

## CHAPTER 23 RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

**CHAPTER OVERVIEW:** This chapter describes the structure and function of the organs of the respiratory system and explains the physiology of ventilation, gas exchange and gas transport. The central nervous system reflexes controlling respiratory rate and depth are considered in detail. The underlying physical principles associated with the diffusion of gases are reviewed in relation to their importance in gas exchange and gas transport.

**OUTLINE** (four or five fifty-minute lectures):  
Seeley, A&P, 5/e

<b>Topic Outline, Chapter 23</b>	<b>Figures &amp; Tables</b>	<b>Transparenc Acetates</b>
I. Anatomy and Histology, p. 738	Clinical Focus, pp.773-774 Systems Interactions, p.776	
1. Upper Respiratory Tract = Nasal Cavity, Pharynx, and Associated Structures	Fig. 23.1, p.739	TA-469
2. Lower Respiratory Tract = Larynx, Trachea, Bronchi, and Lungs		
A. Nose and Nasal Cavity		
1. External Nose	Fig. 7.10b, p.193	
2. Nasal Cavity - Lined with Mucous Membrane of Psuedostratified Ciliated Columnar Epithelium	Fig. 23.2, p.740 Predict Quest. 1	TA-470
a. External Nares = Nostrils		
b. Internal Nares = Choanae		
c. Vestibule - Lined with Stratified Squamous Epithelium		
d. Internasal Septum		
e. Hard Palate		
f. Nasal Conchae Each with Associated Meatus		
g. Paranasal Sinuses	Fig. 7.11, p.194	TA-128
h. Nasolacrimal Duct	Fig. 15.10, p.473	TA-307
3. Nasal Cavity Functions as Air Passageway, Warms, Moisturizes and Filters Air; Houses Smell Receptors; Resonating chamber for Speech		
B. Pharynx - Common Opening of Digestive and Respiratory Systems	Fig. 23.2, p.740	TA-470
1. Nasopharynx		
a. Internal Nares to Uvula		
b. Mucous Membrane Similar to Nasal Cavity		
c. Opening to Auditory Tubes	Fig. 15.23, p.490	TA-315
d. Pharyngeal Tonsil on Posterior Surface		

	2. Oropharynx		
	a. Uvula to Epiglottis		
	b. Oral Cavity Through Fauces		
	c. Lined by Stratified Squamous Epithelium		
	d. Palatine and Lingual Tonsils		
	3. Laryngopharynx		
	a. Tip of Epiglottis to Separate Openings to Larynx and Esophagus		
	b. Lined with Stratified Squamous Epithelium		
C. Larynx		Fig. 23.3, p.741	TA-471
	1. Nine Cartilages (Most Hyaline Cartilage)		
	a. Six Paired		
	b. Three Unpaired		
	c. Connected by Muscles and Ligaments		
	2. Lined by Pseudostratified Squamous Epithelium Except True and False Vocal Cords		
	3. Thyroid Cartilage = Adam's Apple		
	4. Cricoid Cartilage = Base of Larynx		
	5. Epiglottis		
	a. Elastic Cartilage		
	b. Covers Opening to Larynx During Swallowing		
	6. Vocal Apparatus	Fig. 23.4, p.742	TA-472
	a. Arytenoid Cartilages		
	b. Corniculate Cartilages		
	c. Cuneiform Cartilages		
	d. Vestibular Folds - Protective Functions		
	e. Vocal Folds = True Vocal Cords		
D. Trachea		Fig. 23.5a, p.743 Clinical Note, p.742	TA-473
	1. Dense Regular Connective Tissue and Smooth Muscle		
	2. Reinforced with C-Shaped Pieces of Cartilage	Predict Quest. 2	
	3. Lined with Pseudostratified Ciliated Columnar Epithelium	Fig. 23.5b, p.743	
	a. Constant Irritation Can Change to Moist Stratified Squamous Epithelium		
	b. Loss of Cilia Leads to Loss of Protective Function		
E. Tracheobronchial Tree			
	1. First Branch into R. and L. Primary Bronchi	Fig. 23.6, p.744	TA-474
	2. Conducting Zone	Predict Quest. 3	
	a. R. Bronchus is Shorter, Wider, and more Vertical than the L.	Fig. 23.7, p.746	TA-475
	b. Extends from Trachea to		

- Terminal Bronchioles
- c. Primary Bronchi to Secondary (Lobar) Bronchi to Tertiary (Segmental) Bronchi to Bronchioles, Then Terminal Bronchioles
- d. Less Cartilage, More Smooth Muscle as Divisions Are Smaller ñ Asthma

1. Respiratory Zone
  - a. Terminal Bronchioles Divide into Respiratory Bronchioles, Then to Alveolar Ducts, Alveolar Sacs, and Alveoli
  - b. Alveoli ñ Simple Squamous Epithelium, Macrophages Present

## F. Lungs

1. Primary Organs of Respiration
2. Conical Shape
  - a. Base on Diaphragm
  - b. Apex 2.5 cm Superior to Clavicle
3. R. Lung Larger than L.

Fig. 23.8, p.747

TA-476

- a. R. Lung has Greater Mass
- b. R. Lung has Three Lobes and Ten Bronchopulmonary Segments
- c. L. Lung has Two Lobes and Nine Bronchopulmonary Segments

## G. Thoracic Wall and Muscles of Respiration

Fig. 23.9a, p.748  
Clinical Note, p.747  
Fig. 23.9b, p.748

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1. Muscles of Inspiration (Diaphragm, Internal Intercostals and Abdominals)
  - a. Inspiration ñ Expansion of Rib Cage
  - b. Anterior-Posterior Dimension also Increased

Fig. 23.9c, p.749

1. Muscles of Expiration (External Intercostals, Pectoralis minor, Scalenes)
2. Normal Breathing VS Labored Breathing

## H. Pleura

Fig. 23.10, p.750

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1. Lungs Within Thoracic Cavity
2. Each Lung Surrounded by Separate Pleural Membranes
  - a. Parietal Pleura Covers Inner Thoracic Wall, Superior Surface of Diaphragm and Mediastinum
  - b. Visceral Pleura Covers Surface of Lung
  - c. Pleural Membranes Become

Continuous at Hilum

3. Pleural Cavity Filled with Pleural Fluid
  - a. Acts as Lubricant
  - a. Helps Hold Pleural Membranes Together
  - b. Lung Volume Increases as Thoracic Cavity Expands

## I. Blood Supply

1. Pulmonary Circulation
  - a. Pulmonary Arteries Carry Deoxygenated Blood to Alveoli for Gas Exchange
  - b. Pulmonary Veins Carry Oxygenated Blood Back to Heart
2. Bronchial Circulation
  - a. Bronchial Arteries Carry Oxygenated Blood to Tissues of Respiratory Passages Down to Bronchioles
  - b. Bronchial Veins Carry Deoxygenated Blood from Proximal Bronchi to Azygous System
  - c. Distal Bronchial Drainage Enters Pulmonary Veins

## J. Lymphatic Supply

1. Superficial Lymphatic Vessels
2. Deep Lymphatic Vessels
3. Cancer Spreads Through These Vessels

## II. Ventilation , p. 751

### A. Pressure Differences and Air Flow

1. Ventilation = Process of Moving Air Into and Out of Lungs

### 2. Flow Proportional to Pressure Difference Between Atmospheric Air and Alveolar Air

#### A. Pressure and Volume

1. General Gas Law
2. As Volume Increases, Air Pressure Decreases

#### A. Air Flow into and out of Alveoli

1. Flow Inversely Proportional to Resistance to Flow - Related to Bronchiolar Constriction
2. Inspiration Occurs When Thoracic Volume Increased
3. Expiration Occurs When thoracic Volume Decreased

#### B. Changing Alveolar Volume

### 1. Primary Determinants

- a. Elastic Recoil of Tissues
- b. Surface Tension of Fluid Film Lining Alveoli

### 2. Normally Resisted by

- a. Surfactant Which Reduces Surface Tension
  - b. Intrapleural Pressure Below Atmospheric Pressure
- Pleural Pressure Alveolar Pressure Changes During Inspiration and

Clinical Note, p.751

Table 23.1, p.752

Fig. 23.11, p.753

Fig. 23.11b-c, p.753

Fig. 23.11d, p.753

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Clinical Note 1, p.754

Clinical Note 2, p.754

Fig. 23.12, p.755

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## III. Measuring Lung Function, p. 755

## A. Compliance of the Lungs and the Thorax

1. Compliance = Measure of the Expansibility of the Lungs and Thorax Clinical Note, p.755
  - a. Volume Increase for Each Unit of Pressure Change in Intrapulmonary Pressure
  - b. Normal Value is 0.13L per cm Water
2. The Greater the Compliance the Easier it is to Expand the Lungs
3. Abnormally High Compliance Results from Loss of Elastic Tissue as in Emphysema
4. Abnormally Low Compliance Results from
  - a. Deposition of Inelastic Fibers - Pulmonary Fibrosis
  - b. Collapse of the Alveoli - Respiratory Distress Syndrome and Pulmonary Edema
  - c. Airway Obstruction - Asthma, Bronchitis, Lung Cancer
  - d. Deformities of the Thoracic Wall - Kyphosis and Scoliosis

## B. Pulmonary Volumes and Capacities

1. Volumes Measured Using Spirometry
  - a. Tidal Volume Fig. 23.13a, p.756
    - 1). Volume of Air Moved During Normal Inspiration or Expiration
    - 2). About 500 ml
  - b. Inspiratory Reserve Volume Fig. 23.13b, p.756
    - 1). Volume of Air Inspired Forcefully After Inspiration of Tidal Volume
    - 2). About 3000 ml
  - c. Expiratory Reserve Volume
    - 1). Volume of Air Expired Forcefully After Expiration of Tidal Volume
    - 2). About 1100 ml
  - d. Residual Volume
    - 1). Volume of Air Remaining in Respiratory Passages Following Maximum Forced Expiration
    - 2). About 1200 ml
3. Pulmonary Capacities (Sum of Two or More Pulmonary Volumes) TA-482
  - a. Inspiratory Capacity Fig. 23.13b, p.756
    - 1). Tidal Volume Plus Inspiratory

Reserve Volume

2). Maximum Volume a Person can Inspire After a Normal Expiration

3). About 3500 ml

b. Functional Residual Capacity

1). Expiratory Reserve Volume Plus Residual Volume

2). Amount of Air Remaining in the Lungs After Normal Expiration

3). About 2300 ml

c. Vital Capacity

1). Sum of Inspiratory Reserve Volume, Tidal Volume and the Expiratory Reserve Volume

2). Maximum Volume of Air that Can Be Expelled After Maximum Inspiration

3). About 4600 ml

d. Total Lung Capacity

1). Sum of Inspiratory Reserve Volume, Expiratory Reserve Volume, Tidal Volume and Residual Volume

2). About 5800 ml

4. Volumes of Vital Capacity Influenced by

a. Sex - Adult Females 20-25% Below Adult Males

b. Age - Greatest in Young Adults

c. Body Size

1). Tall > Short

2). Thin > Obese

d. Physical Conditioning

1). Training Increased by 30-40%

2). Disease Deceased Below Survival (Less than 500 -1000 ml)

5. Forced Expiratory Vital Capacity

a. Rate at Which Lung Volume Changes During Measurement of Vital Capacity

b. Clinically Important Pulmonary Test

C. Minute Respiratory Volume and Alveolar Ventilation Rate

Predict Quest. 5

1. Minute Respiratory Volume

a. Total Amount of Air Moved Through Respiratory System Each Minute

b. Tidal Volume X Respiratory Rate

c. 500 ml X 12 Breaths/min = 6

L/min

2. Dead Air Space

a. Part of the Respiratory System Where Gas Exchange Does not Take Place

b. Anatomical Dead Air Space (150 ml) - Volume of Respiratory Passages from Nasal Cavity, to Terminal Bronchioles

c. Physiological Dead Air Space (Variable) Anatomical Dead Air Space Plus Volume of Any Non-Functional Alveoli

Clinical Note, p.757

3. Alveolar Ventilation

a. Volume of Air that is Available for Gas Exchange

b. Inspired Air Fills Dead Air Space First

c.  $AVR = RR (TV - DAS)$

IV. Physical Principles of Gas Exchange, p. 757

System Interactions, p.776

A. Partial Pressure

1. Dalton's Law

Table 23.1, p.752

2. Partial Pressure of a Gas = Pressure Exerted by Each Gas in a Mixture of Gases

Table 23.2, p.758

3. Vapor Pressure ( $P_{H_2O}$ ) = Partial Pressure of Water in the Gaseous Form

B. Diffusion of Gases Through Liquids

1. Henry's Law

Table 23.1, p.752

2. Conc. of Dissolved Gas = Partial Pressure of a Gas X Solubility Coef. of the Gas

3. Direction of Diffusion from Higher Partial Pressure toward Lower Partial Pressure

Predict Quest. 6

C. Diffusion of Gases Through the Respiratory Membrane

1. Respiratory Membranes of Lungs are in Respiratory Bronchioles, Alveolar ducts and Alveoli

Fig. 23.14a, p.759

2. Structure of Respiratory Membrane

Fig. 23.14b, p.759

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a. Thin Layer of Fluid Lining Alveolus

b. Alveolar Epithelium (Simple Squamous Epithelium)

c. Basement Membrane of Alveolar Epithelium

d. Thin Interstitial Space

e. Basement Membrane of the Capillary Endothelium

f. Capillary Endothelium (Simple Squamous Epithelium)

3. Respiratory Membrane

Thickness (Influences Rate of Gas Diffusion)

- a. Normally 0.5 mm
- b. Increased by Pulmonary Edema

3). Increased Thickness =  
Decreased Gas Exchange

4. Diffusion Coefficient

- a. Measure of How Easily a Gas Diffuses through a Liquid
- b. Through Resp. Membrane Roughly Equivalent to Diffusion Coefficient through Water
- c. Carbon Dioxide's Diffusion Coefficient 20 Times Greater than that of Oxygen

5. Surface Area

- a. Normally About 70 m<sup>2</sup>
- b. Decreased by Disease, Edema and Atelectasis

6. Partial Pressure Difference

- a. Difference in Partial Pressure of Gas Between Alveolar Air and Pulmonary Blood
- b. Direction of Diffusion from Higher Partial Pressure toward Lower Partial Pressure
- c. Partial Pressures in Alveolar Air Influenced by Alveolar Ventilation Rate

Fig. 23.14b, p.759

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D. Relationship Between Ventilation and Capillary Blood Flow

1. Blood Not Completely Oxygenated = Shunted Blood

2. Blood Flow Normally Matched to Ventilation

- a. Decreased Gas Exchange Leads to Decreased P<sub>O2</sub> and Increased P<sub>CO2</sub> in Arteriolar Blood

Clinical Note, p.761

1). Stimulates Arteriolar Constriction

2). Decreased Blood Flow to Alveoli with Poor Ventilation

b. Increased Ventilation (as in Response to Exercise) Decreases P<sub>CO2</sub> and Increases P<sub>O2</sub>

Predict Quest. 7

1). Arteriolar Smooth Muscle Relaxes

2). Blood Flow to Well Ventilated Alveoli Increases

V. Oxygen and Carbon Dioxide Transport in the Blood, p. 761

A. Oxygen Diffusion Gradients

Fig. 23.15, p.762

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1. Blood Arriving at Alveoli Has Lower P<sub>O2</sub> (40

- mm Hg) than Alveolar Air (104 mm Hg)
- 2. Blood Leaving Lungs has  $P_{O_2}$  of 95 mm Hg
- 3. Blood Entering Capillaries Same as Systemic Arterial Blood, Intracellular  $P_{O_2} = 20$  mm Hg
- 4. Blood Leaving Capillary Has Lower  $P_{O_2}$  (40 mm Hg)

B. Carbon Dioxide Diffusion Gradients

Fig. 23.15, p.762

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1.  $CO_2$  Produced as Byproduct of Cellular Respiration

- a. Intracellular  $P_{CO_2}$  About 46 mm Hg
- b. Interstitial  $P_{CO_2}$  About 45 mm Hg
- 2. Tissue Capillary  $P_{CO_2}$  Goes from 40 mm Hg at Arterial End to About 45 mm Hg at Venular End
- 3. Pulmonary Capillary  $P_{CO_2}$  Goes from 45 mm Hg at Arterial End to About 40 mm Hg at Venular End

C. Hemoglobin and Oxygen Transport

1. 97% of Total Oxygen Transported in Combination with Hemoglobin; Remaining 3% Oxygen Dissolved

2. Effect of  $P_{O_2}$  - Oxygen-Hemoglobin Dissociation Curve

Fig. 23.16, p.763

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- a. Hemoglobin Saturated at  $P_{O_2}$  80 mm Hg
- b. In a Resting Person, at Normal Tissue Capillary  $P_{O_2}$  of 40 mm Hg Hemoglobin is 75% Saturated
- c. During Strenuous Exercise, Tissue Capillary  $P_{O_2}$  Drops to 15 mm Hg and Hemoglobin is only 25% Saturated

Fig. 23.17, p.764

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3. Effect of pH,  $P_{CO_2}$ , and Temperature

- a. Effect of pH = Bohr Effect
- b. Increased  $CO_2$  Leads to Decreased pH
  - 1). Carbonic Anhydrase Enzyme - Reversible Reaction
  - 2). Located in Erythrocytes and Other Cells

Fig. 23.18, p.765

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- c. Increased  $CO_2$ , Decreased pH and/or Increased Temperature Lead to Decreased Ability of Hemoglobin to Bind Oxygen (Curve shifted to the Right)

Predict Quest. 8

4. Effect of BPG; 2,3

bisphosphoglycerate (BPG, aka, diphosphoglycerate)

- a. Produced by Erythrocytes
- b. BPG Decreases Ability of

	Hemoglobin to Bind Oxygen		
	c. BPG Levels Increase at High Altitudes	Predict Quest. 9	
4.	Transport of Carbon Dioxide		
	a. Mechanisms of Transport	Fig. 23.19, p. 766	TA-488
	1). 8% Dissolved in the Plasma		
	2). 20% Transported as Carbamino Compounds,		
	a. Carbon Dioxide and Blood pH	Predict Quest. 10	
	1. Blood pH = Plasma pH		
	2. Carbonic Acid Dissociates to Bicarbonate and H <sup>+</sup>		
	3. Respiratory System Regulates Blood pH by Changing Plasma Carbon Dioxide Levels		
VI.	Rhythmic Ventilation, p. 767		Clinical Focus, pp.751
	A. Respiratory Areas in the Brainstem		
	1. Medullary Respiratory Center	Fig. 23.20 p.767	TA-489
	a. Two Dorsal Respiratory Groups Stimulate Contraction of the Diaphragm		
	b. Two Ventral Respiratory Groups Are Active During Inspiration and Expiration		
	1. Pontine Respiratory Group	Fig. 23.20, p.767	TA-489
	a. Collection of Neurons in Pons; Exact Function Unknown		
	b. Pons Centers work Together to Ensure Rhythmic Respiratory Cycles		
	B. Generation of Rhythmic Ventilation Believed to Be a 3 Step Process		
VII.	Modification of Ventilation, p. 768		
	A. Cerebral and Limbic System Control	Fig. 23.21, p.769	TA-490
	1. Voluntary Control Over Respiration Possible During Singing, Voluntary Apnea, Voluntary Hyperventilation	Fig. 23.21, p.769	TA-490
	2. Emotions Via Limbic System Can Alter Respiration Patterns	Fig. 23.22, p.770	TA-491
	B. Chemical Control of Ventilation		
	1. Chemoreceptors		
	a. Central Chemoreceptors in Chemosensitive Center of Ventral Medulla Oblongata		
	b. Peripheral Chemoreceptors in Carotid and Aortic Bodies		
	2. Effect of pH		
	a. Chemosensitive Area Bathed in		

- Cerebrospinal Fluid
  - b. Indirectly Sensitive to Changes in Blood pH
  - c. Decreased pH Stimulates Respiratory Center and Increases Ventilation
- 3. Effect of Carbon Dioxide Predict Quest. 11  
Clinical Note, p.770
  - a. Major Regulator of Respiration During Resting Conditions
  - b. 5% Increase in  $P_{CO_2}$  of 5 mm Hg Causes 100% Increase in Ventilation
  - c. Hypercapnia Produces Increased Ventilation
  - d. Hypocapnia Produces Apnea
  - e. Exerts Effect on Respiration Through Effect on pH (Carbonic Anhydrase Reaction)
    - 1). Chemosensitive Area is More Important in Regulation of  $P_{CO_2}$  and pH
    - 2). Carotid and Aortic Bodies Responsible for, at Most, 15-20% of Total Response
- 4. Effect of Oxygen  $\bar{n}$  (Normally Small) Fig. 23.22, p.771      TA-491
  - a.  $P_{O_2}$  Must be Reduced to About 50% of Normal Before Large Stimulatory Effect Seen - Oxygen-Hemoglobin Binding Properties Involved
  - b. Carotid and Aortic Chemoreceptors Respond by Stimulating Respiratory Center Predict Quest. 12;  
Clinical Focus, p.751
- C. Hering-Breuer Reflex
  - 1. Prevents Overinflation of the Lungs
  - 2. Stretch Receptors in Lungs
  - 3. In Adult Humans Important Only When Tidal Volume Large
- D. Effect of Exercise on Ventilation
  - 1. Ventilation Increases Abruptly At Onset of Exercise
  - 2. Ventilation Increases Further Gradually 4-6 minutes After Onset of Exercise
  - 3. Highest Level of Exercise Without Big Change in Blood pH Is Anaerobic Threshold
- E. Other Modifications of Ventilation
  - 1. Irritants Can Produce Sneeze or Cough Reflexes

#### VIII. Respiratory Adaptations to Training, p. 772

- 1. Athletic Performance Increases in Response to Training
- 2. Increased Cardiovascular Efficiency Results in Greater Blood Flow Through Lungs

#### IX. Systems Pathology: Asthma, p. 775

Predict Quest. 13

**IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS:** If there are four lecture periods available the material splits nicely into one lecture on general anatomy and histology, one on pulmonary ventilation and respiratory volumes, one on gas exchange and transport in the blood, and one on the controls of respiration and the contributions of the respiratory system to homeostasis. If there are five or six lecture periods available

the mechanisms of gas exchange and gas transport can be separated, and the neural and chemical control and integration of respiratory function can be covered in greater detail.

As always, much of this information is, or can be, integrated into the laboratory experiences which accompany the discussion of the respiratory system. The instructor must decide which aspects, such as spirometry and respiratory volumes, might be best presented when incorporated with personal experience in the laboratory.

Students with poor chemistry backgrounds will have significant difficulties understanding the diffusion and transport of gases associated with respiratory function.

**SEE INSTRUCTOR'S MANUAL AND COURSE SOLUTIONS MANUAL FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES.**