

## Aerodigestive Disorders of the Pulmonary Tract (Trachea, Bronchi, and Lungs)

Condition or disorder	Description	Results in
Asthma	Inflammation and temporary narrowing of the airway	Coughing and effortful breathing
Bronchomalacia	Soft, immature cartilage of the bronchial tubes	Noisy breathing or wheezing
Chronic lung disease	Progressive lung diseases characterized by inflammation and blockage of lung airflow; includes emphysema, chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and nonreversible asthma	Effortful breathing
Infectious diseases affecting pulmonary function	Includes upper respiratory infection, pertussis (whooping cough), pneumonia, and tuberculosis	Coughing and effortful breathing
Neoplasms	Abnormal tissue growth that may obstruct the airway or limit the movement of other structures	Coughing, breathing problems, or difficulty swallowing
Structural/physiologic changes affecting pulmonary function secondary to injury or surgery	Changes secondary to pneumonectomy, lung transplantation, esophagectomy	Coughing, breathing problems, or difficulty swallowing
Tracheal stenosis	Narrowing of the trachea	Difficulty breathing
Tracheoesophageal fistula	Communication between the trachea and the esophagus  Congenitally often occurs with esophageal atresia, where the esophagus develops in two segments	Aspiration (material entering the airway)

Tracheomalacia	Soft, immature cartilage of the trachea partly collapses during exhalation	Airway obstruction
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Note. Developed with information from Coyle (2010), Dinwiddie (2004), Gibson and Vertigan (2009), Ibrahim et al. (2007), Jadcherla (2012), Martinucci et al. (2013), Matsuo and Palmer (2008), Morris et al. (2006), Murry et al., (2006), Petty and Dailey (2009), Reitz et al. (2014), Soni et al. (2017), and Vertigan (2017).

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