

# Lecture 12

## Respiratory system

- Functions
- Epithelial lining
- Nasal cavity
- Larynx
- Pharynx
- Trachea
- Lungs + Bronchial tree
- Blood-air barrier
- Development of the respiratory system
- Lung regeneration

**Brno, September 2019**

# Respiratory system – Functions

## Respiratory function

supply of O<sub>2</sub> + elimination of CO<sub>2</sub>

Respiration = overall exchange of gasses between atmosphere and cells

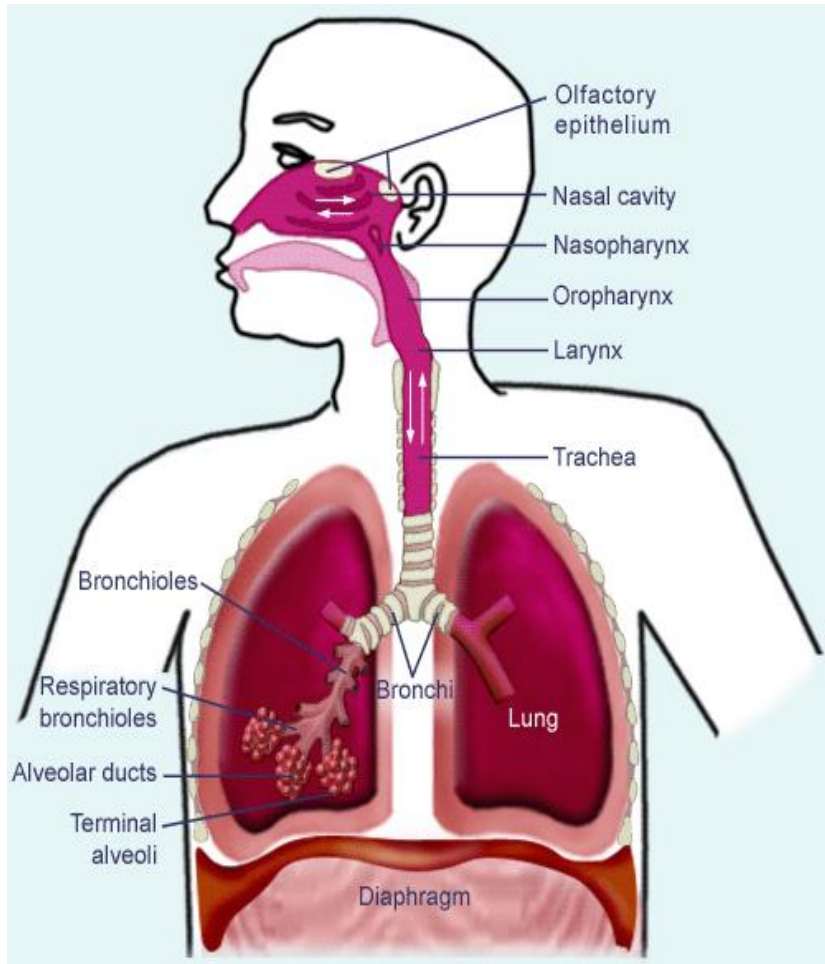
*Involves:*

- pulmonary ventilation
- gas exchange: External + Internal respiration
- gas transport

## Non-respiratory functions:

- synthesis, activation and inactivation of vasoactive substances, hormones, neuropeptides, eicosanoids, lipoprotein complexes.
- hemostatic functions (thromboplastin, heparin)
- lung defense: complement activation, leucocyte recruitment, cytokines and growth factors
- speech, vomiting, defecation, childbirth

# Respiratory system – Overall composition



## Anatomic

## Functional

### Upper respiratory tract

- nasal cavity
- *paranasal sinuses*
- nasopharynx
- oropharynx

### Conducting portion

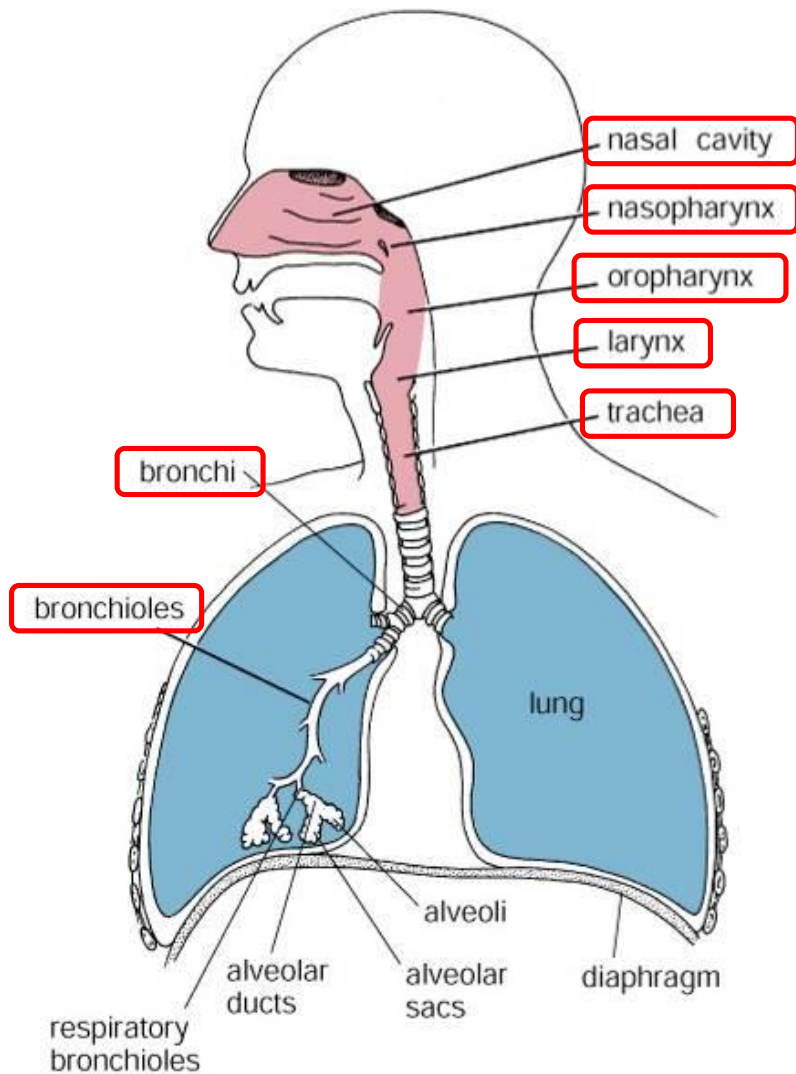
### Lower respiratory tract

- larynx
- trachea
- bronchi (extra- + intrapulmonary)
- bronchioles (up to terminal)

- respiratory bronchioles
- alveolar ducts
- alveolar sacs
- alveoles

### Respiratory portion

# Conducting portion – General features

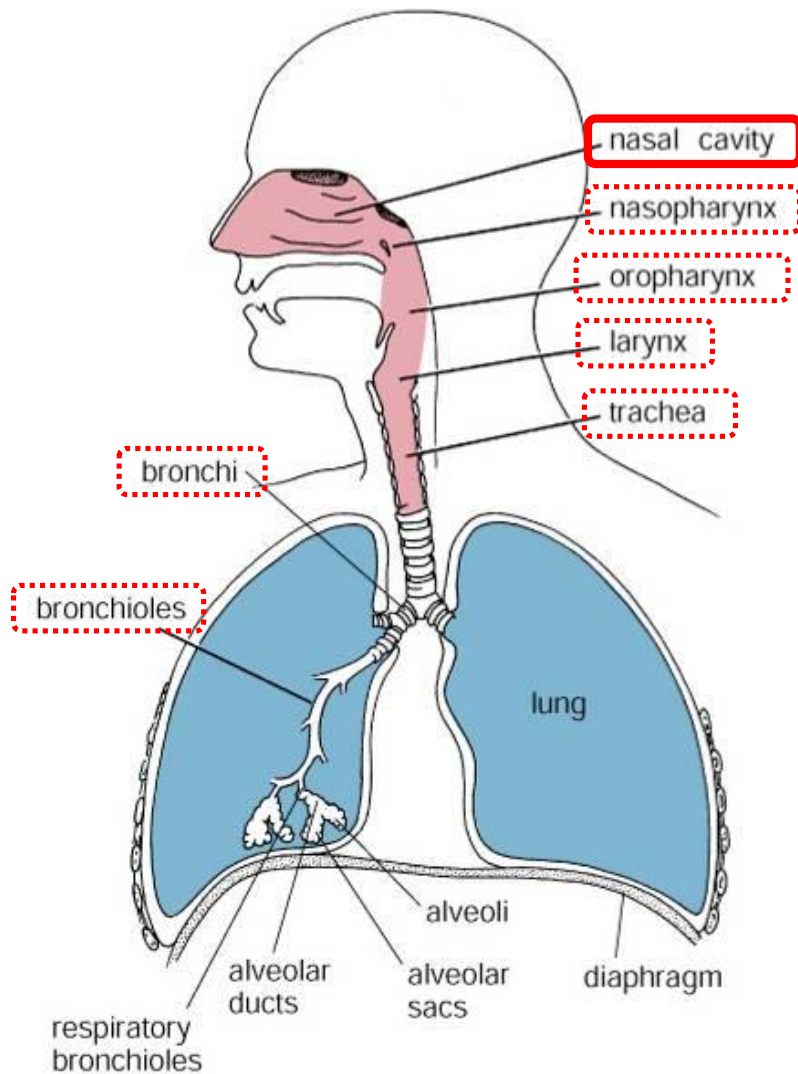


- Function**
- Transport
  - Moistening
  - Filtering
  - Warming

- Composition**
- Bone and/or cartilage**  
*(mechanical support)*
- Mucosal lining**
- Epithelium
  - Lamina propria

Figure 18.1. Diagram of respiratory passages.

# Conducting portion – Nasal cavity + Paranasal sinuses



## Left + Right nasal cavity (separated by osseous/cartilagineous nasal septum)

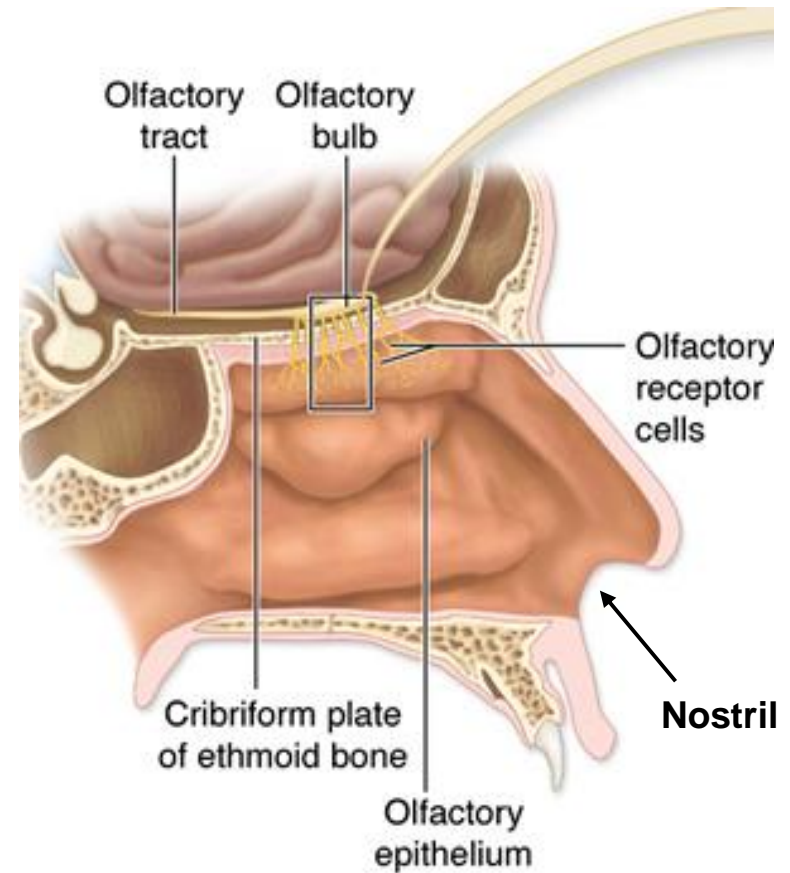
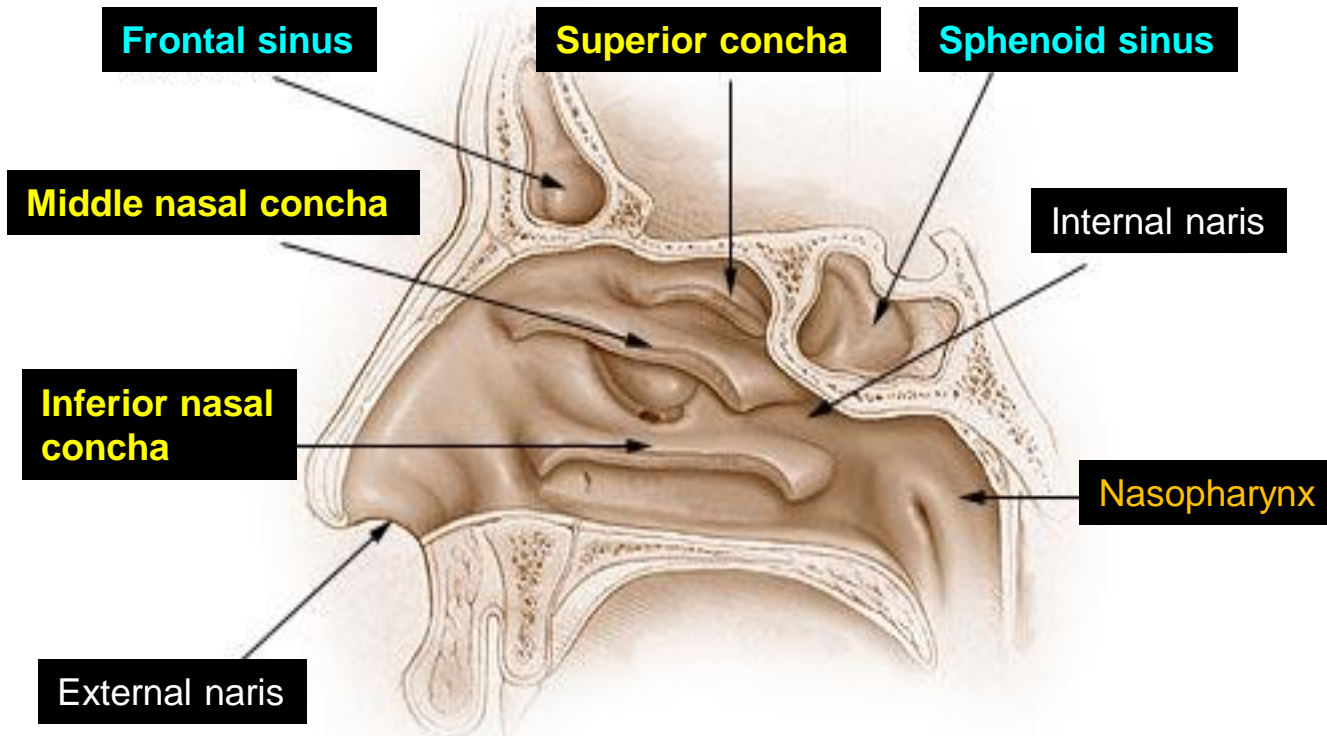
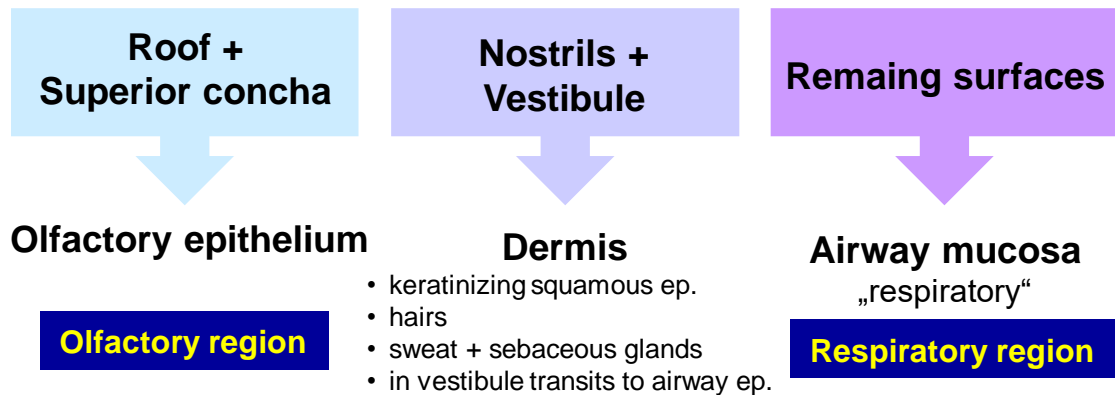


Figure 18.1. Diagram of respiratory passages.

# Conducting portion – Nasal cavity + Paranasal sinuses

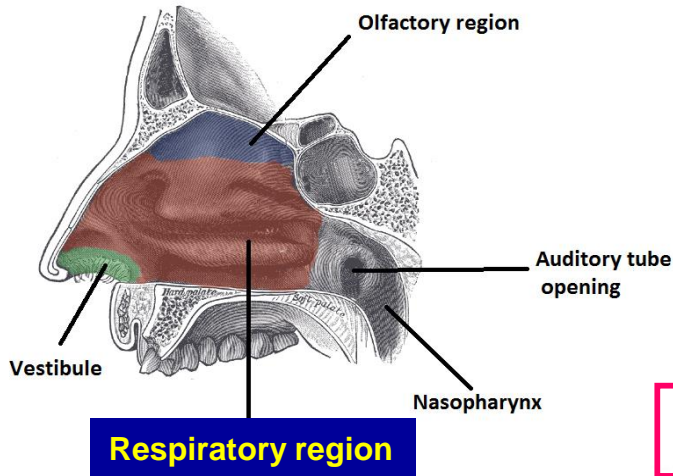


## Lining of the nasal cavity



Support: bone and/or cartilage

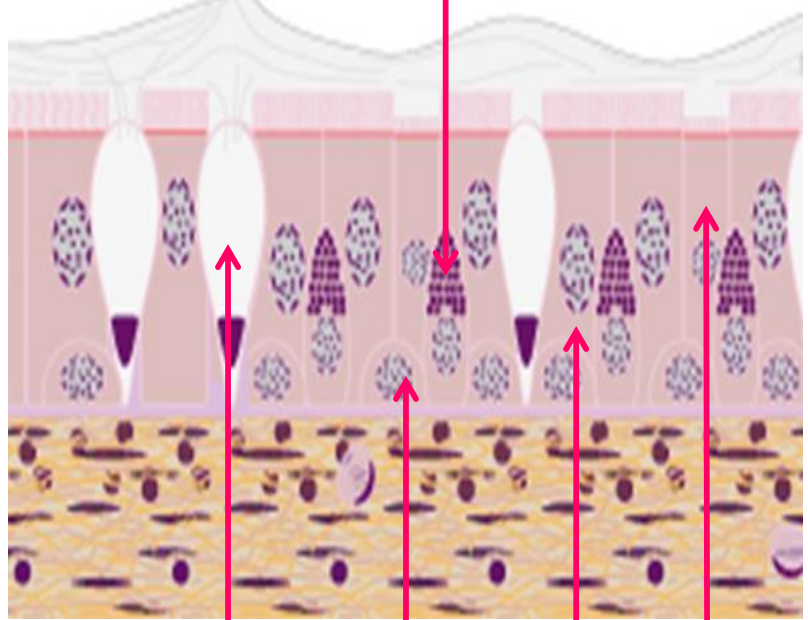
No submucosa and/or hypodermis



# Nasal cavity - Airway musosa

= respiratory mucosa – lines most of the conducting portion of the respiratory system

**Small granule cells** (Kulchitsky)  
DNES – diffuse neuroendocrine system



Mucous layer

**Ciliated pseudotratiified collumnar epithelium**  
(min. 5 types of cells)

**Goblet cells**  
(mucin)

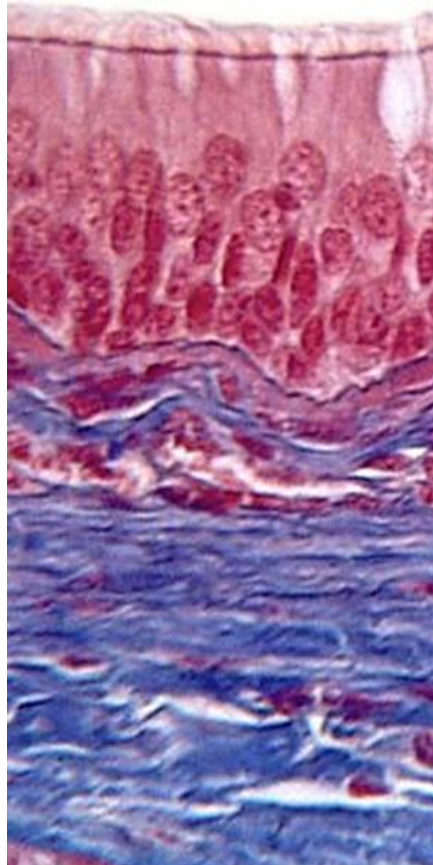
**Basal cells**  
(stem cells)

**Brush cells**  
(chemosensory)  
(similar to cells of taste buds)

**Ciliated cells**  
(most abundant)

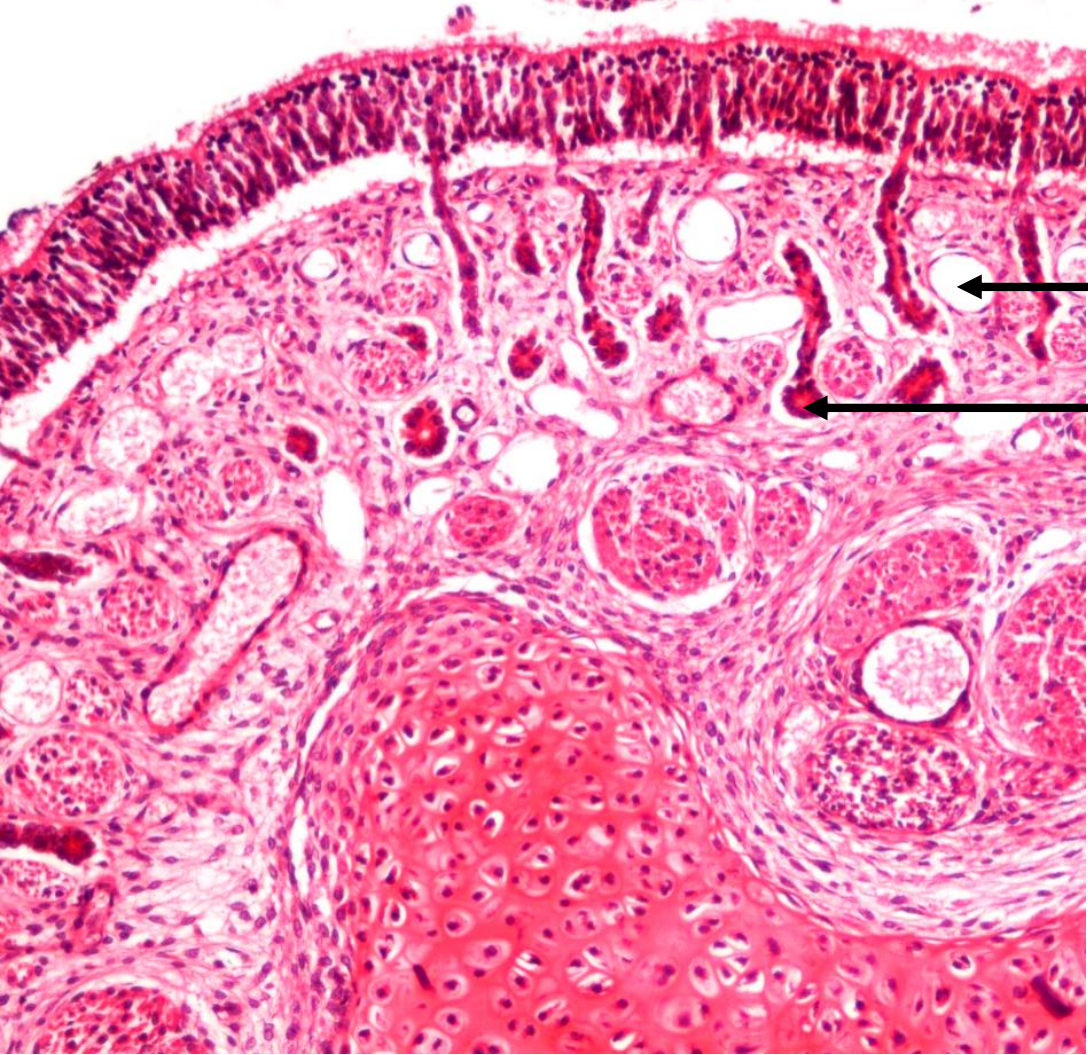
**Lamina propria mucosae**

- loose connective tissue
- arterial and venous plexuses
- many seromucinous glands
- abundant lymloid elements (nodules, mast cells, plasma cells)



# Airway mucosa

Pseudostratified epithelium →

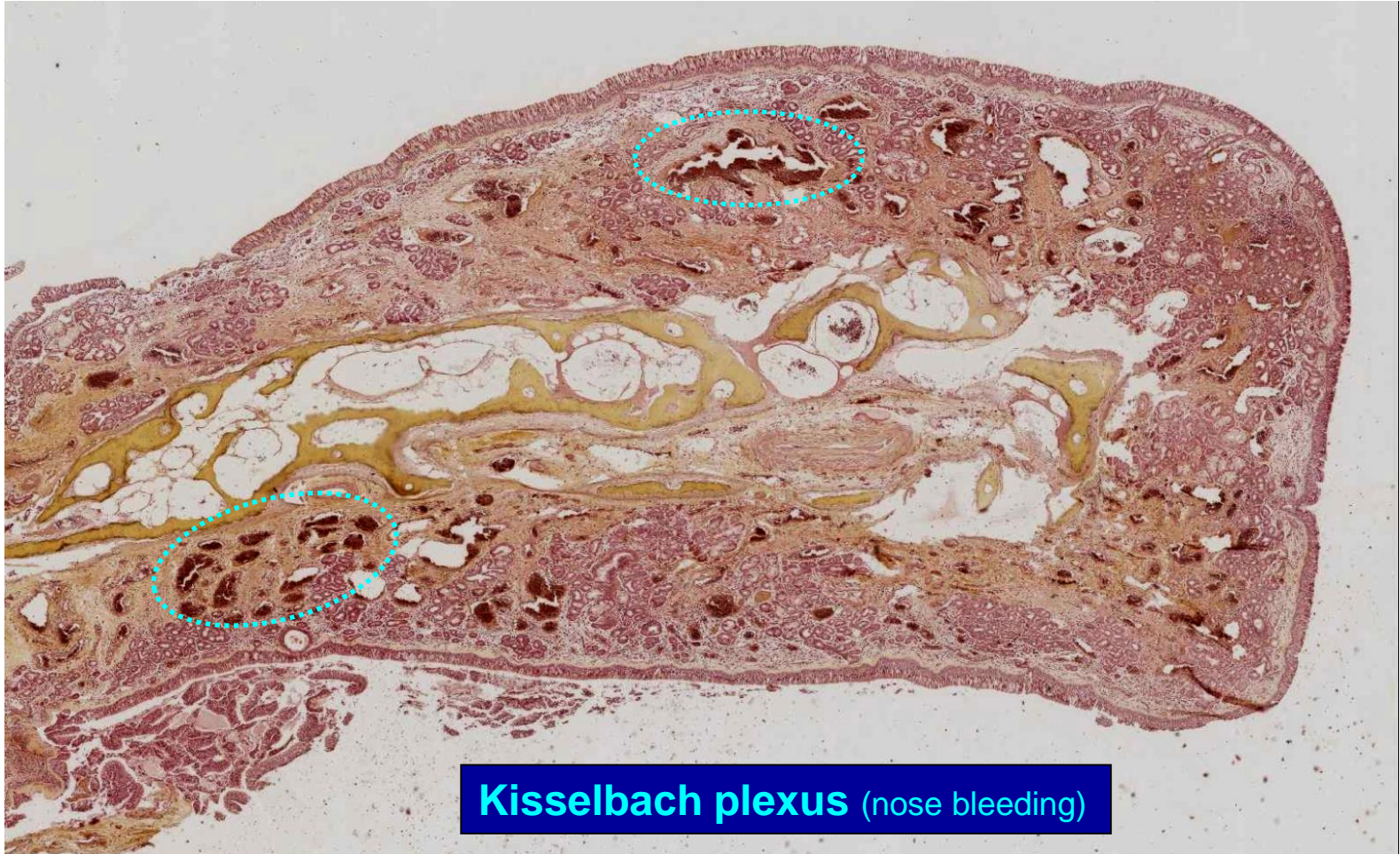


← Vein

← Gland

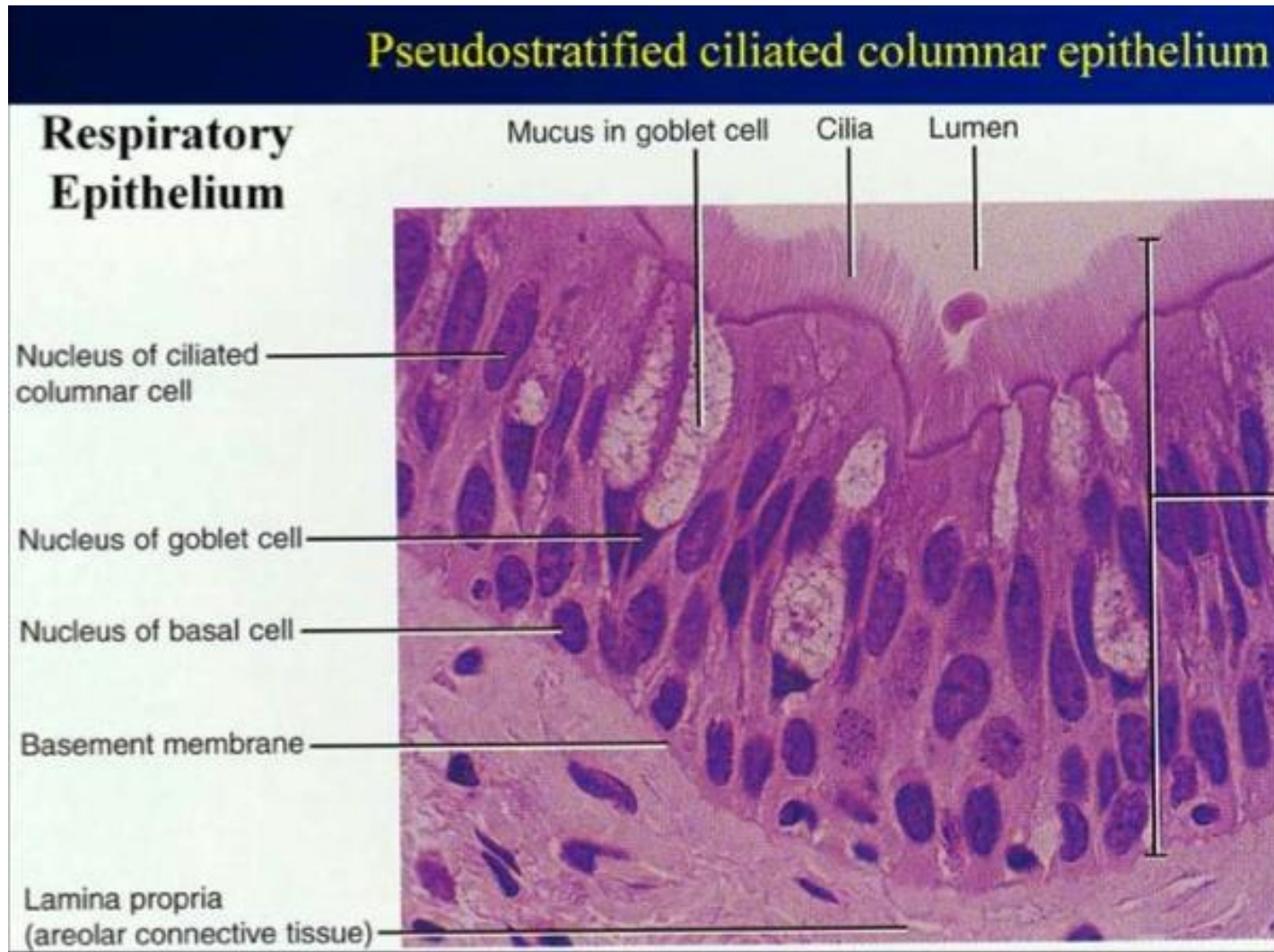


## Airway mucosa – Nasal concha (Concha nasi)



**Kesselbach plexus** (nose bleeding)

# Airway mucosa - Epithelium

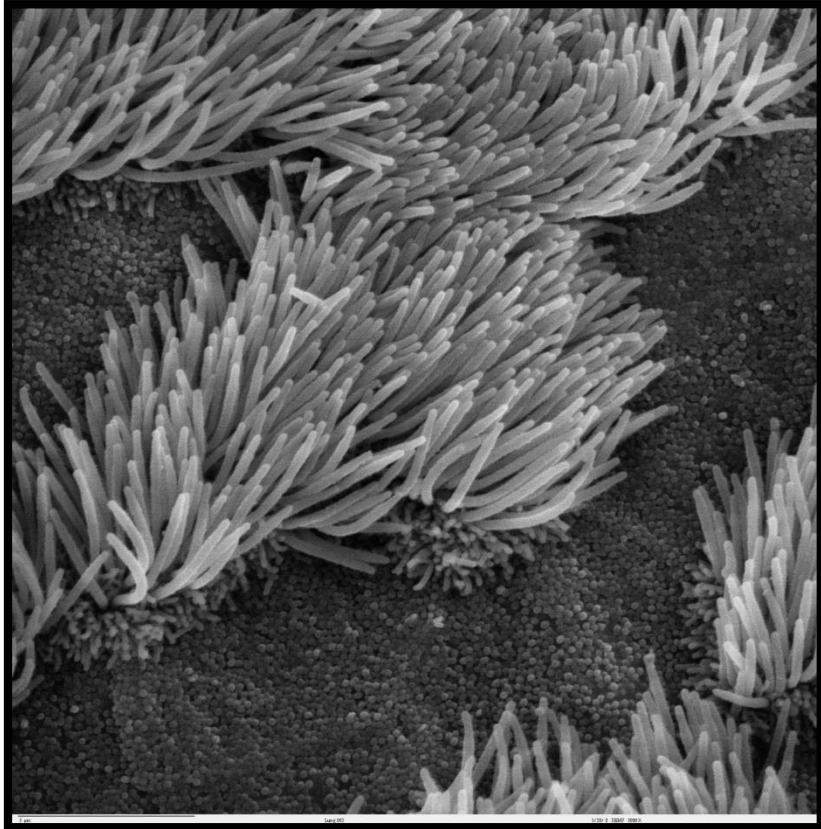


Exposure to toxic compounds

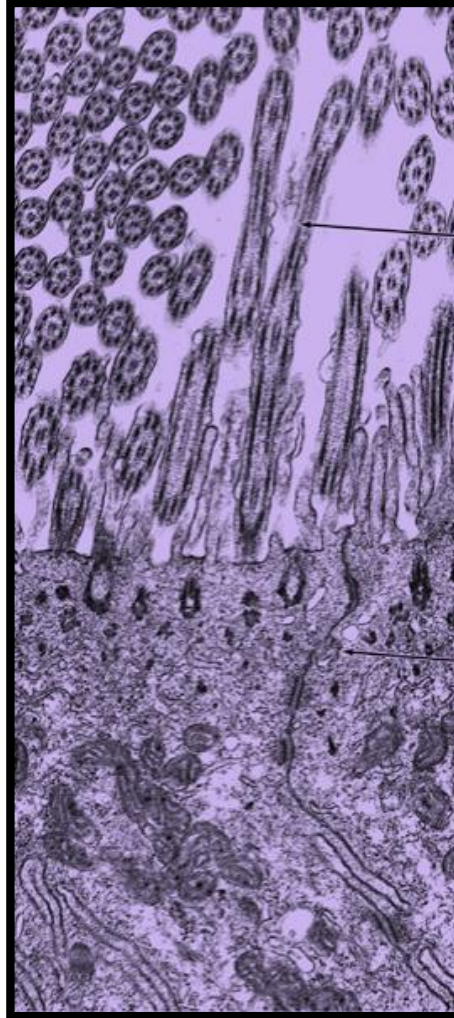
## Squamous metaplasia

- pseudostratified ciliated columnar ep. changes to squamous stratified ep.
- may develop into cell dysplasia (precancerous)

# Airway mucosa - Epithelium



Ciliated cells

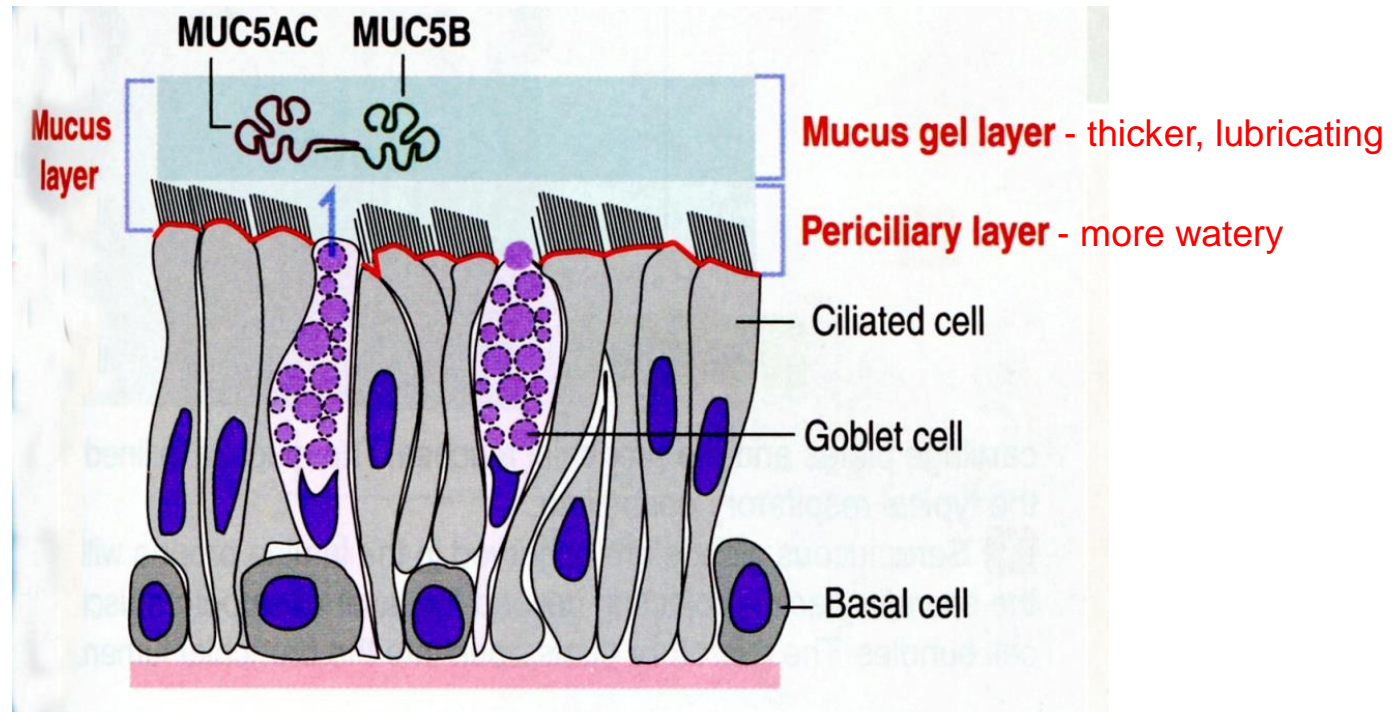
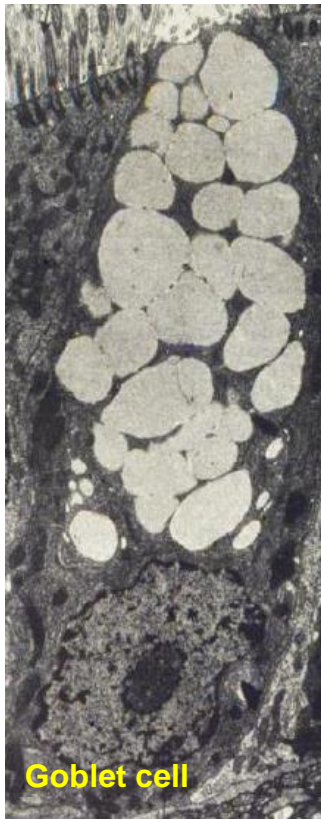


Goblet cell

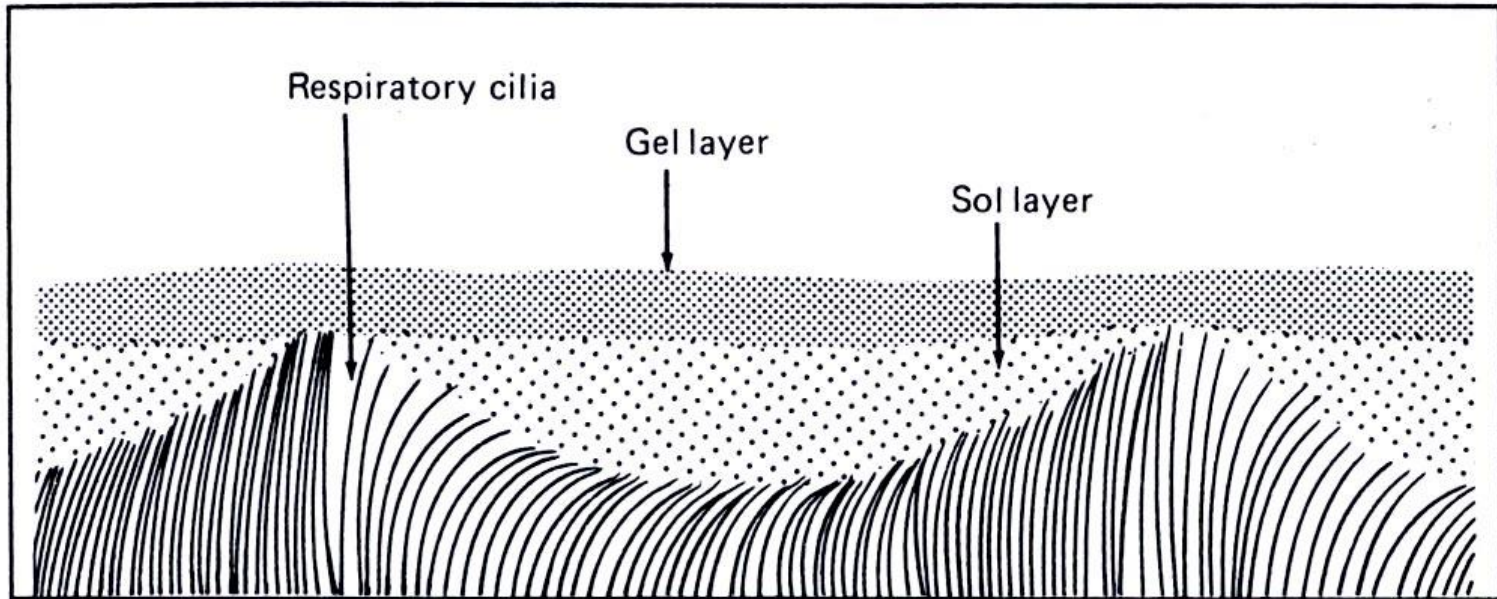
# Airway mucosa - Mucus

## Mucus

- mainly glycoproteins in water
- ensures moistening of mucosa and air
- contains IgA immunoglobulins (mucosal immunity)
- traps airborne particles (dust etc)
- helps selfcleaning of the airways

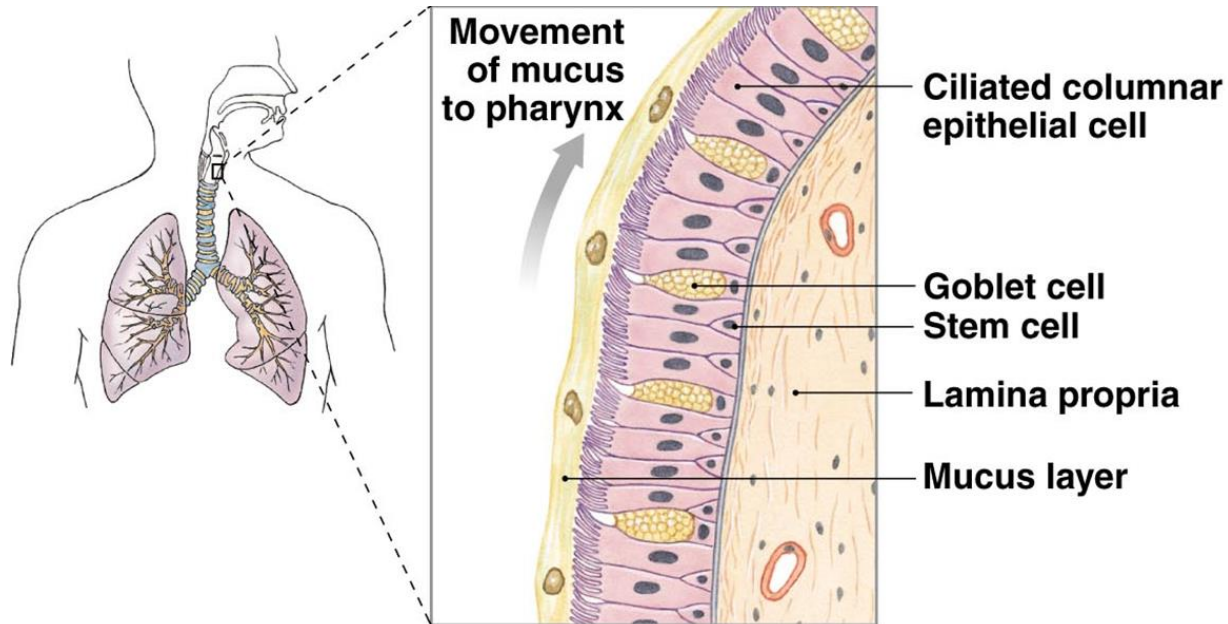


## Airway mucosa - Mucus



Respiratory cilia are bathed in the sol portion of the mucus layer above them. Their power strokes allow mucus movement by contacting the viscous gel layer, always in the same direction. (From Martin DE and Youtsey JW: Respiratory anatomy and physiology, St Louis, 1988, The CV Mosby Co.)

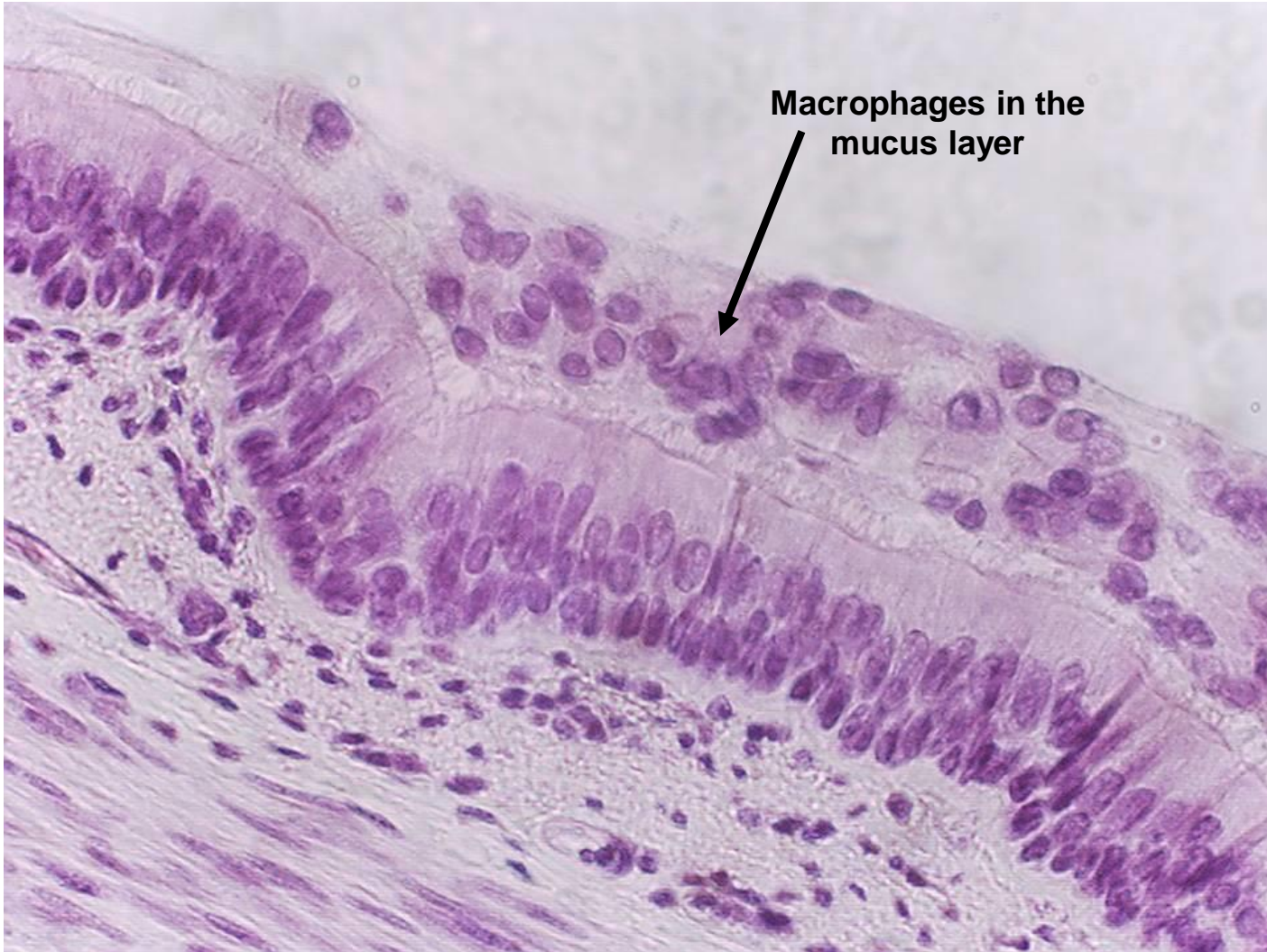
# Airway mucosa - Mucus



Cilia movement drives mucus towards pharynx.

Speed of mucocilliary transport - **5 mm / minute.**

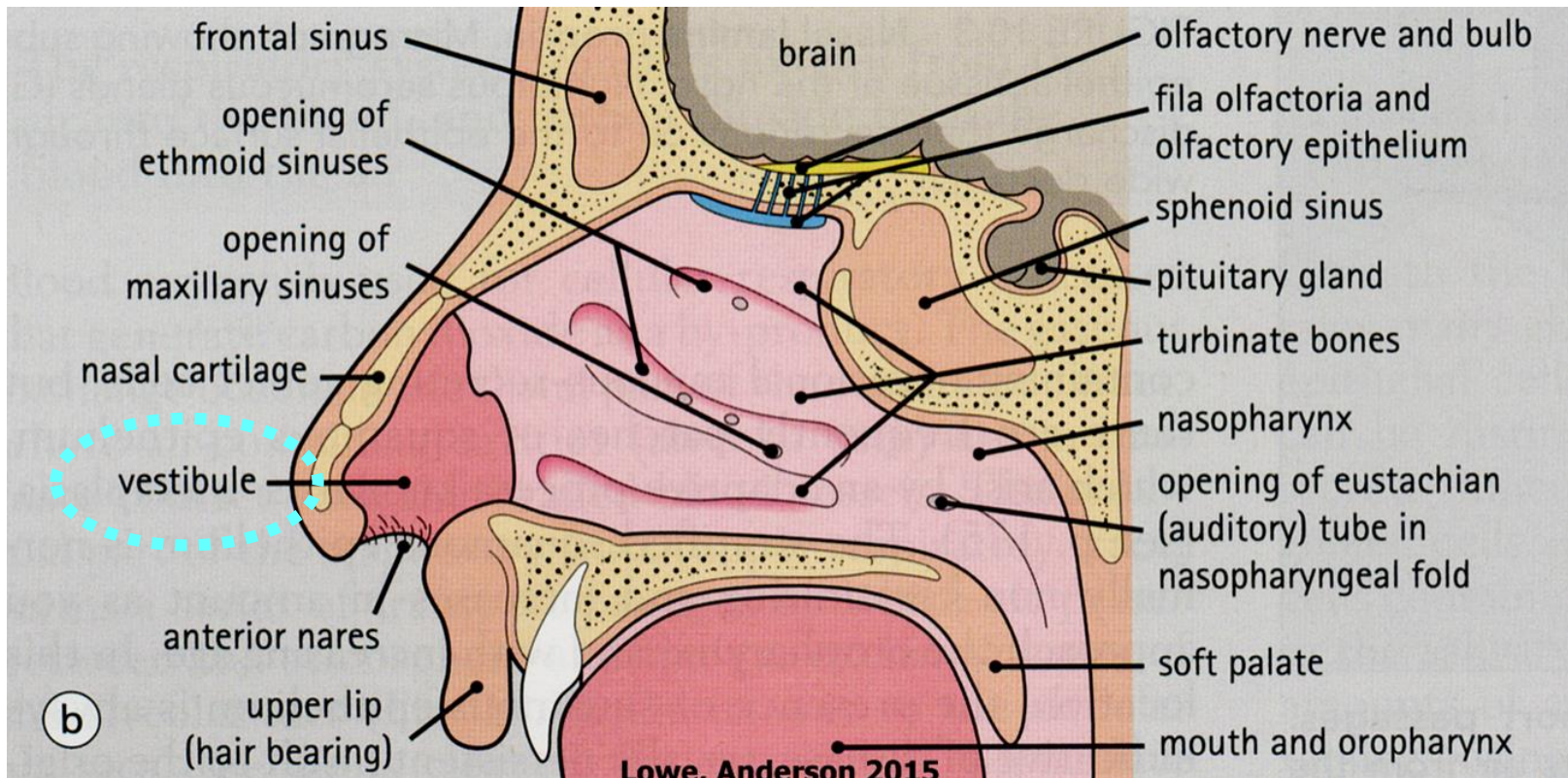
## Airway mucosa - Mucus



## Nasal cavity – Vestibule (Vestibulum nasi)

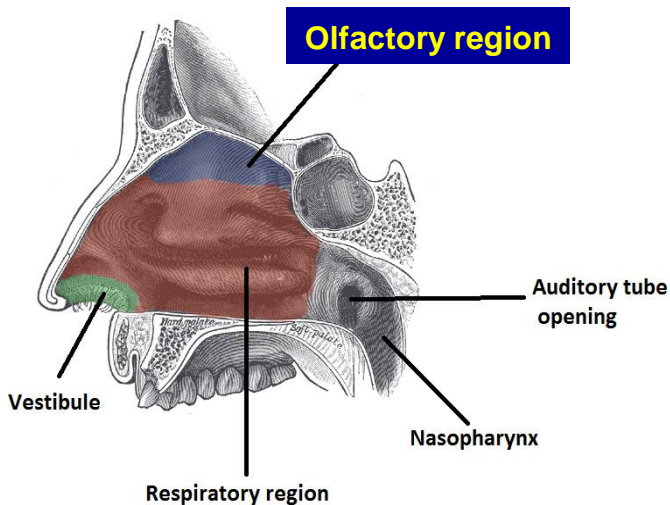
**Location:** 5 – 6 mm wide zone at the edge of nostrils

**Lining:** transition of dermis to respiratory mucosa – hairs with sebaceous glands





# Nasal cavity – Olfactory epithelium



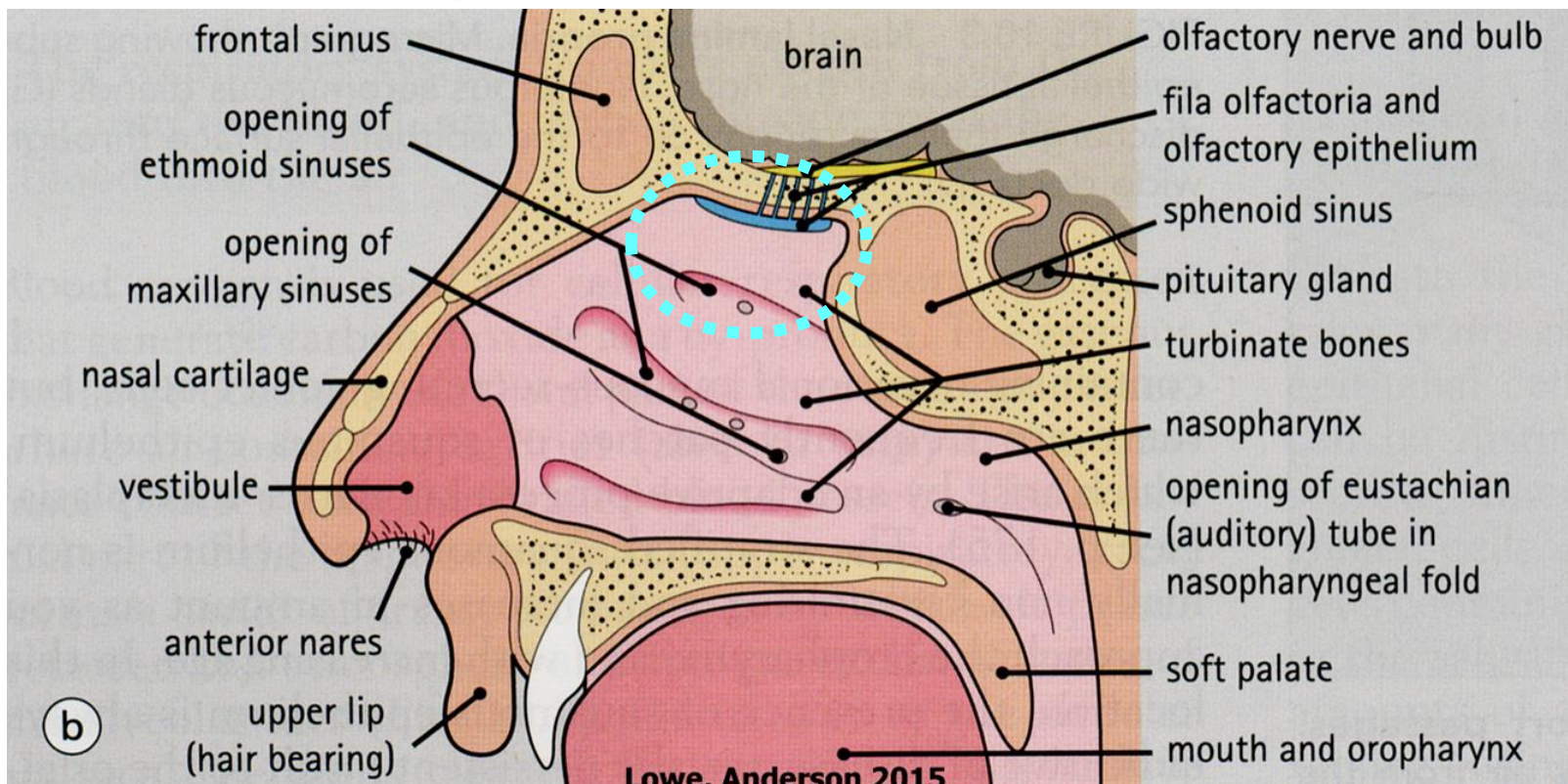
## Location:

- roof of the nasal cavity
- superior aspect of nasal septum
- superior concha

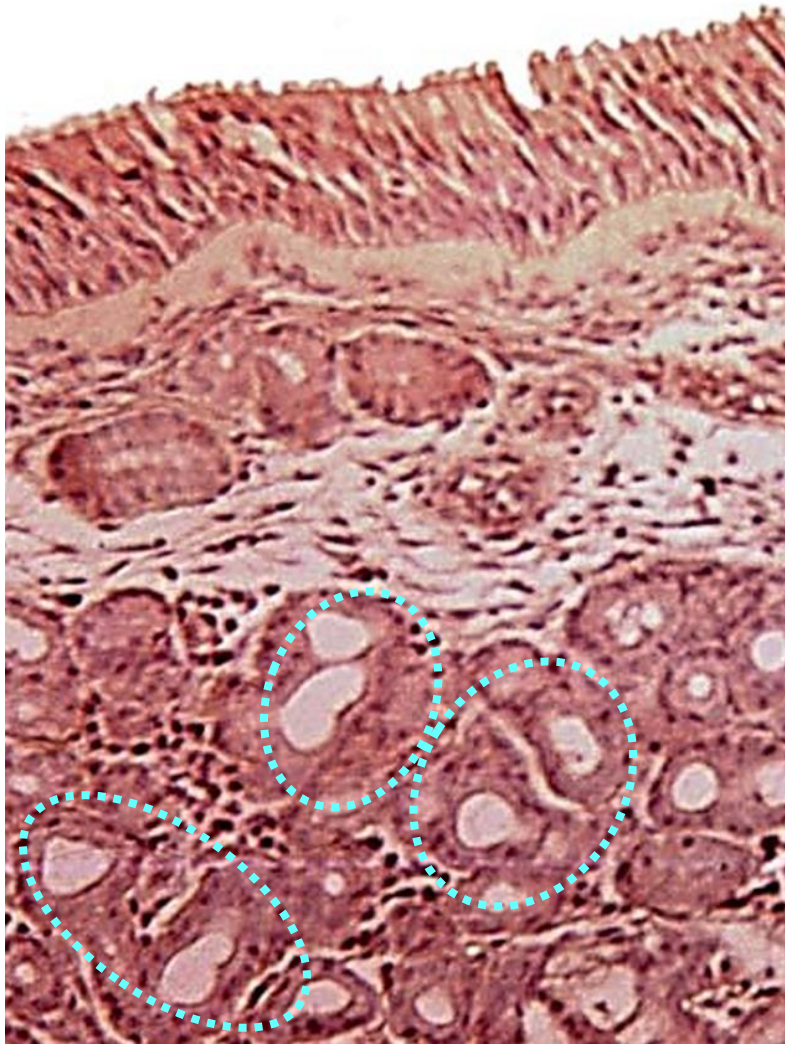
**Colour:** yellow

**Size:** approx. 7-10 cm<sup>2</sup>

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# Nasal cavity – Olfactory epithelium



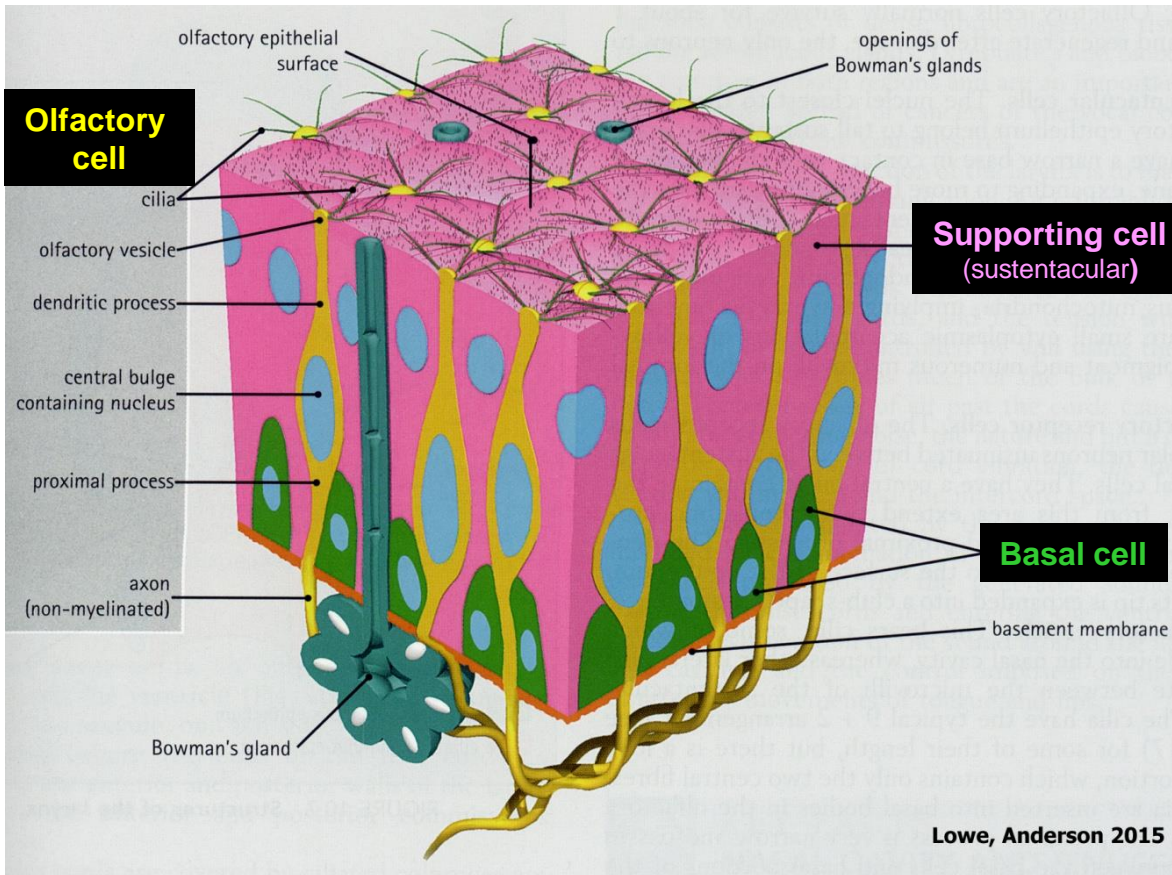
## Pseudostratified columnar epithelium

- 70 – 100  $\mu\text{m}$  thick
- 3 types of cells

## Lamina propria mucosae

- loose connective tissue
- arterial and venous plexuses
- axons of sensory cells
- Bowman's glands (tubular, branched, serous)

# Nasal cavity – Olfactory epithelium



## Olfactory cell

- bipolar neuron apical aspect – dendrite - olfactory vesicle
- 10-20 nonmotile cilia emerge from one vesicle
- modified cilia contain the odorant receptors
- basal aspect - axon

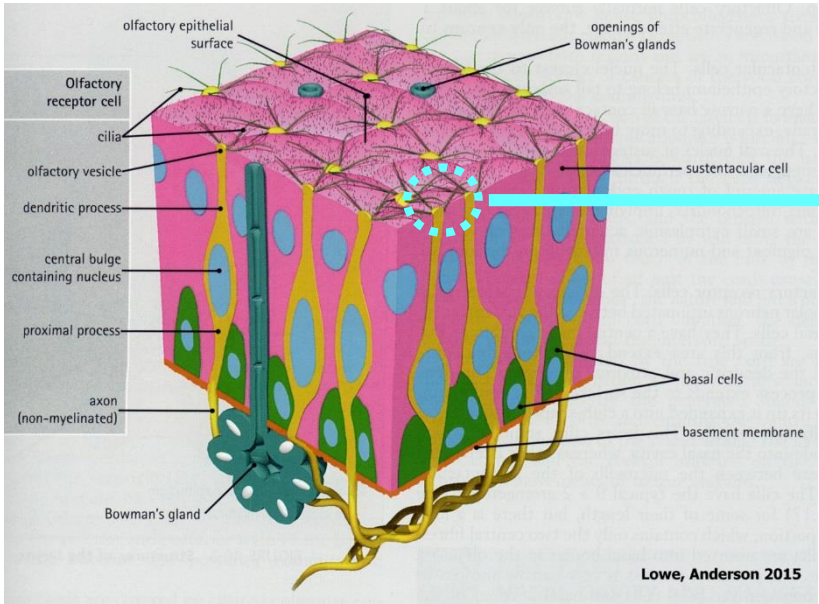
## Supporting cell (sustentacular)

- striated border - microvilli
- secretory granules
- provide physical support + nourishment

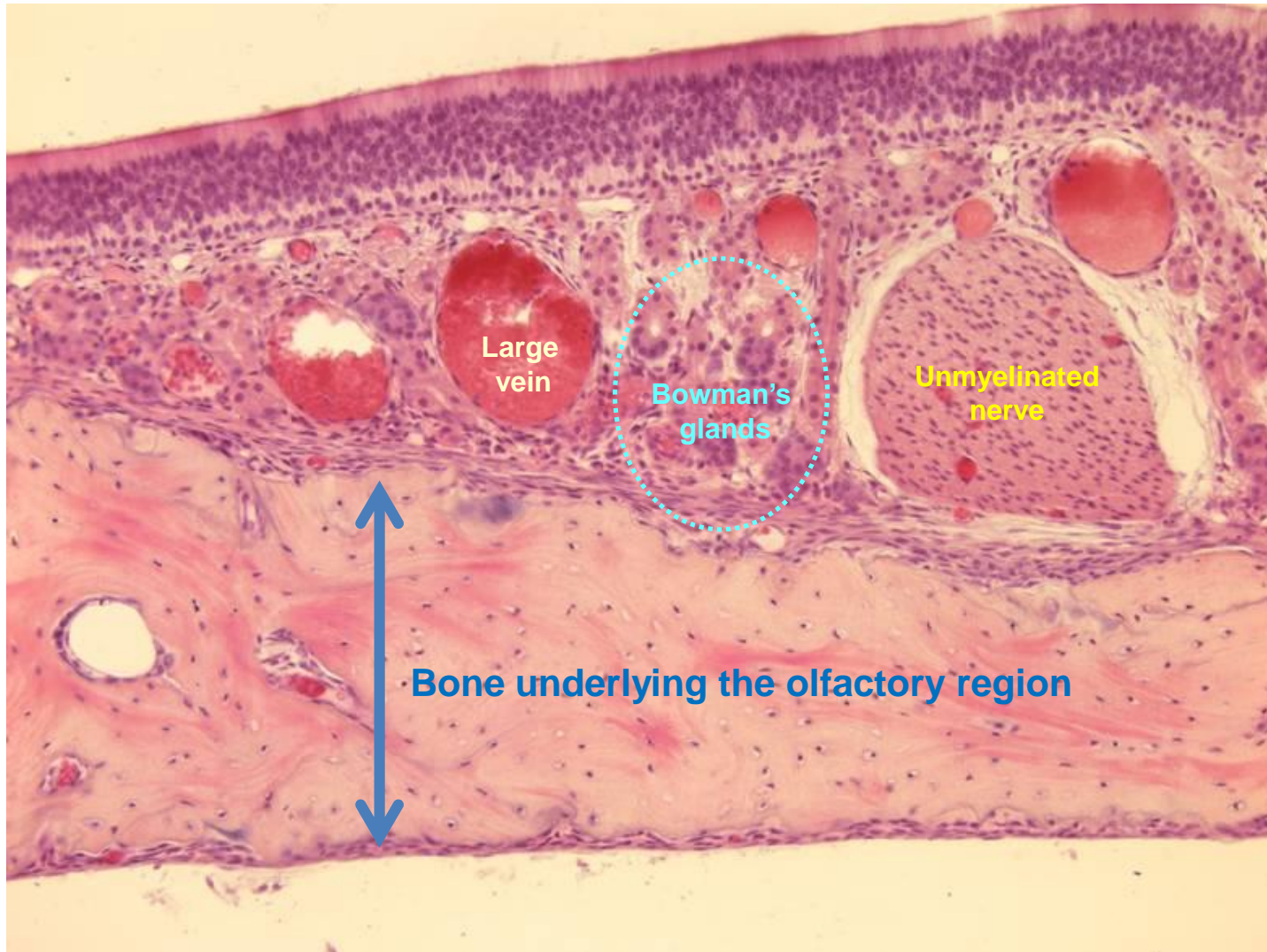
## Basal cell

- short basophilic
- stem cells to supporting and olfactory cells (*regeneration of neurons !!!*)

# Nasal cavity – Olfactory epithelium

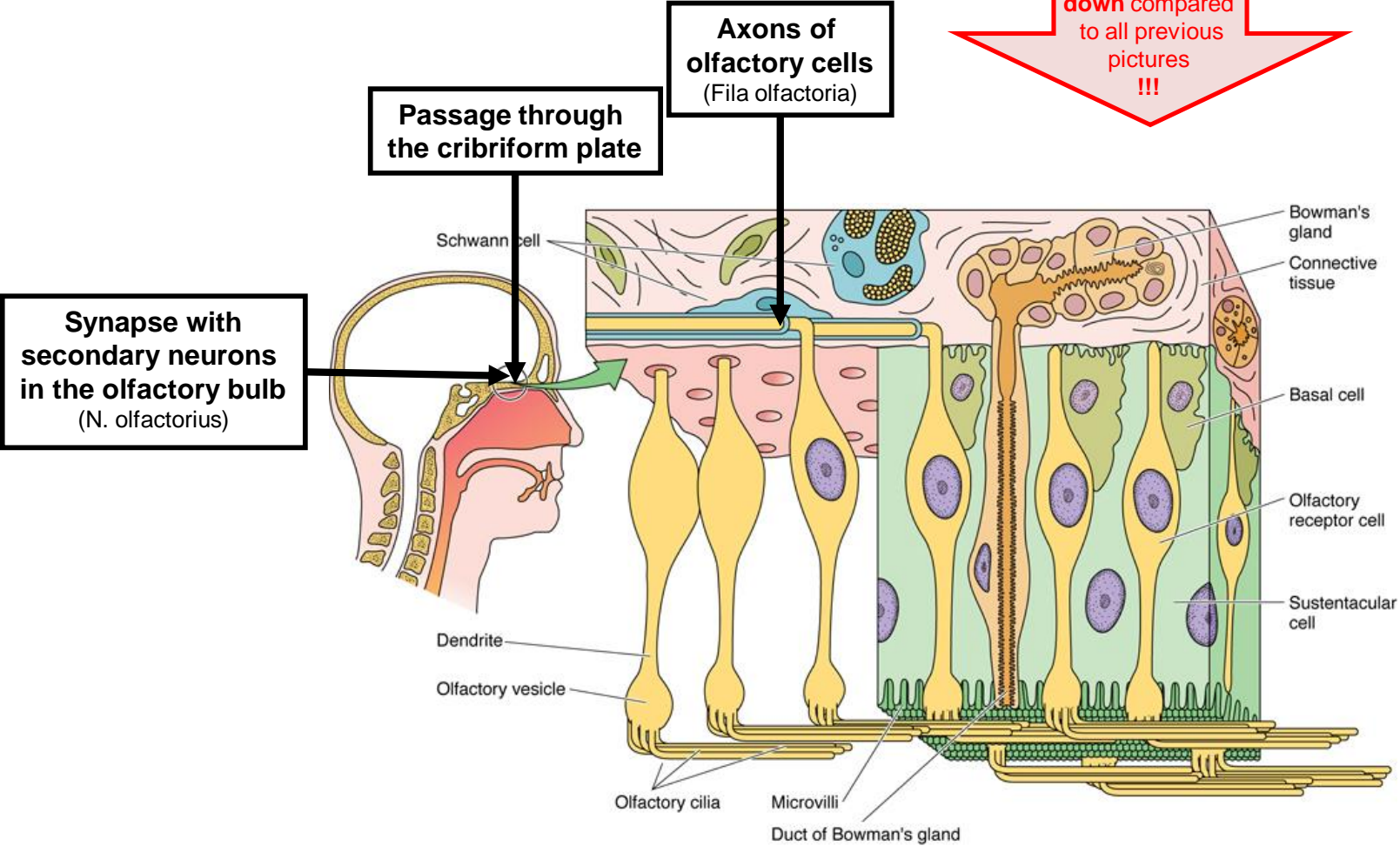


# Nasal cavity – Olfactory epithelium



# Nasal cavity – Olfactory epithelium

Flipped upside down compared to all previous pictures !!!

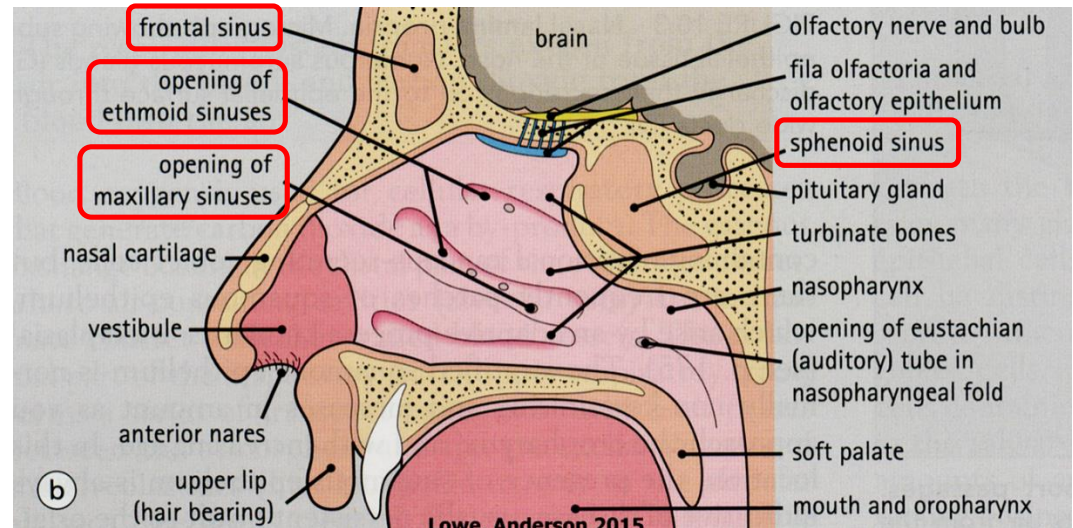
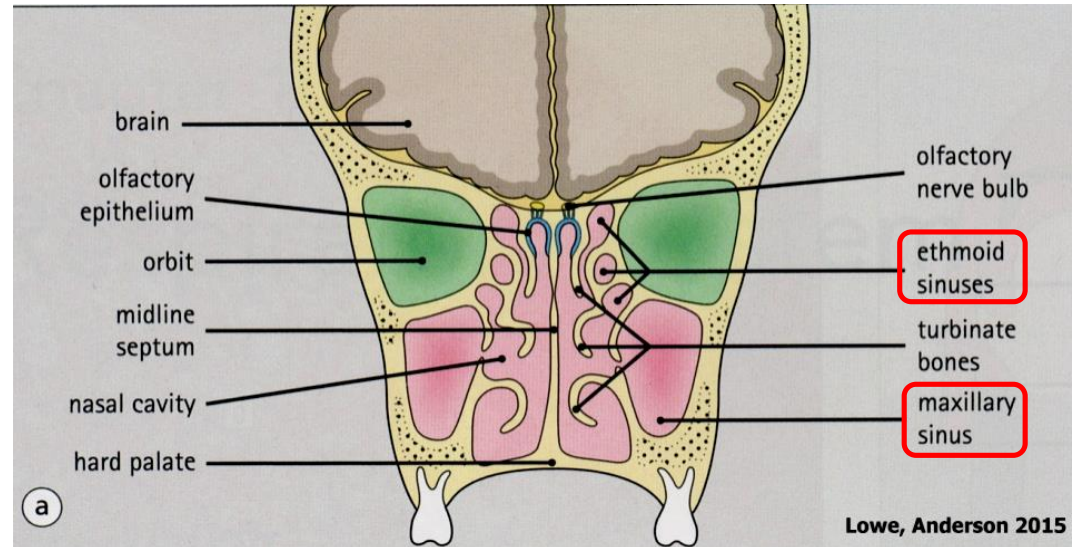
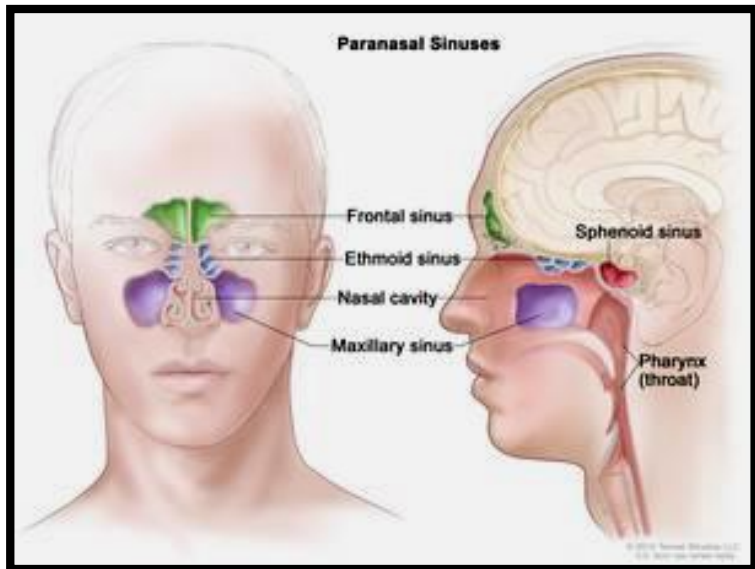


# Nasal cavity – Paranasal sinuses (Sinus paranasales)

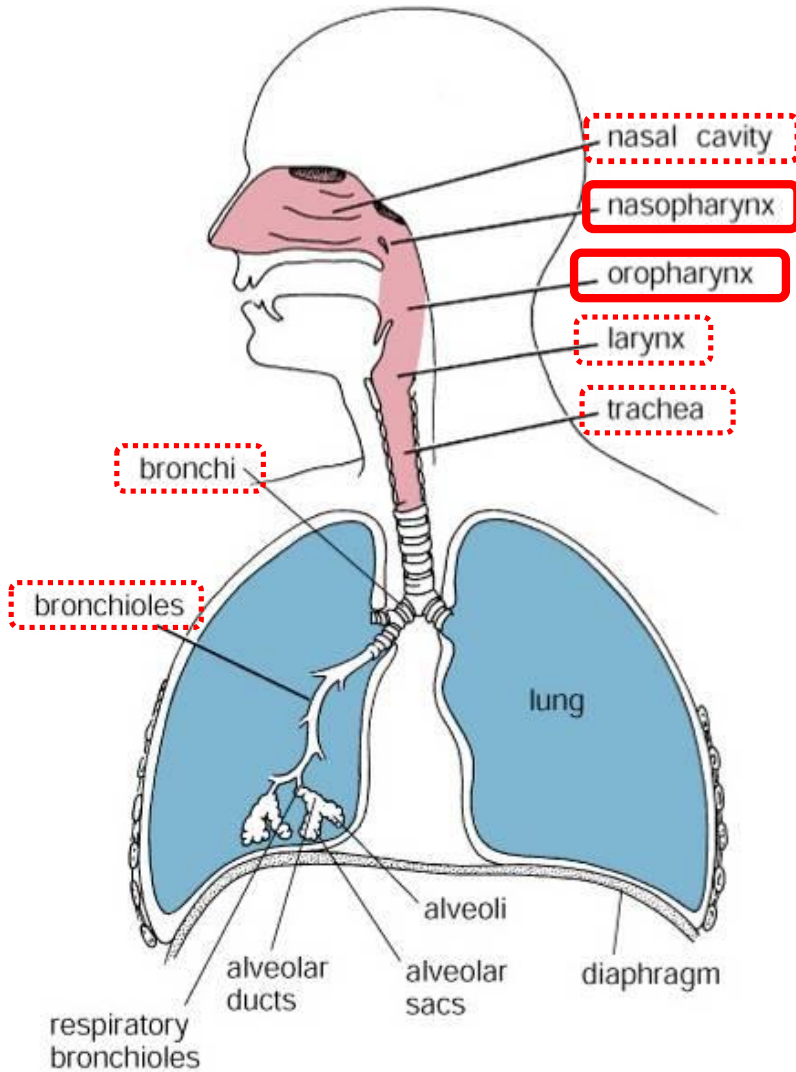
- sinus maxillaris (15-25 cm<sup>3</sup>)
- sinus ethmoidalis
- sinus frontalis
- sinus sphenoidalis

## Mucous lining

- similar to airway mucosa
- thinner
- less glands
- no submucosa



# Nasopharynx (Pars nasalis pharyngis) + Oropharynx (Pars oralis pharyngis)



## Junction of respiratory and digestive tracts

### Nasopharynx

- pseudostratified ciliated columnar epithelium
- tonsilla pharyngea – infiltration of lamina propria by lymphocytes
- entry of Eustachian tube

### Oropharynx

- stratified squamous epithelium

Figure 18.1. Diagram of respiratory passages.



# Larynx

Voicebox - responsible for phonation

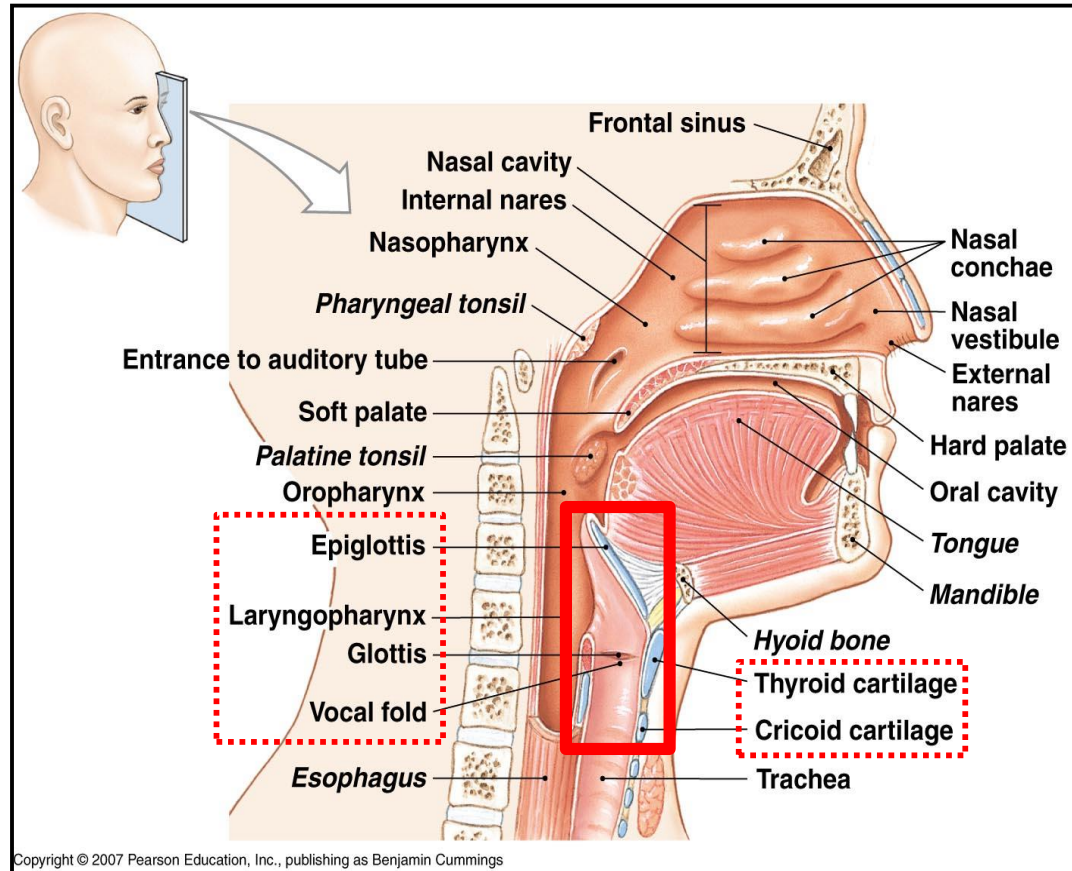
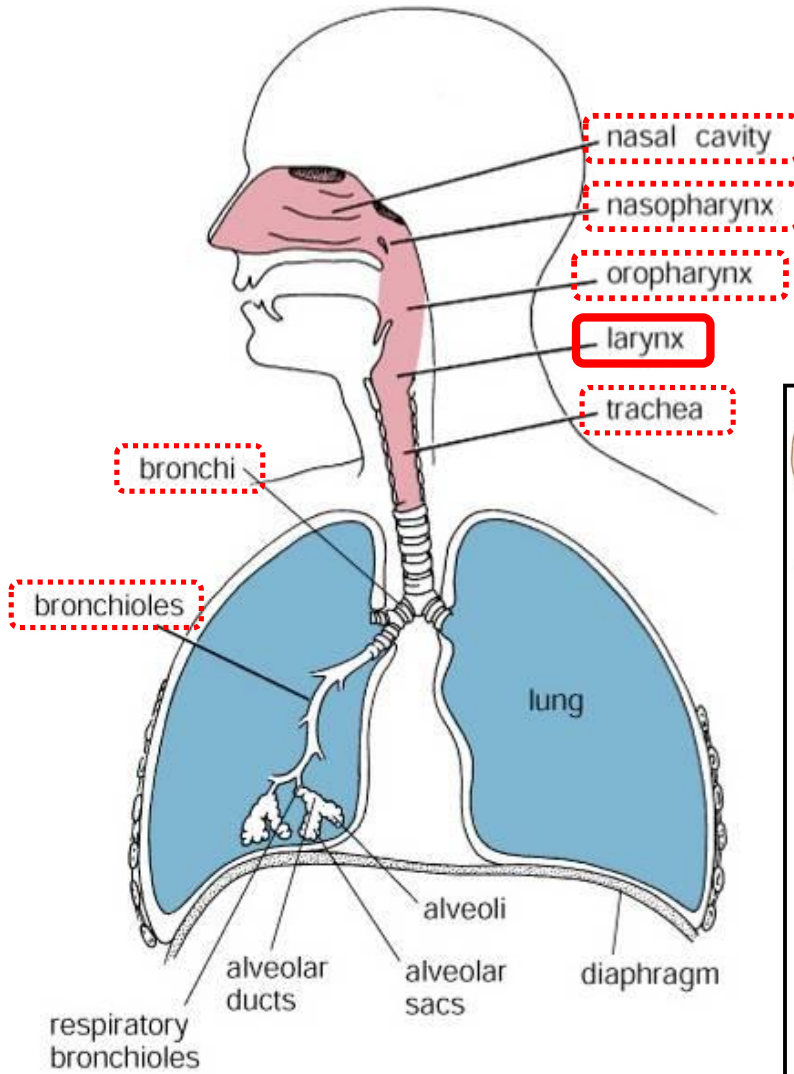
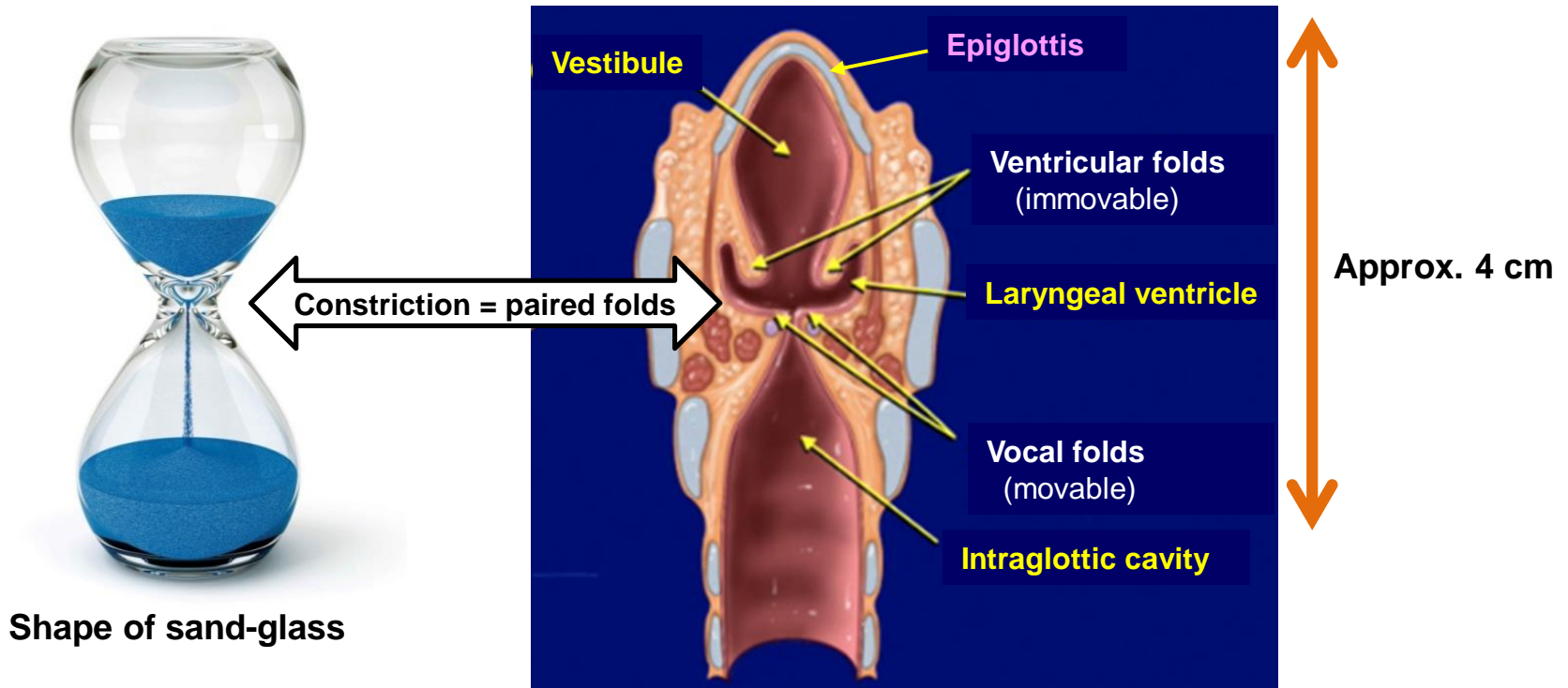


Figure 18.1. Diagram of respiratory passages.

# Larynx – Overall anatomy

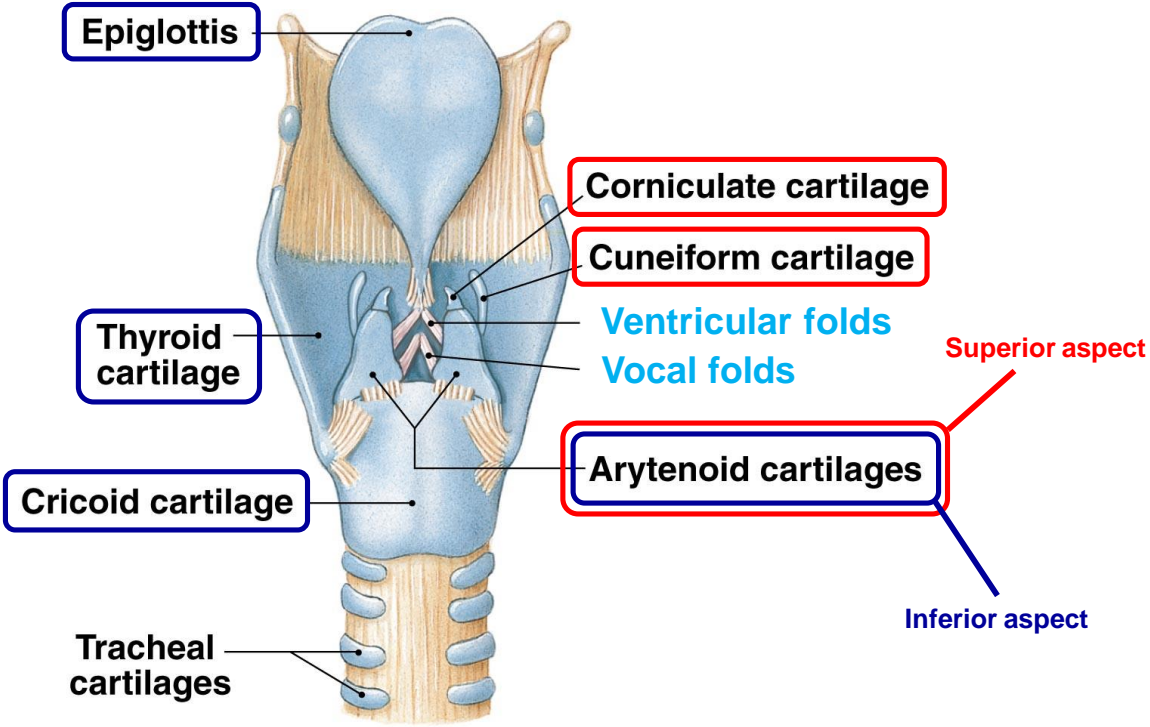
## Frontal section



# Larynx – Reinforcement

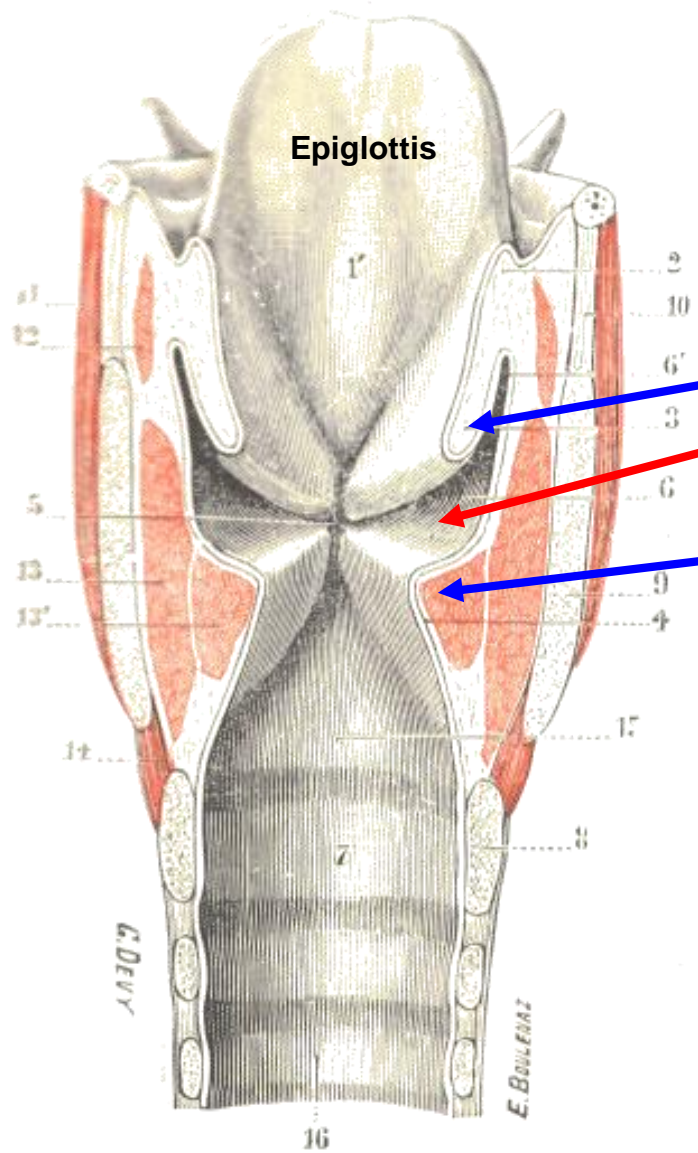
**Cartilages**  
joint by ligaments and operated by muscles

- Hyaline
- Elastic



(b) Posterior view

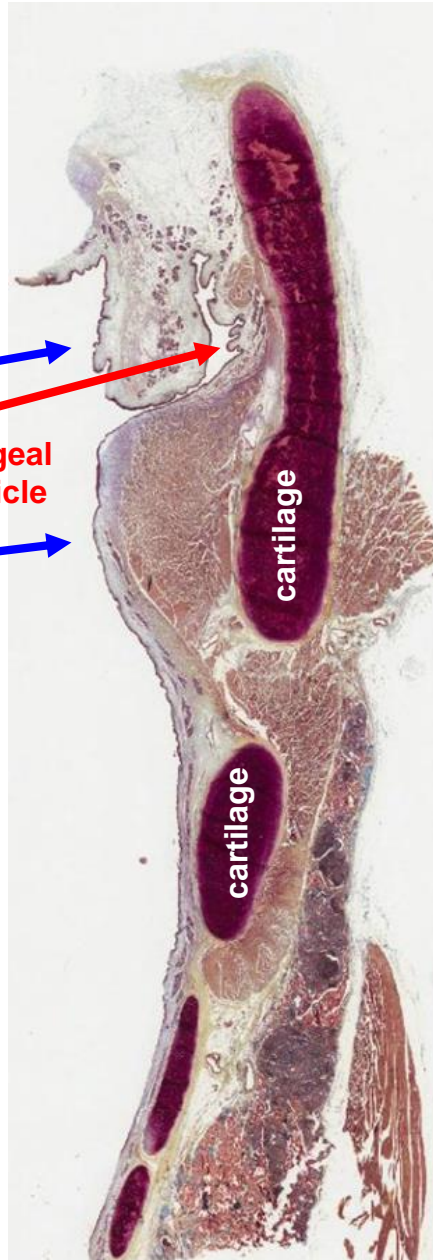
# Larynx



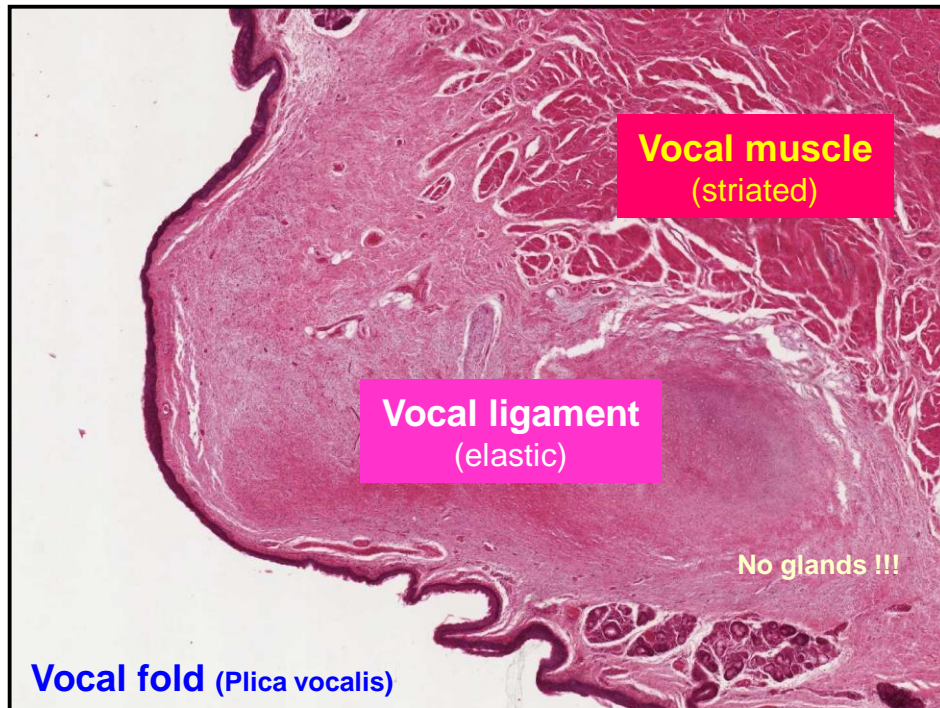
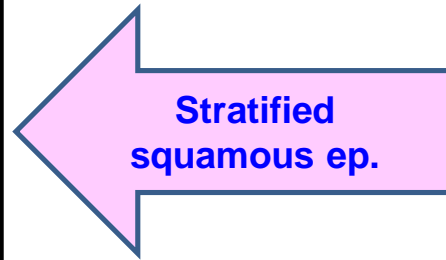
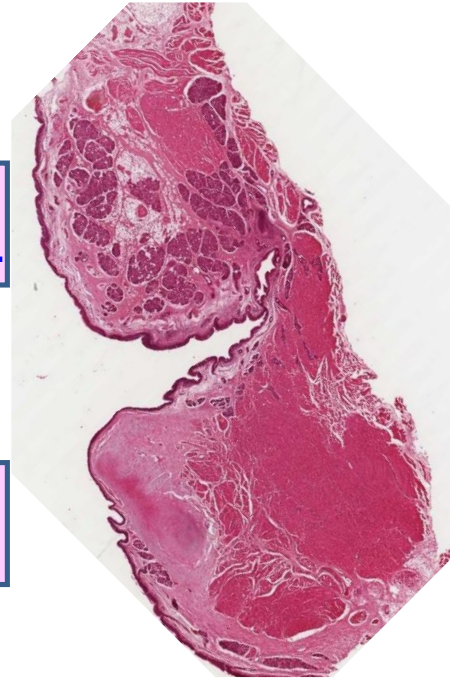
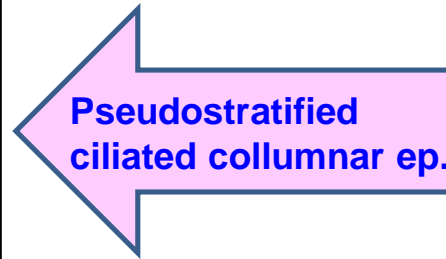
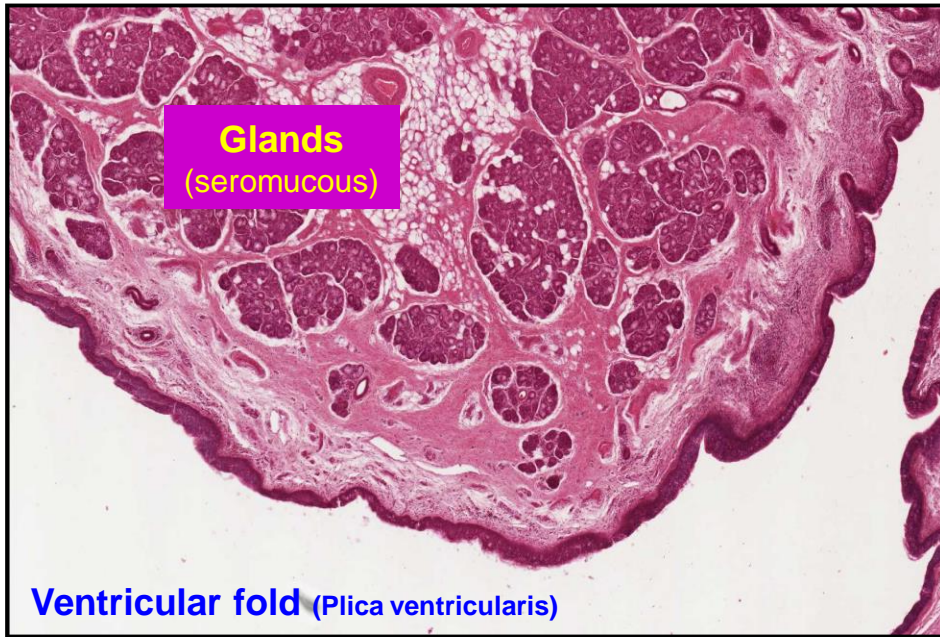
Ventricular fold

Laryngeal ventricle

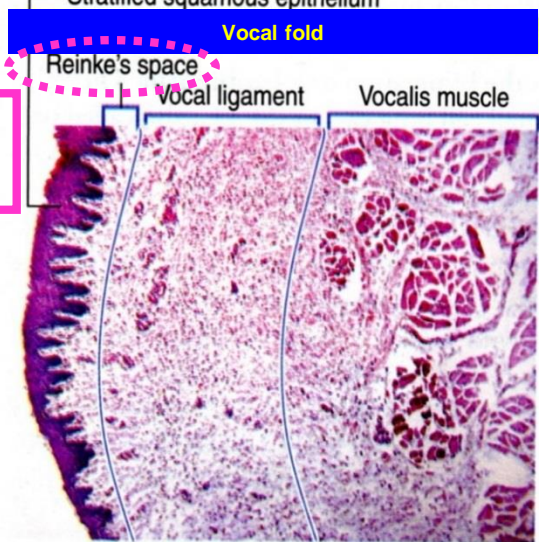
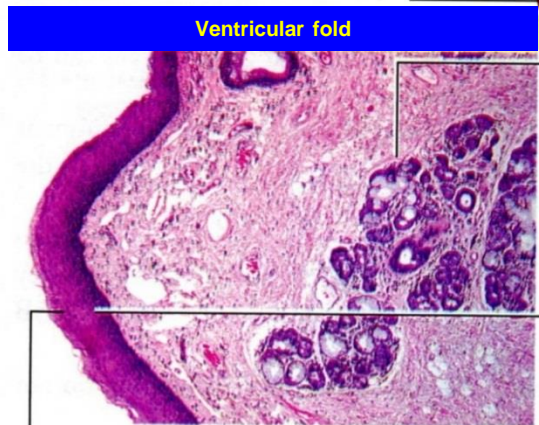
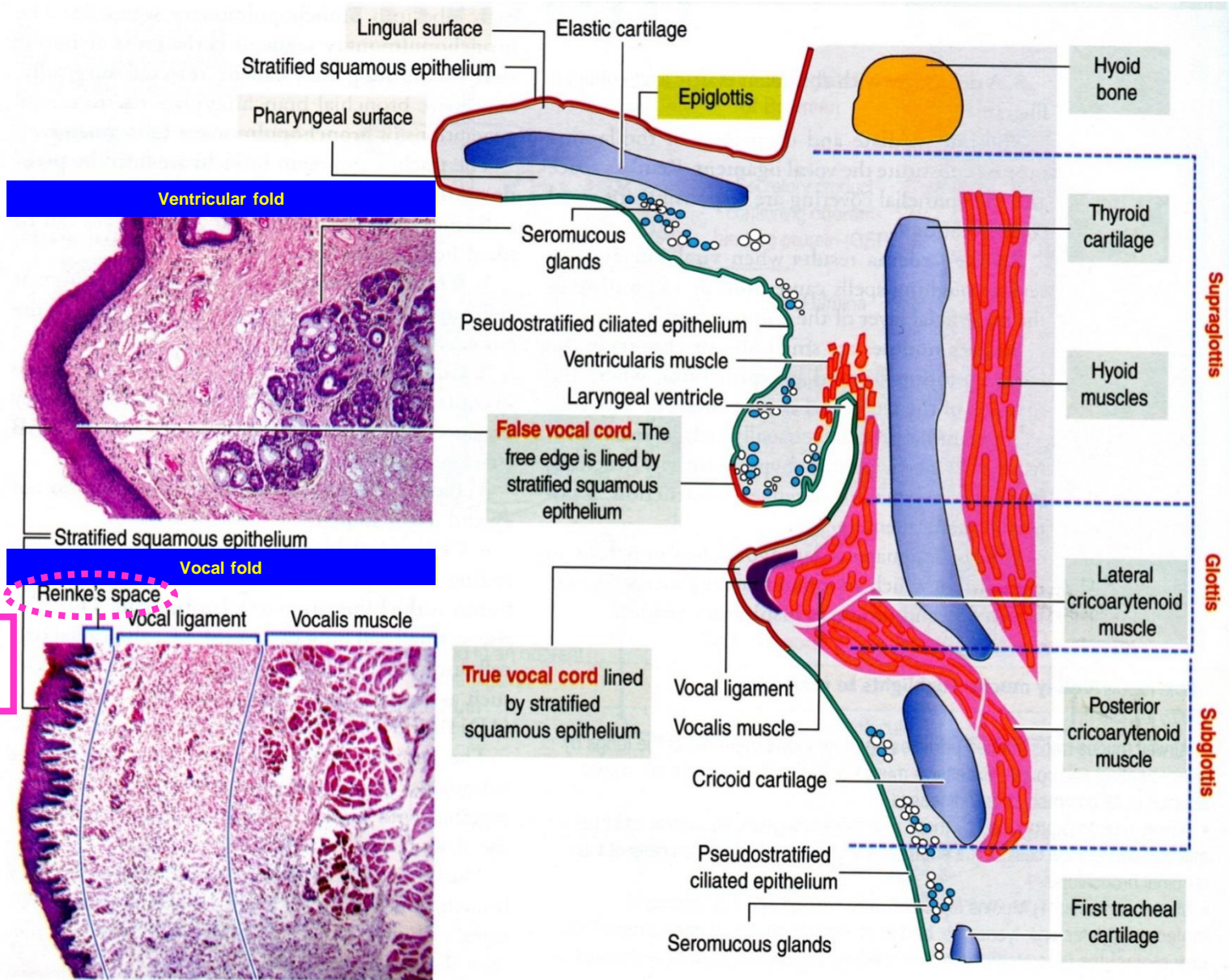
Vocal fold



# Larynx – Histology



# Larynx – Mucosal lining



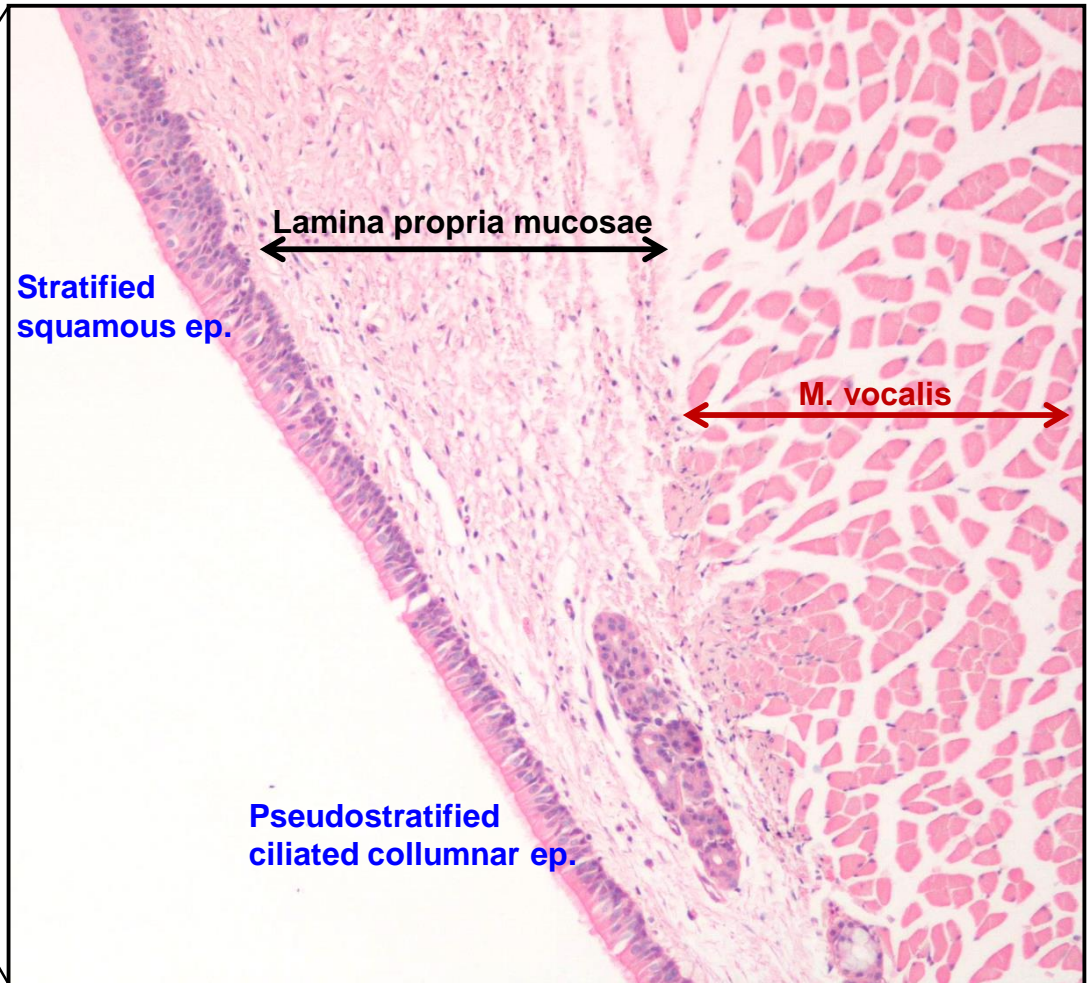
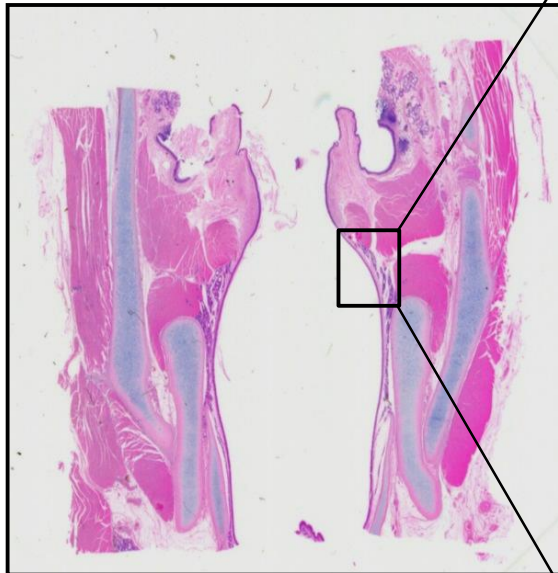
**Reinke's oedema**  
exudate in Reinke's space  
= hoarse voice

**False vocal cord.** The free edge is lined by stratified squamous epithelium

**True vocal cord** lined by stratified squamous epithelium

# Larynx

Transition of epithelia on inferior aspect of vocal fold



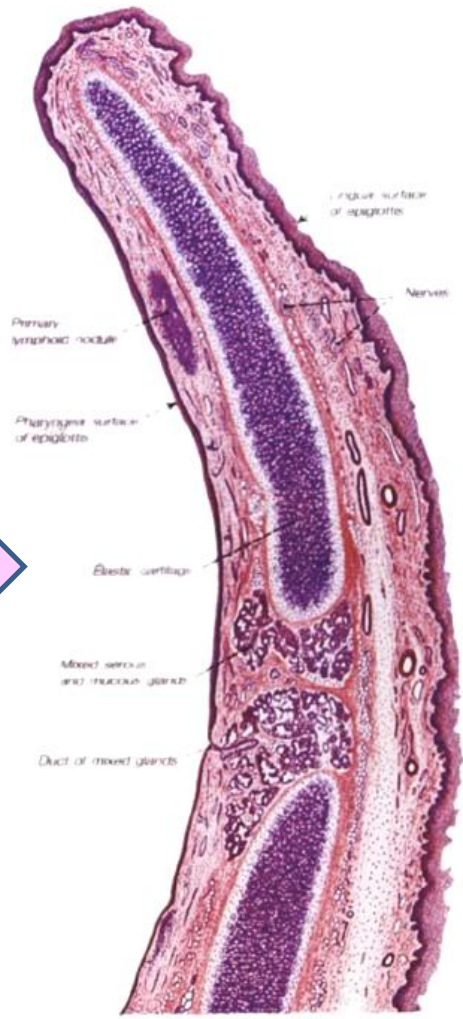
# Larynx - Epiglottis

Laryngeal surface

Lingual surface

Pseudostratified ciliated columnar ep.

Stratified squamous ep.





# Trachea

Conducting portion  
Extrapulmonary position

Length approx.: 12 cm  
Diameter approx.: 2 cm

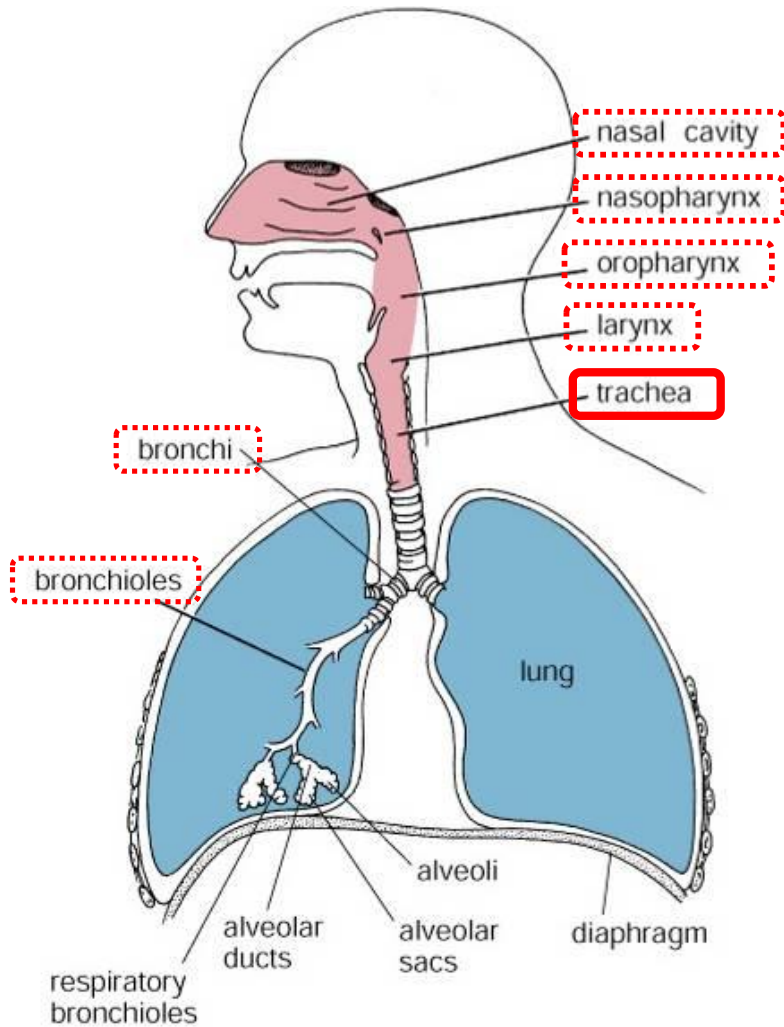
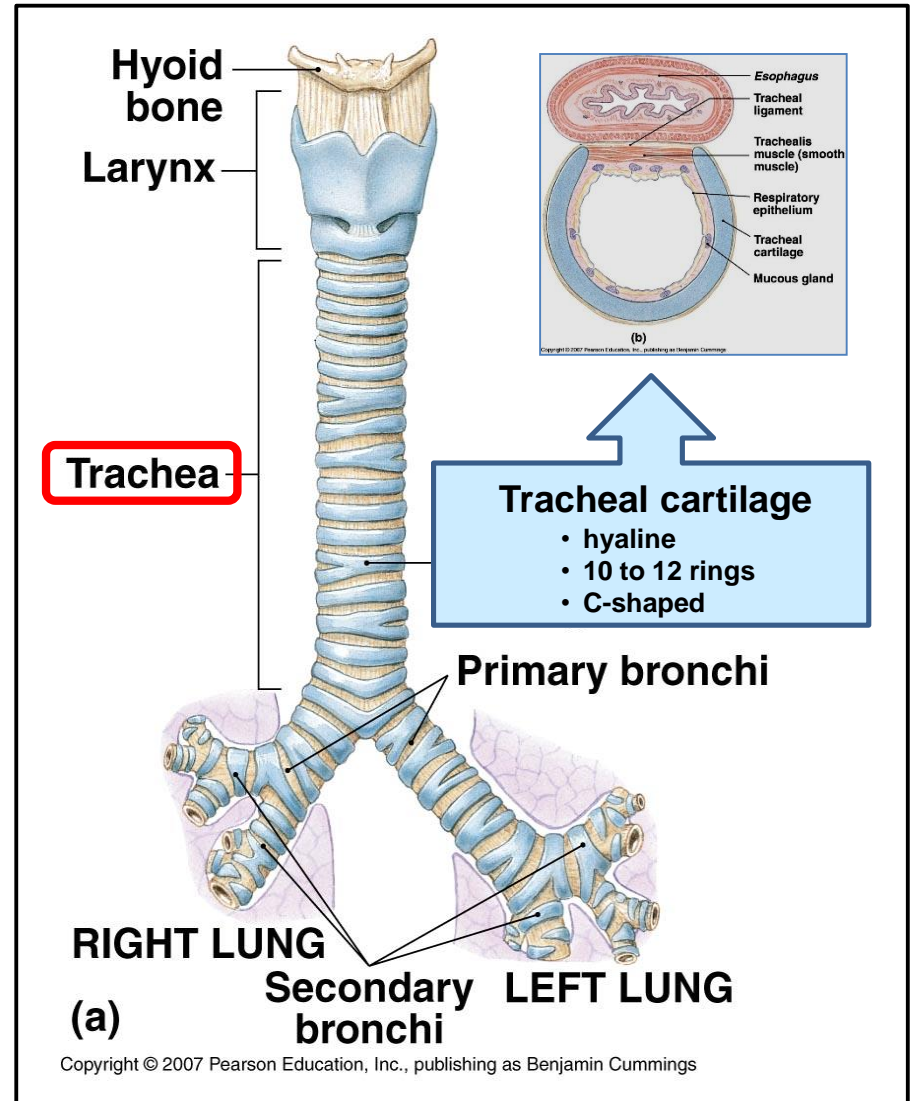
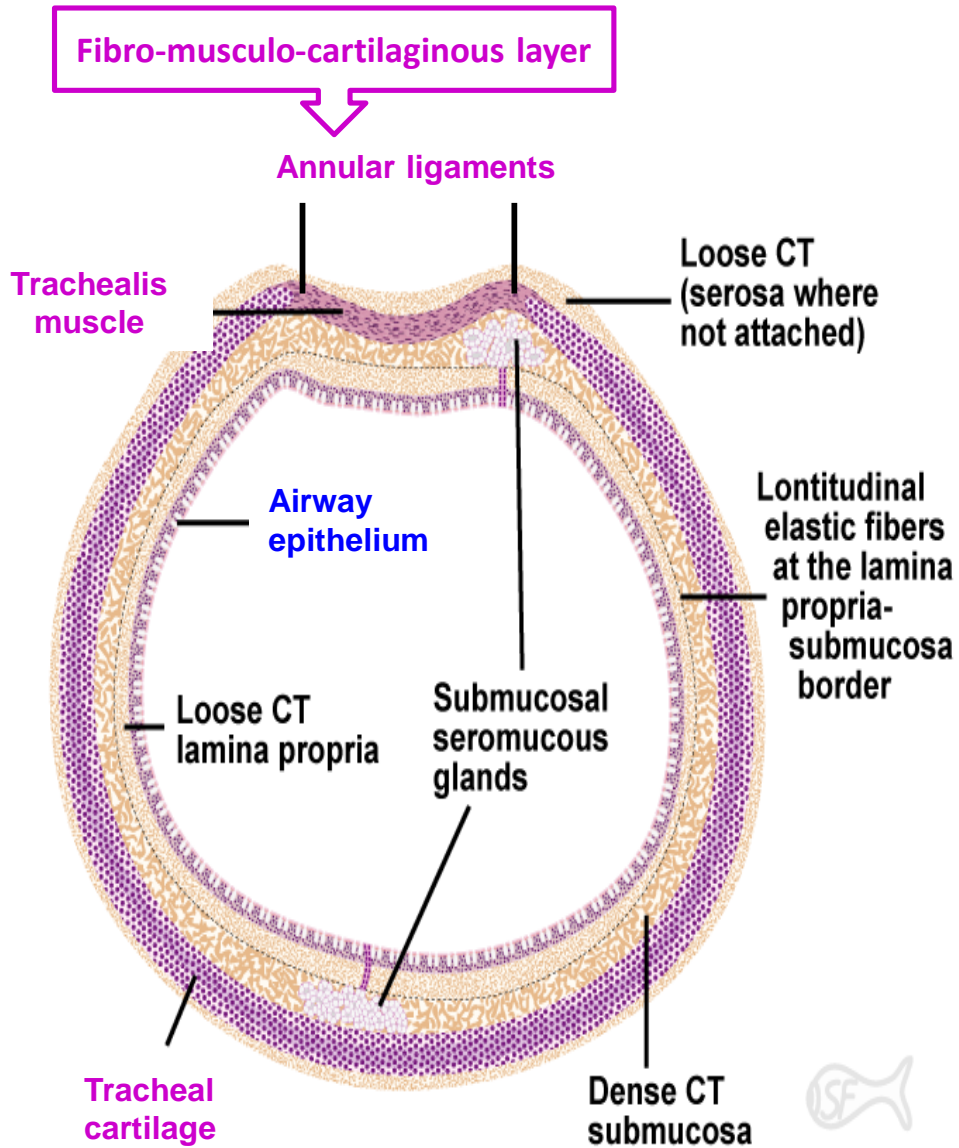


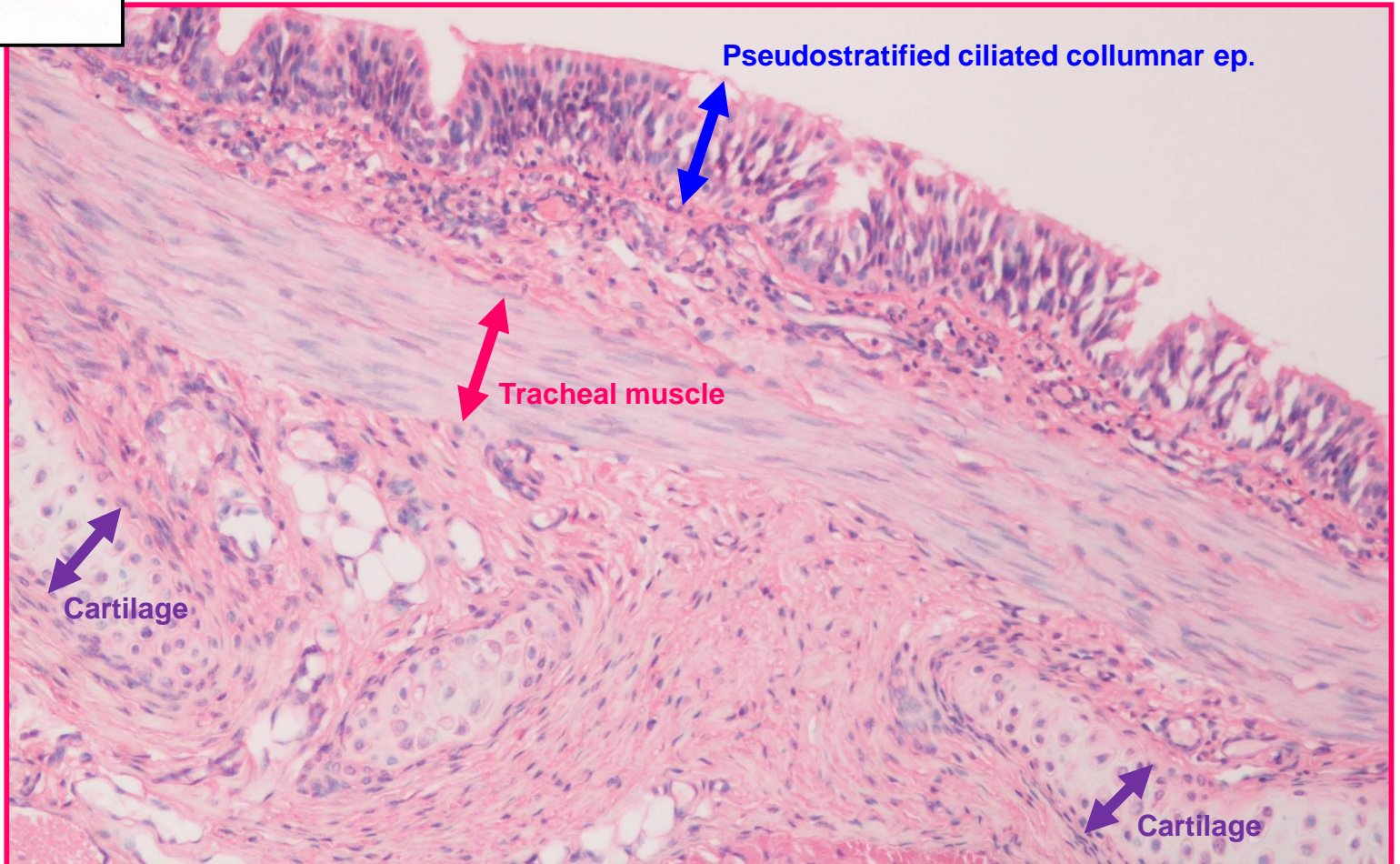
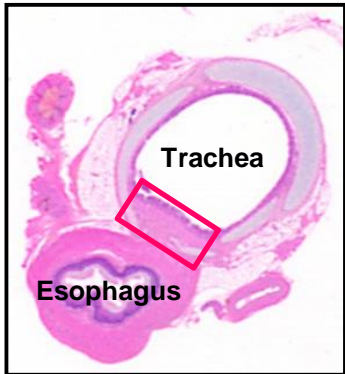
Figure 18.1. Diagram of respiratory passages.



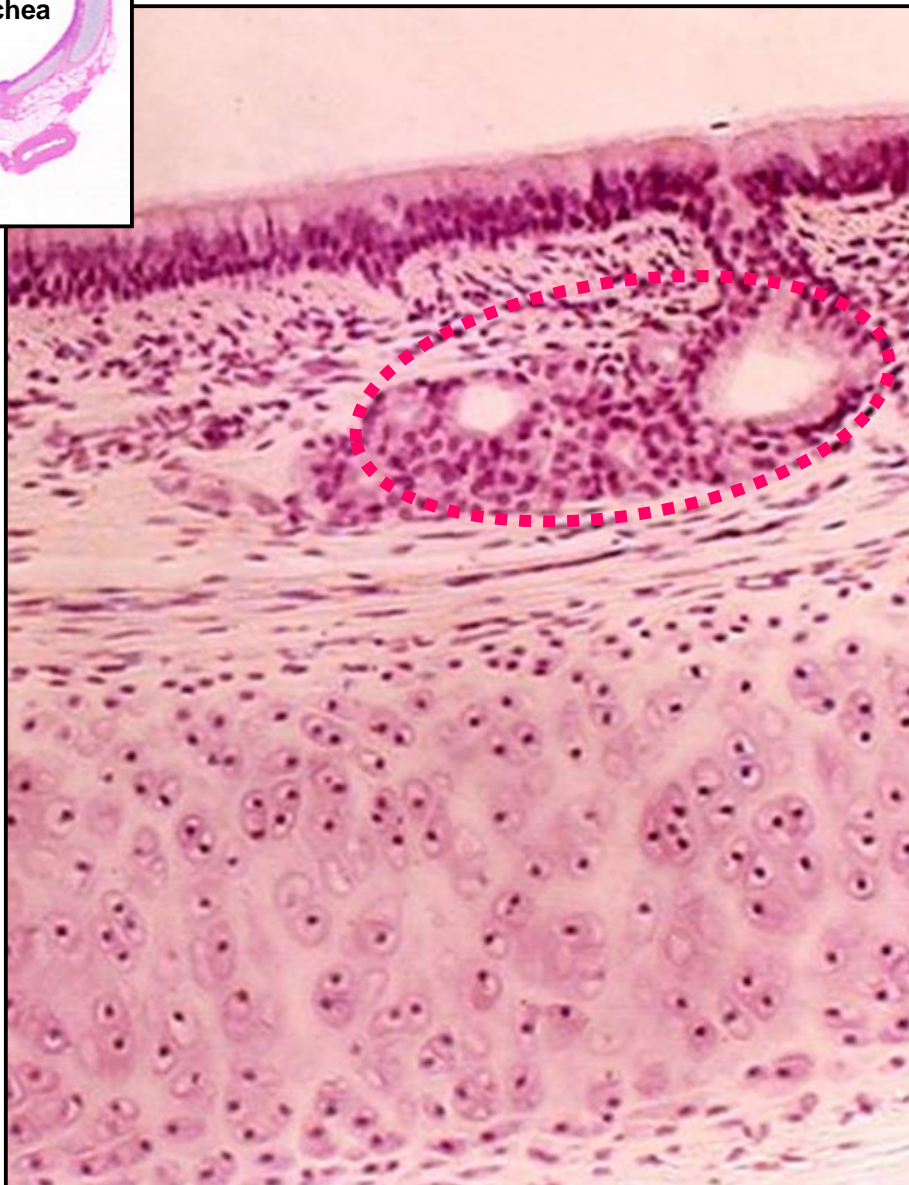
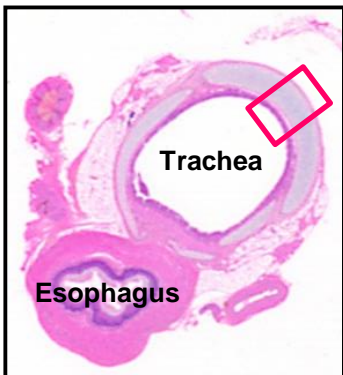
# Trachea - Crosssection



# Trachea - Wall



# Trachea - Wall



Pseudostratified ciliated columnar ep.

Lamina propria mucosae

- fibroelastic connective tissue + lymphoid cells

Submucosa

- thick, dense fibroelastic connective tissue
- numerous seromucous glands – **Tracheal glands**
- rich blood and lymph supply

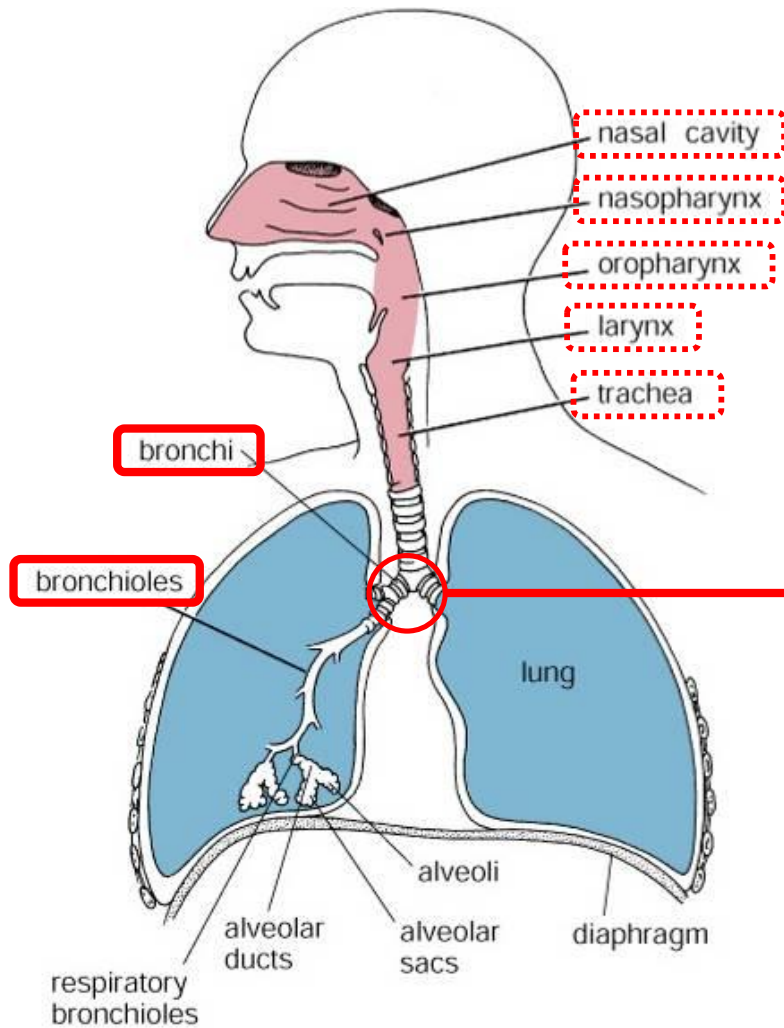
Perichondrium

Cartilage

Adventitia

- fibroelastic connective tissue

# Bronchial tree



Begins at bifurcation of trachea

Primary bronchi – Extrapulmonary

- the same structure as trachea
- smaller diameter than trachea
- accompanied by the pulmonary arteries, veins, and lymphatics

Figure 18.1. Diagram of respiratory passages.

# Bronchial tree

18 to 25 dichotomic divisions in total

Left lung

Right lung

2 secondary bronchi – 2 lung lobes  
(Lobar bronchi)

3 secondary bronchi – 3 lung lobes  
(Lobar bronchi)

## Tertiary bronchi (Segmental bronchi)

- total number of 10
- diameter about 8 mm
- further ramification 8x - 10x

## Medium + Small bronchi

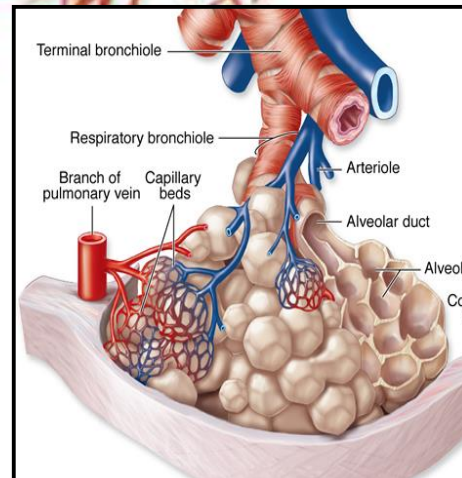
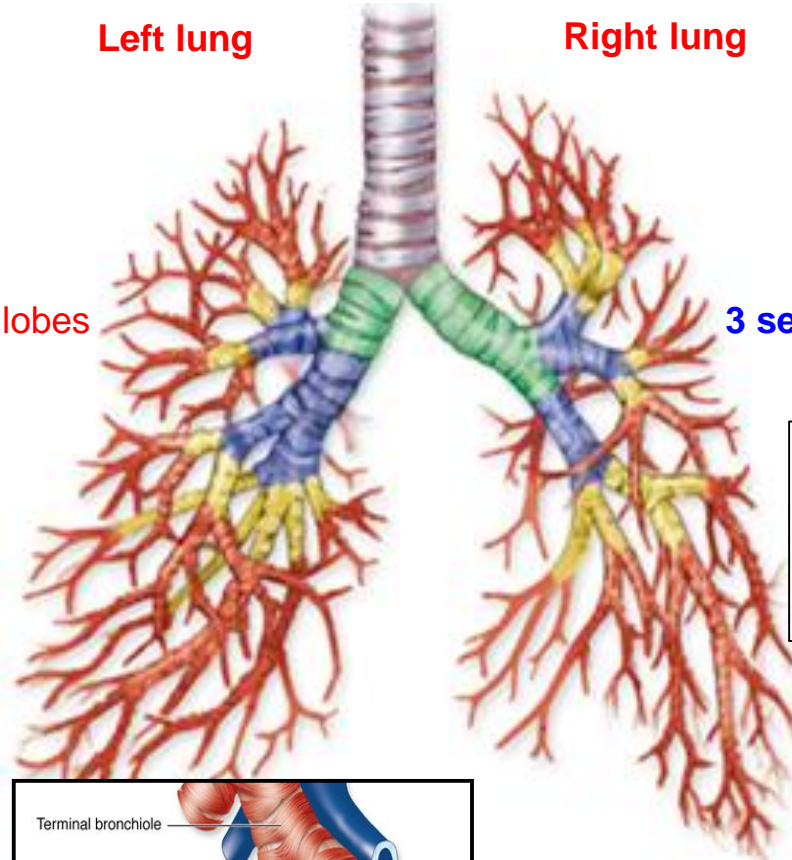
- diameter down to 1 mm
- cartilage in their wall

## Primary bronchioles

- diameter about 1 mm
- no cartilage
- one PB serve one **pulmonary lobule**

## Terminal bronchioles

- 5 – 7 TB branched from one PB
- diameter about 0,5 mm



## Bronchopulmonary segment

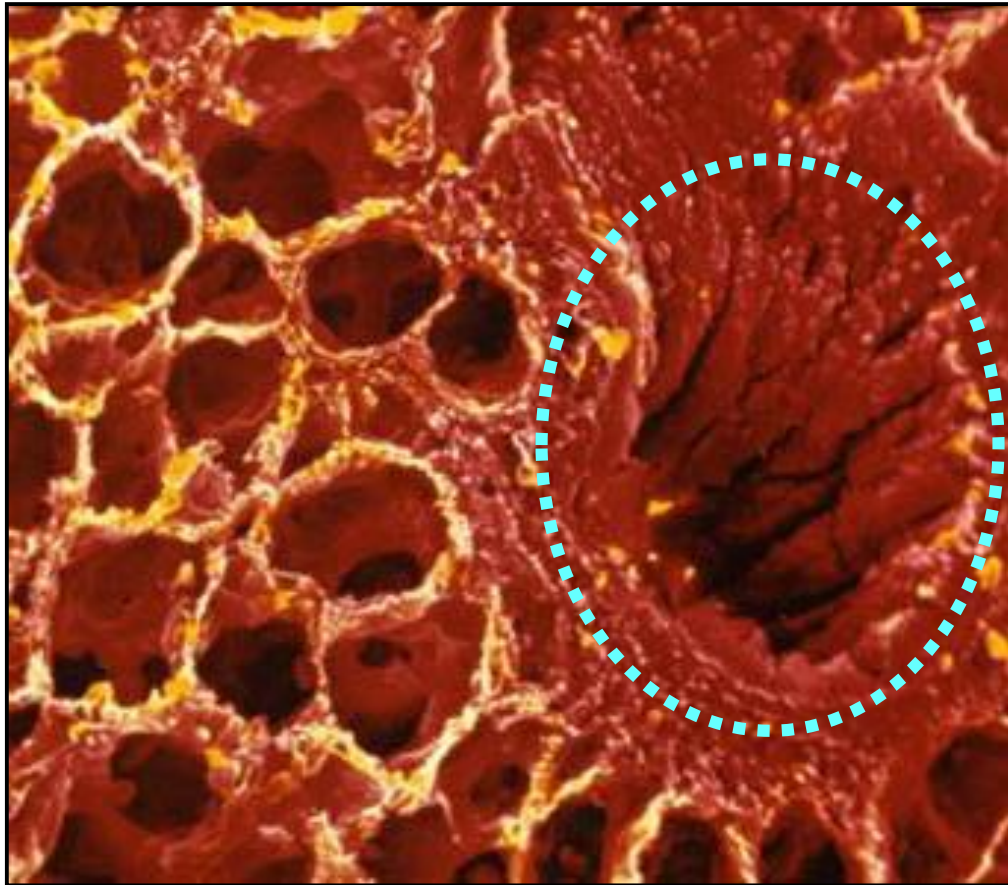
- about 10 % of lung
- own vasculature
- enclosed in fibrous capsula
- used in surgery



## Pulmonary lobule

- pyramidal shape
- surrounded by very thin fibrous capsula
- volume 1 – 2 cm<sup>3</sup>

**Bronchi**  
macroscopic picture



# Bronchial tree – Bronchi (Lobar to Small)

## Mucosa

- typical airway epithelium (or bilayered columnar)
- elastic fibers in lamina propria
- bronchial glands in LP
- BALT in LP (bronchi-associated lymphoid tissue)

## Submucosa

- contains fewer glands
- discontinuous layer of smooth muscle separates from lamina propria mucosae
- muscle becomes more prominent in smaller size bronchi

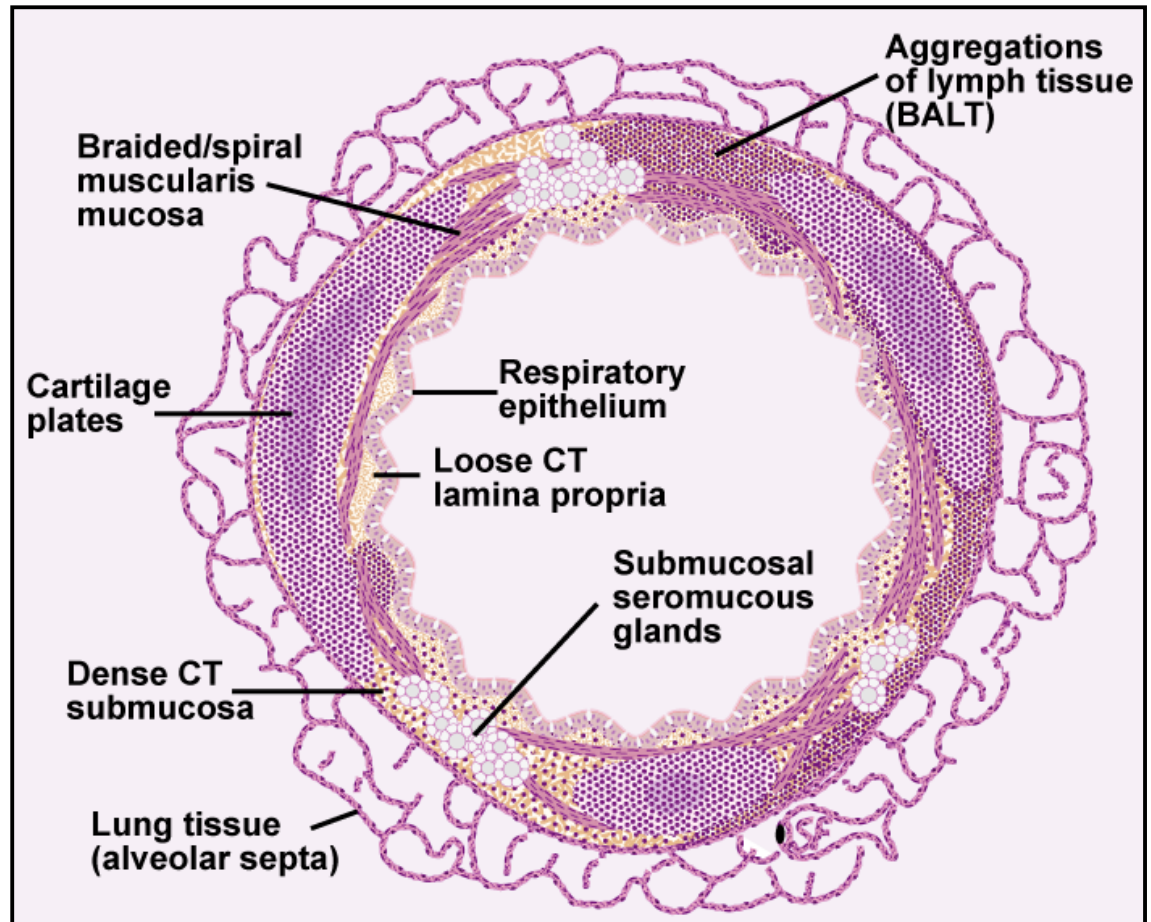
## Fibrocartilaginous layer

- cartilaginous plates

## Diameter of bronchi

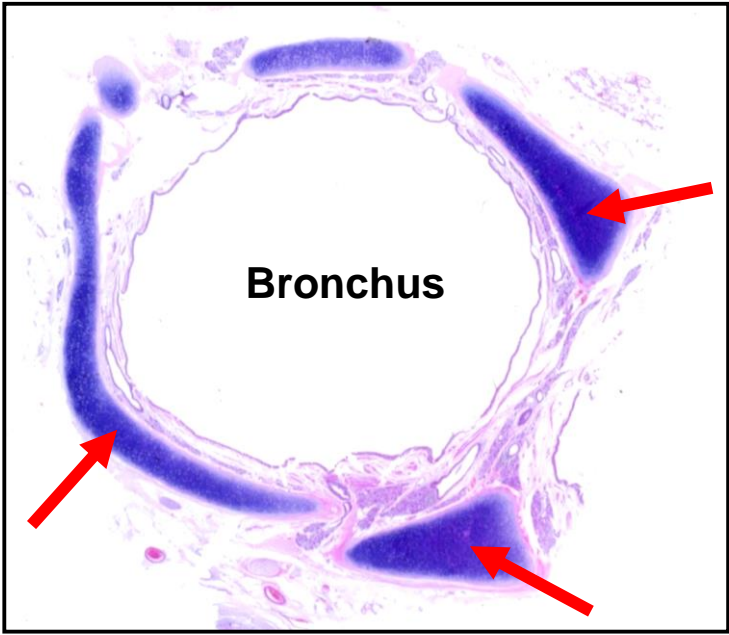
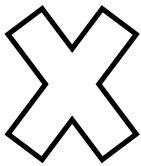
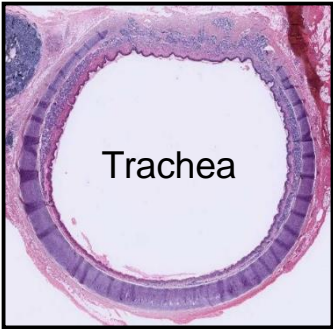
- cartilage
- glands
- goblet cells
- height of epithelium

- elastic fibres
- smooth muscle

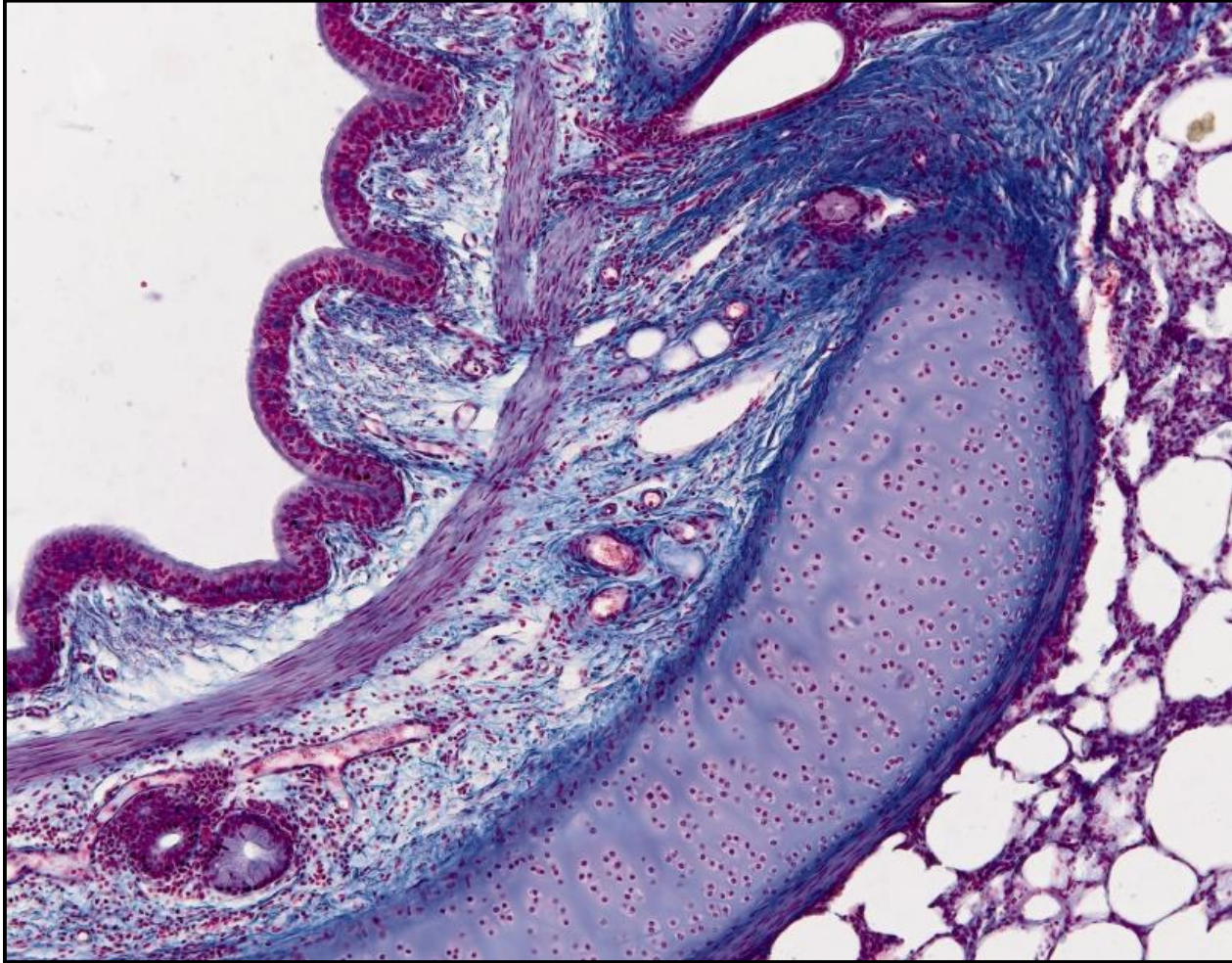




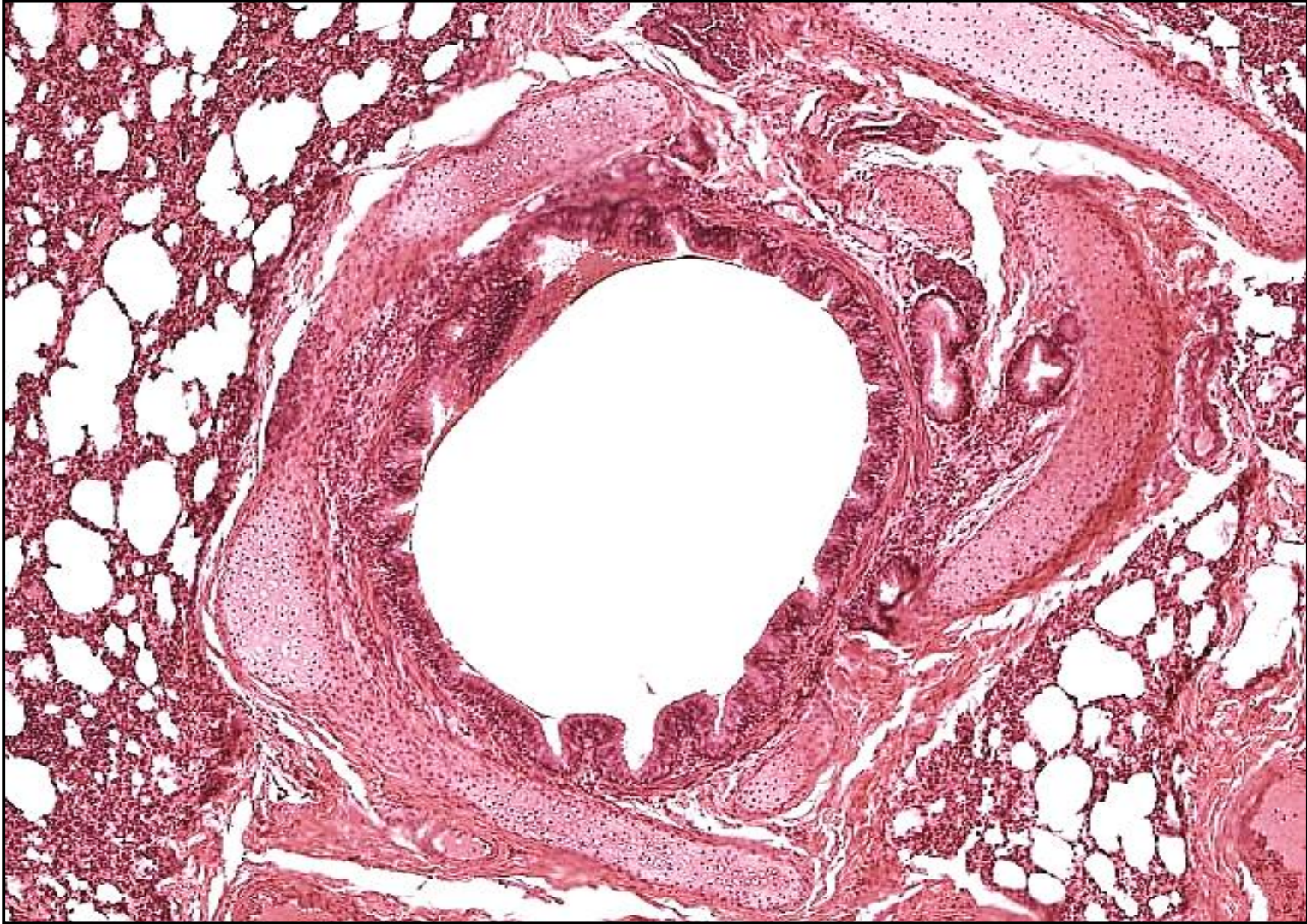
# Bronchus – Cartilaginous plates



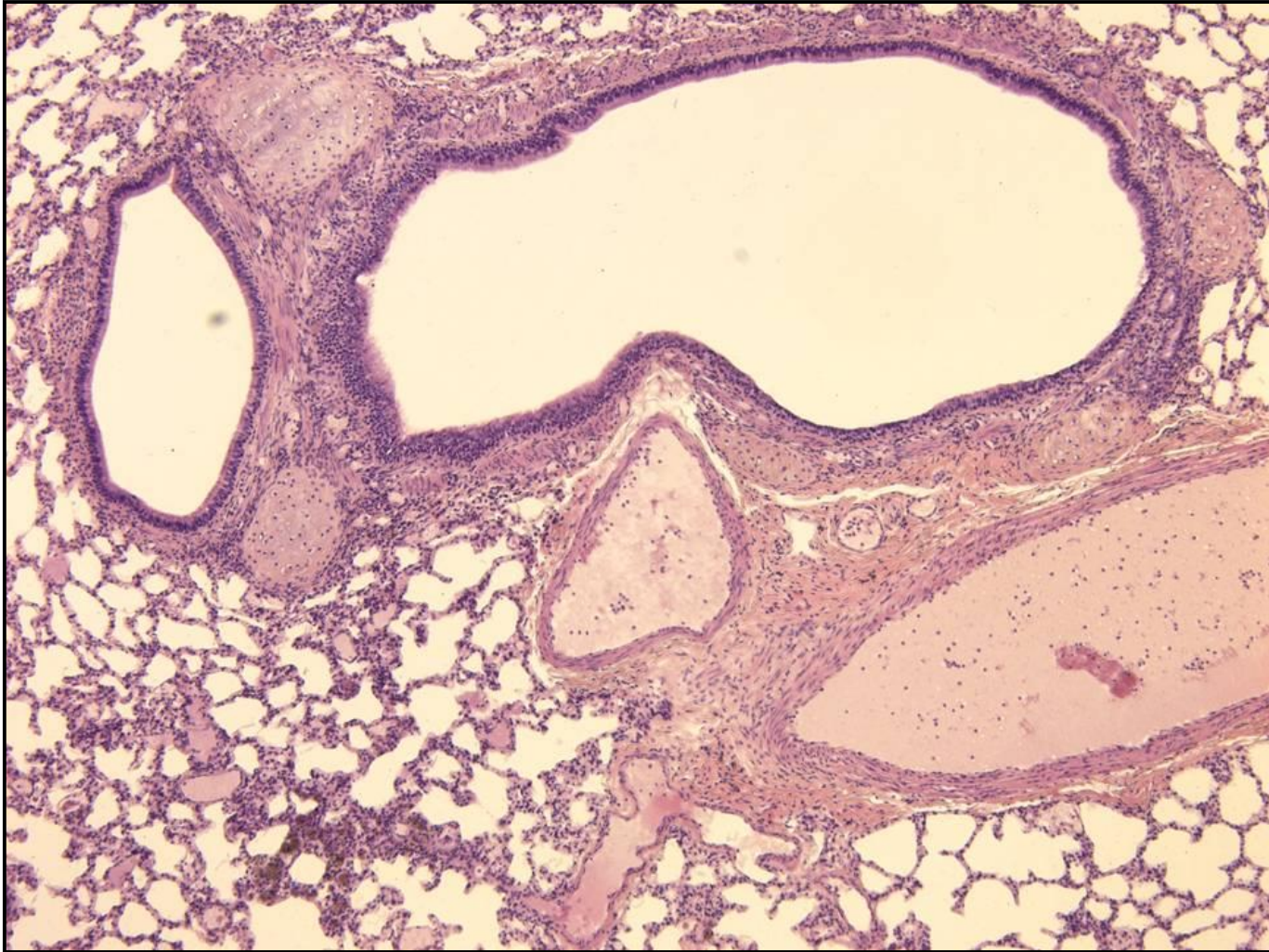
## Bronchus - Intrapulmonary



# Bronchus - Intrapulmonary



## Bronchus - Intrapulmonary



# Bronchioles - Primary + Terminal – General features

## Wall

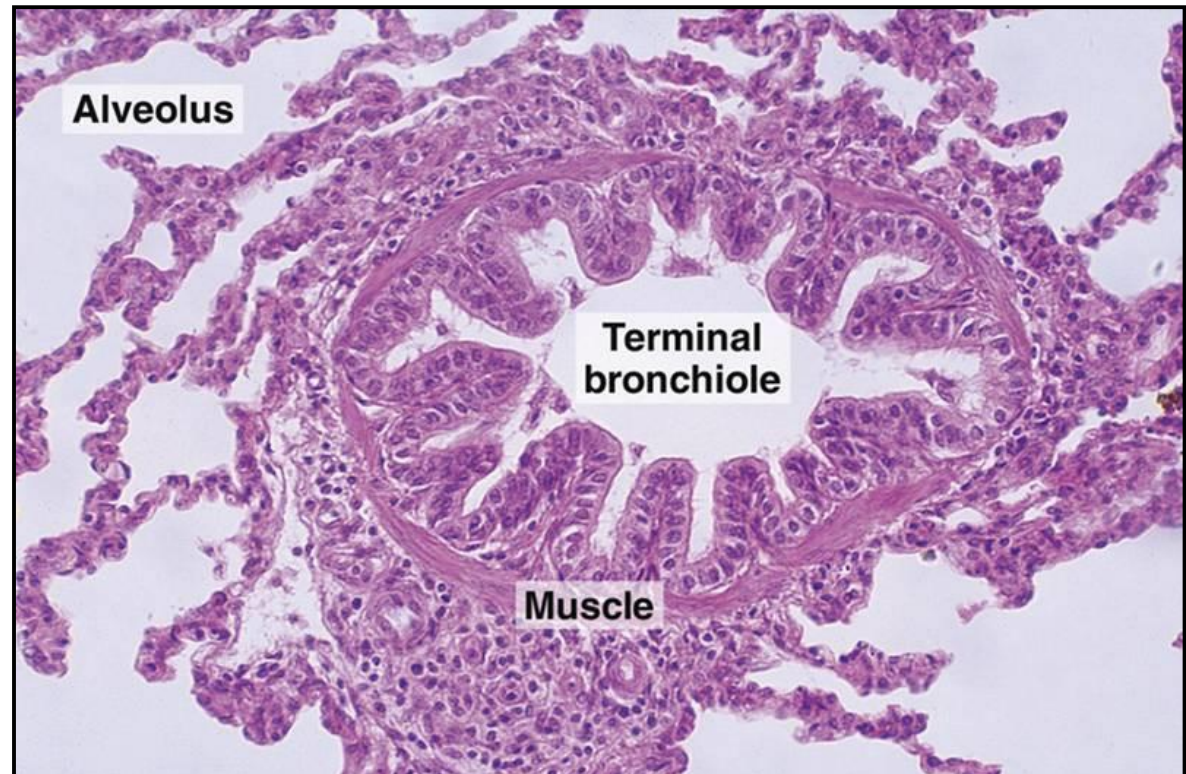
- mucosa + muscle layer (bundles) + elastic and collagen fibers
- NO cartilage
- NO glands

## Epithelial lining

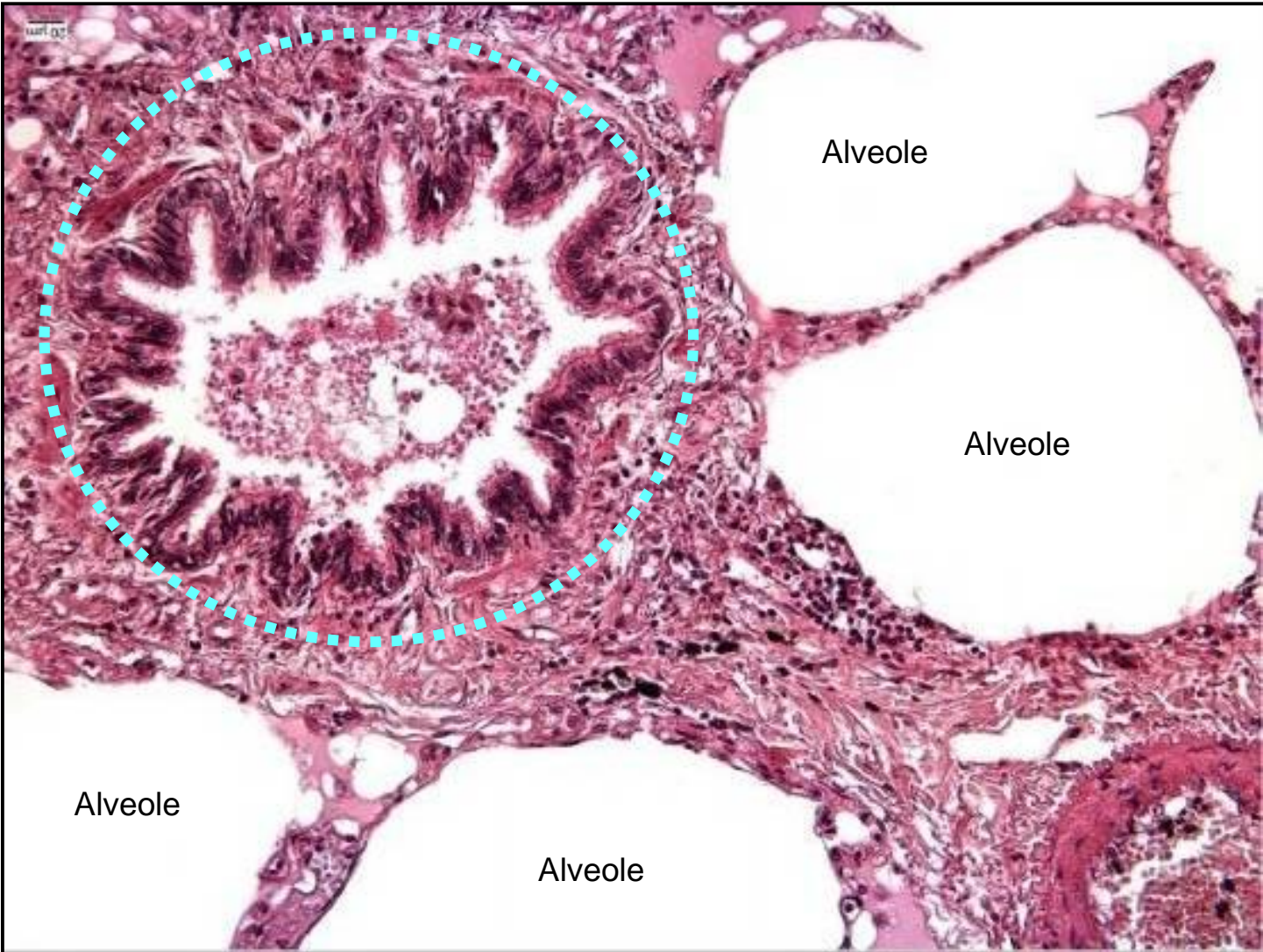
- simple columnar to simple cuboidal ep.
- many epithelial cells have cilia
- NO Goblet cells
- Club cells (formerly Clara cells)

## Club cells

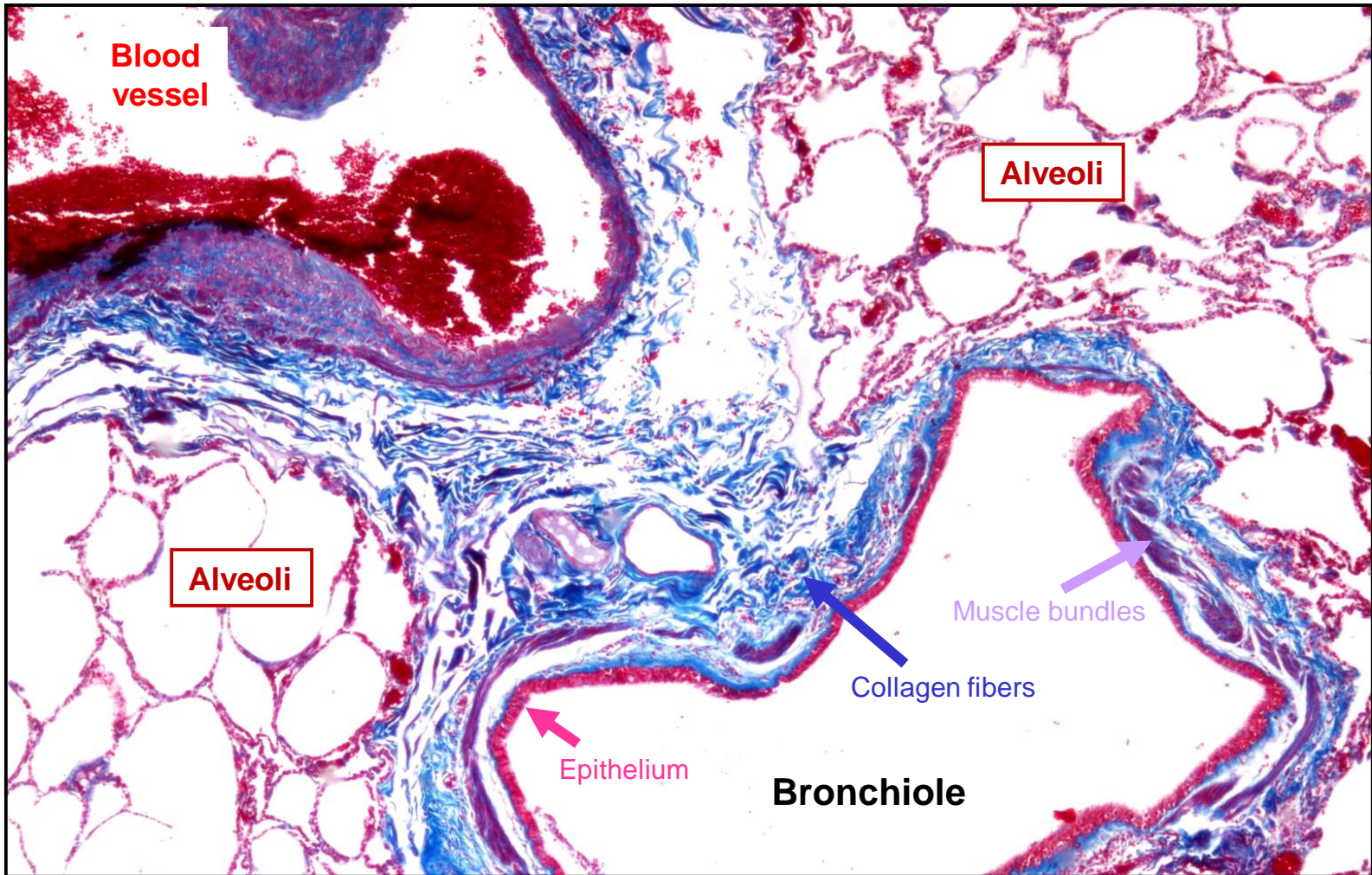
- dome-shaped
- apex with microvilli
- secretions  
(antimicrobials, surfactant-like material)
- P450 enzyme (detoxification)
- stem cells to the area



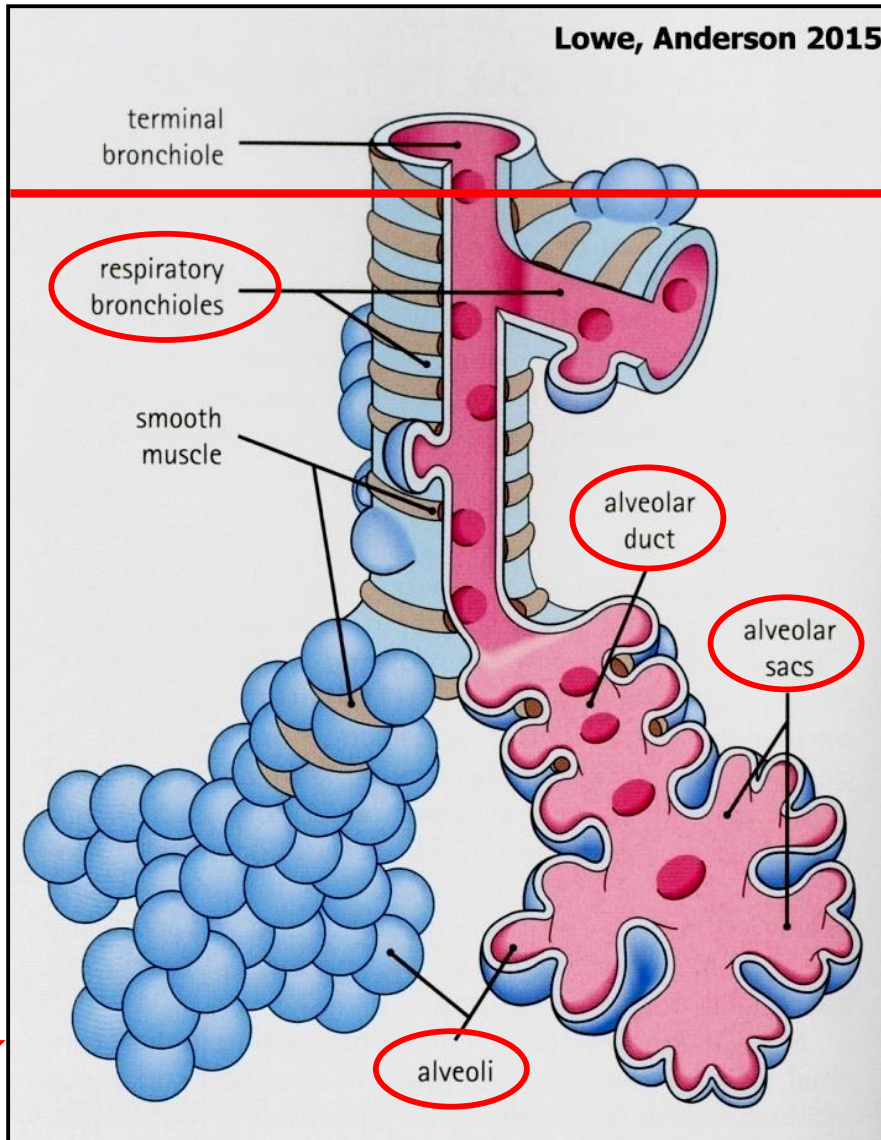
# Bronchiole



# Bronchiole



# Respiratory portion



Terminal bronchiole

NO alveoli



Respiratory bronchiole

Outpocketing alveoli

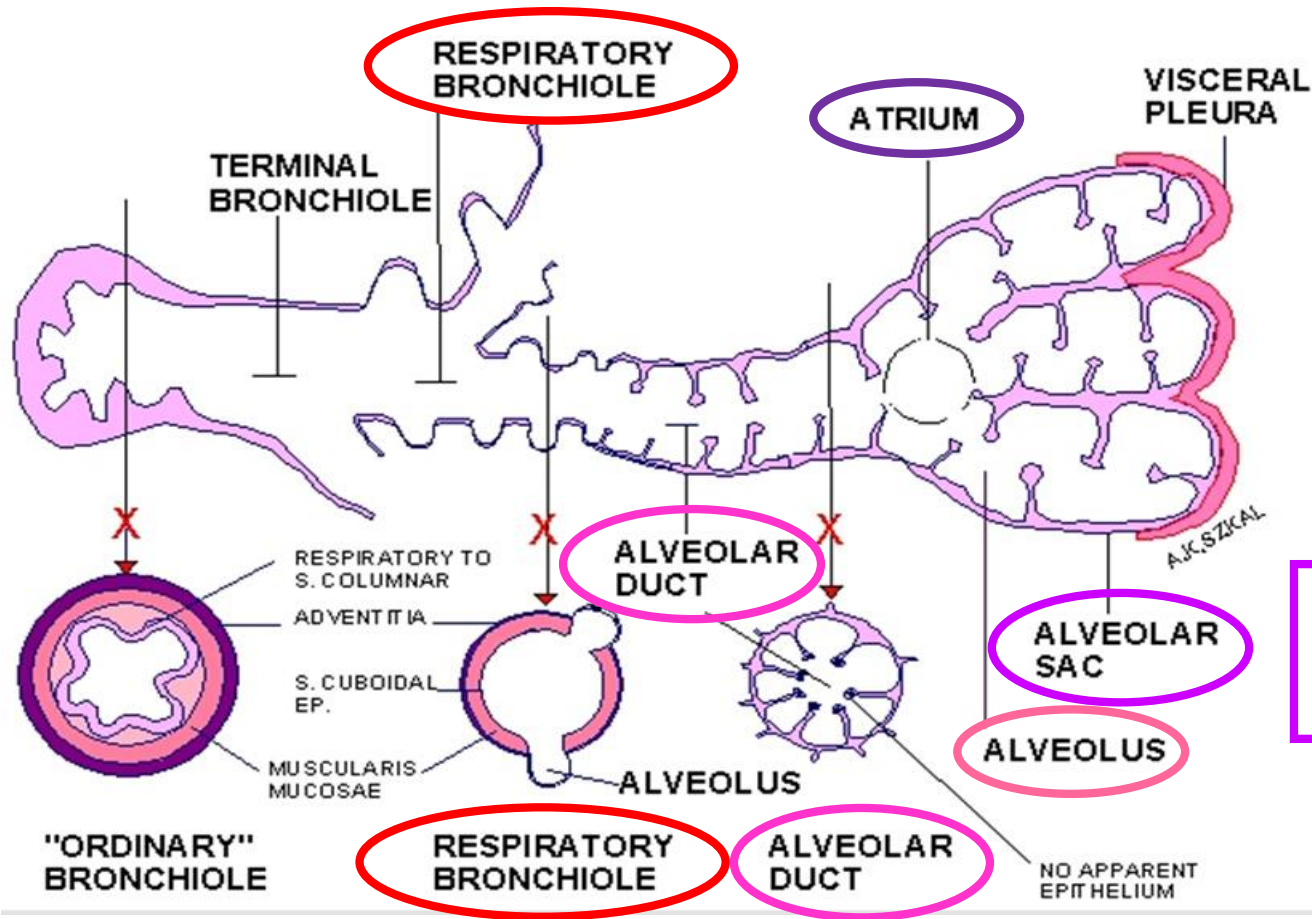
REMINDER

Pulmonary lobule

- defined by ONE primary bronchiole
- Include 5 to 7 Terminal bronchioles
- pyramidal shape
- surrounded by very thin fibrous capsule
- volume 1 – 2 cm<sup>3</sup>



# Respiratory portion



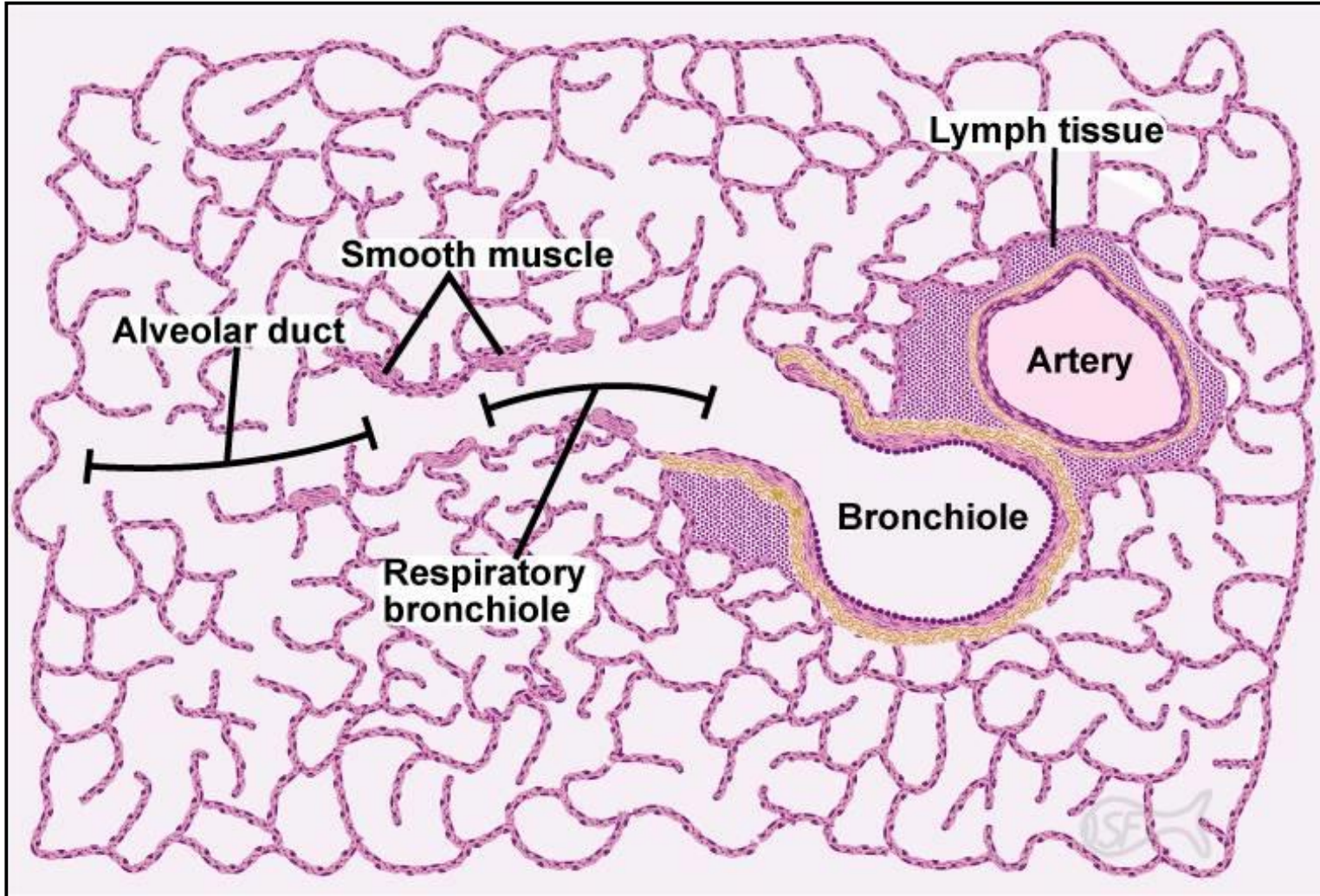
**Atrium**  
entry into alveolar sac

**Alveolar sac**  
group of alveoles opened  
into common atrium

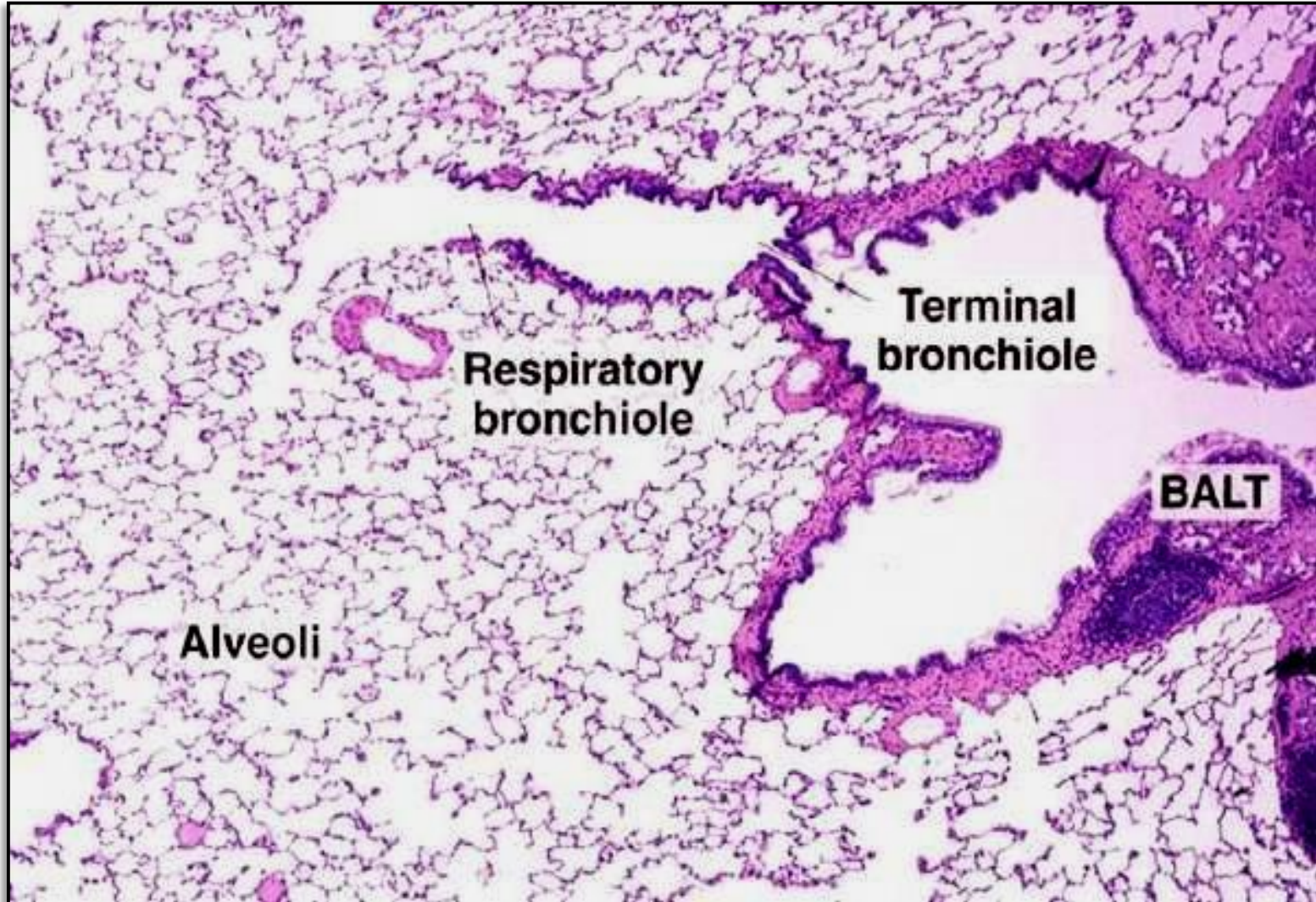
**Alveolar duct** - wall made by:

- groups of cuboidal cells
- individual alveoli
- elastic fibers
- smooth muscle cells surrounding alveolar entries

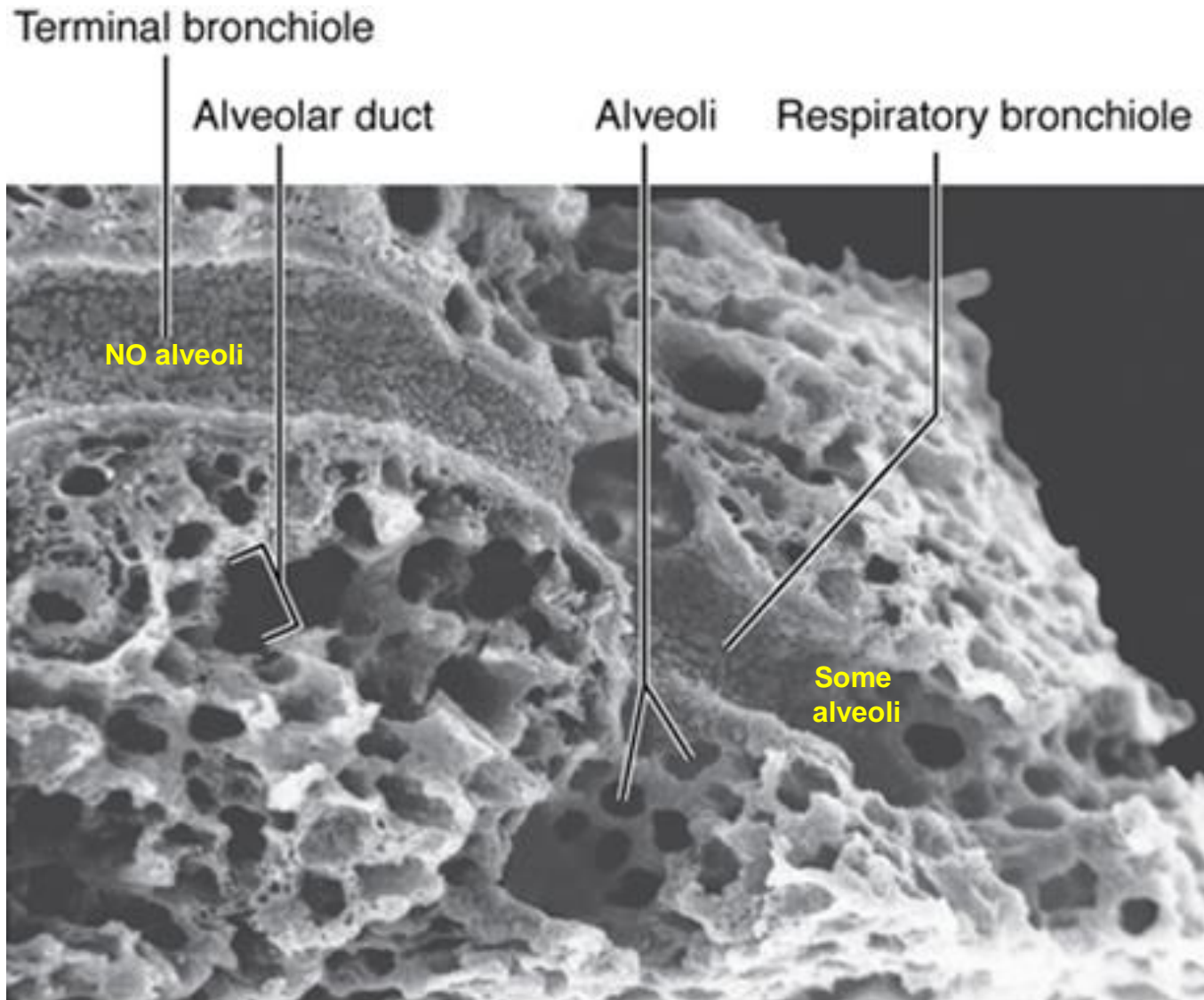
# Respiratory portion



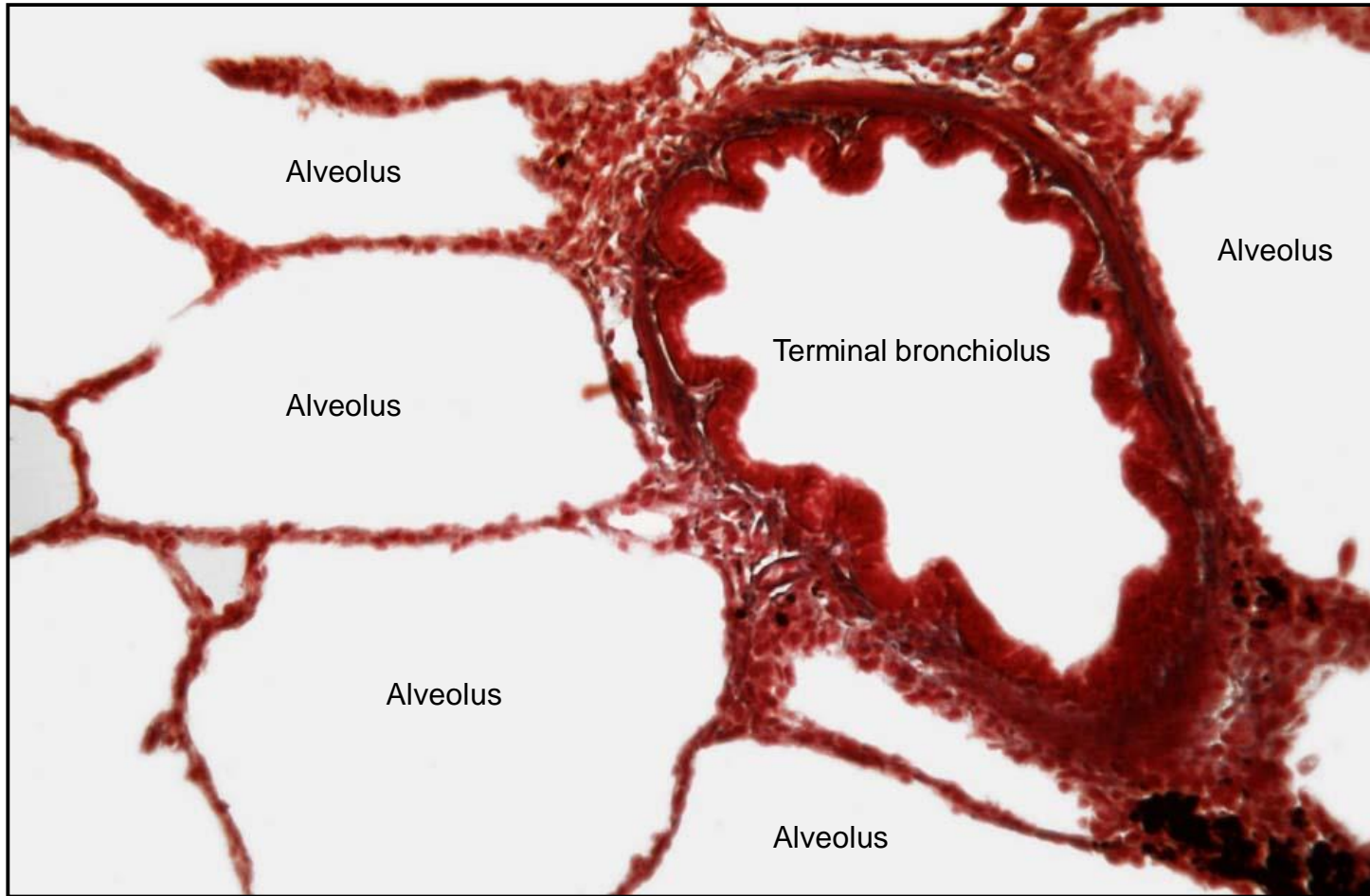
# Respiratory portion



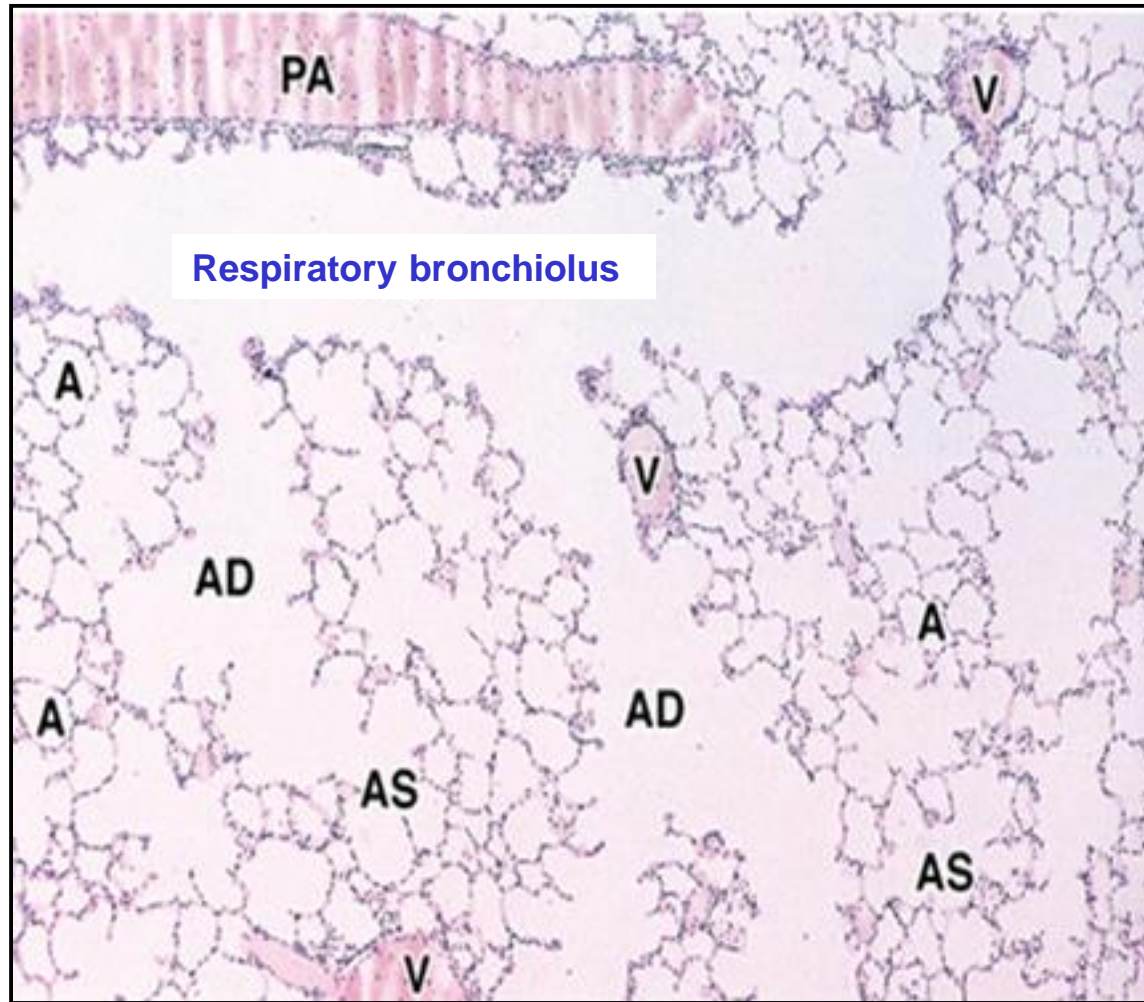
# Respiratory portion



## Terminal bronchiolus – NO connection into alveoli



# Respiratory bronchiolus – openings into alveoli



**AD** - Alveolar duct

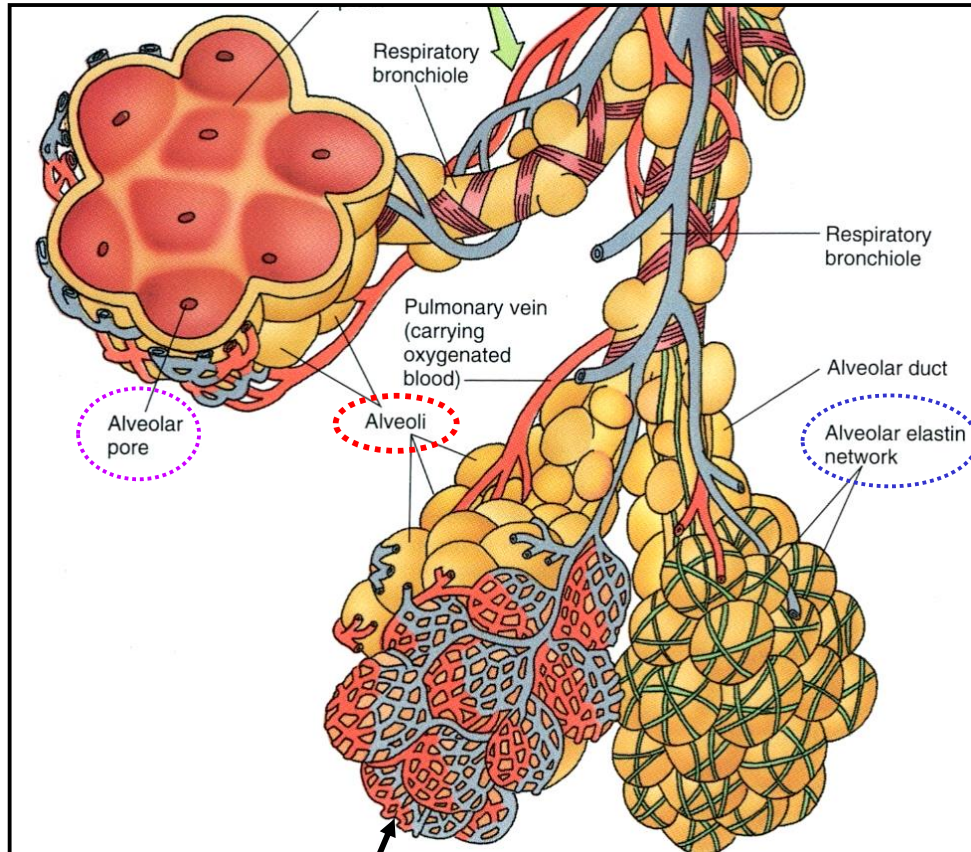
**AS** – Alveolar sac

**A** - Alveolus

**V** – Vein

**PA** – Perialveolar artery

# Alveoli



Continuous capillaries

## Place of gas exchange

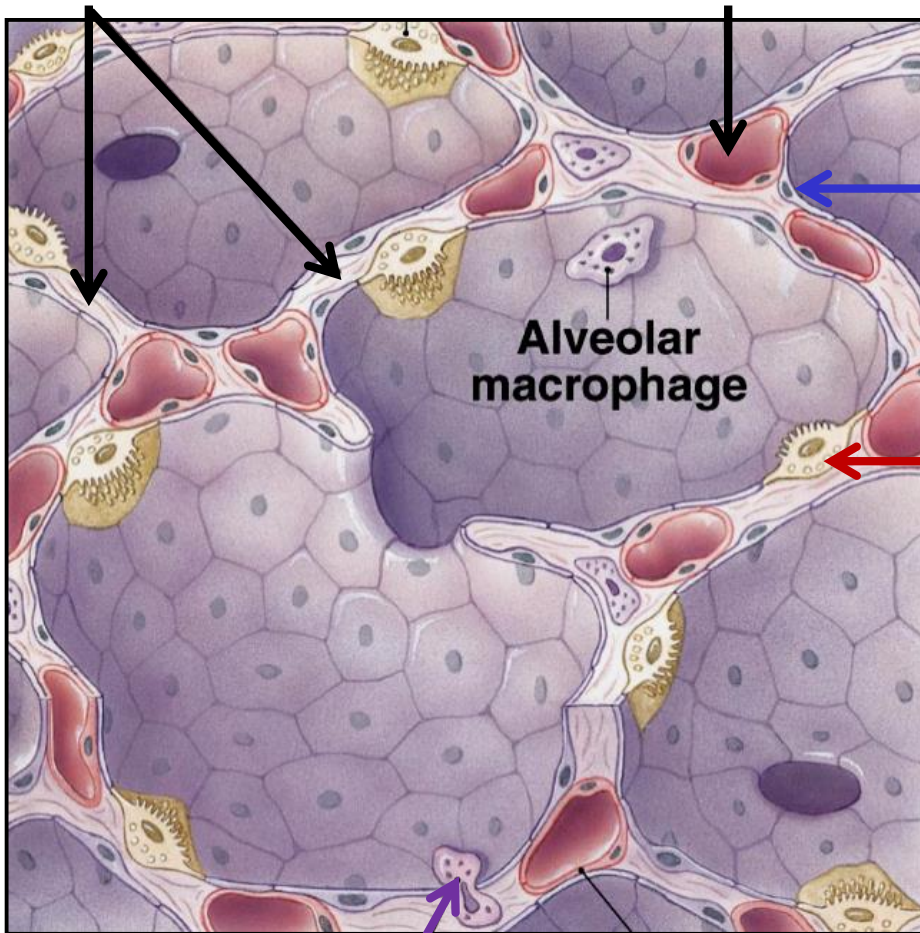
### Features

- diameter approx. 200  $\mu\text{m}$
- total number approx. 300 millions
- total surface about 100 – 140  $\text{m}^2$
- interalveolar septa (elastin + type III collagen)
- alveolar pores (Kohn's; 8 – 60  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter)

# Alveoli

Elastic fibers

Capillary



## Type I Pneumocyte (membranous)

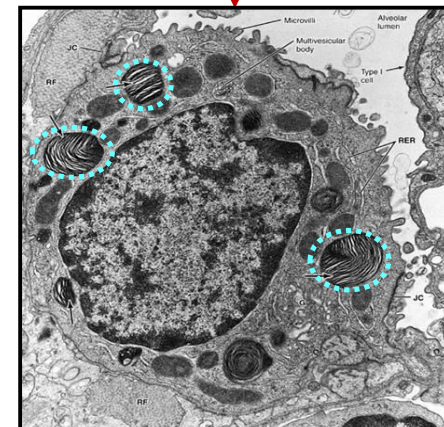
- very flat – about 80 nm thickness
- occluding junctions
- about 95% of alveolar surface

## Type II Pneumocyte (granular)

- cuboidal (10  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- more numerous than type I pneumocytes
- lamellar bodies – surfactants SP-A, -B, -C, -D
- stem cells to alveolar lining (type I and II pneu.)

## Alveolar macrophage – „dust cell“

- migratory
- some migrate up to pharynx and get swallowed/expectorated
- some migrate via lymph vessels
- some become resident in lungs



**RDS (Respiratory Distress Syndrome of neonates)**  
lack of surfactants in premature born - collapse of alveoli



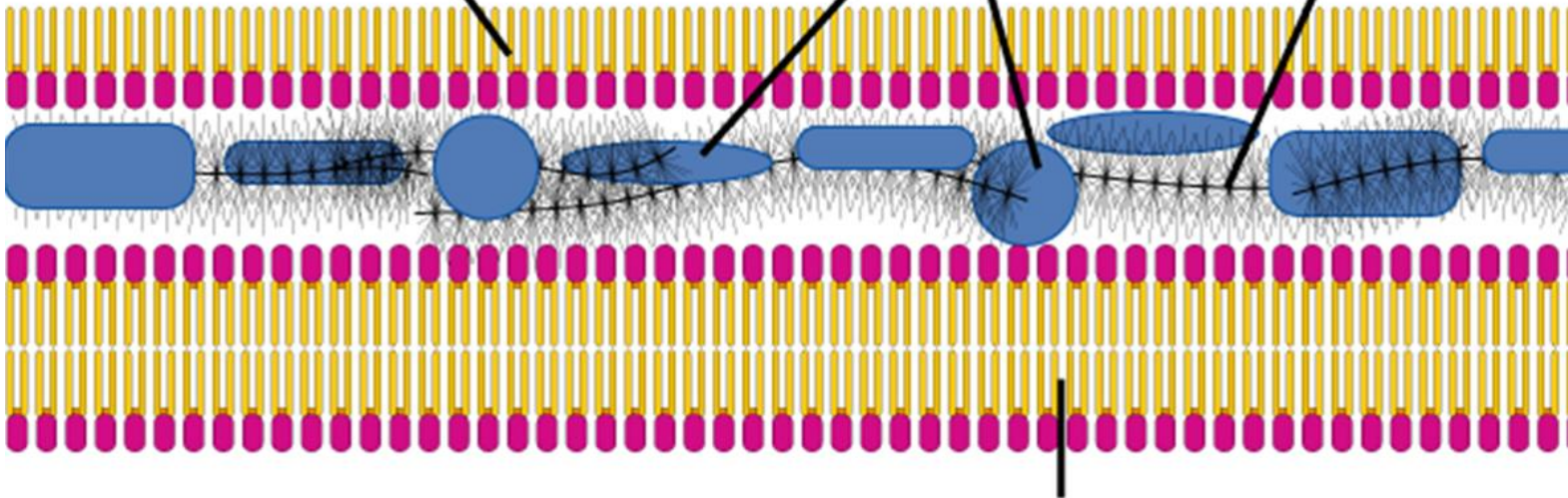
# Alveoli - Surfactant

Lumen of alveolus

Phospholipid monolayer with hydrophobic tails facing air

Surfactant proteins

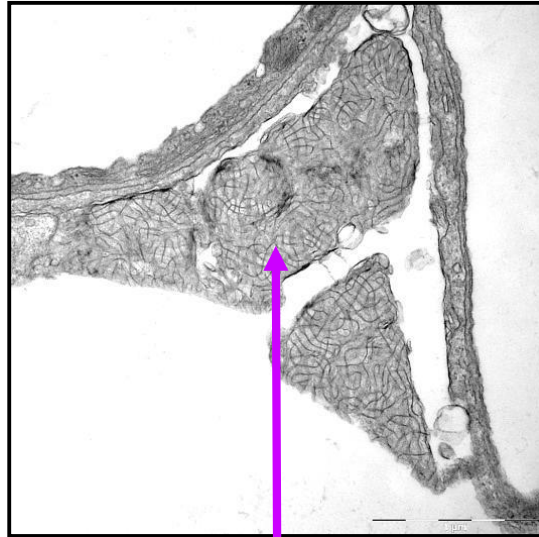
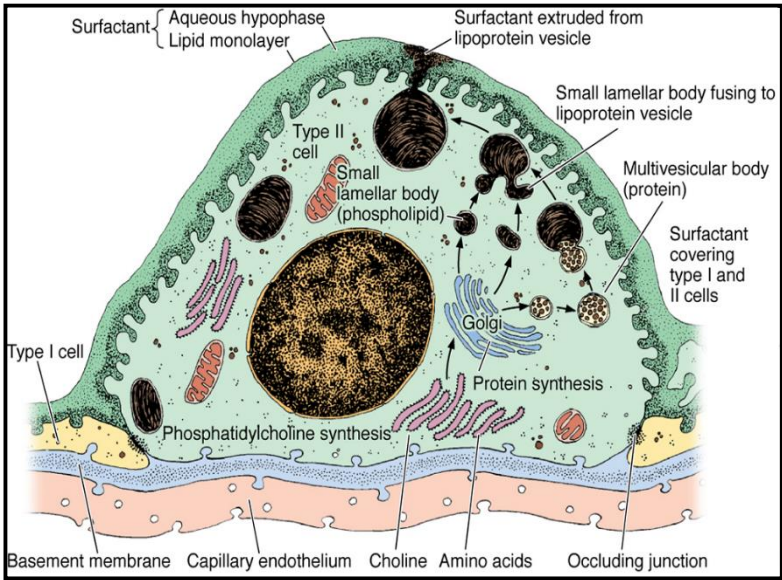
GAGS trap water



Membrane

Cytoplasm of type I pneumocyte

# Alveoli - Surfactant



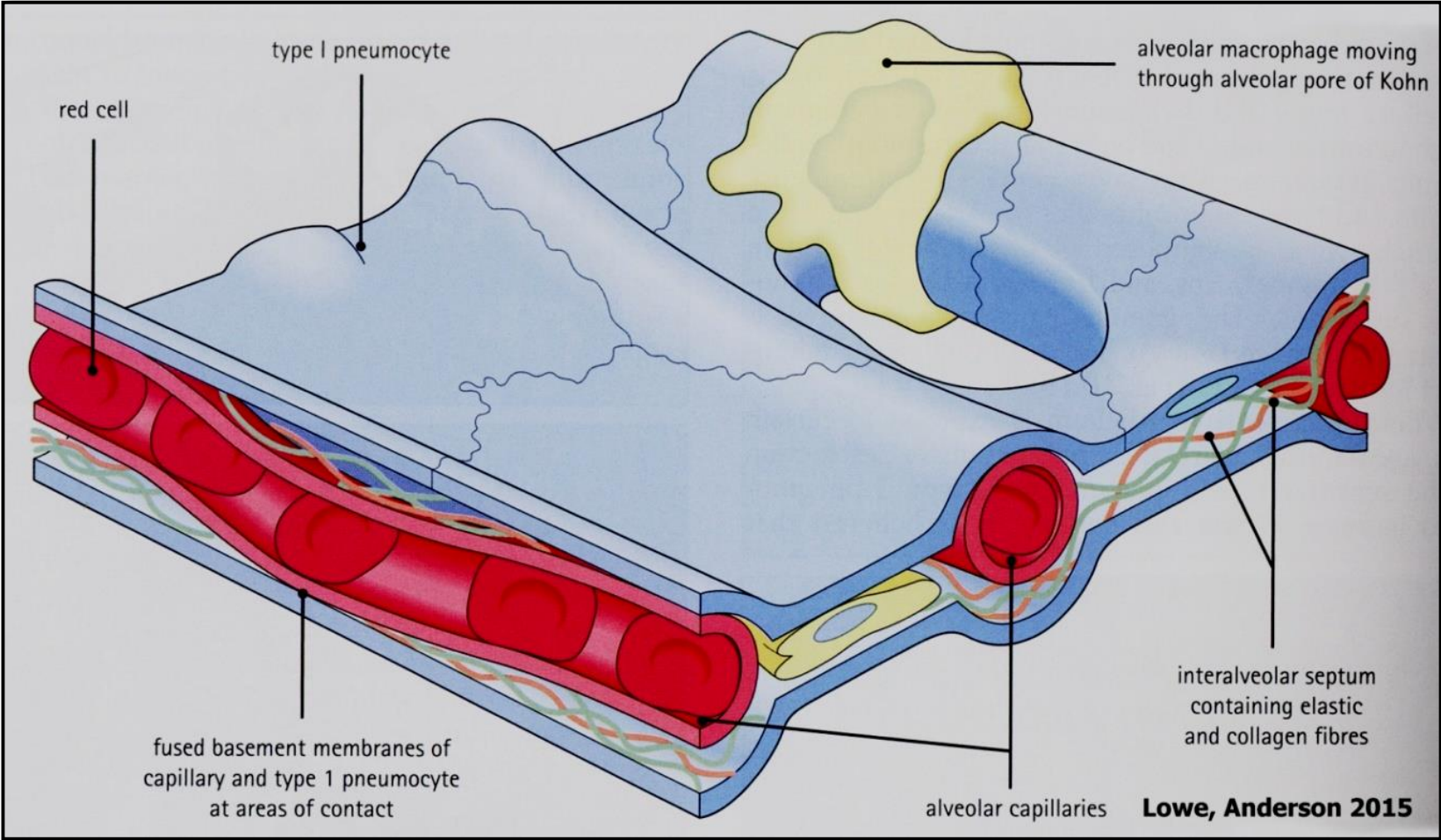
Surfactant



## Alveoli – Macrophages



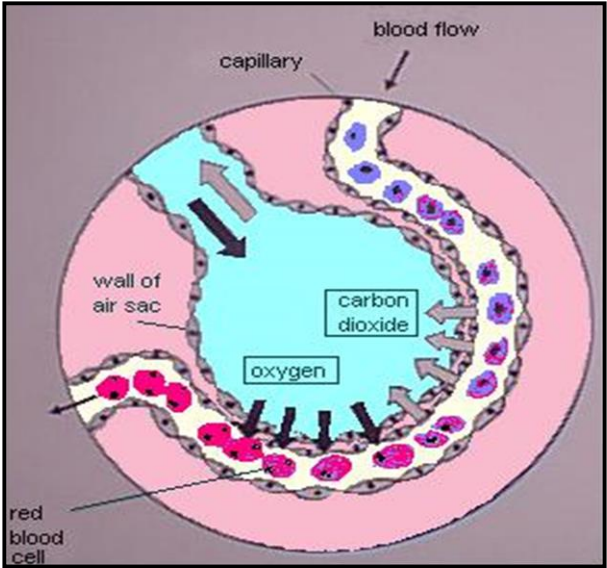
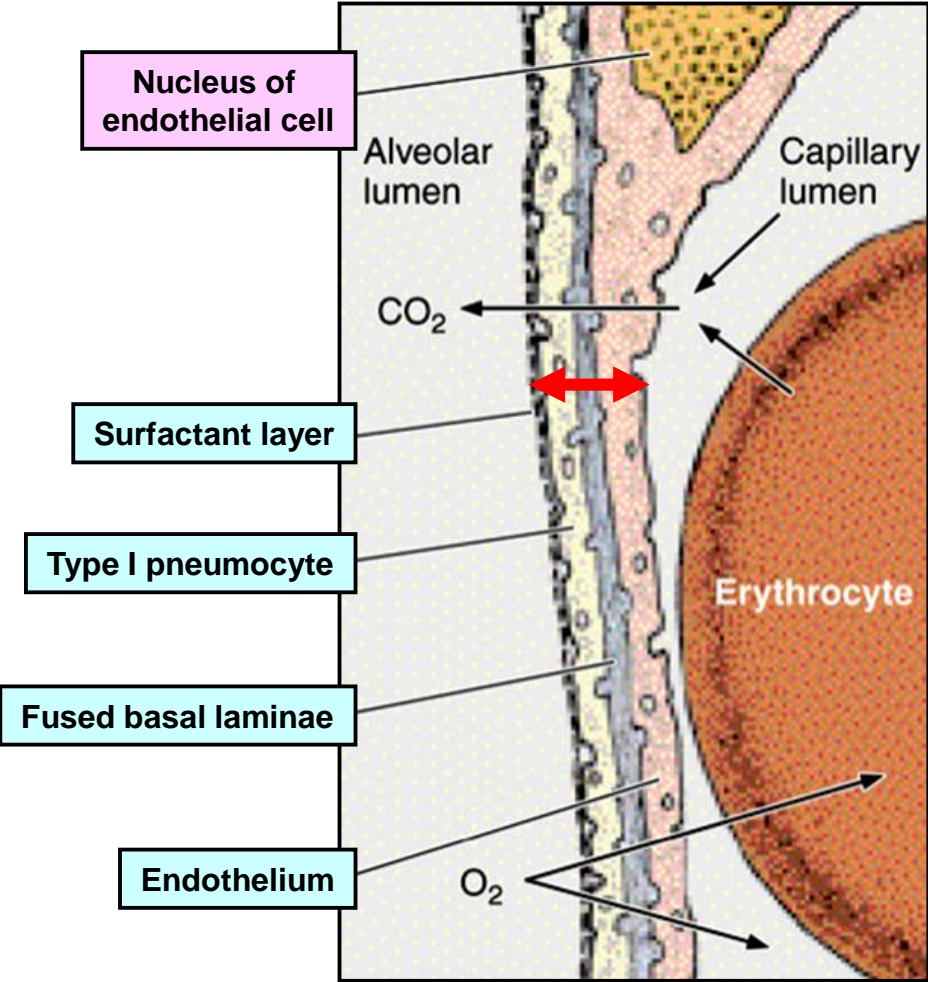
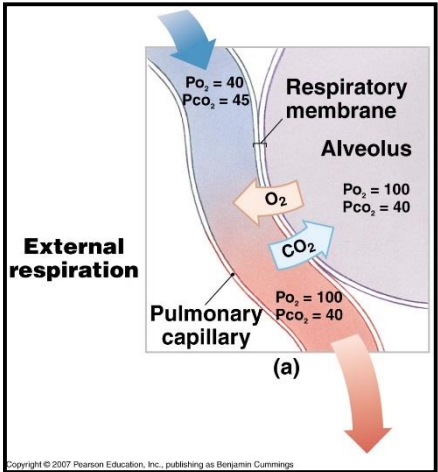
# Alveoli – Inter-alveolar septum



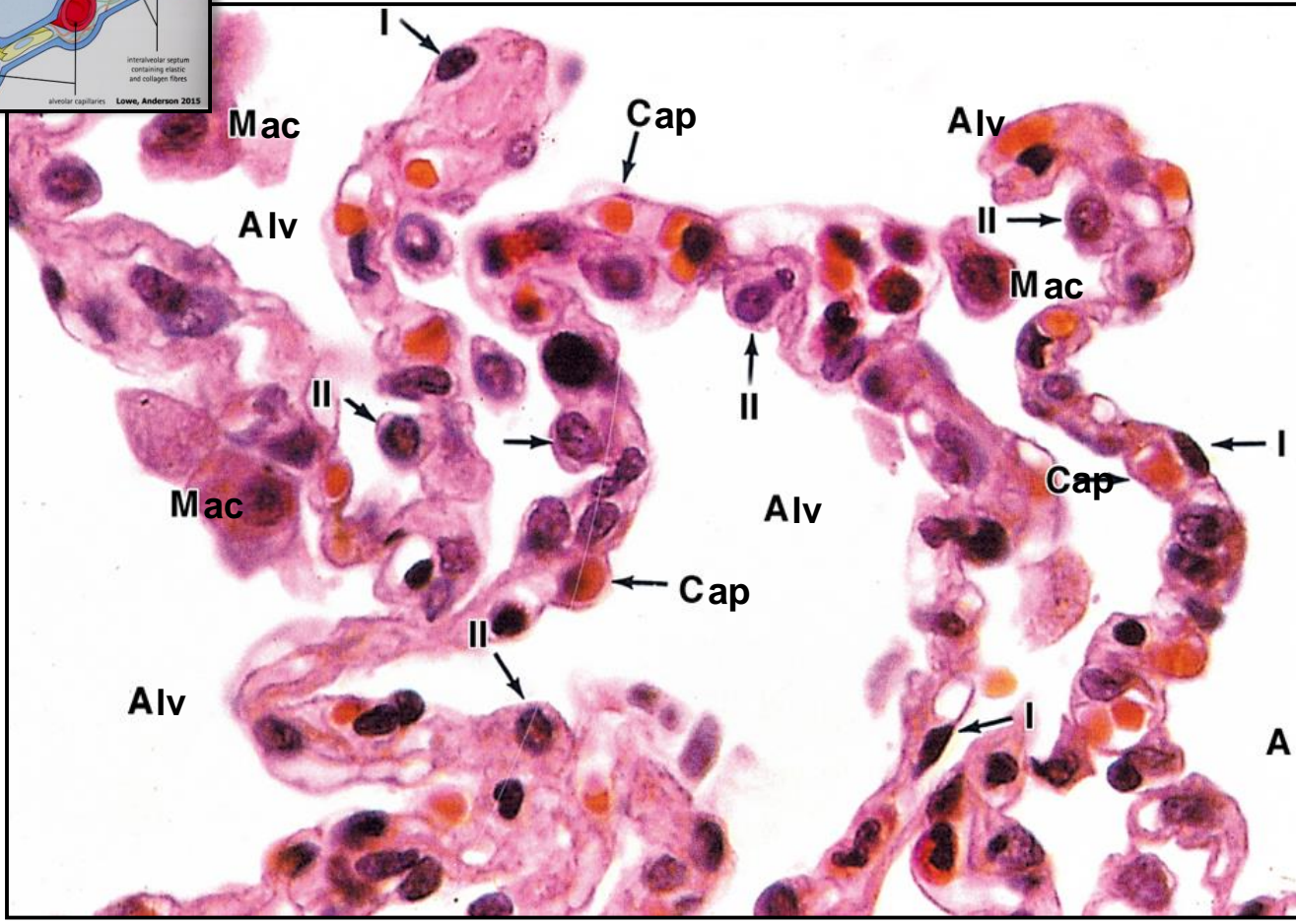
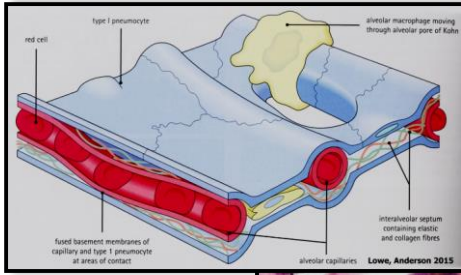
# Alveoli – Blood-Air barrier

Thickness: 0,1 – 1,5  $\mu\text{m}$

Exchange of gasses: passively by diffusion based on gradient

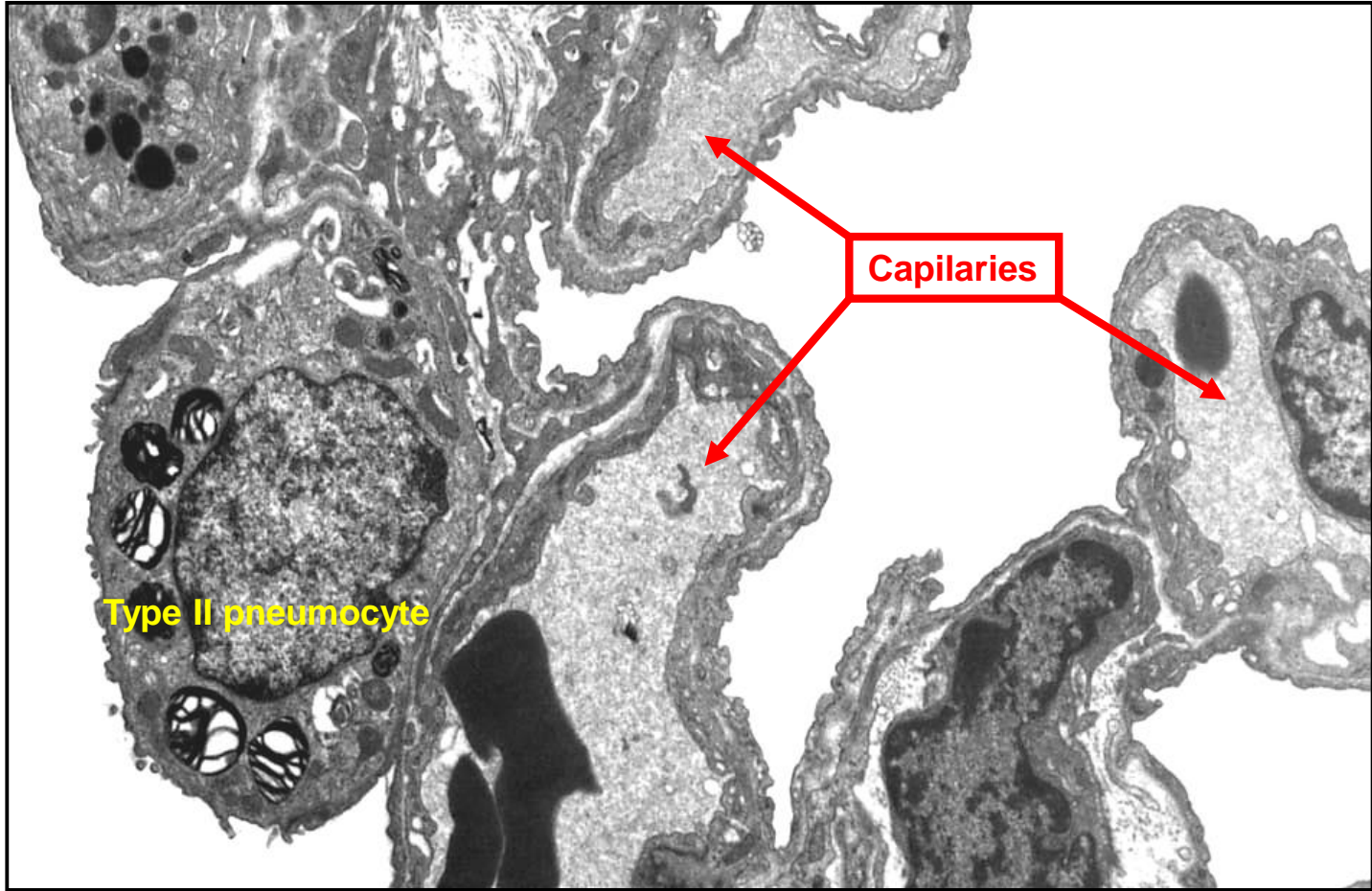


# Alveoli – Blood-Air barrier

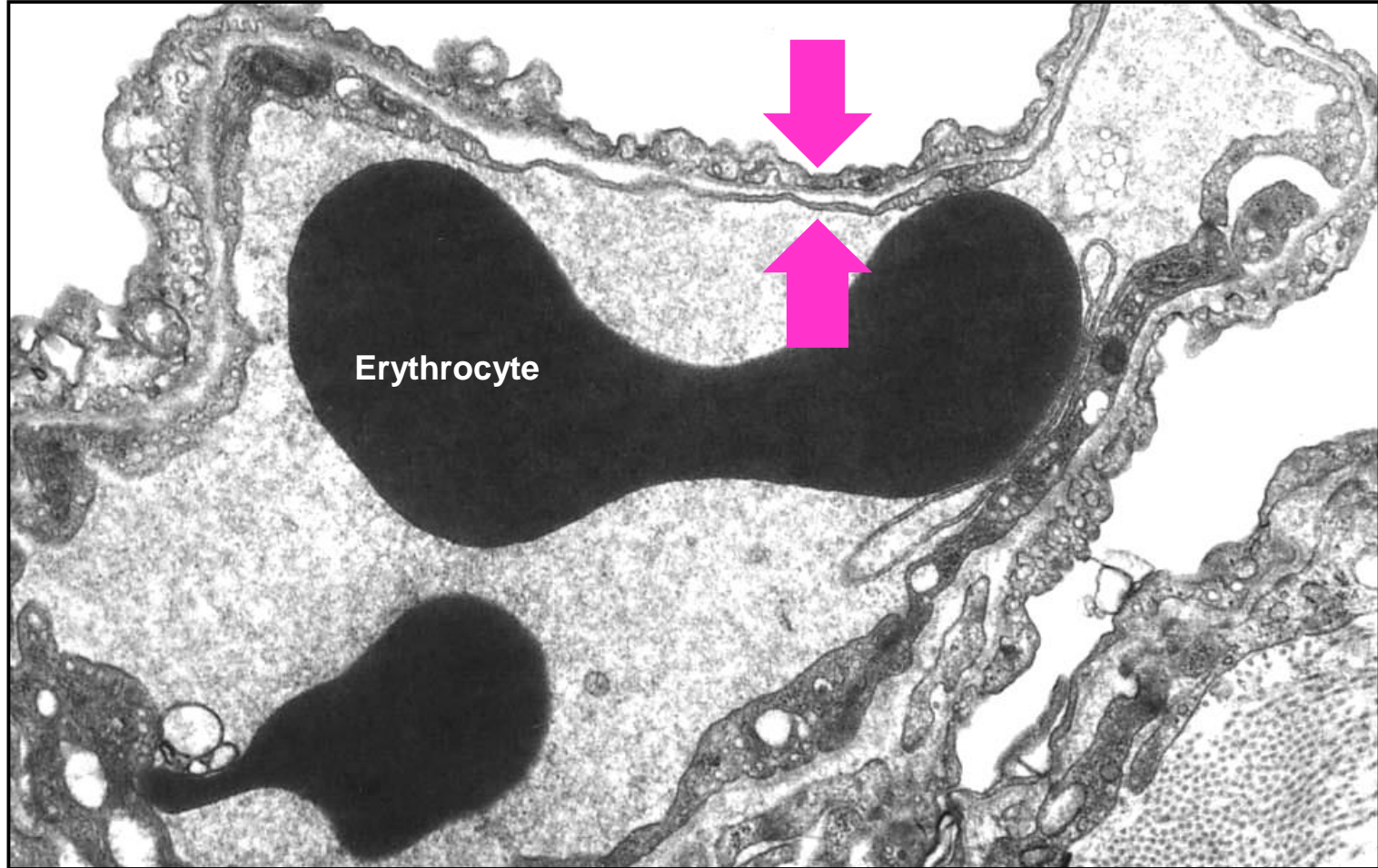


I - Type I pneumocyte    II - Type II pneumocyte    Alv - Alveolus    Cap - Capillary    Mac - Macrophage

# Alveoli – Blood-Air barrier



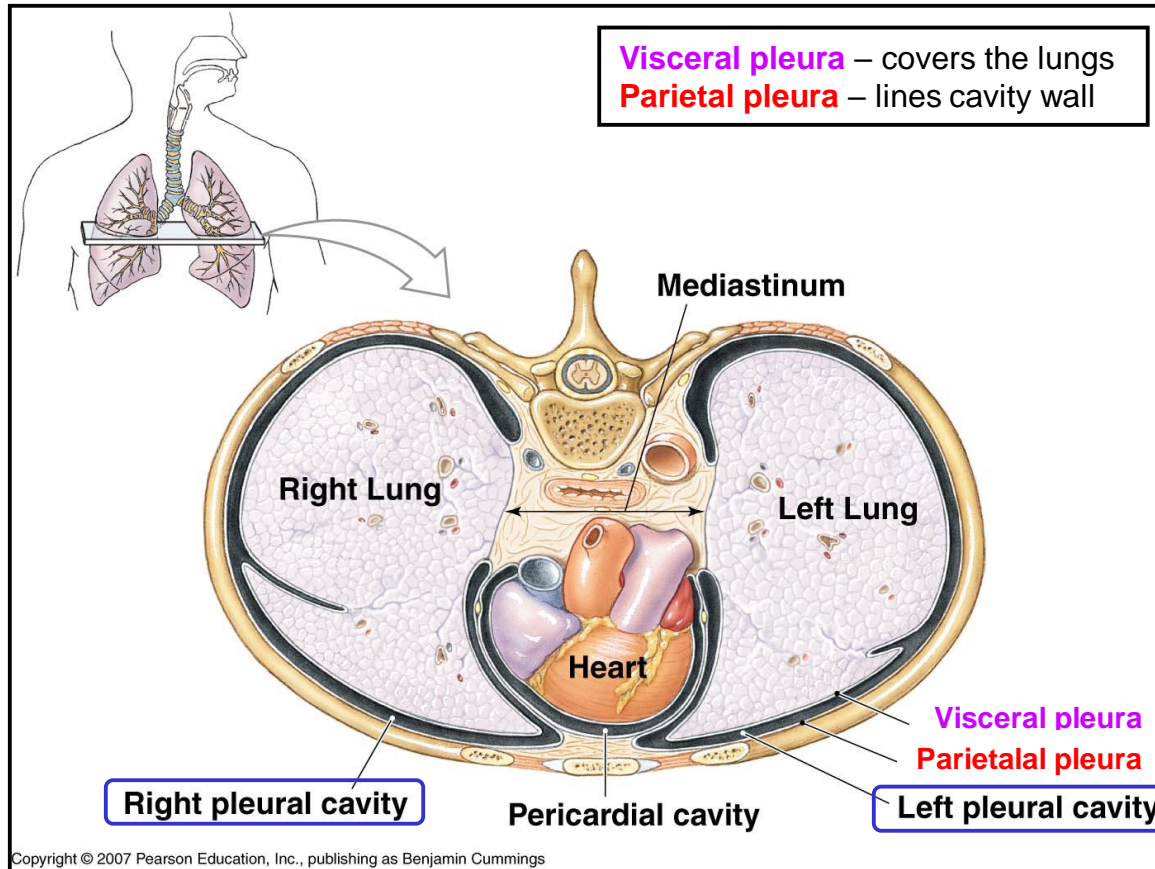
## Alveoli – Blood-Air barrier





# Pleura

Sheet that lines pleural cavities (left and right)



# Pleura



← **Mesothelium** (simple squamous ep.)

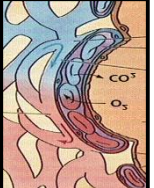
↕ **Connective tissue** (about 1 mm)

# Blood supply

Pulmonary circulation „functional“ + Bronchial circulation „nutritive“

Pulmonary artery

Bronchial artery



Bronchial capillaries

Pulmonary vein

Tertiary bronchus

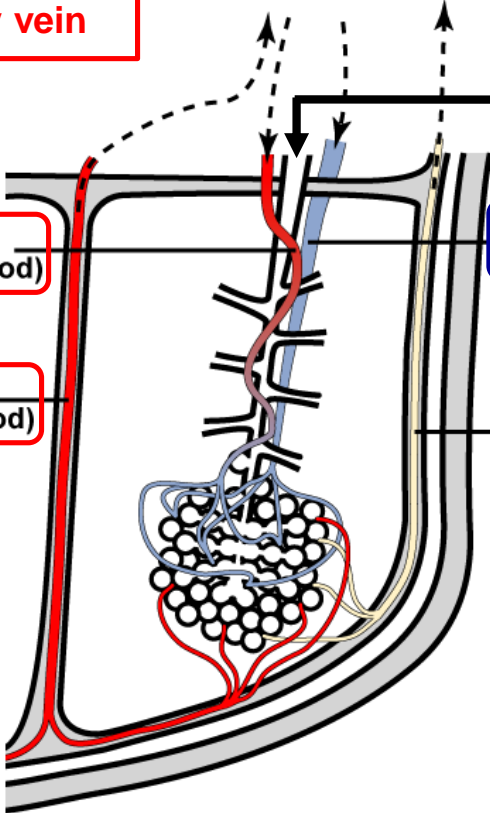
Bronchial artery (oxygenated blood)

Pulmonary artery (deoxygenated blood)

Pulmonary vein (oxygenated blood)

Lymphatic vessel

Bronchopulmonary segment



# Lung development

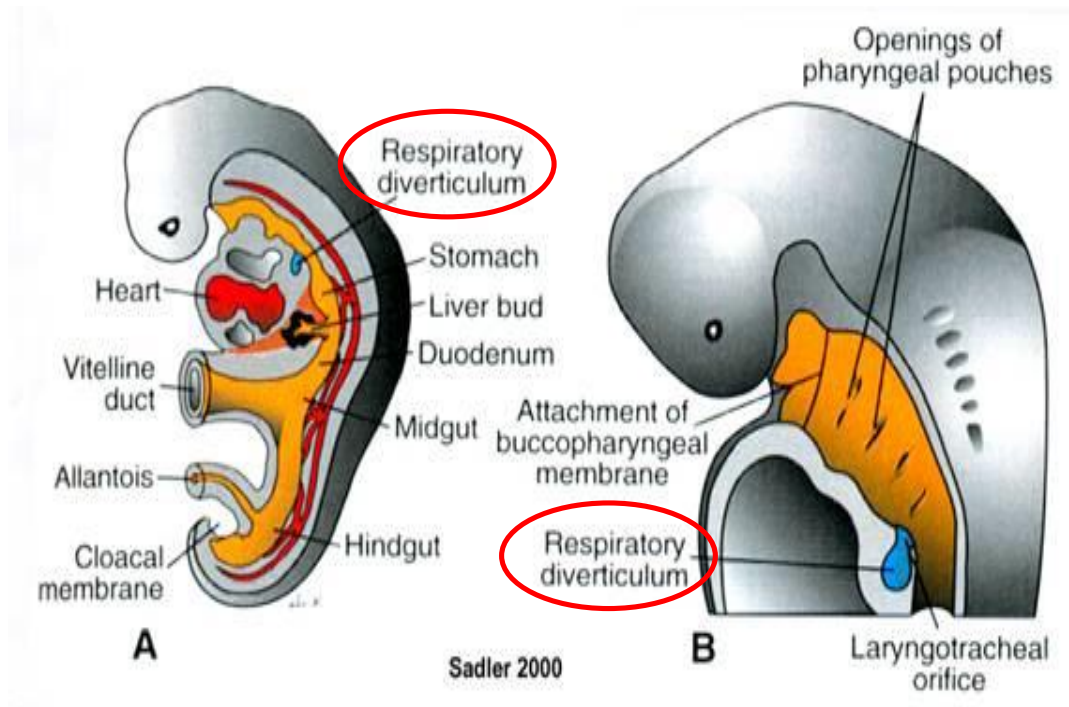
## Endoderm

- epithelium
- glands



## Mesenchyme

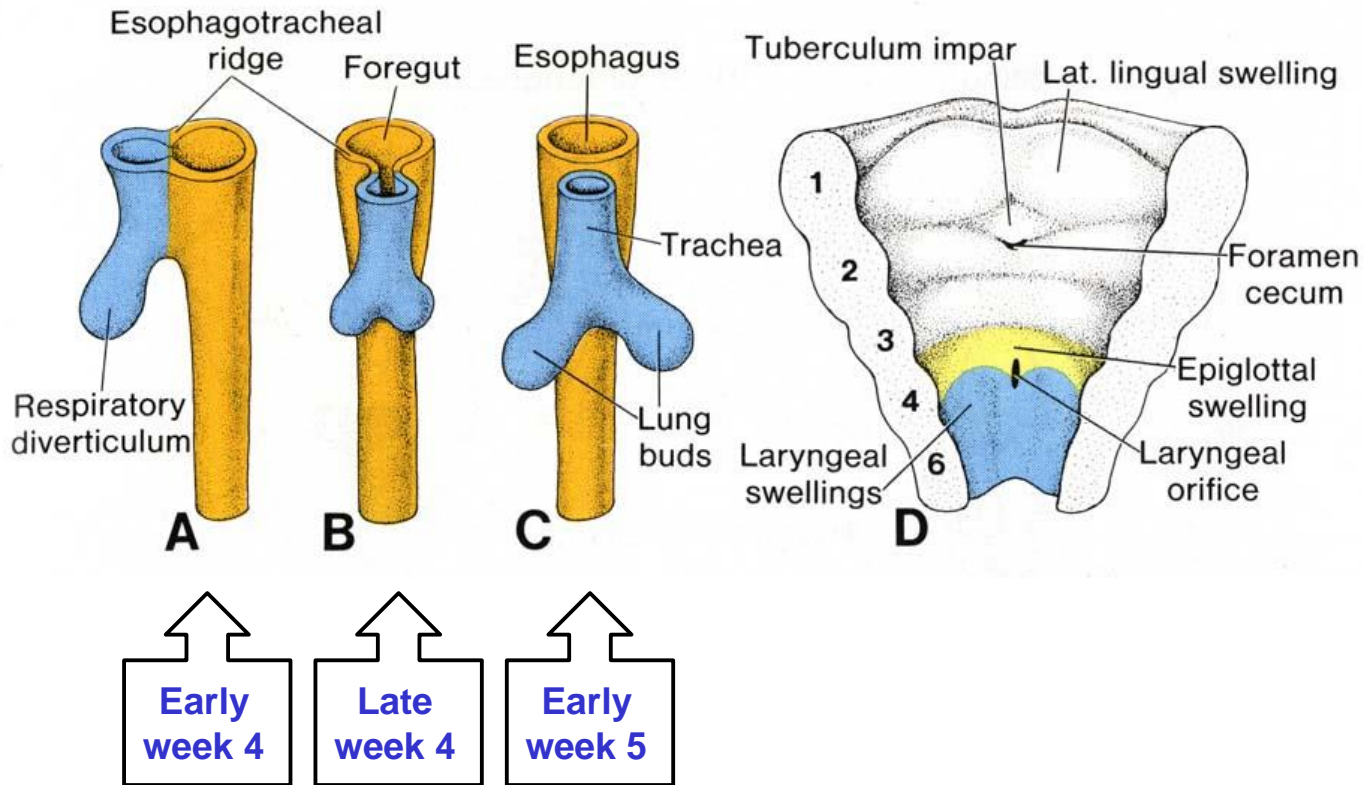
- connective tissue
- cartilage
- muscles



Early week 4: **Respiratory** (laryngotracheal) **diverticulum of the foregut** (ventral aspect)

# Lung development

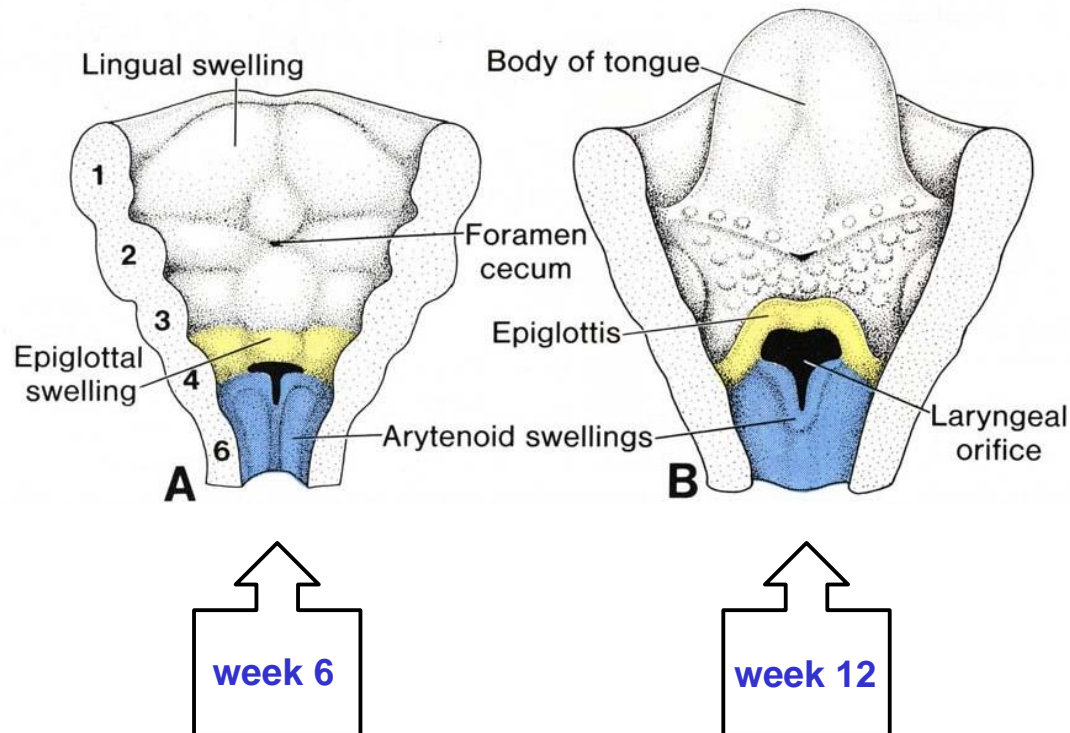
Internal aspect of the ventral wall of the pharynx



Intricate interactions with the surrounding mesoderm

# Lung development

Inside aspect of the ventral wall of the pharynx



- **Lumen** first obliterate and then **recanalize**
- **Pharyngeal ventricle + Ventricular and Vocal plicae** develop
- **Pharyngeal cartilages + Ligaments + Muscles** develop (from 4. and 5. pharyngeal arch)

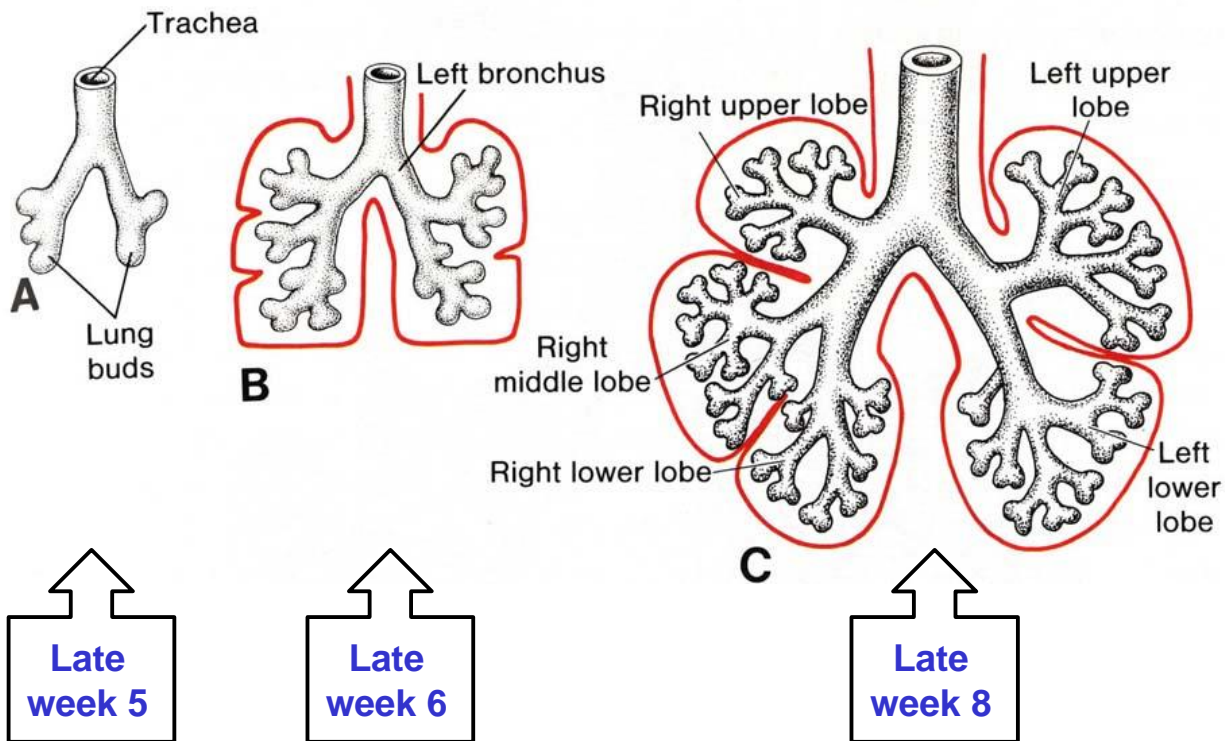
# Lung development – Further branching of bronchi

## Total number of branchings

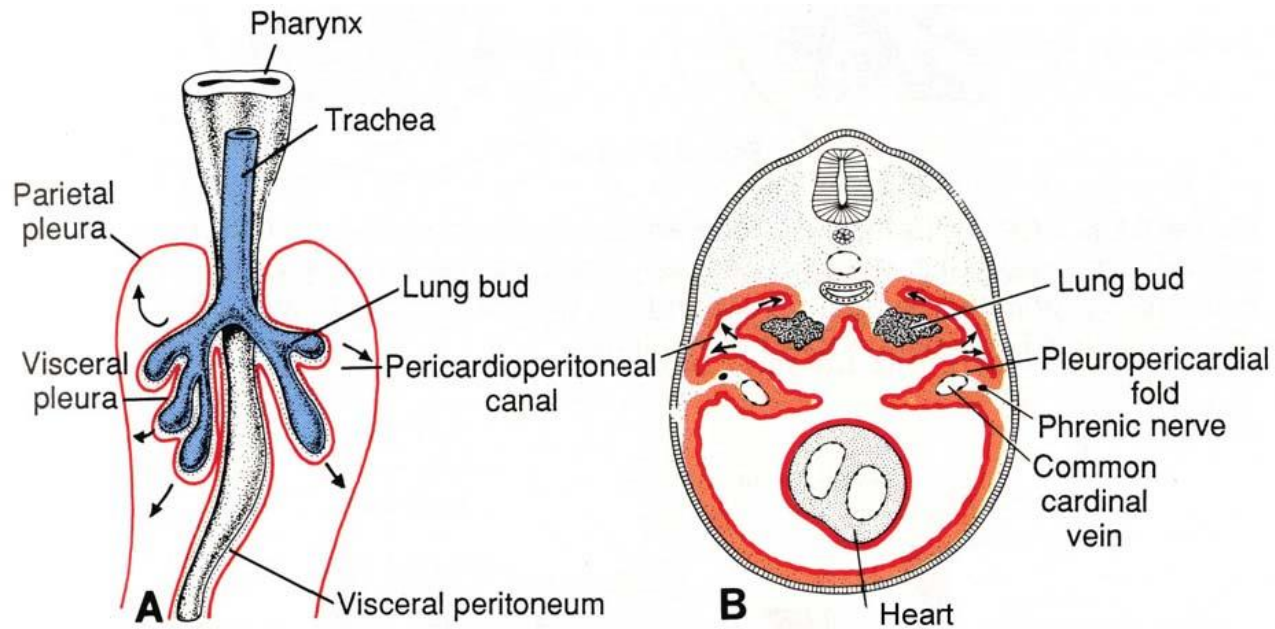
Before birth - 18 x



After birth - 7x  
until 8 years of age



# Lung development – Development of pleuro-pericardial folds



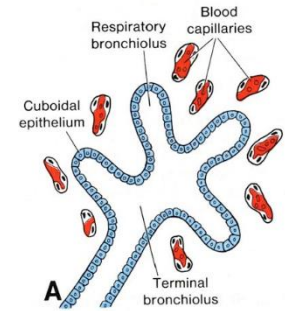
- by subsequent growth in caudal and lateral directions, the bronchial buds penetrate into **primitive pleural cavities**
- the splanchnic mesoderm, which covers the outside of the lung, is transformed into the **visceral pleura**
- the somatic mesoderm, covering the body wall from the inside, becomes the **parietal pleura**
- the space between the parietal and visceral pleura is the **pleural cavity**



# Lung development – Lung histogenesis (maturation)

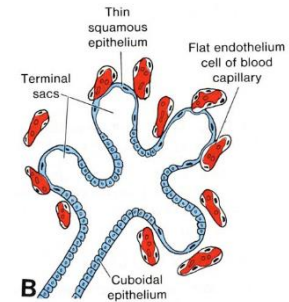
## Pseudoglandular period (week 5 to 17)

- terminal bronchioles are formed
- blindly ended terminal bronchioles - resemble gland
- cuboidal epithelial lining (endodermal)
- **NO respiratory bronchioles and/or alveoli**



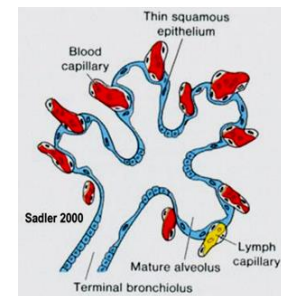
## Canalicular period (week 13 to 25)

- development of respiratory bronchioles, sacs, and vascularisation
- respiration and survival is possible but only with intensive
- **still severe non-maturity**



## Terminal sac period (week 24 to birth)

- considerable increase of terminal sacs and alveoli with well differentiated pneumocytes
- **sufficiently formed blood-air barrier**
- **since week 26 - survival without intervention is possible** (fetal weight about 1000 g)



## Alveolar period (week 32 – 8 years)

- longest period
- development of lungs becomes finalized

**Thank you for your attention !**

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**Building A1 – 1<sup>st</sup> floor**