

The perivertebral space is one of the deep compartments of the head and neck and includes the prevertebral space and paraspinal space.

The perivertebral space is a cylinder of soft tissue lying posterior to the retropharyngeal space and danger space surrounded by the prevertebral layer of the deep cervical fascia and extends from the skull base to the upper mediastinum.

The deep cervical fascia sends a deep slip to the transverse process which subdivides the space into:

prevertebral portion: anteriorly located

paraspinal portion: posteriorly located

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