

Pars vascularis

The larger posterolateral compartment containing the vagal nerve (and branching Arnold's nerve), spinal accessory nerve, and the [internal jugular vein](#)

Hovelacque ([1967](#)) was the first to propose the subdivision of [jugular foramen](#). The foramen is divided by a fibrous or bony septum that joins the jugular spine of the petrous bone to the jugular process of the occipital bone, the anteromedial compartment ([pars nervosa](#)), and a posterolateral compartment ([pars vascularis](#)).

The larger, posterolateral, "pars vascularis" compartment contains CN X, CN XI, Arnold's nerve (or the auricular branch of CN X involved in Arnold's reflex, where external auditory meatus stimulation causes cough), jugular bulb, and posterior meningeal branch of ascending pharyngeal artery ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Hovelacque A. (1967): Osteologie . Paris, G. Doin and Cie. 155-156.

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