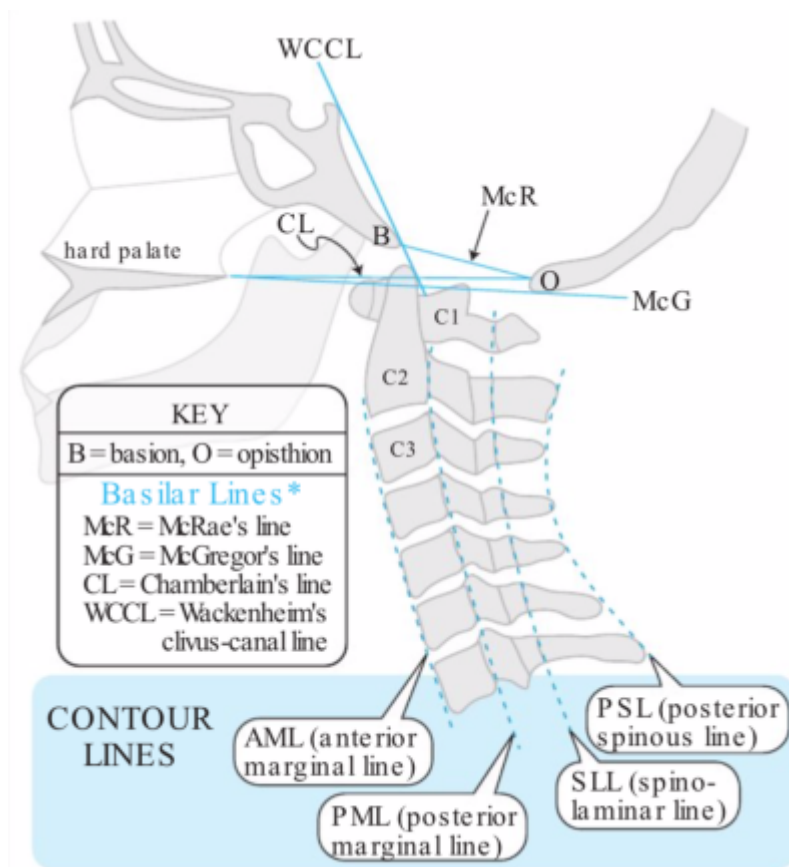


Wackenhems line

Wackenhems line (also known as the clivus canal line or basilar line) is formed by drawing a line along the [clivus](#) and extending it inferiorly to the upper [cervical spinal canal](#).



Normally the tip of the [dens](#) is ventral and tangential to this line. In [basilar invagination](#) odontoid process transects this line ¹⁾.

The [odontoid](#) should be tangential to or below the line that extends the course of the [clivus](#) (the clivus baseline). If the clivus is concave or convex, this baseline is drawn to connect the [basion](#) to the base of the [posterior clinoid process](#) on the clivus ²⁾.

¹⁾

Kwong Y, Rao N, Latief K. Craniometric measurements in the assessment of craniovertebral settling: are they still relevant in the age of cross-sectional imaging? *AJR Am J Roentgenol*. 2011 Apr;196(4):W421-5. doi: 10.2214/AJR.10.5339. PubMed PMID: 21427306.

²⁾

VanGilder JC, Menezes AH, Dolan KD. In: *Radiology of the Normal Craniovertebral Junction. The Craniovertebral Junction and Its Abnormalities*. NY: Futura Publishing; 1987:29-68

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