

MECHANISM OF RESPIRATION



RESPIRATORY MOVEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

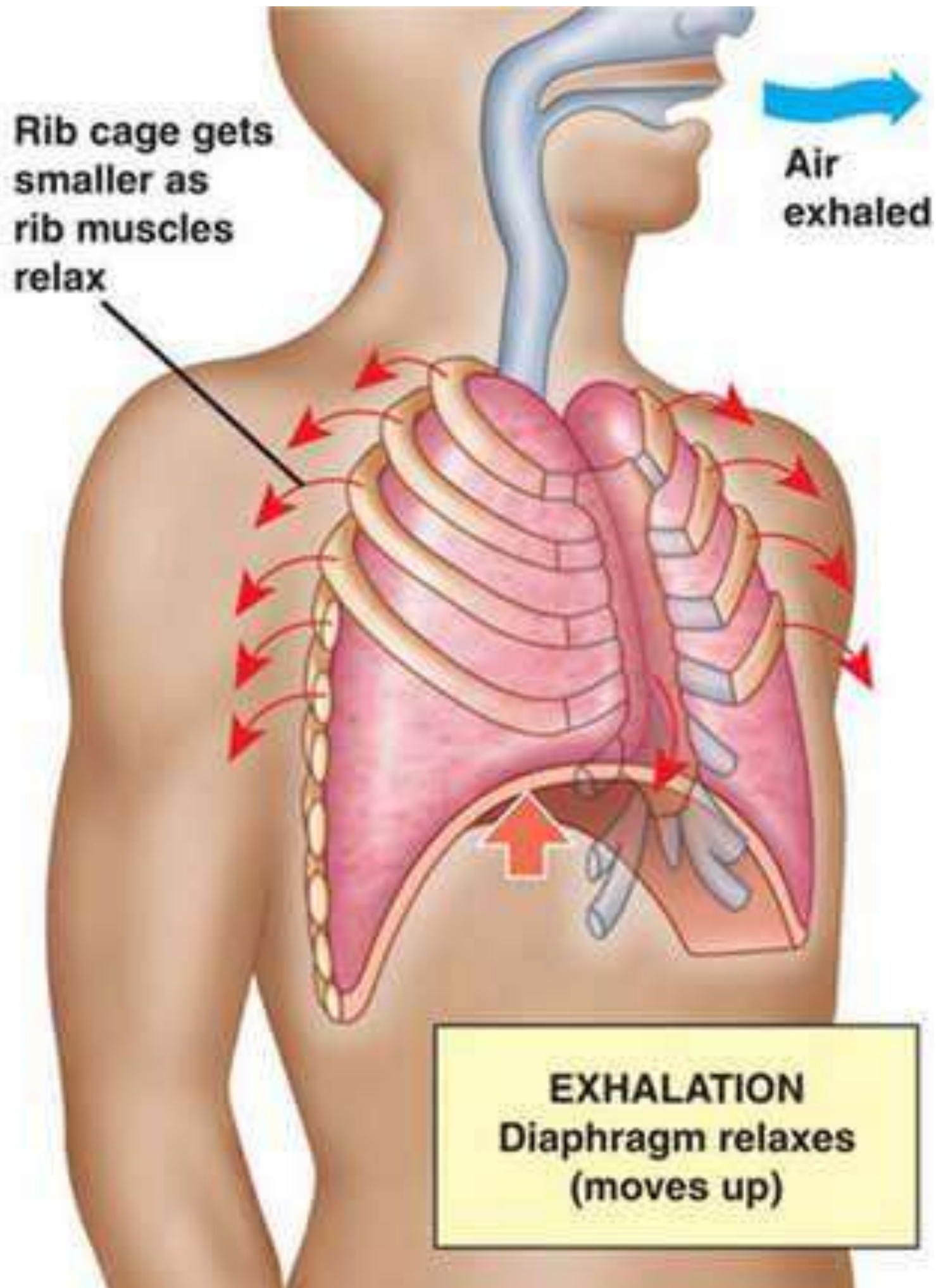
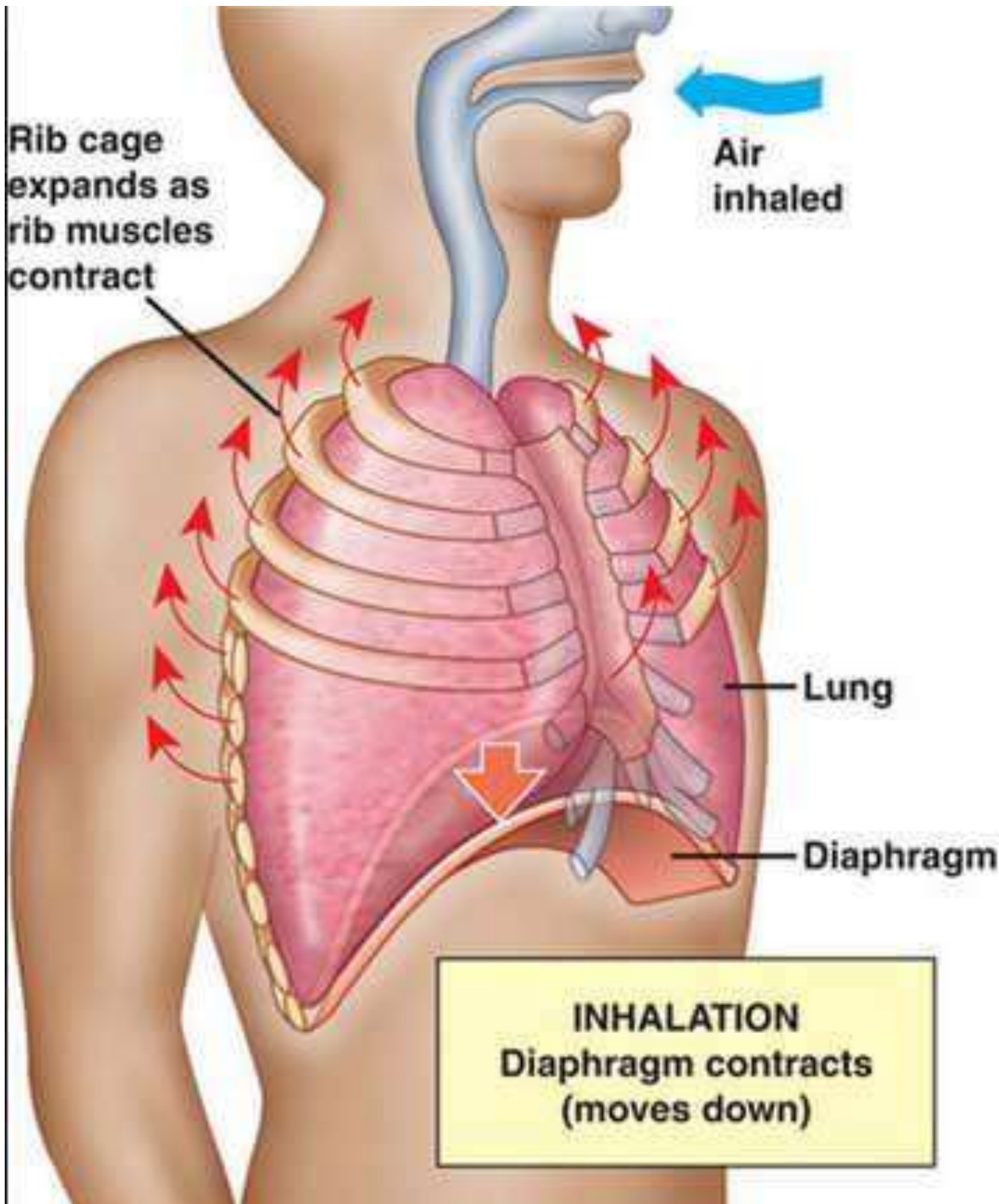
Respiration occurs in two phases namely **inspiration and expiration.**

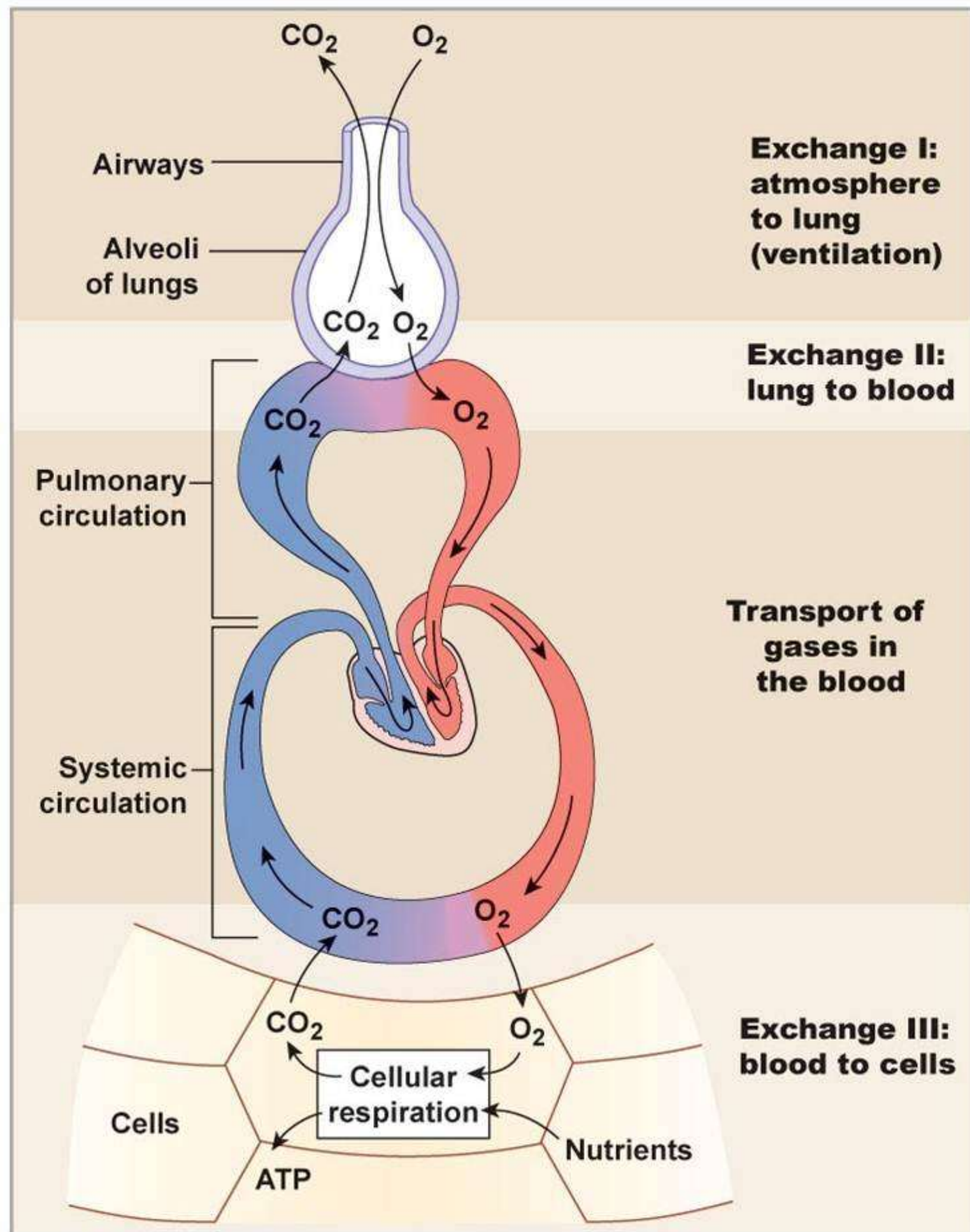
During inspiration, **thoracic cage enlarges and lungs expand** so that air enters the lungs easily.

During expiration, the **thoracic cage and lungs decrease in size** and attain the pre

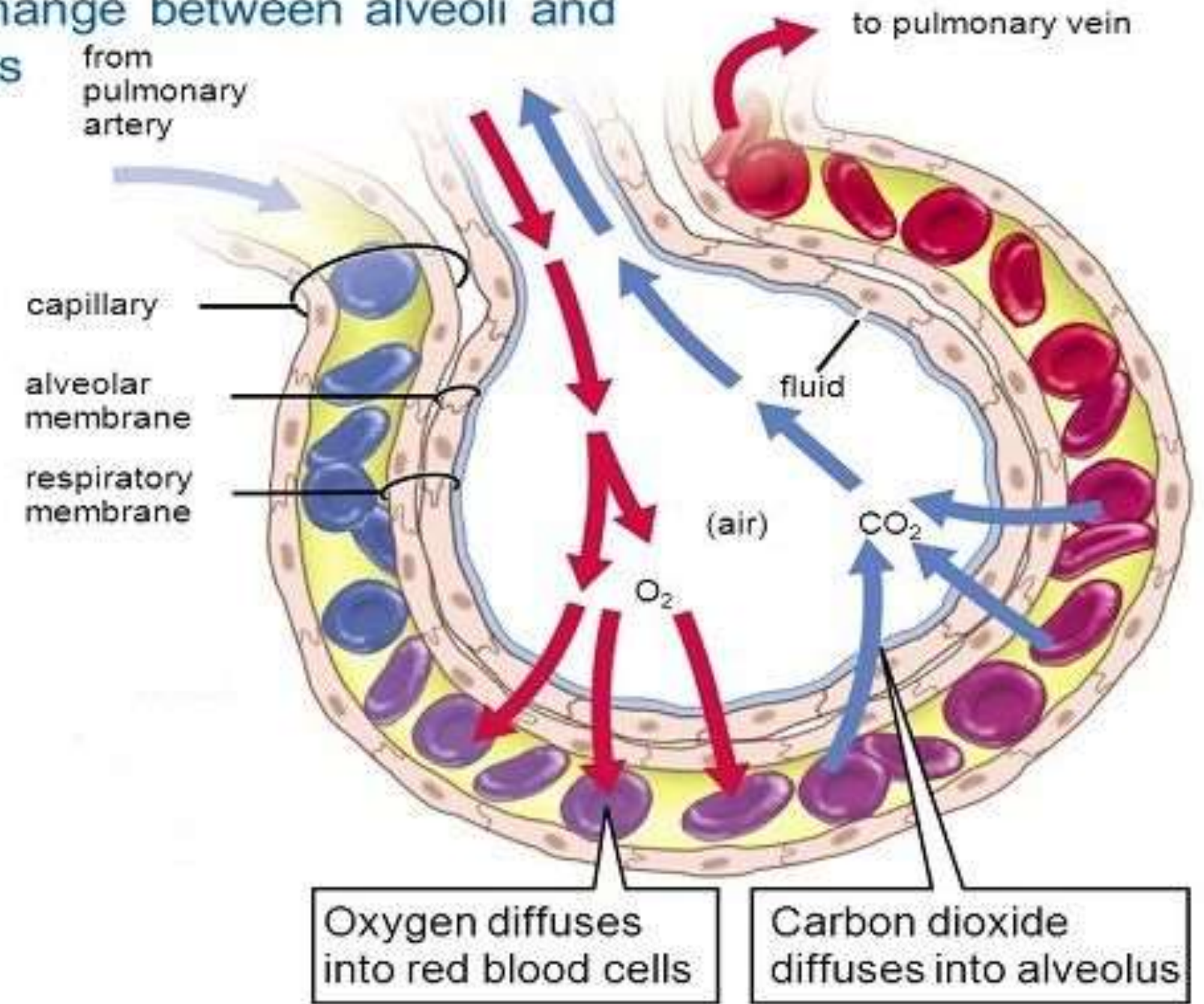
inspiratory position so that air leaves the lungs easily.

During normal **quiet breathing**, inspiration is the **active process** and expiration is the **passive process**





Gas exchange between alveoli and capillaries





MUSCLES OF RESPIRATION

Respiratory muscles are of two types:

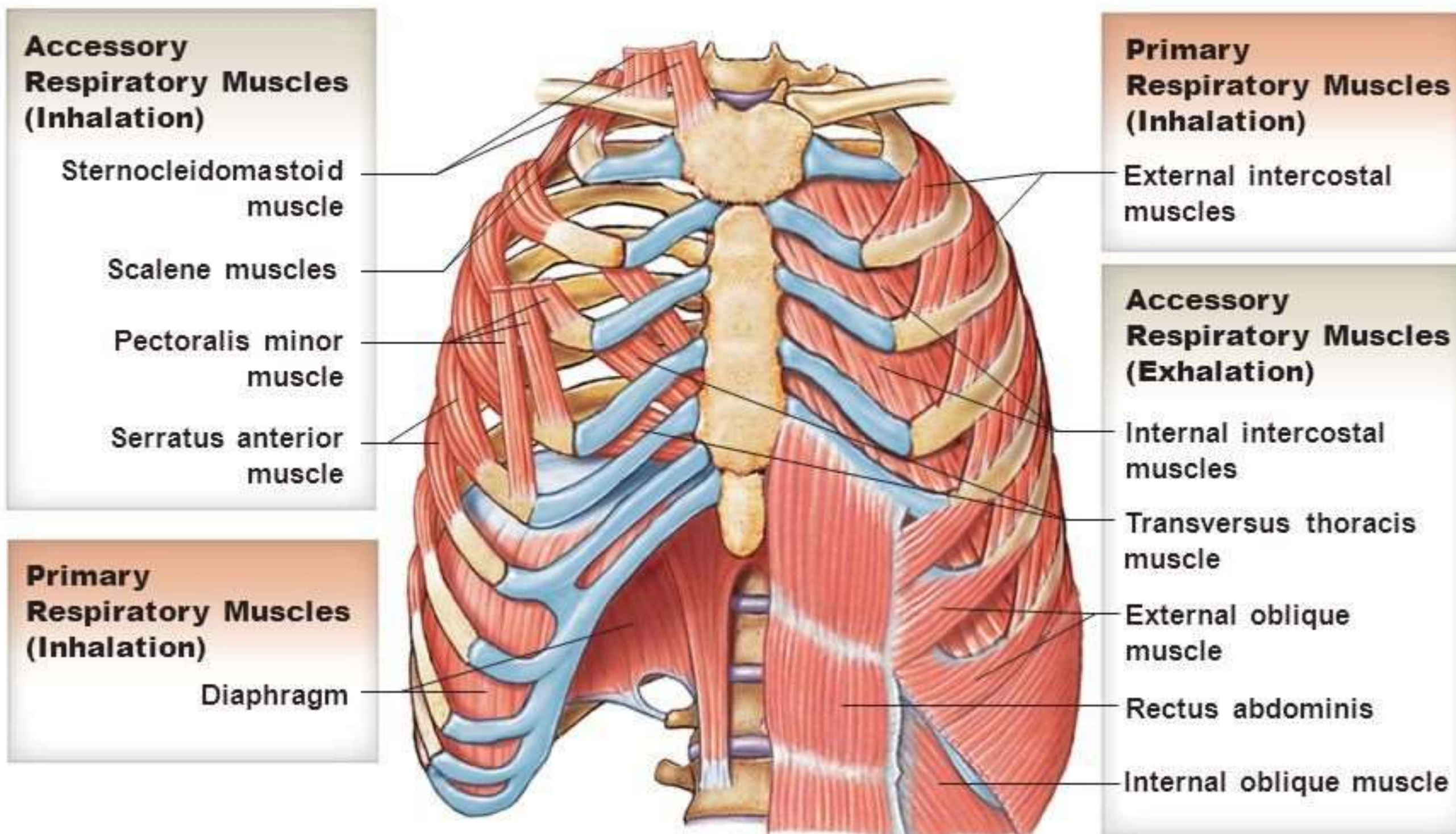
- 1. Inspiratory muscles**
- 2. Expiratory muscles.**



However, respiratory muscles are generally classified into two types:

1. **Primary or major respiratory muscles**, which are responsible for **change in size of thoracic cage** during normal quiet breathing.
2. **Accessory respiratory muscles** that help **primary respiratory muscles** during forced respiration.

1 The Respiratory Muscles





EXPIRATORY MUSCLES

Primary expiratory muscles

Primary expiratory muscles are the **internal intercostal muscles**, which are innervated by intercostal nerves.

Accessory expiratory muscles

Accessory expiratory muscles are the **abdominal muscles**

Muscles of inspiration

Accessory

Sternocleidomastoid
(elevates sternum)

Scalenes group
(elevates upper ribs)

Not shown:
Pectoralis minor

Principal

External intercostals
interchondral part of
internal intercostals
(also elevates ribs)

Diaphragm
(dome descends, thus
increasing vertical
dimension of thoracic
cavity; also elevates
lower ribs)



Muscles of expiration

Quiet breathing

Expiration results from
passive, elastic recoil
of the lungs, rib cage
and diaphragm

Active breathing

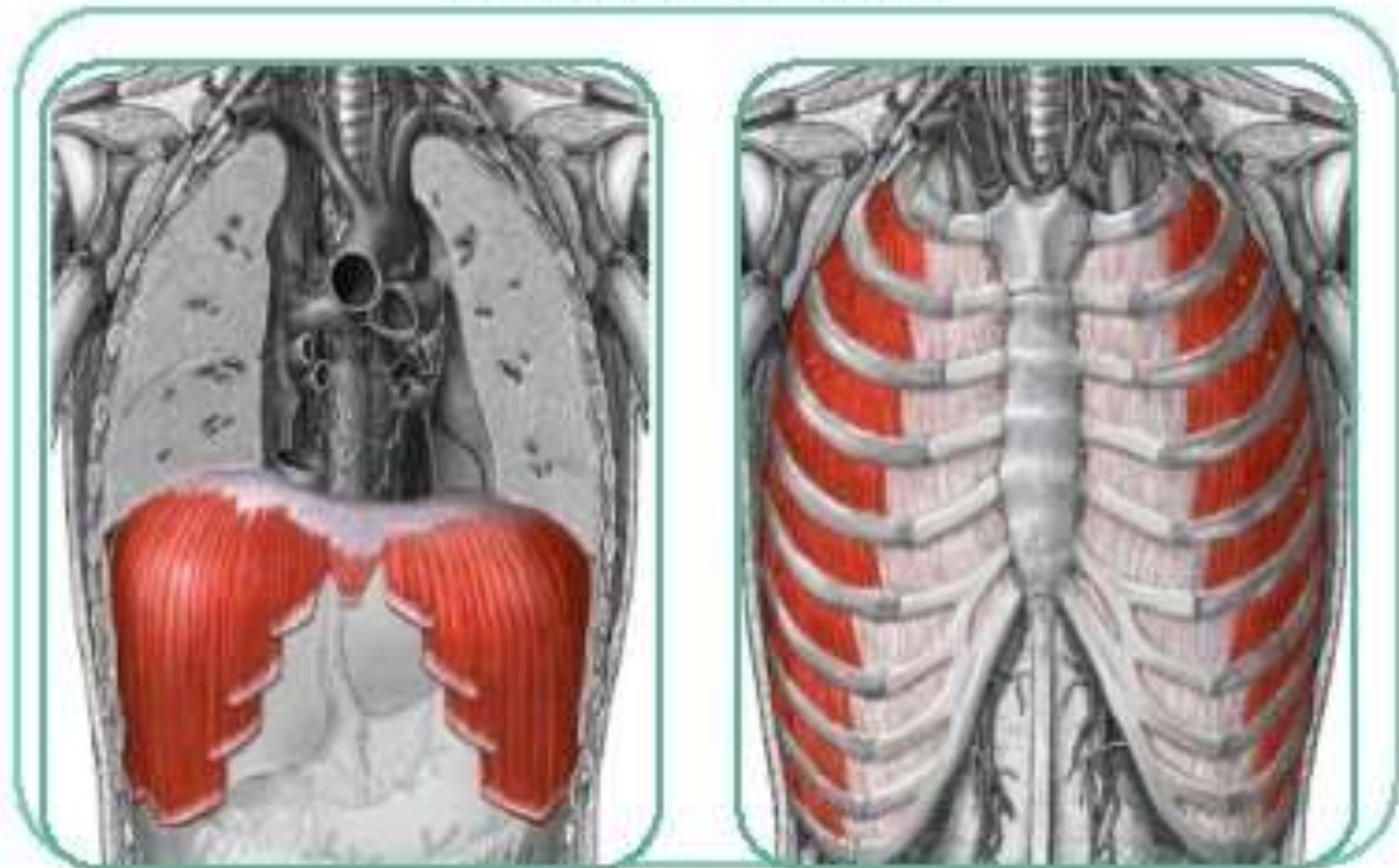
Internal intercostals,
except interchondral
part (pull ribs down)

Abdominals (pull ribs
down, compress
abdominal contents
thus pushing
diaphragm up)

Note shown
Quadratus lumborum
(pulls ribs down)

Inspiratory Muscles

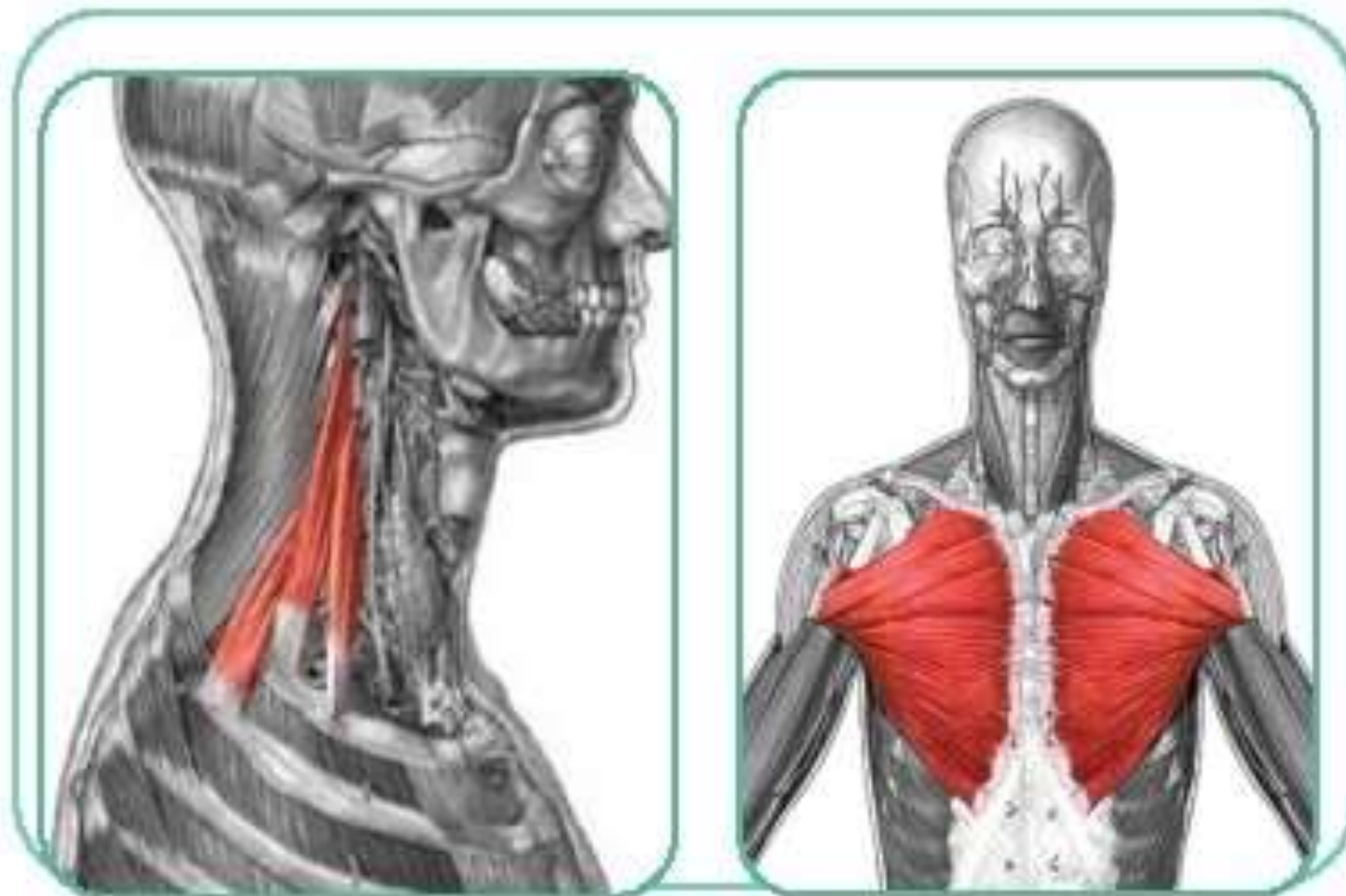
Muscles used in rest and forced inspiration



Diaphragm :
most important
muscle in
inspiration

Rib elevators:
**external
intercostal
muscles**

Accessory muscles
(only during forced inspiration) :



Muscles attaching
cervical vertebrae
to first & second
rib: **scalene
muscles**

Muscles attaching
thoracic cage to
upper limb:
pectoralis major

Note:
Why are the
accessory muscles
listed in anatomy
different from the
ones in physiology?
Because they are
BOTH correct.
Grey's Anatomy:
"Any muscles
attaching to the ribs
can potentially
move one rib
relative to another
and therefore act as
accessory
respiratory
muscles."

SUMMARY OF RESPIRATORY MOVEMENTS

Inspiration

▪ Quiet Inspiration (active)

Contraction (Descent) of diaphragm



Increase in **vertical** diameter

Elevation of ribs (external intercostal)



Increase in:
- **anteroposterior** diameter
- **lateral** diameter

▪ Forced Inspiration (active)

Accessory muscles of inspiration:

1. Pectoralis major
2. Scalene muscles

Expiration

▪ Quiet Expiration (passive)

1. Elastic recoil of lung
2. Relaxation of diaphragm & external intercostal

▪ Forced Expiration (active):

Contraction of anterior abdominal wall muscles



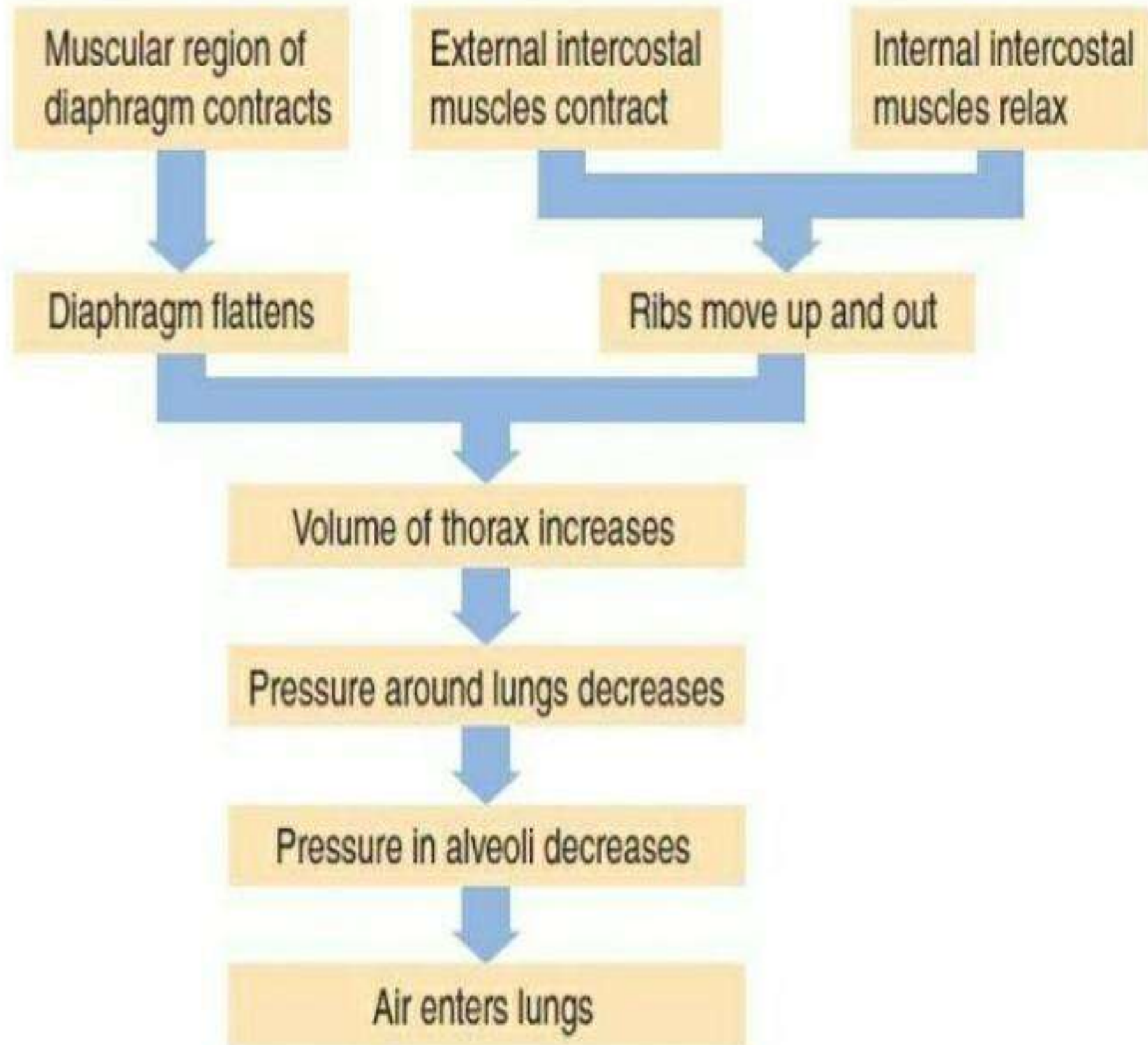
Compression of abdominal viscera



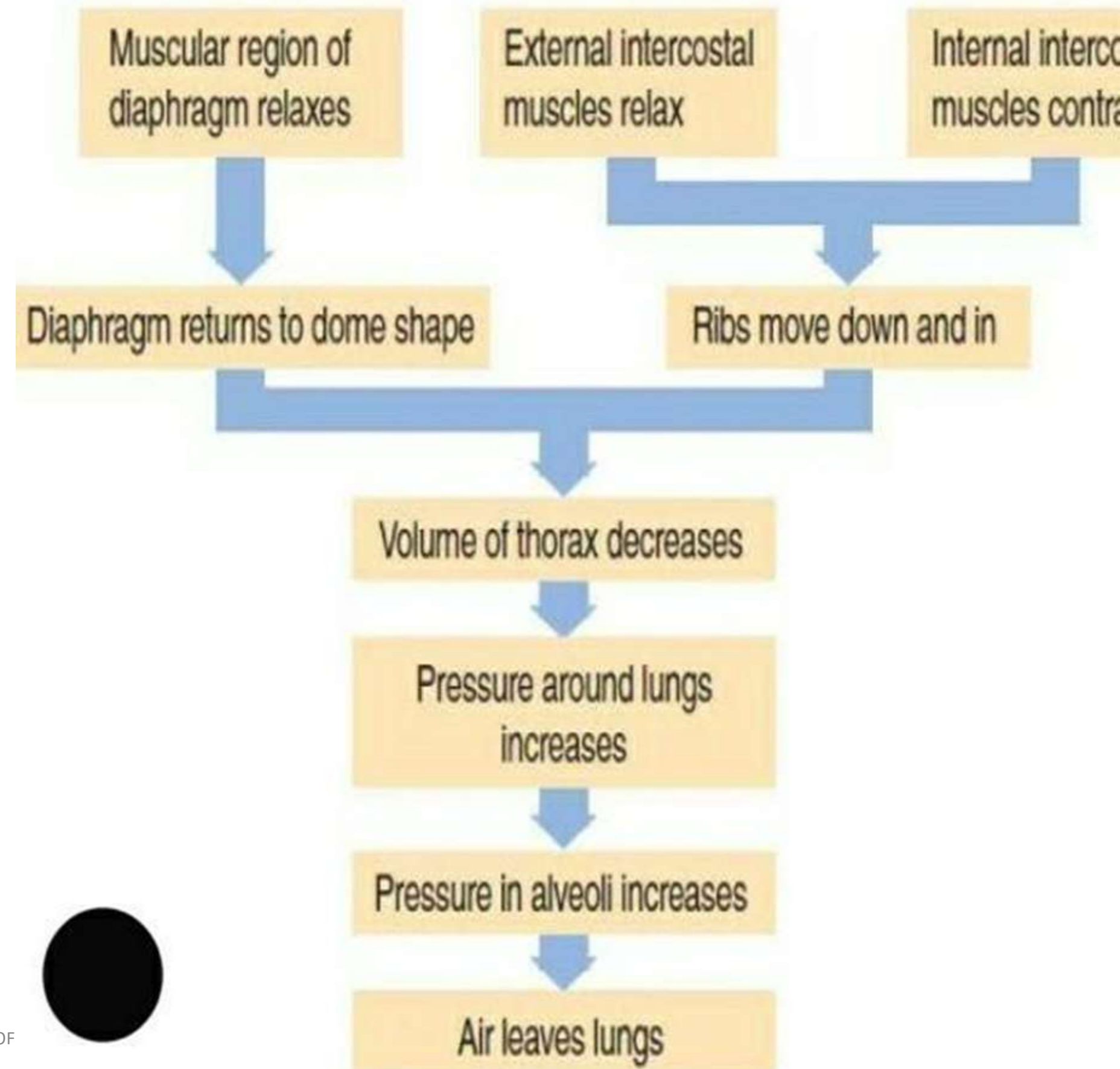
Ascent of diaphragm

Depression of ribs (rest of intercostal muscles)

Mechanism of Inhalation



Mechanism of Exhalation



Events in inspiration and expiration



Inspiration	Expiration
Respiratory centre initiates the stimuli during inspiration. ↓	Respiratory centre terminates the stimuli during expiration. ↓
The diaphragm and expiratory muscles contract. ↓	The diaphragm relax but internal intercostal muscles contract. ↓
The thoracic volume increases as the chest wall expands. ↓	The thoracic volume decreases as the chest wall contracts. ↓
The intra pulmonary pressure is reduced. ↓	The intra pulmonary pressure is increased. ↓
The alveolar pressure decreases than the atmospheric pressure ↓	The alveolar pressure increases than the atmospheric pressure. ↓
Air is taken inside due to expansion of alveoli. ↓	Air is sent out due to the contraction of alveoli. ↓
Air flows into the alveoli until the alveolar pressure equalizes the atmospheric pressure and the alveoli get inflated.	Air flows out of the alveoli until the alveolar pressure equalizes the atmospheric pressure and the alveoli get deflated.



MOVEMENTS OF THORACIC CAGE

Inspiration causes enlargement of thoracic cage.

Thoracic cage enlarges because of increase in all diameters, viz. **anteroposterior, transverse and vertical diameters.**

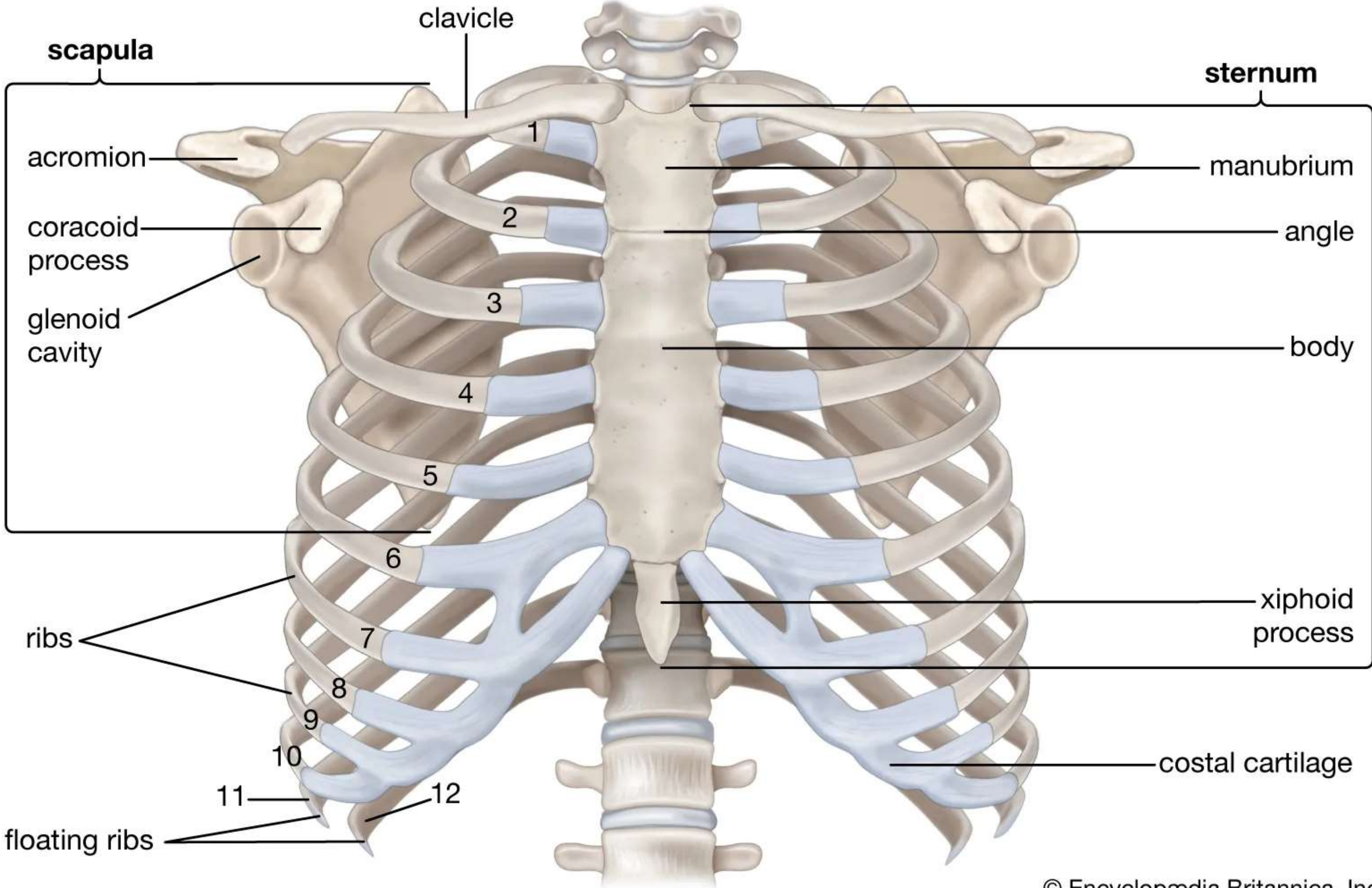
Anteroposterior and transverse diameters of thoracic cage are increased by the **elevation of ribs.**

Vertical diameter is increased by the descent of diaphragm.

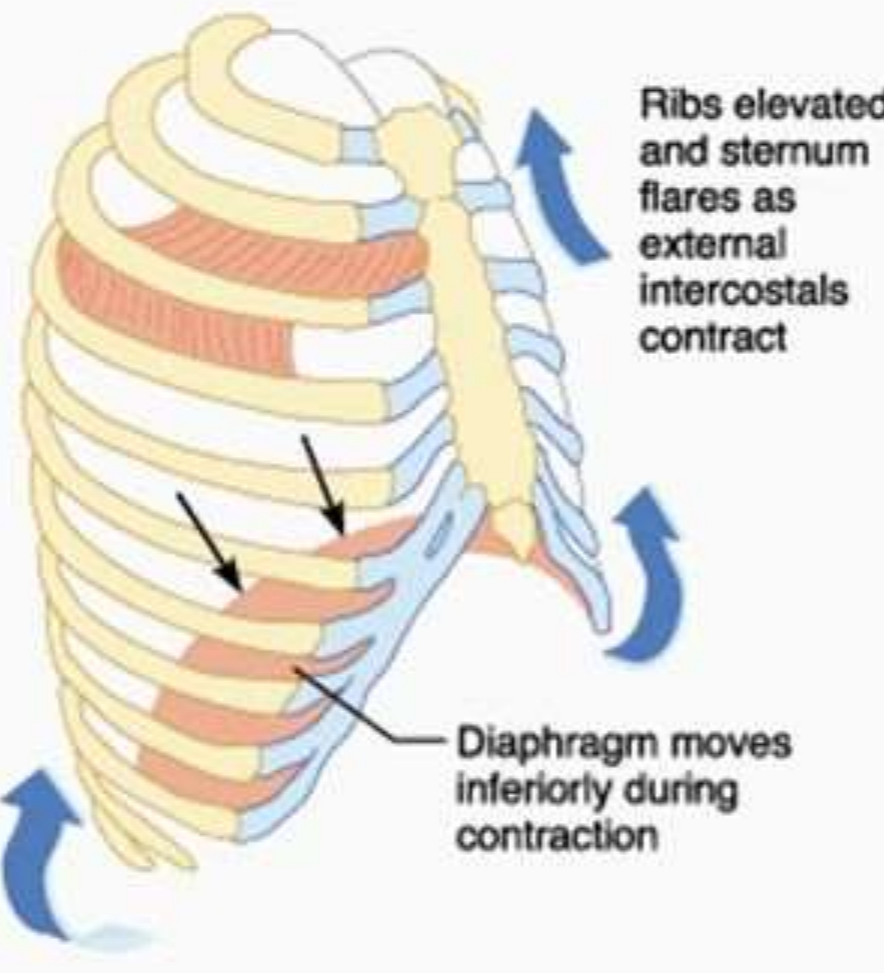
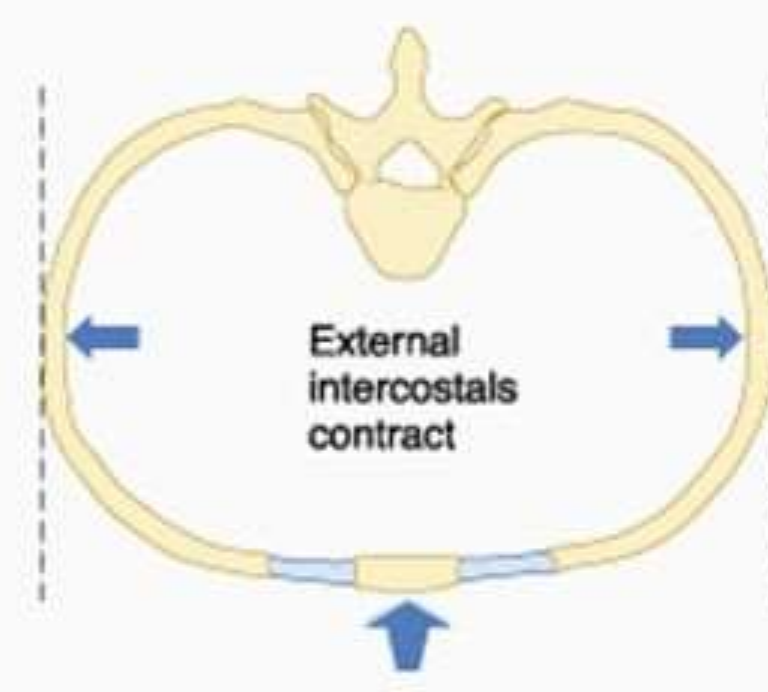
In general, change in the size of thoracic cavity occurs because of the movements of four units of structures:

- 1. Thoracic lid**
- 2. Upper costal series**
- 3. Lower costal series**
- 4. Diaphragm**

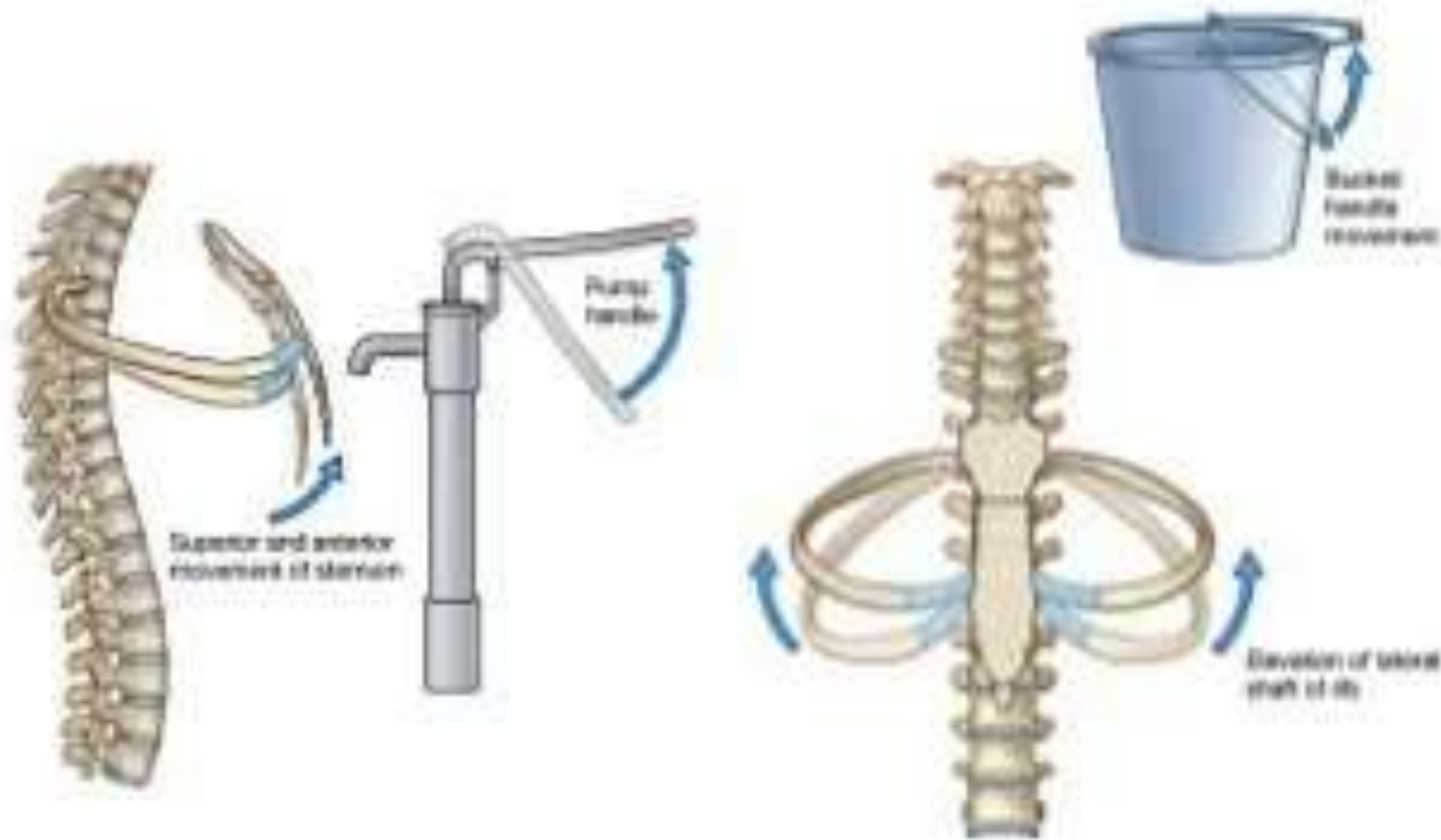
Bones of the human thorax



The Thoracic Cage Movement: Inspiration

	Sequence of events	Changes in anterior-posterior and superior-inferior dimensions	Changes in lateral dimensions
Inspiration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Inspiratory muscles contract (diaphragm descends; rib cage rises) ↓ ② Thoracic cavity volume increases ↓ ③ Lungs stretched; intrapulmonary volume increases ↓ ④ Intrapulmonary pressure drops (to -1 mm Hg) ↓ ⑤ Air (gases) flows into lungs down its pressure gradient until intrapulmonary pressure is 0 (equal to atmospheric pressure) 	 <p>Ribs elevated and sternum flares as external intercostals contract</p> <p>Diaphragm moves inferiorly during contraction</p>	 <p>External intercostals contract</p>

MOVEMENTS OF RIB CAGE





1. THORACIC LID

Thoracic lid is formed by **manubrium sterni** and the first pair of ribs.

It is also called **thoracic operculum**.

Movement of thoracic lid **increases the anteroposterior diameter** of thoracic cage.

Due to the **contraction of scalene muscles**, the first ribs move upwards to a more horizontal position.

This **increases the anteroposterior diameter of upper thoracic cage**



2. UPPER COSTAL SERIES

Upper costal series is constituted by **second to sixth pair of ribs.**

Movement of upper costal series **increases the anteroposterior and transverse diameter of the thoracic cage.**

Movement of upper costal series is of two types:

i. Pump handle movement

ii. Bucket handle movement.



PUMP HANDLE MOVEMENT

Contraction of external intercostal muscles causes elevation of these ribs and upward and forward movement of sternum.

This movement is called pump handle movement.

It **increases anteroposterior diameter** of the thoracic cage.

RESPIRATORY MOVEMENTS

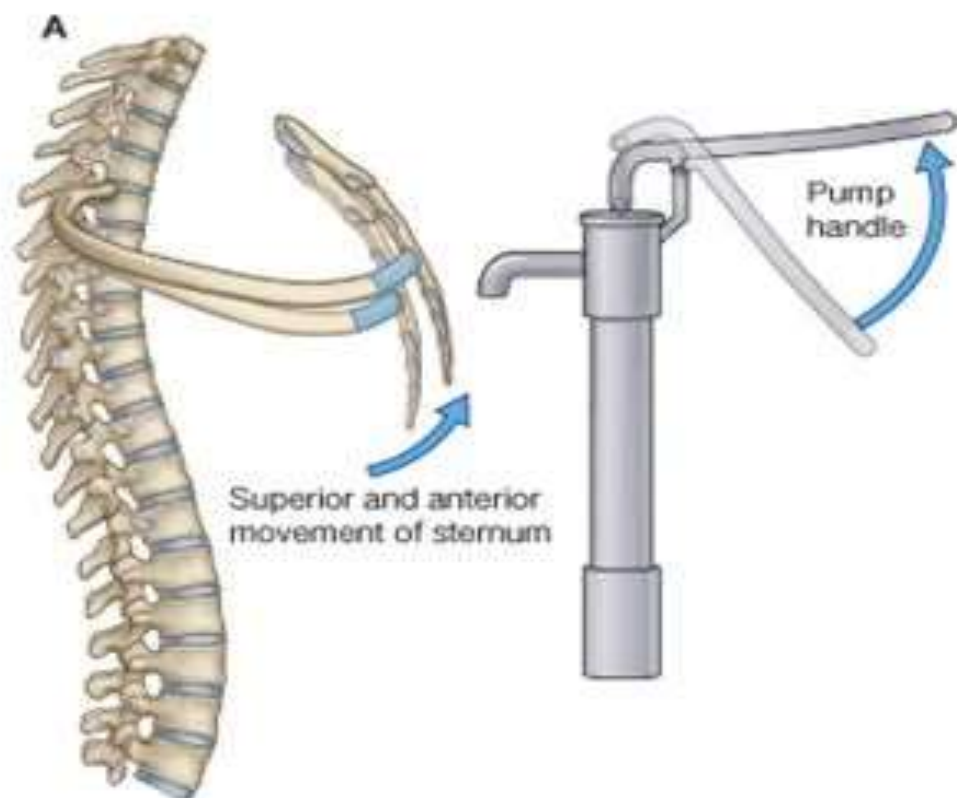
B- MOVEMENTS OF RIBS

PUMP HANDLE MOVEMENT

Elevation of ribs



Increase in antero-posterior diameter of thoracic cavity

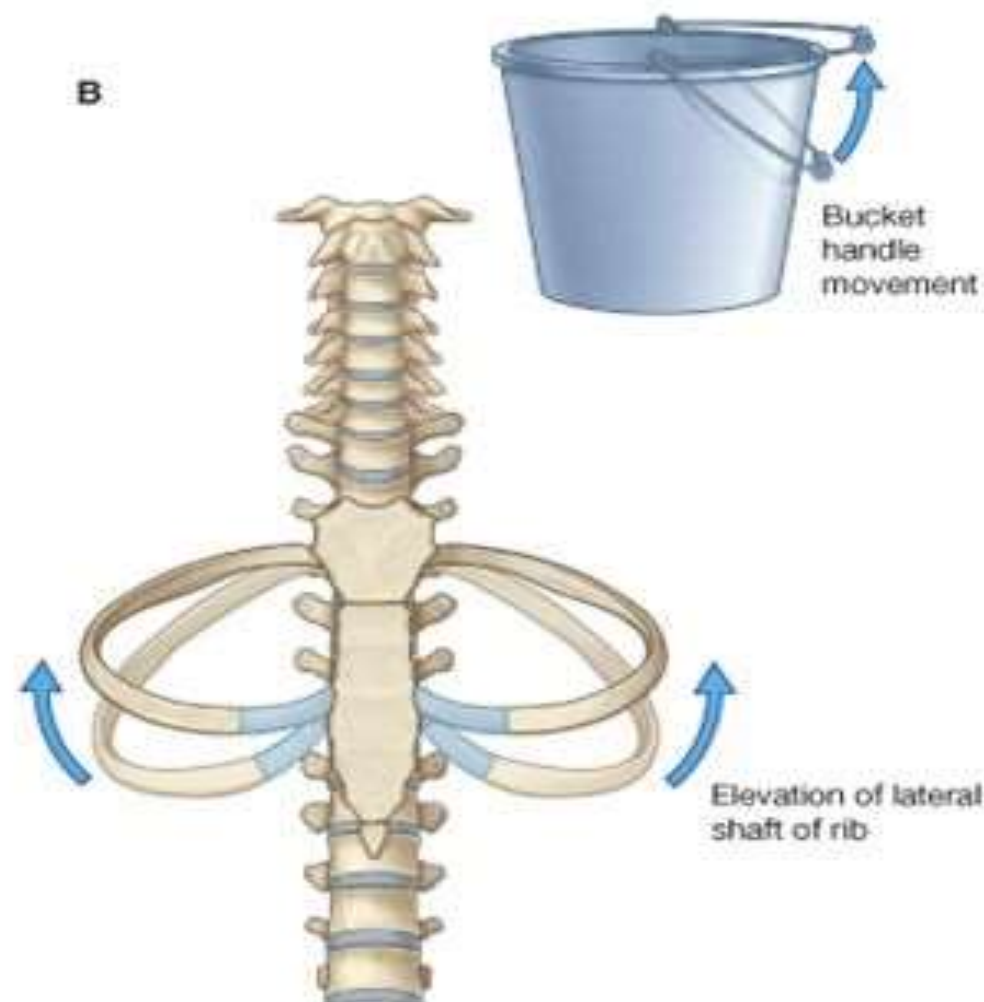


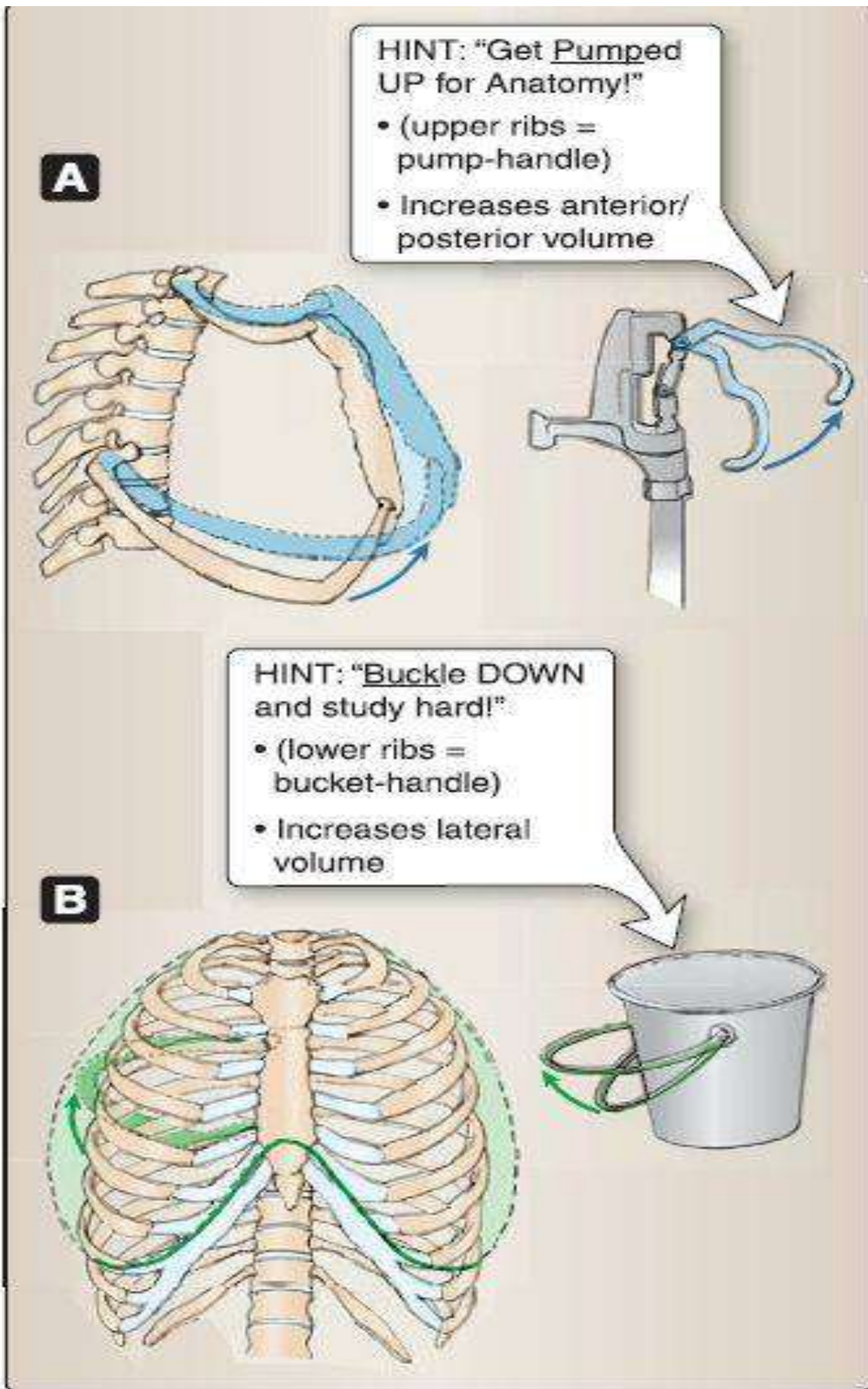
BUCKET HANDLE MOVEMENT

Elevation of ribs



Increase in lateral diameter of thoracic cavity







BUCKET HANDLE MOVEMENT

Simultaneously, the central portions of these ribs (arches of ribs) move upwards and outwards to a more horizontal position.

This movement is called bucket handle movement and it **increases the transverse diameter of thoracic cage.**



3. LOWER COSTAL SERIES

Lower costal series includes **seventh to tenth pair of ribs.**

Movement of lower costal series increases the transverse diameter of thoracic cage by bucket handle movement.

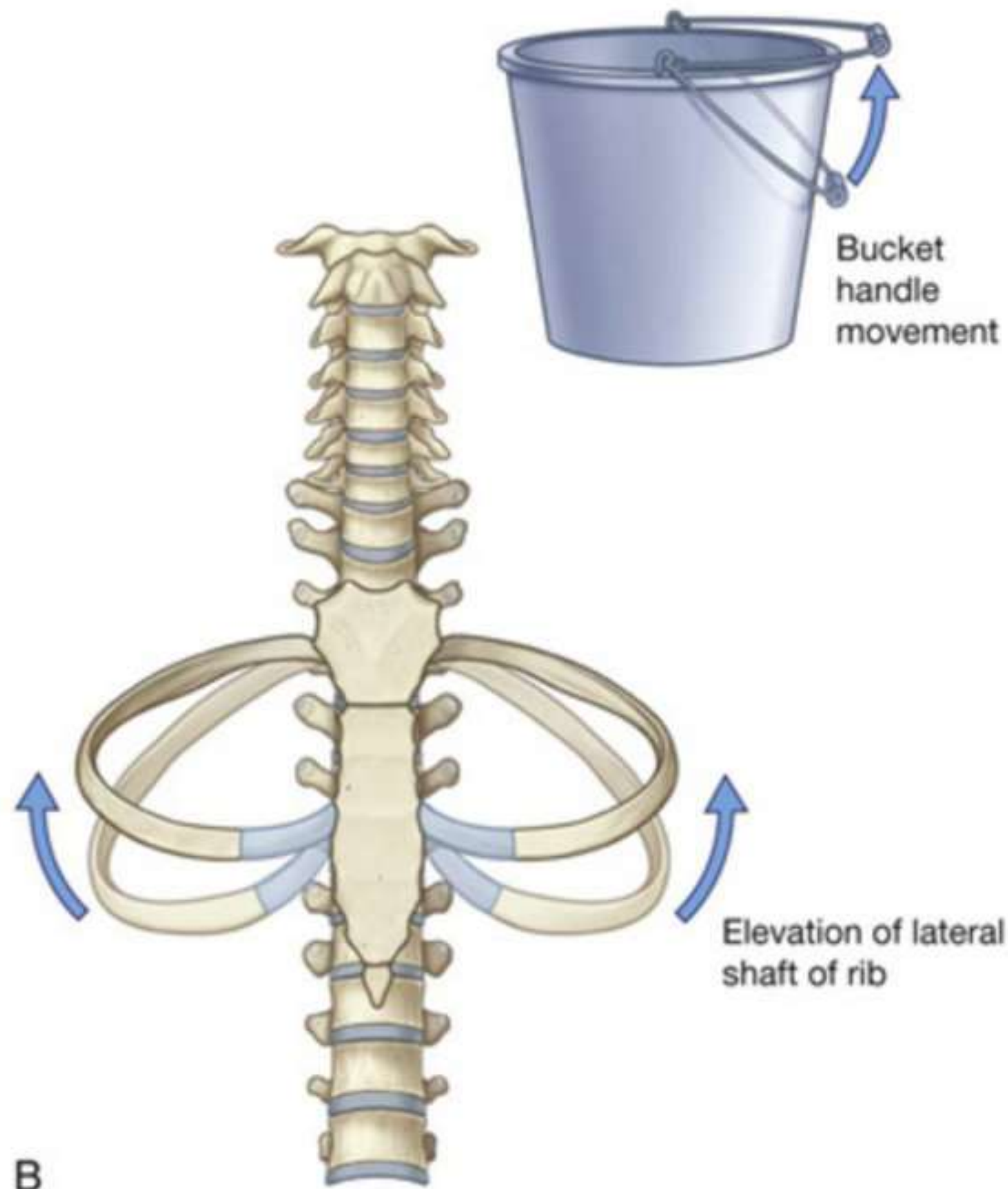
Bucket handle movement

Lower costal series of ribs also show bucket handle movement by swinging outward and upward.

This movement **increases the transverse diameter of the thoracic cage.**

Eleventh and twelfth pairs of ribs are the floating ribs.

These ribs are **not involved in changing the size of thoracic cage.**





4. DIAPHRAGM

Movement of diaphragm **increases the vertical diameter of thoracic cage.**

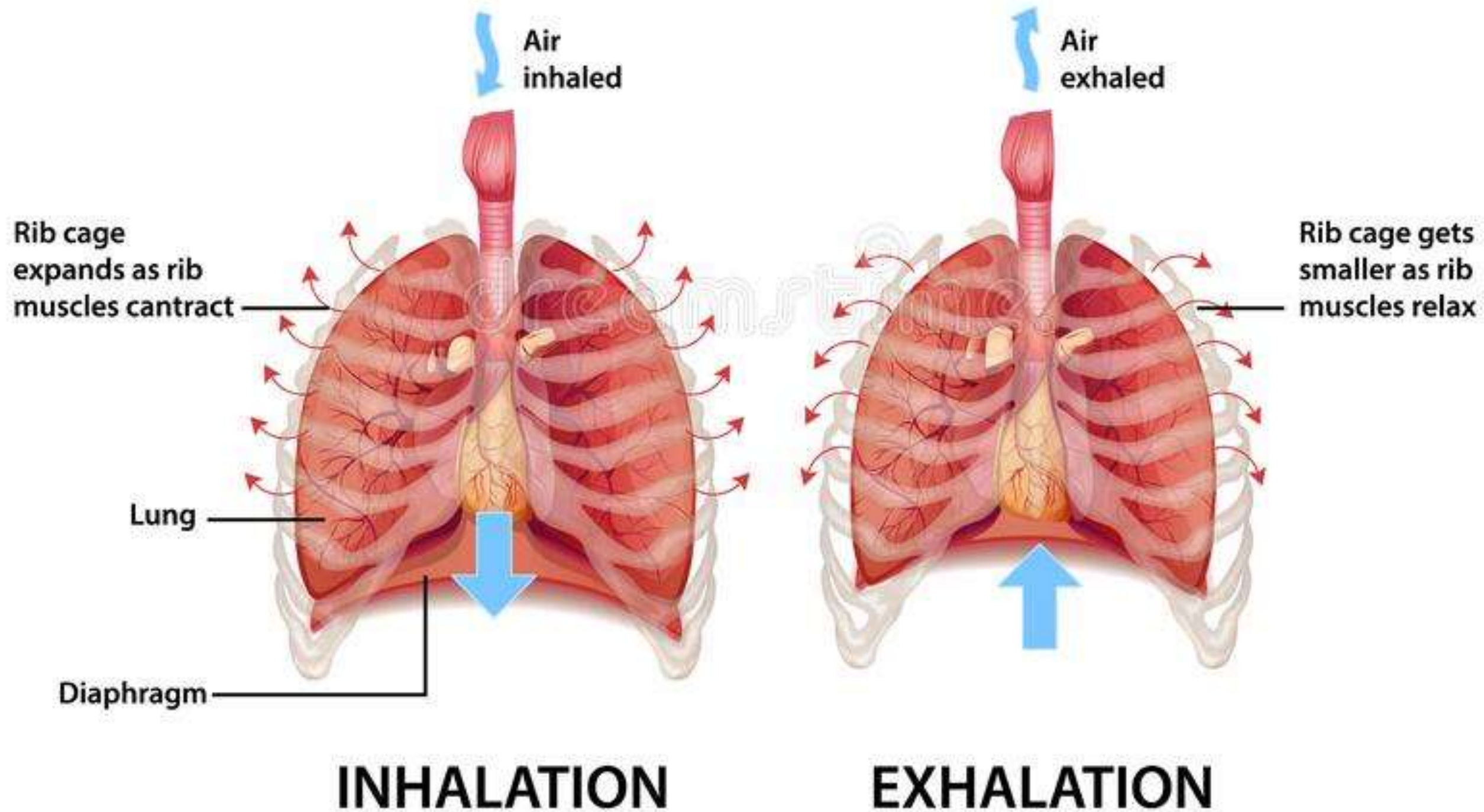
Normally, before inspiration the diaphragm is dome shaped with convexity facing upwards.

During inspiration, due to the contraction, muscle fibers are shortened.

But the central tendinous portion is drawn downwards so the diaphragm is flattened.

Flattening of diaphragm increases the vertical diameter of the thoracic cage.

THE DIAPHRAGM FUNCTIONS IN BREATHING





MOVEMENTS OF LUNGS

During inspiration, due to the enlargement of thoracic cage, the **negative pressure is increased in the thoracic cavity.**

It causes **expansion** of the lungs.

During expiration, the thoracic cavity **decreases in size** to the pre inspiratory position.

Pressure in the thoracic cage also comes back to the preinspiratory level.

It **compresses the lung tissues** so that, the **air is expelled out of lungs.**



COLLAPSING TENDENCY OF LUNGS

Lungs are under constant threat to collapse even in resting conditions because of certain factors.



Factors Causing Collapsing Tendency of Lungs

Two factors are responsible for the collapsing tendency of lungs:

1. **Elastic property of lung tissues:** Elastic tissues of lungs show constant recoiling tendency and try to collapse the lungs
2. **Surface tension:** It is the tension exerted by the fluid secreted from alveolar epithelium on the surface of **alveolar membrane**. Fortunately, there are some factors, which **save the lungs from collapsing**.



Factors Preventing Collapsing Tendency of Lungs

In spite of elastic property of lungs and surface tension in the alveoli of lungs, the **collapsing tendency of lungs is prevented** by two factors:

1. Intrapleural pressure: It is the pressure in the pleural cavity, which is always negative. Because of negativity, it keeps the lungs expanded and prevents the collapsing tendency of lungs produced by the elastic tissues.

2. Surfactant: It is a substance secreted in alveolar epithelium.

It reduces surface tension and prevents the collapsing tendency produced by surface tension.



SURFACTANT

Surfactant is a surface acting material or agent that is responsible for lowering the surface tension of a fluid.

Surfactant that **lines the epithelium of the alveoli** in lungs is known as **pulmonary surfactant** and it **decreases the surface tension on the alveolar membrane.**



Source of secretion of pulmonary surfactant

Pulmonary surfactant is secreted by two types of cells:

1. **Type II alveolar epithelial cells** in the lungs, which are called surfactant secreting alveolar cells or pneumocytes. Characteristic feature of these cells is the presence of microvilli on their alveolar surface.
2. **Clara cells**, which are situated in the bronchioles. These cells are also called bronchiolar exocrine cells.

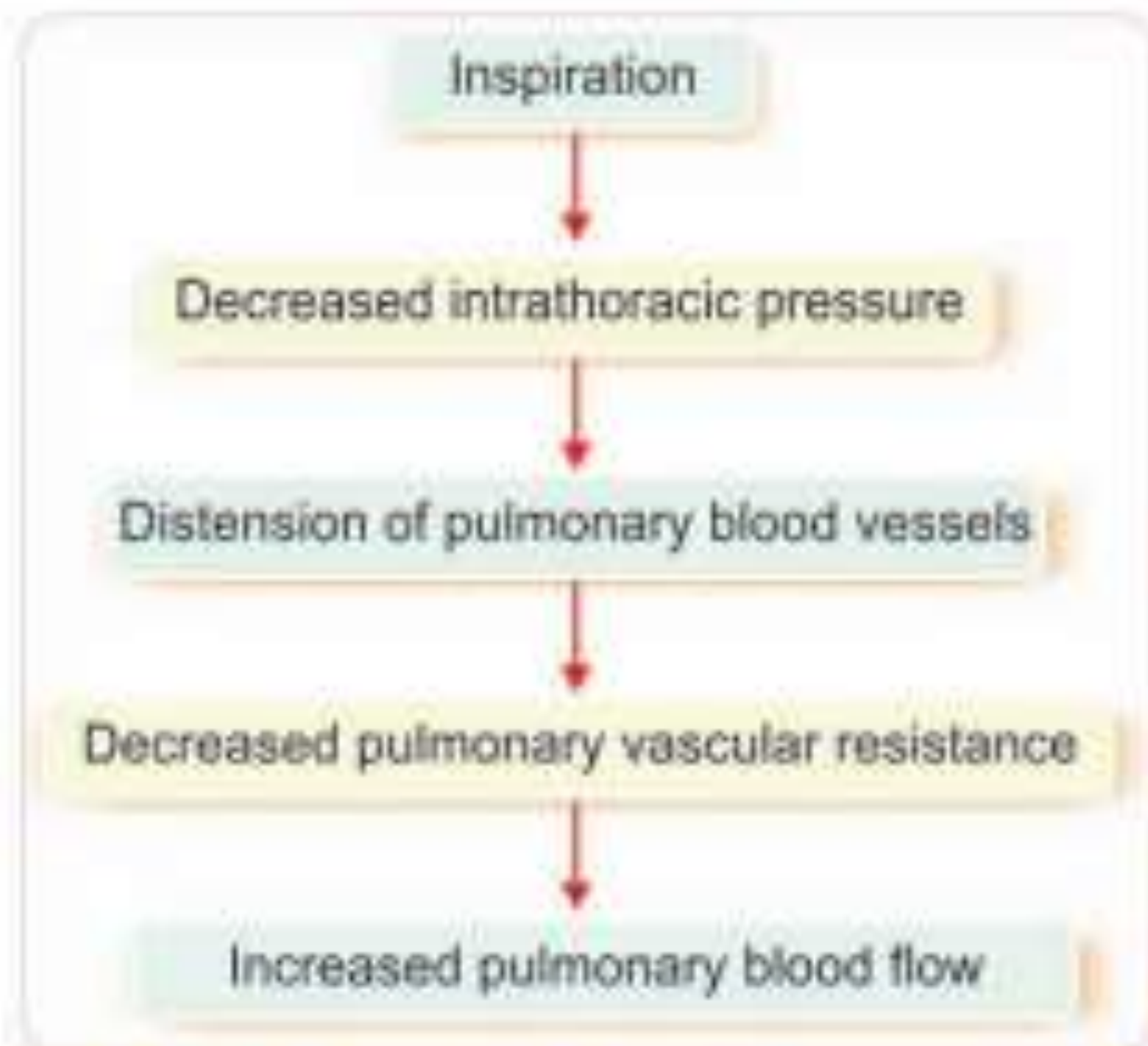


FIGURE 119.1: Schematic diagram showing increase in pulmonary blood flow during inspiration.



3. NERVOUS FACTORS

Stimulation of **sympathetic nerves** under experimental conditions increases the **pulmonary vascular resistance** by vasoconstriction and the stimulation of **parasympathetic**, i.e. **vagus nerve decreases the vascular resistance** by vasodilatation.

However, under physiological conditions, it is doubtful whether autonomic nerves play any role in regulating the blood flow to lungs.



4. CHEMICAL FACTORS

Excess of carbon dioxide or lack of oxygen causes **vasoconstriction**.

The cause for pulmonary vasoconstriction by **hypoxia** is not known.

But it has some significance. If some part of lungs is affected by hypoxia, there is **constriction of capillaries in that area**.

Thus, blood is directed to the alveoli of neighboring area where gaseous exchange occurs.



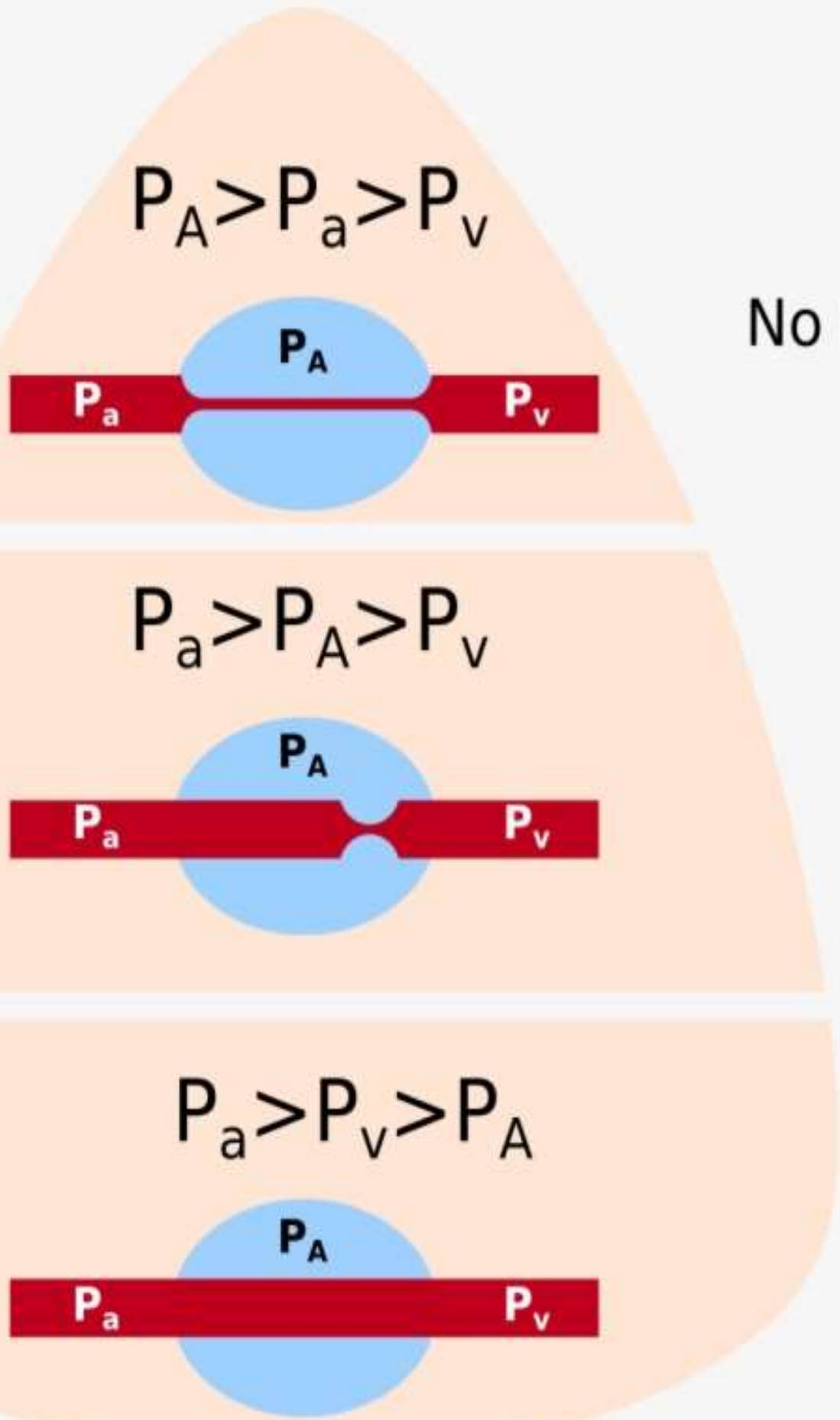
5. GRAVITY AND HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE

Normally in **standing position**, blood pressure in lower extremity of the body is **very high** and in upper parts above the level of heart, the **pressure is low**.

This is because of the effect of **gravitational force**.

A similar condition is observed to some extent in lungs also.

Pulmonary vascular pressure varies in different parts of the lungs:



Zone 1
No blood Flow

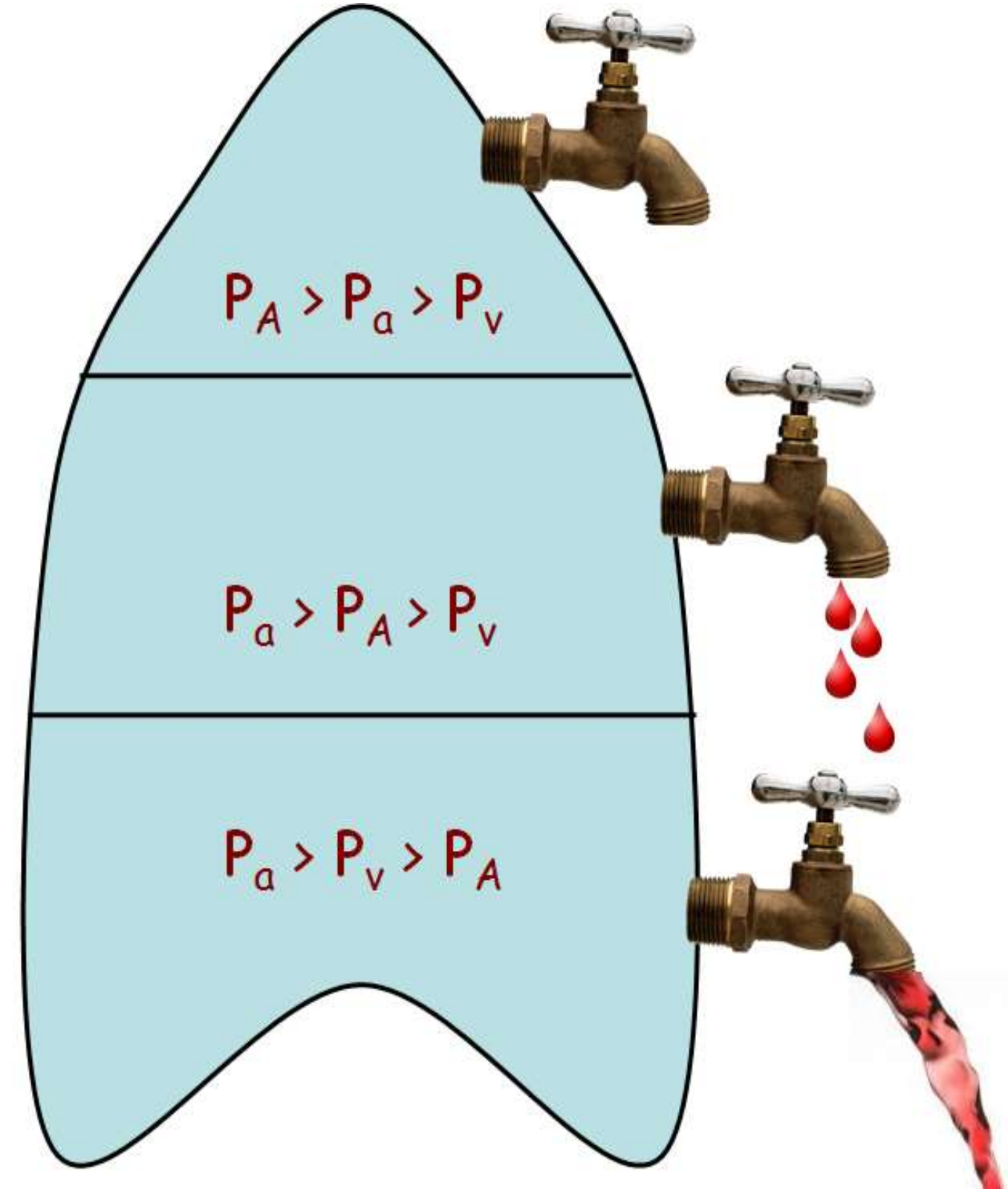
Zone 2
Moderate
Blood Flow

Zone 3
Greatest
Blood Flow

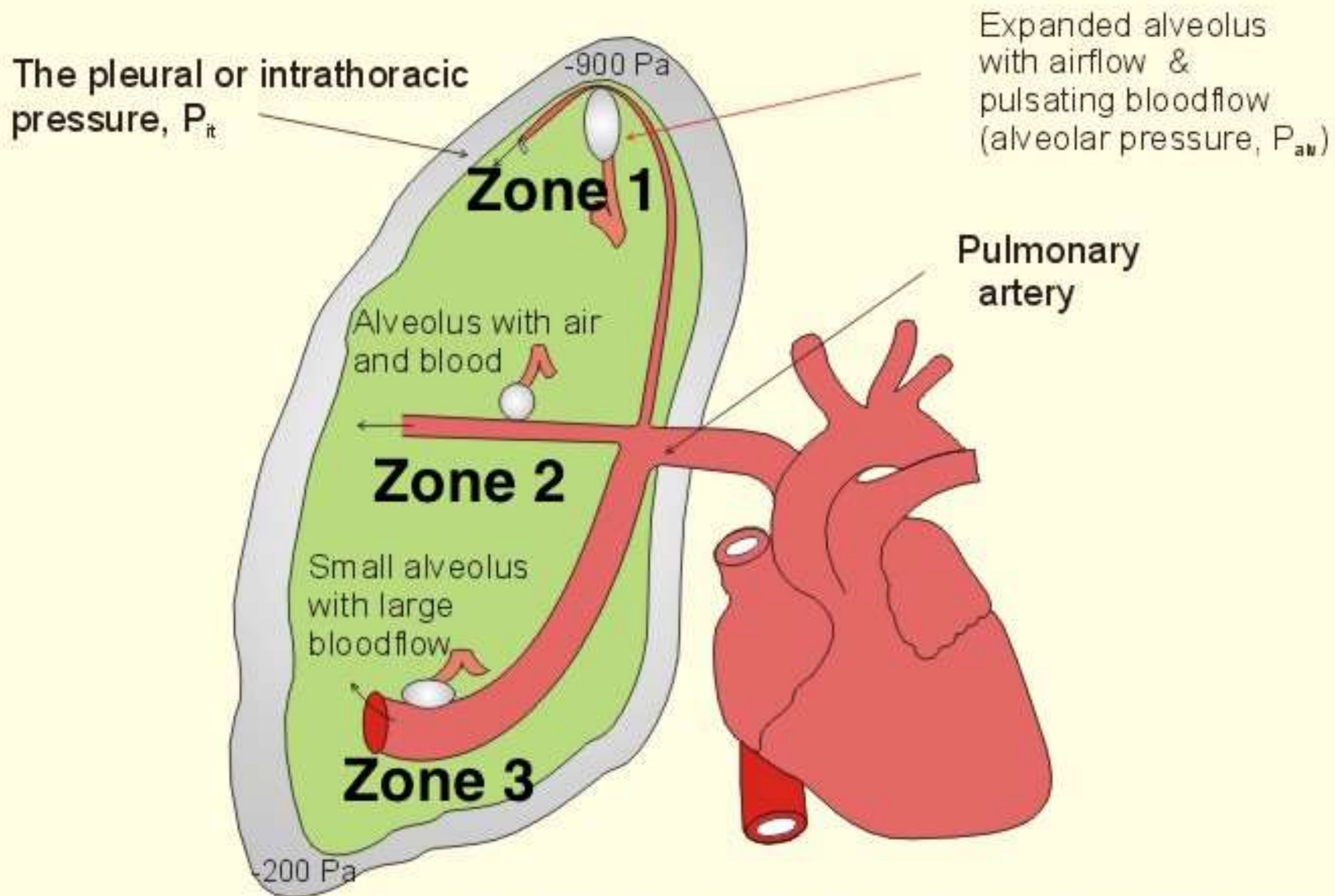
Zone 1

Zone 2

Zone 3



Three Alveoli In The Upright Lung



The intrapleural pressure gradient is largest in the upper lung region

ZONE OF PERFUSION

☞ Zone 1: No blood flow

Reason: More negative intrapleural pressure → alveoli size ↑ & lower arterial pressure due to gravity → decrease diameter of vessels

☞ Zone 2: Intermittent blood flow

Reason: arterial pressure is greater than alveolar and venous pressure. Whereas, venules pressure are less than alveolar pressure → venules are collapsed

☞ Zone 3: Continuous blood flow

Reason: Due to gravity, there is high pressure → vasodilation → more blood flow

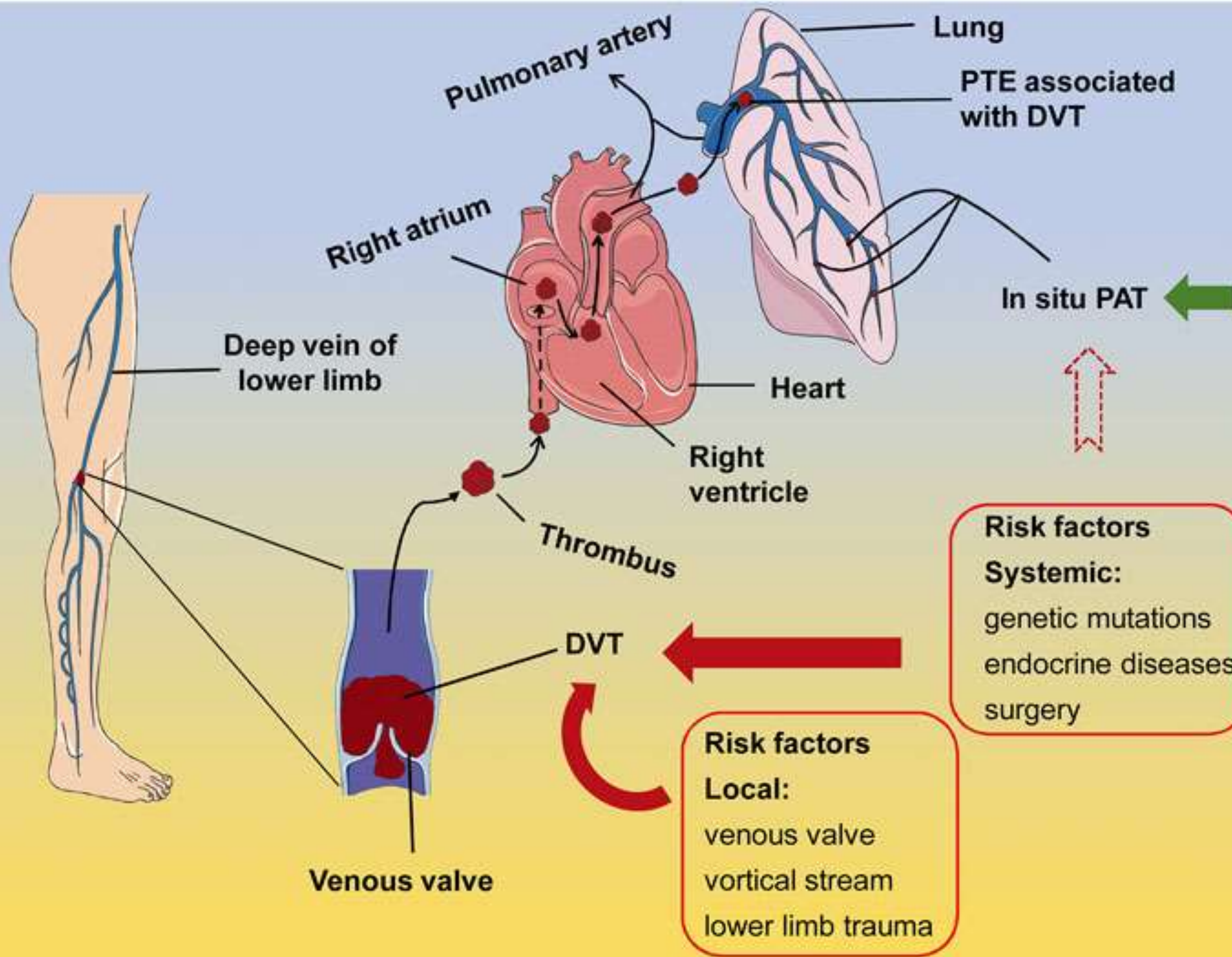


Apical Portion – Zone 1

under these conditions, there is **no gaseous exchange** in this zone of lungs. So, it is considered as the part of **physiological dead space**, which is ventilated but not perfused.

And, the **ventilation-perfusion ratio increases**.

It may lead to **growth of bacteria**, particularly tubercle bacilli making this part of lungs susceptible for tuberculosis



Risk factors

Local:

- chest trauma
- lung blast injury
- pneumectomy
- COVID-19 pneumonia
- pulmonary tuberculosis

Systemic:

- Behcet's disease
- Eisenmenger's syndrome
- sickle cell disease

Risk factors

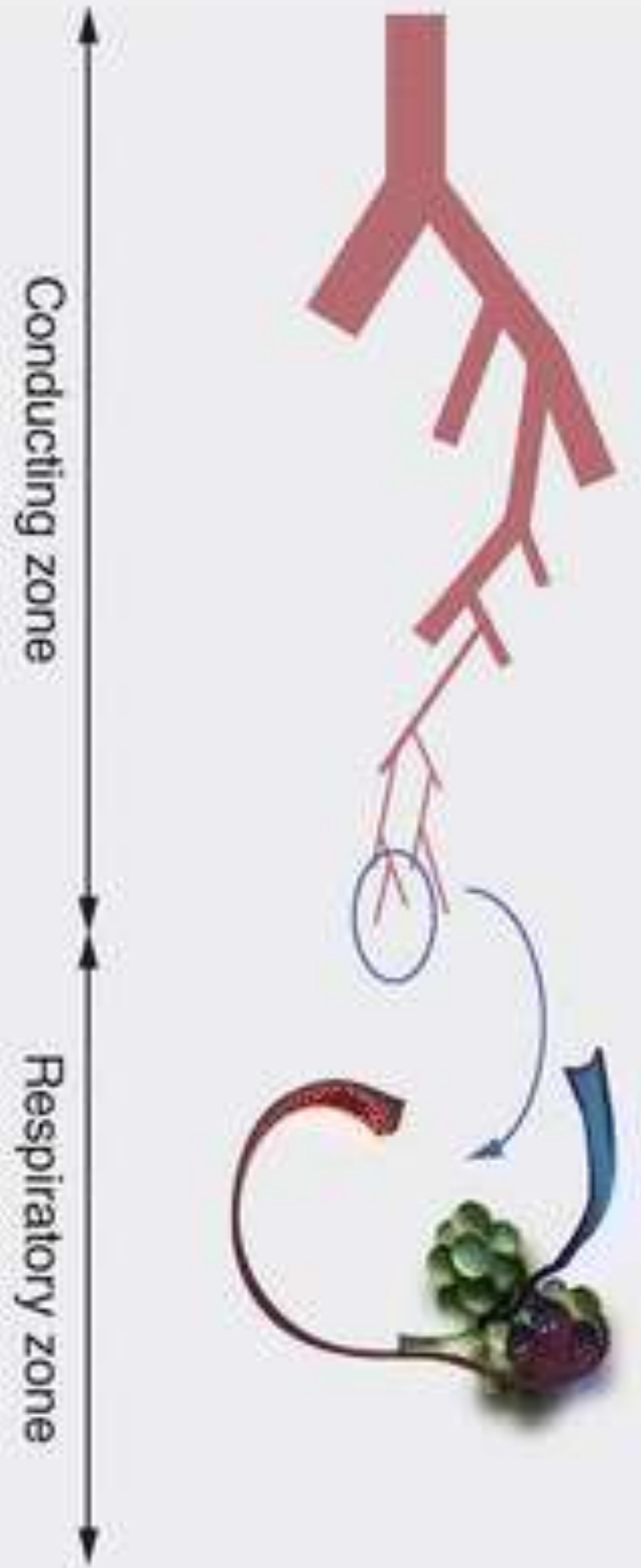
Systemic:

- genetic mutations
- endocrine diseases
- surgery

Risk factors

Local:

- venous valve
- vortical stream
- lower limb trauma



Trachea				
Primary bronchi	Asthma	Chronic bronchitis	Sarcoidosis	Lung cancer
Secondary bronchi				
Tertiary bronchi				
Small bronchi				
Bronchioles				
Terminal bronchioles				
Respiratory bronchioles				
Alveolar ducts	Emphysema		Pneumonia	Tuberculosis
Alveolar sacs				

PULMONARY HYPERTENSION

(High blood pressure in lungs)

Affects 75 million people globally / approx. 80% living in low-income and middle-income countries (LMICs)

75 million people



6 common causes in LMICs (HIV, bilharzia, heart failure, chronic lung disease, blood clots in the lungs and blood disorders)

6 common causes



In SA, risk of pulmonary hypertension increases because of HIV, bilharzia, TB and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

8/10

cases in LMICs remain undiagnosed



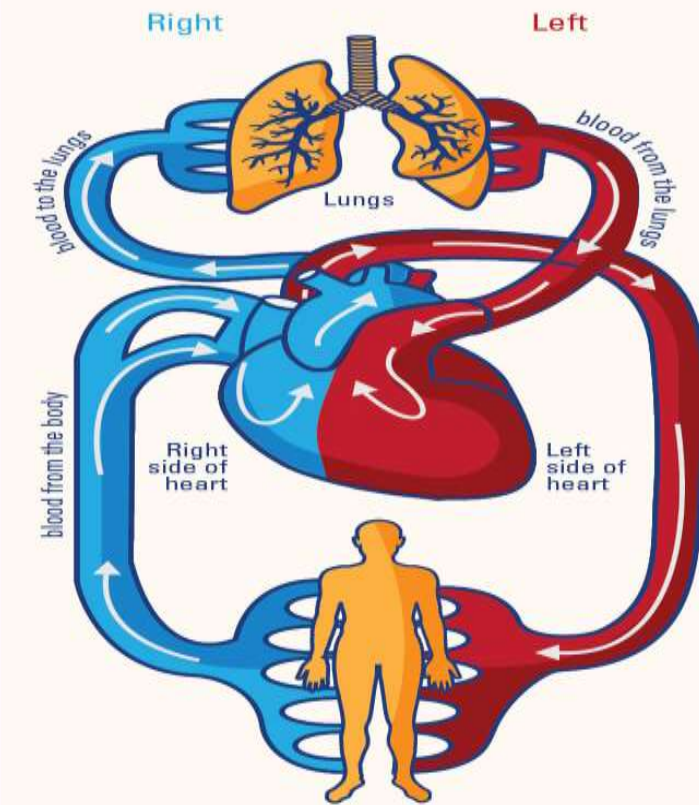
Opportunities to research, define and investigate drivers of the disease in LMICs



Need for a clearer overview of the total number of cases (newly diagnosed and existing) by using national registries and frequently reviewing national databases in LMICs

What's the Connection?

Your **HEART** Can Affect Your **Breathing**



The heart and lungs work together to make sure the body has the oxygen-rich blood it needs to function properly.

1. The Pulmonary Loop

The right side of the heart picks up the oxygen-poor blood from the body and moves it to the lungs for cleaning and re-oxygenating.

2. The Systemic Loop

Once the blood is re-oxygenated, the left side of the heart moves the blood throughout the body, so that every part receives the oxygen it needs.



Symptoms of a Heart/Lung Condition Can Include:

- unexplained shortness of breath
- low oxygen levels
- chest pain
- near-fainting/fainting
- fatigue
- palpitations
- heart failure

Common Problems Related to the Heart/Lung Connection Are:

- exercise intolerance
- fatigue
- irregular heartbeats
- sleep apnea
- asthma
- bronchitis
- weak heart muscle
- shortness of breath
- emphysema
- pulmonary hypertension
- heart attack



The close connection between the heart and lungs means that breathing problems can be caused by issues in either the heart or lungs, or both.

Pay attention to breathing and heart functions. Remember that both the heart and lung can be sources of breathing problems. See the doctor when something does not seem right.



Interesting Facts

100,000 heartbeats a day

1,500 miles of airways

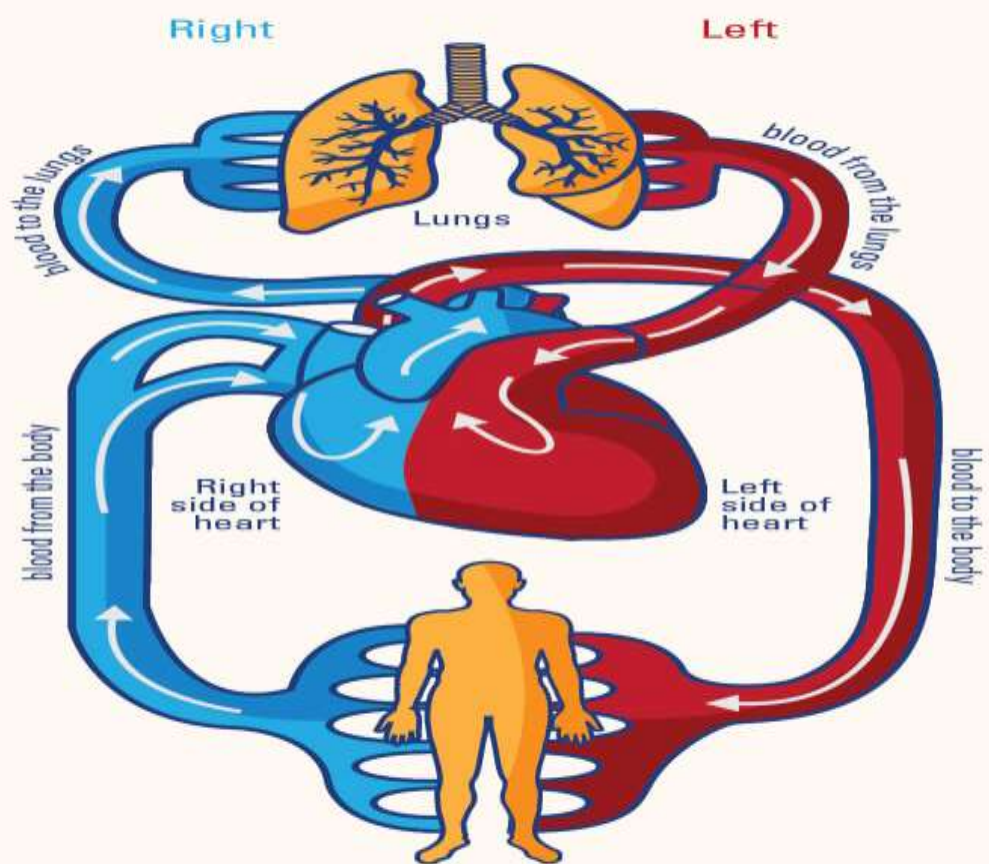
5 quarts of blood pumped per minute

16 seconds for blood to travel from the heart to the toes and back

15 to 25 breaths per minute

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