

# Common respiratory abnormalities 1

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# Objectives

At the end of the lecture students of 1<sup>st</sup> year MBBS should be able to

- 1) Describe hypoxia
- 2) Describe cyanosis
- 3) Describe pathophysiology of common respiratory abnormalities
- 4) Describe the effects of aging on lung volumes, lung and chest wall compliance, blood gases and respiratory control

# Hypoxia

- Oxygen deficiency at the tissue level
- It is the decrease levels of oxygen in inspired gases, arterial blood, or tissues, without reaching anoxia
- **Anoxia:** means absence of O<sub>2</sub> at the tissue level

# Causes

## 1) Inadequate oxygenation of the blood in the lungs because of extrinsic reasons.

- Deficiency of oxygen in the atmosphere
- Hypoventilation (neuromuscular disorders).

## 2) Pulmonary disease.

- Hypoventilation caused by increased airway resistance or decreased pulmonary compliance.
- Abnormal alveolar ventilation-perfusion ratio.
- Diminished respiratory membrane diffusion.

**3) Venous to arterial shunts.**

**4) Inadequate oxygen transport to the tissues by the blood.**

- Anemia or abnormal hemoglobin.
- General circulatory deficiency.
- Localized circulatory deficiency.
- Tissue edema.

## **5) Inadequate tissue capability of using oxygen.**

Poisoning of cellular oxidation enzymes.

Diminished cellular metabolic capacity for using oxygen, because of toxicity, vitamin deficiency, or other factors.

# Types of hypoxia

- **1. Hypoxic Hypoxia** -  $PO_2$  of the arterial blood is low.
  
- 2. Anemic Hypoxia** - Amount of Hb. To carry  $O_2$  is Low



**3. Stagnant or Ischemic Hypoxia-** Blood flow to the tissue is low

**4. Histo toxic Hypoxia –** Tissue can't utilize O<sub>2</sub>

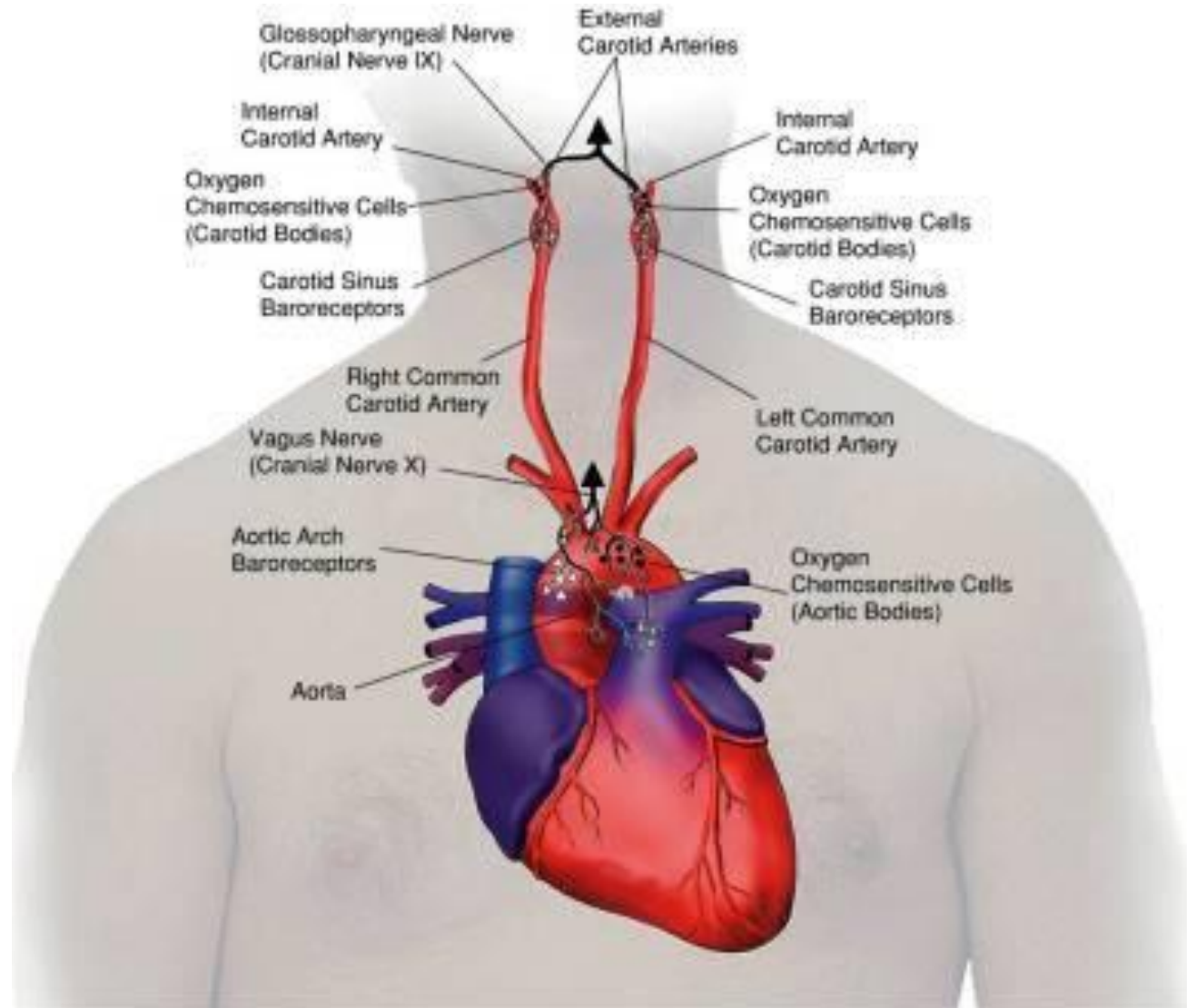
# Response of body to hypoxia

## **Acute effects**

- 1. Drowsiness**
- 2. Lassitude**
- 3. Mental and muscle fatigue**
- 4. Headache**
- 5. Altered consciousness**
- 6. Coma**

# Chronic effects

1. Increased pulmonary ventilation caused by stimulation of peripheral chemoreceptors



## **2. Increased RBC**

Hb% can rise upto  
20gm/dl

## **3. Increased diffusing capacity of lungs**

- Increased pulmonary capillary blood volume,
- Inc lung air volume
- Inc pulmonary arterial pressure

# 4. Peripheral circulatory changes

- Increased cardiac output initially
- Growth of capillaries (angiogenesis)

# Cellular adaptations

- Increased mitochondria
- Glycolytic enzymes needed for anaerobic glycolysis
- Increased availability of NO that cause pulmonary vasodilation

Hypoxia leads to.....







# Cyanosis

- Cyanosis is a blue discoloration of the skin and mucous membranes Due to:
- The presence of an abnormally great amount of reduced Hb in the superficial capillaries
- **Threshold of cyanosis** It is the minimal concentration of **reduced Hb** In the capillary blood that leads to appearance of cyanosis. - **It's about 5gm% capillary blood**

# causes of cyanosis

**1-hypoxic hypoxia**

**2-Stagnant hypoxia**

**3-Asphxia**

Low O<sub>2</sub> in inspired air : High altitude

hypoventilation

a)Obstruction of air passages

b)Emphysema

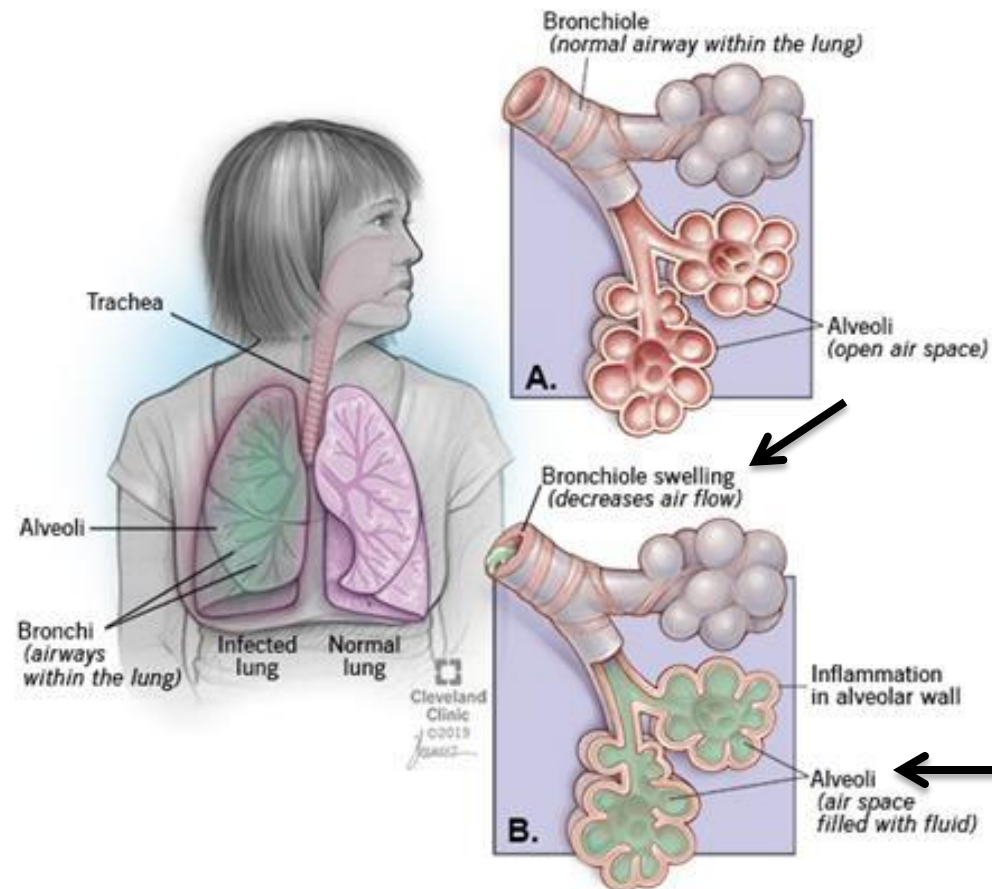
c)Depression of respiratory center

increase of the thickness of the alveo-capillary membrane leads to decrease of diffusion of gases through membrane

**4-short circuit between right and left side of the heart**

# 1) Pneumonia

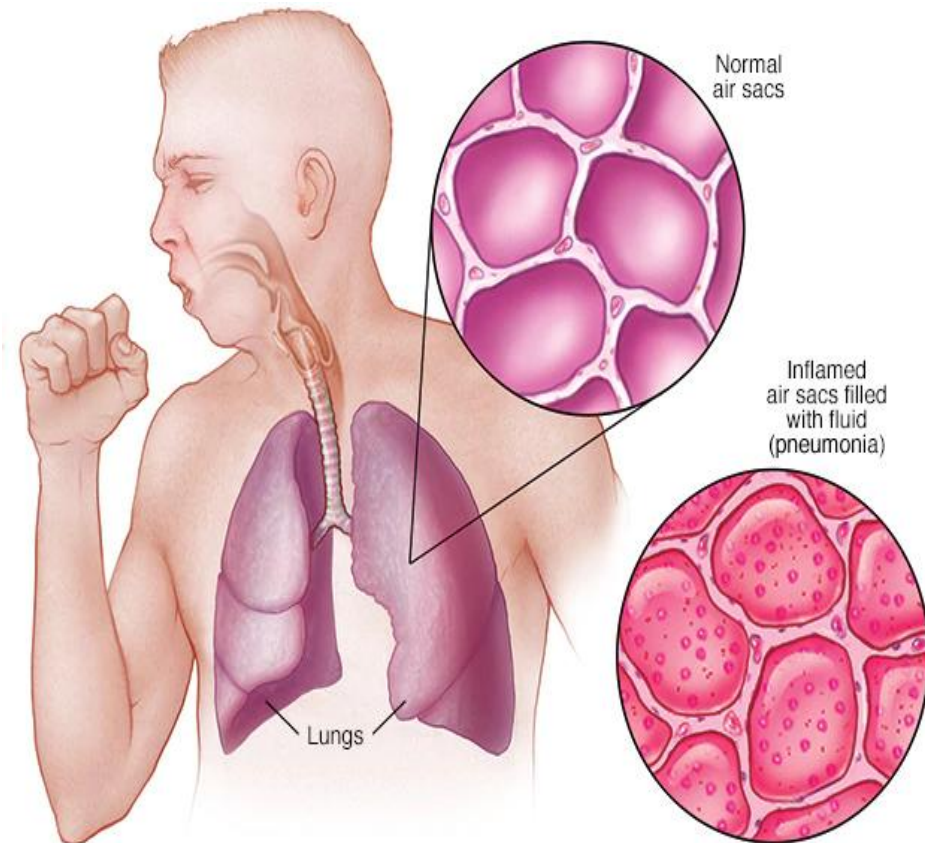
- Inflammatory condition
- Alveoli filled with fluid and blood
- It is usually caused by bacteria but can also be caused by viruses and fungi
- 50% of pneumonia is pneumococcal

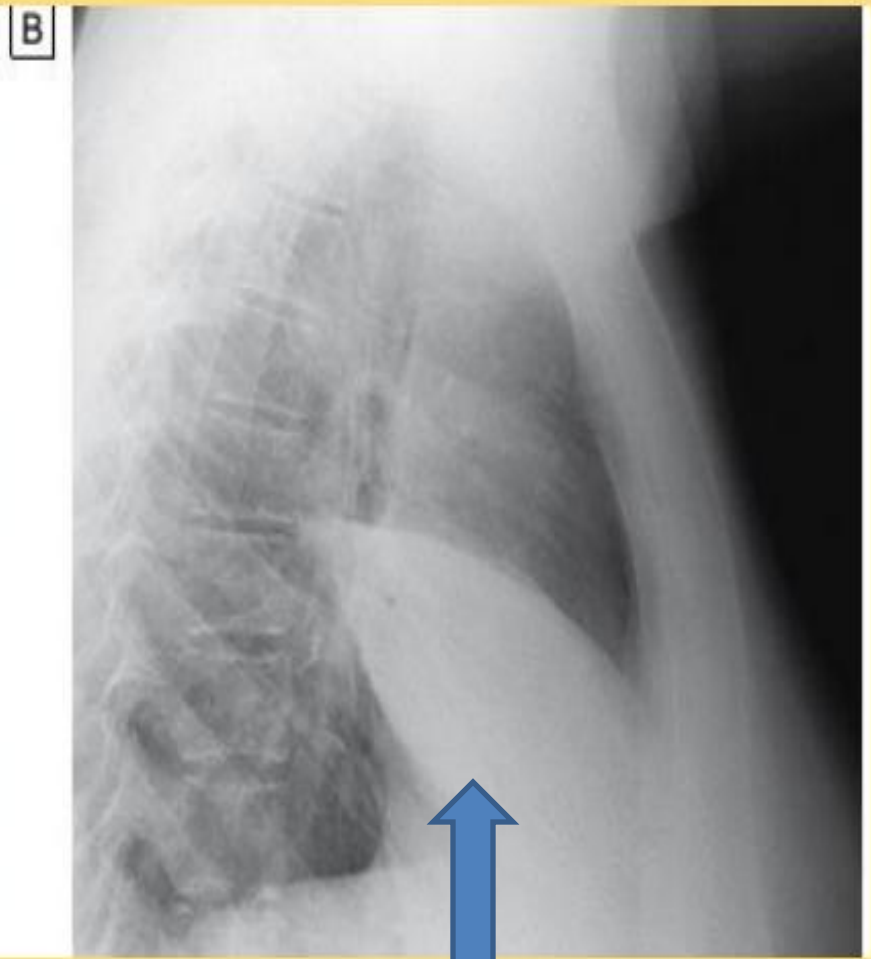
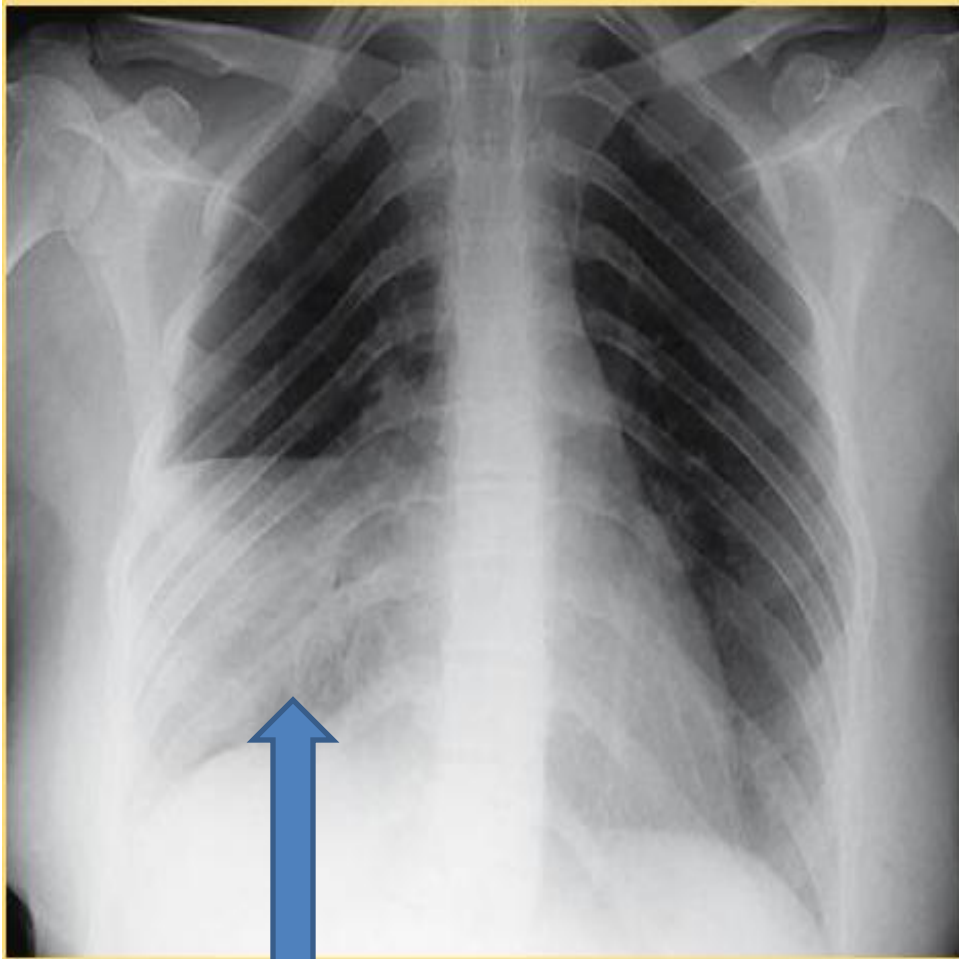


# Pneumonia

Patient presents with

- cough
- purulent sputum
- breathlessness and
- fever





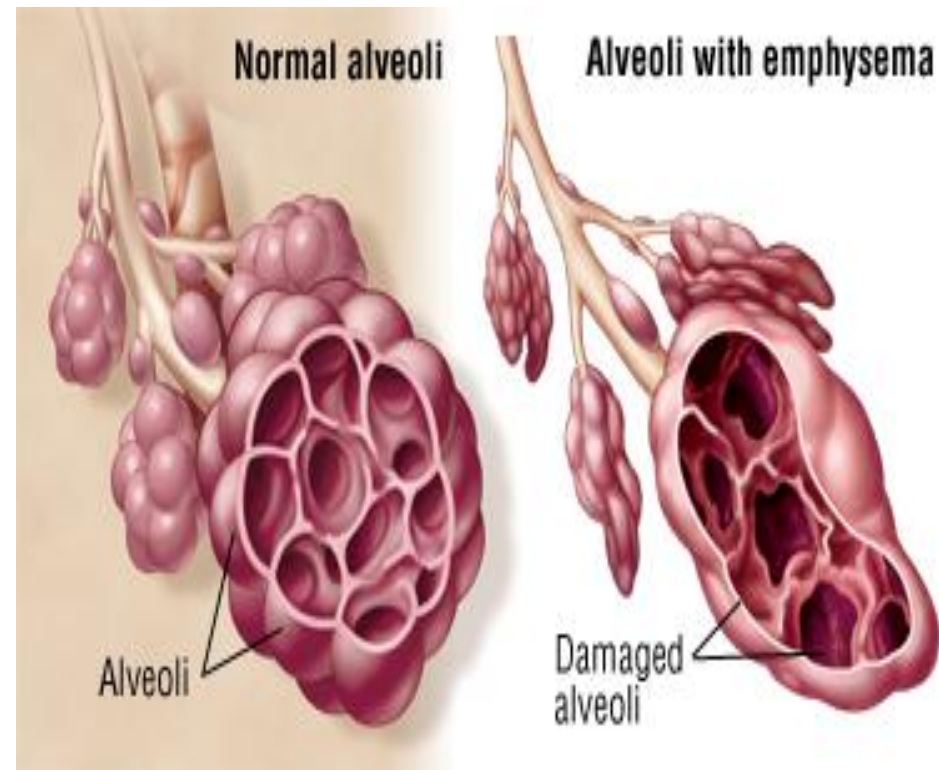
**A** PA view: consolidation in the right middle lobe with characteristic opacification beneath the horizontal fissure and loss of normal contrast between the right heart border and lung

**B** Lateral view: consolidation confined to the anteriorly situated middle lobe.

## 2) Emphysema

Emphysema is a condition that involves

- damage to the walls of alveoli
- Alveoli are thin-walled, very fragile **become confluent, creating large airspaces** without obvious fibrosis usually in smokers



## Emphysema

### Symptoms



bluish fingers  
and lips



shortness of  
breath/wheezing



persistent cough



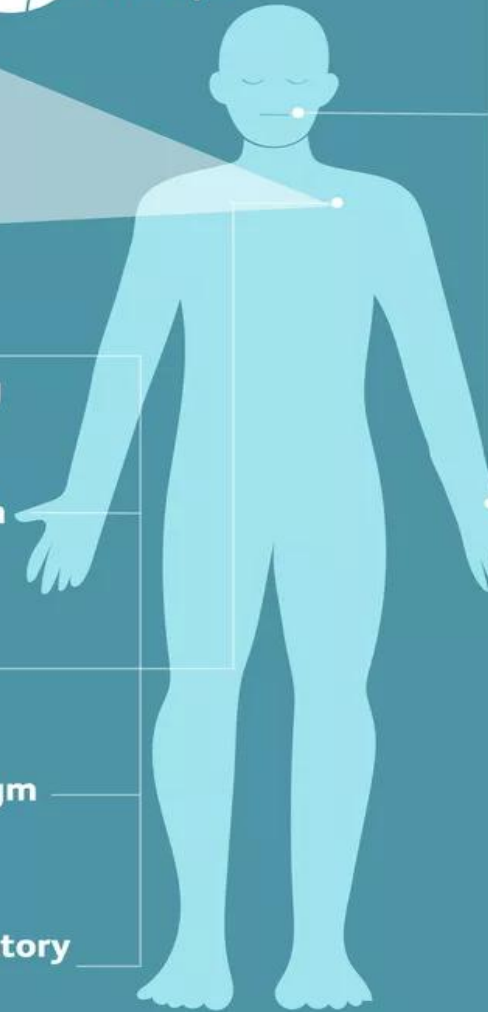
chest pain



sputum or phlegm  
production



frequent respiratory  
infections



- People who develop emphysema have an increased risk of [pneumonia](#), bronchitis, and other lung infections

# Pathophysiology of emphysema

## 1) Chronic infection

**1) Paralysis of cilia (nicotine)**

**Mucous not removed easily**

**2) Inhibition of alveolar macrophages**

## 2) Chronic obstruction

**Air entrapment > overstretching > destruction**



# Physiological effects

- 1) Reduced available surface area of respiratory membrane
- 2) Decrease  $V/Q$  > hypoxia. hypercapnia

# Physiological changes

- Increase work of breathing
- Decrease diffusing capacity of lungs (loss of alveolar wall)
- Abnormal V/Q
- Decrease number of capillaries (increase pulmonary vascular resistance > right sided heart failure)

# taskCompare pneumonia with emphysema



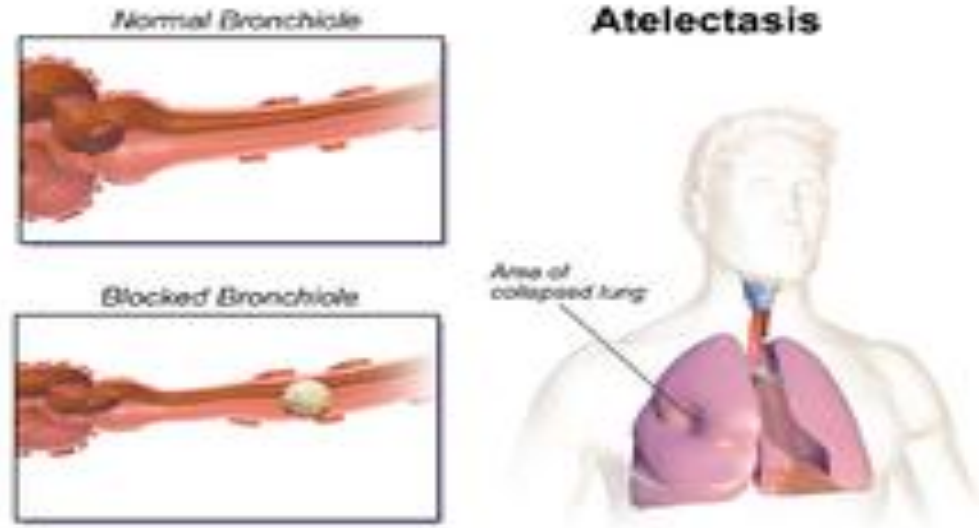
# 3) Atelectasis

Collapse of alveoli

Causes

1) total obstruction of air way

2) lack of surfactant



# Complete obstruction

alveoli becomes  
airless from  
absorption of  
their air without  
replacement of  
the air with  
breathing



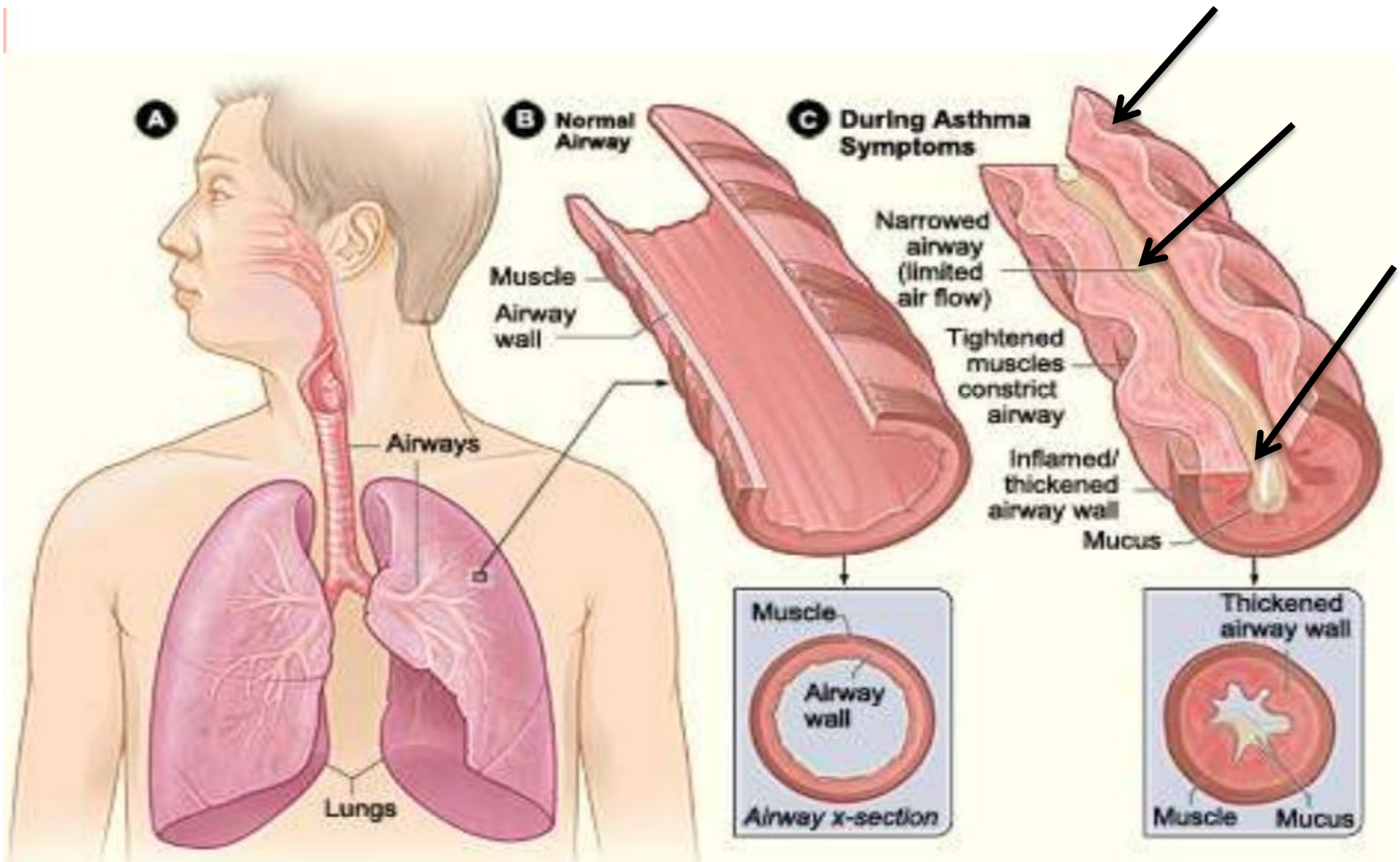
# Causes of complete obstruction

- Airway foreign body
- Extrinsic compression on an airway (eg, compression due to an enlarged or aberrant vessel)
- Enlarged lymph nodes that compress the airway
- Masses in the chest that compress the airway or alveoli
- Cardiomegaly or enlarged pulmonary vessels that compress adjacent airways

## 4) Asthma

- Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease of the airways that causes **airway hyper responsiveness, mucosal edema, and mucus production**
- differs from the other obstructive lung diseases in that it is largely reversible, either spontaneously or with treatment.
- Patients with asthma may experience symptom-free periods alternating with acute exacerbations, which last from minutes to hours or days.

# Compare figure B and C note 3 features





# Effect of aging on respiration

- The **structural changes** include chest wall and thoracic spine deformities which impairs the total respiratory system compliance leading to increase work of breathing.
- The **lung parenchyma** loses its supporting structure causing dilation of air spaces: “senile emphysema”.
- **Respiratory muscle strength** decreases with age and can impair effective cough, which is important for airway clearance.

- **The alveolar dead space** increases with age, affecting arterial oxygen without impairing the carbon dioxide elimination.
- Older adults have decreased sensation of dyspnea and **diminished ventilatory response to hypoxia and hypercapnia**, making them more vulnerable to ventilatory failure during high demand states (ie, heart failure, pneumonia, etc) and possible poor outcomes



THANKS

# Lecture 2

# OBJECTIVES

1. Describe periodic breathing
2. Describe basic mechanism of Cheyne stokes breathing
3. Define sleep apnea and central sleep apnea

# Periodic breathing

- Three or more episodes of central apnea( no airway blockage) lasting at least 3 seconds, separated by no more than 20 seconds of normal breathing.
- Normal breathing is regular.
- The abnormal or uneven respiratory rhythm is called the periodic breathing.

# 1) Cheyne Stokes Breathing

## Hyperpnoea period

In beginning the breathing is slow. The amplitude of respiration increased gradually and reaches the maximum. Then, it decreases and reaches minimum and is followed by apnea. This effect is called waxing and waning of breathing.

## Apnea period:

When, the force of breathing is reduced to minimum, stoppage of breathing occurs for a short period. This is again followed by hyperpnoea period and the cycle gets repeated.

**The pattern repeats, with each cycle usually taking 30 seconds to 2 minutes.**

In

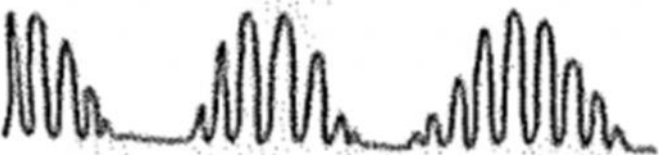
out



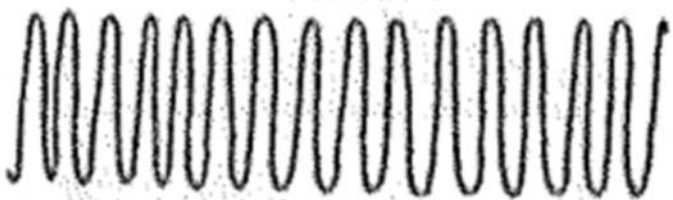
Normal breathing



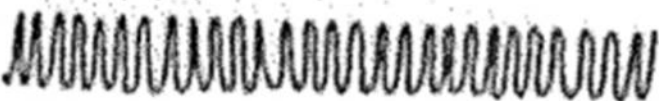
Biot-breathing + apneusis



Cheyne-Stokes breathing



Kussmaul breathing



Superficial breathing

# Causes

- **Physiological conditions:**

1. During deep sleep
2. In high altitude
3. In new born babies

- **Pathological conditions:**

1. During cardiac diseases
2. During renal diseases
3. In premature infants



## 2) Sleep apnea

- Sleep apnea is a disorder that causes a person to stop breathing many times while they are sleeping.
- trigger the body to switch from deep stage IV sleep to the very light stage I sleep



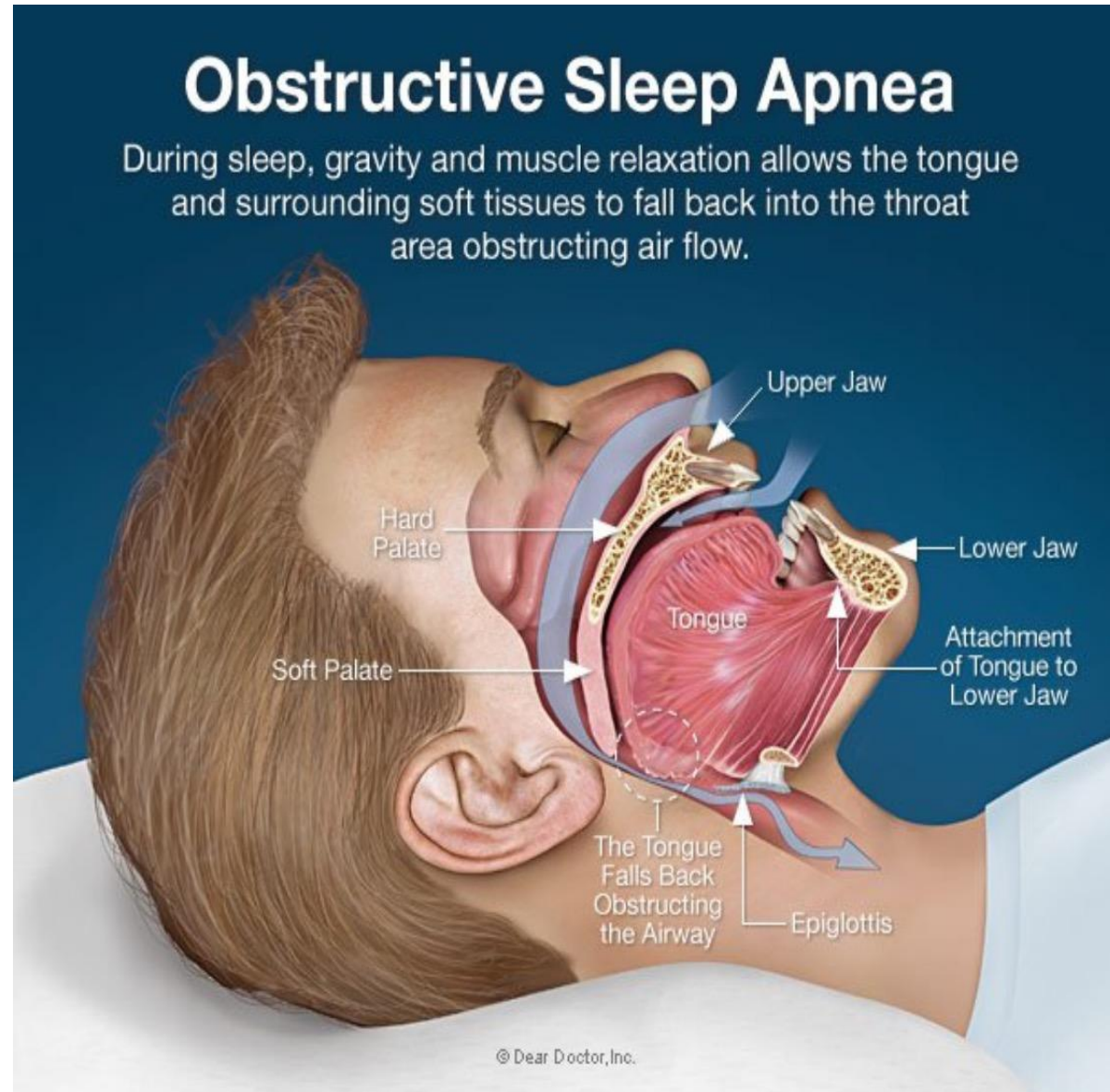
# Symptoms are noted by others

- snoring,
- pauses in breathing often followed by a gasp or snort sound,
- sleepiness during daytime hours.



# Obstructive sleep apnea

- At one end of the spectrum are those individuals who snore intermittently with little sleep disruption
- At the other end are those who snore heavily and have severe gas exchange disturbances and respiratory failure, causing them to gasp for air.
- ongoing respiratory efforts are observed



# CENTRAL SLEEP APNEA

- lack of drive to breathe during sleep, resulting in insufficient or absent ventilation and compromised gas exchange
- makes up only 10% of all apneas.
- **Hypercapnic patients** usually present with a morning headache and daytime somnolence
- **nonhypercapnic patients** complain of insomnia and nocturnal awakenings with shortness of breath or gasping

## Several Manifestations Of CSA Include

- high altitude-induced periodic breathing,
- idiopathic CSA (ICSA),
- narcotic-induced central apnea,
- obesity hypoventilation syndrome (OHS)
- Cheyne-Stokes breathing (CSB).

# Central sleep apnea

majority of cases are idiopathic,  
identifiable causes are

- autonomic nervous system lesions
- neurological diseases ( poliomyelitis, encephalitis, and myasthenia gravis)
- congestive heart failure.

**THANK YOU**