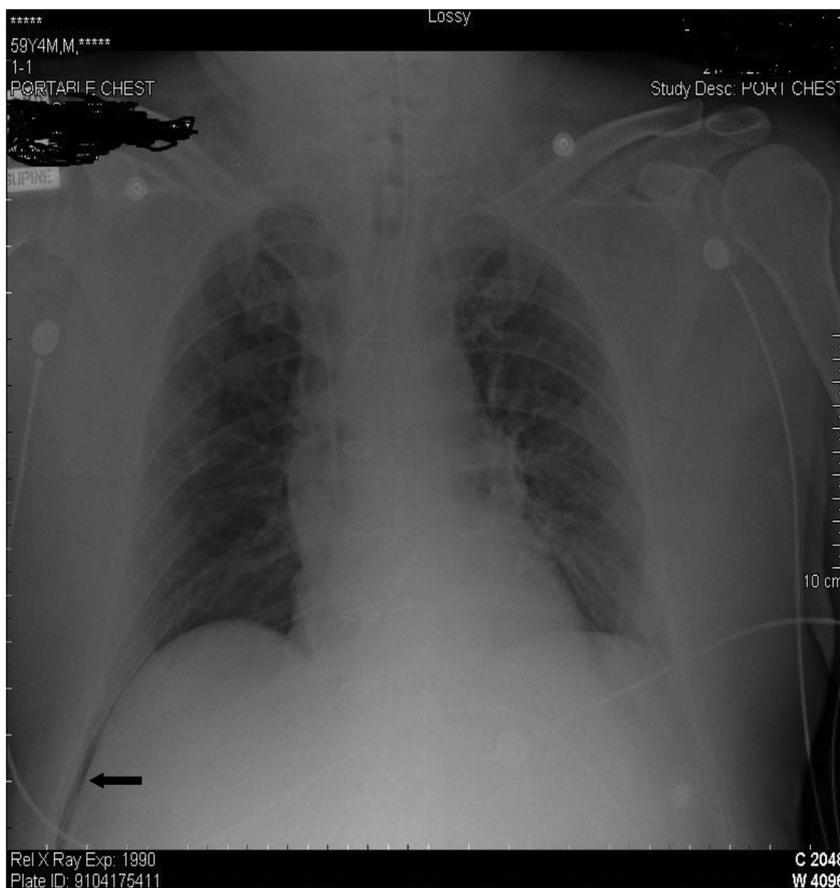




Chest x-ray quiz

Answer and discussion



You would be happy with:

- i) the location of the ETT, which is approximately 4 cms clear of the carina
- ii) the location of the CVC, which has entered the right subclavian and is positioned at the cavoatrial junction i.e. about 2 vertebral bodies below the carina

Note on the right side a very deep sulcus sign (black arrowed) which in a patient positioned supine leads to suspicion of a pneumothorax. It is always a good idea to look carefully for a pneumothorax when the central line is inserted via a subclavian vein.

On a supine chest film the deep sulcus sign may be the only suggestion of a pneumothorax. Why? Because air collects basally within the non-dependent portions of the pleural space, as opposed to apically when the patient is upright¹.

Reference

[1] <https://radiopaedia.org/articles/deep-sulcus-sign> accessed 26/8/18