The Respiratory System

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Respiratory System

- •Cells continually use O2 & release CO2
- Respiratory system designed for gas exchange
- •Cardiovascular system transports gases in blood
- •Failure of either system
 - rapid cell death from O2 starvation



(a) Anterior view showing organs of respiration

Respiratory System Anatomy



Organs of the Respiratory System Nasal cavity plus **Oral cavity** Paranasal Sinuses Nostril -Pharynx Left main Larynx (primary) bronchus Bronchi Trachea Carina of trachea Alveoli **Right main** (primary) Left lung bronchus **Right lung** Diaphragm Parietal Pleura (and Visceral Pleura covers lung surfaces themselves)

Nose

- •Pharynx = throat
- •Larynx = voicebox
- •Trachea = windpipe
- •Bronchi = airways

•Lungs

External Nasal Structures



- •The external portion of the nose is made of cartilage and skin and is lined with mucous membrane. Openings to the exterior are the external nares.
- •The bony framework of the nose is formed by the **frontal bone, nasal bones, and** maxillae

Nose -- Internal Structures

- •Large chamber within the skull
- The interior structures of the nose are specialized for warming, moistening, and filtering incoming air; receiving olfactory stimuli; and serving as large, hollow resonating chambers to modify speech sounds.
- The nasal cavity is divided into right and left sides by the nasal septum.
- The anterior portion of the cavity is called the vestibule
- Roof is made up of ethmoid and floor is hard palate
- Internal nares (choanae) are openings to pharynx
- Nasal septum is composed of bone & cartilage
- Bony swelling or conchae on lateral walls



Functions of the Nasal Structures

- •Olfactory epithelium for sense of smell
- Pseudostratified ciliated columnar with goblet cells lines nasal cavity
 - warms air due to high vascularity
 - mucous moistens air & traps dust
 - cilia move mucous towards pharynx
- Paranasal sinuses open into nasal cavity
 - found in ethmoid, sphenoid, frontal & maxillary
 - lighten skull & resonate voice

Pharynx - Overview

- •The *pharynx* (*throat*) is a muscular tube lined by a mucous membrane .
- •The anatomic regions are the *nasopharynx*, *oropharynx*, and *laryngopharynx*.
- •The nasopharynx functions in respiration. Both the oropharynx and laryngopharynx function in digestion and in respiration (serving as a passageway for both air and food).







Sagittal section showing the regions of the pharynx

Pharynx

- •Muscular tube (5 inch long).
 - skeletal muscle & mucous membrane
- Extends from internal nares to cricoid cartilage
- Functions
 - passageway for food and air
 - resonating chamber for speech production
 - tonsil (lymphatic tissue) in the walls protects entryway into body
- Distinct regions -- nasopharynx, oropharynx and laryngopharynx



Nasopharynx



From choanae to soft palate

- openings of auditory (Eustachian) tubes from middle ear cavity
- adenoids or pharyngeal tonsil in roof

Passageway for air only

Oropharynx



From soft palate to epiglottis

- fauces is opening from mouth into oropharynx
- palatine tonsils found in side walls, lingual tonsil in tongue
- Common passageway for food & air

Laryngopharynx



Extends from epiglottis to cricoid cartilage

Common passageway for food & air & ends as esophagus inferiorly

Larynx - Overview

- •The *larynx* (*voice box*) is a passageway that connects the pharynx with the trachea.
- •It contains the thyroid cartilage (Adam's apple)
- the epiglottis, which prevents food from entering the larynx;
- •the cricoid cartilage, which connects the larynx and trachea
- •and the paired arytenoid, corniculate, and cuneiform cartilages.
- •Voice Production
 - The *larynx* contains *vocal folds* (*true vocal cords*), which produce sound.



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Sagittal plane

Cartilages of the Larynx



Thyroid cartilage forms Adam's apple

Epiglottis---leaf-shaped piece of elastic cartilage

- which prevents food from entering the larynx;
- Cricoid cartilage---ring of cartilage attached to top of trachea

Pair of arytenoid cartilages sit upon cricoid

Vocal Cords



- •False vocal cords (ventricular folds) found above vocal folds (true vocal cords)
- •True vocal cords attach to arytenoid cartilages

Trachea

- •The *trachea* (*windpipe*) extends from the larynx to the primary bronchi.
- •It is composed of smooth muscle and C-shaped rings of cartilage.
- •The cartilage rings keep the airway open.
- •The cilia of the epithelium sweep debris away from the lungs and back to the throat to be swallowed.
- •Size is 5 in long & 1in diameter
- •Extends from larynx to T5 anterior to the esophagus and then splits into bronchi



Tracheostomy and Intubation

Reestablishing airflow past an airway obstruction

- crushing injury to larynx or chest
- swelling that closes airway
- vomit or foreign object

Tracheostomy is incision in trachea below cricoid cartilage if larynx is obstructed

Intubation is passing a tube from mouth or nose through larynx and trachea





Bronchi

- •The trachea divides into the *right* and *left primary bronchi*.
- •The bronchial tree consists of the trachea, primary bronchi, secondary bronchi, tertiary bronchi, bronchioles, and terminal bronchioles.
- •Walls of bronchi contain rings of cartilage.
- •Walls of bronchioles contain smooth muscle.



Lungs - Overview

- *Lungs* are paired organs in the thoracic cavity; they are enclosed and protected by the pleural membrane.
- •The *parietal pleura* is the outer layer which is attached to the wall of the thoracic cavity.
- •The visceral pleura is the inner layer, covering the lungs themselves.
- Between the pleurae is a small potential space, the *pleural cavity*, which contains a lubricating fluid secreted by the membranes.
- •The lungs extend from the diaphragm to just slightly superior to the clavicles and lie against the ribs anteriorly and posteriorly



Lungs - Overview

•The lungs almost totally fill the thorax.

•The right lung has three lobes separated by two fissures

• The left lung has two lobes separated by one fissure. In left there is a depression called the cardiac notch. In left lung there is a process below the cardiac notch called lingula.



Gross Anatomy of Lungs



•Base inferiorly, apex superiorly, costal surface, mediastinal surface

- •Oblique & horizontal fissure in right lung results in 3 lobes
- •Oblique fissure only in left lung produces 2 lobes

Mediastinal Surface of Lungs



•Blood vessels & airways enter lungs in mediastinal surface at hilus

•Hilum and contents Forms root of lungs