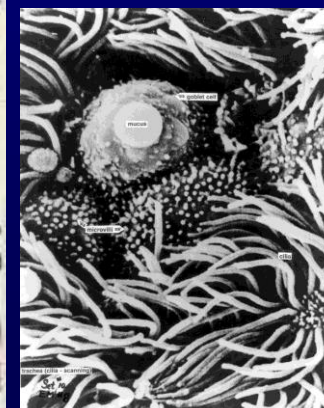
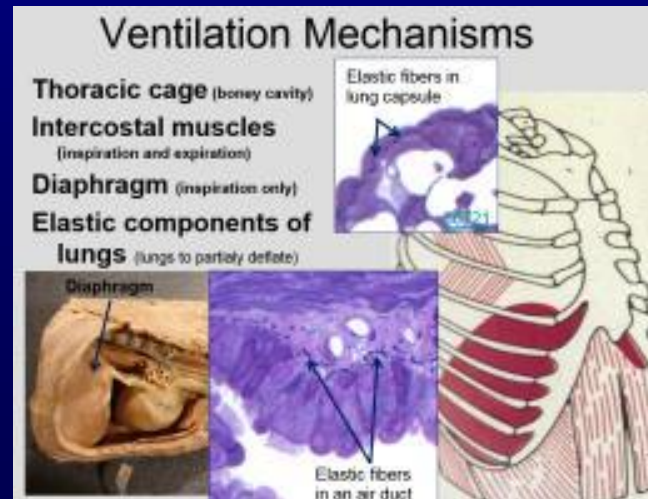
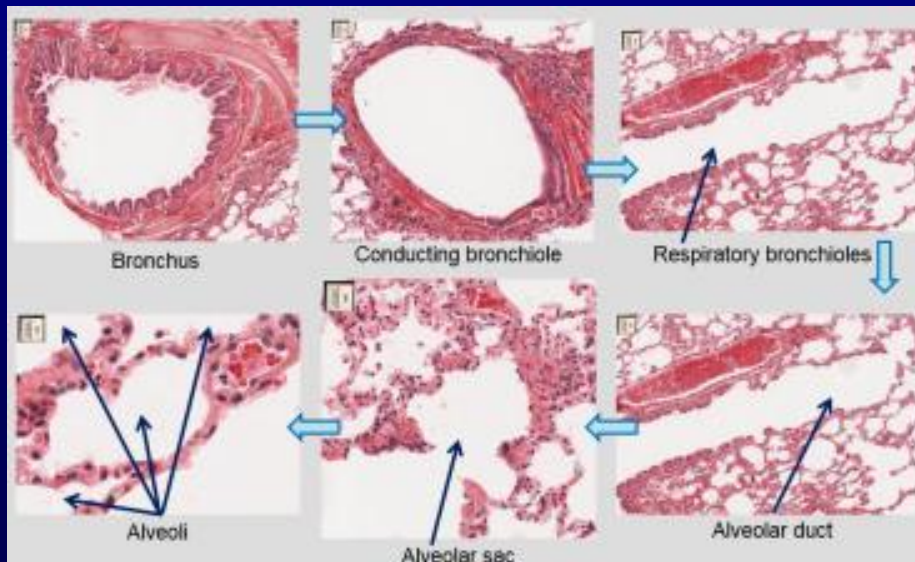
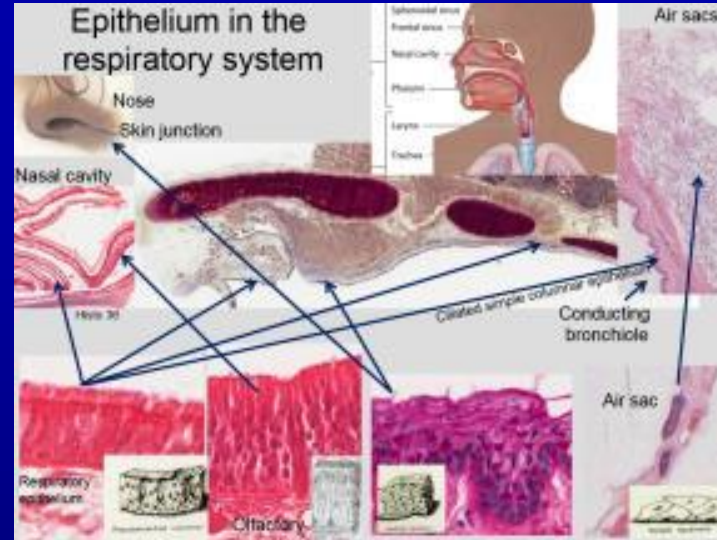
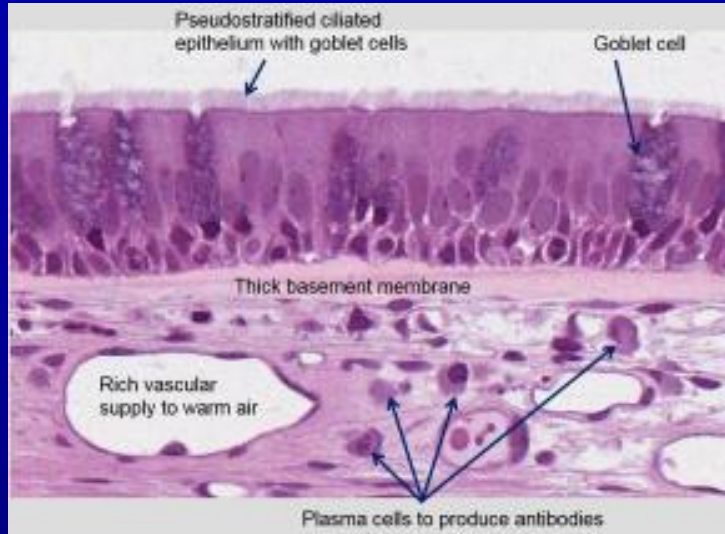


# The Respiratory System

Undergraduate - Graduate  
Histology Lecture Series

Larry Johnson, Professor  
Veterinary Integrative  
Biosciences  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX 77843



### Natural Defenses of Our Respiratory System

Large particles get trapped by nose hairs.

Smaller particles are trapped in mucus that lines our respiratory system. The mucous keeps harmful particles out of the lungs.

Coughing forcibly expels foreign particles trapped in our lungs and airways.

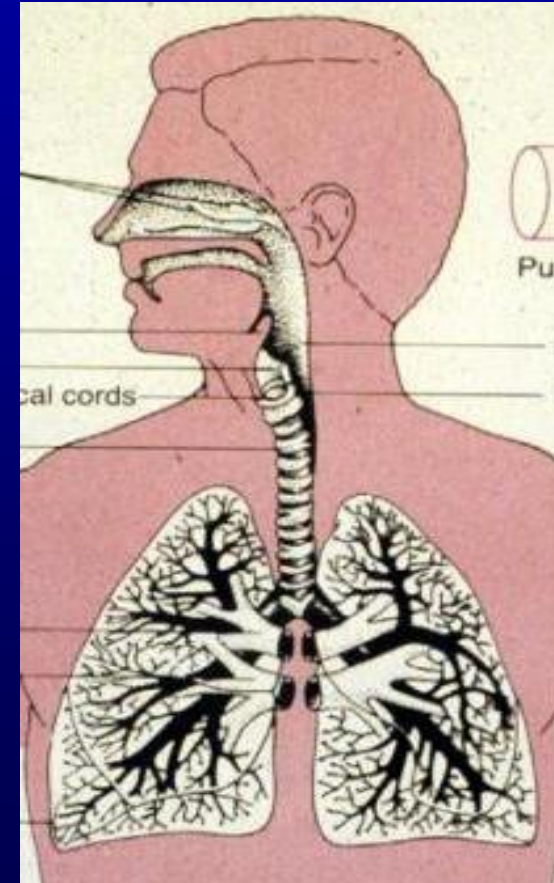
Sneezing removes bacteria trapped in mucus from our nasal passages. Sneezes travel at about 100 miles per hour and remove 100,000 bacteria.

All higher animals  
require a  
mechanism to:

1. Obtain  $O_2$  from the environment
2. and get rid of  $CO_2$

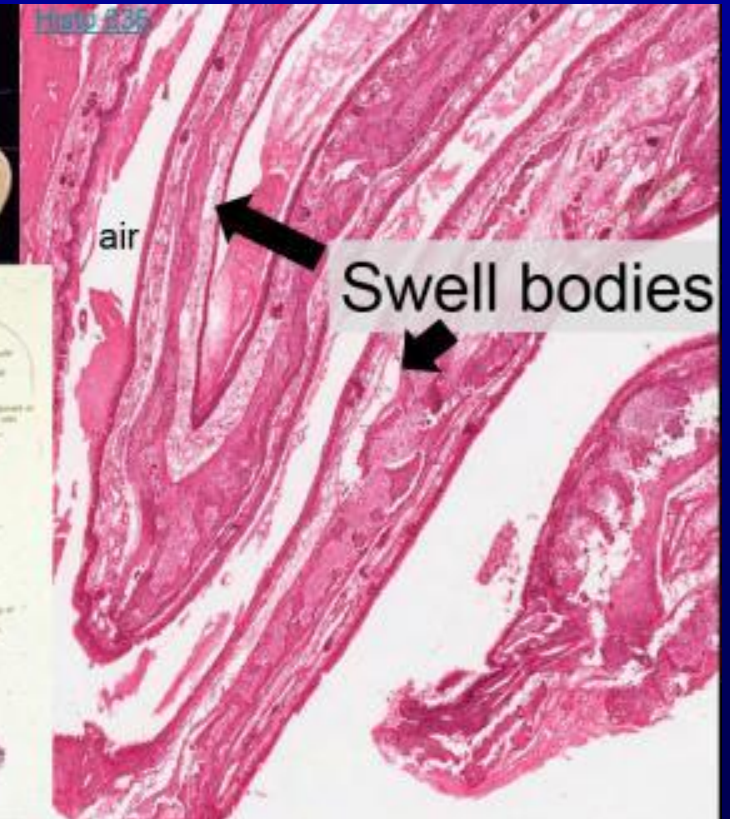
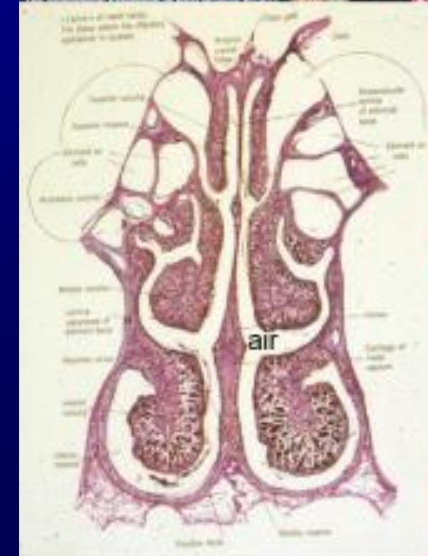
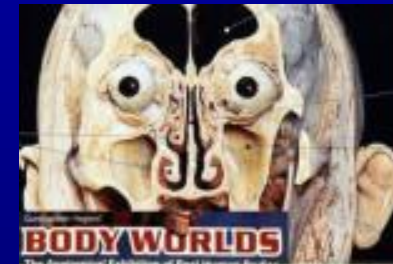
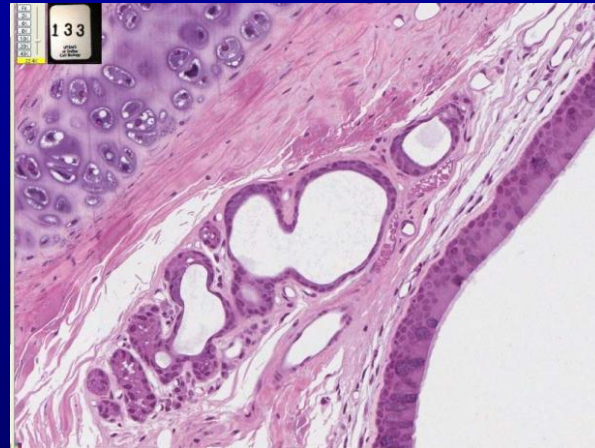
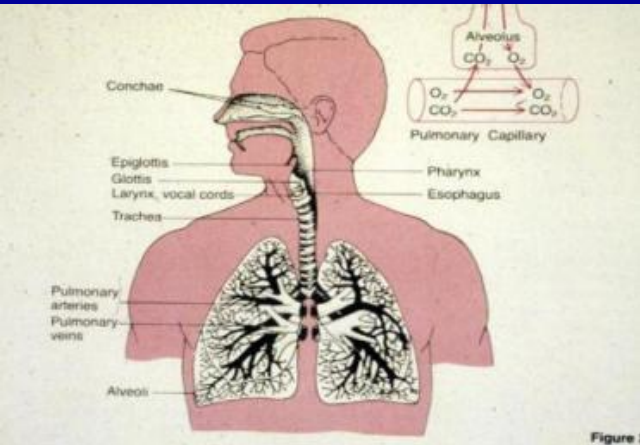
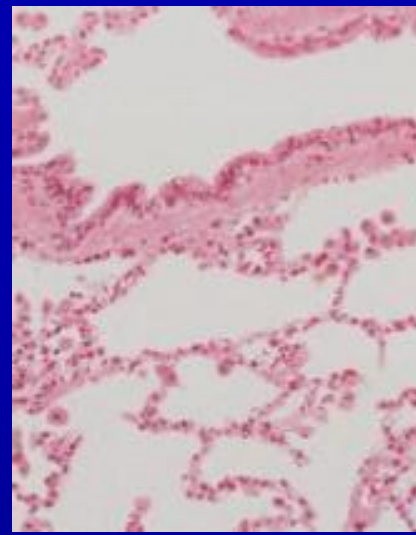


The respiratory system *exchanges* these gases with the external environment

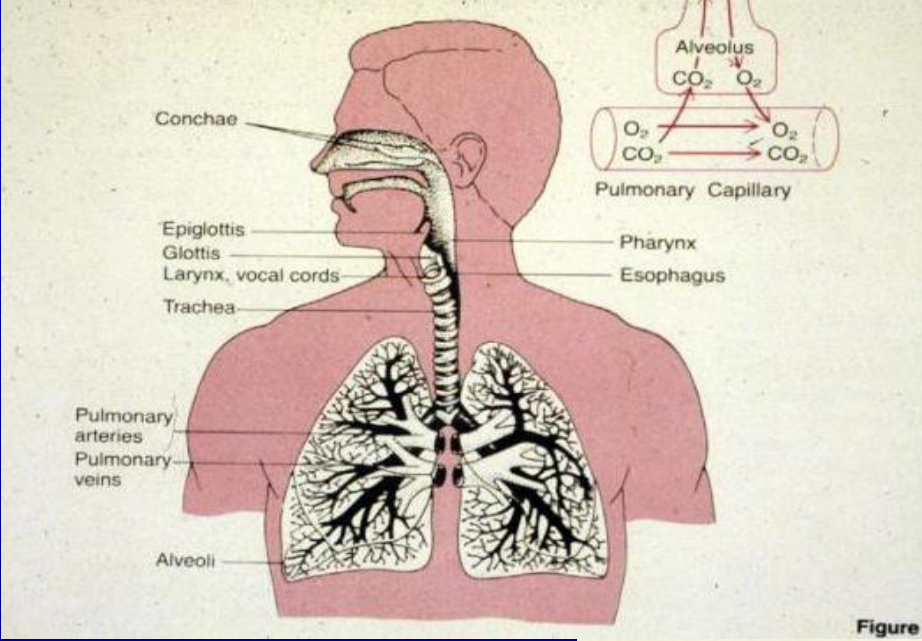


# Objectives

The histologic characteristics of the components of conducting portion and respiratory portion of the respiratory system



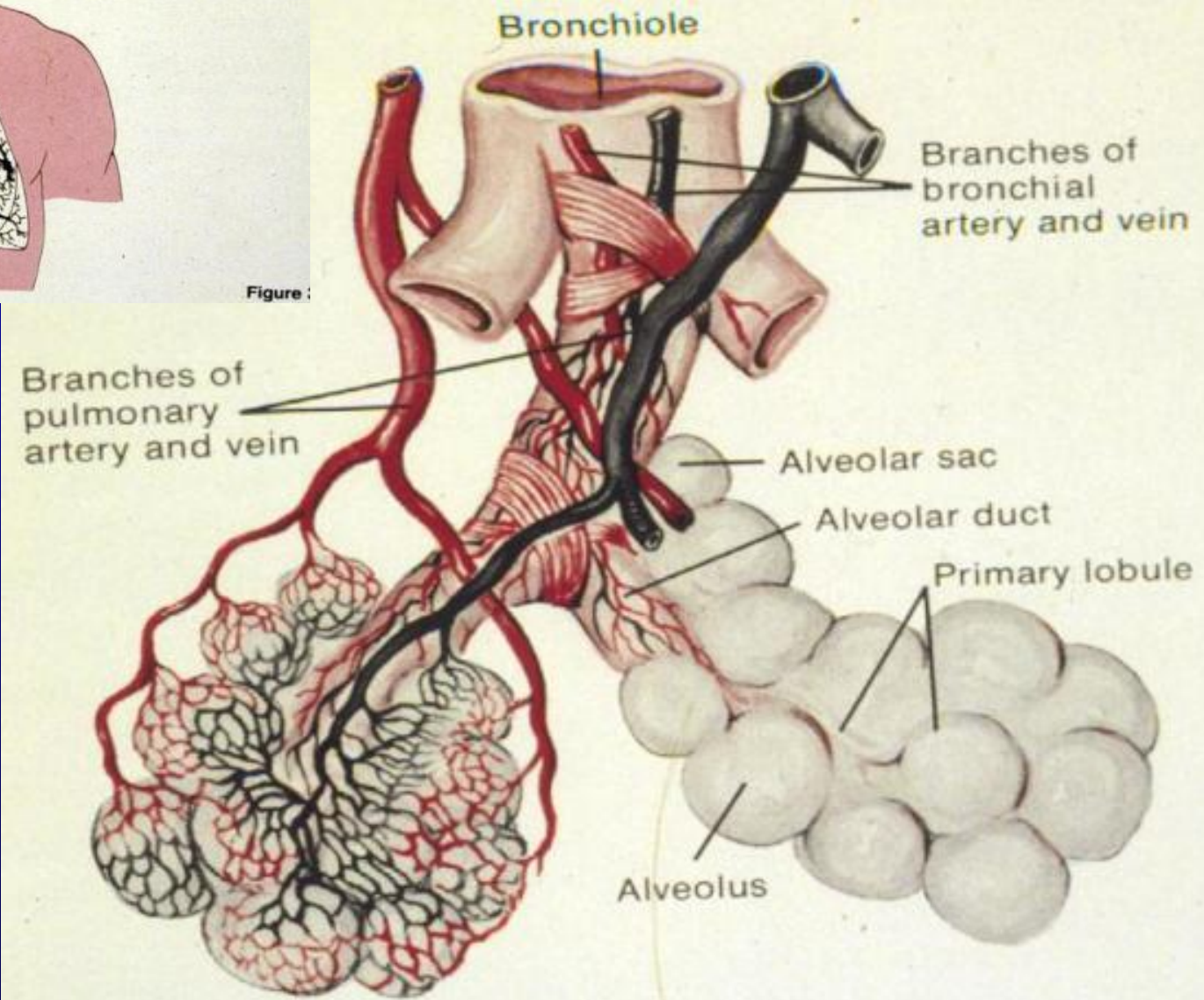
How these characteristics allow each component to contribute to the overall function of the respiratory system.



The respiratory system has a direct conduit to the environment and brings air close to the blood.

# Function?

Function of the respiratory system is "gas exchange"

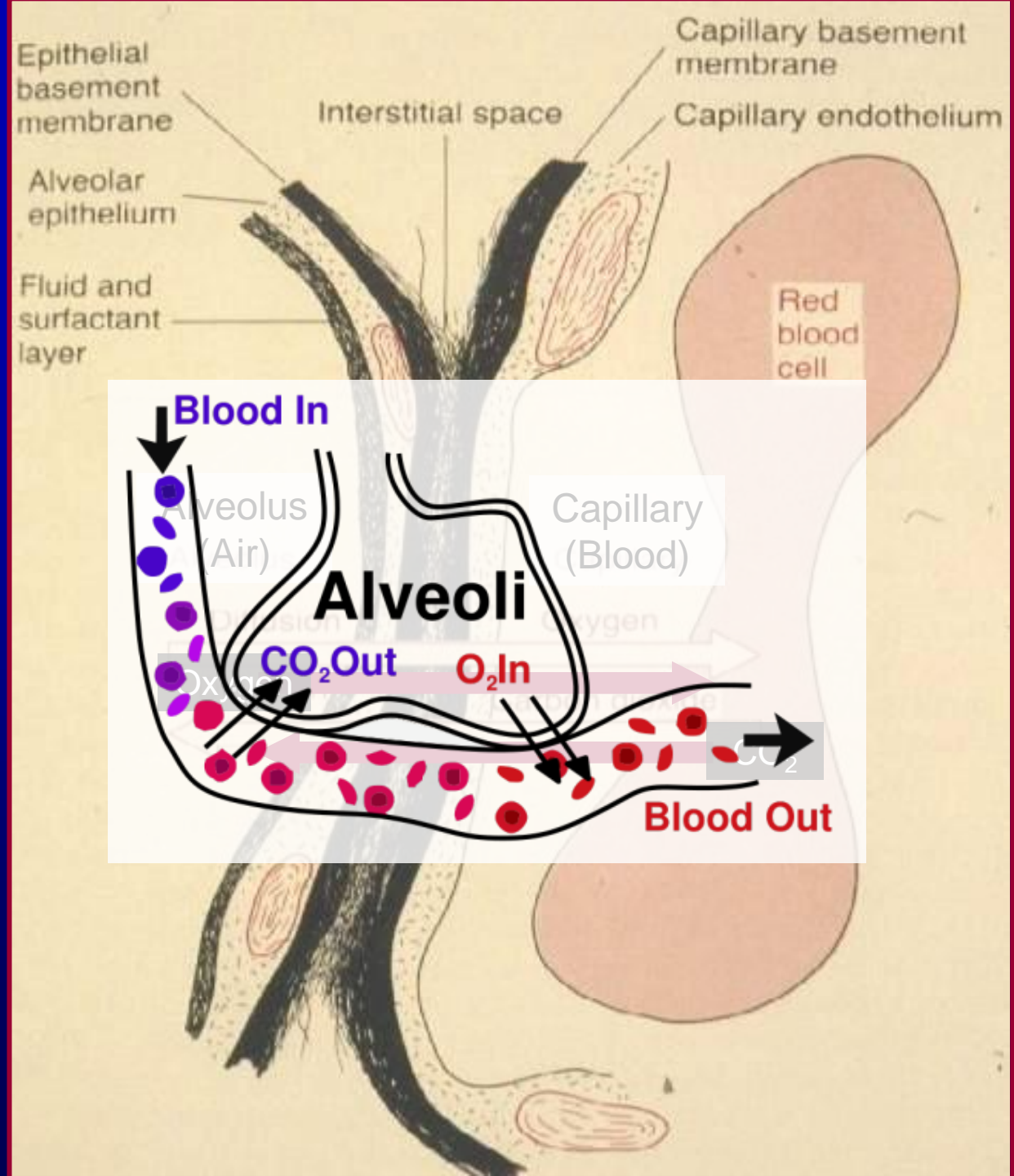


# Gas Exchange?

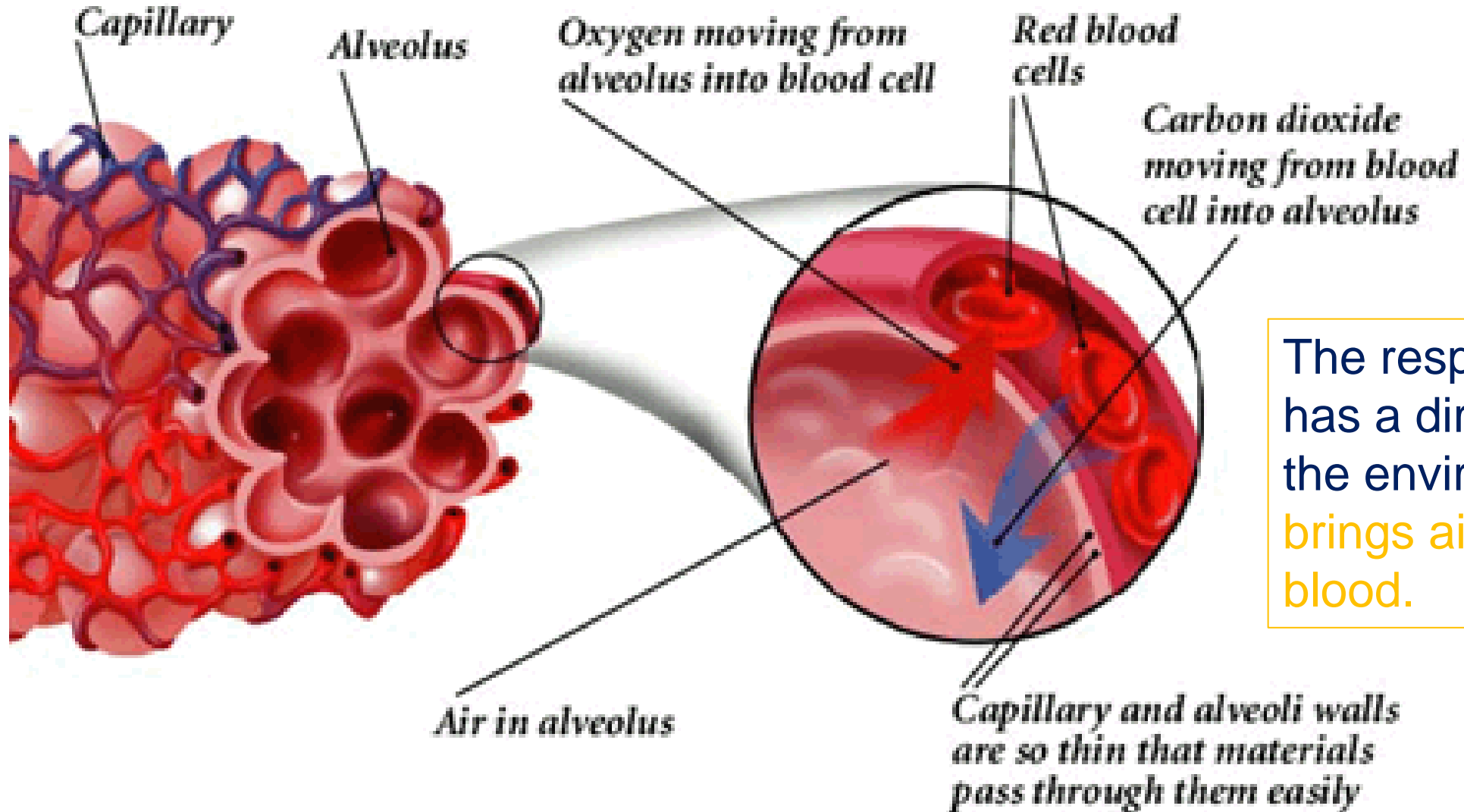
Oxygen diffuses out and Carbon Dioxide diffuses into the air space of the alveolus

Diffusion: spontaneous process of equalization of physical states (e.g., heat spreading in a room)

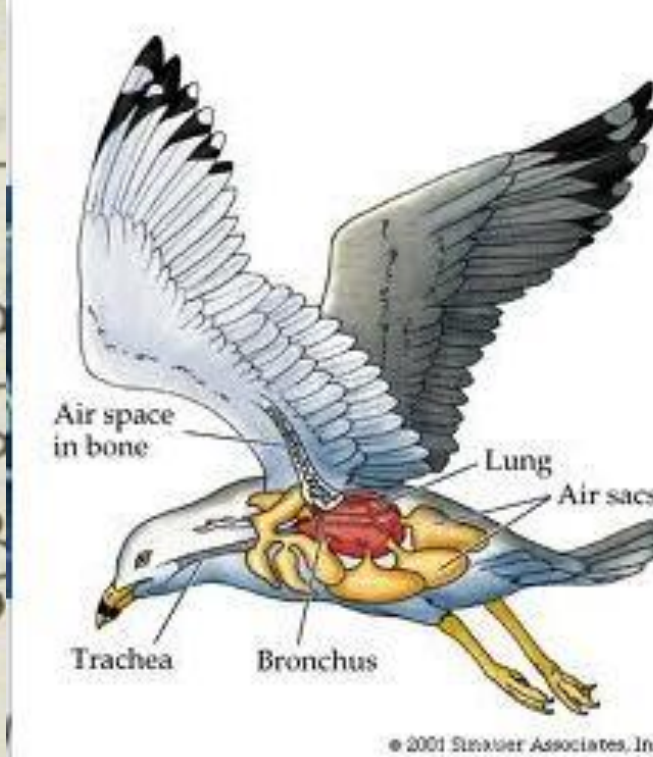
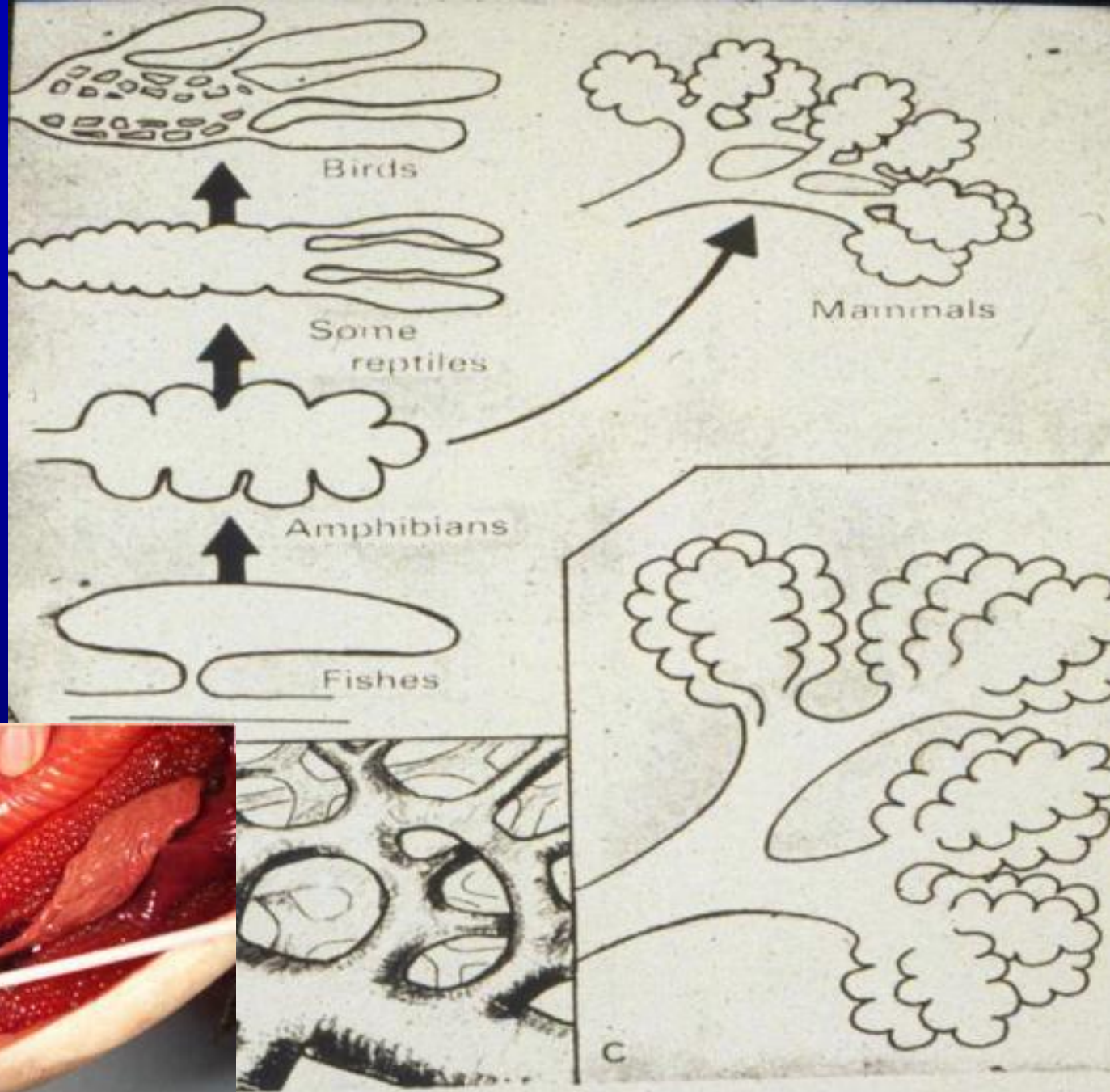
Diffuse: to spread in all directions



# Alveoli: Gas Exchange



The respiratory system has a direct conduit to the environment and brings air close to the blood.



13-33: Evolution of the Lung.

[BirdResp.gif](#)  
 388 x 448 - Avian lungs and air sacs  
[cas.bellarmine.edu](http://cas.bellarmine.edu)  
 Similar - More sizes

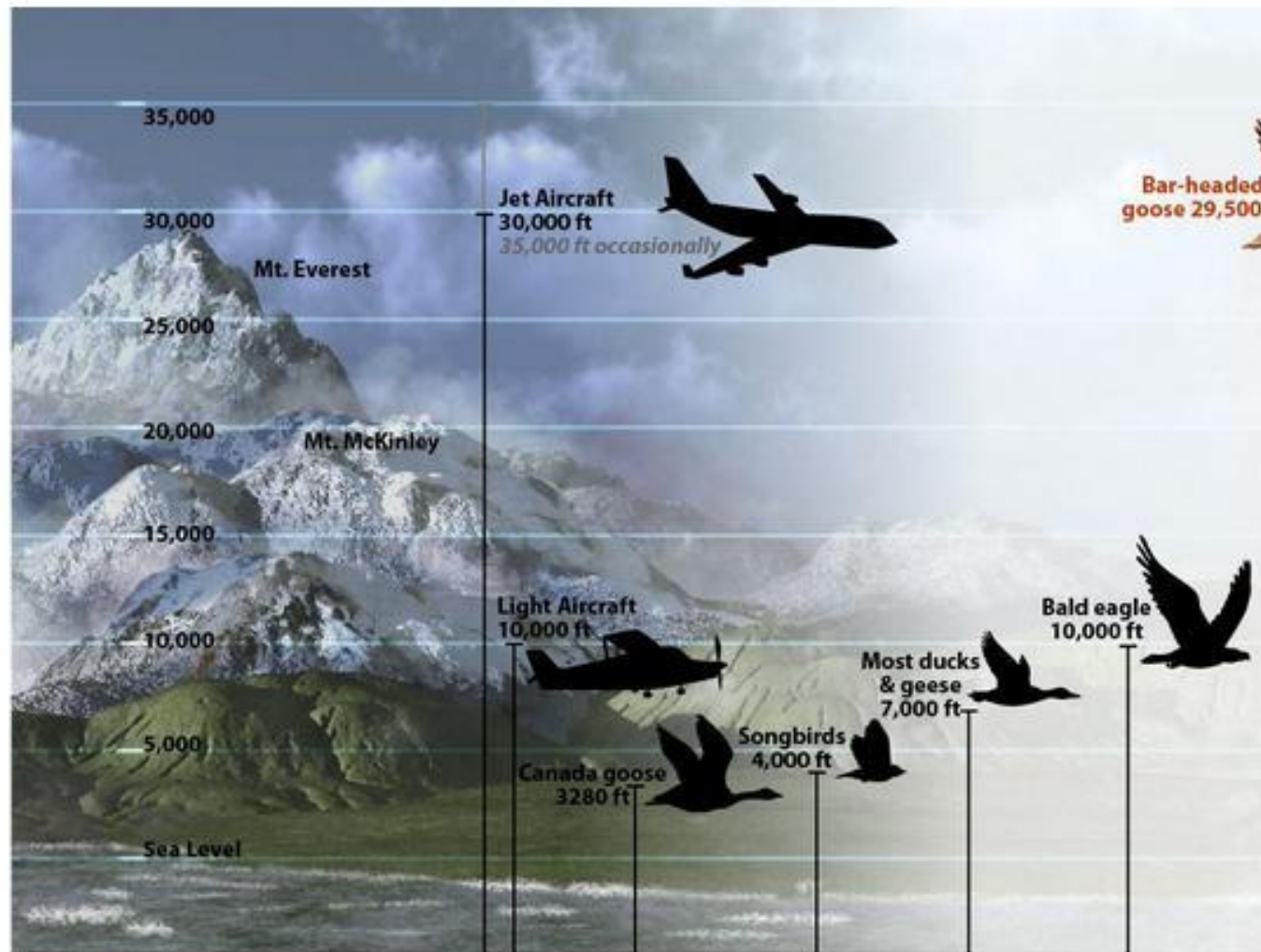


# Highest Flying Bird Found; Can Scale Himalaya

The bar-headed goose can reach nearly 21,120 feet, new study shows.



Bar-headed geese (seen in a file picture) can fly over the Himalaya in eight hours.



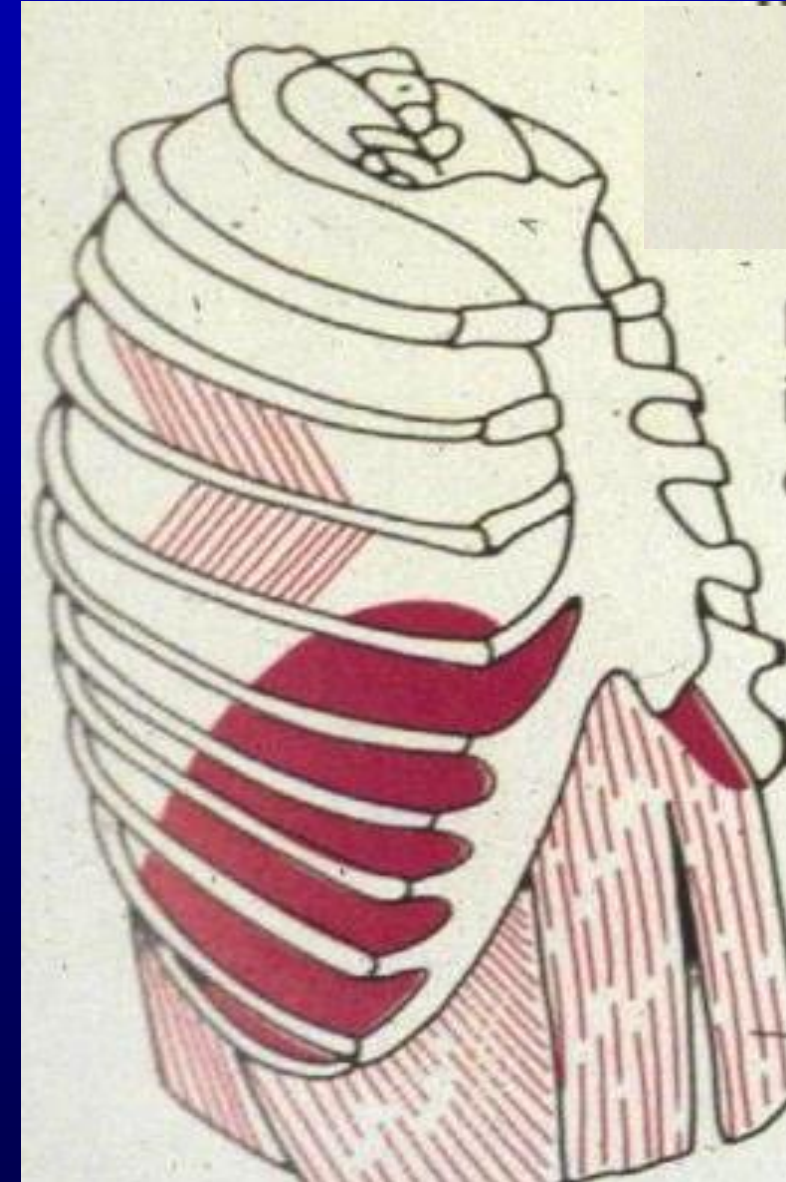
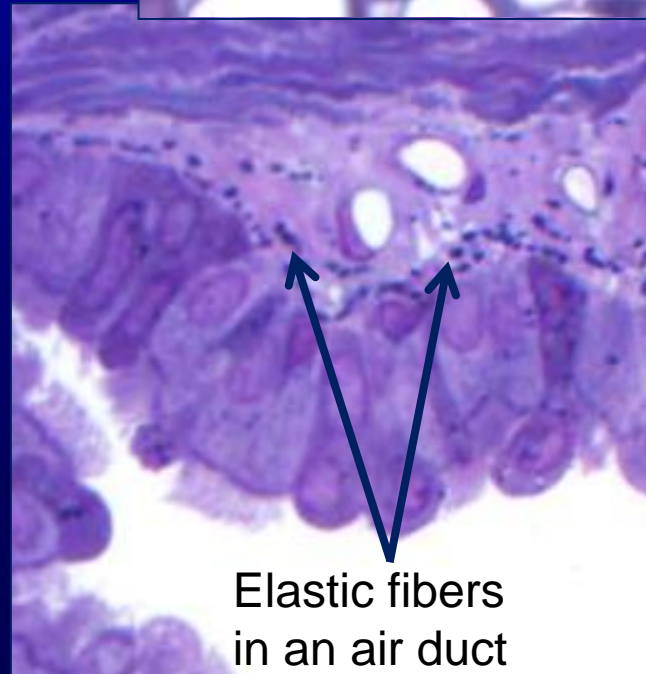
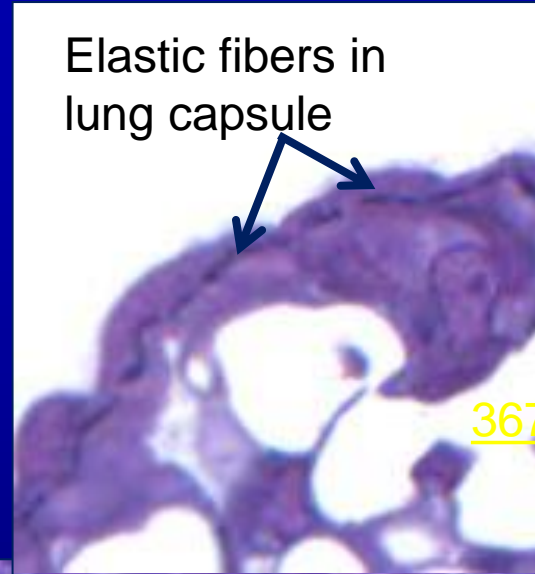
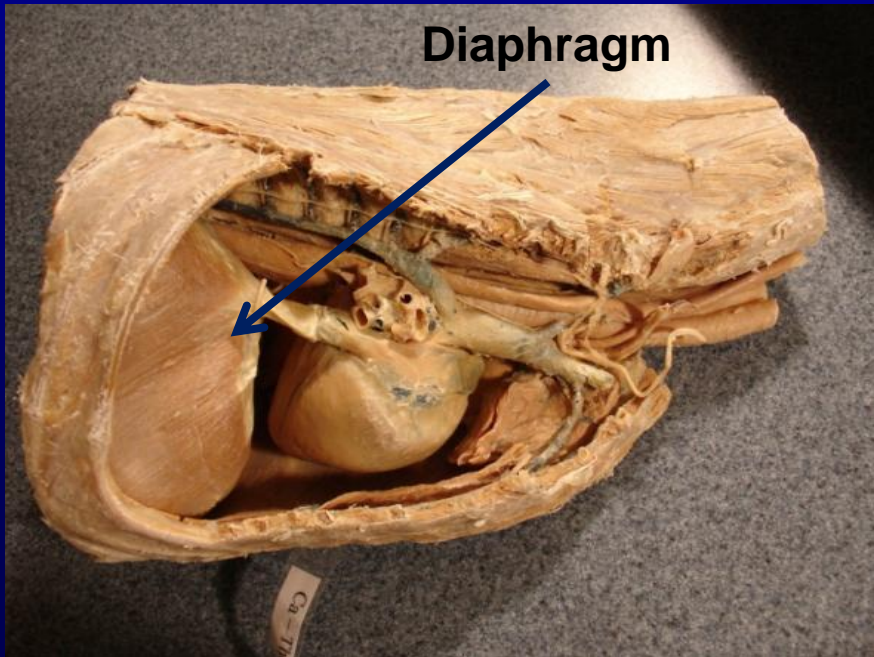
# Ventilation Mechanisms

**Thoracic cage** (boney cavity)

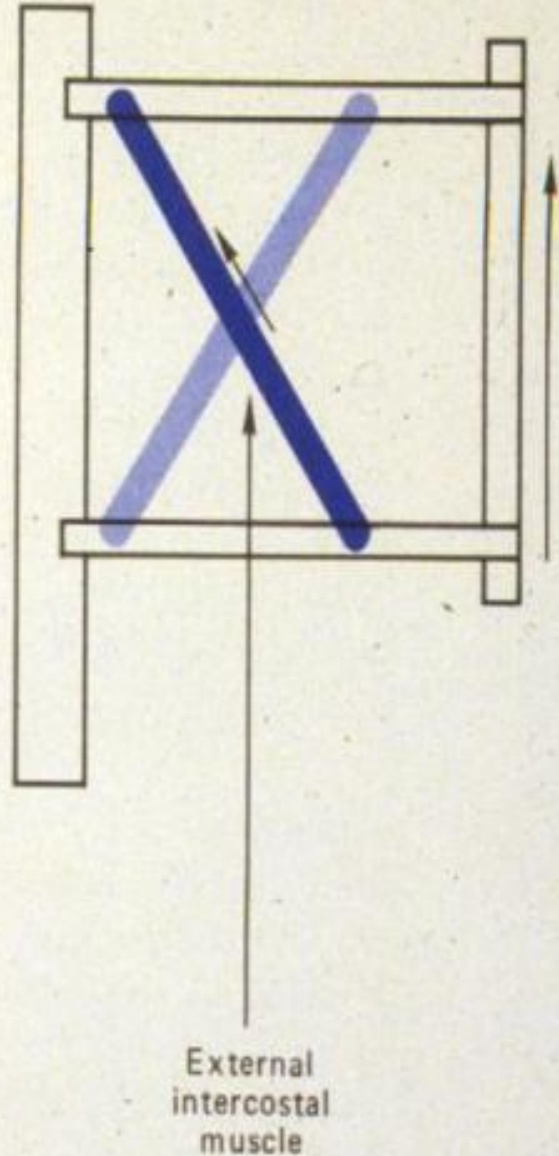
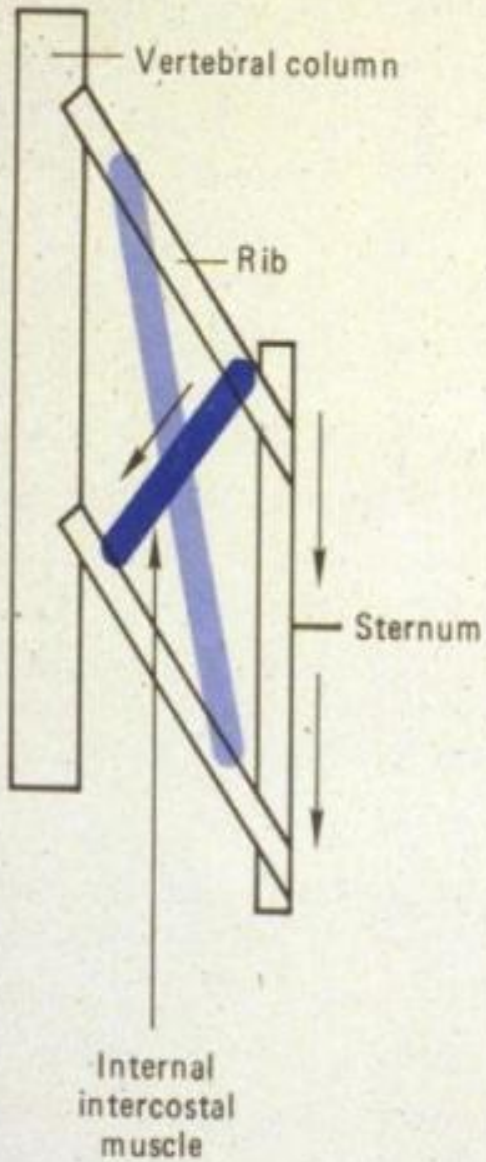
**Intercostal muscles**  
(inspiration and expiration)

**Diaphragm** (inspiration only)

**Elastic components of lungs** (lungs to partially deflate)



# Ventilation Mechanisms



Thoracic cage

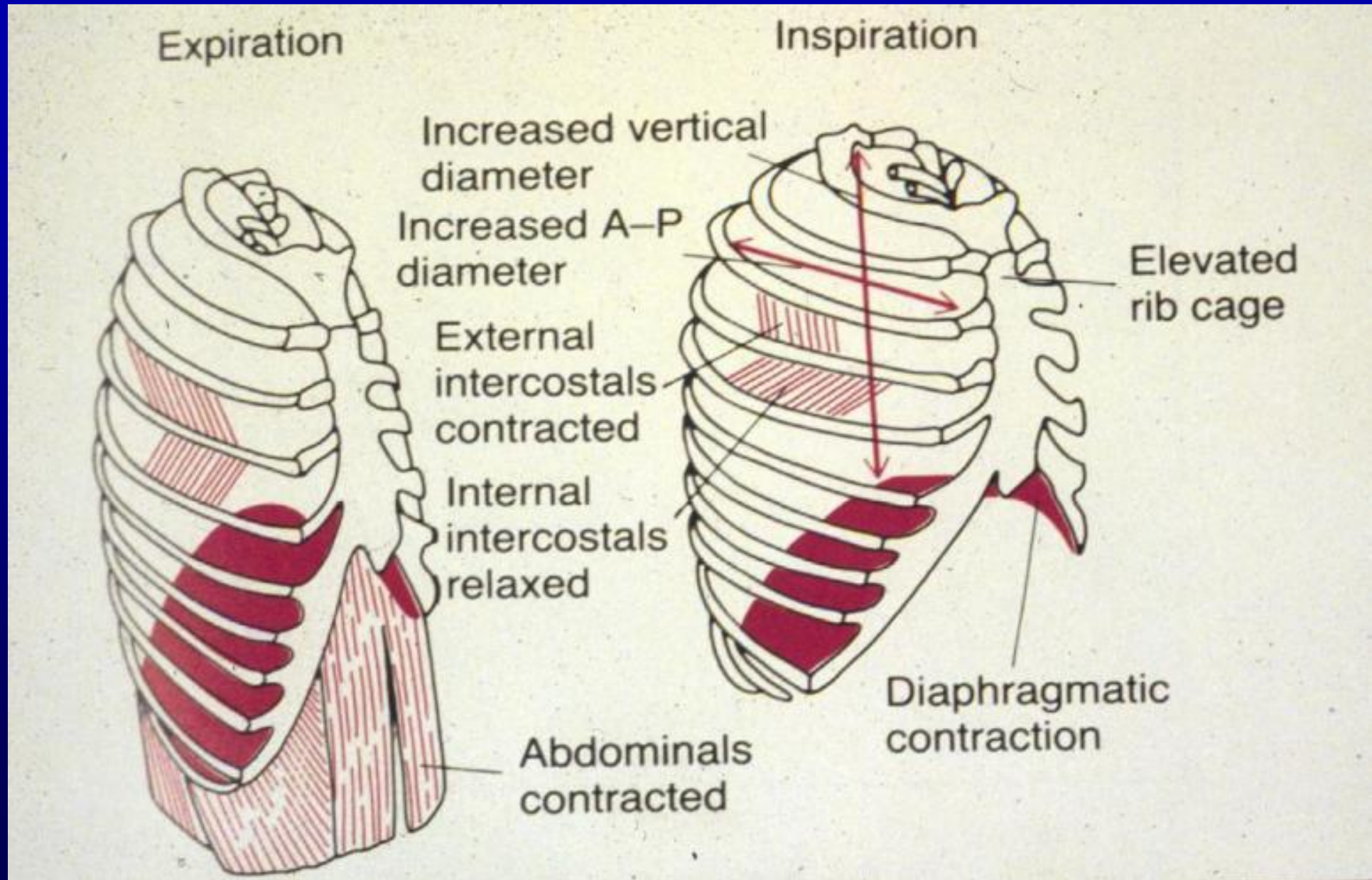
Intercostal muscles

Diaphragm

Elastic and collagen  
components of lungs



# Ventilation Mechanisms





**Boyle's law =**  
states the inverse proportional  
relationship between the  
pressure and volume of a gas



**Boyle's law =**  
as diaphragm is pulled down the  
volume is increased with a  
decrease in pressure (vacuum)

# Breathing

What happens when I inhale?

Your ribs come up.

Your diaphragm drops down.



These movements increase volume and decrease pressure.

What happens when I exhale?

Your ribs move down.

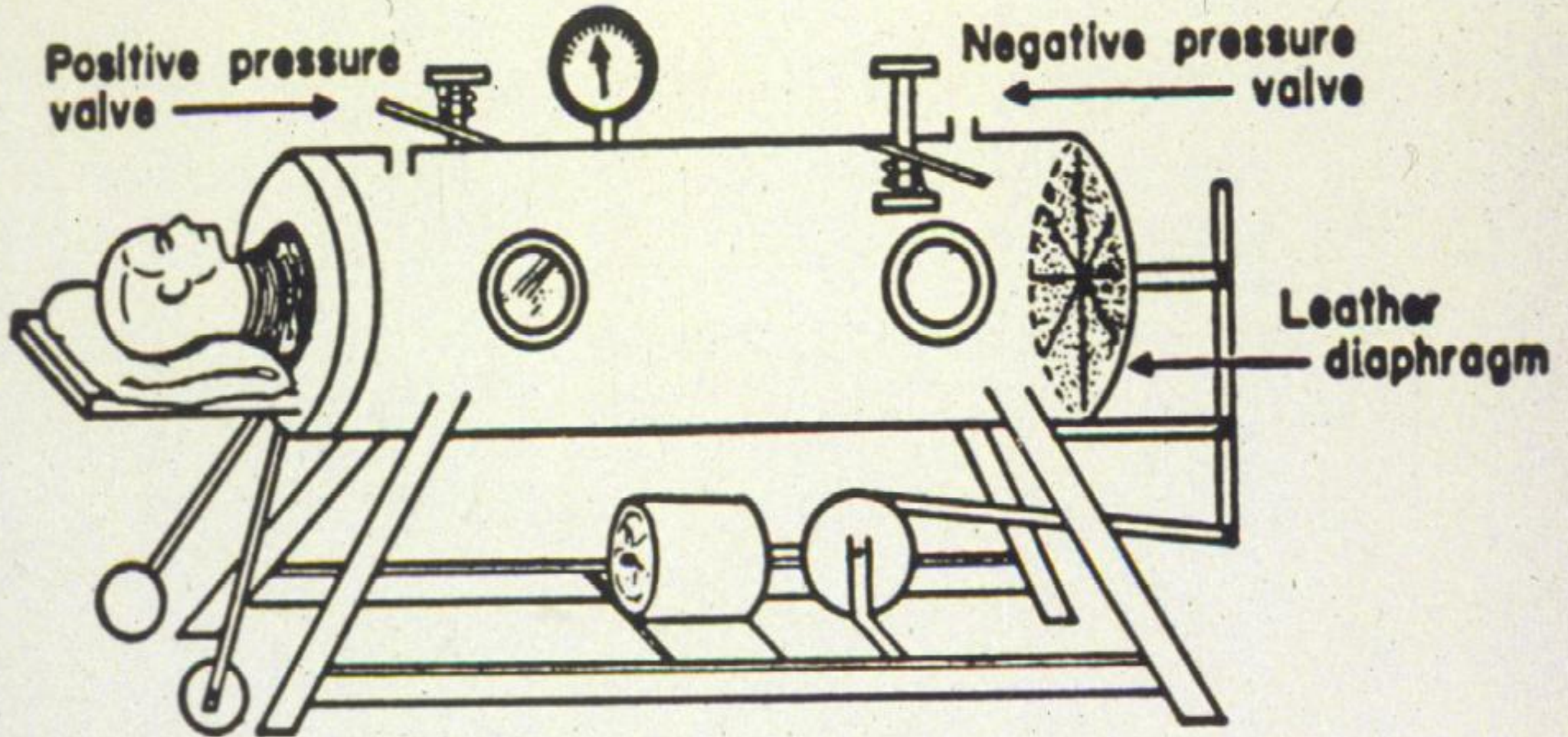
Your diaphragm moves up.

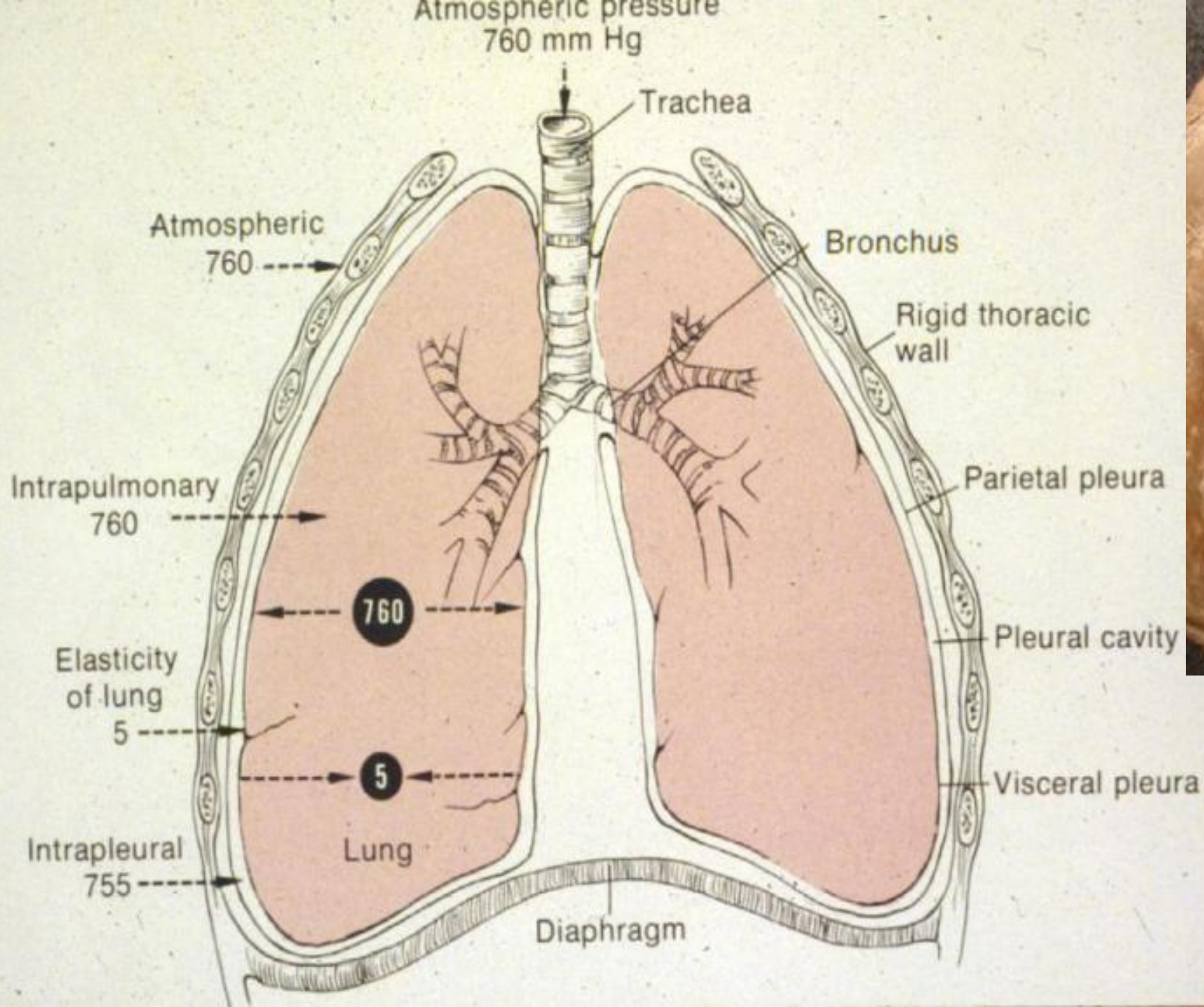


These movements decrease volume and increase pressure.



# Iron Lung

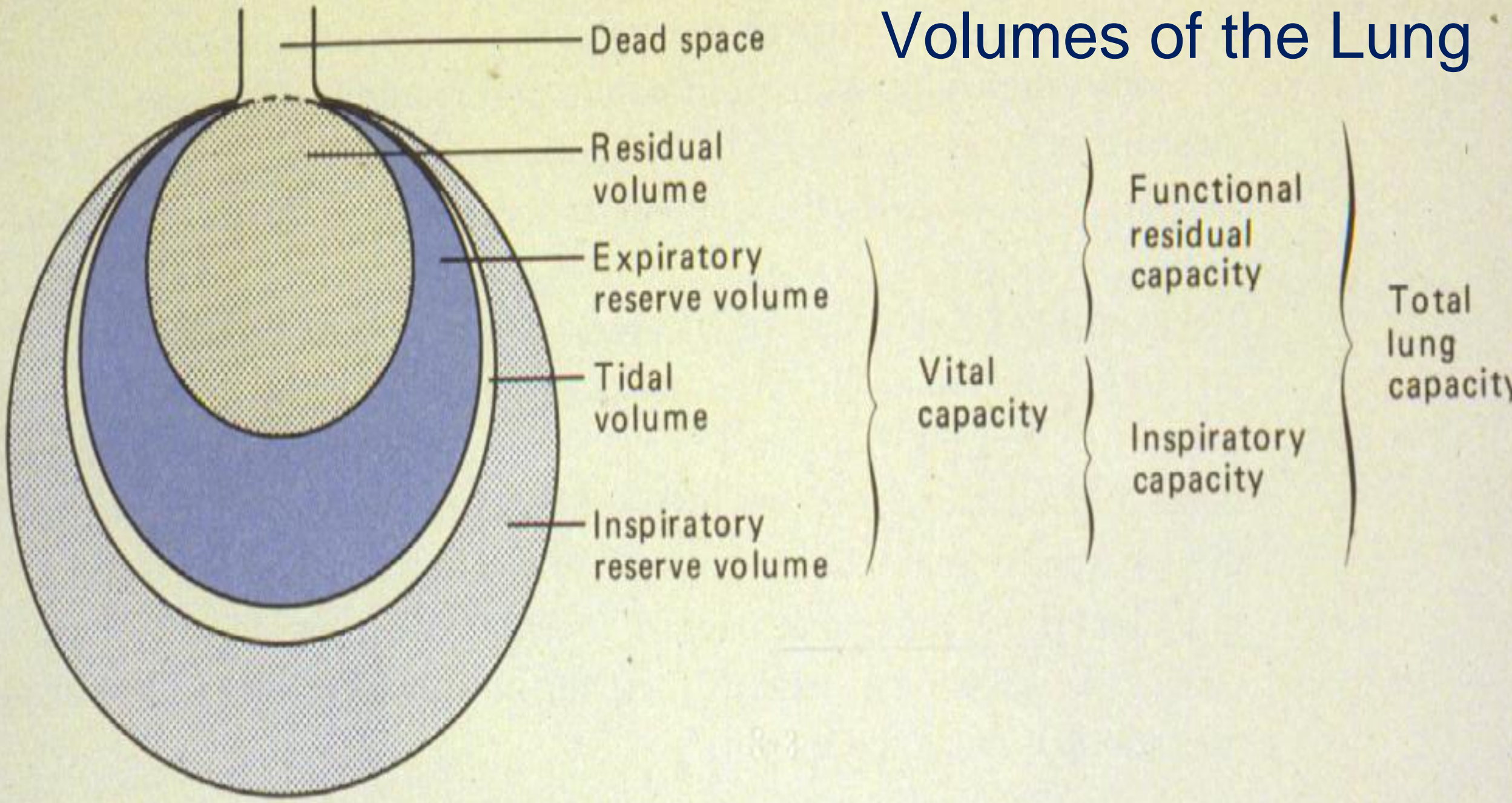








# Volumes of the Lung



# Spirometer = Measures Lung Capacity



# Routes of exposure to toxic materials in your environment



Ingestion (water and food)

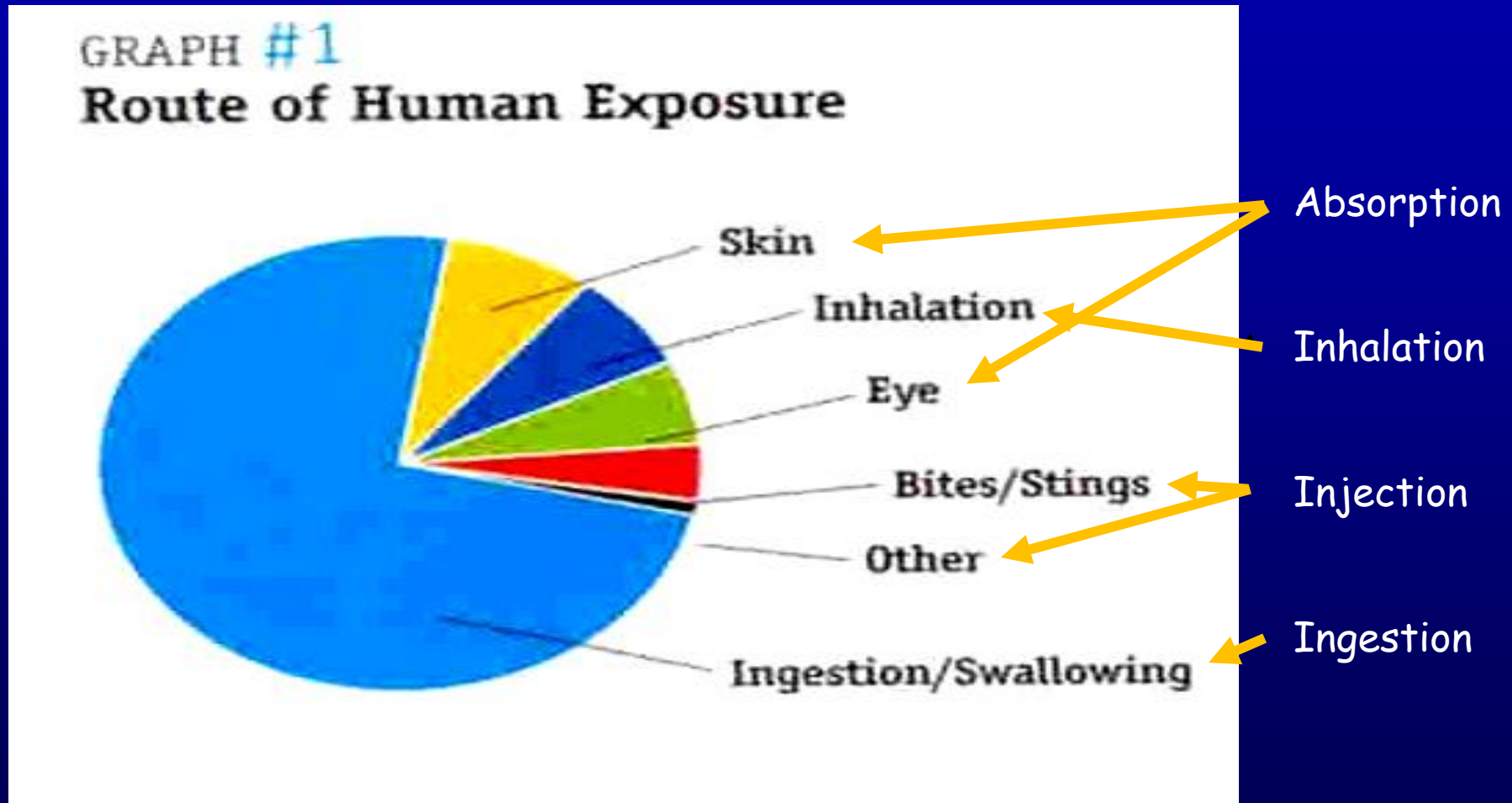
Absorption (skin or eye)

Injection (bite, puncture, or cut)

Inhalation (air)



# Routes of Environmental Exposure



# “Dose Makes the Poison”

1. Too much of a good thing is bad

2. A low enough dose of a poison does not hurt



# Lethal Doses

<b>Approximate Lethal Doses of Common Chemicals</b> (Calculated for a 160 lb. human from data on rats)	
<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Lethal Dose</b>
Sugar (sucrose)	3 quarts
Alcohol (ethyl alcohol)	3 quarts
Salt (sodium chloride)	1 quart
Herbicide (2, 4-D)	one half cup
Arsenic (arsenic acid)	1-2 teaspoons
Nicotine	one half teaspoon
Food poison (botulism)	microscopic

The magnitude of risk is proportional to both the potency of the chemical and the extent (amount) of exposure.

# Toxicology Terms

## Toxicity –

The adverse effects that a chemical may produce.



## Dose –

The amount of a chemical that gains access to the body.





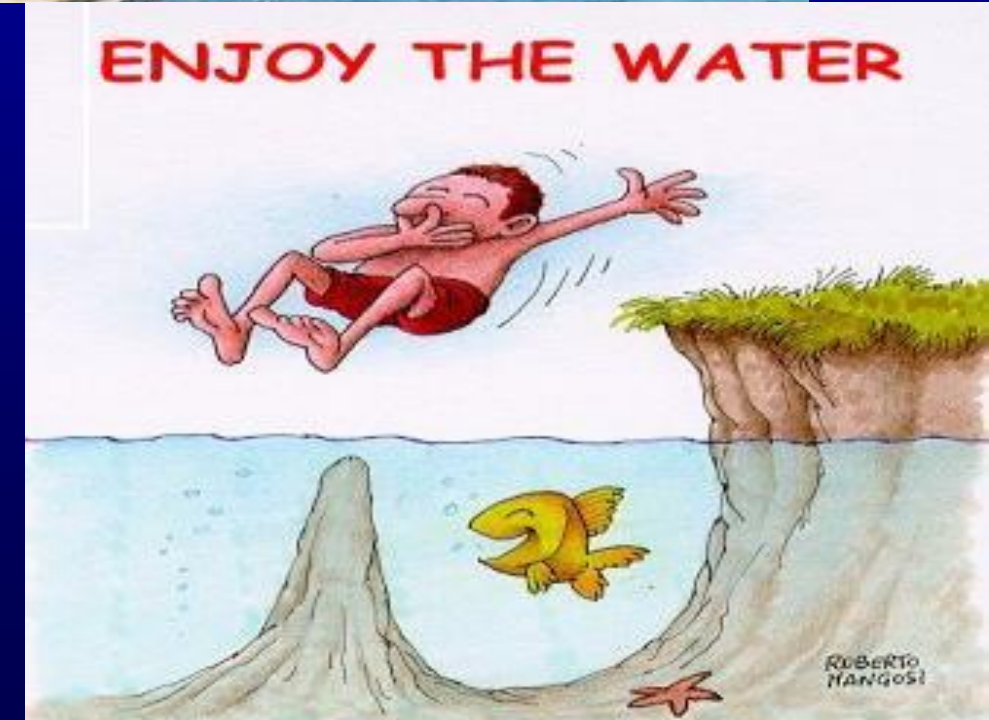
# Toxicology Terms

## Exposure

Contact providing  
opportunity of obtaining  
a poisonous dose.

## Hazard

The likelihood that the  
toxicity will be expressed.

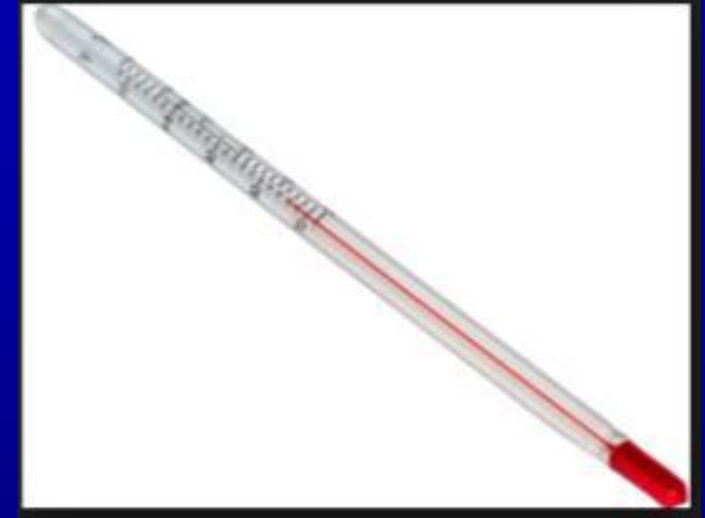


# *Fundamental Concepts Of Toxicology*

Exposure must first occur for the chemical to present a risk.

The magnitude of risk is proportional to both the potency of the chemical and the extent of exposure.

“The dose makes the poison”  
(amount of chemical at the target site determines toxicity).

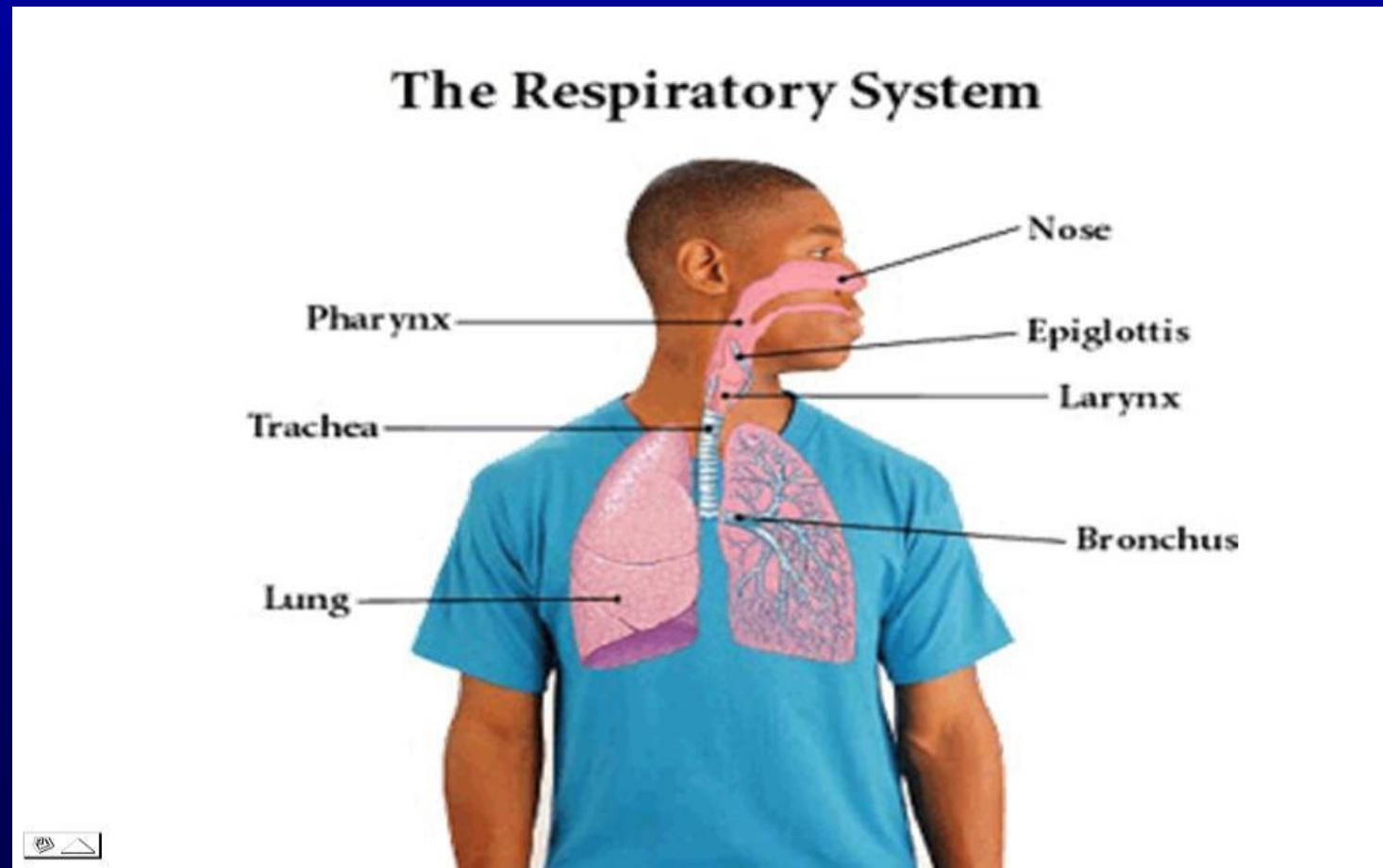


Approximate Lethal Doses of Common Chemicals  
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Food poison (botulism)	microscopic

# The Respiratory System:

Conducting portion  
Respiratory portion

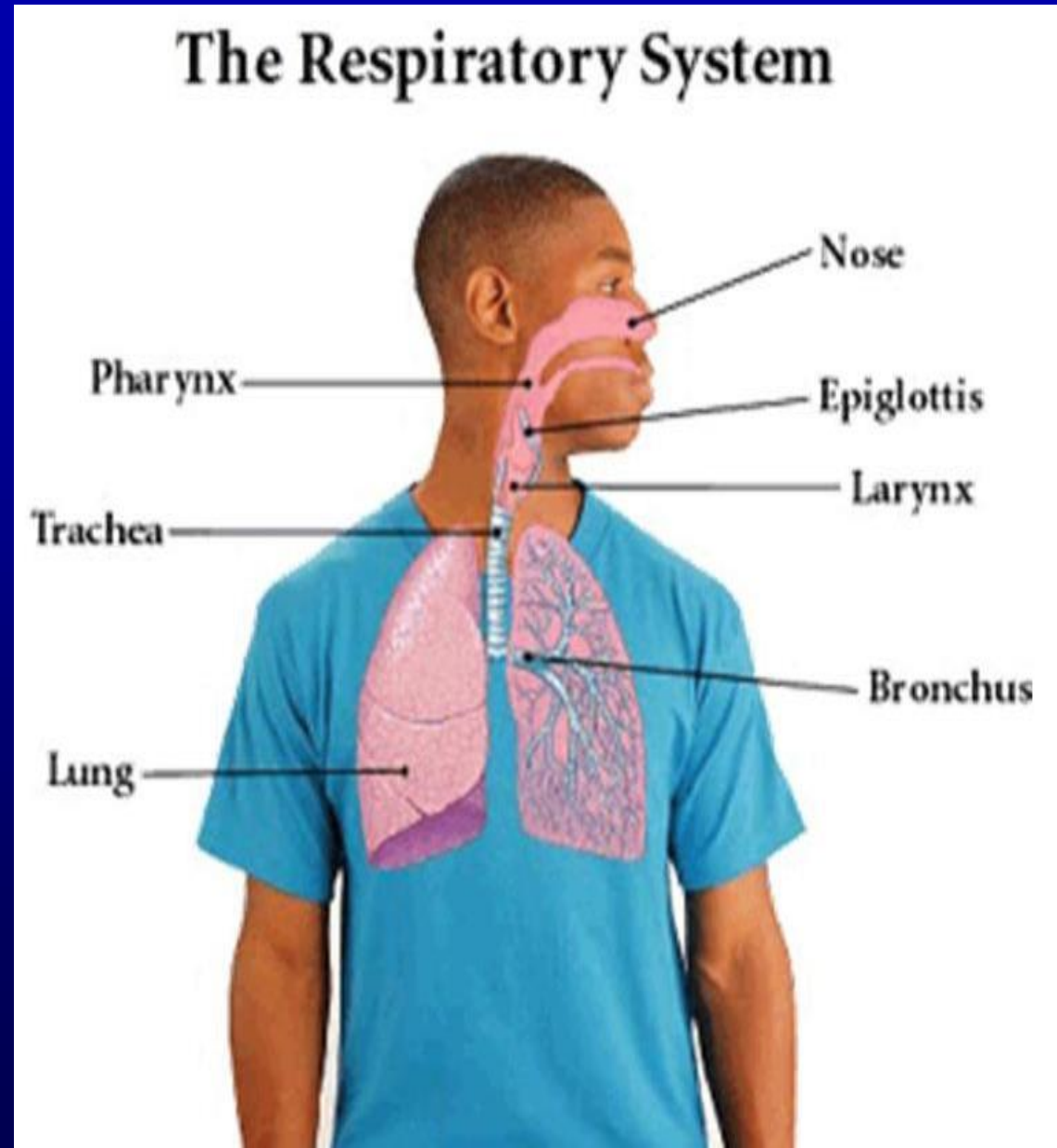


# Conducting Portion

Cleans air

Warms air

Humidifies air



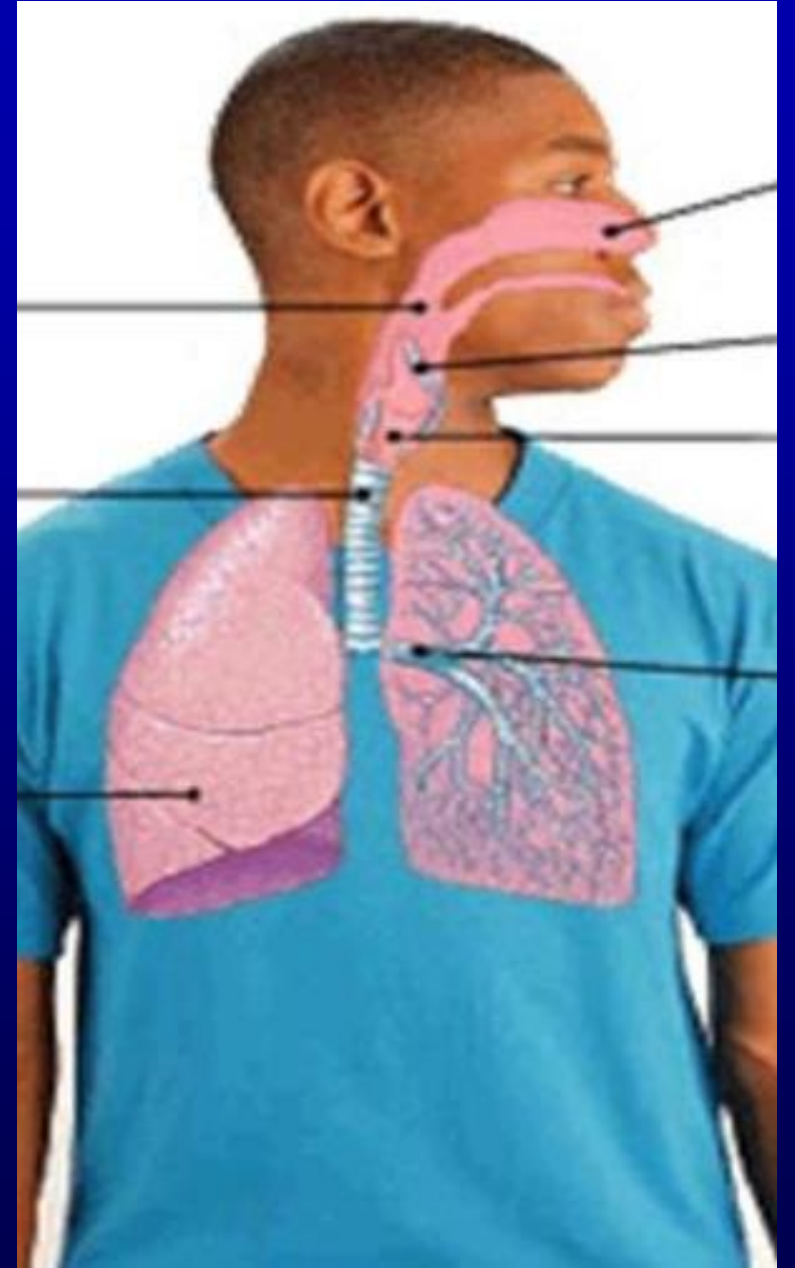
# “Conditioning Air” by the Conducting Portion

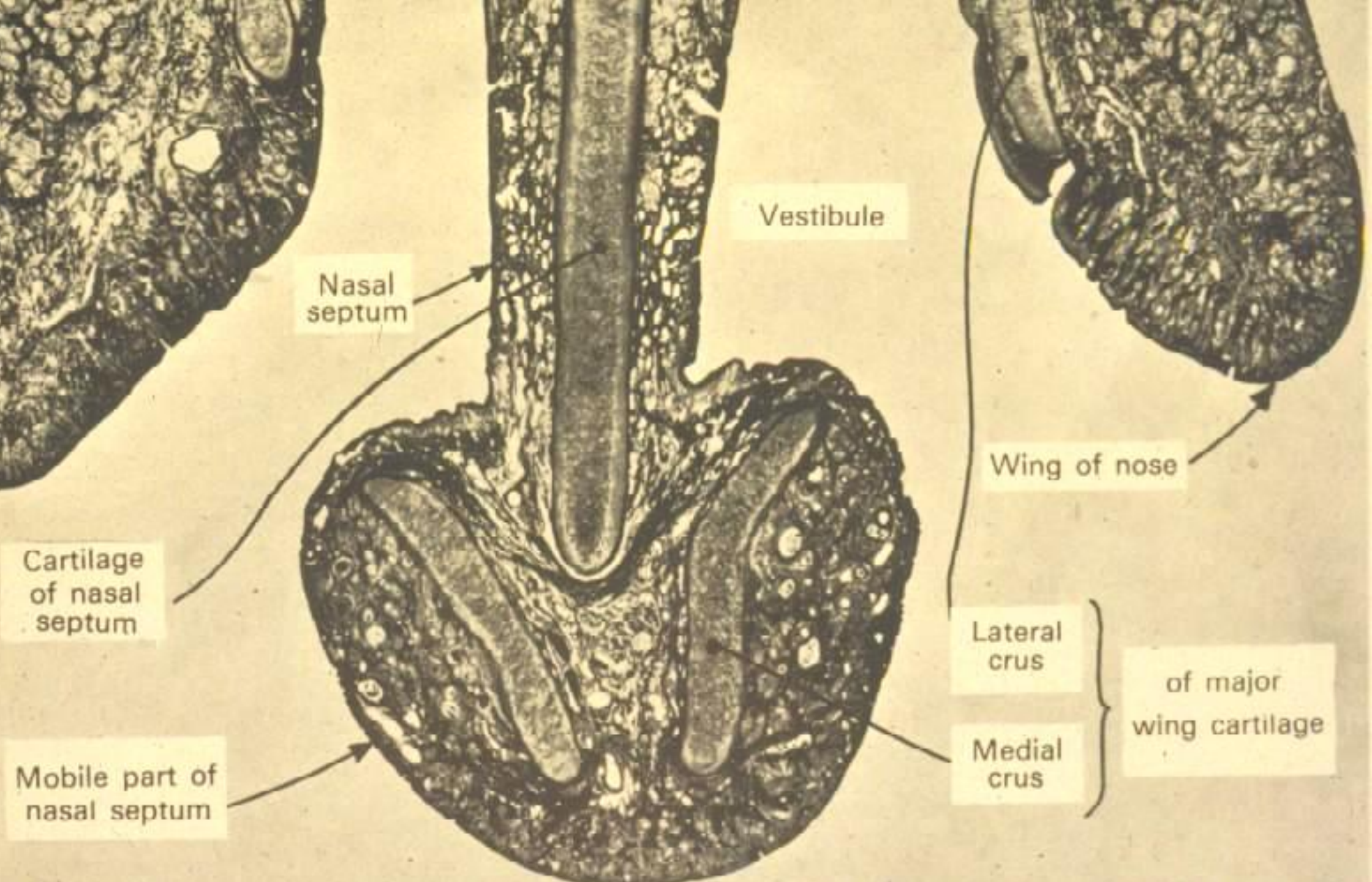
**Specialized respiratory epithelium**

**Numerous mucous and serous gland**

- **Traps particulate and gaseous impurities**
- **Prevents alveolar lining from desiccation**

**Rich superficial vascular network in lamina propria - warms blood in a counter current system (blood flows against inspired air)**





Vestibule

Nasal septum

Wing of nose

Cartilage of nasal septum

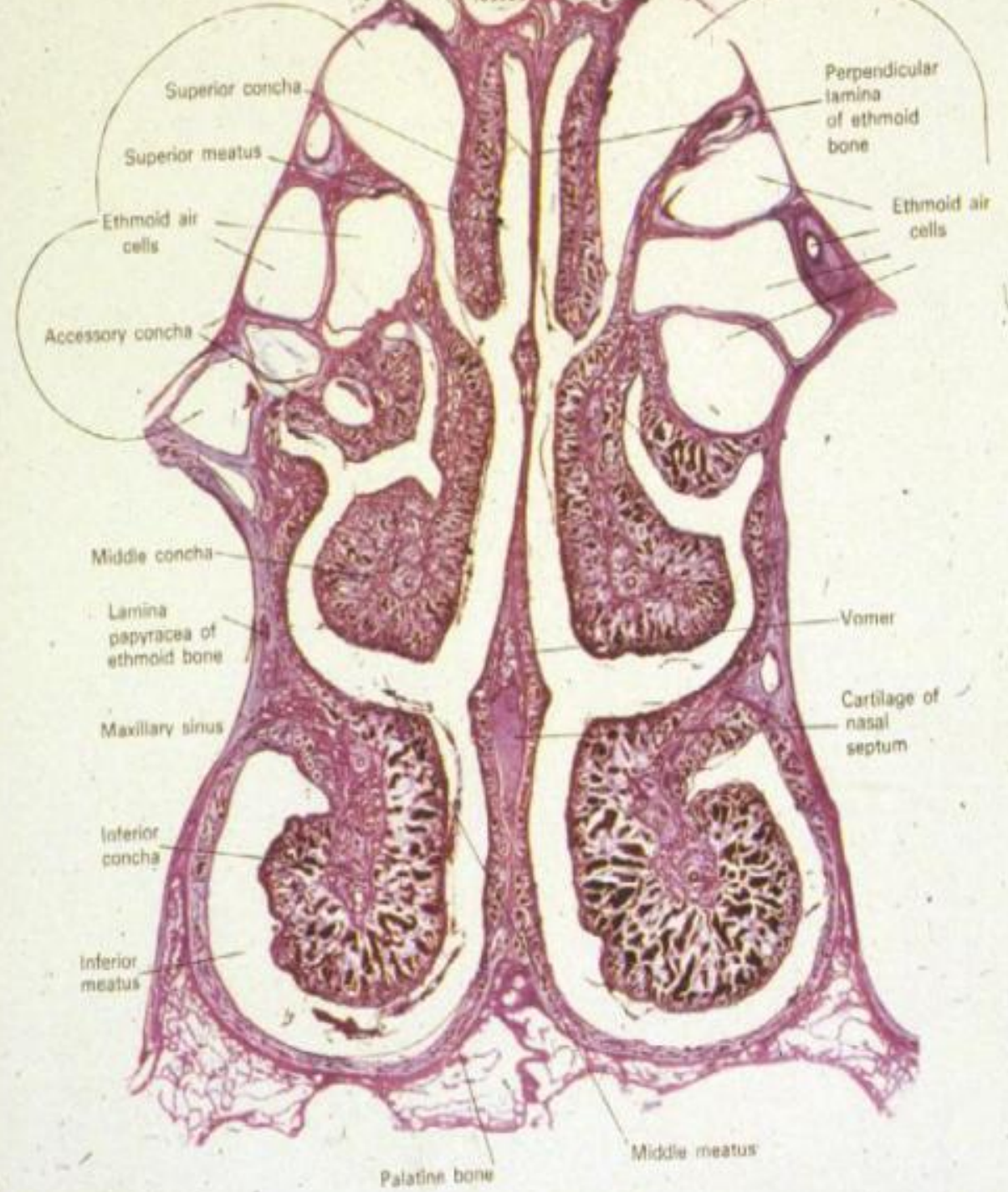
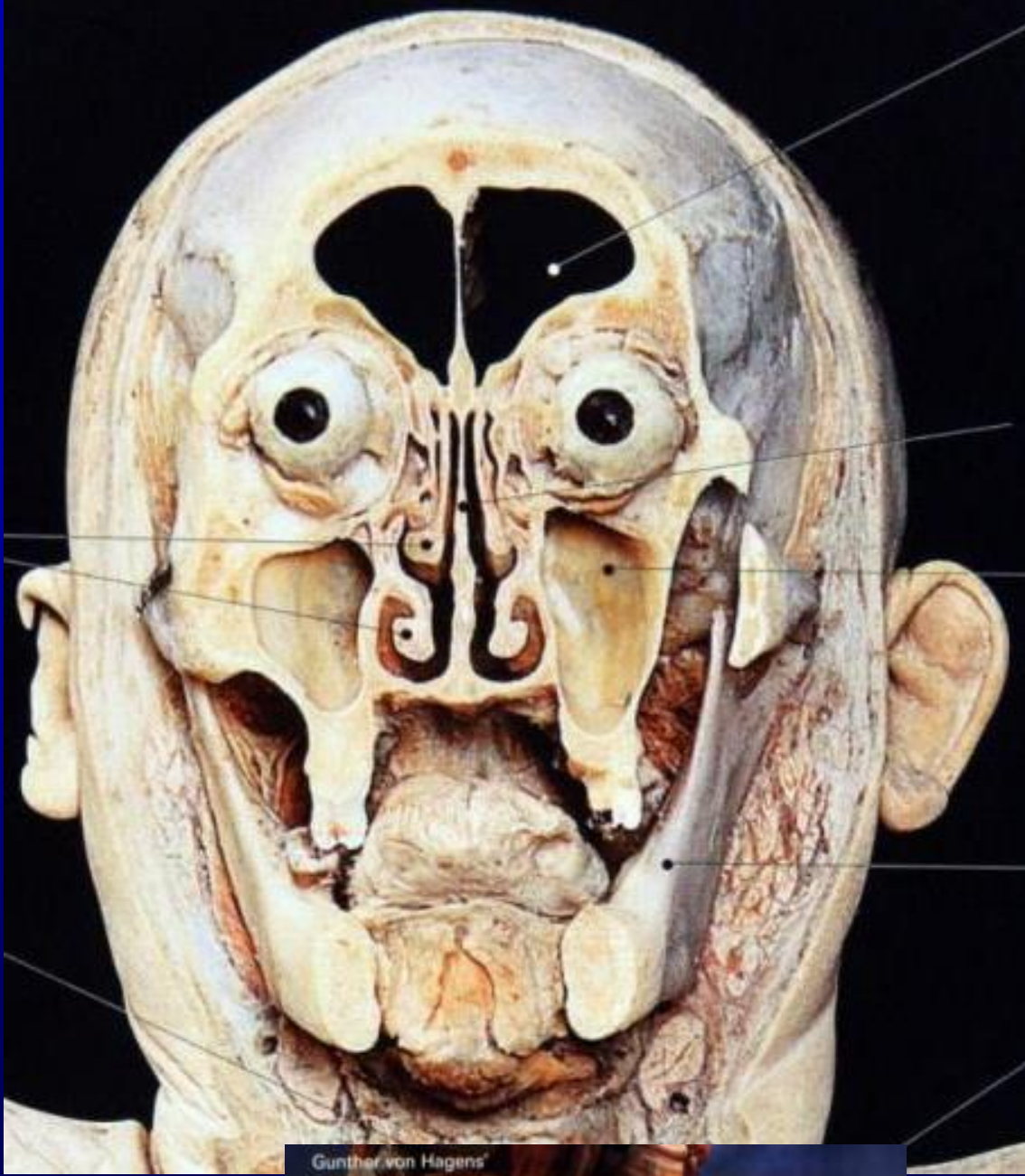
Lateral crus

of major wing cartilage

Mobile part of nasal septum

Medial crus





Gunther von Hagens'

**BODY WORLDS**

The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies



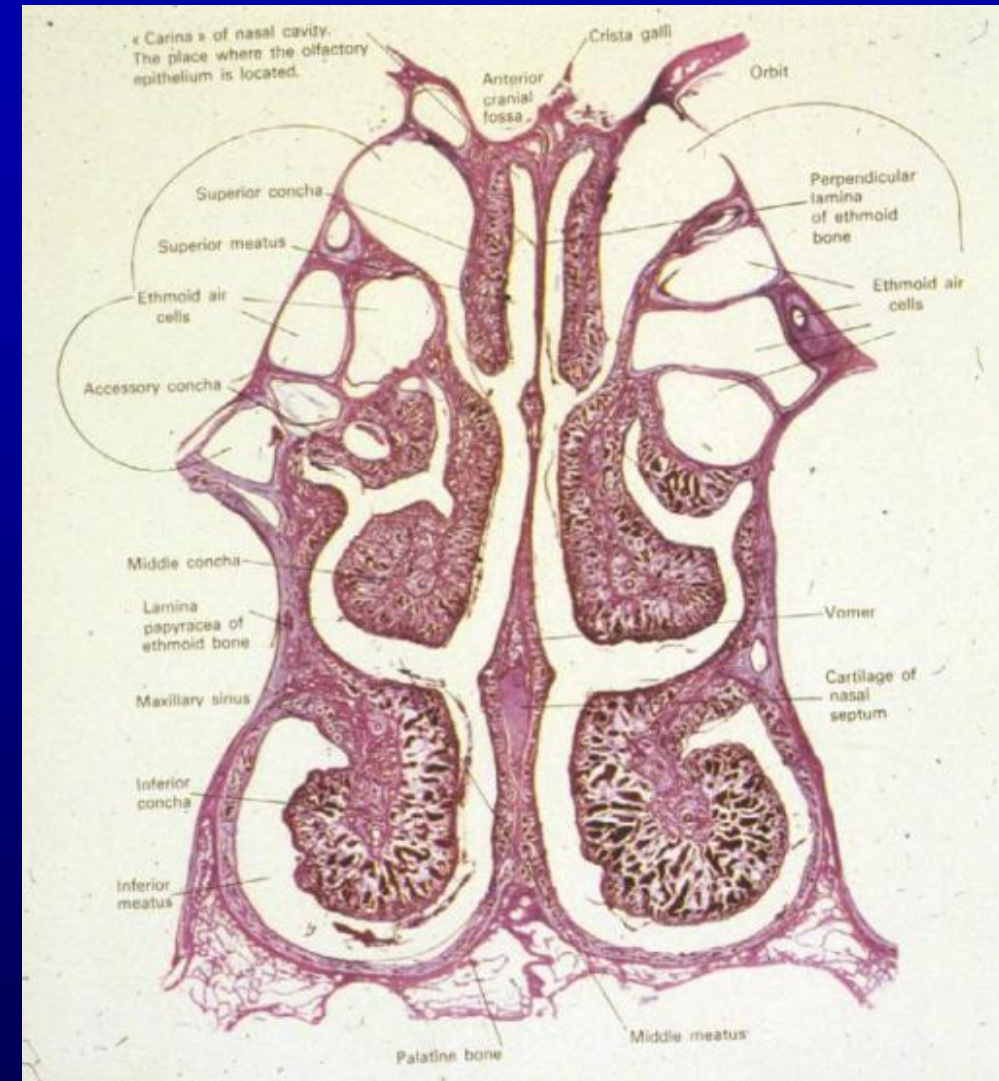
# Conditioning Air By The Conducting Portion

## Nasal fossae

- Superior conchae - **olfactory epithelium** long cilia, nervous cells
- Middle conchae - respiratory epithelium
- Inferior conchae - respiratory epithelium

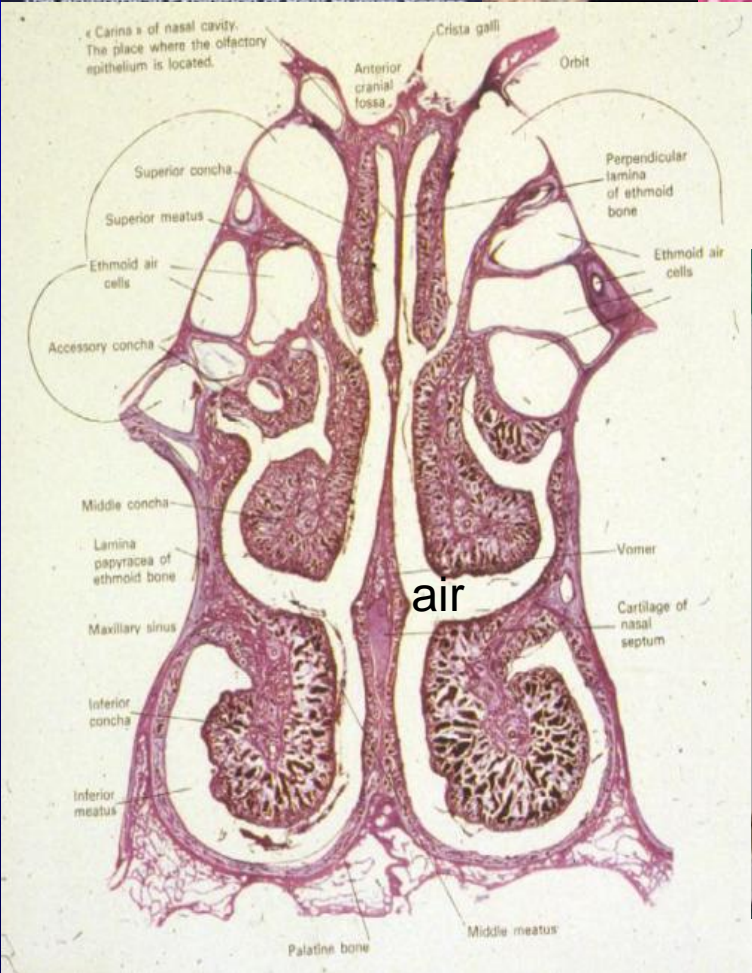
## Swell bodies

- large venous plexus that direct air (occludes air way)
- Allergic reaction or inflammation restrict air flow
- counter current system warms air

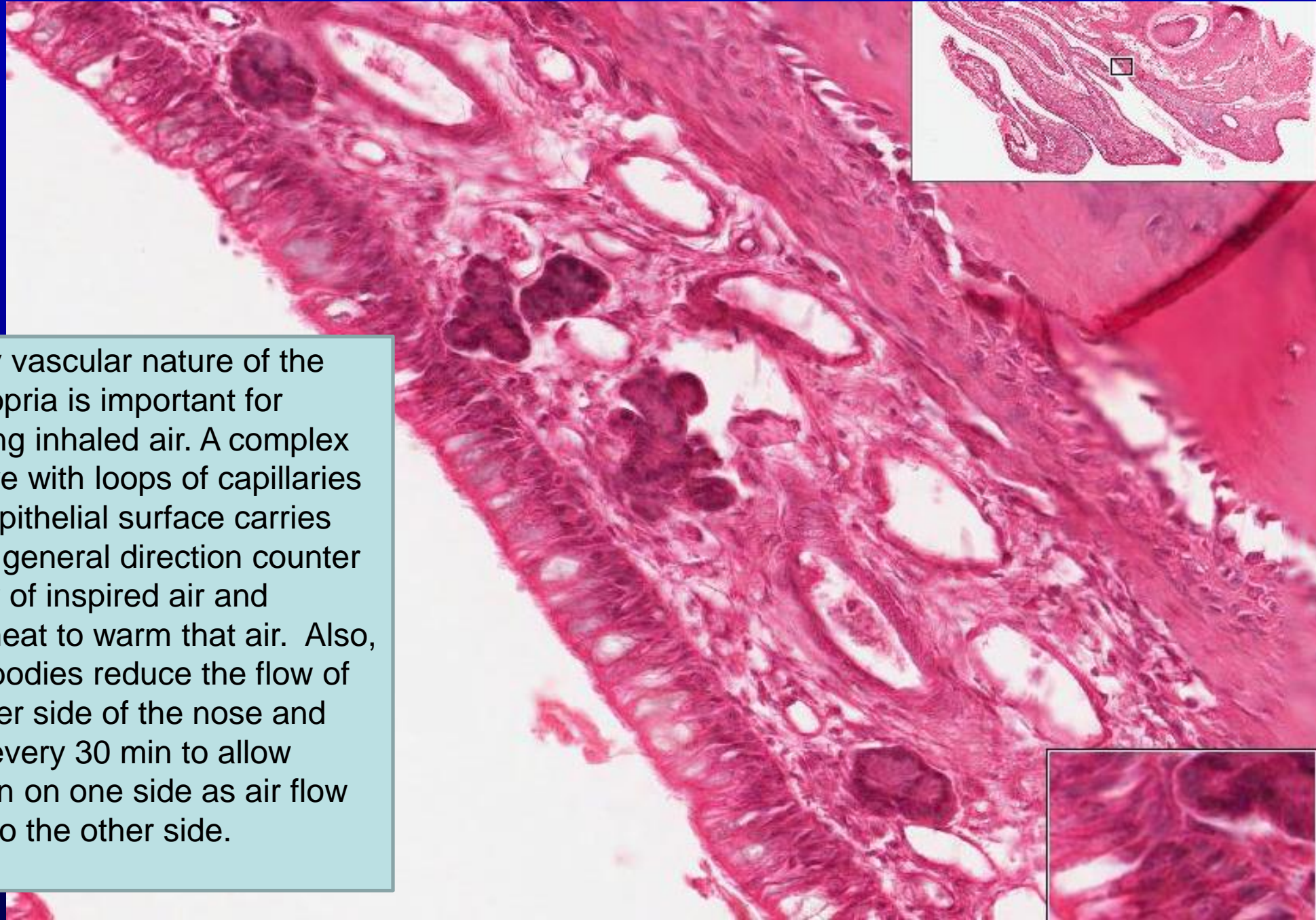




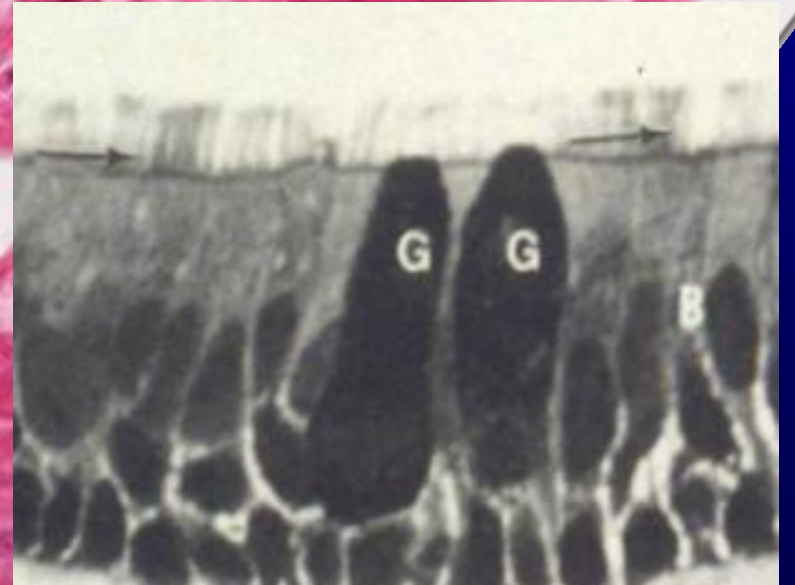
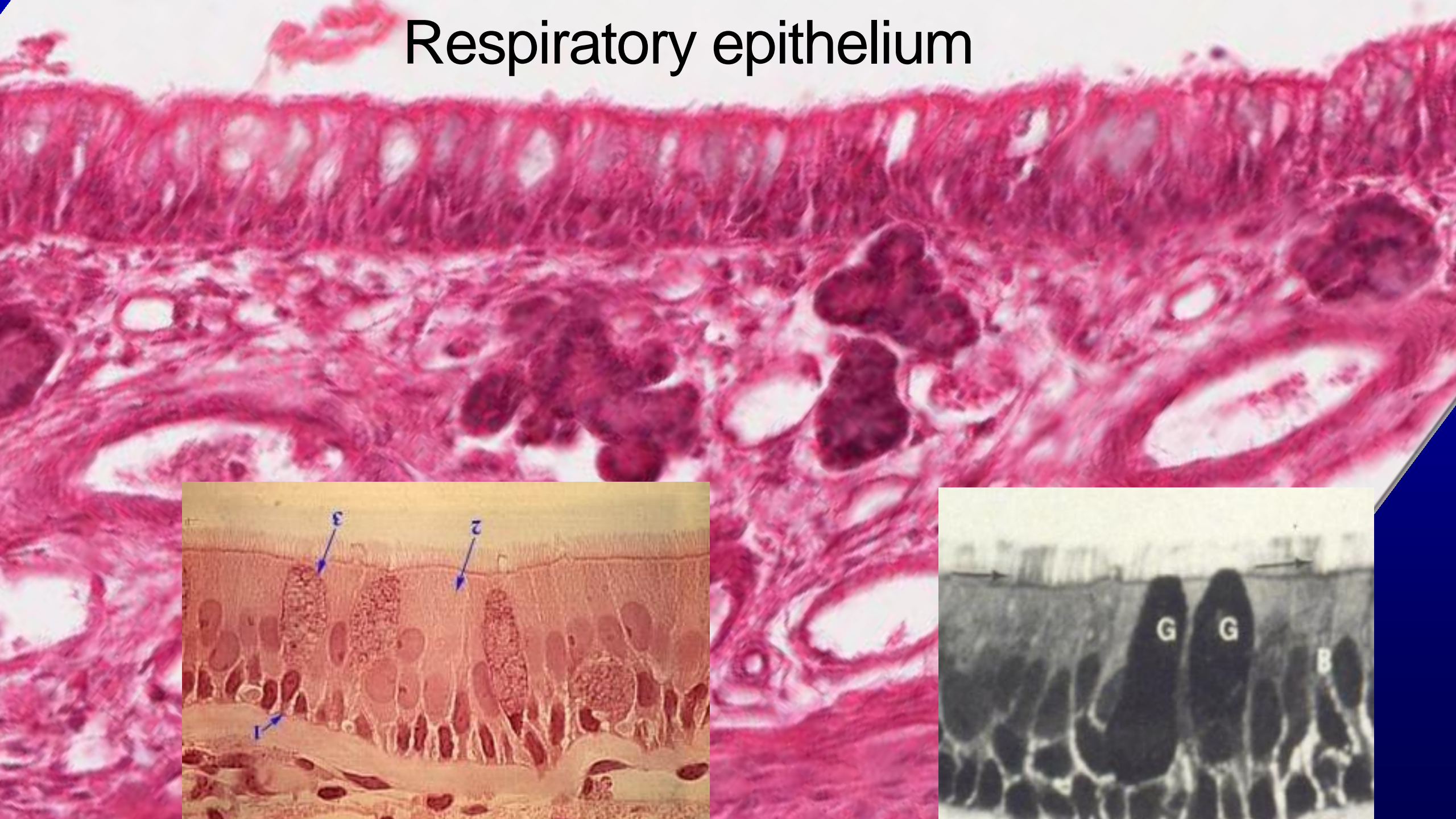
**Swell bodies**

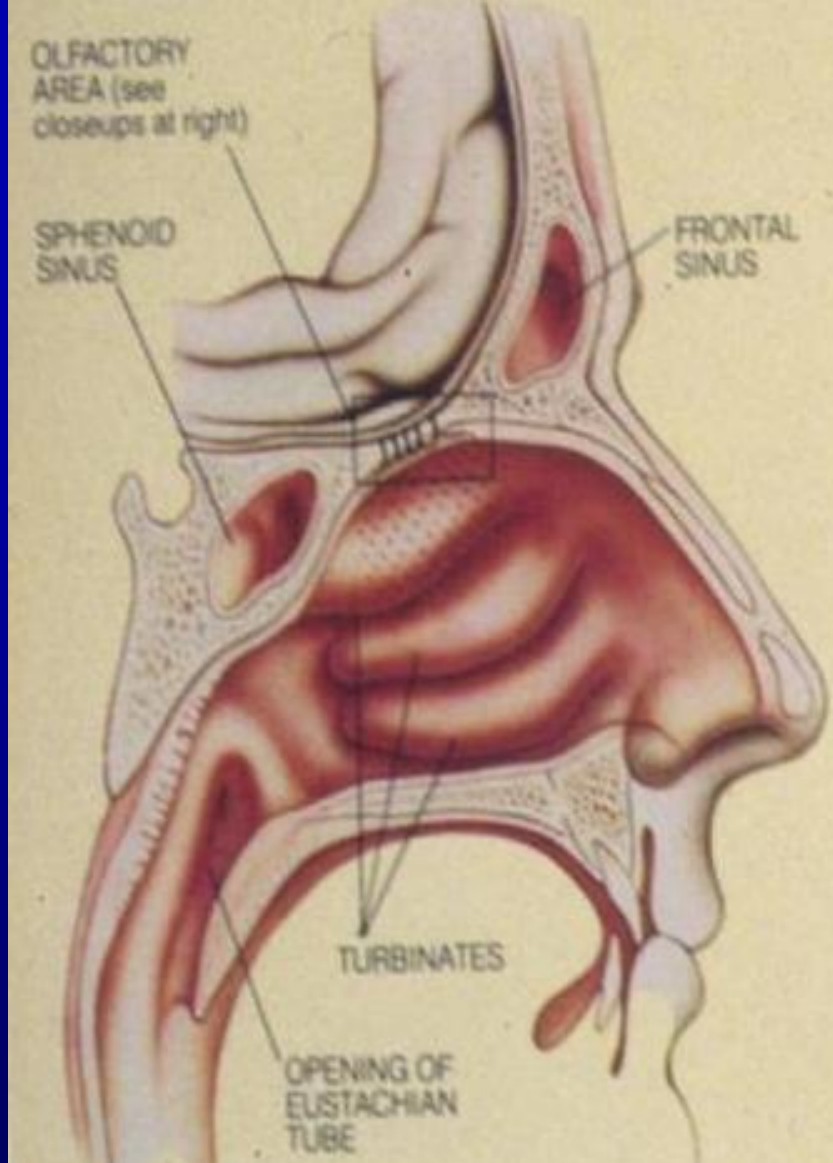


The highly vascular nature of the lamina propria is important for conditioning inhaled air. A complex vasculature with loops of capillaries near the epithelial surface carries blood in a general direction counter to the flow of inspired air and releases heat to warm that air. Also, the swell bodies reduce the flow of air on either side of the nose and switches every 30 min to allow rehydration on one side as air flow is shifted to the other side.

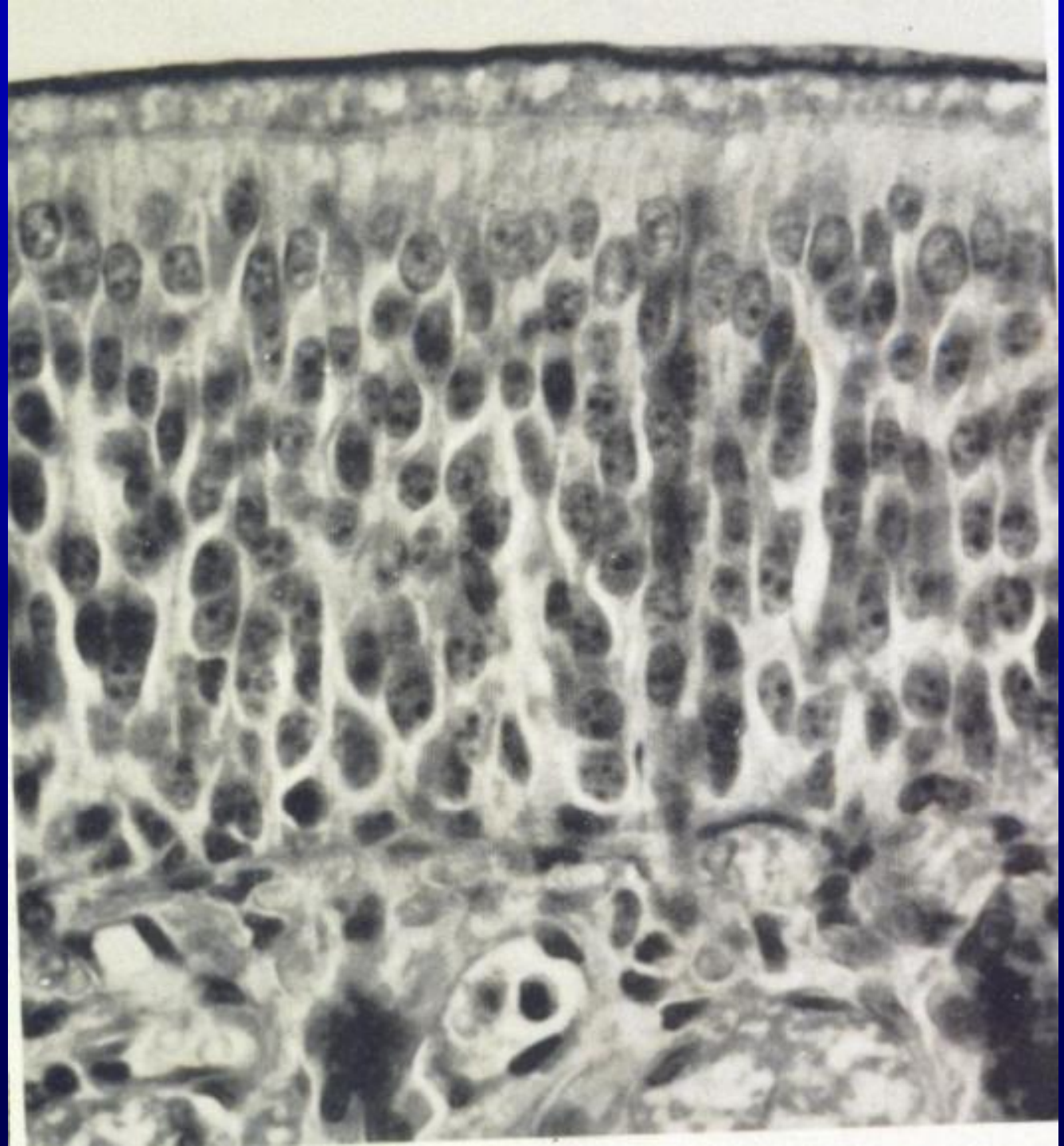


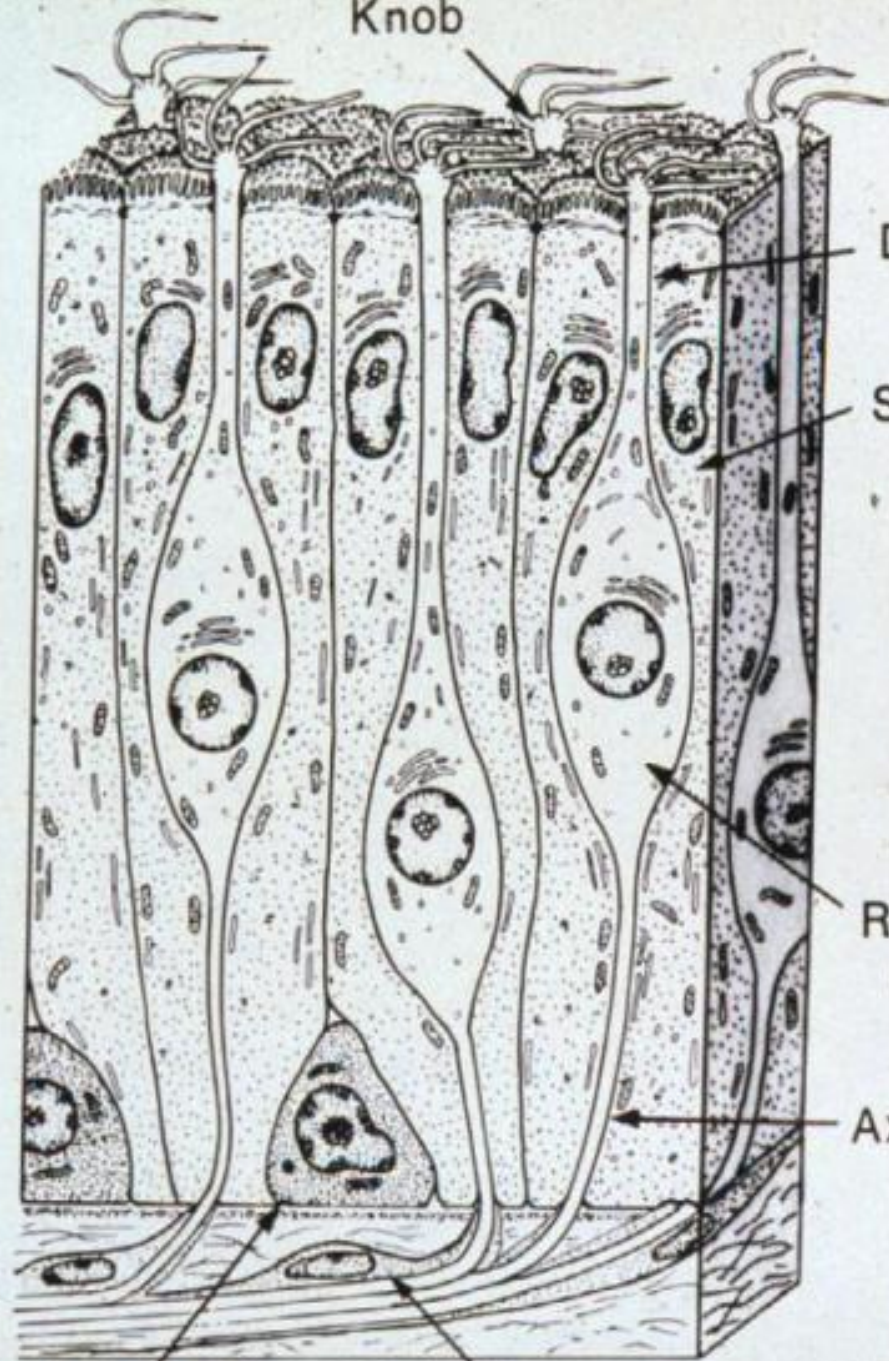
# Respiratory epithelium





Olfactory epithelium





A

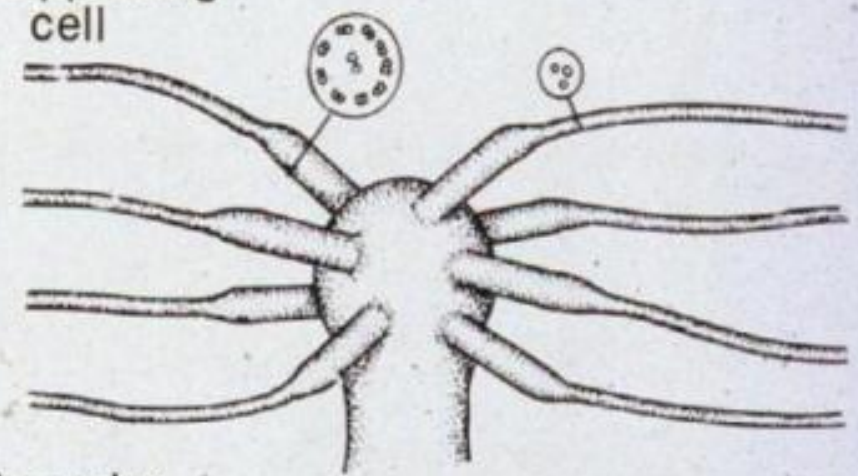
Stem cell      Schwann cell

Dendrite

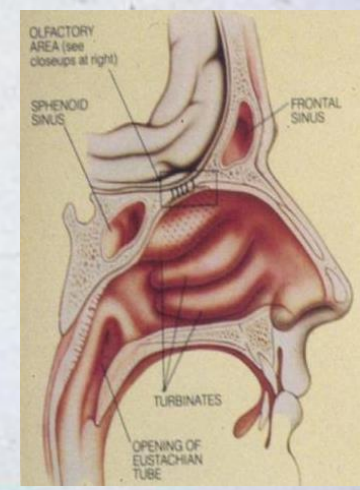
Supporting cell

Receptor cell

Axon



B



# Animal Respiratory (Olfactory) mucosa and nasal septum

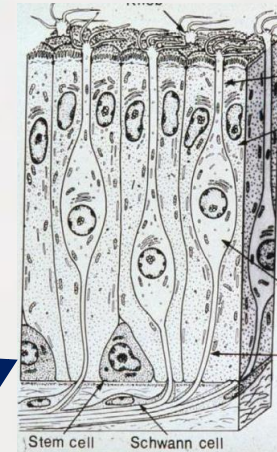


Pseudostratified columnar  
Respiratory epithelium

Highly vascular lamina propria  
Swell bodies

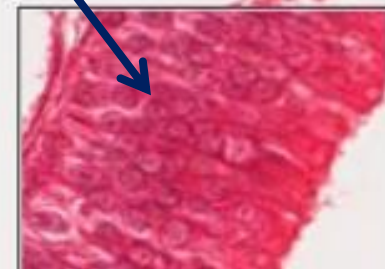


Histo 036 001



Olfactory epithelium

Bowman's glands



# Histo 36 001: Respiratory (Olfactory) mucosa and nasal septum

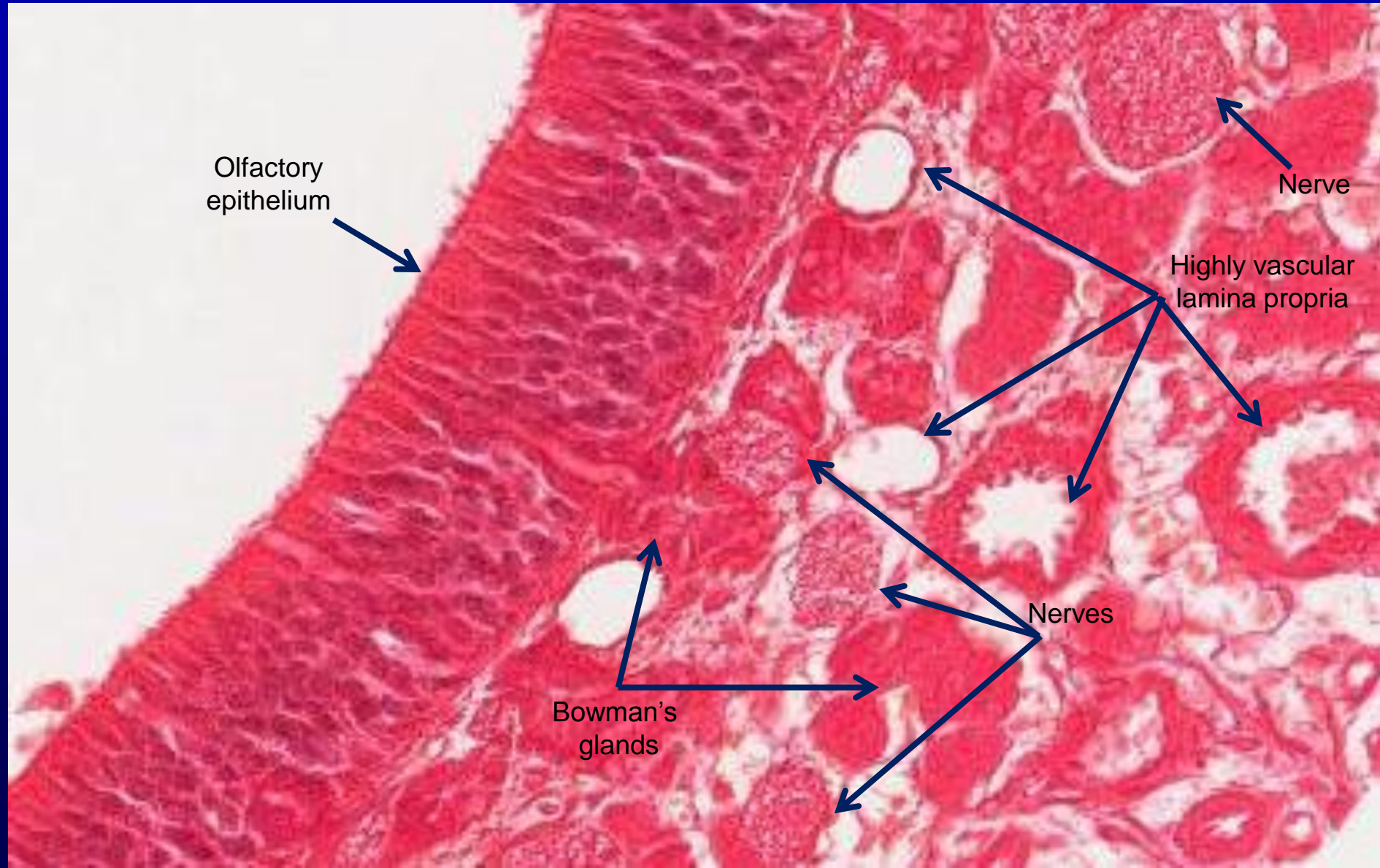
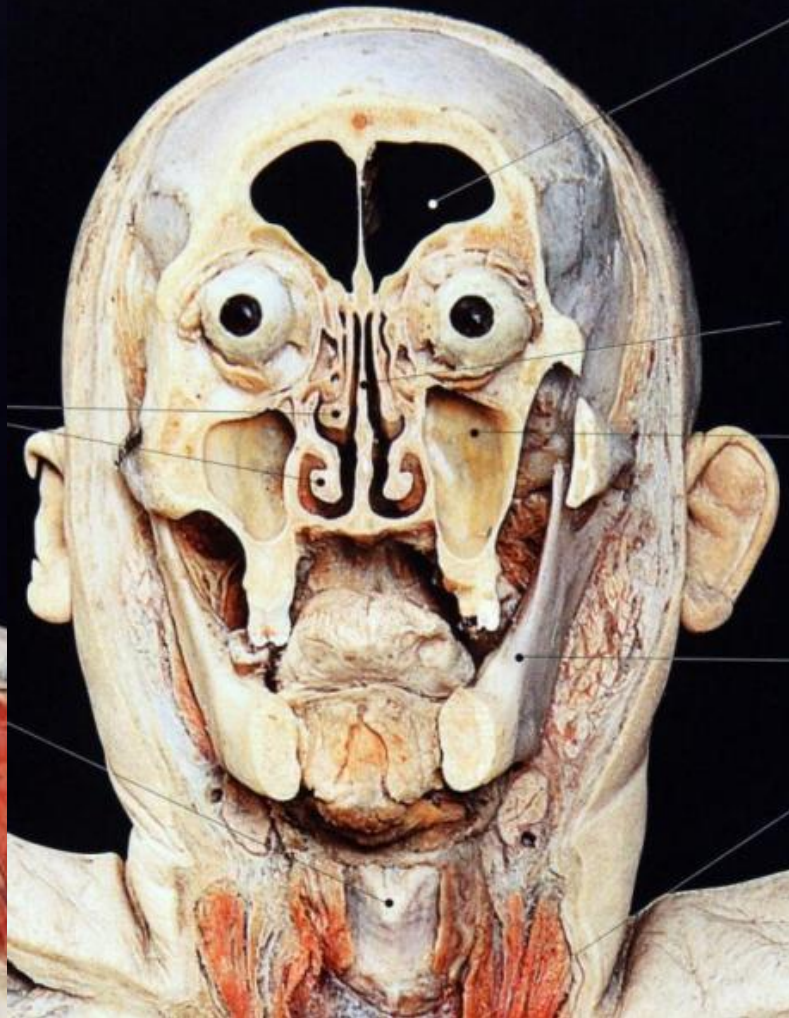
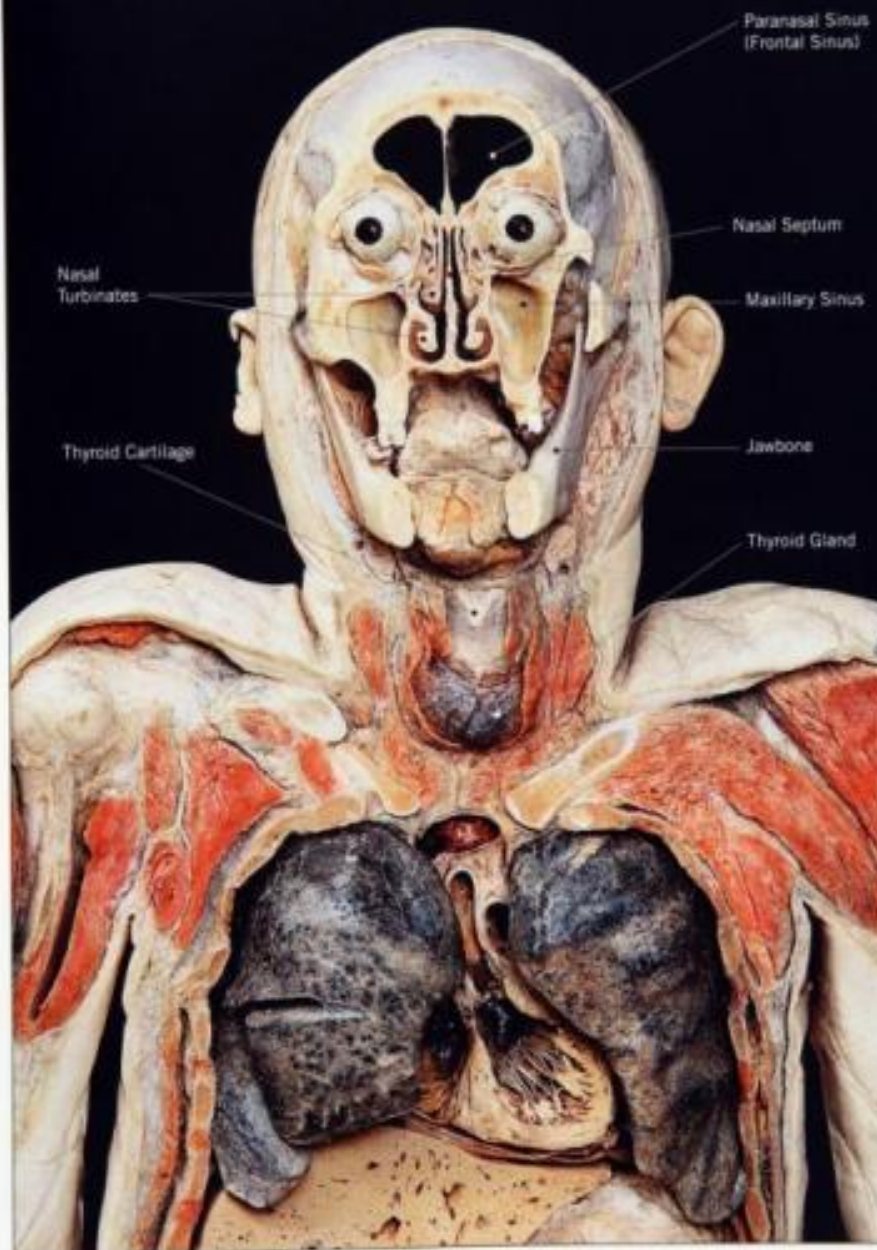




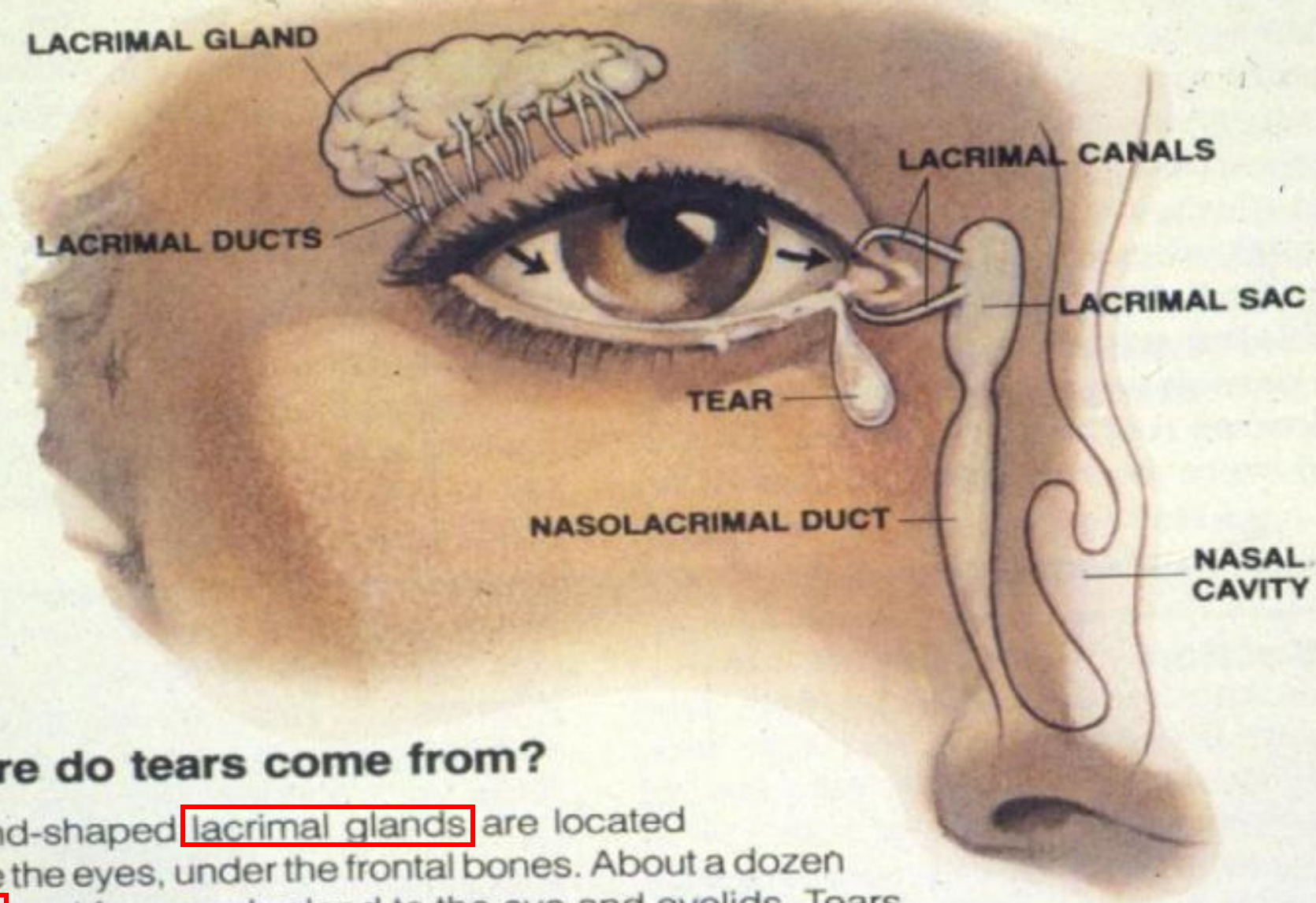
Fig. 9.80



Gunther von Hagens

**BODY WORLDS**

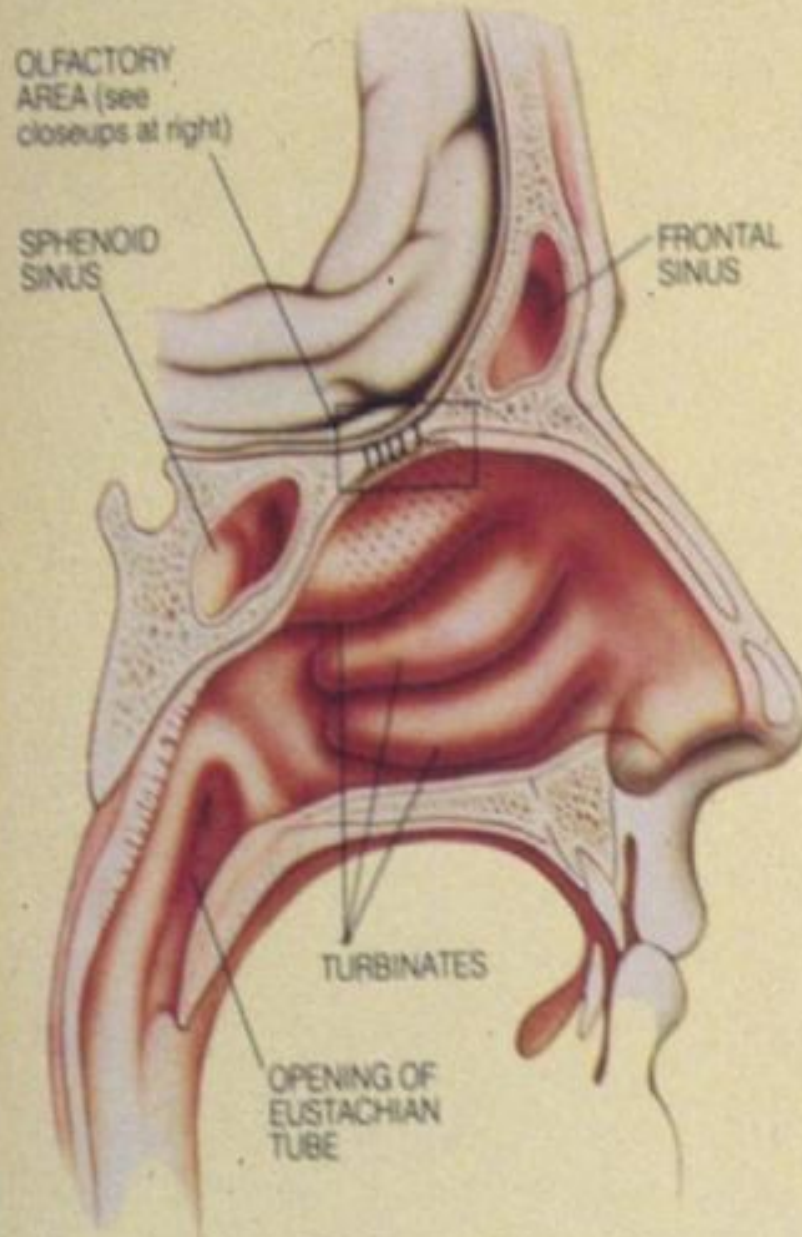
The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies



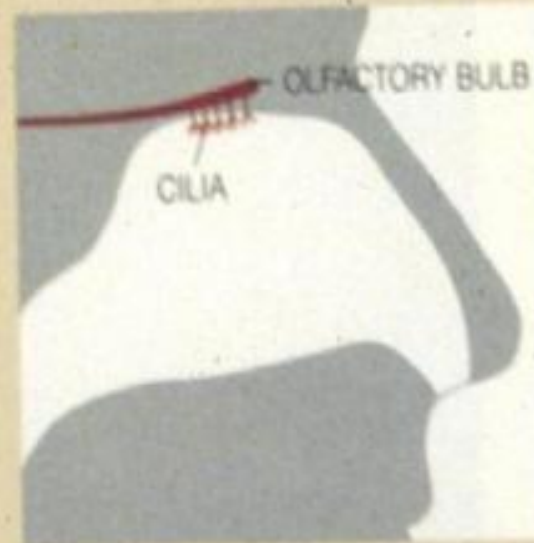
## Where do tears come from?

Almond-shaped **lacrimal glands** are located above the eyes, under the frontal bones. About a dozen **ducts** lead from each gland to the eye and eyelids. Tears are normally **salty** because they are derived from the circulatory system, which has a salt composition of about 0.9 percent. Tears are also sterile because they contain **bacteria-destroying enzymes**, which provide a measure of protection from infection. When you blink, tears bathe the eyes, keeping the cornea moist. The fluid drains down through the inside corner of the eye into a lacrimal sac and from

## What does your nose do for you?



Beyond its important role as the collector of olfactory information – such as whiffs of smoke that warn of impending danger or smells that whet the appetite – the nose acts as an air conditioner for the respiratory system. Everyday, it treats approximately 500 cubic feet of air, the amount enclosed in a small room. It filters dust, traps bacteria from the air, brings air to the temperature of the body and also adds moisture. And then, the nose has some lesser-known functions. Among them it gives your voice resonance, adding a richness of tone that would otherwise be lacking.



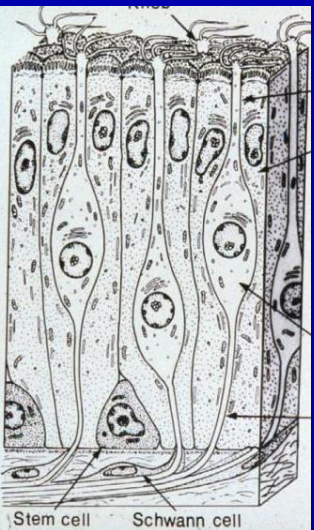
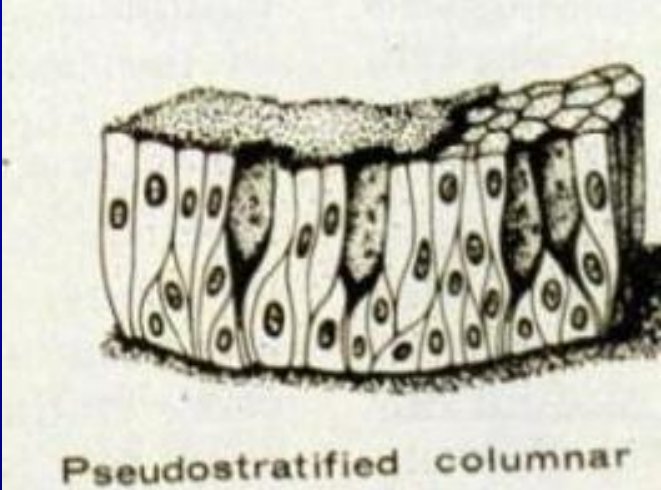
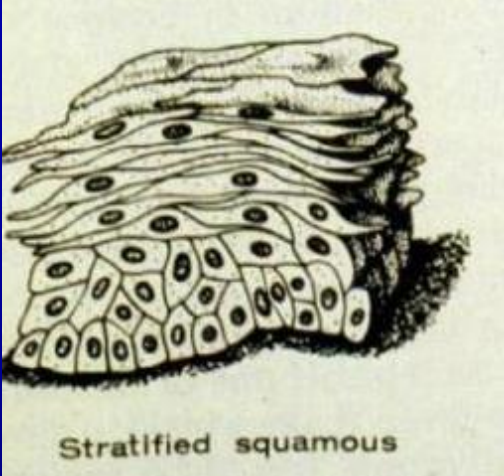
Odor receptors on the roof of the nasal passages communicate through a bony plate to the olfactory bulbs, which lead directly to the brain.



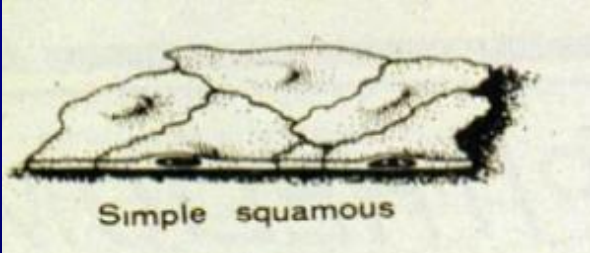
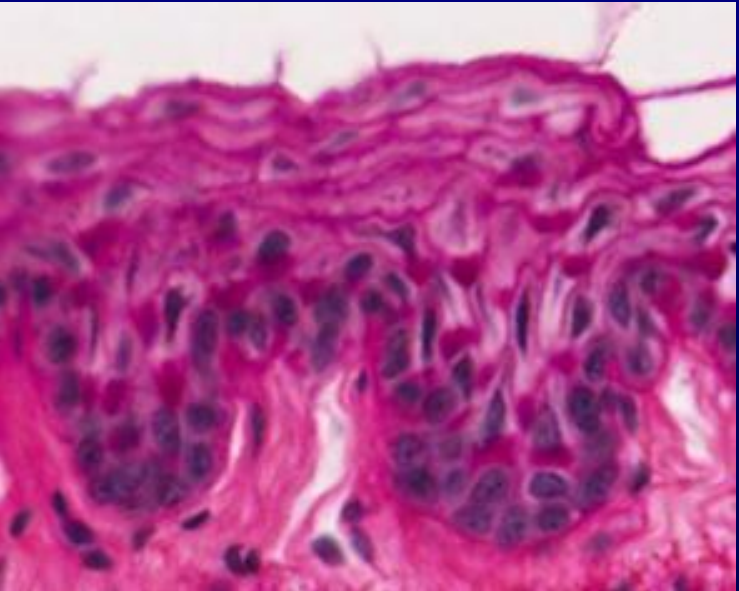
Hairlike cilia in the smell patches messages upward. There are such patches, together taking much space as a postage stamp.

# Epithelium in the respiratory system

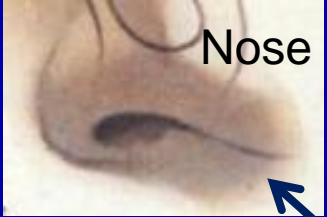
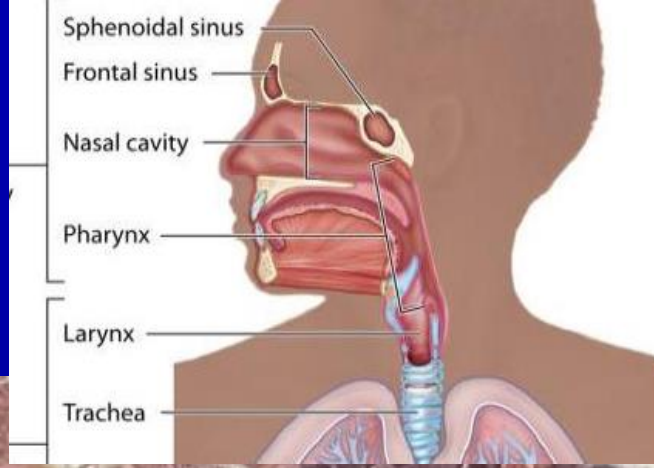
Respiratory epithelium



Olfactory epithelium

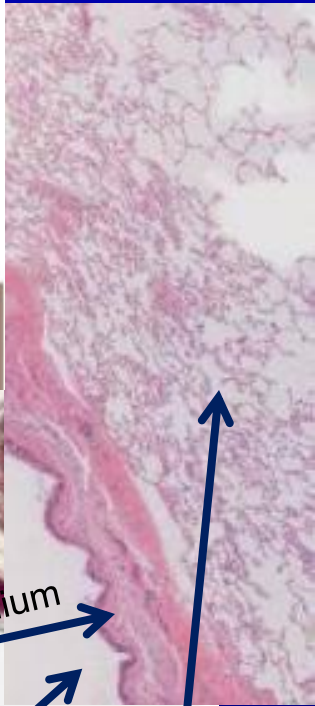
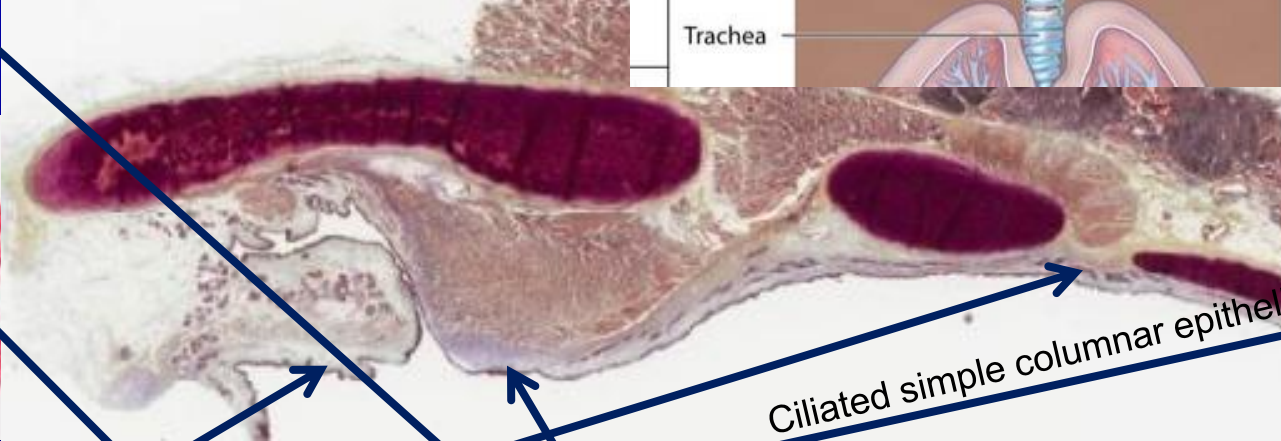
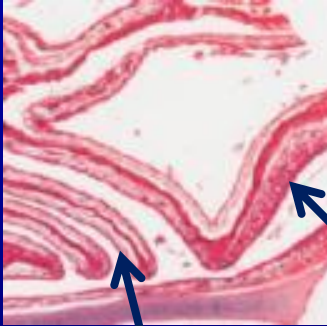


# Epithelium in the respiratory system

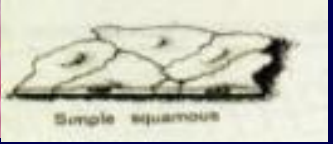
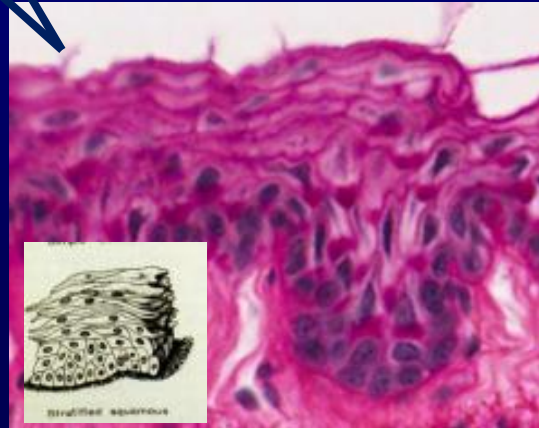
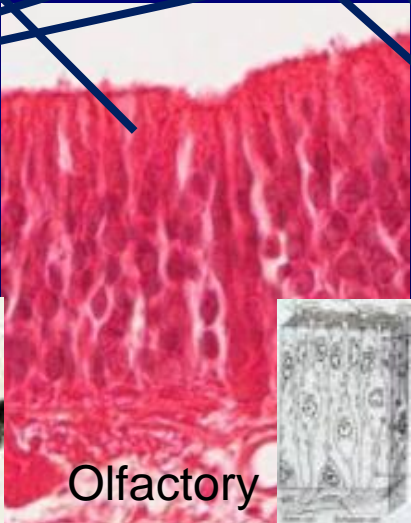
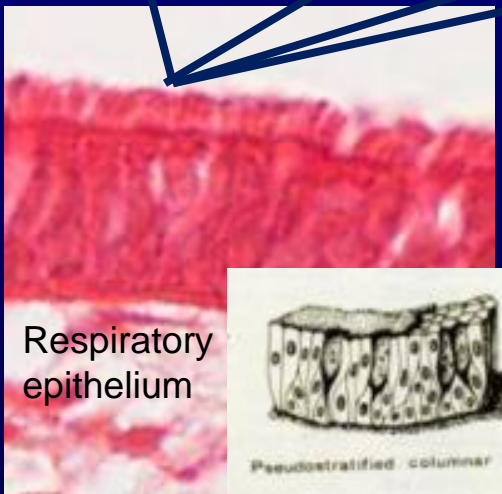


Skin junction

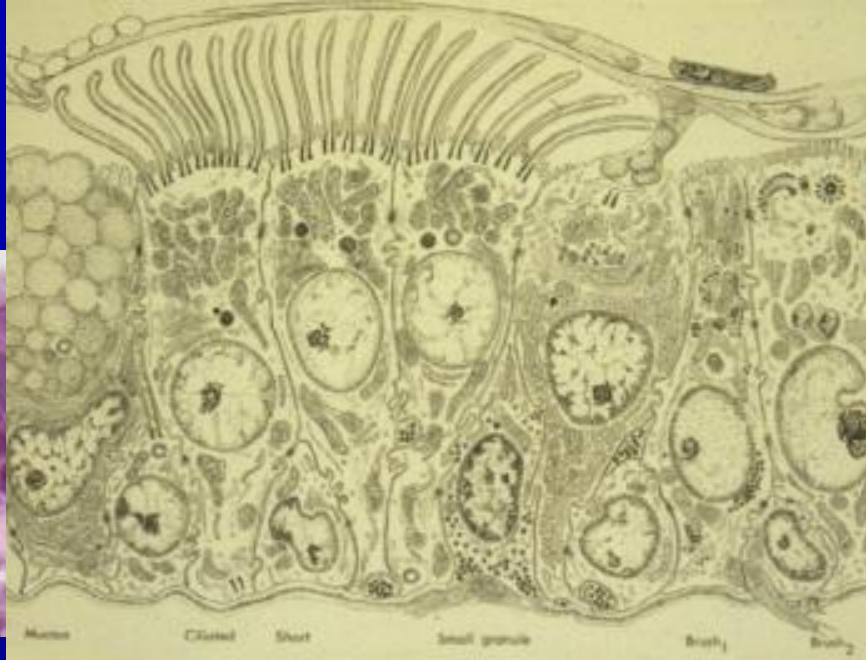
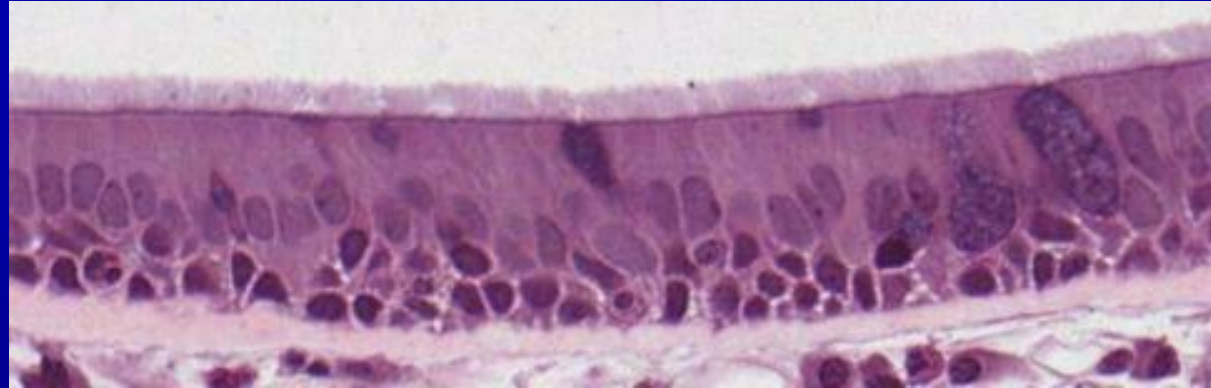
Nasal cavity



Conducting bronchiole



# Function of Mucus in the Respiratory System



Detoxifies gases

Has protein that presents odor chemicals to receptors of olfactory cells

Washes away current chemicals to allow one to smell the next chemical odor

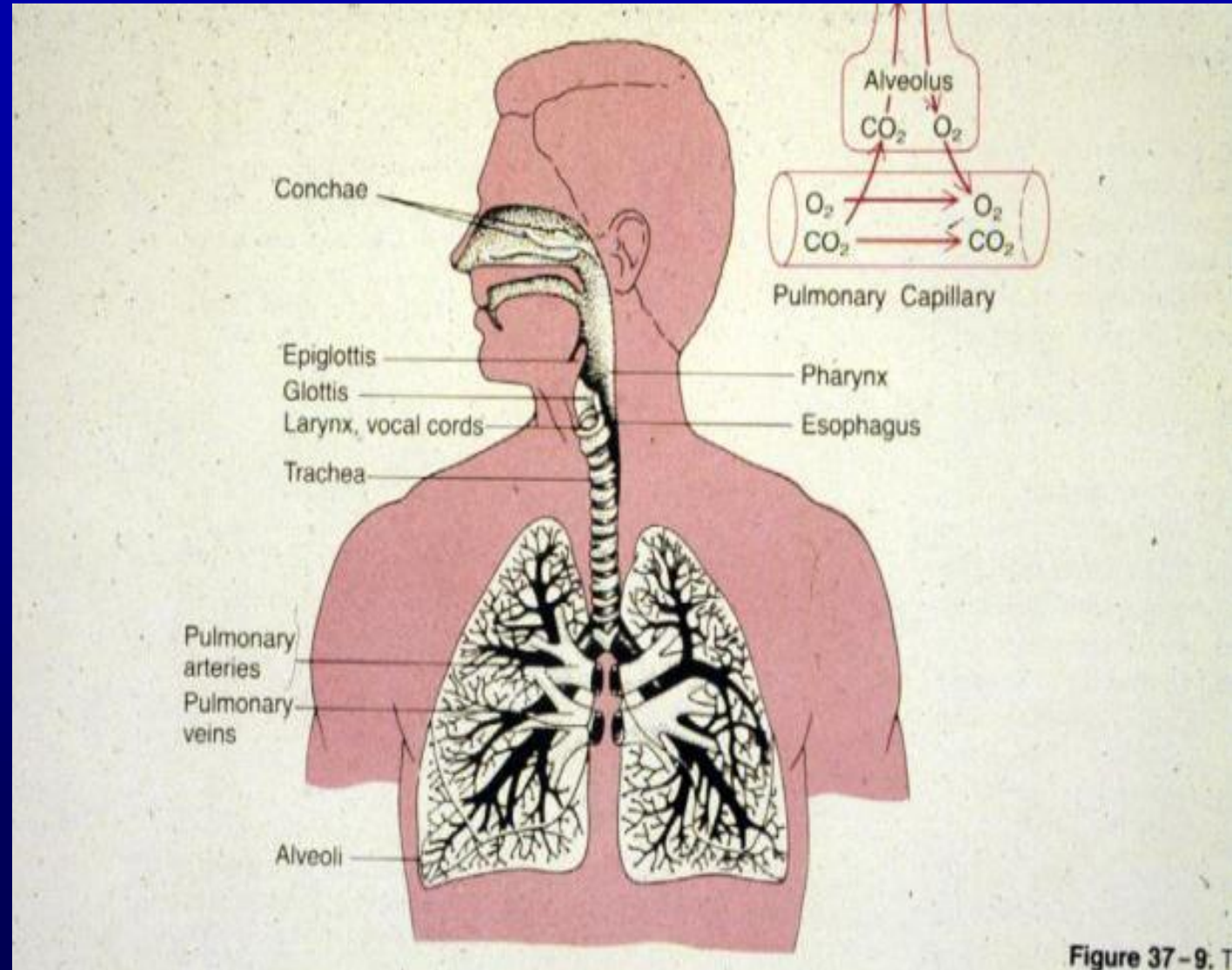
Traps dust and washes it away

Contains IgA antibodies to guard against infection

Goblet cell in respiratory epithelium

# Conducting Portion – Conduit to External Environment and Conditions Expired Air

Nasal cavity (nasal fossae)  
Nasopharynx  
Larynx  
Trachea  
Bronchi  
Bronchioles  
Terminal  
bronchioles

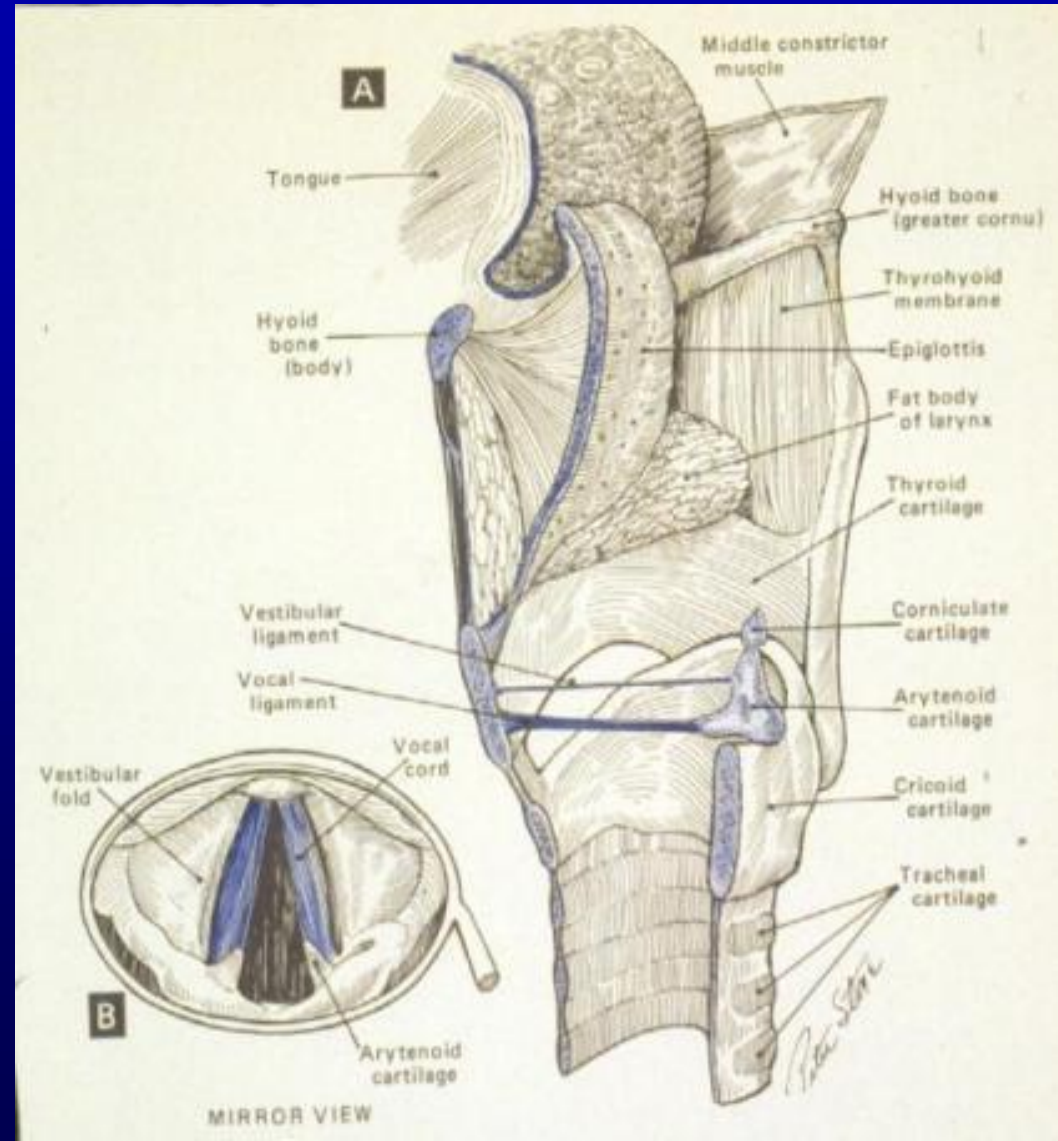


# Larynx - Irregular Tube Connects Pharynx to Trachea

## Cartilage

Large: hyaline at thyroid, cricoid

Smaller: elastic at epiglottis

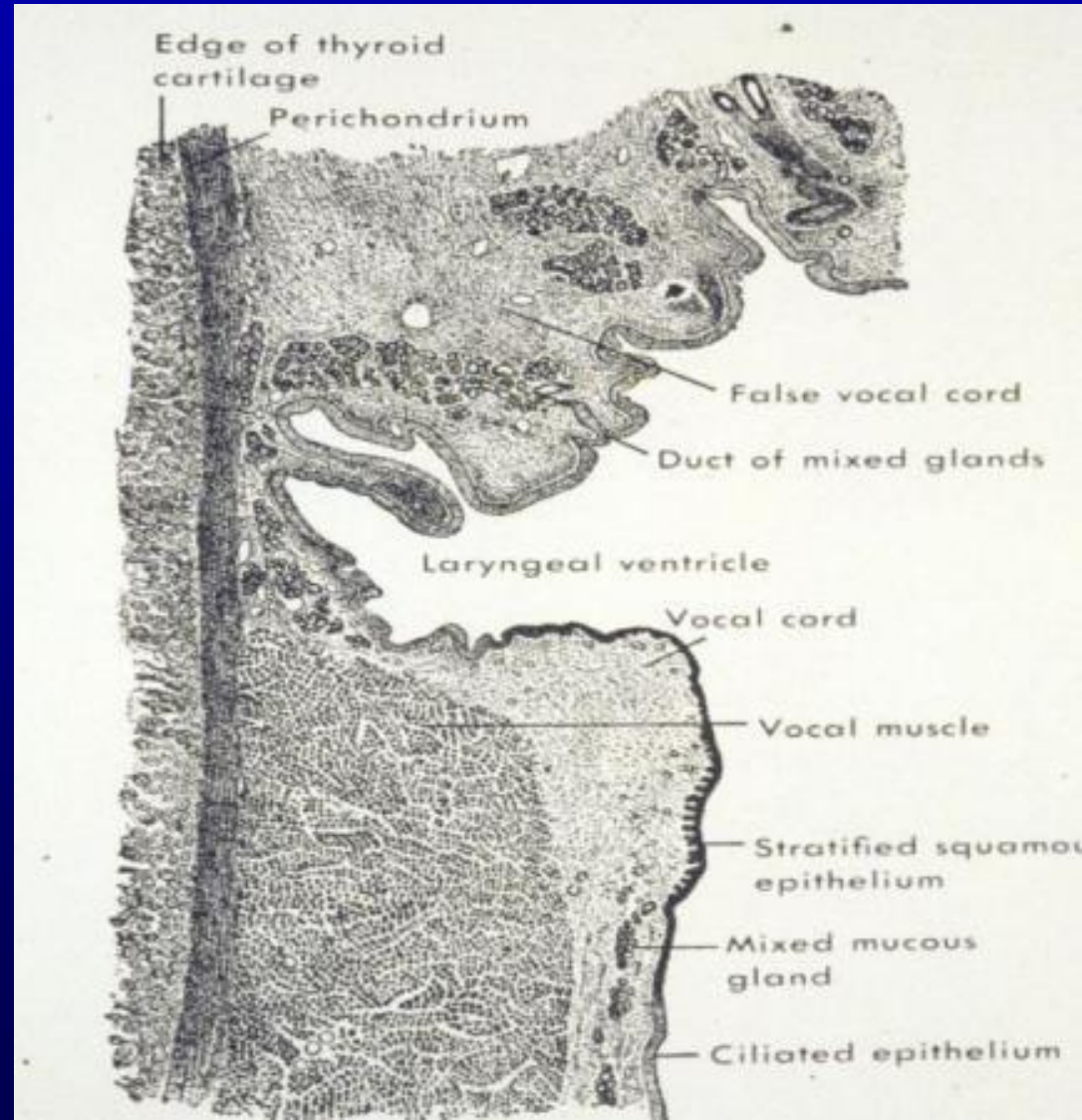


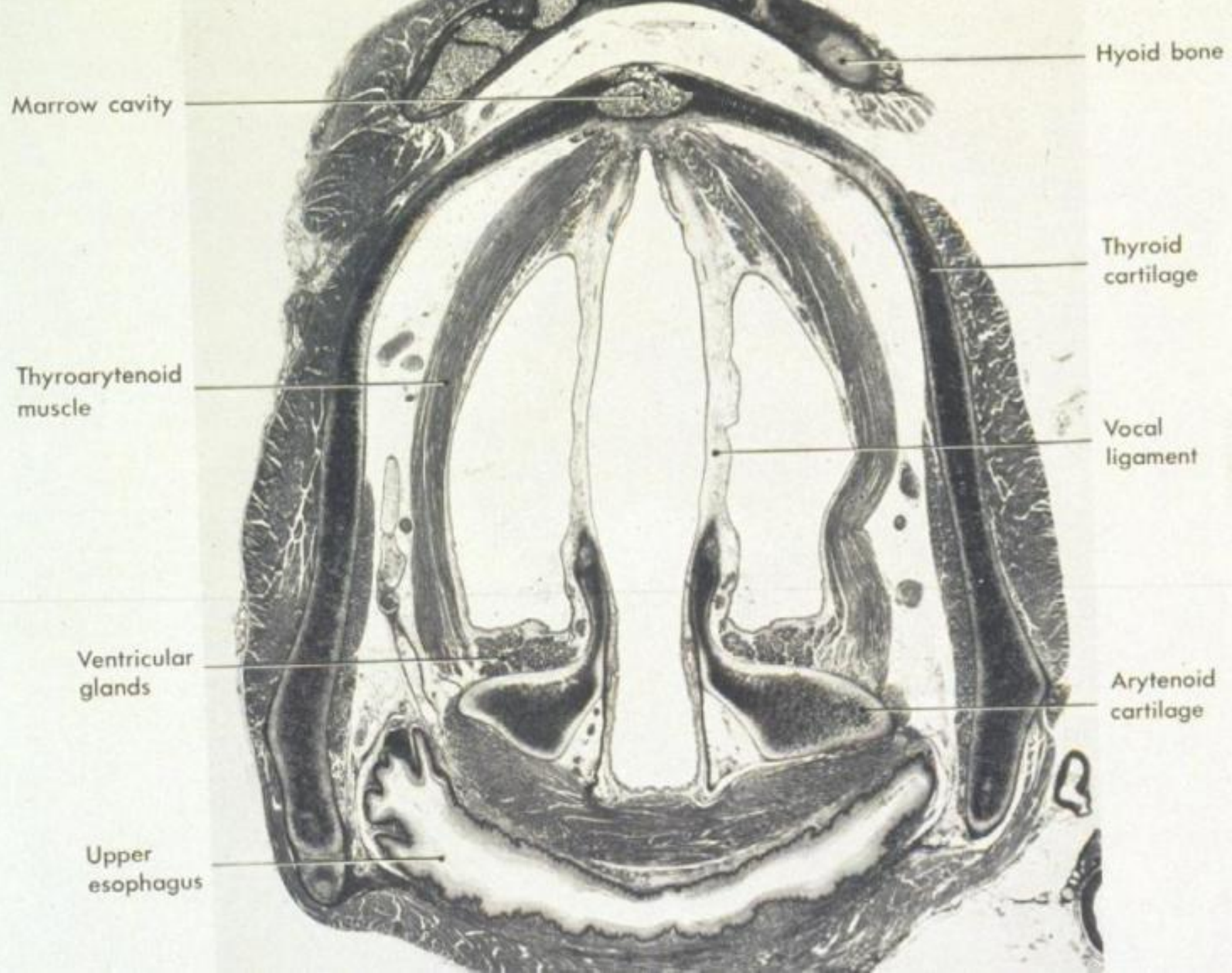


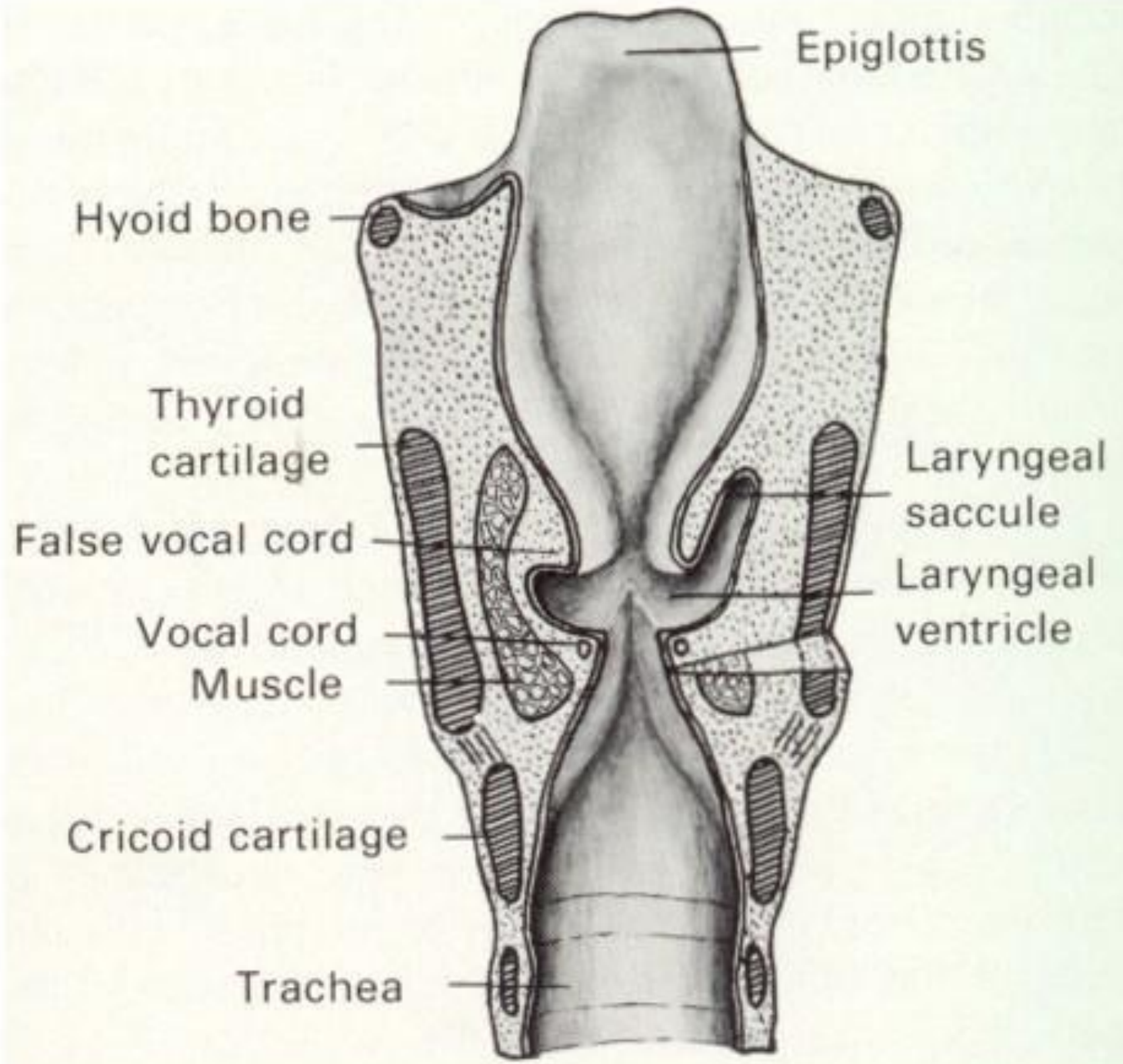
# Larynx - Irregular Tube Connects Pharynx to Trachea

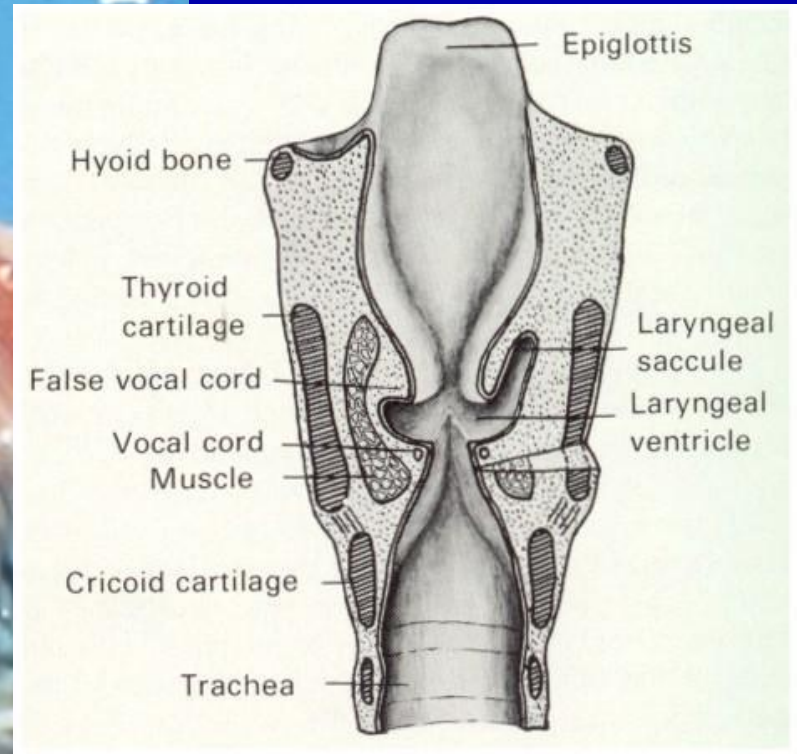
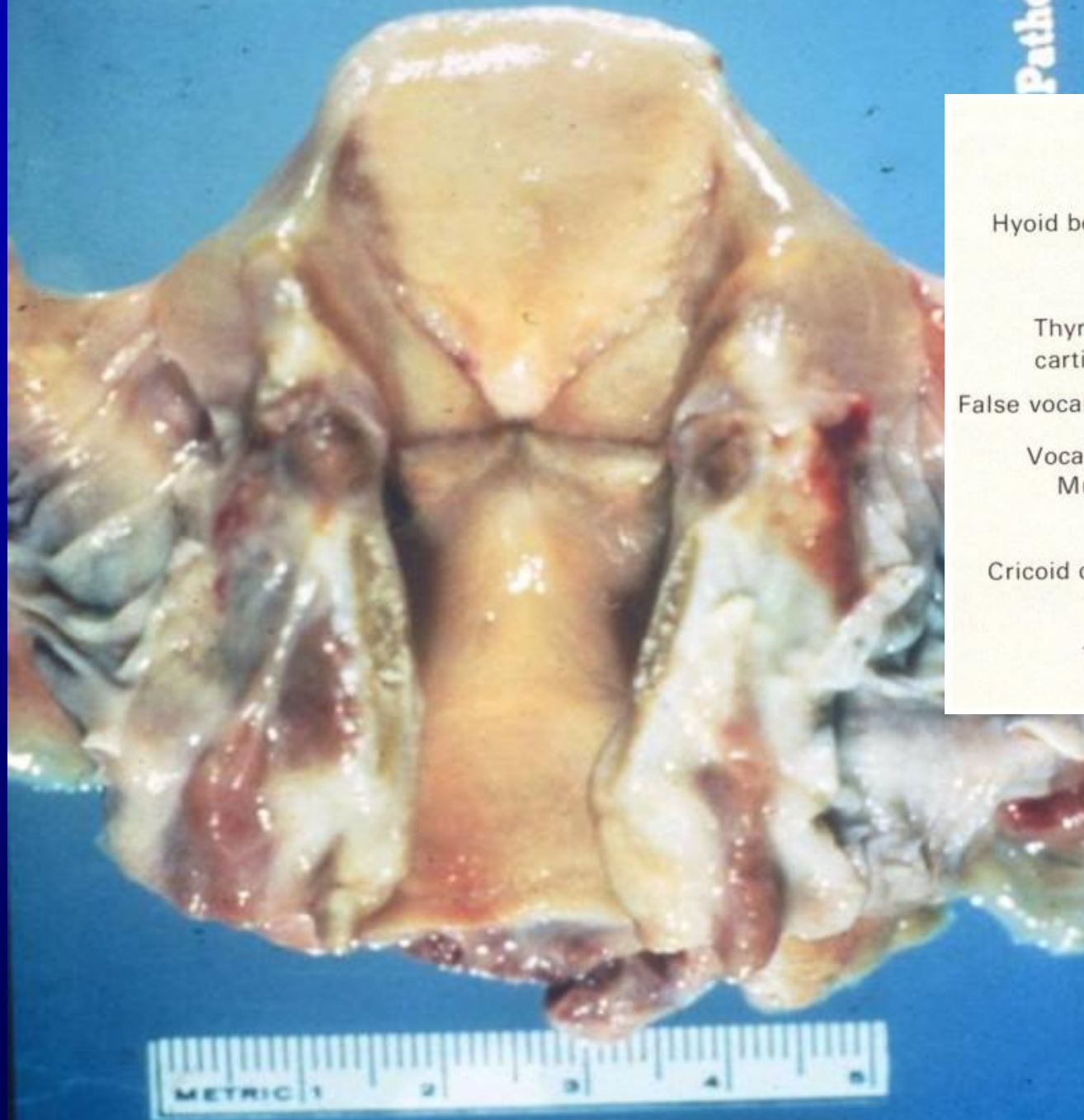
## Vocal cords

- False
- True
  - Vocal ligaments
  - Vocalis muscle - skeletal muscle









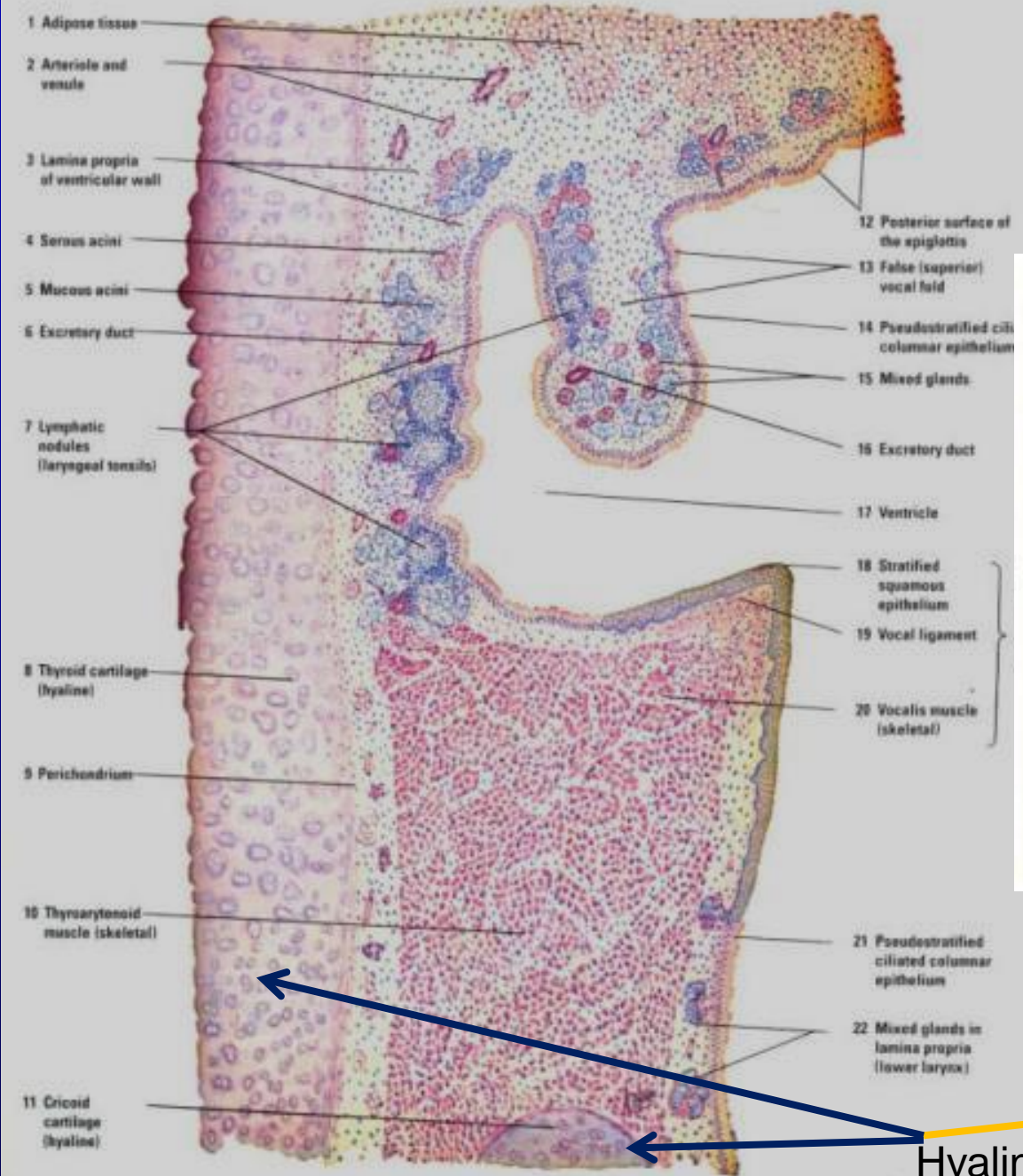
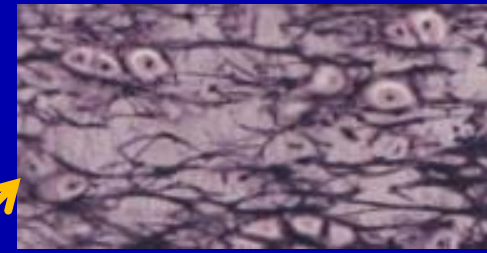
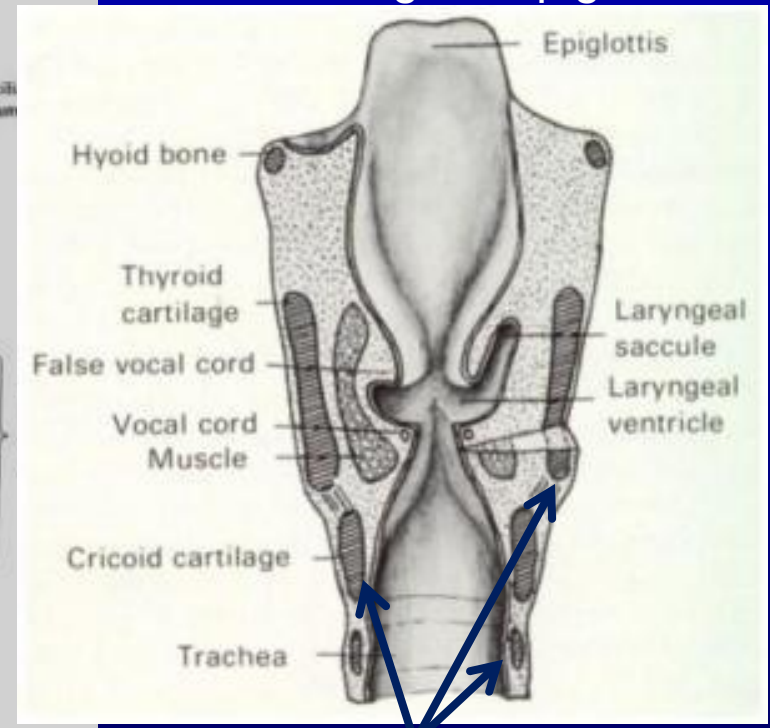


Fig. 14-4 Larynx (frontal section). Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.

404

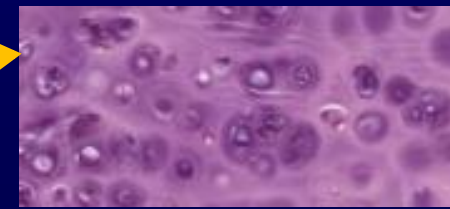


Elastic cartilage in epiglottis



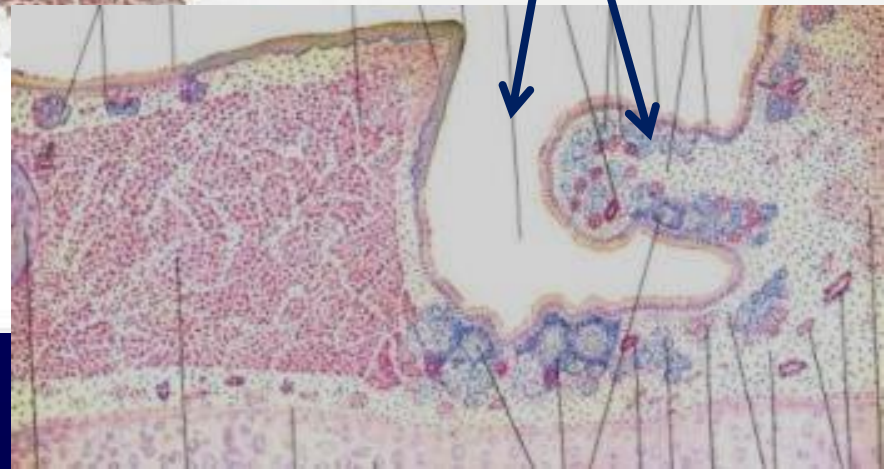
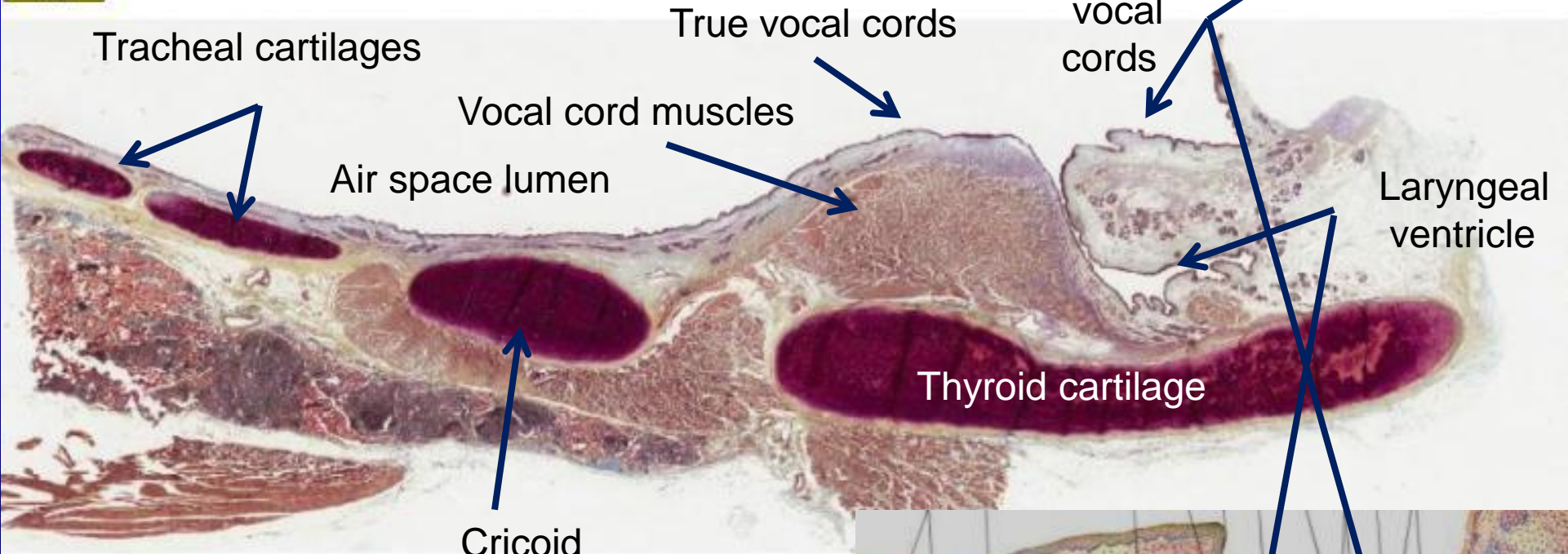
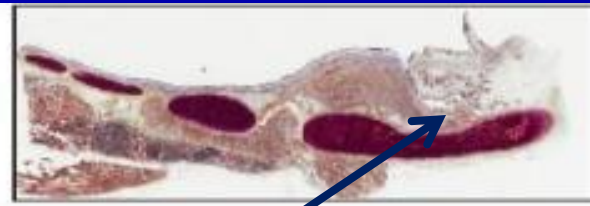
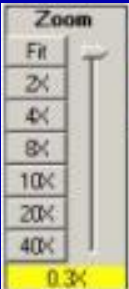
Hyaline cartilage provides flexible support in the respiratory system to hold the air way open.

Hyaline cartilage



242

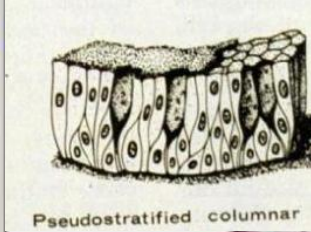
429



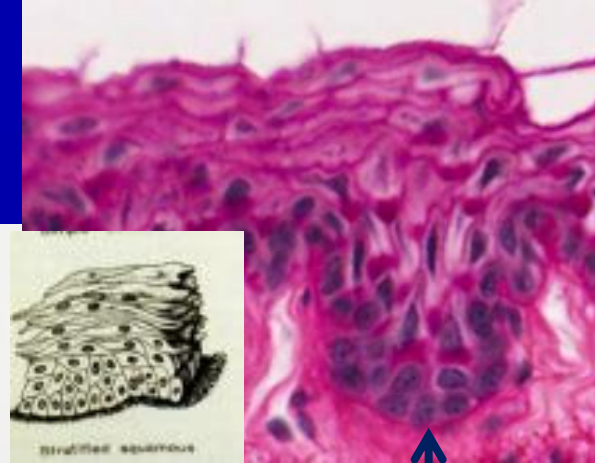
# 429 Larynx



Respiratory epithelium



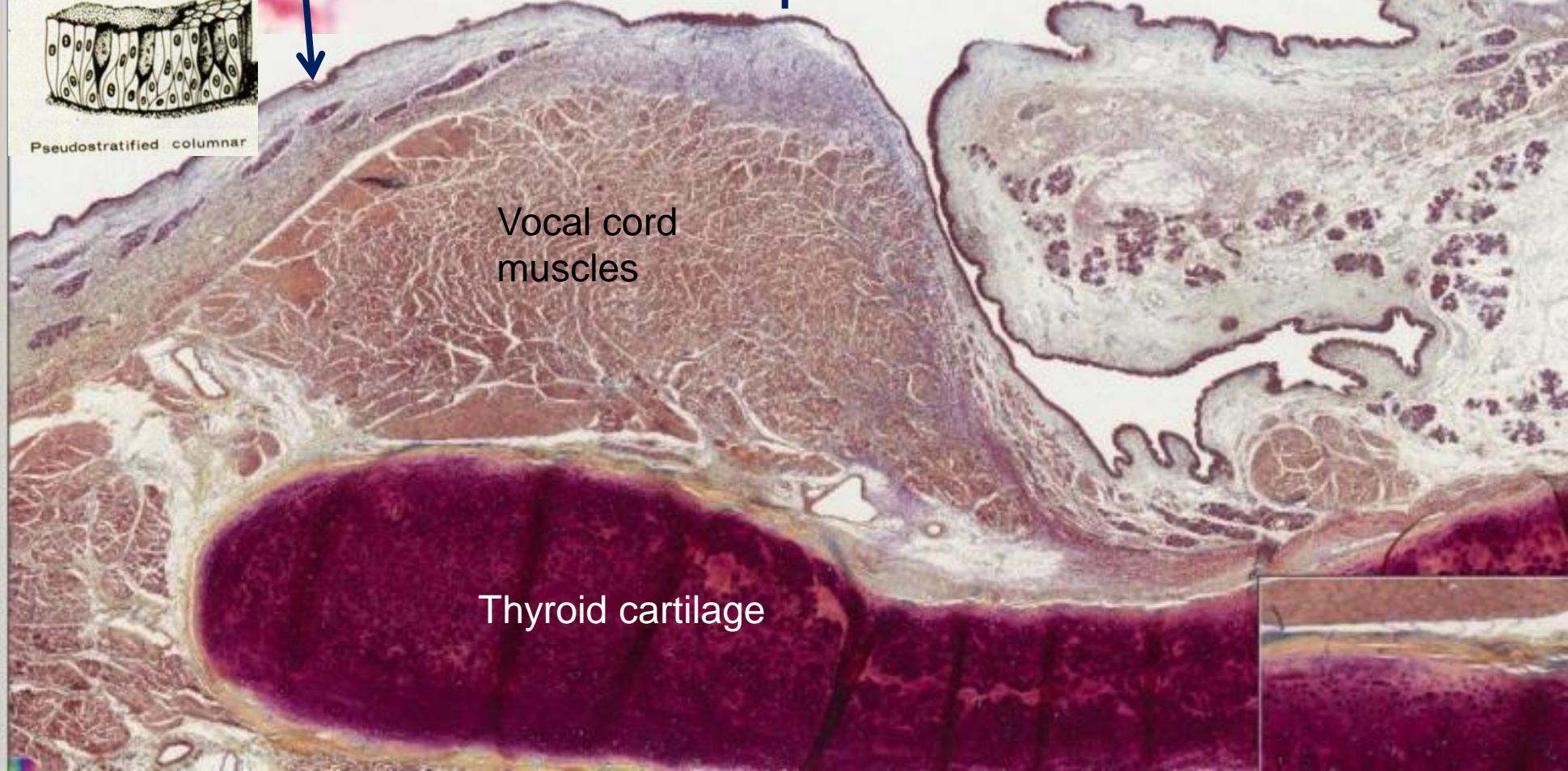
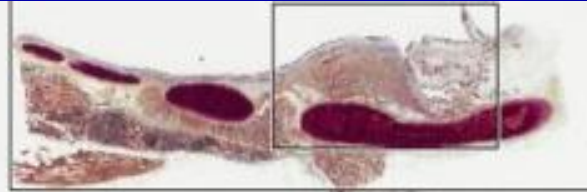
Pseudostratified columnar



Stratified squamous epithelium

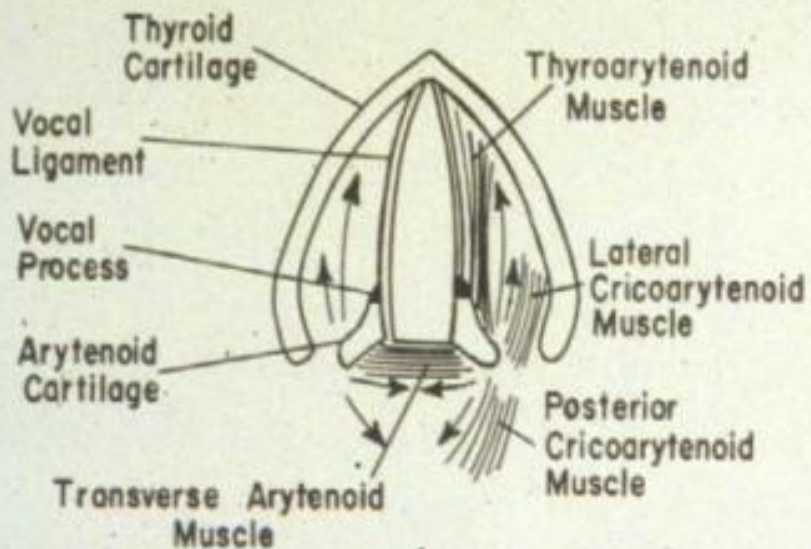


Stratified squamous

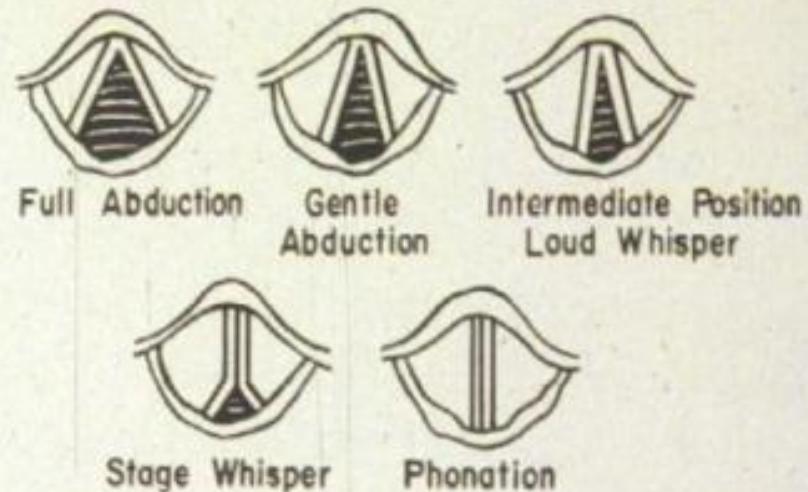


Vocal cord muscles

Thyroid cartilage

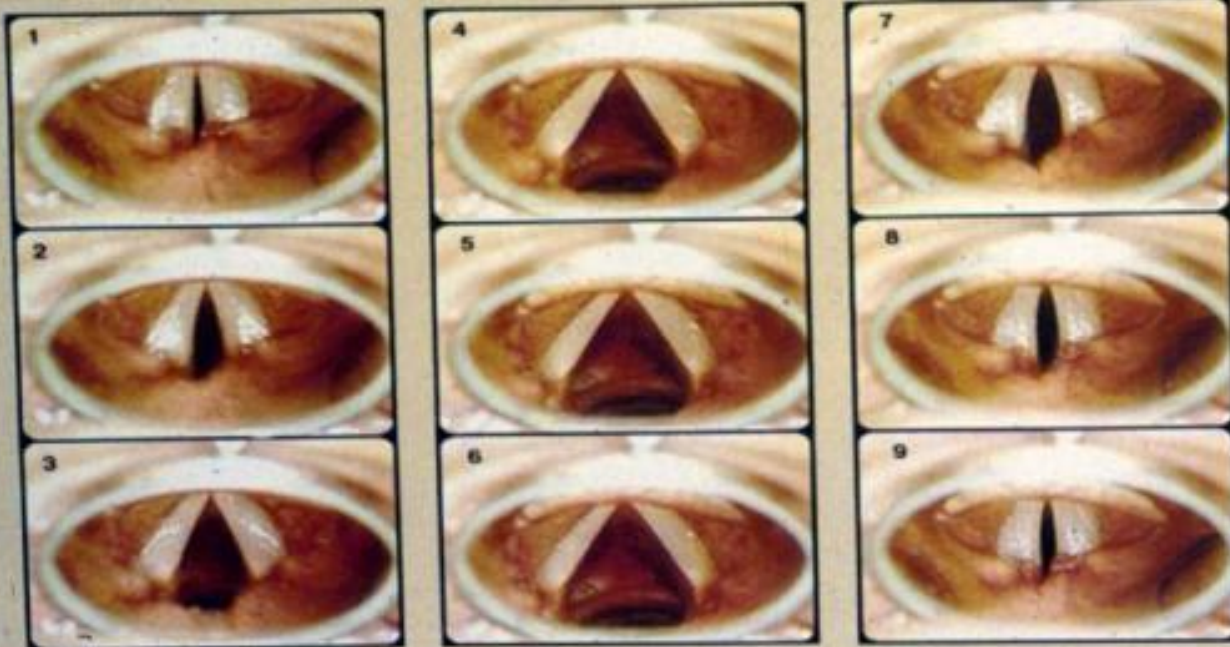


A



B

8 Laryngeal function in phonation. (Modified from Greene: The Voice and Its Disorders. Pit



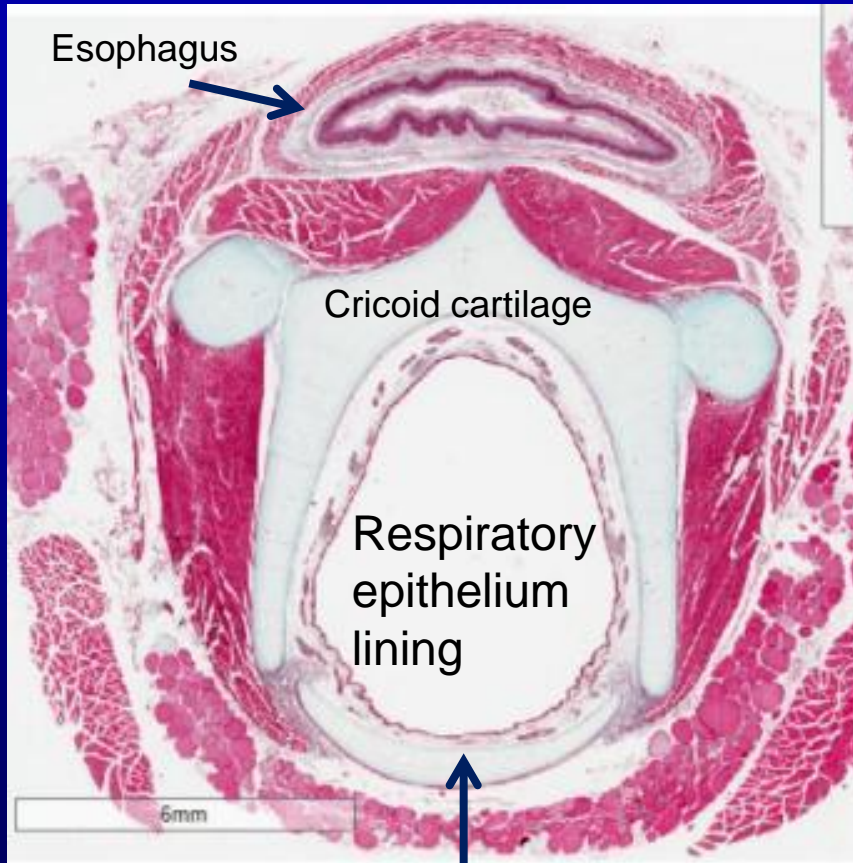
### How Vocal Cords Move to Produce Speech

These pictures show vocal cords at work. The slitlike opening between the cords is the glottis. Its size and shape change according to your activity. When you breathe, the cords "draw apart," allowing passage of air to and from the lungs. If you speak or sing, the folds draw closer together. Speech is produced when you breathe out. The airflow through the glottis causes the vocal cords to vibrate, producing waves of sound. The tautness of the cords determines the frequency of the vibrations and the pitch of the sound.

Following from top to bottom, left to right, you can see vocal cords change in a one-second progression. In pictures 1 to 6, speech stops, cords gradually open. In pictures 7 to 9, speech resumes.



# Larynx (lower portion)



Tracheal cartilage

HISTO039

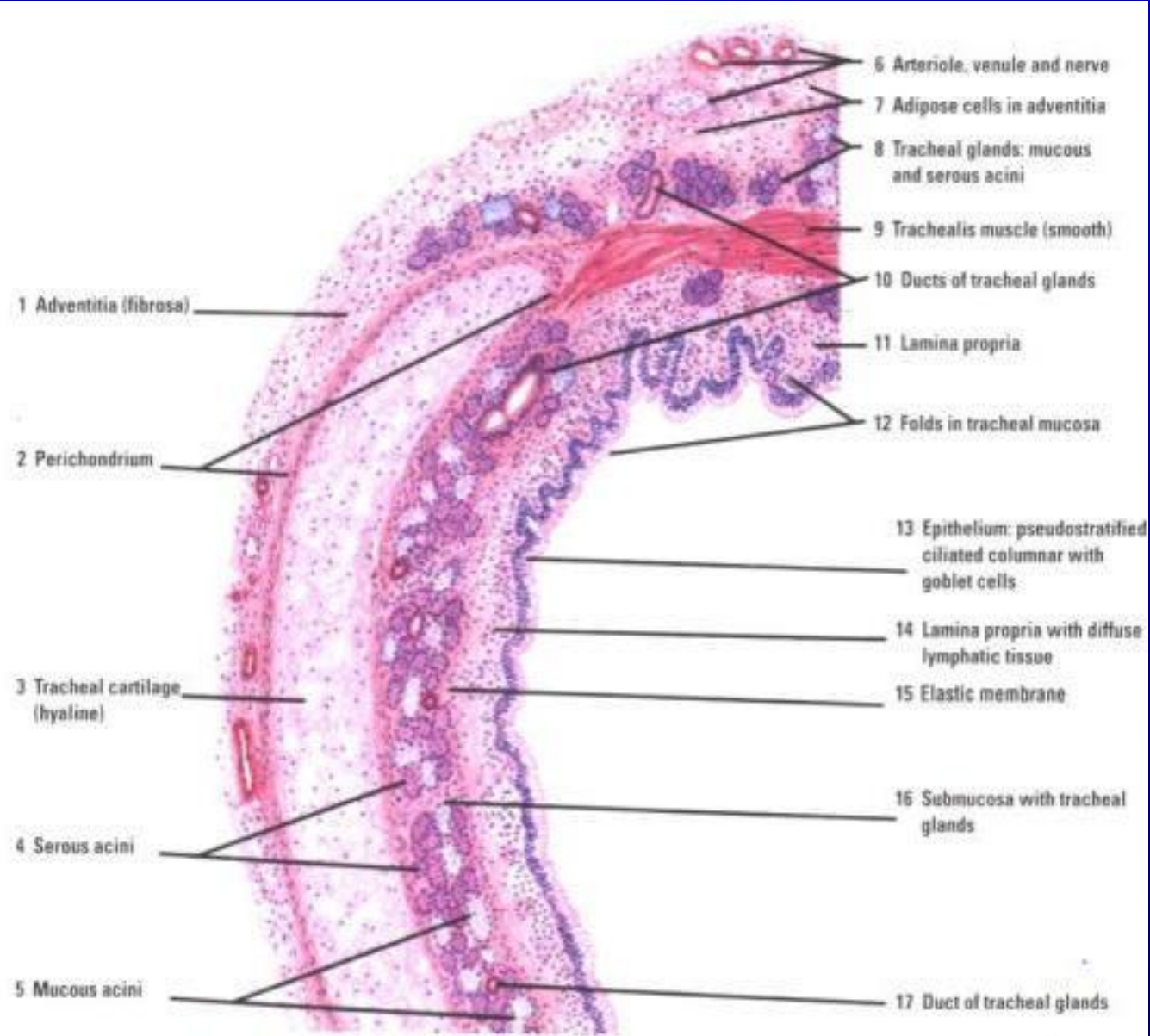
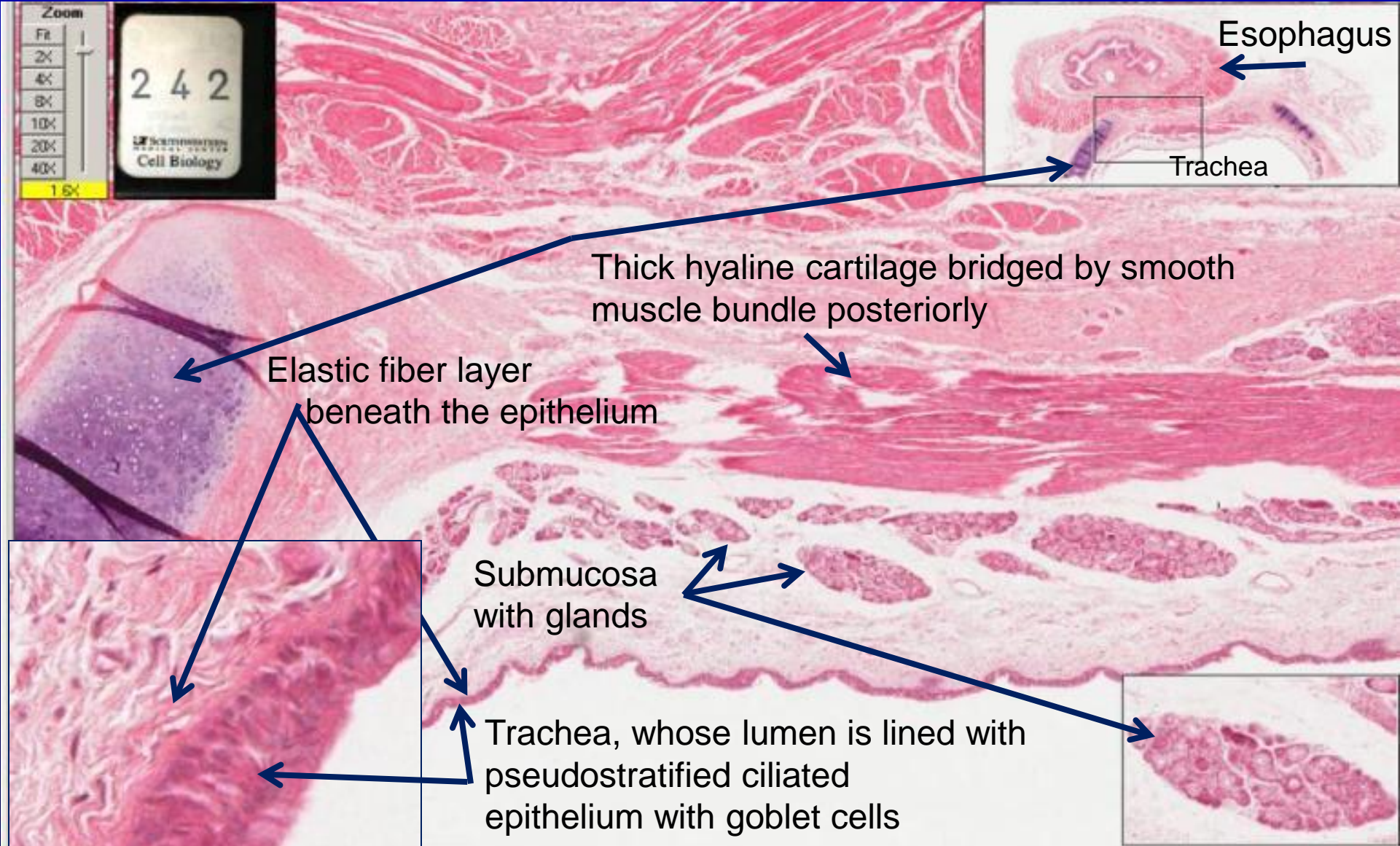


Fig. 14-5 Trachea (panoramic view, transverse section). Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.

# Esophagus and trachea, monkey - glands in trachea

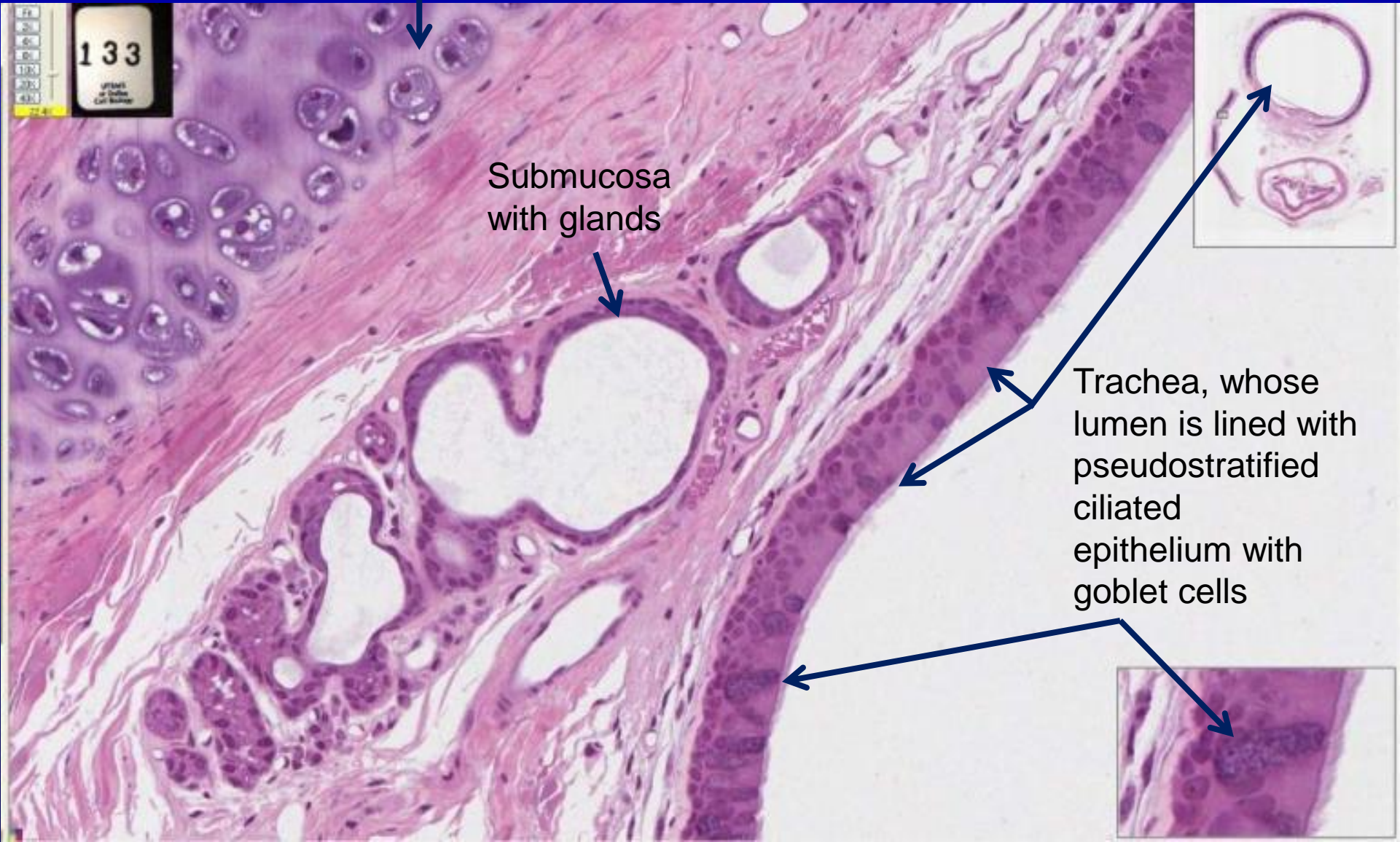


242

133

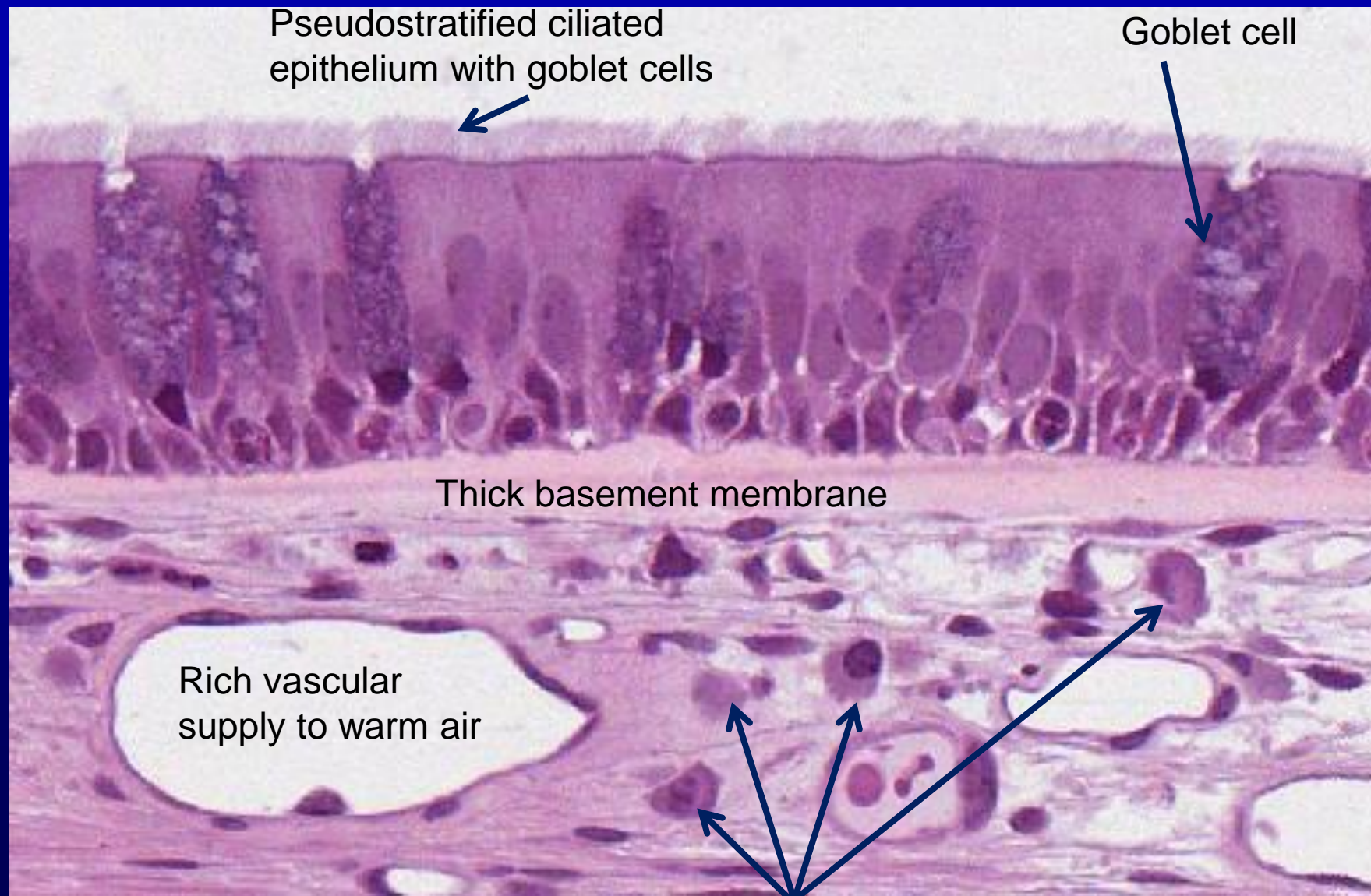
# Trachea, monkey

Thick hyaline cartilage

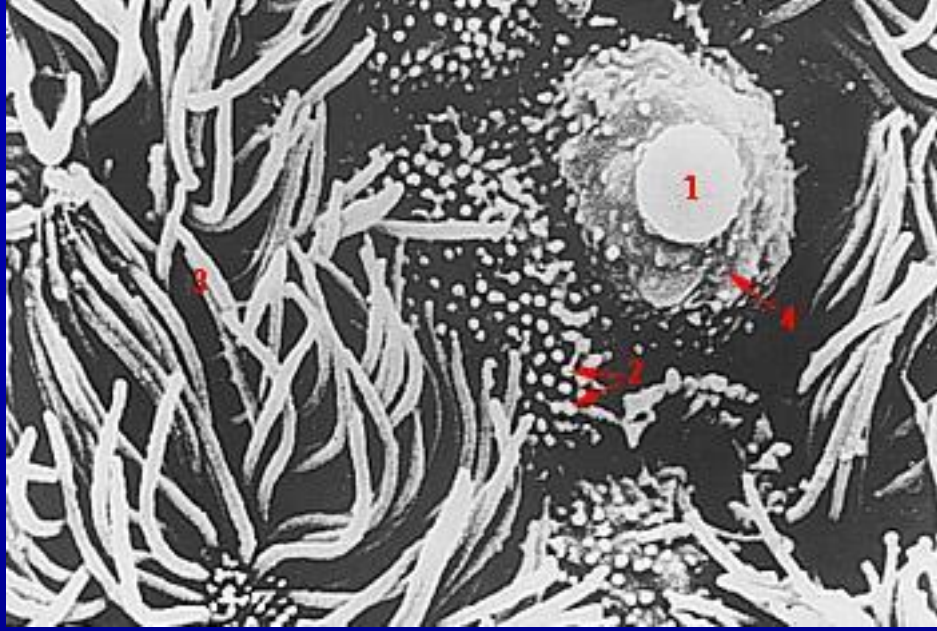


133

# Trachea, monkey

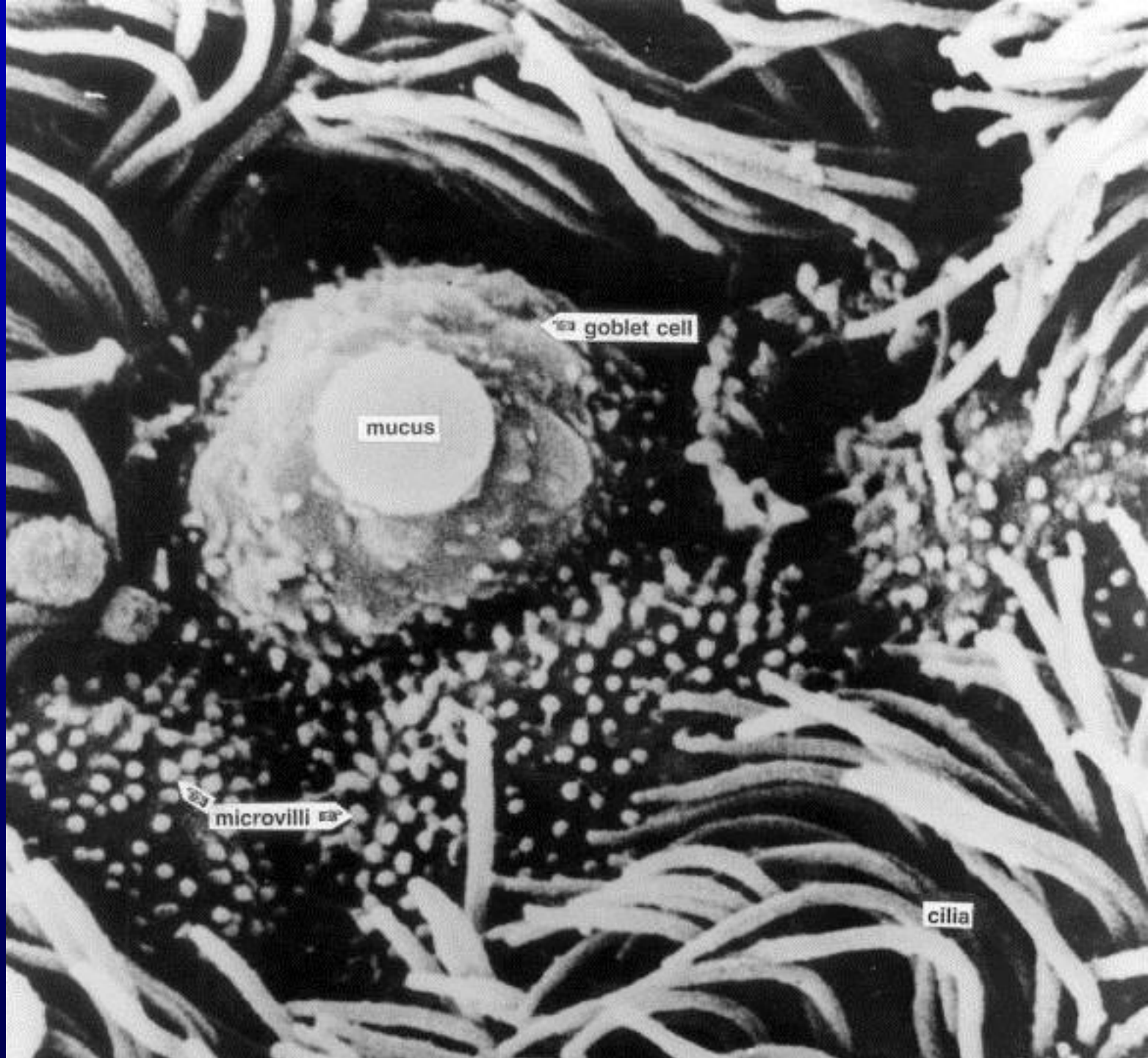


Plasma cells to produce antibodies

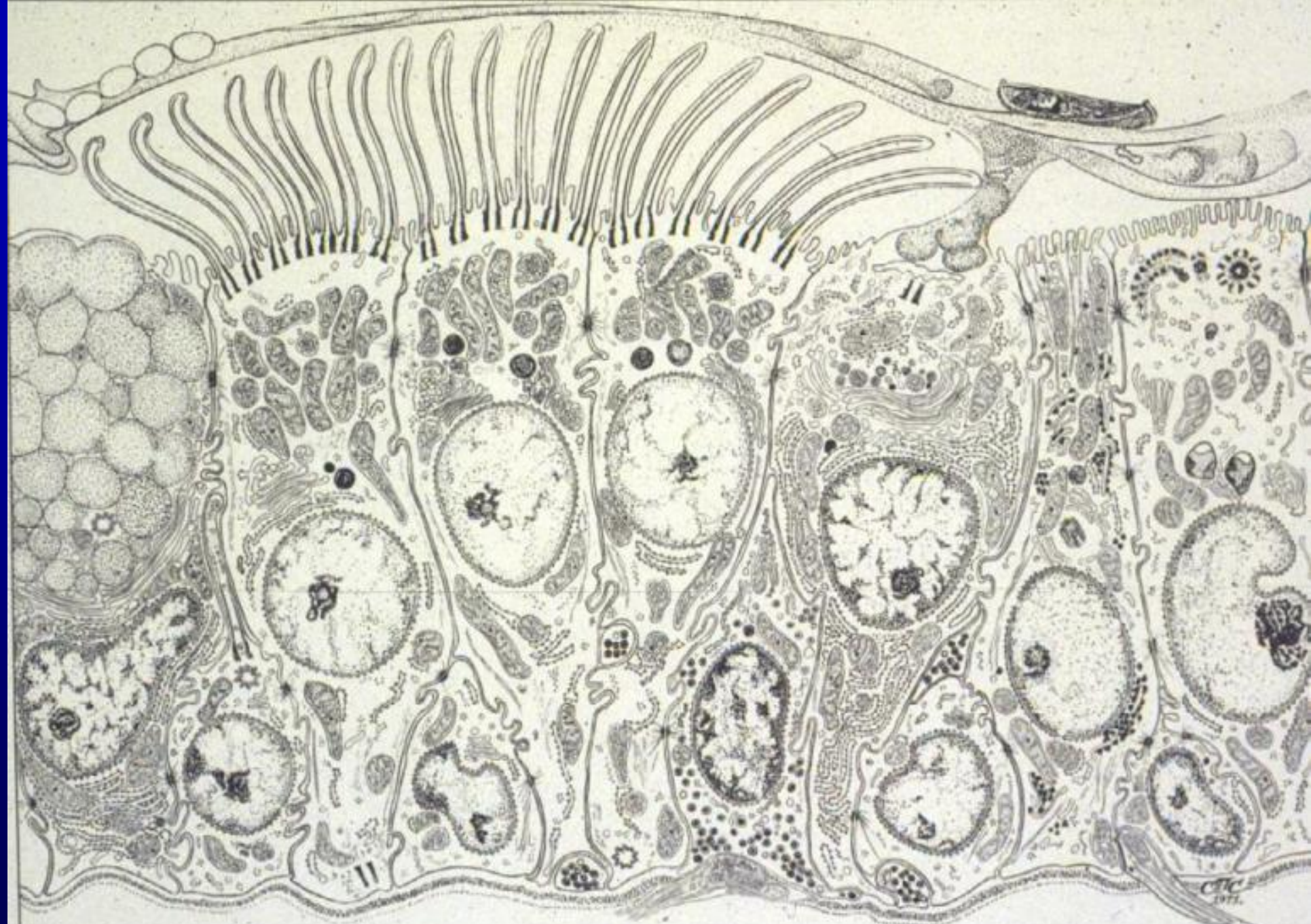


EM 8 trachea;  
20630x

1. Mucous
2. Microvilli
3. Cilia
4. Goblet cell







Mucous

Ciliated

Short

Small granule

Brush<sub>1</sub>

Brush<sub>2</sub>

C.T.C.  
1971

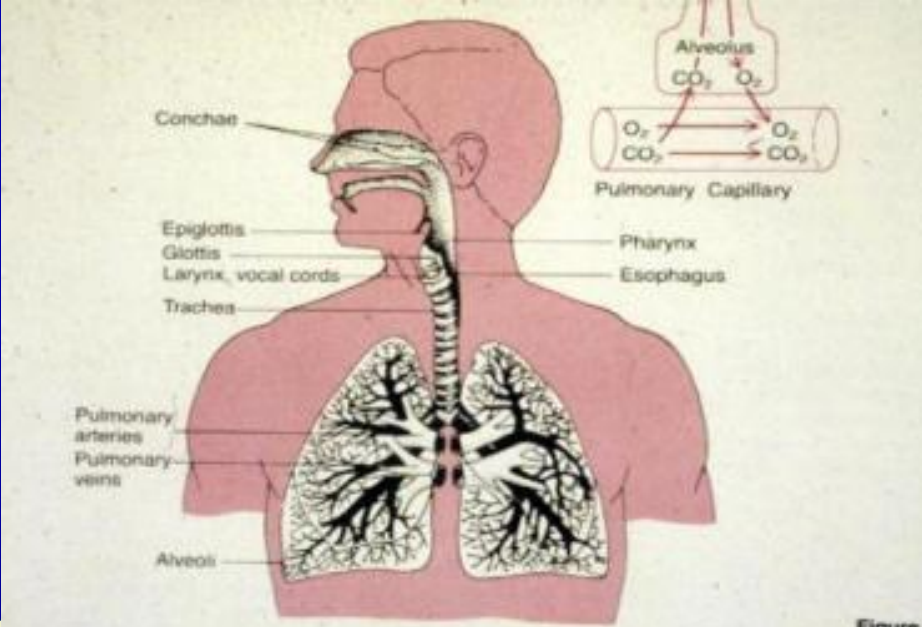


Figure 1

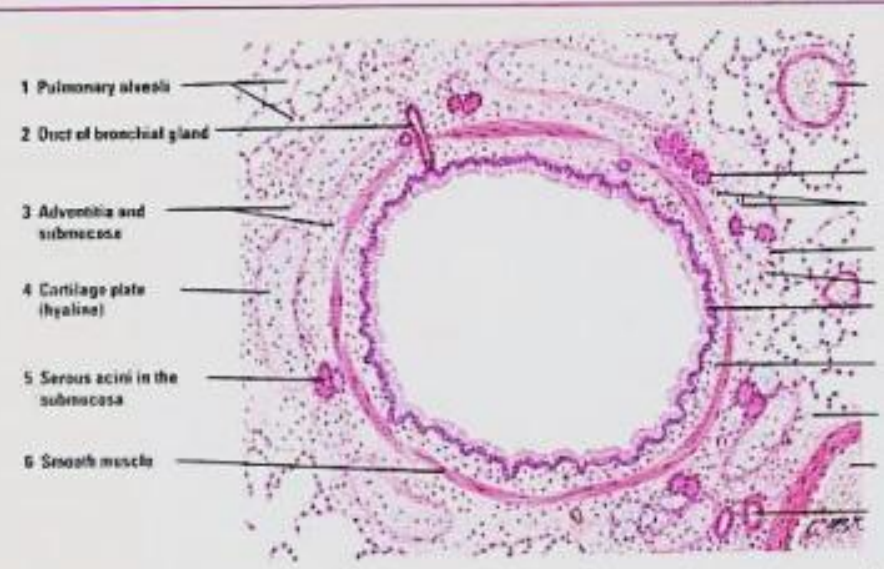


Fig. 14-9 Intrapulmonary Bronchus. Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.

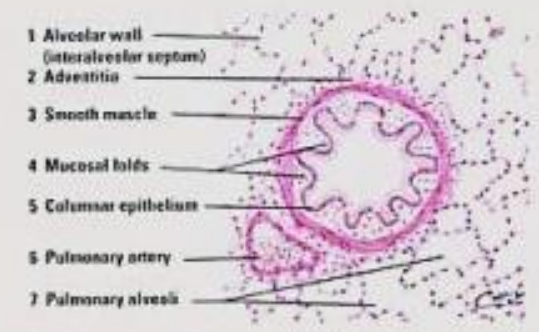
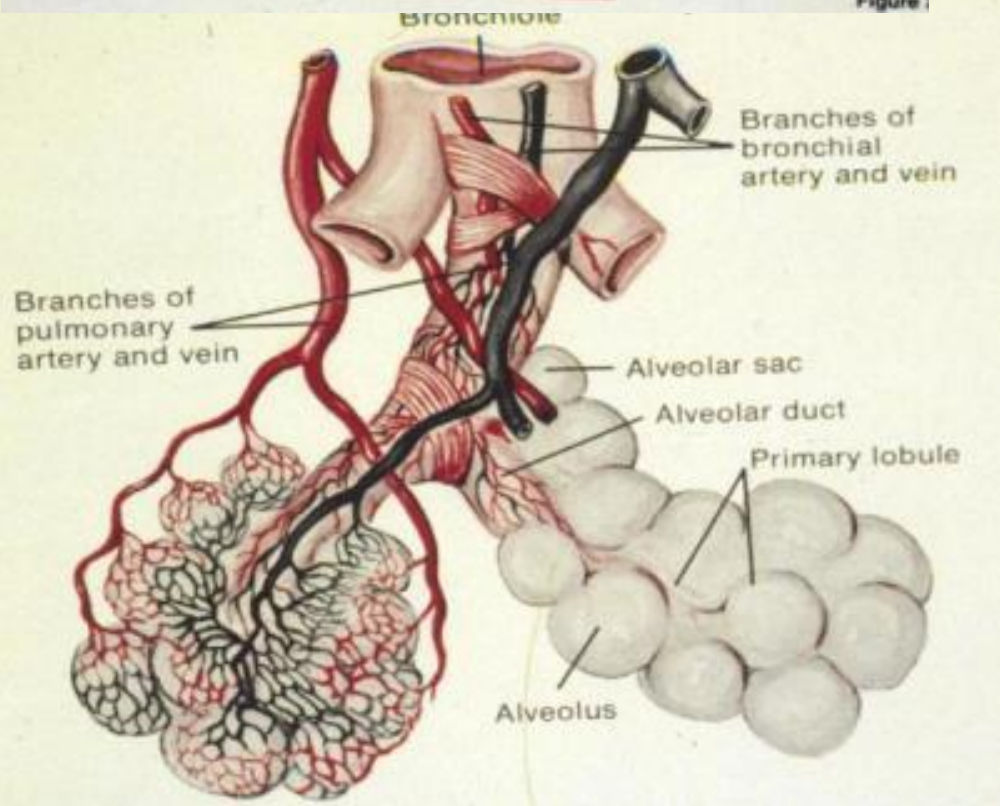


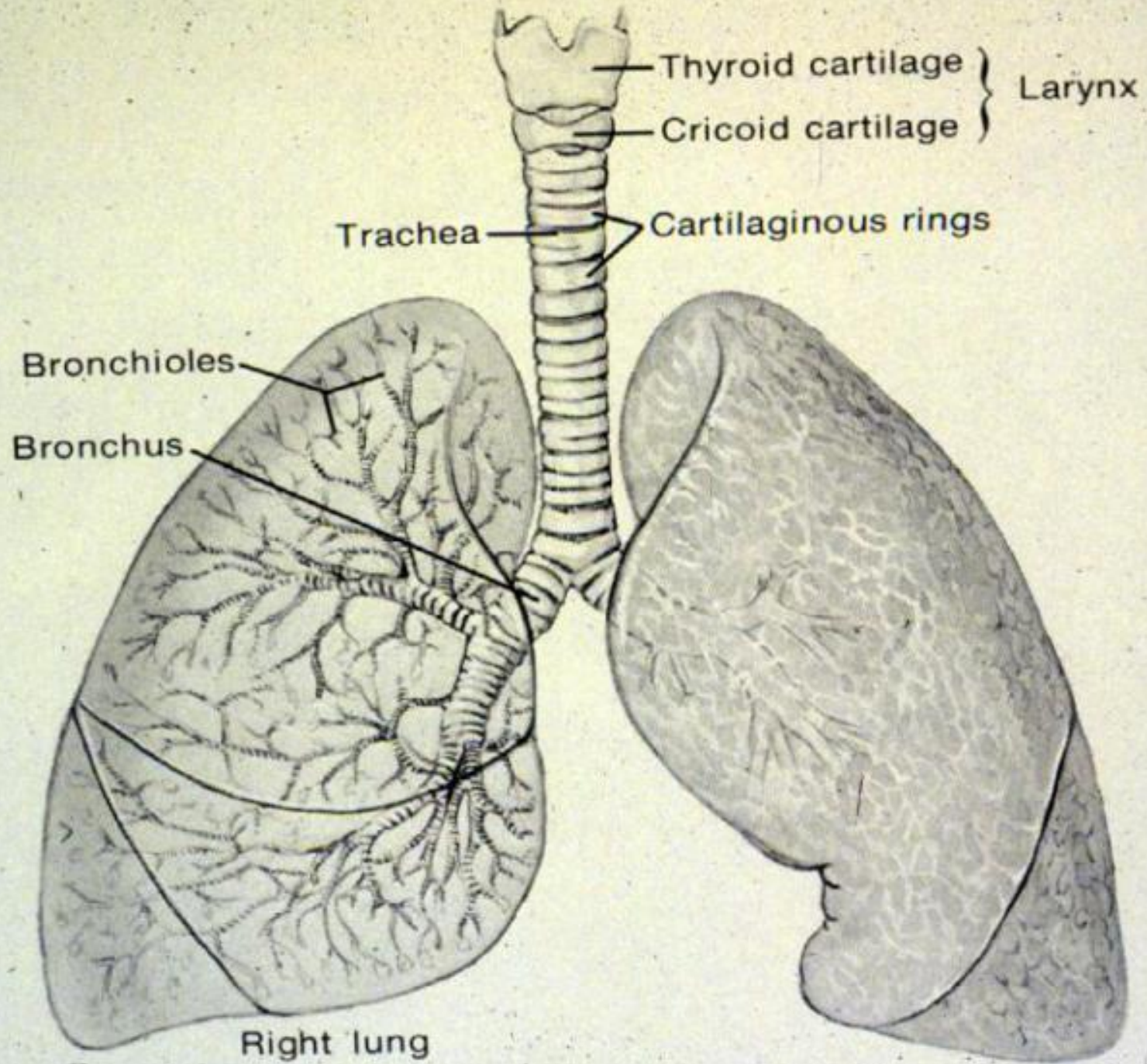
Fig. 14-10 Terminal Bronchiole. Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.



Fig. 14-11 Respiratory Bronchiole. Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.







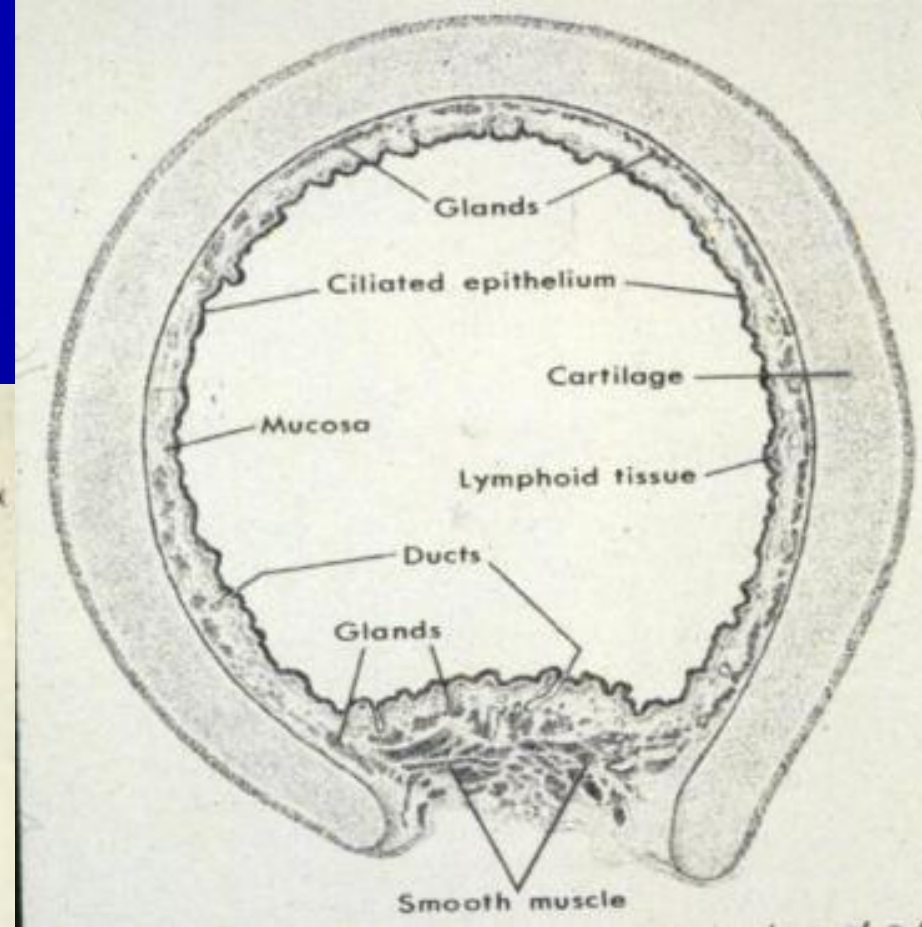
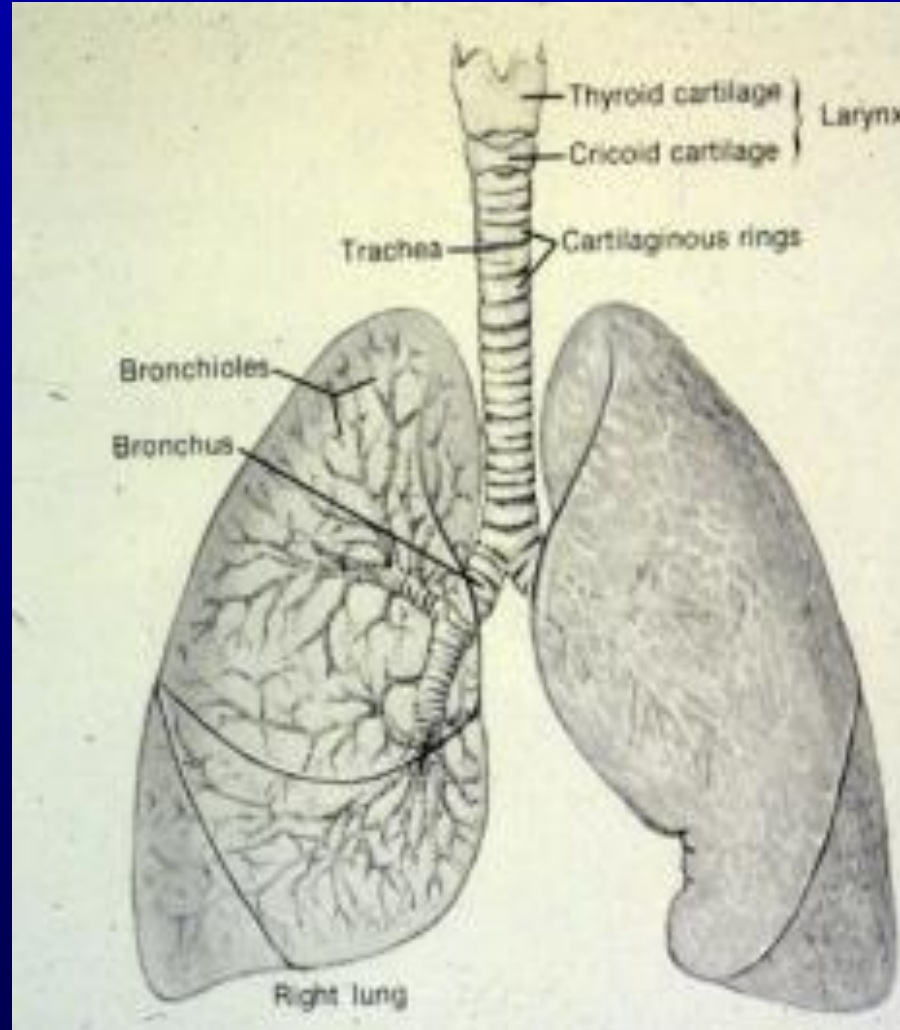
# Trachea

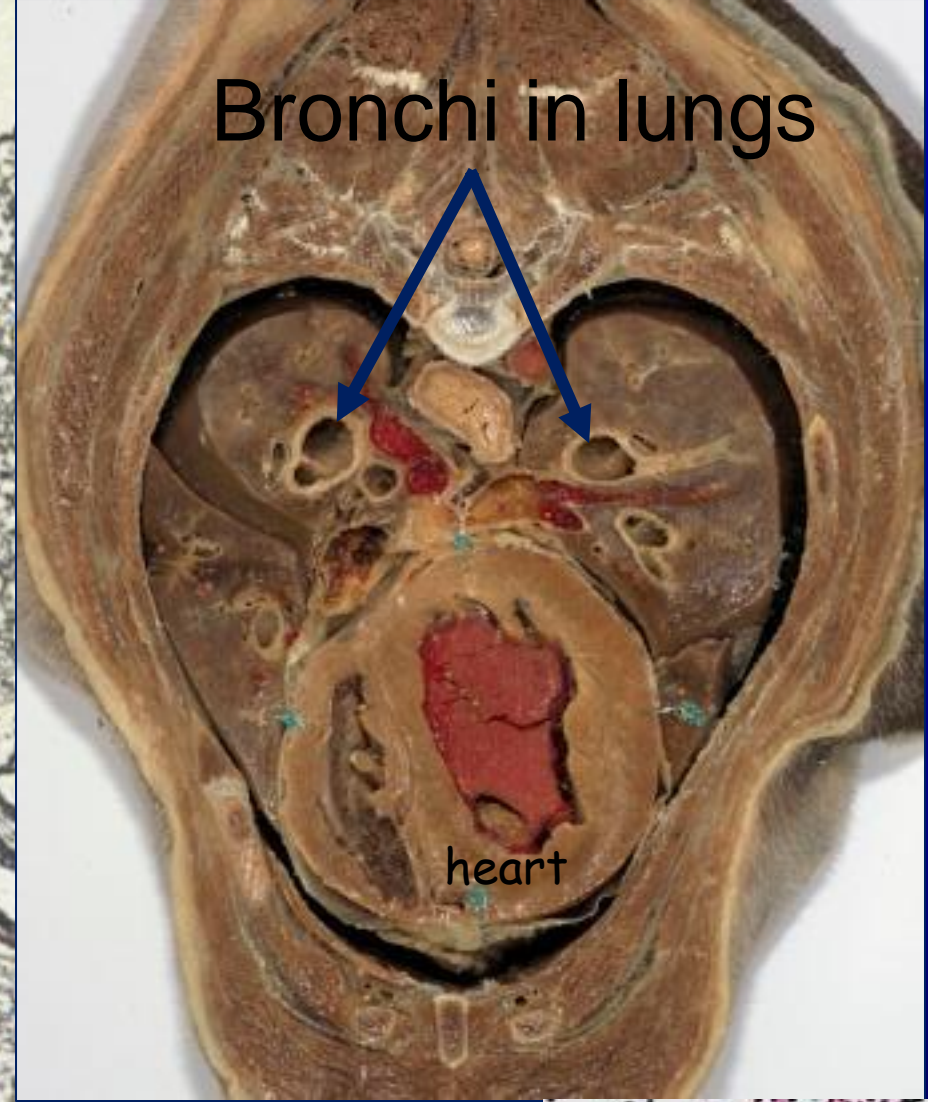
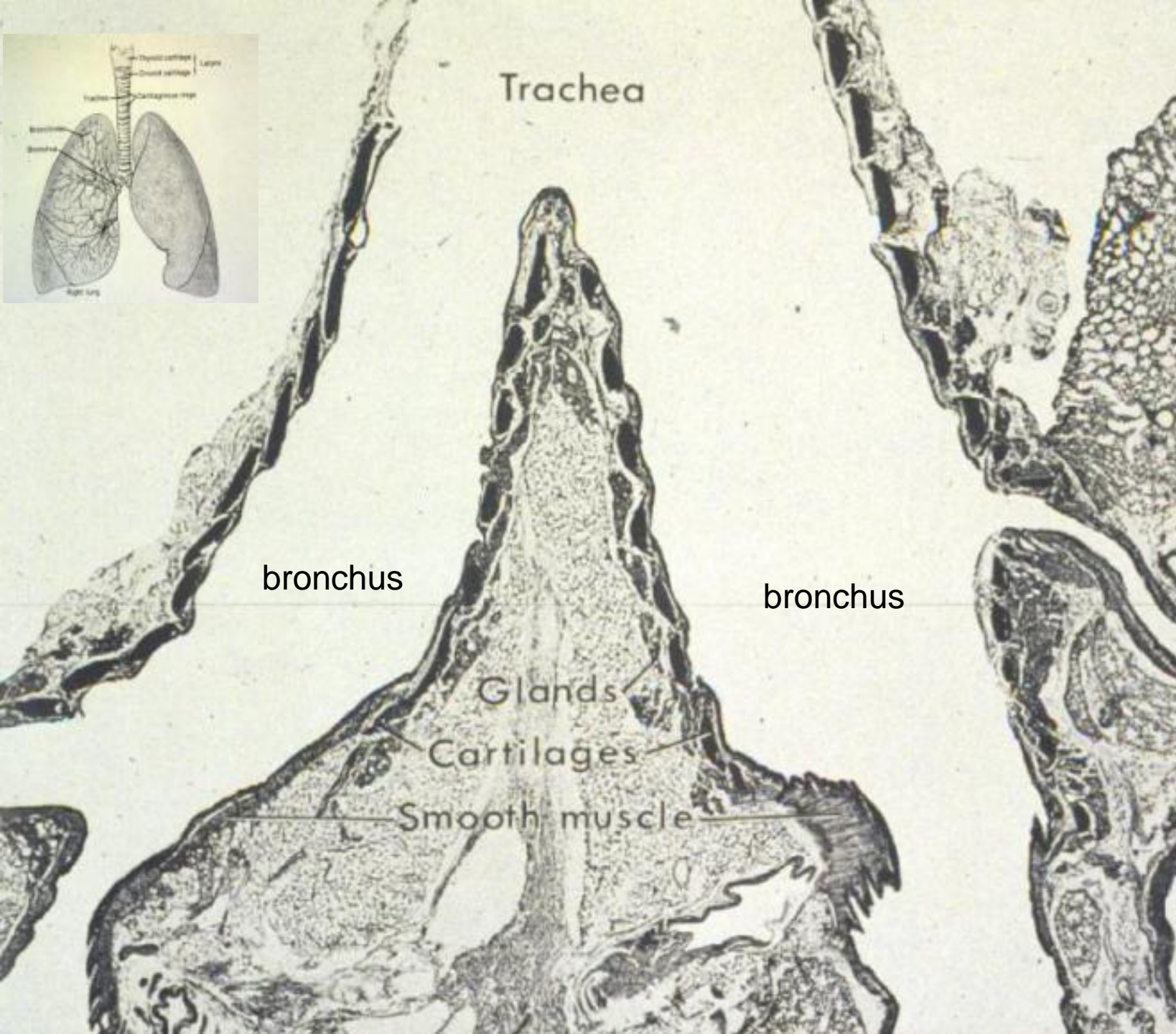
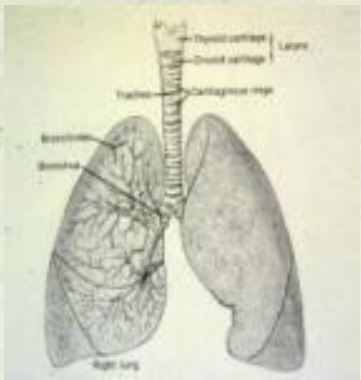
Thin walled tube

16-20 C-shaped rings of hyaline

Trachealis muscle

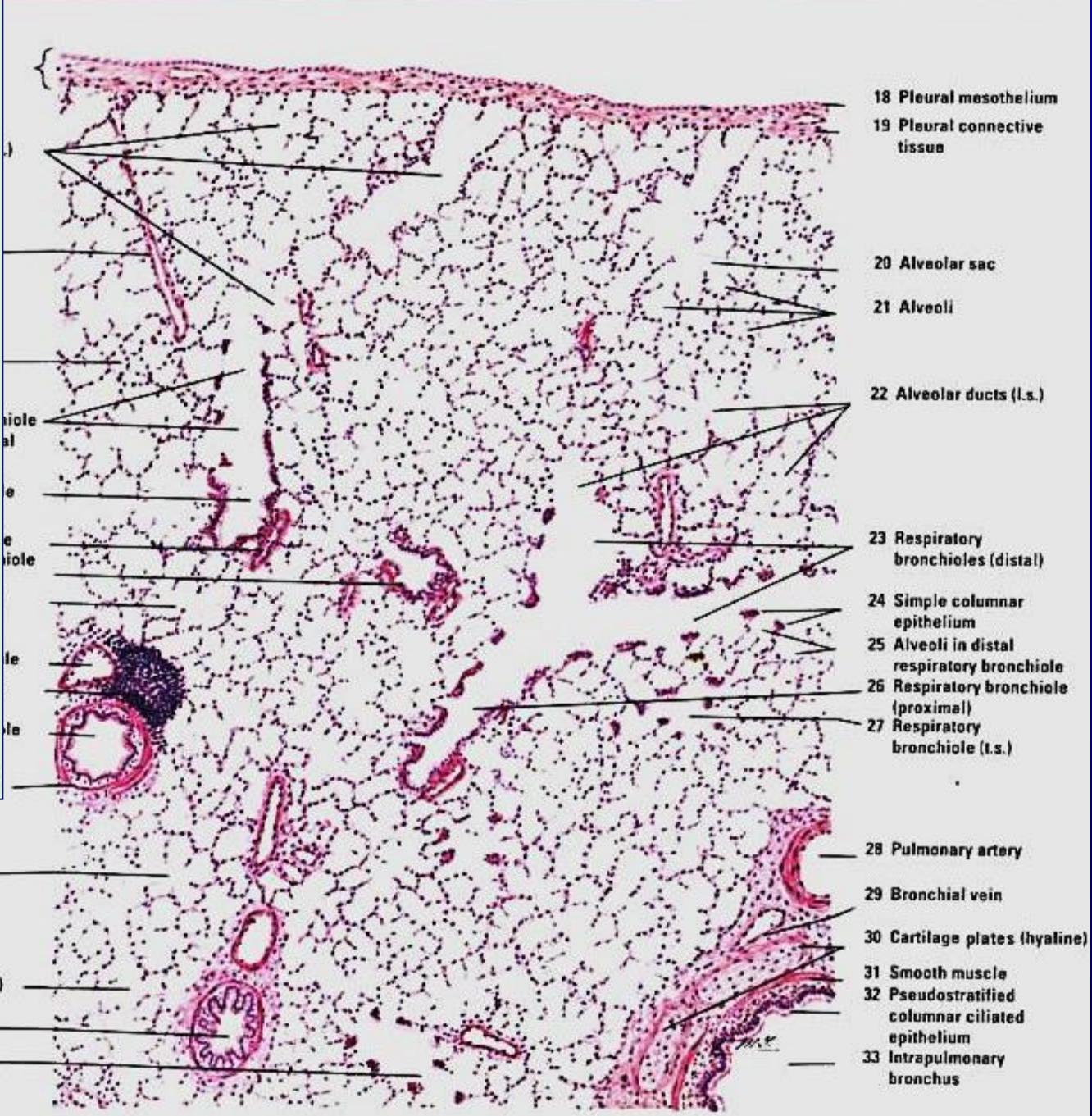
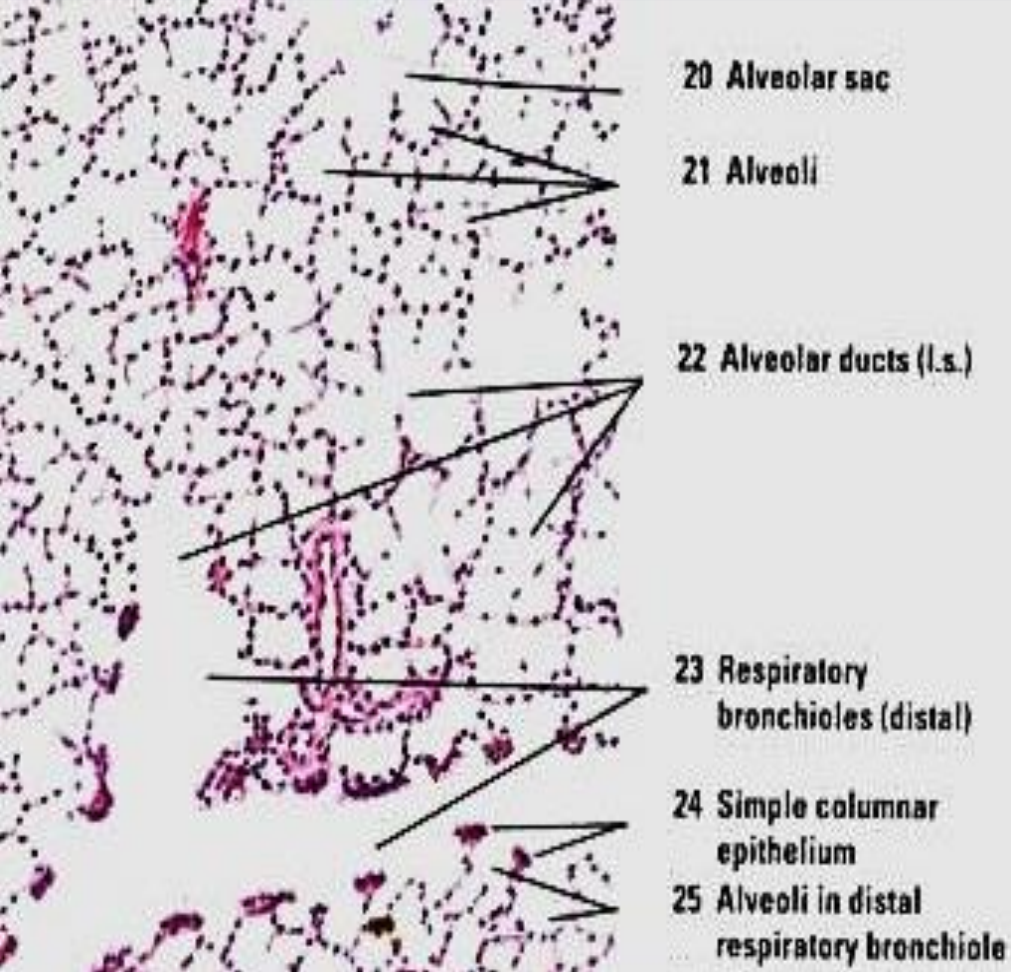
- Smooth muscle
- Allows for regulation of size of lumen for cough reflex





The bronchus has cartilage plates



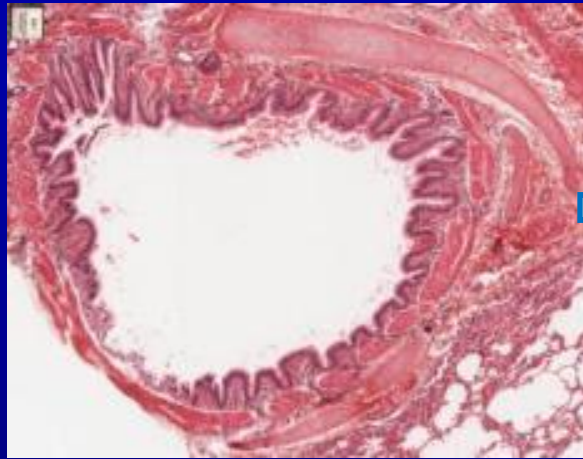


Bronchioles have NO cartilage plates

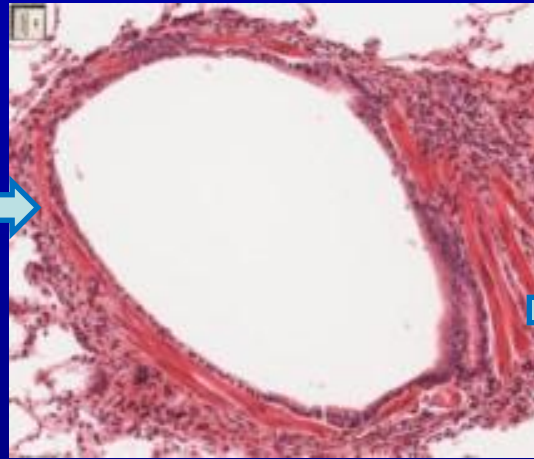
Fig. 14-8 Lung (panoramic view). Stain: hematoxylin-eosin. Low magnification.

# Histo 041: Lung

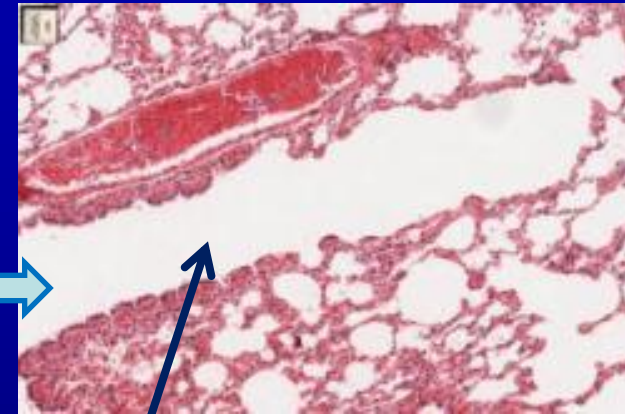
The air-conducting tubes of the respiratory system can be thought of as a series of ducts which carry air to the sites of gaseous exchange - the alveoli



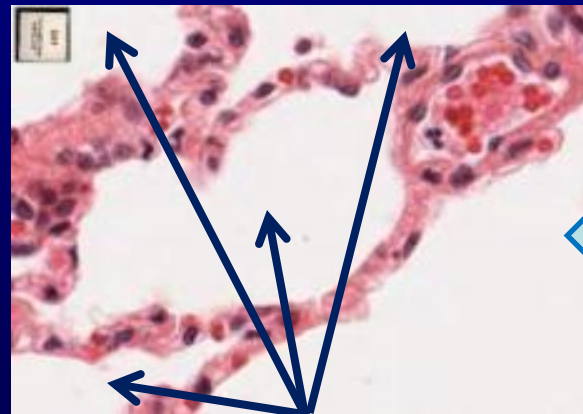
Bronchus



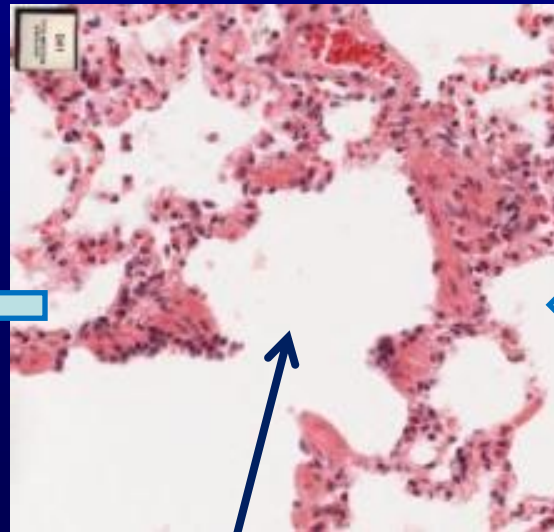
Conducting bronchiole



Respiratory bronchioles



Alveoli

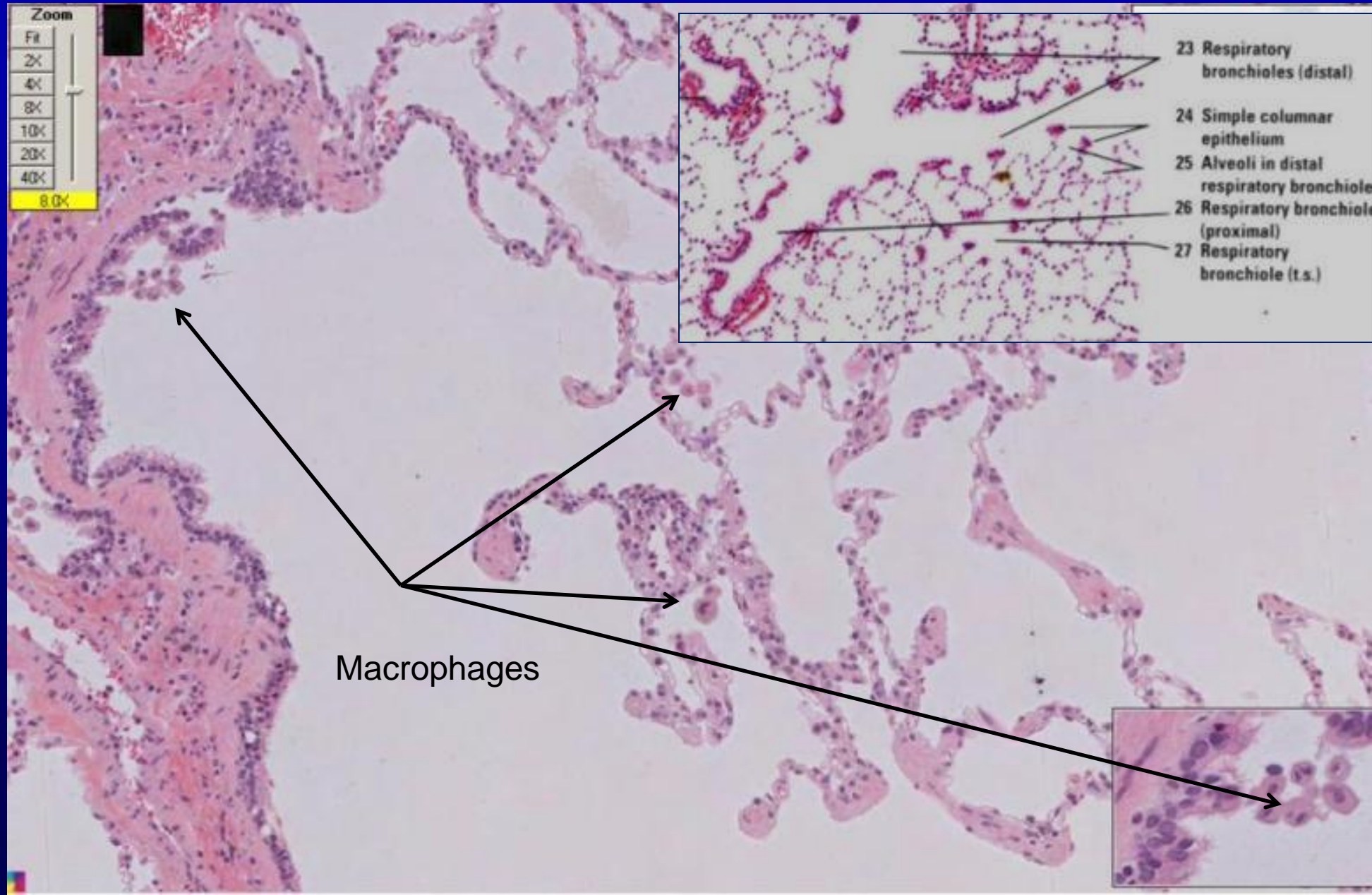


Alveolar sac

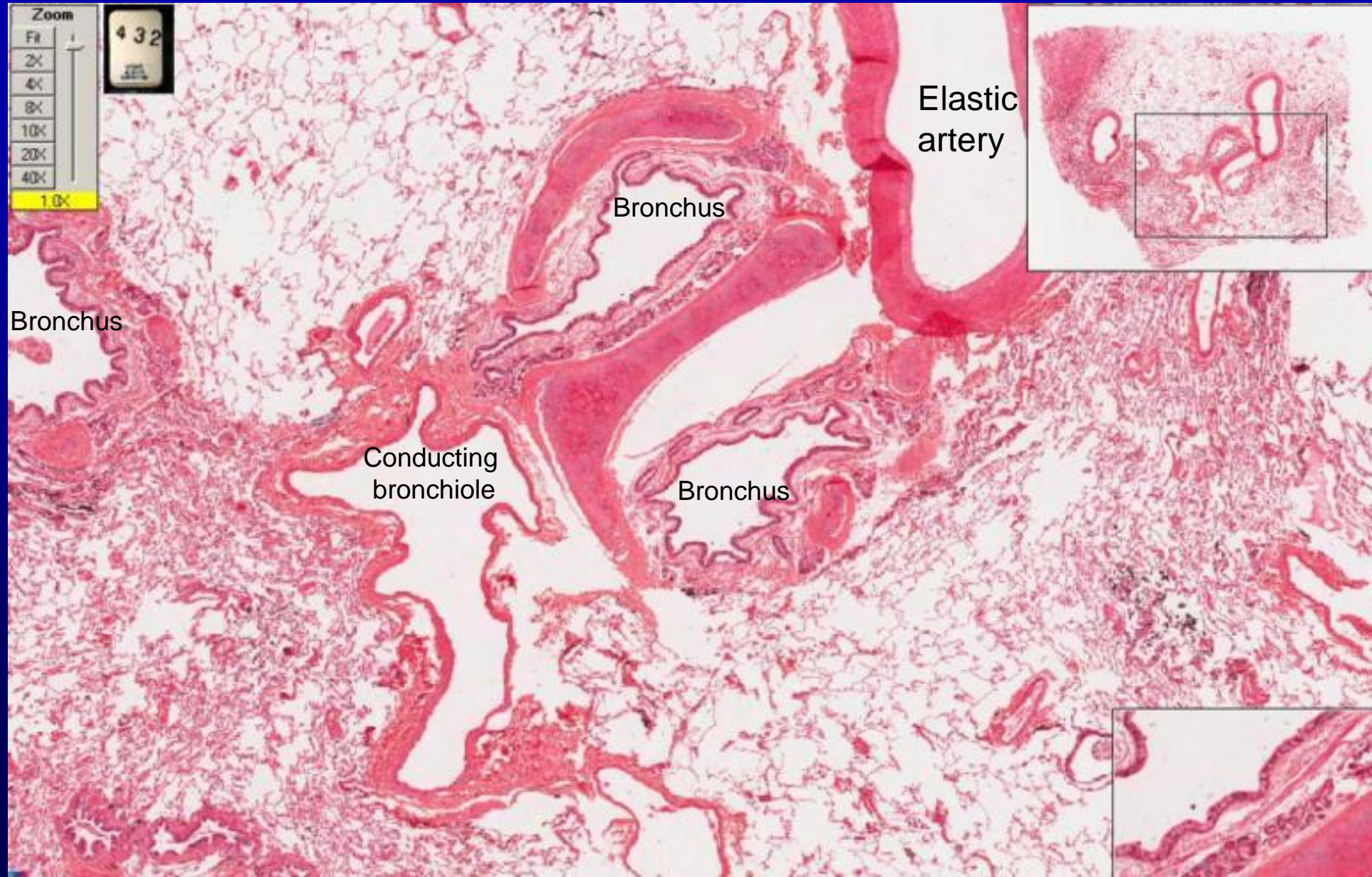


Alveolar duct

# 19714 lung macrophages

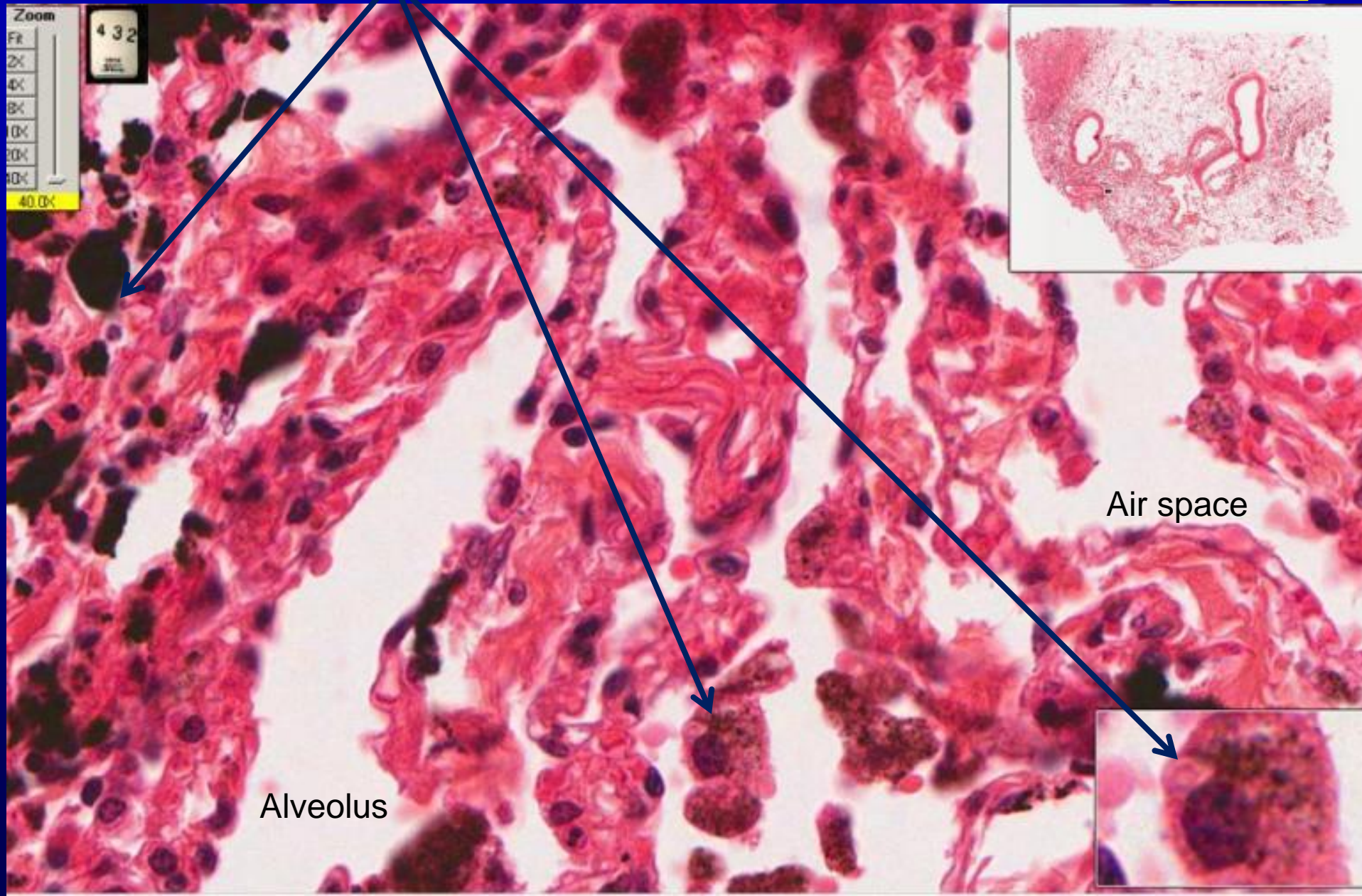


# 432 Lung with bronchi



# Macrophages in Air Space of Alveoli

432

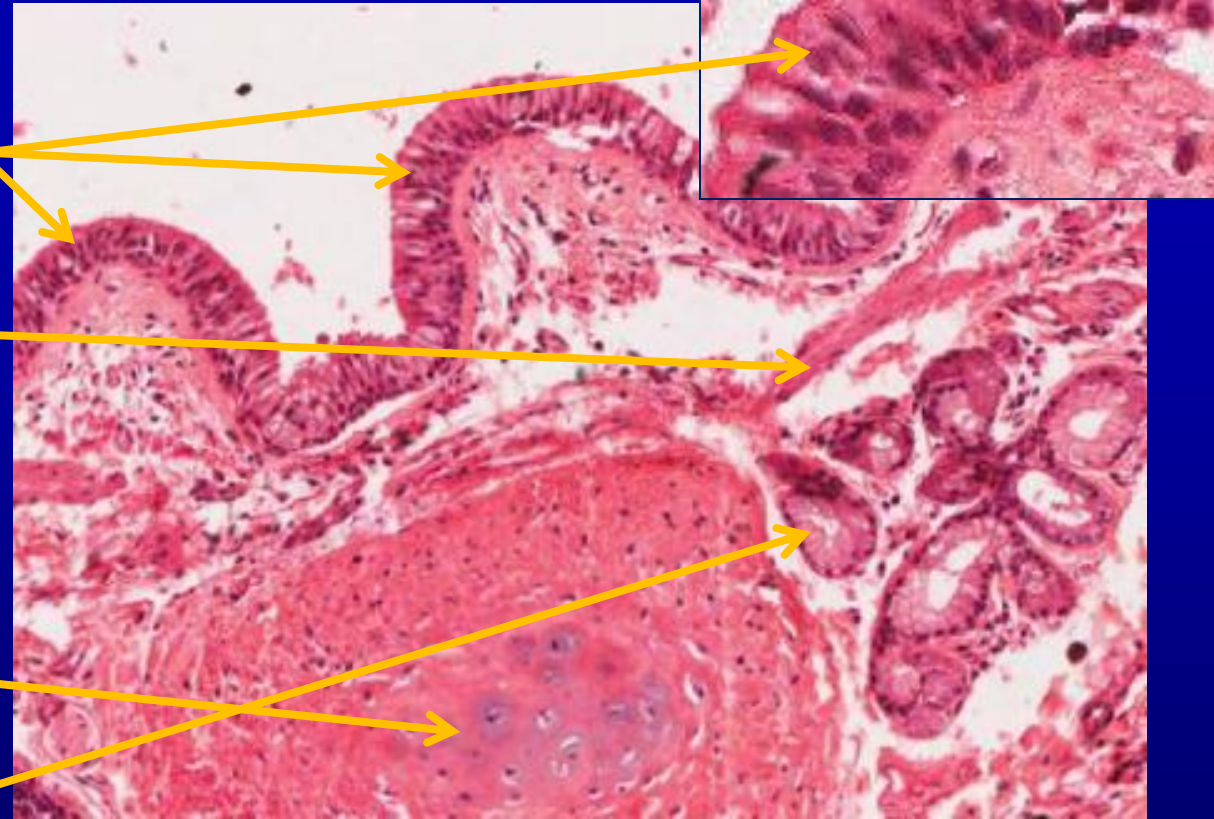




# 432 Lung with bronchus

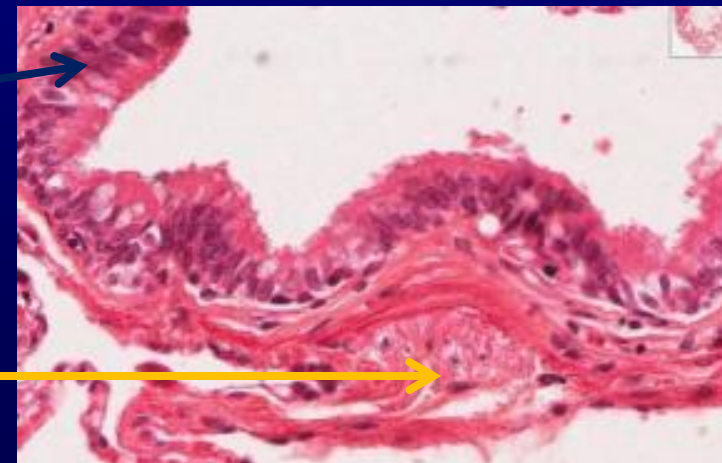
## Bronchus:

- 1) pseudostratified ciliated columnar epithelium with goblet-cells;
- 2) smooth muscle band between the lamina propria and the cartilage. The smooth muscle is not continuous around the bronchus as it spirals.
- 3) a change from cartilage rings to cartilage plates surrounding the tube;
- 4) glands in the submucosa.

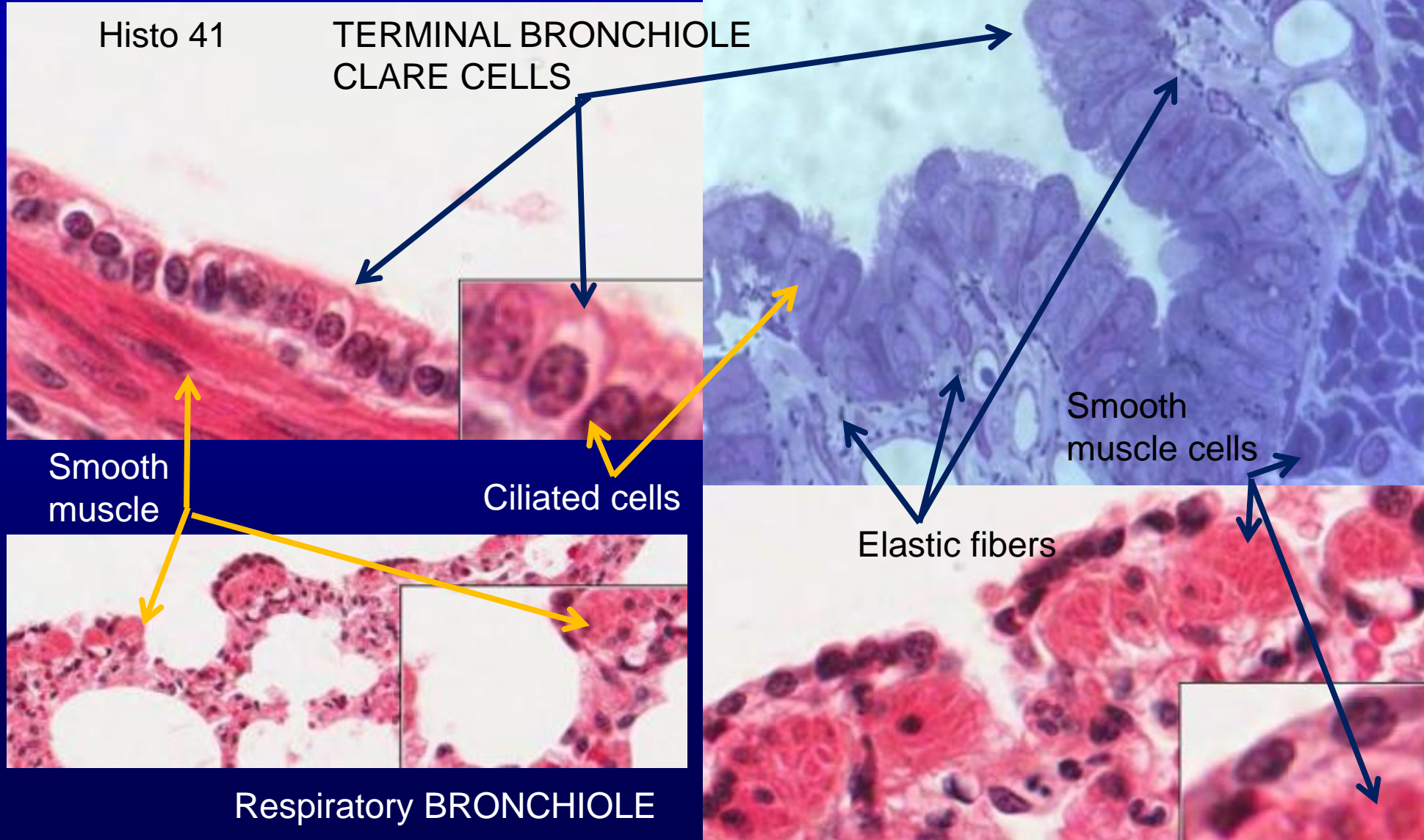
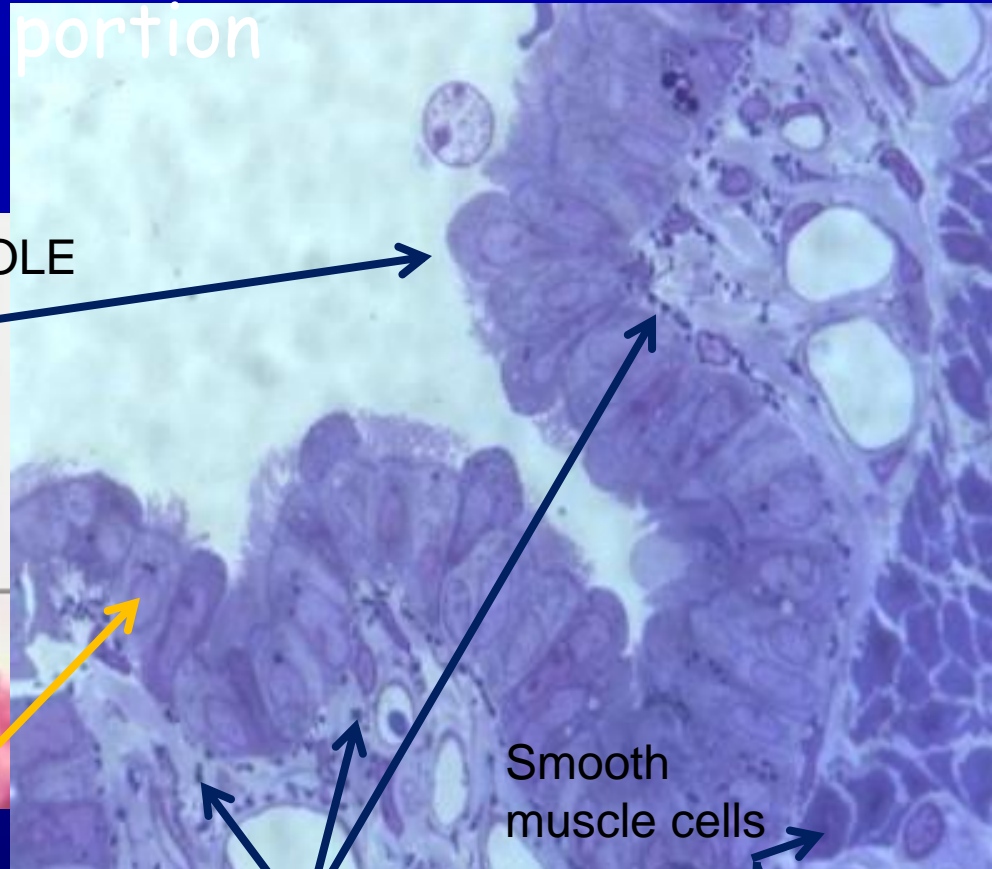
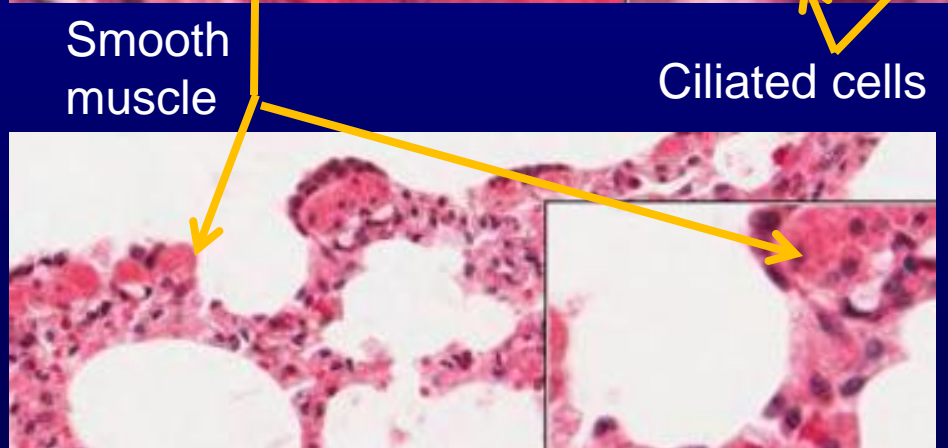
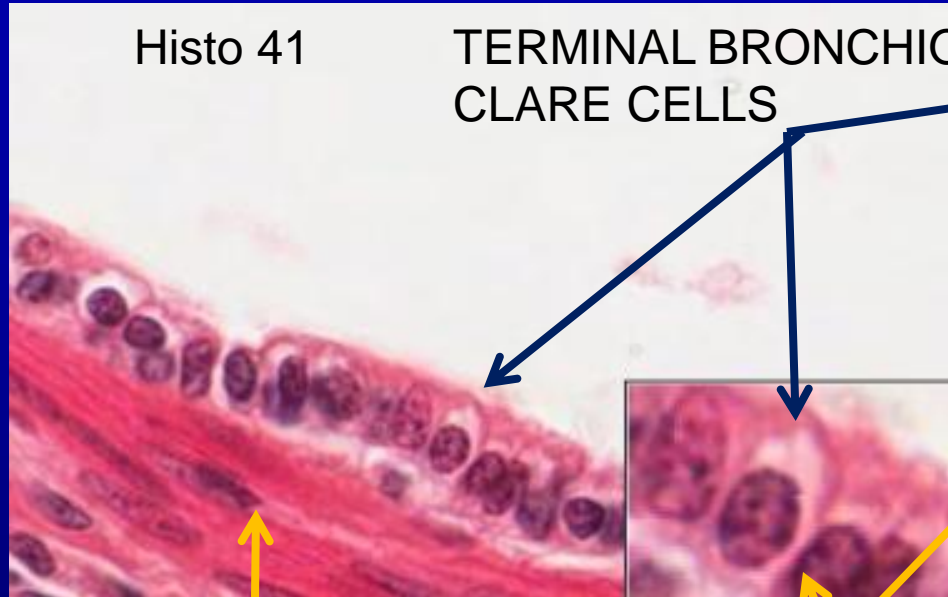


## Bronchioles:

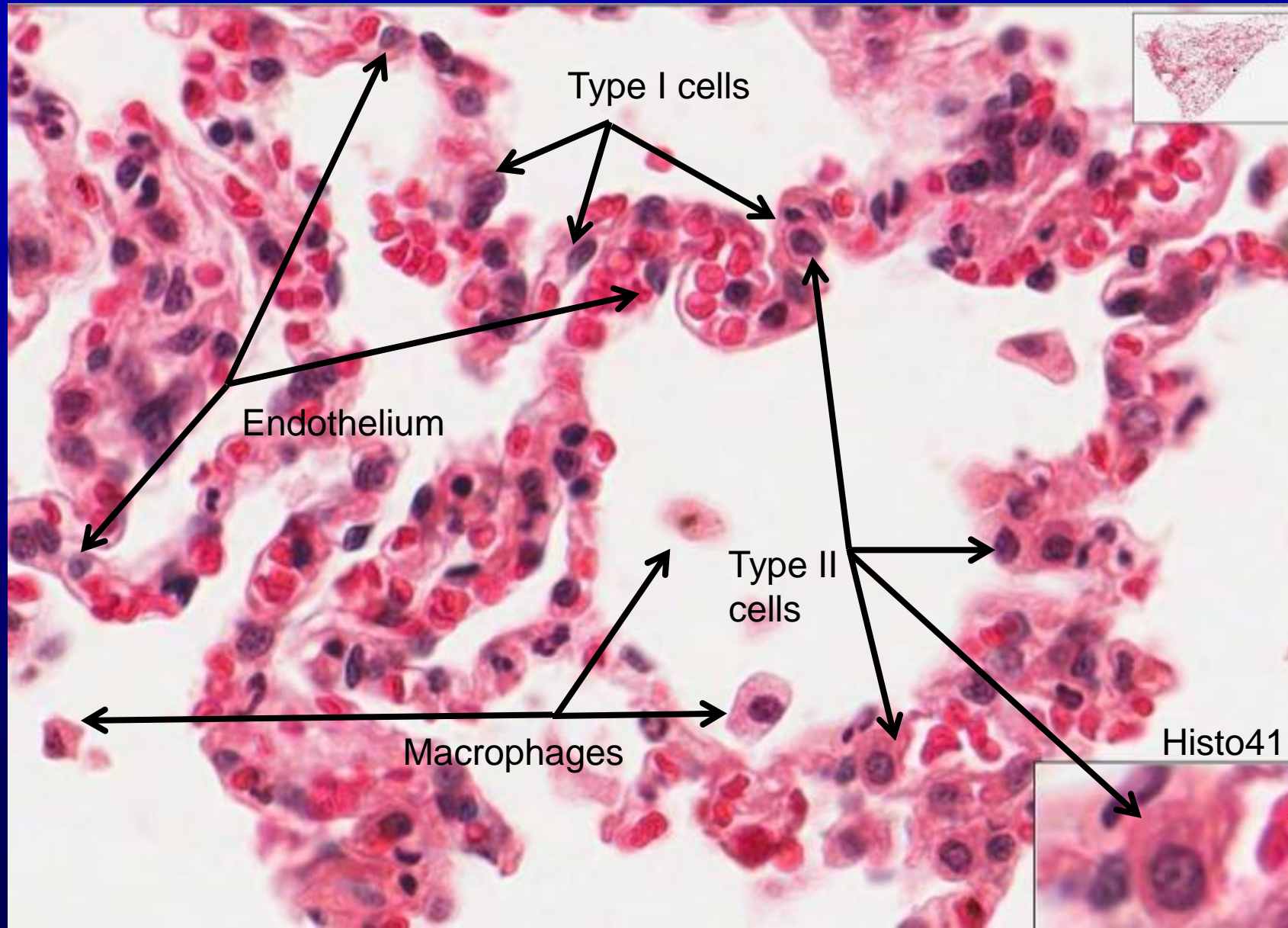
- 1) have a ciliated columnar epithelium;
- 2) do not have cartilage plates or glands;
- 3) have well organized muscle layers.



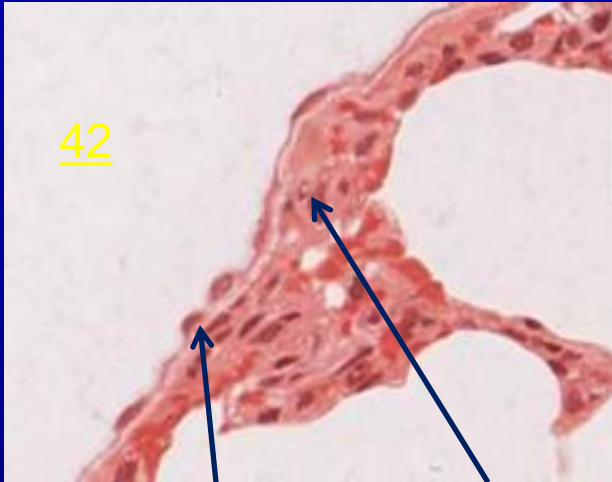
# Cells in the respiratory portion



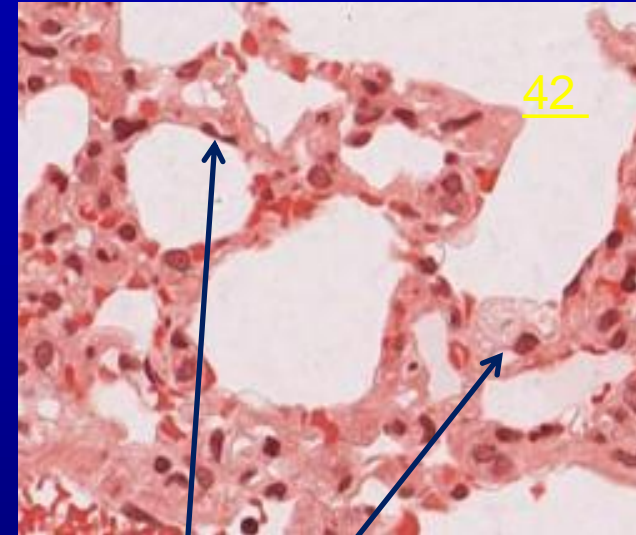
# Cells in the respiratory portion



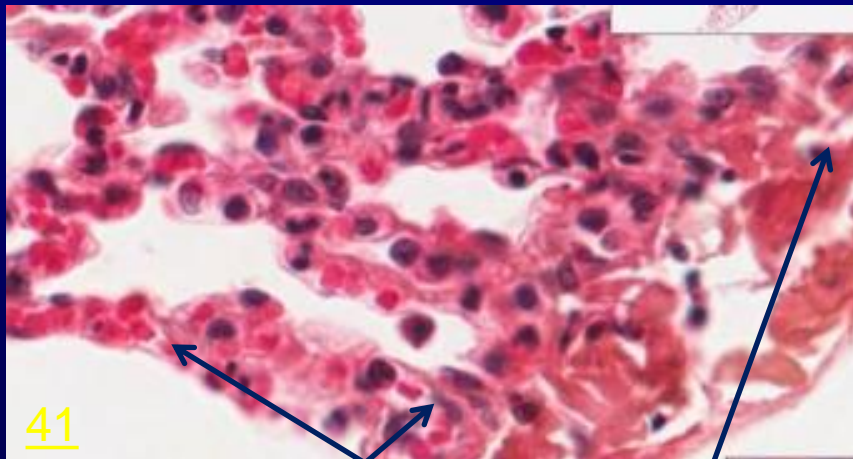
# Slide Histo 41 and Histo 42: Lung



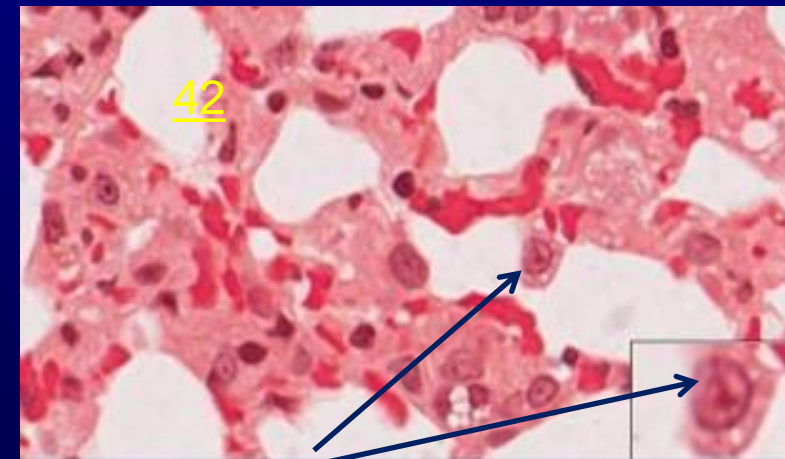
Mesothelium and connective tissue of lung capsule



Type I & Type II pneumocytes



Capillary endothelial cells and fibroblasts



Alveolar macrophage

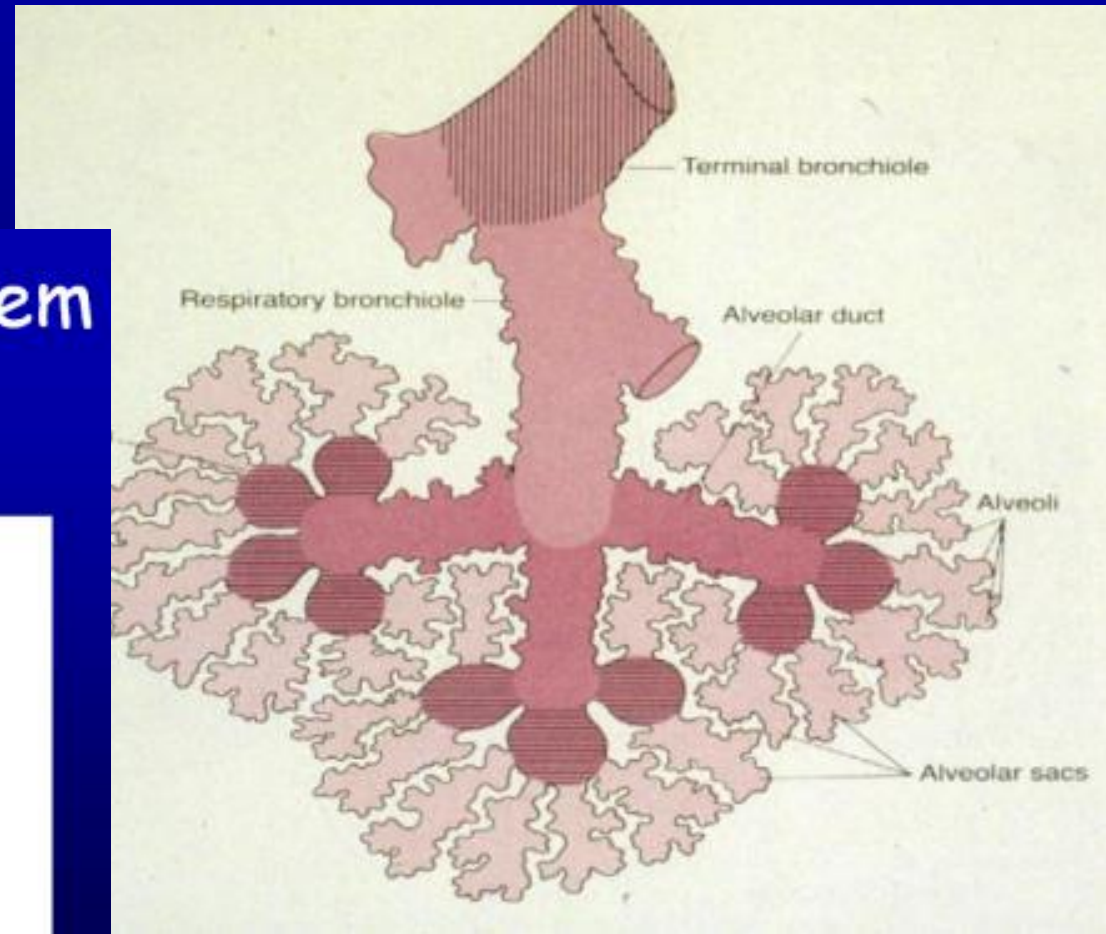
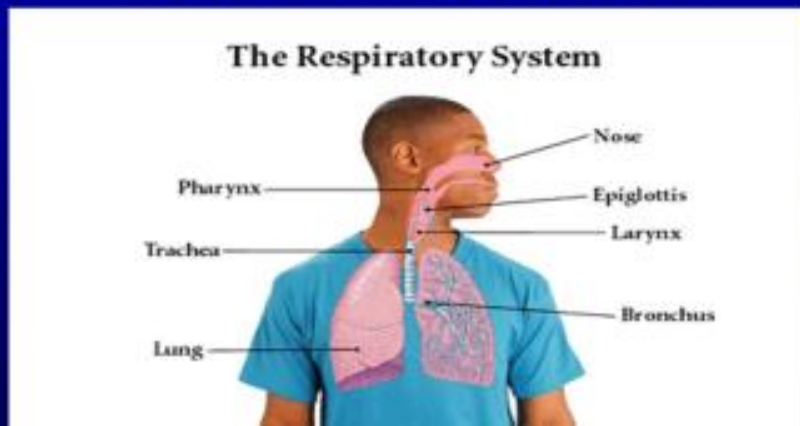
# Respiratory Portion - Site Of Gases Exchange

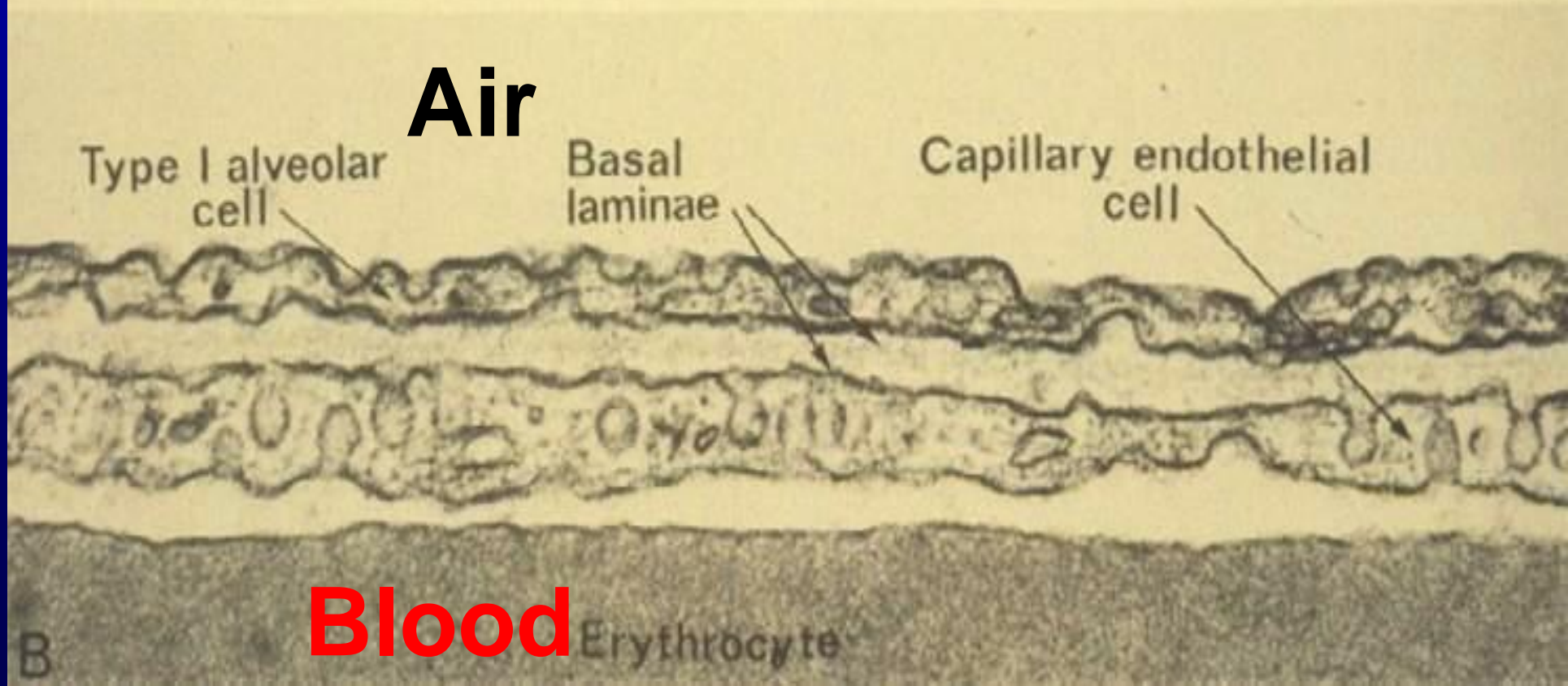
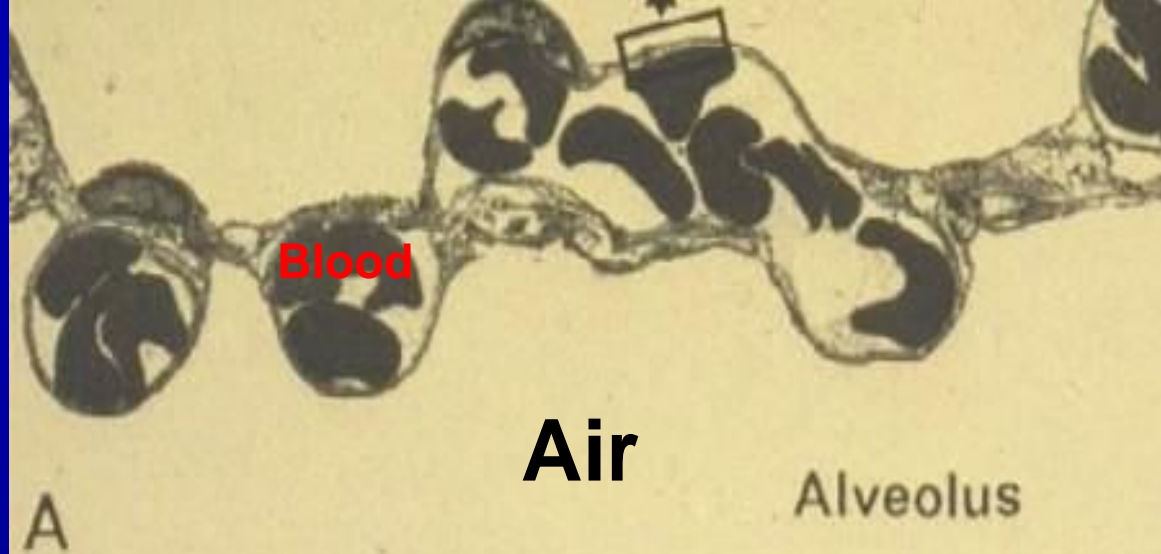
Respiratory bronchioles

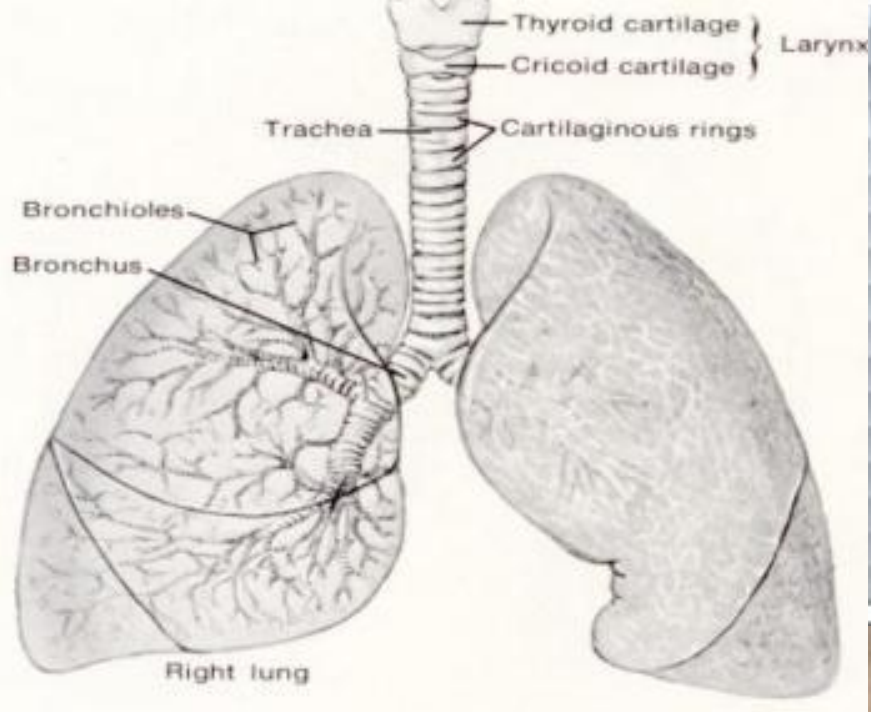
Alveolar ducts

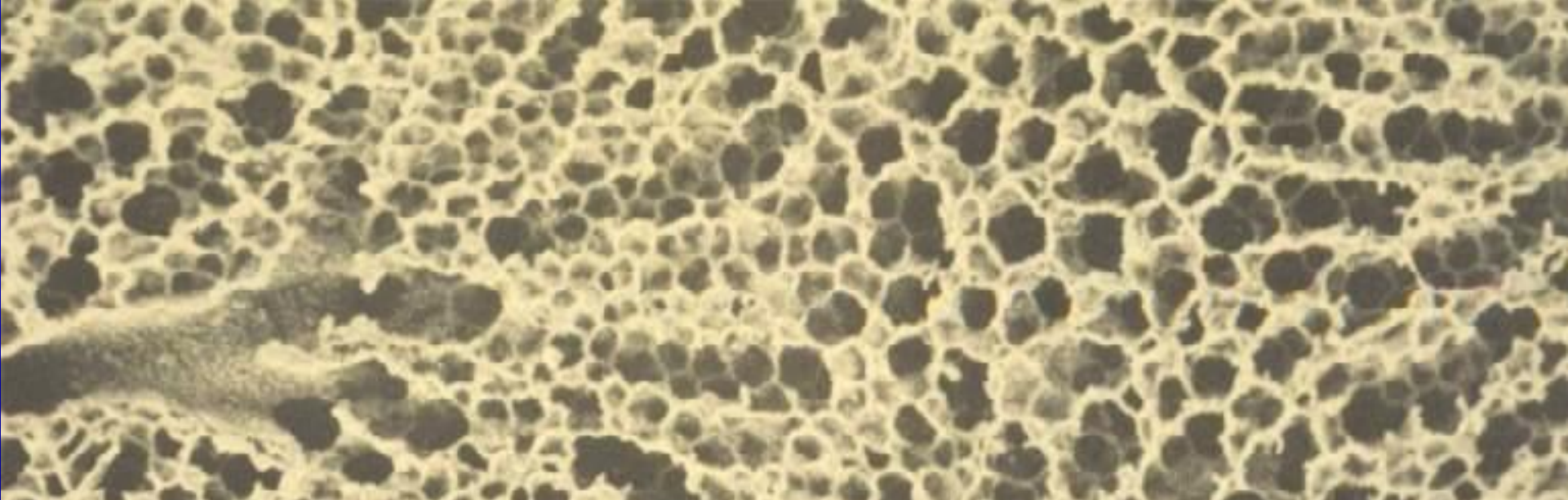
Alveoli

**The Respiratory System**  
Conducting portion  
Respiratory portion



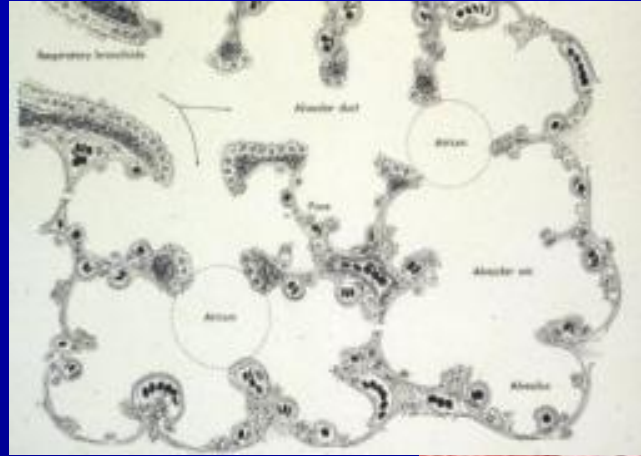




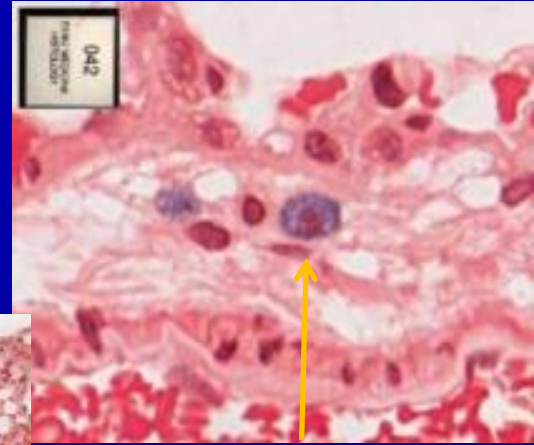
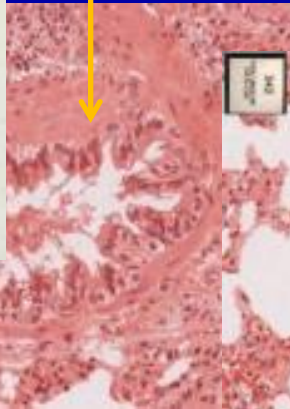




# Histo 42: Lung (mast cells)



Terminal bronchiole



Mast cell

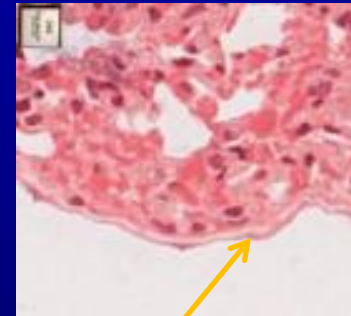
Bronchus



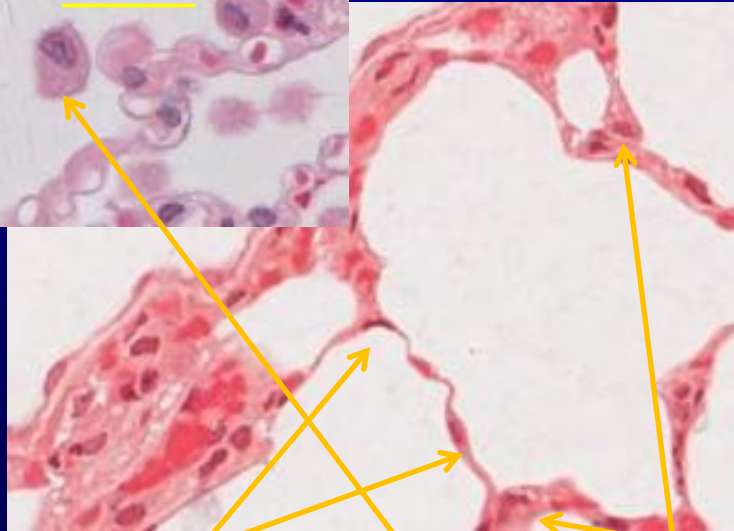
Conducting bronchiole



19714



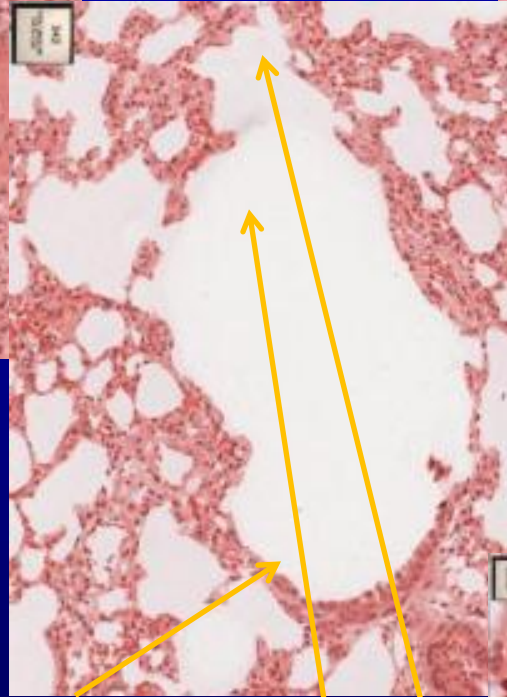
Mesothelium



Type I pneumocyte

Alveolar macrophage

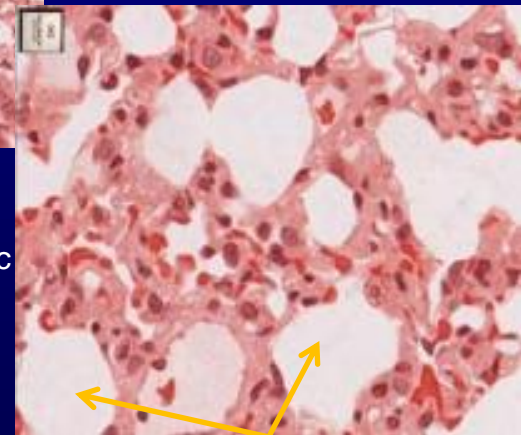
Type II pneumocyte



Respiratory bronchiole

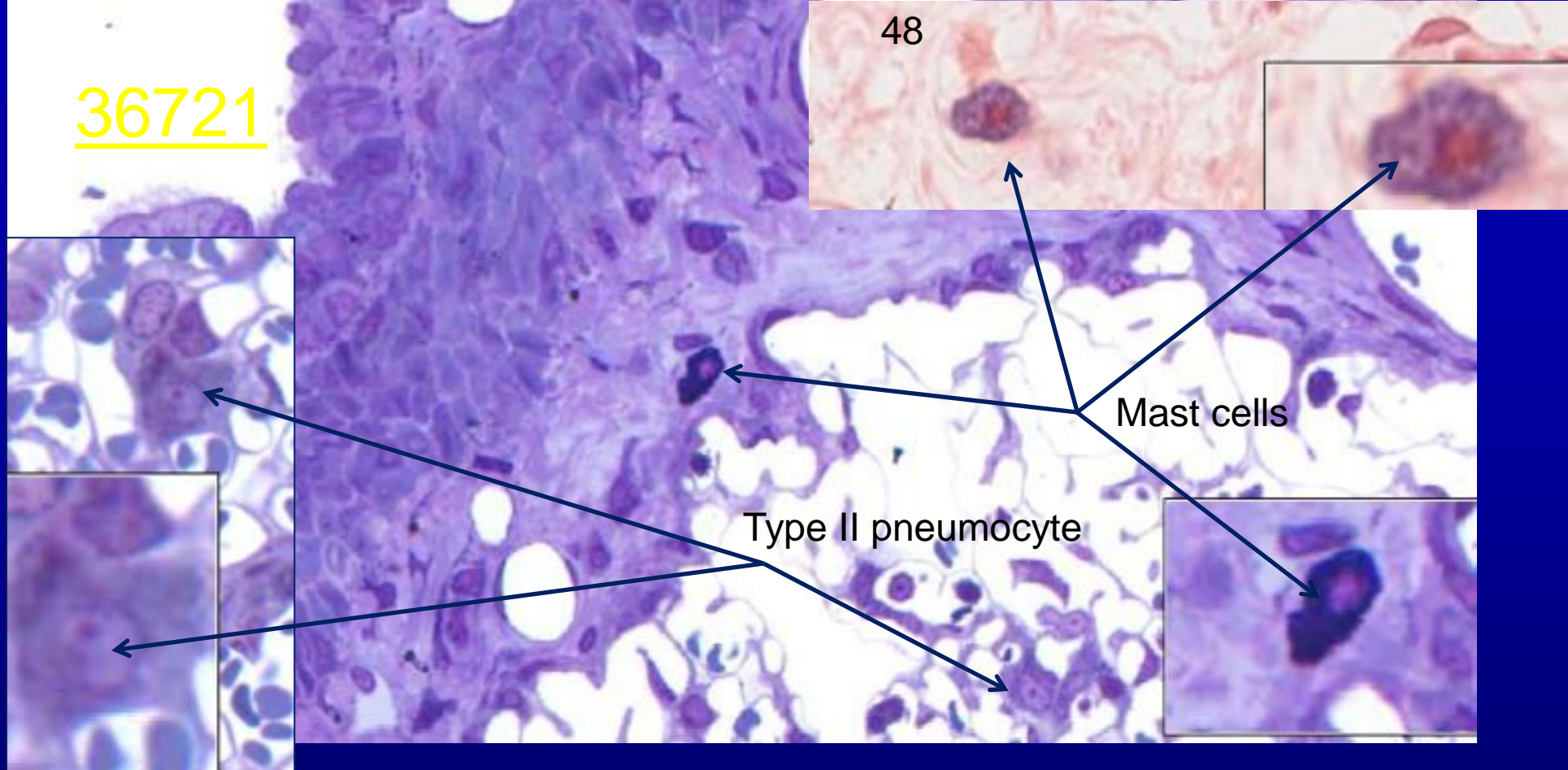
Alveolar duct

Alveolar sac

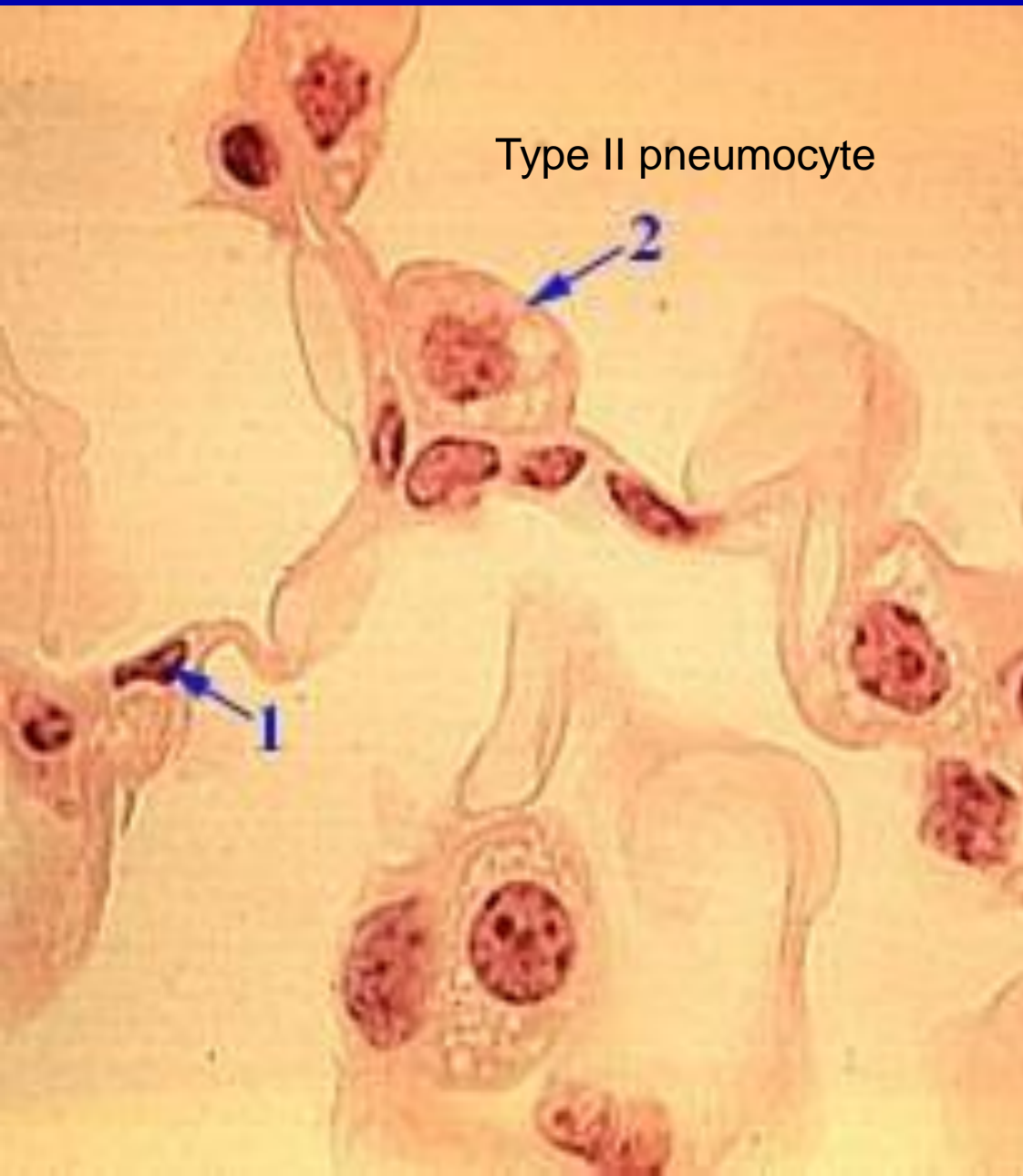


Alveoli

36721

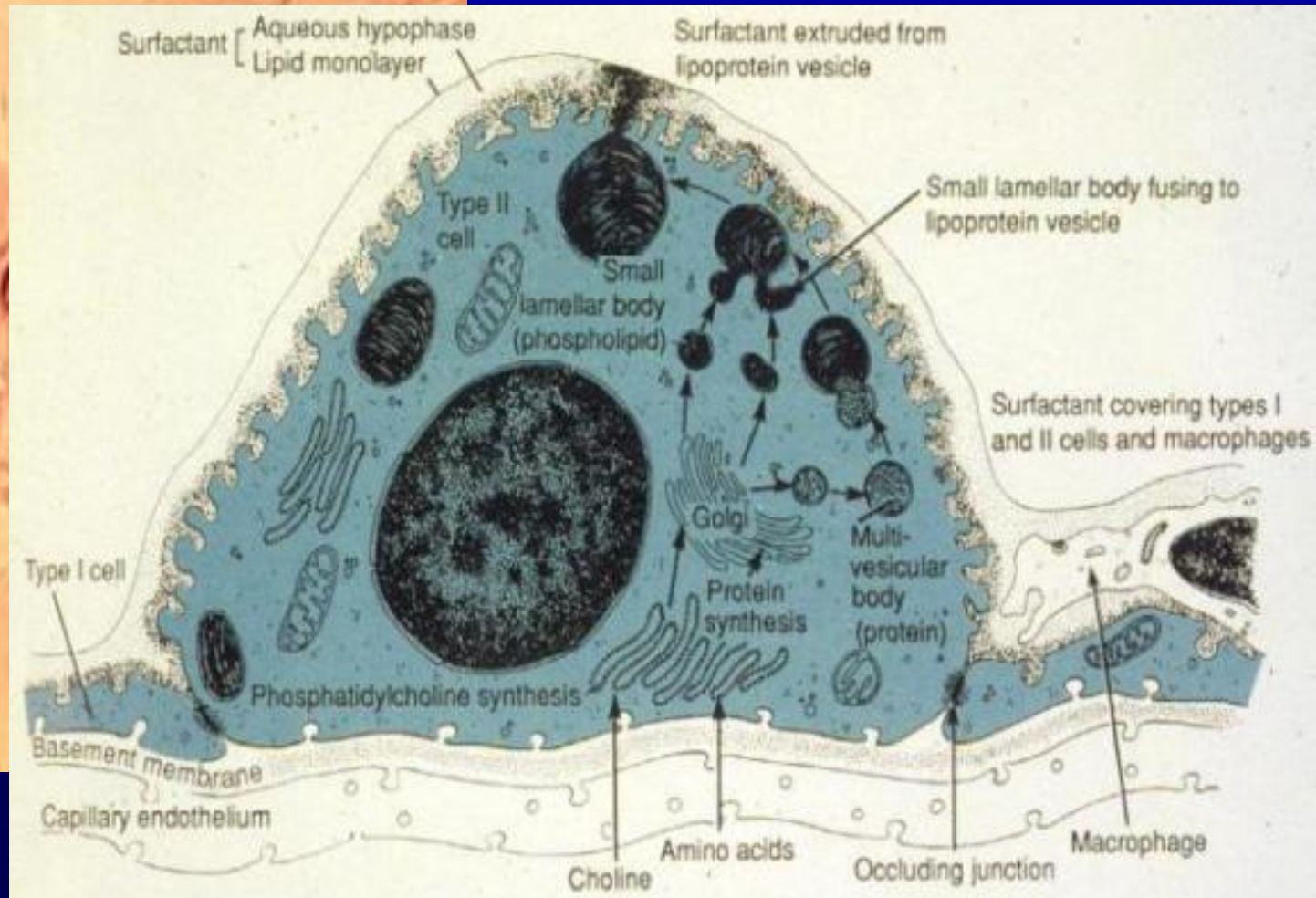


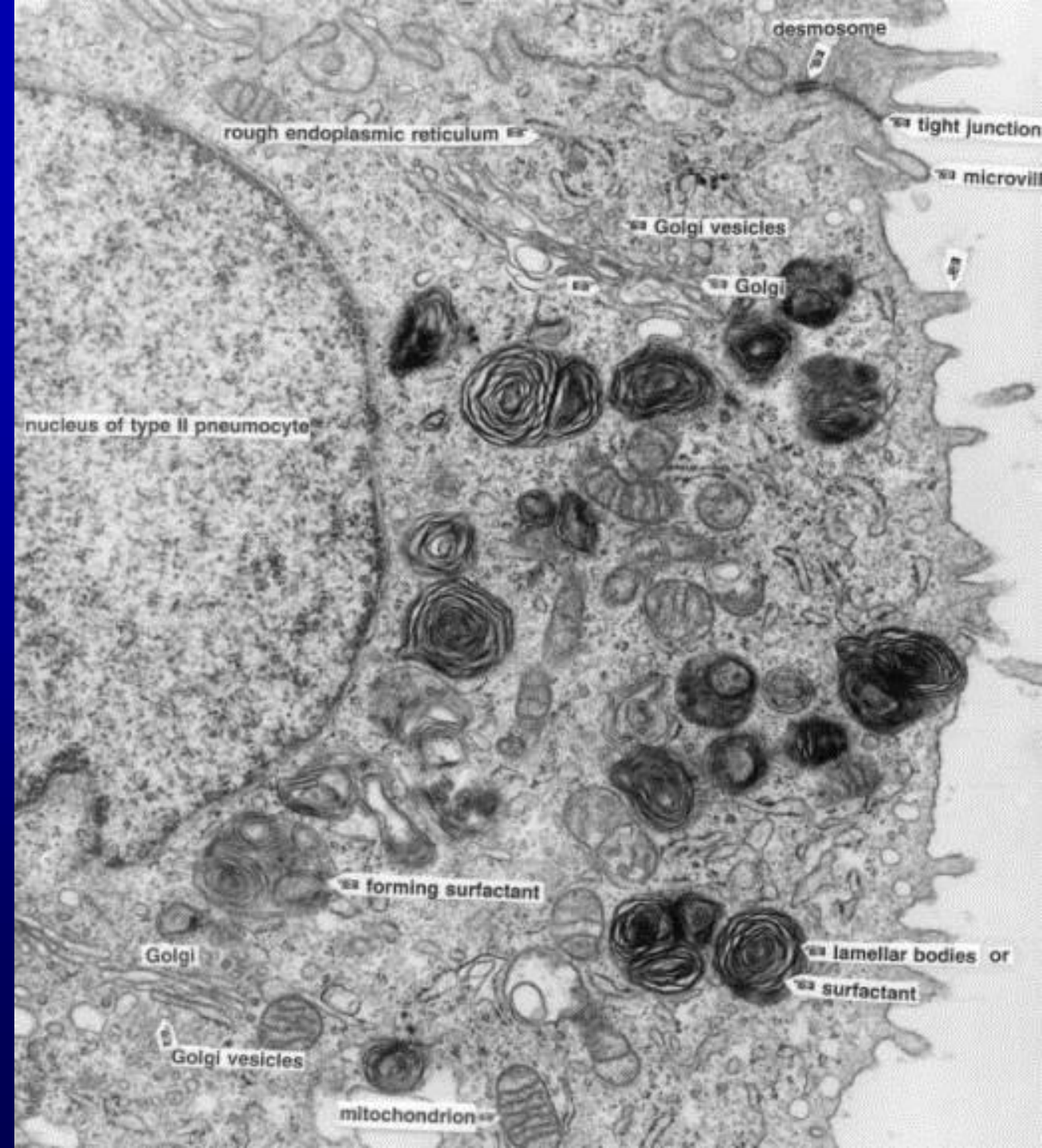
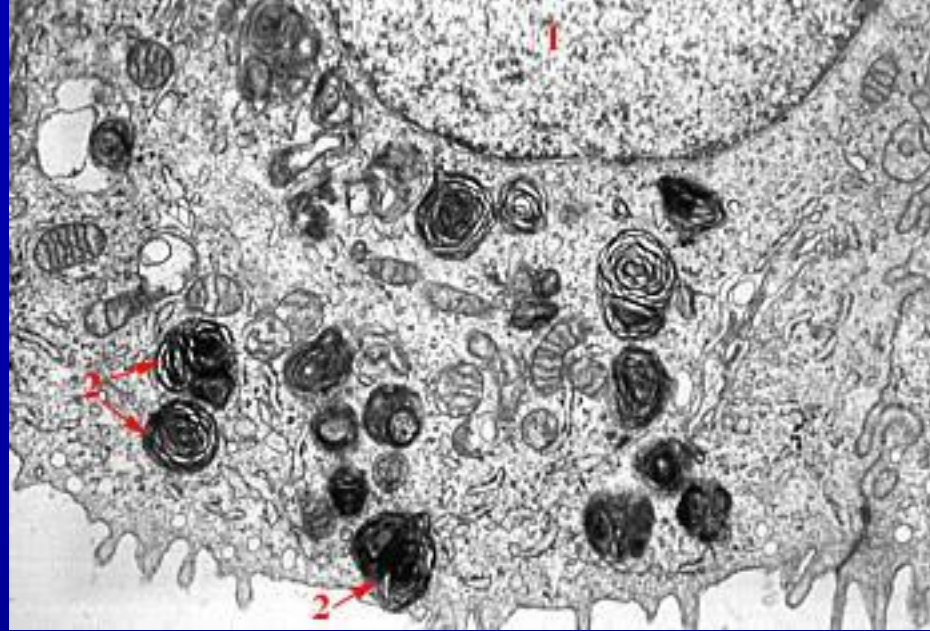
- Mast cells function in the localized release of many bioactive substances with roles in the local inflammatory response, innate immunity, and tissue repair.
- Mast cell granules normally contain: heparin, histamine, serine proteases, eosinophil and neutrophil chemotactic factors, cytokines, etc.



Type II pneumocyte

1. Type I pneumocyte
2. Type II pneumocyte

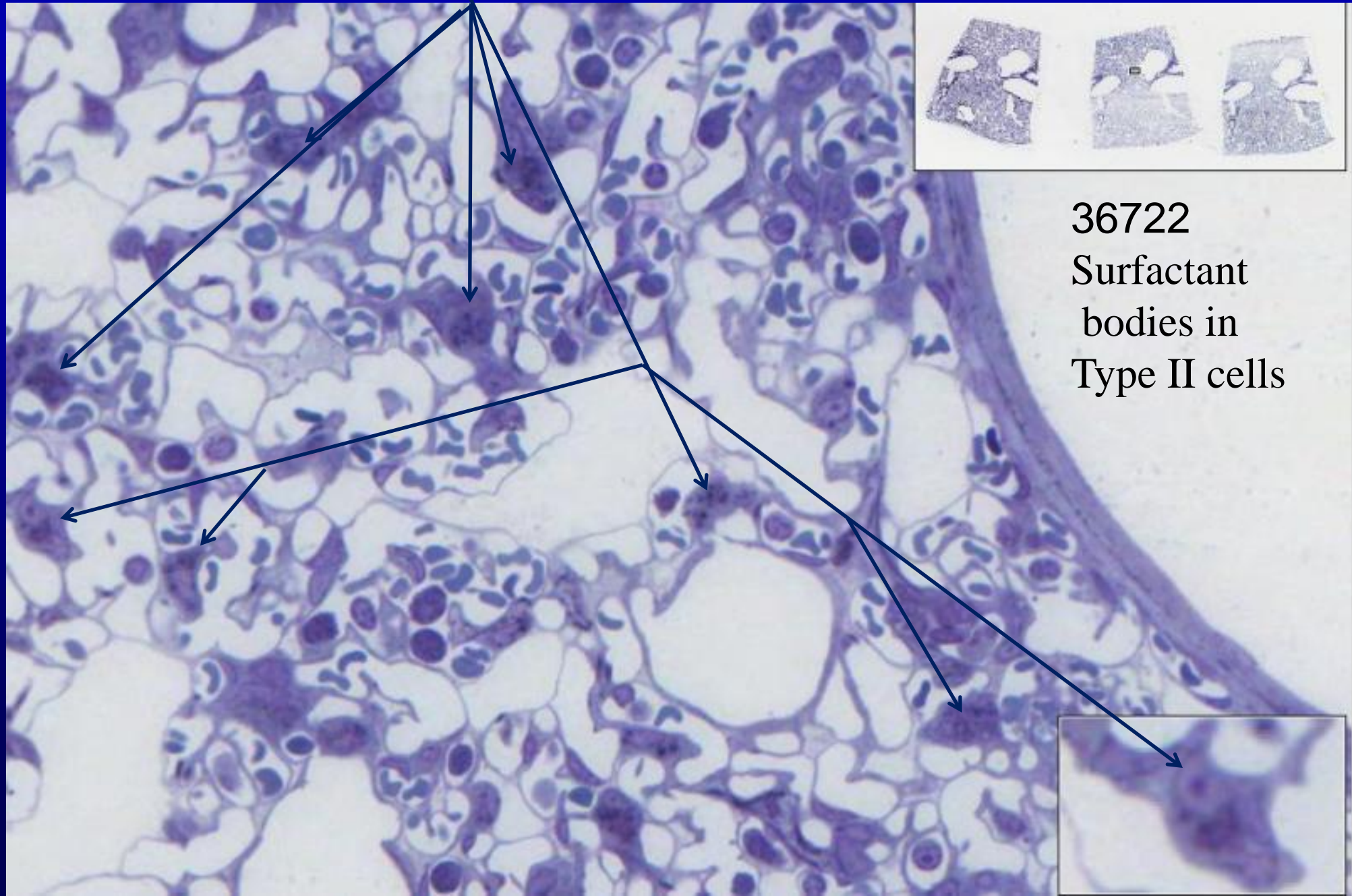




Type II pneumocyte (EM 18c).

1. Nucleus
2. Surfactant bodies

# Type II pneumocytes



36722  
Surfactant  
bodies in  
Type II cells

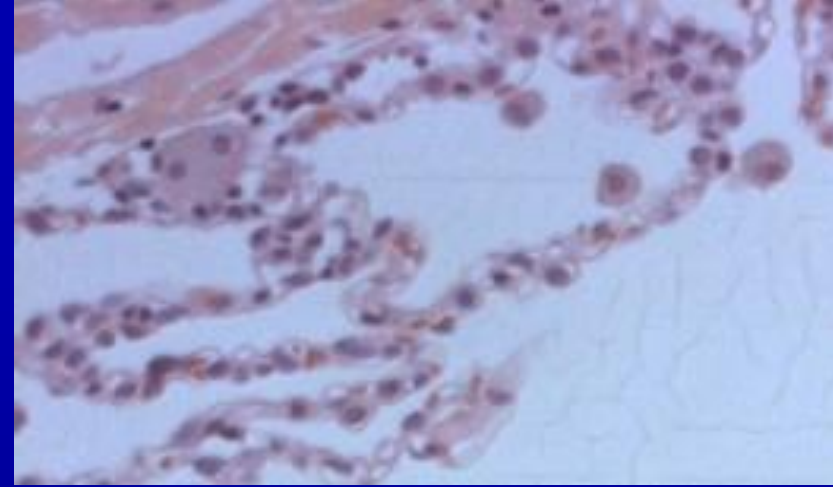
# Respiratory Physiology

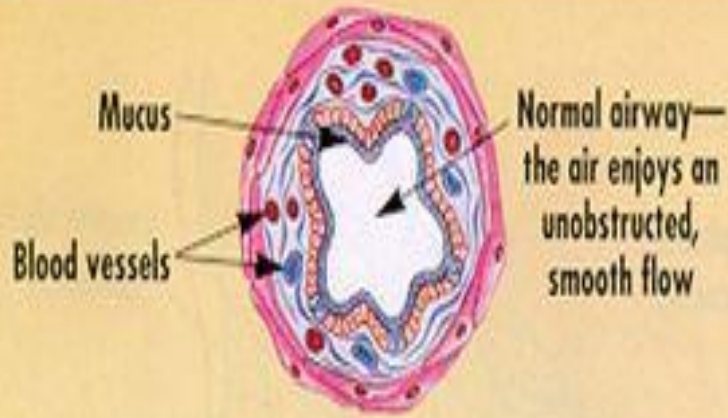
Surfactant functions in **reducing surface tension**, reduces work of breathing, and helps keep alveoli open and may have a bactericidal effect.

**Hyaline membrane disease** - premature infants cannot get or make sufficient surfactant.

Bronchoalveolar fluid - cleared by ciliary action toward oral cavity (contain lysosome, collagenase, glucuronidase, and antibodies).

Macrophages - contain hemosiderin, produce lytic enzymes in bronchoalveolar fluid.

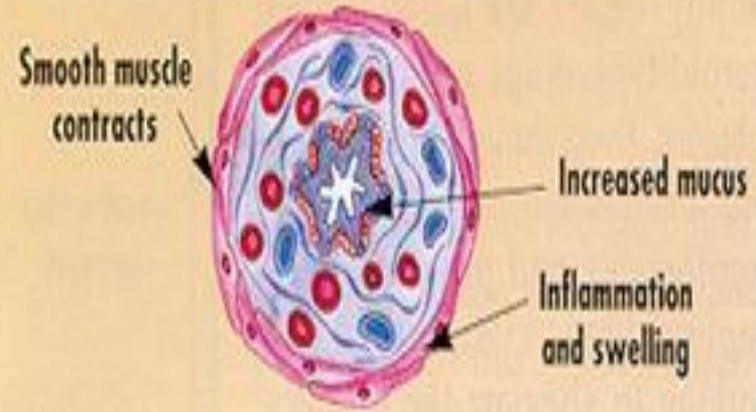




**Normal Airways**

The bronchial tubes normally allow air to flow easily to reach the alveoli and to be returned and exhaled. To protect the lungs from inhaling poisonous particles and gases, the lining of the bronchial tubes is very sensitive. When the sensitivity is too high, the bronchials respond to particles and gases that are not poisonous. This is why about two-thirds of asthma cases occur in children whose sensitivity is much higher than many adults.

**Normal**



**Obstructed Airways**

When you have asthma, pollutants and allergens cause an increase in the production of mucus in the lining of the bronchials, and often cause the muscle surrounding the bronchials to constrict. When you have bronchitis, pollutants cause irritation and inflammation. This condition causes swelling of the bronchials, which narrows the air passageways. In older people, who have less mucus protecting the lining of the bronchials, an asthmatic constriction may occur with bronchitis.

**Asthma**

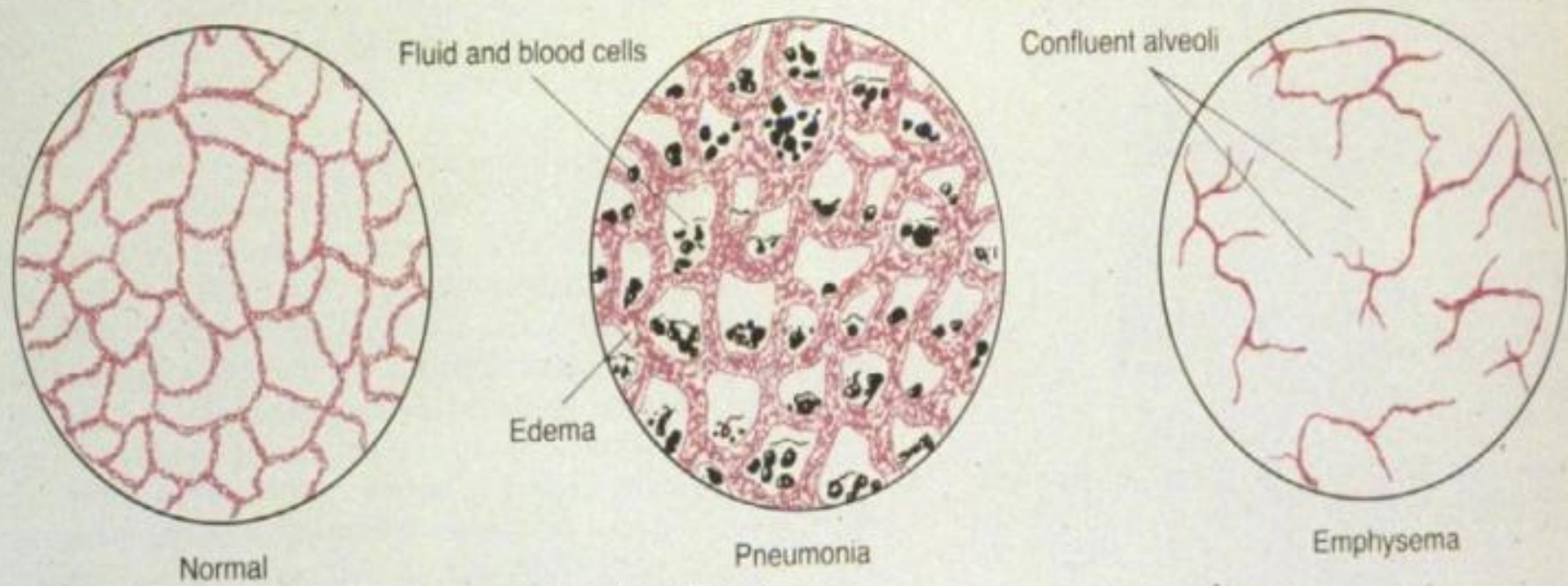
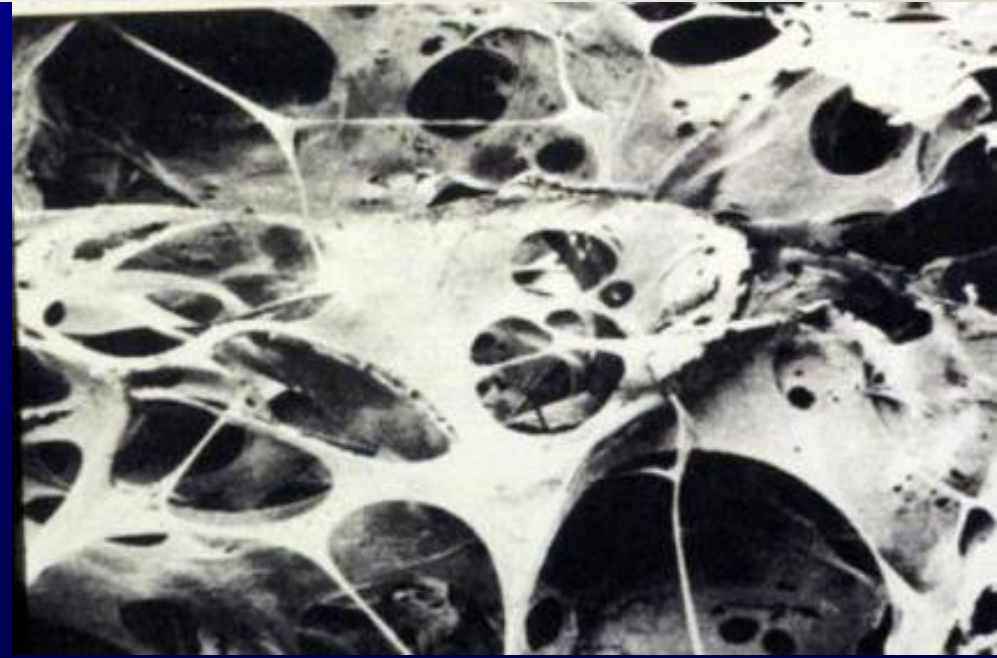
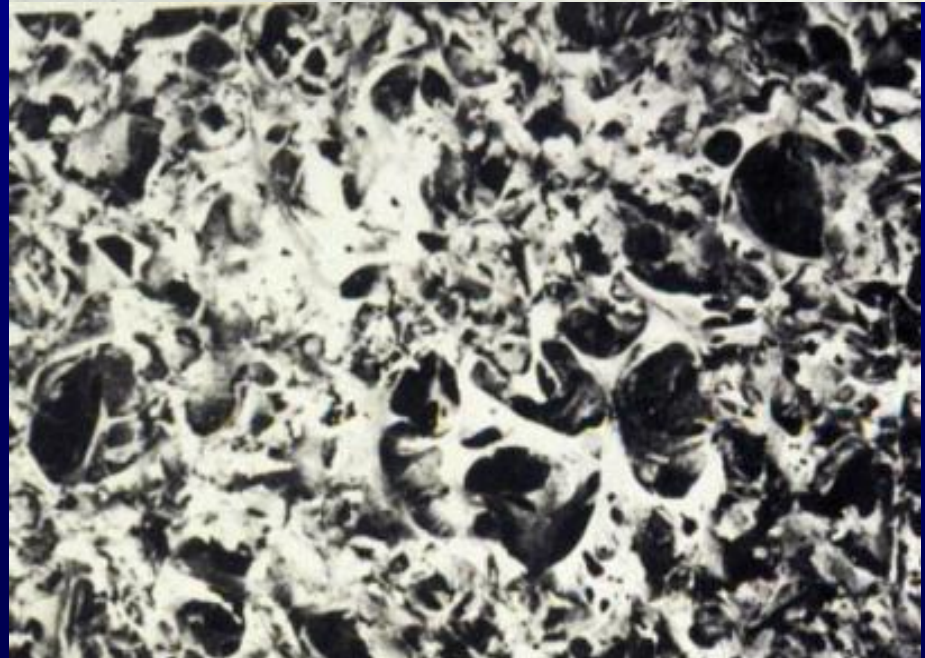


Figure 42-5. Pulmonary changes in pneumonia and emphysema.

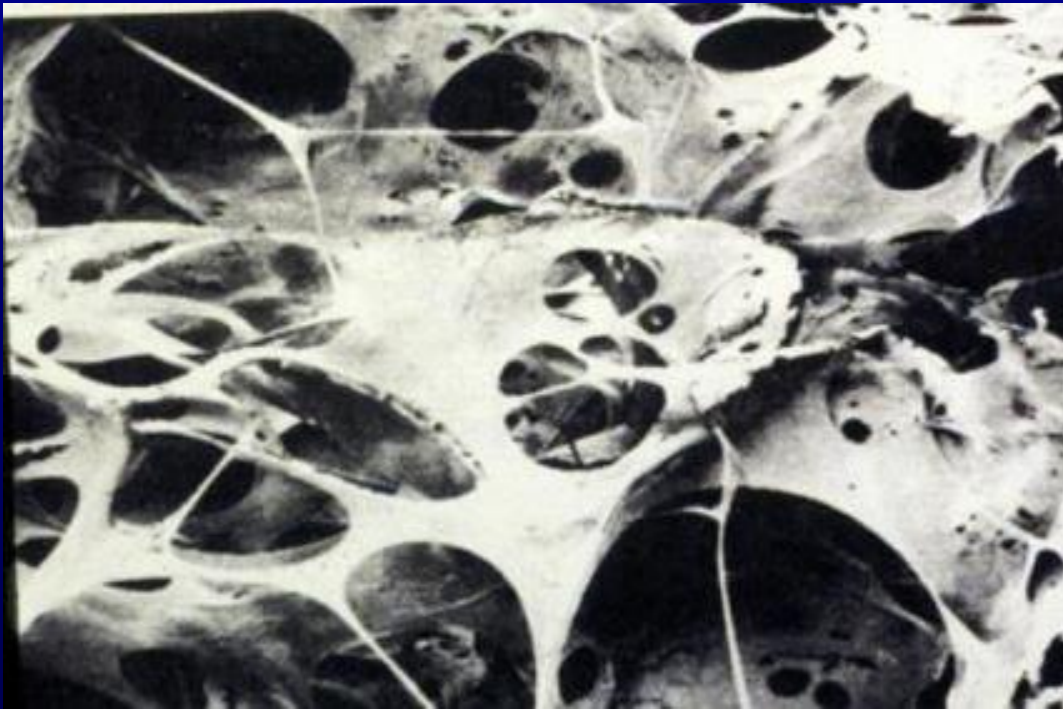


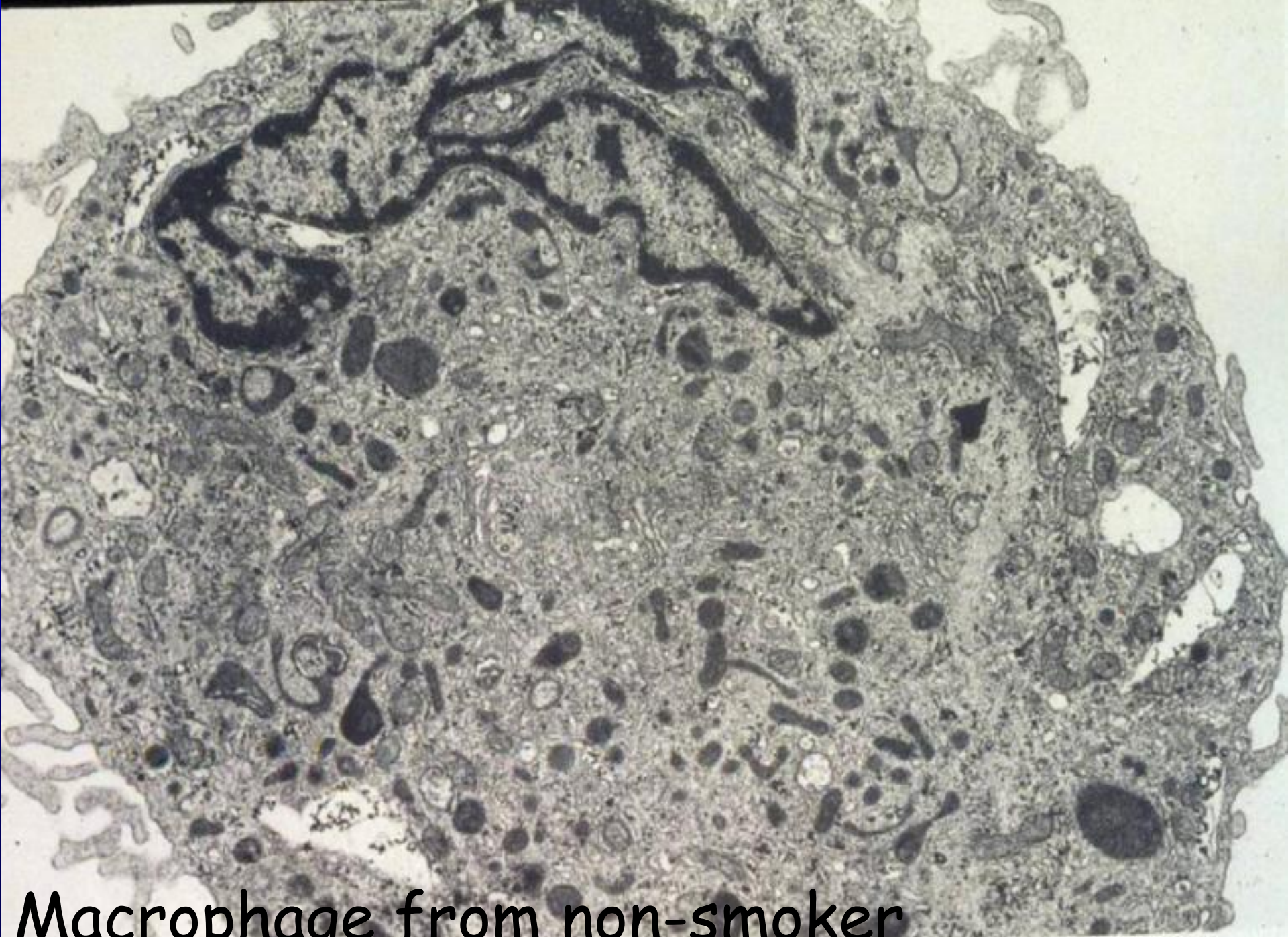


# Respiratory Physiology Con't

**Emphysema** -  
destruction of  
alveolar wall

Means too much  
air in the lungs.





Macrophage from non-smoker

Numerous small lysosomes

Macrophage  
from Smoker



Small pieces of lungs from a non-smoker



and from a smoker



The Lungs on the left have Emphysema.  
The one on the right has cancer - both from Smoking



“Dose Makes the  
Poison”



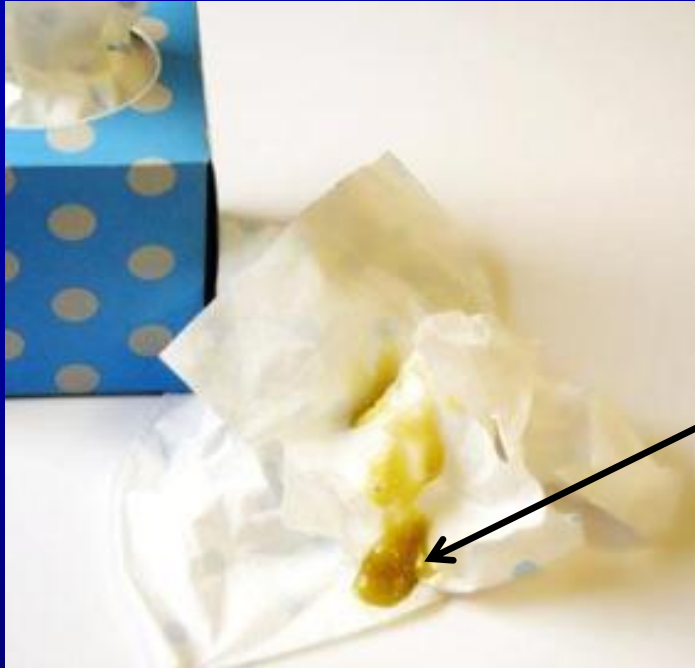
The Lungs on the left have Emphysema.  
The one on the right has cancer - both from Smoking

# Natural Defenses of Our Respiratory System

Large particles get trapped by nose hairs.



Smaller particles are trapped in mucus that lines our respiratory system. The mucus keeps harmful particles out of the lungs.



Coughing forcibly expels foreign particles trapped in our lungs and airways.

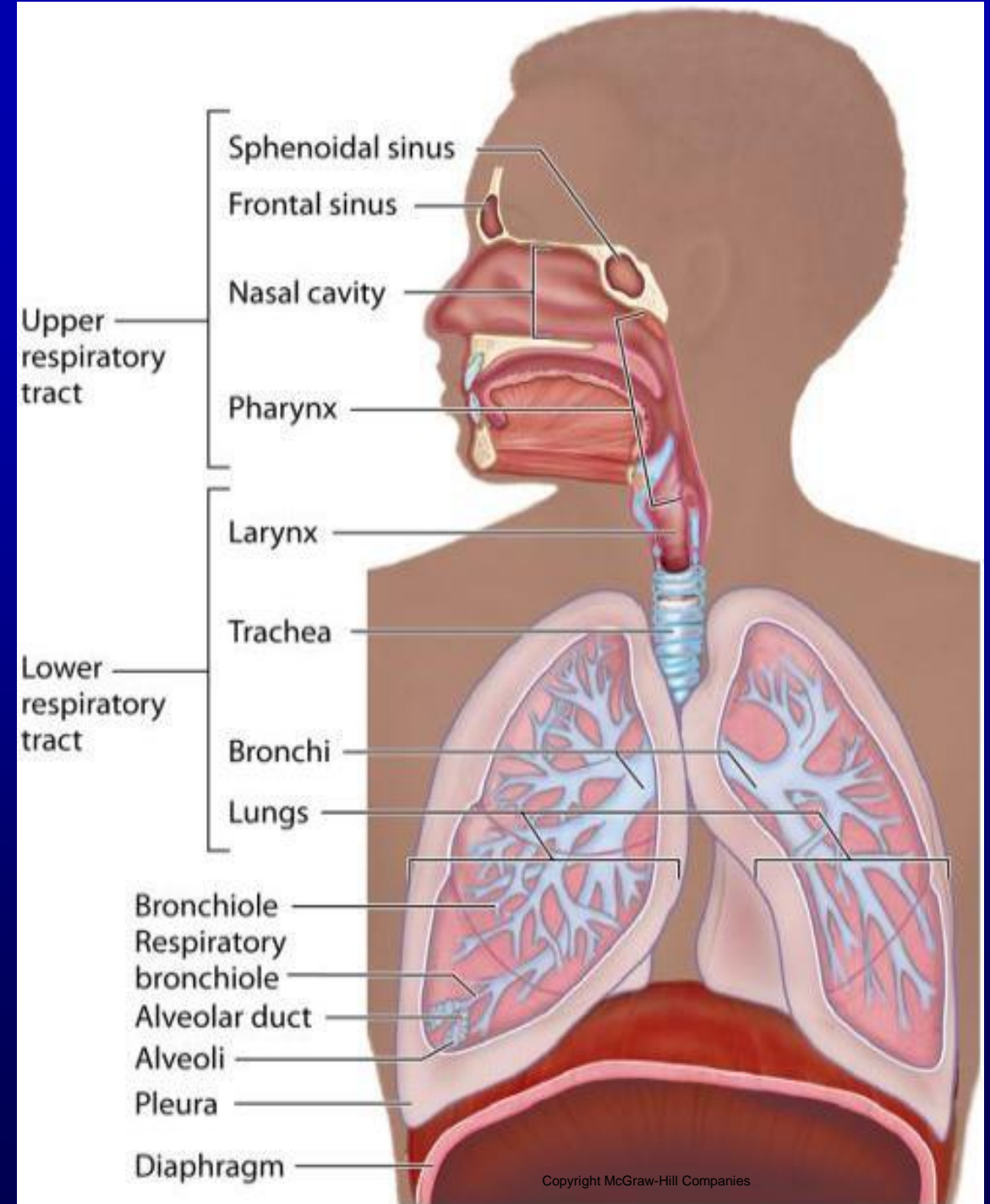


Sneezing removes bacteria trapped in mucus from our nasal passages. Sneezes travel at about 100 miles per hour and remove 100,000 bacteria)



# Respiratory System

- **Conduction**
  - Maintenance of an open lumen
  - Ability to accommodate expansion and contraction,
  - Warming, moisturizing and filtering of the inspired air
- **Respiration**
  - Rapid exchange of atmospheric gases
  - Alveolar wall cells secrete surfactant
- **Structure**
  - Skeletal components (cartilage, etc.)
  - Vascularization
  - Glands in lamina propria





# In summary

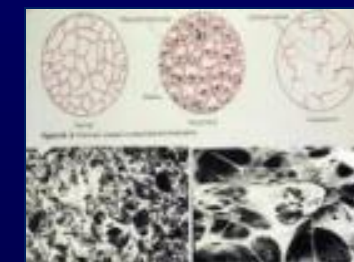
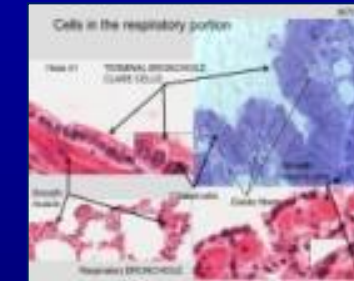
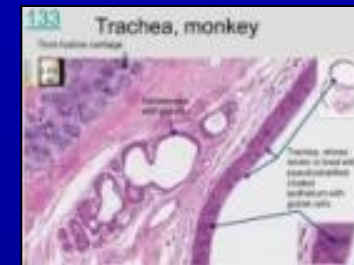
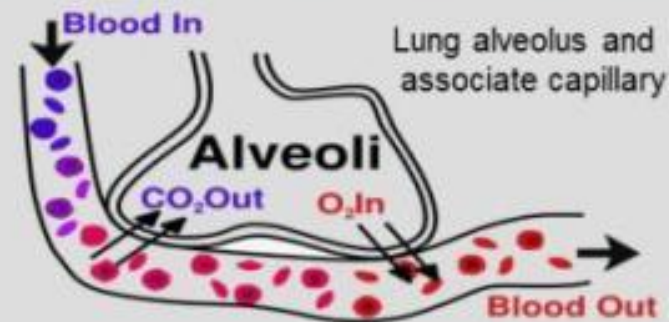
## Function of the Respiratory System

All higher animals require a mechanism to:

1. Obtain  $O_2$  from the environment
2. and get rid of  $CO_2$

This “gas exchange” is the function of the respiratory system.

Oxygen diffuses out and Carbon Dioxide diffuses into the air space of the alveolus.



# Questions on the Respiratory System

The conducting portion of the respiratory system modifies the air in the following way(s):

- a. warms
- b. cleans
- c. dries
- d. a and b**
- e. a, b, and c

Which of the following are involved in both inspiration and expiration? Contraction of

- a. intercostal skeletal muscle between the ribs**
- b. diaphragm
- c. smooth muscle
- d. a and b
- e. a, b, and c

Variation in the epithelium lining the respiratory system facilitates varied functions.

Which epithelium-function does not match?

- a. simple squamous - alveolar ducts
- b. goblet cells - humidifies air
- c. stratified squamous - false vocal cords**
- d. ciliated cells - move dust-laden mucus
- e. hair follicle - filtration of air

## Many illustrations in these VIBS Histology YouTube videos were modified from the following books and sources: Many thanks to original sources!

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