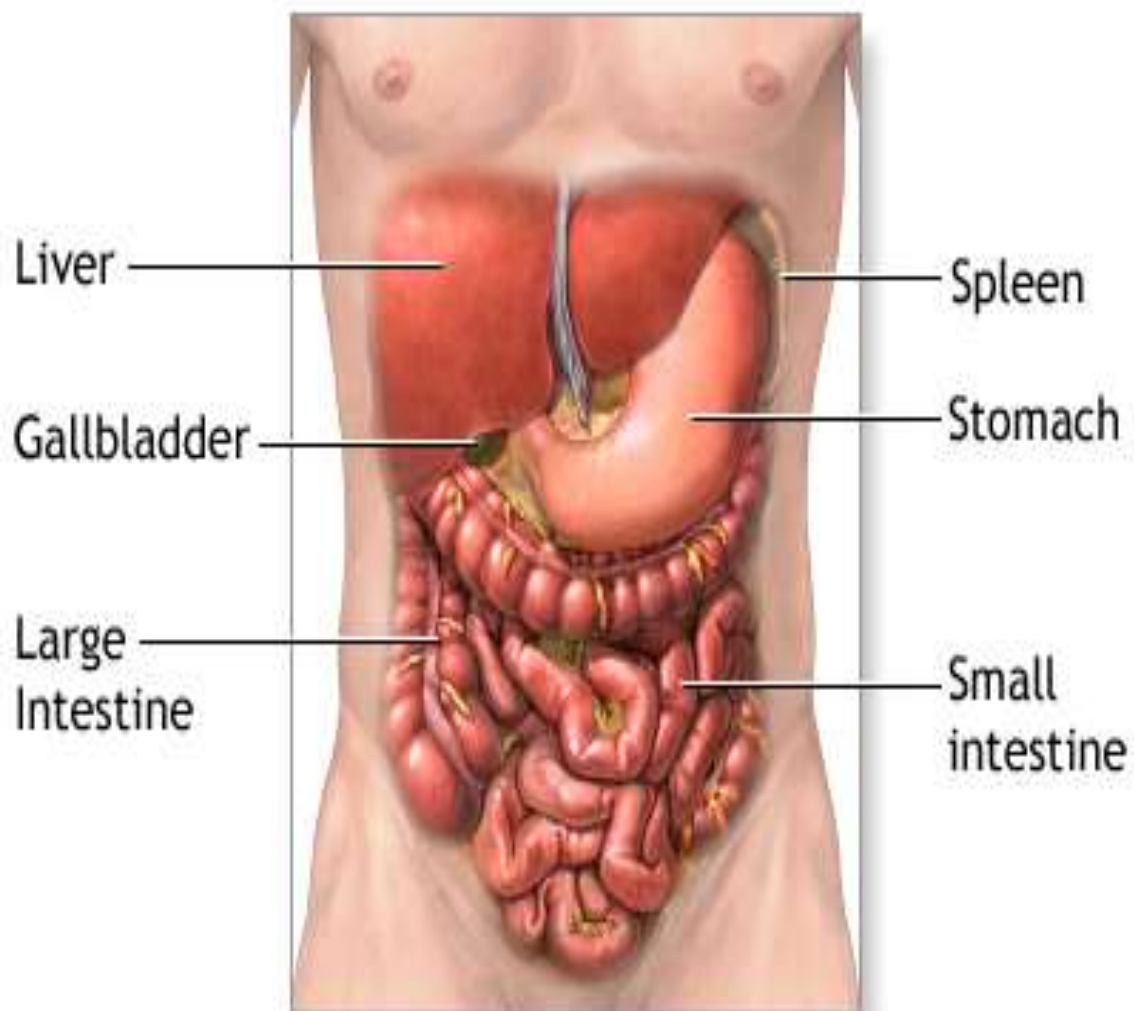




The abdomen

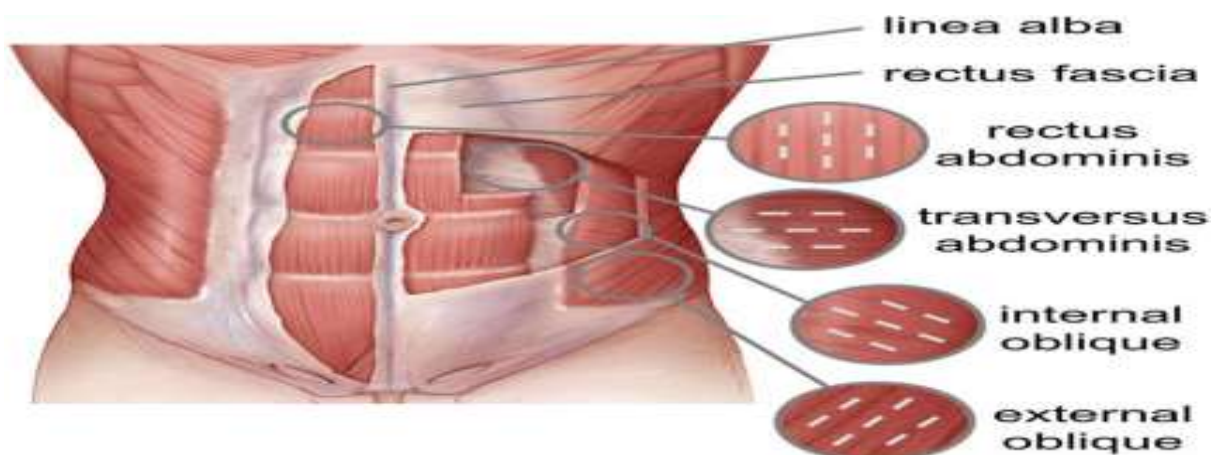
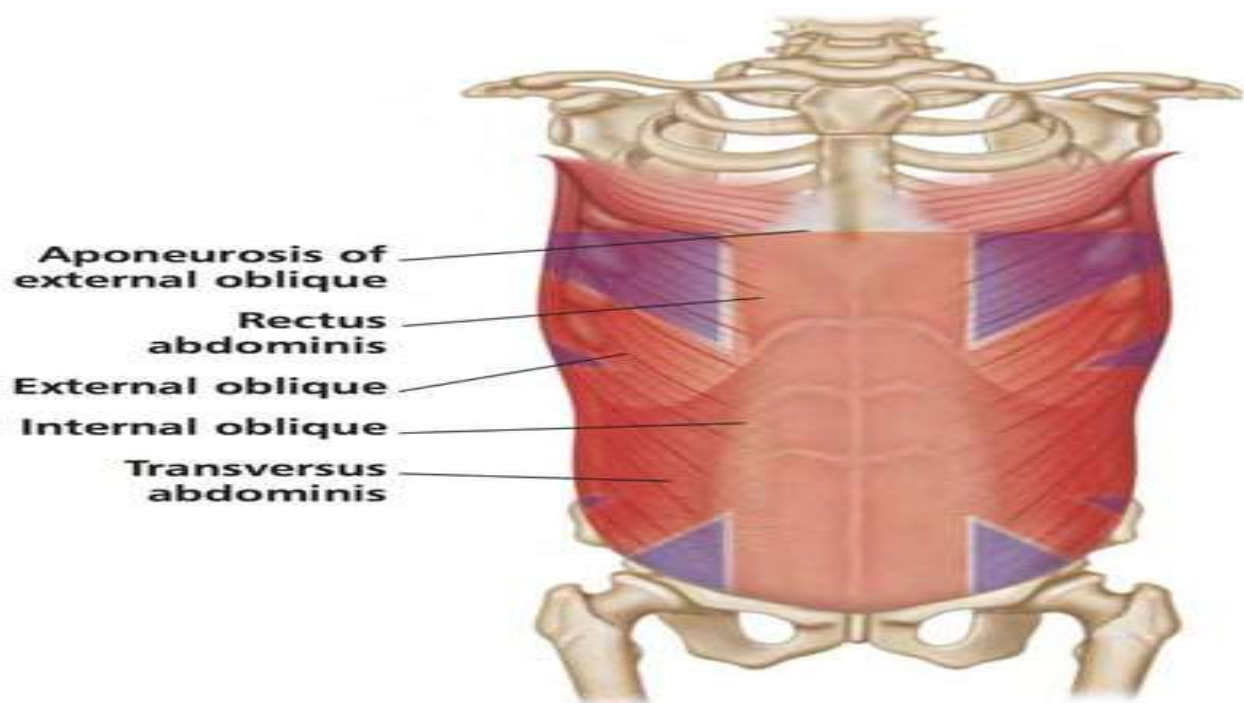
The abdomen is the region of the trunk located between the diaphragm (above) and the pelvic inlet (below).





Muscles of the Anterior Abdominal Wall

- ✓ external oblique
- ✓ internal oblique
- ✓ transversus





Functions of the Anterior Abdominal Wall Muscles

- **Oblique muscles:** Flex and rotate the trunk laterally.
- **Rectus abdominis:** Flexes the trunk and stabilizes the pelvis.
- **Pyramidalis:** Keeps the linea alba taut.
- Assist the diaphragm during inspiration.
- Aid in forced expiration during coughing and sneezing by pulling down the ribs and sternum.
- Increase intra-abdominal pressure, assisting in urination, defecation, vomiting, and childbirth

Nerve Supply

- **Oblique and transversus abdominis muscles:** Supplied by the lower six thoracic nerves, iliohypogastric, and ilioinguinal nerves.
- **Rectus abdominis:** Supplied by the lower six thoracic nerves.
- **Pyramidalis:** Supplied by the 12th thoracic nerve.

Posterior Abdominal Wall

- Composed of the five lumbar vertebrae and their intervertebral discs, the 12th ribs, and the upper part of the bony pelvis.
- Key muscles include:
 - **Psoas muscle**
 - **Quadratus lumborum muscle**
 - **Iliacus muscle**
 - Aponeuroses of the transversus abdominis.