

## Mediastinal Masses

### Anterior

- Upper
  - Lymph nodes
  - Thyroid
- Middle
  - LN
  - Asc. Ao aneurysm
  - Thymoma
  - Teratoma
  - Lipoma
- Inferior
  - Fat pad
  - Diaphragmatic hump
  - Foramen of Morgagni hernia
  - Pericardial cyst

### Middle

- Lymph nodes
- Ao arch aneurysm
- Bronchogenic cyst
- Pulmonary artery

### Posterior

- Superior
  - Pharyngeal pouch
  - Neurogenic tumour
- Anteroinferior
  - Hiatus hernia
  - Oesophageal tumour
  - Desc Ao aneurysm
- Posterior
  - Neurogenic tumour
  - TB of spine
  - Hodgkin's disease

## Pneumomediastinum

**Causes** - rapid ↑intrathoracic pressure e.g. respiratory illness such as asthma→alveolar rupture  
It has also been associated with *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* pneumonia, anorexia, obesity, oesophageal perf (Boerhaave syndrome from vomiting), trauma

**Hamman's sign** - Crunching sound synchronous with heartbeat=mediastinal emphysema.

**CXR:** Multiple streaks of radiolucent gas, does not completely encircle heart, may → to neck

**Mx:** Conservative usually, if sev compromised mediastinotomy at sternal notch.

## Pneumopericardium

Uncommon

Same causes as a pneumothorax (trauma, lung disease, tumours)

Hamman's sign can also be found.

**CXR:** fine rim of air outlining right & left heart borders. May fully encircle heart. Air is always contained superiorly at the level of aorta and pulm arteries.

Only if very large volumes present is cardiac function impaired.

**Mx:** Conservative if small. Pericardiocentesis/pericardial drain if under tension.

May need surgery for underlying cause.