

### Functions & Organization of The Respiratory System



### **Respiratory Block**

Physiology 439 team work

Black: in male / female slides
Red : important
Pink: in female slides only
Blue: in male slides only
Green: notes
Gray: extra information
Textbook: Guyton + Linda



@Physiology\_439

# Objectives :

Describe the structures and functions conductive and respiratory zones of airways.

02 Distinguish the difference between internal and external respiration

**Discuss the functions of the respiratory system, including** non-respiratory functions, like clearance mechanism by mucus and cilia, production of surfactant and its physiological significance.



### The main goal of respiration is to:



#### The Respiratory system consist of :





# **Organization of The Respiratory System**



#### Functions of the Respiratory system

1- Gas exchange (Respiratory function) Main function



**2- Phonation** (the production of sound by the movement of air through the vocal cords)

**3- Pulmonary defense**: the respiratory mucus has a muco-ciliary barrier filter and it produces:

- 1. Immunoglobulin A (IgA)
- 2. Alpha-1 antitrypsin: protects the long from the actions of trypsin
- 3. pulmonary macrophages: engulf smaller foreign bodies that pass through the muco-ciliary barrier

Trypsin is proteolytic enzyme produce by bacteria to digest the tissue "اللي أصلا عباره عن بروتينات" so when Bacteria enter the respiratory system , the respiratory system produced alpha-1 anti trypsin to protect us

4- Angiotensin I is converted into Angiotensin II with the help of Angiotensin converting enzyme formed by the lungs

Angiotensin || maintain the high level of blood pressure, so patients with hypertension we should give them ACE inhibitor

**5- Regulating the acid-base** status of the body by washing out extra CO<sub>2</sub> from the blood

6- Secretion of important substances like **surfactant** 

#### Respiratory passages (airways)

# Conductive Zone (No gas exchange)

Non respiratory function (مجرد ناقل للهواء)

- Extends from nose to the end of terminal bronchioles
- Help in warming, humidification and filtration of inspired air.
- Contains the olfactory receptors for smell sensation.
- Conducts the sound during speech.
- Helps in coughing and sneezing reflexes for protection.



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# Respiratory Zone (Respiratory unit)

Includes:

- Respiratory bronchioles, alveolar ducts, alveolar sacs and alveoli.
- Function in gas exchange.



# **External & Internal respiration**

### External respiration

is the process of gas exchange between the alveolar air and the pulmonary capillary blood.

#### Internal respiration

is the process of gas exchange between the blood in the systemic capillaries and the tissues.







### The four major events of respiration are:

#### **Pulmonary ventilation**

Inflow & outflow of air from the lung alveoli and the atmosphere (Is discussed in next lectures)

#### Transport

Transport of O2, CO2 In blood and body Fluids to and from Body's tissue cells (From the lung to the body)



Respiration (breathing) could be either:

**Resting breathing:** normal breathing during resting conditions. **Forced (maximal) breathing:** It occurs during exercise and in patients with bronchial asthma, allergy, other pulmonary diseases.

# Lining cells of the alveoli

### 1- Type I alveolar epithelial cells ( type I pneumocytes)

\*Participate in the respiratory membrane, across which gas exchange takes place.

2- Type II alveolar epithelial cells ( type II pneumocytes)( 10% of the surface area of alveoli) \*Secrete surfactant.

#### 3- Alveolar macrophages

\*Engulf the foreign bodies that reach the alveoli.



## **Surface Tension**

Surface Tension: When H<sub>2</sub>O molecules at the surface of alveoli are attracted to each other by attractive forces that resist distension.

- Surface tension tends to oppose alveoli expansion.
- Pulmonary surfactant reduces the surface tension of the fluid lining the alveoli.
- Collapsing Pressure is Caused by Surface Tension and is indirectly related to the size of alveoli (law of LaPlace).

Pressure = Radius of alveolus

As the surface tension increases, the collapsing pressure increases.







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# Surfactant

- Surfactant is a complex compound containing phospholipids especially **dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine** and a number of **Apo proteins**.
- The earliest detection of surfactant from fetal alveoli begins between 6-7th month but this could be delayed in others to wk 35 of intrauterine life.



## **Surfactant Deficiency**

RDS Disease (respiratory distress syndrome)	Prevention	Postnatal treatment	Risk factors
Deficiency of surfactant in premature babies causes this disease Also called hyaline membrane disease	Corticosteroid injections to mothers who are expected to deliver prematurely (reaches infant through placenta)	After delivery infants are given inhaled surfactant ( derived from animal lungs)	In Adults:Smoking, hypoxia & hypoxemia decrease the secretion of surfactant (causes adult RDS) In infants: Preterm birth

#### Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS)

Also known as Hyaline Membrane Disease (HMD) RDS occurs primarily in premature infants, its Incidence is inversely released to gestational age and birthweight

Gestational age	Percentages
<28 wks	60-80%
32-36 wks	15-30%
37-39 wk	5%





# **Innervations of Lungs & Bronchi**

#### Innervated by autonomic nerves

#### Constrictors

- Histamine & SRSA "slow reacting substances of anaphylaxis like bradykinin" are secreted by mast cells due to allergy like patients with asthma, often cause bronchiolar constriction and increase airway resistance leading to forced breathing.
- Smoking, dust and sulfur dioxide & some acidic elements in smog inhalation may act directly on the lung an causes obstructive constrictions of the airways
- Parasympathetic stimulation releases **Ach** which causes constriction of bronchi.
- Constrictors causes increased airway resistance as well as forced breathing and coughing

#### Dilators

• Sympathetic stimulation releases epinephrine (adrenaline) which causes dilatation of bronchi



### **Resistance to Airflow in The Bronchial Tree**



If I didn't clarify this well to you. Ninji will do! <u>Click here</u>

In some diseases, the smaller bronchioles play a greater role in determining airflow resistance because of their small size and because they are easily occluded or obstructed in different ways



## Summary

The respiratory system has many functions, the most important is gas exchange (provide O2 and remove CO2).

Respiratory passages (airways) are divided into Conductive Zone (No gas exchange) and Respiratory Zone (Respiratory unit)

Lung is Innervated by autonomic nerves (constrictor: Histamine, SRSA, Smoking, dust and sulfur dioxide & some acidic elements and Ach), (dilator: epinephrine (adrenaline)

Surfactants are composed of dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine and Apo proteins. They reduce surface tension preventing alveolar collapse. Deficiency of them causes RDS Disease .





Q1: which of the following participate in pulmonary defense?					
A) IgA	B) IgG	C) IgD	D) IgE		
Q2: washing out extra CO <sub>2</sub> from the blood helps in:					
A) Angiotensin converting	B) secretion of surfactant	C) pH regulation	D) phonation		
Q3: which of the following is a compartments undergoes lower respiratory tract					
A) nostrils	B) larynx	C) pharynx	D) lungs		
Q4: which of the following secretes surfactants :					
A) pneumocyte type I	B) pneumocytes type II	C) alveolar macrophages	D) endothelial cells		
Q5: The earliest detection of surfactant from fetal alveoli begins between months					
A) 6-7	B) 1-3	C) 5-6	D) 7-8		

# SAQs

#### What are the defense factors in the pulmonary system?

Immunoglobulin A (IgA), Alpha-1 antitrypsin: pulmonary macrophage

#### What is the opposite force of surface tension?

alveoli expansion

#### how does the autonomic system affect The bronchi?

Sympathetic system causes dilation by epinephrine Parasympathetic causes constriction by Ach

#### Key Answers : 5: A 4: B 3: D 2: C 1: A

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