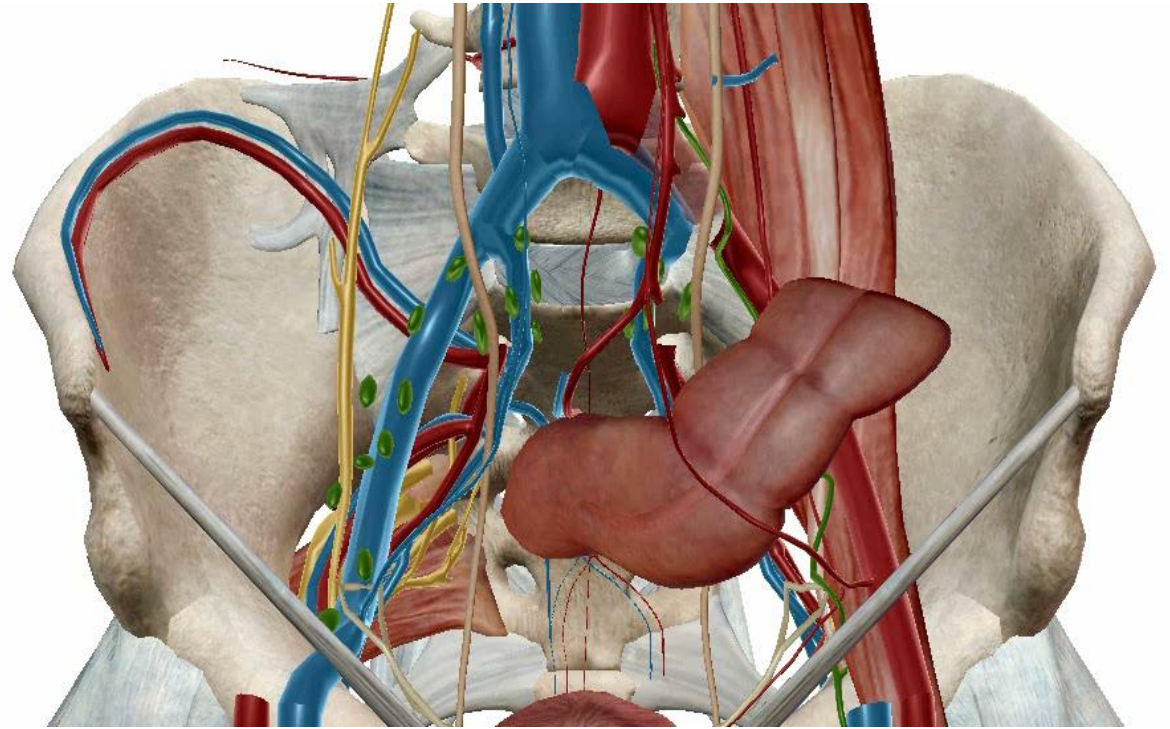


II- COMMON ILIAC VEINS

- They originate from the union of the external iliac vein and the internal iliac vein at the level of the sacroiliac joint.
- They terminate by merging with each other on the right side of the L5 lumbar vertebra to form the inferior vena cava (IVC).

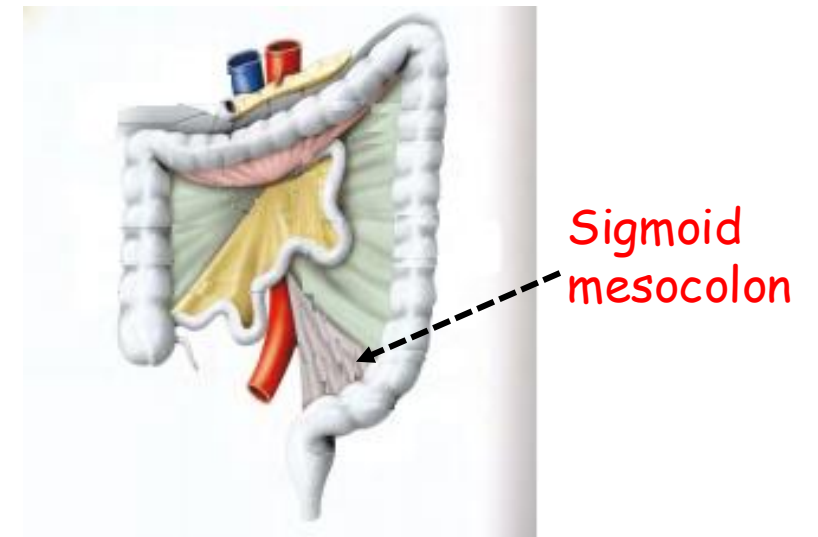
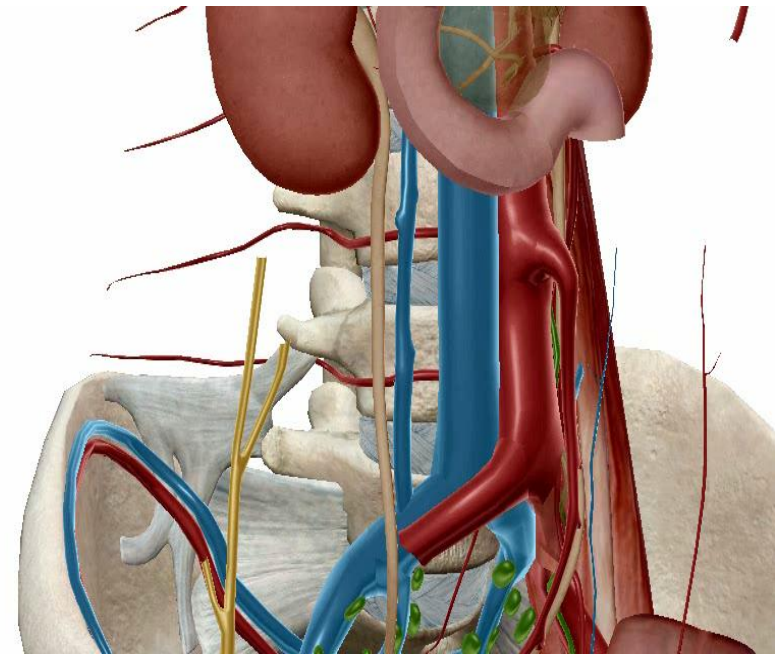
RIGHT ILIAC VEIN

- It is located behind its corresponding artery. The artery becomes lateral to its termination.
- It lies posterior to the obturator nerve.
- It receives the right ascending lumbar vein.



LEFT ILIAC VEIN

- It is located behind its corresponding artery, obliquely directed to the left and below the artery.
- It lies,
 - **Anteriorly**, to:
 - ✓ The sigmoid mesocolon,
 - ✓ The superior mesenteric vessels.
 - **Laterally** :
 - ✓ the gonadal vessels,
 - ✓ The obturator nerve.
 - **Posteriorly** :
 - ✓ L5 vertebral body.



III- EXTERNAL ILIAC VEINS:

Origin and termination

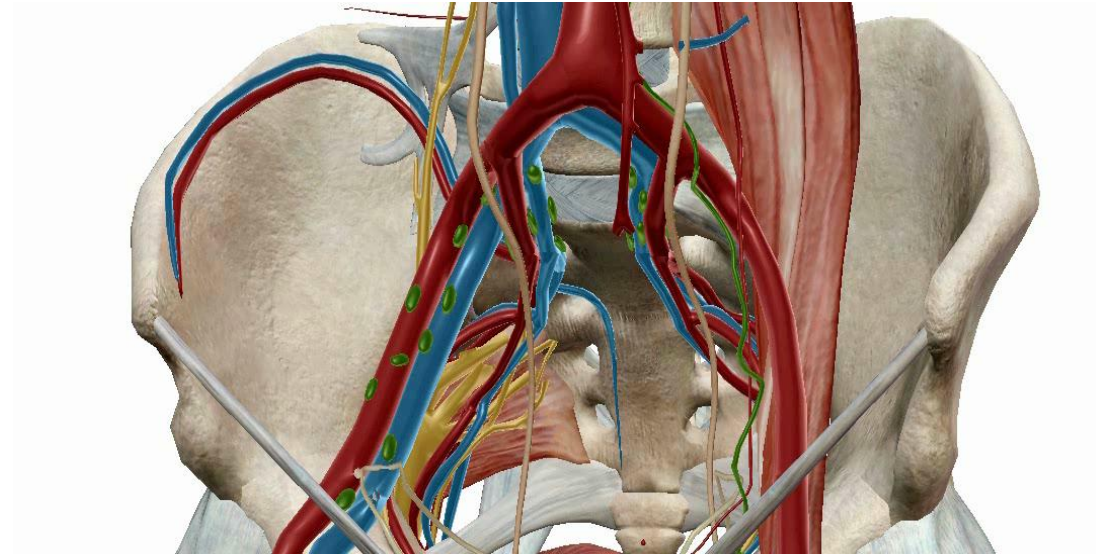
- It is a continuation of the femoral vein below the inguinal ligament.
- It ends by joining the internal iliac vein to form the common iliac vein.

Path and relations:

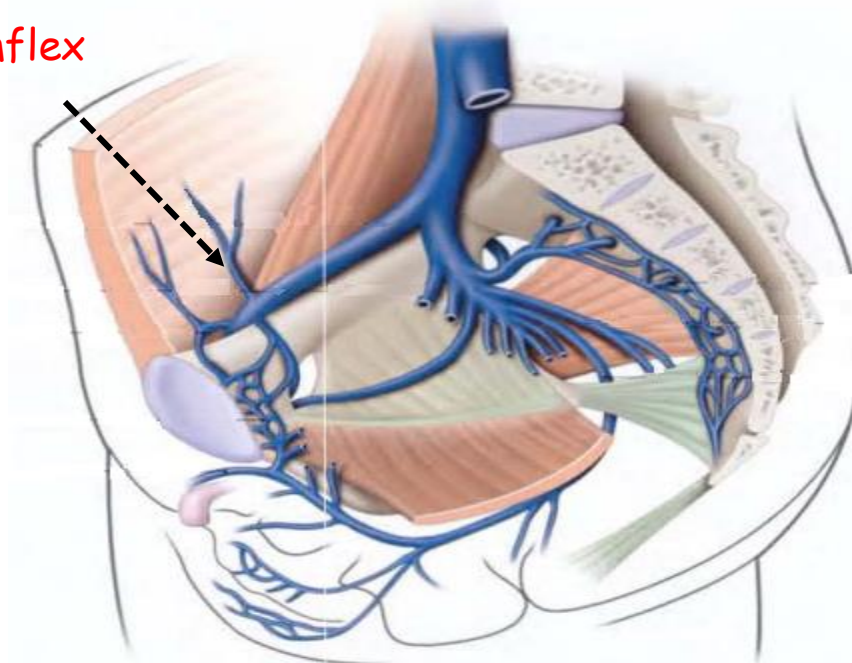
- The external iliac artery lies laterally to the origin of the external iliac vein.
- It then tends to become slightly superior towards its termination.
- In males, the vas deferens crosses the vein at its origin.
- The medial and intermediate iliac nodes are located along its inferior and medial borders.

Tributaries of the external iliac vein:

- The inferior epigastric veins
- The deep circumflex iliac veins

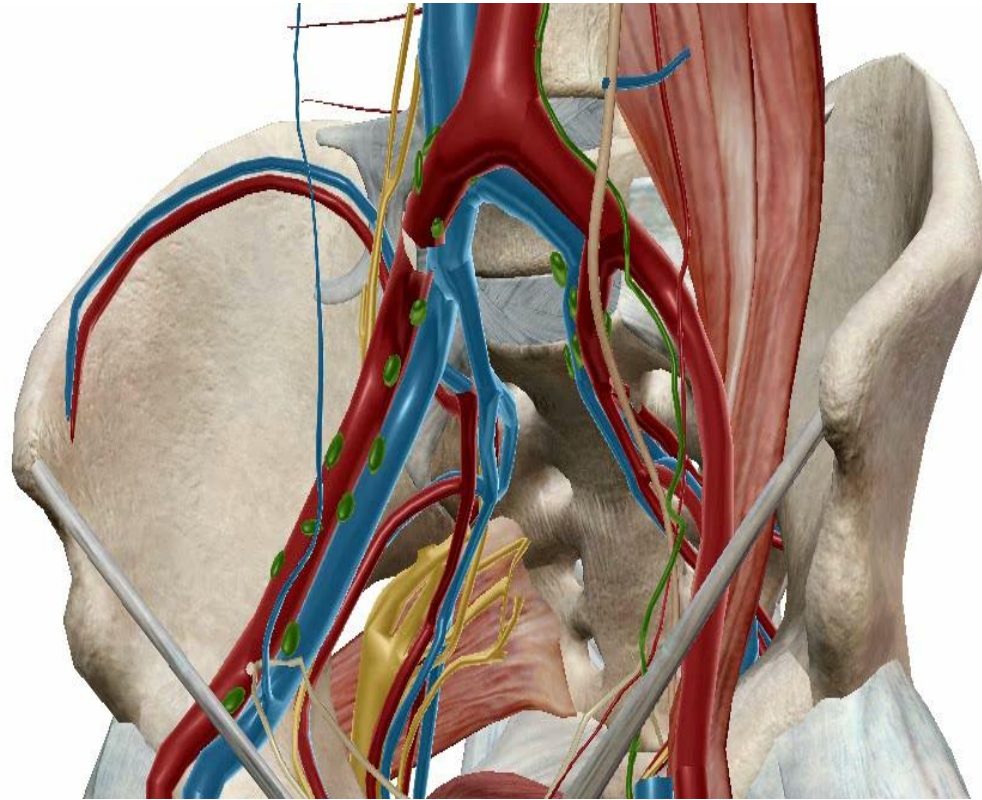


Deep circumflex iliac vein



IV- INTERNAL ILIAC VEIN

- Length : 4 cm
 - Diameter : 15 mm
 - It originates at the level of the sacroiliac joint
 - It then joins the external iliac vein to form the common iliac vein.
- Posteriorly :
- ✓ Piriformis muscle,
 - ✓ Sacroiliac joint.
- Anteriorly
- ✓ The right vein is in relation to its homonymous artery, which separates it from the ureter.
 - ✓ The left vein is in relation to the ureter and laterally to its homonymous artery.



Tributaries of the internal iliac vein:

The internal iliac vein drains the visceral plexuses:

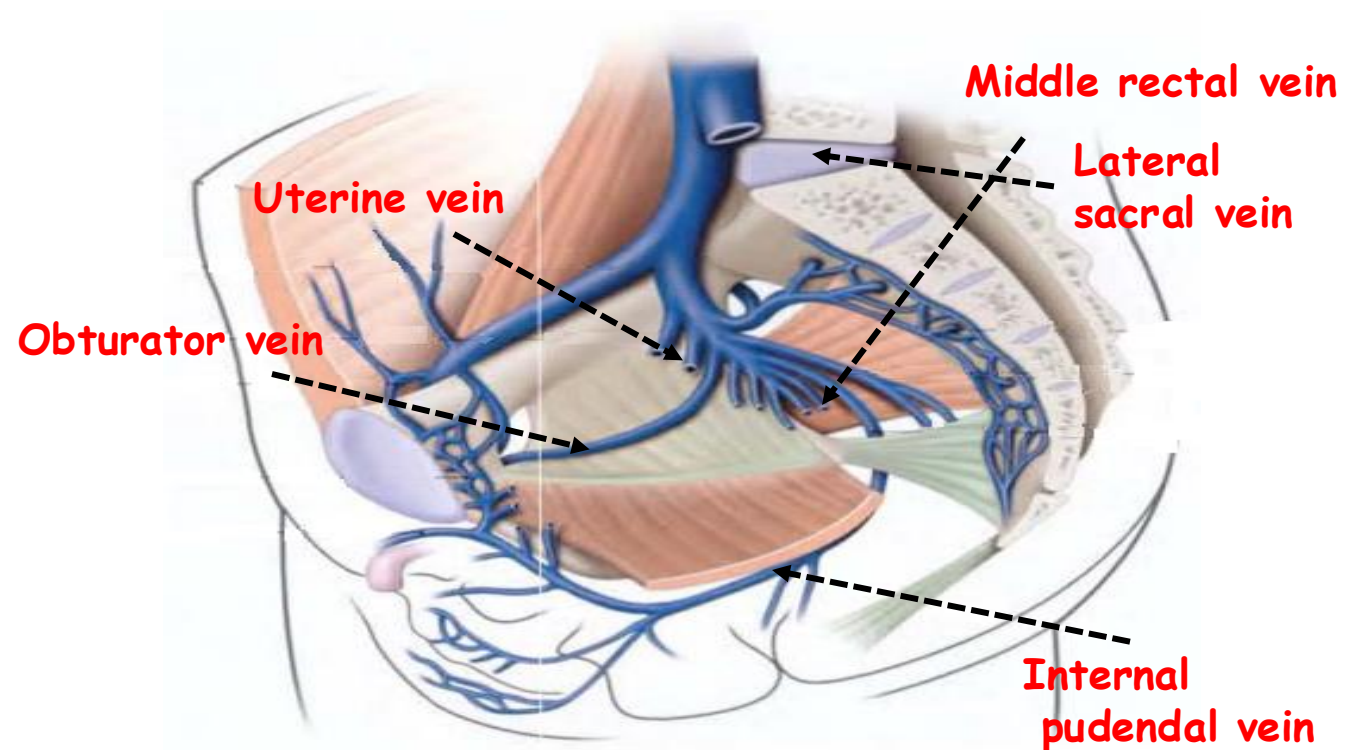
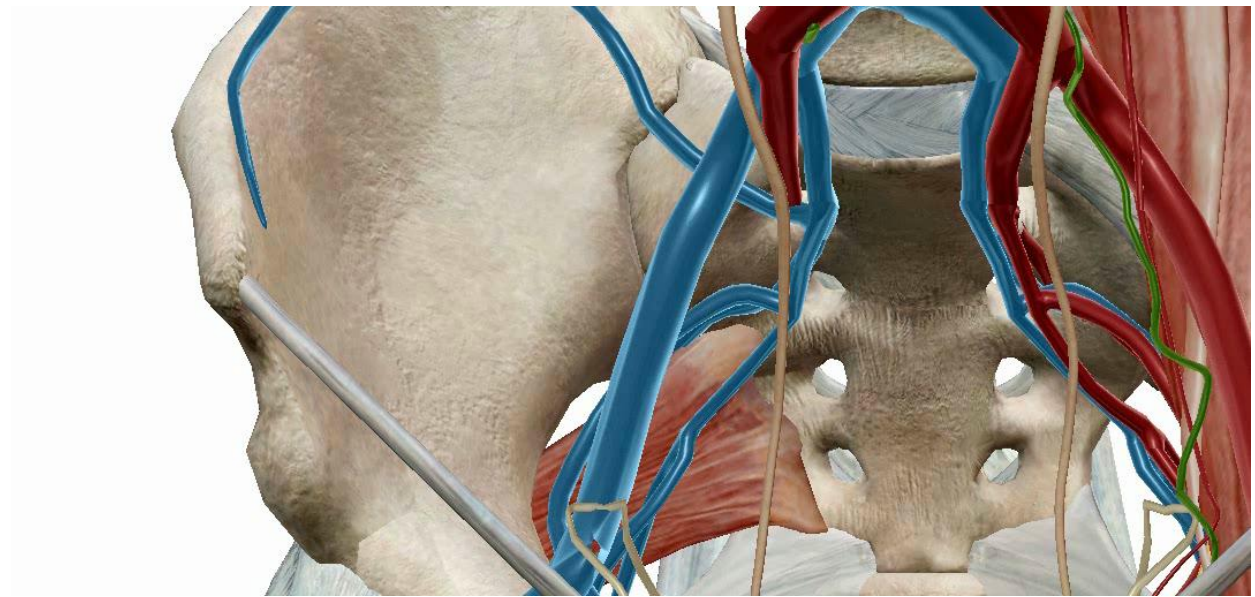
- ✓ Middle rectal vein,
- ✓ Uterine vein.

Parietal branches:

These veins drain the pelvic walls and perineum.

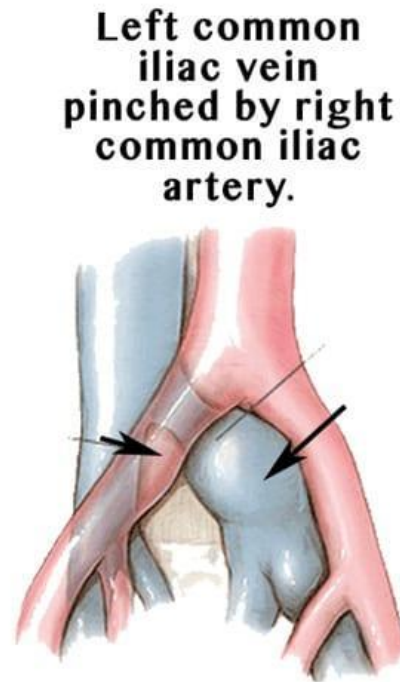
They include:

- ✓ Superior and inferior gluteal veins,
- ✓ Lateral sacral vein,
- ✓ Obturator vein,
- ✓ Internal pudendal veins.



V- CLINICAL APPLICATIONS:

- May-Thurner syndrome (MTS), also known as Iliac Vein Compression Syndrome, is a vascular condition in which the left common iliac vein is compressed by the overlying right common iliac artery against the lumbar spine.
- This compression can lead to reduced blood flow, causing a higher risk of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) in the left leg.
- Although it may be asymptomatic, patients can present with unilateral leg swelling, pain, a sensation of heaviness, and sometimes visible varicosities or skin changes.
- Diagnosis typically begins with Doppler ultrasound, but more detailed imaging such as CT or MR venography is often required.



VI- CONCLUSION:

- The common iliac veins allow for the drainage of venous blood from the pelvis and the lower limb toward the inferior vena cava.
- Throughout their course, the iliac veins are in relation with various organs and vessels of the pelvis.

