

Respiratory System

Prepared by:

Dorota Marczuk-Krynicka, MD, PhD

Poznan University of Medical Sciences

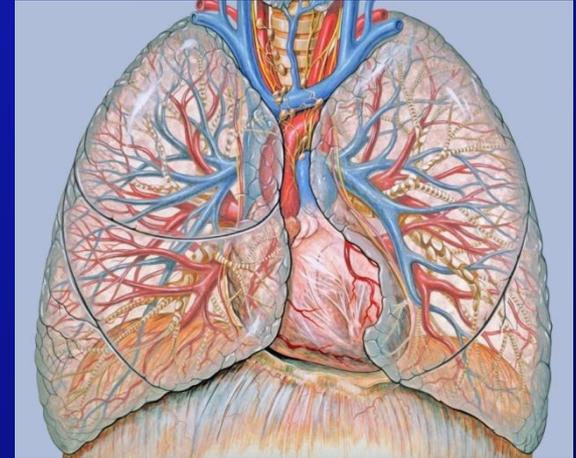
By Patrick J. Lynch, medical illustrator. <http://patricklynch.net> Yale University Center for Advanced Instructional MediaC. Carl Jaffe; MD; cardiologist (Patrick J. Lynch, medical illustrator) [CC BY 2.5 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Lungs:

➤ Ventilation

➤ Perfusion

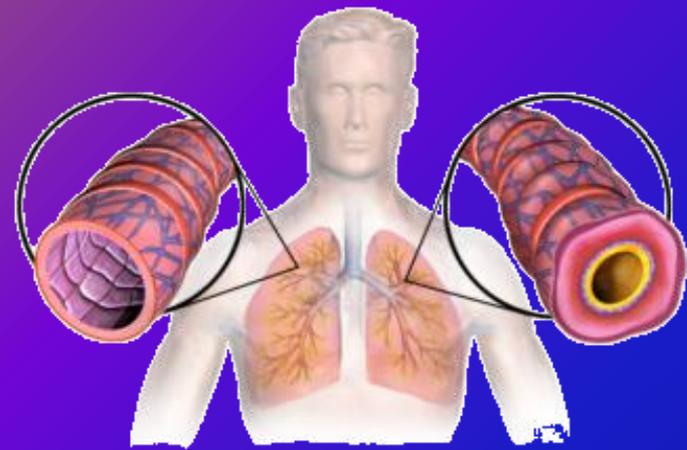
➤ Gas Exchange - Diffusion



By Patrick J. Lynch, medical illustrator. <http://patricklynch.net> Yale University Center for Advanced Instructional MediaC. Carl Jaffe; MD; cardiologist (Patrick J. Lynch, medical illustrator) [CC BY 2.5 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Respiratory System

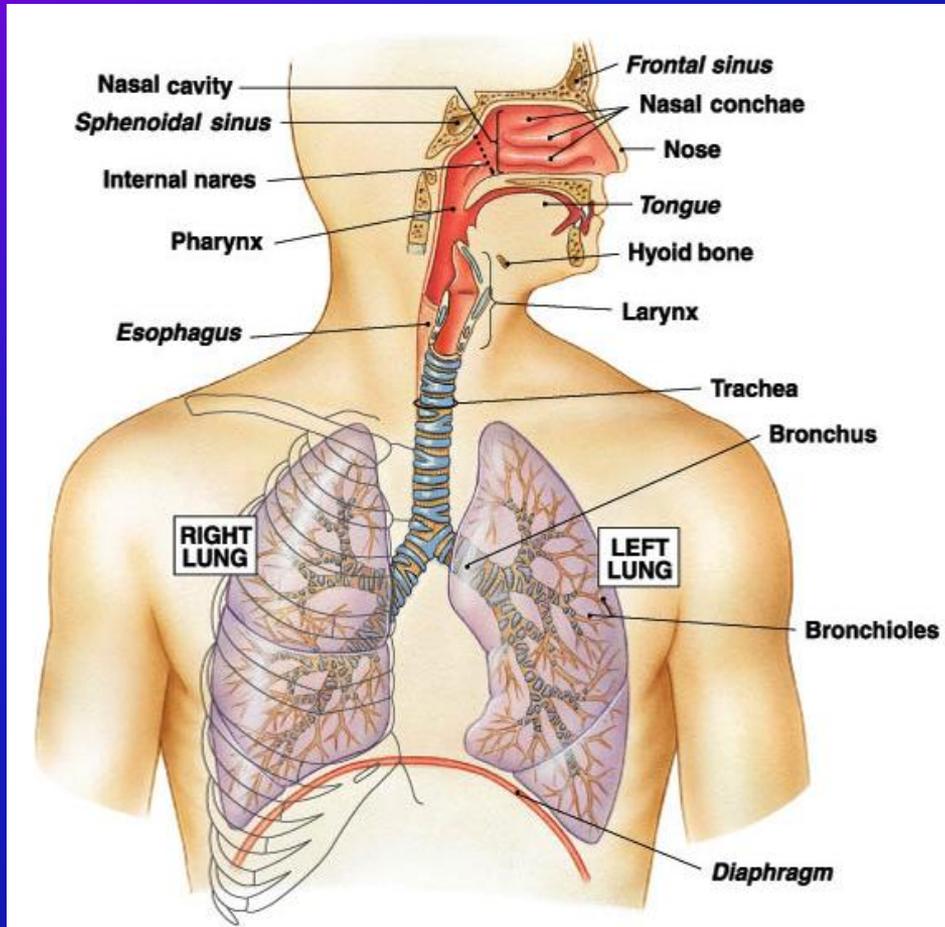
1. Airways
and Airway Resistance (AWR)
2. Mechanics of Breathing
and Lung (Elastic) Recoil



By BruceBlaus [CC BY-SA 4.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)], from Wikimedia Commons

Airways and Airway Resistance (AWR)

Anatomic Division of Respiratory System



- **Upper tract**
 - Nose, pharynx and associated structures
- **Lower tract**
 - Larynx, trachea, bronchi, lungs

Tracheobronchial Tree - Physiologic Division

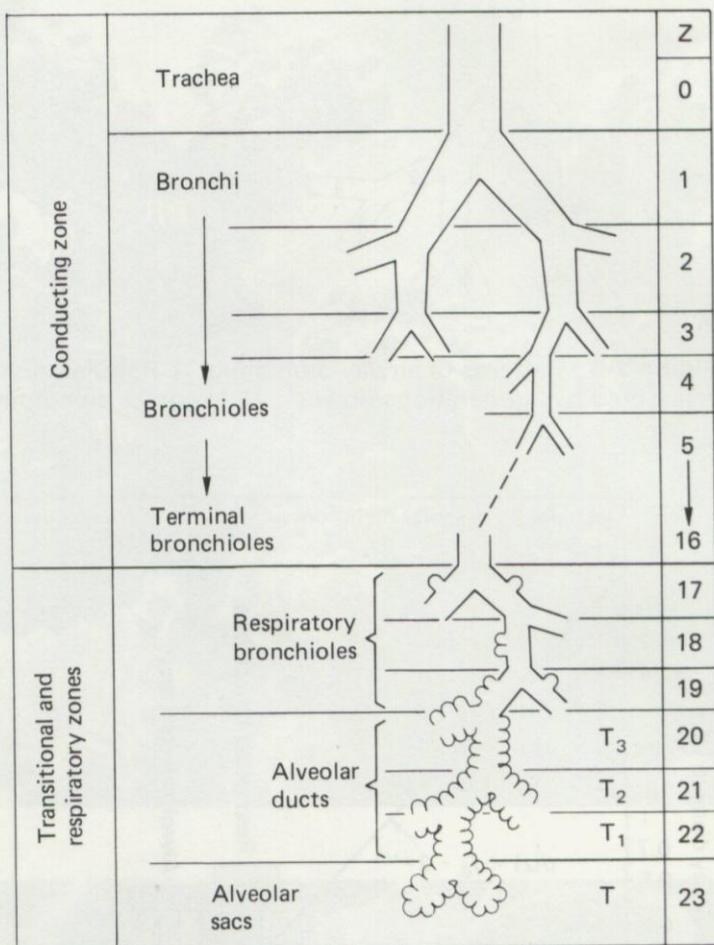
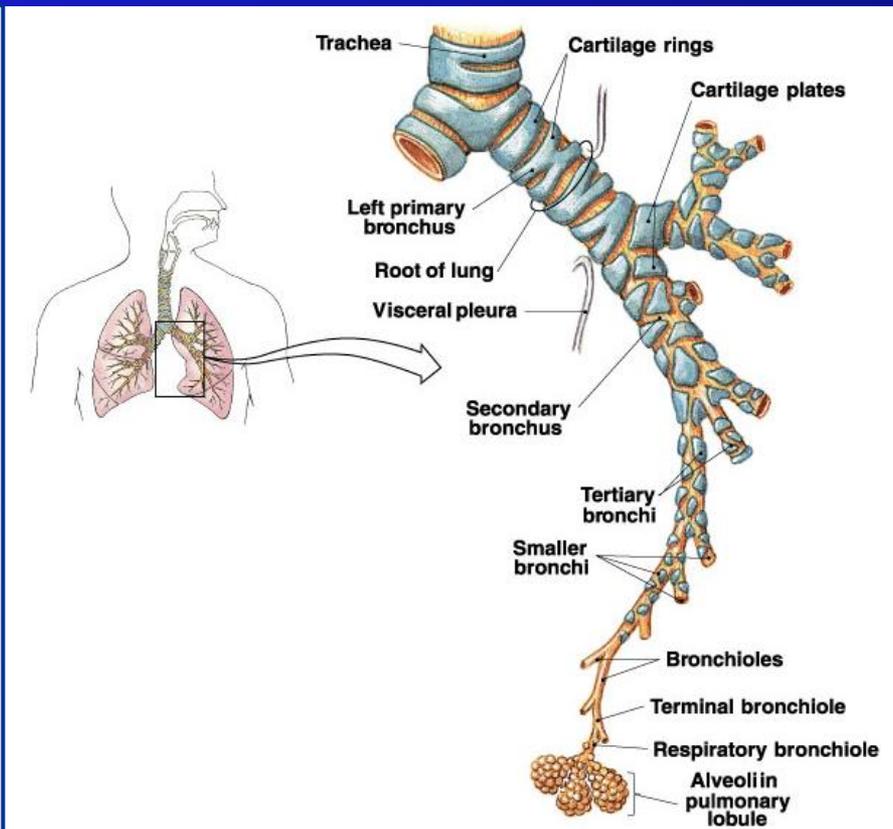


Figure 2-5 Airway branching in human lung by regularized dichotomy from trachea (generation $z = 0$) to alveolar ducts and sacs (generations 20 to 23). The first 16 generations are purely conducting; transitional airways lead into the respiratory zone made of alveoli. (After Weibel [21])



➤ Conducting zone

➤ Transitional zone

➤ Respiratory (gas exchange) zone

Physiologic Division – Conducting Zone

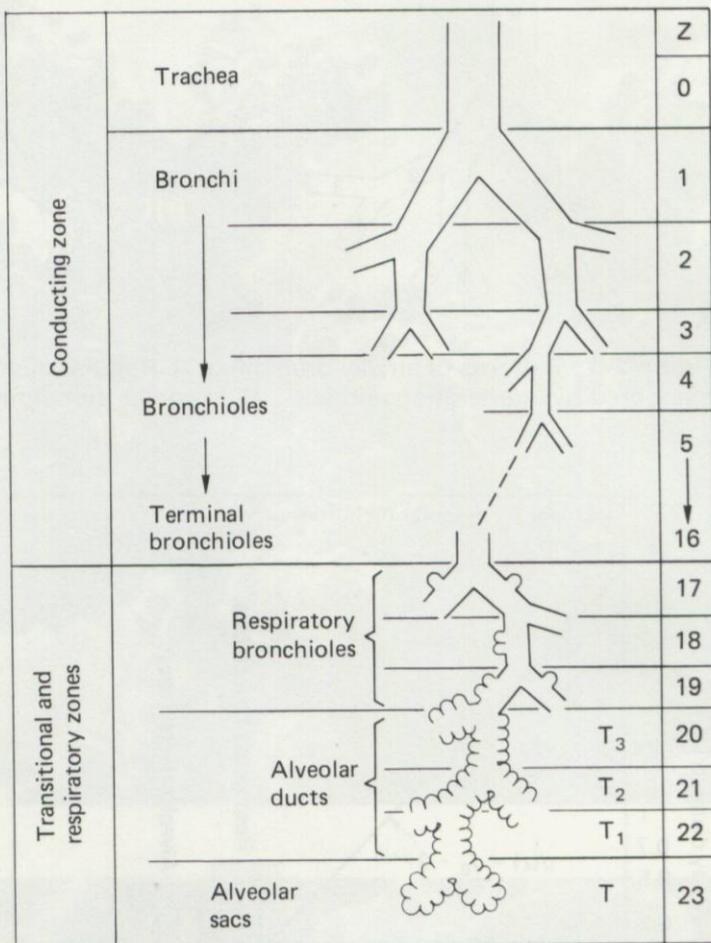
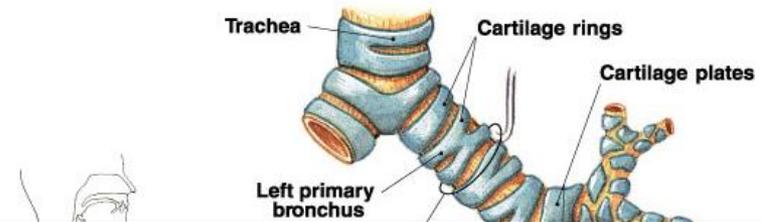


Figure 2-5 Airway branching in human lung by regularized dichotomy from trachea (generation $z = 0$) to alveolar ducts and sacs (generations 20 to 23). The first 16 generations are purely conducting; transitional airways lead into the respiratory zone made of alveoli. (After Weibel [21])

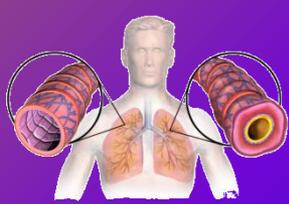


**Volume of conducting zone
- Anatomic dead space**

$$V_D = 150\text{ml (men)}$$

***Dead space volume
never
reaches the alveoli***

No gas exchange!



By BruceBlaus [CC BY-SA 4.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)], from
Wikimedia Commons

The Airways Conducting Zone

Roles:

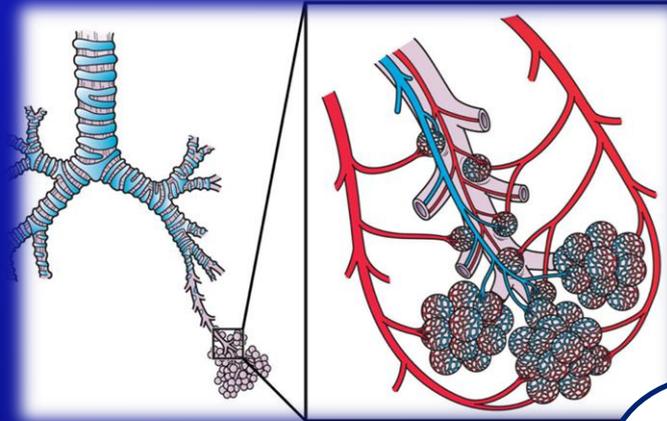
- Air distribution to the gas exchange surface
- Warming and humidifying the air
- Serving as a part of body defence system
- Preventing the alveolar oxygen and carbon dioxide partial pressures from extreme changing

Atmospheric Air versus Alveolar Air

□ Atmospheric air (dry) - fresh air (Sea level - TBP = 760 mm Hg)

Concentration of O_2 - 21%, $P_{O_2} = 760 \text{ mm Hg} \times 0,21 = 159,6 \text{ mmHg}$

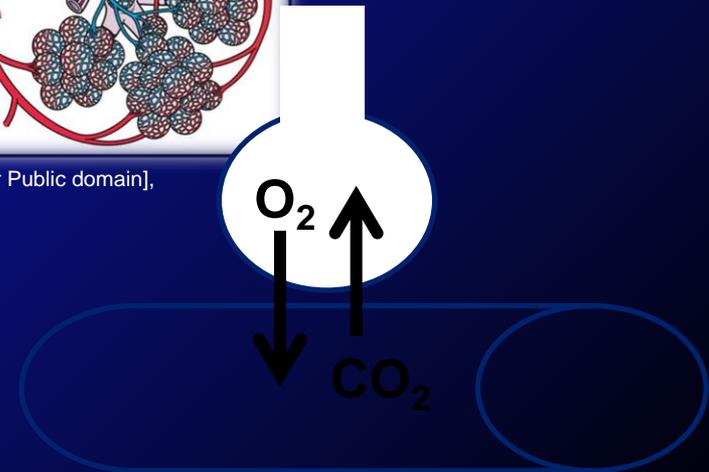
Concentration of CO_2 - 0,04%, $P_{CO_2} = 760 \text{ mm Hg} \times 0,0004 = 0,3 \text{ mmHg}$



By Gray's Anatomy [Public domain or Public domain],
via Wikimedia Commons

□ Alveolar air - old air

$P_{A_{O_2}} = 100 \text{ mm Hg}$ $P_{A_{CO_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$

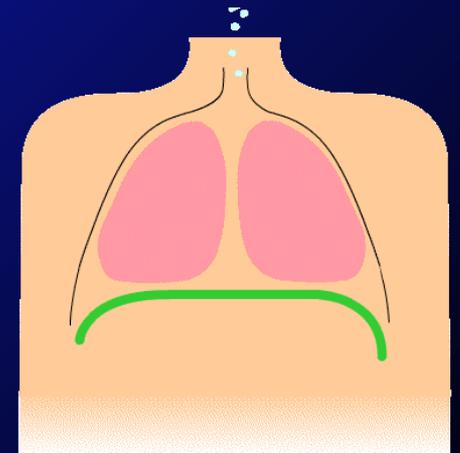


Minute Volume (Ventilation) MV_E

Minute volume (ventilation)

total volume of air that enters (or leaves) the respiratory system
each minute

Tidal volume		Breathing frequency		Minute volume
TV		BF		MV
500 ml	x	12 times/min	=	6000 ml



Minute Ventilation (MV)

Minute Alveolar Ventilation (\dot{V}_A)

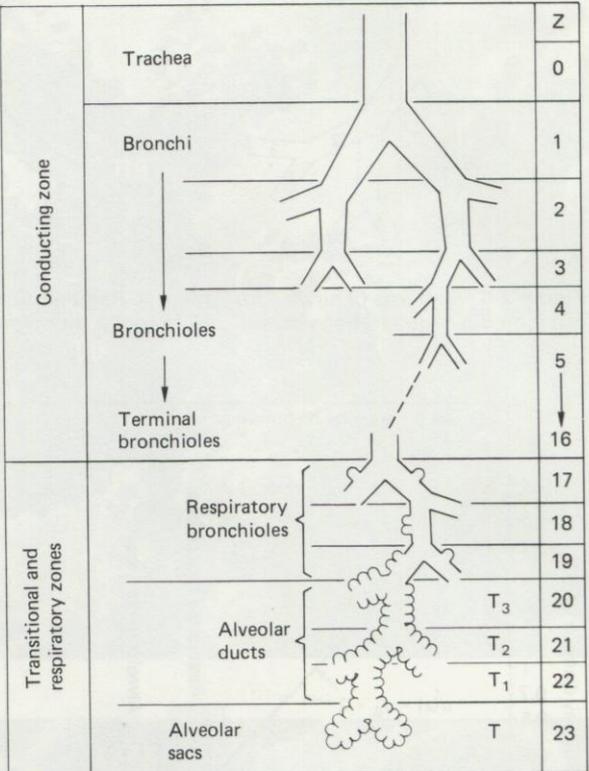


Figure 2-5 Airway branching in human lung by regularized dichotomy from trachea (generation $z=0$) to alveolar ducts and sacs (generations 20 to 23). The first 16 generations are purely conducting; transitional airways lead into the respiratory zone made of alveoli. (After Weibel [21])

$$TV \quad BF \quad MV_E$$

$$500 \text{ ml} \quad \times \quad 12 / \text{min} \quad = \quad 6000 \text{ ml}$$

Volume of conducting zone
- Anatomic dead space

$V_D = 150 \text{ ml (men)}$

Alveolar ventilation
 volume of fresh air that reaches the alveoli each minute
 - minute ventilation corrected for dead space ventilation

$$(TV - V_D) \quad BF \quad \dot{V}_A$$

$$(500 \text{ ml} - 150 \text{ ml}) \times 12 / \text{min} = 4200 \text{ ml}$$

$$350 \text{ ml}$$

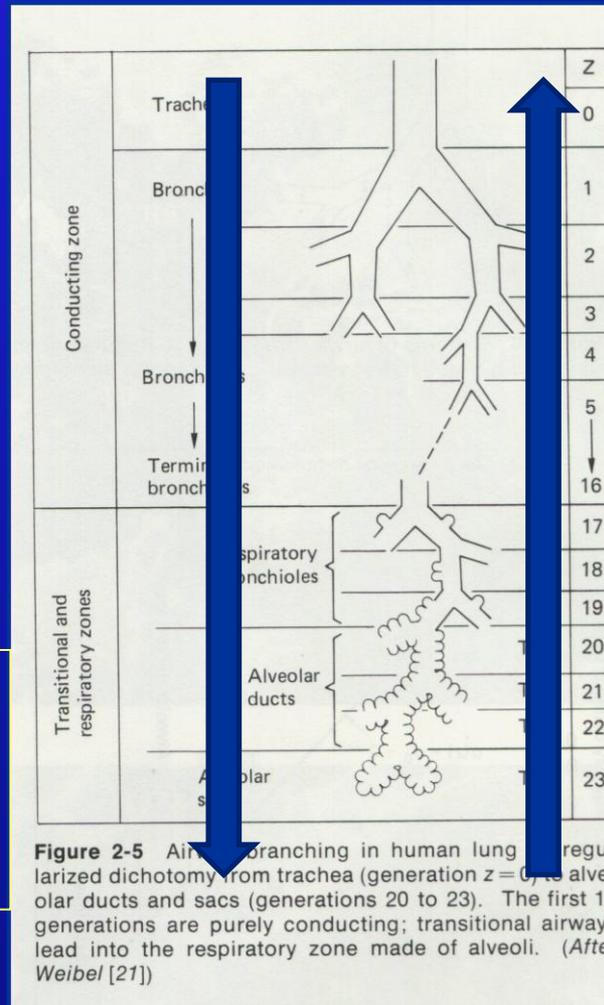
Conducting zone buffers the alveolar air

End of inspiration:

- 150 ml of fresh atmospheric air remains in the conducting zone

Inspiration

- 350 ml of fresh atmospheric air enters the alveoli



End of expiration:

- 150 ml of old alveolar air remains in the conducting zone

Beginning of inspiration:

- 150 ml of old alveolar air left in the conducting zone at the end of expiration moves back to alveoli (as the first portion of air)

Effect of Breathing Patterns on Alveolar Ventilation

	TV (ml)	BF (breaths/min)	MV_E (ml/min)	\dot{V}_D (ml/min)	\dot{V}_A (ml/min)
A	1000	x 6	= 6000	- 900 (150ml x 6)	= 5100
B	500	x 12	= 6000	- 1 800 (150ml x 12)	= 4200
C	250	x 24	= 6000	- 3 600 (150ml x 24)	= 2400
	150	x 40	= 6000	- 6 000 (150ml x 40)	= 0

The more rapid and shallow breathing the worse the alveolar ventilation

Breathing during Physical Activity

↑ Ventilation

(↑ TV i ↑ BF)



<https://pixabay.com/pl/maraton-maratończyk-biegacz-biegać-1236351/>

Adaptation to exercise



<https://pixabay.com/pl/sprawowanie-bieganie-drzewa-zdrowe-24419/>

Lack of adaptation to exercise

Airway Resistance (AWR)

□ Airway resistance (AWR, R):

$$R = \frac{8\eta l}{\pi r^4} \quad (5)$$

➤ 85% -
trachea
and 10 first
generations

□ Airflow per minute (Ventilation)

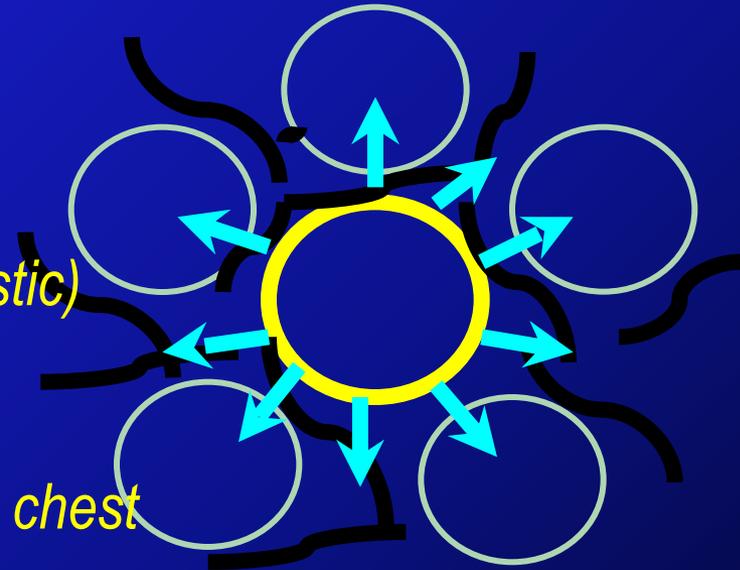
$$\dot{V} = \frac{\Delta p}{R}$$

- *If r decreases by the factor of **4**,
the airway resistance will increase at least by a factor **256 !!!***
- *At the same pressure gradient (Δp)
the air flow per minute (ventilation) will decrease by a factor of **256 !!!***

Factors Affecting AWR (Physiologic)

□ Lung volume

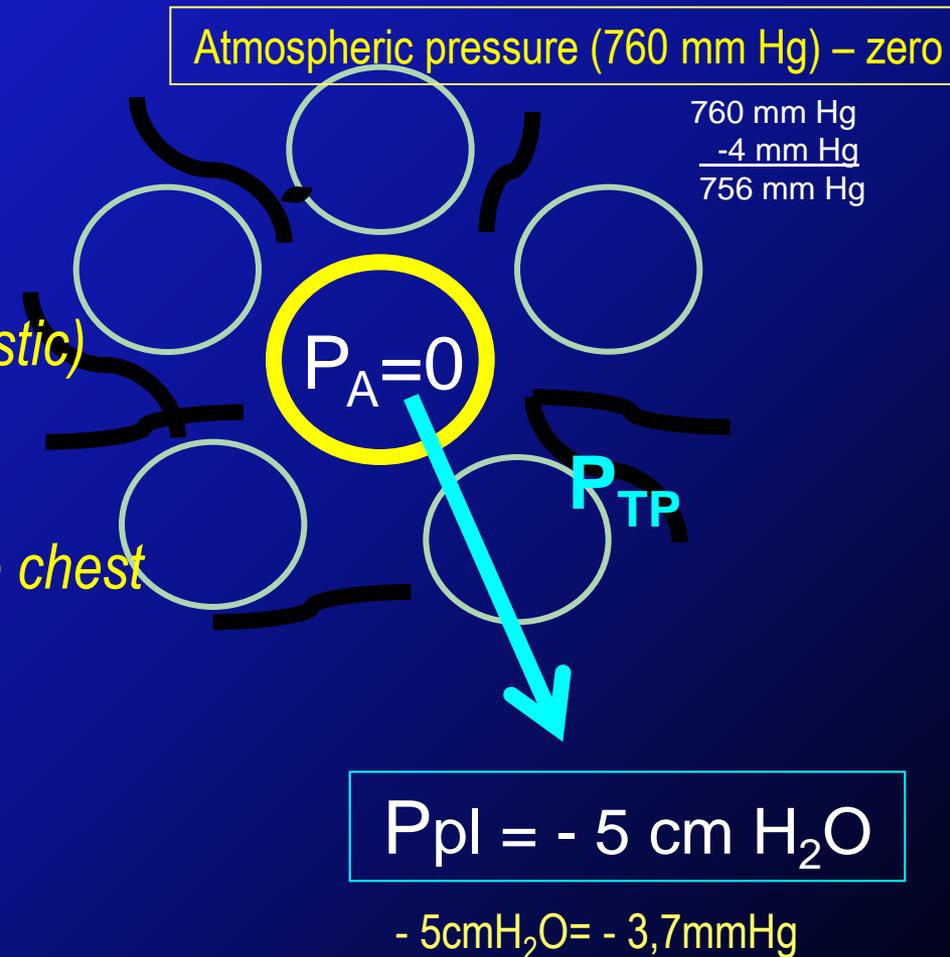
- *Passive radial traction exerted on the airways by the surrounding (elastic) lung tissue (↑ during inspiration)*
- *Subatmospheric pressure inside the chest (↓ during inspiration)*
- *Impulses from vagus (↓ during inspiration)*



Factors Affecting AWR (Physiologic)

□ Lung volume

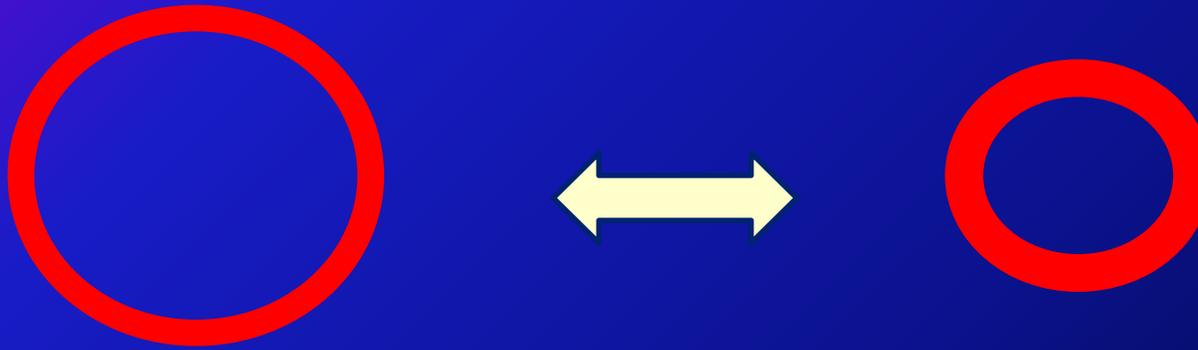
- *Passive radial traction exerted on the airways by the surrounding (elastic) lung tissue (↑ during inspiration)*
- *Subatmospheric pressure inside the chest (↓ during inspiration)*



Respiratory S.- units for pressure: **mm Hg or cm H₂O**
1 mm Hg = 13,6 mm H₂O (1,36 cm H₂O), **1 cm H₂O = 0,74 mm Hg**

Factors Affecting AWR

Contraction or relaxation of bronchial smooth muscles



RELAXATION (dilation, ↓AWR)

CONTRACTION (narrowing, ↑AWR)

Stimulation:

- *Sympathetic (adrenergic)*
- *β_2 adrenergic receptors*
- Epinephrine*
- β_2 -agonists*

- *Parasympathetic (cholinergic)*
- *Muscarinic receptors*
- Irritants*

Factors Affecting AWR

Inspiration:

The airways dilate
Airway resistance decreases

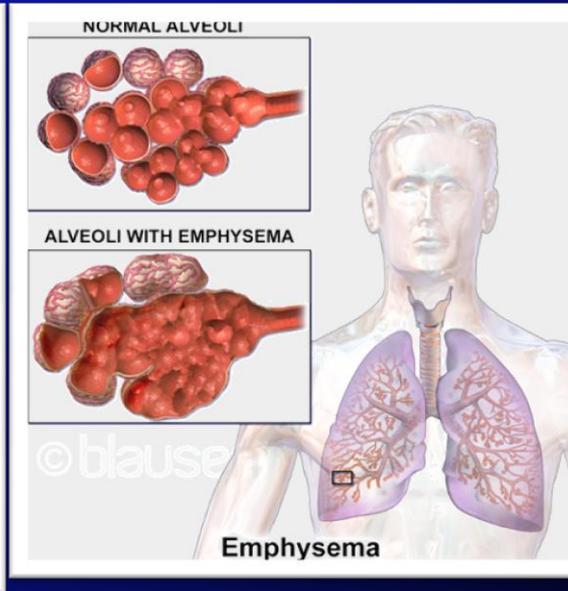
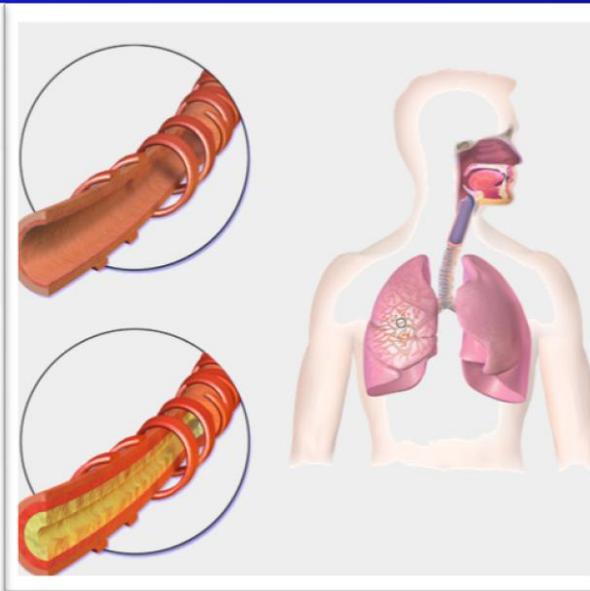
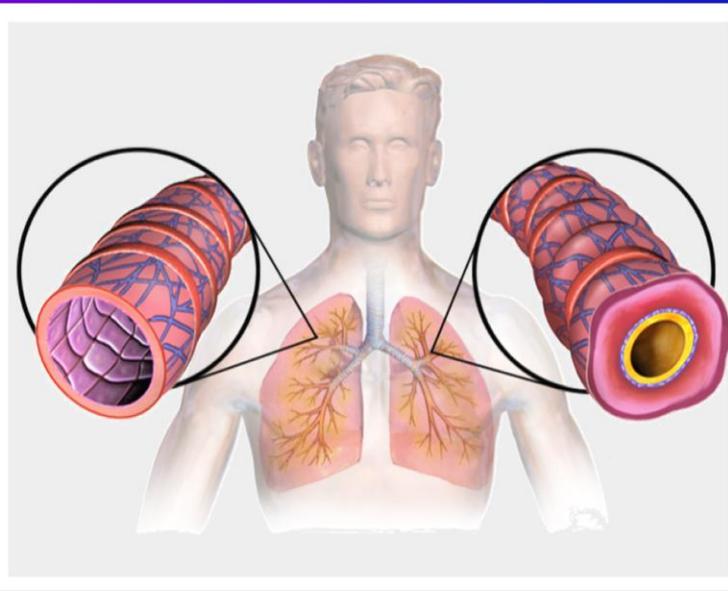
Expiration:

The airways narrow
Airway resistance increases

Refers to the airways located inside the chest

Obstructive diseases

- ↑ airway resistance
- ↓ ventilation (flow rate)



By BruceBlaus [CC BY-SA 4.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>)], from Wikimedia
Commons

Asthma

By BruceBlaus [CC BY-SA 4.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>)], via
Wikimedia Commons

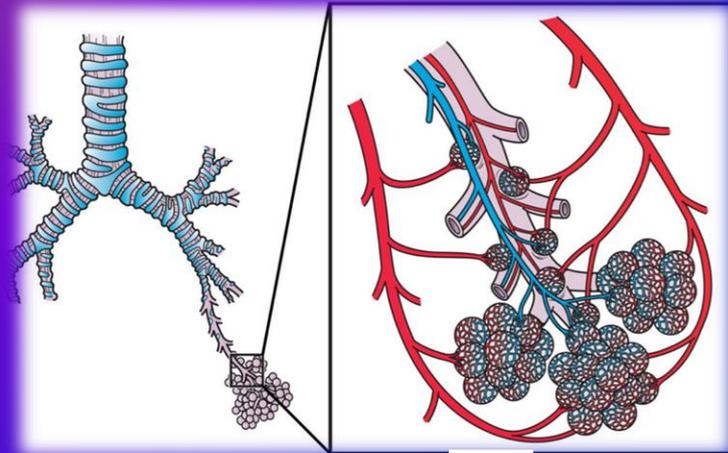
Chronic bronchitis Emphysema

By Blausen Medical Communications, Inc. (Donated via
OTRS, see ticket for details) [CC BY 3.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>)], via
Wikimedia Commons



COPD

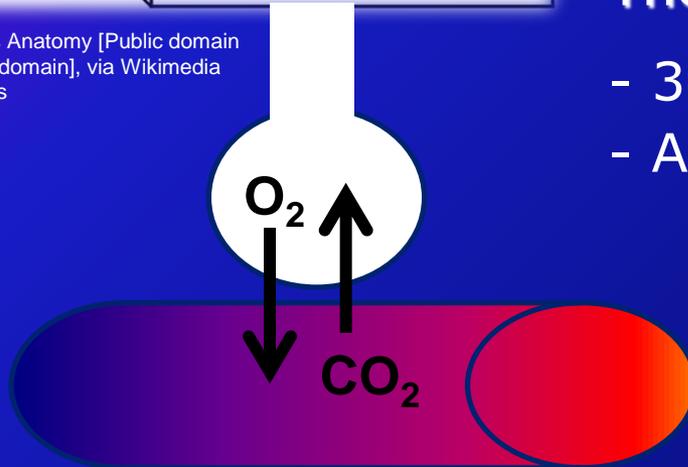
Respiratory (Gas Exchange) Zone



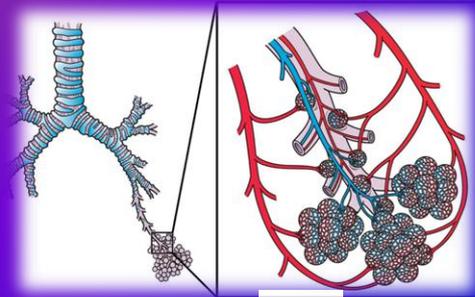
By Gray's Anatomy [Public domain or Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

The Alveoli:

- 300 million in both lungs
- An average diameter: 0,1 - 0,3 mm

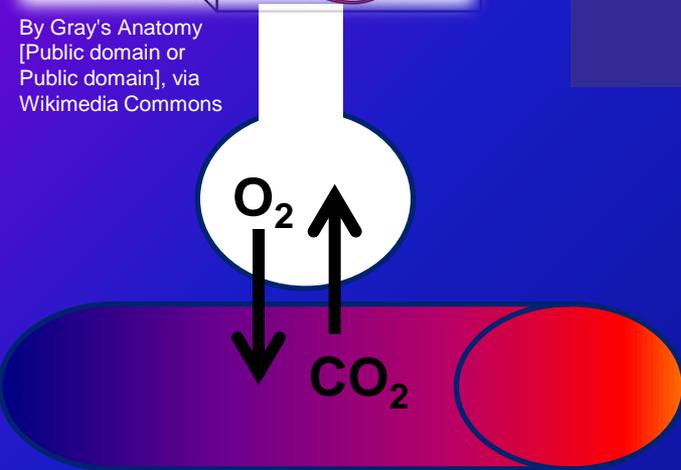


Respiratory (Gas Exchange) Zone



By Gray's Anatomy
[Public domain or
Public domain], via
Wikimedia Commons

The alveolar - capillary membrane
(0,2 - 0,6 μm)



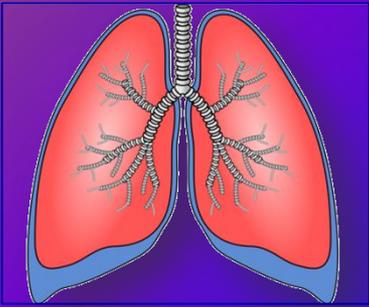
Transfer of gasses

Directly related to:

- Driving pressure across the alveolar - capillary membrane
- Area of membrane (70 m^2)
- Solubility of gas

Inversely related to:

- Length of diffusion pathway
- Square root of molecular weight of gas

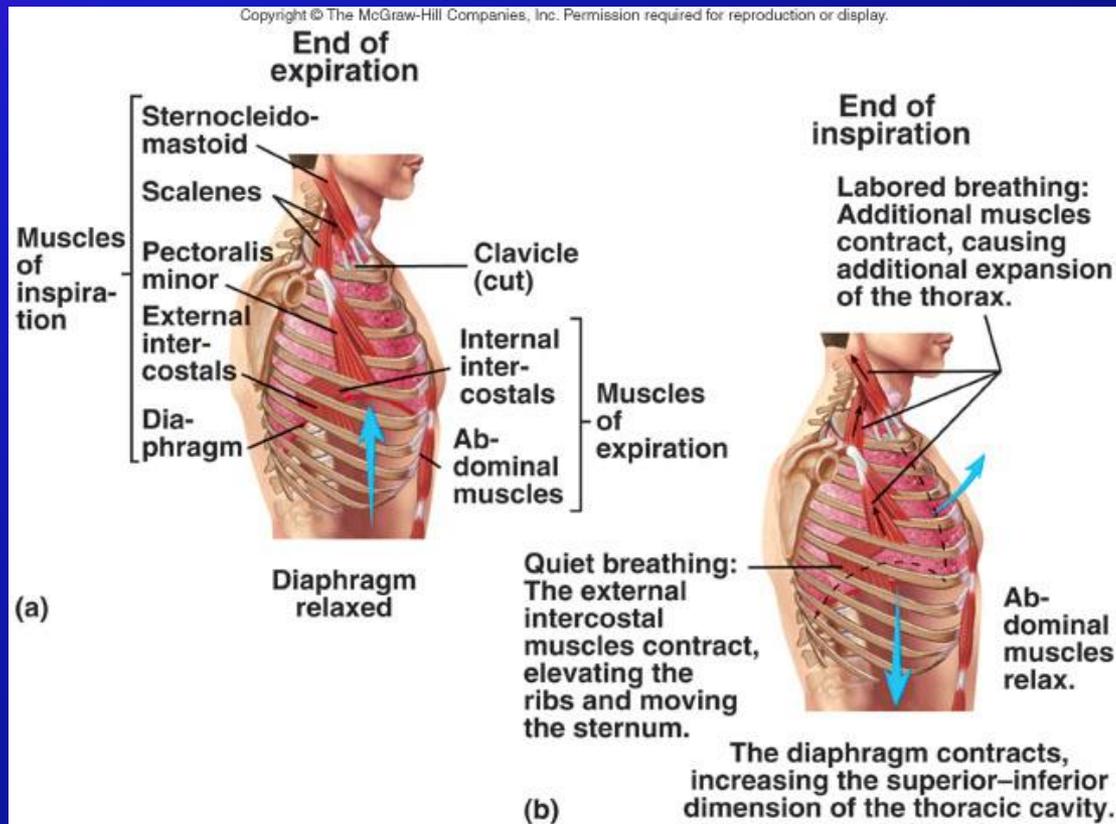


Public Domain,
<http://www.freestockphotos.biz/stockphoto/15174>

Mechanics of Breathing and Lung (Elastic) Recoil

Muscles of Respiration

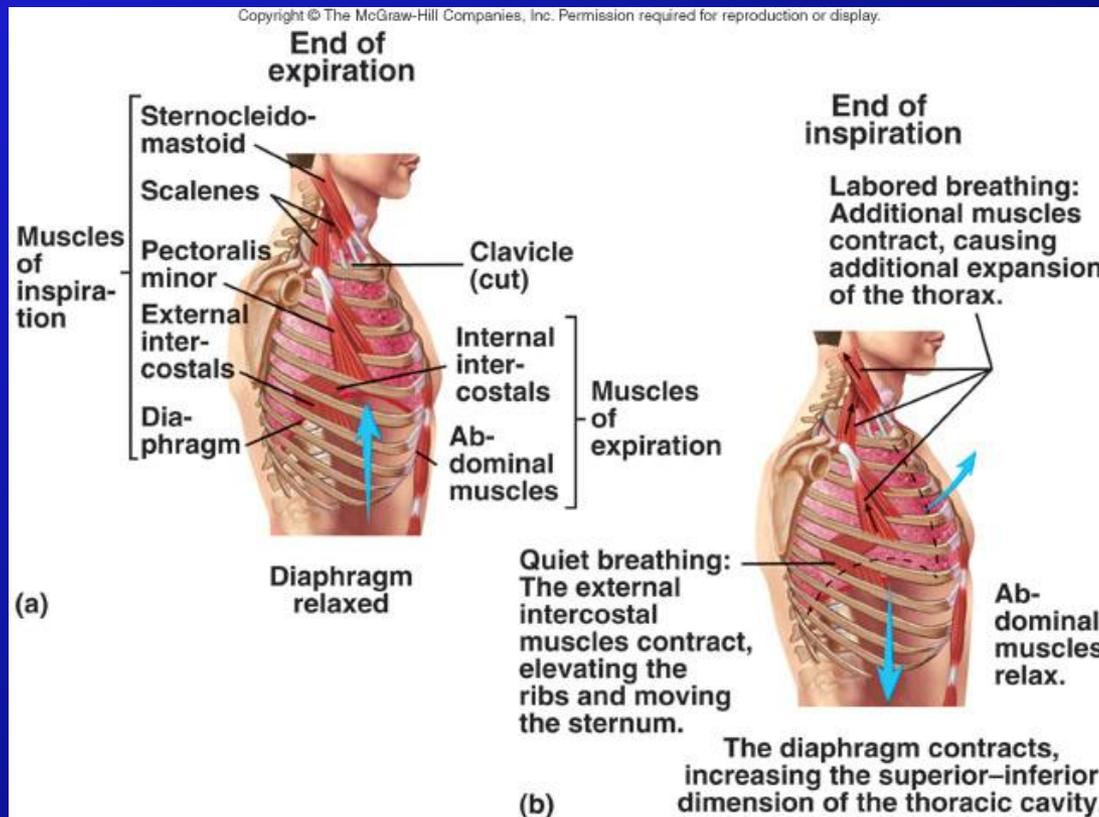
Inspiration *-always active*



Muscles of Respiration

Expiration
- Quiet = passive

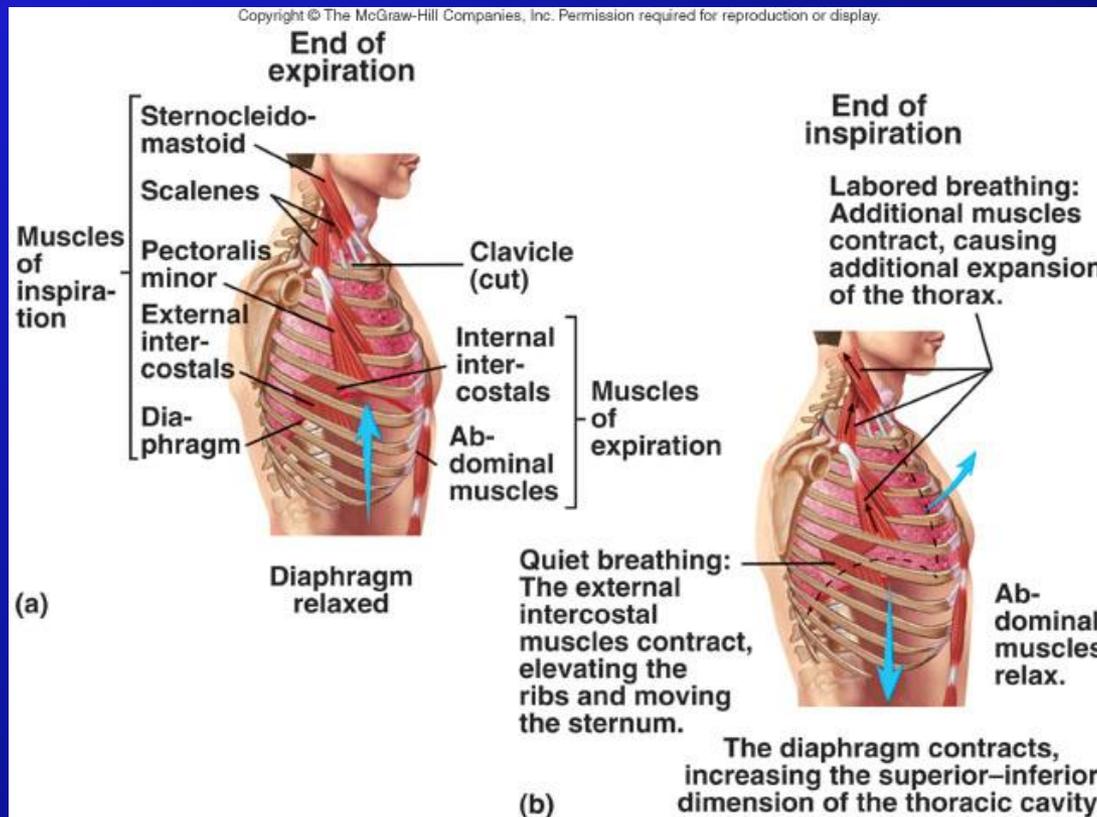
None expiratory muscles contract !!!



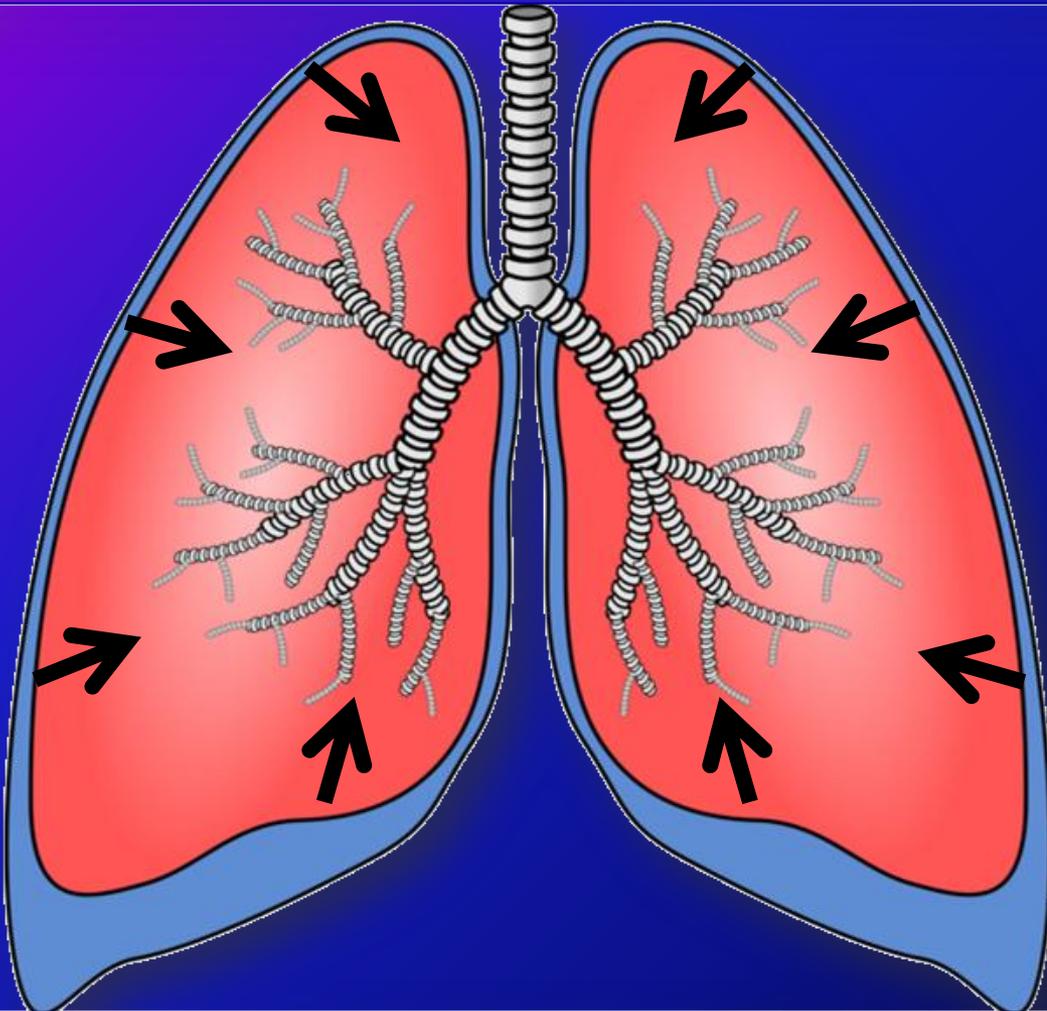
Muscles of Respiration

Expiration
- Deeper = active

Expiratory muscles contract !!!

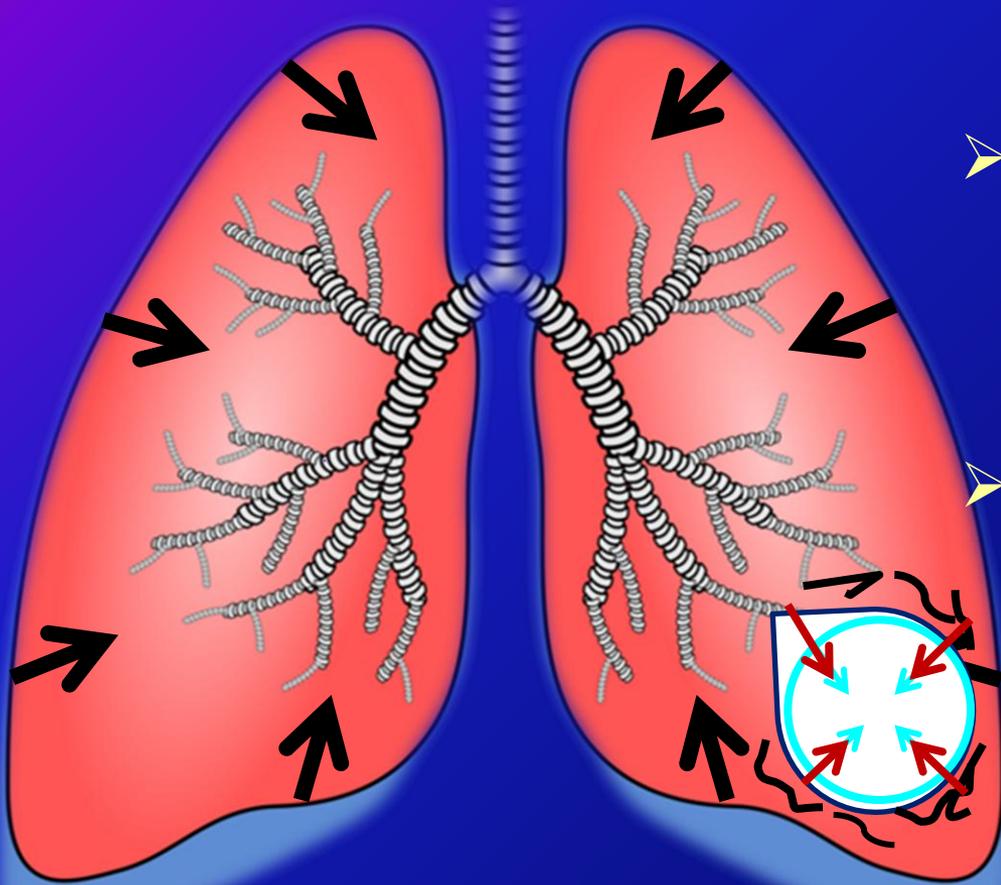


Lung Elastic Forces



- Always directed centripetally
- Always tent to collapse the lung

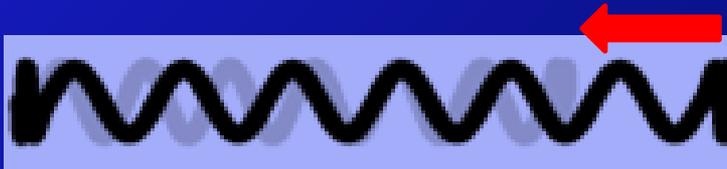
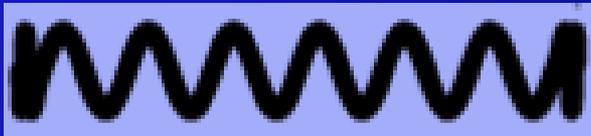
Lung Elastic Forces



- *Elastic forces of the lung tissue itself (elastic, collagen fibres)*
- *Surface tension of the fluid that lines the inside walls of the alveoli*

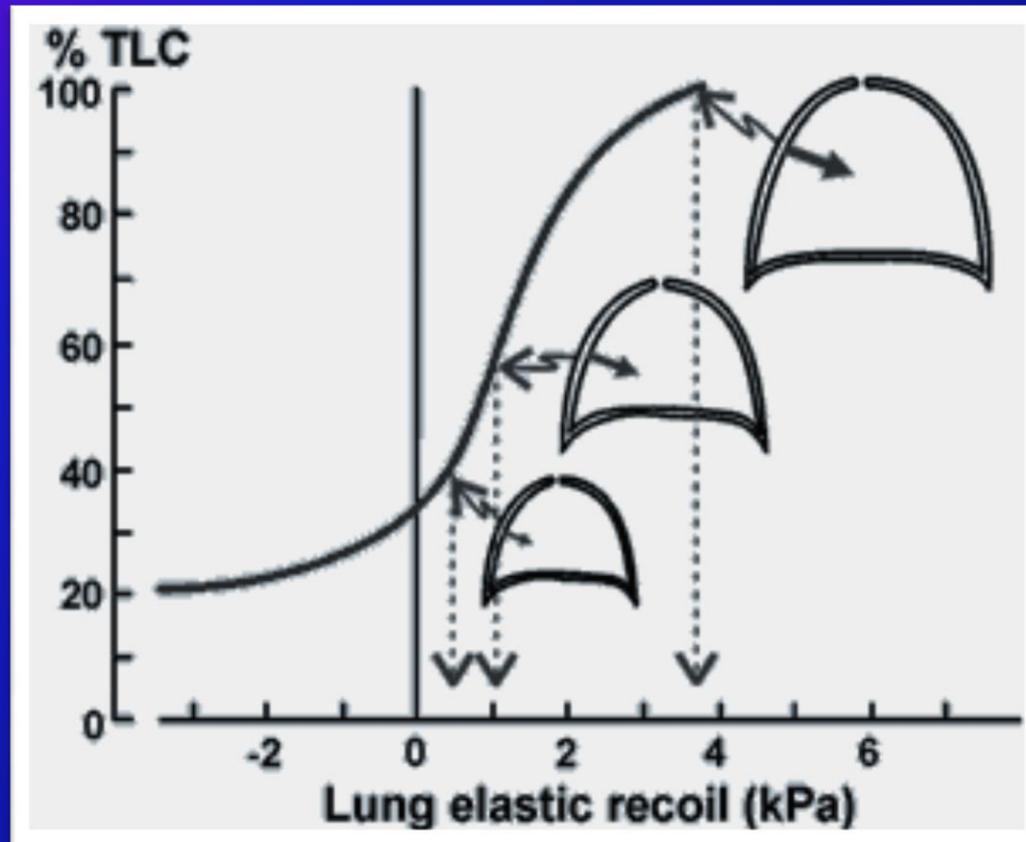
Lung Elastic Forces

- Anatomic dimensions of the chest are bigger than those of the lungs
- Lungs are distended even during expiration
- III physic law: „**action causes reaction**”



*The more the lungs are stretched
the more they tent to recoil
(the bigger the lung recoil)*

Lung Elastic Forces – Lung (Elastic) Recoil



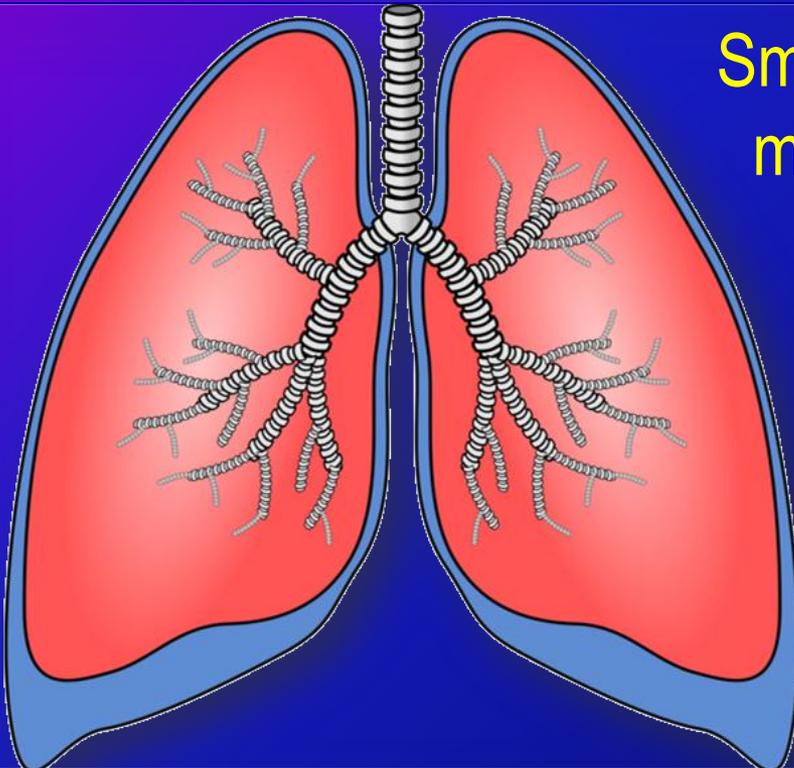
*The more the lungs are stretched
the more they tend to recoil (**the bigger the lung recoil**)*

Lung Elastic Forces

- Lungs always follow the chest wall

Small amount of fluid in the pleural cavity moistens the surfaces of both visceral and parietal pleura

– Attractive forces of fluid molecules cause that the lungs and chest wall act as union



Public Domain, <http://www.freestockphotos.biz/stockphoto/15174>



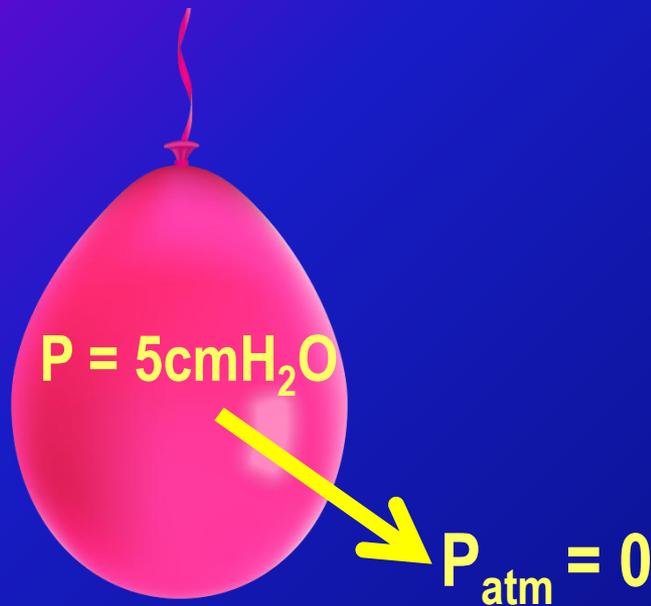
<http://pngimg.com/download/14044>

<https://pixabay.com/pl/mokre-drewno-tabela-odbicie-deszcz-3118733/>

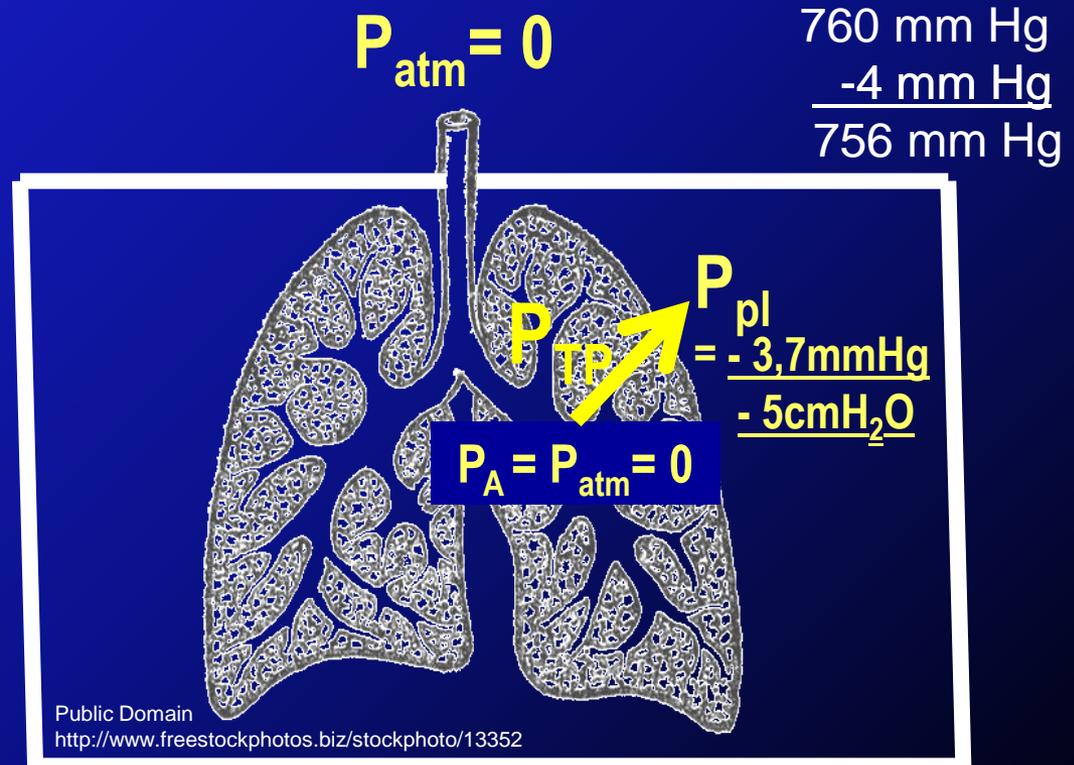
Pleural Pressure

Pleural pressure is (almost always) subatmospheric

i.e. lower than the atmospheric pressure (at sea level = 760 mm Hg - set as 0)



https://gallery.yopriceville.com/var/resizes/Free-Clipart-Pictures/Balloons-PNG/Pink_Balloon_Transparent_PNG_Clip_Art_Image.png?m=1526288567



Public Domain
<http://www.freestockphotos.biz/stockphoto/13352>

Respiratory S.- units for pressure: **mm Hg** or **cm H₂O**
 1 mm Hg = 13,6 mm H₂O (1,36 cm H₂O), **1 cm H₂O = 0,74 mm Hg**

Elastic Forces of the Lungs and Chest Wall

END OF QUIET EXPIRATION

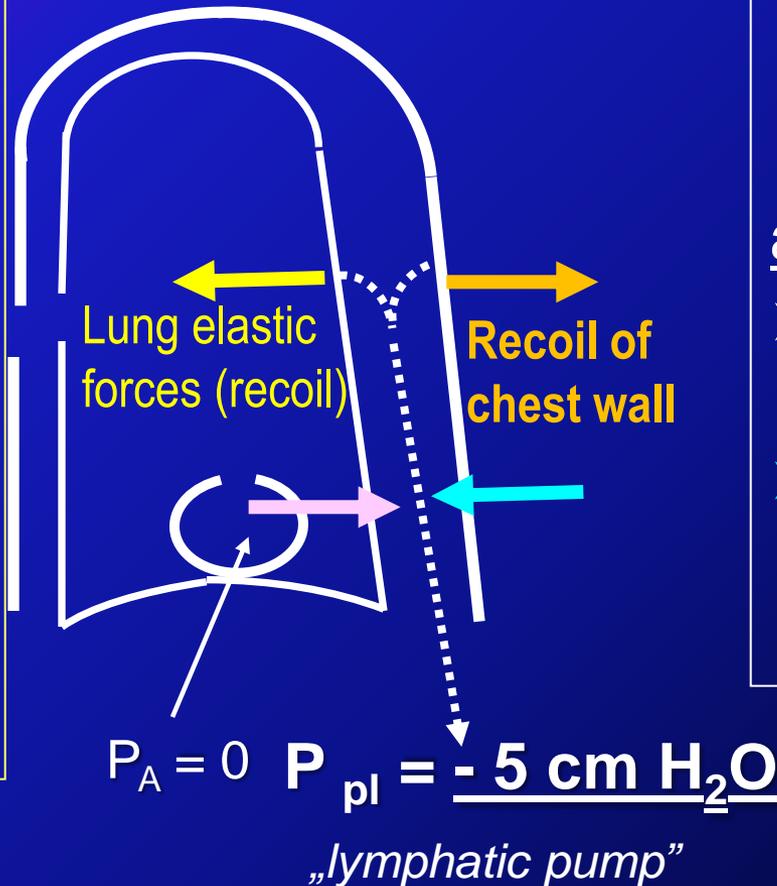
Lung elastic forces
(directed centripetally)

are balanced by

- subatmospheric pleural pressure (P_{pl})
- transpulmonary (distending) pressure (P_{TP})

$$P_{TP} = P_A - P_{PL}$$

Lung elastic recoil increases during inspiration



$$P_{TP} = +5 \text{ cm H}_2\text{O}$$

Recoil of chest wall
(directed centrifugally)

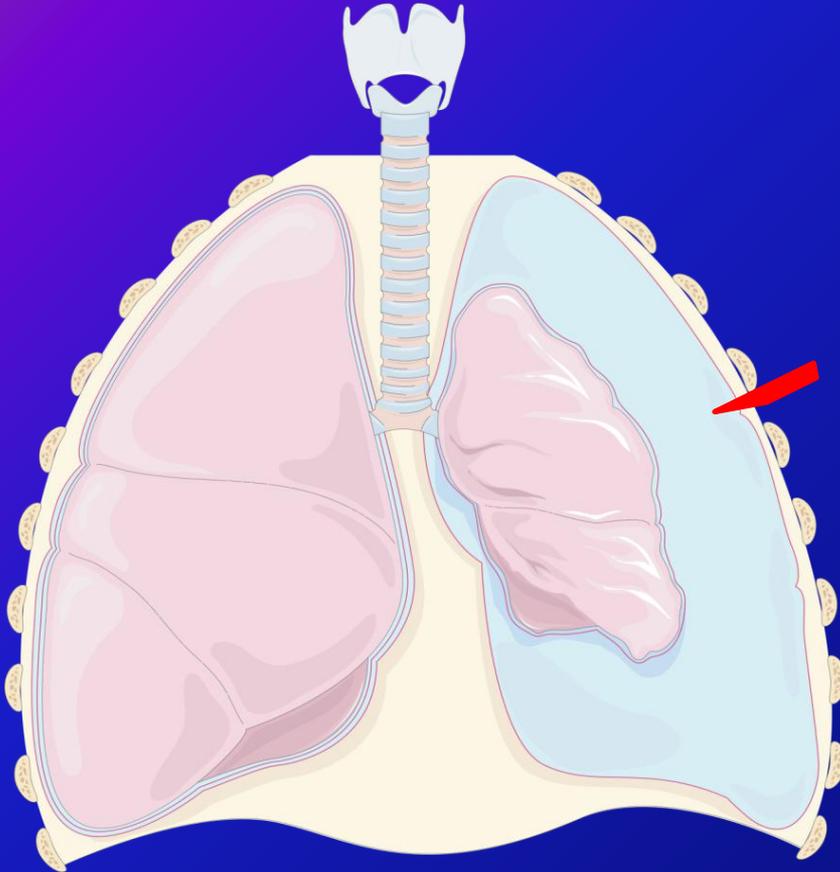
are balanced by

- subatmospheric pleural pressure (P_{pl})
- transthoracic pressure (P_{TC}, T_W)

$$P_{TC} = P_{PL} - P_{atm}$$

Recoil of chest wall decreases during inspiration
(at 70%TLC it becomes **centripetal**)

Pneumothorax



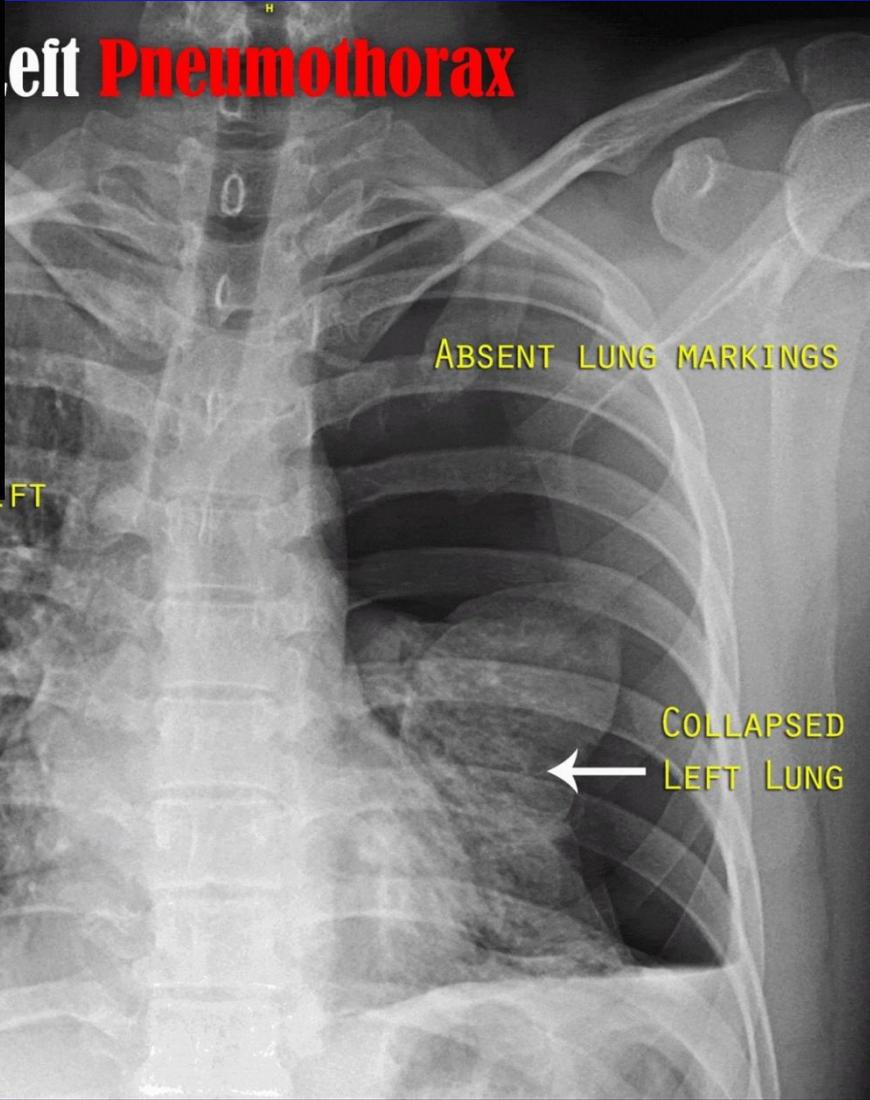
An opening between
the pleural cavity and
an external environment

The air flows from the site of a
higher to a lower pressure

The lung collapses
Chest wall (on affected side)
expands

Pneumothorax

Pneumothorax



[Clinical Cases](#)
Pneumothorax CXR <http://clinicalcases.blogspot.com/2004/02/tension-pneumothorax.html> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:Clinical_Cases
Clinical_Cases]: I made the photo myself, licensed under Creative Commons license

Pressures during a Breathing Cycle

Boyle`s Law:

The pressure of a given quantity of gas is
inversely proportional to its volume
(assuming a constant temperature)

INSPIRATION – a Sequence of Events

Inspiratory muscles contract

Thoracic cavity expands (volume \uparrow)

Pleural pressure (P_{pl}) \downarrow
(becomes more subatmospheric)

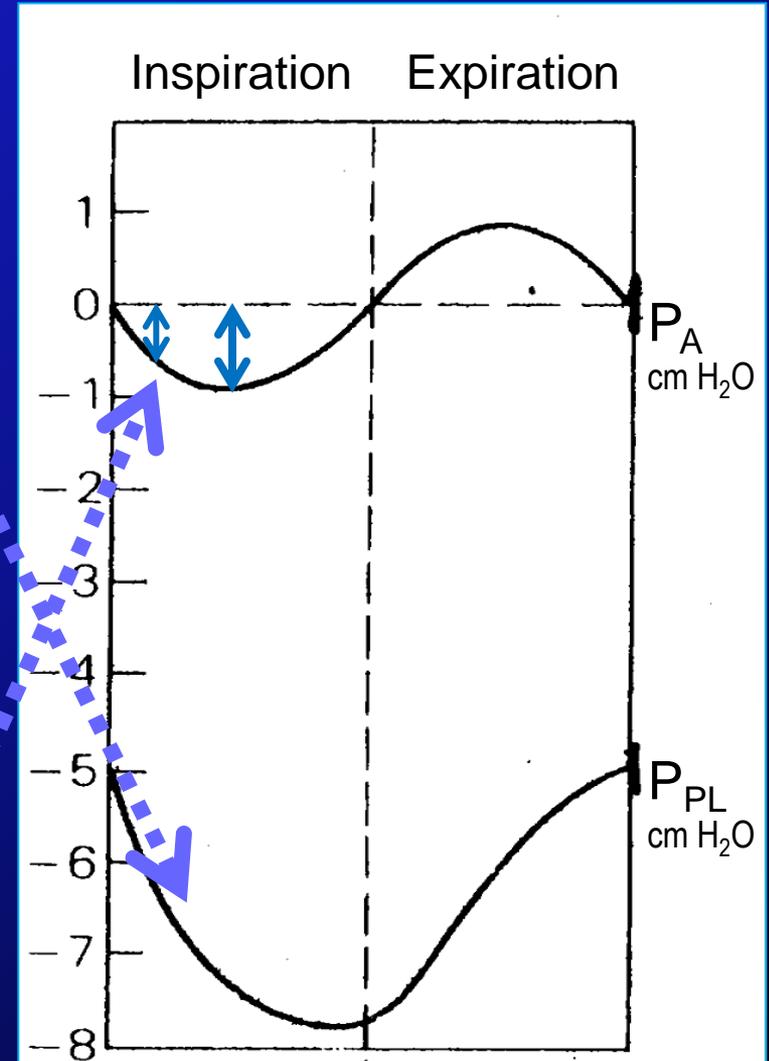
Transpulmonary pressure (P_{TP}) \uparrow

Lungs expand (volume \uparrow)

Alveolar pressure (P_A) \downarrow
(becomes subatmospheric)

Pressure gradient in airways
(lower pressure in alveoli)
Air flows into the lungs

Alveolar and Pleural Pressures during a Breathing Cycle (Quiet Breathing)



EXPIRATION – a Sequence of Events

Respiratory muscles relax

Chest volume ↓

Pleural pressure (P_{pl}) ↑
(becomes less subatmospheric)

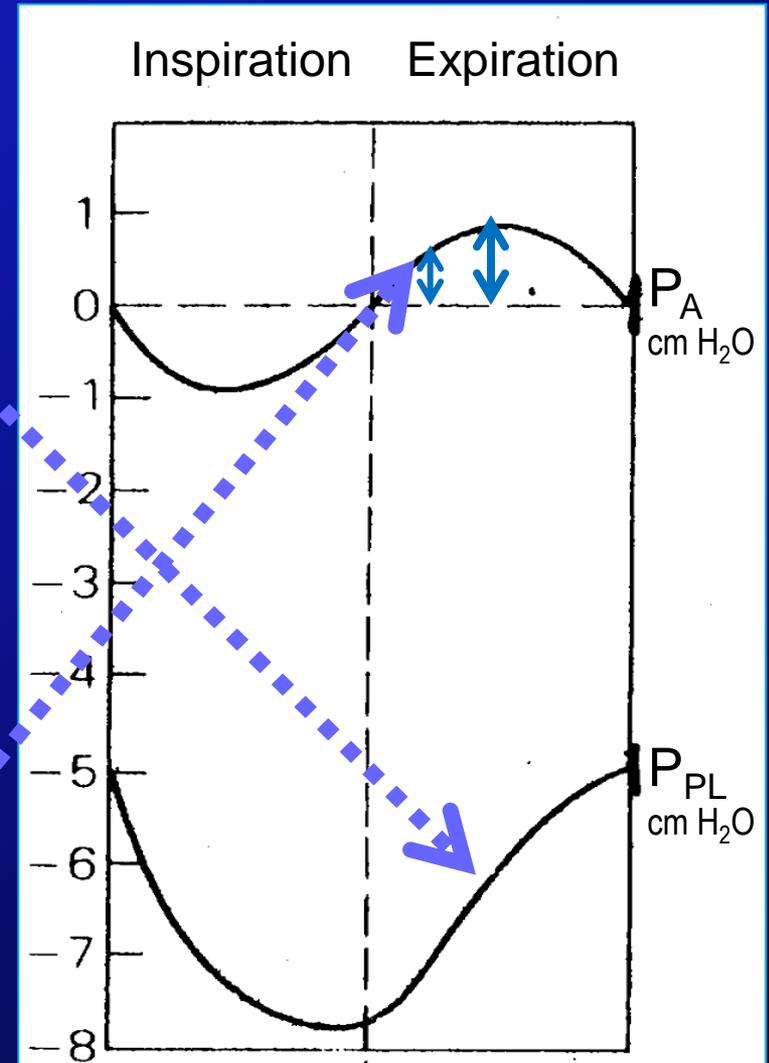
Transpulmonary pressure (P_{TP}) ↓

Lungs volume ↓

Alveolar pressure (P_A) ↑
(becomes positive)

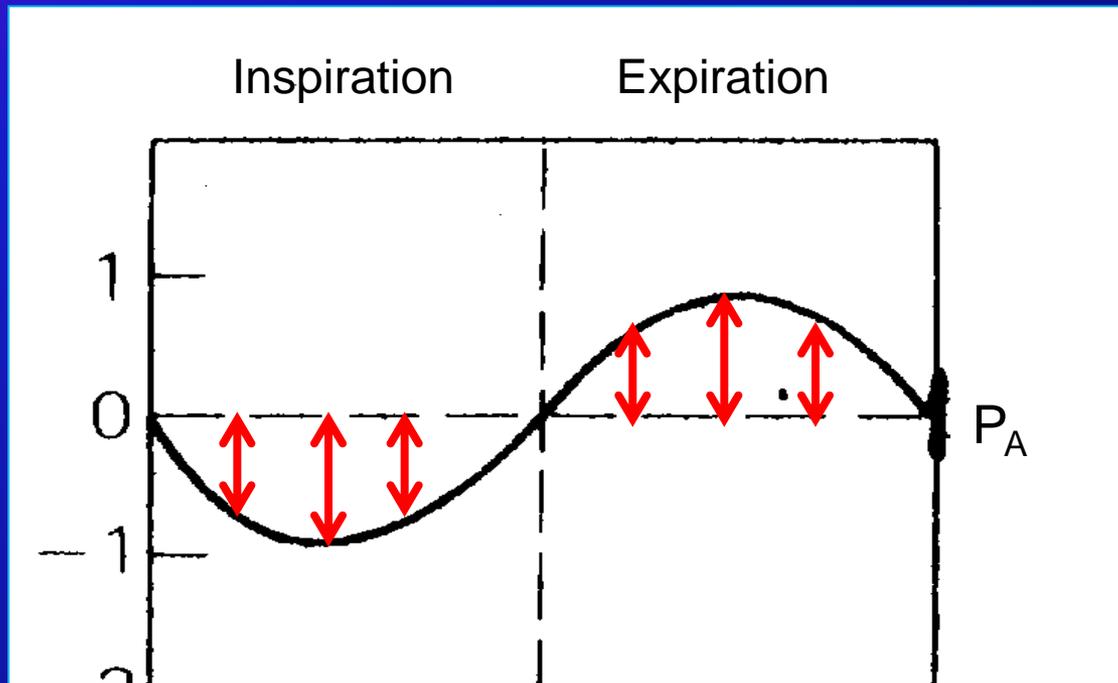
Pressure gradient in airways
(higher pressure in alveoli)
Air flows out of the lungs

Alveolar and Pleural Pressures during a Breathing Cycle (Quiet Breathing)



Pressures during a Breathing Cycle

*Pressure difference (gradient)
between upper airways (P_{atm}) and alveolar pressure (P_A)
is a driving pressure for air flow into or out of the lungs*



Pressure gradient = 0 → no air flow
→ airway resistance is 0

Lung compliance (C_L)

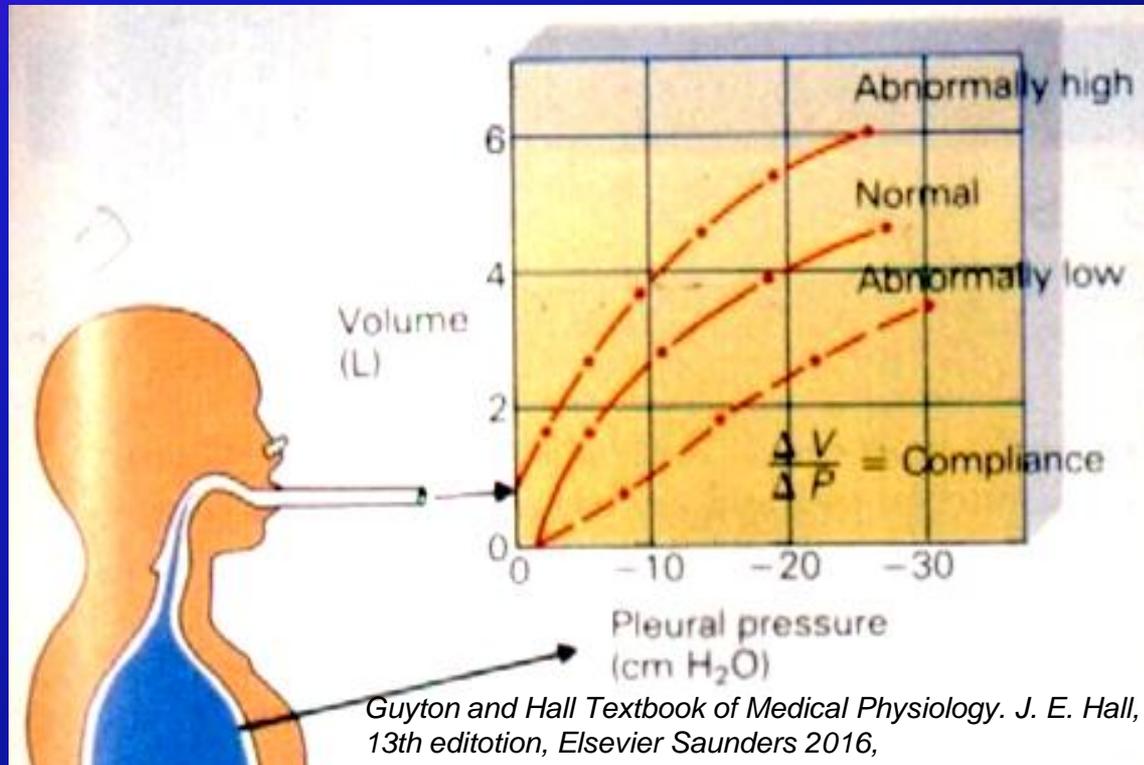
- describes distensibility of the lung and chest wall
- reflex the easy with which an object can be deformed

Elastance (E)

reflex the opposition of an object to deformation by an external force

Lung compliance (C_L)

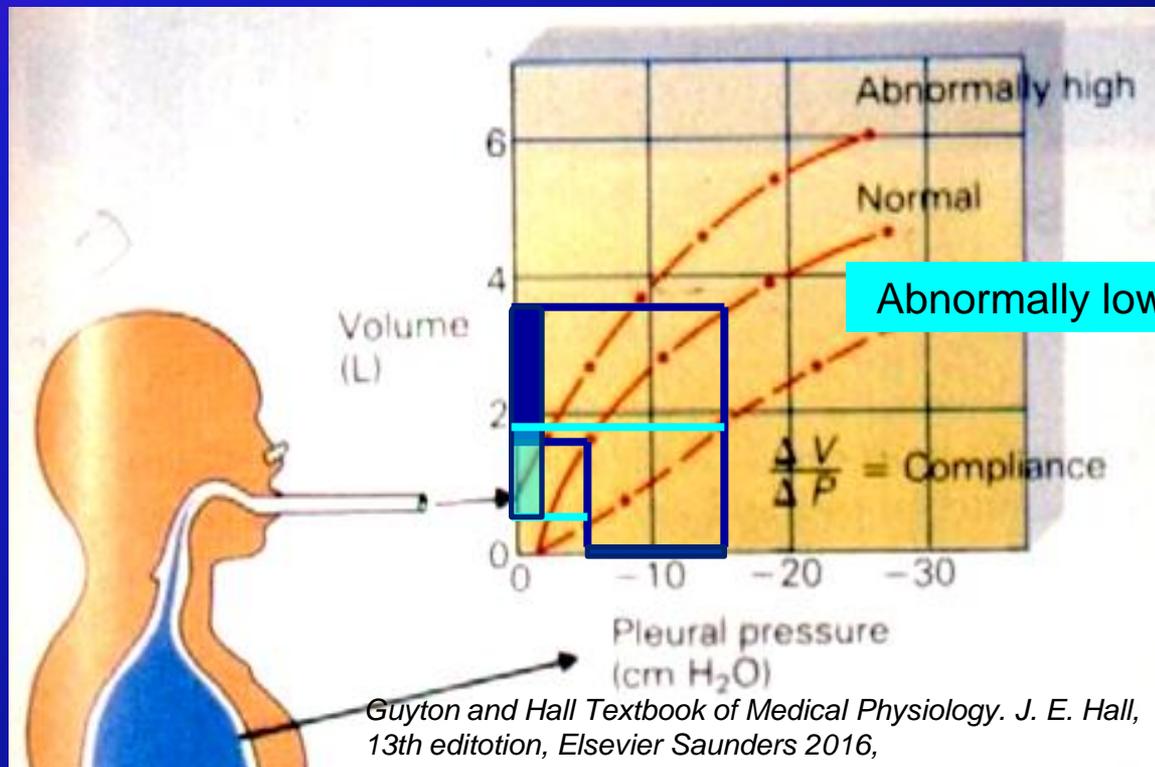
- An index of lung distensibility
- $C_L = \Delta V / \Delta P$ (200 - 230 ml/ 1 cm H₂O)
- Lung volume change / unit intrapleural pressure change



- a slope of the pressure - volume curve

Lung compliance (C_L)

- An index of lung distensibility
- $C_L = \Delta V / \Delta P$ (200 - 230 ml/ 1 cm H₂O)
- Lung volume change / unit intrapleural pressure change

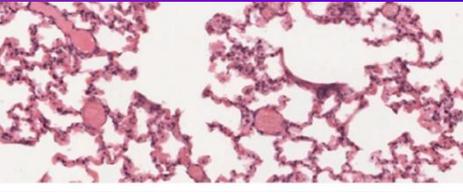


Lower compliance

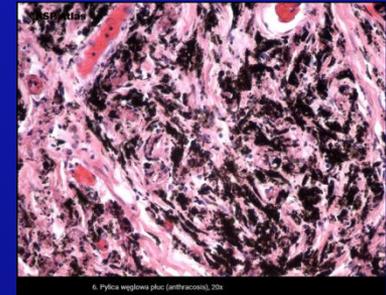
↓ Lung Compliance (C_L)

- ❖ Alveolar filling processes (pneumonia, alveolar edema)
- ❖ Interstitial pulmonary diseases (fibrosis, pneumonia, edema)
- ❖ Pulmonary congestion
- ❖ Respiratory distress syndrome

Rapid, shallow breathing



↓ Lung Compliance



Pneumoconiosis: asbestosis

Interstitial pulmonary fibrosis

<http://www.patologia.cm.umk.pl/atlas/>

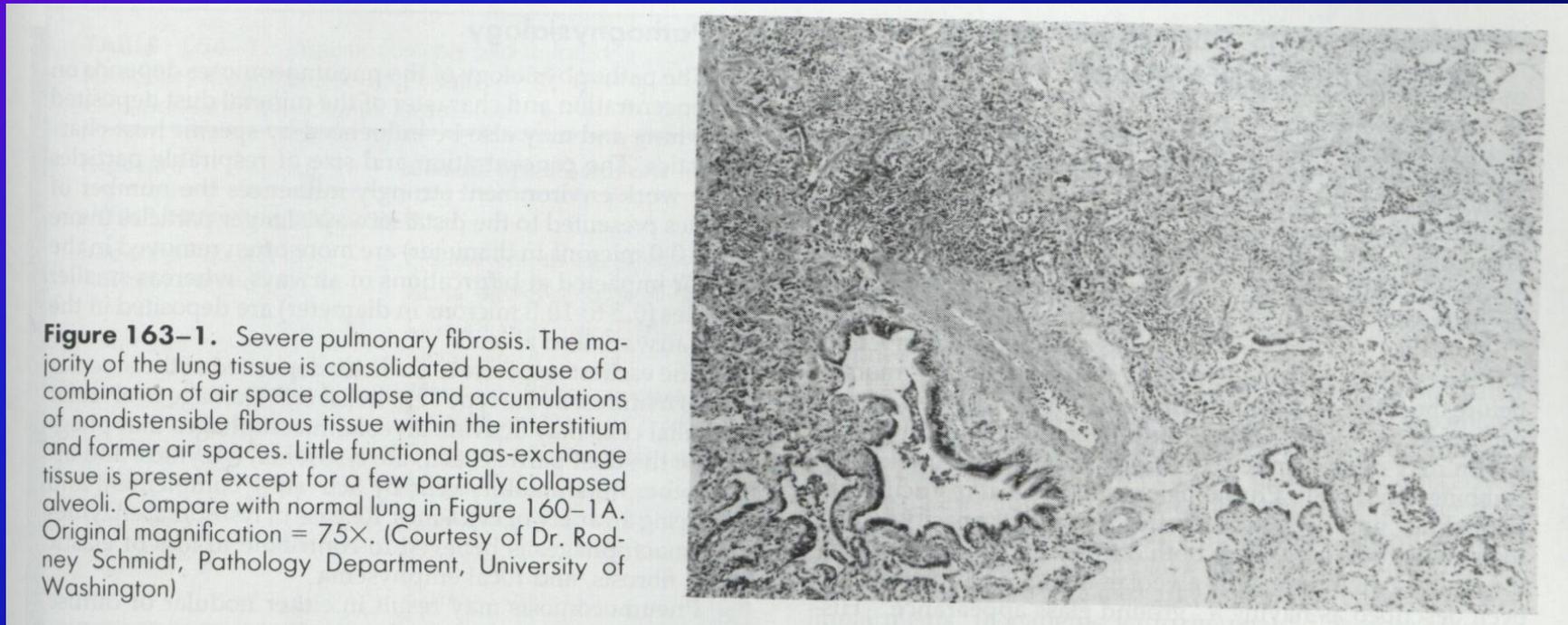
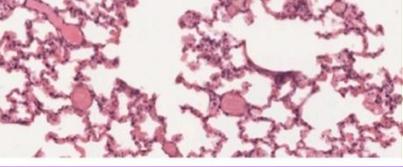


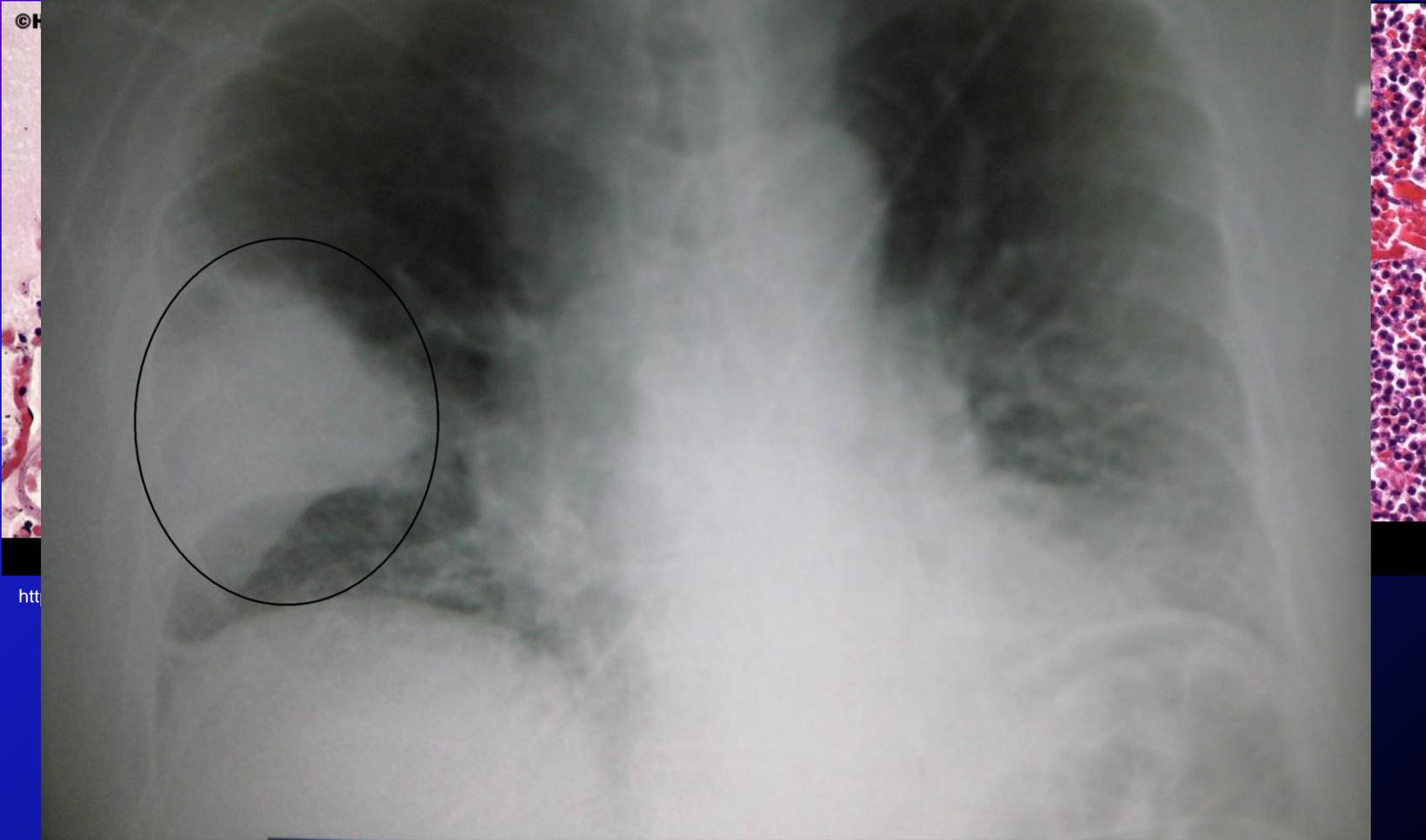
Figure 163-1. Severe pulmonary fibrosis. The majority of the lung tissue is consolidated because of a combination of air space collapse and accumulations of nondistensible fibrous tissue within the interstitium and former air spaces. Little functional gas-exchange tissue is present except for a few partially collapsed alveoli. Compare with normal lung in Figure 160-1A. Original magnification = 75X. (Courtesy of Dr. Rodney Schmidt, Pathology Department, University of Washington)

Scarring throughout the lungs



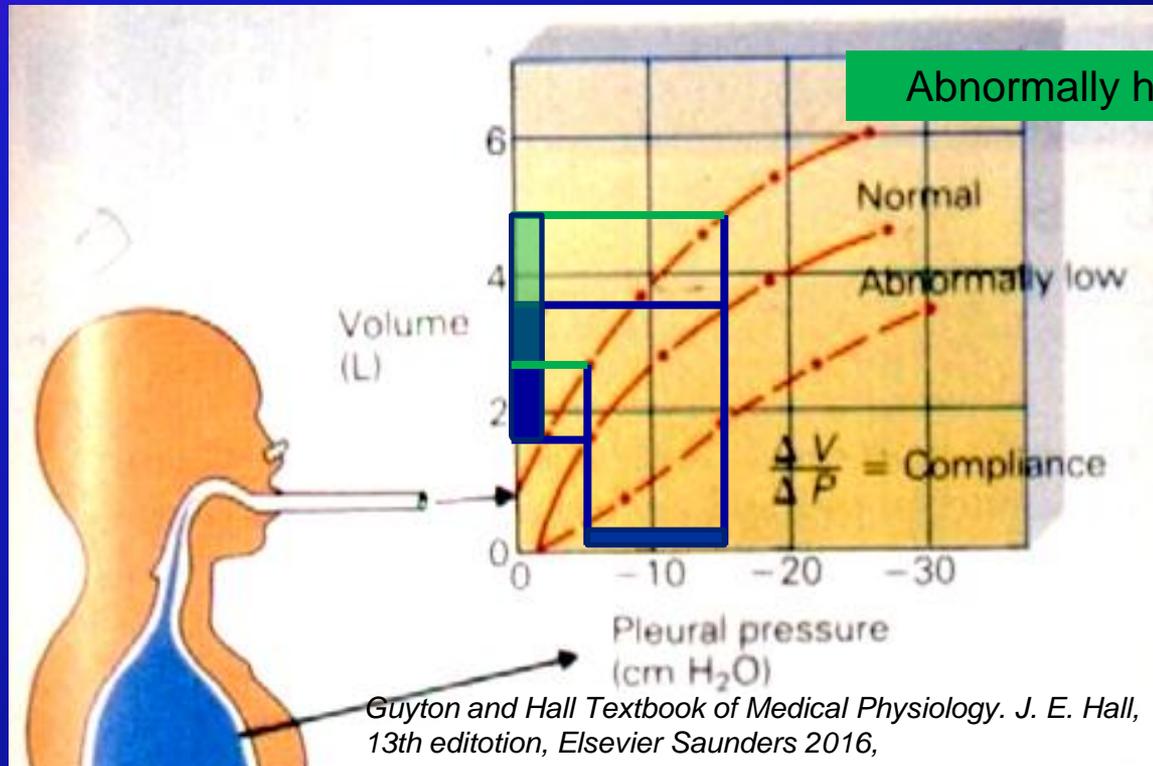
↓ Lung compliance

➤ alveolar filling processes



Lung compliance (C_L)

- An index of lung distensibility
- $C_L = \Delta V / \Delta P$ (200 - 230 ml/ 1 cm H₂O)
- Lung volume change / unit intrapleural pressure change

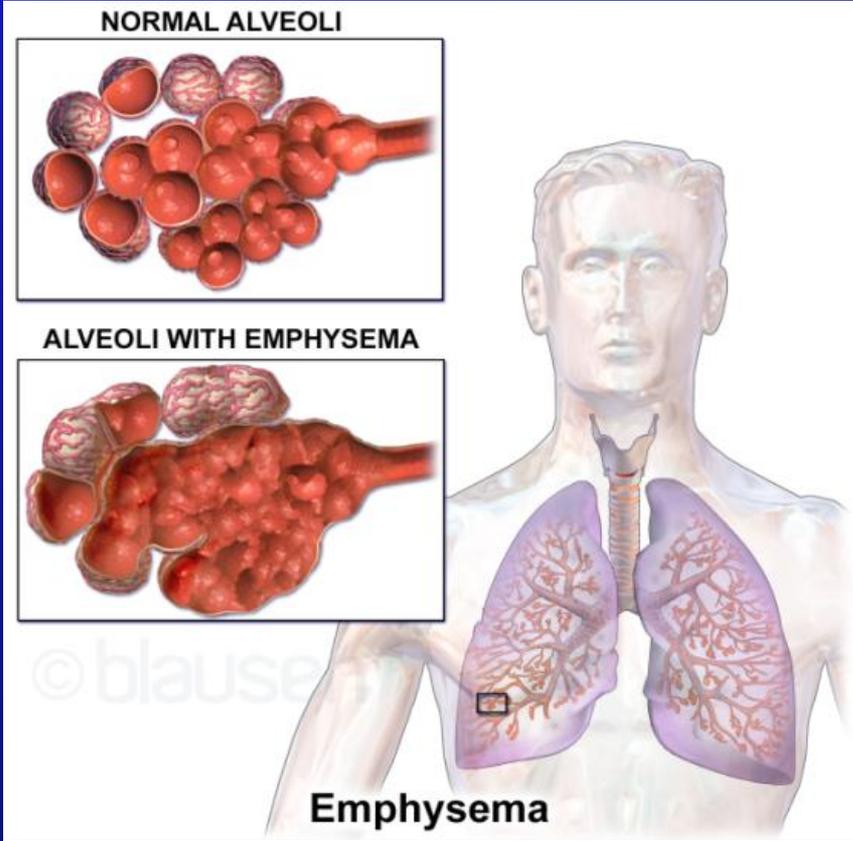


Higher compliance

↑ Lung compliance

❖ Emphysema

❖ Ageing



By Blausen Medical Communications, Inc. (Donated via OTRS, see ticket for details) [CC BY 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Emphysema

❖ Destruction of lung elastic fibers

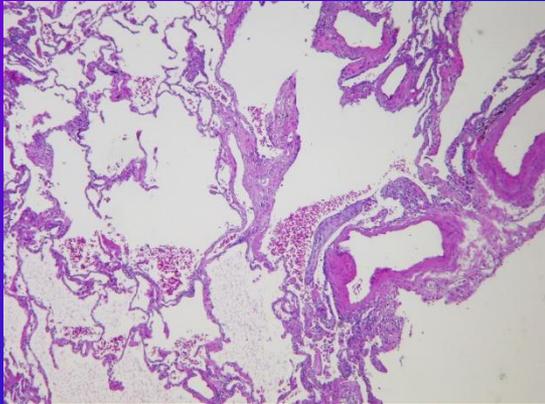
- Smoking → ↑ proteases (elastase), ↓ α1-antitrypsin
- Congenital deficiency of α1-antitrypsin



By Yale Rosen from USA (Emphysema, centrilobular) Uploaded by CFCF [CC BY-SA 2.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Emphysema

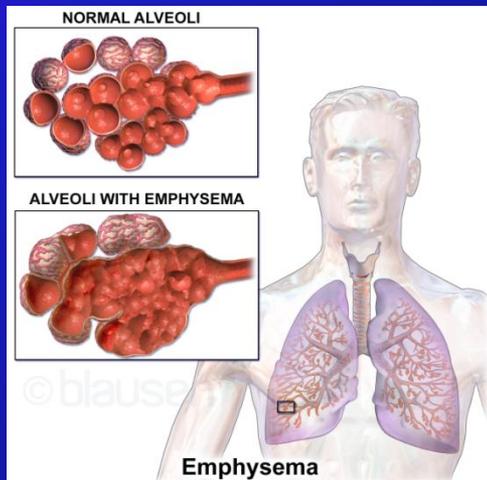
❖ Destruction of lung elastic fibers



By Yale Rosen from USA (Emphysema, centrilobular) Uploaded by CFCF
[CC BY-SA 2.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>)], via
Wikimedia Commons

What happens to

- 1. the tendency of the lungs to collapse?*
- 2. lung recoil?*
- 3. pleural pressure?*
- 4. lung compliance?*
- 5. airway resistance?*
- 6. the ease with which the patient inspires?*
- 7. the ease with which the patient expires?*



By Blausen Medical Communications, Inc. (Donated via OTRS, see
ticket for details) [CC BY 3.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons

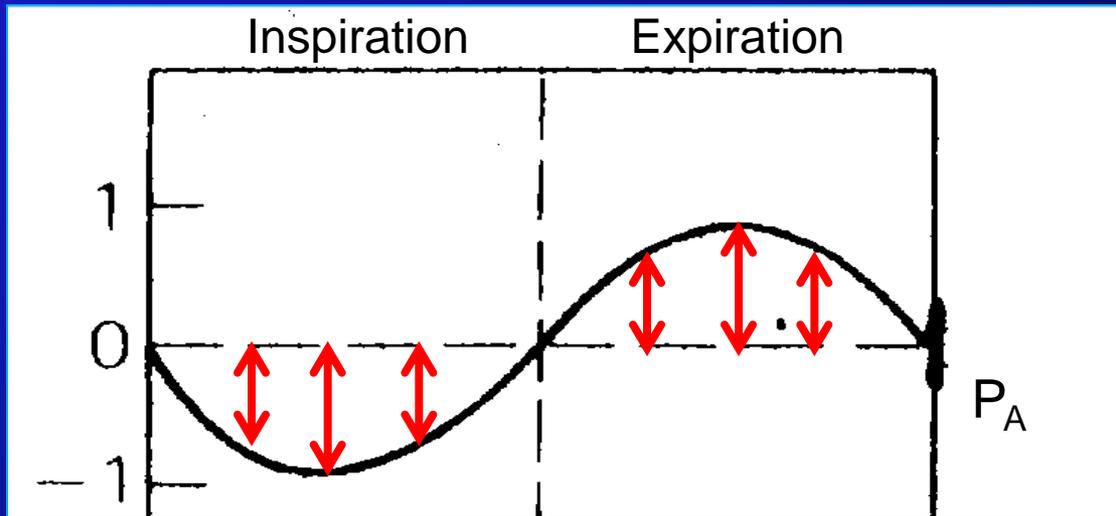
Lung Recoil versus Airway Resistance

1. Lung Recoil

- results from lung distension
- caused by lung elastic forces and surface tension in the alveoli
- occurs always both under static conditions (breath holding, no air flow) and dynamic conditions (during air flow)

2. Airway Resistance

- occurs only under dynamic conditions (during air flow)

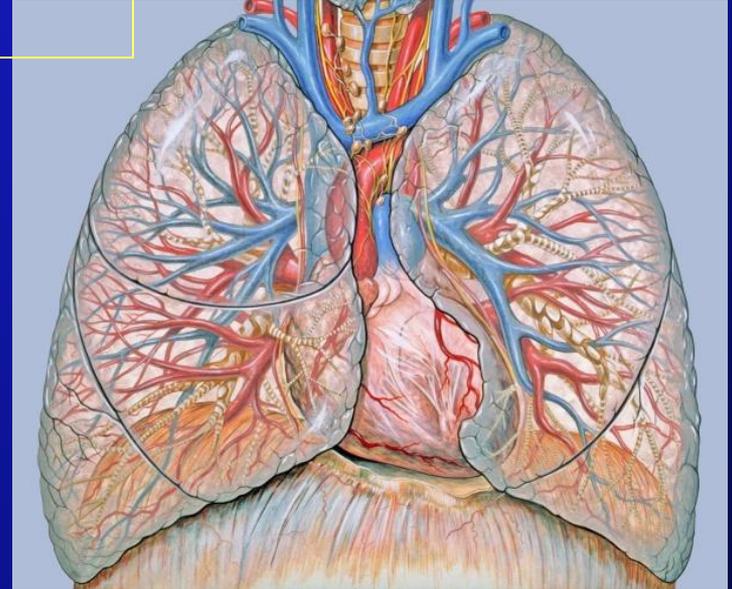


Lungs:

➤ Ventilation

➤ Perfusion

➤ Gas Exchange - Diffusion



By Patrick J. Lynch, medical illustrator. <http://patricklynch.net> Yale University Center for Advanced Instructional MediaC. Carl Jaffe; MD; cardiologist (Patrick J. Lynch, medical illustrator) [CC BY 2.5 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Distribution of Ventilation

Our lungs are NOT uniform !!!

Upright Position

*In the lower parts of the lungs ventilation is
than in the upper ones*

Details – please wait for the lecture

Distribution of Blood Flow (Perfusion)

Our lungs are NOT uniform !!!

Upright Position

*In the lower parts of the lungs perfusion is
than in the upper ones*

Details – please wait for the lecture

VENTILATION / PERFUSION RATIO

$$\dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$

The major determinant of gas exchange !!!

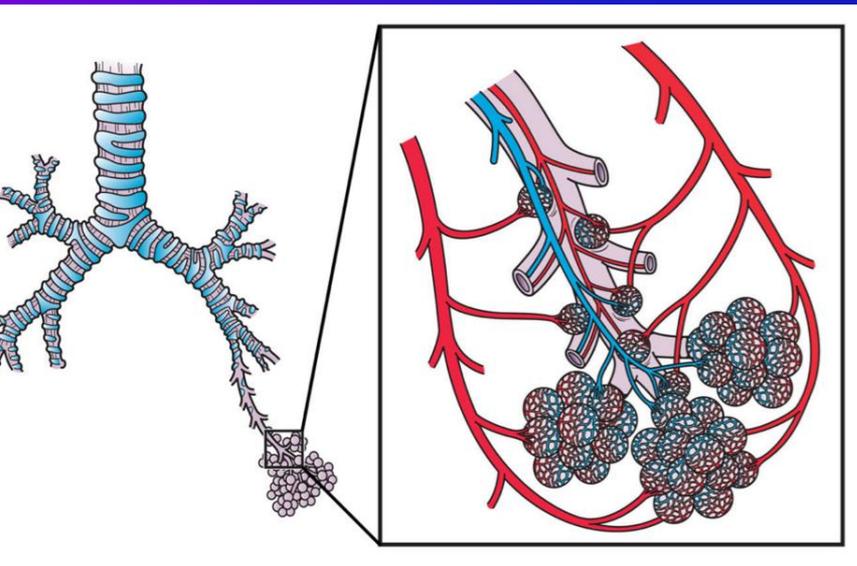
VENTILATION / PERFUSION RATIO

$$\dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$

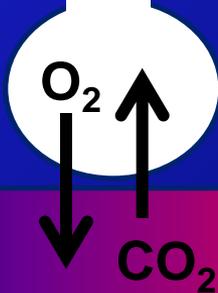
In the lungs:

Ventilation of alveoli makes sense only if blood flow (perfusion) simultaneously occurs in this region

Blood flow (perfusion) makes sense only if alveoli are simultaneously ventilated



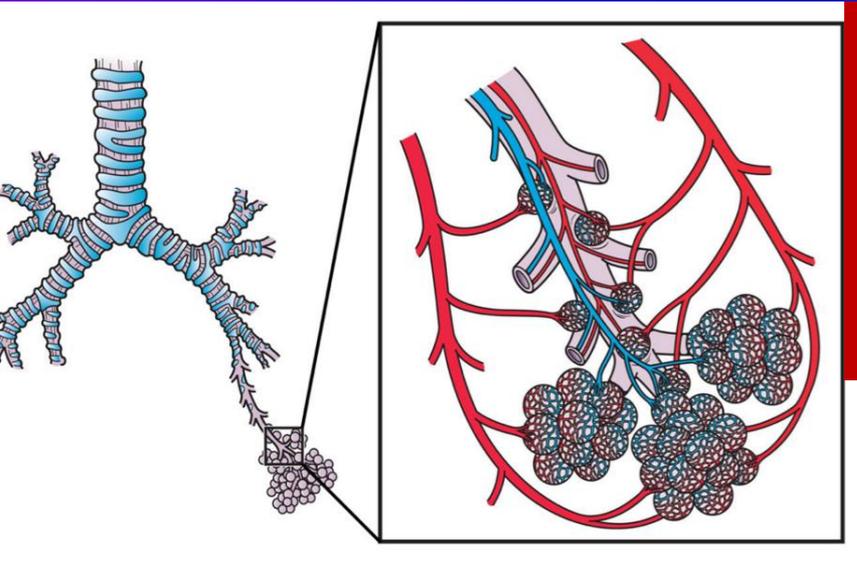
By Gray's Anatomy [Public domain], [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons



Both ventilation and perfusion are essential for gas exchange to occur

VENTILATION / PERFUSION RATIO

$$\dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$

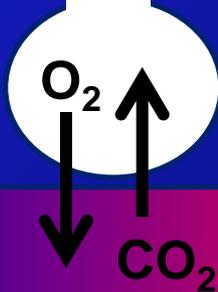


Ventilation/perfusion matching
creates
optimal conditions
for gas exchange

Ventilation Rate = Perfusion Rate

$$\dot{V}_A / \dot{Q} = 1$$

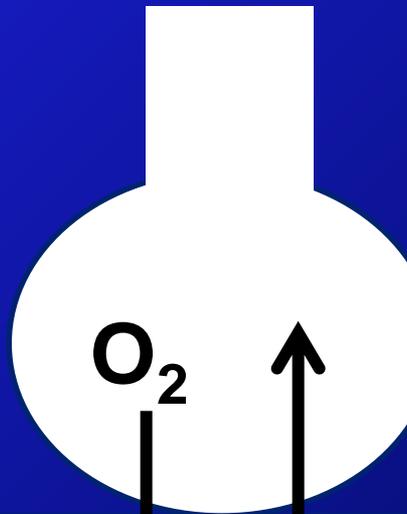
Both ventilation and perfusion
are essential for gas
exchange to occur



By Gray's Anatomy [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Matching*

$$V_A / Q = \underline{1} \text{ (ideal conditions for gas exchange)}$$



Alveolar air
 $P_{A_{O_2}} = \underline{100 \text{ mm Hg}}$
 $P_{A_{CO_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$

Deoxygenated blood
 $P_{V_{O_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$
 $P_{V_{CO_2}} = 46 \text{ mm Hg}$

Oxygenated blood
 $P_{a_{O_2}} = \underline{100 \text{ mm Hg}}$
 $P_{a_{CO_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Matching*

$$V_A / Q = \underline{1} \text{ (ideal conditions for gas exchange)}$$

Atmospheric air:
 $P_{O_2} = 159 \text{ mmHg}$
 $P_{CO_2} = 0.3 \text{ mmHg}$

CO_2 exhaled
 O_2 inhaled

Alveoli

Pulmonary capillaries

Alveolar air

$P_{A_{O_2}} = \underline{100 \text{ mm Hg}}$
 $P_{A_{CO_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$

Deoxygenated
(venous) blood
 $P_{V_{O_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$
 $P_{V_{CO_2}} = 46 \text{ mm Hg}$

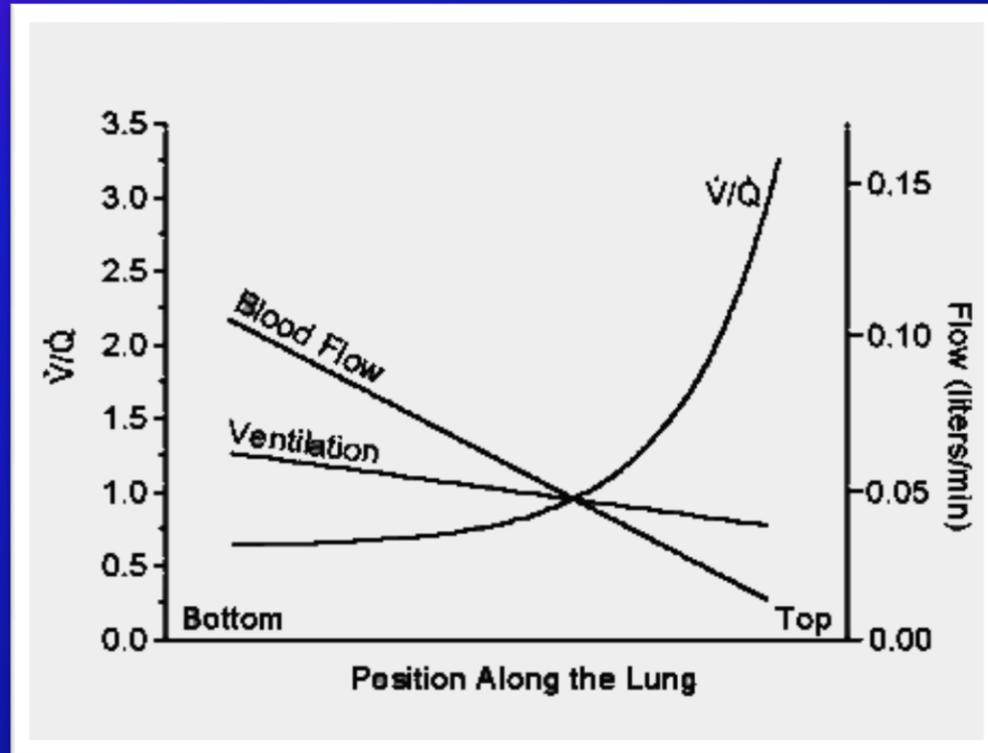
CAPILLARY BLOOD EQUILIBRATES
WITH ALVEOLAR AIR

Oxygenated
(arterial) blood
 $P_{a_{O_2}} = \underline{100 \text{ mm Hg}}$
 $P_{a_{CO_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$

Ventilation – perfusion relationship can be measured
by calculating alveolar – arterial PO_2 difference

Pulmonary Ventilation, Pulmonary Perfusion

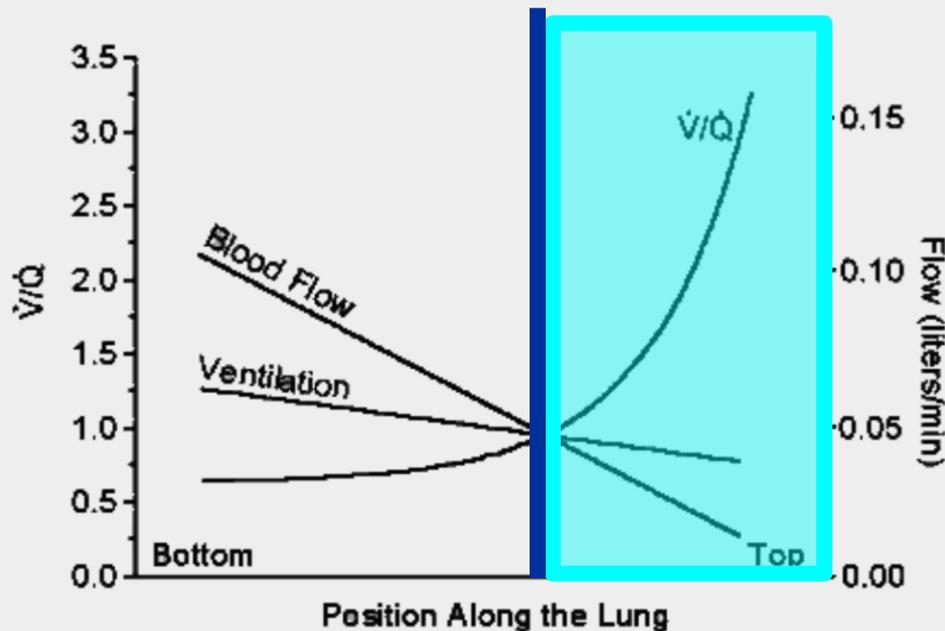
Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}



Upright Position

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching (Imbalance)*

$$\uparrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$



Upper portions of lungs

- Both blood flow and ventilation are much less than in the lower parts
- Blood flow is decreased considerably more than is ventilation

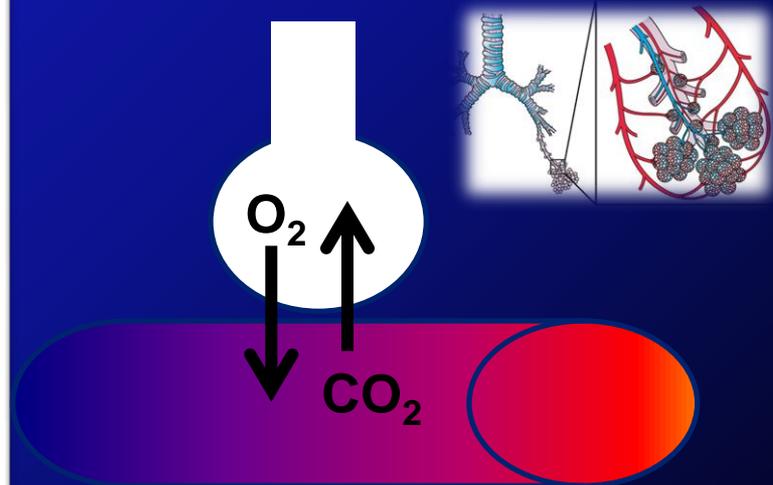
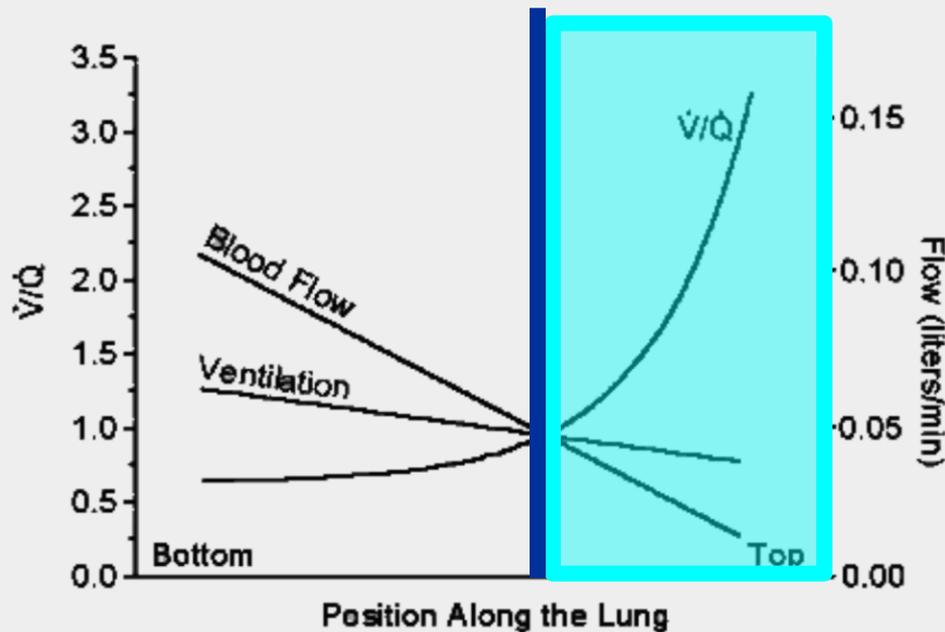
Excessive ventilation in relation to perfusion

Perfusion insufficient in relation to ventilation

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching (Imbalance)*

$$\uparrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$

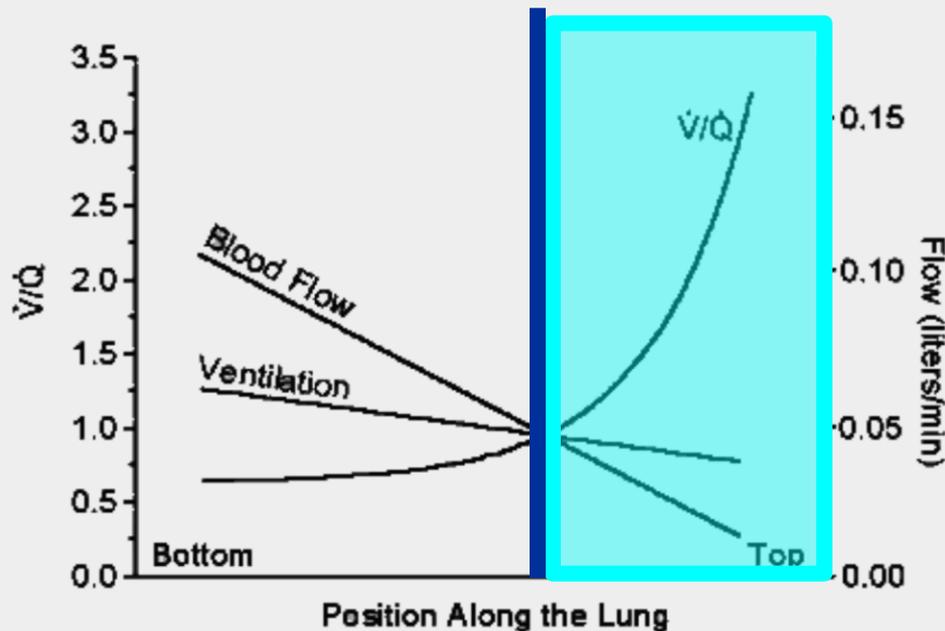
Upper portions of lungs



$$\uparrow PO_2 \quad \downarrow PCO_2$$

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching (Imbalance)*

$$\uparrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$



Upper portions of lungs

Blood leaving upper portions of the lungs has higher PO_2 than the optimal value (100 mg Hg).

Does this phenomenon actually effect on average PO_2 in blood leaving the lungs???

$$\uparrow PO_2 \quad \downarrow PCO_2$$

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching (Imbalance)*

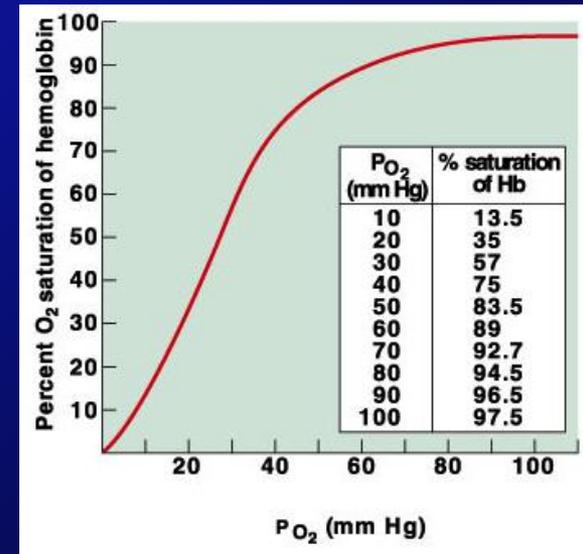
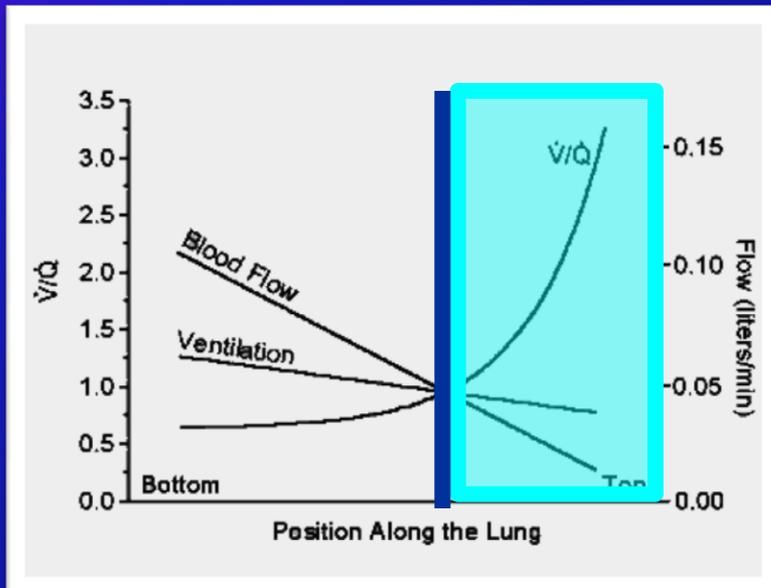
Upper portions of lungs

$$\uparrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$

$$\uparrow P_{O_2} \quad \downarrow P_{CO_2}$$

1. Minor distribution (7-10%) to the total amount of blood (low blood flow)

2. Hb is maximally saturated at $P_{O_2} \geq 100$ mm Hg

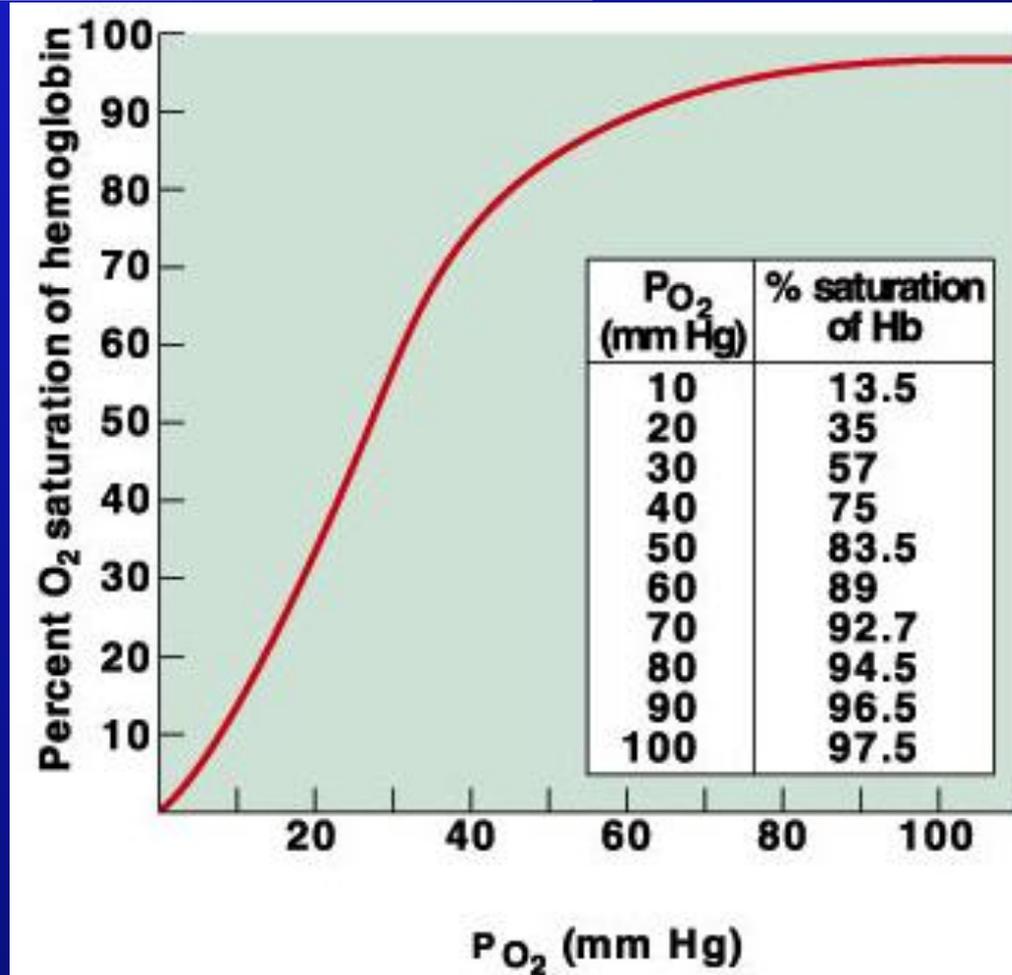


Oxygen-Hemoglobin Dissociation Curve at Rest

Oxygen-Hemoglobin Dissociation Curve at Rest

Oxygen is transported
- by hemoglobin (98.5%)
- dissolved in plasma (1.5%)

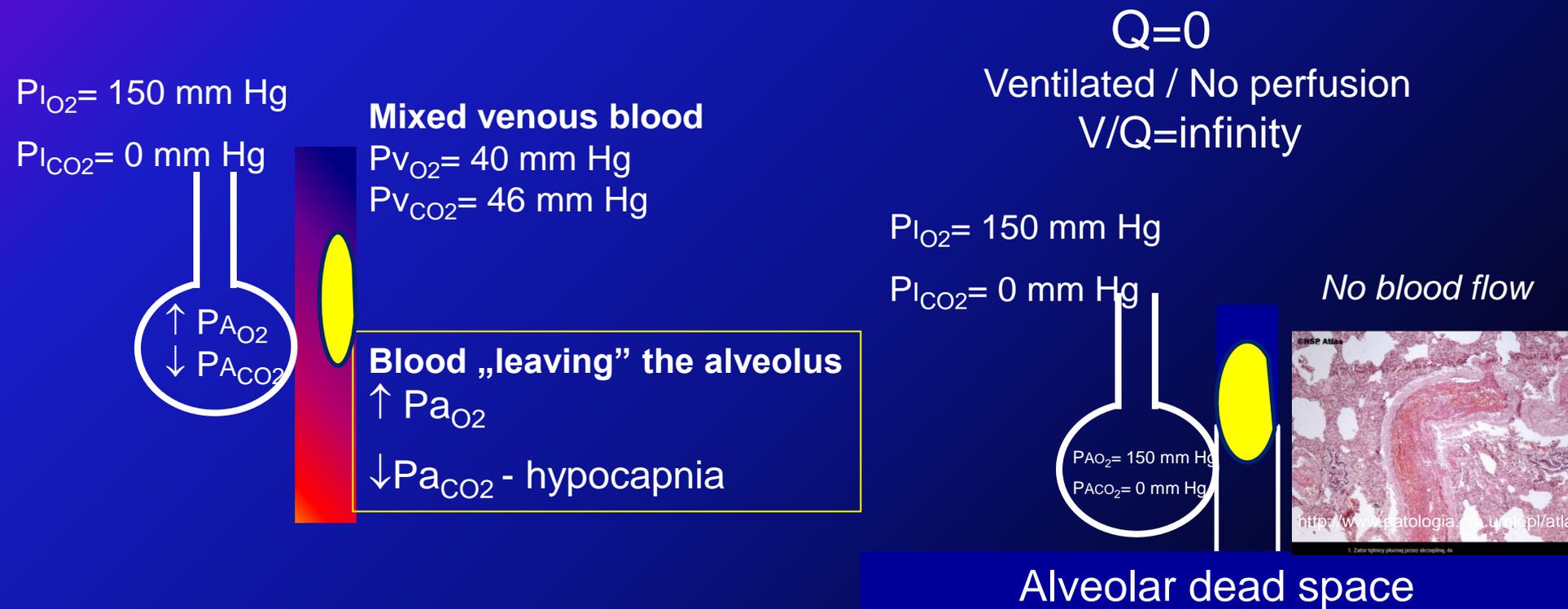
Oxygen-hemoglobin dissociation curve shows that hemoglobin is almost completely saturated when P_{O_2} is 80 mm Hg or above. At lower partial pressures, the hemoglobin releases oxygen



$\uparrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$ – Pathology

Over ventilated / Under perfused alveoli

- Obstruction (embolism) of pulmonary artery
- Compression (tumor, fluid, gas) of pulmonary artery
- Loss of capillary bed (emphysema), shock



Dead space

Dead space – a volume of the respiratory system that is ventilated but does not exchange gasses with pulmonary capillary blood:

➤ Alveolar (functional) dead space

Areas of the lung with high V_A / Q

+

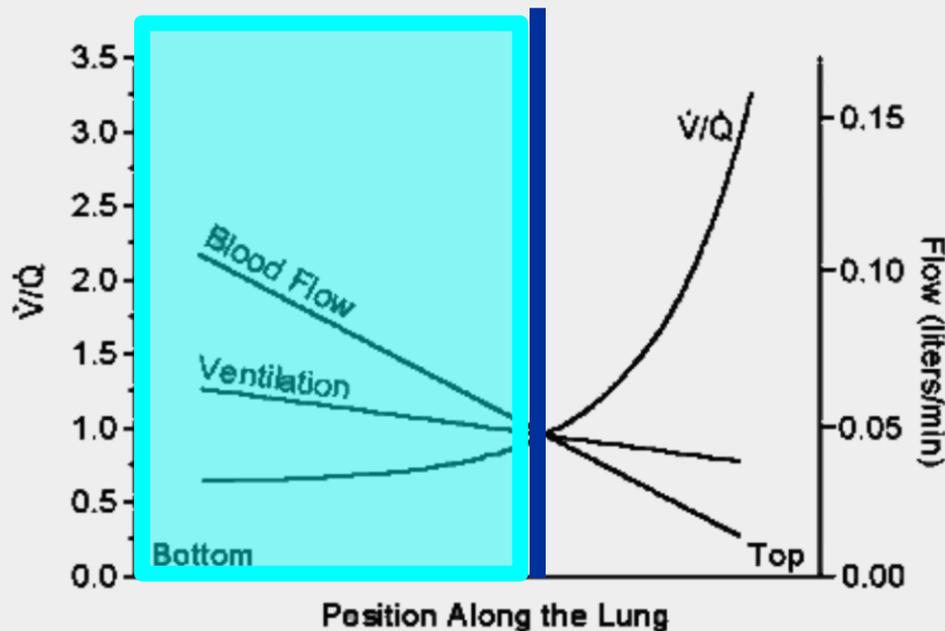
➤ Anatomic dead space

=

Physiologic dead space (wasted ventilation)

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching (Imbalance)*

$$\downarrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$



Lower portions of lungs

- Both blood flow and ventilation are much better than in the upper parts
- Blood flow is increased considerably more than is ventilation

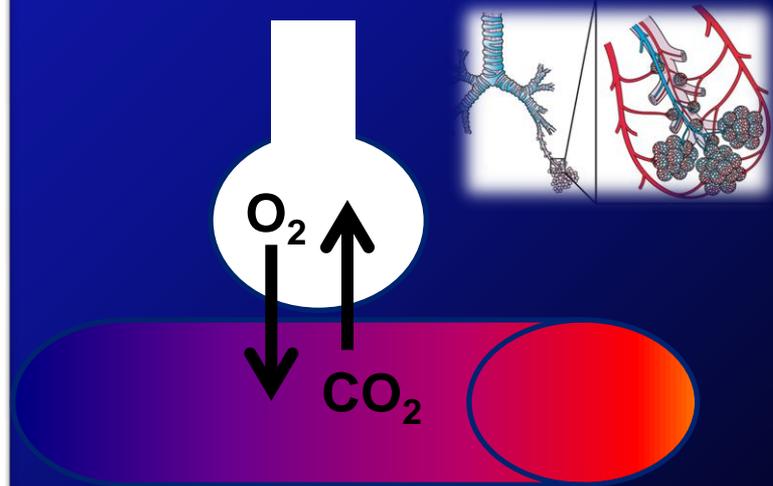
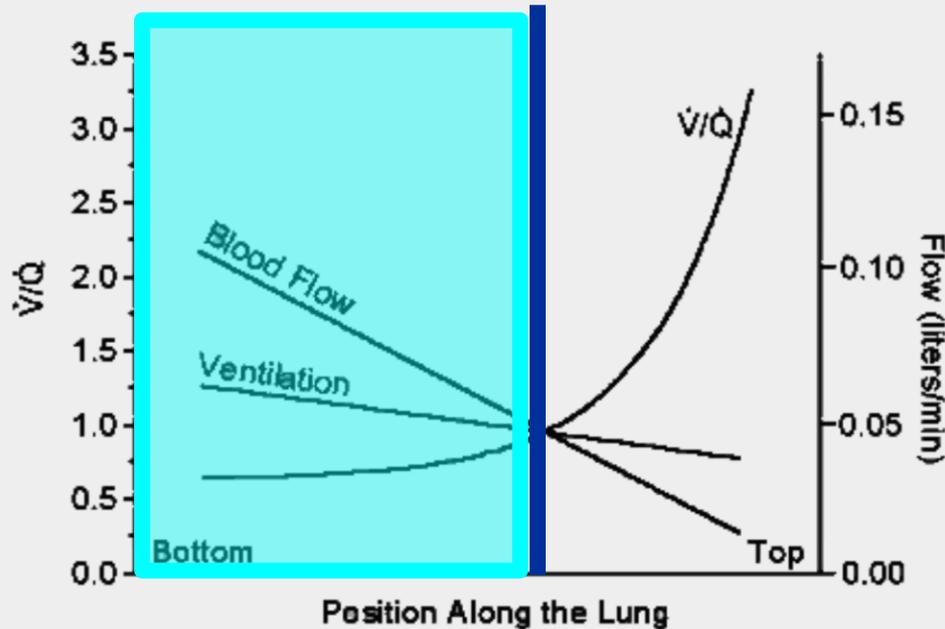
Excessive perfusion in relation to ventilation

Ventilation insufficient in relation to perfusion

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio Mismatching (Imbalance)

$$\downarrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$

Lower portions of lungs

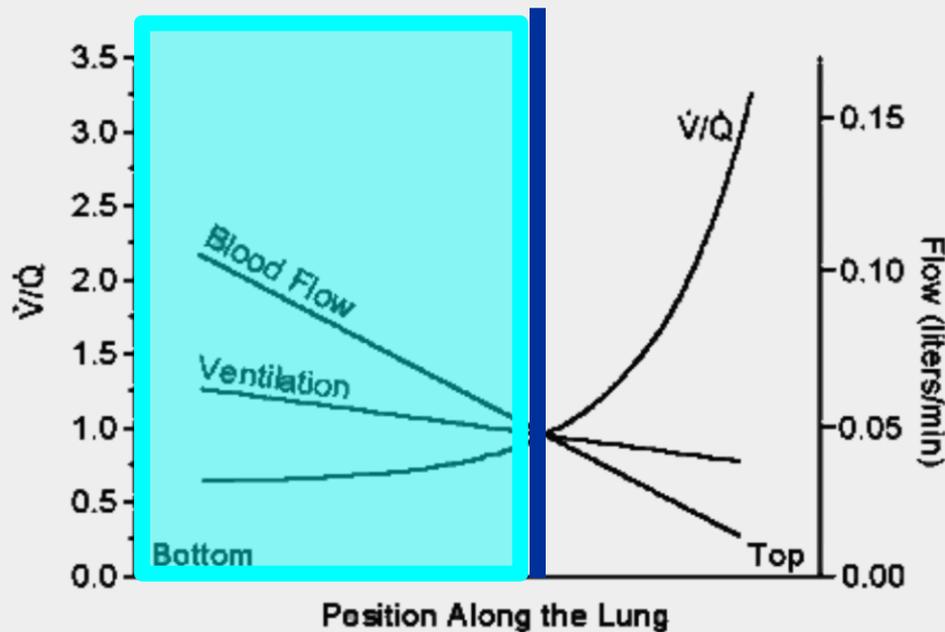


$$\downarrow PO_2 \quad \uparrow PCO_2$$

- A certain fraction of venous blood passing through the pulmonary capillaries does not become oxygenated (**Intrapulmonary shunt**)

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching (Imbalance)*

$$\downarrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$



Lower portions of lungs

Blood leaving lower portions of the lungs has lower PO_2 than the optimal value (100 mg Hg).

Does this phenomenon actually effect on average PO_2 in blood leaving the lungs???

$$\downarrow PO_2 \quad \uparrow PCO_2$$

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio Mismatching (Imbalance)

Lower portions of lungs

$$\downarrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$$

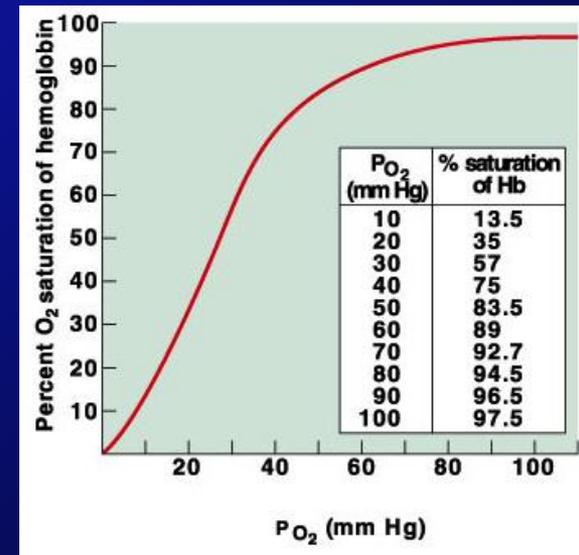
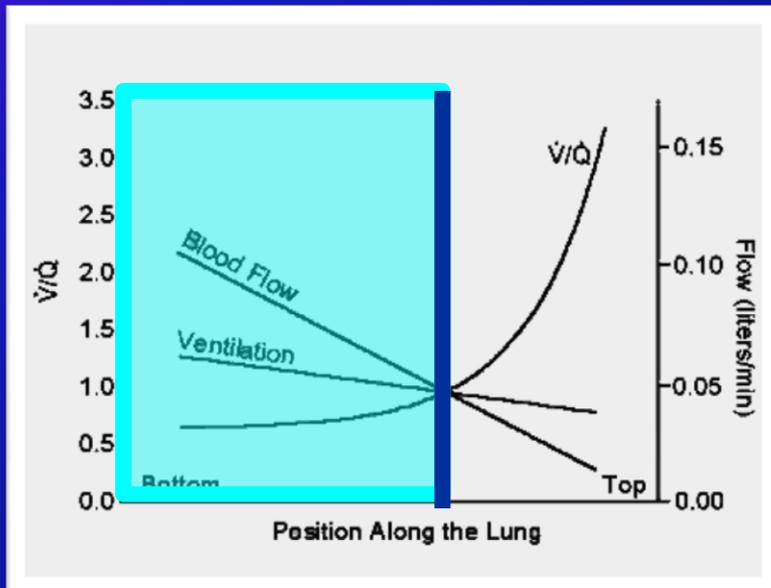
$$\downarrow P_{O_2} \quad \uparrow P_{CO_2}$$

1. Major distribution (\uparrow 90%) to the total amount of blood (high blood flow)

2. A certain fraction of venous blood passing through the pulmonary capillaries does not become oxygenated

(Intrapulmonary shunt)

- A decrease in **PO₂** and **SO₂** in blood leaving this region



Oxygen-Hemoglobin Dissociation Curve at Rest

Shunt

Blood that bypasses from systemic veins to systemic arteries without exchanging gas with alveolar air

➤ Intrapulmonary shunts

Areas of the lung with low V_A / Q

➤ Anatomic shunts :

- Bronchopulmonary venous anastomoses

Bronchial circulation supplies: airways, supporting tissues, pulmonary arteries, veins

- Intracardiac thebesian veins

Shunts – perfusion not used for gas exchange - 2%

$\downarrow \dot{V}_A / \dot{Q}$ – Pathology

Under ventilated / Over perfused alveoli

- Narrowing of airways (asthma, bronchitis, emphysema)
- Compression of airways (tumor, edema, fluid)

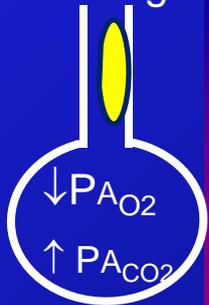
$$V=0$$

Unventilated / Perfused alveoli

$$V/Q=0$$

$P_{I_{O_2}} = 150$ mm Hg

$P_{I_{CO_2}} = 0$ mm Hg



Mixed venous blood

$P_{V_{O_2}} = 40$ mm Hg

$P_{V_{CO_2}} = 46$ mm Hg

Blood „leaving” the alveolus

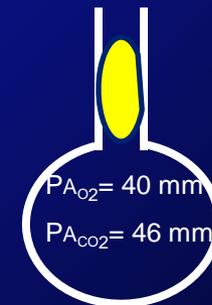
$\downarrow P_{a_{O_2}}$ - hypoxemia

$\uparrow P_{a_{CO_2}}$ - hypercapnia

$$V=0$$

Unventilated / Perfused alveoli

$$V/Q=0$$



Mixed venous blood

$P_{V_{O_2}} = 40$ mm Hg

$P_{V_{CO_2}} = 46$ mm Hg

Blood „leaving” the alveolus

$P_{a_{O_2}} = 40$ mm Hg

$P_{a_{CO_2}} = 46$ mm Hg

Venous admixture –
Intrapulmonary shunt

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Matching*

$$V_A / Q = \underline{1} \text{ (ideal conditions for gas exchange)}$$

Atmospheric air:
 $P_{O_2} = 159 \text{ mmHg}$
 $P_{CO_2} = 0.3 \text{ mmHg}$

CO_2 exhaled
 O_2 inhaled

Alveoli

Pulmonary capillaries

Alveolar air

$P_{A_{O_2}} = \underline{100 \text{ mm Hg}}$
 $P_{A_{CO_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$

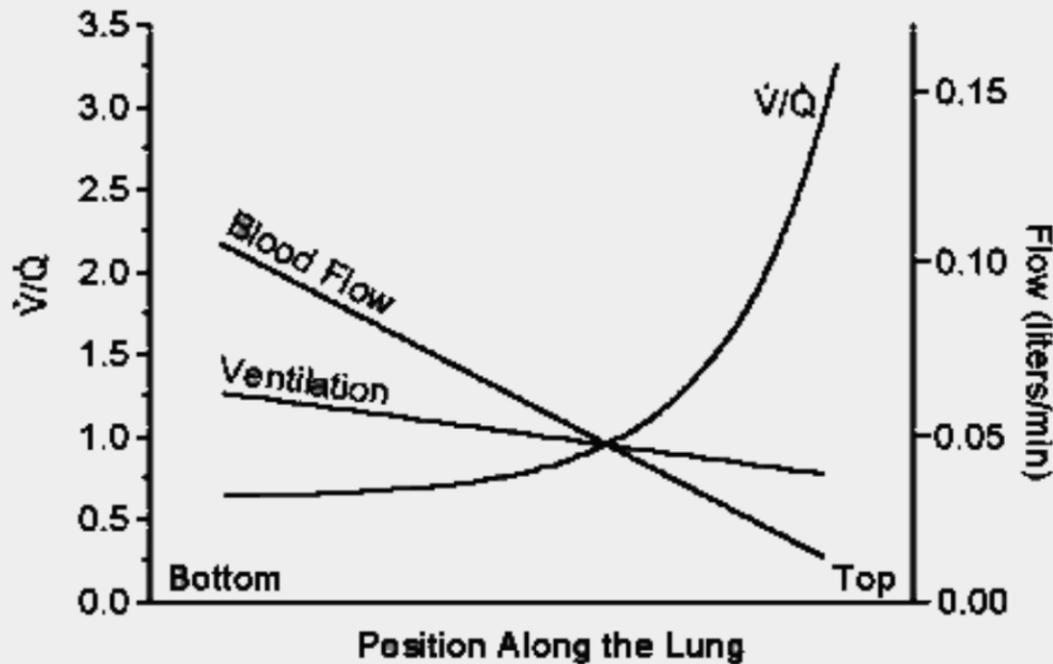
Deoxygenated
(venous) blood
 $P_{V_{O_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$
 $P_{V_{CO_2}} = 46 \text{ mm Hg}$

CAPILLARY BLOOD EQUILIBRATES
WITH ALVEOLAR AIR

Oxygenated
(arterial) blood
 $P_{a_{O_2}} = \underline{100 \text{ mm Hg}}$
 $P_{a_{CO_2}} = 40 \text{ mm Hg}$

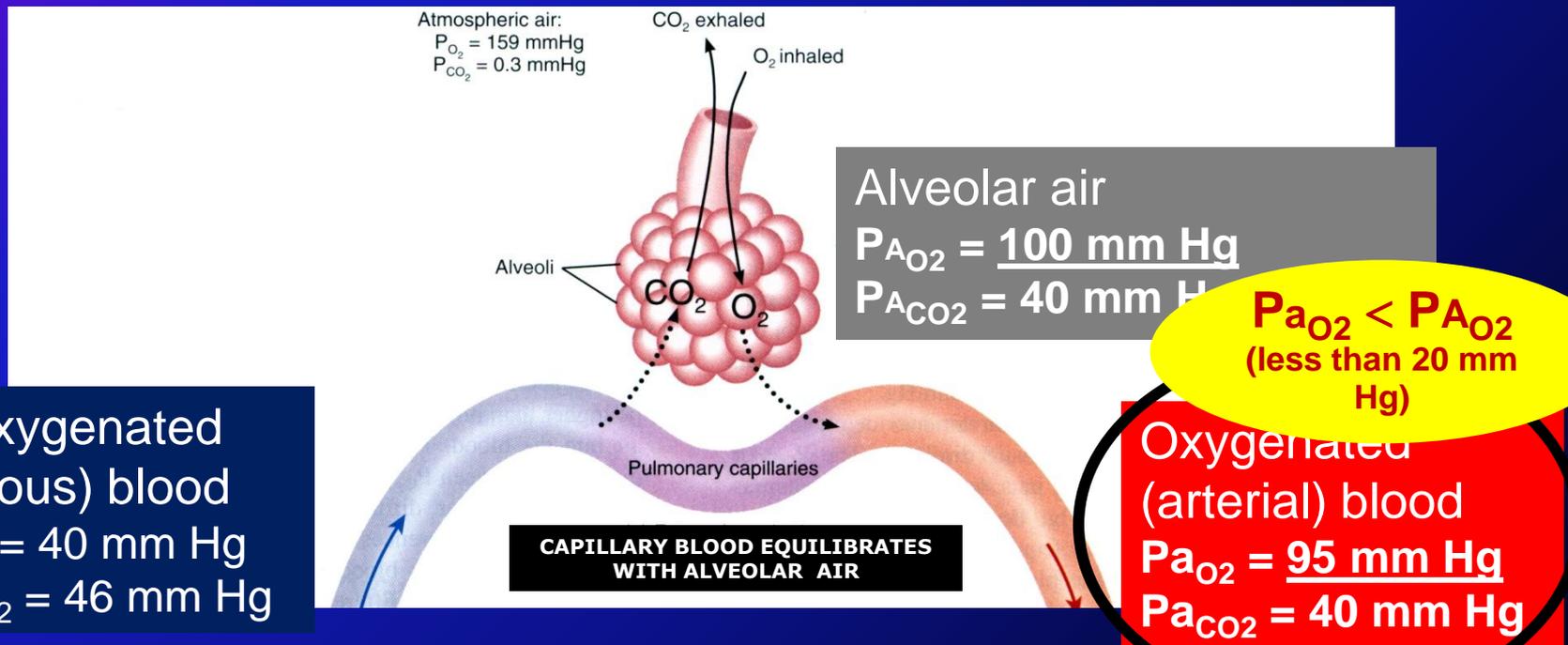
Ventilation – perfusion relationship can be measured
by calculating alveolar – arterial PO_2 difference

Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching (Imbalance)*



Ventilation / Perfusion Ratio *Mismatching*

$$V_A / Q = 4,2 \text{ L/min} / 5 \text{ L/min} = 0,85 \text{ (average)}$$



Ventilation – perfusion relationship can be measured by calculating alveolar – arterial P_{O_2} difference

Uneven matching of alveolar ventilation
and alveolar blood flow –

*a major cause of systemic hypoxemia in
patients with
cardiopulmonary diseases*



<https://pixabay.com/pl/sprawowanie-bieganie-drzewa-zdrowe-24419/>

Thank you