Signs of Respiratory distress

- 1. Tachypnoea.
- 2. Indrawing of the intercostal spaces.
- 3. Using accessory muscles.

Clues for obstructive lung disease

- Hyperinflation (barrel chest)
- ² Tripod position (release CO2)
- 3. Pursed lips
- 4. Prolonged expiration relative to inspiration

Cheyne–Stokes respiration

- Distinctive pattern of alternating periods of deep and shallow breathing
- In healthy adults at altitude, elderly people and patients with heart failure, or during the final stages of dying
- Abnormal feedback from carotid chemoreceptors to the respiratory center.

Hypertrophic pulmonary osteoarthropathy

- Painful tender swelling of the wrists and ankles
- Rare complication of lung cancer
- Accompanies pronounced finger clubbing
- X-ray shows sub perisoteal new bone formation overlying the cortex of the long bone

Tracheal deviation



Tactile vocal fremitus (TVF)

- Is the palpable vibration (of non-vascular origin) that reaches the body surface during low frequency vocalization and is felt by examiner's palm
- Sound waves travels faster and is conducted better in solid media rather than air / fluid



Chest expansion

- **Reduced expansion on one side** indicates abnormality on that side: for example, pleural effusion, lung or lobar collapse, pneumothorax and unilateral fibrosis.
- **Bilateral reduction in chest wall movement** is common in severe COPD and diffuse pulmonary fibrosis.
- **Paradoxical inward movement** may indicate diaphragmatic paralysis or, more commonly, severe COPD.

Percussion

Findings:

- Resonance: Normal lung tissue.
- Hyper-resonance: Pneumothorax, emphysema.
- Dullness: Consolidation, pleural effusion.

Auscultation

Normal Sounds:

- Vesicular: Soft, low-pitched.
- Bronchial: Hollow, loud, harsh with midrange pitch, Bronchial breath sounds are normal if they occur over the trachea while the person is breathing out.
- Tracheal: Harsh, highpitched over trachea.



Identify any gap between inspiration and expiration and listen for added sounds. Avoid auscultation within 3 cm of the midline anteriorly or posteriorly, as these areas may transmit sounds directly from the trachea or main bronchi.

You should comment on:

Determine whether you hear Bronchial or vesicular breathing If there is good bilateral air entry or reduced air entry If the air entry is symmetrical or not If there is prolonged expiration If you hear Added sounds





Vocal resonance

- Please say "one, one, one"
- Healthy lung: muffled and deadened
- Consolidated or fibrotic scarred lung heard loudly and clearly
- Pneumothorax and pleural effusion: absent or greatly diminished

Whispering Pectoriloquy

- Whispering 'one one one '
- Muffled to silence by normal lung
- Heard over consolidated or scarred lung.

Aegophony

- Aegophony is a bleating or nasal sound heard over consolidated lung (pneumonia) or at the upper level of a pleural effusion. It is due to enhanced transmission of high-frequency noise across abnormal lung, with lower frequencies filtered out
- Ask the patient to say (E) if heard as (A) then this is Aegophony which indicates consolidation.