

curvature of the bones of the upper arm and thigh. Sylvius defended Galen on the latter point, urging that the straightness of the bones was not a natural condition, but a result of the use of narrow trousers.

Further advances by Vesalius were on the functions of the intercostal muscles, the origin of the inferior vena cava, the non-separation of the bones of the symphysis during parturition.

While he was wrong on many points, for example, the circulatory system and the presence of pores in the septum ventriculorum, still he did much to advance anatomical knowledge. For he was the first to describe the course of the vena azygos, the subclavian vein, the ductus venosus, and added to the knowledge of the bones of the head, the brain, the mediastinum, the stomach, the peritoneum and the omentum.

Named after Vesalius are:—*Foramen Vesalii*, found, but not constant, at the root of the pterygoid process of the sphenoid. It transmits a small vein.

*Vesalius' gland*. One of the pulmonary and bronchial mucous glands.

*Ligament of Vesalius*. Poupart's ligament.

*Vein of Vesalius*. A communication between the pterygoid plexus of veins and the cavernous sinus.