



# Lecture one : Asthma

## General characteristics:

- chronic disease that is characterized by a triad: 1) chronic inflx 2) reversible airflow obstruction 3) Airway hyperresponsive
- It can begin at any age • vary in severity from person to person • Most are due to extrinsic asthma ( allergy , production of IgE due to triggers ) and the rest are intrinsic ( no allergy )
- Severe vs uncontrolled asthma vs difficult to control ( the patient is not adherent to his medications )

The definition of severe asthma requires that one or both of the following levels of treatment for the previous year has been needed to prevent asthma from becoming uncontrolled or asthma that remains uncontrolled despite this level of treatment:

- Treatment with guideline suggested medications by GINA Step 4-5 asthma (high dose inhaled glucocorticoid and long acting beta agonist (LABA) or maintenance treatment supplemented by the previous year
- Treatment with systemic glucocorticoids by 20% of the year & exacerbation at least in the last year, after the patient had to get systemic steroids ( during the day )

Uncontrolled asthma is defined as at least one of the following:

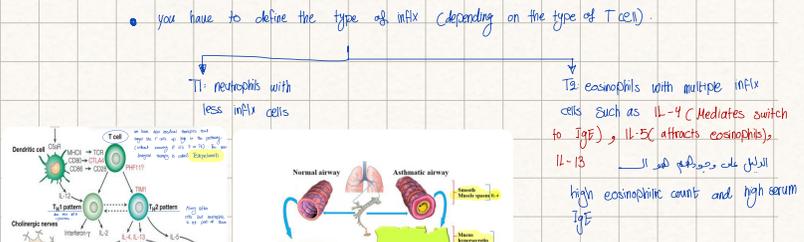
- Poor symptom control ( ACC consistently  $\geq 1.5$ , ACT  $\leq 10$  or not well controlled by GINA/2024 guidelines )
- Frequent severe exacerbations ( two or more bursts of guideline pharmacotherapy or more days with symptoms in the previous year )
- History of serious exacerbations ( at least one hospitalization, intensive care unit stay, or mechanical ventilation in the previous year )
- Airflow limitation after appropriate bronchodilation with  $FEV_1$  < 60% predicted ( on the basis of reduced FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC defined as less than the lower limit of normal )

\* Note: for the assessment of symptoms control use use ACT ( Asthma control test ) and AQDQ ( Asthma control questions )

- Rf/etiology: pollen, house dust, molds, occupation, western diet, smoking, pets, exercise or cold air, Medications ( Aspirin and Beta ), viral infx, GERD, sinusitis and rhinitis, perannuity and ↑ Maternal age, obesity, stress and emotional factors
- Asthma in Jordan: common, common in male children, increase by \*2 in the last 10 years ( Due to environmental factors )

## Pathophysiology:

- 1) chronic inflx 2) reversible airflow obstruction
- Due to eosinophils most of the time but could be neutrophils
- By cells, mucus, smooth muscle spasm, Goblet cell hyperplasia
- early response: acute bronchoconstriction by IgE mediator released
- late response ( 6-8h )
- then plug formation ( needs to resolve )
- then remodeling
- 3) Airway hyperresponsive
- allergy
- be based on: 1/9 miasmatic



4 stages of blood eosinophilic inflammation with persistent asthmatic

Stage	FEV1	PEF
Stage 1	Normal	Normal
Stage 2	Decreased	Decreased
Stage 3	Normal	Decreased
Stage 4	High	Decreased

\* Note: If the patient has normal Spiro in blood → he is in remission

• Note: C ( a person with acute asthma attack ) expect to have normal Spiro

## Clinical features: They occur within 30 min of exposure to triggers.

- 1) wheezing ( Most common ) : usually at the end expiration ( Mild Asthma ) → could be through expiration ( increasing in severity ) or inspiration ( severe asthma ) or absent ( very severe obstruction even in small airways )  
Although asthma is the most common cause of wheezing, it could be associated with: 1) CF 2) HF 3) vocal cord dysfunction ( Most imp CDx ) → they present with wheeze.
- 2) SOB and cough: can be VC classes during insp and it happens in young patients with anxiety ( wheeze is best heard over the anteroposterior area )
- 3) chest pain or tightness: in exercise and nocturnal asthma.
- 4) SOB
- 5) Nonspecific: Recurrent bronchitis, pneumonia, croup, rattling ( in children )

Exacerbation History

- Prodromal signs or symptoms
- Rapidity of onset
- Associated illnesses
- Number in the last year ( 3 or at least )
- Need for emergency department visits, hospitalizations, ICU admissions, intubations
- Missed days from work / school or activity limitation

## Asthma and associated factors :

- 1) Aspirin induced: 5-10% and 4th decade → Asthma + Aspirin sensitivity + nasal polyps, caused by increase in eosinophils and cytokines after exposure • Managed by: 1) Aspirinase if you can 2) leukotriene antagonists ( for cardiac and rheumatological patients ) 3) Aspirin desensitizations ( to decrease sinus symptoms )
- 2) GERD: improvement of Asthma, unexplained cough with Anti-reflux therapy in 84% of patients → 84% of patients have clinically silent reflux.
- 3) occupational Asthma: 15-20% of patients in high risk jobs: Farmers, painters, plastic... → work exacerbated asthma: a patient who already has asthma but it's worsened by work factors
  - Peak-flow monitoring during work ( optimally, at least 4 times a day ) for at least 2 weeks and a similar period away from work is one recommended method to establish the diagnosis.!
- 4) Sinusitis: 50% of patients → treatment of sinusitis requires at least 10 days of Antibiotics to improve the asthma.

⑤ viruses and asthma: 80-85% of childhood asthma are associated with viral exposures → Rhinoviruses (colds wheezing illnesses in a child with asthma), pneumonia had been found in more than 50%, RSV associated with smoke exposure.

⑥ Exercise: 10-50% they have silent asthma (except during exercising) → they do have sensitivity towards cold and dry air (creates acute bronchoconstrictions), they would have symptoms such as cough, wheezing, SOB and chest pain after 10 min into exercise.

treatment: warming up and β2 agonists: (Remember that they have normal resting Spirometry)

**Physical examination:**

- Mild episodes
  - Shortness of breath with physical activity
  - Can talk in sentences and lie down **we**
  - May be agitated
  - Respiratory rate is increased
  - No use of accessory muscles
  - Heart rate is less than 100 bpm
  - Moderate expiratory wheezing
  - O2 saturation is greater than 95% **imp**
- Moderately severe episodes:
  - Use of accessory muscles
  - In children: suprasternal and intercostal retractions, nasal flaring, abdominal breathing
  - Heart rate is 100-120 bpm
  - Loud wheezing
  - Pulsus paradoxus: fall in systolic blood pressure during inspiration >10-20 mm Hg
  - O2 sat is 91-95%
  - Sitting position
- Impending Respiratory Failure
  - Drowsy and confused (body has had the asthma)
  - Thoracoabdominal movement
  - Wheezing may be absent
  - Severe hypoxemia, tachycardia
  - Pulsus paradoxus may be absent: suggests respiratory muscle fatigue.
  - Diaphoresis
  - Rise in PCO2 and hypoventilation
  - Life-threatening hypoxia, advanced hypercarbia, bradypnea, somnolence
- Severe episode
  - Shortness of breath at rest
  - Talk in words
  - Respiratory rate: greater than 30/min
  - Use of accessory muscles
  - Heart rate is more than 120 bpm
  - Loud biphasic (expiratory and inspiratory) wheezing
  - Pulsus paradoxus is often present (20-40 mm Hg)
  - O2 sat less than 91%
  - Sitting position: tripod position

- Nonpulmonary Manifestations**
- Signs of atopy or allergic rhinitis, such as conjunctival congestion and inflammation, ocular shiners, a transverse crease on the nose due to constant rubbing
  - Pale nasal mucosa
  - Erythematous Turbinates
  - Nasal polyps
  - Atopic dermatitis
  - Eczema

**CLASSIFY SEVERITY**  
Clinical Features before Treatment

	Symptoms	Nocturnal Symptoms	FEV1 or PEF
STEP 4 Severe Persistent	Continuous	Frequent	< 50% predicted Variability > 30%
STEP 3 Moderate Persistent	Daily Attacks affect activity	> 1 time week	60 to 80% predicted Variability > 30%
STEP 2 Mild Persistent	> 1 time a week but < 1 time a day	> 2 times a month	> 80% predicted Variability 20 to 30%
STEP 1 Intermittent	< 1 time a week	Asymptomatic and normal PEF between attacks	> 80% predicted Variability < 20%

**Asthma classification:** 1) intermittent 2) Mild persistent 3) Moderate persistent 4) Severe persistent } At any stage they could have exacerbation → one severe feature is enough to diagnose with severe persistent.

**Asthma DDX:** ① VC dysfunction: May disappear during speech or laughter → you should do direct laryngoscopy during the episodes or after exercise • the presence of the inspiratory limb of the flow-volume loop = suggestive of VC dysfunction. ② CHF (interstitial pul. edema and engorged pul. vessels = ↓ lung compliance = SOB and wheezes so any wheezing 2° to bronchospasm = paroxysmal nocturnal SOB and nocturnal cough) ③ Foreign body ④ Bronchial lesions ⑤ sinus disease ⑥ GERD

**Asthma diagnosis:**

- PFT → they show decreased FEV1, decrease expiratory flow rate and decreased FEV1/FVC ratio < 0.70
- Spirometry (Before and after bronchodilators): if increase in FEV1 or FVC by at least 12% = asthma
- Methacholine test (when spirometry is normal or intermittent asthma or exercise induced) +ve if 20% decrease in FEV1 and if +ve it excludes Asthma if FEV1 is 65-70% avoid the test
- Mannitol: +ve if decrease FEV1 by 15% → used to assist the severity (< 20 is severe)
- peak flow monitoring: very common in ED (the quickest test for dx if the patient is in ED) → variability of 20% between morning and night (you should perform it on 5 days \*if the patient is not in ED)
- CXR: normal in mild to moderate but severe could reveal hyperinflation → imp to exclude pneumothorax or foreign bodies
- chest CT: only in specific patients.
- ABGs: hypoxemia is common, if PaCO2 is normal or increased = patient needs admission (a sign of severe obstruction)
- Blood and sputum eosinophilia + serum

IgE:

- Blood and sputum eosinophilia:
  - Greater than 4% (blood) supports the diagnosis of asthma
  - Its absence does not exclude asthma
  - Greater than 8% may be observed in patients with:
    - Atopic dermatitis. (SARF 2008)
    - Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis. (see score > 2000 and serological changes (see book in asthma))
    - EGPA → 10-15% cases
    - Eosinophilic pneumonia → normal asthma 4 to 10%
  - Use mepolizumab (anti-IL-5 antibody) if counts 150 cells/μL or an eosinophil count of 300 cells/μL within the past 12 months
  - Adjust ICS with sputum eosinophilia

- Serum Immunoglobulin E:
  - Total serum immunoglobulin E levels greater than 100 IU are frequently observed in patients experiencing allergic reactions
  - Observed also in: (allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis, EGPA)
  - Normal levels do not exclude the diagnosis of asthma
  - Elevated levels are required for chronic asthma patients to be treated with omalizumab (Xolair)

**Asthma treatment:**

GINA goal of asthma management

GINA 2022 guidelines:

GINA 2024 - Adults & adolescents

Biological classes:

Age group	Drug name	Biological class	Age range	Asthma indication	Other indications
16 years	Anti-IgE	Omalizumab (Xolair)	6-65 years	Severe allergic asthma	Nasal polyps, chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps
16 years	Anti-IL5	Mepolizumab (Nucala)	12-75 years	Severe eosinophilic Type 2 asthma	Major depressive disorder, EGPA, Churg-Strauss hypersensitivity syndrome
12 years	Anti-IL5Rα	Reslizumab (Cincalor)	12-75 years	Severe eosinophilic Type 2 asthma	
16 years	Anti-IL4/13	Dupilumab (Dupixent)	6-75 years	Severe eosinophilic Type 2 asthma, or non-eosinophilic Type 2 asthma	Moderate to severe atopic dermatitis, Crohn's disease
12 years	Anti-TSLP	Tezepelumab (Tezspire)	12-75 years	Severe asthma	

① you could also do bronchial thermoplasty for smooth muscle spasm: but it's done for certain patients and not recommended initially

② For acute exacerbations → ① short acting bronchodilators: Subcutaneous 2) steroids 3) Heliox (O2 + helium): 80:20 4) intubation

③ Extra note: Complications of Asthma: 1) Status asthmaticus 2) Acute PE 3) pneumothorax 4) Atelectasis

Questions = 10  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 27

# Lecture 2 : COPD

## General characteristics:

- Heterogeneous lung disease
- it has 2 classic types: 1) chronic bronchitis: chronic cough and productive for 3 months over 2 years 2) emphysema: permanent enlargement of air spaces distal to terminal bronchioles due to destruction in the walls
- these 2 usually coexist but you can find pure bronchitis or emphysema
- Both conditions are progressive, persistent and causes airway destruction
- it's the 3rd leading cause of death
- More common in elderly (> 65)
- M=F (But 50 y ago M>F) due to smoking habits

## Pathophysiology:

- 1) chronic bronchitis: walls are thick, inflamed and mucus is made more than usual (Smooth muscle hyperplasia) → ciliary dysfunction and increased goblet cells size and number
- 2) Emphysema: loss of elasticity of air sacs with destruction of the walls between them → Extra note: Macrophages and PMN produces proteases that inhibits  $\alpha_1$ -Antitrypsin → More free proteases and destruction
- \* Note (Extra): Two types of emphysema: centrilobular: due to smoking (Destruction of proximal acini) AND panlobular: due to  $\alpha_1$ AT deficiency (Distal and proximal acini)
- Both conditions are irreversible

## Risk factors and causes:

Proposed Taxonomy (Etiotypes) for COPD	
Classification	Description
Genetically determined COPD (COPD-G)	Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (AATD) Other genetic variants with smaller effects acting in combination
COPD due to abnormal lung development (COPD-D)	Early life events, including premature birth and low birthweight, among others
Environmental COPD	
Cigarette smoking COPD (COPD-C)	Exposure to tobacco smoke, including in utero or via passive smoking Vaping or e-cigarette use Cannabis
Biomass and pollution exposure COPD (COPD-B)	Exposure to household pollution, ambient air pollution, wildfire smoke, occupational hazards
COPD due to infections (COPD-I)	Childhood infections, tuberculosis-associated COPD, HIV-associated COPD
COPD & asthma (COPD-A)	Particularly childhood asthma
COPD of unknown cause (COPD-U)	

## Clinical features:

**Clinical Indicators for Considering a Diagnosis of COPD**

Consider the diagnosis of COPD, and perform spirometry, if any of these clinical indicators are present: (these indicators are not diagnostic themselves, but the presence of multiple key indicators increases the probability of the presence of COPD). In any case, spirometry is required to establish a diagnosis of COPD)

Dyspnea that is Age specific	Progressive over time
Worsens with exercise	Worsens with exercise
Recurrent wheeze	Chronic cough
Chronic cough	Recurrent lower respiratory tract infections
History of risk factors	

Additional notes:
 

- Worsens with exercise: May be intermittent and may be unproductive
- Chronic cough: May be intermittent and may be unproductive
- History of risk factors: Tobacco smoke (including passive and local preparations), Smoke from home cooking and heating fuels, Occupational dusts, vapors, fumes, gases and other chemicals, Host factors (e.g., genetic factors, developmental abnormalities, low birthweight, prematurity, childhood respiratory infections etc.)

## Physical examination:

- you can't detect easily but later on you could see:
- 1) prolonged exp time
  - 2) Signs of hyperinflation: Barrel chest, decreased breathing sounds, distant heart sounds and increased resonance
  - 3) End expiratory wheezes (Don't necessarily relate to the severity of airflow obstruction)
  - 4) Tachypnea
  - 5) Tachycardia
  - 6) tripod position
  - 7) pursed lip (to create a true pressure)
  - 8) signs of cor pulmonale (swelling of the ankles)
  - 9) use of accessory muscles

## COPD DDX :

Diagnosis	Suggestive Features
COPD	Symptoms slowly progressive History of tobacco smoking or other risk factors
Asthma	Variable airflow obstruction Symptoms vary widely from day to day Symptoms worse at night/early morning Allergy, rhinitis, and/or sinusitis also present Other causes excluded
Chronic heart failure (CHF)	Chest pain associated with tachycardia Chest X-ray shows bilateral pulmonary edema Auscultatory findings show rales and S3 Elevated jugular venous pressure Elevated central venous pressure
Brachyectasis	Large volumes of purulent sputum Commonly associated with bacterial pathogens Chest X-ray shows hyperinflated lungs
Tuberculosis	Onset at any age Chest X-ray shows lung changes Microbiological confirmation
Chronic bronchitis	Can occur in isolation Seen after long-term tobacco use Microbiological confirmation
Diffuse panbronchiolitis	Highly endemic in patients of Asian descent Other patterns are male and cigarette use Chest X-ray & HRCT show diffuse small centrilobular nodular opacities & hyperinflation

## Prevention of COPD:

1) Primary prevention: Avoidance of tobacco smoking (passive and Active)

2) Secondary prevention: Smoking cessation (the disease could be slowed by cutting off smoking) Although smoking cannot result in complete reversal

**BRIEF STRATEGIES TO HELP THE PATIENT WILLING TO QUIT**

- ASK: Systematically identify all tobacco users at every visit. Implement an office-wide system that ensures that, for EVERY patient at EVERY clinic visit, tobacco-use status is queried and documented.
- ADVISE: Strongly urge all tobacco users to quit. In a clear, strong, and personalized manner, urge every tobacco user to quit.
- ASSESS: Determine willingness and rationale of patient's desire to make a quit attempt. Ask every tobacco user if he or she is willing to make a quit attempt at this time (e.g., within the next 30 days).
- ASSIST: Aid the patient in quitting. Help the patient with a quit plan; provide practical counseling; provide extra-treatment social support; help the patient obtain extra-treatment social support; recommend use of approved pharmacotherapy except in special circumstances; provide supplementary materials.
- ARRANGE: Schedule follow-up contact, either in person or via telephone.

- Respiratory symptoms improve within 1 year of quitting
- Some patients would have weight gain and constipation after the cessation
- Some studies showed that 95% of the patient had long term quit after trying to quit
- 3 minute counseling by the physician could help with encouraging the patient to stop smoking

## Difference between pink puffers( emphysema), and blue bloaters( chronic bronchitis):

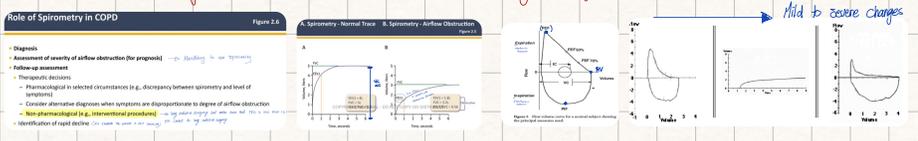
COPD—Emphysema and Chronic Bronchitis	
Predominant Emphysema ("Pink Puffers")	Predominant Chronic Bronchitis ("Blue Bloaters")
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients tend to be thin due to increased energy expenditure during breathing (hyperinflation)</li> <li>• When sitting, patients tend to lean forward</li> <li>• Patients have a barrel chest (increased AP diameter of chest)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients tend to be overweight and cyanotic (secondary to chronic hypercapnia and hypoxemia).</li> <li>• Chronic cough and sputum production are characteristic.</li> <li>• Signs of cor pulmonale may be present in severe or long-standing disease.</li> </ul>
<p>Emphysema with prolonged expiration through pursed lips is present.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• less hypoxic (they appear pink)</li> </ul>	<p>Chronic bronchitis with hyperinflation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hypoxemia and cyanosis</li> </ul>

## Difference between asthma and COPD

	Asthma	COPD
Onset	Anytime (often childhood or youth)	Later in life
Etiology	Allergic, family history	Smoking, other noxious exposures
Course	Intermittent	Chronic progressive
Clinical features	Wheeze, episodic dyspnea, cough	Persistent dyspnea, productive cough
Pattern of Symptoms	Variable day to day, more at night/early morning	Less variable, more on exertion
Inflammatory cells and mediators	Eosinophils, mast cells, Th-2 type	Neutrophils, macrophages, Th-1 type
Response to Bronchodilators	Largely reversible	Partially reversible or irreversible
Response to steroids	Substantial	Partial
	• Hyperventilation	• Hyperventilation

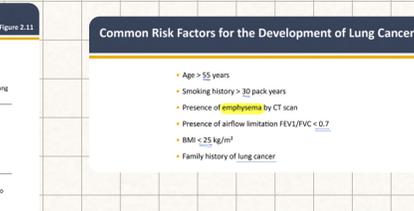
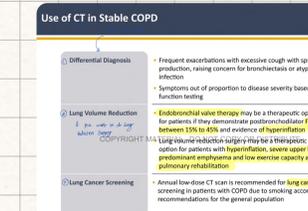
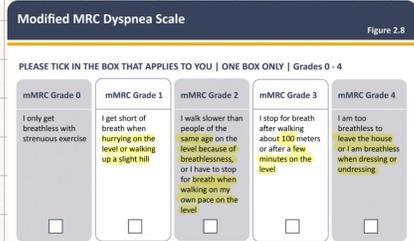
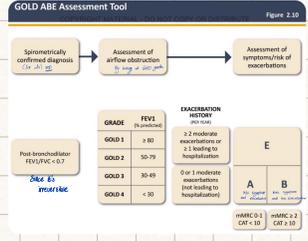
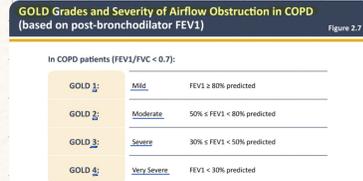
## Diagnosis of COPD:

- IT starts with IIT then PF (as mentioned above)
- TEI PFT (spirometry): The definitive diagnostic test, you should find: 1) Decreased FEV1 and FVC/FEV1 ratio 2) increased TLC and RV (Although there's air it's trapped and cannot be used in gas exchange) 3) decreased VC
- Early:
- 1) Expiratory SOB
  - 2) Mild recurrent cough
  - 3) clearing throat in mornings
  - 4) wheezing during expiration
  - 5) chronic cough
  - 6) frequent flu
- in very late stages: Fatigue, wt loss, Swelling in feet, ankles of legs → signs of cor pulmonale

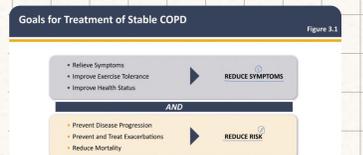


3 CXR: Hyperinflation signs    4 Measures  $\dot{V}_A$  AT    5 ABGs: Chronic  $PCO_2$  retention and decreased  $PO_2$

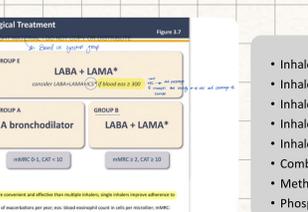
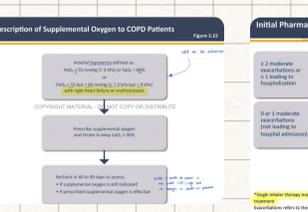
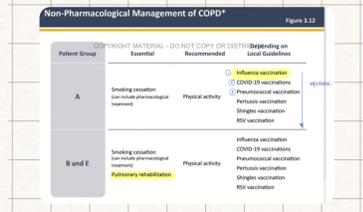
**GOLD grades and other tools :**



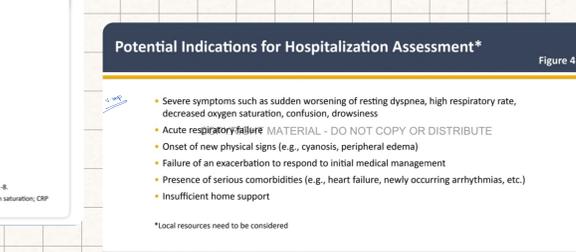
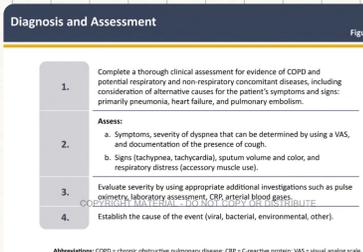
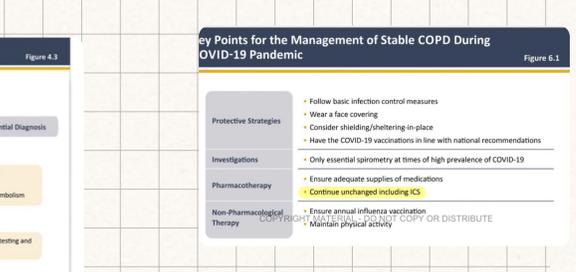
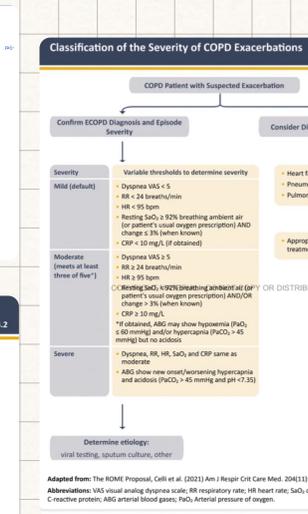
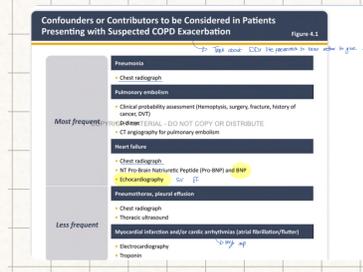
**Treatment:**



\* What is COPD exacerbations?  
 COPD cough, sputum that worsens  $\leq$  14 days  
 which is accompanied by tachypnea, tachycardia  
 is often associated by common viral infection, poliovirus  
 or other insults to the airway



- Inhaled B2 agonist (short acting) (SABA)
- Inhaled B2 agonist (long acting) (LABA)
- Inhaled anticholinergic (short acting) (SAMA)
- Inhaled anticholinergic (long acting) (LAMA)
- Inhaled corticosteroid (ICS)
- Combination inhalers
- Methylxanthine
- Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor → May be symptomatic benefit



\* Imp notes: • COPD is decreased in expiratory (normal is 80) • COPD causes respiratory acidosis that is compensated by metabolic alkalosis

# Lecture 3: RS failure

## General characteristics:

- Acute RS occurs when:
  - inadequate oxygenation of blood or
  - inadequate ventilation or both
 → ① Hypoxia ( $PaO_2 < 60$ ) ② Hypercapnia ( $PaCO_2 > 50$ )
- it has 2 types: Type 1: Hypoxic RF → when  $PaO_2 < 60$  with normal or low  $PaCO_2$  / Type 2: Hypercapnic RF (Both  $PaCO_2 > 50$  and eventually results in hypoxemia:  $PaO_2 < 60$ )
- Acute vs. Chronic RF:
  - Acute: life threatening - changes in ABGs and acid-base status, it develops over minutes to hours so pH is not normal (less or more depending on the type of RF)
  - Chronic: less dramatic, develops over days, you could see very slight changes to the pH due to body compensations → such as: ① polycythemia ② cor. pulmonale
- Renal excretion of bicarbonate → \* Note: you can't rely on ABGs only to differentiate between acute and chronic RF.

## Normal physiology of the respiratory system:

The respiratory system is not the only determinant of respiration, in fact many systems are involved such as:
 

- CNS (Brain and spinal cord) → Stroke, drug overdose, trauma could cause RF
- Neuromuscular disease: Myasthenia gravis, GB syndrome, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and polio could cause RF
- Upper airway: Disinfection, spasm or paralysis could cause RF
- Thorax and pleura: Hemothorax, Hyphothorax could cause RF
- CNS: CHF, HF, anemia, valvular disease could cause RF
- Lower airways: COPD, asthma, pneumonia, ARDS could cause RF

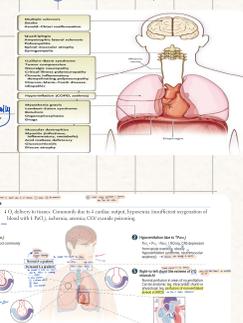
\* Normal Physiology: Normal  $PaO_2$  is around 100 while  $PaCO_2$  is between 30-40 (40 as an average) → The difference between them is the A-a gradient which is normally around 5-10 mmHg because 8% of the systemic cardiac output passes the pulmonary circulation (physiological shunting), this gradient helps with knowing the cause of the respiratory failure.

How to calculate the  $PaO_2$ ?  $PaO_2 = FIO_2 \times (PB - PH_2O) - PaCO_2/R$

→  $FIO_2$ : fraction of inspired  $O_2$  →  $PaCO_2$ : arterial  $CO_2$  →  $R$ : ratio of  $CO_2$  to  $O_2$  (0.8)

→  $PB$ : barometric pressure →  $PH_2O$ : water vapor pressure

$PaCO_2$  depends on the ventilation (inversely proportional) while oxygenation depends on  $O_2$  sat



## Pathophysiology of RF:

we have 5 mechanisms:
 

- V/Q mismatch (causes Type 1 RF)
- Shunting (very severe V/Q)
- High altitude
- Diffusion impairment
- Hypoventilation (causes Type 2 RF)

1. V/Q mismatch: normal V/Q is 0.8 → Decreased V/Q would be due to a defect in ventilation (such as pulm. edema or HLB) WHILE increased V/Q is due to decreased perfusion (such as PE) → if V/Q approaches 0 the alveoli will act as a dead space with decreased perfusion and no diffusion of gases. → if the PE was a saddle PE it would cause chest like V/Q mismatch. \* Note: V/Q mismatch typically leads to hypoxia without hypercapnia (Type 1 RF).

2. Shunting: little or no ventilation in perfused areas due to collapsed alveoli (like atelectasis) or fluid filled alveoli (like pneumonia or pulm. edema) or intra-cardiac congenital causes (Tetralogy of Fallot). \* Hypoxia due to shunting is not responsive to supplemental  $O_2$  therapy. • V/Q ratio is near ZERO. • note that A-a gradient increase here since the problem is in the alveoli (a).

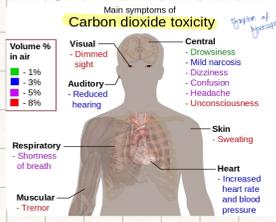
3. Diffusion impairment: Diffusion depends on thickness of alveoli (Fibrosis and AHB) and surface area (emphysema) so it's a structural problem. • it causes increased A-a gradient. • Note: increasing the inhaled  $O_2$  it will correct the  $PaO_2$  but the A-a gradient will remain increased as long as the problem is there.

4. High altitude: the problem is with the PB in which it would decrease leading to decreased  $PaO_2$  then this would lead to  $PaO_2$  and hypoxemia and the A-a gradient would remain the same (since there's no problem in the gas exchange process) → fix: increase the  $FIO_2$  to correct the  $PaO_2$  transfer you correct the hypoxemia. • They found out that sudden ascending to high altitudes would raise the 23,DFE = shift to the right = respiratory alkalosis with chronically staying in the place. ① polycythemia ② Bicarbonate excretion to correct the pH.

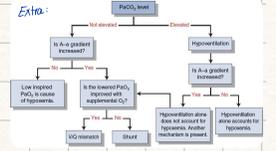
5. Hypoventilation: The ventilation is calculated through:  $\text{Minute ventilation} = \text{Respiratory rate} \times \text{Tidal volume}$ . So it occurs when there's a decrease in RR or TV. • Hypoventilation leads to high  $PaCO_2$ . • A-a will be normal and less than 10 (since there's no problem in diffusion of gases). • Note that the production of  $CO_2$  in the body is a steady rate. • Type 2 RF happens due to a cause that causes hypoventilation.

## Treatment of RF:

- admit to ICU
  - Manage and assess the ABGs
  - correct the hypoxemia by maintaining an arterial  $O_2$  tension ( $PaO_2 > 60$ ) or  $O_2$  sat (more than 90%) so provide  $O_2$  and mechanical ventilation by non-invasive (CPAP and BiPAP) or intubate is needed.
  - Specific tx depends on the underlying cause for example:
    - asthma: bronchodilators and steroids
    - COPD: bronchodilators
    - flx for pneumonia
    - pul embolism: Heparin.
- \* Note: SOB or cough are the clinical features that the patient would present with.

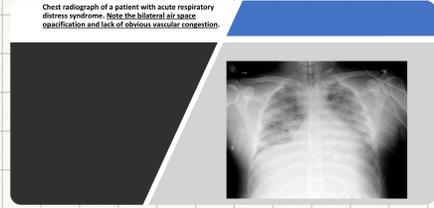


Cause	$PaO_2$	A-a gradient	$PaO_2$ response to supplemental oxygen
Hypoventilation	Decreased	Normal	Increases
Diffusion Impairment	Decreased	Increased	Increases
Shunt	Decreased	Increased	Does not increase.
V/Q Mismatch	Decreased	Increased	Usually increases (depends on V/Q mismatch type)
High Altitude	Decreased	Normal	Increases



**ARDS:**

- It's a non-cardiogenic pulmonary edema → it follows a criteria: ① Acute onset (<1 week) ② Bilateral infiltration on chest image ③ Pul. edema not explained by fluid overload or CHF (the pulmonary capillary wedge pressure is <18 mmHg; if it was larger than that then it's a cardiac cause but it's not)
- Clinical features: ① SOB ② Tachycardia ③ Tachypnea ④ progressive hypoxemia (not responsive to supplemental O<sub>2</sub>) ⑤ patients are difficult to intubate because of high airway pressure due to stiff non-compliant lung.
- Severity: By the ratio of partial pressure of arterial oxygen (PaO<sub>2</sub>) to fraction of inspired O<sub>2</sub> (FiO<sub>2</sub>) → ① Mild 200-300 mmHg with PEEP ≥ 5 cm H<sub>2</sub>O ② Moderate 100-200 with PEEP ≥ 5 ③ Severe <100 with PEEP ≥ 5
- ARDS is responsible for: ① 1/10 ICU ② 1/4 mechanical ventilator ③ Mortality 46-60% ④ Most cases are associated with pneumonia with or without sepsis (65%) or with non-pulmonary sepsis (16%)
- Tx: Supportive until you find the underlying cause → Mechanical ventilator (keep low tidal volume and high PEEP) and keep the patient in prone position for some moderate and all severe cases.



**Lecture 4: ILD**

**General characteristics:**

- Inflammatory process involving the alveolar wall (Pleading in a widespread fibroblastic proliferation and collagen deposition that can lead to irreversible fibrosis, impaired gas exchange and pul. HTN sometimes and radiologically diffuse (mostly on CT scan)).

**Pathophysiology:**

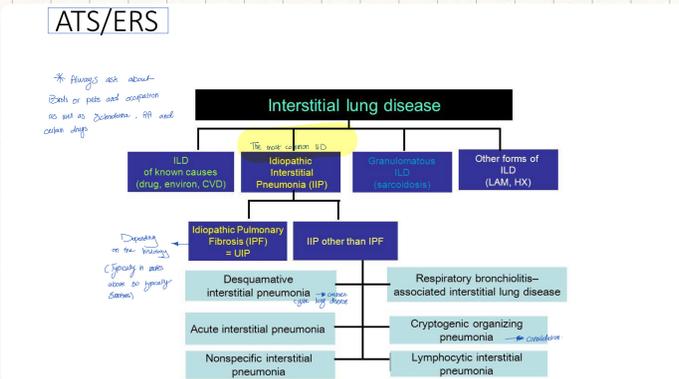
Tissue remodeling of lung fibrosis: Fibroblasts in lung interstitium increases in number & they change into myofibroblasts (they represent a cancer like cell) → Significant secretions of Growth Factors which are: ① EGF ② VEGF ③ PDGF → more secretions of cytokines → more collagen deposition and secretions → Architecture damage and abnormal gas exchange.

\* Note: This whole cascade needs environmental factors such as: 1) Smoking 2) Microaspiration 3) occupational exposures 4) viral infx 5) Mechanical stress 6) Air pollution (+) Genetic predisposition.

**Clinical features and physical:**

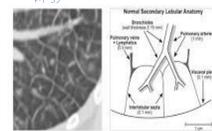
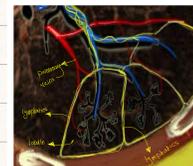
- 1) SOB (at first with exertion and late on rest) 2) cough (non-productive) 3) Fatigue 4) Secondary symptoms related to CT diseases like RA, etc.
- PE: 1) Dry rales-like crackles (End expir. insp) 2) Digital clubbing 3) Signs of pul. HTN and cyanosis in advanced stages.

**Classification:**



\* Note & Secondary pulmonary lobule:

Secondary pulmonary lobule → The smallest unit in the lung above the bronchioles and 2-3 terminal bronchioles (all are surrounded by CT cap of thick is called septal primary lobule)

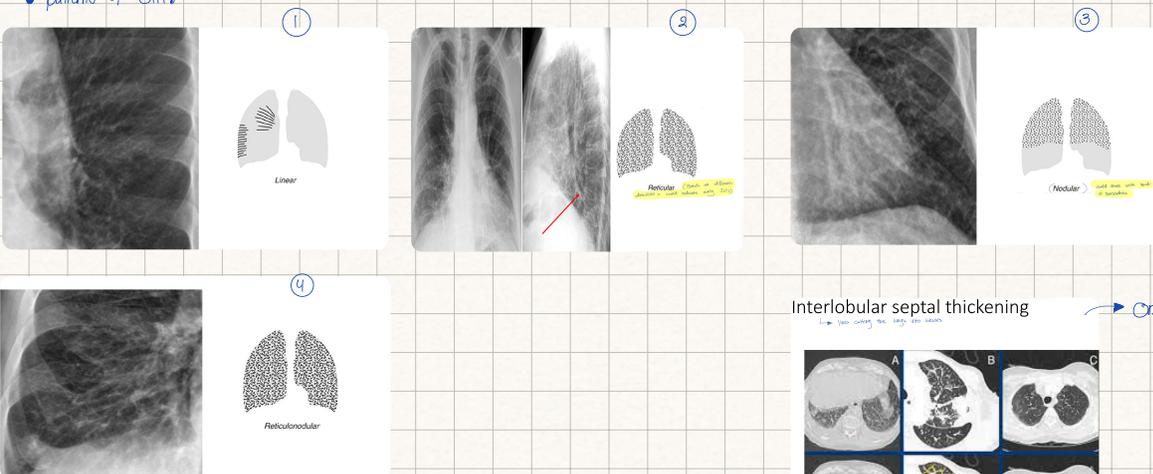


- \* Note: Each lobule contains certain blood vessels & lymphatics
- \* Obstructive causes central airway opening
- \* Structural changes in the periphery (consolidation or peripheral nodules)
- \* Significant between the normal IPF lobule & UIP

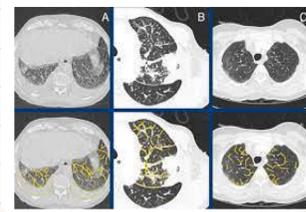
**Diagnosis:**

- 1) CXR: Most of IPD are hard to recognise on CXR (other than reducible lung volume) that's why we need HRCT 2) HRCT: **GOLD STANDARD** for IPD (Extra: it shows the extent of fibrosis) 3) PFT } • FEV1/FVC: is normal or increased • Both FEV1 and FVC are both reduced • Low DLCO • low TIC and RV } 4) Blood tests (ANA, RF, Anti-scleroderma) 5) Lung Biopsy (Rare not used as frequently in the past) 6) MDT (you do this step before lung biopsy) → we need 4 members of the team: A. pulmonologist B. pathologist C. Radiologist D. Rheumatologist

**patterns of CXR:**



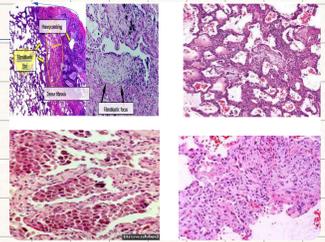
**Interlobular septal thickening** → On HRCT



**IPF:**

Extra info: Etiology is unknown, usually the patient is a Smoker male and 50 years old. presents with gradual onset of SOB and non-productive cough. Mean survival is 3-7 years after first diagnosis. • Definition: a chronic fibrosing interstitial pneumonia • Associated with usual interstitial pneumonia (UIP) → UIP is either presented on histology or on HRCT

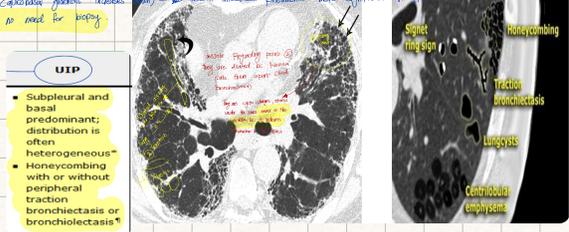
This pattern is called usual interstitial pneumonia (UIP) also this pattern is found in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (most common cause)



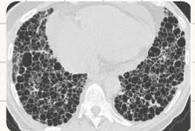
Note: more pinkish color = more fibrosis while more purple = more inflammation

in UIP we find heterogeneity (variability between completely normal lung and fibrotic lung)

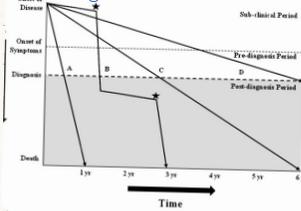
**HRCT OF IPF**



**Honeycombing IPF:**



**Prognosis:**



\* Before antibiotic agents patients used to die within 2 years of diagnosis (Delayed presentation) \* Patients either die quickly, relapses, or die slowly (due to Anti-fibrotic agents)

Investigations: Same as above.

Tx: ① Non pharmacological ② Pharmacological

A. nintedanib (could be used for IPF and others). B. pirfenidone (Only FDA approved for IPF)

**Nonpharmacologic Management**

- Smoking cessation.
- Influenza, pneumococcal, and other age-appropriate vaccines should be administered.
- Supplemental Oxygen. → to R.O. and improve
- Pulmonary Rehabilitation. → can help with long term
- Lung Transplantation.
- Lung Cancer identification.

• Nintedanib: ab 2014 it was FDA approved for IPF and others, it decreases the progression of lung disease, the mechanism of action is clear: which is Tyrosine kinase inhibitor → other indications: 1) Scleroderma (initial tx for pulmonary symptoms) 2) RA (secondary after using immune suppression → arthritis, psoriasis) 3) Hypersensitivity pneumonia. \* Note: the patient would relapse but slower.

• Pirfenidone: not FDA approved for anything except for IPF. \* Note: you should not use immune suppressors for IPF unless it's acute exacerbations.  
 • PAN Study: prednisone + Azathioprine + N-acetylcysteine they used it on patients on a long term and they found significant deaths so they had to stop it.

**Other ILD:**

\* Antibiotics (over use)

Bacterial occupational

Hypersensitivity pneumonitis (HP)

Eggs, Airways + cotton

Dermatomyositis/Polymyositis

Sarcoidosis

20% affects eye, 25% affects heart, 25% affects neck

Connective tissue related ILD

1. Systemic lupus erythematosus
- 2,4,5 Scleroderma
3. Rheumatoid arthritis.

CF-ILD  
 Tx: immune suppression after pneumonia  
 ان المرض من المناعة الذاتية  
 بعد التهاب رئوي  
 العلاج: قمع المناعة (Steroids) ...

Sarcoidosis

often with bilateral hilar enlargement and lymphadenopathy in the mid zone

Smoking related interstitial lung disease

Drug induced  
 Radiation induced

- Extra: Drugs Examples:
- 1) chemotherapeutic agents
  - 2) Amilorone
  - 3) nitrofurantoin
  - 4) penicillamine

# Lecture 5 : lung cancer

## General characteristics:

- MC cause of cancer deaths in females and males. However, breast ca is the most common in females. US prostate cancer in males (incidence wise) • 1.8m new lung cases (14%) vs 1.6m deaths (25%)
- Mortality decreased in 1990s due to targeted therapy (chemo didn't change but targeted therapy did). Moreover in 2014 mortality dropped with 30% due to screening (CT scan).



• Mortality rates are higher in males



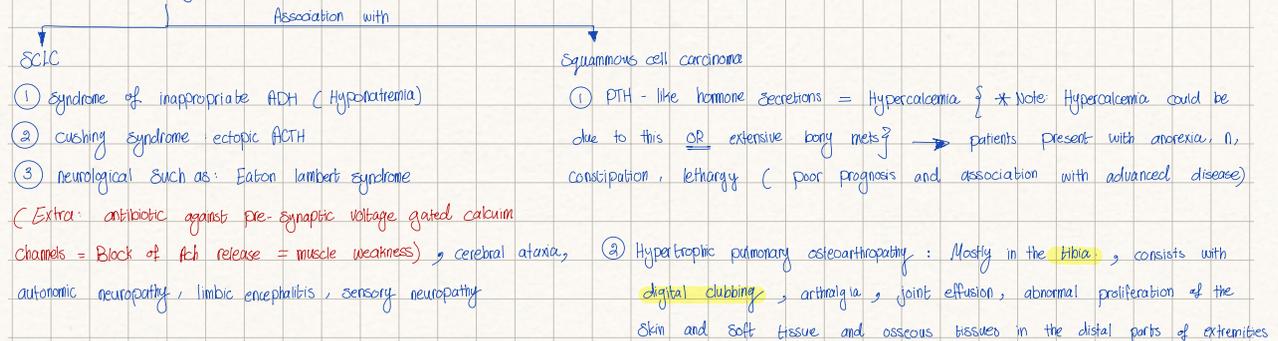
• Pathological types are divided into: ① Small cell carcinoma (8%) ② non-small cell carcinoma (92%) includes: 1) Adenocarcinoma (82%) 2) Squamous cell carcinoma (29%) 3) large cell carcinoma (4%) 4) unclassified / undifferentiated (12%)

- Etiology or risk factors of lung cancer: ① Smoking (accounts for 80-90%) while passive smoking accounts for 2% → Direct association between pack-year and risk of smoking.
- \* Note: cancers in non smokers is 2.5-5% of all ② Radon (present in soil and presents in the basement) ③ Asbestos ④ COPD (independent of smoking → 3-6 times more than smoking alone) ⑤ Age (Average dx is 70 years old) → Extra note: 2nd most frequent cause in US

## Clinical features:

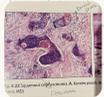
- It has non-specific features but most frequently: ① cough (75%) ② SOB ③ chest pain ④ Hemoptysis (15%) → This is a bad sign bc it shows invading of endo-bronchi
- less frequently: ① clubbing ② Hoarseness ③ Ineffez (15%) ④ Dysphagia ⑤ pleural effusion (very poor prognosis = equivalent to distant mets) • (5-15%) are asymptomatic • 15% would have extra-pul symptom • 5% would have paraneoplastic syndrome. \* Note: patients would present as recurrent pneumonia of the same anatomical area.
- Local invasion signs: ① SVC syndrome: Most commonly associated with Small cell carcinoma, you could see facial edema and arm edema, dilated veins over the anterior chest and face with jugular venous distention → it may be the primary presentation of the disease, the chest radiograph will show widening of mediastinum or right hilar mass. ② phrenic nerve palsy: Results in hemidiaphragm paralysis diagnosed by sniff test (Extra point) ③ Horner syndrome: due to invasion of cervical sympathetic chain by apical tumor (Extra) → initial symptom causing shoulder pain radiating down to the arm and association of Horner syndrome in 60% of the time, it's a unique tumor of stage 2 but it's usually diagnosed at a higher stage (2B or 3A) → Tx: neoadjuvant chemo (etoposide and cisplatin) and concurrent radio followed by surgical resection, overall survival is (44-54%) depending on ① post surgery presence or absence of microscopic disease in the resected specimen.

• paraneoplastic syndrome:

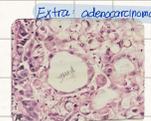


## Squamous cell carcinoma and adenocarcinoma:

- ➔ Adenocarcinoma: • Pathology (Histology characteristic): 1) neoplastic gland formation 2) pneumocyte marker expression: TTF-1 (key marker) and Napsin A (sometimes present) 3) Intracytoplasmic Mucin (Mucin inside tumor cells) • Classifications of adenocarcinoma: Based on the architecture: ① Mucinous (produces a lot of mucin) ② Non-mucinous (not much mucin) this includes { Acinar / papillary / Micropapillary / lepidic / Solid } • prognostic significance of subtypes: ① Solid, micropapillary and cribriform pattern: indicates worse or adverse prognosis ② Minimally invasive adenocarcinoma: Small solitary tumor (<3cm) and minimally invasive (<5mm), has a good prognosis (surgical therapy only no need for chemo or radio, it shows a predominant lepidic growth pattern resembling precursor glandular lesions ③ Lepidic predominant adenocarcinoma: The invasion is greater than 5mm, this pathology classification is not related to prognosis.



→ Extra: SCC



➔ Squamous cell carcinoma: Pathology (Histology characteristic): 1) Keratin pearls and intracellular desmosome (on immuno-histochemistry) 2) IHC markers: P40, P63, CK5.6, Desmoglein. Subtypes: ① Nonkeratinizing (no production of keratin) ② Keratinizing ③ Basaloid (more aggressive and poorly differentiated subtype) Features of SCC: 1) Extensive central necrosis (causing cavitation: hollow spaces inside the tumor) 2) Hypercalcemia 3) paraneoplastic tumors

CANCER	HISTOCHEMISTRY/IMMUNOLOGY	ASSOCIATION	LOCATION	COMMENT
Small cell carcinoma	(Poorly) Differentiated neuroendocrine tumor (NET) with neuroendocrine differentiation (chromogranin positive)	Male smokers	Central	High growth and metastatic; often metastasizes to brain or ACTH or ADH secretion; 5-yr survival: 10-15% (w/ intensive treatment); paraneoplastic syndromes
Adenocarcinoma	Classically stains (P) S100, or TTF1 (transcription factor 1) (TTF1) (CK7, CK20, CK5/6, CK19, CK20, CK21, CK22, CK23, CK24, CK25, CK26, CK27, CK28, CK29, CK34, CK35, CK36, CK37, CK38, CK39, CK40, CK41, CK42, CK43, CK44, CK45, CK46, CK47, CK48, CK49, CK50, CK51, CK52, CK53, CK54, CK55, CK56, CK57, CK58, CK59, CK60, CK61, CK62, CK63, CK64, CK65, CK66, CK67, CK68, CK69, CK70, CK71, CK72, CK73, CK74, CK75, CK76, CK77, CK78, CK79, CK80, CK81, CK82, CK83, CK84, CK85, CK86, CK87, CK88, CK89, CK90, CK91, CK92, CK93, CK94, CK95, CK96, CK97, CK98, CK99, CK100)	Most common; female; nonsmokers; peripheral; adenocarcinoma	Peripheral (Fig. 9-22B)	Adenocarcinoma is the most common type of lung cancer; glandular cells that grow along periphery of bronchus (see above Fig. 9-21); may present as peripheral or central; 5-yr survival: 15-20%
Squamous cell carcinoma	Keratin positive; intercellular bridges (Fig. 9-22A); or p40 expression (IHC)	Male smokers; adenocarcinoma	Central (Fig. 9-22C)	May produce PTHrP
Large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma	Diffusely immunoreacted; large cells (Fig. 9-22D); often TTF1, keratin, p40, intercellular bridges or p40	Smoking	Central (Fig. 9-22C)	Diagnosis of challenge
Cranioid tumor	(Poorly) Differentiated neuroendocrine tumor; chromogranin positive (Fig. 9-22E)	Her sporadic; adenocarcinoma	Central (peripheral, peripheral)	Low grade; malignant; rarely can cause ectopic hormone
Melanoma to lung	Most common melanoma metastasis to lung	Multiple primary; melanoma	Multiple; peripheral; adenocarcinoma	More common than primary tumor

**Diagnosis:**

① CXR (imp for Dx but not for screening) ② CT scan with IV contrast (imp for staging)

\* Note: consider CT for abdomen for adrenal gland and liver mets) ③ PET: Directed at sites of potential mets when 1) focal findings are present 2) when CT shows evidence of advanced disease

④ MRI brain for tumors larger than 5cm & Invasive staging:

1) Bronchoscopic endobronchial ultrasound - transbronchial needle aspiration (TBNA) 2) Endoscopic TBNA 3) Mediastinoscopy 4) Thoracoscopy or videoassisted thoracoscopy (VATS)

\* you should take biopsy after the radiological investigations (if it's central: Bronchoscopy / if it's peripheral: CT guided biopsy)

\* Note: you have to diagnose and evaluate the patient within 6 weeks → only (8-26%) are diagnosed at stages 1+2 while (28% - 38%) of stage 3 and 4

**Treatment:**

① SCLC: Very sensitive to chemo but high recurrence rate (it depends on the stage) → ① limited (chest LN involvement without axillary and cervical): lobectomy then adjuvant chemo if peripheral nodule without mediastinal or hilar lymphadenopathy; BUT if mediastinal or hilar: you need 4-6 chemo cycles then radiation therapy \* Note: Radiation is imp to prevent recurrence and we should do prophylactic whole brain radiation.

② Extensive (the opposite of limited) → chemo (platinum based) → (50-60%) should be offered radiation therapy followed by brain prophylactic radiation \* Note: for extensive type (Mean survival is 8-13%) and only 5% survive up to 2 years

② NSCLC:

**Treatment of lung cancer - Stage I (NSCLC)**

- Surgery is the mainstay of treating stage I NSCLC. The procedure of choice is either lobectomy or pneumonectomy with mediastinal lymph node sampling.
- The 5-year survival is 78% for IA and 53% for IB disease.
- In patients who do not have the pulmonary reserve to tolerate pneumonectomy or lobectomy, a more conservative approach with wedge resection or segmentectomy can be done.
- The disadvantage is higher local recurrence rate, but survival is the same.
- Local postoperative radiation therapy or adjuvant chemotherapy has not been shown to improve outcomes in stage I disease.

**Treatment of lung cancer - Stage II (NSCLC)**

- The survival of stage IIA and IIB lung is 46% and 36%, respectively.
- The preferred treatment is surgery followed by adjuvant chemotherapy. If the tumor has invaded the chest wall, then an en-bloc resection of the chest wall is recommended.

**Treatment of lung cancer - Stage III (NSCLC)**

- This is the most heterogeneous group, consisting of a wide variety of tumor invasion and lymph node involvement. Survival is 40% to 45% in the first two years, but five-year survival is only 20%.
- In stage IIIA disease with N1 lymph nodes, surgery with curative intent is the treatment of choice. Unfortunately, a significant number of patients are found to have an N2 disease at the time of resection.
- Stage IIIA tumors with N2/N3 lymph nodes. If the patient has good performance status and no weight loss, then concurrent chemo-radiotherapy affords the best outcome.

**Treatment of lung cancer - Stage III (NSCLC)**

- Stage IIIB tumors are treated the same way unresectable IIIA cancers are treated, with concurrent chemo-radiotherapy.
- For a select few patients, post-induction chemo-radiotherapy, surgery might be an option. The trials on the survival of patients with IIIB tumors also included inoperable IIIA tumors; therefore, the survival in IIIB patients is unknown.

**Treatment of lung cancer - Stage IV (NSCLC)**

- Stage IV disease is considered incurable, and therapy is aimed at improving survival and alleviating symptoms. Only 10% to 30% of patients respond to chemotherapy, and only 1% to 3% survive five years after diagnosis.
- Single or double drug-based chemotherapy is offered to patients with functional performance status. There is a small survival benefit from chemotherapy.

\* Targeted therapy:

① EGFR → treated with TKIs: Erlotinib, Gefitinib, Afatinib ② ALK → treated with ALK inhibitors: Crizotinib, ceritinib, Alectinib \* Note: ROS-1 mutation can also be treated with crizotinib (since it's structurally similar to ALK)

\* Immunotherapy: if no ALK or EGFR mutation or if it failed → Use immunotherapy

• How does PD-1 work in cancer? PD-1 is a checkpoint protein that normally helps to regulate the immune system by inactivating T-cells (to prevent autoimmunity) However some tumor exploit PD-1 by producing PD-L1 or PD-L2 which turns off T cells allowing tumors to be unchecked and grow

Preserves lung function.

- Drugs of PD-1 inhibitors : ① Nivolumab: it's IgG4 against PD-L1, approved for NSCLC that has progressed after chemo
- ② pembrolizumab: also IgG4, approved for metastatic NSCLC with high PD-L1 expressing (50%), cannot be used if the tumor has EGFR or ALK mutations (But Nivolumab can be used).

\* other treatments: VEGF-A inhibitor (Bevacizumab): not immuno-therapy it's an anti-angiogenesis antibody that inhibits vascular endothelial growth factor to prevent tumor blood vessel formation, used in non-squamous NSCLC with platinum based chemo (contraindicated in ESC due to risk of fatal hemoptysis), Also could be used in breast, renal, colon and brain cancers.

## ➔ In Summary :

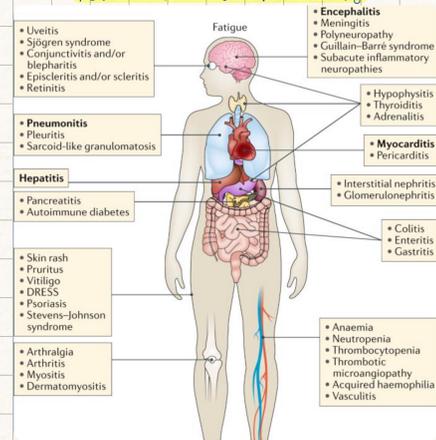
**Stage I (Early-Stage Tumor, No Lymph Node Involvement)**  
Surgery (lobectomy or wedge resection) is the main treatment.  
Radiation therapy may be used if surgery is not possible.

**Stage II (Larger Tumor or Spread to Nearby Lymph Nodes)**  
Surgery with adjuvant chemotherapy (to reduce recurrence).

**Stage III (Locally Advanced Tumor, Spread to Mediastinal Nodes)**  
Radiation + Chemotherapy  
Adjuvant immunotherapy (after chemoradiation in some cases).

**Stage IV (Metastatic NSCLC or Recurrent Disease)**  
Chemotherapy (platinum-based).  
Targeted therapy (if EGFR, ALK, or ROS-1 mutation present).  
Immunotherapy (if no targetable mutations).

## Adverse effects of Immunotherapy



## National Lung Screening Trial

- 53,454 participants
- Age 55-74 (Medicare covers until 77)
- Current or former smokers – 30 pack years. If quit, had to quit within 15 years.
- Randomized to Low Dose CT (LDCT) vs CXR
- Scanned for 3 years followed for 3.5 years
- 20% reduction in lung cancer mortality
- 7% reduction in overall mortality

Pathologic Type	Incidence	Location	Special Features
NSCLC	80% of all lung cancers	Usually central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cavitation on CXR</li> <li>• Pleural involvement in 20% of cases.</li> <li>• Less closely associated with smoking than other types.</li> <li>• Can be associated with pulmonary scars/fibrosis.</li> </ul>
Adenocarcinoma	35% of all lung cancers—most common type	Often peripheral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associated with smokers</li> </ul>
Large cell carcinoma	5–10% of all lung cancers	Usually peripheral	
SCLC	20–25% of all lung cancers	Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tend to narrow bronchi by extrinsic compression</li> <li>• Widespread metastases are common: 50–70% of patients have metastases outside the chest at the time of presentation.</li> </ul>

## Lecture 6: pneumonia

### General characteristics

- 8th leading cause of death
- 2-3 mil cases/year → 500,000 hospitalized → >60,000 deaths
- ICU ~30-40% deaths vs inpatients 10%
- vs outpatients 4%.
- It's An acute PS disease with symptoms of SOB, cough (productive yellow to greenish sputum), Sometimes severe (septic shock to AS failure)
- On PE: ① crackles and bronchial sounds ② Dull percussion ③ Decreased breathing sounds ④ Tachypnea
- ⑤ Tachycardia
- On X-Ray: infiltrates (lobar or bronchial or interstitial).
- For Dx: clinical and chest imaging, labs are not useful but you could ask for CBC, EFT, Blood and sputum cultures. \* Note: CRP and procalcitonin are useful for follow ups but not diagnosis.
- There are 2 types: ① CAP: outside the hospital (Extra note: most commonly associated with S pneumonia) ② HAP: Hospital acquired after 48 hours or more (Extra: mostly MRSA and pseudomonas) or VAP: after 48 or more of endotracheal intubation.
- Ddx of pneumonia: ① Exacerbation of COPD, CHF, bronchiectasis (but they are associated with chronic hx) ② PE ③ Acute bronchitis ④ IUD ⑤ Hypersensitivity pneumonitis.

**Testing:**

- Note: 50% of the time you'll get a negative test due to our immune system
  - Blood and sputum culture: depends (50-70%) on timing / use of Ab / type of organism
    - Fast grow (Staph and GNB)
    - Slow grow (Influenza and strep pneumoniae)
  - Urine pneumococcal Ag (sensitivity of 70%) → not affected by Ab use
  - Urine legionella Ag (Detects only serotype 1)
  - Viral PCR (Covid, influenza)
- Procalcitonin: Used to know when to stop Ab use and if you need to change the Ab: depending on it's value in serum (should be 0.25 or less)
  - Mechanism? It's a prohormone that is secreted from thyroid neuroendocrine cells (should be undetectable in serum), now if there's an infection: IL-6, TNF produce procalcitonin synthesis and increase it's levels
  - it starts to rise in 2-4h with peak in 24h (levels correlates with severity) \* Note: levels decrease quickly once infection is under control
  - \* Note: procalcitonin could increase in case of medullary carcinoma.
  - \* Vimp note: you should not wait for procalcitonin levels to start Ab → you should start it depending on the clinical picture.
  - \* Note: in ICU patients stop Ab on procalcitonin (0+50), it's elevated in CKD, in ESRD bacterial infection levels are mildly elevated due to reduced clearance, post HD → Drop by 30% (harder to catch)

**effect of microbiologic on procalc levels**

Condition	Rise in PCT (>0.25 ng/mL)	No Rise or Minimal Rise (<0.25 ng/mL)
<b>Bacterial Infections</b>	Typical respiratory bacteria (most common cause)	Chlamydia pneumoniae, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Mycobacteria spp., Lyme borreliosis
<b>Fungal Infections</b>	Candida spp.	Aspergillus, Coccidioidomycosis, Mucormycosis
<b>Parasitic Infections</b>	Plasmodium spp. (Malaria)	-
<b>Toxin-Mediated Illnesses</b>	Severe Clostridiales difficile infections, Mushroom poisoning	Clostridiales difficile colonization
<b>Severe Physiologic Stress</b>	Burns, Trauma, Surgery, Bowel ischemia, Pancreatitis, Intracerebral hemorrhage, Shock of any kind (septic, anaphylactic, hemorrhagic, cardiogenic)	- without infection
<b>Immune Disorders &amp; Rheumatologic Conditions</b>	Kawasaki disease	Gout, Pseudogout, IBD, SLE, Rheumatoid arthritis, Vasculitis, Sarcoidosis, Still's disease, Temporal arteritis, Relapsing polychondritis
<b>Malignancies</b>	Medullary thyroid cancer, Lung cancers with neuroendocrine components	Lymphoma, Sarcoma, Pancreatic cancer, Renal cell carcinoma
<b>Other Comorbidities</b>	Renal insufficiency (mild elevation but not due to infection) ↓ drops after hemodialysis	
<b>Drugs</b>	Alendronumab (CD52 antibody), Interleukin-2, Rituximab (anti-CD20 antibody), Total antibody-based treatments	Glucocorticoids

**Interpretation of procalcitonin levels in respiratory tract infections**

Level (ng/ml)	Likelihood of bacterial infection*
<0.10	Very unlikely
0.10 to 0.25	Unlikely
0.25 to 0.50	Likely
>0.50	Very likely

\* The interpretation assumes a clinically compatible syndrome and the absence of other causes of procalcitonin elevation.

Condition	Commonly encountered pathogen(s)
Alcoholism	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> and anaerobes
COPD and/or smoking	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , <i>H. influenzae</i> , <i>M. catarrhalis</i> , and <i>Legionella</i> species
Nursing home residency	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> , gram-negative bacilli, <i>H. influenzae</i> , <i>S. aureus</i> , anaerobes, and <i>C. pneumoniae</i>
Poor dental hygiene	Anaerobes
Epidemic Legionnaires' disease	<i>Legionella</i> species
Exposure to bats or soil enriched with bird droppings	<i>Histoplasma capsulatum</i>
Exposure to birds	<i>Chlamydia psittaci</i>
Exposure to rabbits	<i>Francisella tularensis</i>

**Severity of pneumonia:**

- How to know if the patient needs admission? depending on CURB-65
- What is the definition of Severe pneumonia? 3 of minor points or 1 major point:

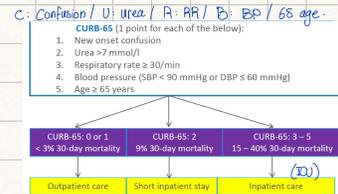
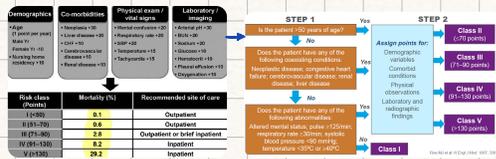
Validated definition includes either one or more minor criteria

**Minor criteria**

- Respiratory rate ≥ 30 breaths/min
- $P_{aO_2}/P_{aO_2}$  ratio = 250
- Multifocal infiltrates
- Confusion/dysorientation
- Ureaemia (blood urea nitrogen level) ≥ 20 mg/dl
- Leukopenia\* (white blood cell count < 4,000 cells/ $\mu$ l)
- Thrombocytopenia (platelet count < 100,000/ $\mu$ l)
- Hypothermia (core temperature < 36°C)
- Hypotension requiring aggressive fluid resuscitation

**Major criteria**

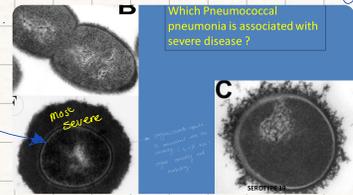
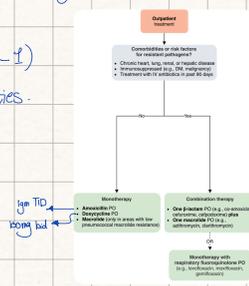
- Septic shock with need for vasopressors
- Respiratory failure requiring mechanical ventilation



Note: The most common pathogen of pneumonia is *Strep. pneumoniae* of CAP → only affects humans (through secretions), naso pharyngeal colonization of young children is the main source of infection in adults, it has over 90 serotype → The severity of these serotypes depends on the polysaccharide capsule (the thicker = the more severe).

**Treatment of CAP:**

① (Outpatient) → CURB 65: (0-1) → then if healthy or has comorbidities.





## Bronchoectasis

- Abnormal bronchial dilation (shaped as cylindrical, saccular, varicose)
- Incidence declining since preantibiotic era
- Causes:
  - ① Cystic fibrosis
  - ② TB Fungi
  - ③ ciliary disorders (immotile cilia syndrome)
  - ④ immune deficiency (IgG, IgA)
  - ⑤ post-necrotizing infection (pneumonia → especially in childhood) (Measles, influenza, pertussis)
  - ⑥ CT disease (RA, Sjogren)
  - ⑦ HIV
  - ⑧ IBD
  - ⑨ Alpha 1 AT deficiency (emphysema with recurrent pulmonary infections)
  - ⑩ Reflux
  - ⑪ Bronchial obstruct
  - ⑫ Allergic bronchopulmonary Aspergillosis

### Pathophysiology:

- Bronchiectasis occurs as a result of a vicious circle consisting of an impaired mucociliary transport system, inflammation, infection and repair of the airways with peribronchial fibrosis
- Damage to the mucociliary system prevents secretion elimination and facilitates bacterial growth and bronchial inflammation.

- Expectorated sputum has increased concentrations of elastase and the chemoattractants interleukin-8, tumor necrosis factor (TNF $\alpha$ ), prostanooids.

- Localized vs. diffuse

### Clinical features + PF:

#### Symptoms

- Chronic cough
- dyspnea
- Sputum production
- Hemoptysis

#### Signs

- Wheezes and crackles
- Bronchial breathing
- Clubbing

### Diagnostic testing:

TABLE 3. DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FOR BRONCHIECTASIS.\*

Type of Test	Abnormality Tests		
	BLOOD	IMAGING	OTHER
Primary	Complete and differential blood count; IgG, IgA, IgM	High-resolution CT	Spirometry or bronchodilator test
Secondary	Rheumatoid factor; IgG, aspergillus precipitins (ASPA); IgG subclasses; alpha <sub>1</sub> -antitrypsin level	Sinus CT	Sputum bacterial, mycobacterial, fungal culture and sensitivity; bronchoscopy with mucosal biopsy, cultures (for focal obstruction, infection, primary ciliary dyskinesia); sweat chloride test analysis (for cystic fibrosis)

### Tx:

#### Treatment

- Antibiotics for exacerbations
  - Bacterial colonization increases risk of exacerbation
  - Inhaled vs oral vs parenteral
- Bronchodilators for reversible airflow limitation.
- Surgery in cases of medical failure and localized disease (rare)
- Treatment of hemoptysis

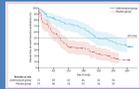
#### Treatment

- Bronchopulmonary hygiene
  - Physical measures to promote sputum clearance
  - DNAase
  - NAC
- Treatment of underlying cause



#### Nebulized Hypertonic saline

- Improvement of mucociliary clearance
- Decreases mucus viscosity
- Stimulates cough
- Enhances the effectiveness of respiratory physiotherapy
- Inhibits epithelial sodium channels (ENaC)



\* In a randomized controlled trial, 2 weeks of 7% hypertonic saline nebulization significantly decreases the rate of acute flare exacerbations and increases the time to the first acute flare exacerbation compared with placebo.

## Lecture 7: plural diseases