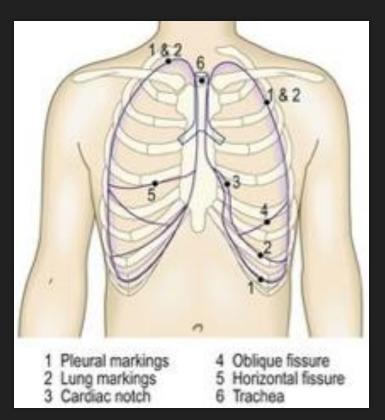
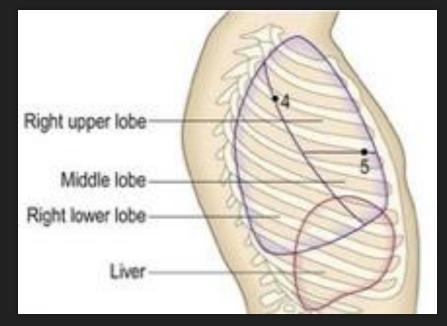
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# **Respiratory System Examination**

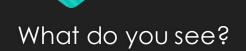
Joel F. Vaughan, M.D.

#### **Surface Anatomy**









### **Inspection - General**

What do you see on walking into the room?

- O Breathlessness
  - Respiratory rate, work of breathing (accessory muscles, tripod position, pursing lips, paradoxical abdominal movement)
- Abnormal breathing patterns
  - Cheyne-Stokes, Kussmaul
- Abnormal breath sounds
  - Stridor, wheeze
- Weight loss
- Mental State

## Inspection – Other General

#### • Blood pressure and pulse

- Hypotension, pulsus paradoxus
- Mouth/Tongue
  - O Cyanosis
- Skin/Hair/Nails
  - Erythema nodosum, manifestations of cancer, discoloration from tar
- Hands
  - Clubbing, tremor, asterixis
- O Vascular
  - O Jugular venous pressure (JVP)
- Lymphnodes

## **Inspection - Images**



### Inspection – Chest

Hows

- O Positioning-Seated
- Sequence Back to front

What?

O Skin

• Chest wall

- Anteroposterior diameter to lateral diameter/hyperinflation
- Kyphoscoliosis, pectus carinatum, pectus excavatum





# Palpation

#### • Mediastinum position

- Trachea, cardiac apex beat, right ventricular heave
- O Chest expansion
- Subcutaneous emphysema





### **Palpation - Other**

O Ribs

• Costochondritis (Tietze's Syndrome)

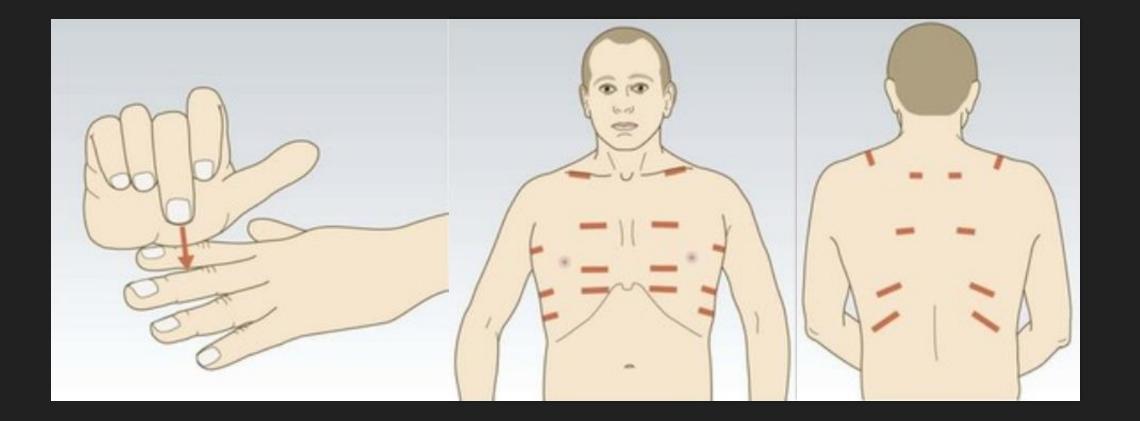
O Fracture

• Pulmonary infarction





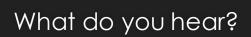
# Percussion



### Percussion

Type Detected over	
Resonant	Normal lung
Hyperresonant	Pneumothorax
Dull	Pulmonary consolidation
	Pulmonary collapse
	Severe pulmonary fibrosis
Stony dull	Pleural effusion
	Haemothorax





### Auscultation

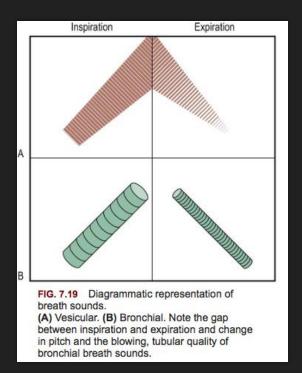
#### Hom

- Patient relaxed, breathing deeply through mouth
- O Side to side
- Anteriorly from above clavicle to 6th rib
- Laterally from axilla to 8th rib
- O Posteriorly to 11th rib

### Auscultation

#### What?

- Quality and amplitude of breath sounds
  - Vesicular, bronchial
- Gaps in inspiration and expiration
  - O I:E ratio
- If sounds decreased, have patient cough



#### **Auscultation**

- Have patient say, "one, one, one"
- Have patient whisper, "one, one, one"
- O In normal lung, the whisper is not heard

#### Auscultation – Extra Sounds

- Crackles from opening of collapsed peripheral airways on inspiration
- Wheeze musical, with expiration, from airway narrowing
- Pleural friction rub crunch "like treading on fresh snow," from inflammation (maybe vasculitis, pneumonia), heard best at end of deep inspiration

Phase of inspiration	Cause
Early	Small airways disease, as in bronchiolitis
Middle	Pulmonary oedema
Late	Pulmonary fibrosis (fine)
	Pulmonary oedema (medium)
	Bronchial secretions in COPD, pneumonia, lung abscess, tubercular lung cavities (coarse)
Biphasic	Bronchiectasis (coarse)

# Putting It All Together

# **Putting It All Together**

#### **Examination** sequence

- Note the patient's general appearance and demeanour.
- Look for central cyanosis of the lips and tongue.
- Examine the skin for rashes and nodules.
- Listen for hoarseness and stridor.
- Examine the hands for finger clubbing, peripheral cyanosis and tremor.
- Measure the blood pressure.
- Examine the neck for raised JVP and cervical lymphadenopathy.
- Record the respiratory rate.
- Observe the breathing pattern, and look for use of accessory muscles.
- Inspect the chest front and back for abnormalities of shape and scars.
- Feel the trachea and cardiac apex beat for evidence of mediastinal shift.

- Percuss the chest front and back for areas of dullness or hyperresonance.
- Listen to the chest front and back for altered breath sounds and added sounds.
- Certain groups of physical signs are typically associated with particular pathological changes in the lungs (Figs 7.20 and 7.21).

# Summary





