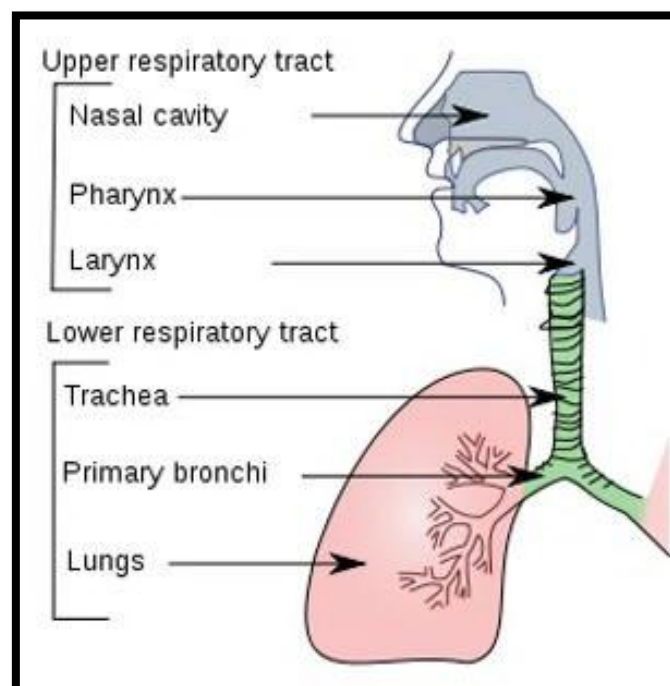
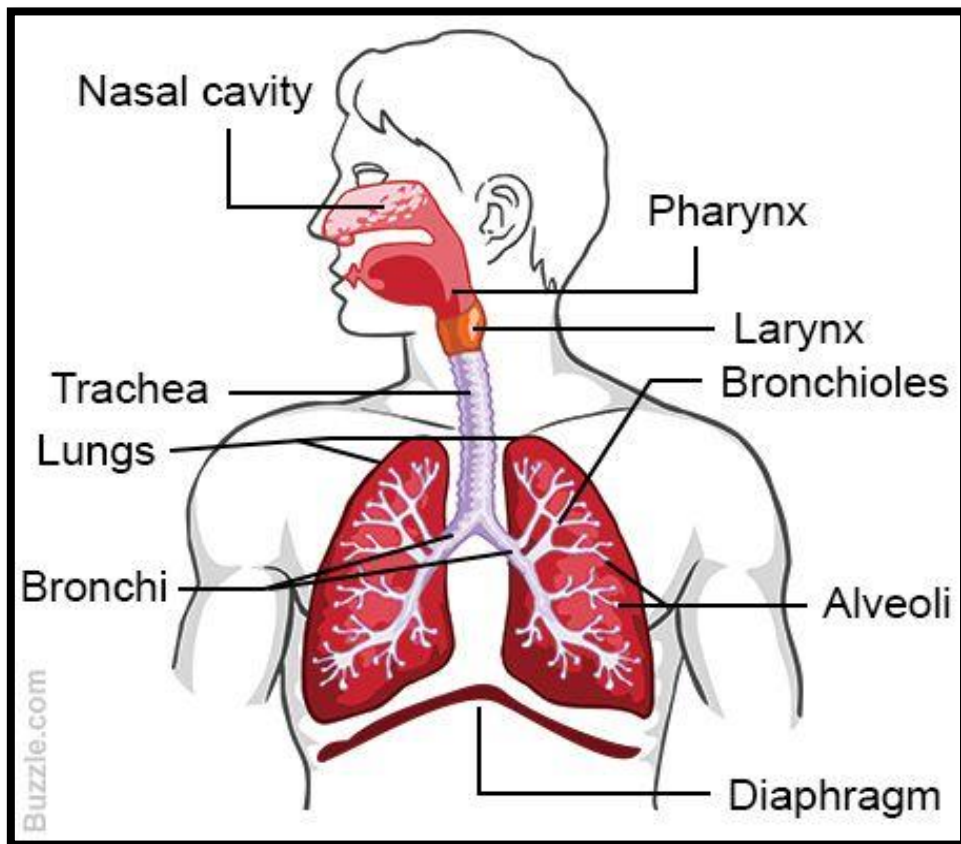


Respiratory system

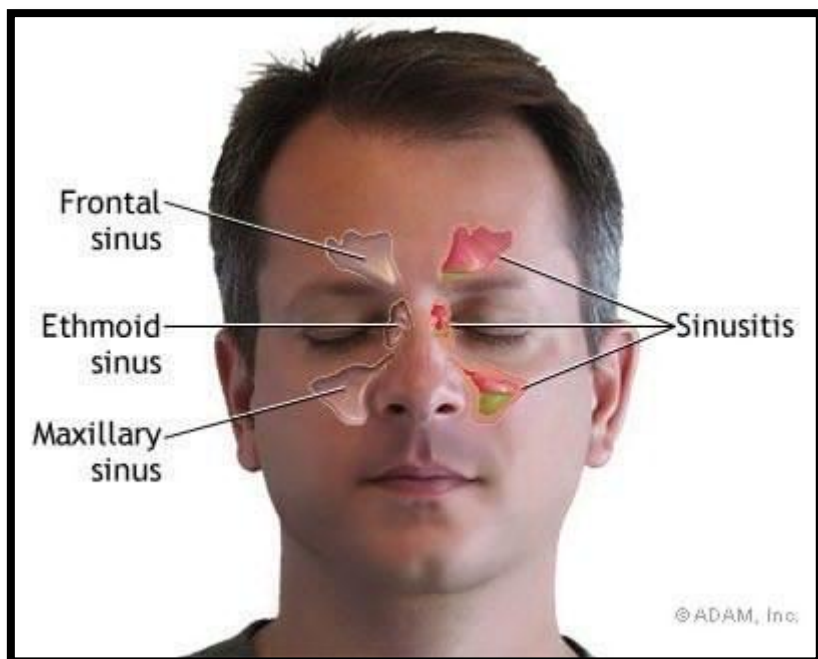
The principal organs of the **respiratory system** are the nose, pharynx, larynx, trachea, bronchi, and lungs . These organs serve to receive fresh air, exchange gases with the blood, and expel the modified air. Within the lungs, air flows along a dead-end pathway consisting essentially of bronchi → bronchioles → alveoli (with some refinements to be introduced later). Incoming air stops in the alveoli (millions of thin-walled, microscopic air sacs in the lungs), exchanges gases with the bloodstream across the alveolar wall, and then flows back out.

The **conducting division** of the respiratory system consists of those passages that serve only for airflow, essentially from the nostrils through the bronchioles. The **respiratory division** consists of the alveoli and other distal gas-exchange regions. The airway from the nose through the larynx is often called the **upper respiratory tract** (that is, the respiratory organs in the head and neck), and the regions from the trachea through the lungs compose the **lower respiratory tract** (the respiratory organs of the thorax).

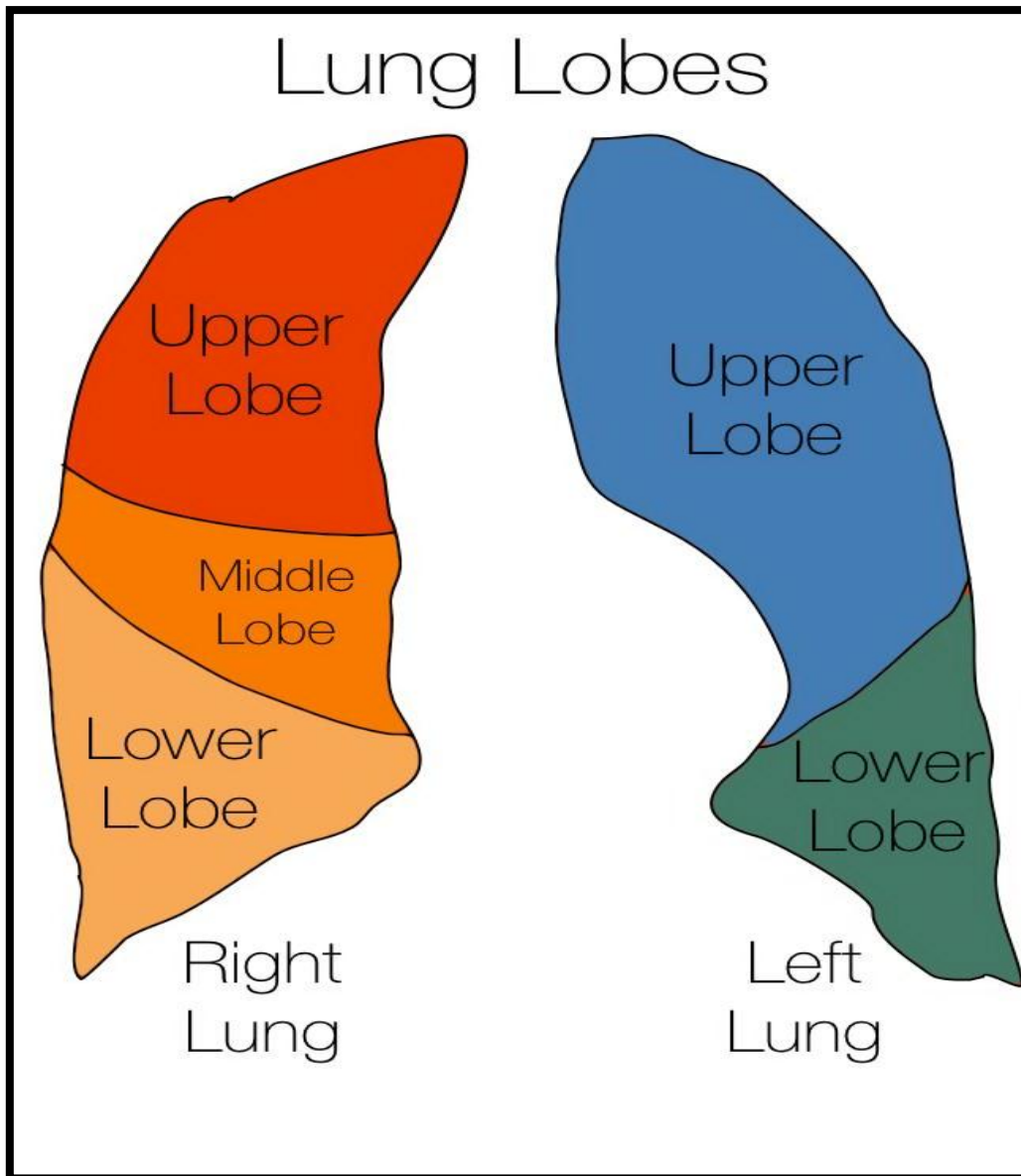




respiratory system



Nasal sinuses



lung component