



ABNORMAL LUNG SOUNDS



Lung sound	Wheeze	Crackles (rales)	Rhonchi	Stridor	Pleural friction rub
Amplitude of lung sound					
Location best heard	Most lung spaces	Commonly heard at the lung bases	Heard best over the large airways	- Trachea and upper airways - More commonly heard with inspiration, but may be heard during both inspiration and expiration	Most lung spaces
Sounds like	- High-pitched whistling sound - Commonly heard with expiration - May be heard with inspiration or throughout cycle depending on severity of inflammation and constriction	- Bubbling, popping, or clicking noises - Best heard during inhalation - May be described as moist, dry, fine, or coarse	Low-pitched rattling sounds that may sound like snoring, gurgling, or wheezing	High-pitched variable respiratory sound	Creaking, grating, rubbing
Lung sound caused by	Vibrations of constricted airway walls induced by a diminished airflow	Fluid in the smaller areas of the lungs such as alveoli	Blockage in the large airways caused by fluid, mucus, or other secretions in the lungs	- Rapid, turbulent flow of air through a narrowed or partially obstructed segment of the extrathoracic upper airway - Involved areas include the pharynx, epiglottis, larynx, and the extrathoracic trachea.	Inflammation causes roughing of the surfaces of the visceral and parietal pleura.

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