

# Diseases of the Respiratory System



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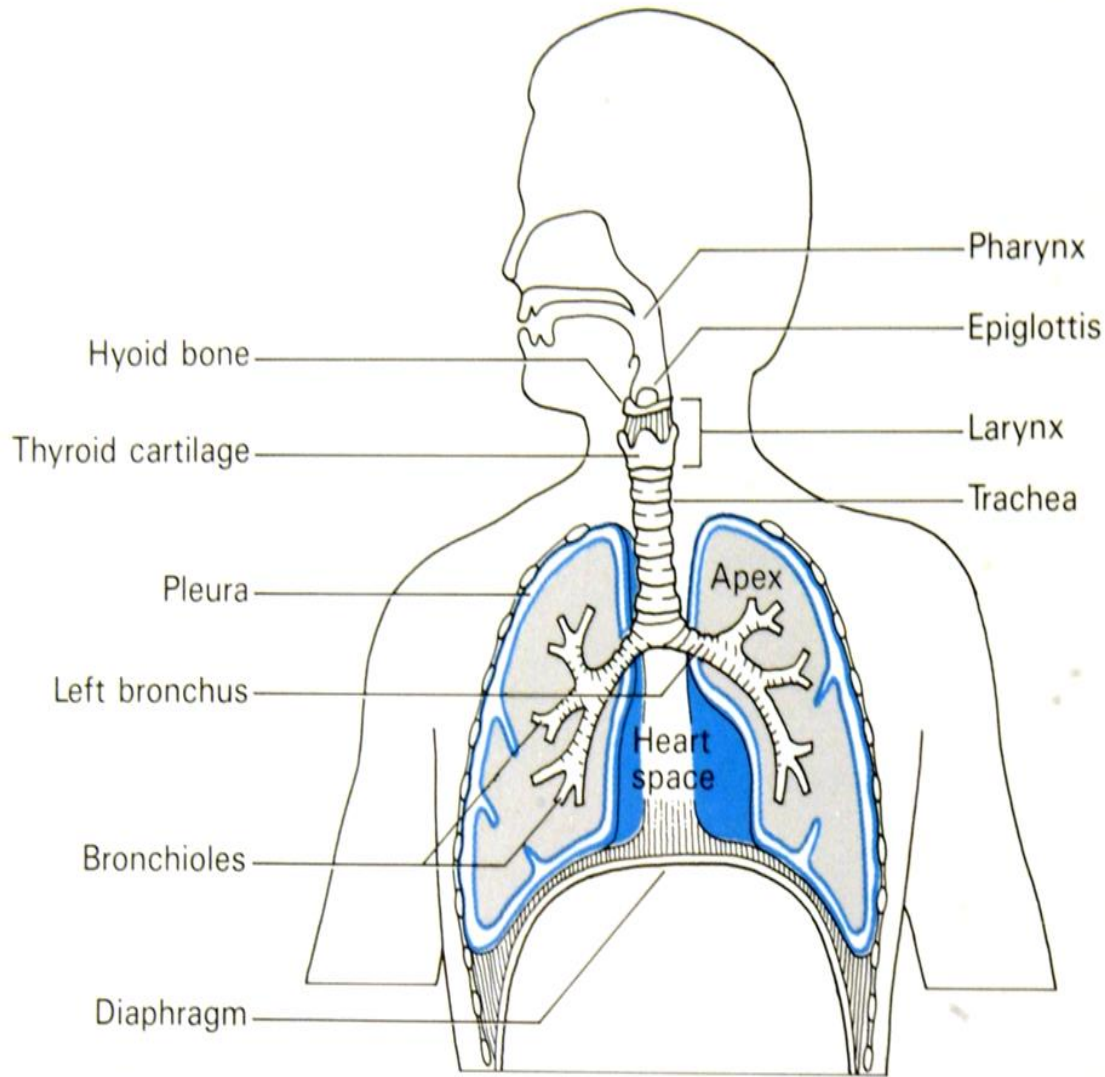
# **Diseases of the Respiratory System**

Lecture 1  
2018

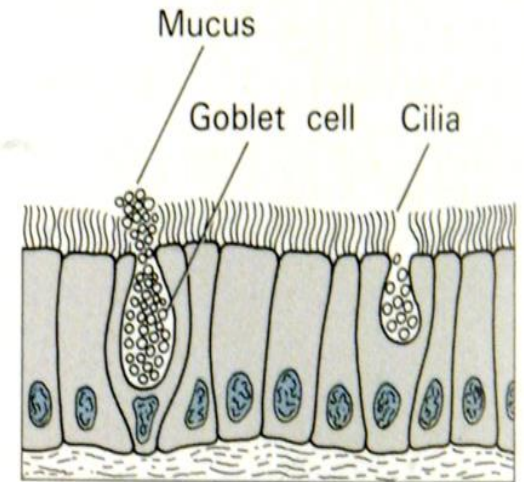
**Review of the normal Anatomy and  
Histology of the Respiratory System**

**Bronchial asthma**

# Diseases of Lung



A

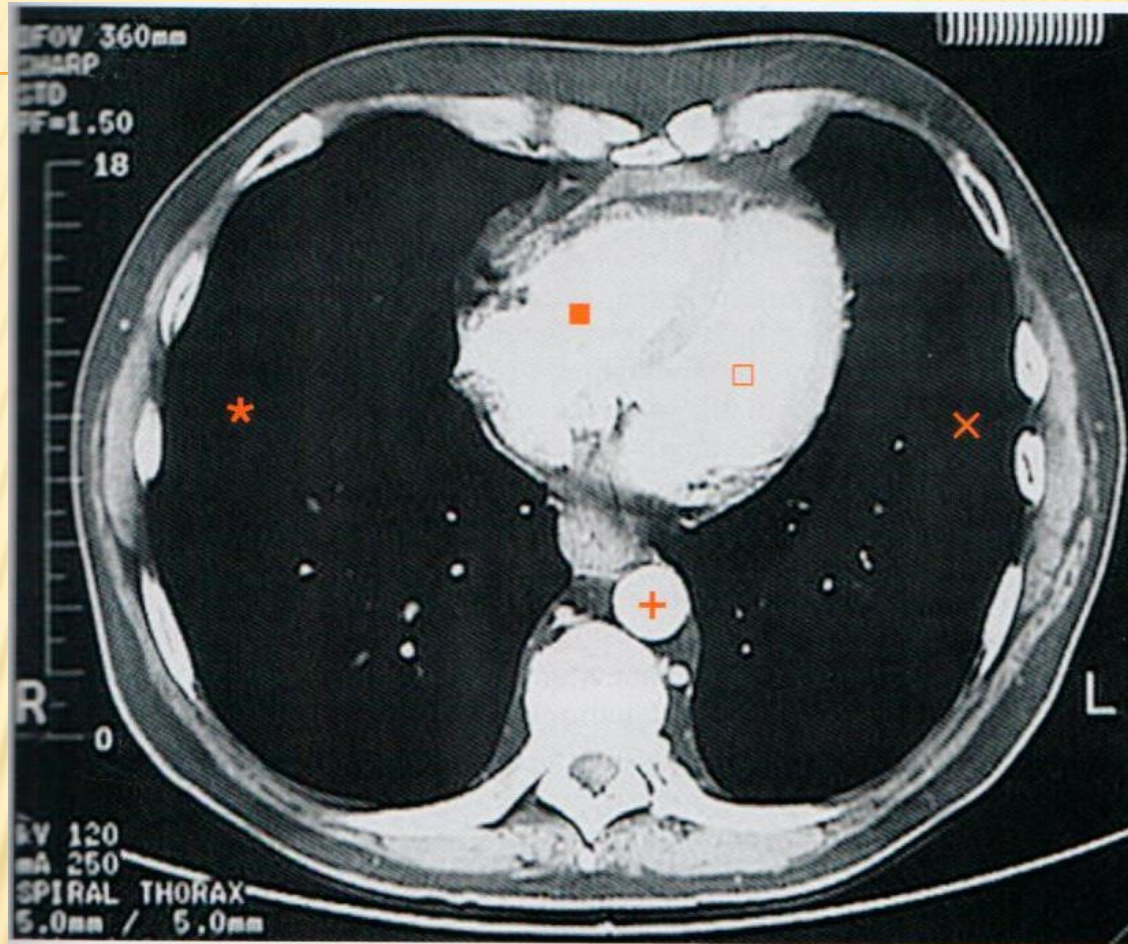


Respiratory epithelium

B

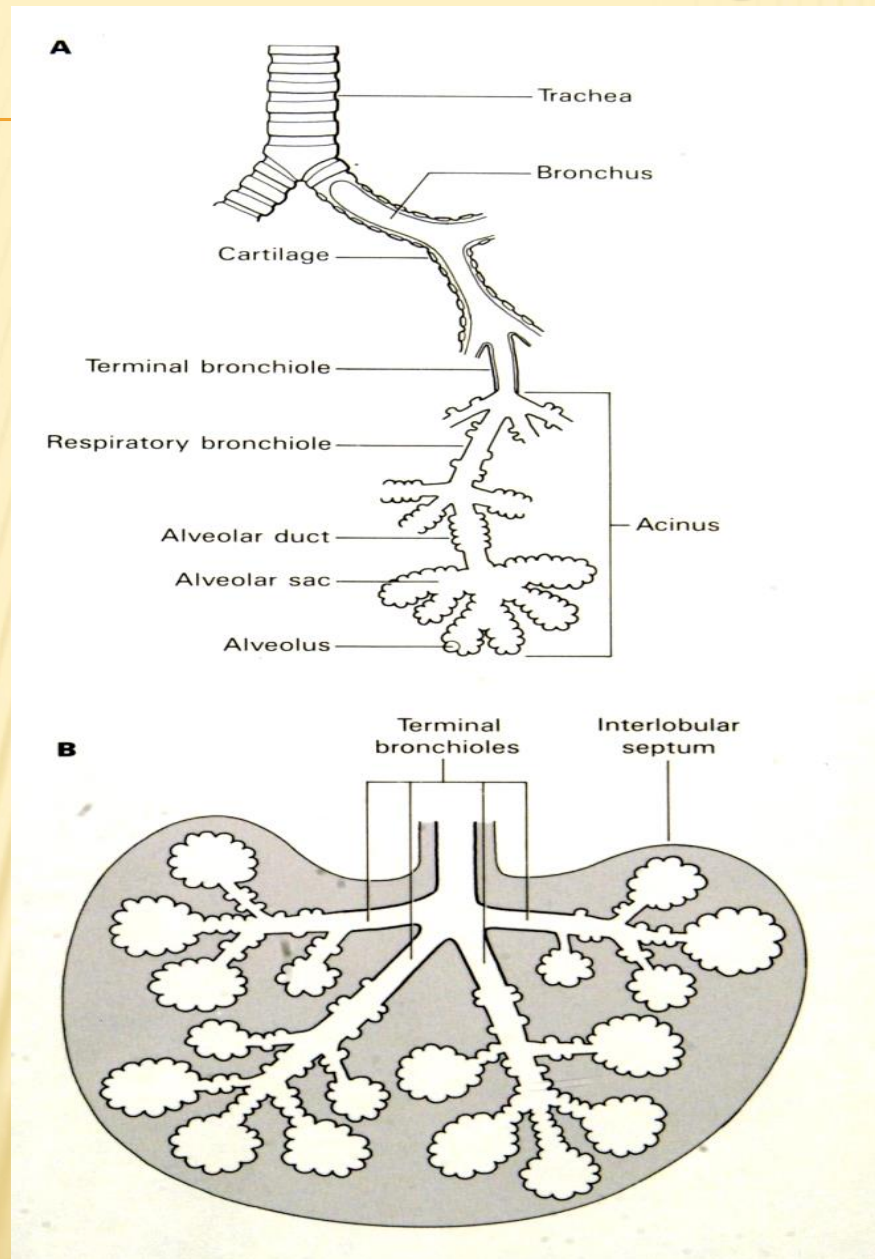
## THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM





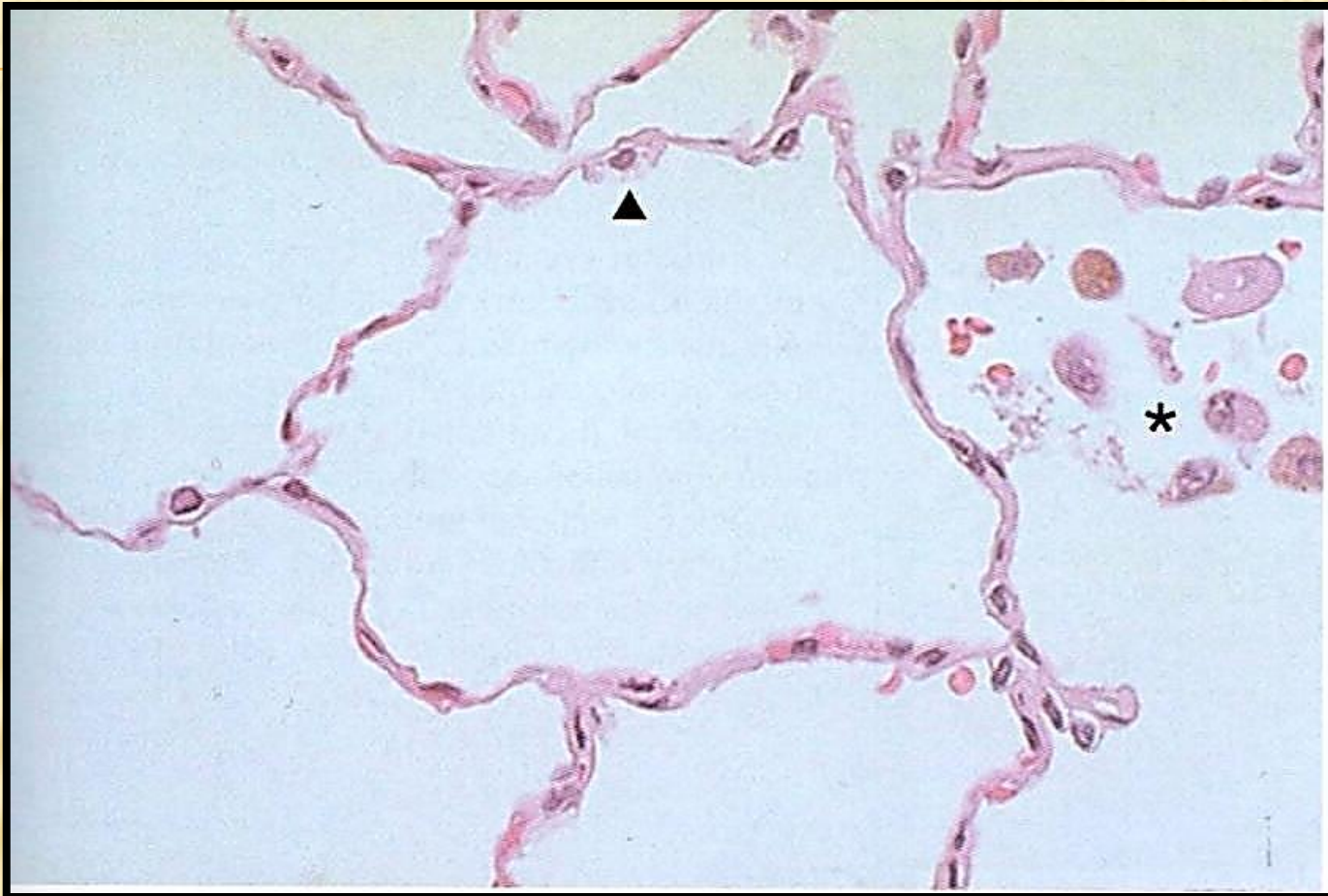
**NORMAL LUNG, CT IMAGE**

# Diseases of Lung



**THE LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT**





**Normal adult lung**





# **Diseases of the Respiratory System**

**Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases (COPD)  
including Bronchial Asthma**



# BRONCHIAL ASTHMA

## OBJECTIVES

BA is an episodic, reversible bronchoconstriction caused by increased responsiveness of the tracheobronchial tree to various stimuli.

- ✘ Define bronchial asthma (BA)
- ✘ Understand the pathogenesis
- ✘ Understanding the morphological changes
- ✘ Know the manifestation and clinical course of BA
- ✘ List the complications of BA
- ✘ Define status asthmaticus
- ✘ Know the prognosis and prevention of BA

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× **Extrinsic asthma:**

- + Type 1 Hypersensitivity reaction, IgE
- + Childhood
- + Viral infection
- + family Hx of allergy

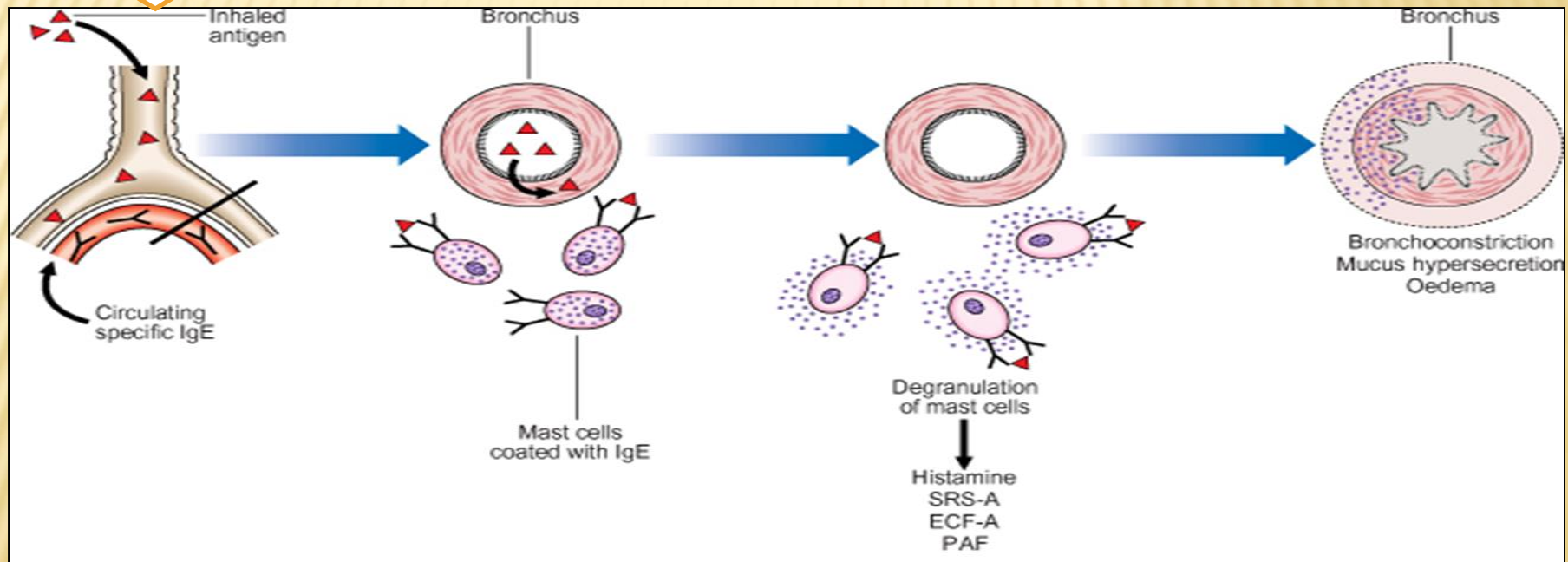
× **Intrinsic asthma:**

- + BA associated with, aspirin, exercise, cold induced.
- + No Hx of allergy

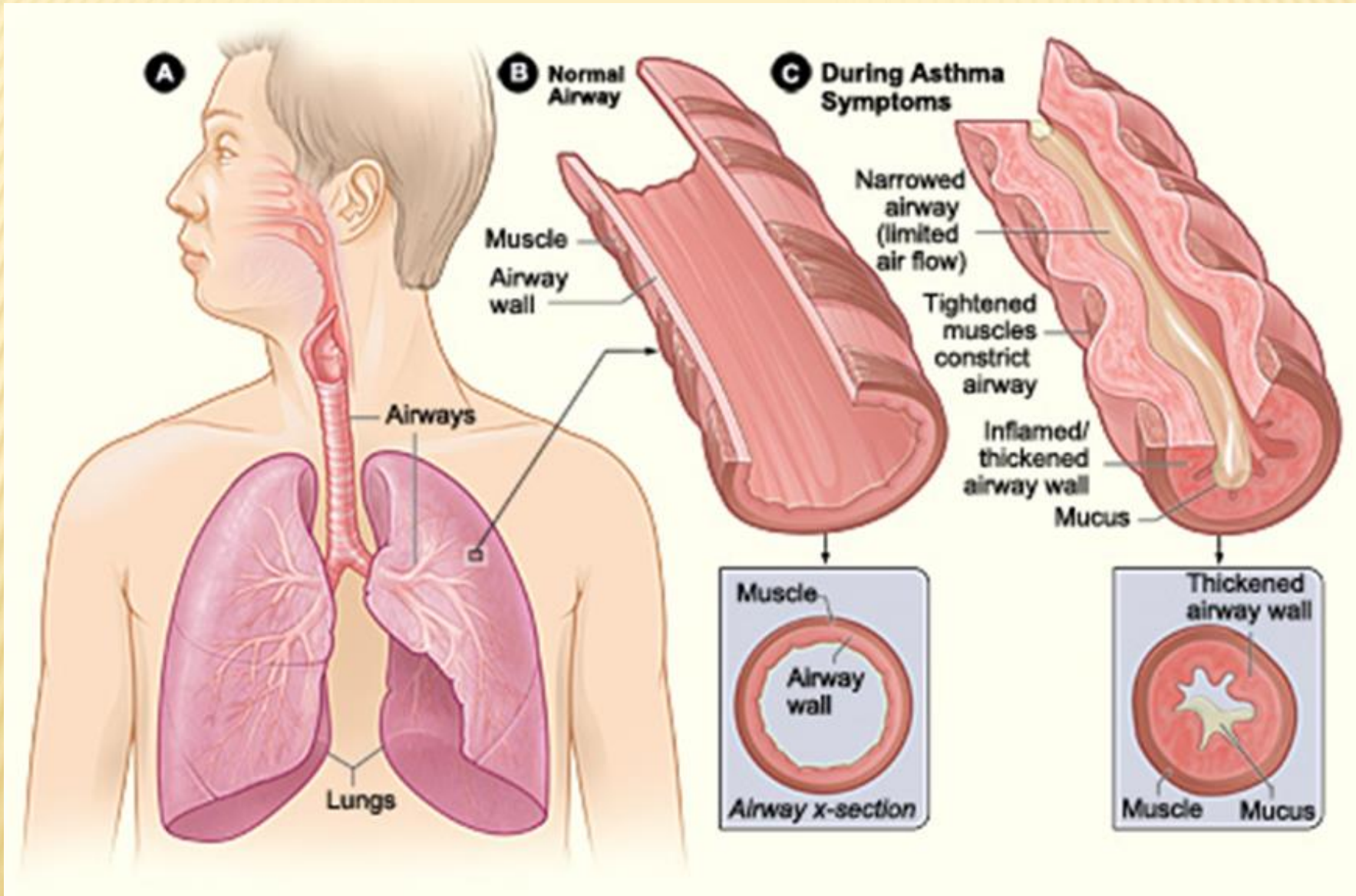


# PATHOGENESIS OF ALLERGIC ASTHMA

Pollen  
dust, virus,  
animal fur,  
sand  
bacteria



# Morphological changes Of BA



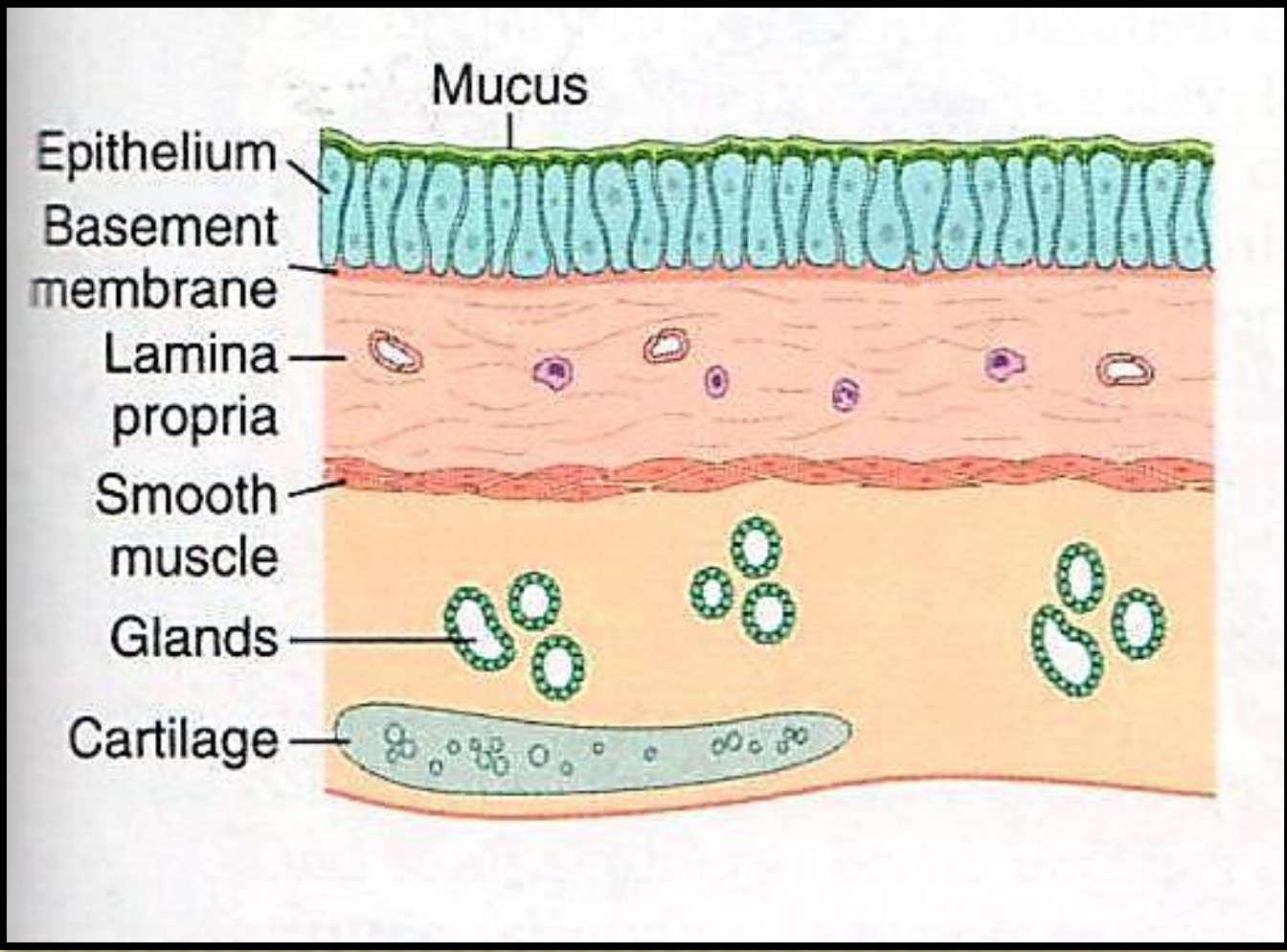


## Morphological changes Of BA



Bronchitis in an asthmatic patient. Note the presence of congested mucosa and mucoid secretions.





**BRONCHIAL AIRWAY IN NORMAL LUNG**



# Morphological changes Of BA

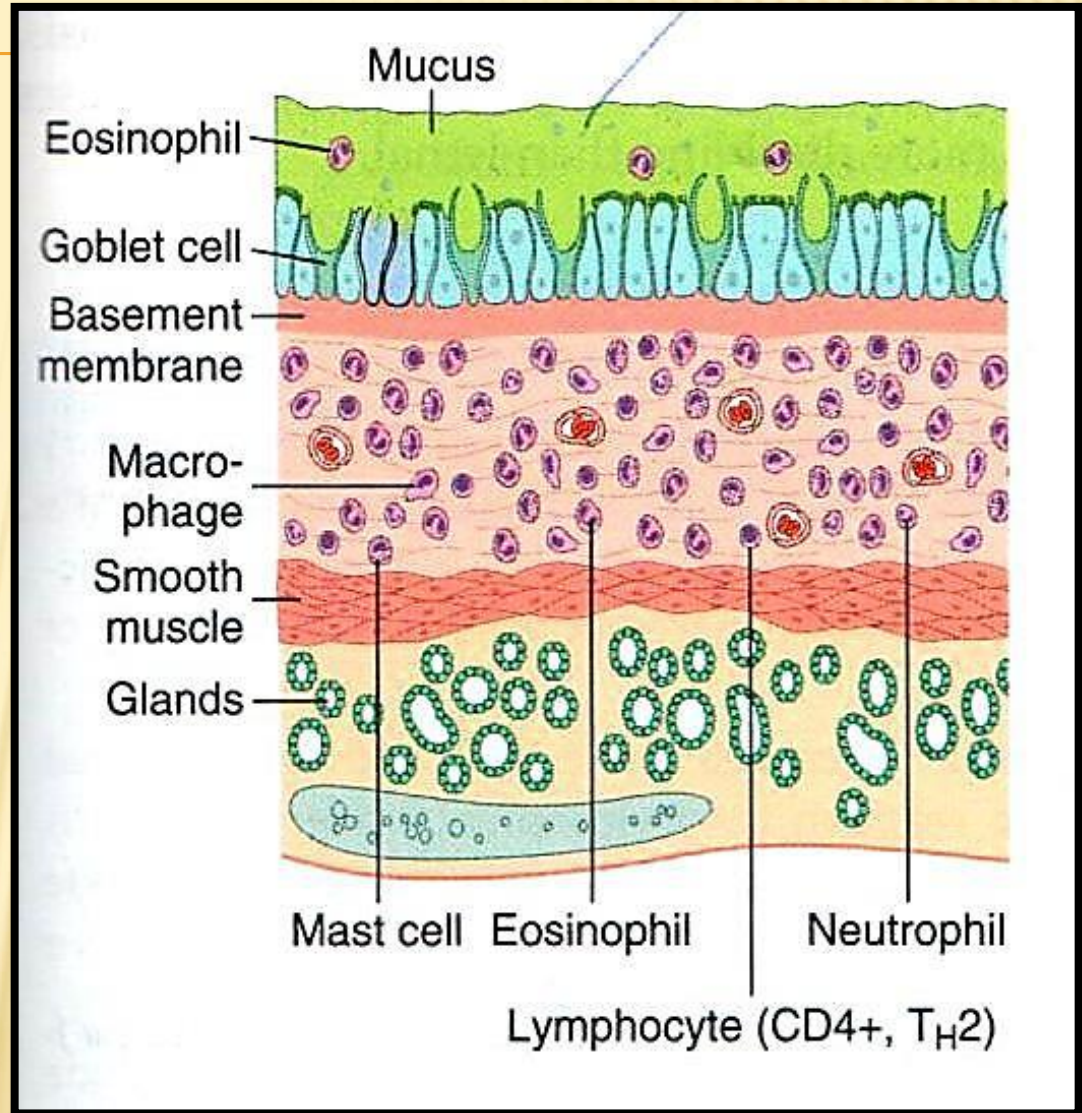
Thick Basement Membrane.  
Sub-basement membrane fibrosis (airway remodeling )

Edema and inflammatory infiltrate in bronchial wall.

Submucosal glands increased.

Hypertrophy of the bronchial wall muscle.

Mucous contain Curschmann spirals, eosinophil and Charcot-Leyden crystals.



**Bronchial airway in asthma patient**

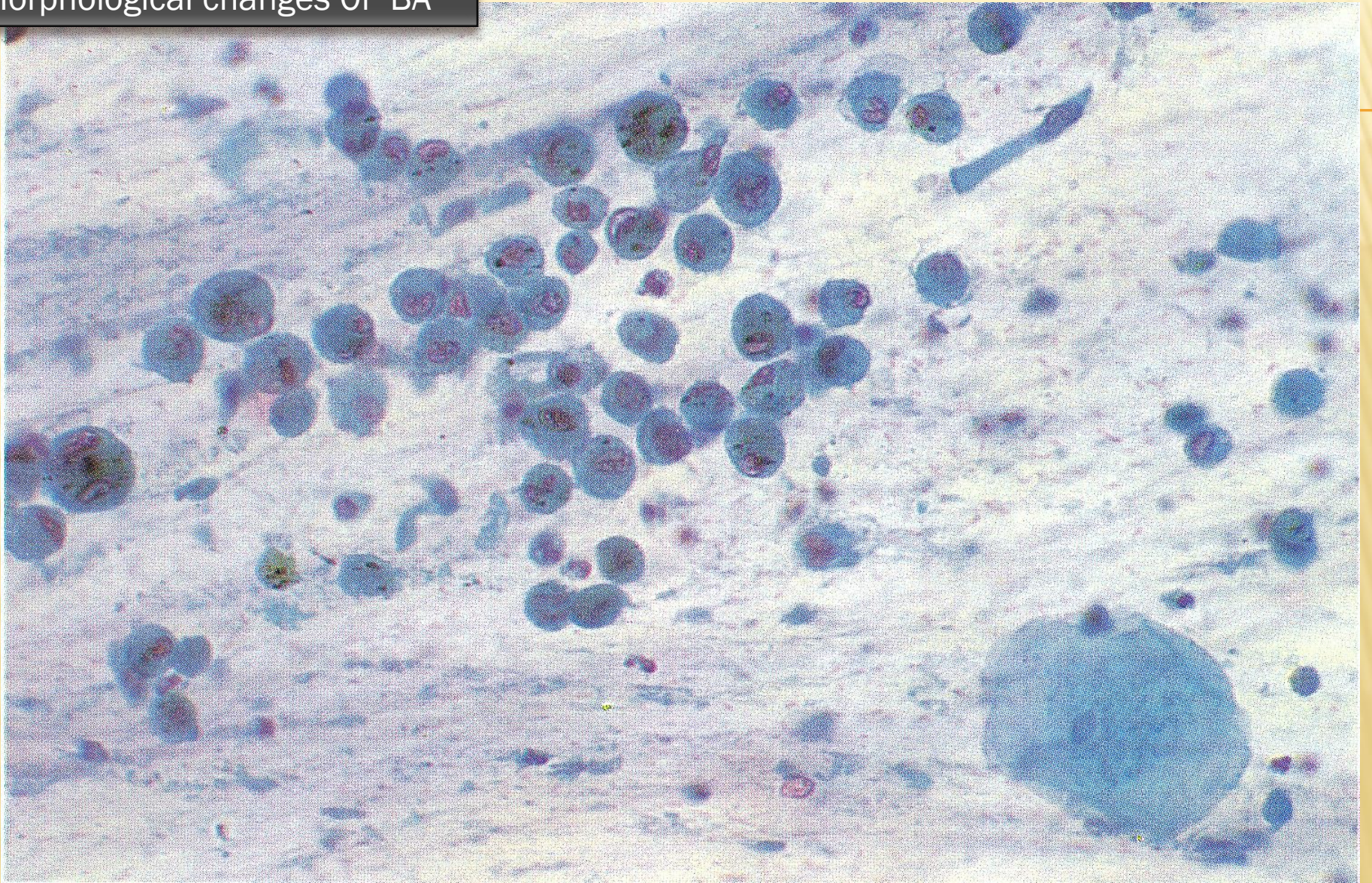




**BRONCHIAL BIOPSY SPECIMEN FROM AN ASTHMATIC PATIENT  
SHOWING SUB-BASEMENT MEMBRANE FIBROSIS,  
EOSINOPHILIC INFLAMMATION AND SMOOTH MUSCLE  
HYPERPLASIA**



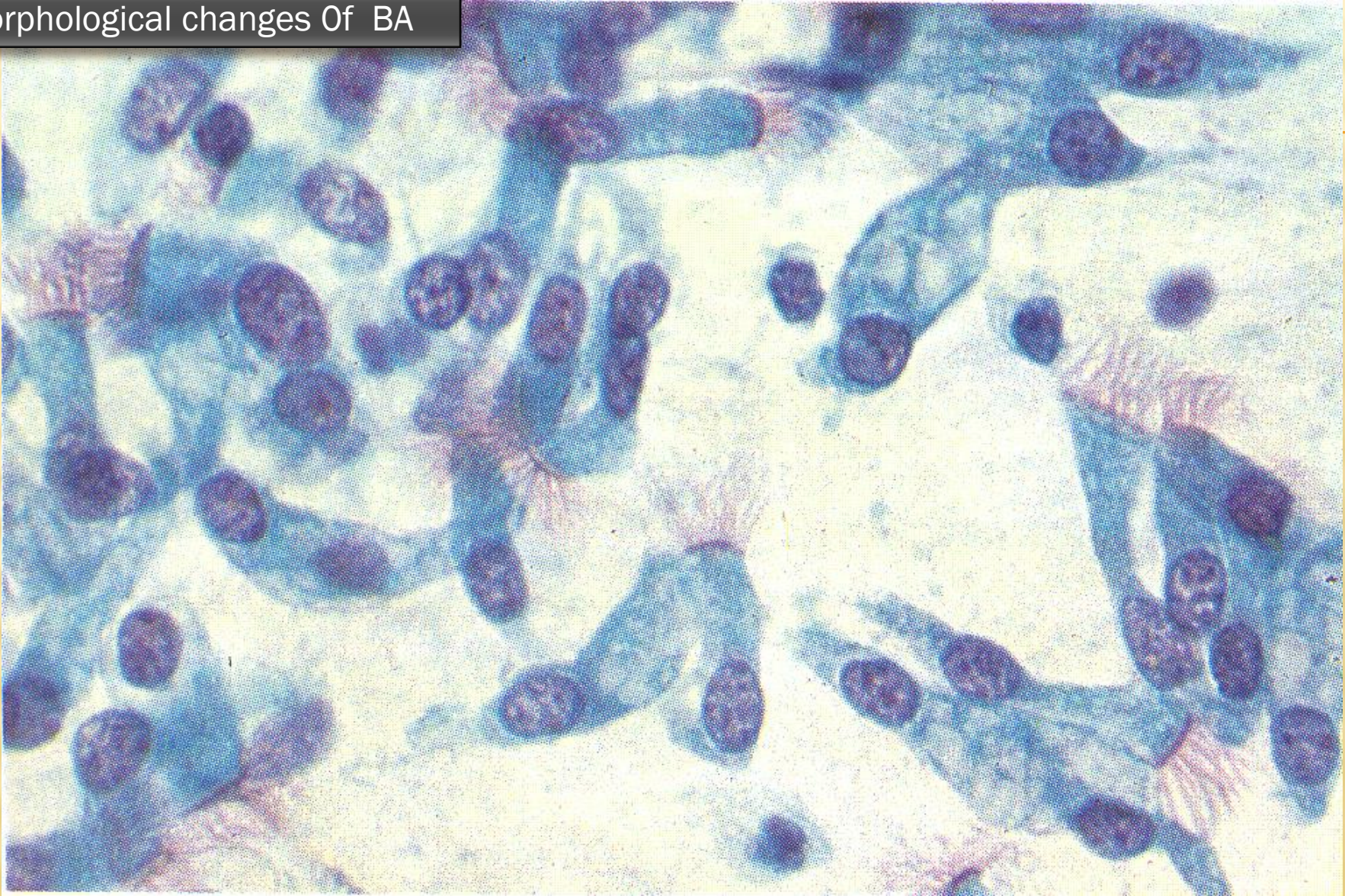
Morphological changes Of BA



Composition of satisfactory specimen : Sputum



Morphological changes Of BA



Ciliated columnar cells



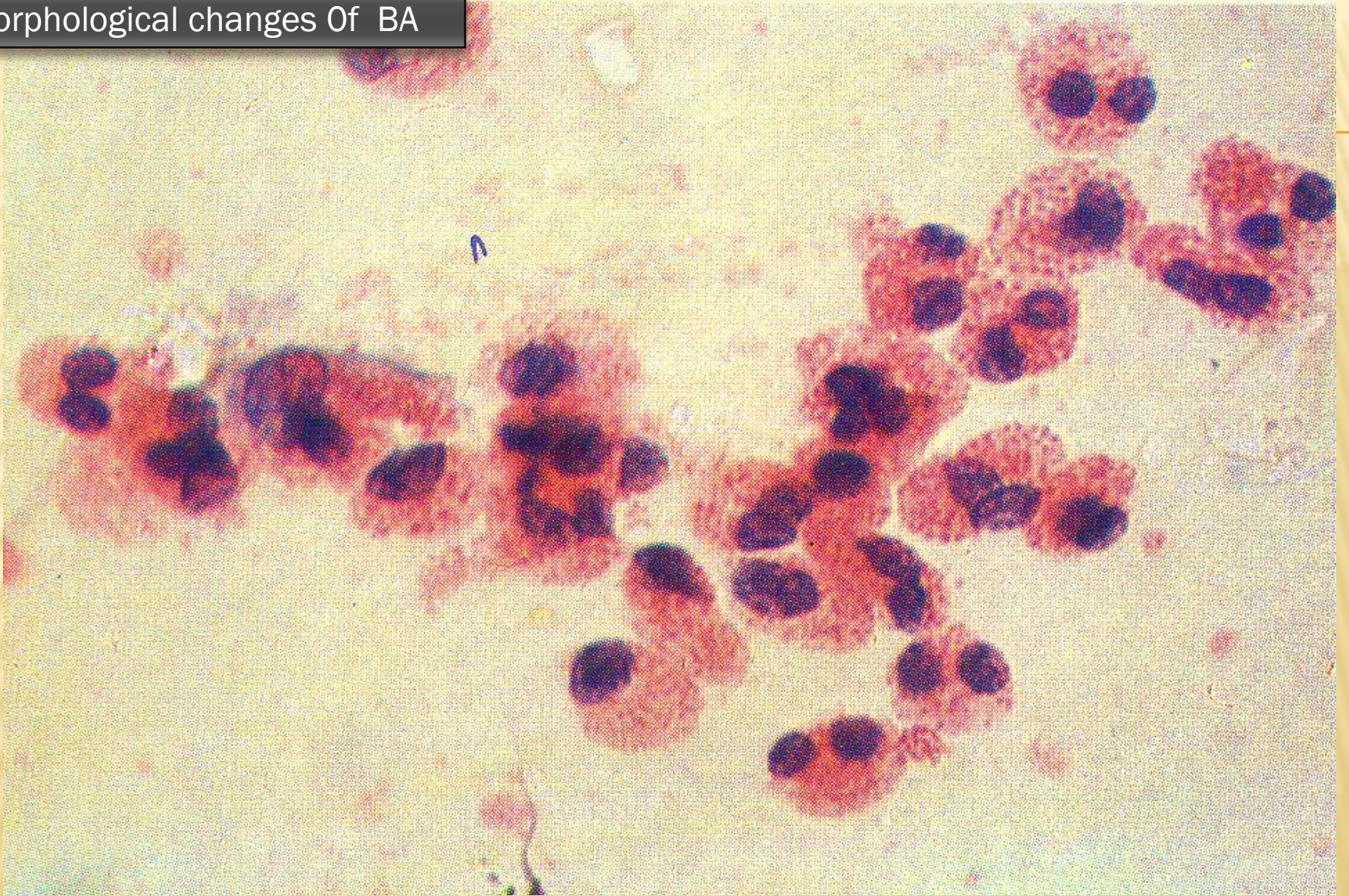
Morphological changes Of BA



Curschmann's spiral : Sputum

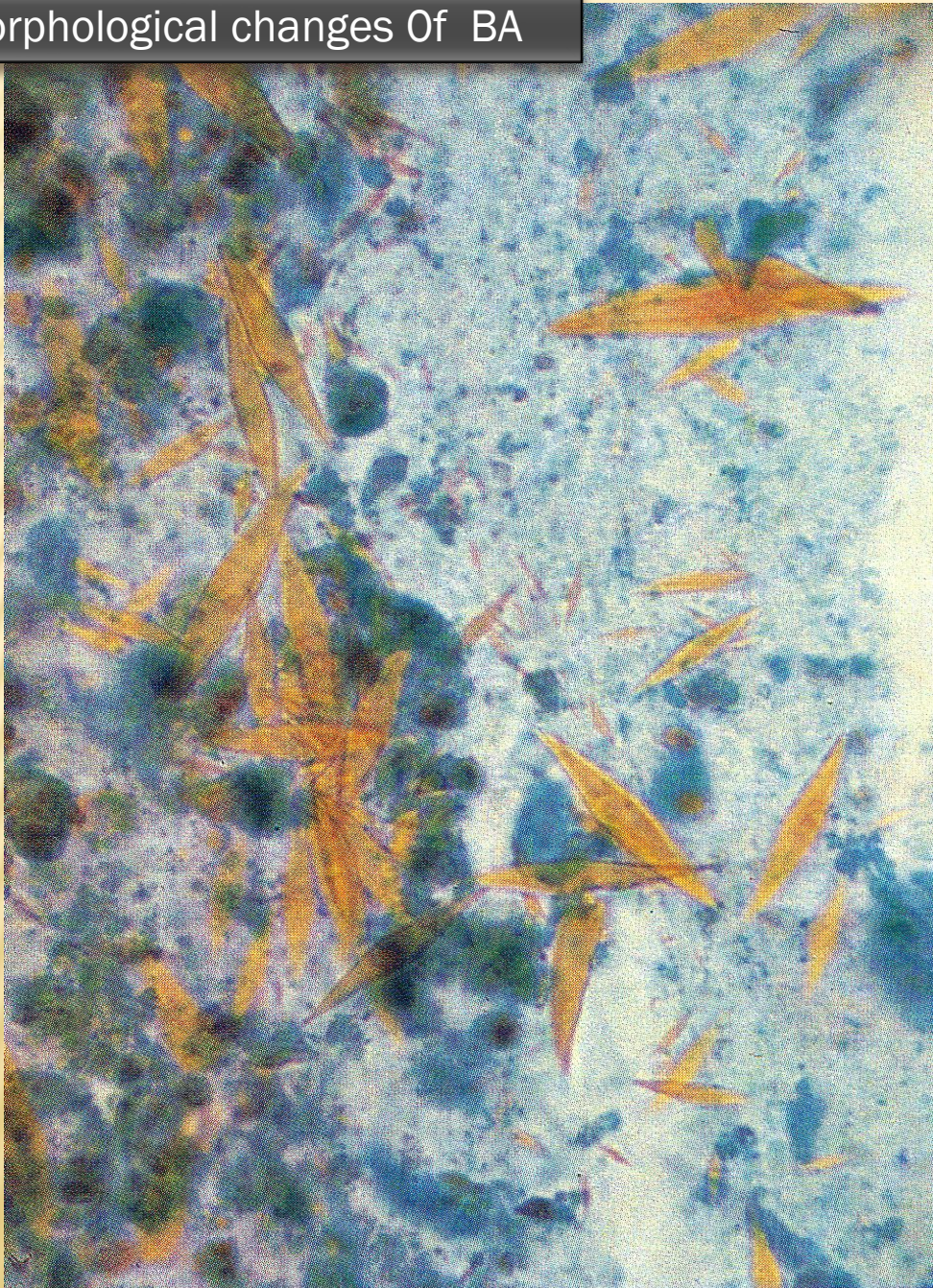


Morphological changes Of BA



Eosinophils from a case of Bronchial Asthma

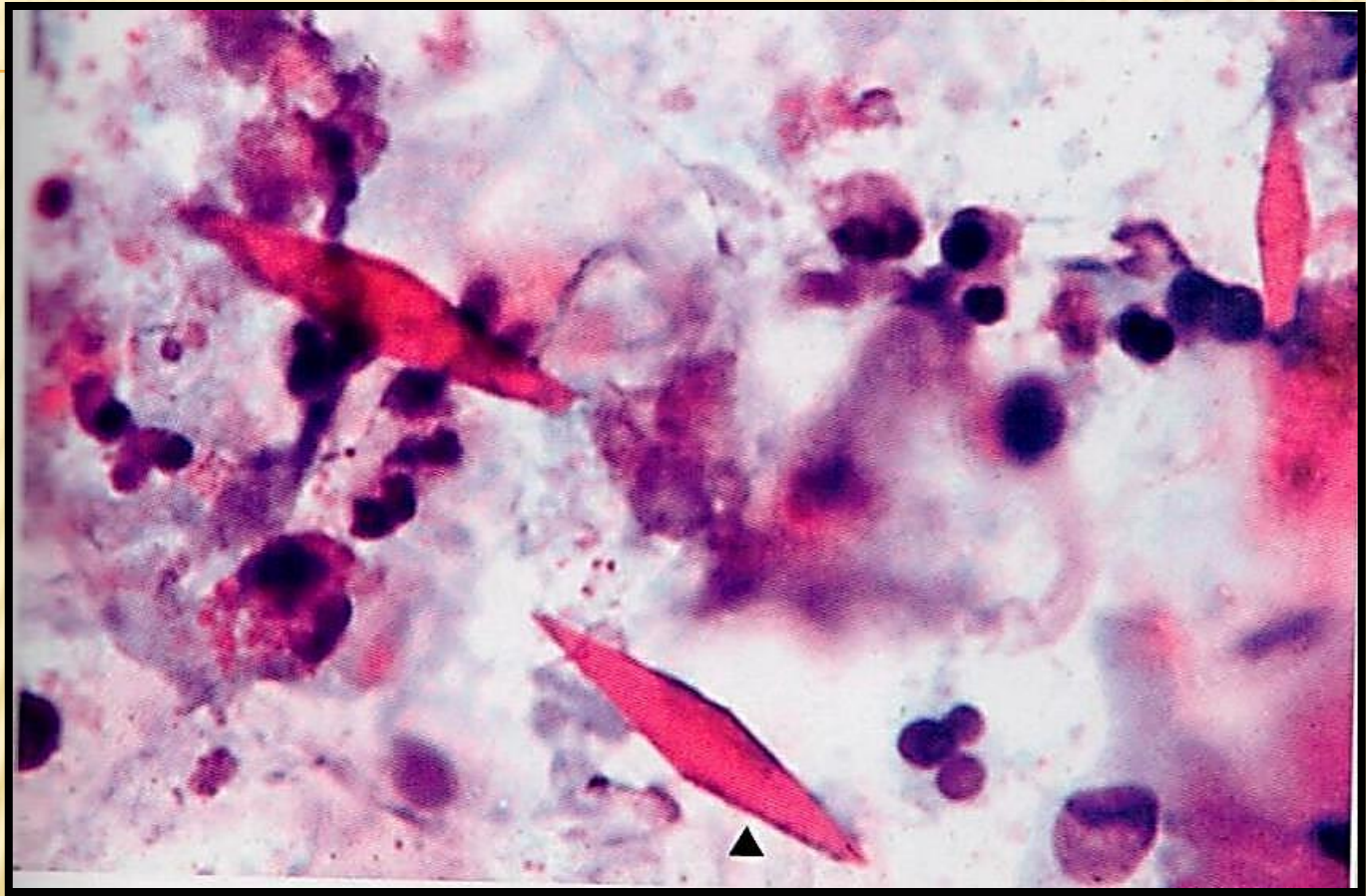




Bronchial asthma :  
Charcot – Leyden  
Crystals



Morphological changes Of BA

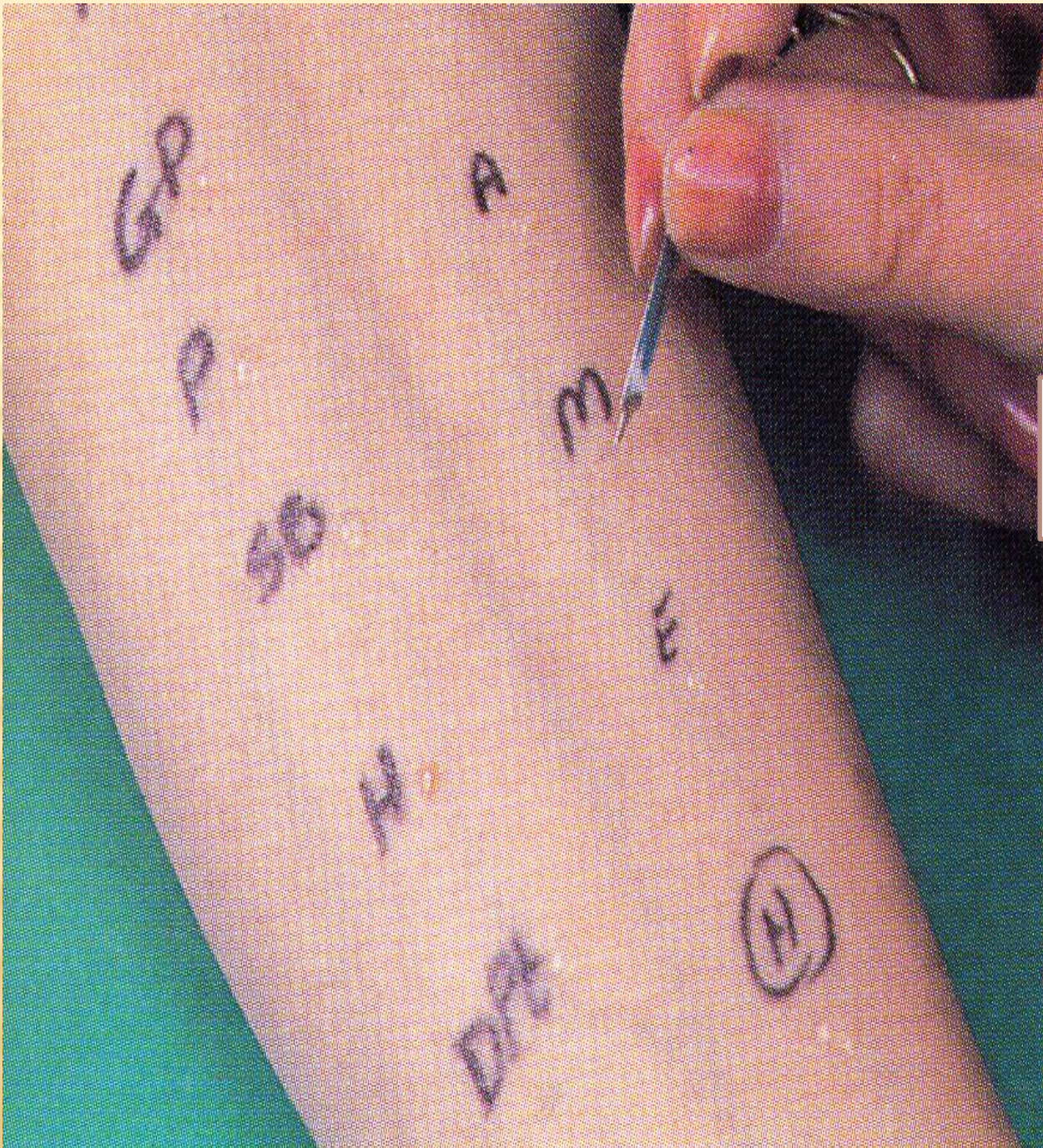


Bronchial Asthma, microscopic



# Skin prick testing in a patient with asthma.

IgE mediated type I hypersensitivity reaction to inhaled allergens

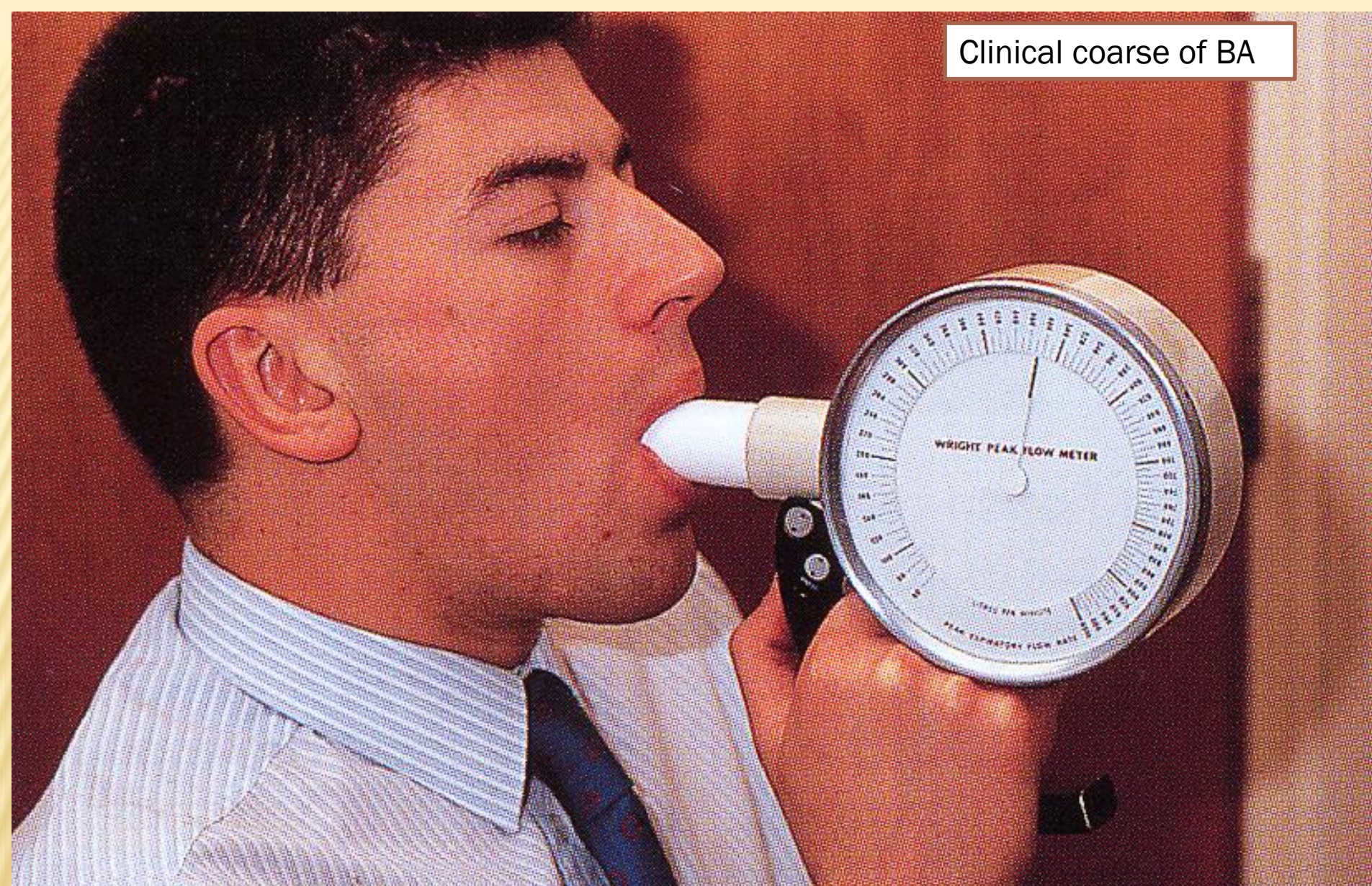




# CLINICAL FEATURES

- manifestations vary from occasional wheezing to paroxysms of dyspnea and respiratory distress.
- In a classic asthmatic attack there is **dyspnea, cough, difficult expiration, progressive hyperinflation of lung and mucous plug in bronchi**. This may resolve spontaneously or with treatment.
- Nocturnal cough
- Increased anteroposterior diameter, due to air trapping and increase in residual volume
- Status asthmaticus – Overinflated lungs with severe obstruction and air trapping leading to severe cyanosis and persistent dyspnea, may be fatal

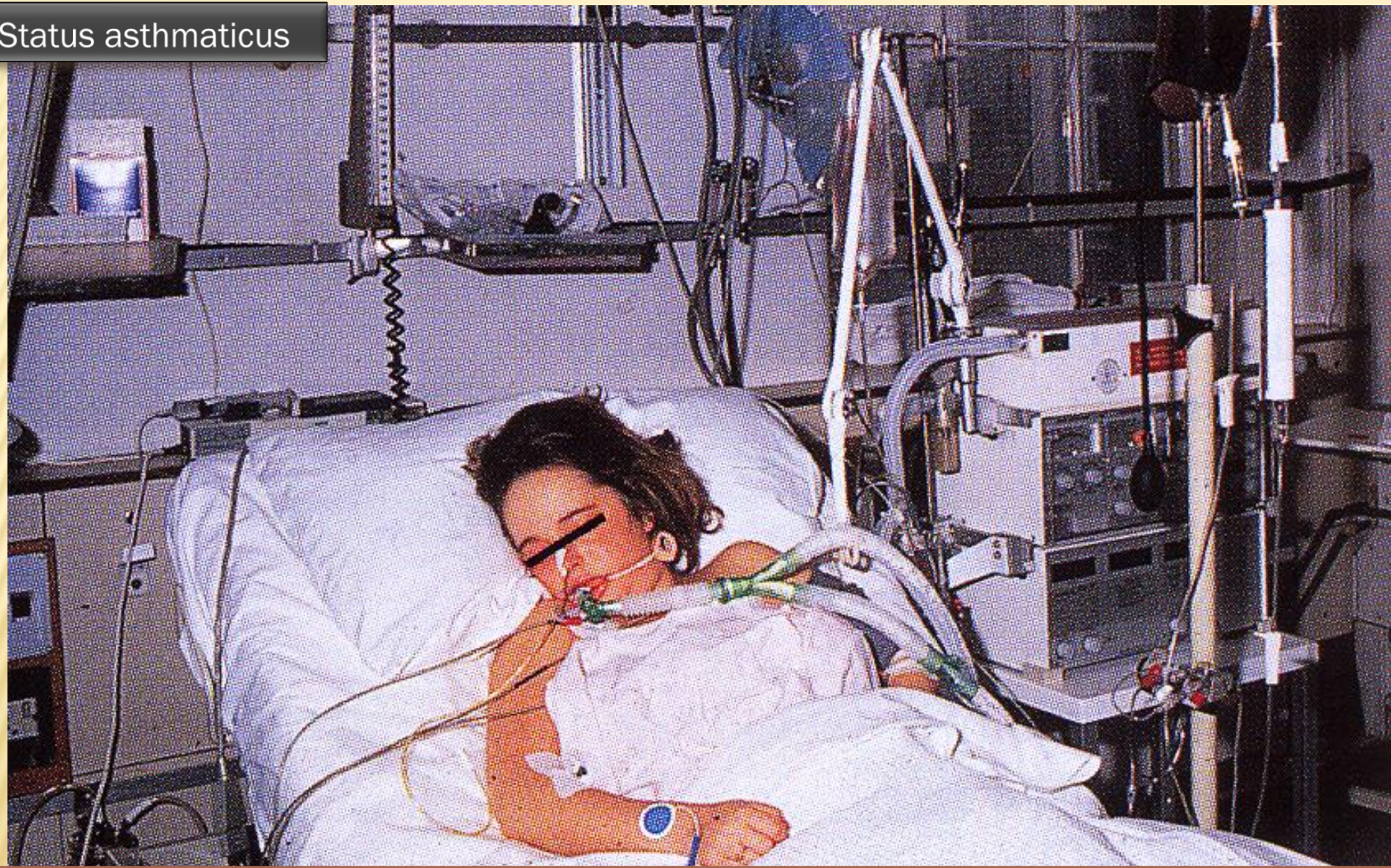




**The range of presentation in asthma. This patient was found incidentally to have a degree of reversible airways obstruction during a routine medical examination.**



## Status asthmaticus



**This patient presented as a medical emergency with acute severe breathlessness and diagnosed as a case of status asthmaticus (Overinflated lungs because of severe obstruction and air trapping) which required immediate intensive care including intermittent positive-pressure ventilation.**



# COMPLICATIONS OF ASTHMA

- **Airway remodeling:**
  - some persons with long standing asthma develop permanent structural changes in the airway with *sub*-basement membrane fibrosis, hypertrophy of muscle and progressive loss of lung function that increase airflow obstruction and airway responsiveness.
- **Superimposed infection i.e. pneumonia**
- **Chronic bronchitis**
  - i.e. Asthmatic bronchitis: chronic bronchitis with superimposed asthma
- **Emphysema, pneumothorax and pneumomediastinum**
- **Bronchiectasis**
- **Respiratory failure**
  - requiring intubation in severe exacerbations i.e. status asthmaticus
- **In some cases cor pulmonale and heart failure develop.**



# PROGNOSIS

- ✘ Remission- approximately 50% of cases of childhood asthma resolve spontaneously but may recur later in life; remission in adult-onset asthma is less likely.
- ✘ Mortality- death occurs in approximately 0.2% of asthmatics. Mortality is usually (but not always) preceded by an acute attack and about 50% are more than 65 years old.



# PREVENTION

- ▣ Control of factors contributing to asthma severity.
  - ▣ Exposure to irritants or allergens has been shown to increase asthma symptoms and cause exacerbations.
  
- ▣ Skin test
  - ▣ results should be used to assess sensitivity to common indoor allergens.
  - ▣ All patients with asthma should be advised to avoid exposure to allergens to which they are sensitive.



# ASTHMA: SUMMARY

## EPISODIC ATTACKS OF BRONCHOCONSTRICTION (REVERSIBLE)

### Types

- Extrinsic asthma: Type 1 Hypersensitivity reaction, IgE, viral infection, childhood, family Hx of allergy.
- Intrinsic asthma: BA associated with, aspirin, exercise, cold induced. No Hx of allergy

### Morphology

- Hypertrophy of bronchial smooth muscle & hyperplasia of goblet cells e eosinophils, thickened BM
- Mucous plug e Curschmann spirals & Charcot-Leyden crystals.
- Remodeling with sub-basement membrane fibrosis and hypertrophy of muscle layer

### Complication

- Superimposed infection
- Chronic bronchitis
- Pulmonary emphysema
- Status asthmaticus (Overinflated lungs with severe obstruction and air trapping)



