It's not always where it's supposed to be!

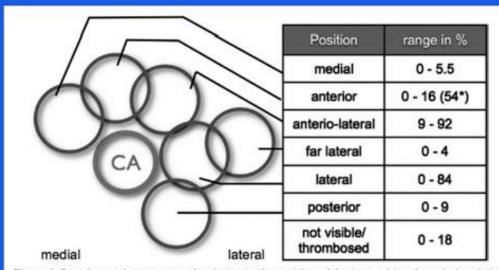


Figure 2. Prevalence of occurrence of variation in the position of the internal jugular vein in relation to the common carotid artery (CA). Circles describe reported positions of the internal jugular vein. Data extracted from references 36-40. *jugular vein overlaps $\geq 75\%$ of the CA. Table 2 provides details and the number of patients in the referenced studies.

Maecken T and T Grau. Crit Care Med 2007; 35: S178-85.