

Proper contrast imaging of chest radiograph can visualize the structure of pulmonary vessels behind the bones unlike excessively high contrast imaging in which we cannot trace the structures. Schematic illustration and figures (*Figure 3.29 – Figure 3.31*) show the differences in bone and lung fields between excessively high and proper contrast imaging.

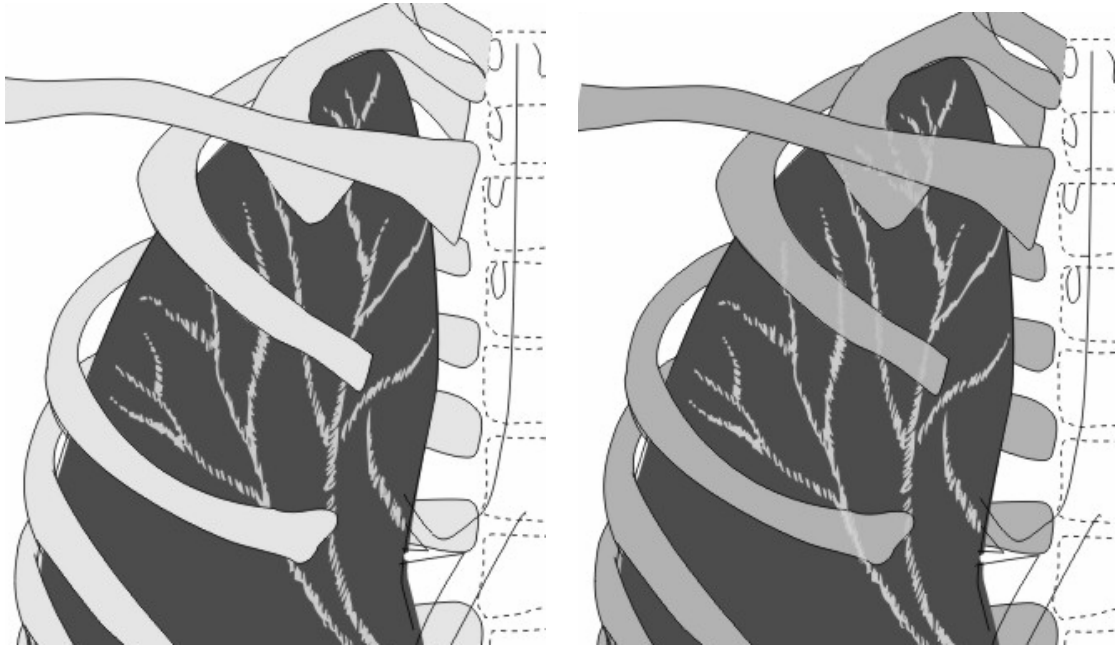


Figure 3.29 Excessively high contrast (left) and proper contrast (right) imaging

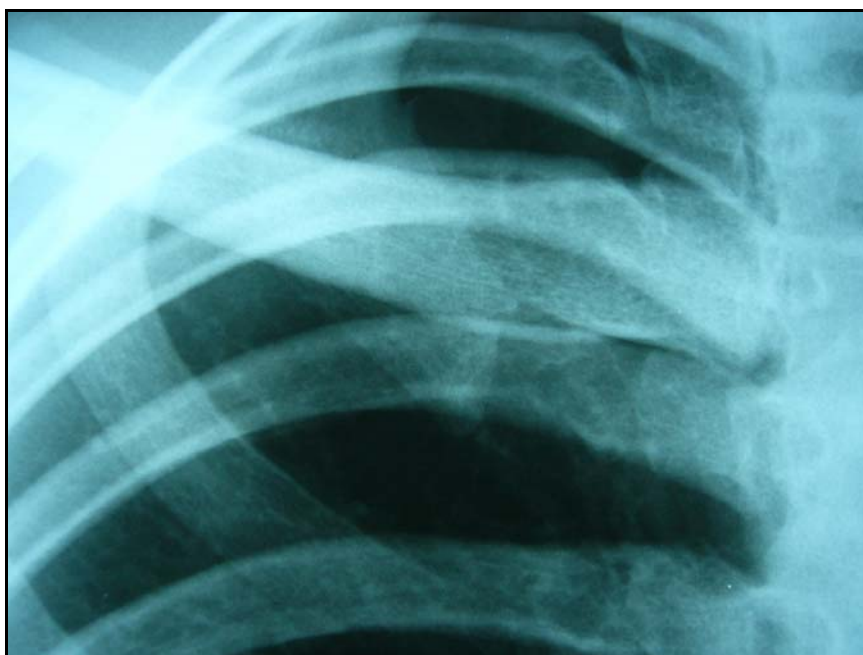


Figure 3.30 Improper contrast: Excessively high contrast between rib bones and lung field

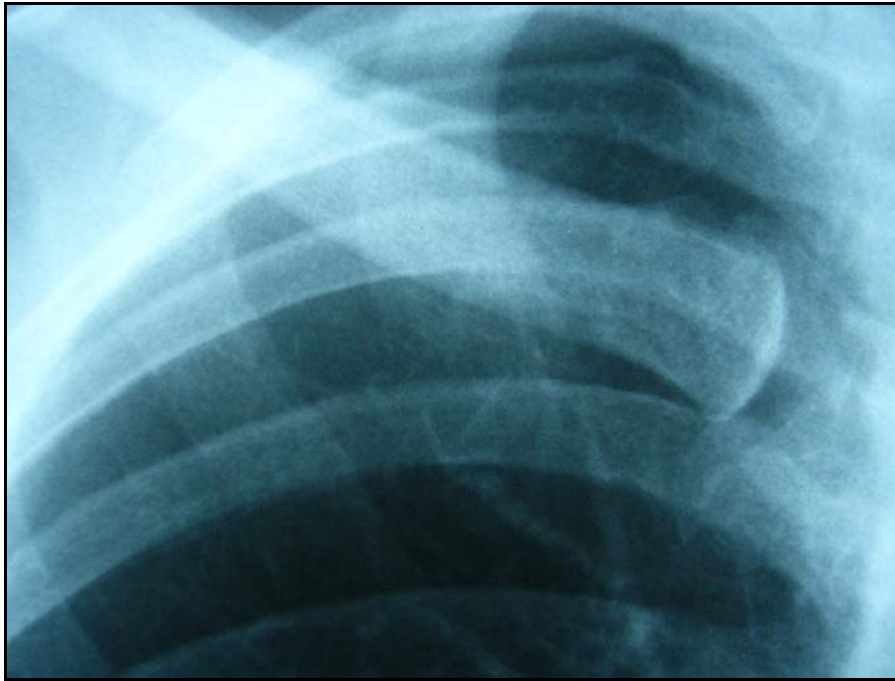


Figure 3.31 *Good contrast imaging: Pulmonary vessels are barely visible behind the bones*

Proper contrast imaging of chest radiograph must visualize all the clinically important structures present in lung fields at appropriate density for the interpretation done by chest physicians. **Figure 3.32 - Figure 3.35** show samples of excellent contrast at the 4 important areas of the chest radiograph. The red lines point out what you should pay special attention to on the film.

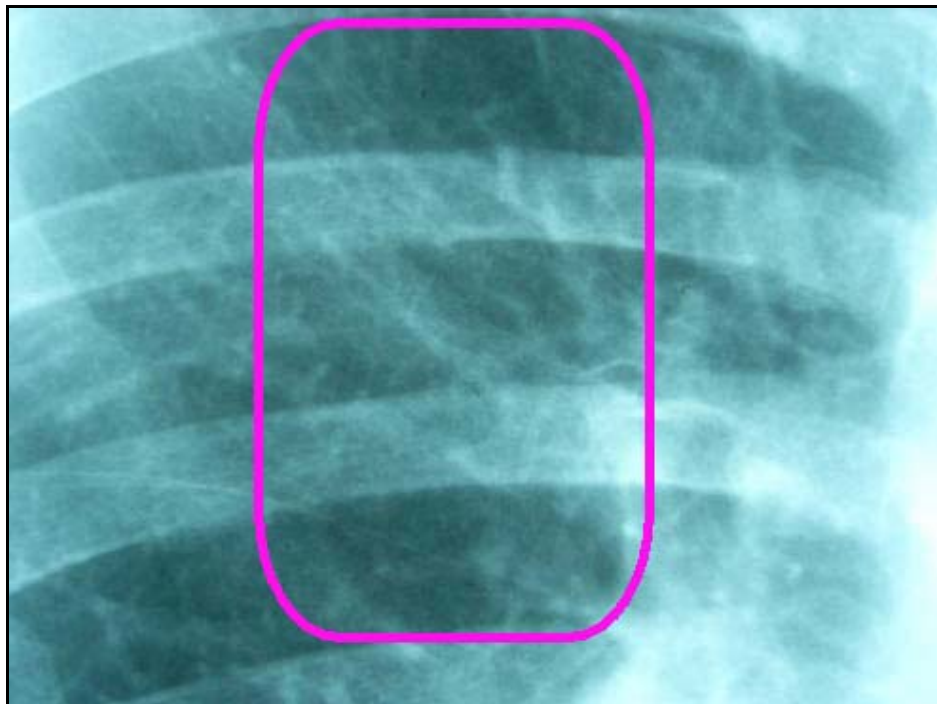


Figure 3.32 *Sample of ideal contrast of the lung field*

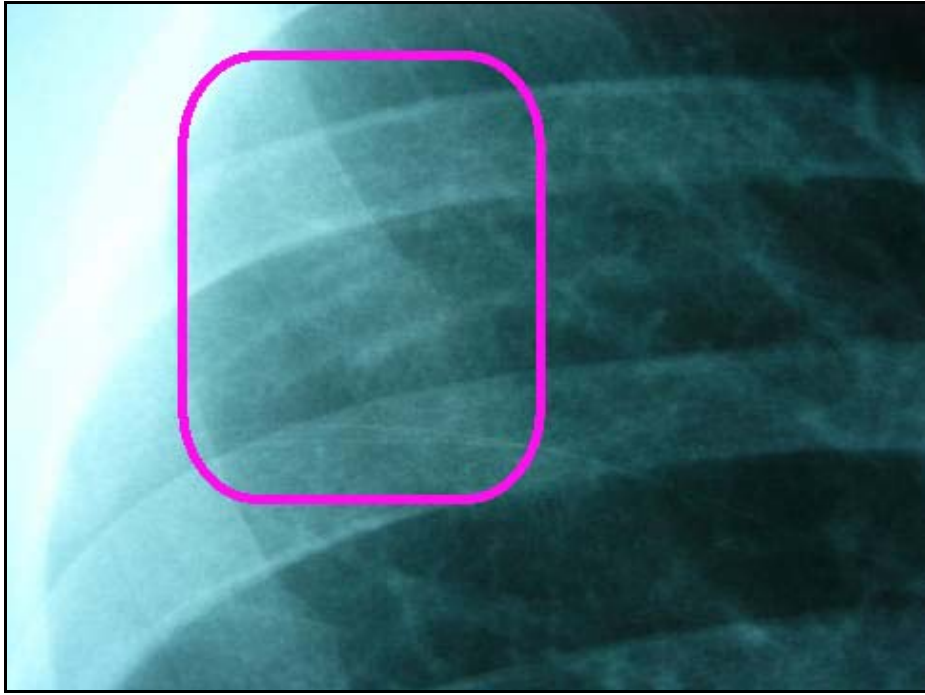


Figure 3.33 *Sample of ideal contrast of the lung periphery*

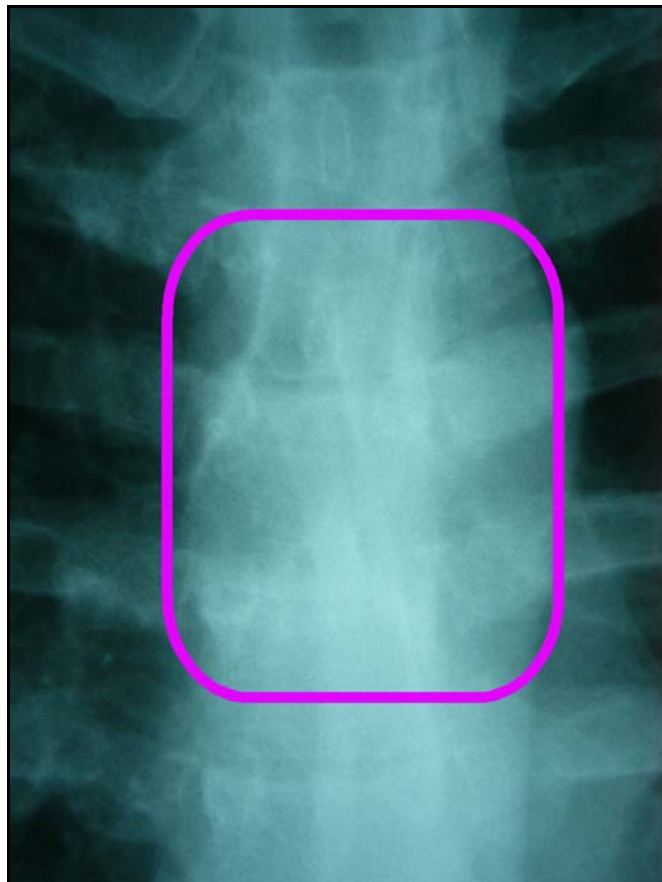


Figure 3.34 *Sample of ideal contrast of the mediastinum structure*