RETROPERITONEAL SPACE AND PELVIS 1

You are supposed to learn about:

1. Definition of the retroperitoneal space and pelvis
2. Contents of the retroperitoneal space
3. Fascia of posterior abdominal wall: anatomy, function
4. Quadratus lumborum: anatomy, topography, attachments, actions, innervation
5. Psoas major: anatomy, topography, attachments, actions, innervation
6. Iliacus: anatomy, topography, attachments, actions, innervation
7. Abdominal aorta: course, topography, branches
8. Bifurcation of aorta: anatomy, topography, branches
9. Common iliac artery: course, topography
10. Internal iliac artery: course, topography, branches in male and female subjects
11. External iliac artery: course, topography, branches
12. Inferior vena cava: course, topography, tributaries
13. Common, external and internal iliac veins: course, topography, tributaries
14. Lumbar plexus: roots, topography, branches (learn about area of supply of iliohypogastric and ilioinguinal nerves in the abdominal wall)
15. Kidneys: anatomy, surface projections, topography, function, innervation, lymphatic drainage
16. Perinephric fat, renal fascia, paranefric fat, periureteric fascia: anatomy, function
17. Renal artery and renal vein: anatomy, topography, differences between left and right sides, branches (artery) and tributaries (vein)
18. Suprarenal gland: anatomy, topography, arterial supply, venous drainage, innervation, function, differences between sides
19. Ureter: origin, course, parts, narrowings, arterial supply, venous drainage, lymphatic drainage, innervation, function
20. Urinary bladder: anatomy, topography (differences between male and female organ), arterial supply, venous drainage, lymphatic drainage, function

Always read the relevant clinical blue boxes to have an idea about clinical significance of structures you learn about.

In the dissection room, you are supposed to recognize:

1. Muscles of the posterior abdominal wall: psoas major, iliacus, quadratus lumborum
2. Iliolumbar ligament
3. Psoas fascia, anterior layer of thoracolumbar fascia
4. Abdominal aorta and its branches
5. Inferior vena cava and its tributaries
6. Common, external and internal iliac arteries and their branches
7. Common, external and internal iliac veins and their tributaries
8. Lumbar plexus and its branches, iliosacral trunk
9. Lymph nodes of the posterior abdominal wall (theory to be learned for the Retroperitoneal space and pelvis 4)

10. Lumbar and sacral parts of the sympathetic trunk (theory to be learned for the Retroperitoneal space and pelvis 4)
11. Perinephic fat, paranephric fat, renal fascia, periureteric fascia
12. Suprarenal glands, suprarenal arteries, suprarenal veins (look for side-related differences)
13. Kidneys: kidneys in situ (investigate the topography!), isolated kidneys and cross-sections of kidneys (recognize all structural elements)
14. Ureters: parts, investigate course, topography, relations to abdominal and retroperitoneal organs
15. Renal arteries and veins (investigate topography, relations to aorta, superior mesenteric artery, inferior vena cava, abdominal organs)
16. Urinary bladder: parts, investigate topography, relations to other organs and peritoneum in male and female cadavers, find an opened urinary bladder to see its internal structure in both sexes

Always investigate the topography of structures and look at variations present in various specimens!