Levatores costarum breves are small, strong triangular muscles found between C7 and T11.

Proximal Attachment

Each muscle arises from the tip of the transverse process and passes obliquely infero-laterally, parallel with the lower border of the external intercostal.

Distal Attachment

They attach to the superior border and external surface of the subjacent rib between the tubercle and angle.

Nerve Supply

Levatores costarum breves are supplied by lateral branches of the dorsal rami of C8 to T11.

Action

Levatores costarum breves elevate the ribs, however from their costal attachments they may act as rotators and lateral flexors of the thoracic spine.