

# Scalenus anticus syndrome

Controversial. More commonly diagnosed in the 1940s and 1950s. There is a lack of [consensus](#) regarding the [pathophysiology](#) (including structures involved), clinical presentation, helpful [tests](#), and optimal [treatment](#). Removal of the first thoracic [rib](#) is frequently advocated for treatment via a [transaxillary approach](#). Unfortunately, injuries, especially to the lower trunk of the [brachial plexus](#), may result from the surgery. Other variations include an “upper plexus” type for which total anterior [scalenectomy](#) is advocated. Again, very controversial.

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