

"Not all that wheezes is Bronchial Asthma."

Chevalier Jackson

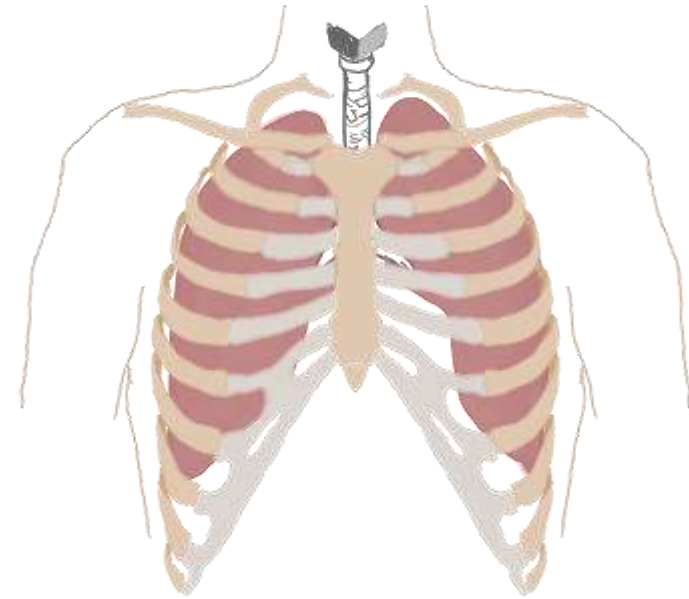
American Otolaryngologist
(1930s)



DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSES OF WHEEZE

Wheeze is the sound produced when air travels through a narrowed airway

1. Causes of **Lower Airways** Obstruction
2. Causes of **Upper Airway** Obstruction
 - a. **Extra-thoracic** Upper airway obstruction
 - b. **Intra-thoracic** Upper airway obstruction



Causes for **Lower Airway** Obstruction

Astma

COPD

Pulmonary oedema

Gastric aspiration

Bronchiolitis

Cystic fibrosis

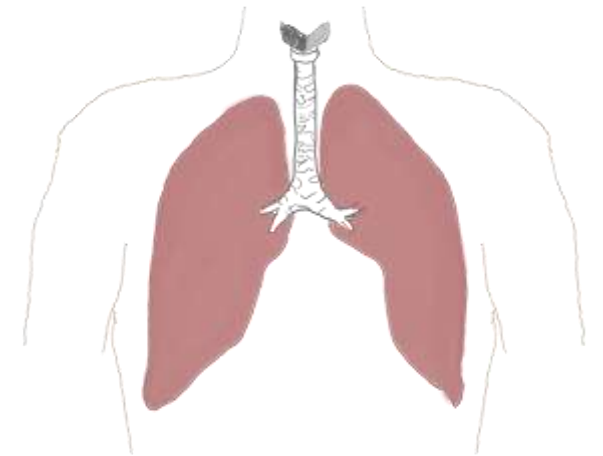
Carcinoid syndrome

Lymphangitic carcinomatosis

Parasitic infections

Bronchospasm of various causes

- Anaphylaxis
- Toxic fumes inhalation
- Post-viral infection
- Drug-induced



Causes for **Upper Airway** Obstruction

Extrathoracic

Post-nasal drip

Vocal cord dysfunction

Hypertrophied tonsils

Upper airway tumours

Retropharyngeal abscess

Laryngeal oedema or stenosis

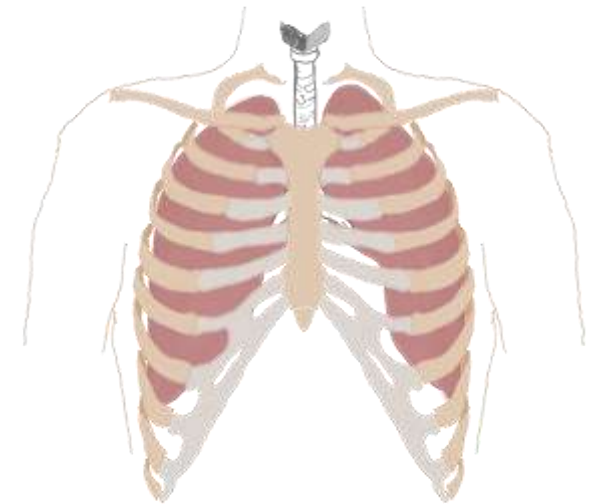
Laryngocoele

Vocal cord paralysis

Relapsing polychondritis

Cricoarytenoid arthritis

Granulomatosis with polyangiitis



Causes for **Upper Airway** Obstruction

Intrathoracic

Tracheal stenosis

Airway tumors

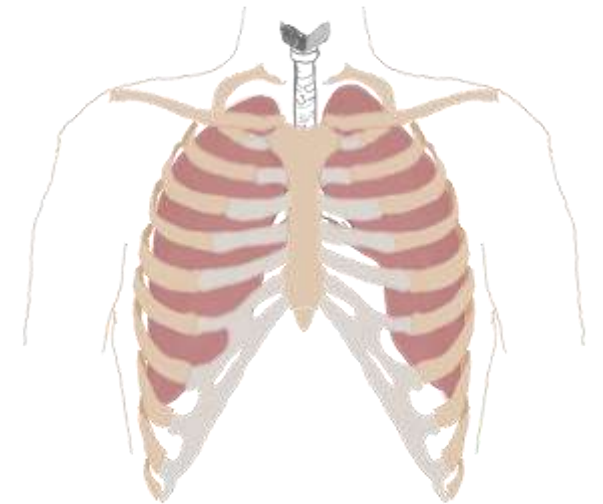
Foreign body aspiration

Intrathoracic goiter

Tracheobronchomegaly

Tracheomalacia

Vascular compression



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