

# Wheeze

---

Monophonic & Polyphonic

# Wheeze

---

- Continual
- High-pitched
- 'Musical' quality sounds
- End inspiration or at the start of expiration

## Pathophysiology



When airway lumen gets smaller, the airflow velocity increases, resulting in vibration of the airway wall and the tonal quality.

# Wheeze

## Monophonic



- Wheeze with a single note
- Starts and ends at different points in time
- Examples
  - **Bronchial tumor** - Pitch and timing is fixed as the tumor is static
  - **Fixed foreign body** in child

## Polyphonic



- Wheeze with several different tones
- Start and finish at the same time
- Fixed compression occurs in multiple bronchi at the same time
- Heard in obstructive airway diseases like COPD, asthma, bronchiectasis etc
- Caused by second- or third-order bronchi closing at the same time at end expiration, as the pressures within the airway keeping them patent are reduced
- In healthy people at end expiration (forceful expiration)

Like | Share | Subscribe

LAST SECOND **MEDICINE**

---