**ANATOMY ASSIGNMENT**

**TOPIC: PHARYNX AND ESOPHAGUS.**

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**PHARYNX:**

* Situated behind the nasal cavities, the mouth and the larynx.
* Pharynx is funnel shaped ; its upper, wider end lies under the base of skull; its lower, narrow end continuous with esophagus opposite the 6th cervical vertebra
* It has musculomembranous wall, which is deficient anteriorly. It is replaced by posterior openings into nose, the opening into mouth and the inlet of larynx.
* Consists of three parts: **NASOPHARYNX**, **OROPHARYNX**,**LARYNGOPHARYNX**.

**NASOPHARYNX ( Nasal Pharynx )**

* Lies above the soft palate and behind nasal cavities.
* A collection of lymphoid tissue, the pharyngeal tonsils sits in submucosa of roof.
* Most of its walls are immovable.
* Anterior wall is deficient and communicates with nasal cavity through choanae.
* Roof and posterior wall form a continuous surface with slopes downward and backward and is supported by the body of sphenoid.

**OROPHARYNX ( Oral Pharynx )**

* This lies behind the oral cavity.
* The floor is the posterior one third of the tongue and interval between the tongue and epiglottis.
* **Anteriorly**: vertical plane is defined by circumvallate papillae, anterior tonsillar pillars, and border of hard and soft palate.
* **Posteriorly**; posterior pharyngeal walls.
* **Laterally**: tonsillar fossae and pillars.

**LARYNGOPHARYNX ( Laryngeal Pharynx )**

* This lies behind the opening into larynx.
* The thyroid cartilage and thyrohyoid membrane form the lateral wall.  
  the piriform fossa is the depression the mucous membrane on each side of laryngeal inlet.

**NERVE SUPPLY :**

* **Nasopharynx**: Maxillary nerve.
* **Oropharynx**: Glossopharyngeal nerve.
* **Laryngopharynx**: Internal laryngeal branch of vagus nerve.

**BLOOD SUPPLY:**

* Ascending pharyngeal.
* Tonsillar branches of facial arteries.
* Branches of maxillary and lingual arteries.

**ESOPHAGUS:**

* Muscular tube about 10 inches ( 25 cm ) long, extending from pharynx to stomach.
* It begins at cricoid cartilage , opposite the body of 6th cervical vertebra.
* It commences in midline, but as it descends through neck, it inclines to the left side.

**RELATION IN NECK:**

* **Anteriorly**: Trachea; the recurrent laryngeal nerves ascend one ion each side, ion the groove between the trachea and esophagus.
* **Posteriorly**: Prevertebral layer of deep cervical fascia, the longus colli, and the vertebral column.
* **Laterally**: On each side lie the lobe of thyroid gland and the carotid sheath.

**BLOOD SUPPLY:**

The inferior thyroid arteries supply the esophagus in the neck. The veins drain into the inferior thyroid veins.

**NERVE SUPPLY:**

The recurrent laryngeal nerves and the sympathetic trunks supply the esophagus.