



# CHEST X-RAY TRAINING (CXR)

## To diagnose childhood Tuberculosis



# Pre-Test



# Learning objectives

## Module 1

1. To recognise both a normal and an unreadable paediatric CXR on a front and lateral view
2. To learn a systematic approach for interpreting paediatric CXRs using a '3 circles' approach

## Module 2

3. To recognize CXRs '**Suggestive of TB**' or '**Not suggestive of TB**' using a simplified reading tool that describes 6 CXR features that are 'suggestive TB'

# Simplified CXR reading tool

## 6 CXR features suggestive of paediatric TB

1. Enlarged lymph nodes (lateral view required)
2. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue
3. Airway compression (may lead to asymmetry between left / right lung)
4. Cavitation
5. Pleural or pericardial effusion
6. Miliary infiltrates

# Diagnosis algorithm

Q1. Are both the antero-posterior and the lateral view readable ?

Yes

No

Redo CXR

Q2. Is the CXR normal ?

No (abnormal)

Yes (normal)

Q3. Is one of the 6 CXR features suggestive of TB present ?

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. Enlarged lymph nodes                | yes/no |
| 2. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue | yes/no |
| 3. Airway compression                  | yes/no |
| 4. Cavitation                          | yes/no |
| 5. Pleural or pericardial effusion     | yes/no |
| 6. Miliary infiltrates                 | yes/no |

**All No: Not suggestive of TB**

**1 Yes or more: Suggestive of TB**

# Interactive 1.5-day child CXR course support

## Training modules and pre-post training test

### Module 1

How to read a child CXR

Ch.1 Technical and anatomical aspects

Ch.2 Systematic approach for CXR interpretation



### Module 2

How to diagnose TB on a child CXR with a simplified reading tool

8 chapters

Course summary, paediatric CXR exercise booklets for self training and reference doc



Diakhite's CXR

- . Course summary booklet
- . Paediatric CXR exercises

# Agenda

## DAY 1

08:00 - 08:30

Paediatric CXR Pre-Test

08:30 - 08:45

Learning objectives

08:45 - 09:15

How to read a *paediatric CXR* using a systematic approach

09:15 - 10:15

❶ Is the CXR readable ? Quality factors : inspiration, rotation, penetration

10:15 - 10:30

Break

10:30 - 12:00

❷ Is the CXR Normal ? 1st , 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3rd circle – Hidden zones

12:00 - 01:00

Lunch

01:00 - 03:00

❸ Is this TB ? Enlarged lymph nodes, alveolar opacity and differential diagnosis

03:00 - 03:15

Break

03:15 - 04:00

CXR exercises

## DAY 2

08:00 - 08:15

Previous day summary

08:15 - 10:15

❹ Is this TB ? Airway compression, TB cavities, pleural or pericardial effusion

Miliary infiltrates and differential diagnosis

10:15 - 10:30

Break

10:30 - 11:00

Key points and TB exercises

11:00 - 11:30

Child post test

11:30 - 12:00

Test corrections and conclusions

# Module 1

## How to read a child CXR

### Chapter 1

#### Technical and anatomical aspects



Hello, my name is Diakhite

I am going to take you on a journey to explore my lungs

See what they look like on a CXR

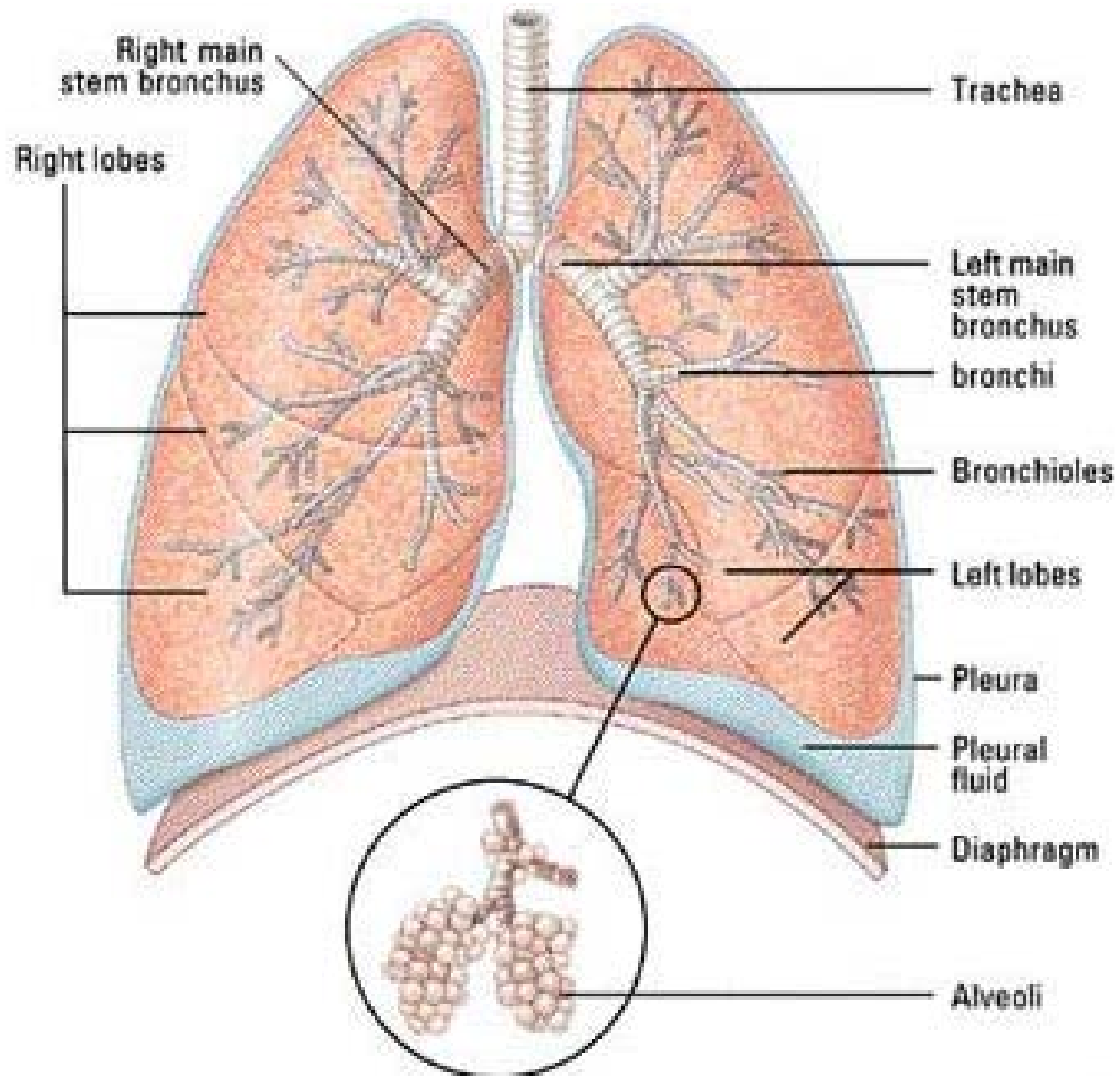
Learn how to recognize 6 suggestive signs of child TB



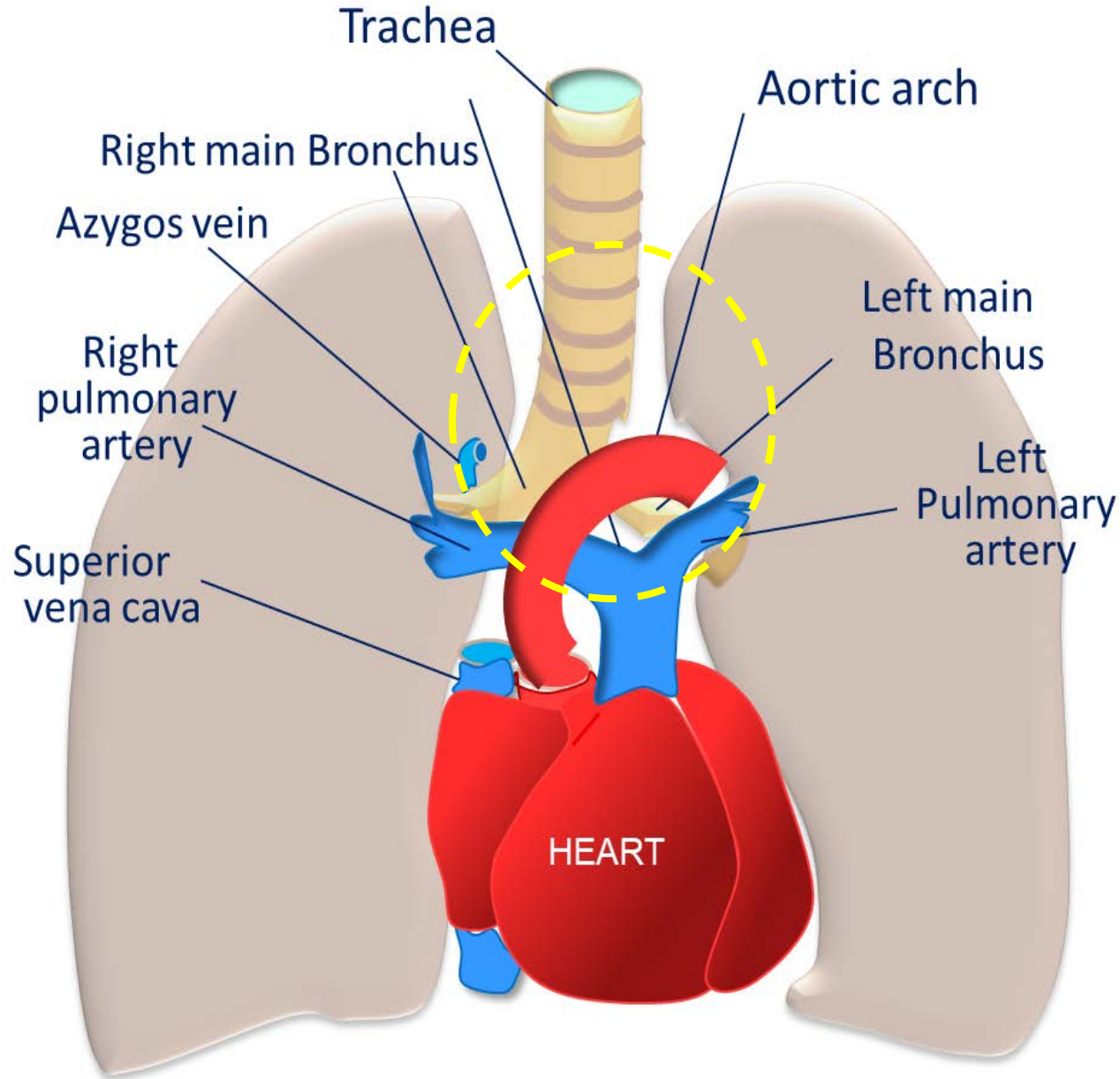
First let me show you  
what my lungs look like



# Lung anatomy recap

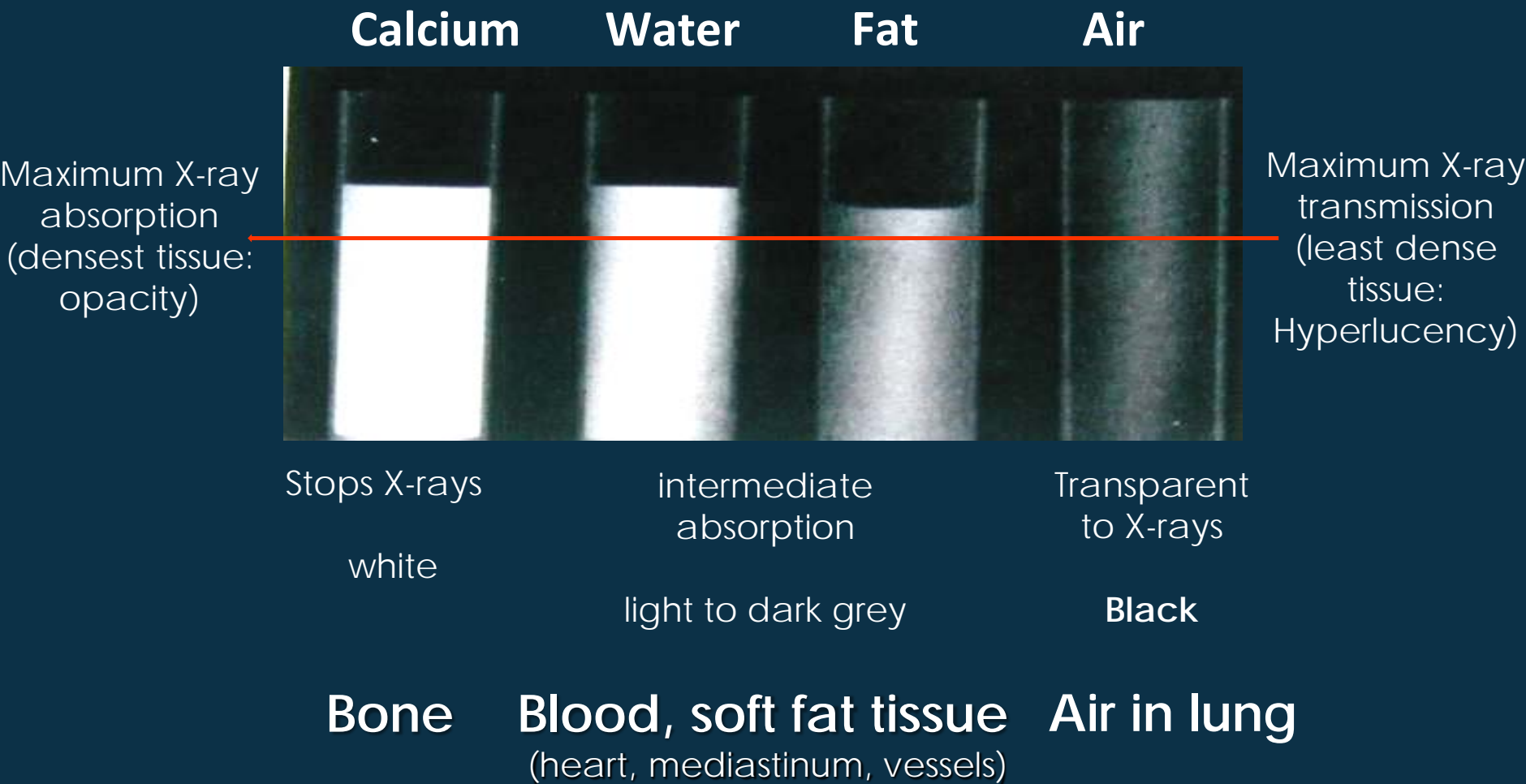


# Main anatomical cardio-vascular features

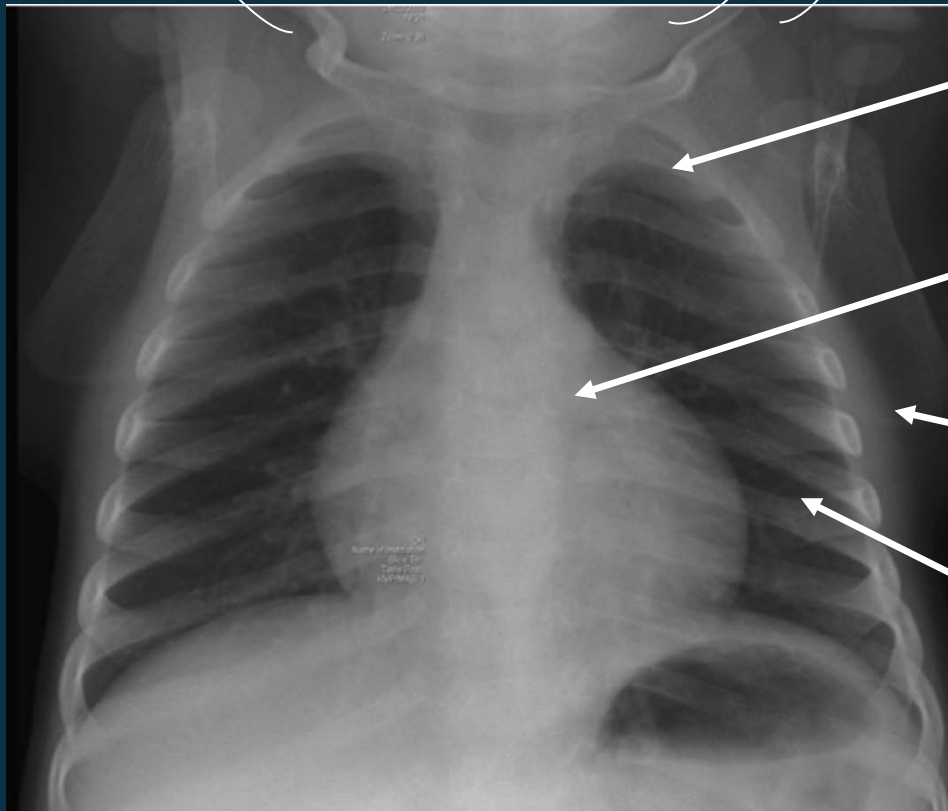


# CXR is safe and non invasive X-Ray photon absorption to transmission

X-ray absorption depends on : beam / tissue density



# The 4 radiographic densities



Calcium = white opaque

Fluid soft tissue = light grey

Fat = dark grey

Air = black (hyperlucent)



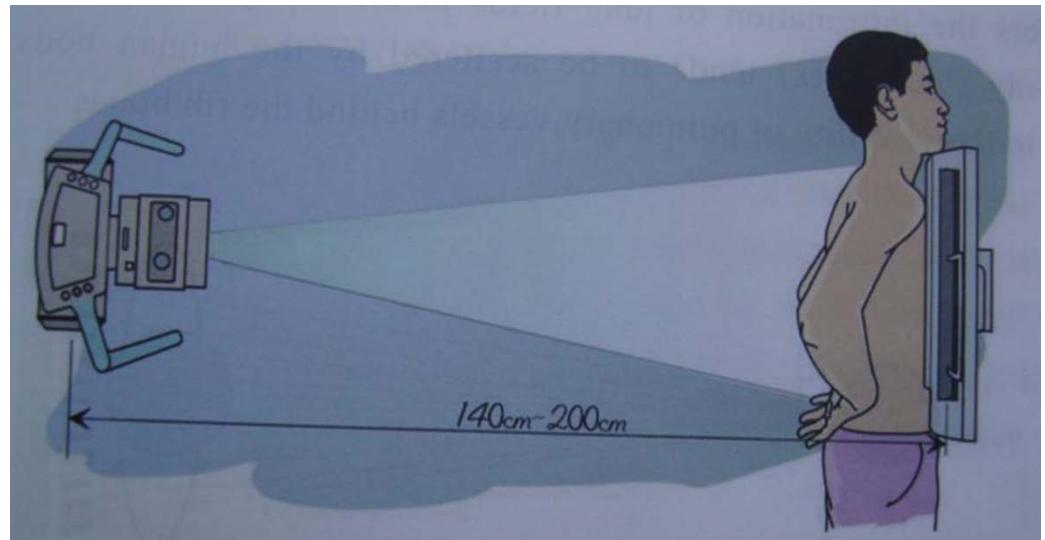
Know which different views to ask for  
and some specific appearances

# Basic radiographic views:

Front view – Anteroposterior (AP) versus Posteroanterior (PA)



Under 5 years old (AP)



Over 5 years old (PA)

# Presumptive TB patients in TB Speed

**$\leq 5$  years**

AP and lateral views should be performed

**$> 5$  years**

PA view should be performed (lateral if needed only)

# Front View in < 2 year infant

In children < 2 years old AP radiography is challenging because:

- . Children don't keep still
- . Children twist and turn (rotate)
- . Deep inspiration is not always obtained



Supine (laying down) AP position performed at the bedside with a portable X-ray if a child cannot sit up or stand or is critically ill



# Front view in > 2 years infant and young children

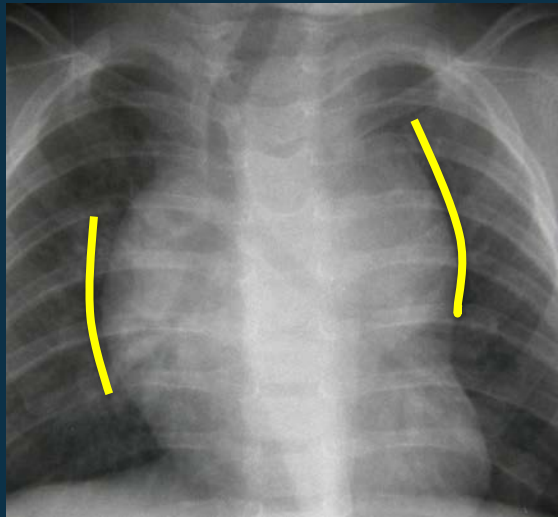
> 2 years: upright (erect ) AP position



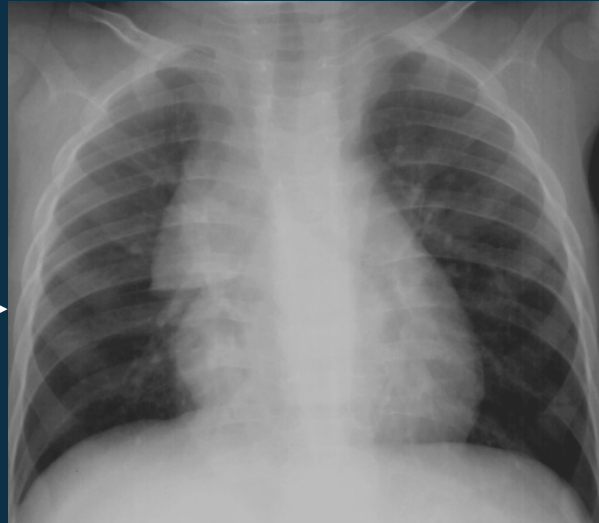
Correct position: take a deep breath and hold it

Sitting position usually used until at least 4 years

# Particular aspects according to age: thymus, trachea buckling



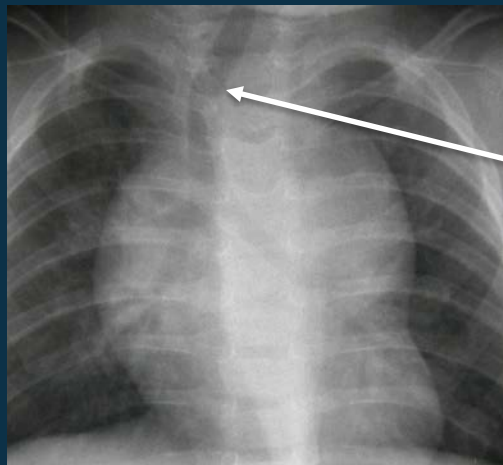
2 month old



7 month old

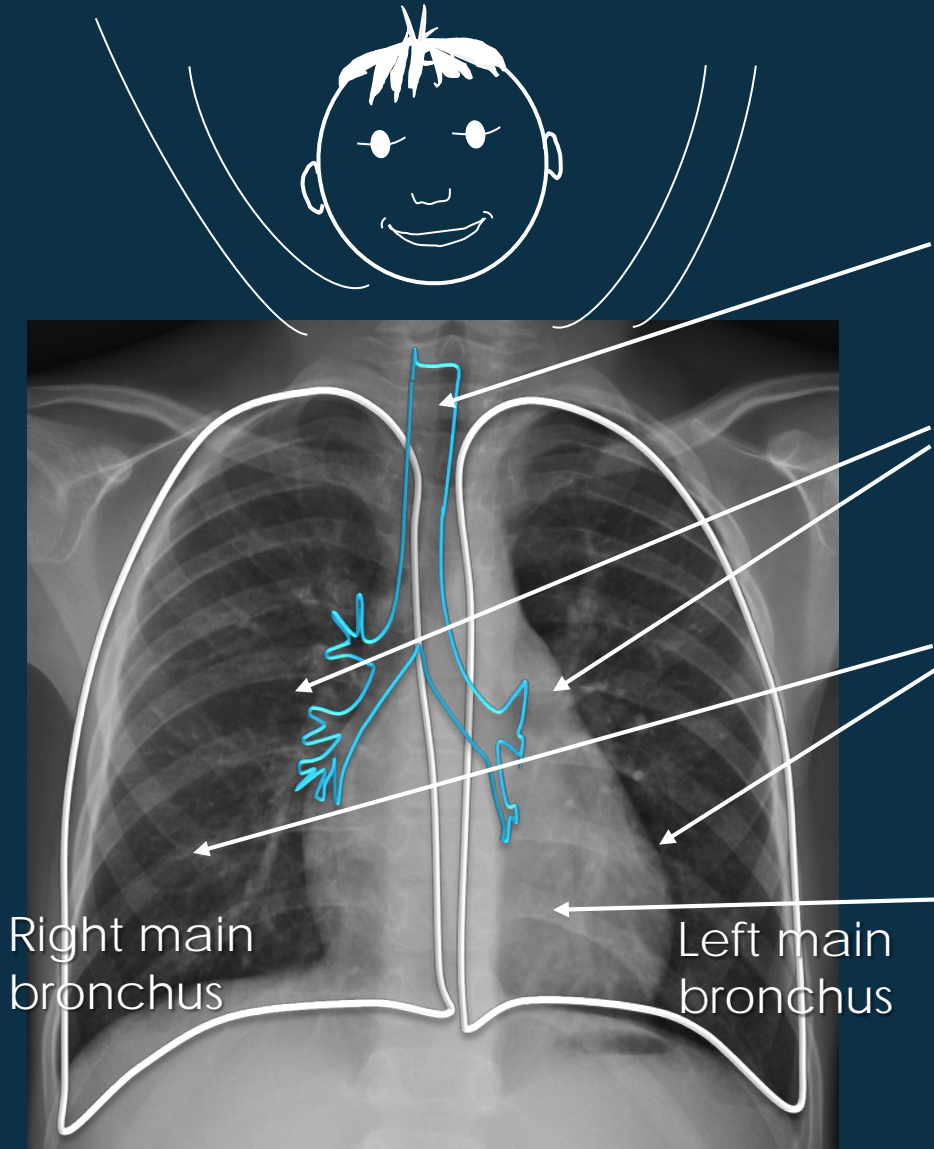


2 year old



Trachea buckling

# What main anatomic structures do you see on a child's CXR?



PA view >5 years old

## 1. Trachea ?

More rigid, stays straight in breathing process, to the right of the aorta

## 2. Hilum or hilar region ?

Major bronchi and pulmonary veins and arteries.

## 3. The lungs ?

Filled with air, appear black  
Central pulmonary vasculature more visible and prominent

## 4. The heart ?

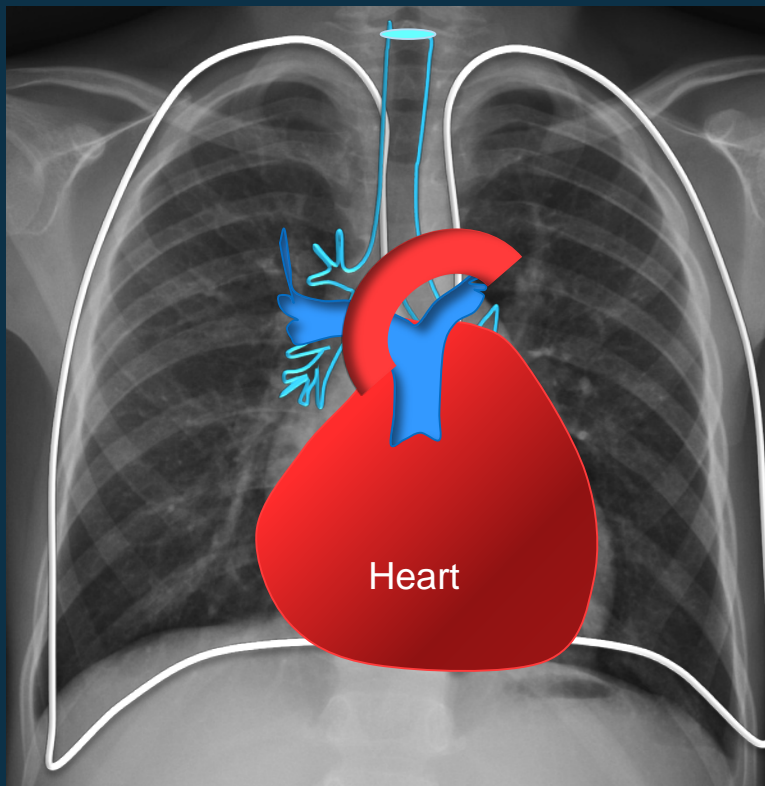
Closer to the film and thus less magnified

Thymus gland?  
has regressed

# What main anatomic structures do you see on a child's CXR?

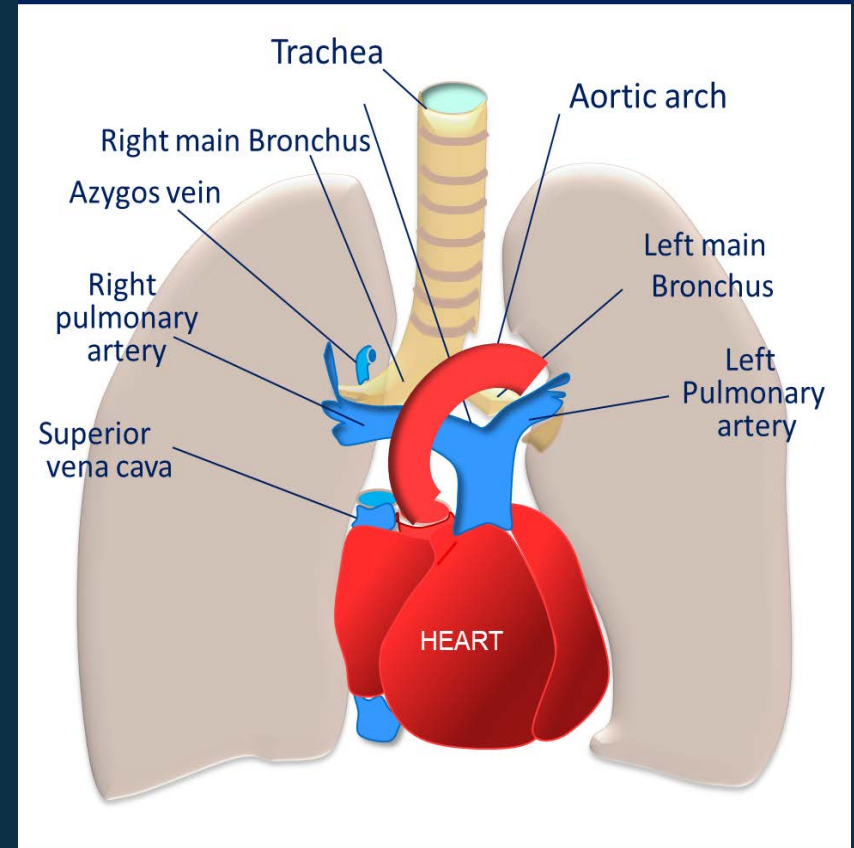
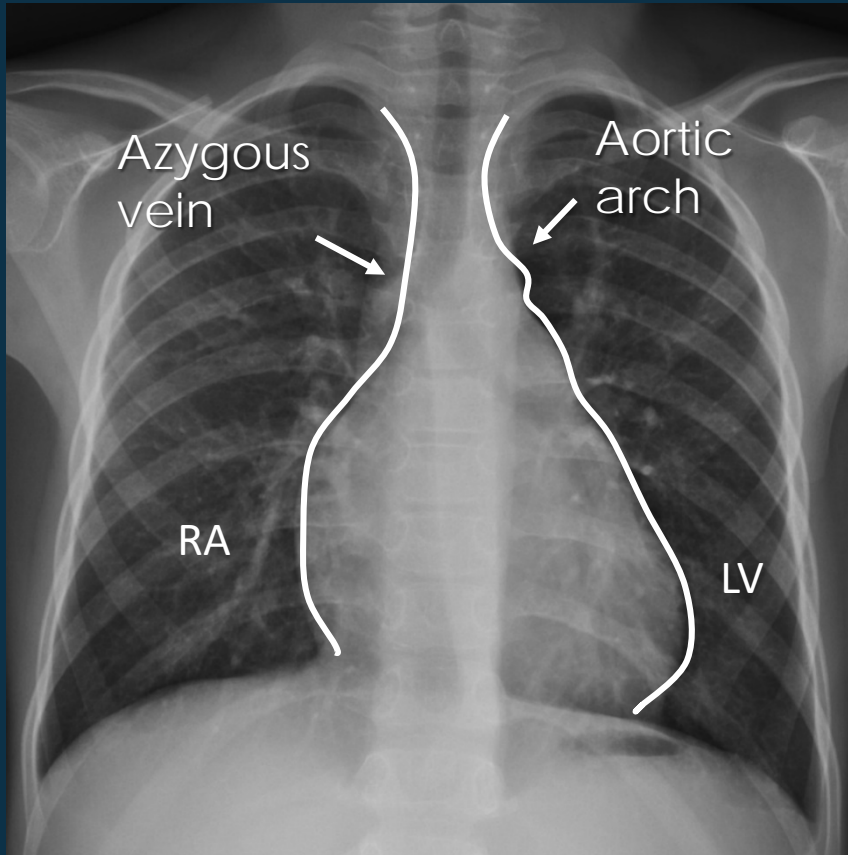


PA view >5 years old



1. The Aortic arch and Right pulmonary artery overlie the left main stem bronchus
2. The Aorta pushes the trachea to the right

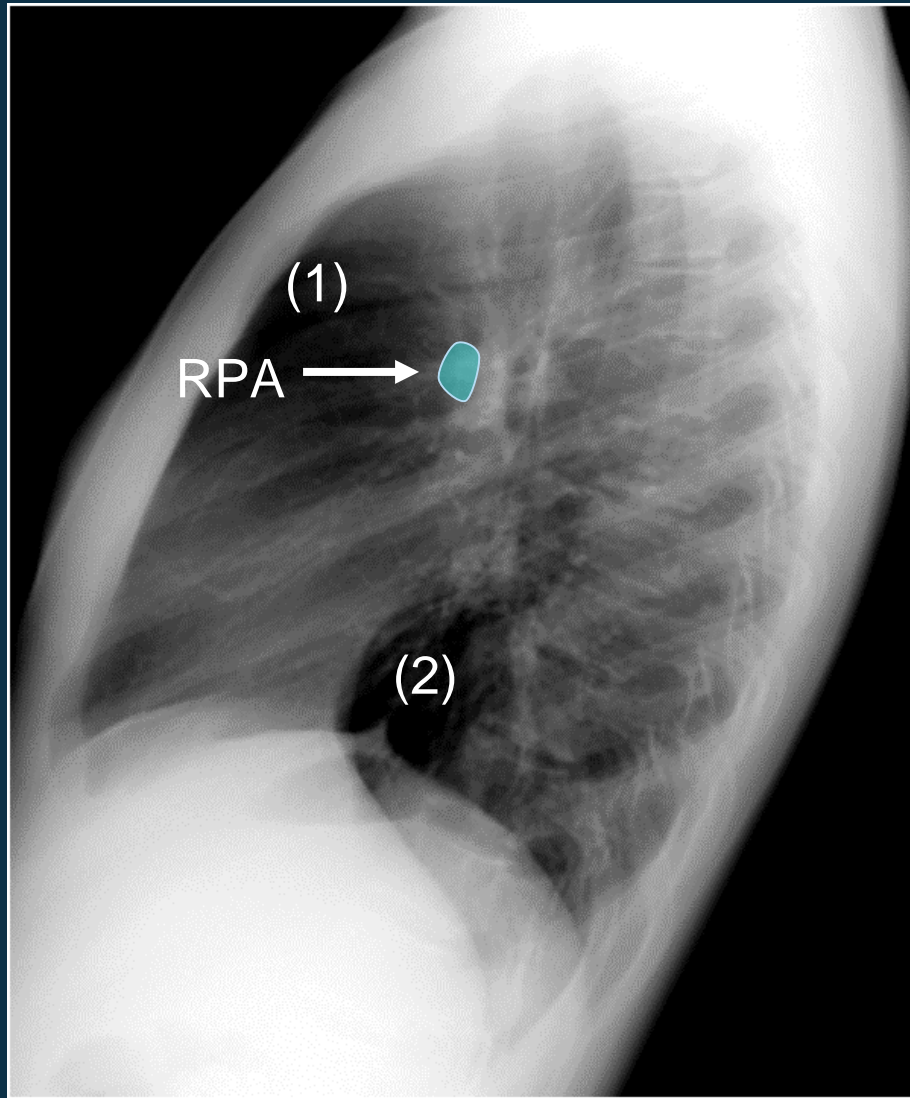
# Specific technical and anatomical aspects of CXR in child and adolescent



- . Aortic arch appears as discrete bulge
- . The azygous vein is seen as a small round opacity to the right of the trachea



# Reading lateral view



Lateral view for all presumptive TB patients

$\leq 5$  years of age

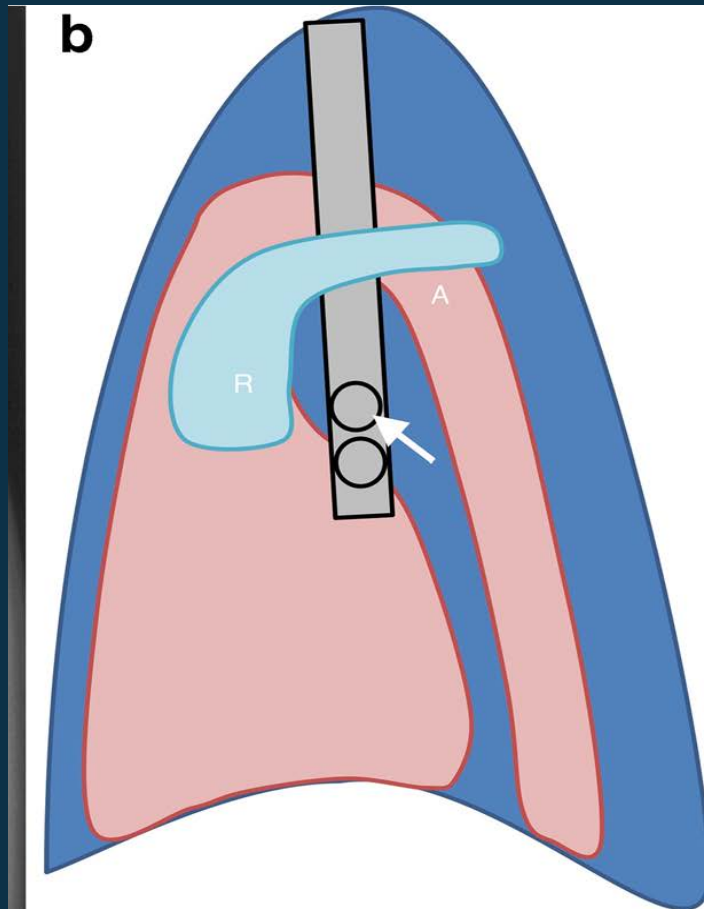
**You are looking for lymph nodes !!**

The Clear spaces

- . Retrosternal clear space (1)
- . Retrocardiac clear space (2)

Right Pulmonary Artery (RPA), anterior to the trachea, should not be mistaken for a mass or a lymph node

# Normal lateral CXR in a 6-year-old girl



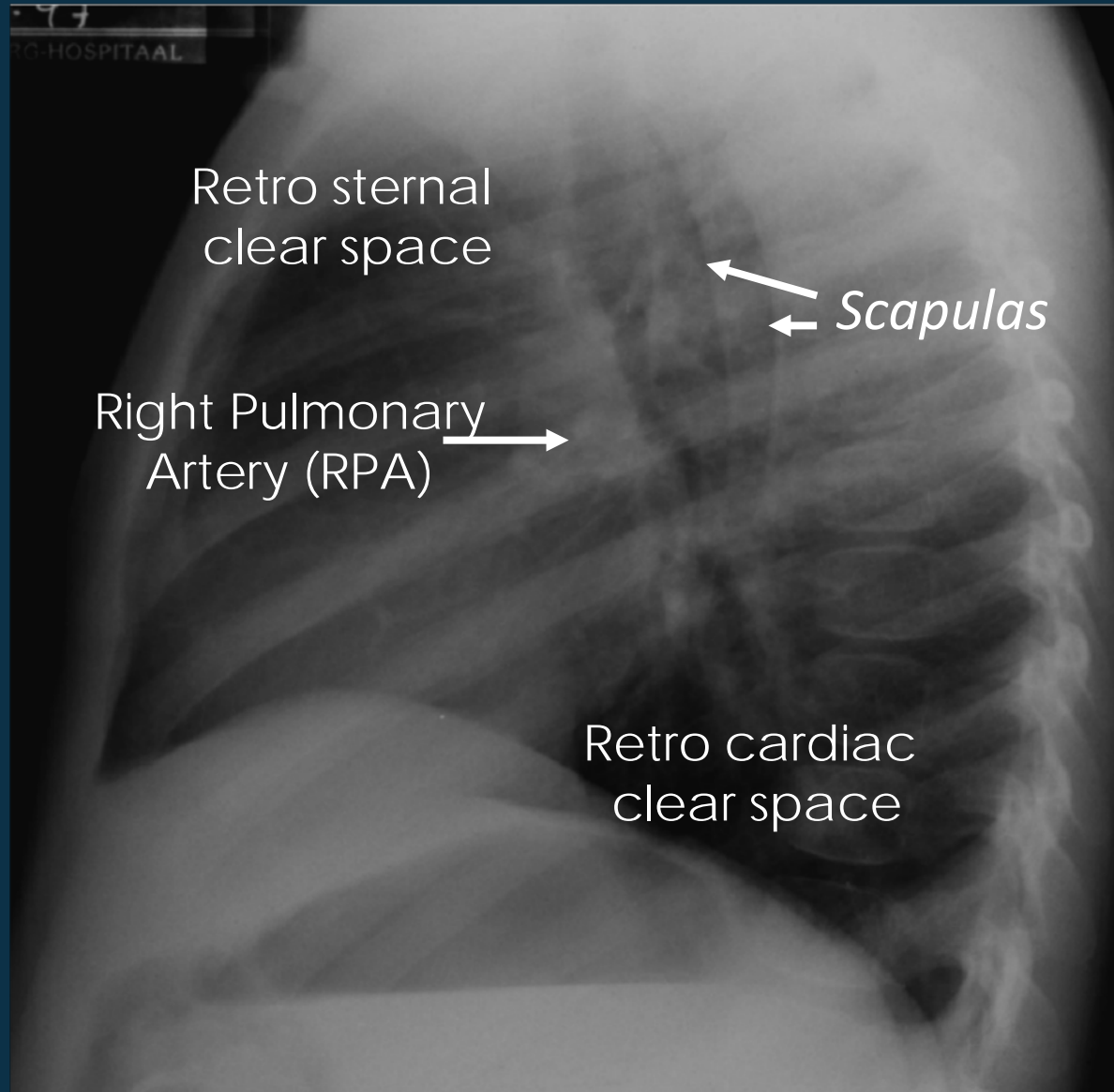
Upper right  
and left  
bronchi  
lucency



Upper right  
and left  
bronchi  
lucency

Right pulmonary artery is ahead of trachea  
Aortic arch is behind trachea

# Lateral view



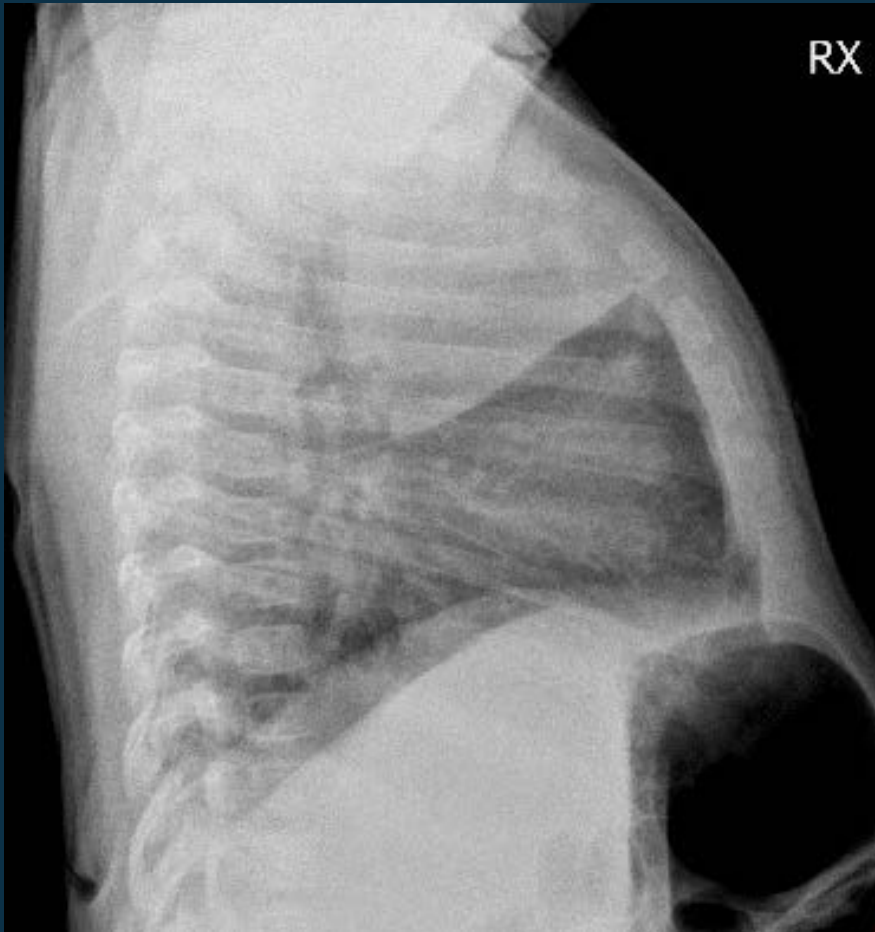


What do you see on this lateral view ?

- . A soft tissue density mass
- . Filling up the retrosternal space

What is it ?

- . Thymus



**Retrosternal space filled with a thymus**

Sonography if available : homogeneous,  
echogenic = normal thymus

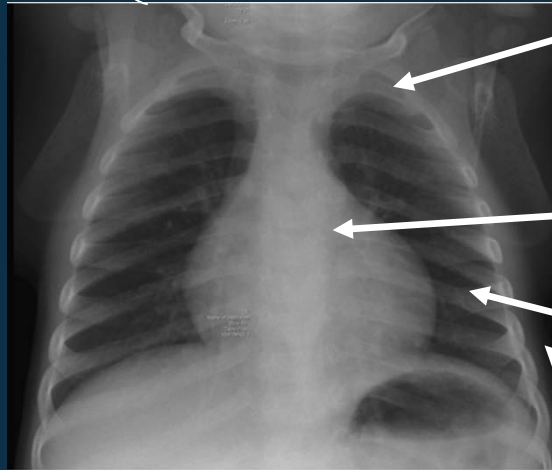


# How many radiographic densities do we know ?

1. One
2. Two
3. Three
4. Four
5. Five

# How many radiographic densities do we know ?

1. One
2. Two
3. Three
4. **Four**
5. Five



Calcium = white opaque

Fluid soft tissue = light grey

Air = black (hyperlucent)

Fat = dark grey

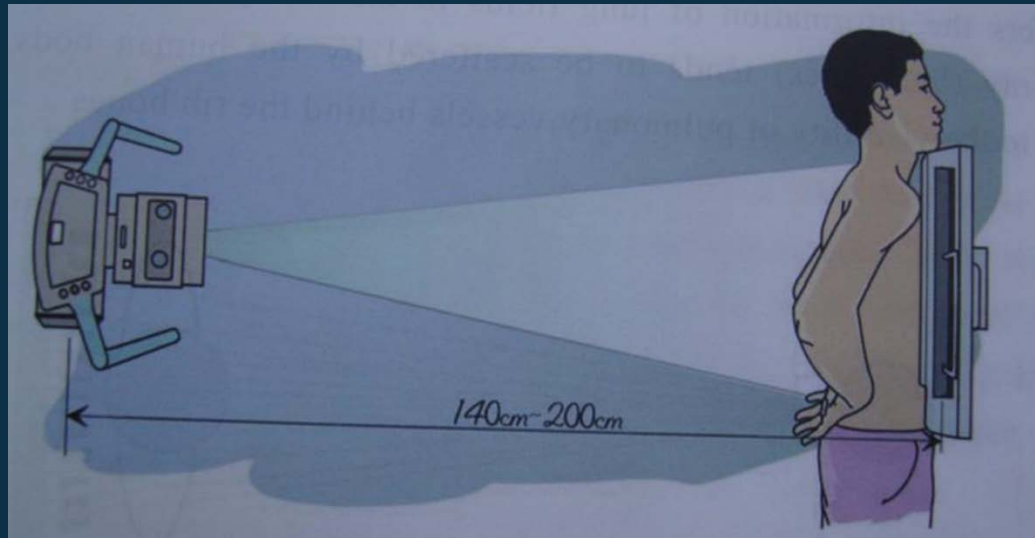
4 radiologic densities

# What are the basic radiographic views ?

1. AP in child  $\leq 5$  years age
2. PA in child  $\leq 5$  years age
3. AP in child  $> 5$  years age
4. PA in child  $> 5$  years age



AP



PA

# What are the basic radiographic views ?

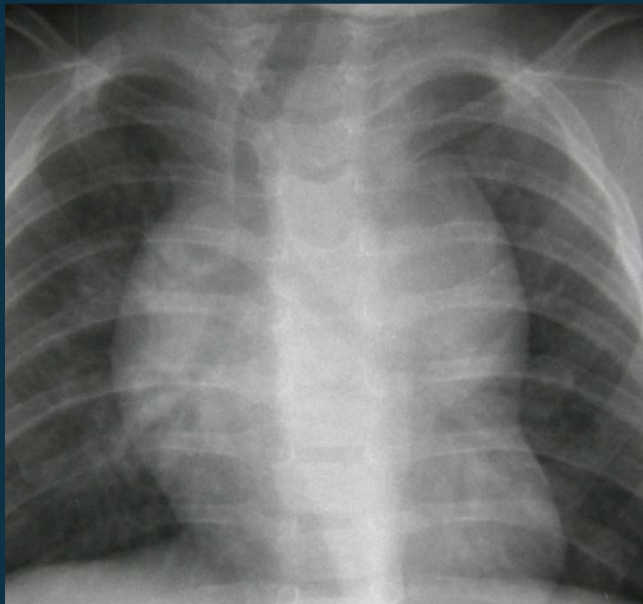
1. AP in child  $\leq$  5 years age
2. PA in child  $\leq$  5 years age
3. AP in child  $>$  5 years age
4. PA in child  $>$  5 years age

# Name a main anatomical feature in paediatric CXR? (before 2 years old)

1. Thyroid
2. Thymus
3. Aorta
4. Right Pulmonary Artery (RPA)

# Name a main anatomical feature in paediatric CXR? (before 2 years old)

1. Thyroid
2. Thymus
3. Aorta
4. Right Pulmonary Artery (RPA)



Thymus  
(with trachea buckling)

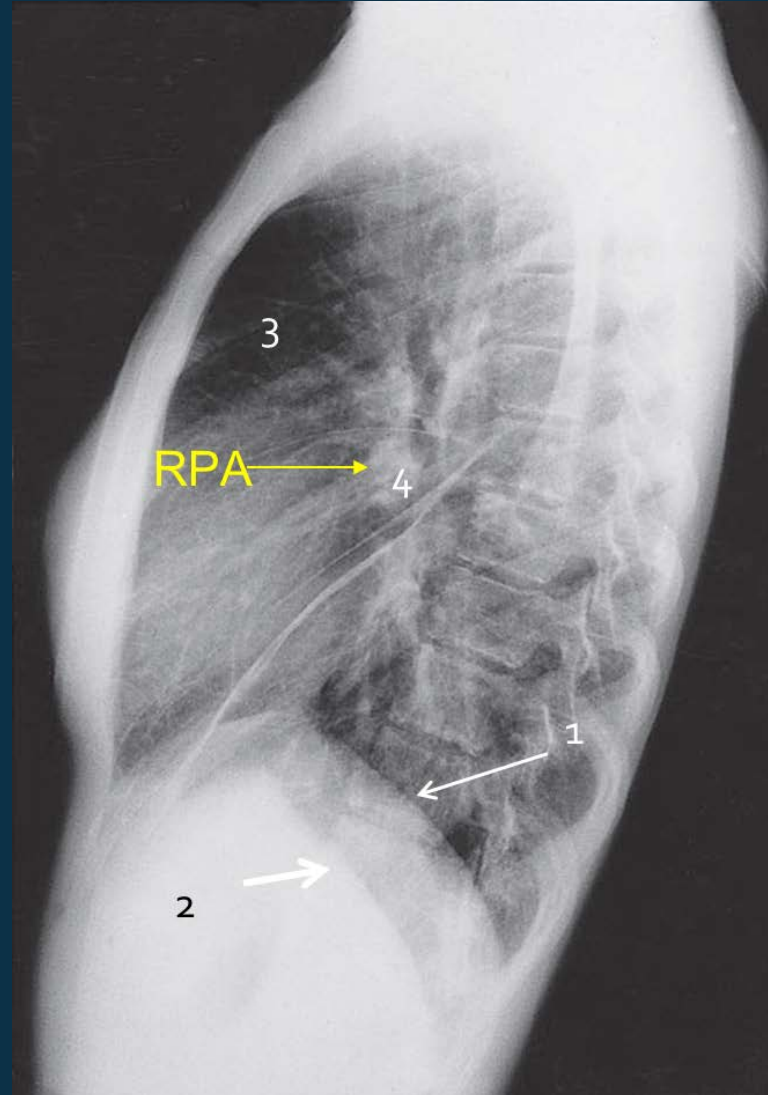
# What view do you ask for in order to identify lymph nodes ?

1. Lateral view
2. AP view
3. PA view



# What view do you ask for in order to identify lymph nodes ?

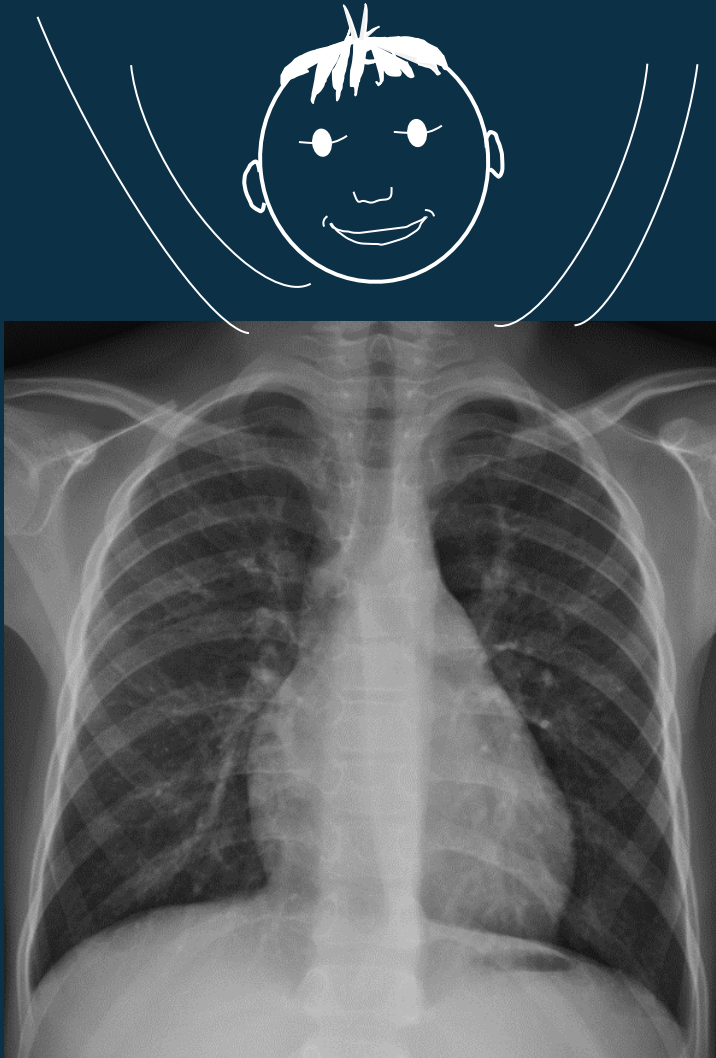
1. Lateral view
2. AP view
3. PA view



# Technical and anatomical aspects

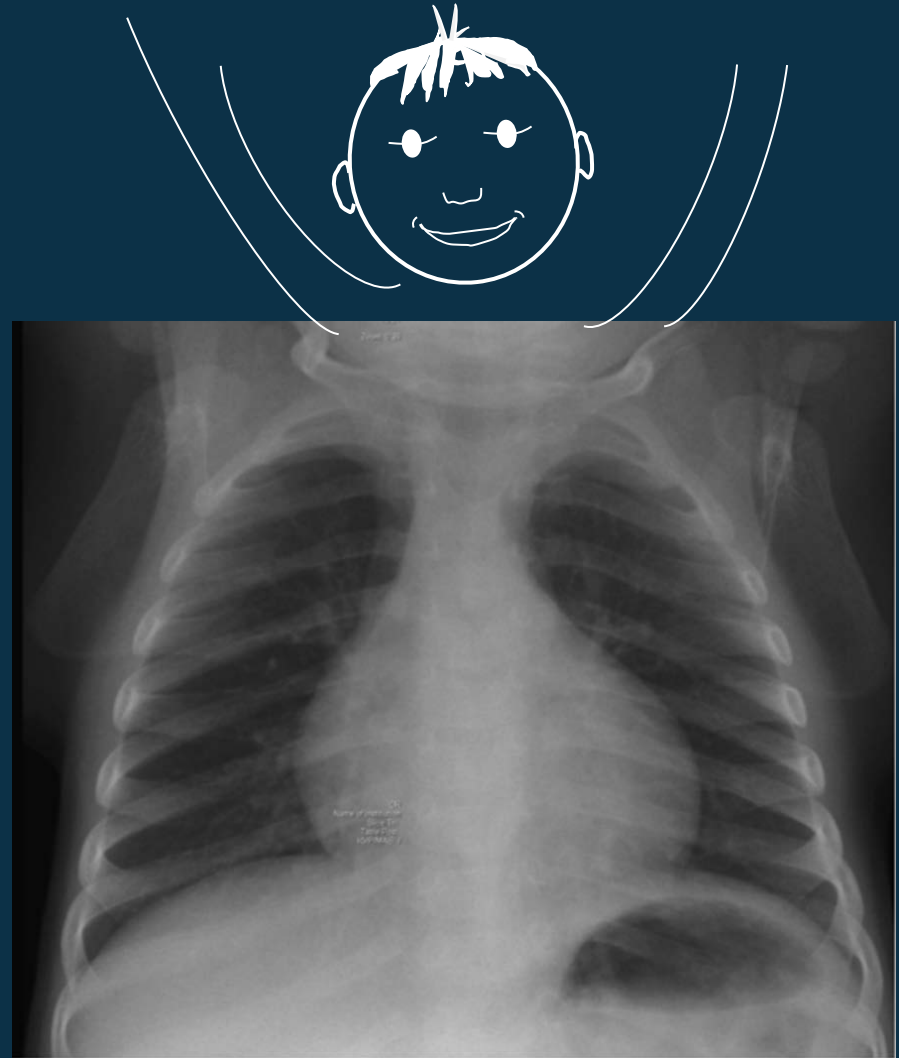


Know which different views to ask for  
and the importance of the lateral view



PA view over 5 years old

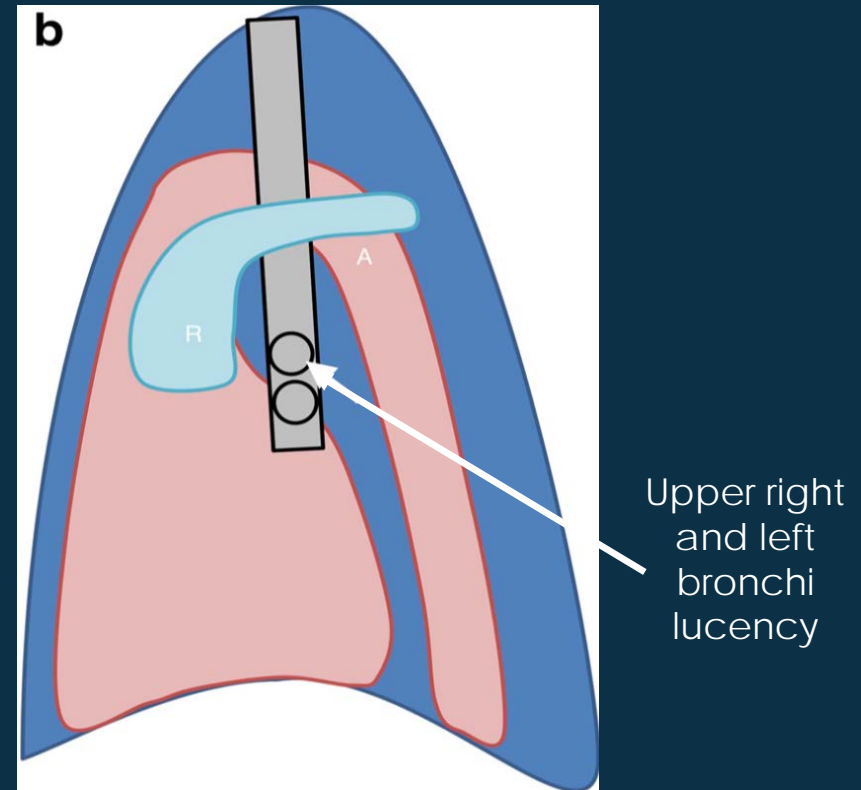
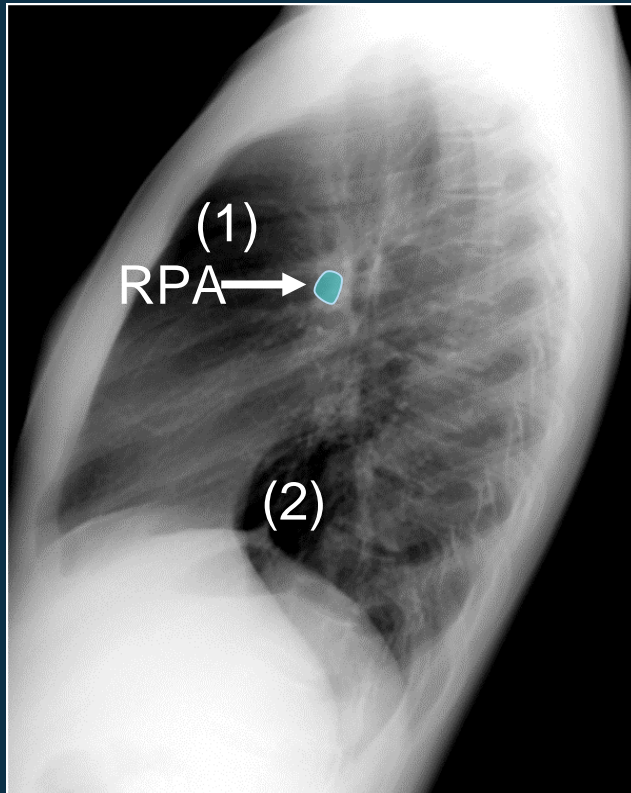
- . Trachea is straight
- . No thymus
- . Heart is of normal size



AP view  $\leq$  5 years old

- . Beware of thymus and trachea buckling below 2 yrs
- . Heart is magnified

# Importance of lateral view: normal lateral view



1. Retrosternal clear space ( should be black ) - check that it is not filled

2. Retro cardiac clear space ( check that there is no opacity )  
*The Right pulmonary artery ( RPA ) and aortic arch are well visualised which means that there are **No Lymph Nodes***



Now you know the technical and anatomical aspects  
of paediatric CXRs

Now let's learn a method called '**the systematic approach**'

# Module 1

## How to read a child CXR

### Chapter 2:

how to read a paediatric CXR

Systematic approach to CXR interpretation

# Paediatric CXR: introduction to the systematic approach



We will develop a systematic approach.  
Do not skip any item on the following list

# Systematic approach for CXR- check list

1. Check the identification: name, date, supine or erect
2. Check the clinical history and findings
3. Check the technical quality factors : inspiration, rotation, penetration
4. Assess
  - . 1st circle : thoracic wall and thoracic skeleton
  - . 2nd circle: each lung field, one after the other
  - . 3rd circle: airways, cardio-mediastinal contour
  - . The hidden areas = worth a second look: apices, hilar regions, retro cardiac areas (left & right), sub-diaphragmatic areas





Have you checked the identification and patient's history ?

Now we need to know if the CXR is readable or not

# Module 1 How to read a CXR

Chap1: Technical and anatomical aspects

## **Chap2: Systematic approach to CXR interpretation**

### **Part1. Quality factors**

Part2. Normal CXR

Part3. First circle

1. Soft part of the chest wall
2. Diaphragmatic areas
3. Bony Thorax abnormalities

Part4. Second circle

4. Lung
5. Pleura

Part5. Third circle

6. Airways
7. hili and Mediastinum
8. Lymph nodes
9. Heart

Part6. The hidden areas

Part7. Conclusion



Is the CXR readable or not ?

The technical quality factors will help you  
to decide if a CXR is readable or not

# Check the technical quality factors

## Is the CXR readable or not ?

1. Deep inspiration: was the film taken in full inspiration ?
2. Rotation: was the patient in a good position (facing directly forwards) ?
3. Penetration: is the film over or under penetrated?  
Is there adequate density / contrast ?

Before we start : how many pairs of ribs do we have

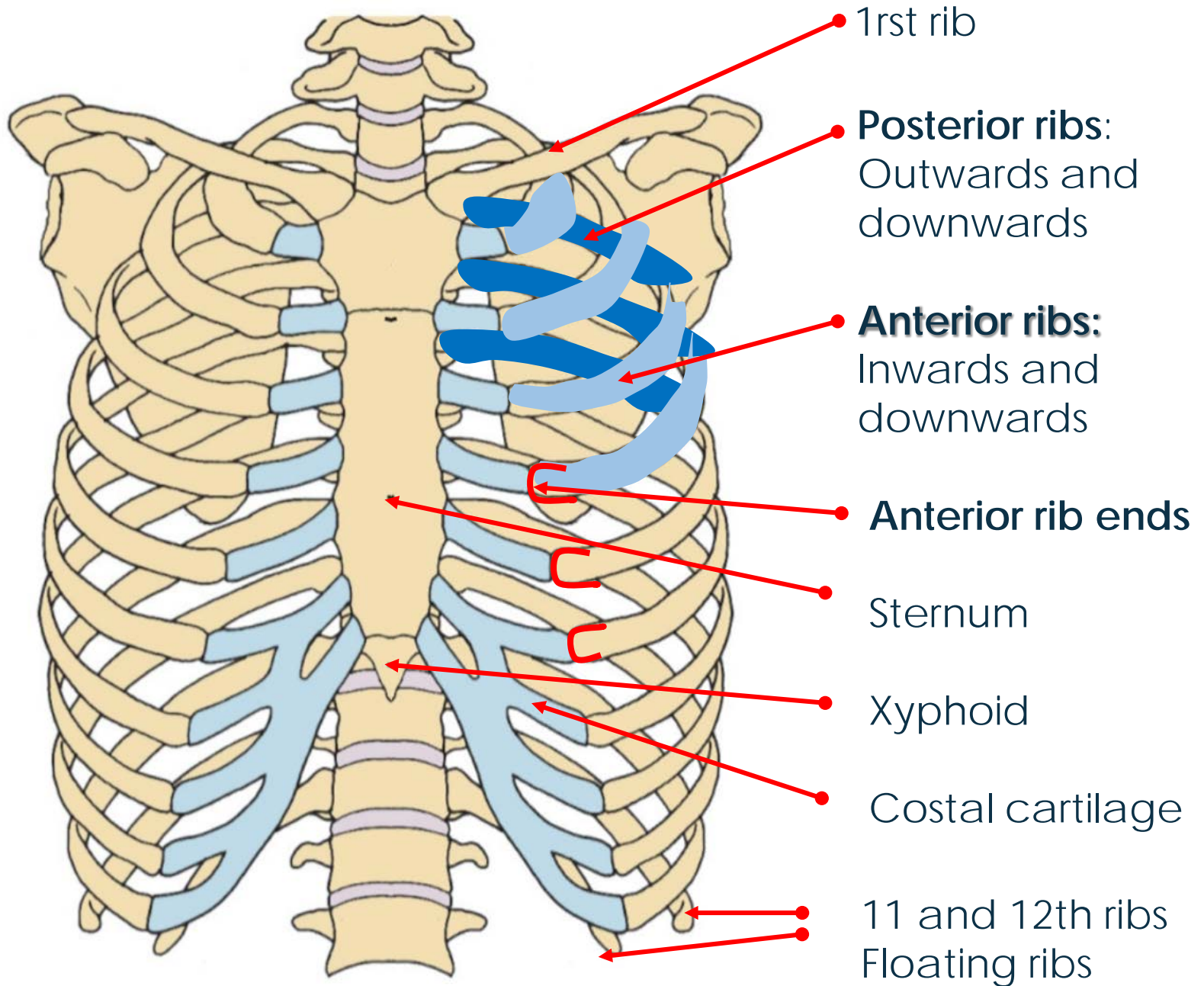
1. 8
2. 10
3. 12
4. 14



Before we start : how many pairs of ribs do we have

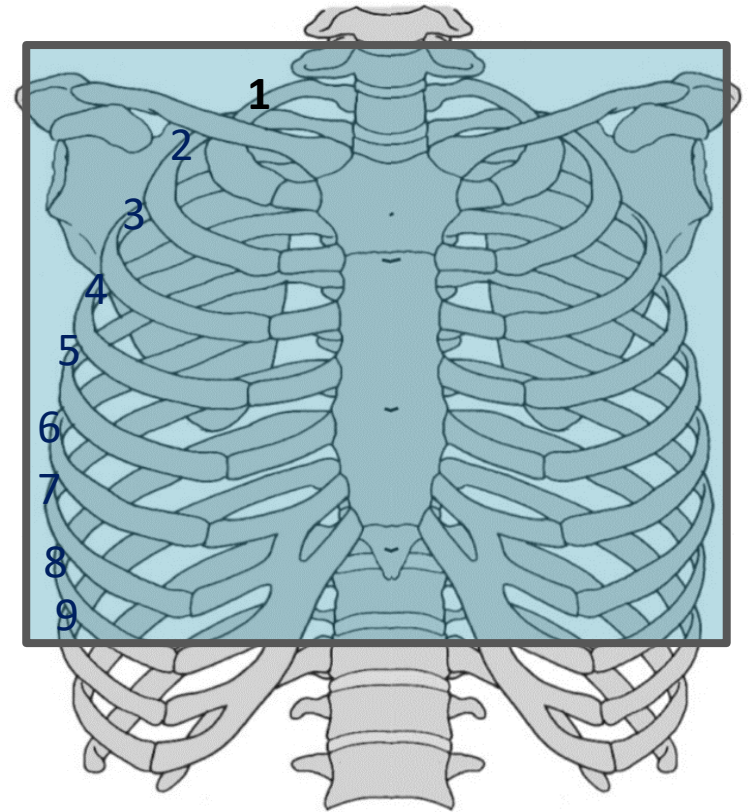
1. 8
2. 10
- 3. 12**
4. 14



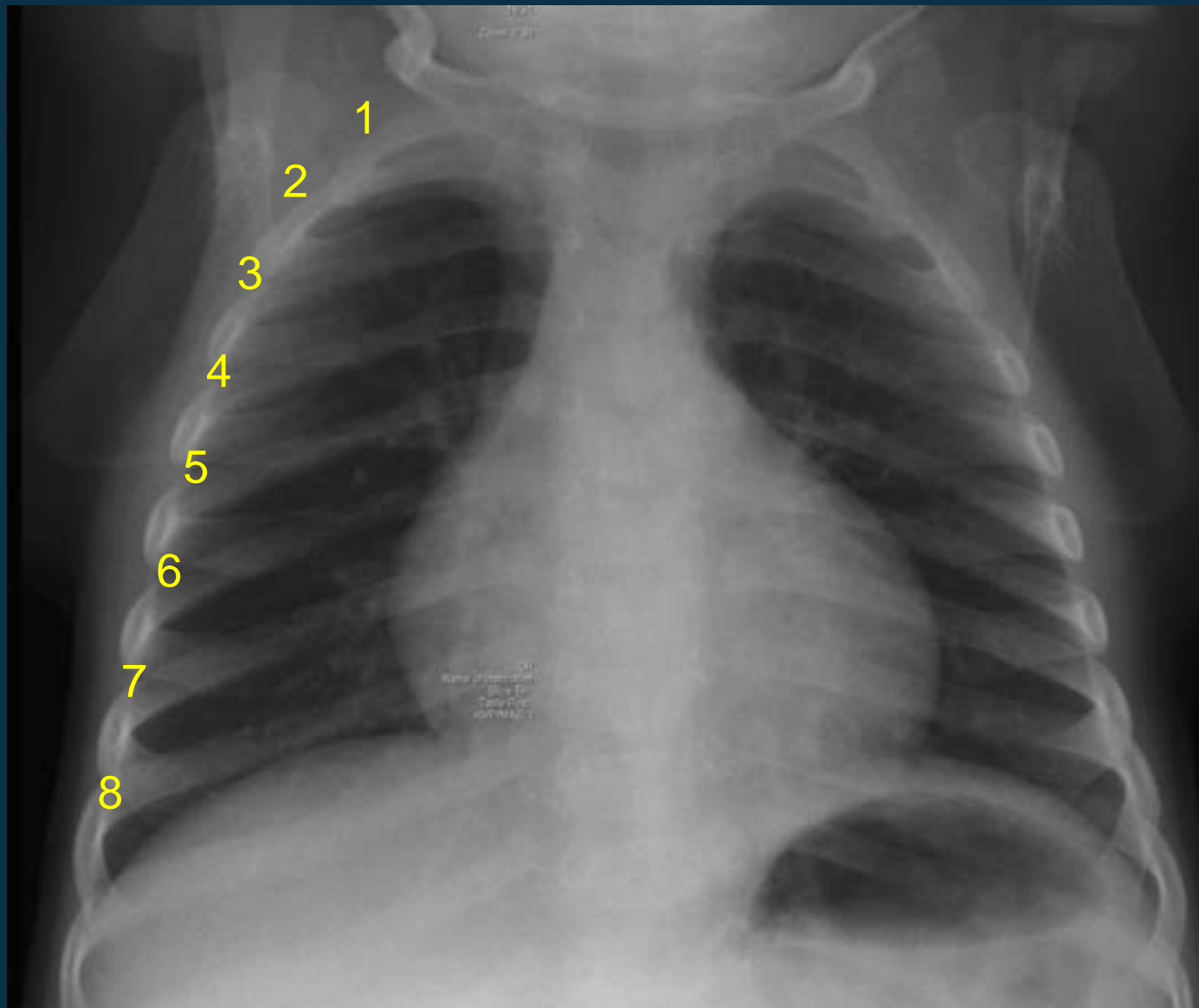


# Inspiration

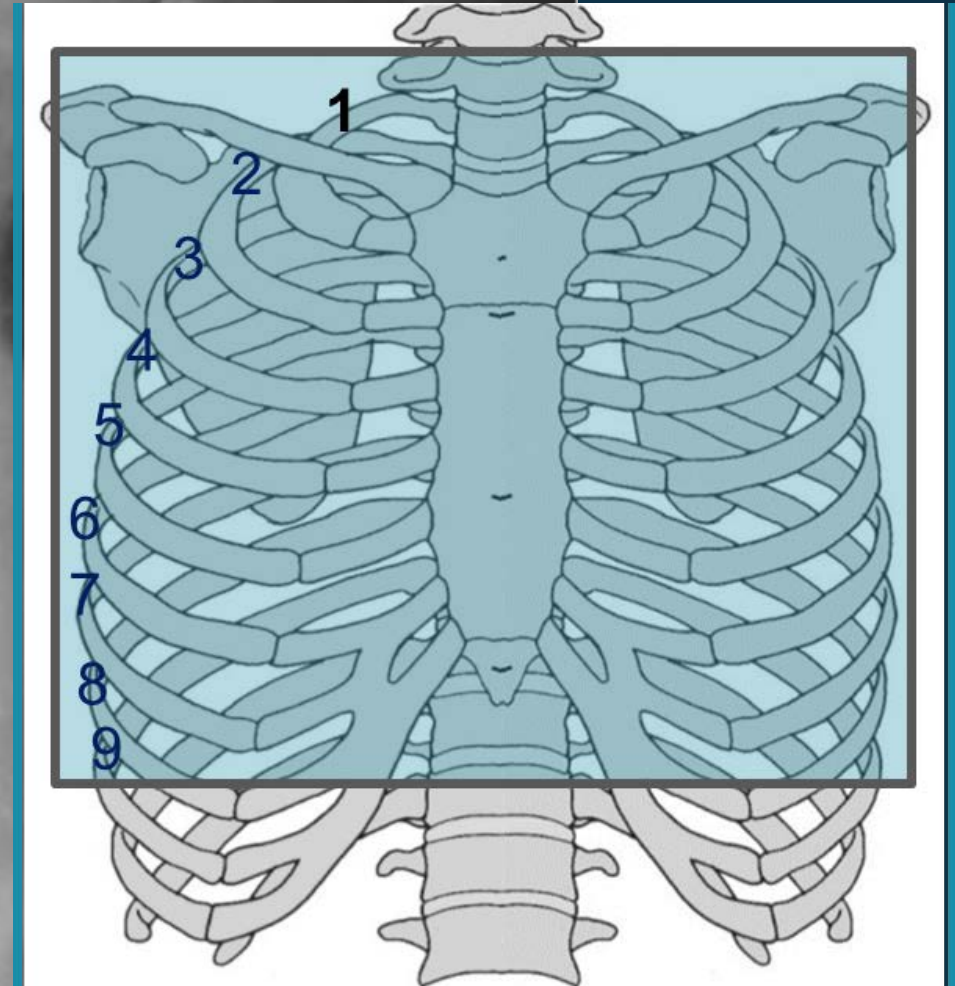
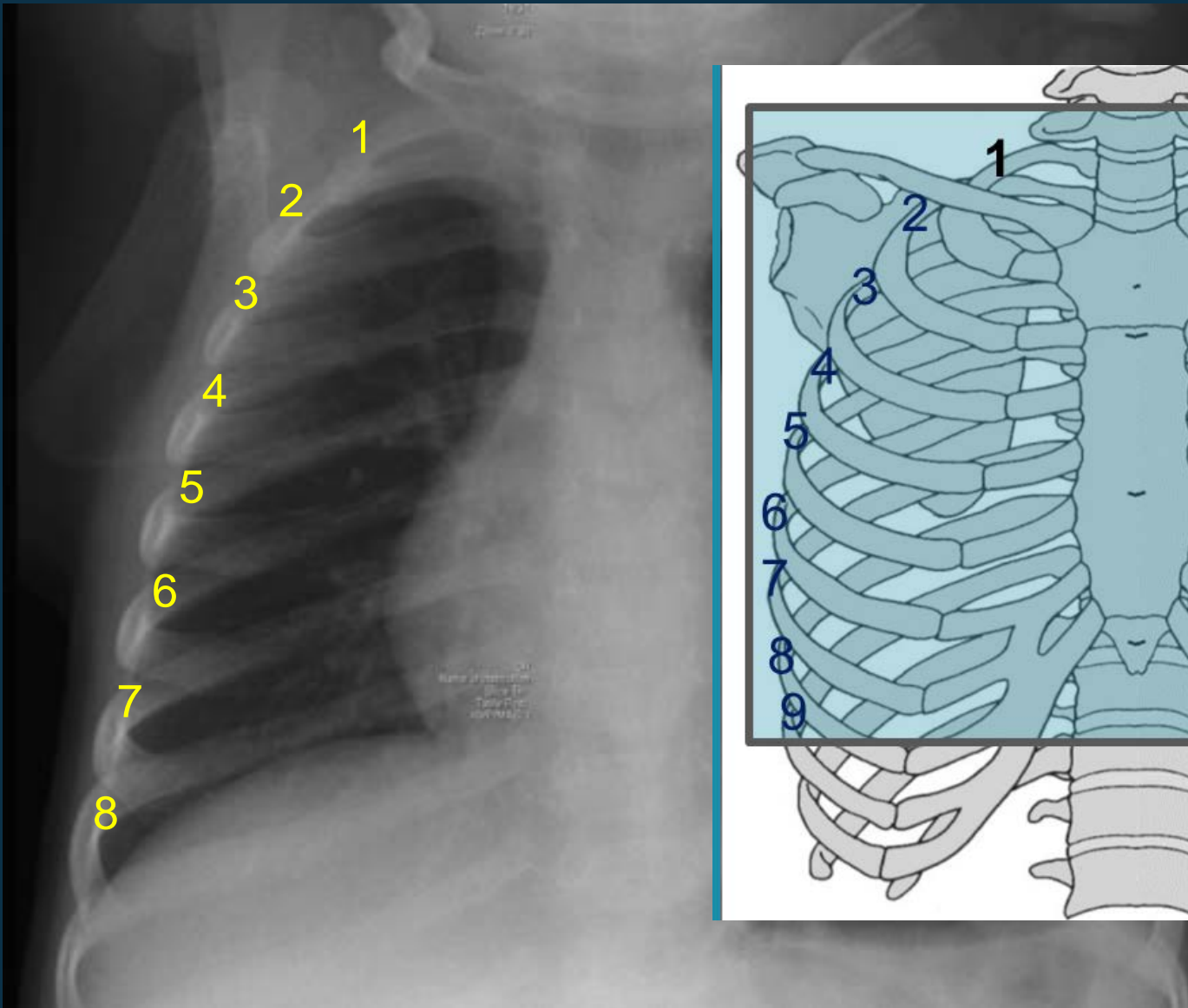
1. Adequate inspiration is when the 8-9th posterior rib is visible
2. Use only posterior ribs in younger children. The ribs closer to the film (posterior) are most apparent



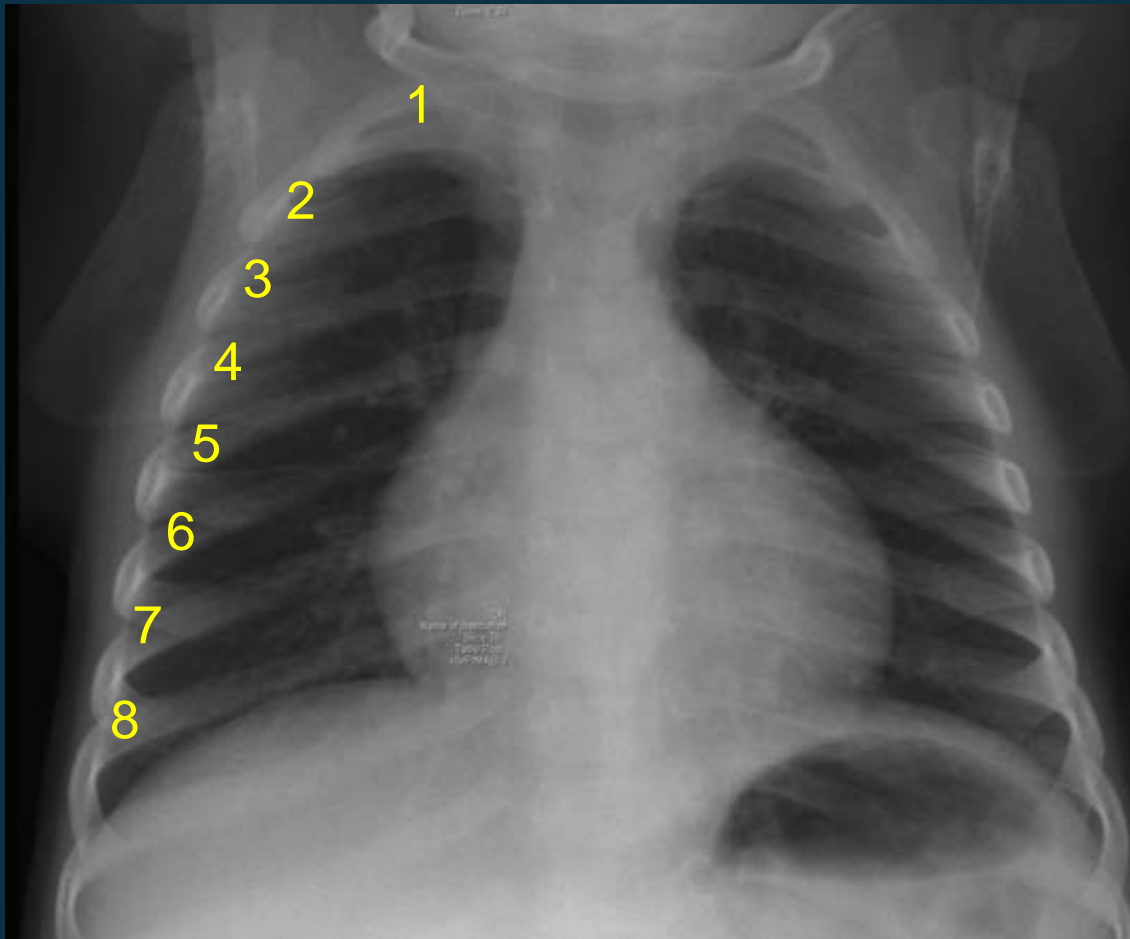




Adequate inspiration: if you can count 8 or 9 posterior ribs



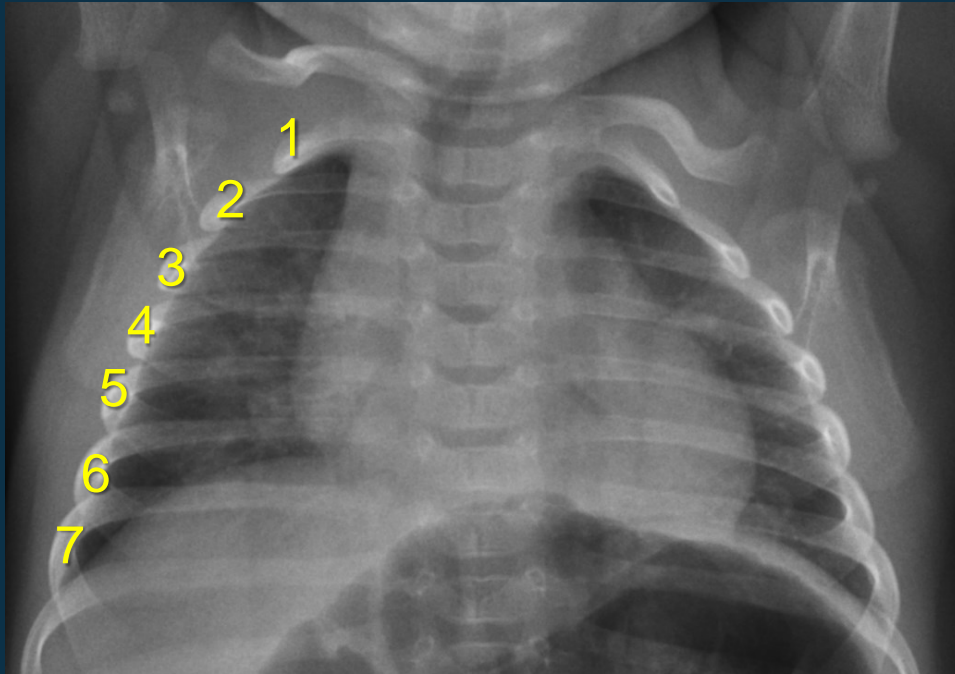
Adequate inspiration: if you can count 8 or 9 posterior ribs



### Criteria for normal inspiration (normal lung volume)

1. 8/9th posterior rib above the diaphragm
2. Less than 1/3rd of the heart below the diaphragm
3. The domes of the diaphragm are rounded
4. The lungs are air-filled ( black)

# What do you think about this CXR ?



How many posterior ribs?  
. 7 ribs

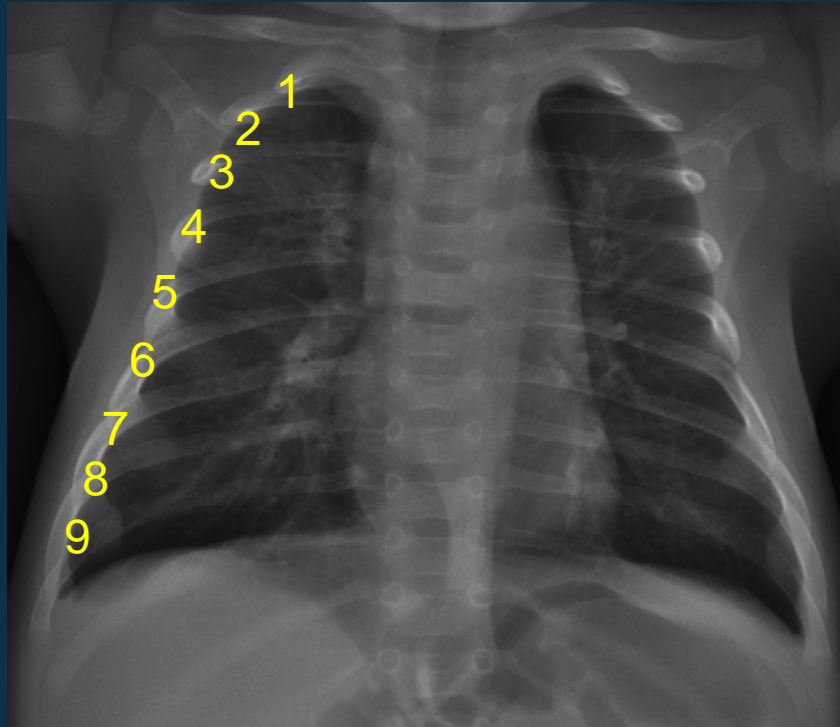
How are the lungs ?  
. Too opaque = not enough air

Why ?  
. This is an expiration view

## Is the CXR readable or not ?

1. Not readable: Expiration < 8 posterior ribs
2. The heart appears enlarged
3. The amount of air within the lungs is decreased
4. The lungs appear more opaque than normal (white).

# What about this CXR ?



Inspiration: how many posterior ribs?  
· Over 9 posterior ribs

How are the lungs ?  
· Very black = hyperlucent = excess of air = hyperinflation

Why ?  
· Hyperinflation > 9 posterior ribs (mainly in teenagers)

# Required quality criteria for CXR interpretation

**1. Adequate inspiration is when the 8-9th posterior rib is visible. Use only posterior ribs in younger children**

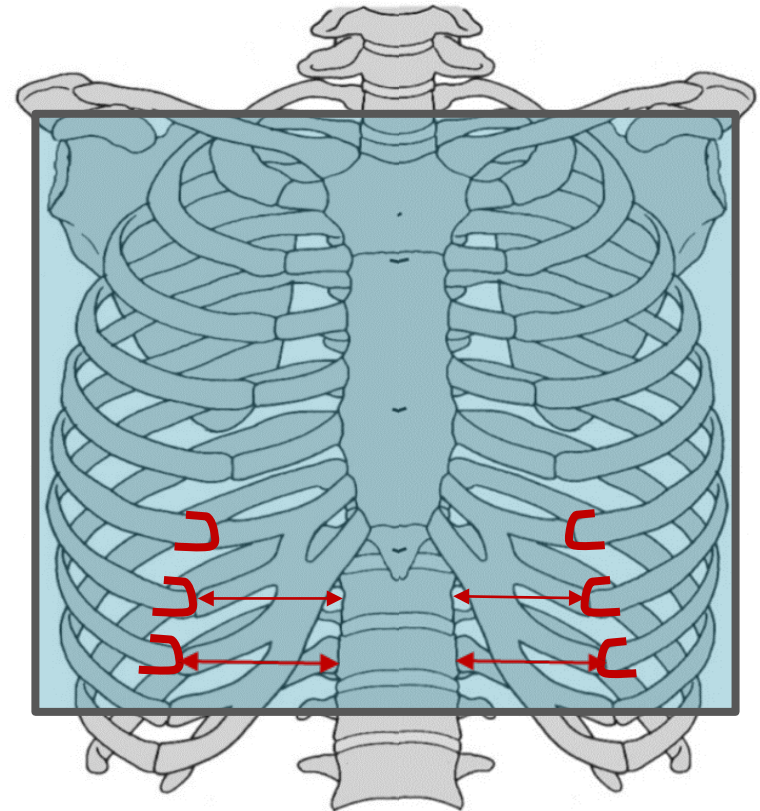
- . Hypoinflation < 8 posterior ribs (*poor inspiration or expiratory film*)
- . Hyperinflation > 9 posterior rib (*more frequent in adolescent*)

# Required quality criteria for CXR interpretation

## 2. No notation

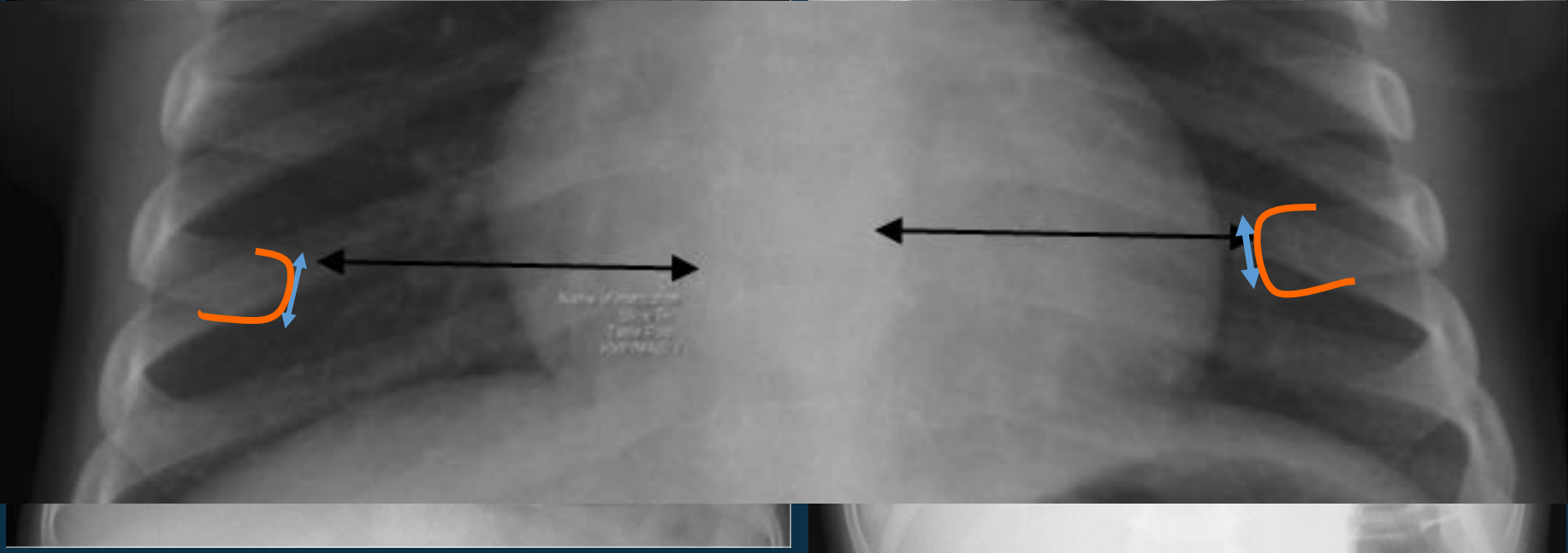
Look for asymmetry of the skeletal structures

- . In children use the anterior rib ends
- . Clavicle ends are difficult to locate



Check if the anterior ends of the ribs are all an equal distance from the spine.

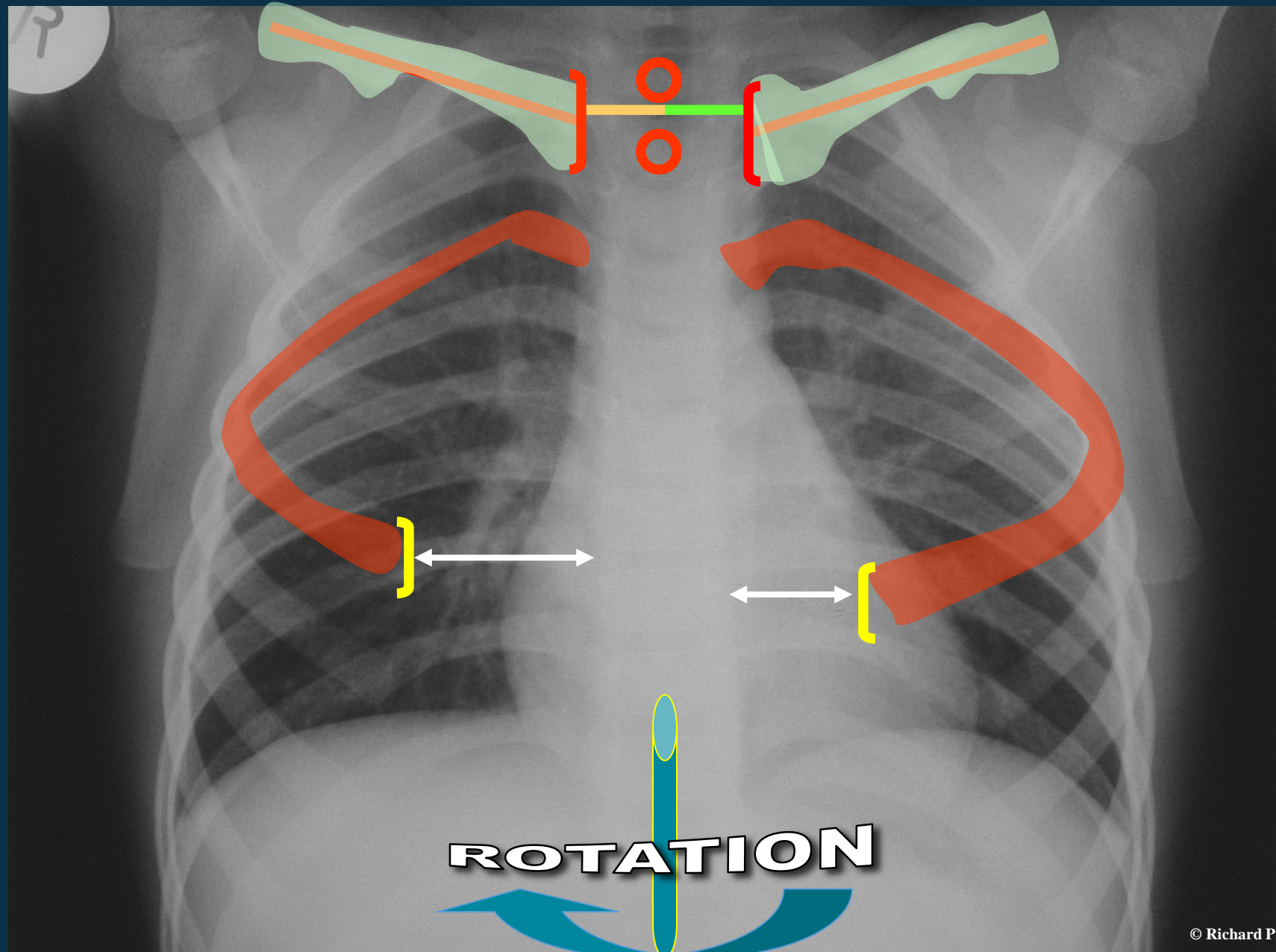




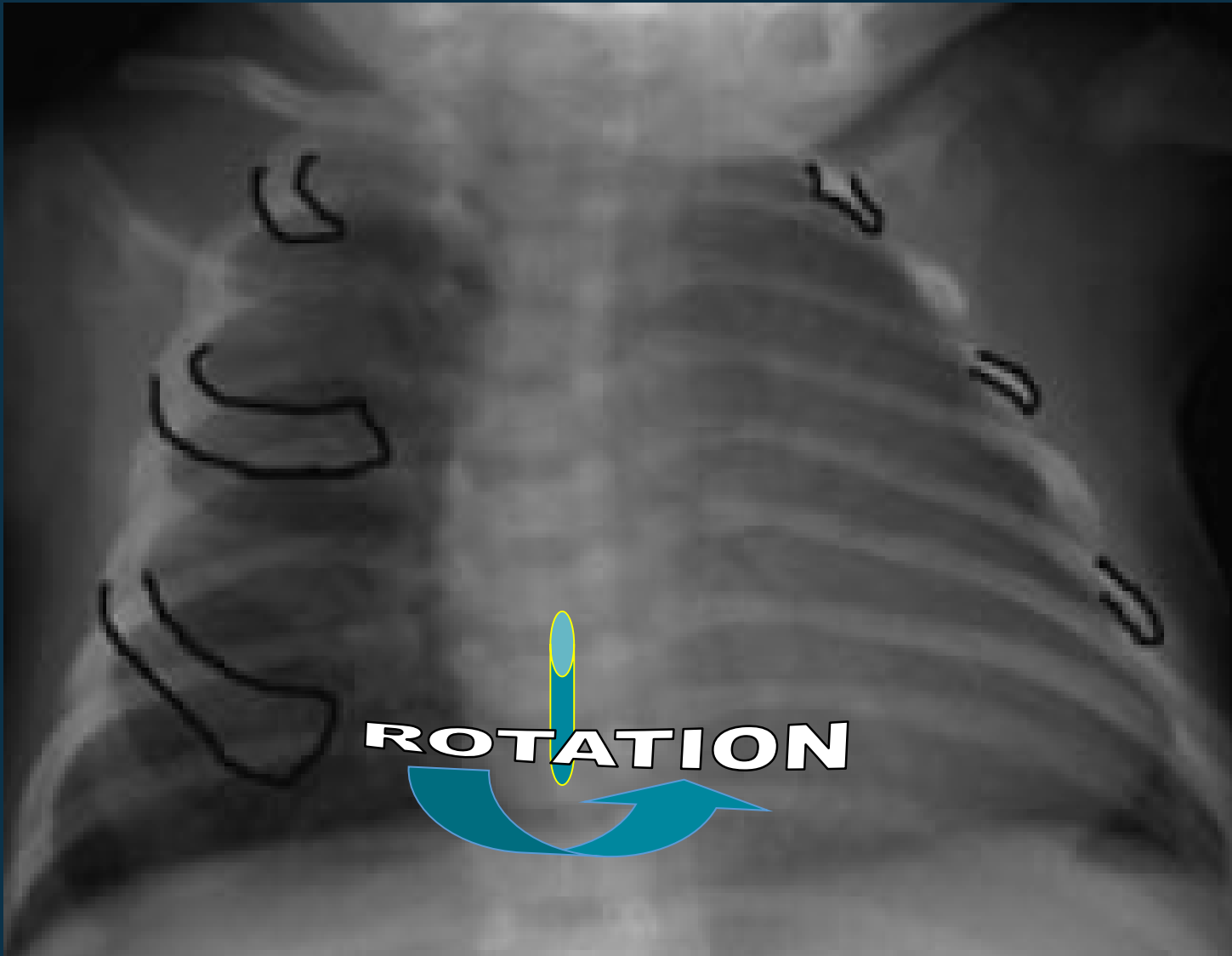
### Criteria for non-rotated film\*

- . Anterior ribs equidistant from the pedicles
- . Medial aspects of the clavicles are symmetrically positioned in relation to midline
- . No difference in aeration between the two lungs

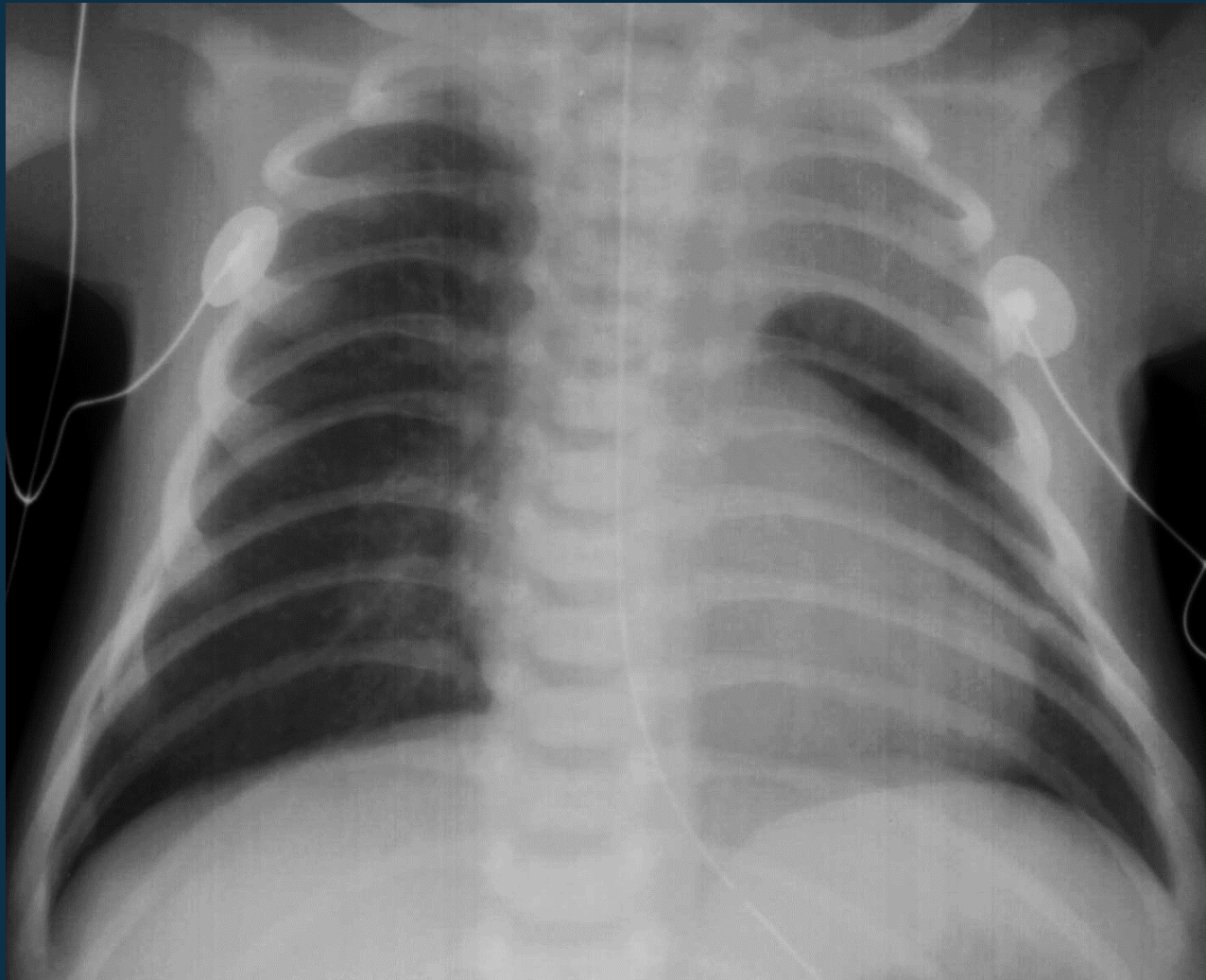




Rotation to the right makes the heart appear central



Follow the ribs : the right anterior ribs are much closer to the spine  
 Rotation to the left makes the heart look large  
 and can make the right heart border disappear.



Rotated positioning, mimicking pathology

- . Rotation to the left
- . Hyperlucency
- . Thymus simulating atelectasis or pulmonary infiltrates

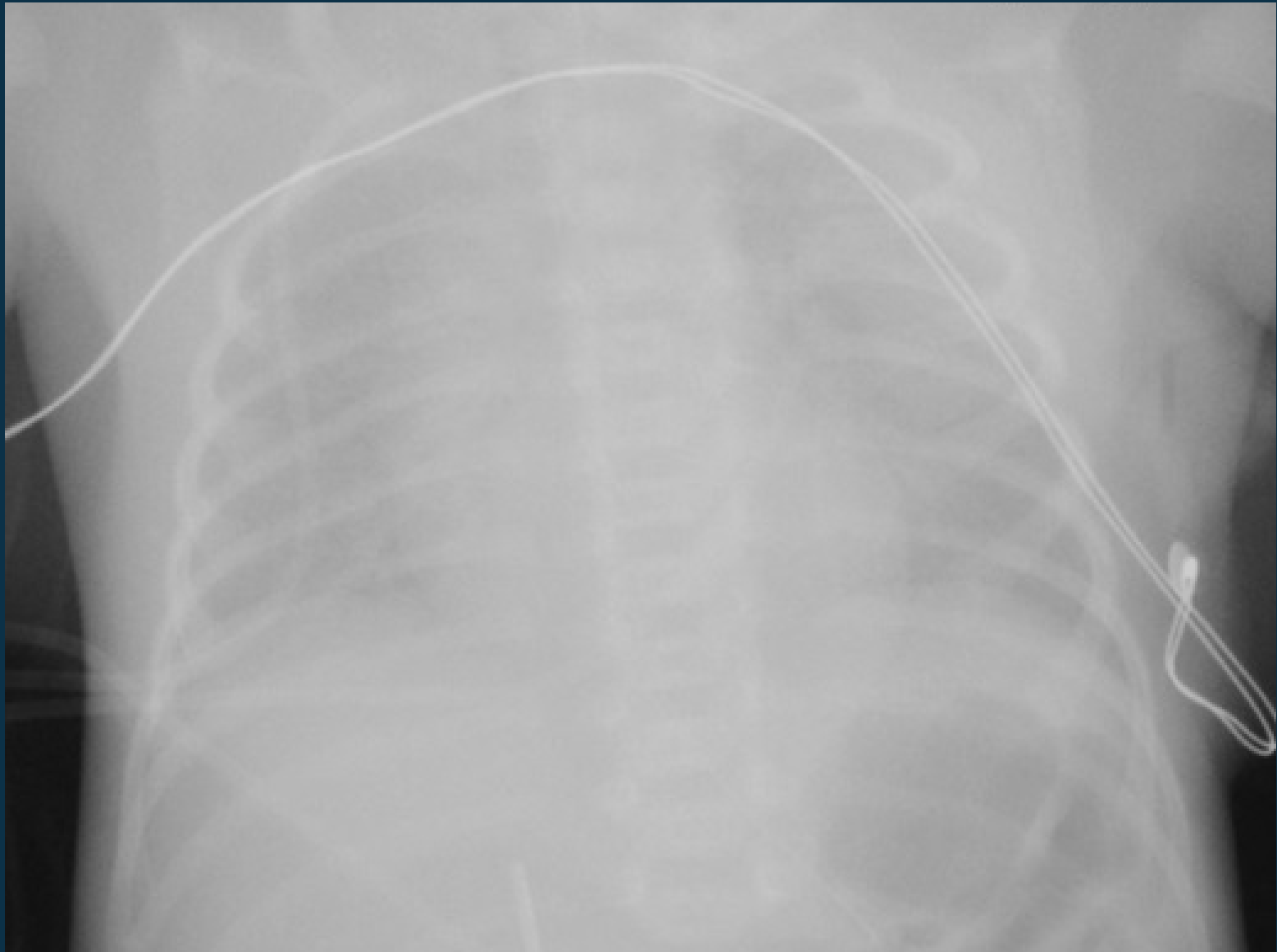
# Rotation

1. Look for asymmetry of the skeletal structures
  - . In children use the anterior rib ends
  - . Clavicle ends are difficult to locate
2. Check if the anterior ends of the ribs are all an equal distance from the spine.
3. Rotation to the right makes the heart appear central
4. Rotation to the left makes the heart look large and can make the right heart border disappear.

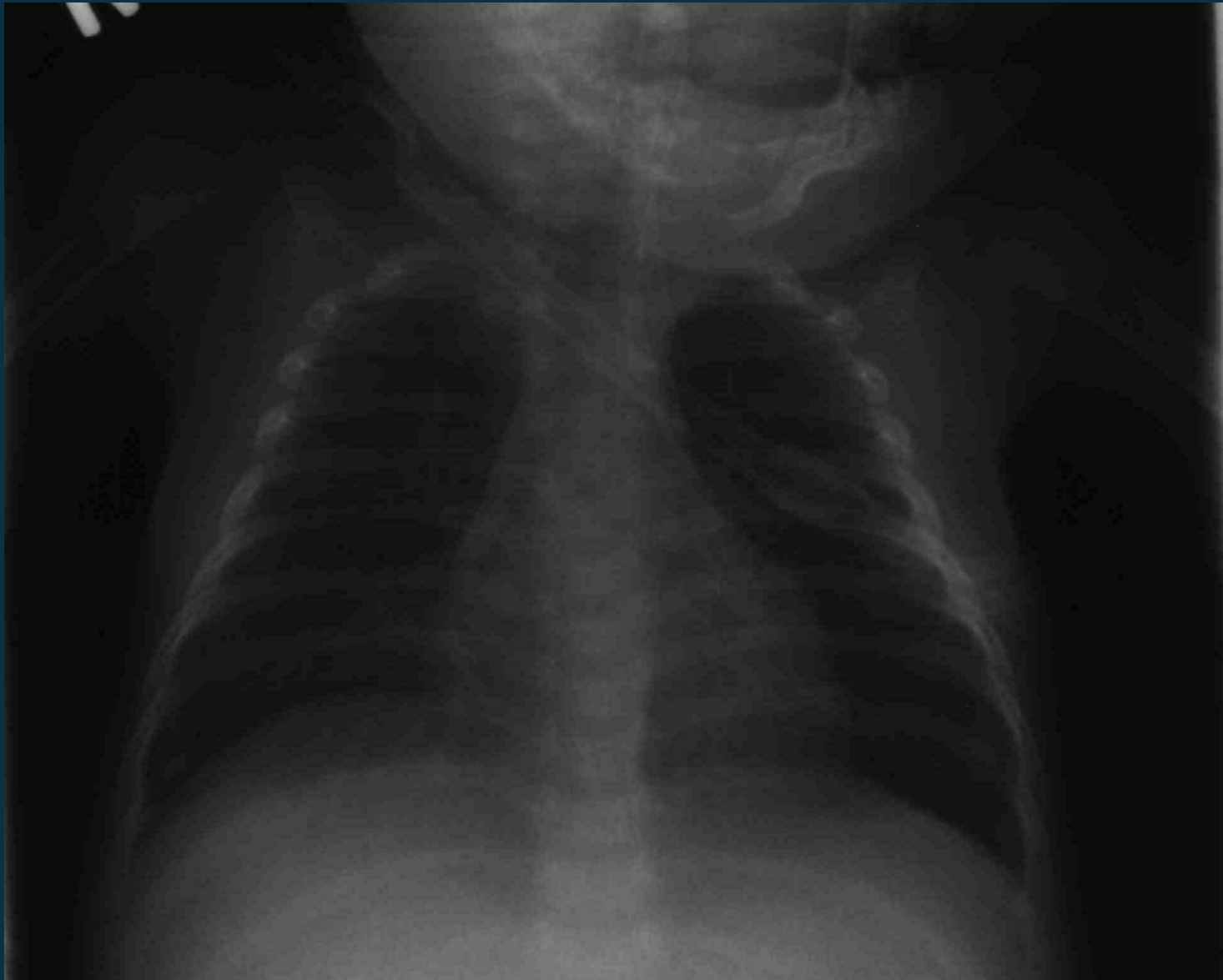
# Required quality criteria for CXR interpretation

## 3. Penetration

1. In an adequately penetrated film you should be able to:
  - . See vessels behind heart
  - . See pulmonary vessels in 2/3 of the lung (from central to periphery)
  - . See trachea and proximal bronchi
  - . Distinguish the intervertebral spaces through the heart shadow.
2. Under-penetration : **white x-ray**
3. Over-penetration : **black x-ray**



Under-penetration : **white x-ray**



Over-penetration : **black x-ray**



Is the CXR readable or not ?

## Good quality factors

### 1. Deep inspiration

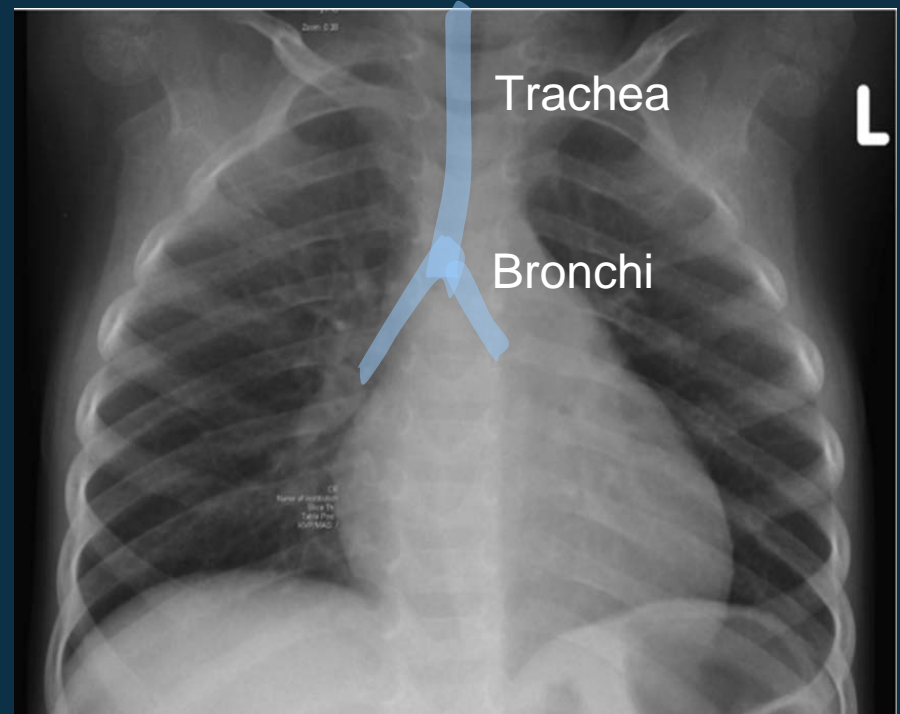
- . 8 or 9th posterior ribs above the diaphragm

### 2. Rotation

- . Check the symmetry of the anterior rib ends

### 3. Penetration

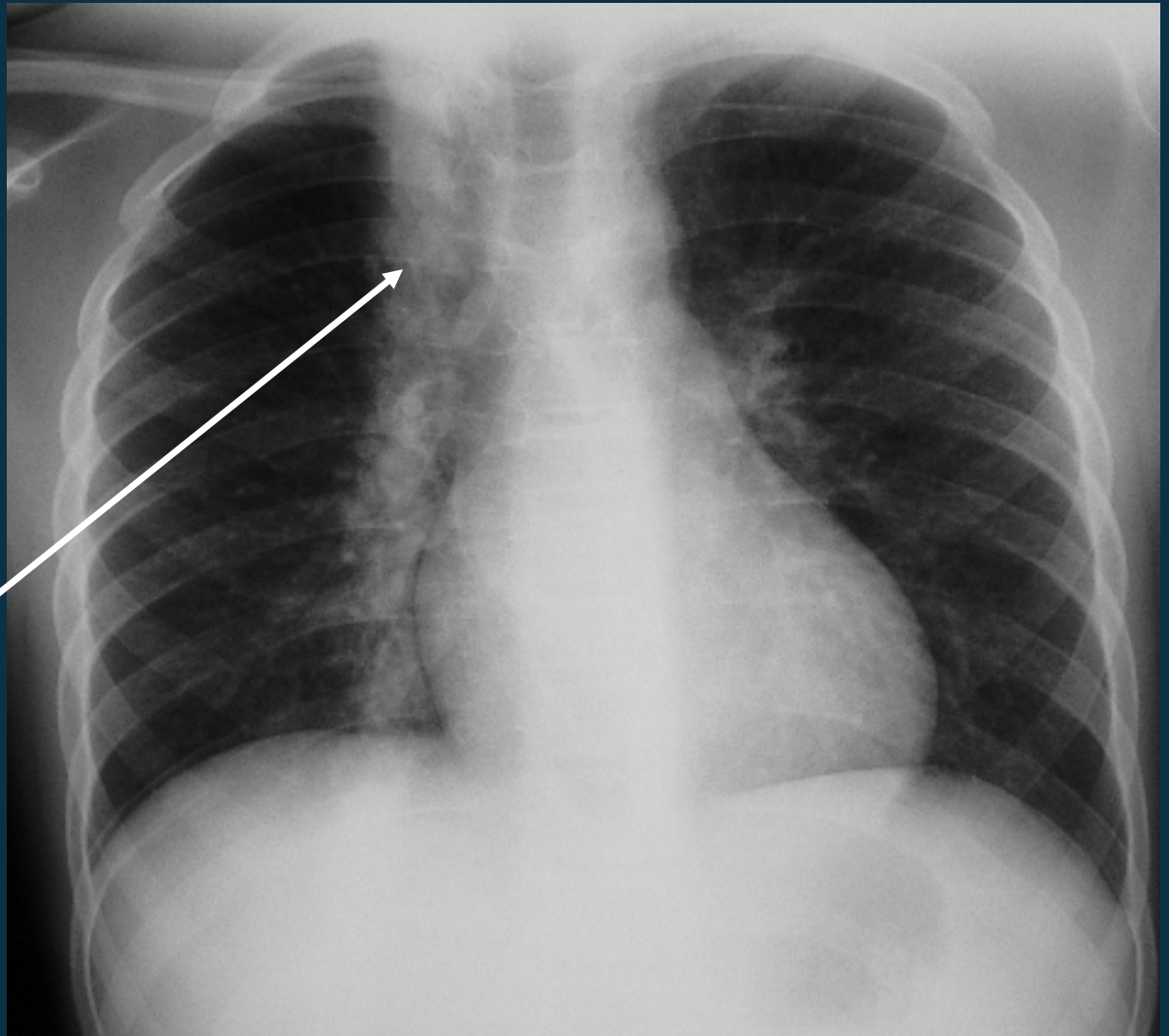
- . You must be able to clearly see vessels in the central parts of the lungs , the trachea , the bronchi , the diaphragm, the costo-diaphragmatic angles and the spinal structures





# Pitfalls and Artefacts

What do you see on this X-ray ?

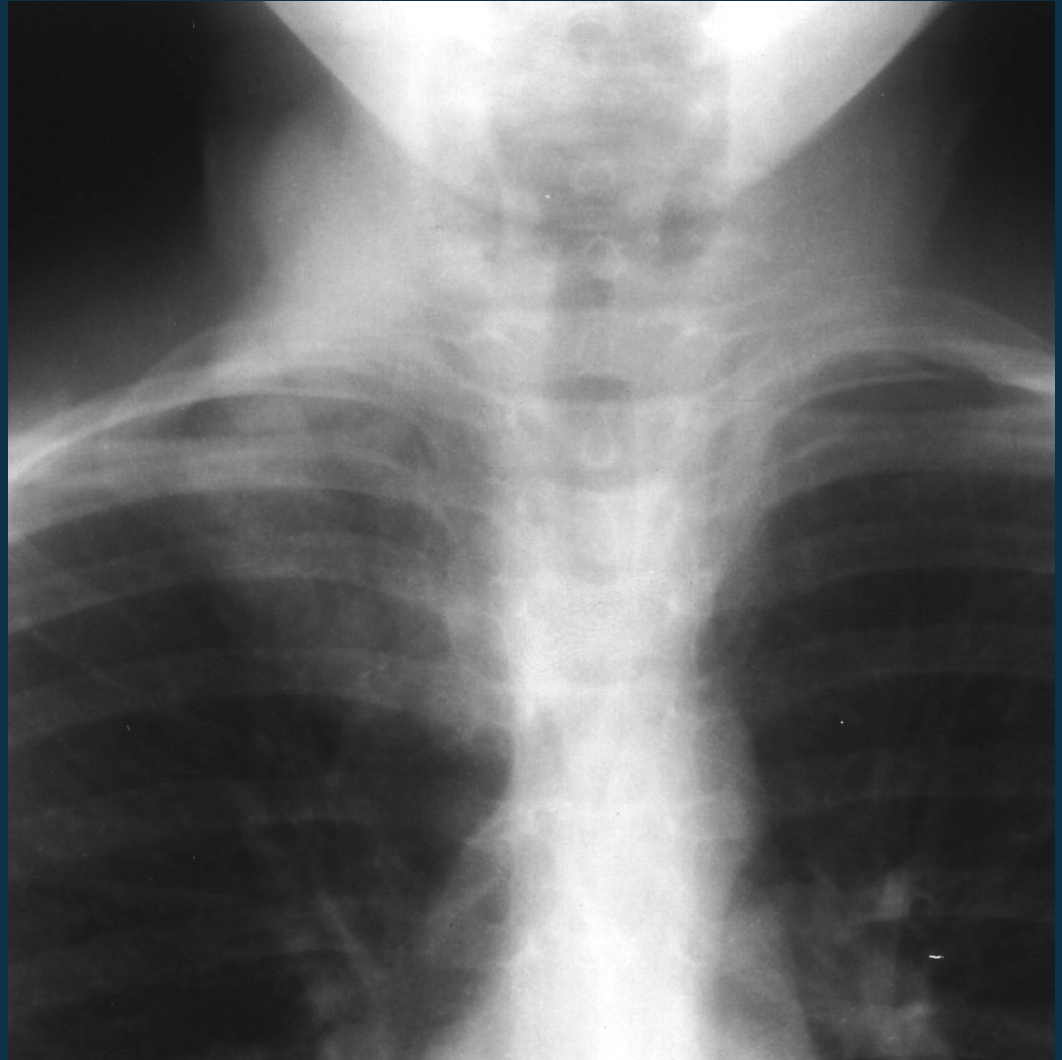


Linear opacity  
extending  
over the thorax:  
. **brade / plait**

# Pitfalls and Artefacts

What do you see on this X-ray ?

Blurry opacity  
over the thorax:  
. **Hair**



# Pitfalls and Artefacts

What do you see on this X-ray ?

Lower pulmonary  
opacities :

- . Breasts**

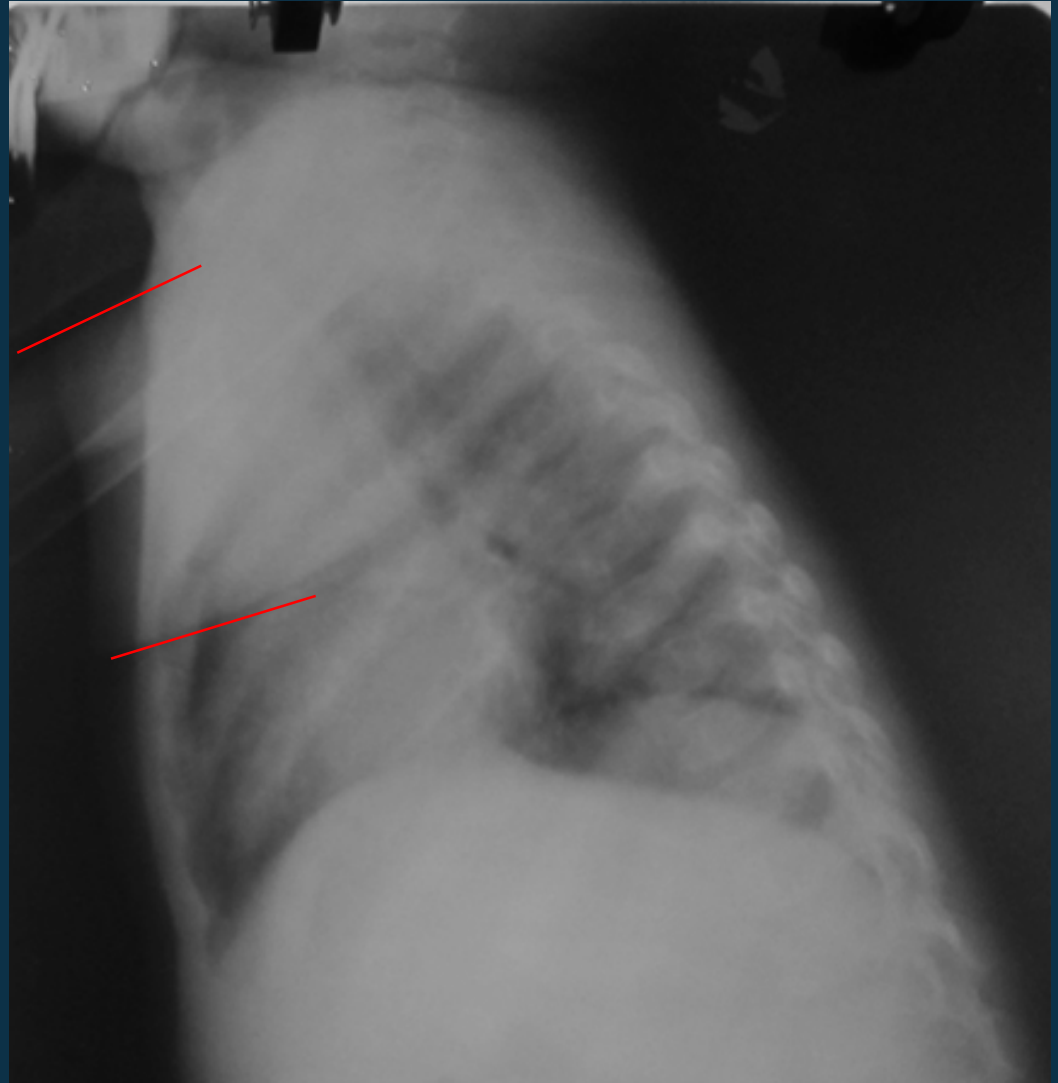
*(could appear from 10  
years old)*



# Pitfalls and Artefacts

What do you see on this X-ray ?

Retrosternal opacity ?  
. **Arm !!**

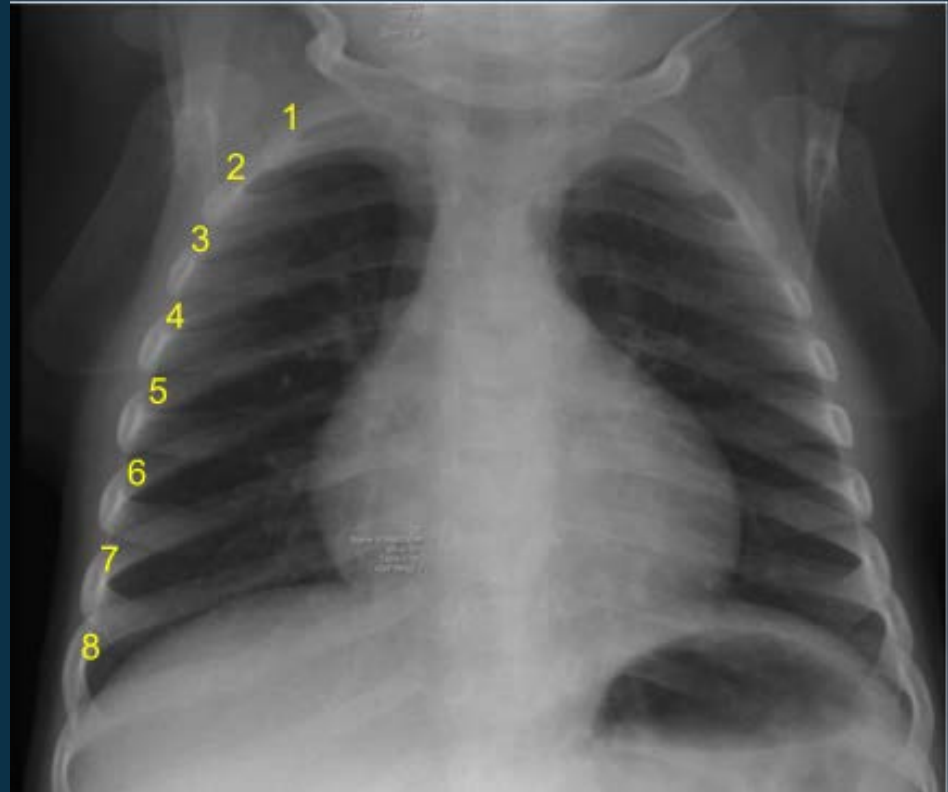
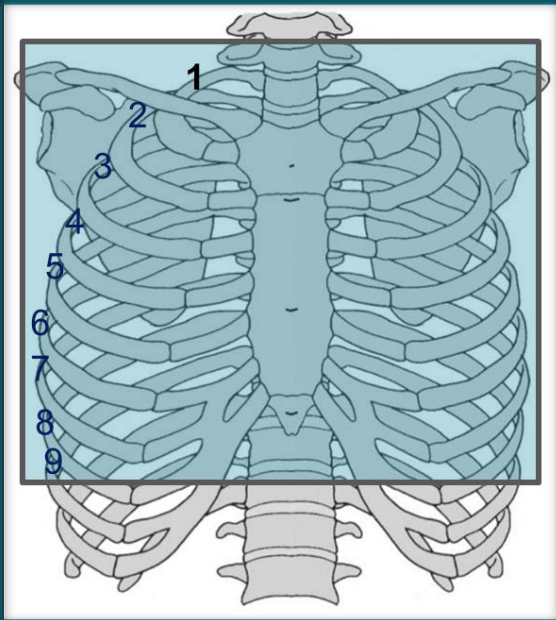


# There is adequate inspiration when you can see how many posterior ribs ?

1. Five
2. Six
3. Seven
4. Eight

# There is adequate inspiration when you can see how many posterior ribs ?

1. Five
2. Six
3. Seven
4. Eight



Adequate inspiration if you can count 8 or 9 posterior ribs

# When you count less than 8 posterior ribs it is

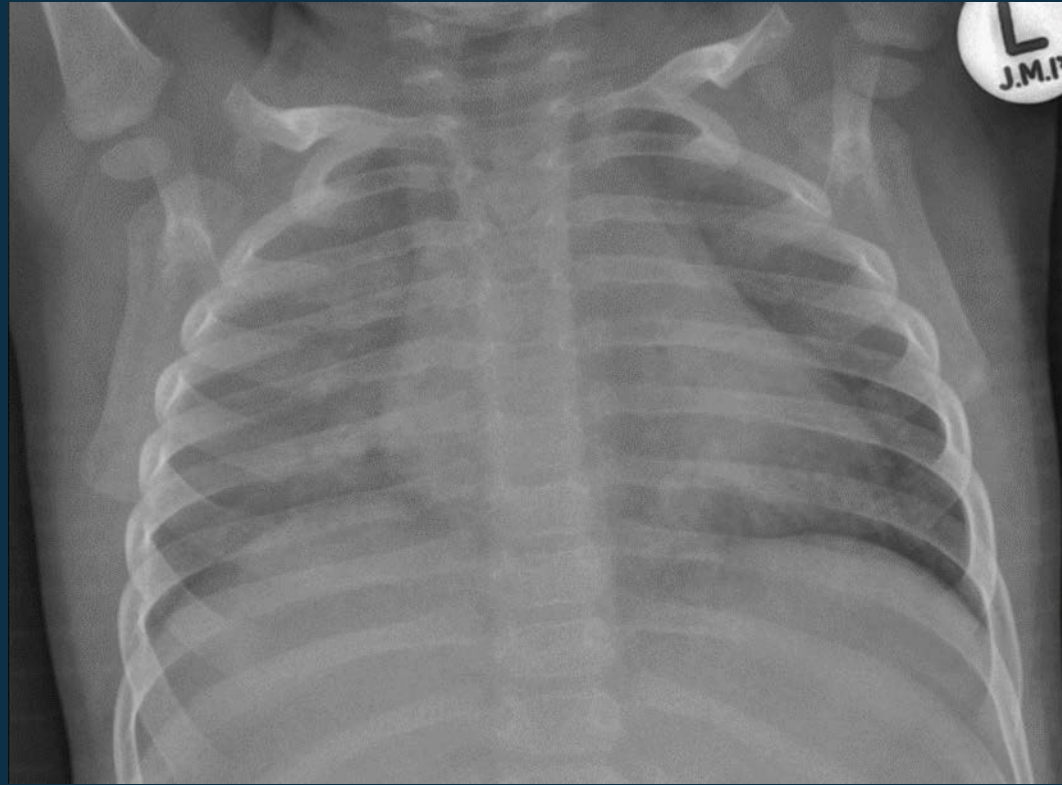
1. A normal inspiration view
2. An expiration view



# When you count less than 8 posterior ribs it is :

1. A normal inspiration view
2. An expiration view

- . Airways are difficult to see
- . Lungs are too white
- . Small lung volumes
- . Increased heart size
- . Buckling of the trachea

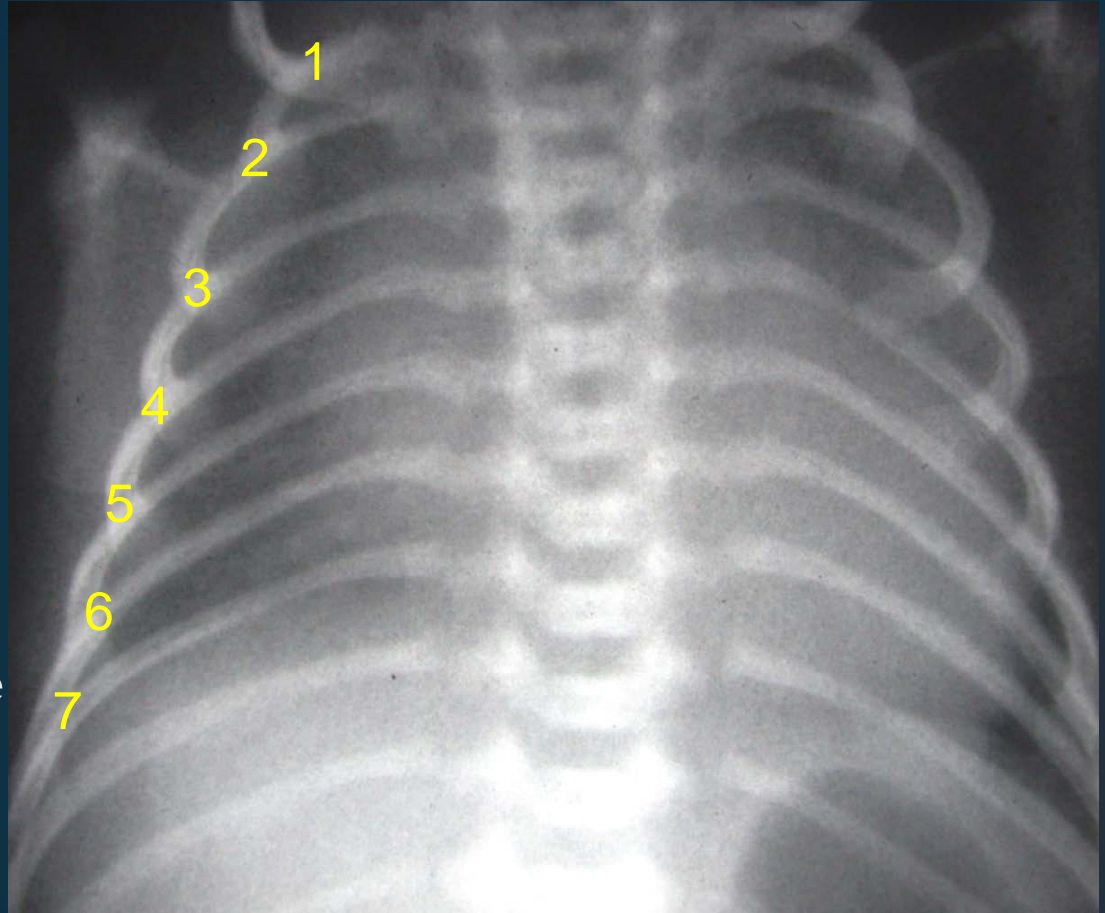




# Is the CXR readable or not ?

**Not readable** : expiratory radiograph

- . The lungs appear small in volume and hazy in density
- . No air is visible in the tracheobronchial tree

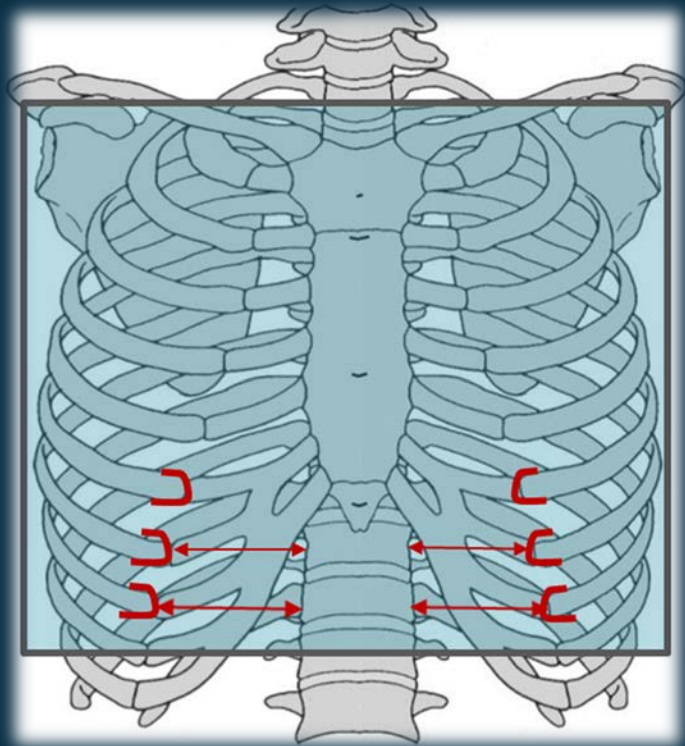


# On a child's CXR you check the absence of rotation by

1. Posterior rib ends
2. Anterior rib ends
3. Clavicle ends

# On a child's CXR you check the absence of rotation by

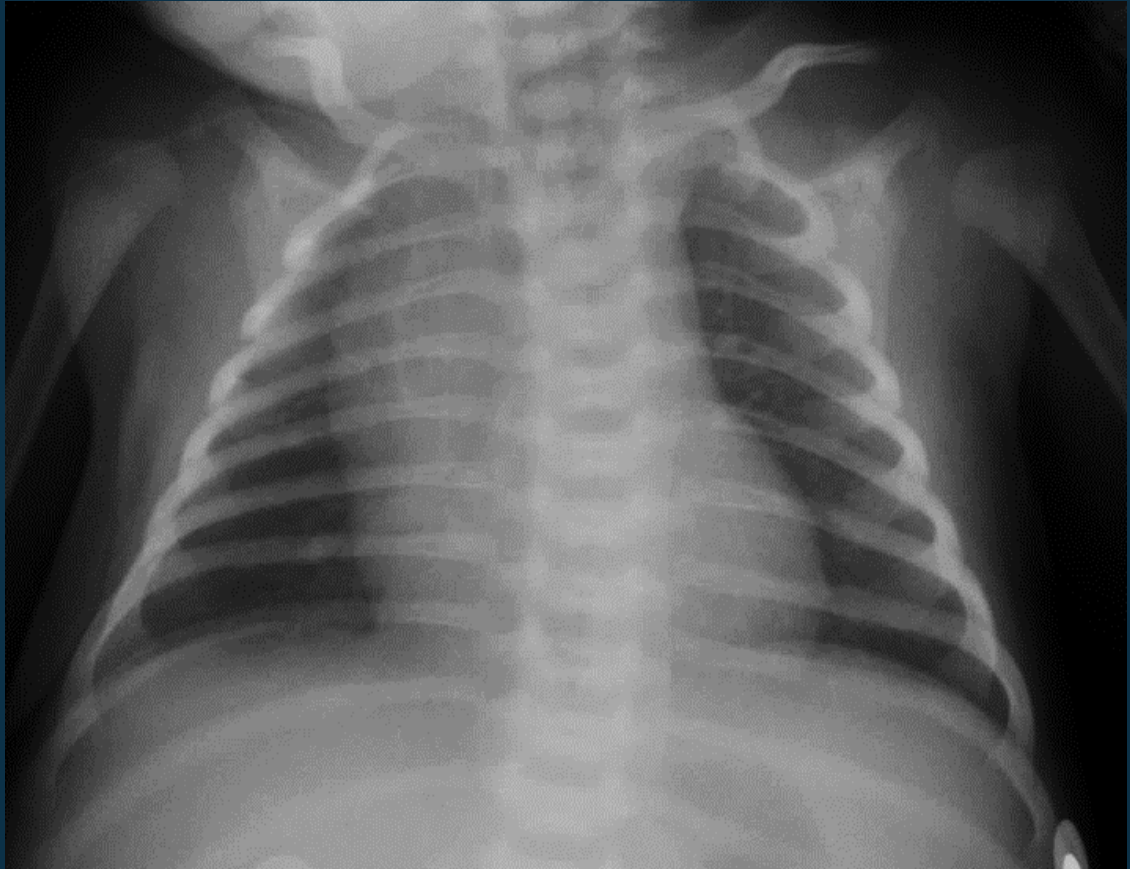
1. Posterior rib ends
2. Anterior rib ends
3. Clavicle ends



Proper CXR despite asymmetry of clavicles

# What is wrong with this child's CXR ?

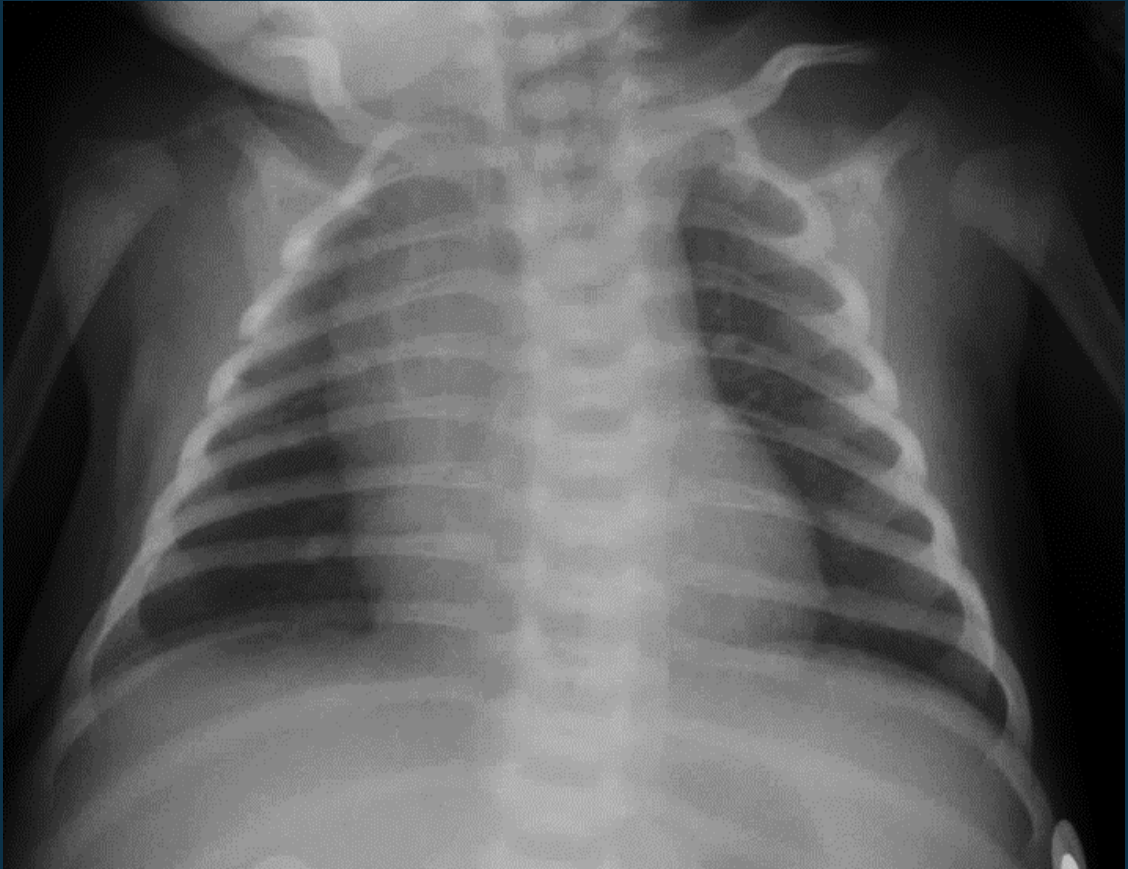
1. Rotated to the left
2. Rotated to the right



# What is wrong with this child's CXR ?

1. Rotated to the left
2. Rotated to the right

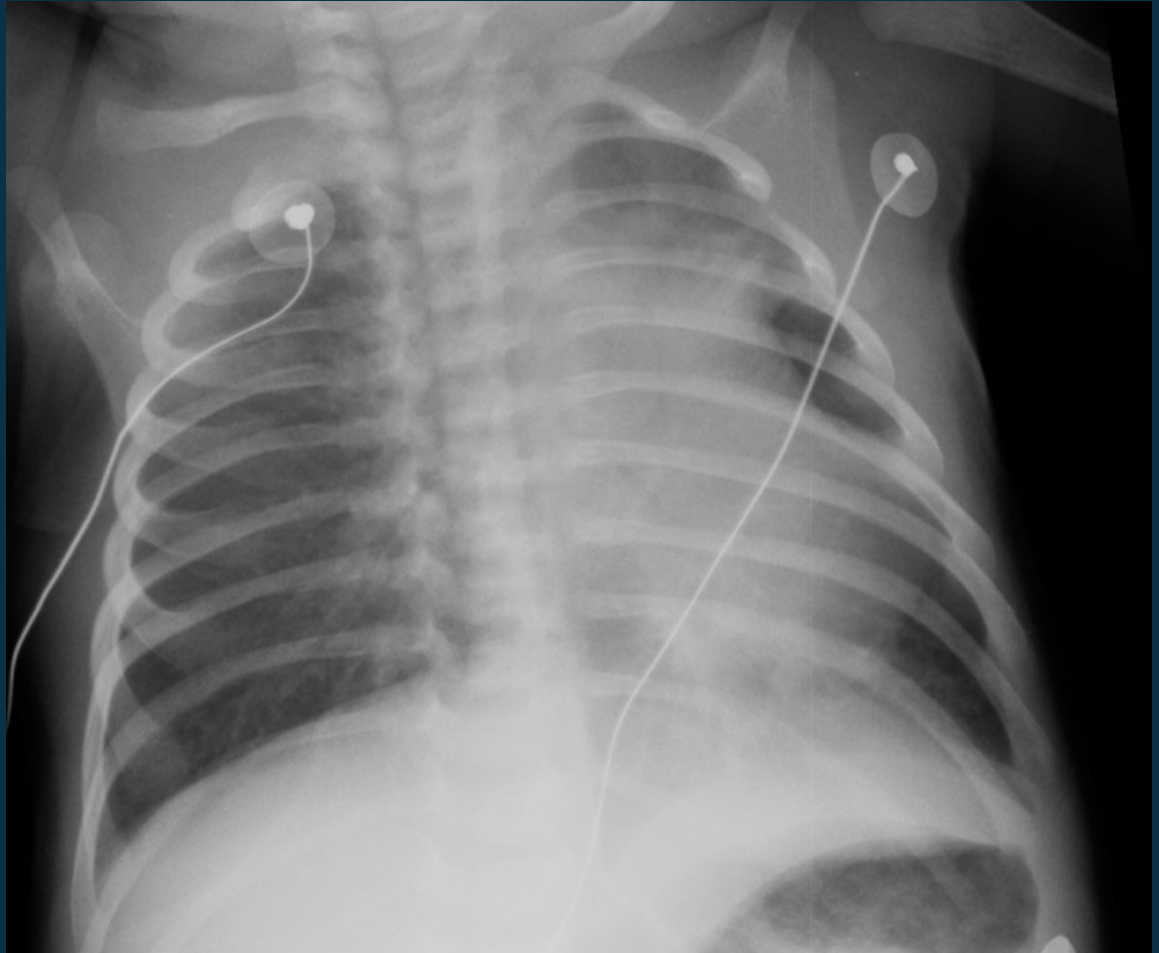
Rotation to the right  
makes the heart  
appear central





# What is wrong with this child's CXR ?

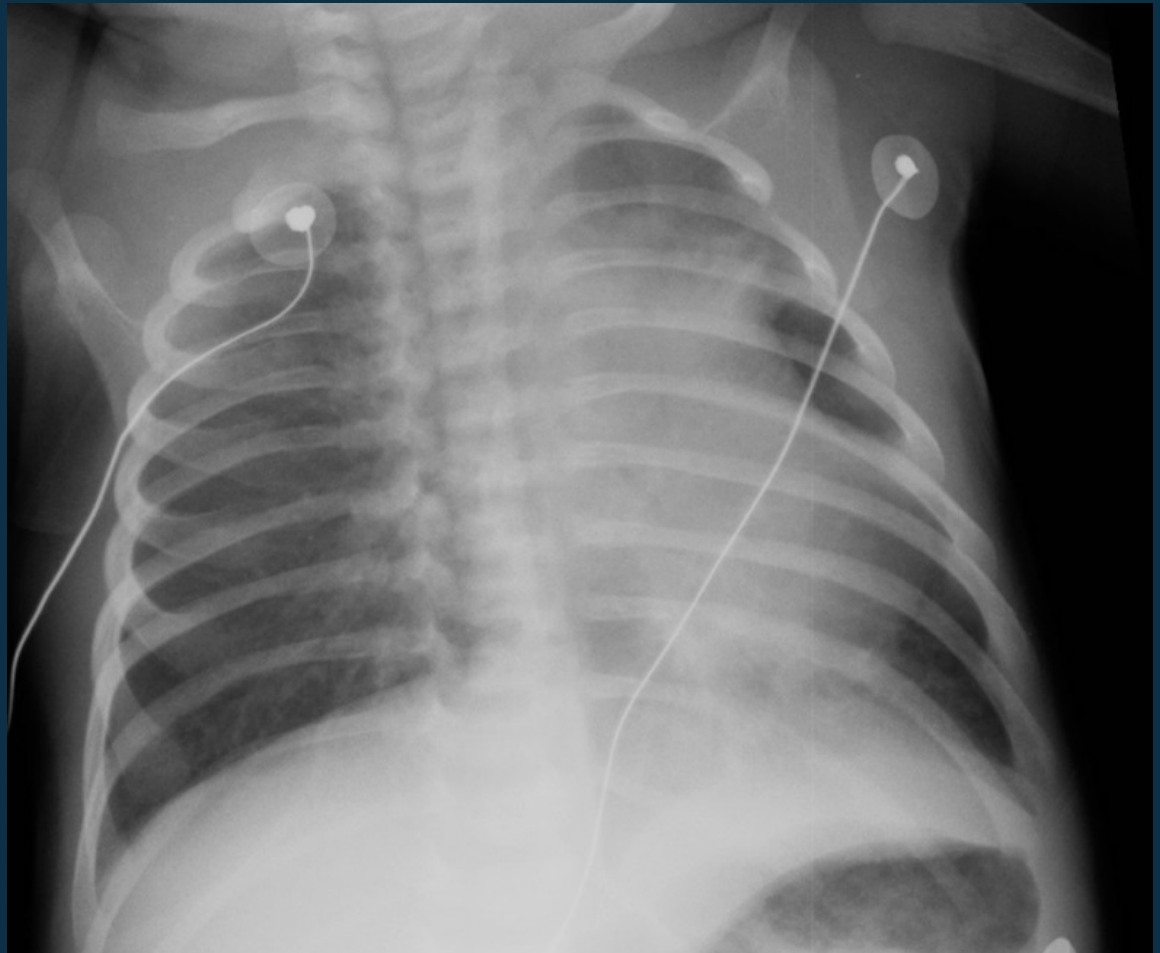
1. Rotated to the left
2. Rotated to the right



# What is wrong with this child's CXR ?

1. Rotated to the left
2. Rotated to the right

Rotation to the left makes the heart look large and can make the right heart border disappear.

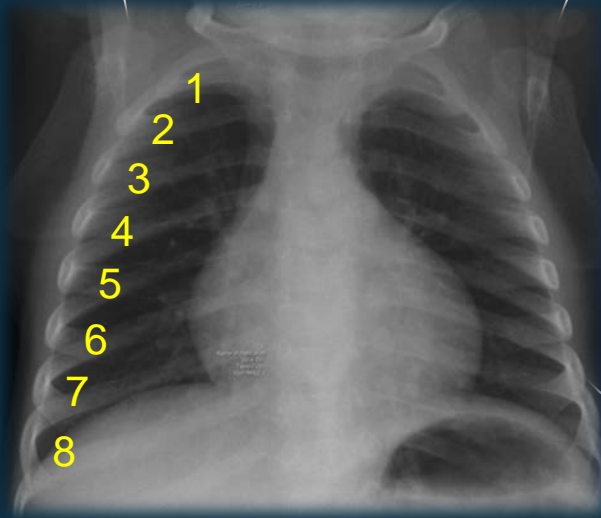




Is the CXR readable or not ?



# The technical quality factors will help you to decide if a CXR is readable or not



**Adequate inspiration**  
count 8 or 9 posterior ribs



**No rotation**  
Anterior rib ends equidistant from pedicles



**Good penetration**  
You can clearly see the trachea , bronchi , diaphragm, spinal structures

# Are both the AP and the lateral readable?

Yes

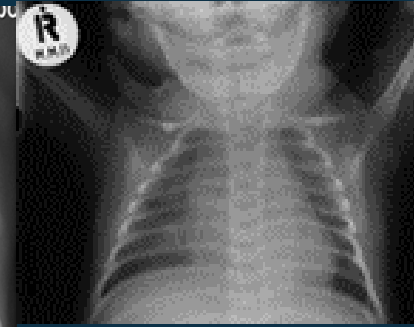
No, not readable : redo CXR



Yes: good quality



Poor inspiration



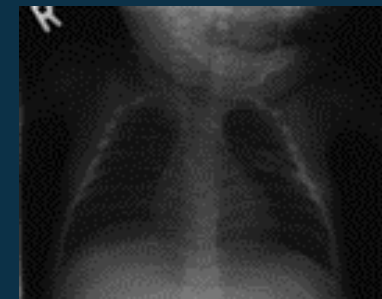
rotated right



rotated left



Underpenetration



Overpenetration

# Module 1 How to read a CXR

Chap1: Technical and anatomical aspects

## **Chap2: Systematic approach to CXR interpretation**

Part1. Quality factors

### **Part2. Normal CXR**

Part3. First circle

1. Soft part of the chest wall
2. Diaphragmatic areas
3. Bony Thorax abnormalities

Part4. Second circle

4. Lung
5. Pleura

Part5. Third circle

6. Airways
7. hili and Mediastinum
8. Lymph nodes
9. Heart

Part6. The hidden areas

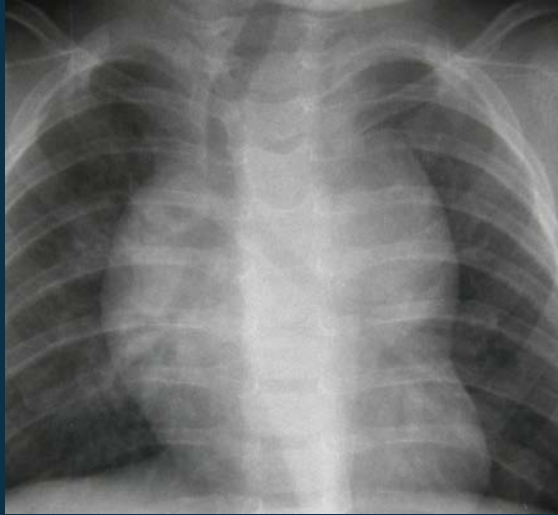
Part7. Conclusion



Is the CXR normal ?

# Normal CXR according to the age - AP

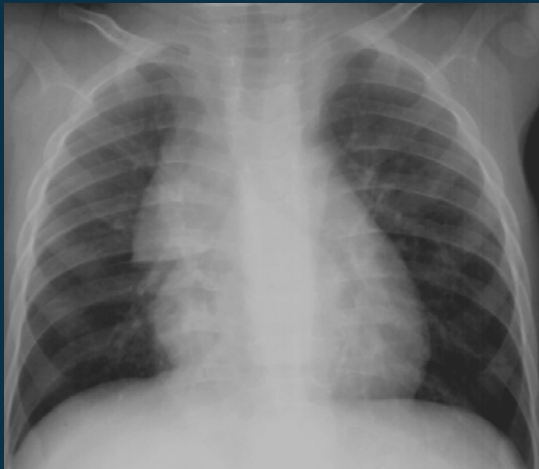
Few months years old



2 -3 years old years old



1 to 2 years old



4-5 years old



teenager

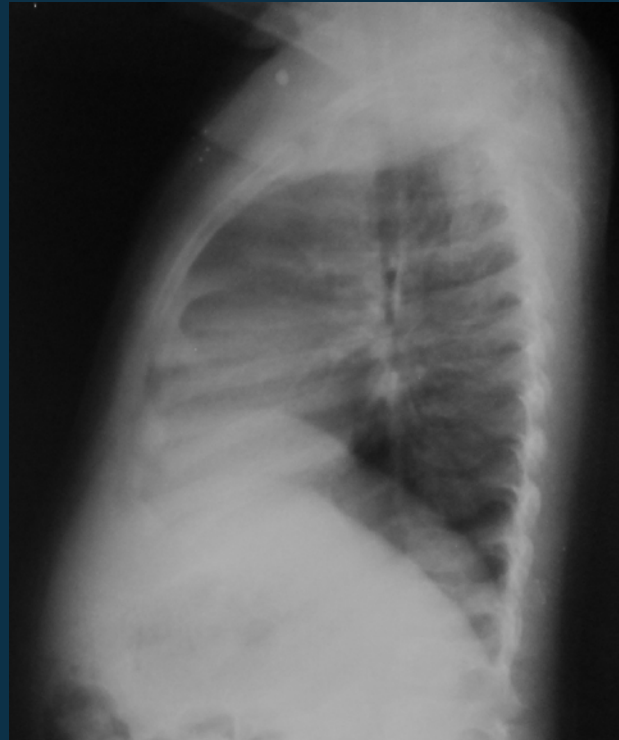


# Normal CXR according to the age - profil

Few months years old



2 -5 years od years old



teenager



1 to 2 years old



# Systematic approach to CXR – check list

1. Check the identification: name, date, supine or erect
2. Check the Clinical history and findings
3. Check the quality factors inspiration, rotation, penetration
4. **Assess:**
  - . 1st circle
  - . 2nd circle
  - . 3rd circle
  - . Hidden areas

## First Circle:

1. Soft tissue of the chest wall
2. Diaphragmatic areas
3. Bony thorax abnormalities

## Second Circle:

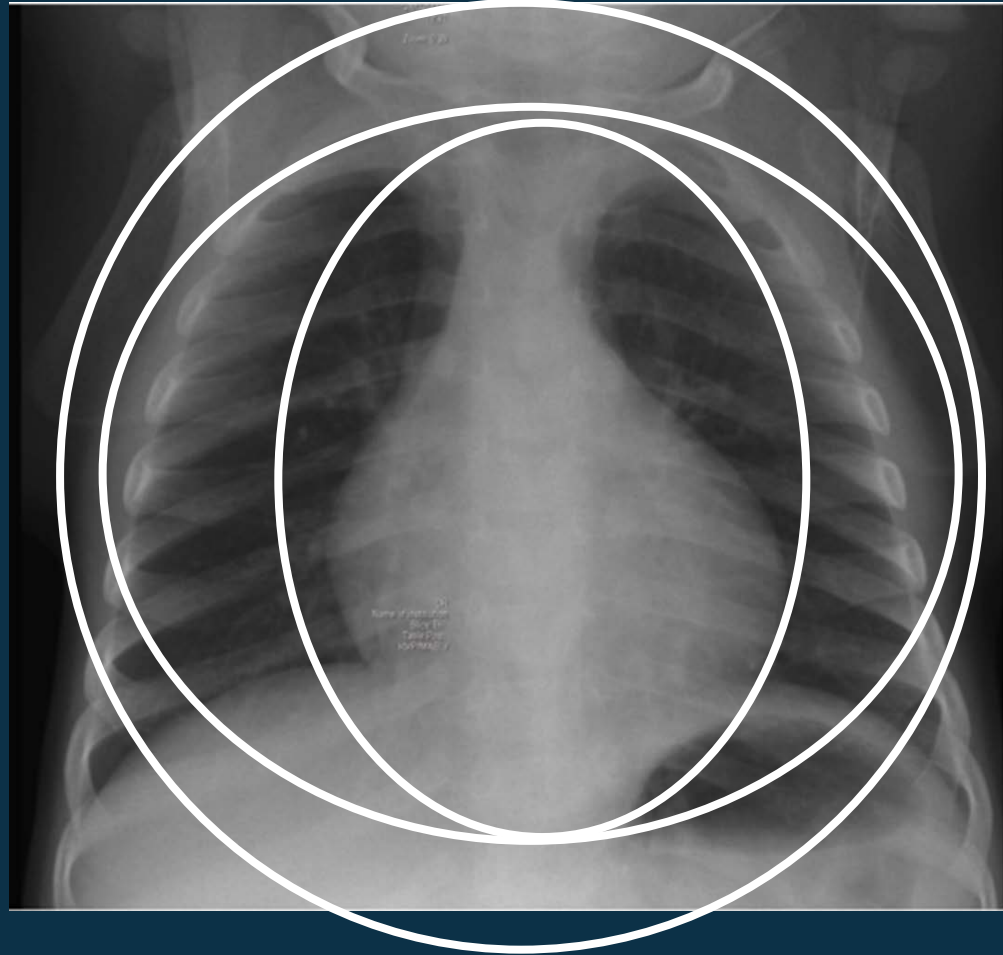
4. Lung
5. Pleura

## Third circle:

6. Airways
7. Hilar and mediastinum
8. Lymph nodes
9. Heart

## Hidden areas:

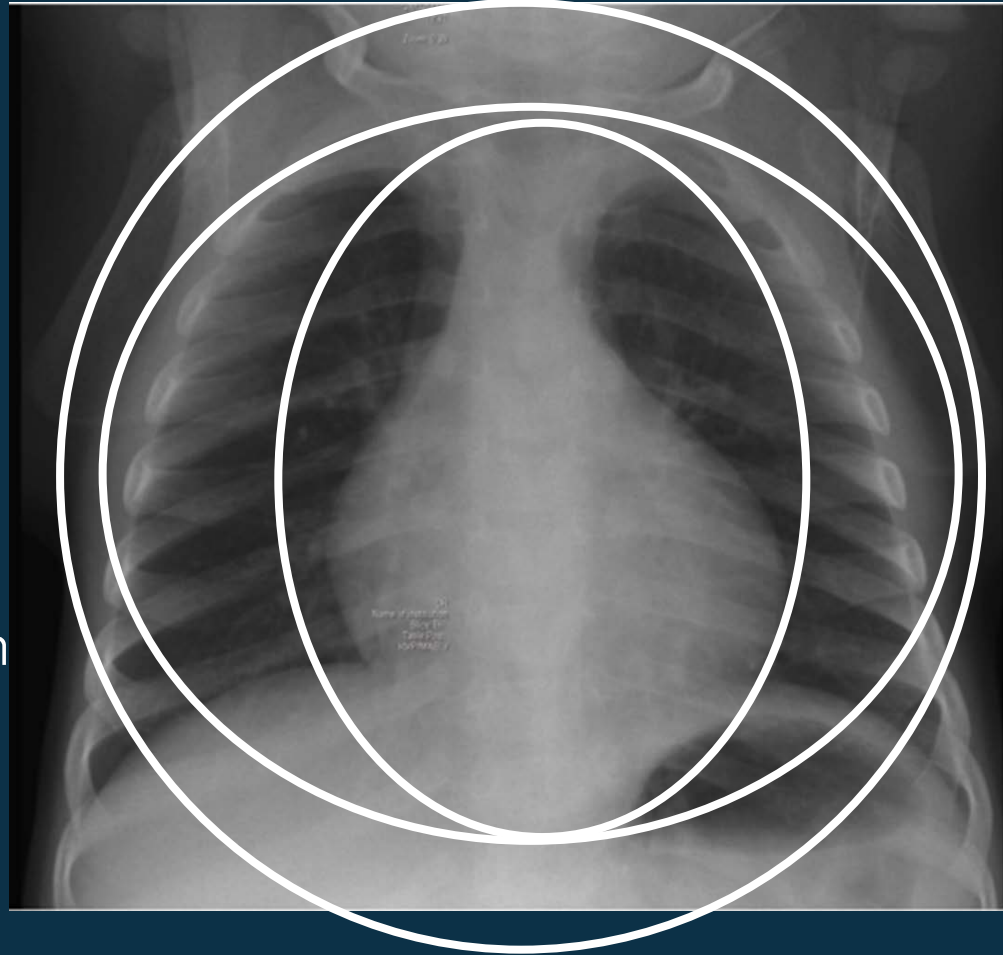
Worth a second look: apices, hilar regions, retrocardiac areas (left and right), below diaphragm





# In each circle look for the 6 CXR features that are suggestive of TB

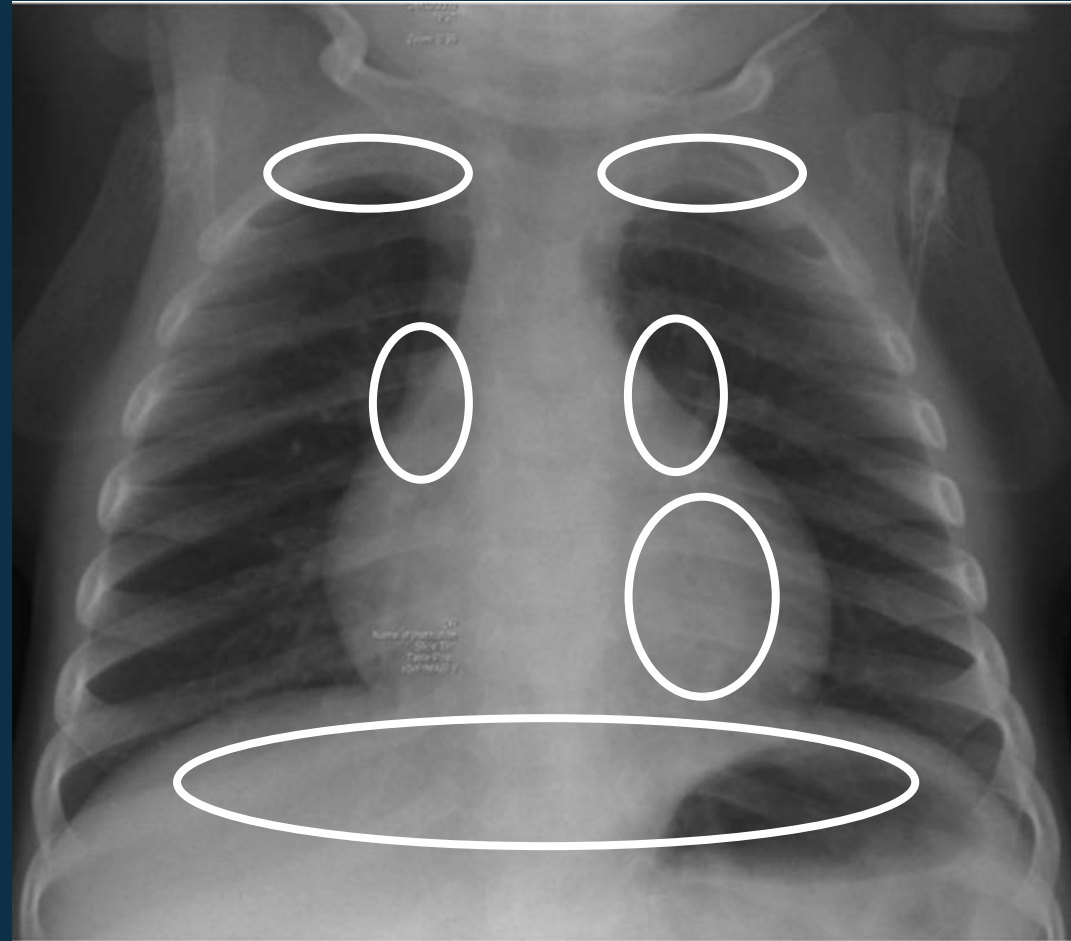
1. Enlarged lymph nodes  
(lateral view required)
2. Alveolar opacity in the lung
3. Airway compression
4. Cavitation
5. Pleural or Pericardial effusion
6. Miliary



# The hidden areas: worth a second look

There are some areas that need special attention, because pathology in these areas can easily be overlooked:

- . Apical zones
- . Hilar zones
- . Retro-cardiac zone
- . Sub-diaphragmatic zone



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### **Part3. First circle**

- 1. Soft part of the chest wall**
- 2. Diaphragmatic areas**
- 3. Bony Thorax abnormalities**

Part4. Second circle

4. Lung
5. Pleura

Part5. Third circle

6. Airways
7. hili and Mediastinum
8. Lymph nodes
9. Heart

Part6. The hidden areas

Part7. Conclusion



Now you are ready to test the systematic approach  
We will go through these 3 circles,  
step by step with a series of case studies

**Look for the 6 CXR features that are suggestive of TB**

# First Circle



1. Soft tissue of the chest wall
2. Diaphragmatic areas
3. Bony thorax abnormalities



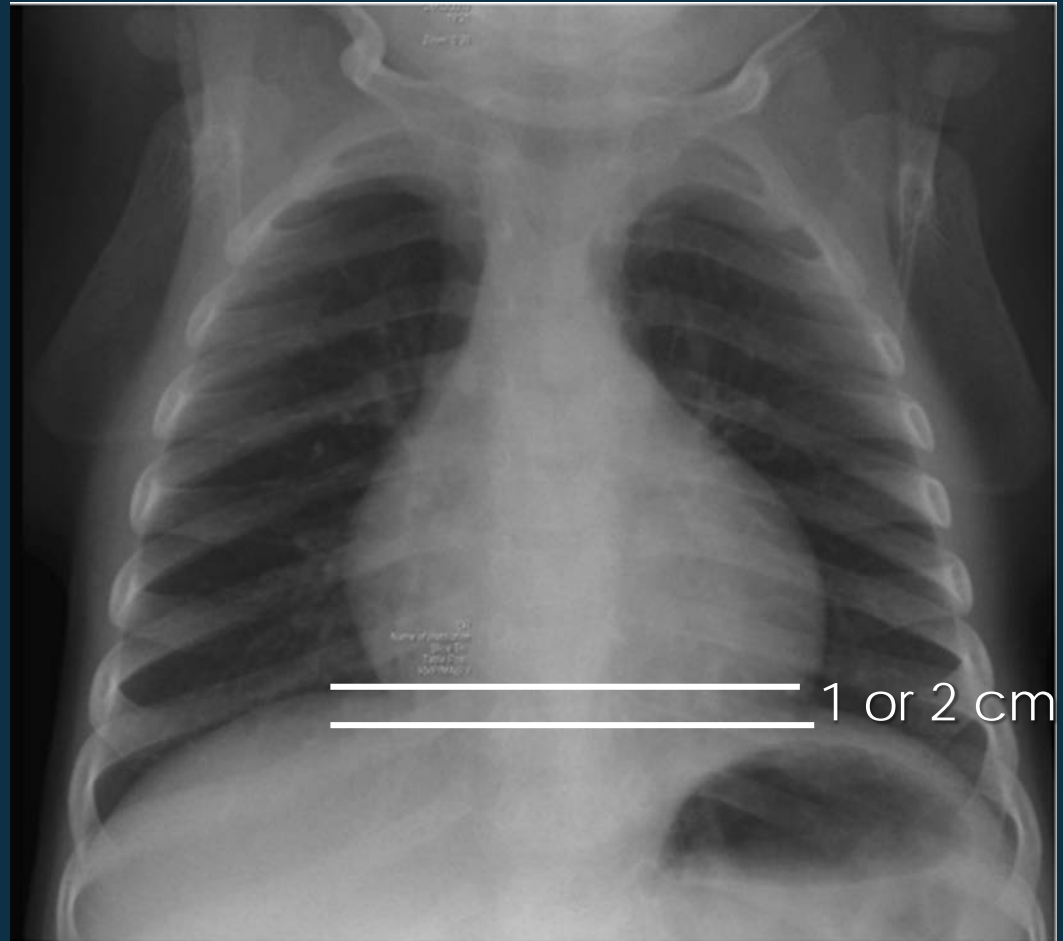
# Focus on the diaphragmatic areas

## Diaphragm : position

- . The hemidiaphragms have a slightly domed contour
- . The right side is higher than the left side (liver)

## Costophrenic angles

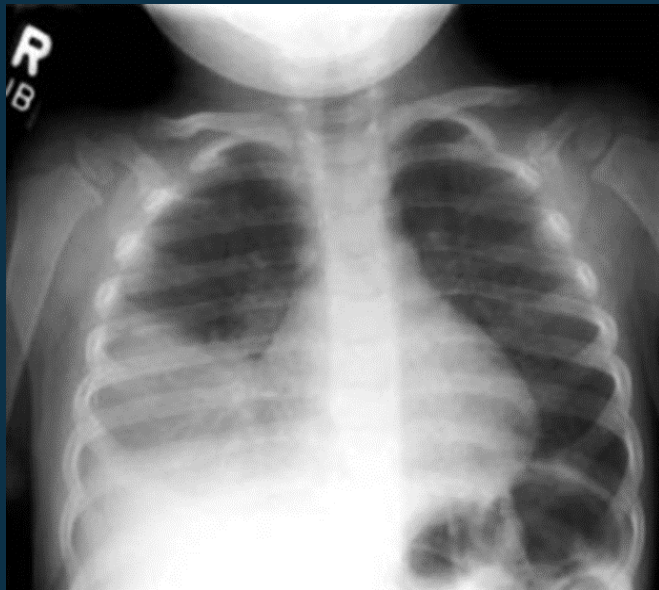
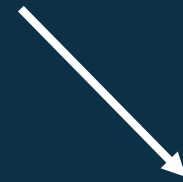
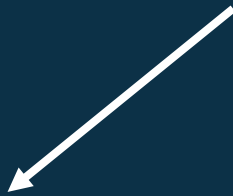
- . Fairly deep and sharply pointed



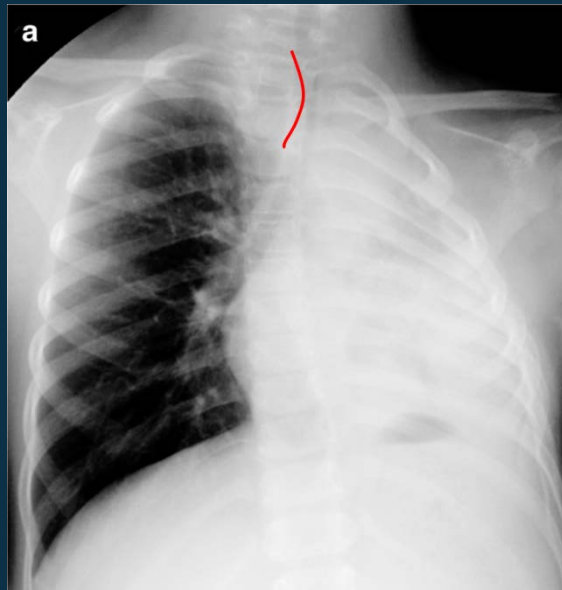
Check that the stomach bubble on the left is in the correct position

# What can change the appearance of the diaphragm ?

Opacities can obscure the diaphragm partially or completely



Alveolar opacity



Total lung opacity



Pleural opacity

# What do you see on this CXR ?

Is the CXR readable ?

. yes

Is there an abnormality on the CXR ?

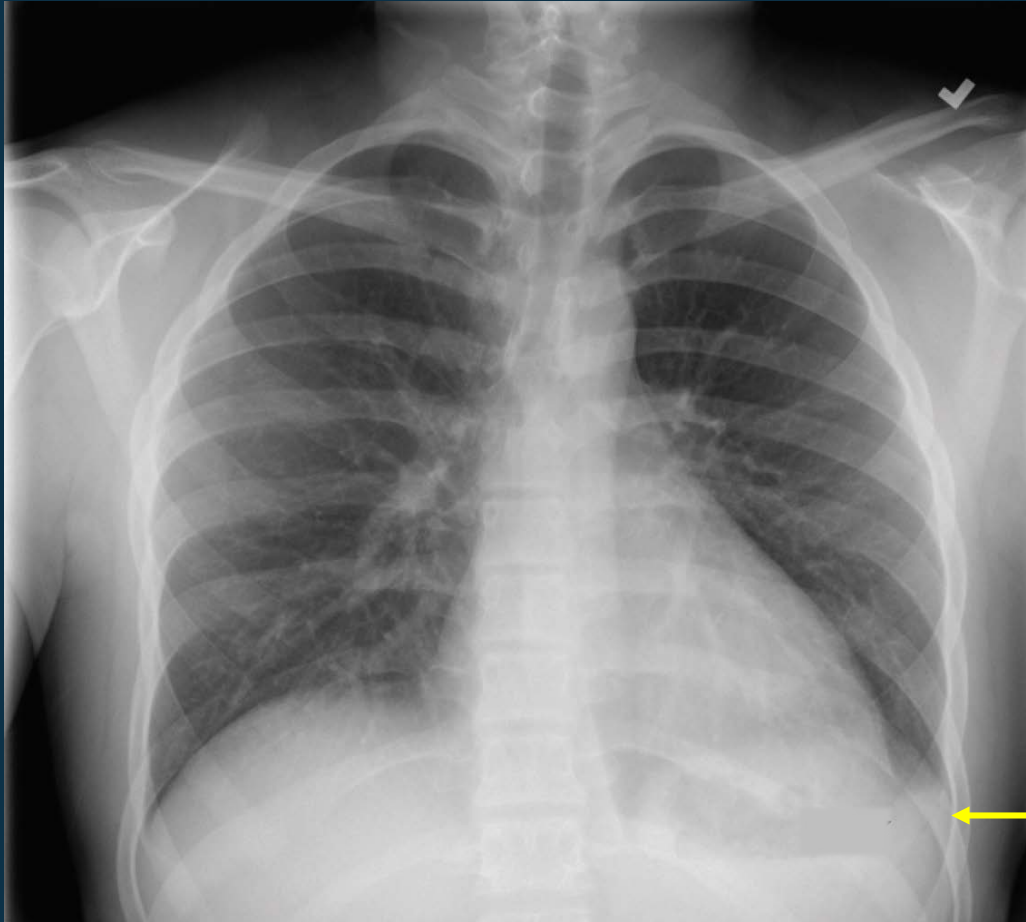
. Alveolar opacity of the right lung



**Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue**



# Shortness of breath



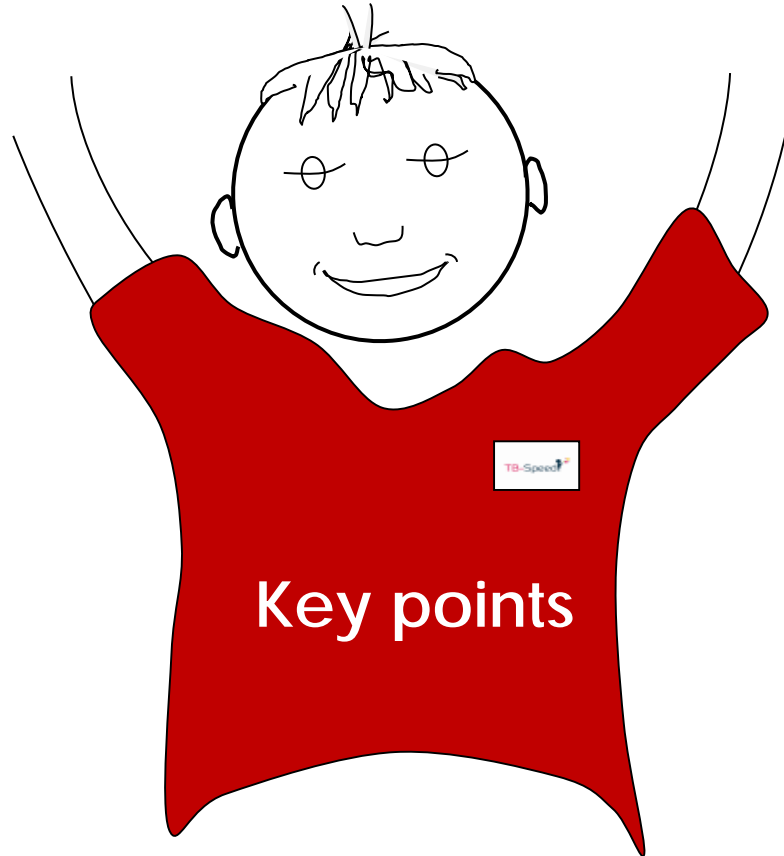
What do you see in this CHR ?

- Blunting of the costophrenic angle

What is your diagnosis ?

Frontal view small pleural effusion

## First circle



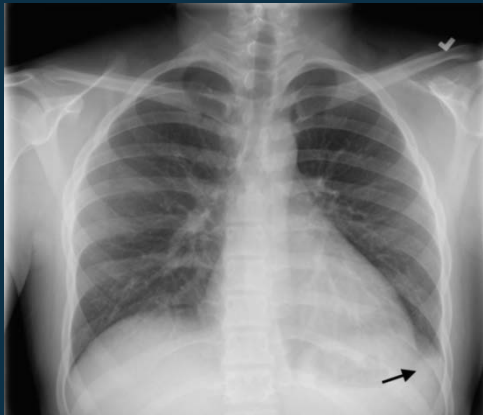
Assess the diaphragm and  
costophrenic angles

# Key points - First circle

Assess costophrenic angles



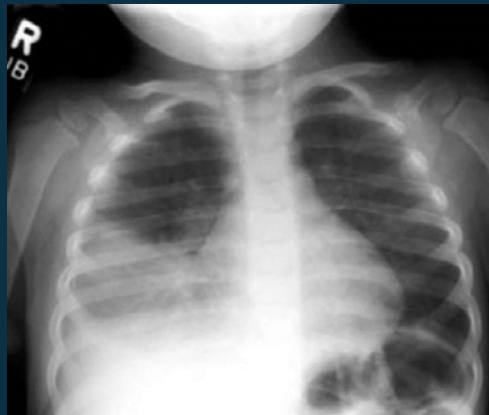
Are they blunted?



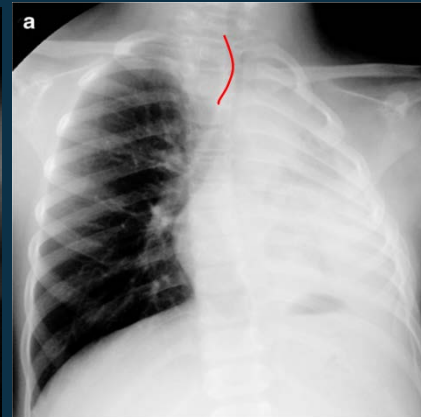
Look for opacities obscuring the diaphragm



Alveolar opacity



Lung opacity



Pleural opacity



Check diaphragmatic position:

- . Elevated?
- . Flattened?
- . Increased density over or under the diaphragm?

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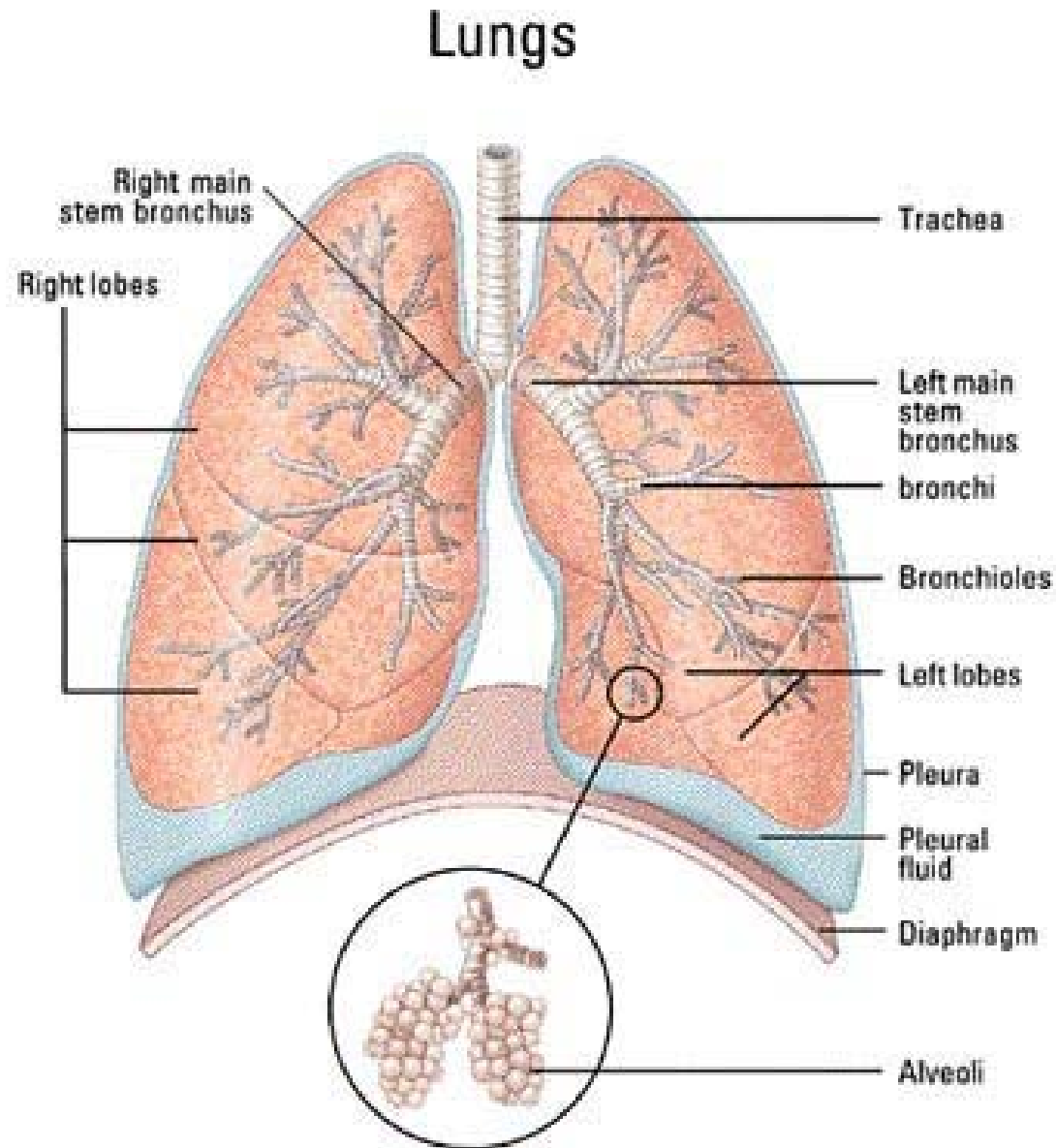
Part7. Conclusion

# Second Circle

- 4. Lungs hyperlucencies and opacities
- 5. Pleura

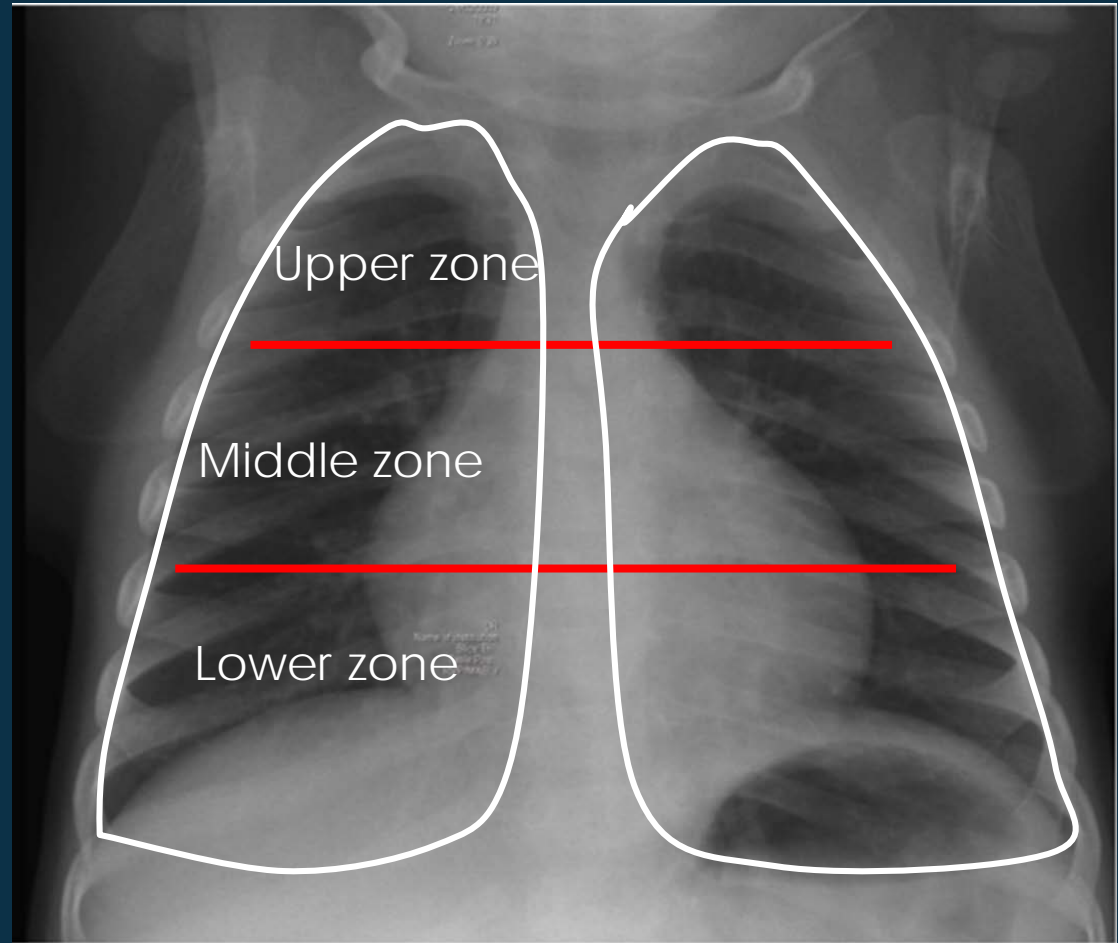


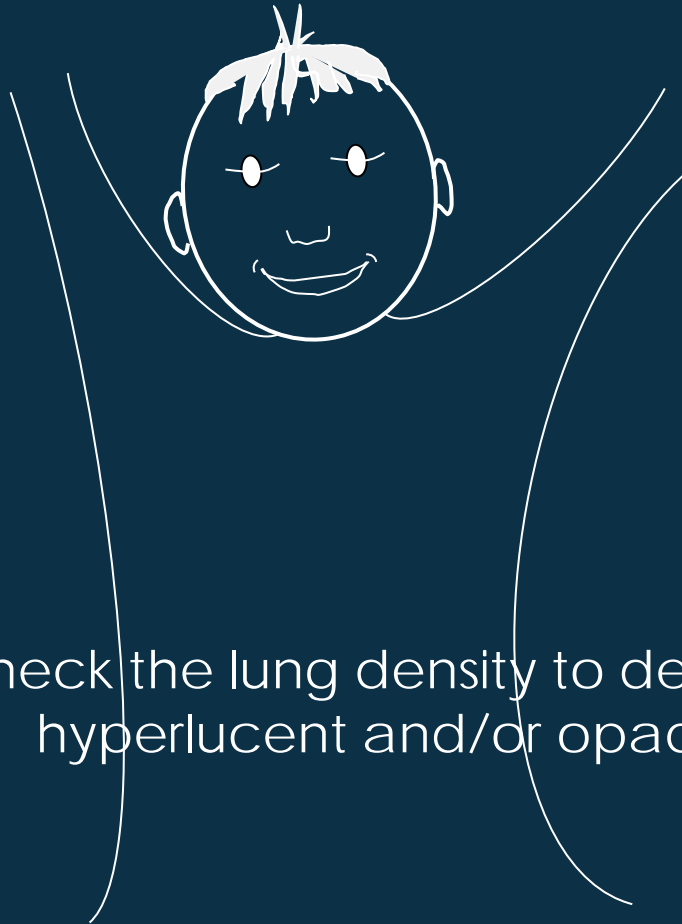
# Lung anatomy recap



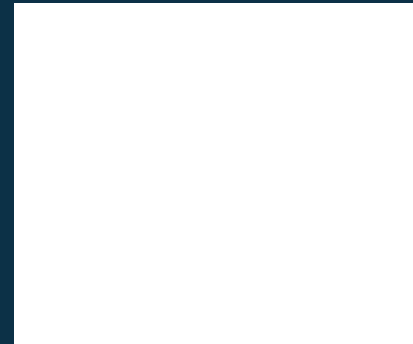
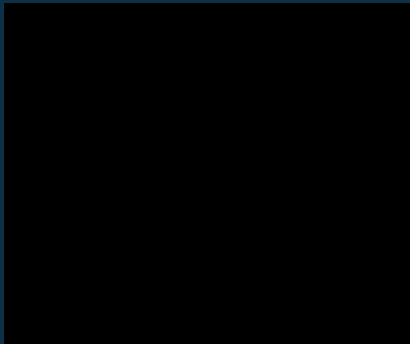
# Second circle: Lungs

1. Lung parenchyma and vasculature
2. Divide the lungs into 3 zones
3. Read from top to bottom
4. Look for areas of different lucency: whiter (=opacity) or blacker (=hyperlucency)
5. The lower zones reach below the diaphragm

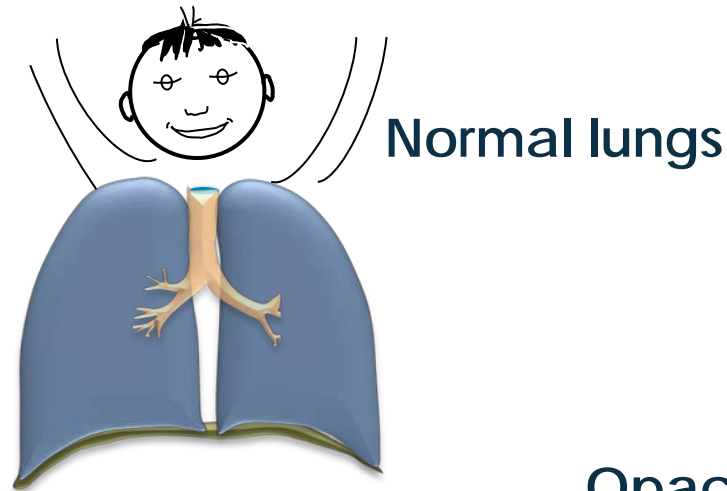




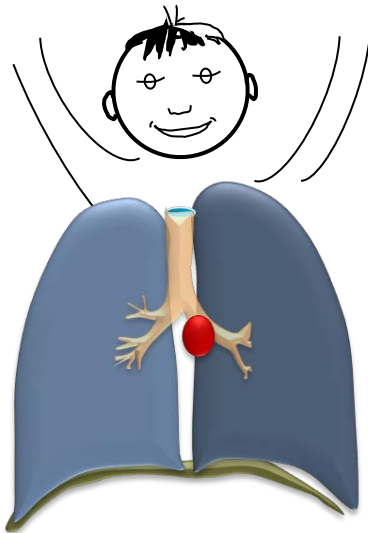
You will check the lung density to decide if normal,  
hyperlucent and/or opaque





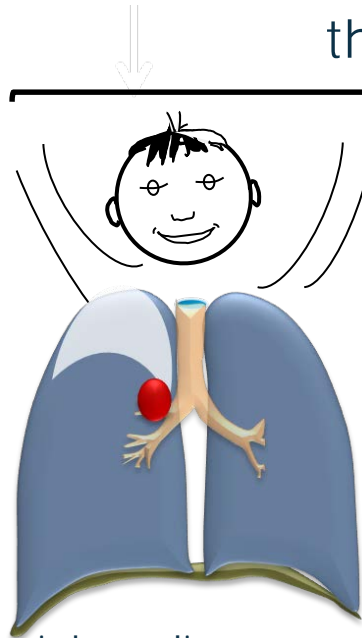


**Hyperlucencies**  
More air in the lung,  
the lung is **blacker**

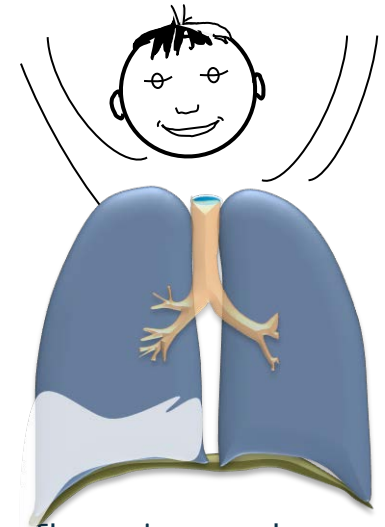


The air is trapped in the  
lung (partial airway  
compression)

**Opacities**  
Less air in the lung,  
the lung is **whiter**



The air has disappeared  
Part of the lung collapsed  
(complete airway compression)



The air can be  
replaced by fluid  
(infection or pleu.eff)



Normal lungs



## Hyperlucencies

More air in the lung,  
the lung is **black**er



The air is trapped in the  
lung (partial airway  
compression)

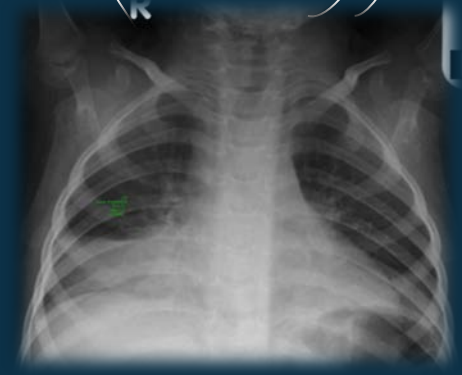


## Opacities

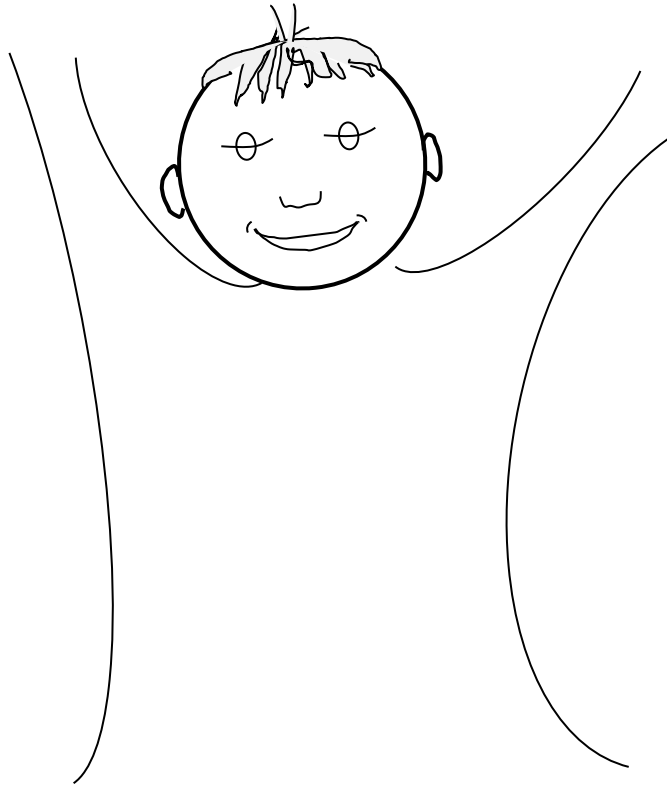
Less air in the lung,  
the lung is **whit**er



The air has disappeared  
Part of the lung collapsed  
(complete airway compression)

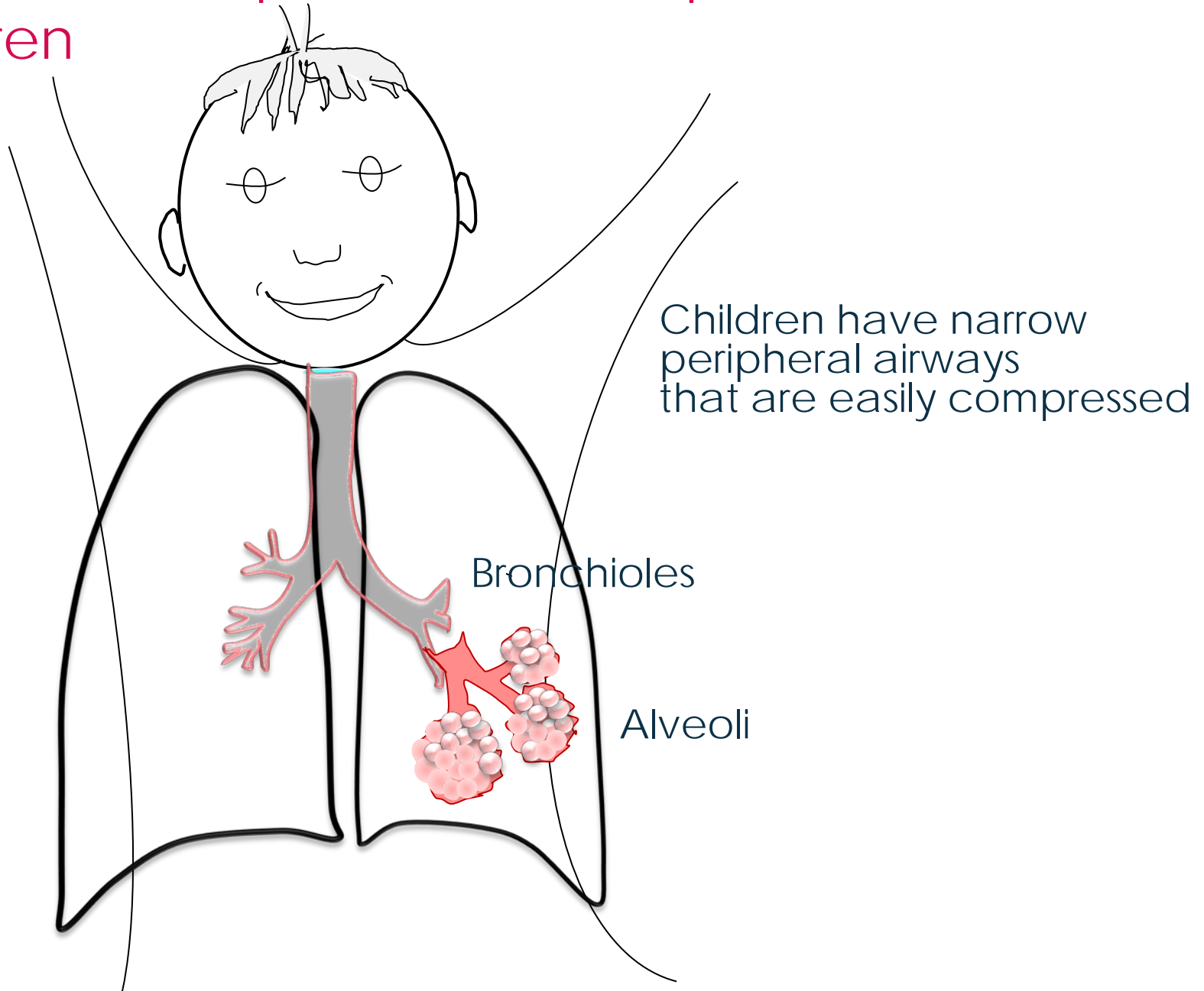


The air can be  
replaced by fluid  
(infection or pleu.eff)



Did you say airway compression ?  
You need to know more about the specifics  
of children's airways

# Anatomical aspects that are specific to infants and children



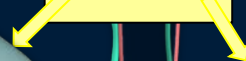
# Particular anatomical aspects in Infants and child

Lymphnode compression  
increased narrowing  
of peripheral airways



↑ Resistance to airflow

Either

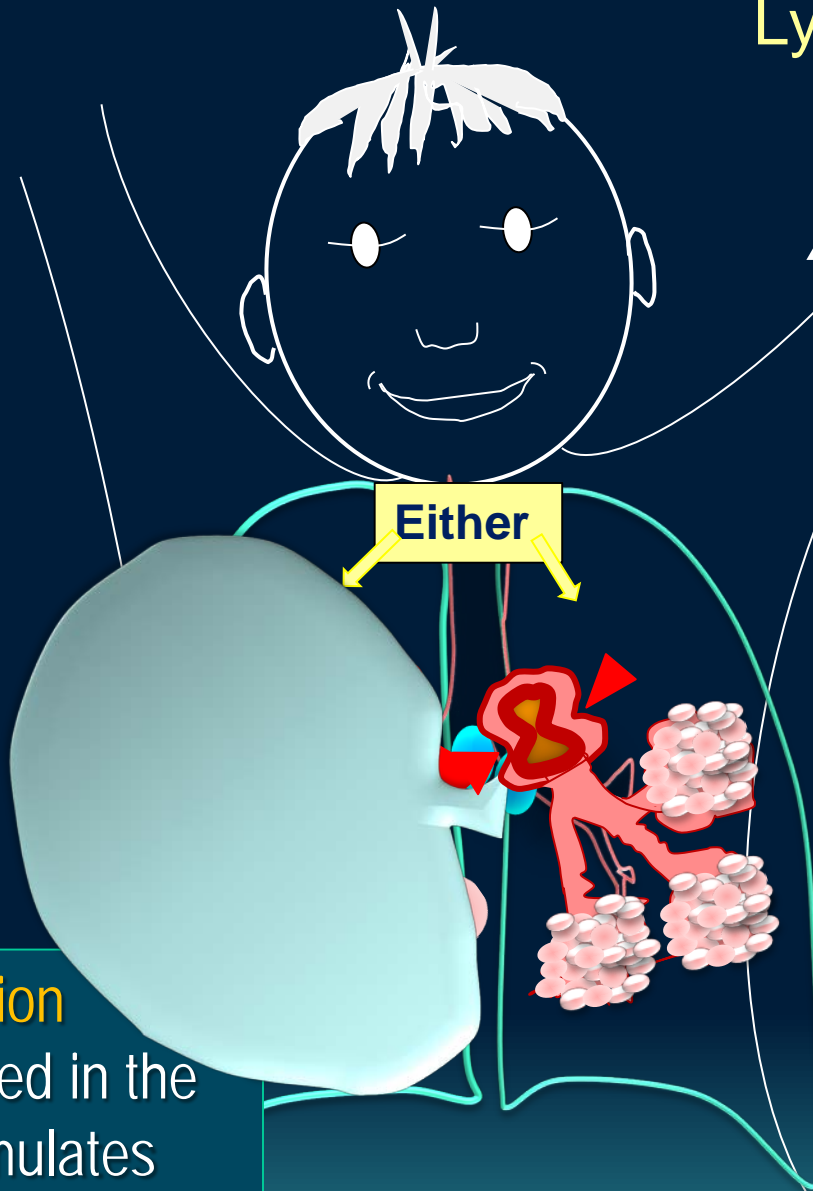


## Partial obstruction

The air is trapped in the lung and accumulates  
Check-valve -air trapping

## Complete obstruction

The air has disappeared  
Collapsed alveoli,  
loss of volume  
atelectasis



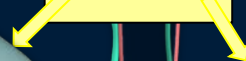
# Particular anatomical aspects in Infants and child

Lymphnode compression  
increased narrowing  
of peripheral airways



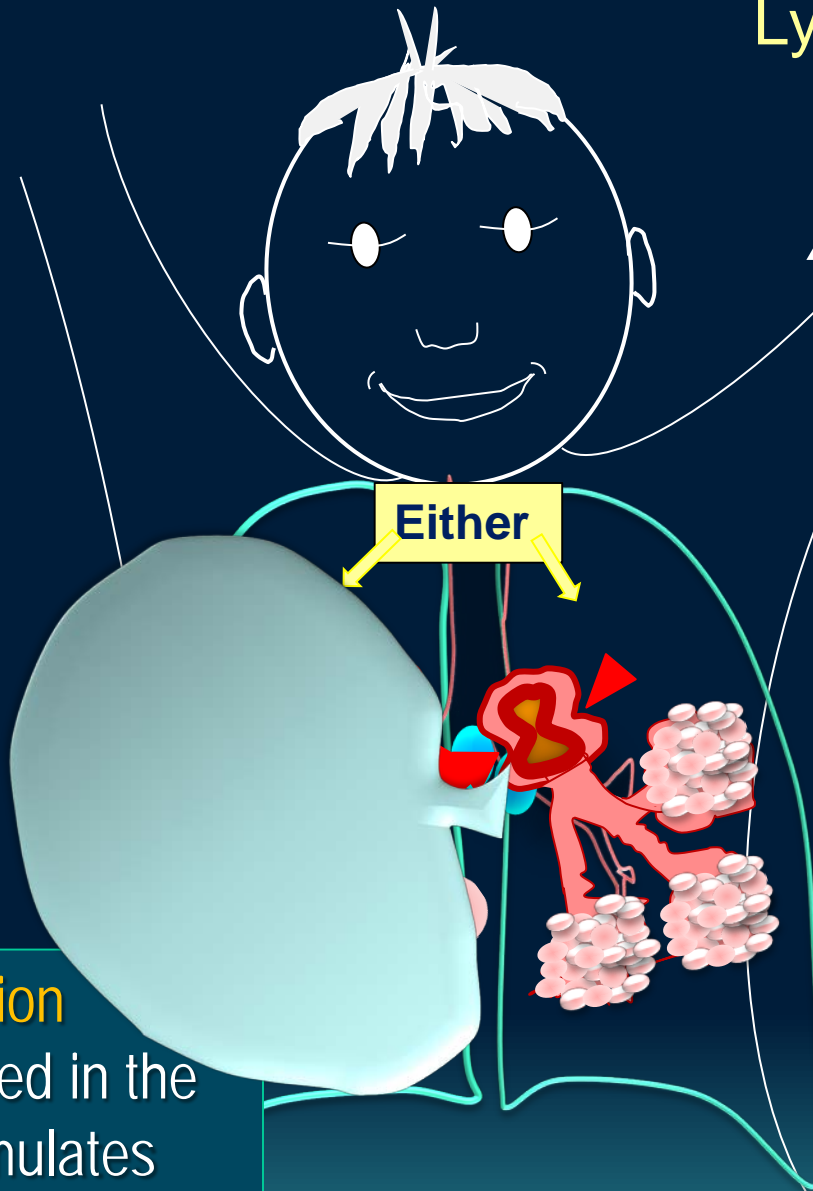
↑ Resistance to airflow

Either

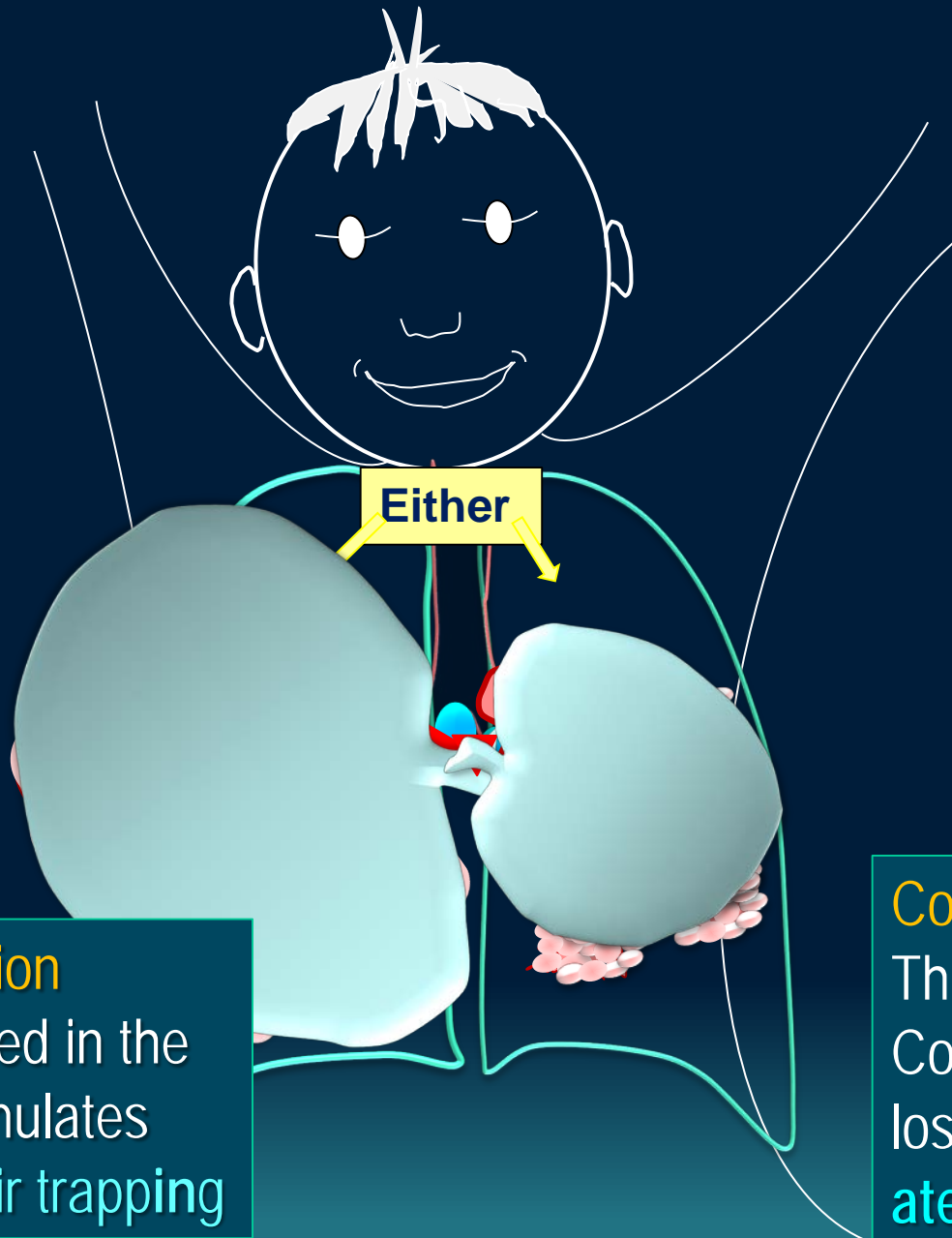


**Partial obstruction**  
The air is trapped in the  
lung and accumulates  
Check-valve -air trapping

**Complete obstruction**  
The air has disappeared  
Collapsed alveoli,  
loss of volume  
**atelectasis**



# Particular anatomical aspects in Infants and child



## Partial obstruction

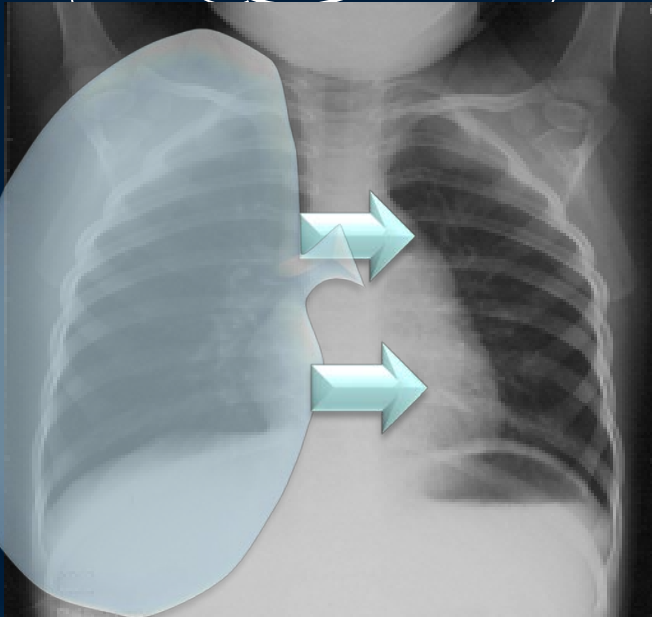
The air is trapped in the lung and accumulates  
Check-valve -air trapping

## Complete obstruction

The air has disappeared  
Collapsed alveoli,  
loss of volume  
atelectasis

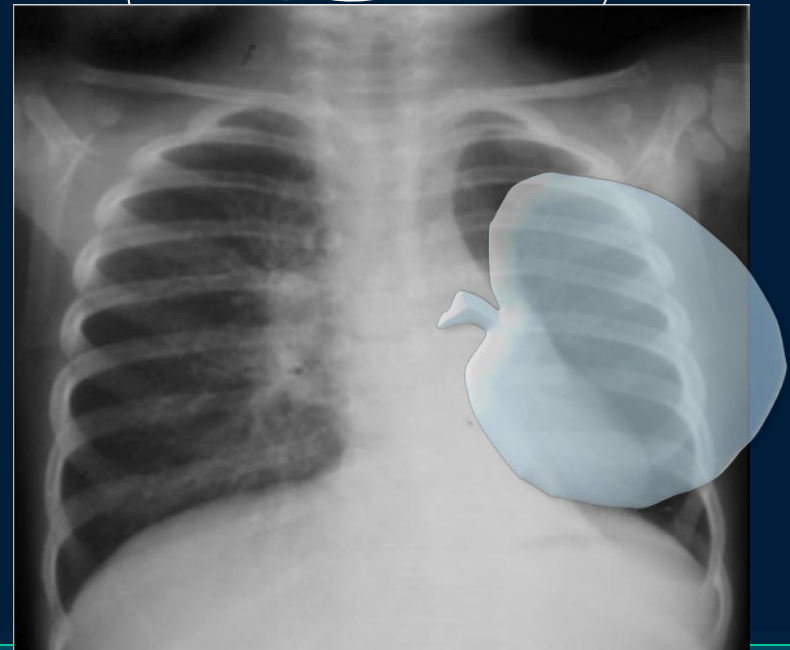
# Radiologically responsible for

HYPERLUCENCY  
Blacker



Partial obstruction  
Check-valve -air trapping  
With shift of surrounding structures

OPACITY  
Whiter

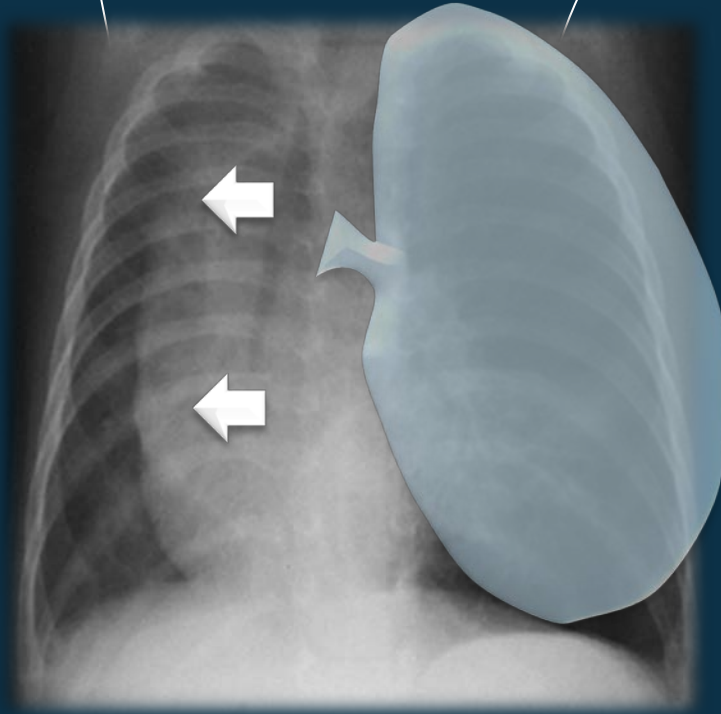


Complete obstruction  
loss of volume –atelectasis  
With attraction of surrounding structures



# Radiologically responsible for

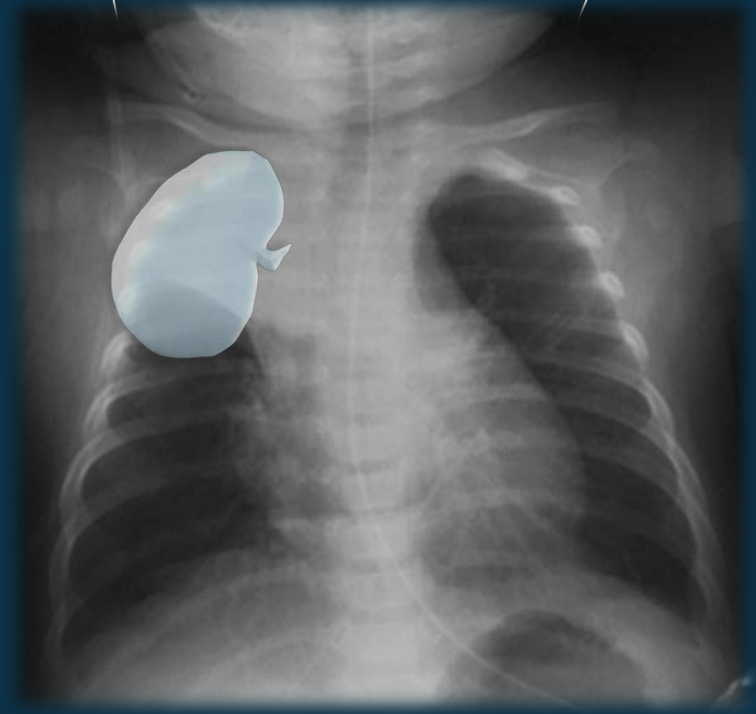
Hyperlucency: blacker



**Partial obstruction**

Check-valve / air trapping  
which PUSHES surrounding structures

Opacity: whiter



**Complete obstruction**

Alveolar collapse with loss of volume  
(atelectasis) which PULLS surrounding  
structures

# Hyperlucencies

**More air in the lung : the lung is blacker**

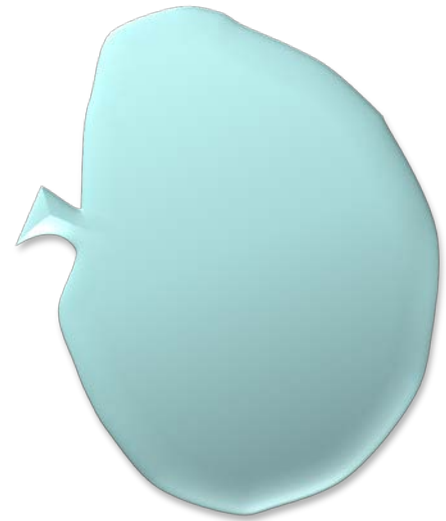
Can create asymmetry between right and left lung

Mainly due to partial airway obstruction leading to air trapping and retention of excess of air in all or part of the lung

**Expiratory images are of a great help**

Most common aetiologies :

- . Lymph nodes as seen in TB
- . Foreign body aspiration (FBA)
- . Mediastinal masses



# Hyperlucencies

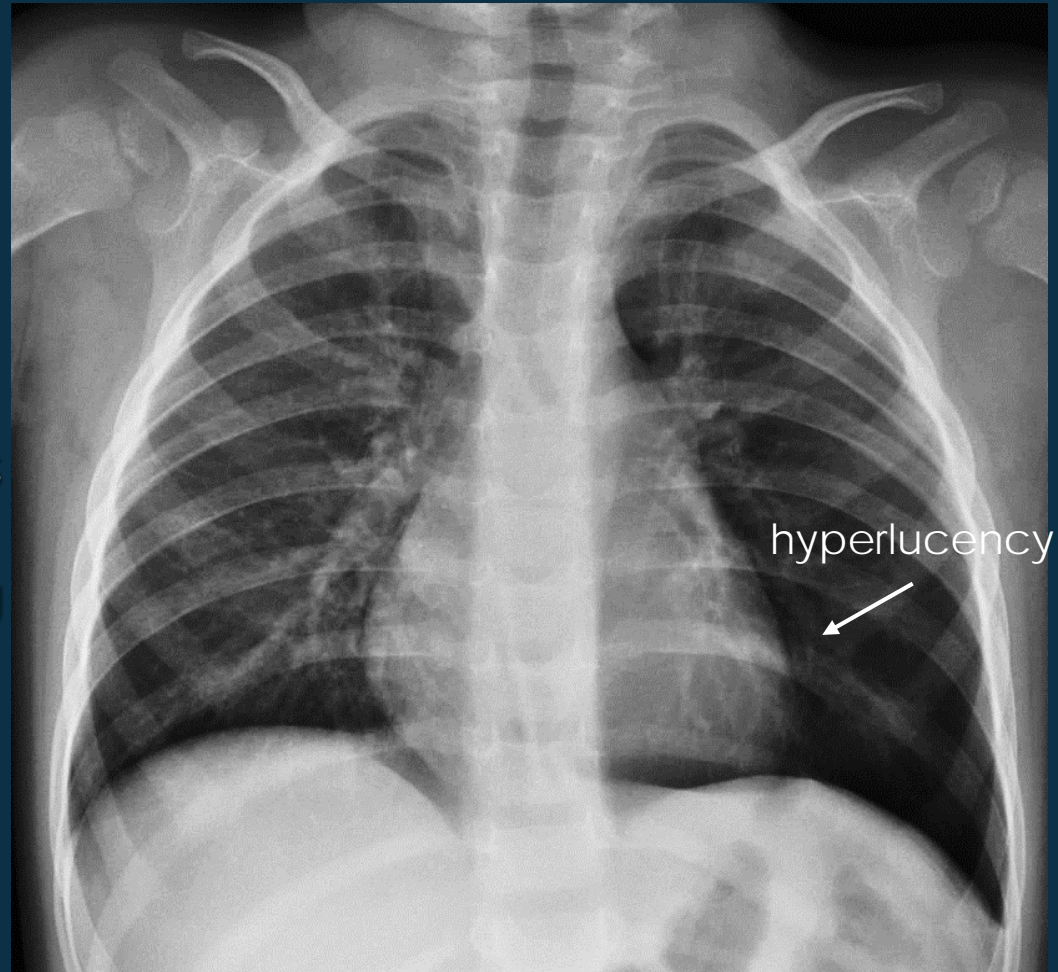
What do you see on this X-ray ?

- . Asymmetry in density :  
left hemithorax much  
more lucent

What is your diagnosis ?

- . Foreign body aspiration  
in the left main bronchus  
with air trapping and  
hyperinflation of left lung

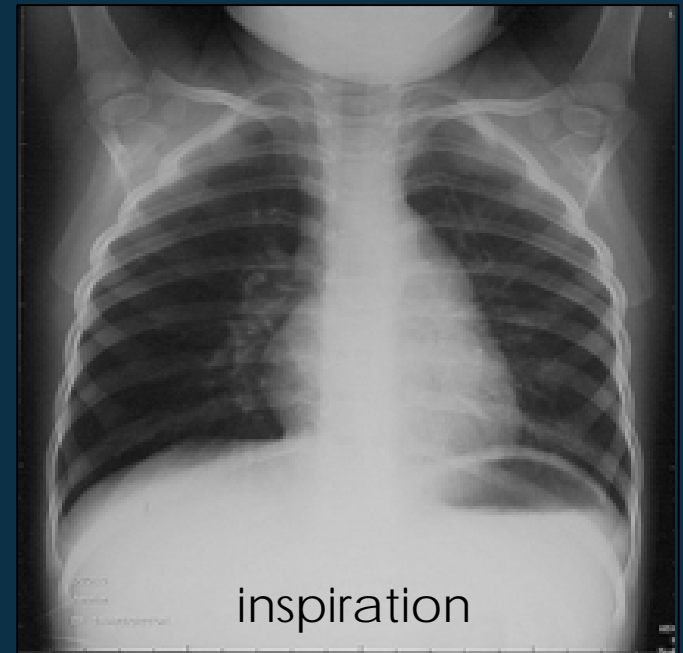
2 year old with acute  
respiratory distress



3-year-old child with cough and dyspnoea of sudden onset, and decreased breath sound on the right side

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . The air is trapped in expiration in the right lung with mediastinal shift towards the normal contralateral side :  
Foreign body in the right main bronchus

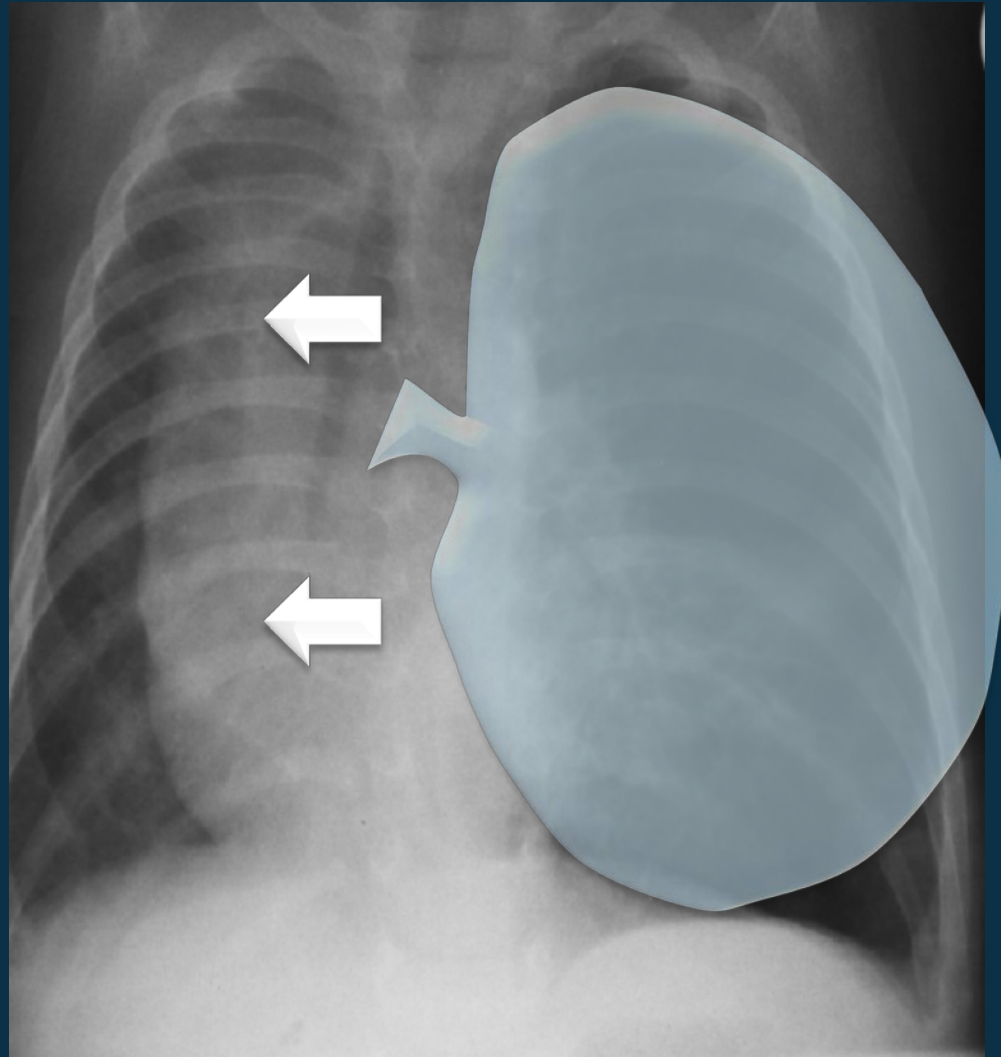


What do you see on this X-ray ?

- . Unilateral hyperlucency
- . Left main bronchus partially obstructed
- . Mediastinal shift

What is your diagnosis ?

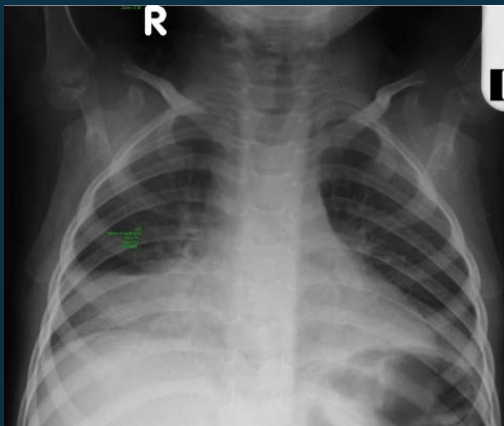
- . Complicated TB :  
Check valve  
(the main left bronchus  
is partially obstructed)



# Opacities

Less air in the lung : the lung is whiter

Main aetiologies: Alveolar opacities  
(involve the alveolar air space)

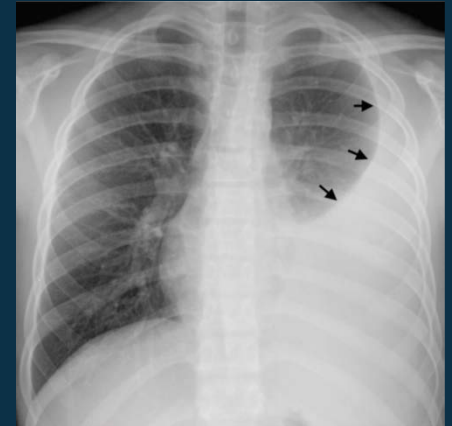


Consolidation:  
the air in the alveoli  
is replaced by fluid  
(infection)



Atelectasis:  
the air has disappeared and  
part of the lung is collapsed /  
alveolar collapse  
(complete airway obstruction )

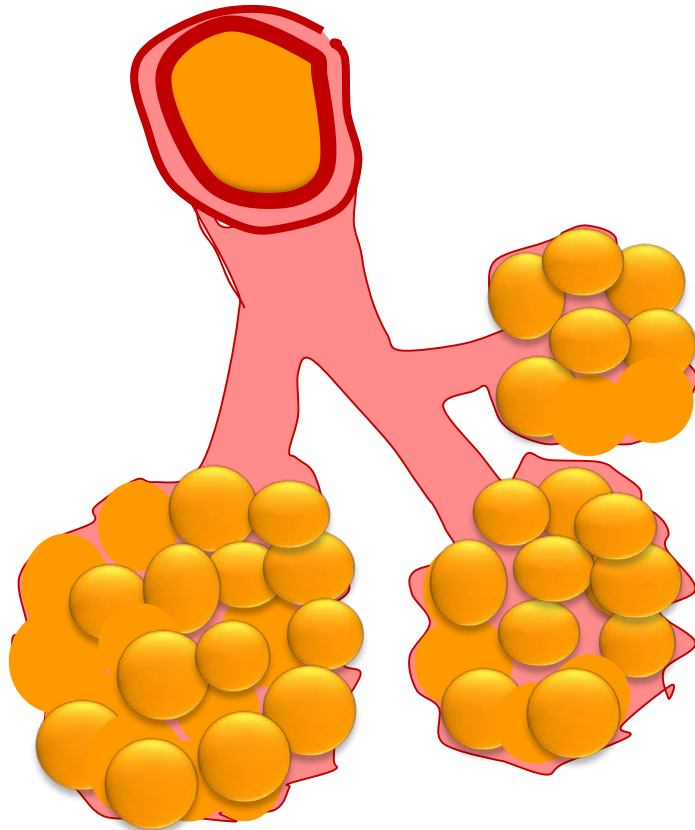
Pleural opacities



Pleural effusion:  
increase of fluid  
in the pleura

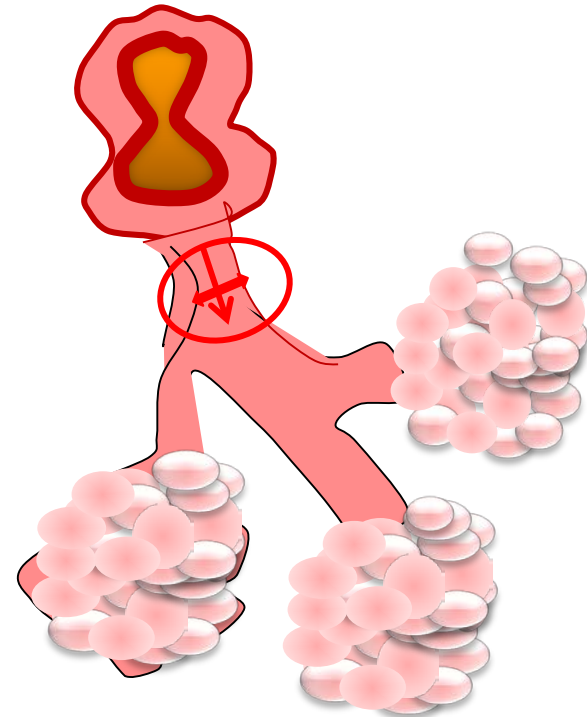


# Alveolar opacities: involve alveolar air space



**1. Consolidation**

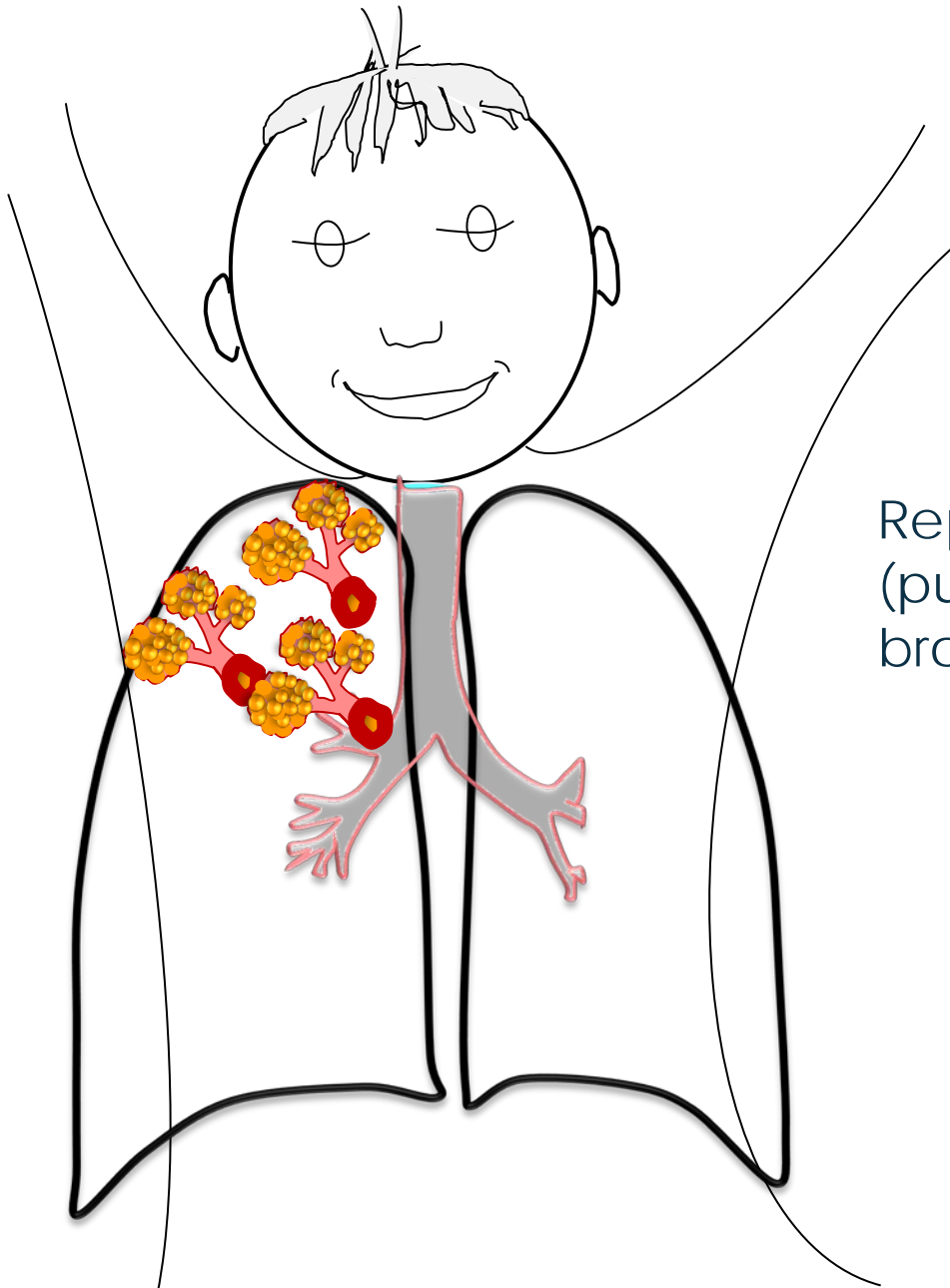
The air is replaced by fluid  
(infection such as pneumonia)



**2. Air space collapse /  
atelectasis**

The air has disappeared  
(alveolar collapse)

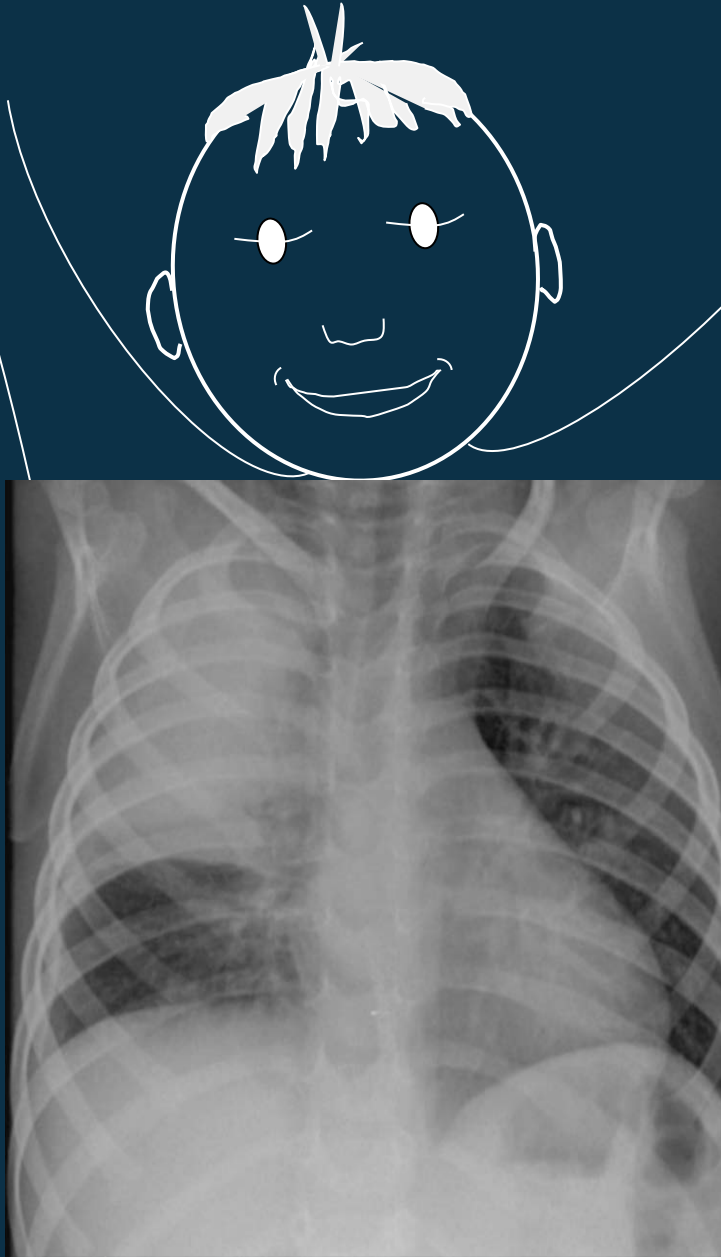
# Consolidation



Replacement of air by fluid (pus) in the smaller bronchi, bronchioles, and alveoli

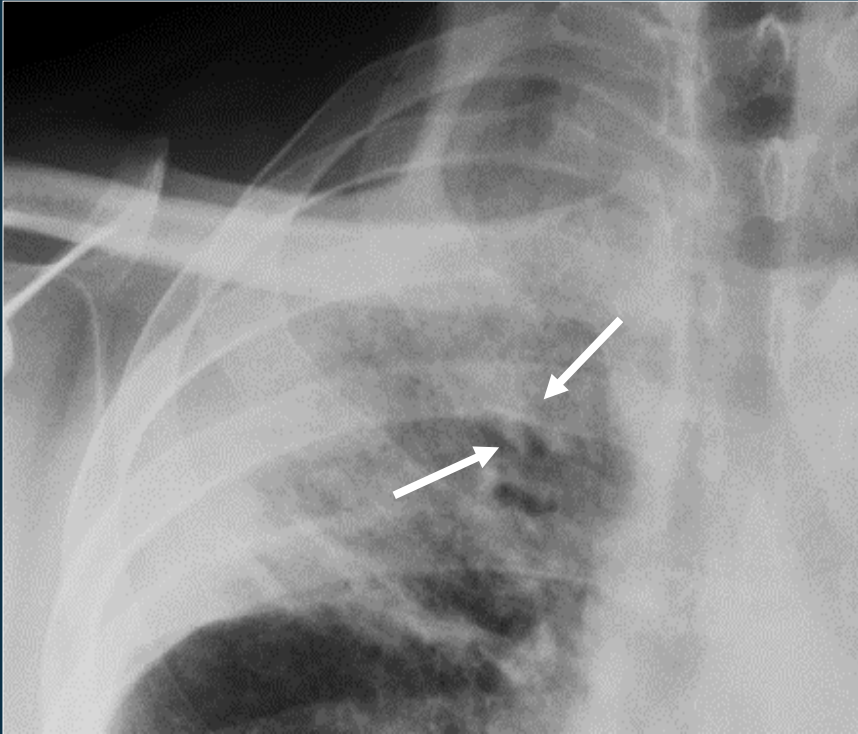


# Consolidation

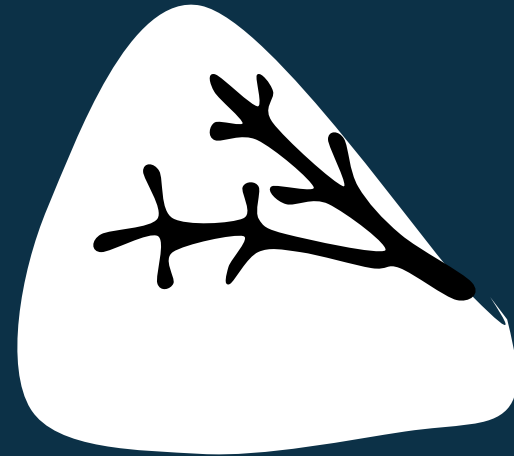


Replacement of air by fluid (pus) in the smaller bronchi, bronchioles, and alveoli is responsible for radiographic opacity

# Consolidation



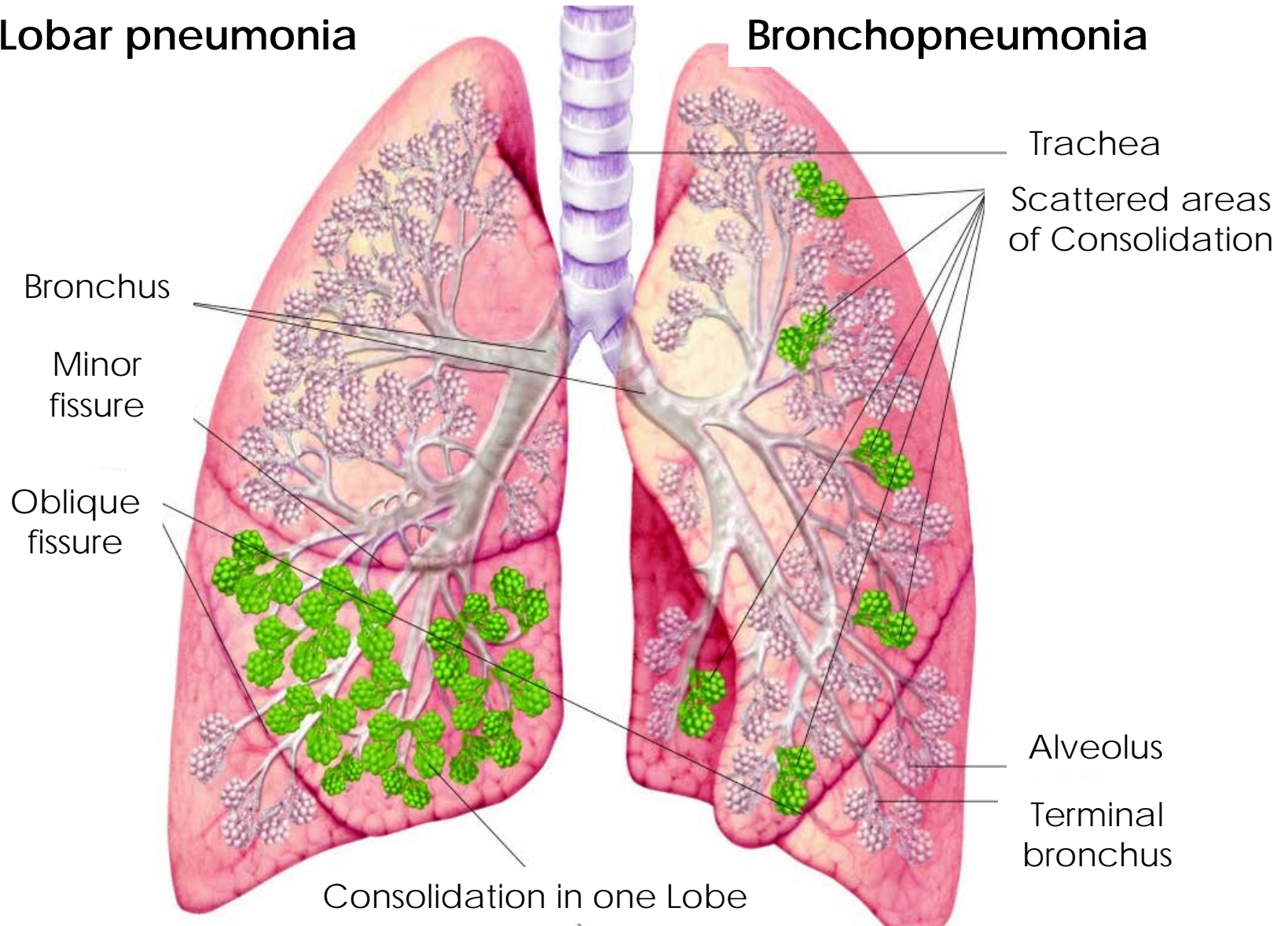
'Air bronchograms' are the hallmark of consolidation and usually involve the smaller bronchi, bronchioles and alveoli



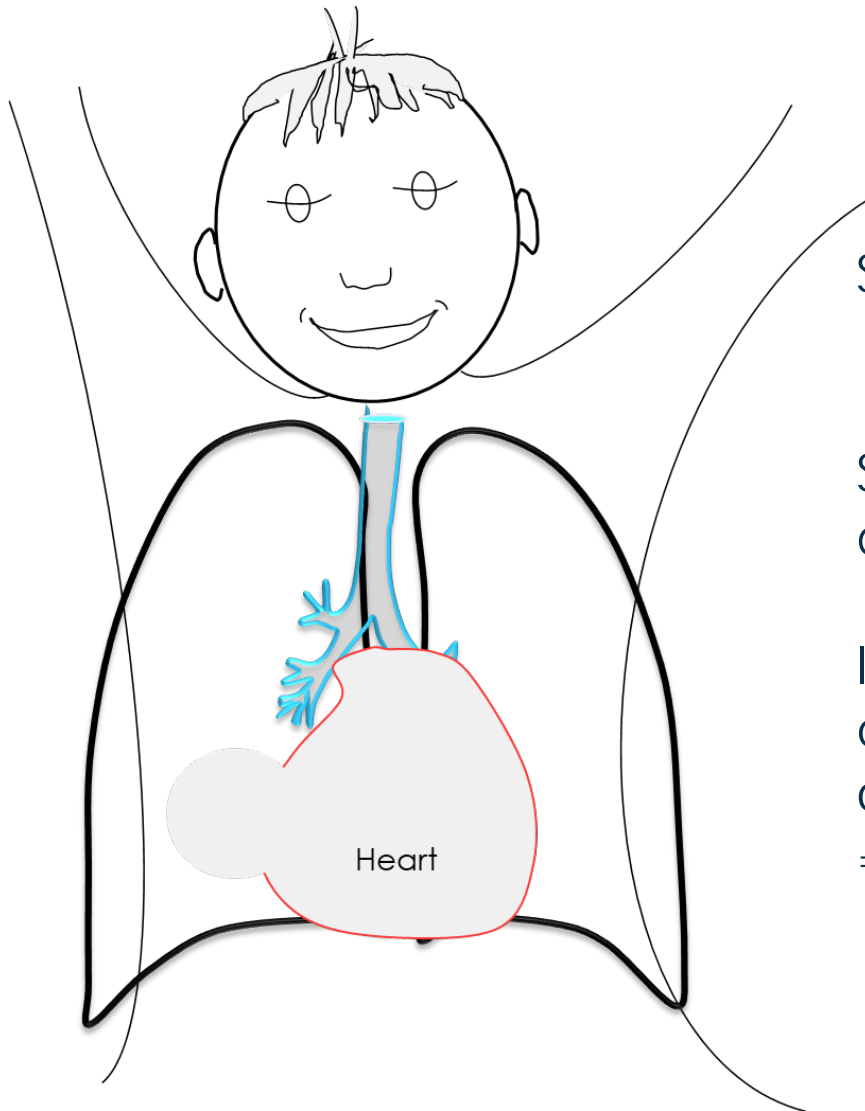
- . As the air spaces fill with fluid, the alveoli are first affected and the bronchi are relatively spared
- . The air-filled bronchi stand out against the fluid-alveoli

## Lobar pneumonia

## Bronchopneumonia



# Opacities

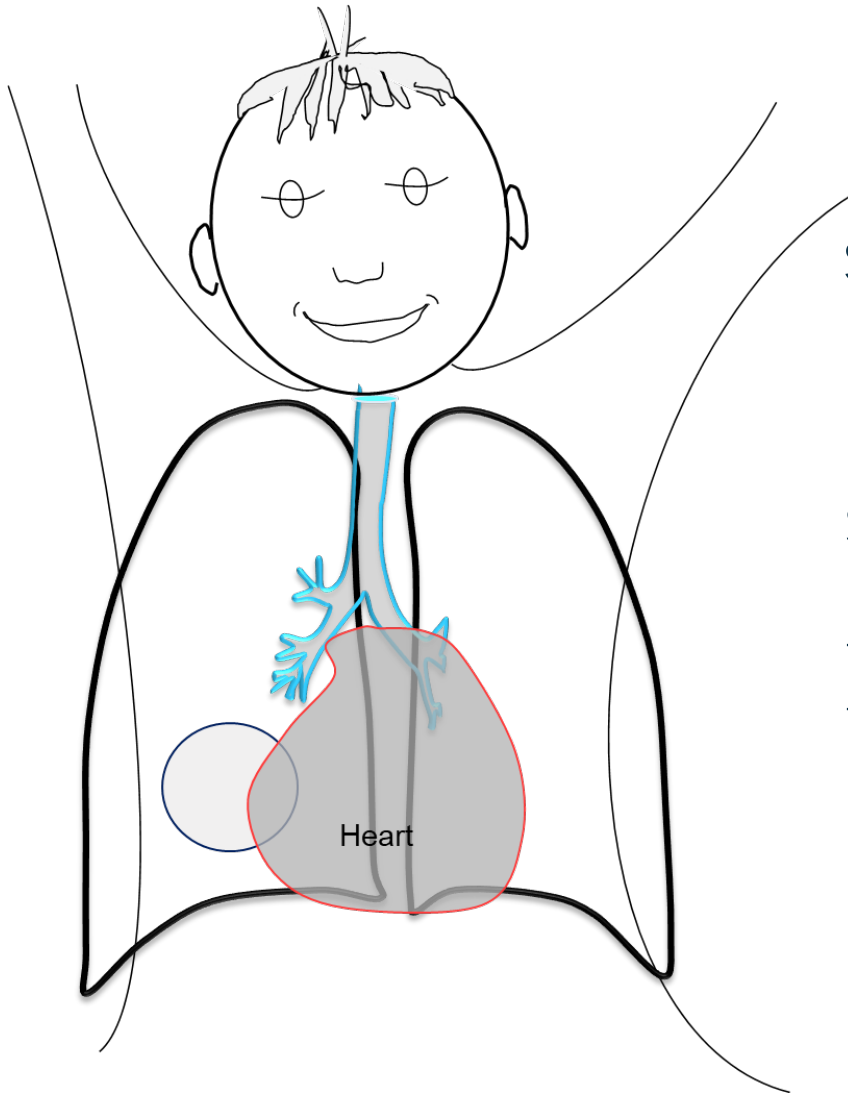


Silhouette sign (Felson )

Some opacities near the heart (or diaphragm) are difficult to identify.

If these opacities are anatomically in contact with the heart then they will obscure the border of the heart  
=> anterior opacity

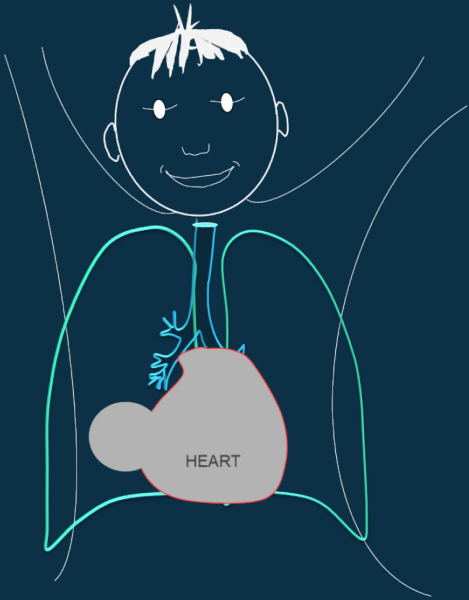
# Opacities



Silhouette sign (Felson )

Some opacities near the heart are **not anatomically** in contact with the heart and will **NOT** obscure the border of the heart  
=> posterior opacity

# Opacities

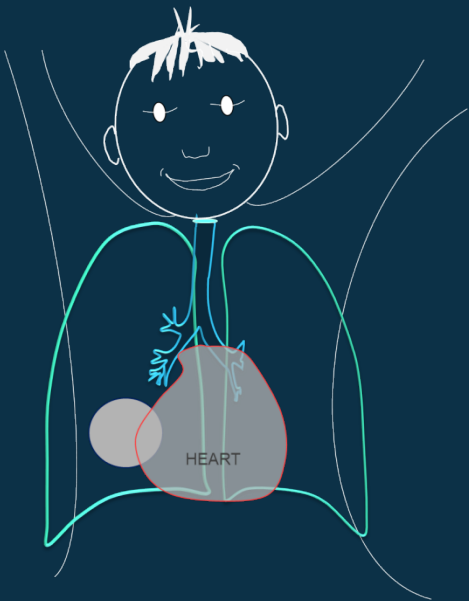


## Silhouette sign (Felson )

A useful sign to localize opacities, especially when a lateral view is not available

When 2 opacities of the same density are anatomically in contact with each other, their borders will disappear.

=> **anterior opacity**

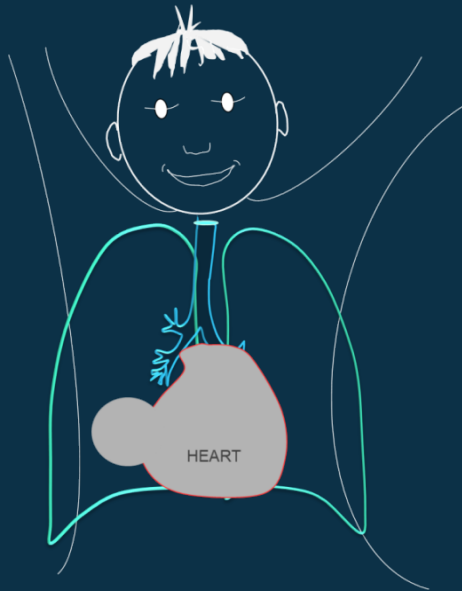


When 2 opacities are separated by any tissue of a different density (example: air), their respective borders are visible.

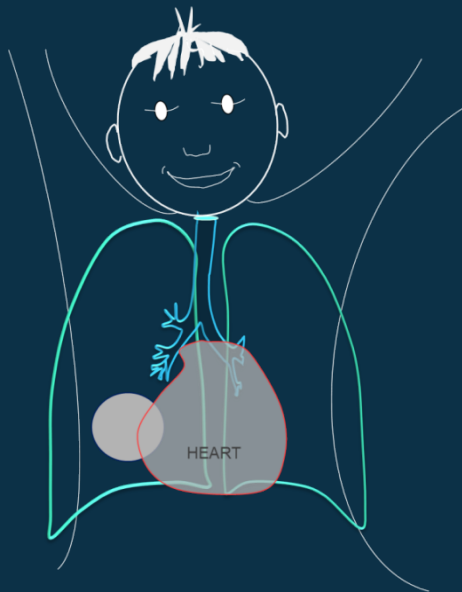
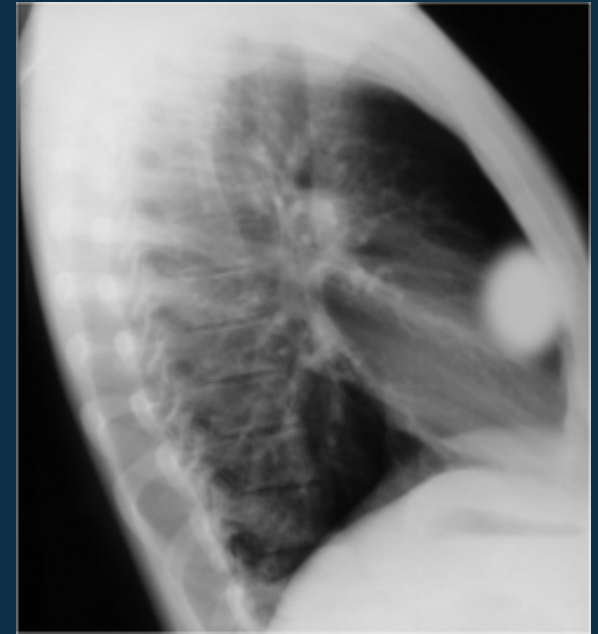
=> **posterior opacity**



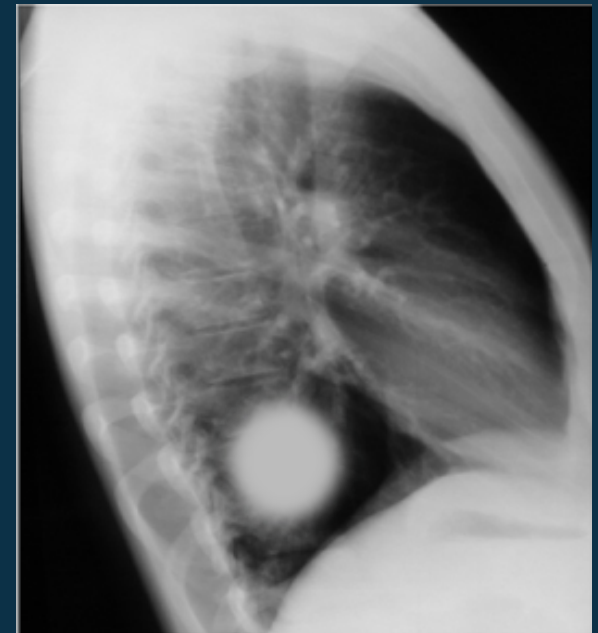
# Opacities



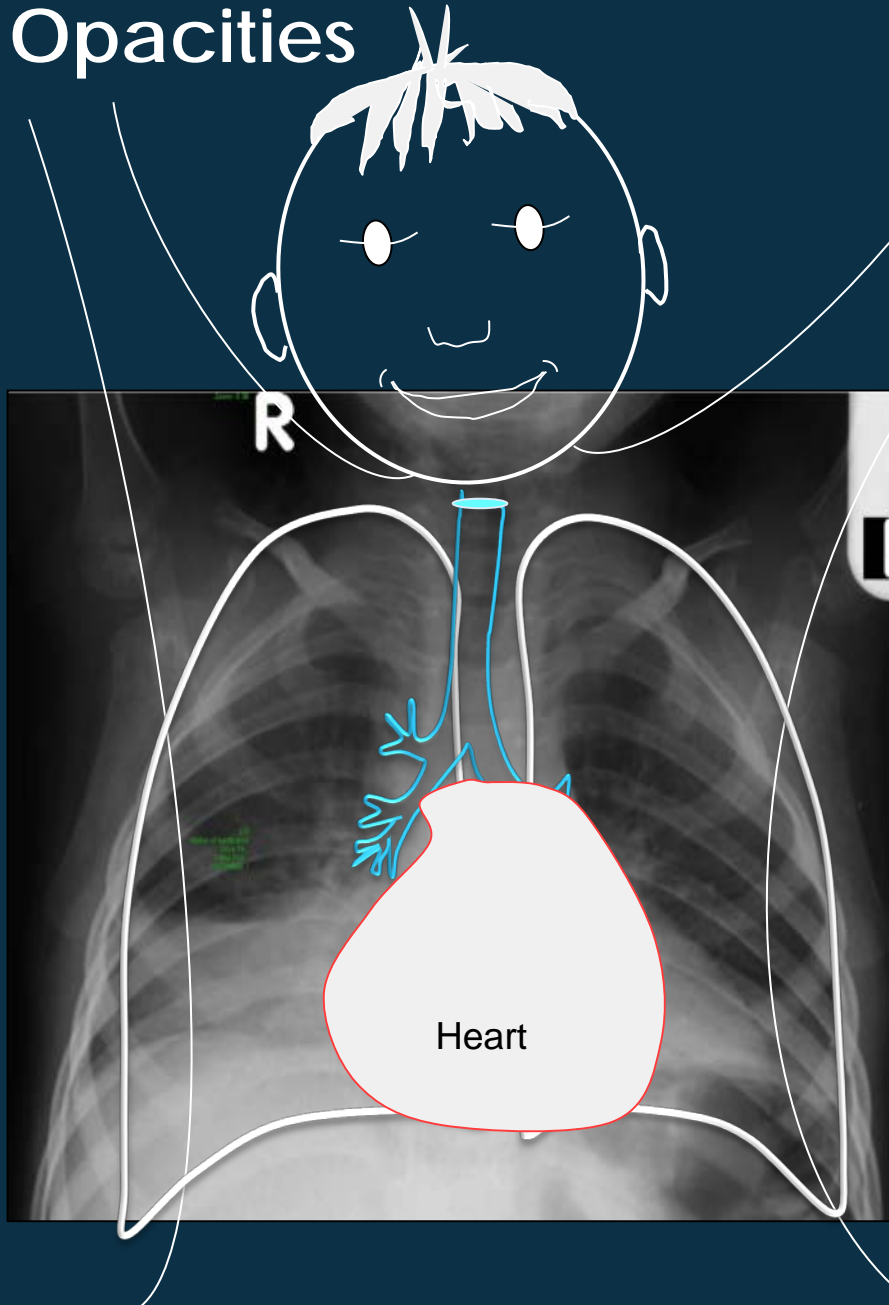
anterior opacity



posterior opacity



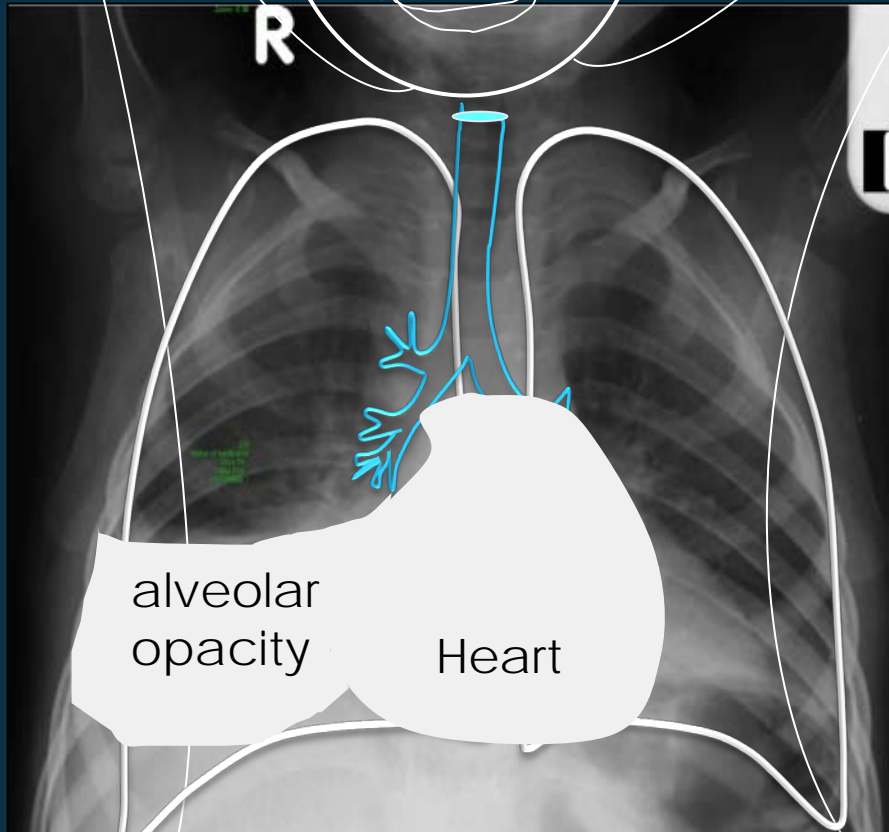
# Opacities



Silhouette sign (Felson )

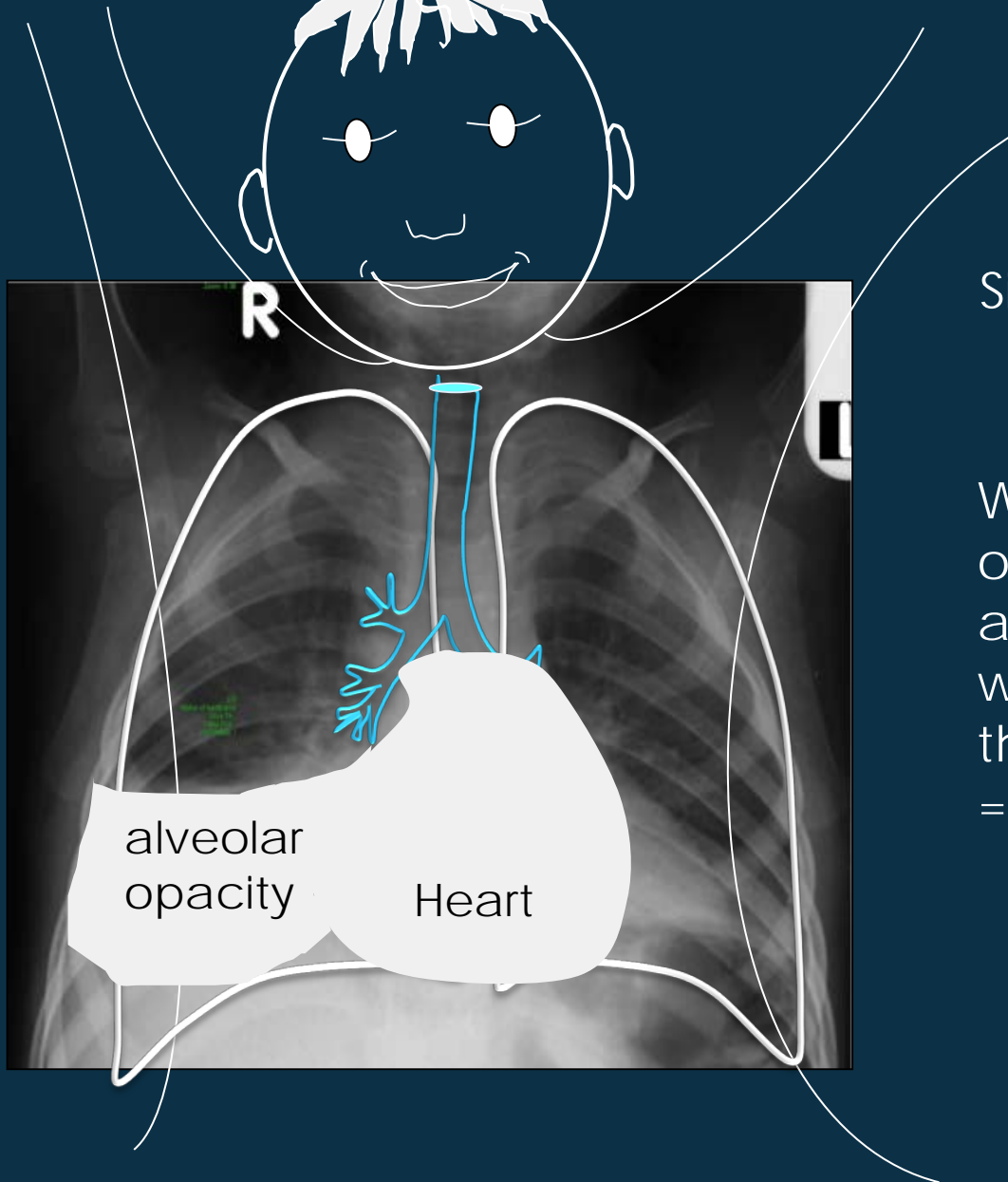
When 2 opacities  
of the same density  
are in contact  
with each other,





When 2 opacities  
of the same density  
are anatomically in contact  
with each other,  
their borders disappear.  
=> **anterior opacity**

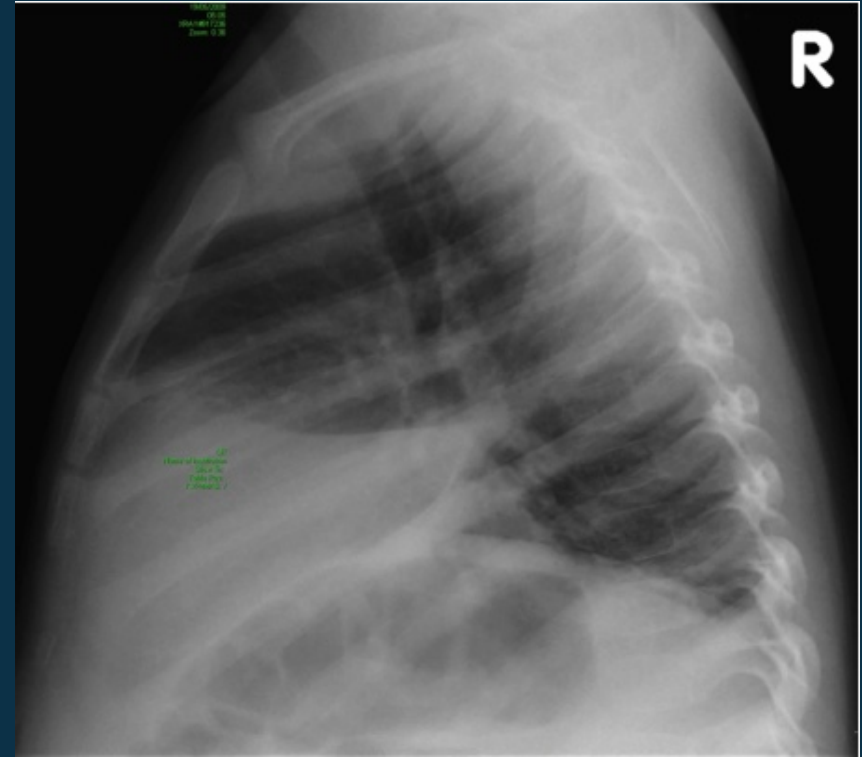
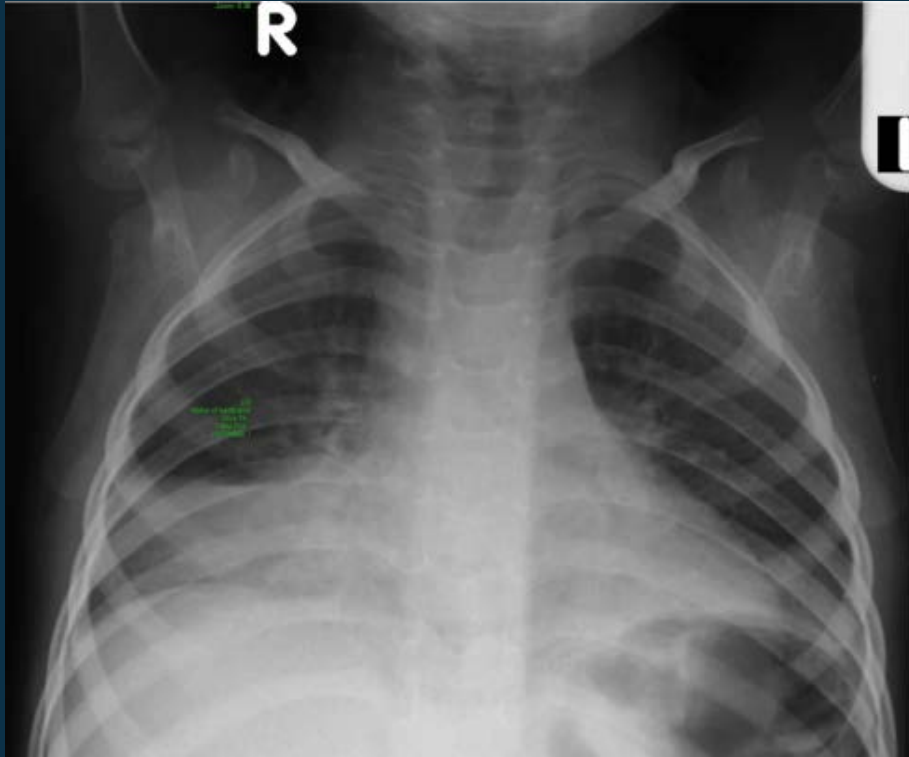
# Opacities



Silhouette sign (Felson )

When 2 opacities  
of the same density  
are anatomically in contact  
with each other,  
their borders disappear.  
=> **anterior opacity**

# Consolidation



Anterior or posterior opacity?  
 . Anterior alveolar Opacity

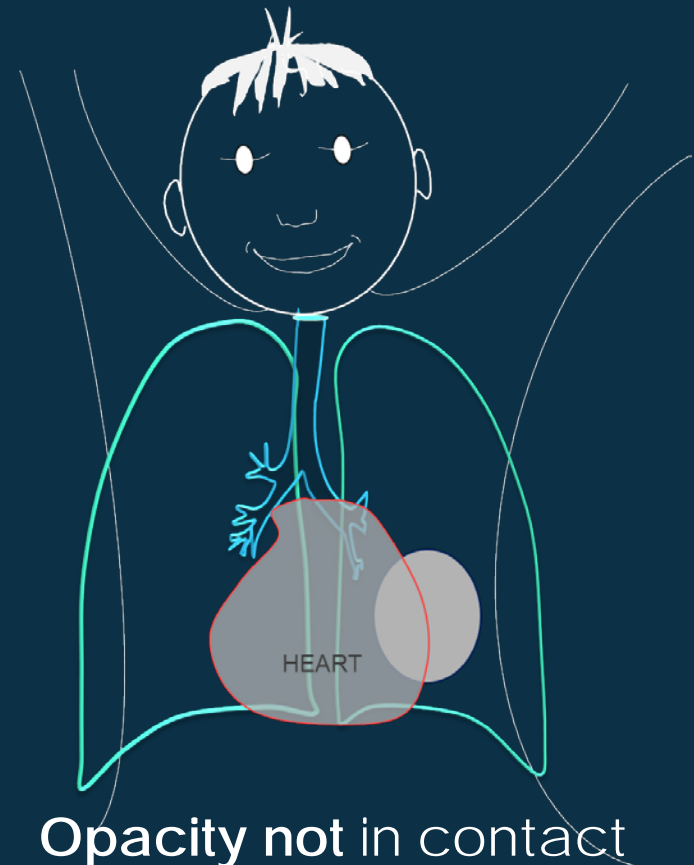
Why ?

. Cannot see the right border of the heart

# 5 year old with cough and fever

Anterior or posterior opacity?

## 1. Retrocardiac opacity



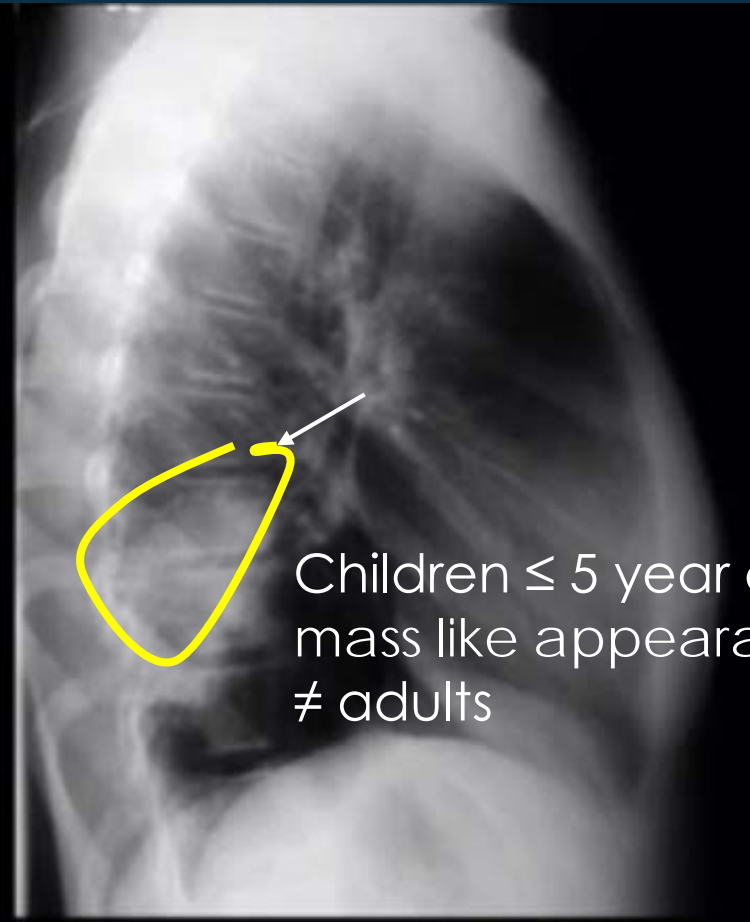
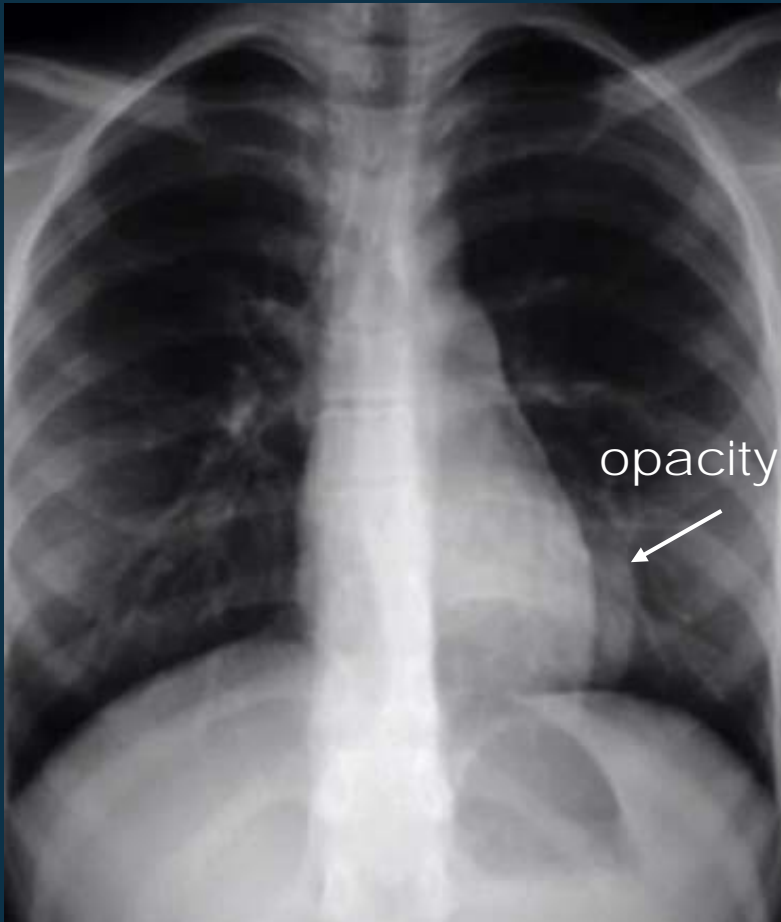
**Opacity not in contact**  
**with the heart**  
**(does not erase the border**  
**of the heart)**  
**=> Posterior opacity**

# 5 year old with cough and fever

Anterior or posterior opacity?

1. Retrocardiac opacity

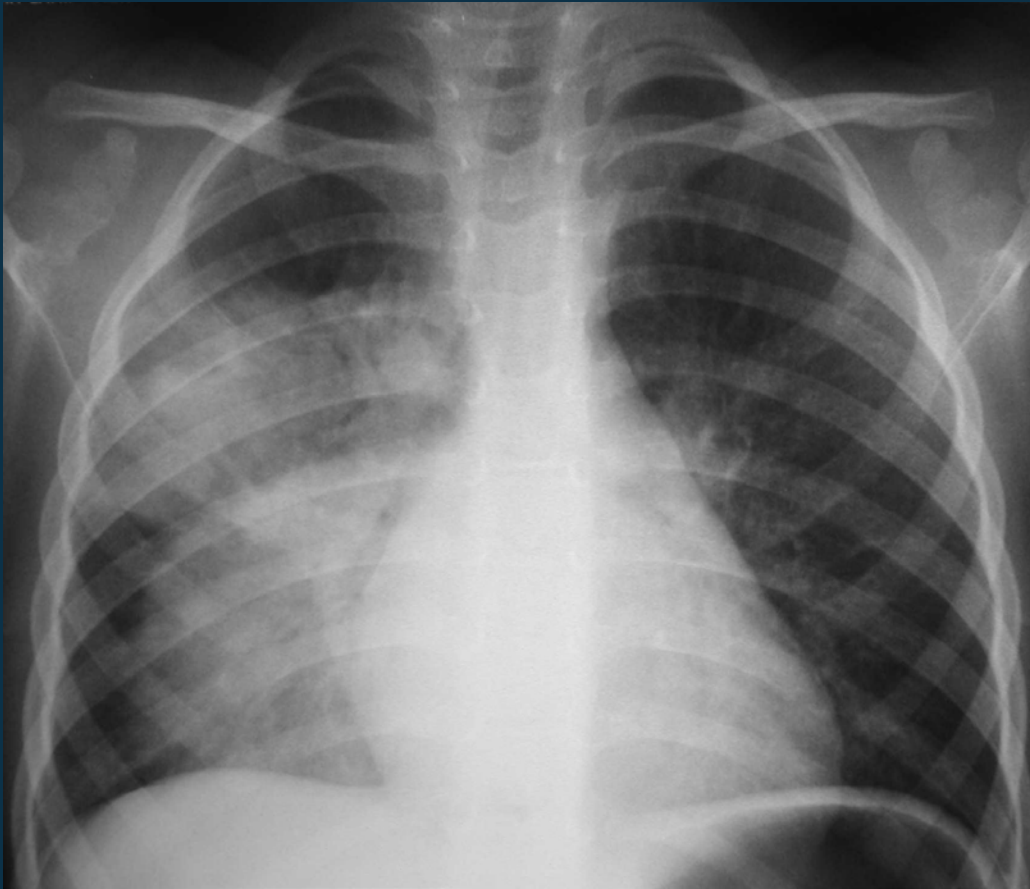
2. 'round' mass overlying the spine



What is your diagnosis ?

**Left posterior alveolar opacity**

# Sopheap, 3 years old with cough and fever

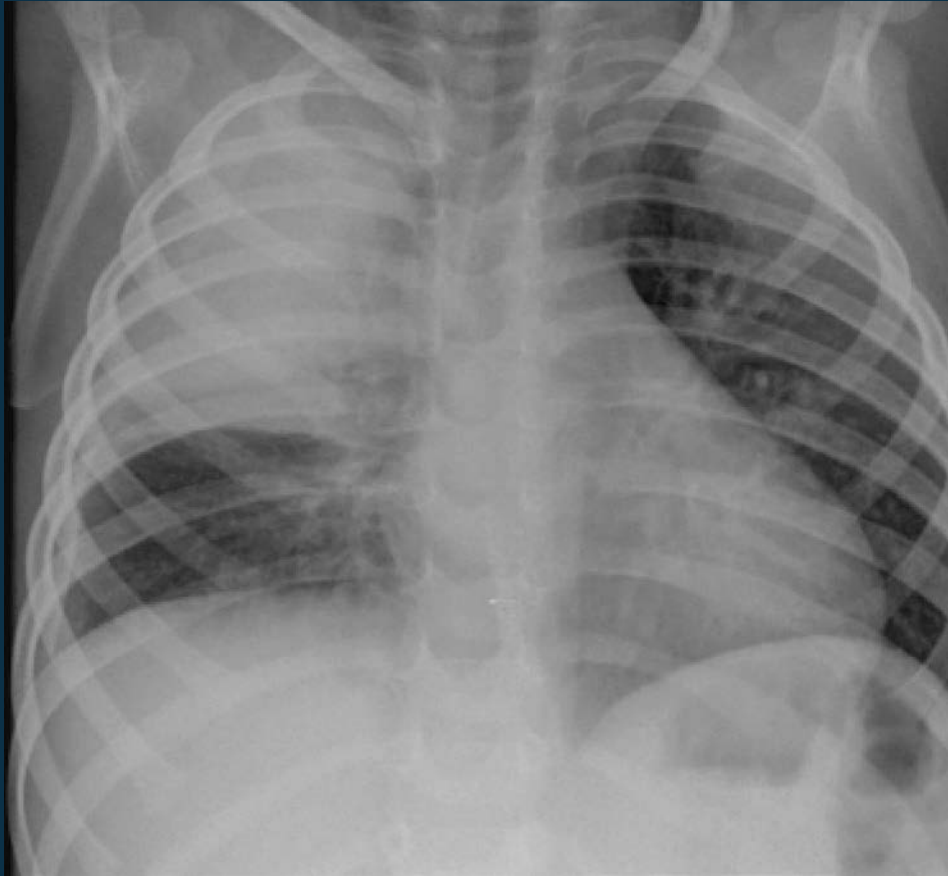


What do you see on this CXR ?

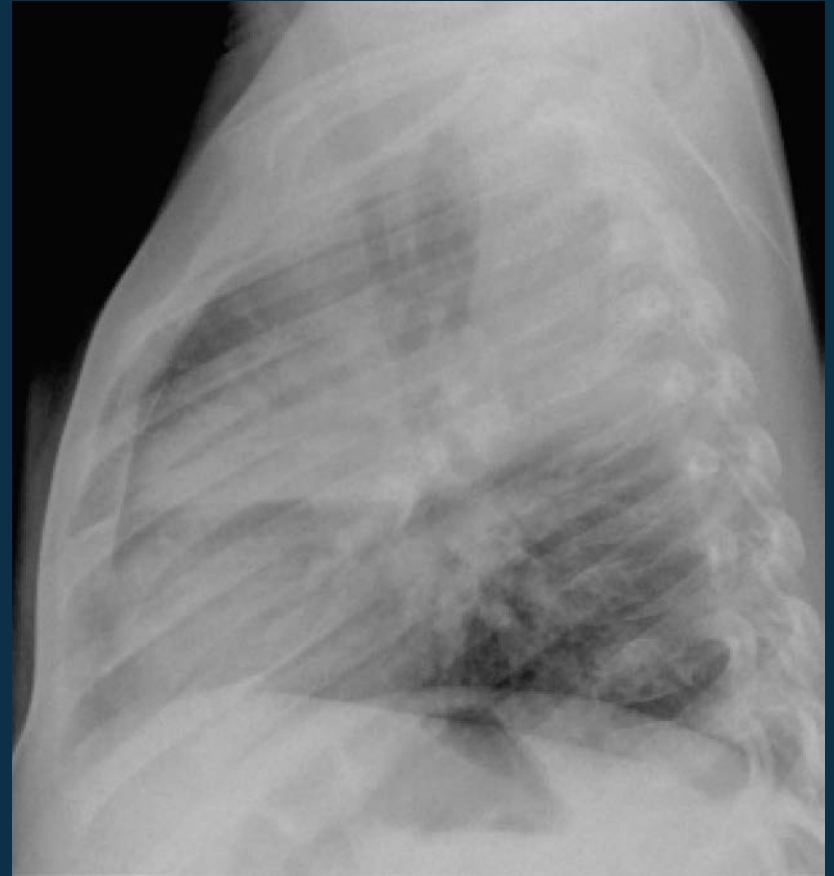
- . 2 opacities
  - right upper alveolar opacity
  - right lower posterior alveolar opacity (not erasing cardiac border)



What do you see on this CXR ?

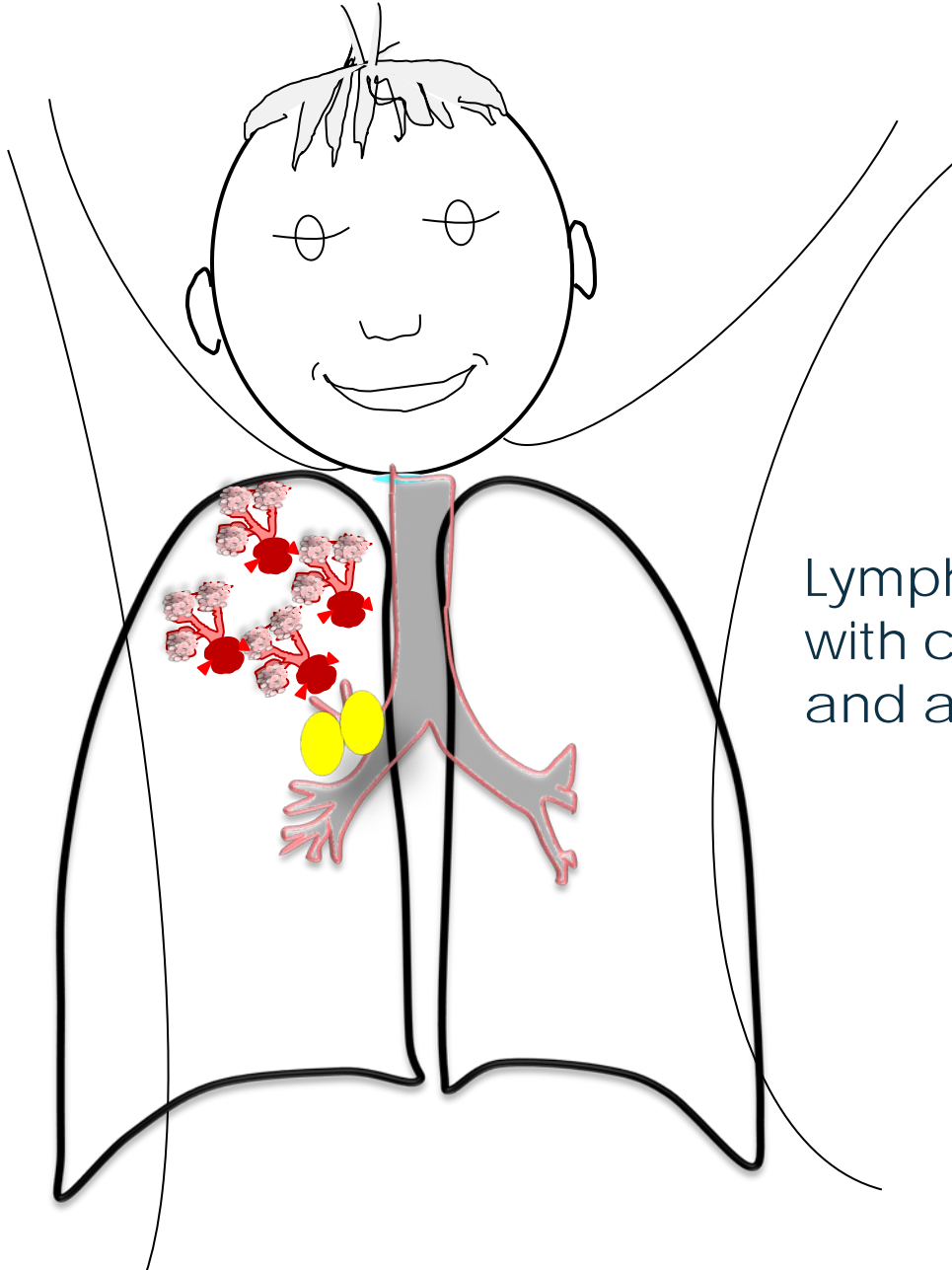


Front view:  
Right upper alveolar opacity



Lateral view (same patient):  
minor fissure remains in a normal position,  
indicating a space occupying process  
with no volume loss

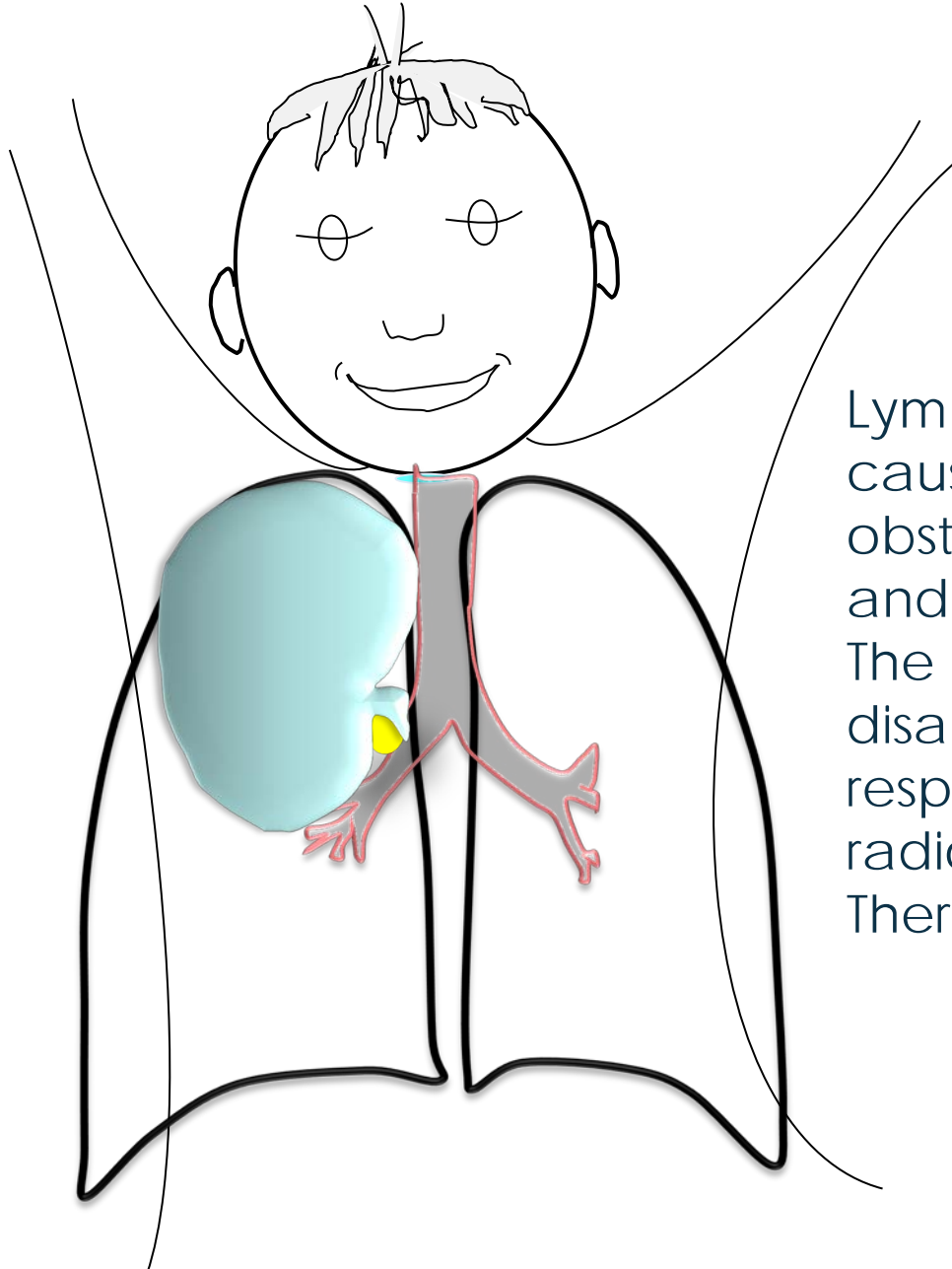
# Atelectasis / alveolar collapse



Lymph node compression  
with complete obstruction  
and alveolar collapse

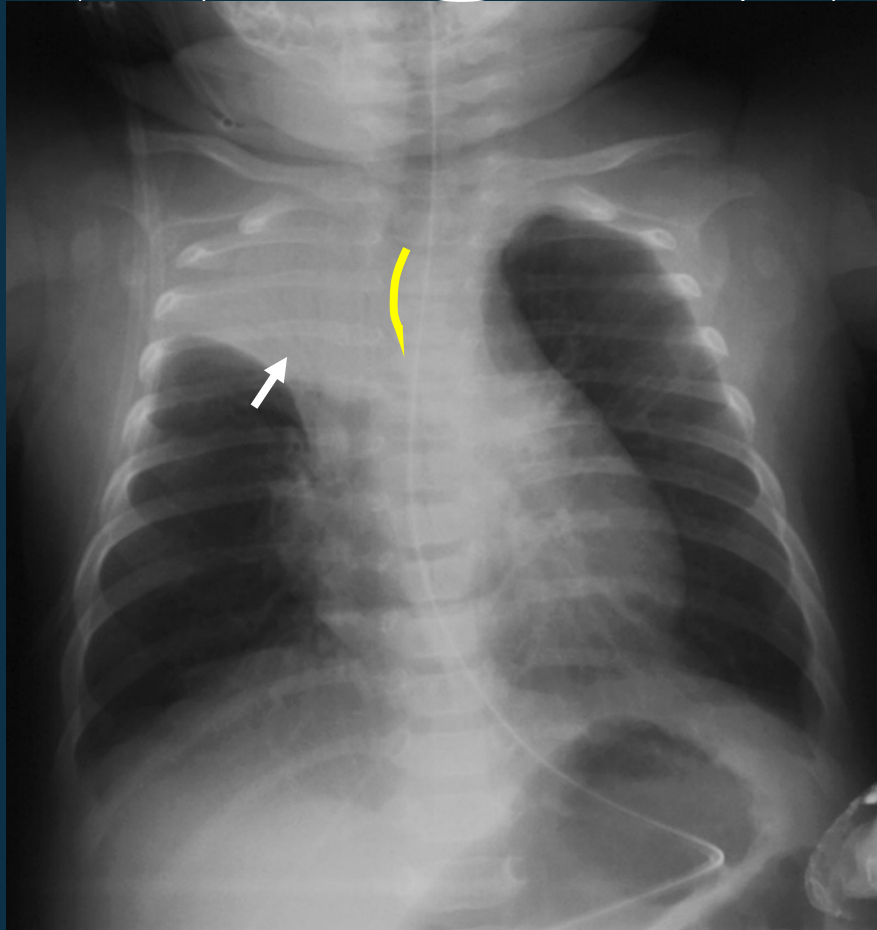


# Atelectasis / alveolar collapse



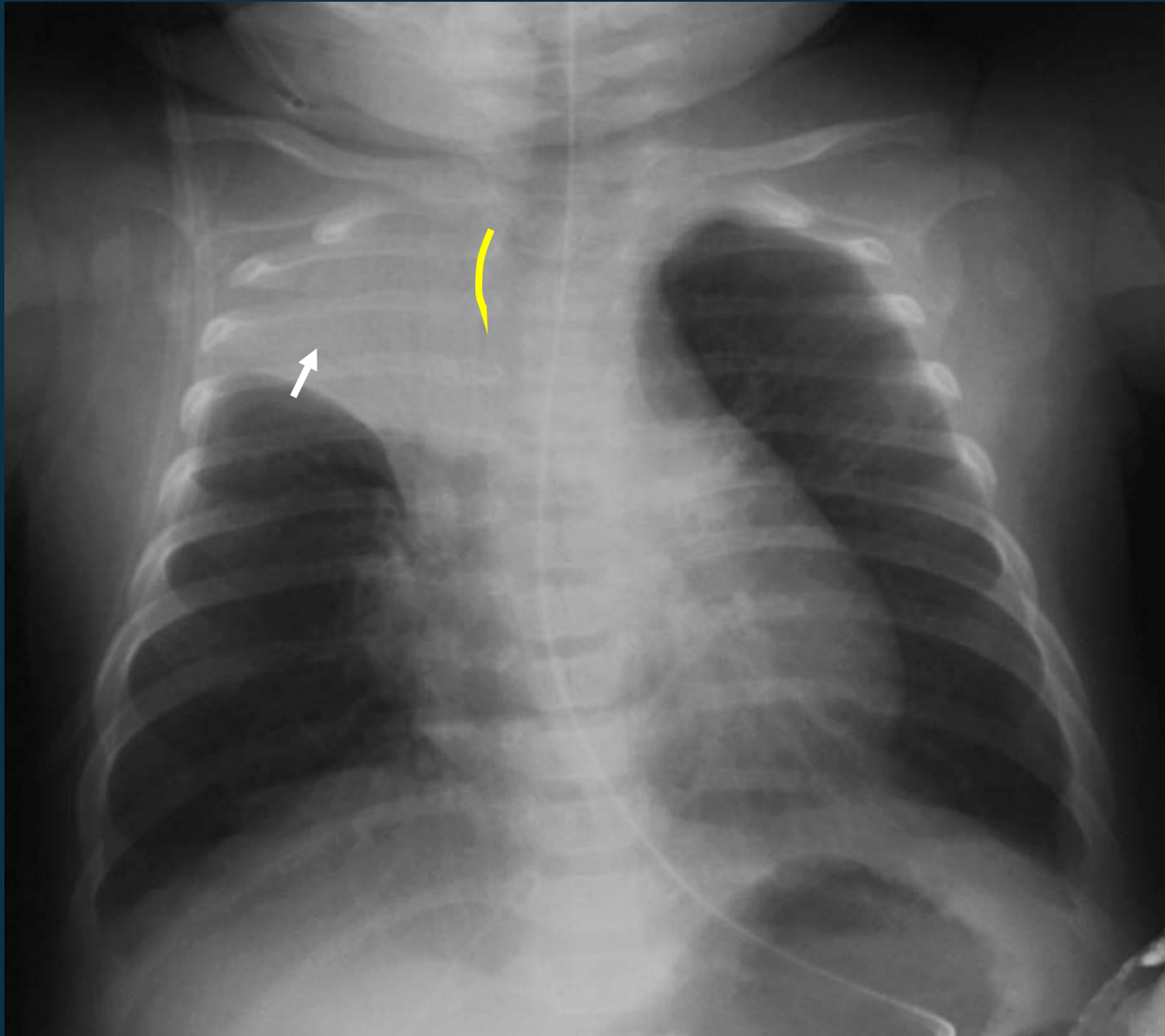
Lymph node compression causing complete airway obstruction and alveolar collapse. The alveolar air gradually disappears which is responsible for radiographic opacity. There is also loss of volume

# Atelectasis / alveolar collapse



Lymph node compression  
with alveolar collapse causes  
radiographic opacity  
with loss of volume

Shift of trachea  
towards  
the side of the  
atelectasis (PULL)



Right upper lobe atelectasis

# Atelectasis

What do you see on this X-ray ?

- . Bilateral lymph nodes
- . Downward displacement of major fissure
- . Hyperinflation of upper lobe
- . Triangular paraspinal opacity

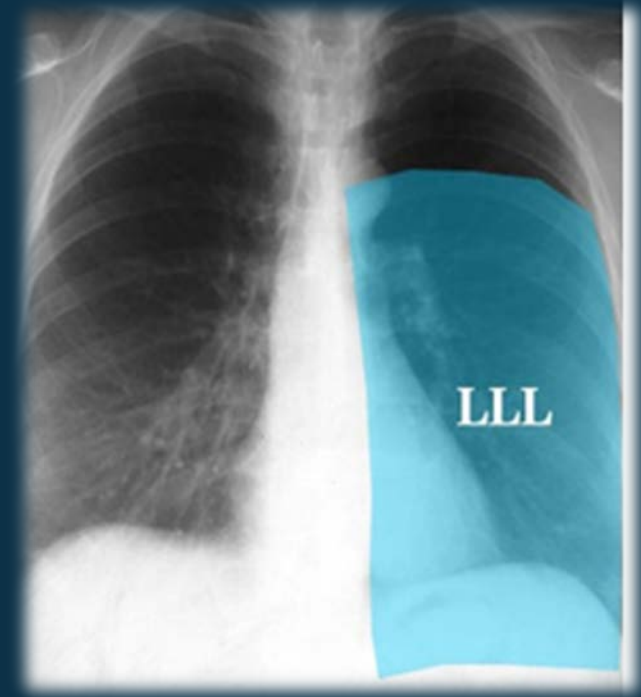
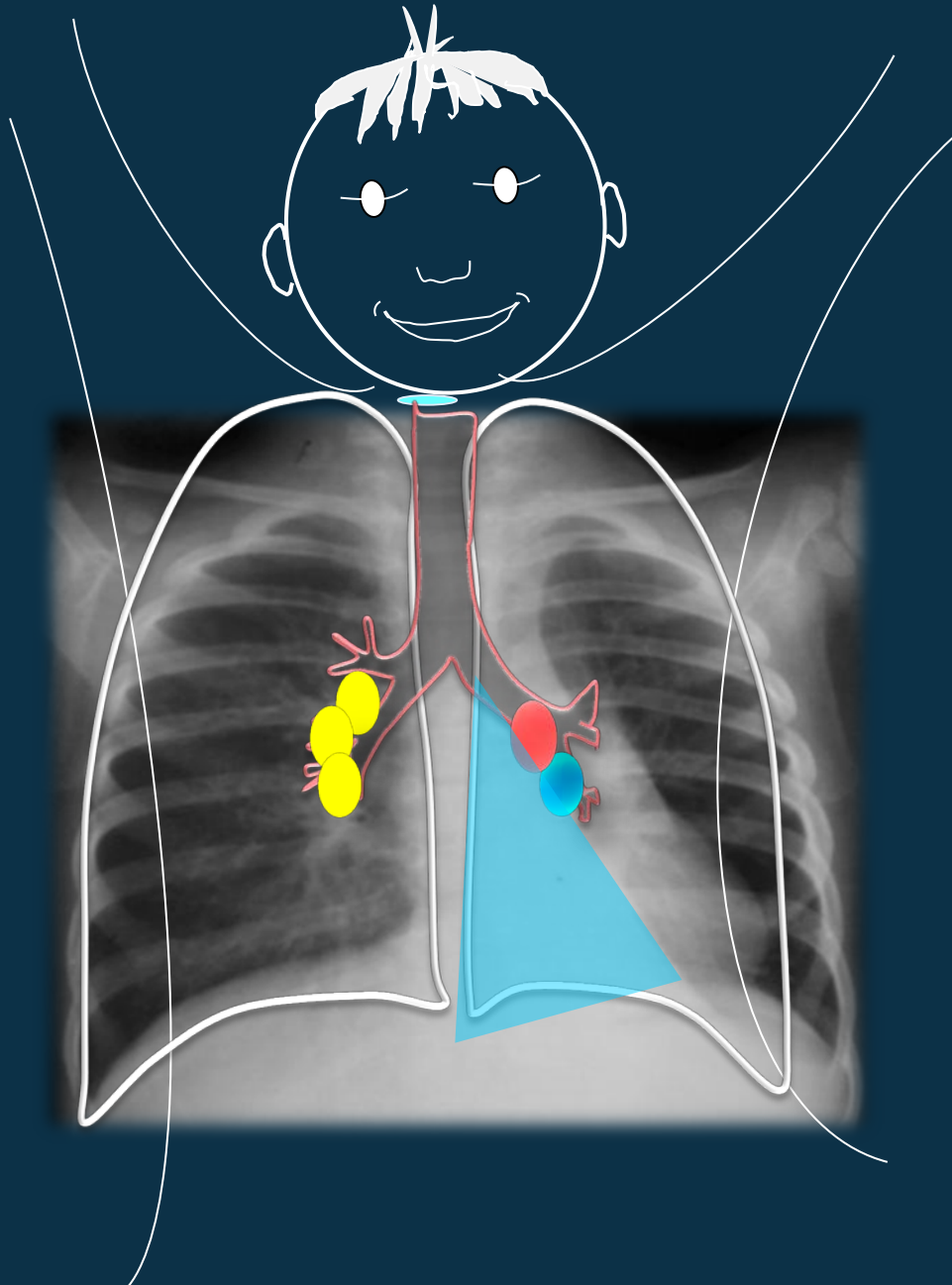
What is your diagnosis ?

- . Left lower lobe atelectasis : compression of the left inferior bronchus by mediastinal lymph nodes

**TB**

1 year old child







Normal Left Lower Lobe

# Atelectasis

Atelectasis + round hilar mass:

- . In adults = most often cancer
- . In children = most often TB

# Key Points: alveolar opacities

	<b>Consolidation</b> 	<b>Atelectasis</b> 
	<p>Air in the lung is replaced by fluid – pus (infection)</p>	<p>Complete obstruction of a bronchus with alveolar collapse</p>
Aspect	<p>Non homogeneous With air bronchogram Non retractile Usually ill-defined</p>	<p>Homogeneous, Without air bronchogram Retractile - “volume loss ”</p>
Aetiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TB pneumonia</li> <li>- Bacterial pneumonia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tuberculosis</li> <li>- Foreign body</li> <li>- Mediastinal mass</li> </ul>

# Pleura

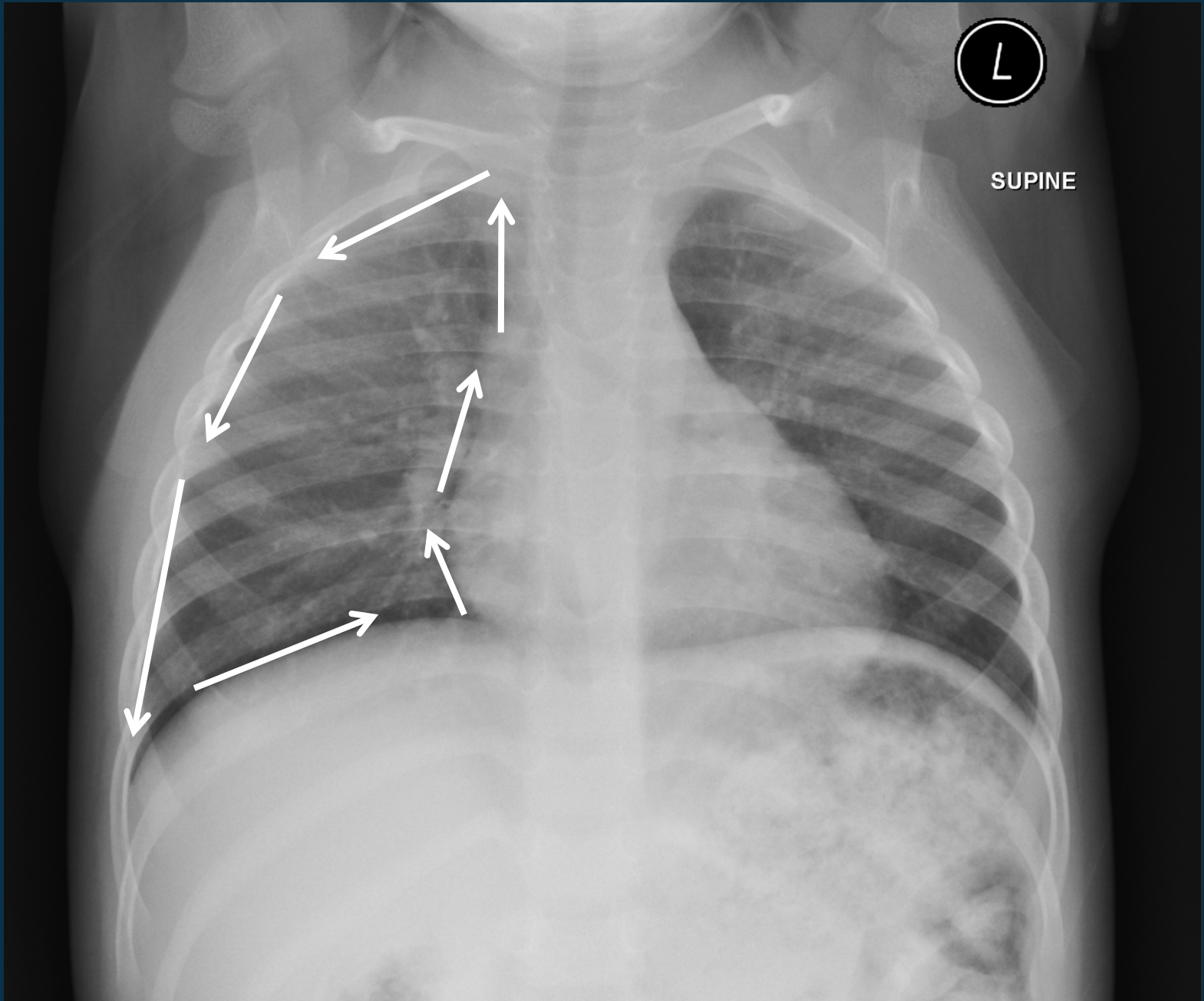
The pleura and pleural spaces are only visible when abnormal

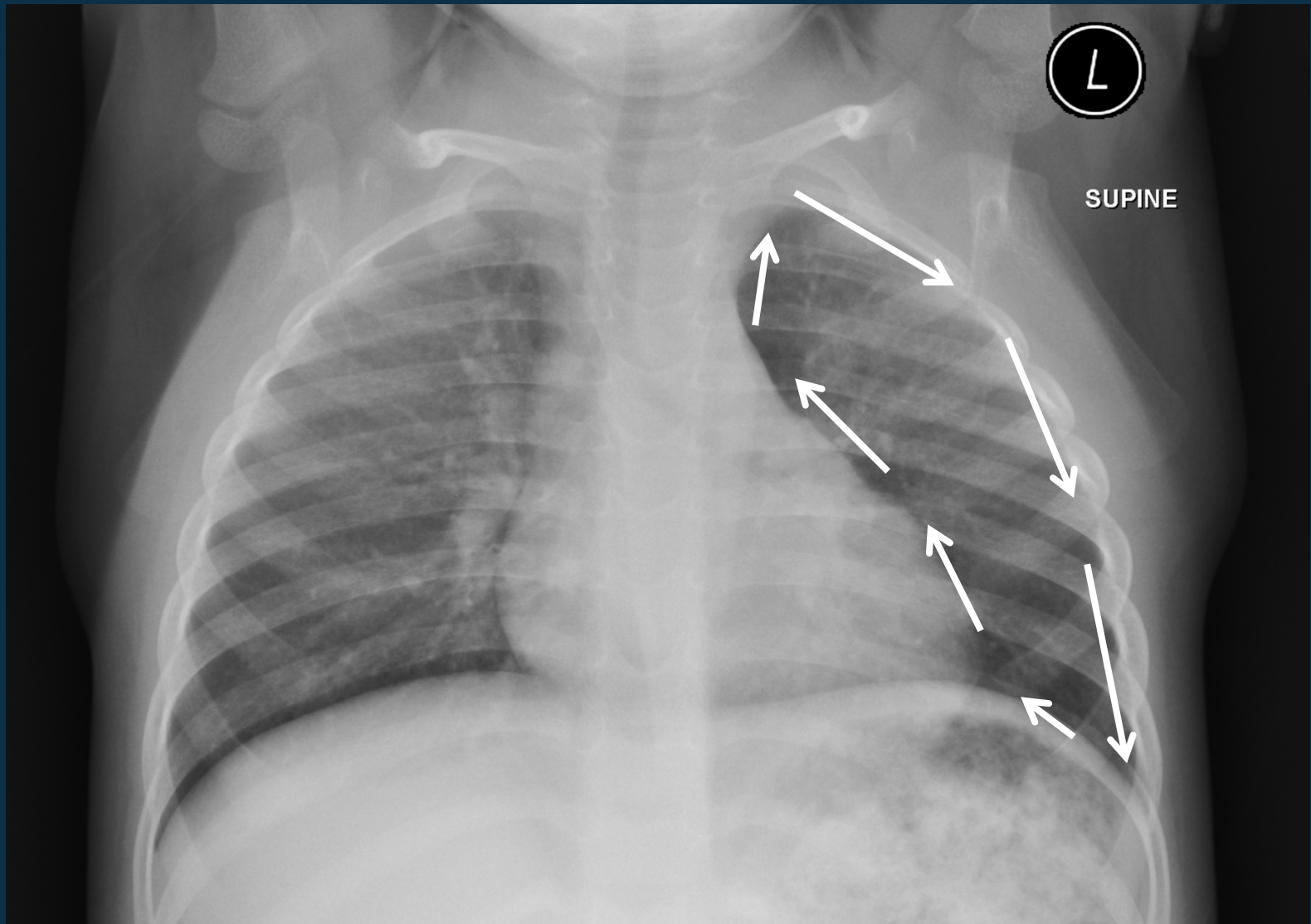
AP: run your eye around the inside of both lungs

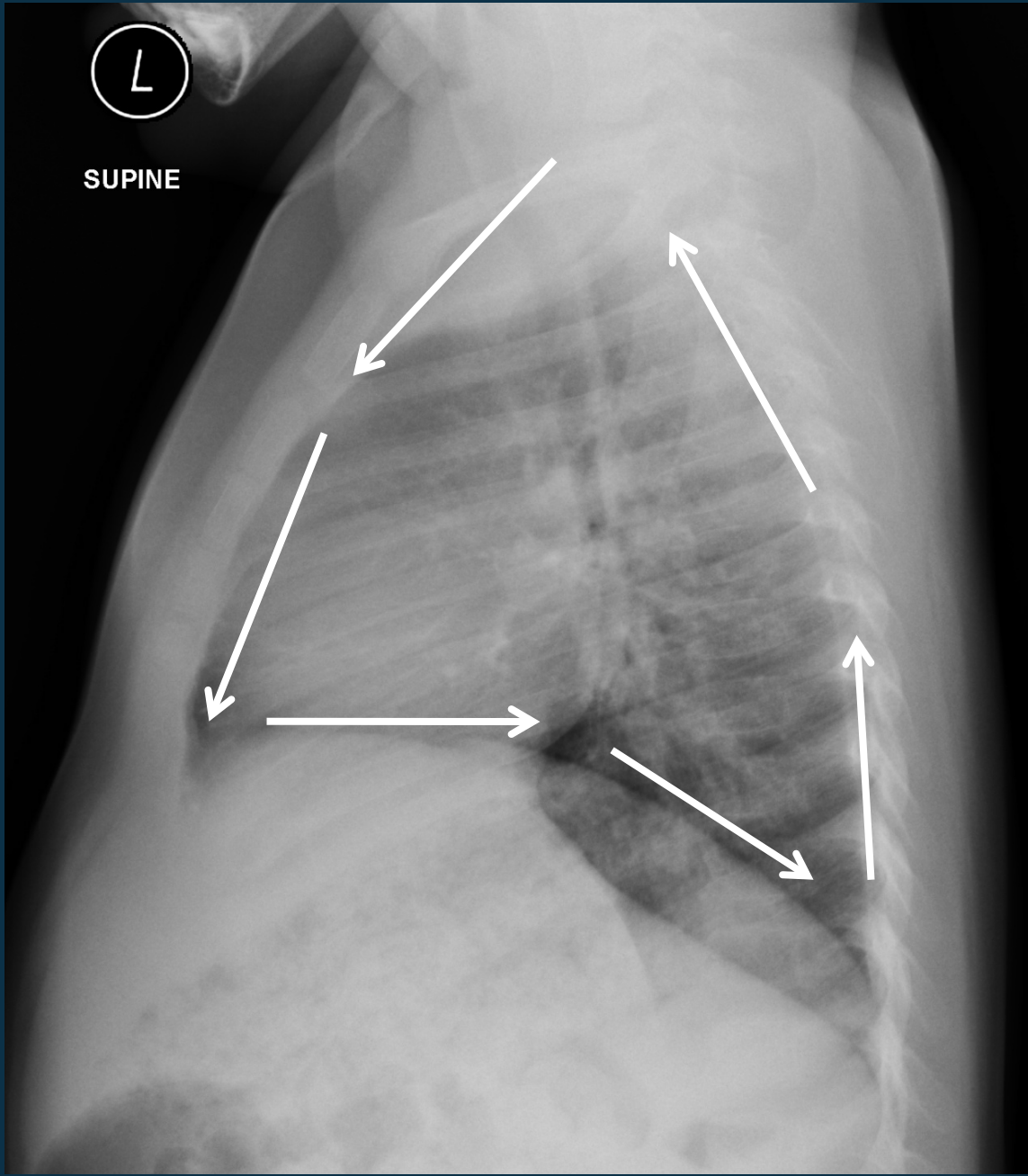
- . Apex to costo-phrenic angle
- . From costo-phrenic angle to cardio-phrenic border
- . From cardio-phrenic border to apex
- . Right then left

Lateral : do the same as for the AP

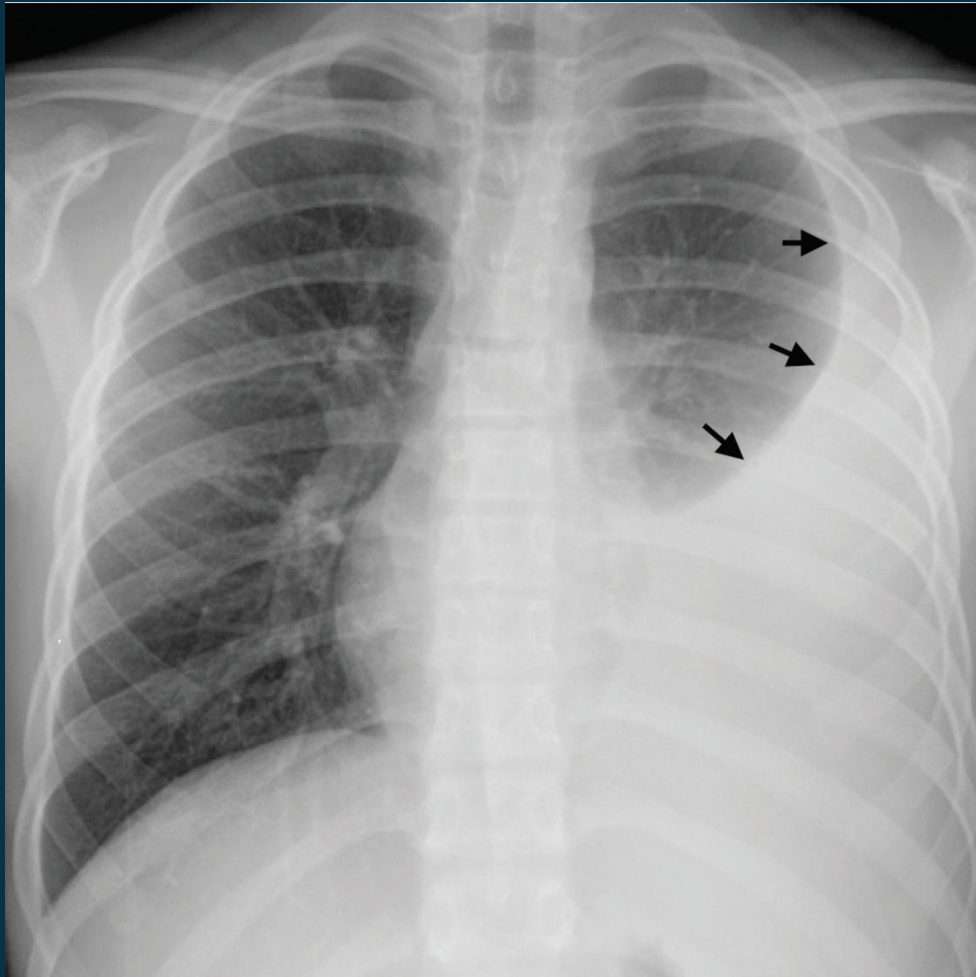








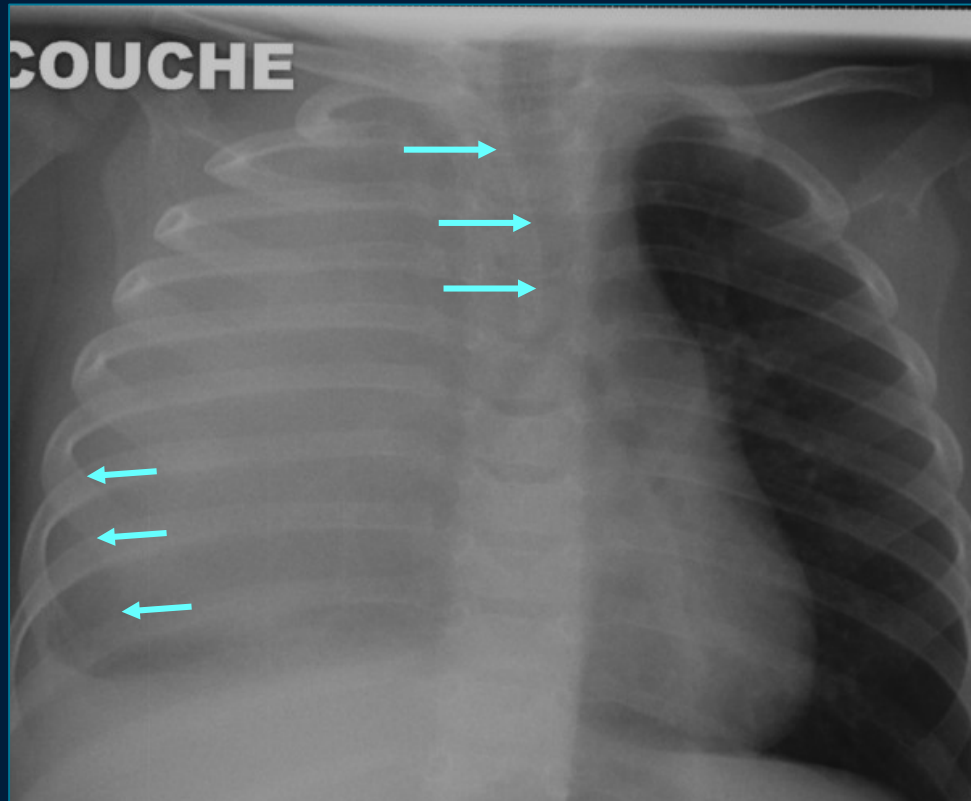
# Pleural opacities: pleural effusion (standing position)



Pleural effusion:

- . Homogeneous opacity
- . Concave
- . Declive
- . Not systematized
- . Pushes surrounding structures away

=> Frontal view : pleural effusion.



Right large compressive Pleural effusion  
CXR in supine position

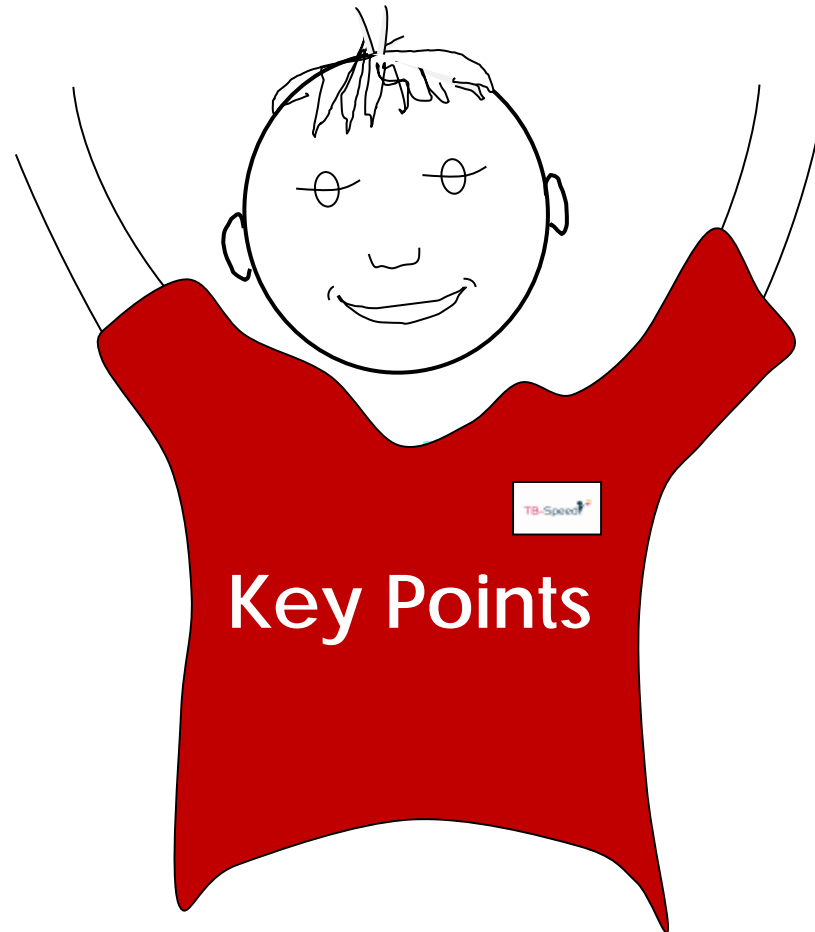


# Pleural opacities: pleural effusion



Left pneumonia with large pleural effusion

Second circle



Do the lungs have an abnormal density?

# Key points second circle : Is there an Abnormal density of the lungs ?

## HYPERLUCENCIES

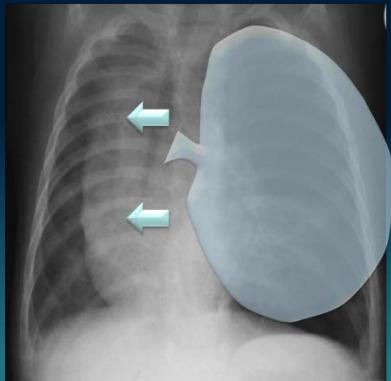
Blacker

Asymmetry between  
right and left lung



### Air-trapping

- Shift of surrounding structures



## OPACITIES

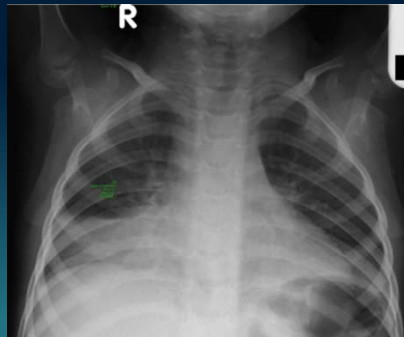
Whiter

### Alveolar opacities



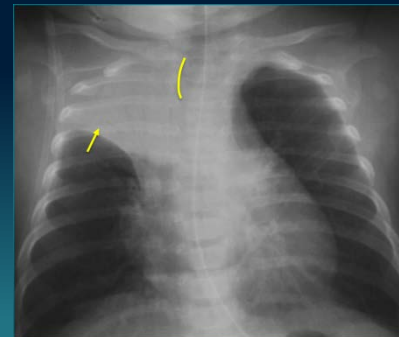
### Consolidation

- non homogeneous (Air bronchogram)
- Ill-defined or systematized



### Atelectasis

- Homogeneous
- Loss of volume
- Attracts surrounding structures

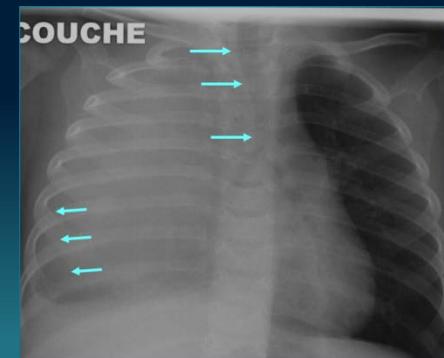


### Pleural opacities



### Pleural effusion

- Homogeneous
- Pushes surrounding structures





# Module 1 How to read a CXR

Chap1: Technical and anatomical aspects

## **Chap2: Systematic approach to CXR interpretation**

Part1. Quality factors

Part2. Normal CXR

Part3. First circle

1. Soft part of the chest wall
2. Diaphragmatic areas
3. Bony Thorax abnormalities

Part4. Second circle

4. Lung
5. Pleura

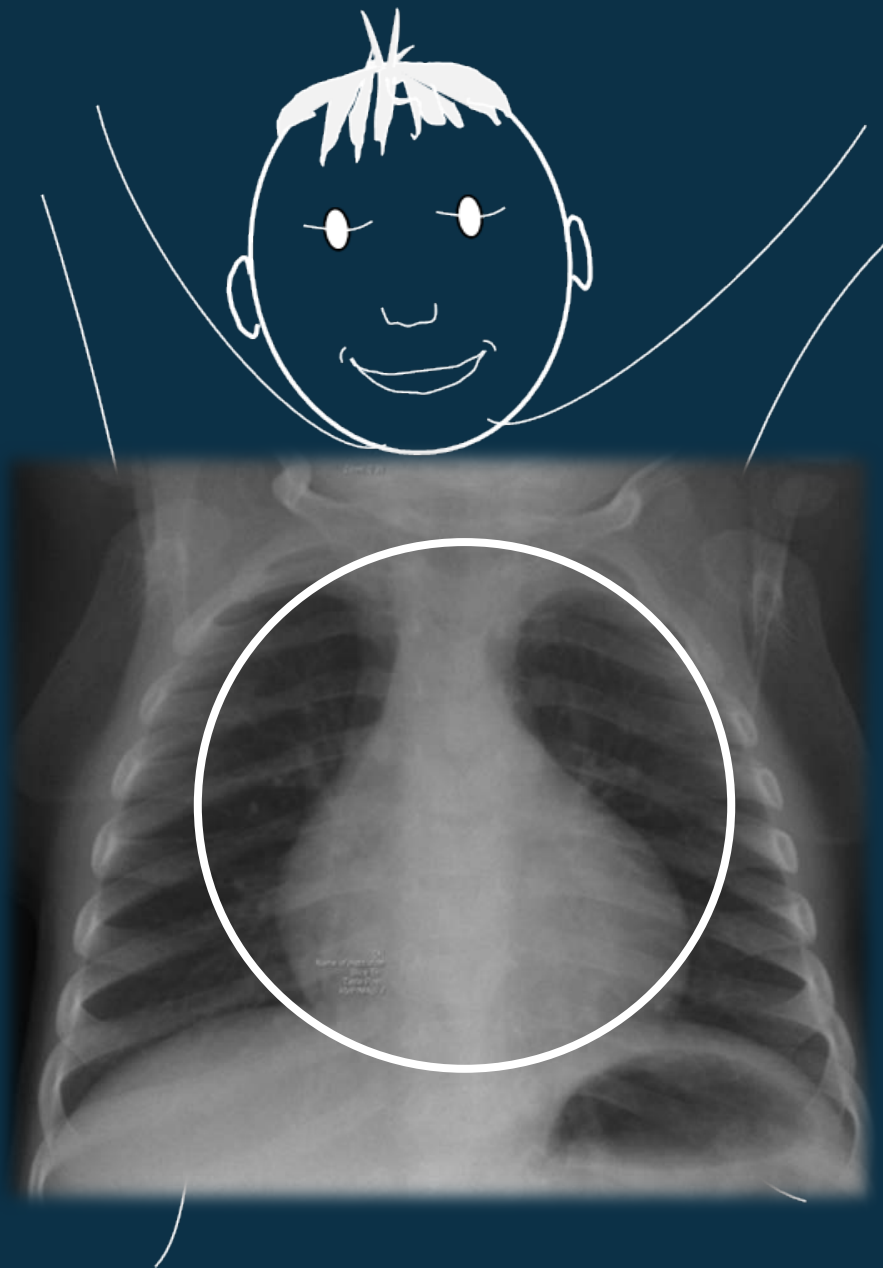
### **Part5. Third circle**

- 6. Airways**
- 7. hili and Mediastinum**
- 8. Lymph nodes**
- 9. Heart**

Part6. The hidden areas

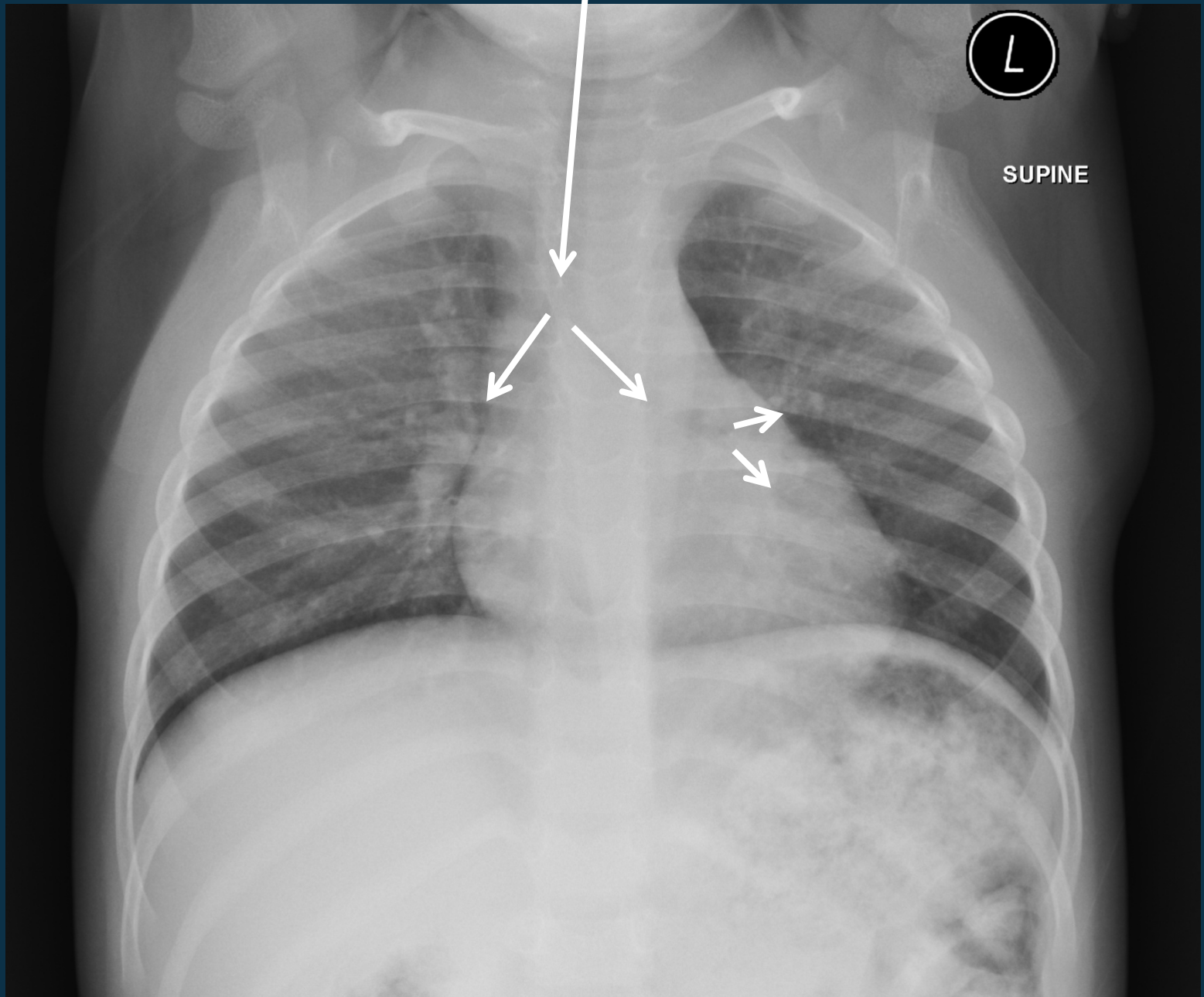
Part7. Conclusion

# Third circle



# Airways

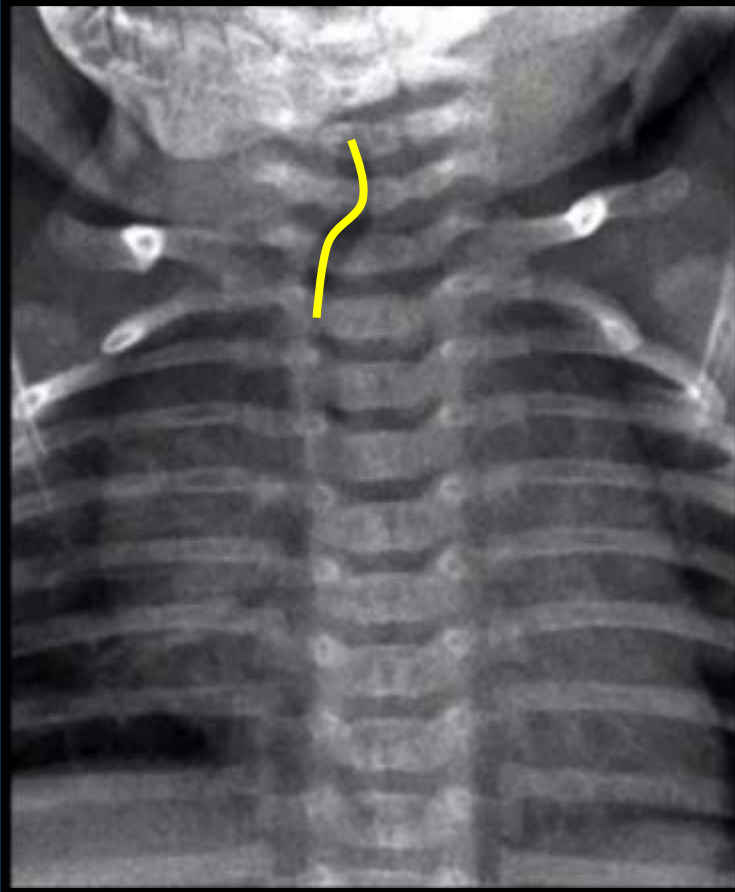
1. Use AP (lateral not useful to assess airways)
2. Follow the trachea from the head to the bifurcation :  
normal trachea is displaced to the right  
by the presence of a normal left-side aortic arch  
(or should be at least central)
3. Trace both main bronchi
4. Assess the airways : position, calibre, displacement
5. Look for:
  - . Airway narrowing
  - . Airway deviation
  - . Splaying of the carina



# Airway : 2 month old with cough and fever

What do you see on this X-ray ?

Is the trachea normal ?

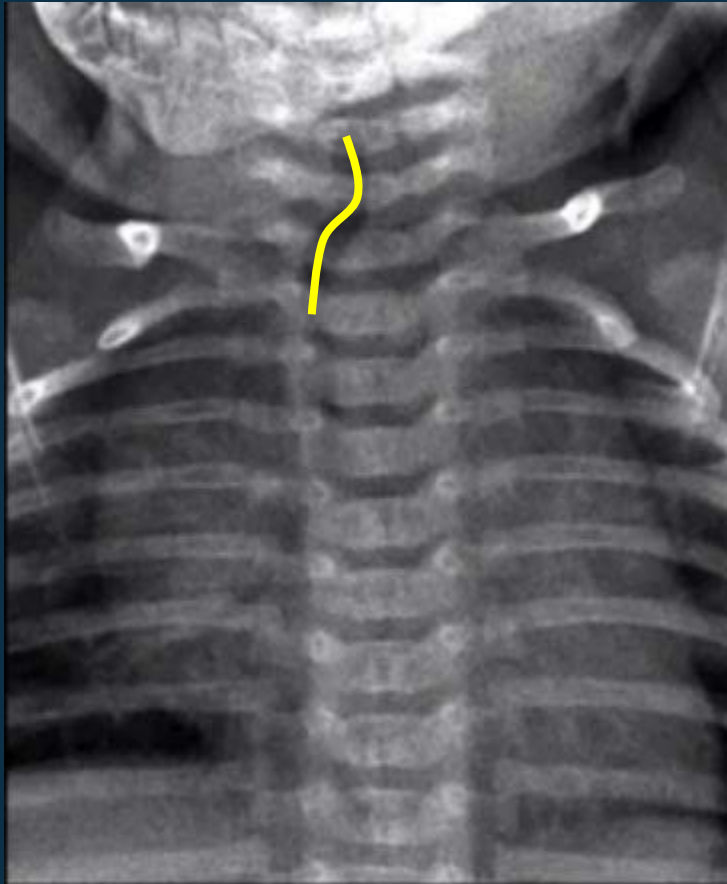


What is your diagnosis ?

Normal expiratory  
tracheal buckling

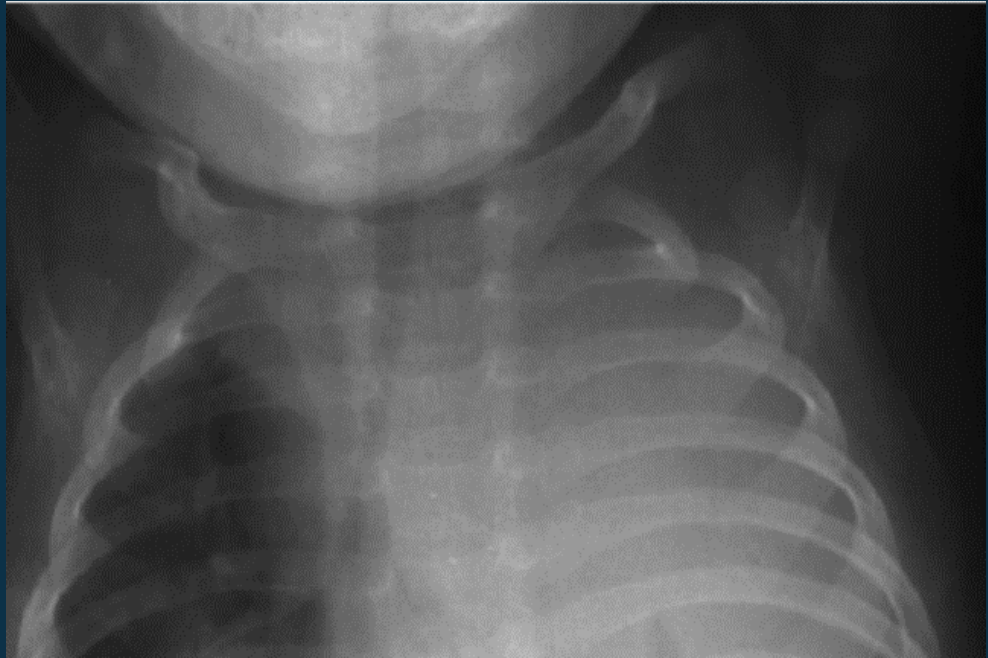
# Airway : 2 month old with cough and fever

What do you see on this CXR ?



Trachea buckle

Do not confuse with

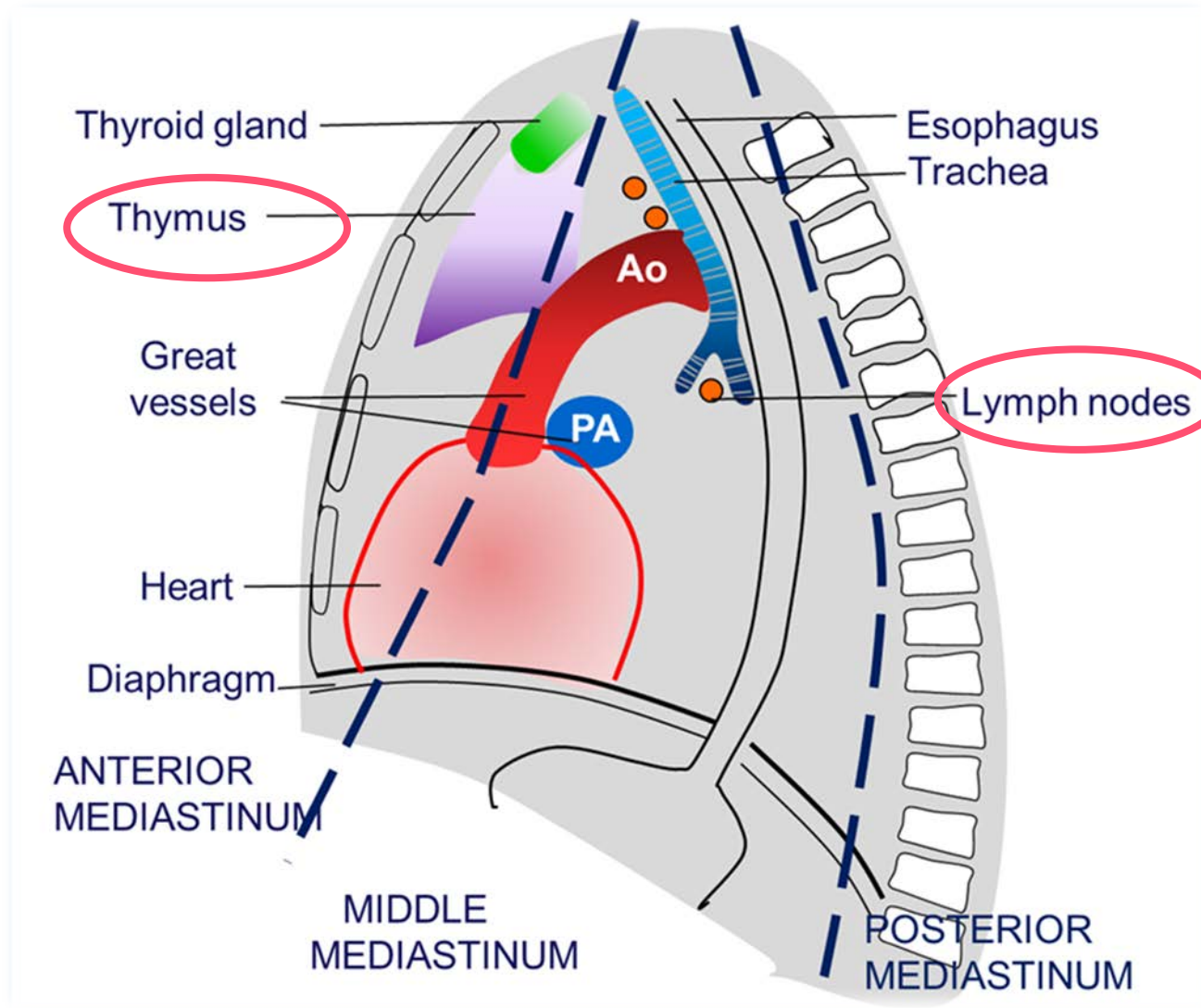


Compression and displacement of the trachea by a mass



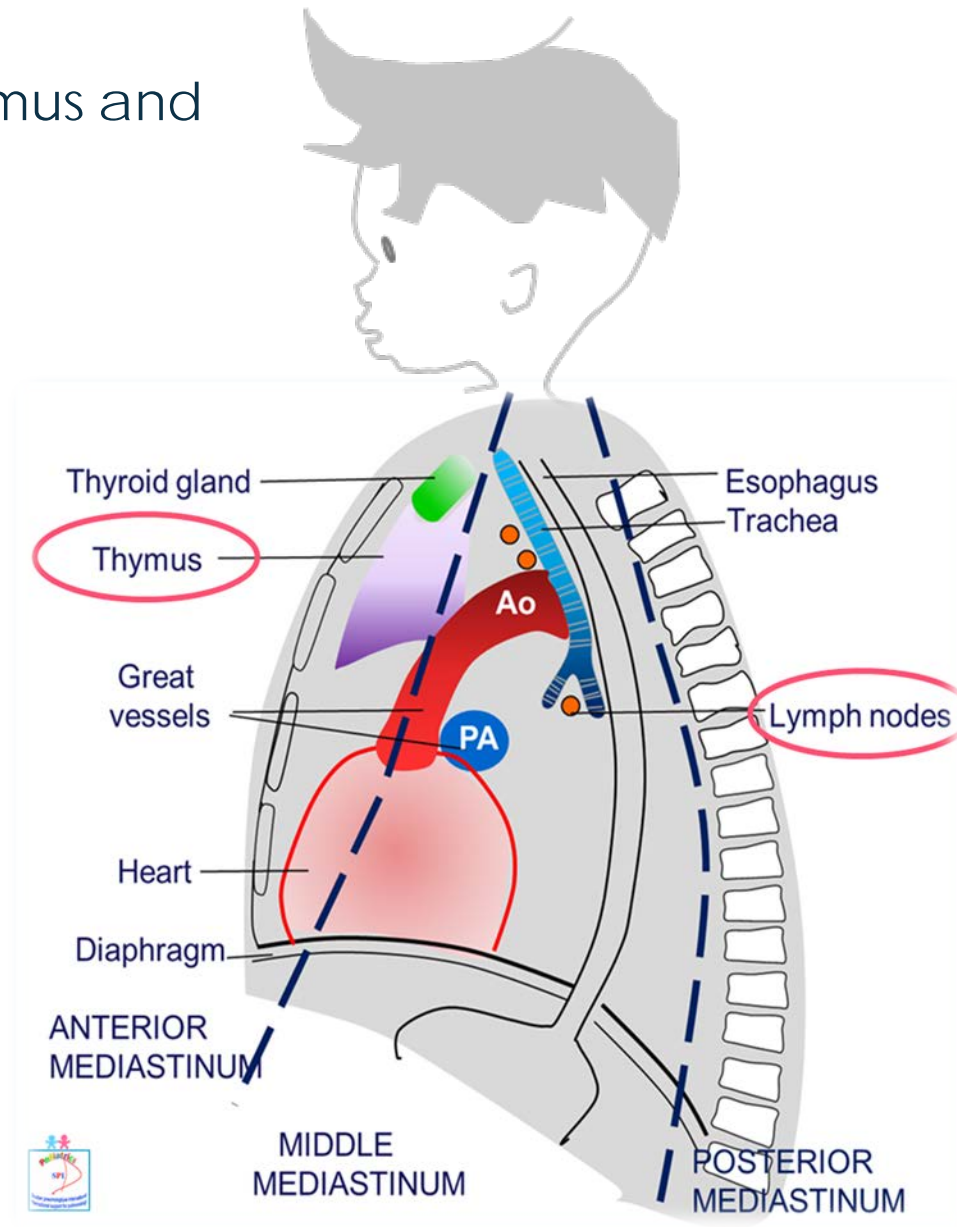
# Mediastinum

Space between the 2 lungs containing



# Mediastinal masses

We will focus on thymus and lymph nodes

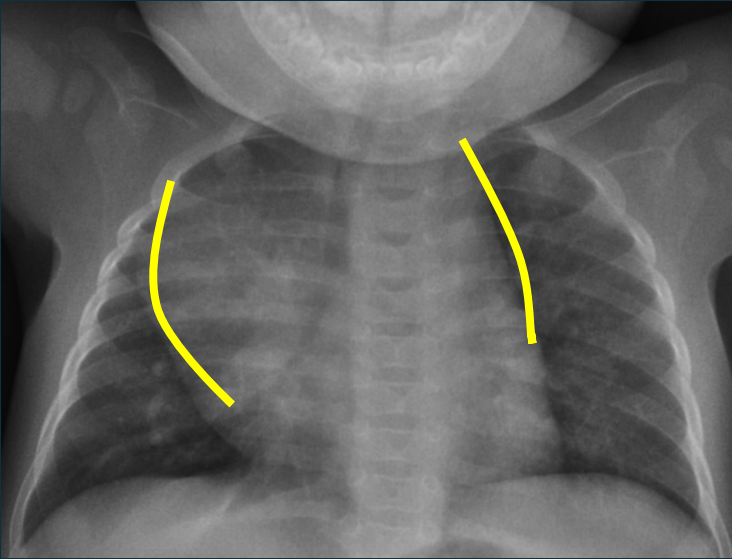




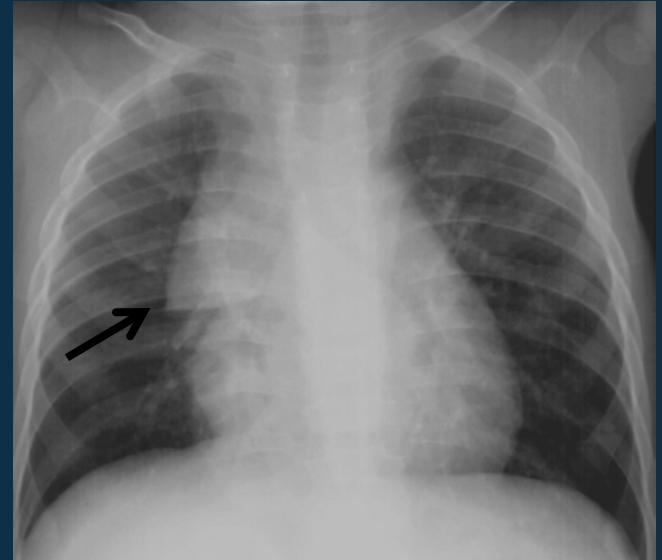
# Beware of thymus

1. Common cause of widened mediastinum
2. It is disproportionately larger in child (smaller body mass)
  - . Increases in the first few months of life
  - . Gradually regresses by the end of the first year
  - . Usually visible < 2 years old and occasionally beyond
  - . It regresses in size under stress conditions  
(acute respiratory illness, surgery, steroid therapy, radiotherapy ..)

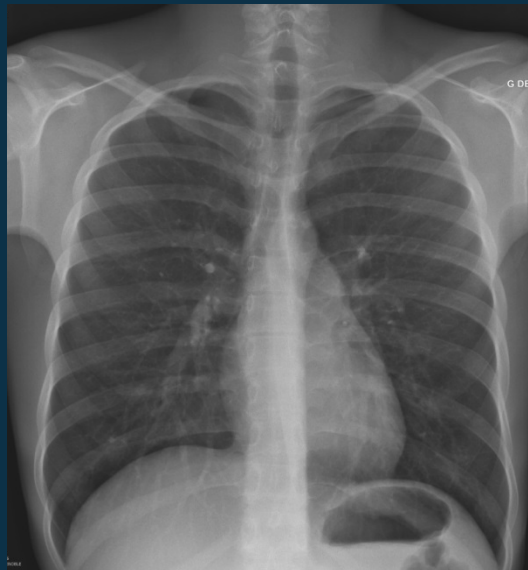
# Thymus : image evolution with age



2 month old



7 month old

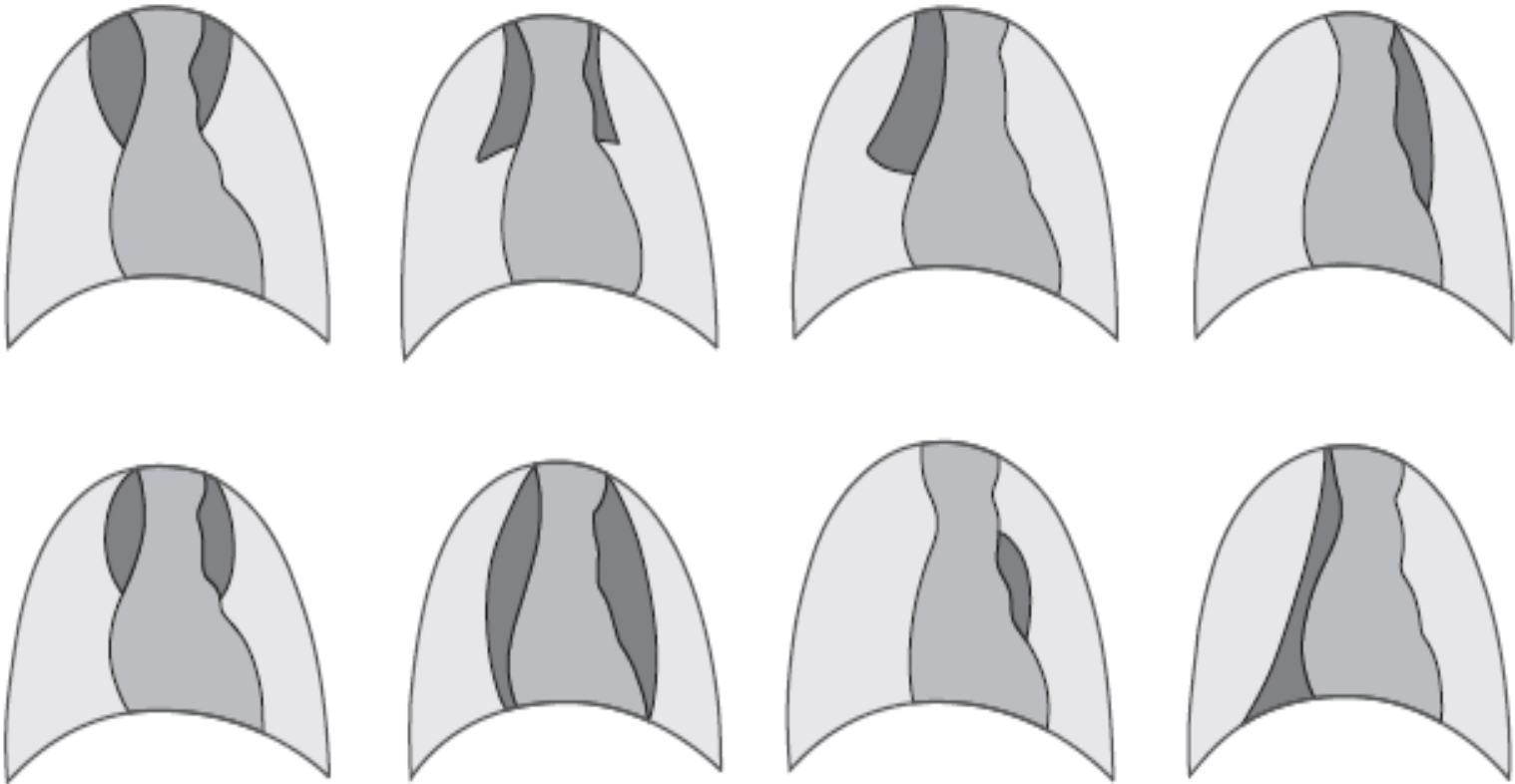


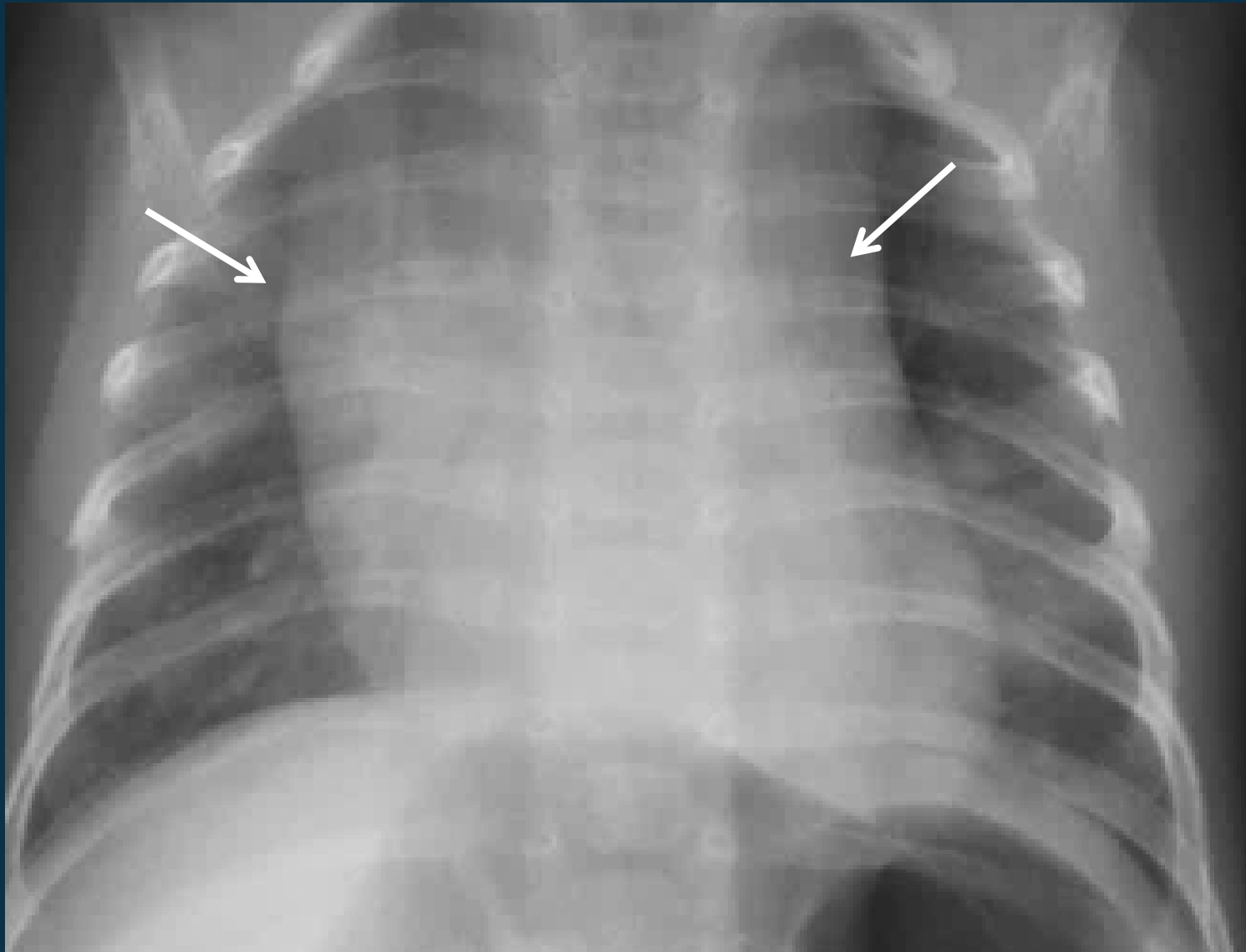
16 year old

# Thymus : characteristics

1. It is soft tissue
2. Same density as the heart ( soft tissue & fluid )
3. Antero-superior and contiguous to the heart
4. Causing the borders of the 2 structures to be indistinguishable on CXR
5. The cardio mediastinal silhouette is enlarged
6. It widens on expiration and narrows on inspiration
7. Never compresses or displace adjacent structures

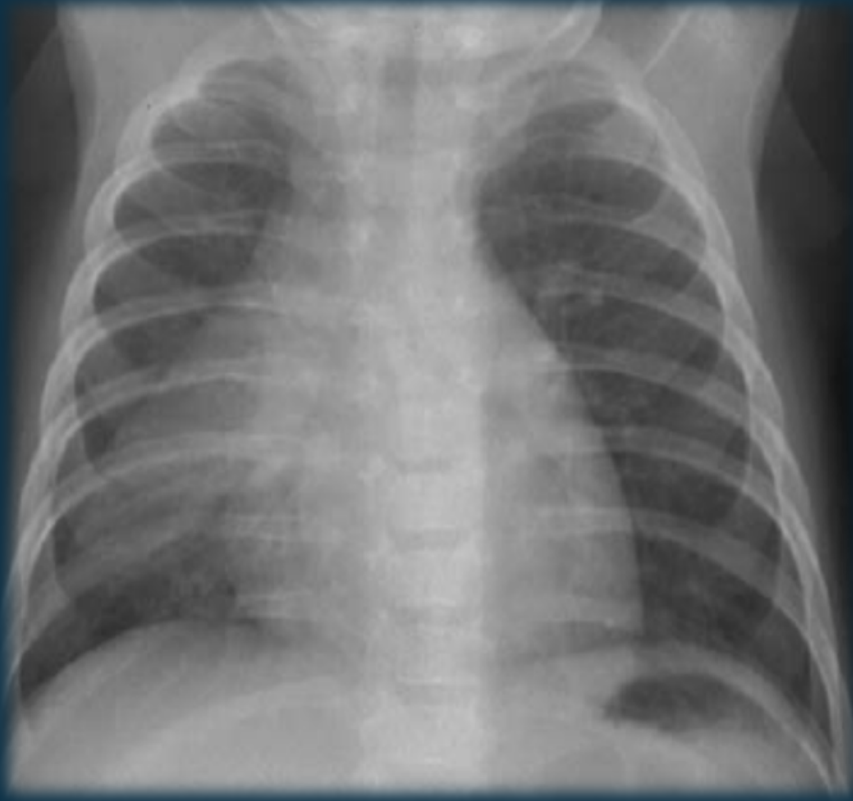
# Thymus: various shapes and sizes



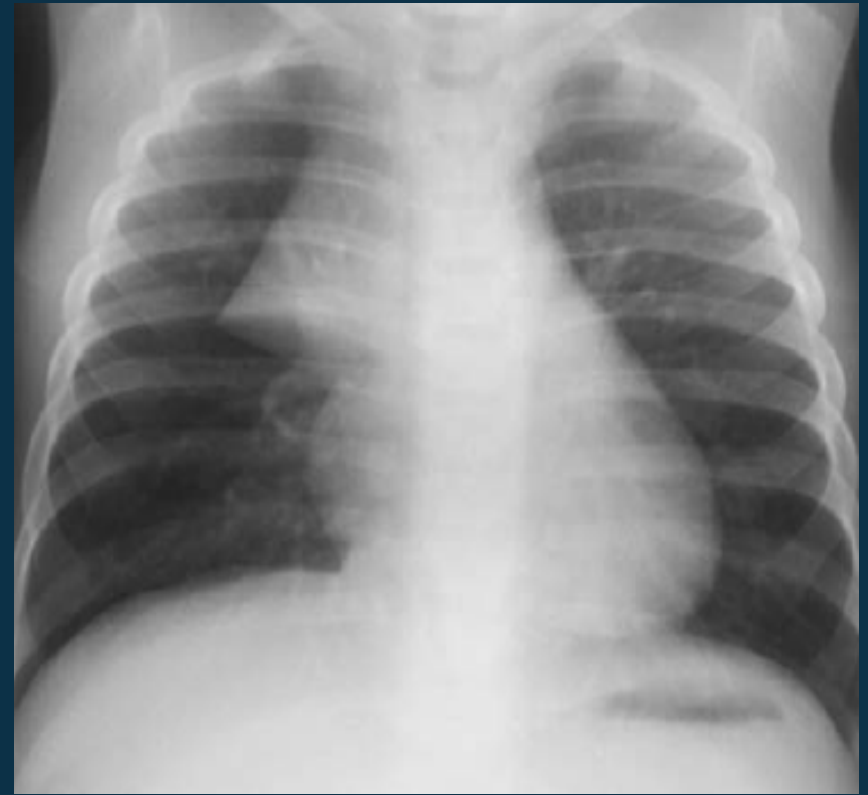


**Frontal view in an infant**

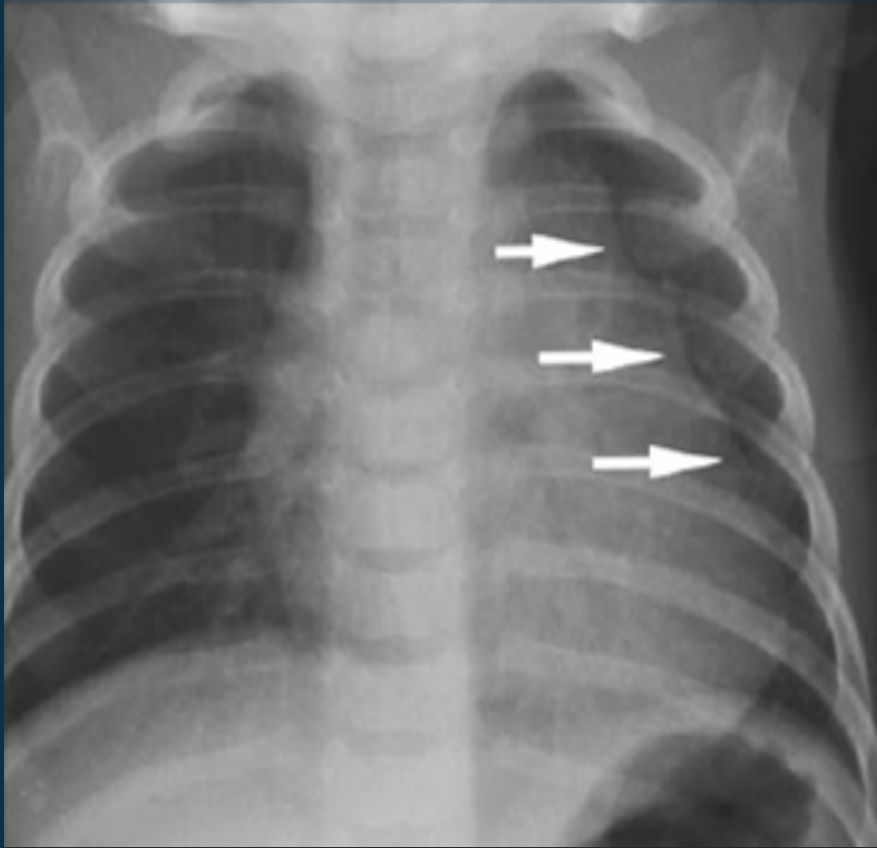
A prominent thymus gives an impression  
of widened mediastinum



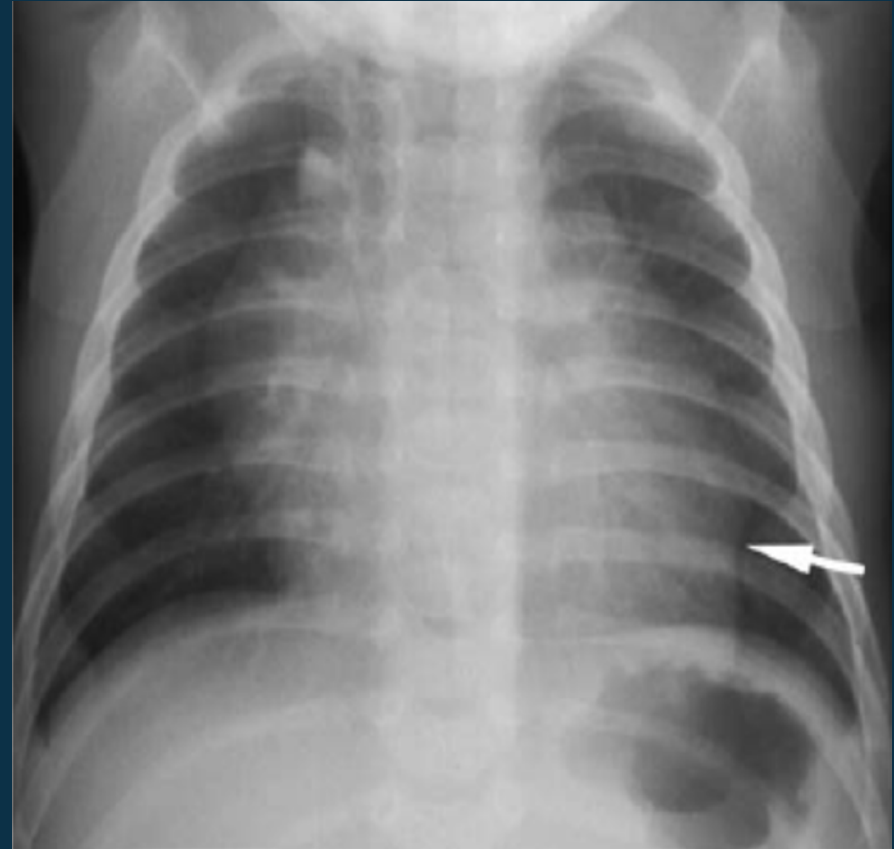
Asymmetric hypertrophy of the right lobe of the thymus



**'Sail sign'** triangular appearance  
Hypertrophy of the right lobe  
Angular corner flattened  
at the right minor fissure



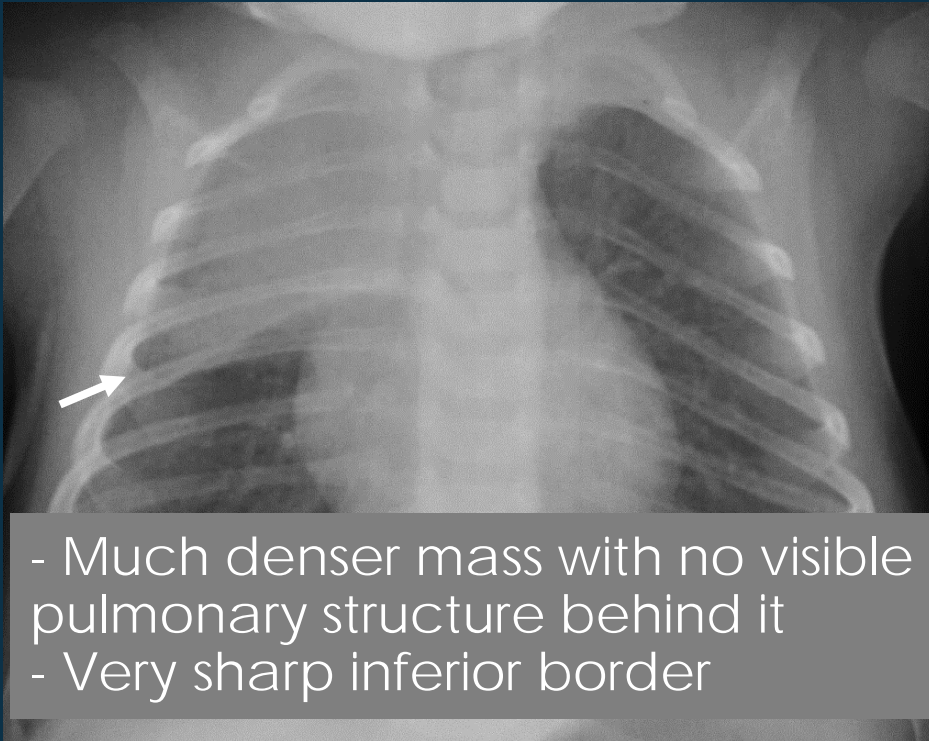
**'Wave' or 'ripple' sign.**  
Undulating appearance of the left margins of the thymus from the overlying anterior parts of ribs and cartilages



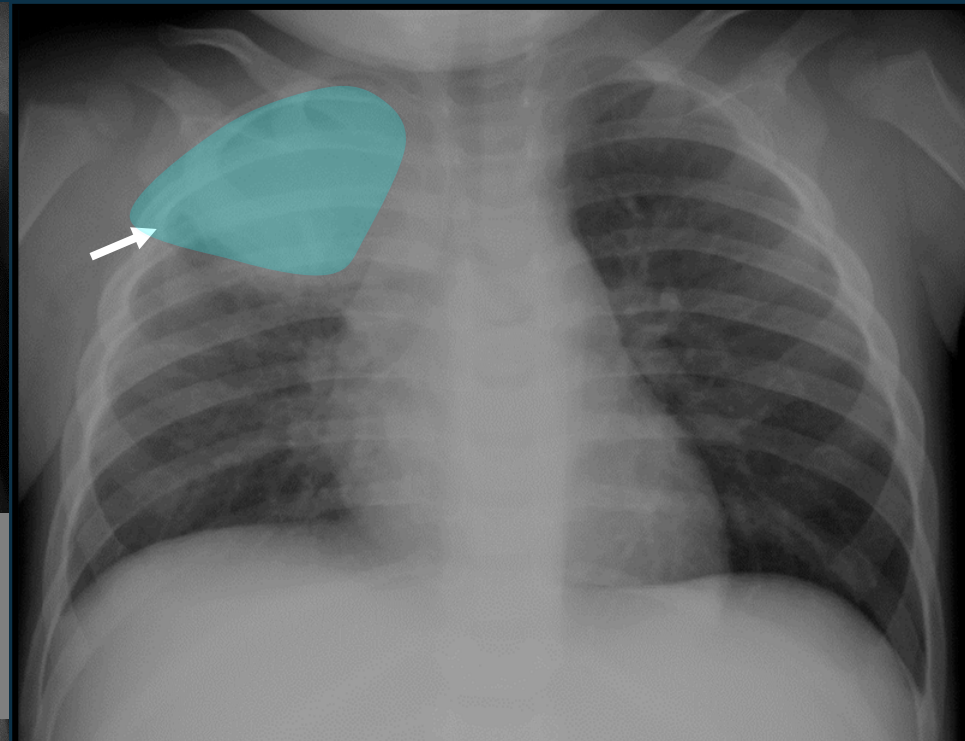
**'Notch' sign :cardiothymic incisure**  
Small indentation between the inferior border of the left lobe of the thymus and the heart



# Thymus: differential diagnosis



Normal thymus



Upper alveolar opacity

Sonographic signs of pneumonia :  
hypoechoic region with hyperechoic  
spots of variable size (air bronchogram )



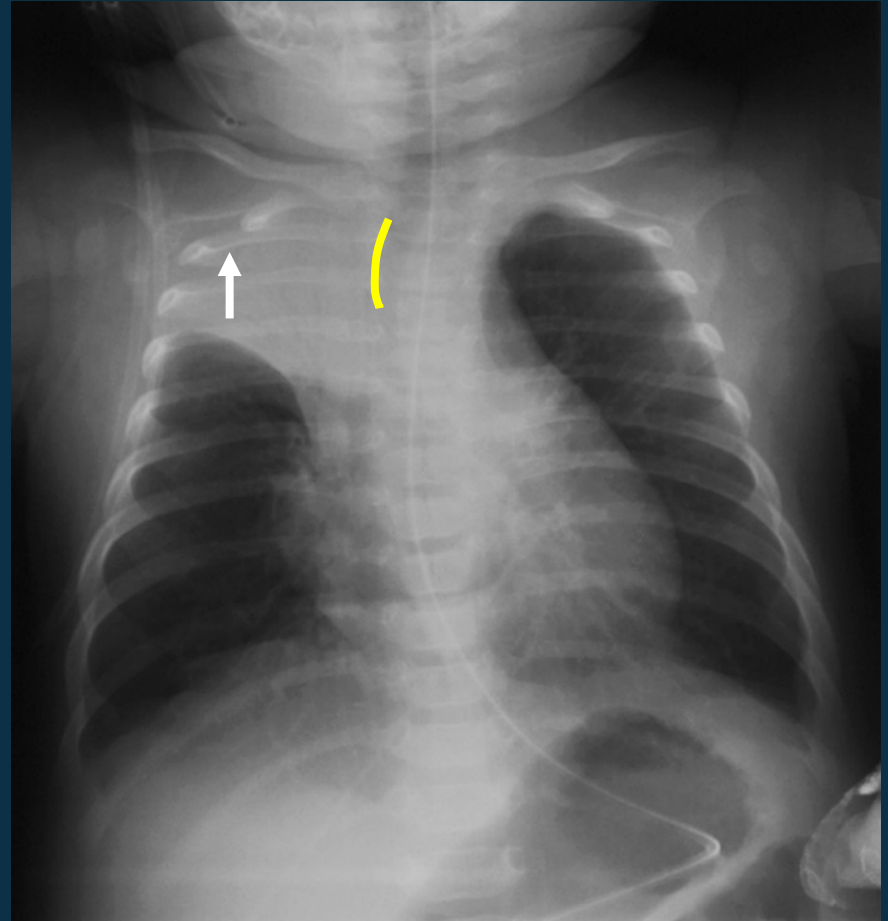


# Thymus: differential diagnosis

Elevation of the minor fissure

Trachea is displaced towards this lesion

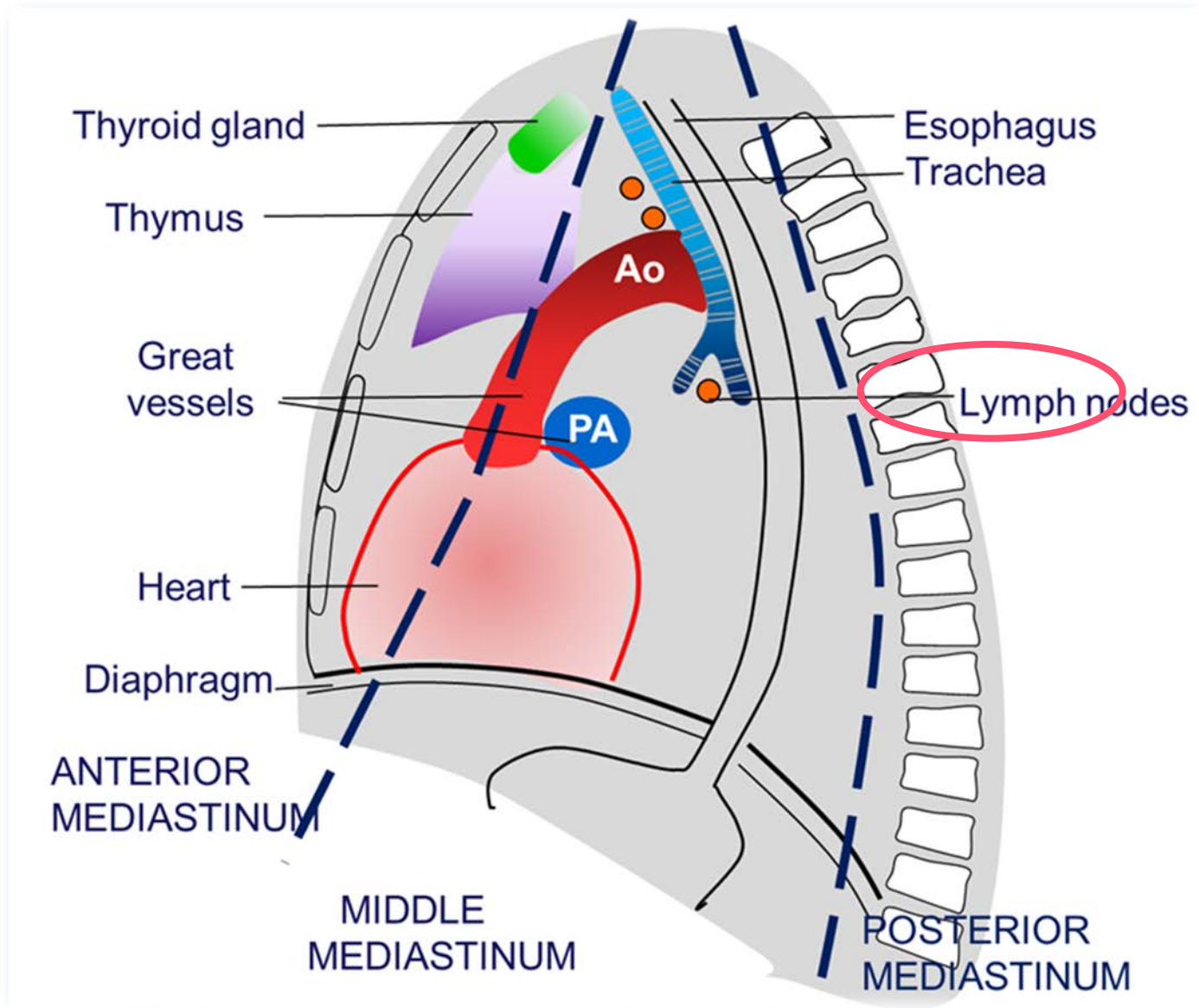
Atelectasis :  
upper alveolar opacity  
with loss of volume



# Thymus picture in children

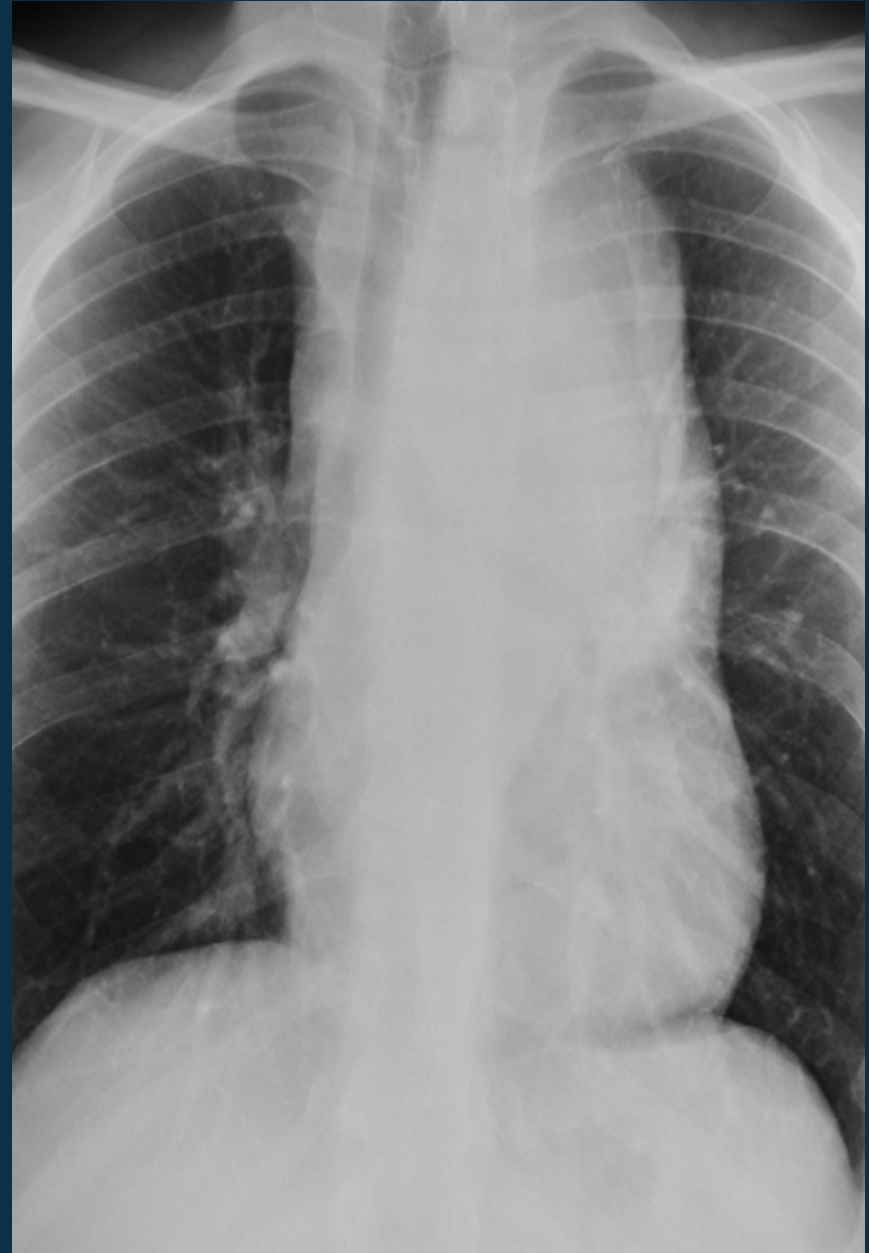
1. Particularly visible before 2 years old
2. Never compressive
3. Mobile with change of position
4. Change in size if inspiration or expiration
5. Various radiological appearances
6. Can cause confusion:
  - . can simulate cardiac enlargement, atelectasis, alveolar opacities and mediastinal masses

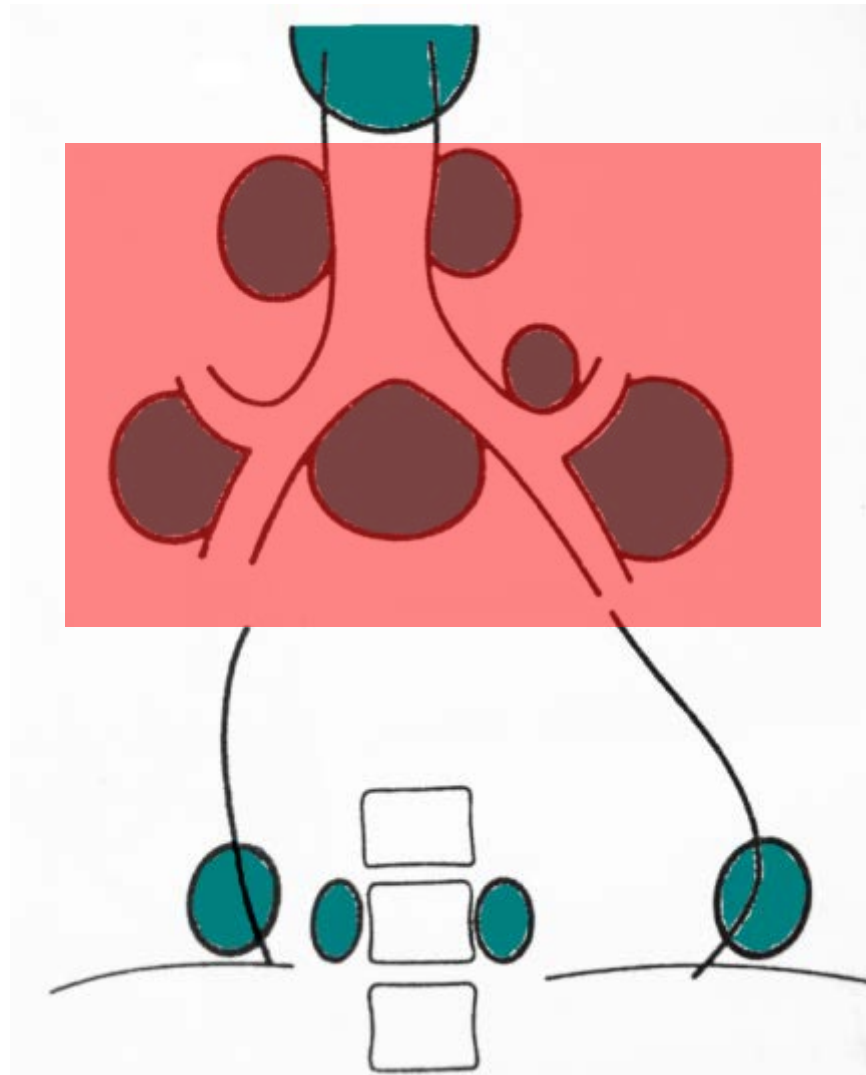
# Look for lymph nodes



The most frequent mediastinal  
Mass is a lymph node

The most frequent aetiology  
of enlarged lymph nodes  
in high TB incidence  
countries is TB



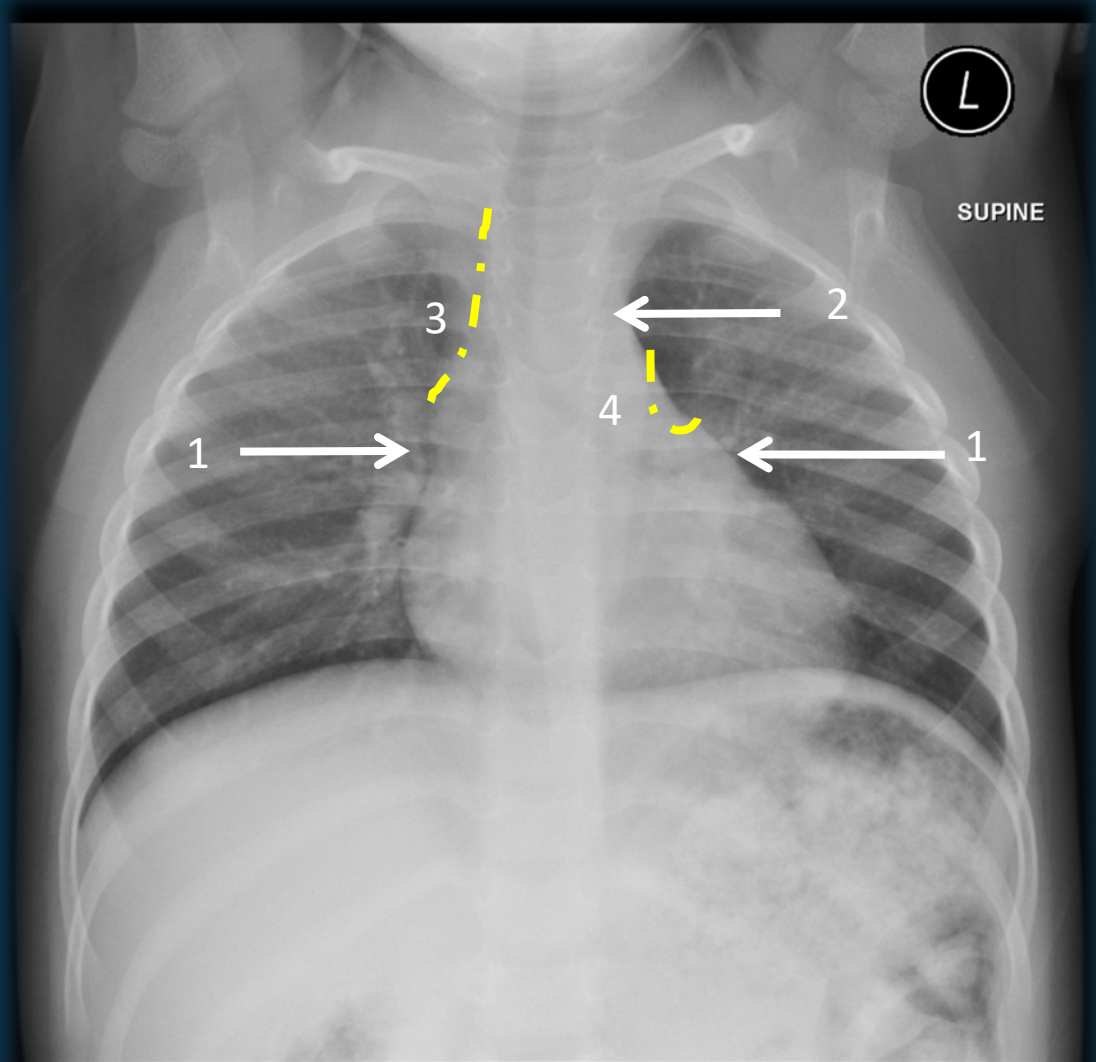


The most frequent localisation of TB lymph nodes is in this area and lateral view is very useful for diagnosis

# Look for lymph nodes

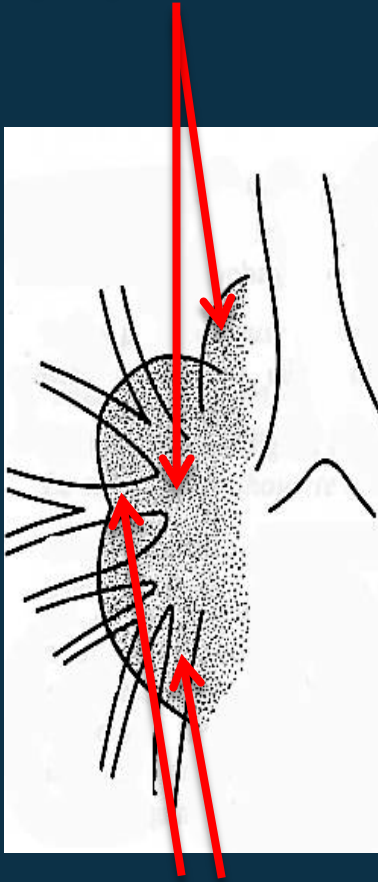
## Front view check:

1. Hilar left and right
2. Paratracheal space on left
3. Paratracheal line
4. Aorto-pulmonary line

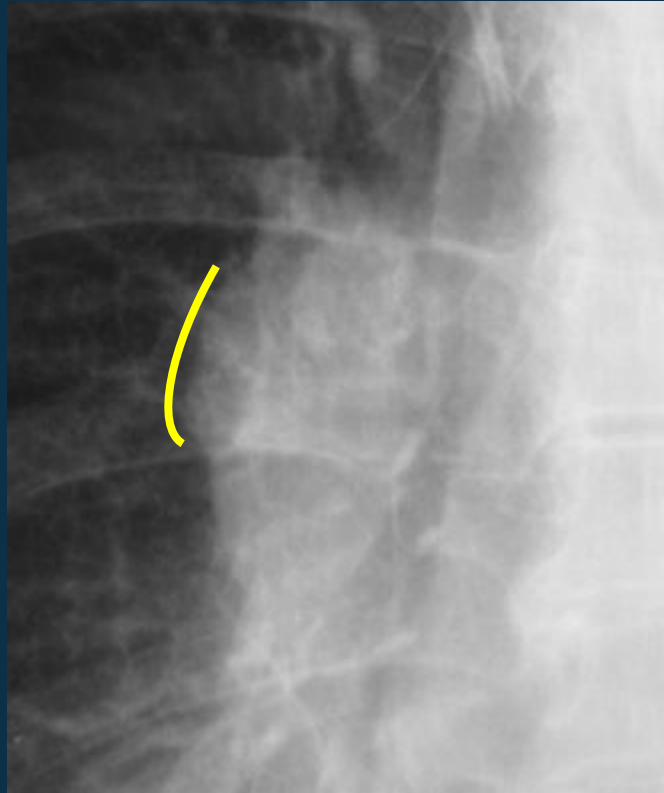


# Hilar Opacities : enlarged lymph nodes

Lymph nodes



Hilar lymph nodes



Convex  
external edge

Normal hilar



Rectilinear or concave  
external edge

Normal arterial  
vessels visible  
through opacity



# Mediastinum Lines

Right  
Paratracheal  
line

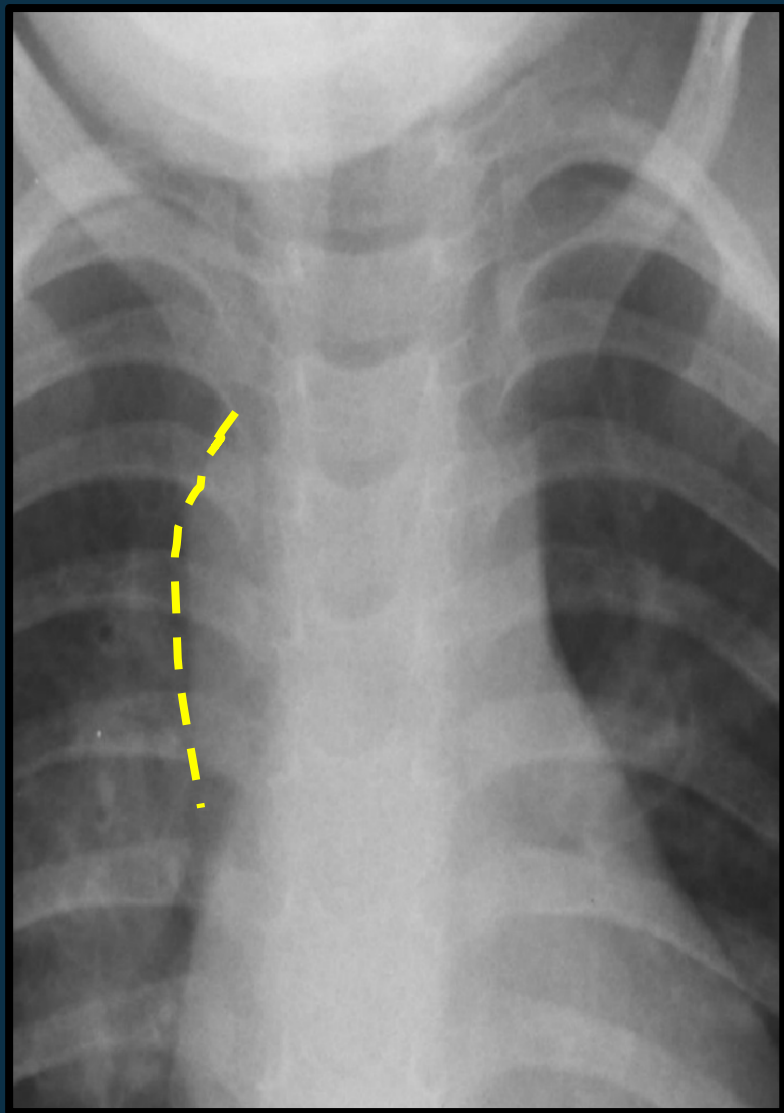


Aorto-  
Pulmonary  
line

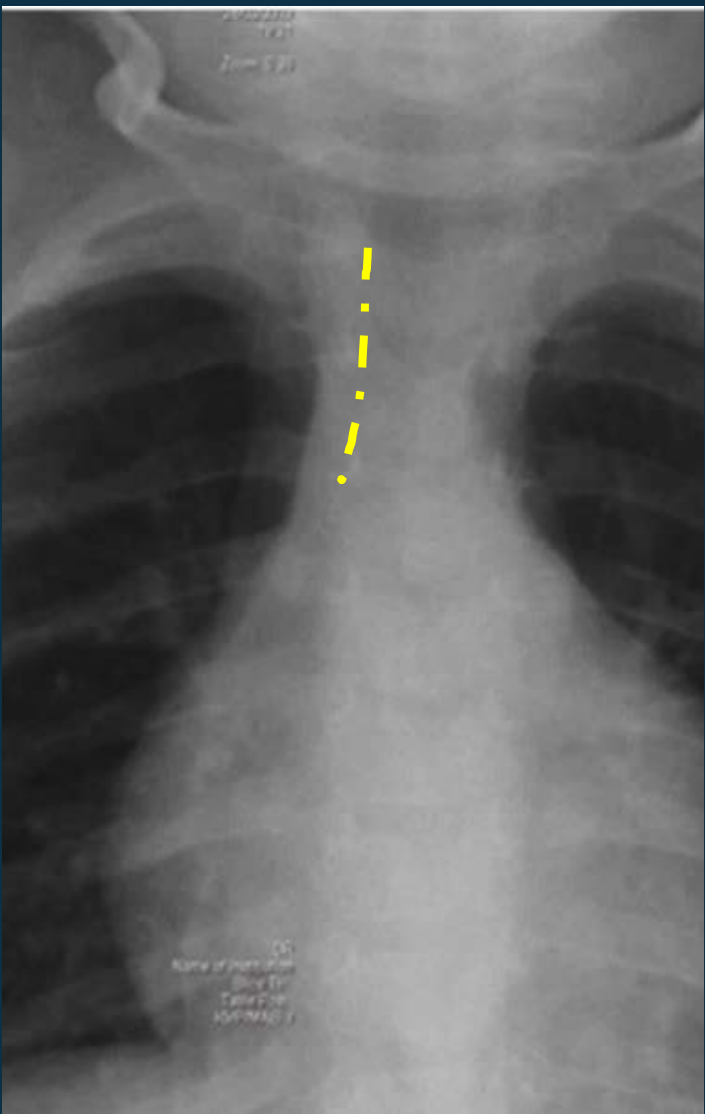
Both are really important to detect lymph nodes, especially for older children



# Right paratracheal line

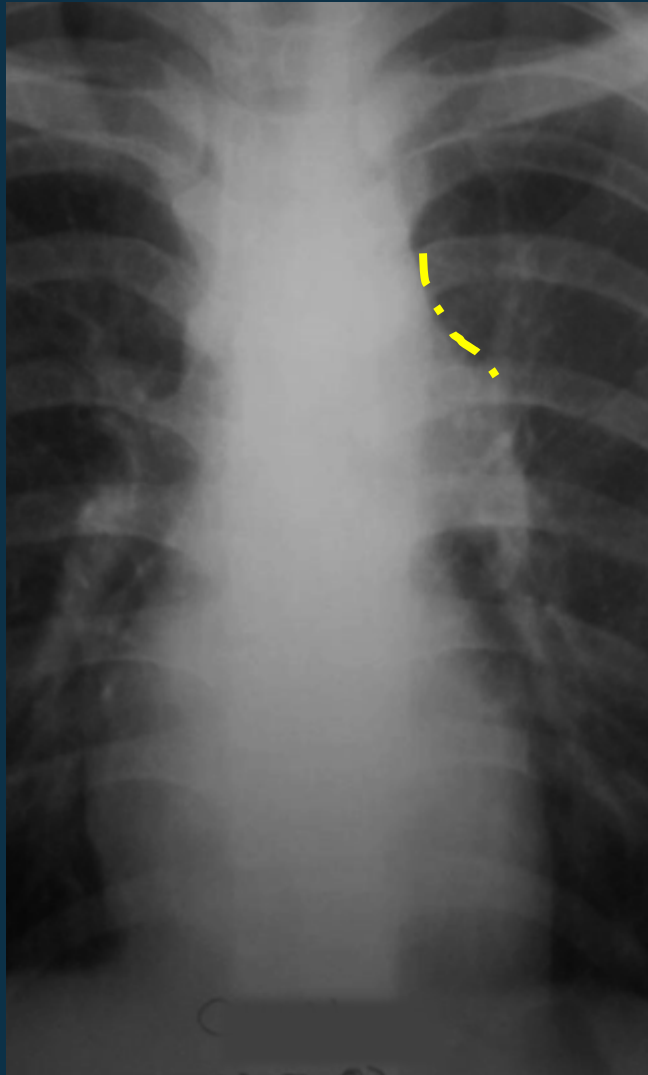


TB lymph node  
in the latero-tracheal area

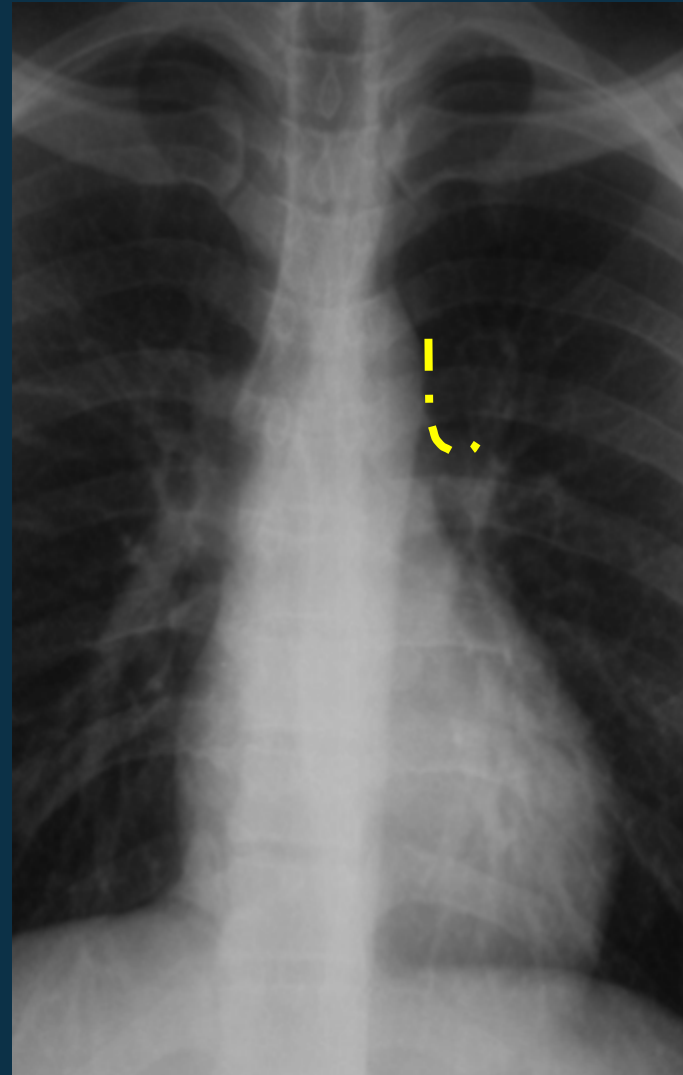


Normal CXR

# Aorto-pulmonary line



Lymph node  
in aorto-pulmonary window

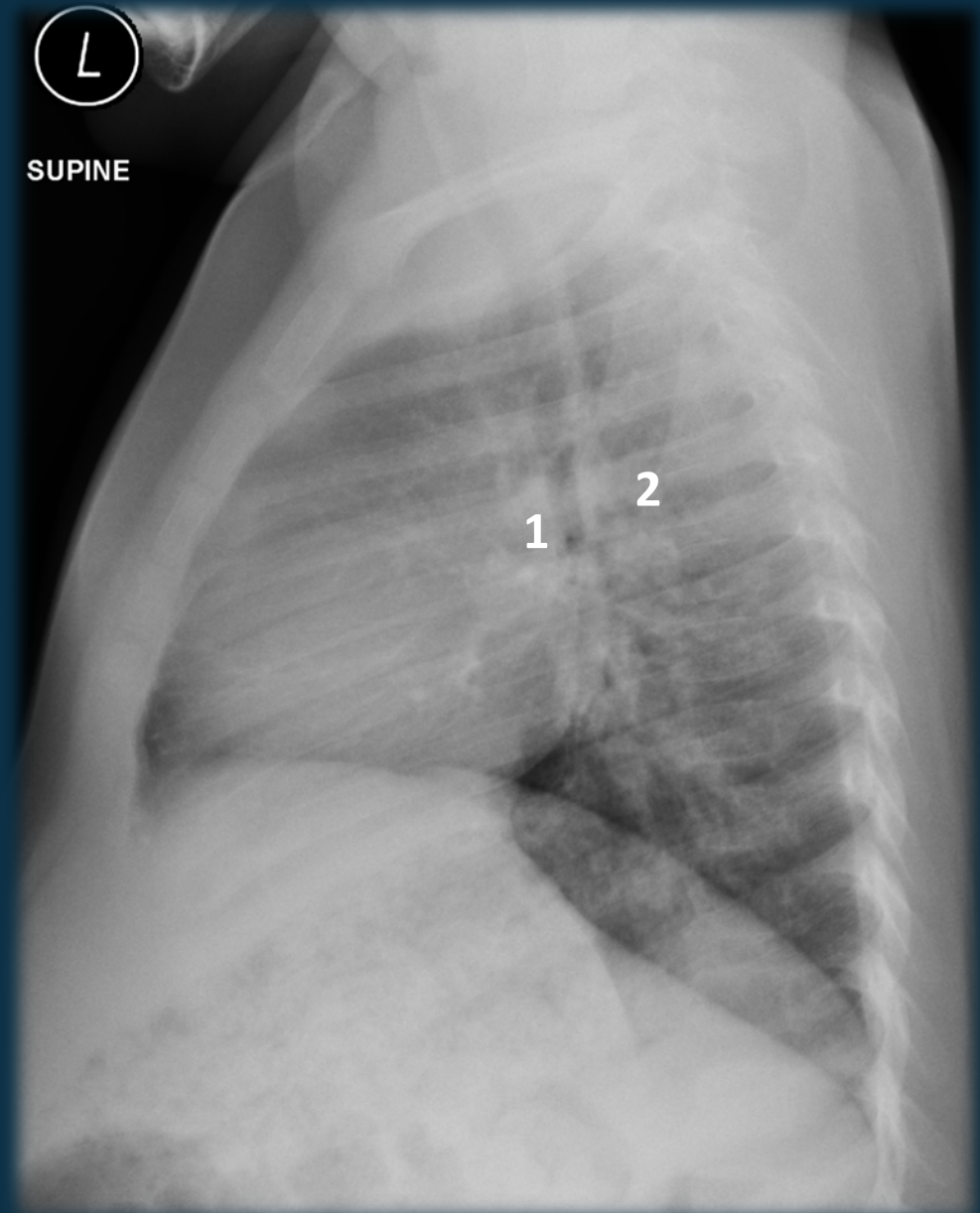


Normal CXR

# Look for lymph nodes

Lateral view check :

1. Right pulmonary artery
2. Aortic arch

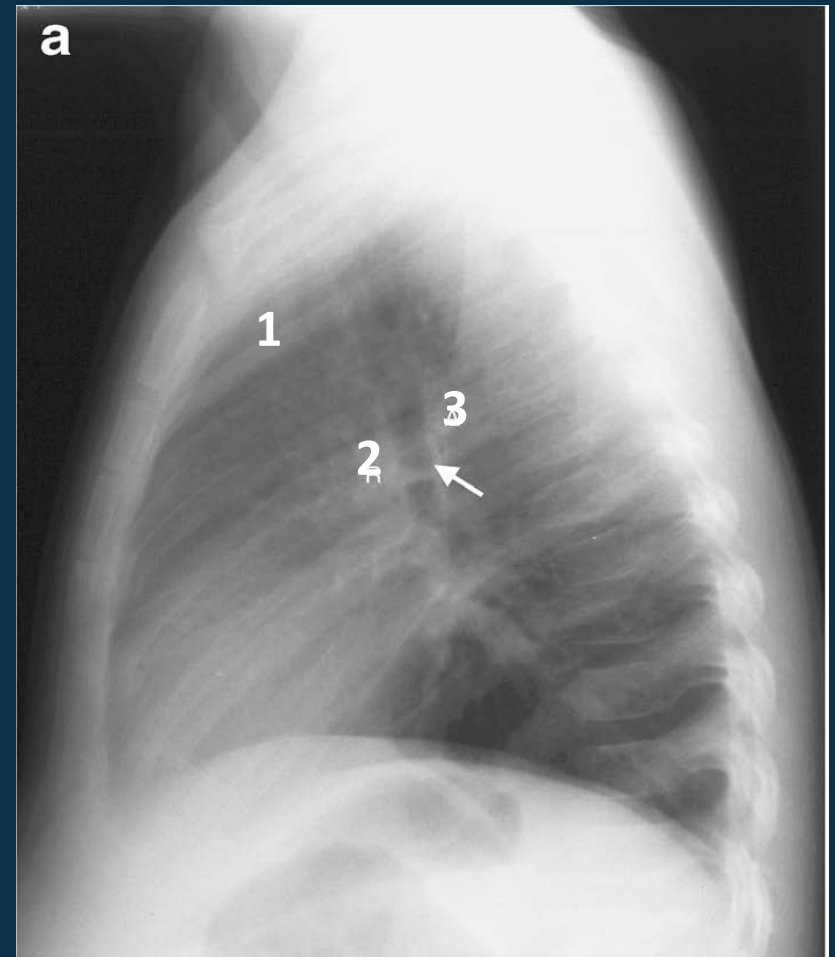


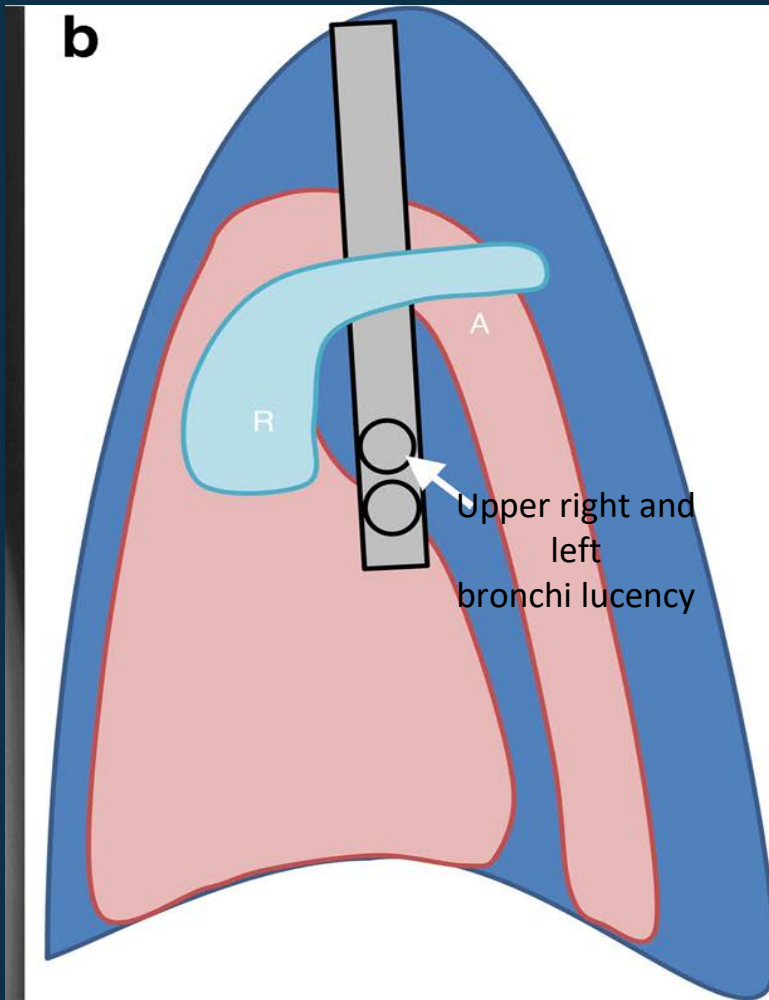
Describe what you see on this lateral view :

1. Retrosternal clear space
2. Right pulmonary artery
3. The aortic arch
4. Any sign of lymph nodes ?  
. No

So this is.....

**Normal lateral chest radiograph  
in a 6-year-old girl.**





Normal lateral chest radiograph in a 6-year-old girl.  
 The pulmonary arteries and aortic arch surround inferior part of trachea ( just above the right upper lobe bronchus ↗ ...first oval lucency ↗ )

Describe what you see on this lateral view :

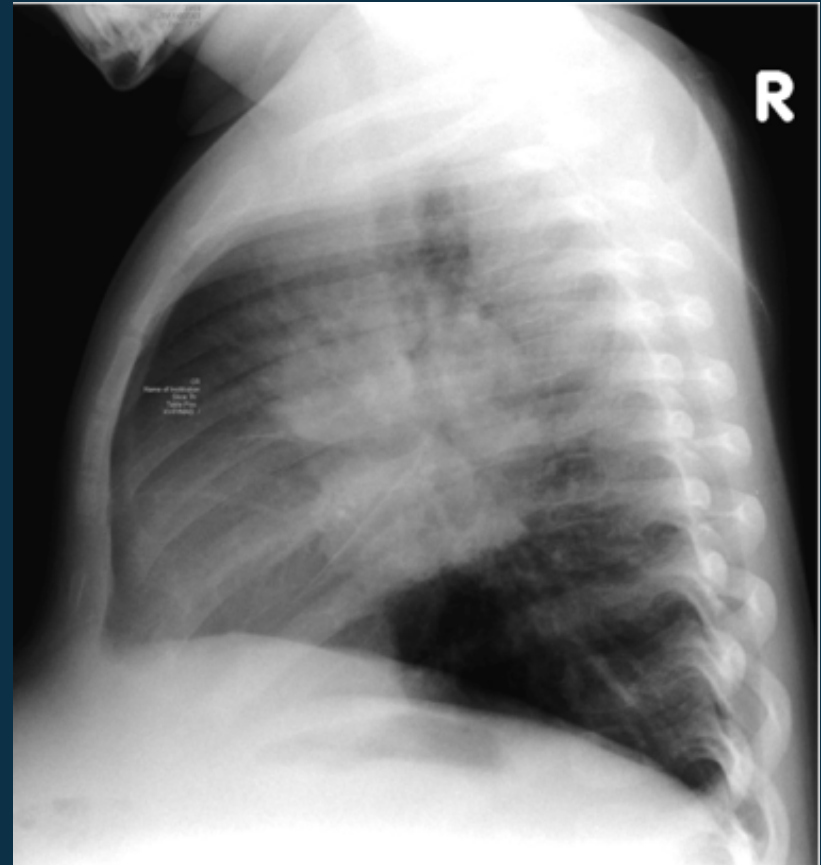
1. Retro sternal clear space
  - . Not filled
2. Diaphragms
  - . You can see both right and left
3. The hilar area
  - . Can you see the right pulmonary artery ?  
No

What do you see ?

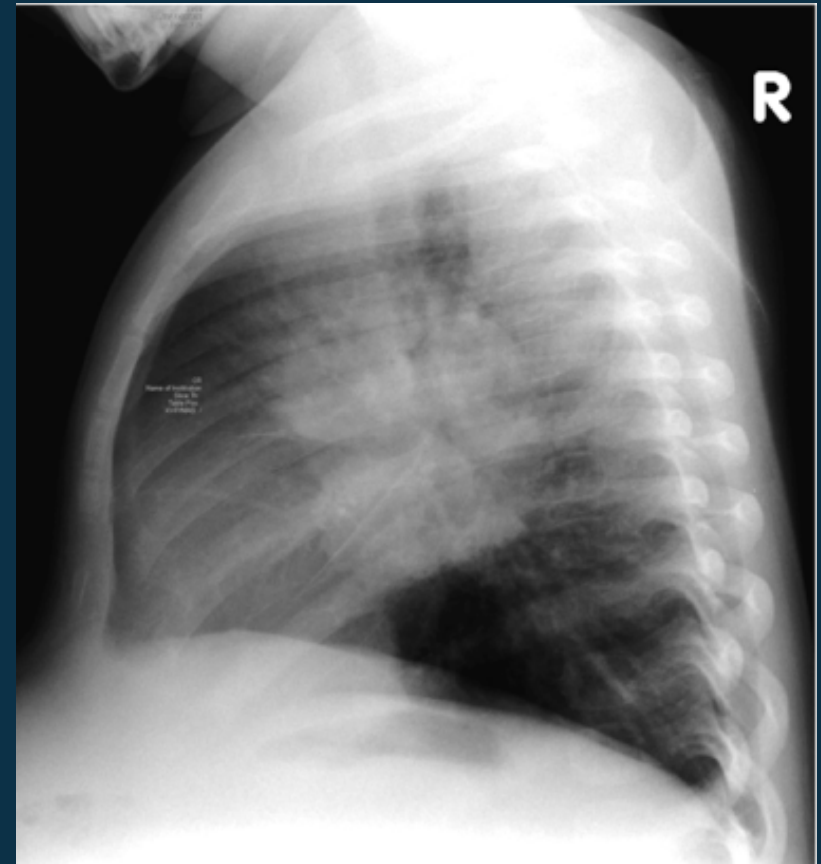
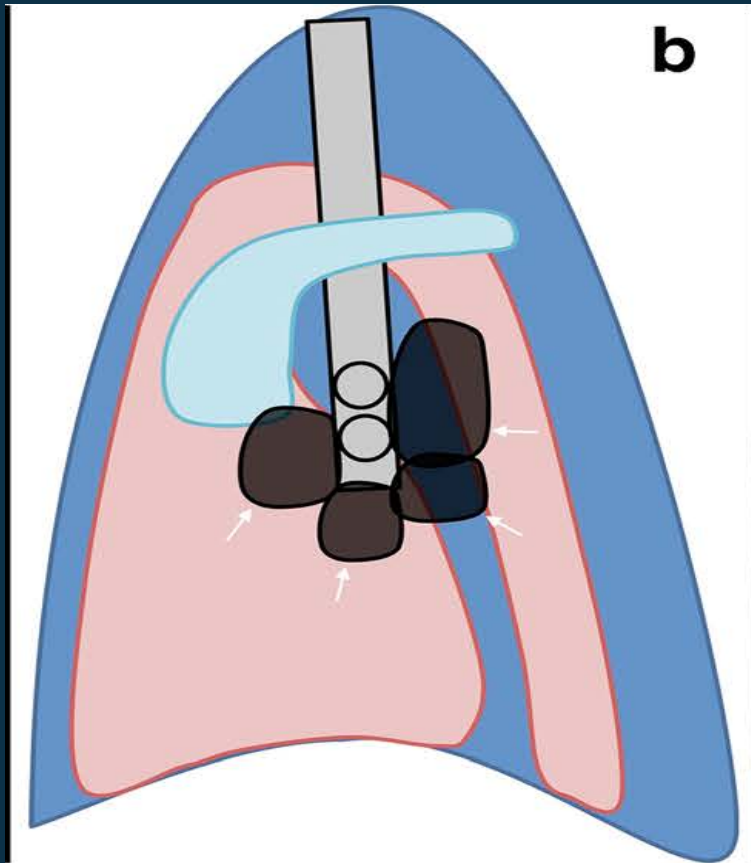
- . Lobulated mass-like densities posterior and inferior to the bronchus intermedius

So it is .....

**Enlarged TB sub-carinal and retro-carinal lymph nodes**

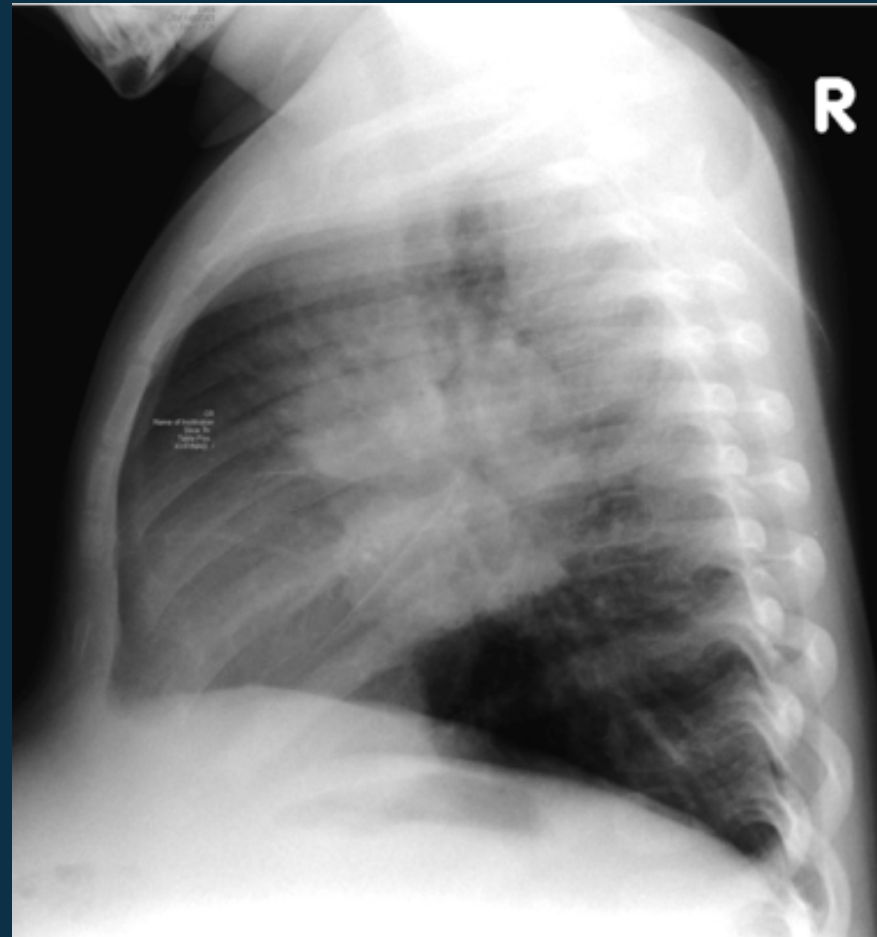
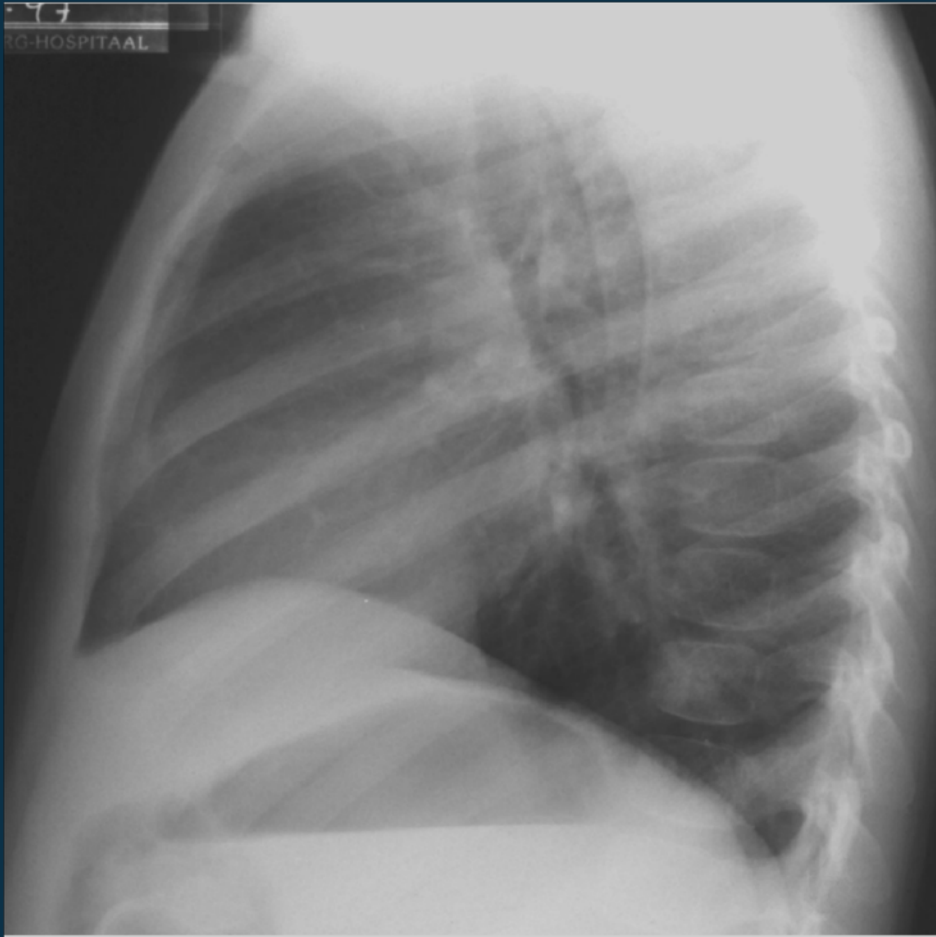






Tuberculous lymph nodes involving the pre, sub, and retro-carinal regions with the appearance of lobulated, mass-like densities posterior and inferior to the bronchus intermedius = TB lymphadenopathy.

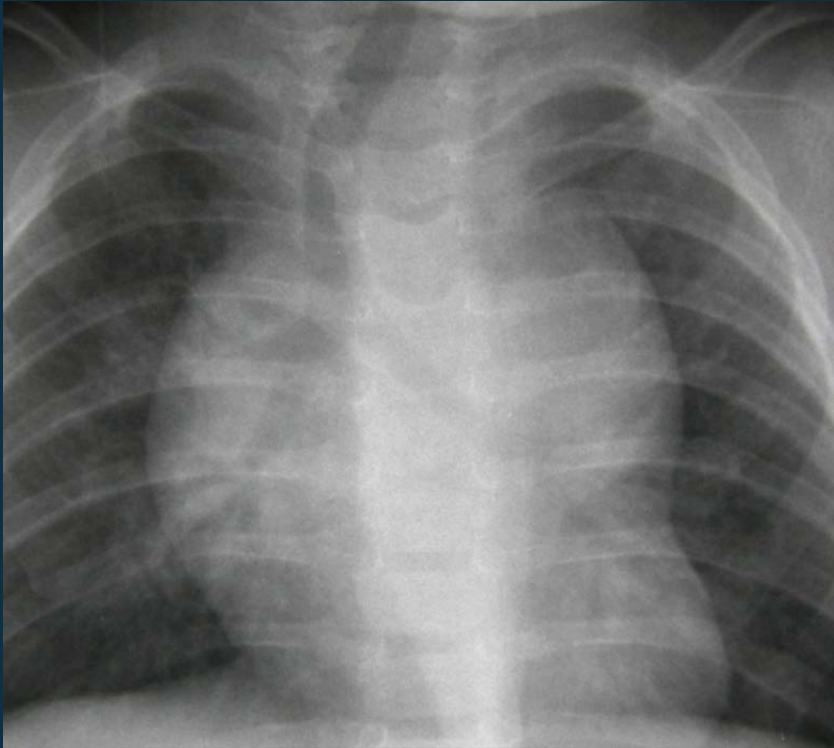
# Where are the lymph nodes ?



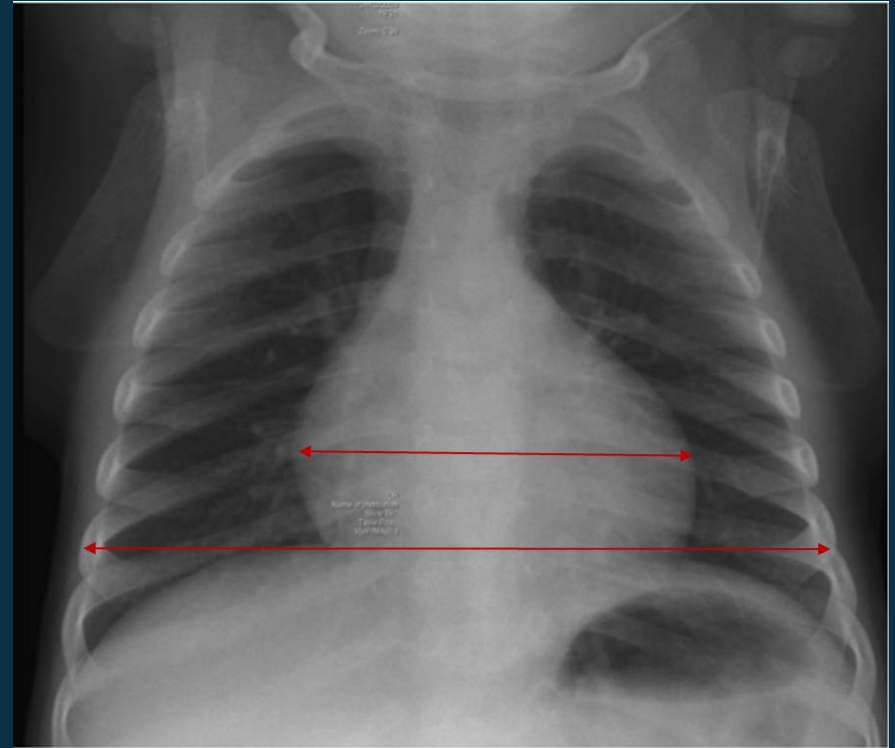
1. On the left
2. On the right



# Cardiac images in infants

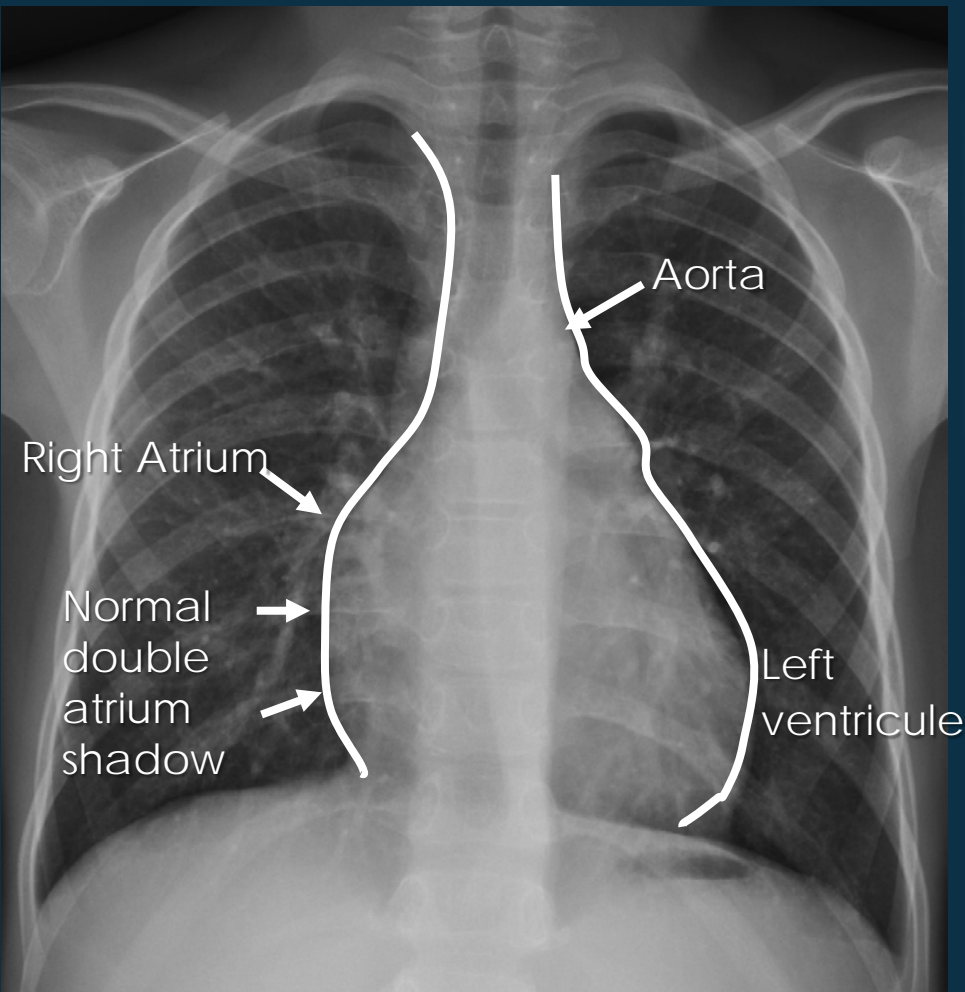


Cardio-thymic  
silhouette

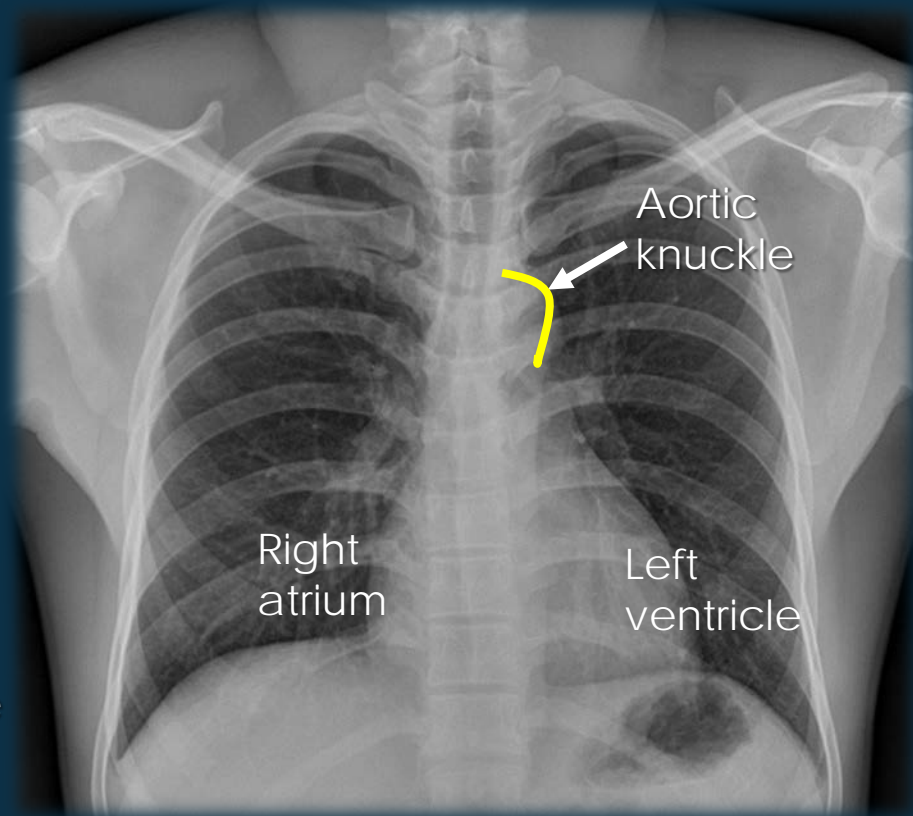


Cardiothoracic index  
 $\leq 55\%$

Heart contours :5-year-old



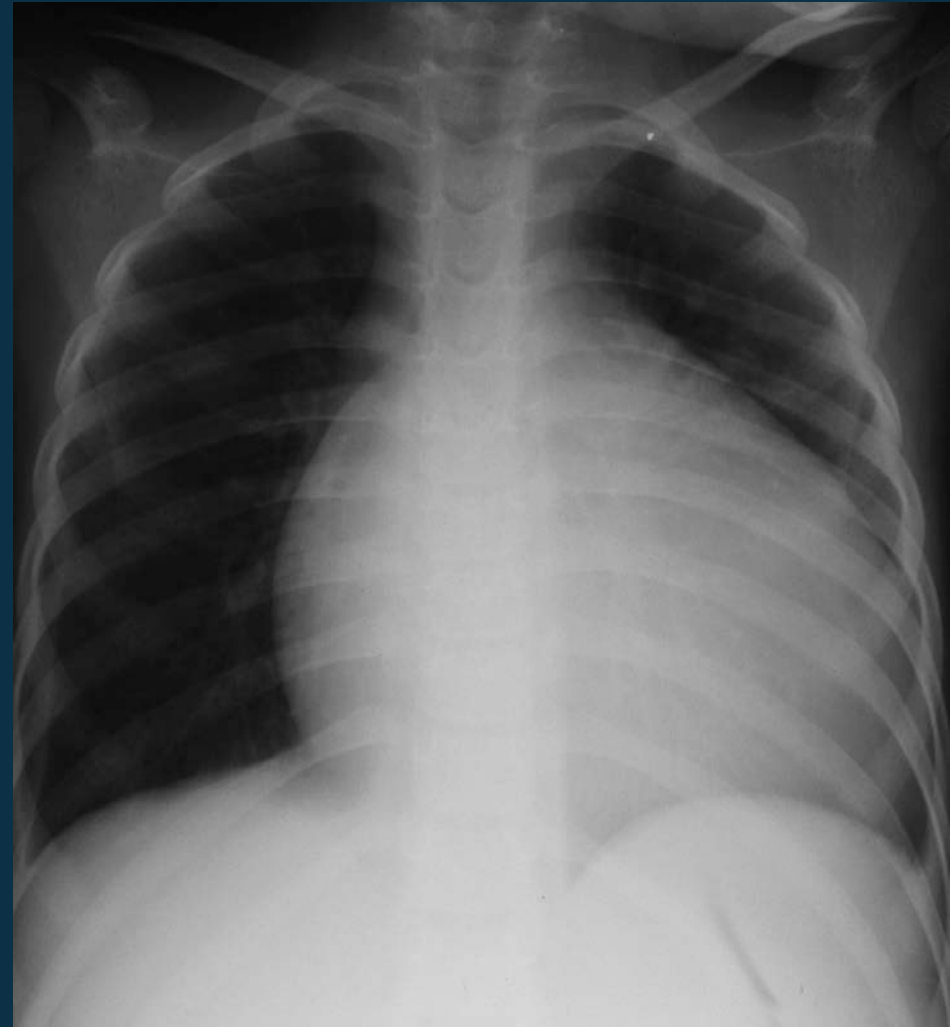
Normal adult chest x-ray



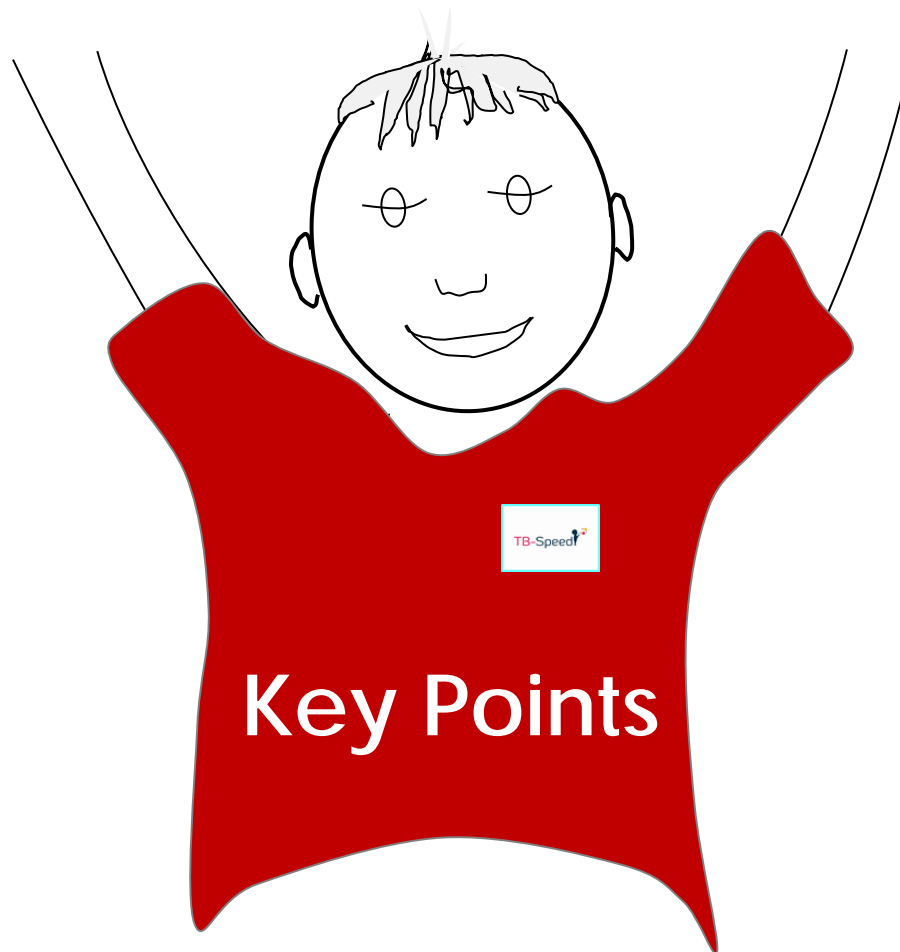
Normal double atrium shadow with prominent left atrial shadow  
 Normal appearance by 6 to 8 years

What do you see on this X-ray ?  
• Cardiomegaly Large water bottle shaped heart

What is your diagnosis ?  
**Pericardial effusion**



Third circle



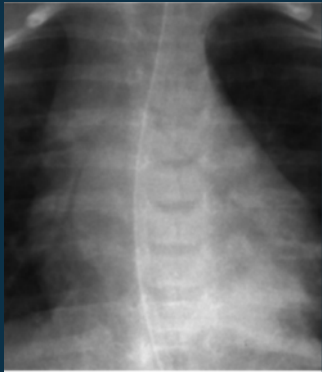
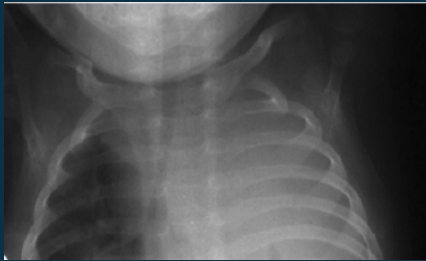
Assess the airways and mediastinum

# Key points third circle

Assess the airways



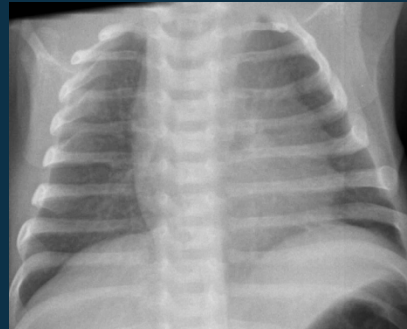
Are there signs of compression ?  
Narrowing?  
Displacement ?



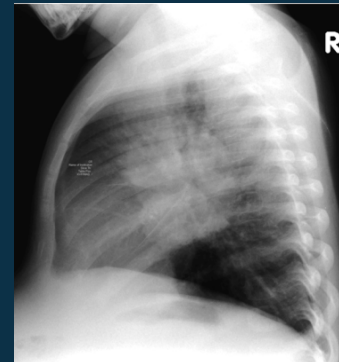
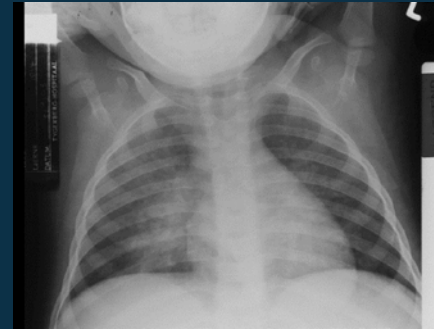
Assess the mediastinum



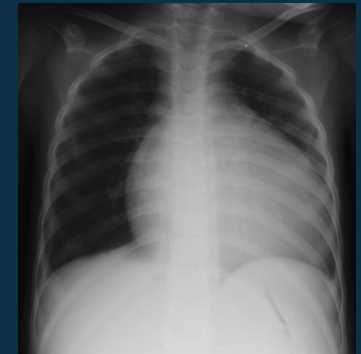
Is there a  
thymus ?



Are there enlarged  
lymph nodes ?



Is there  
cardiomegaly ?



# Module 1 How to read a CXR

Chap1: Technical and anatomical aspects

## **Chap2: Systematic approach to CXR interpretation**

Part1. Quality factors

Part2. Normal CXR

Part3. First circle

1. Soft part of the chest wall
2. Diaphragmatic areas
3. Bony Thorax abnormalities

Part4. Second circle

4. Lung
5. Pleura

Part5. Third circle

6. Airways
7. hili and Mediastinum
8. Lymph nodes
9. Heart

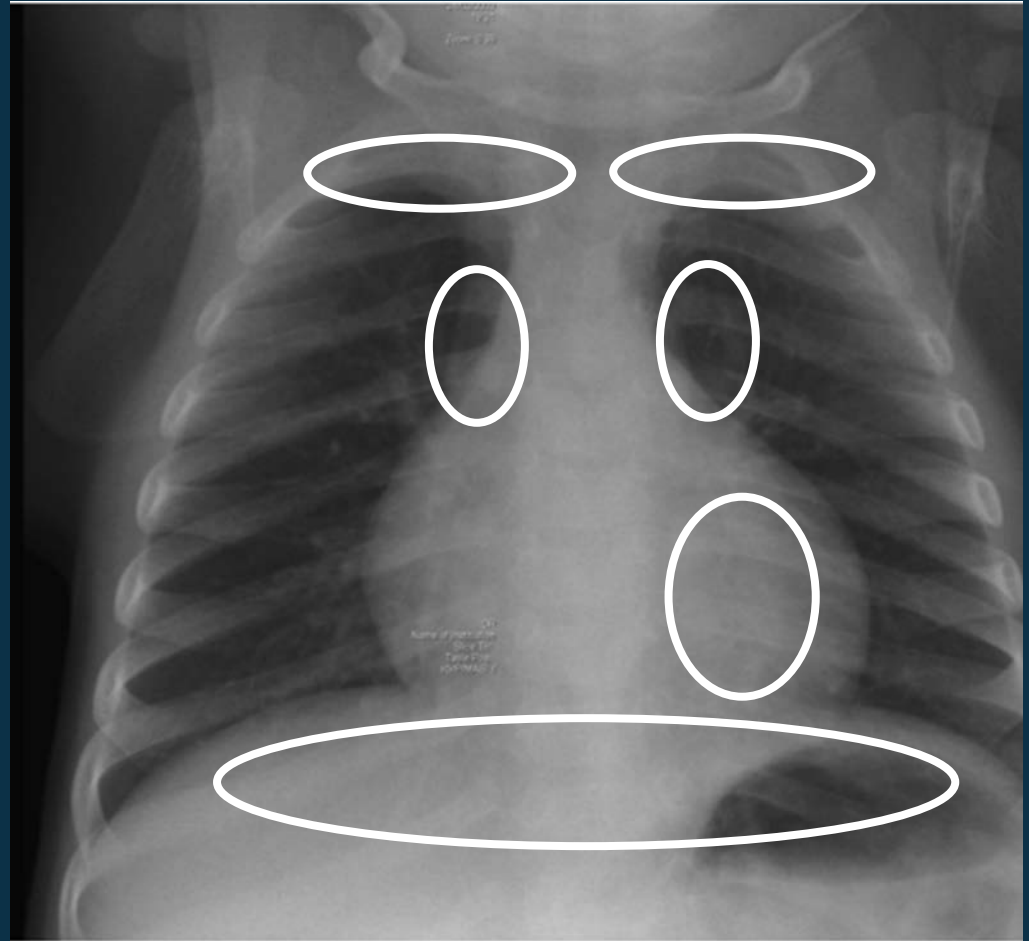
### **Part6. The hidden areas**

Part7. Conclusion

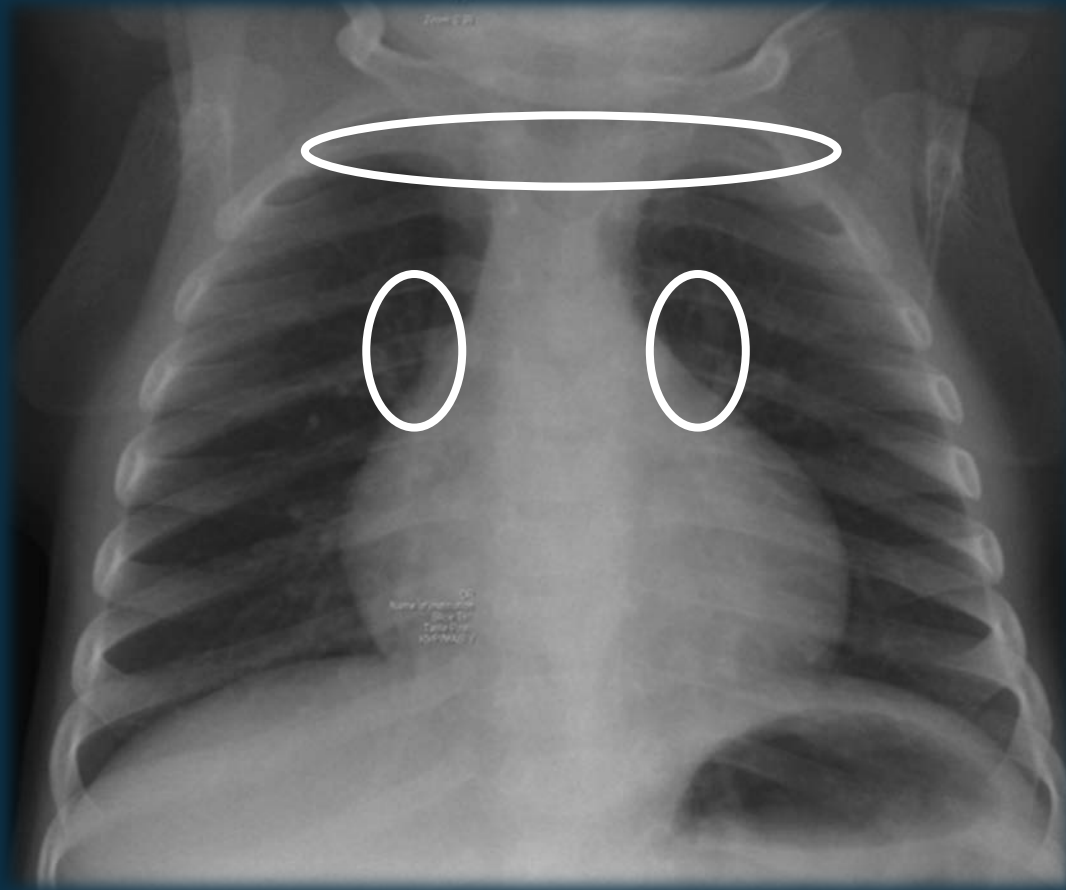
# The hidden areas: worth a second look

There are some areas that need special attention, because pathology in these areas can easily be overlooked:

- . Apical zones
- . Hilar zones
- . Retrocardiac zone
- . Subdiaphragmatic zone





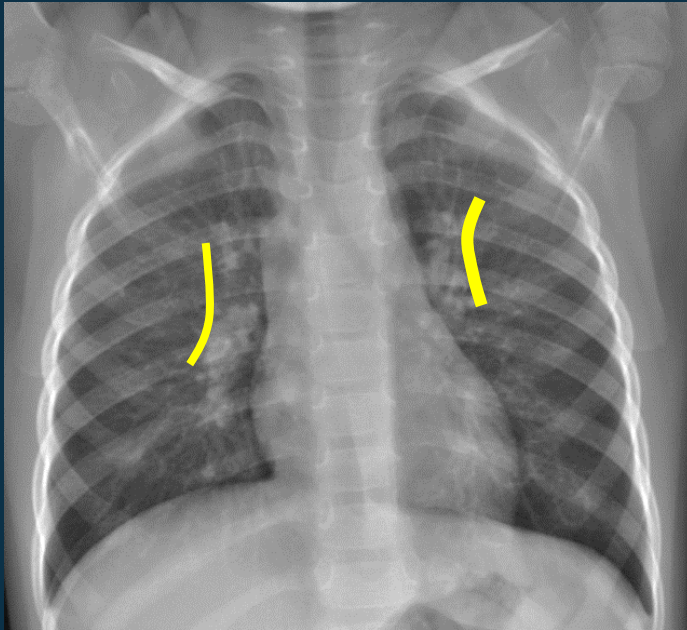


Apical zones : tuberculous changes in the older child

Hilar zones:  
One of the most difficult area to evaluate in infants

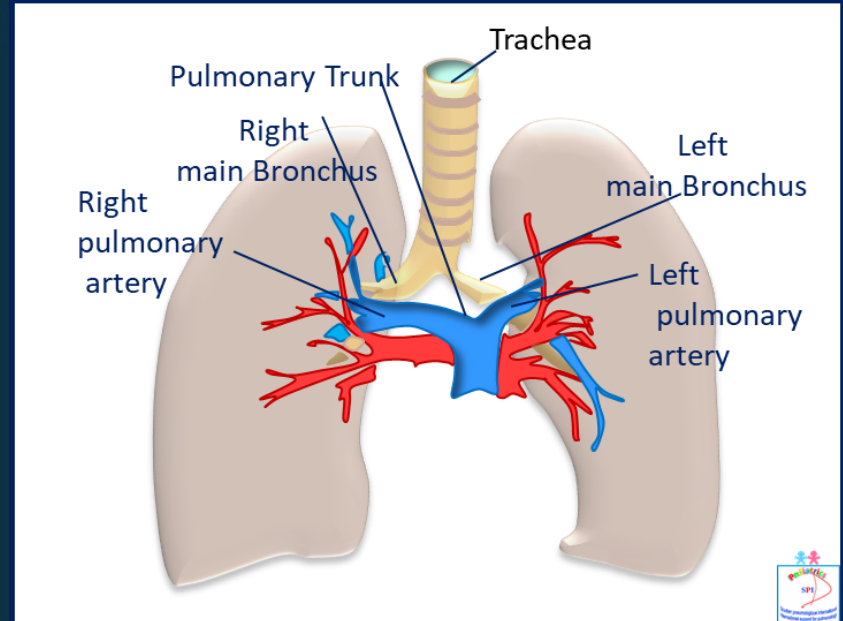
Lateral views are helpful.





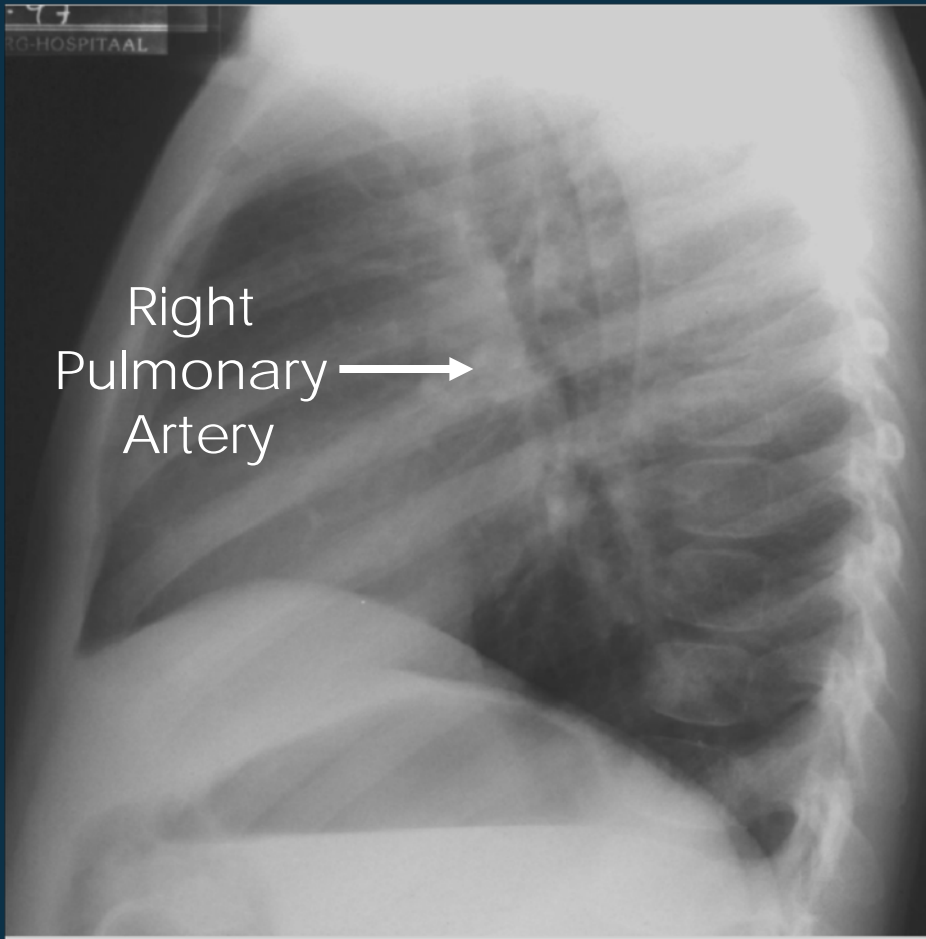
Normally hilum:

- . Must be visible
- . Should have a clear external edge with concave aspect
- . Should have no soft tissue density masses overlapping hilar area

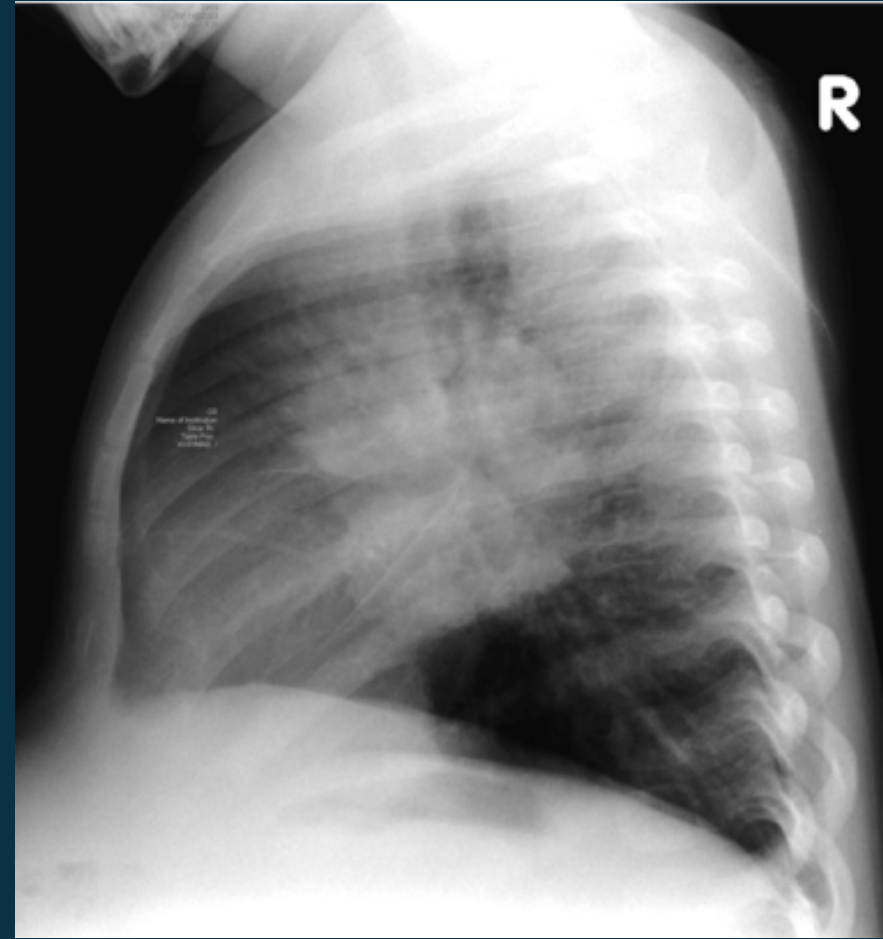


The hilar area includes pulmonary veins and arteries, main bronchi, lymph nodes

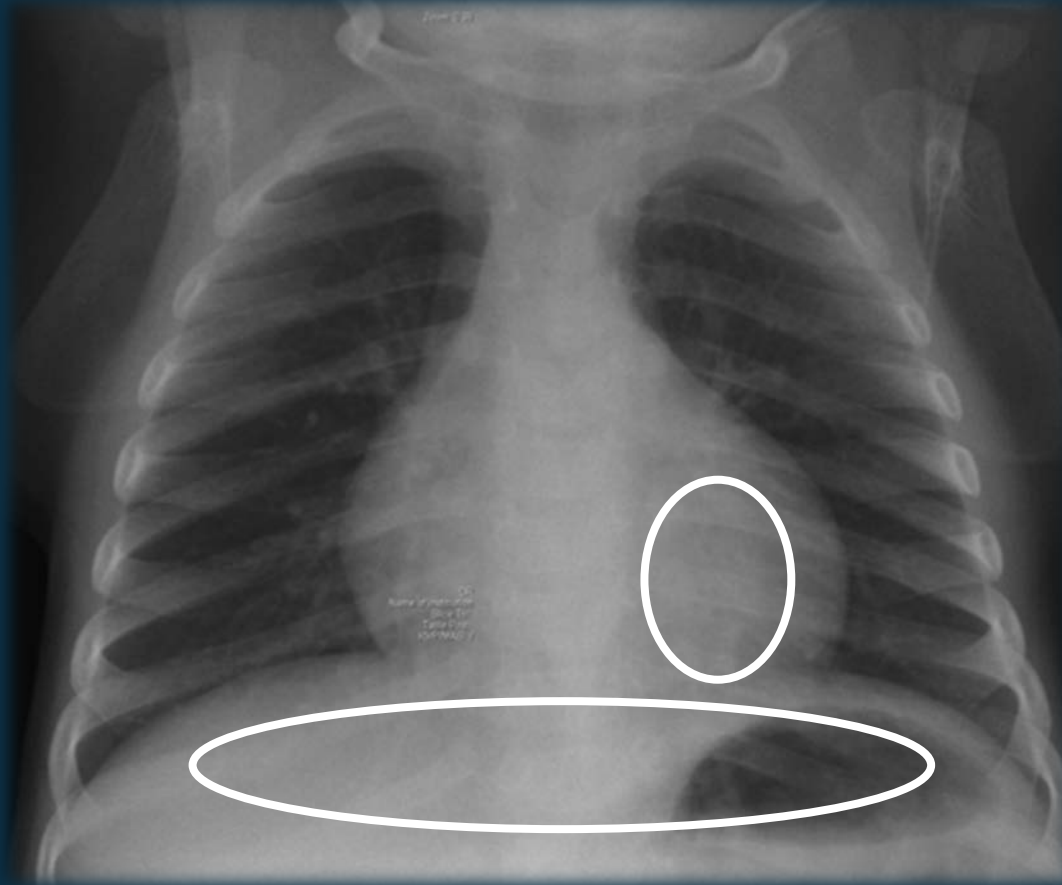
Normally bronchi and lymph nodes are not seen.



Normal lateral view



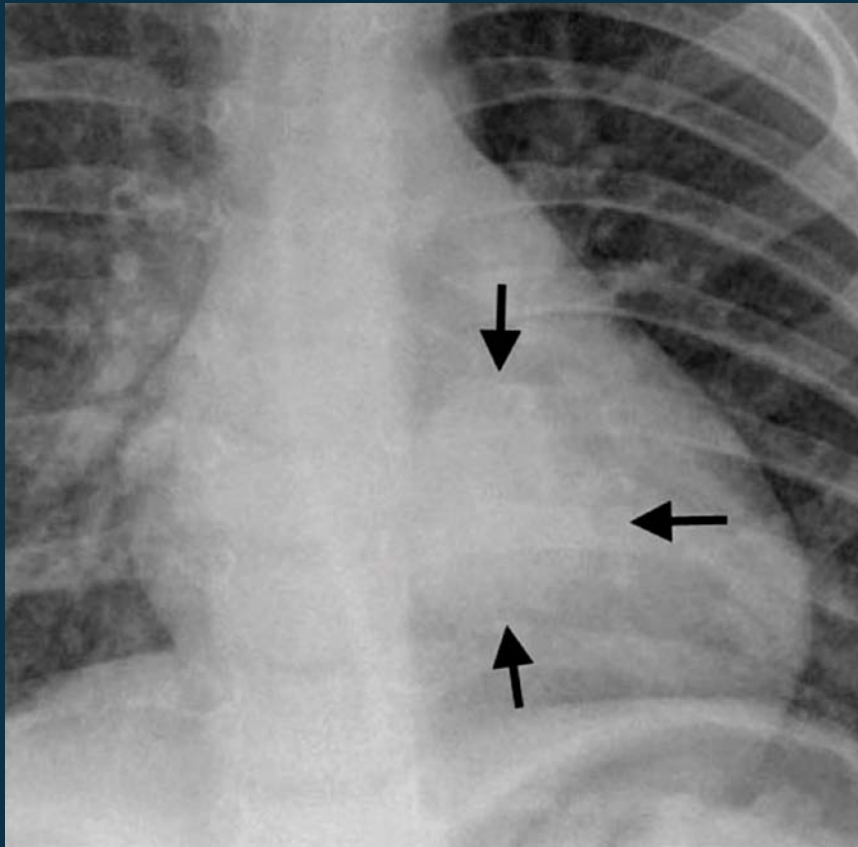
TB adenopathies



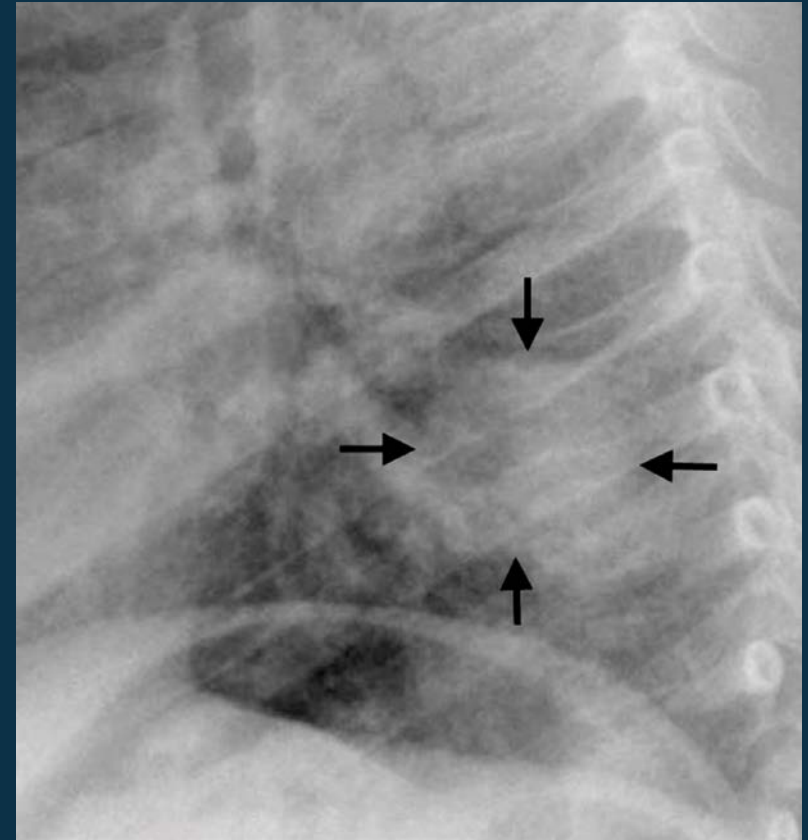
Retrocardiac region : left retrocardiac area should be homogeneously translucent

Look for signs of pneumonia in the zone below the diaphragm

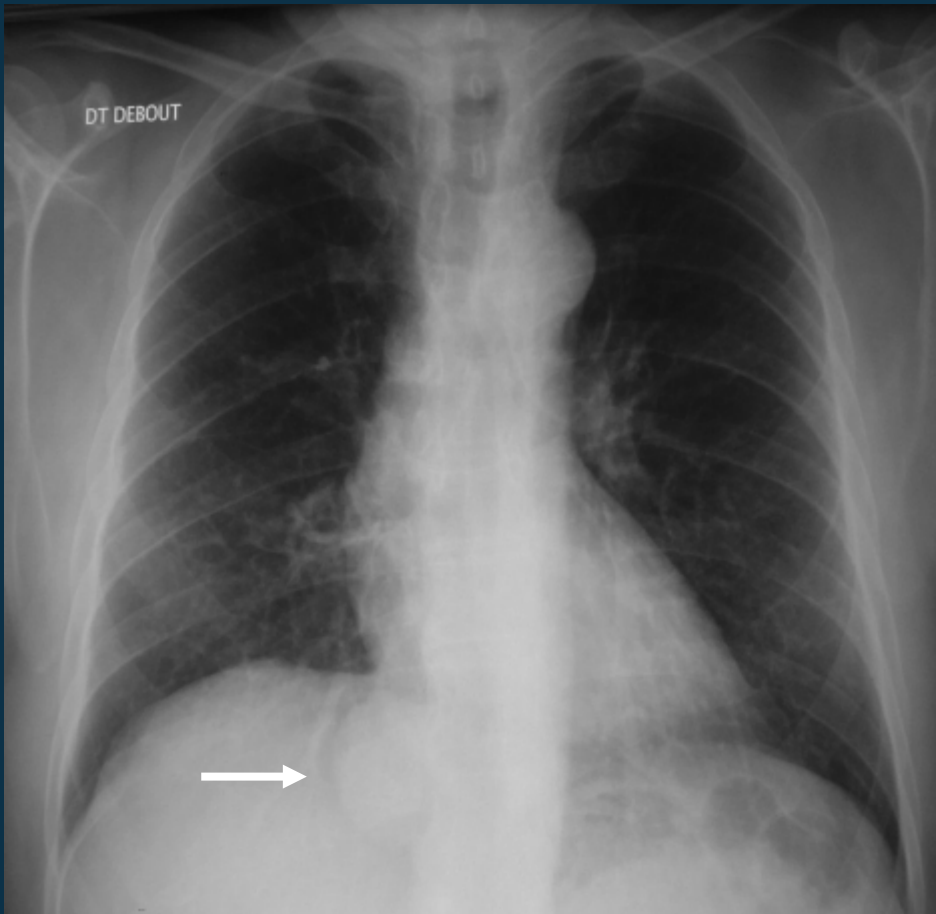
# What is abnormal on this CXR ?



Front view :  
 Round pneumonia.  
 Note the rounded solid opacity  
 in the left lower lobe on PA  
 (arrows).



Lateral view:  
 Bacterial pneumonia in  
 children sometimes appears  
 round and well defined  
 resembling a pulmonary mass.



Beware of the  
hidden zones



The opacity is completely  
intra-thoracic,  
behind the right diaphragm

# Module 1 How to read a CXR

Chap1: Technical and anatomical aspects

## **Chap2: Systematic approach to CXR interpretation**

Part1. Quality factors

Part2. Normal CXR

Part3. First circle

1. Soft part of the chest wall
2. Diaphragmatic areas
3. Bony Thorax abnormalities

Part4. Second circle

4. Lung
5. Pleura

Part5. Third circle

6. Airways
7. hili and Mediastinum
8. Lymph nodes
9. Heart

Part6. The hidden areas

**Part7. Conclusion**



# Algorithm

Are both the AP **and** the Lateral readable? → No → Not readable → Redo CXR

↓  
Yes  
↓

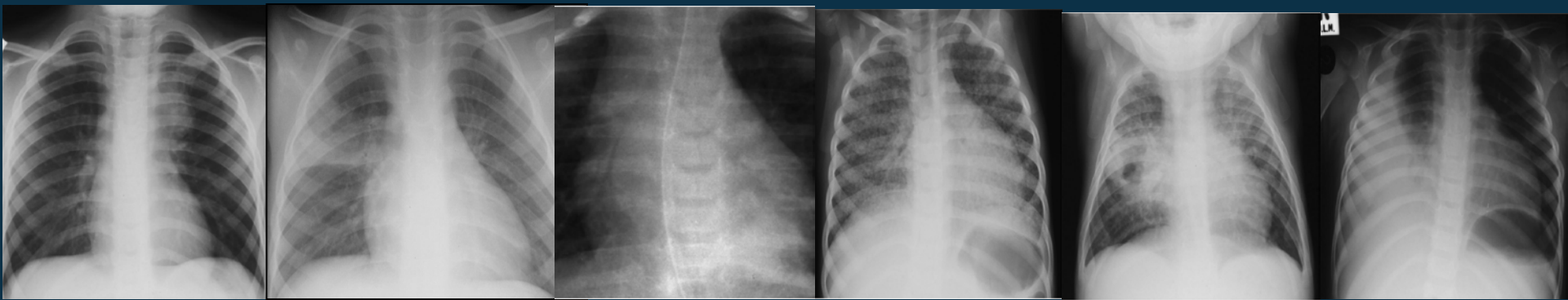
Is the CXR normal? → Yes → Normal

↓  
No  
↓

Abnormal: one of the 6 signs suggestive of TB present ? →

Enlarged lymph nodes  
Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue  
Airway compression  
Miliary infiltrates  
Cavitation  
Pleural or pericardial effusion

yes/no  
yes/no  
yes/no  
yes/no  
yes/no  
yes/no



# Key points on the systematic approach to CXR reading:

Is the CXR readable or not ?

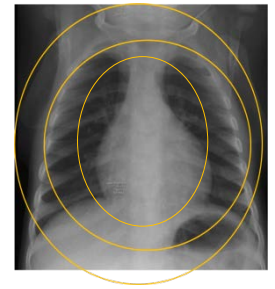
- . Check the technical quality factors: inspiration, rotation, penetration

Assess the 3 circles with inward progression. Is the CXR Normal ?  
Suggestive of TB?

- . Look for 6 suggestive TB signs in each circle

## 1st circle

Diaphragms: check their shape, symmetry and elevation



## 2<sup>nd</sup> circle

Lungs: read from top to bottom, compare right and left

- . Look for hyperlucencies (black) asymmetry between right and left lung due to partial airway compression by TB lymph node
- . Look for alveolar opacities (white): pneumonia , atelectasis Pleura: look for pleural effusion



# Key points on the systematic approach to CXR reading:

## 3<sup>rd</sup> circle

### 1. Airways:

- . Normally the trachea buckles in expiration in infants
- . Look for airway compression : look at size, position narrowing, deviation, splaying of the carina

### 2. Mediastinum: beware of thymus, varies in size with age

### 3. Lymph nodes: TB is the main aetiology of enlarged lymph nodes in high TB incidence countries

### 4. Heart:

- . Shape changes with age and position
- . Look for pericardial effusion
- . Make sure you look at the lung behind the heart (a favorite place for pneumonia)

# The End





# CHEST X-RAY TRAINING (CXR)

Module 2: How to diagnose TB  
on a paediatric CXR  
using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

# Learning Objectives

## Module 1

1. To recognize a Normal child CXR on a front and lateral view and an Unreadable CXR (even of poor quality)
2. To learn systematic approach to interpret child CXR with 3 circles approach

## Module 2

3. To recognize **Suggestive** or **Not suggestive** of TB on CXR using a simplified reading tool that identifies 6 paediatric CXR patterns classified as 'suggestive of TB'

# Learning Objectives

## Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

### Chap1. Introduction

Chap2. Enlarged lymph nodes

Chap3. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue

Chap4. Airways compression

Chap5. Cavitation

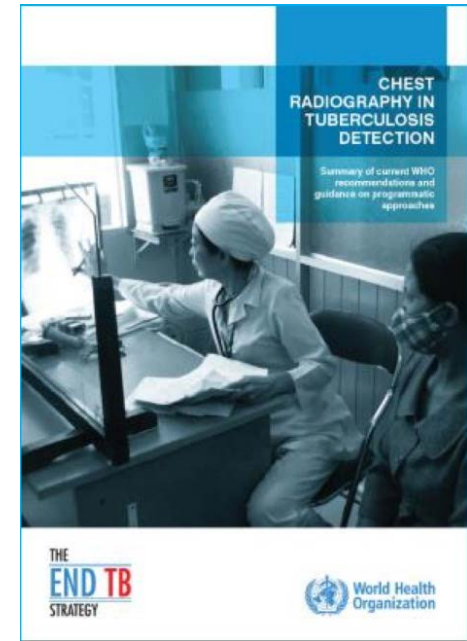
Chap6. Pleural or pericardial effusion

Chap7. Miliary

Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell

# WHO: CXR is part of the diagnostic pathway in children

1. Diagnostic pathway combining
  - . Clinical assessment
  - . Risk factors assessment
  - . Exposure history
  - . Bacteriological tests
  - . and ... CXR
2. Quality CXRs are essential for diagnosis
3. Lateral CXR required under 4 years of age, can identify hilar lymphadenopathy
4. Useful in children where bacterial confirmation is challenging. Adolescents similar as adults



World Health  
Organization

**END TB**

# TB-Speed : role of CXR in improving TB diagnosis in children

Childhood TB is pauci-bacillary and seldom bacteriologically confirmed. Consequently the diagnosis of intrathoracic TB in children depends largely on CXR evaluation

To assess the added value of a simplified CXR reading tool

To strengthen CXR interpretation skills by training all staff involved in TB diagnosis

To develop an External Quality Assurance EQA to review the quality of CXR interpretation

# CXR reading tool

**Identifies 6 paediatric CXR features suggestive of TB**

- 1- Enlarged lymph nodes (lateral view required)
- 2- Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue
- 3- Airway compression (which may lead to asymmetry between left and right lung)
- 4- Cavitation
- 5- Pleural or pericardial effusion
- 6- Miliary infiltrates



# Diagnostic algorithm

Question 1: Are both the AP and the lateral CXR readable ?



Question 2: is the CXR normal ?



Question 3: Are one of the 6 signs suggestive of TB present ?

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. Enlarged lymph nodes                | yes/no |
| 2. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue | yes/no |
| 3. Airway compression                  | yes/no |
| 4. Cavitation                          | yes/no |
| 5. Pleural or pericardial effusion     | yes/no |
| 6. Miliary infiltrates                 | yes/no |

All no: Not suggestive of TB  
 →  
 1 Yes or more: Suggestive of TB

# If the CXR is abnormal, is it suggestive of TB ?

The 6 signs suggestive of TB

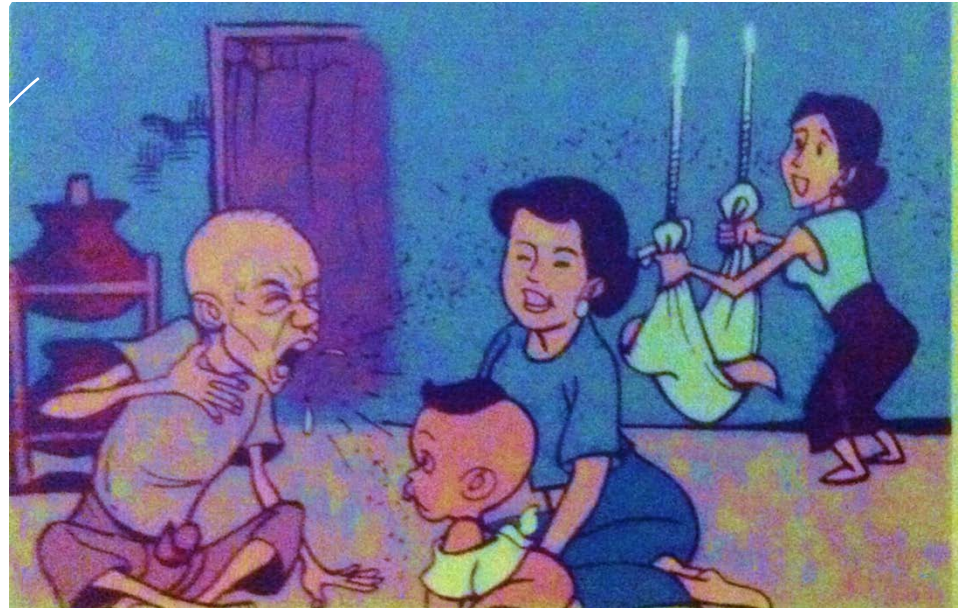
- 1- Enlarged lymph nodes
- 2- Alveolar opacity
- 3- Airway compression
- 4- Cavitation
- 5- Pleural or pericardial effusion
- 6- Miliary infiltrates



# Pathophysiology of childhood TB and correlation with the 6 radiographic features

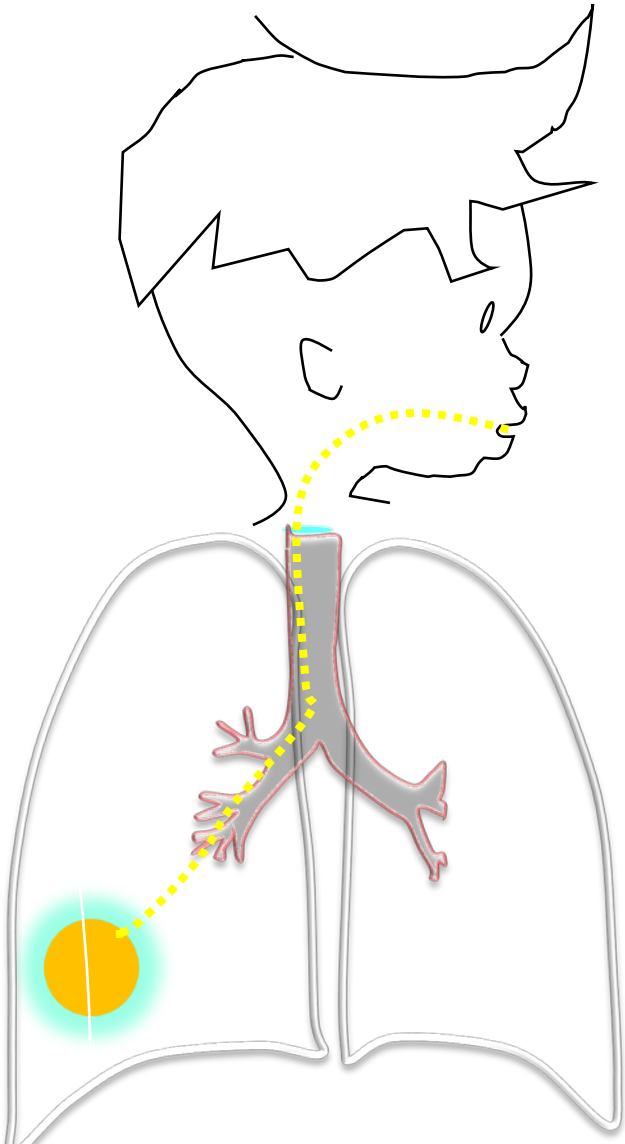
Inhalation of *M. tuberculosis*

Proliferation in alveoli: primary focus or *Ghon focus*



Flugge Droplets : 1-5 bacilli / droplets

- . Cough → 3,500 droplets
- . Sneeze → 20 to 40,000 droplets

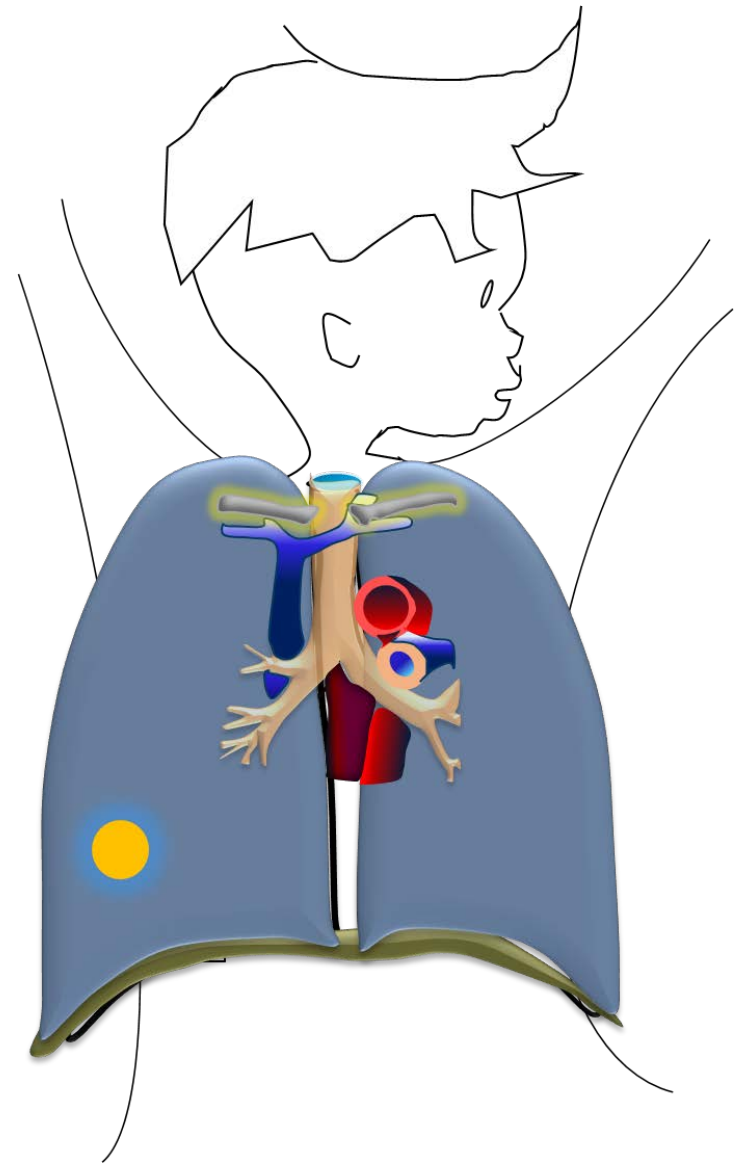


# Uncomplicated primary TB (Ghon focus / complex)

The parenchymal focus are called pulmonary tuberculomas defined ovoid granulomas, solitary or multiple from 0.4 cm to 5 cm diameter

Radiologically the primary focus is often so small that it is most often not visible

- . It can calcify with time
- . Calcification is a sequelae of LTB occurring after infection

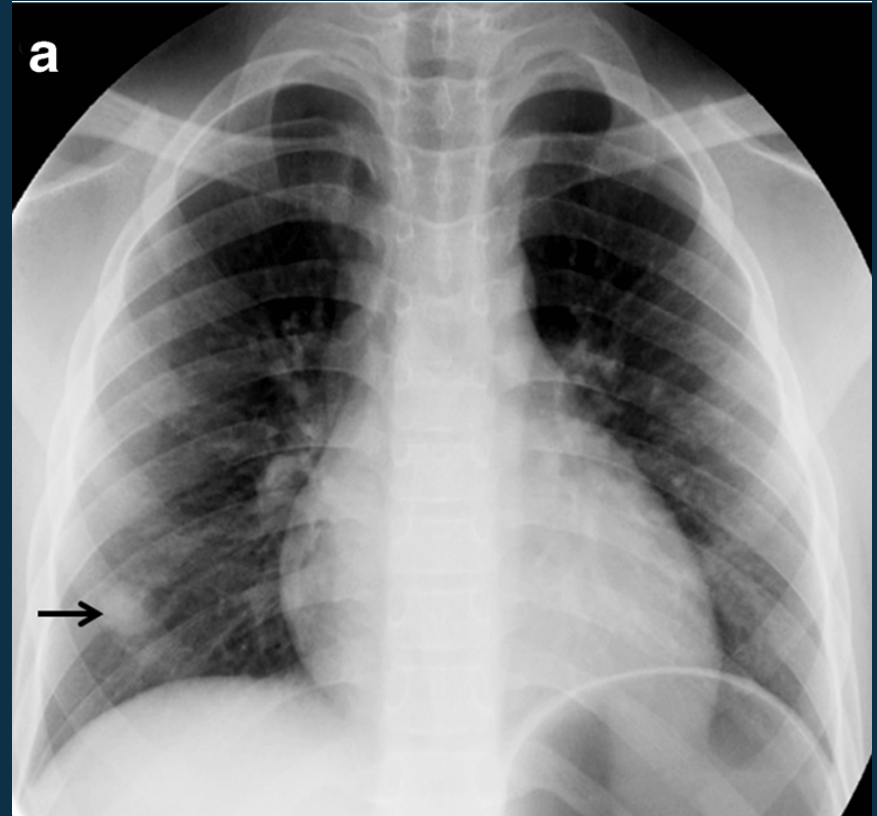


What do you see on this X-ray ?  
· A dense round opacity

Where?  
· Inferior part of right lung

What is your diagnosis ?

**Right Lower Lobe Primary Focus  
Ghon focus in a 7- year-old boy**



Inhalation of *M. tuberculosis*



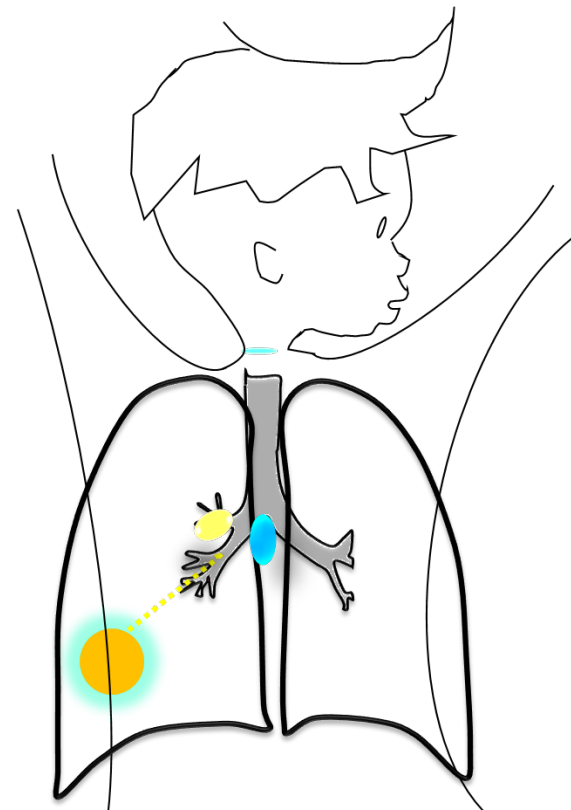
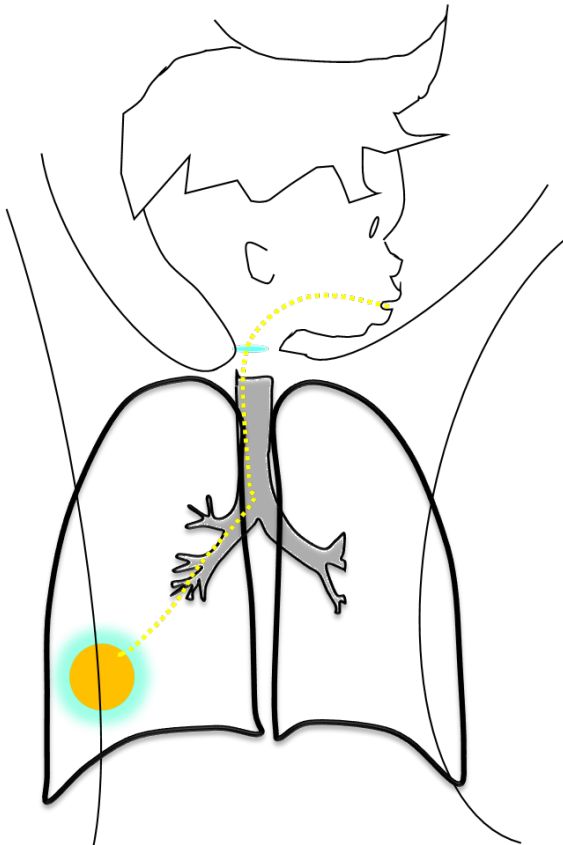
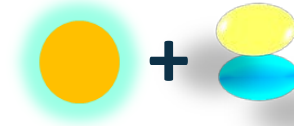
Proliferation in alveoli

Primary focus = *Ghon focus*



Spread via the lymphatic system

Primary complex = *Ghon complex*



# Learning Objectives

## Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

Chap1. Introduction

**Chap2. Enlarged lymph nodes**

Chap3. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue

Chap4. Airways compression

Chap5. Cavitation

Chap6. Pleural or pericardial effusion

Chap7. Miliary

Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell

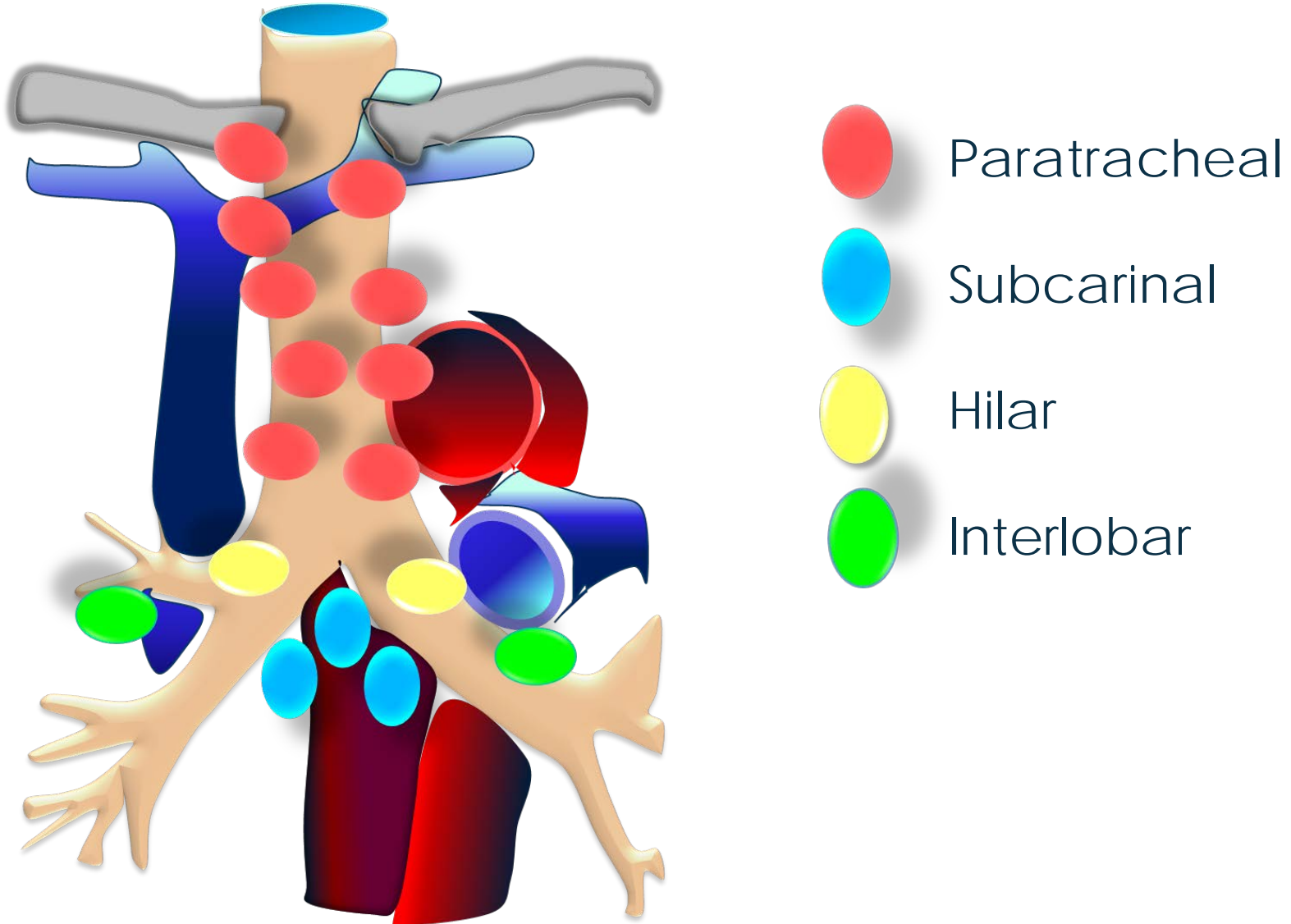
# Enlarged lymph nodes

Hilar and mediastinal lymph node enlargement are the most common appearance on CXR

- . Usually unilateral
- . Sometimes bilateral
- . Sometimes latero-tracheal
- . Infiltration into the surrounding lung tissue is common

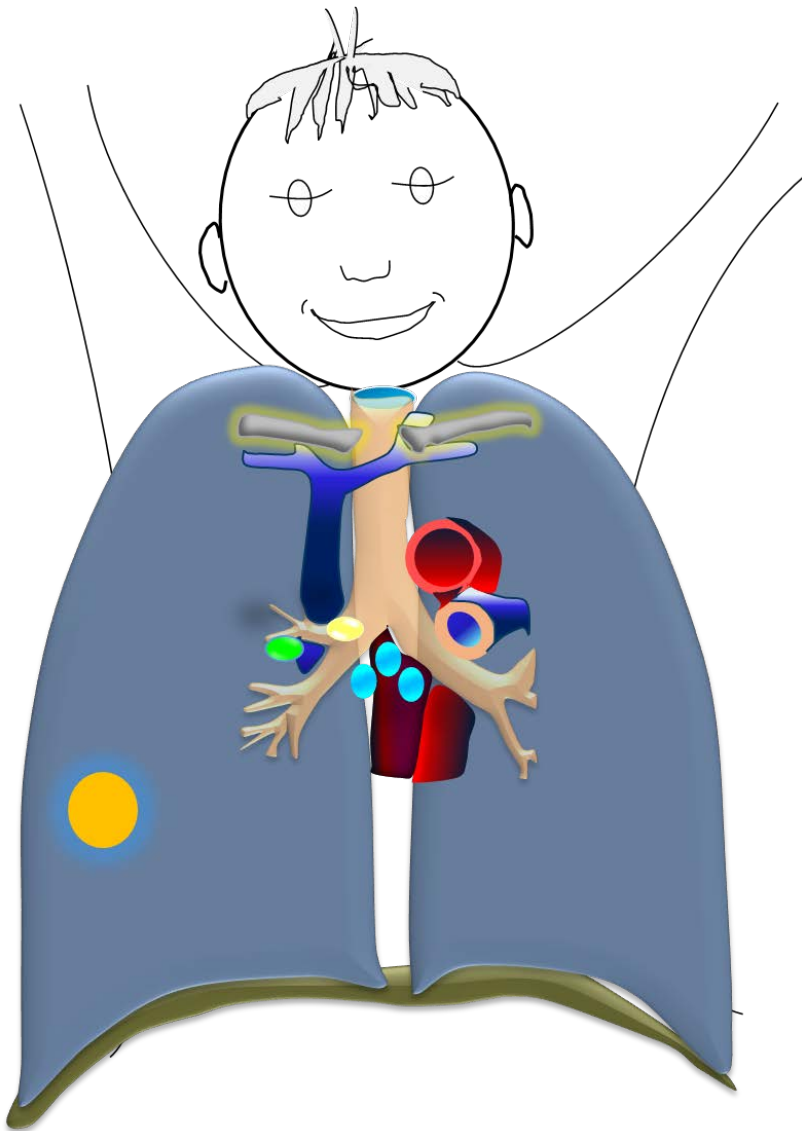


# Localisation of TB lymph nodes



Diagnosis of TB in children  
=  
Identification of enlarged lymph  
nodes on CXR  
=  
Hallmark of childhood TB

# Primary pulmonary infection



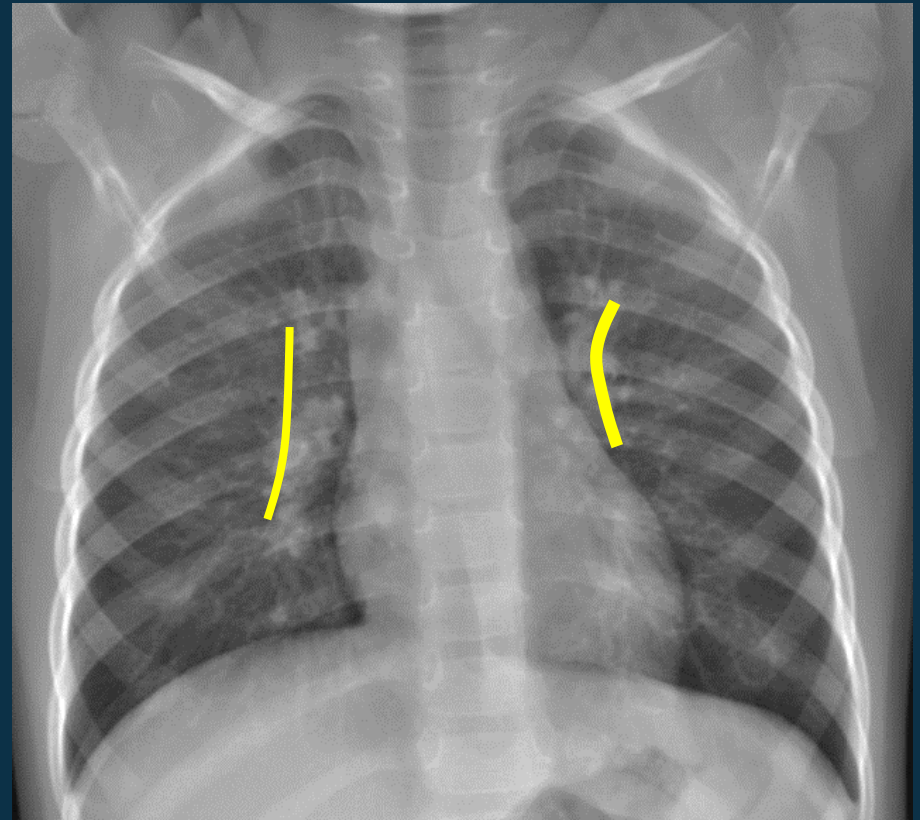
1. Ghon focus
2. Spread via draining lymphatic vessel to central and regional lymph nodes
3. Gohn complex = Ghon focus and enlarged lymph nodes

In an immunocompromised child, the lesions extend 90% within 1 year after primary infection [see comment](#)

The lower lobes drain to the perihilar nodes

# Normal hilum

1. Must be visible
2. Should have a clear external edge with concave aspect
3. Should have no soft tissue density masses overlapping the hilar region



What do you see on this CXR ?

- . Soft tissue density mass
- . Convex appearance
- . Lobulated density

Where?

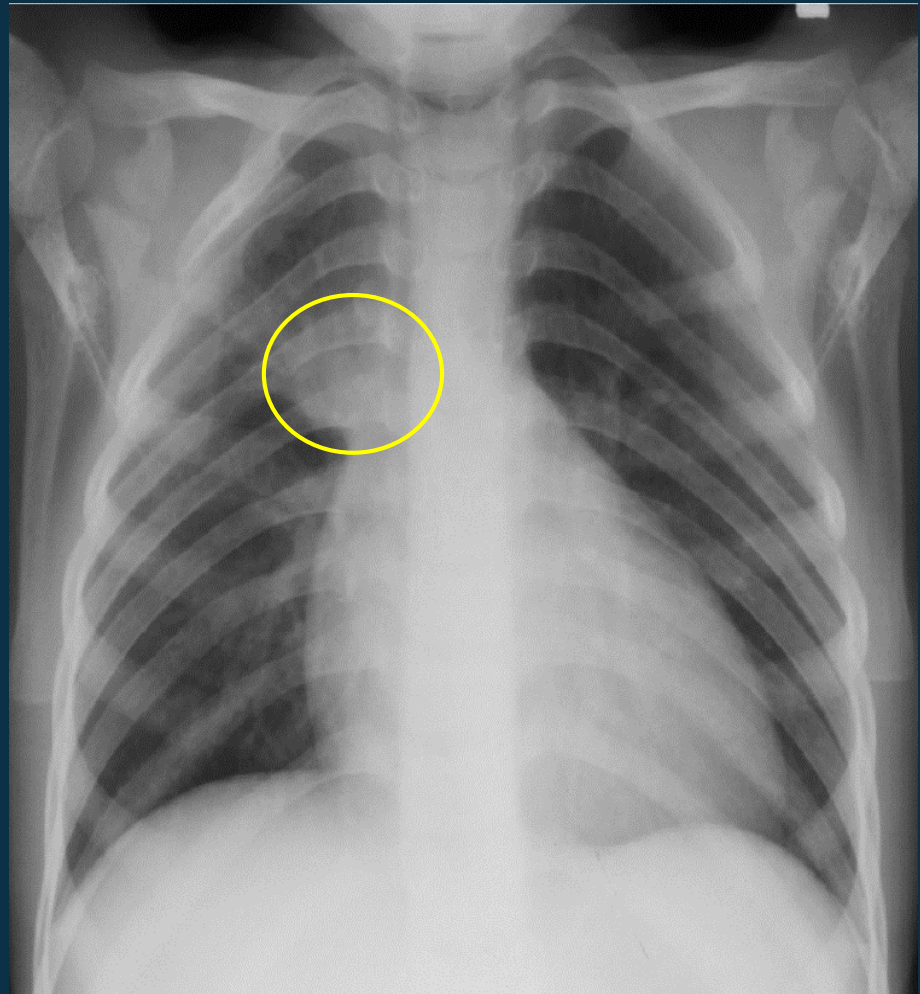
- . Right hilar region

Do you see the right hilar area?

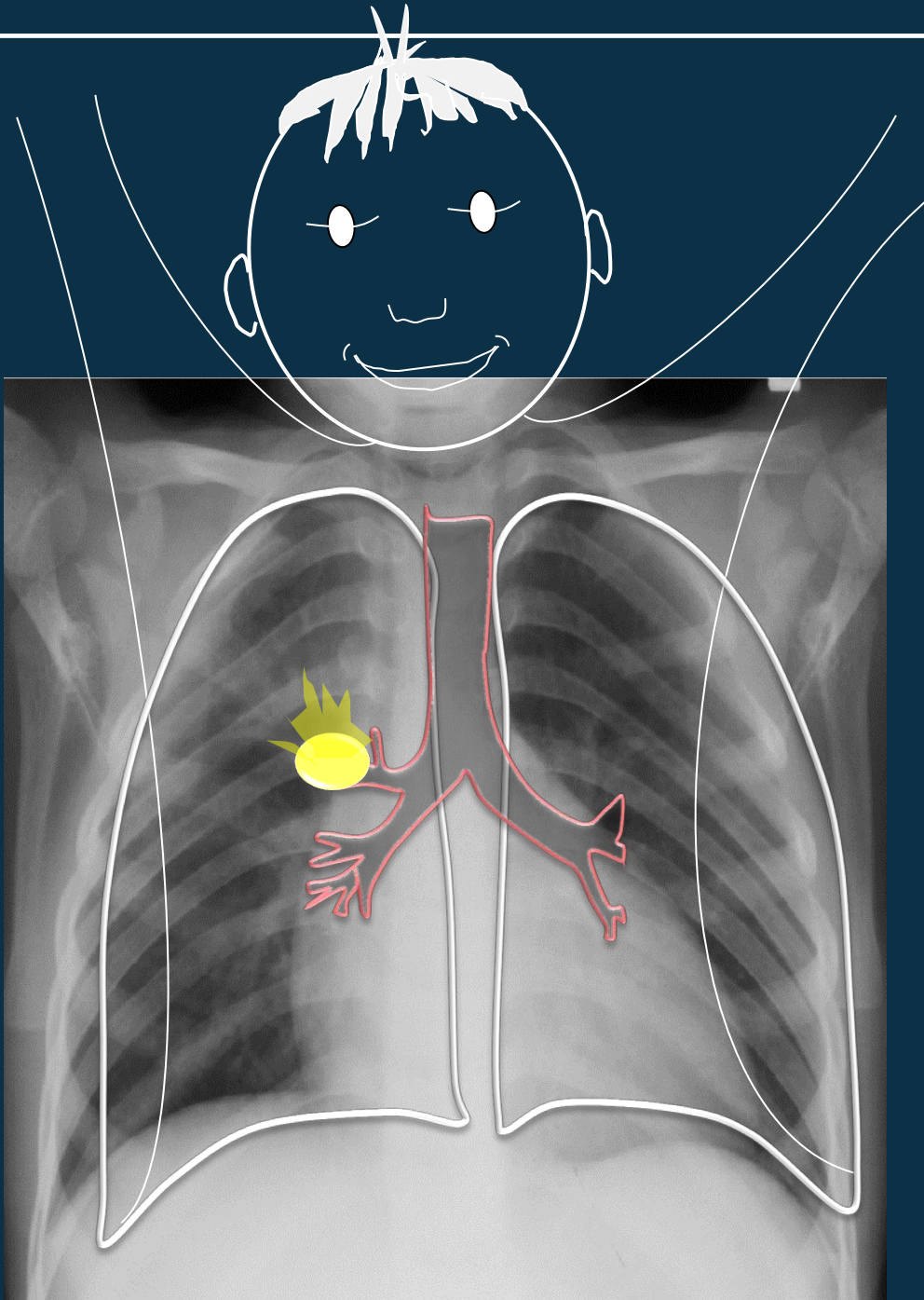
- . No, it is overlapped by an abnormal opacity

What is your diagnosis ?

**Enlarged lymph node in the right hilum with infiltration into the surrounding tissue**

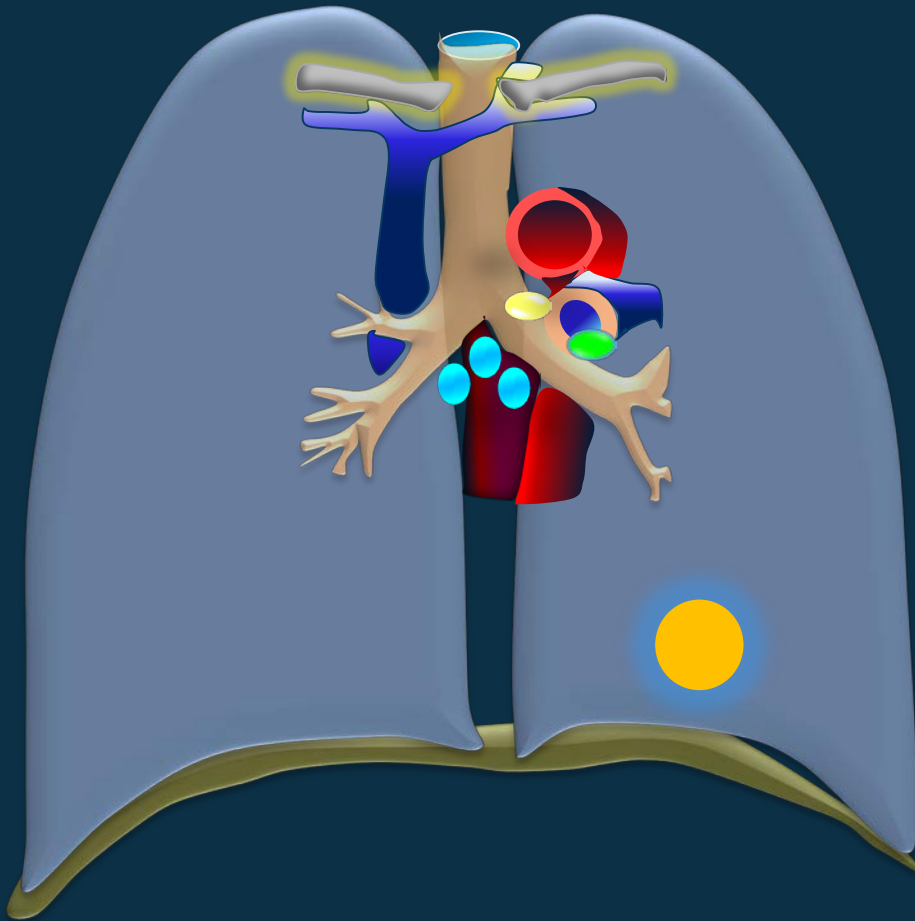






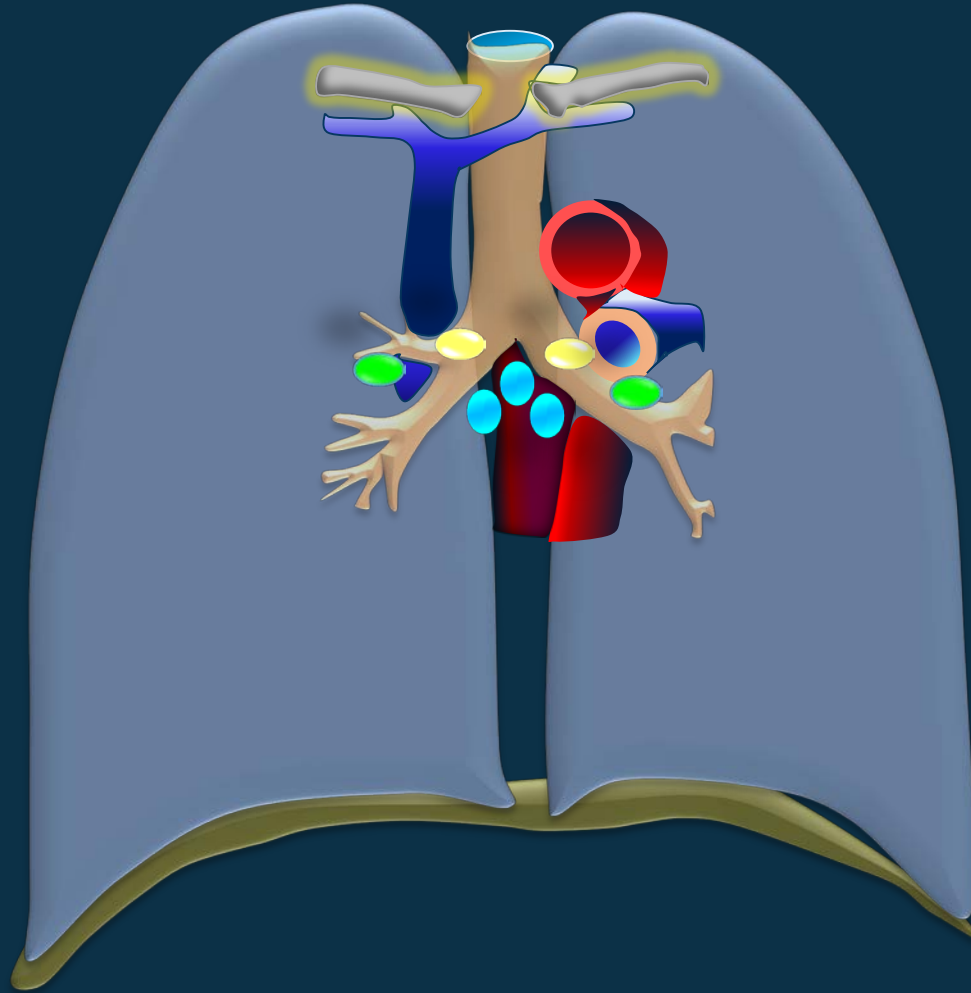
Enlarged lymph node in  
the right hilum with  
infiltration into the  
surrounding tissue

# Primary pulmonary infection



1. Ghon focus
2. Spread via draining lymphatic vessel to central and regional lymph nodes
3. Ghon complex = Ghon focus and enlarged lymph nodes

The lower lobes drain to the perihilar nodes



Lymph nodes can be the only sign



What do you see on this CXR ?

- Convex soft tissue density mass
- Lobulated density

Where?

- Left hilar region

Describe the external edge  
look like?

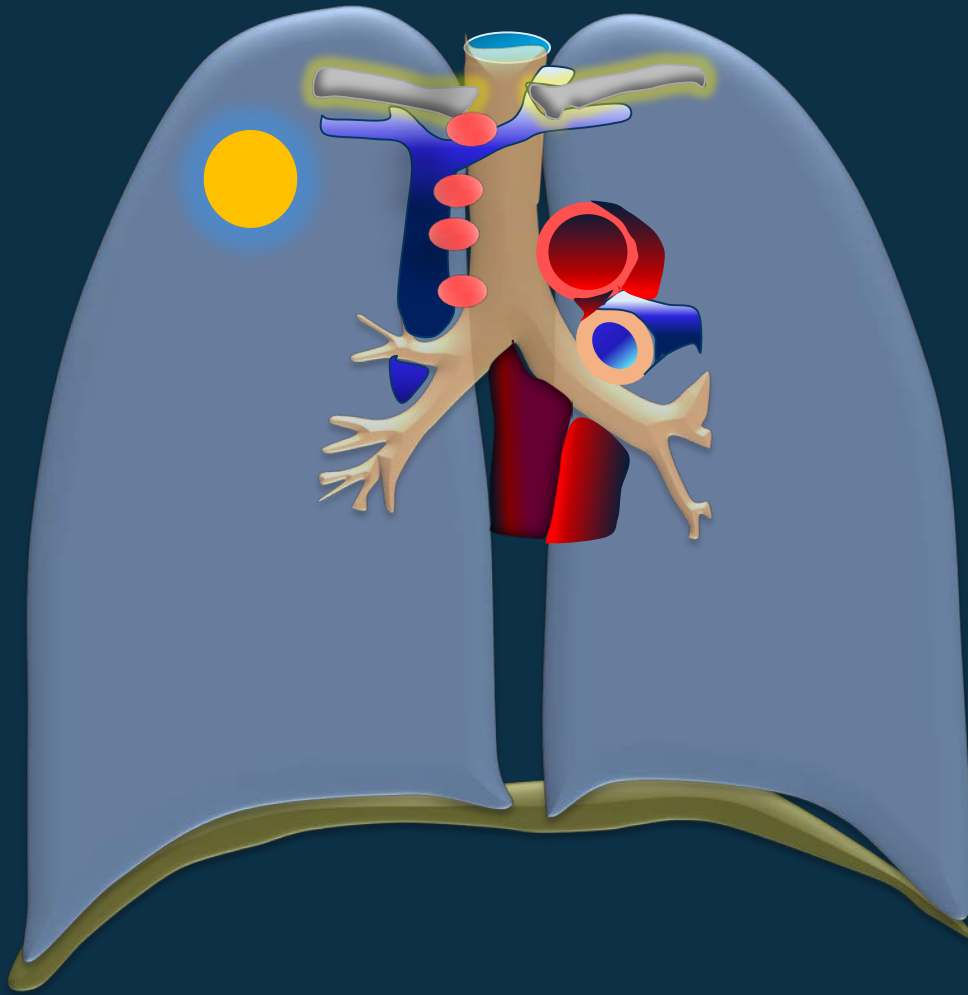
- Concave

What is your diagnosis ?

**Enlarged lymph node in the left hilum**



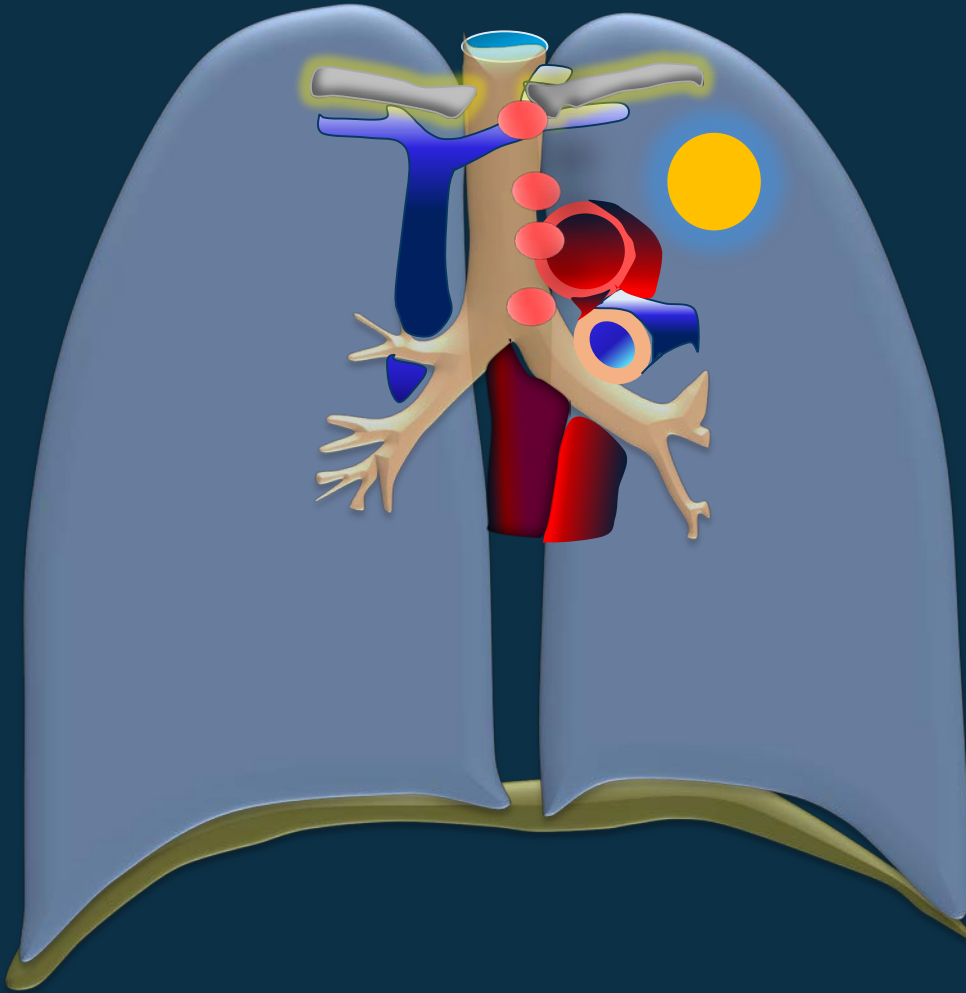
# Primary pulmonary infection



1. Ghon focus
2. Spread via draining lymphatic vessel to central and regional lymph nodes
3. Ghon complex = Ghon focus and enlarged lymph nodes

The upper lobes drain to the paratracheal nodes

# Primary pulmonary infection



1. Ghon focus
2. Spread via draining lymphatic vessel to central and regional lymph nodes
3. Ghon complex = Ghon focus and enlarged lymph nodes

The upper lobes drain to the paratracheal nodes

What do you see on this CXR ?

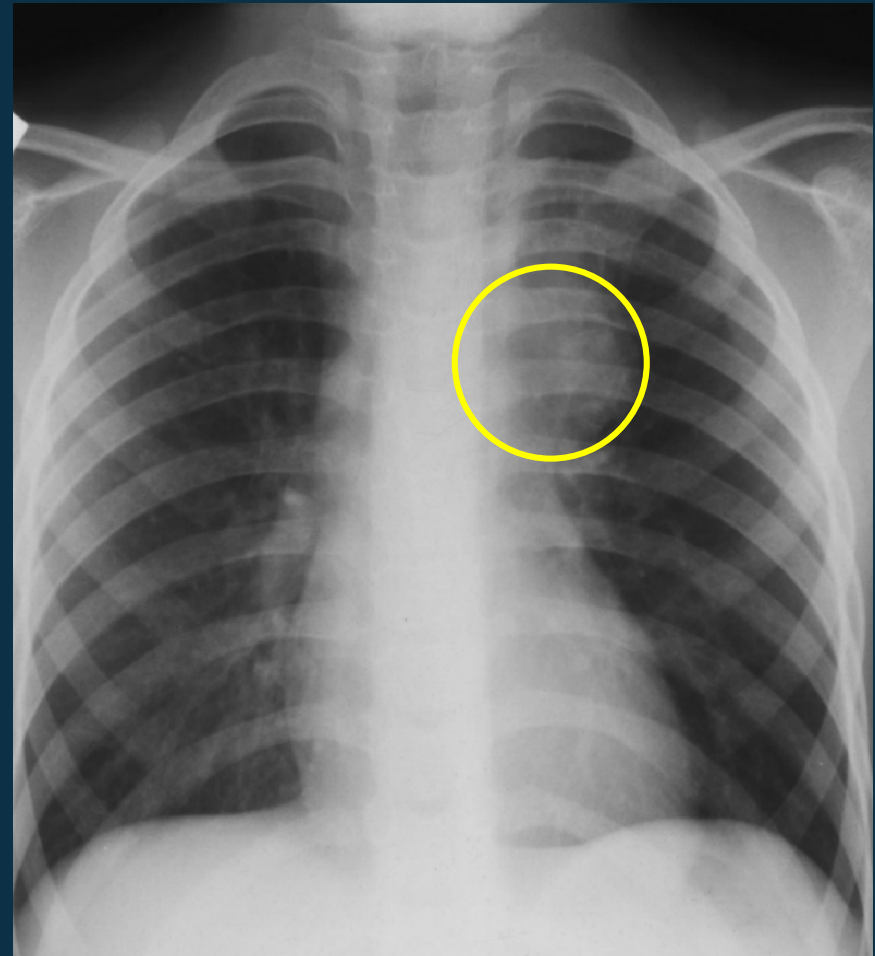
- . Lobulated soft tissue density mass
- . Convex appearance

Where?

- . Left paratracheal area

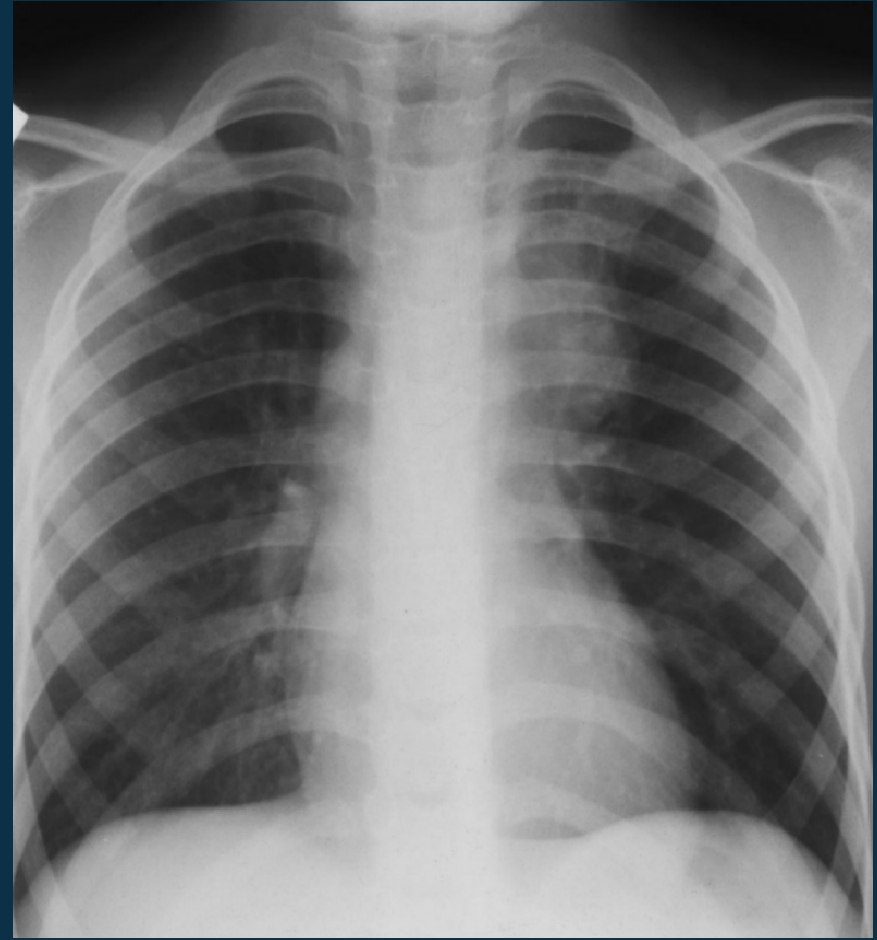
What is your diagnosis?

**Enlarged lymph node, left paratracheal**





Normal CXR



Left paratracheal  
lymph node

What do you see on this CXR?

- . Prominent perihilar opacity with convex edge

Where is it located?

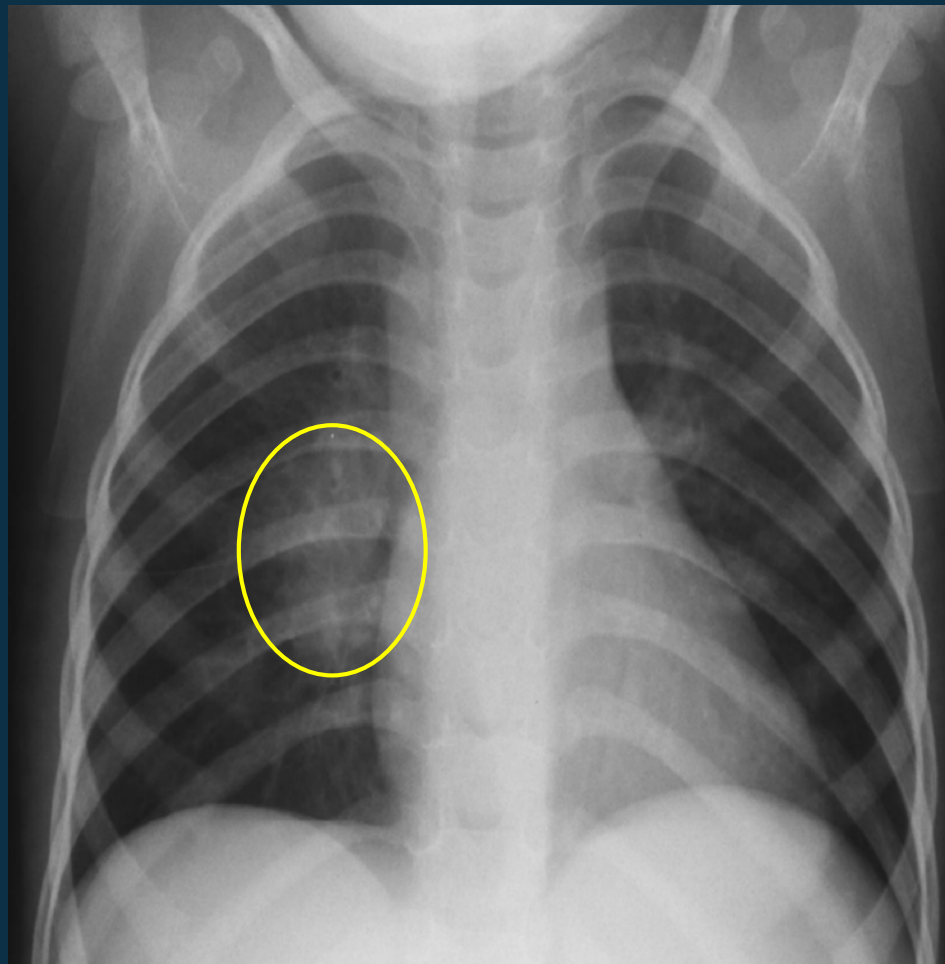
- . On the right

Describe the external edge ?

- . Convex not concave

What is your diagnosis?

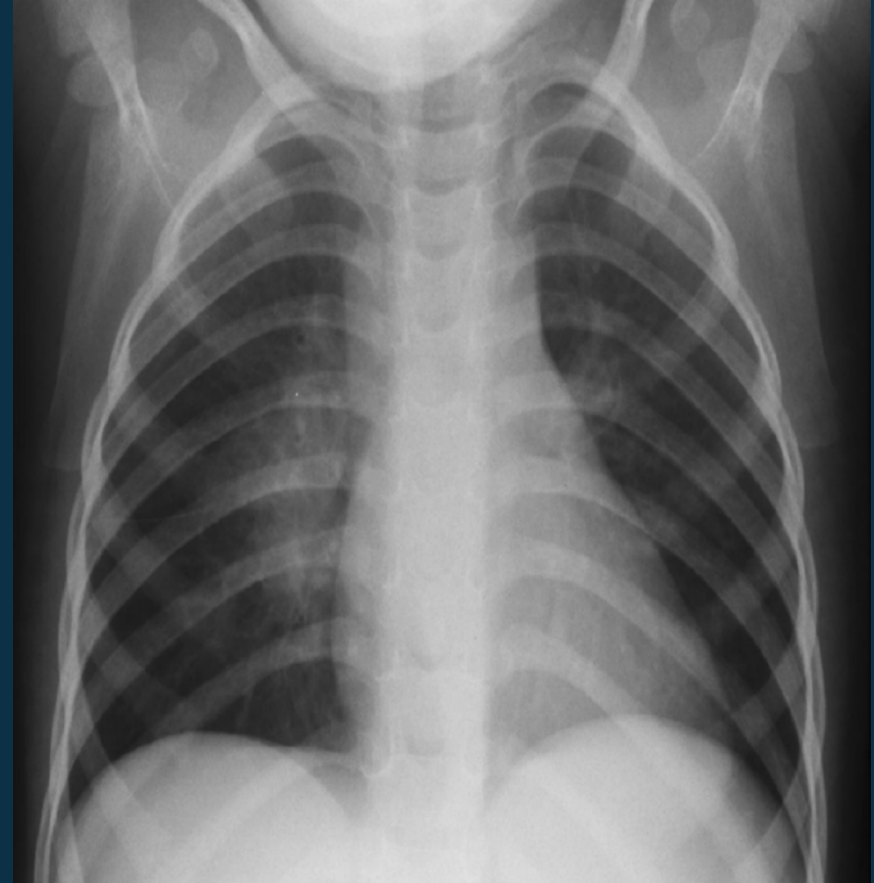
**Enlarged right hilar lymph node**







Normal CXR



Enlarged right hilar  
lymph node  
(note superior mediastinal  
enlargement suggesting associated  
mediastinal adenopathies)

What do you see on this CXR ?

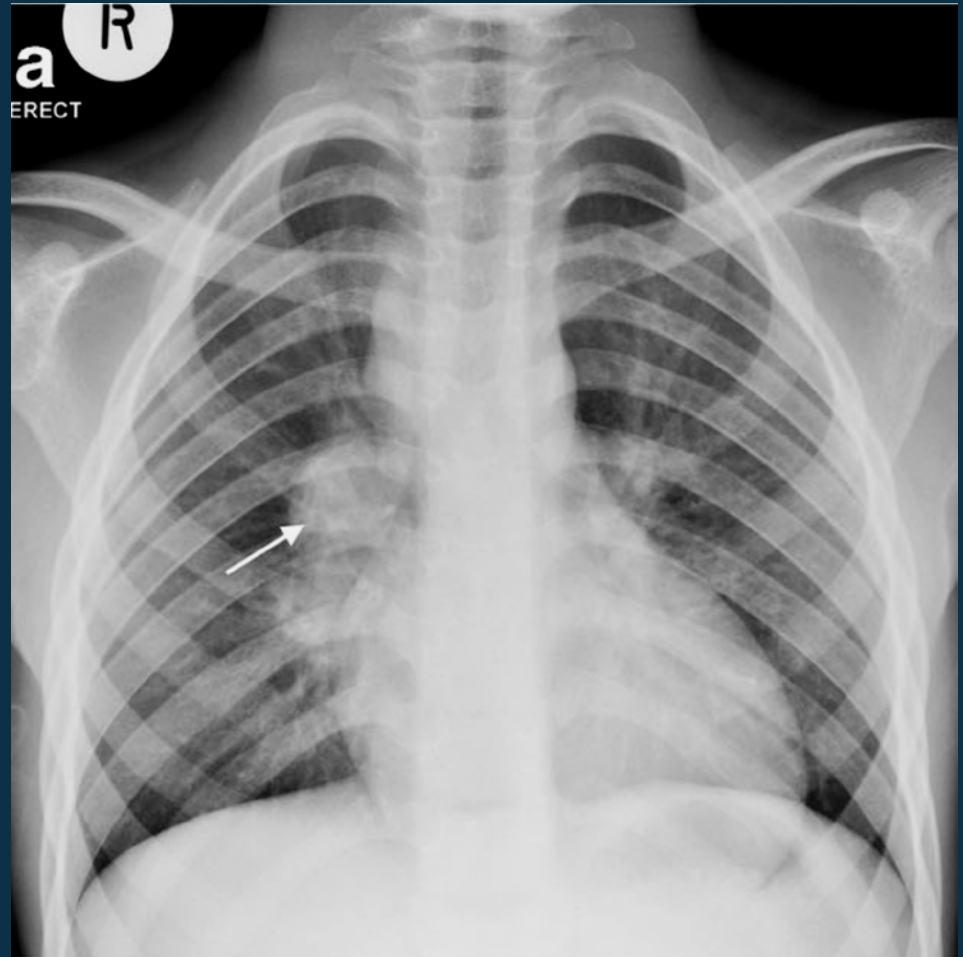
- . Lobulated dense soft tissue mass

Where?

- . Right hilar region

Describe the external edge ?

- . Convex (see arrow)



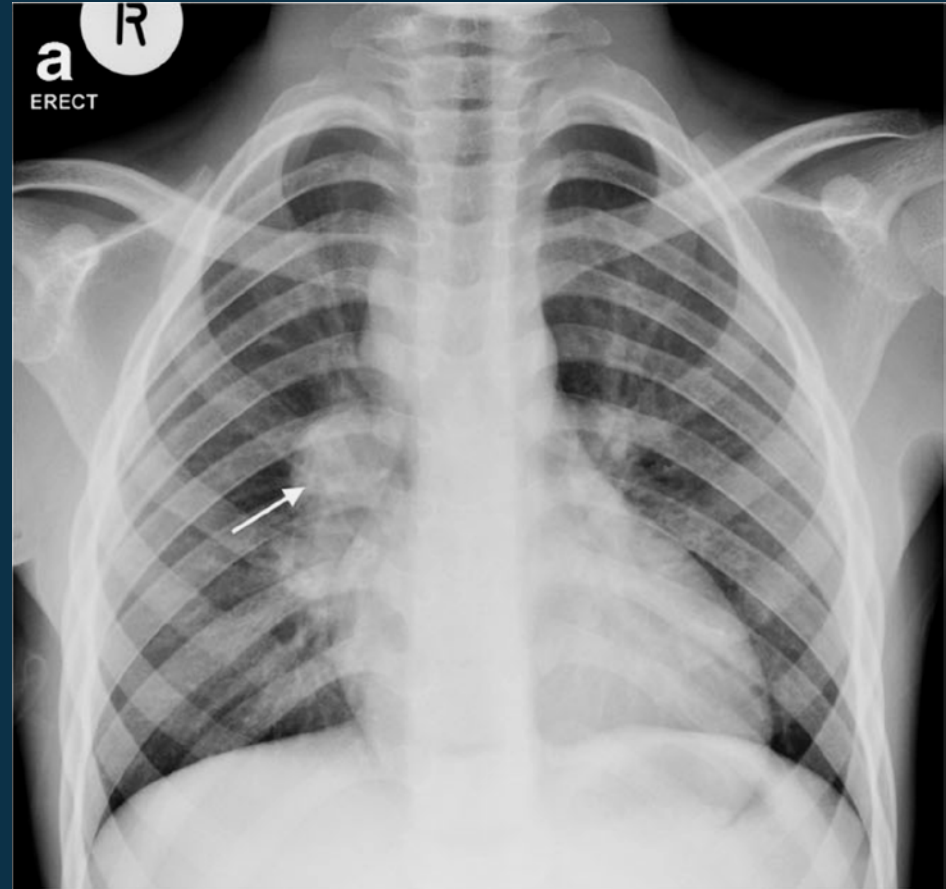
What is your diagnosis ?

**Enlarged right hilar lymph node in a 9-month-old girl.**



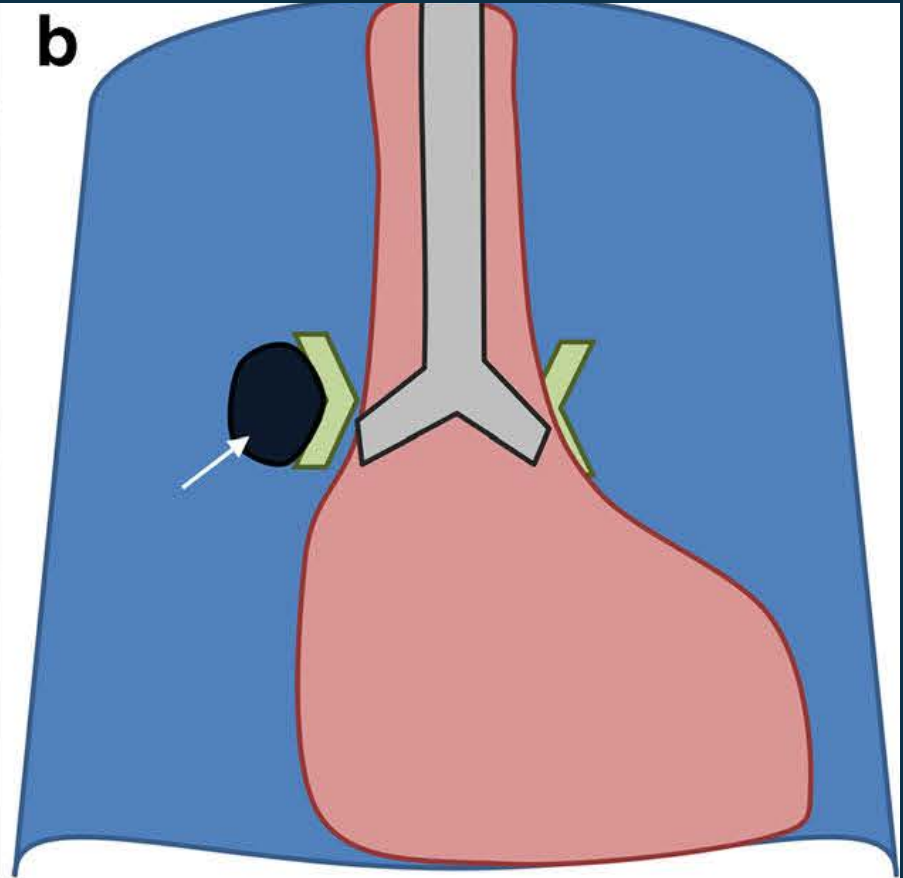
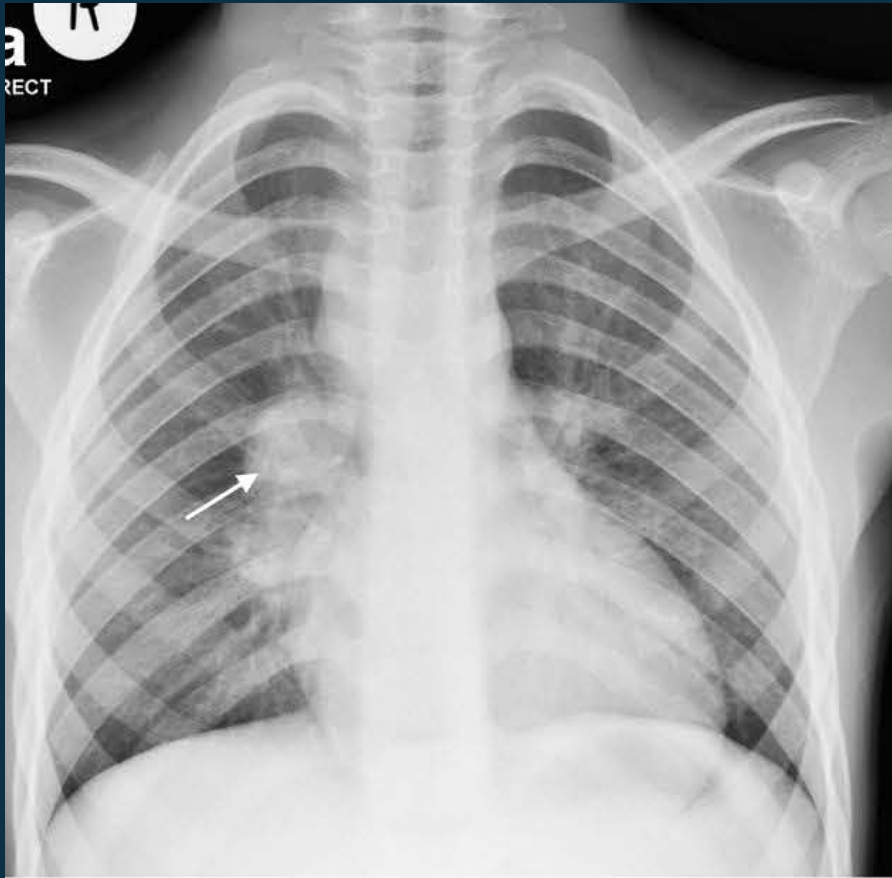


Normal CXR



Enlarged right hilar  
lymph node  
(note superior mediastinal enlargement  
suggesting right paratracheal  
adenopathy)

# Right hilar lymphadenopathy



What could you have asked for to confirm the enlarged hilar lymph nodes ?

**A lateral view**

What do you see on this CXR ?

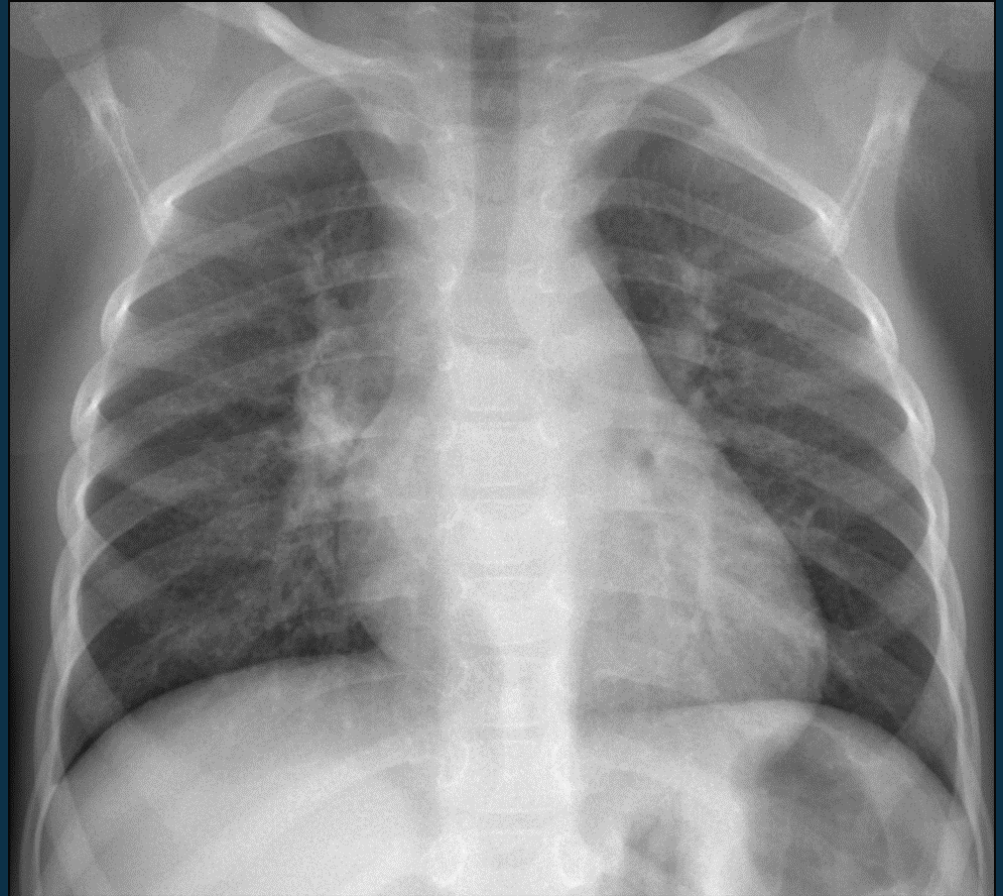
- . Lobulated dense soft tissue mass

Where?

- . Right hilar region

Describe the external edge?

- . Convex



What is your diagnosis ?

**Enlarged right hilar lymph node in a 9-month-old girl.**

The lateral view is very important

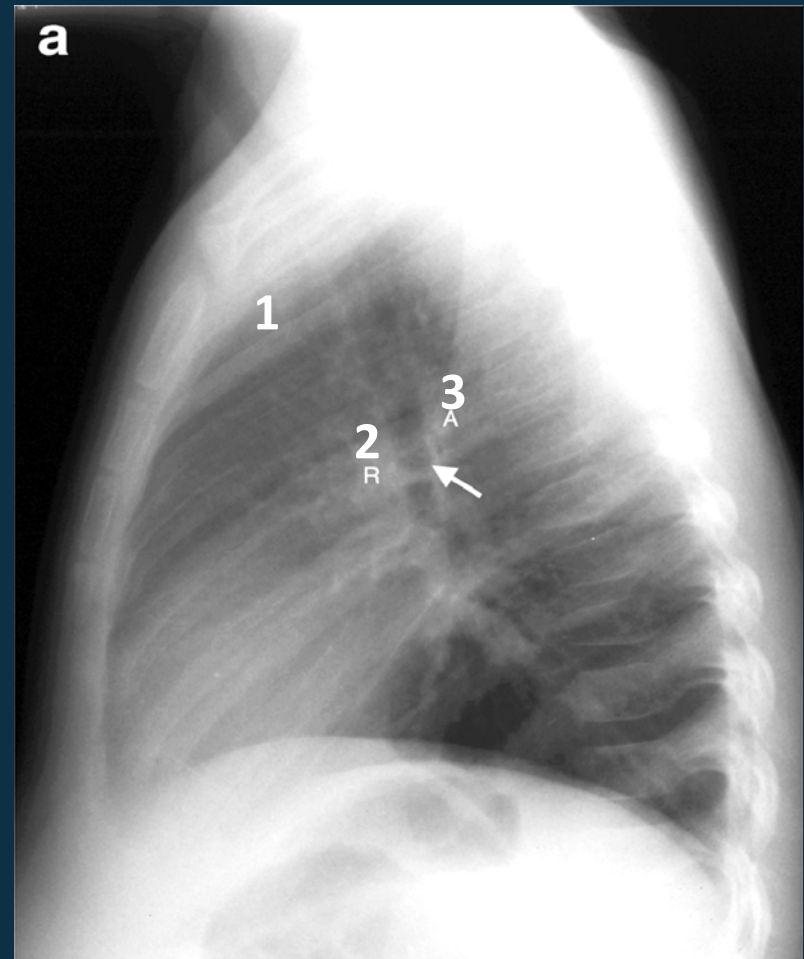
Describe what you see  
on this lateral view :

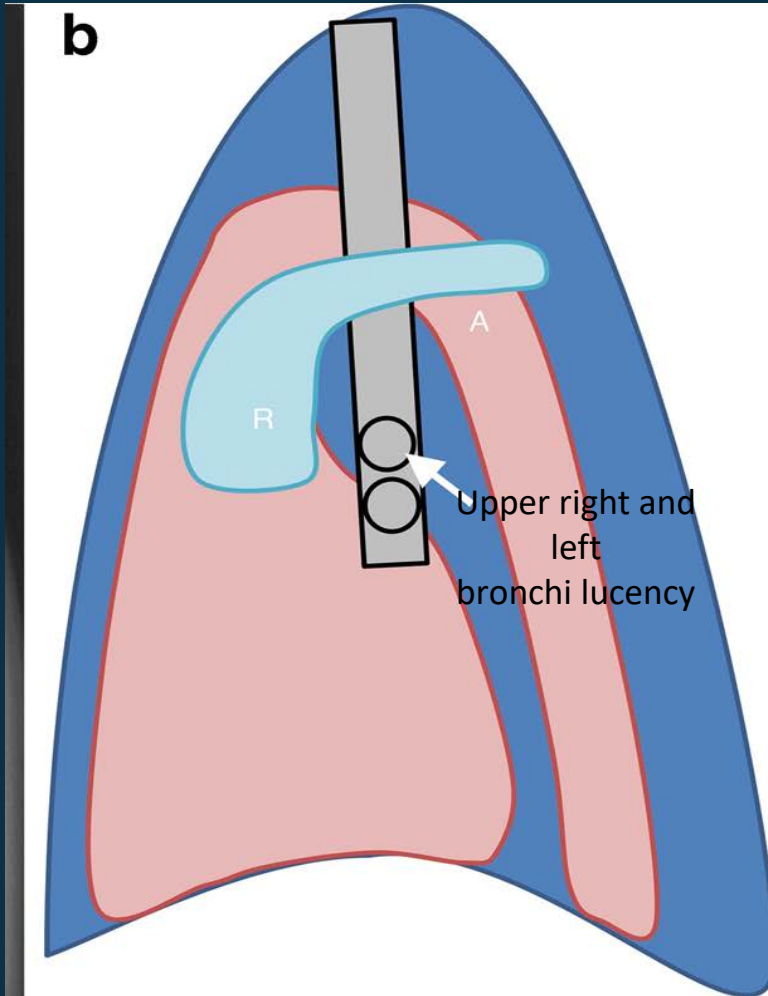
1. Retrosternal clear space
2. Right pulmonary artery  
as soft tissue densities anterior  
to the trachea
3. The aortic arch

Any sign of lymph nodes ?  
. No

So this is.....

**Normal lateral chest radiograph in a 6-year-old girl**





Normal lateral chest radiograph in a 6-year-old girl.  
 The pulmonary arteries and aortic arch  
 surround the inferior part of trachea  
 (just above the right upper lobe bronchus ↗...first oval lucency ↗)



Describe what you see on this lateral view

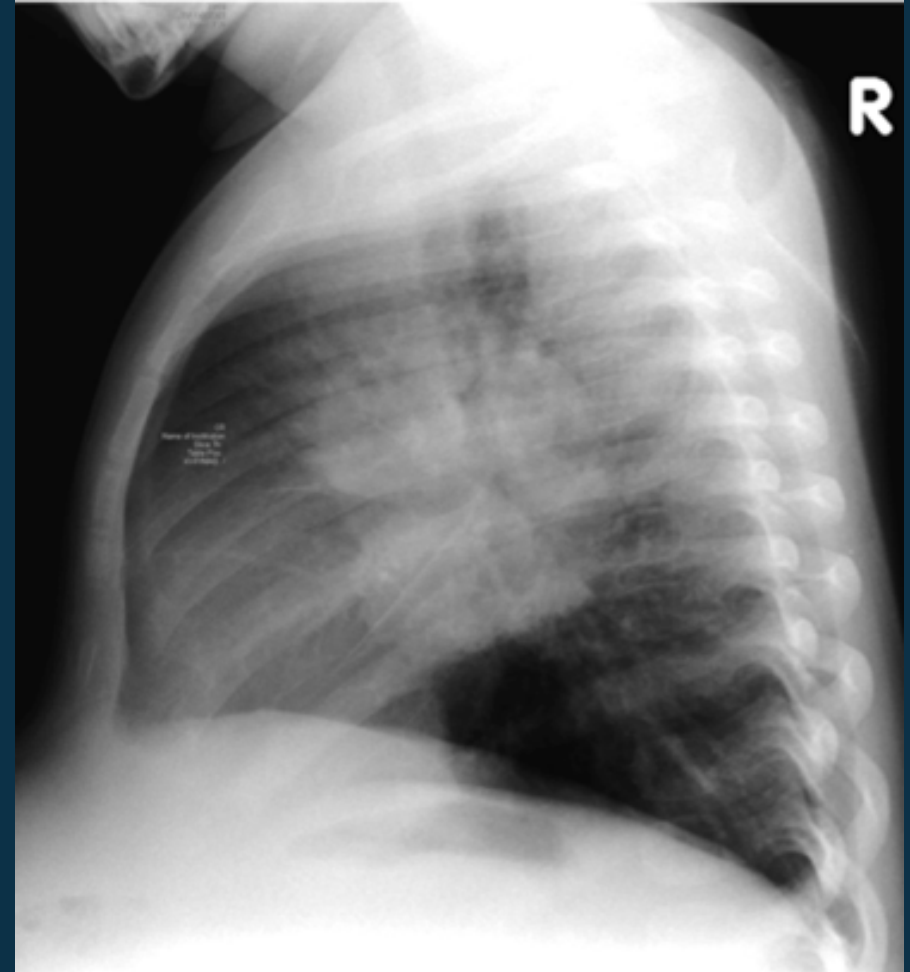
- . Retro sternal clear space
- . Diaphragms
- You can see both right and left
- . The hilar area

Can you see the right pulmonary artery?

- . No

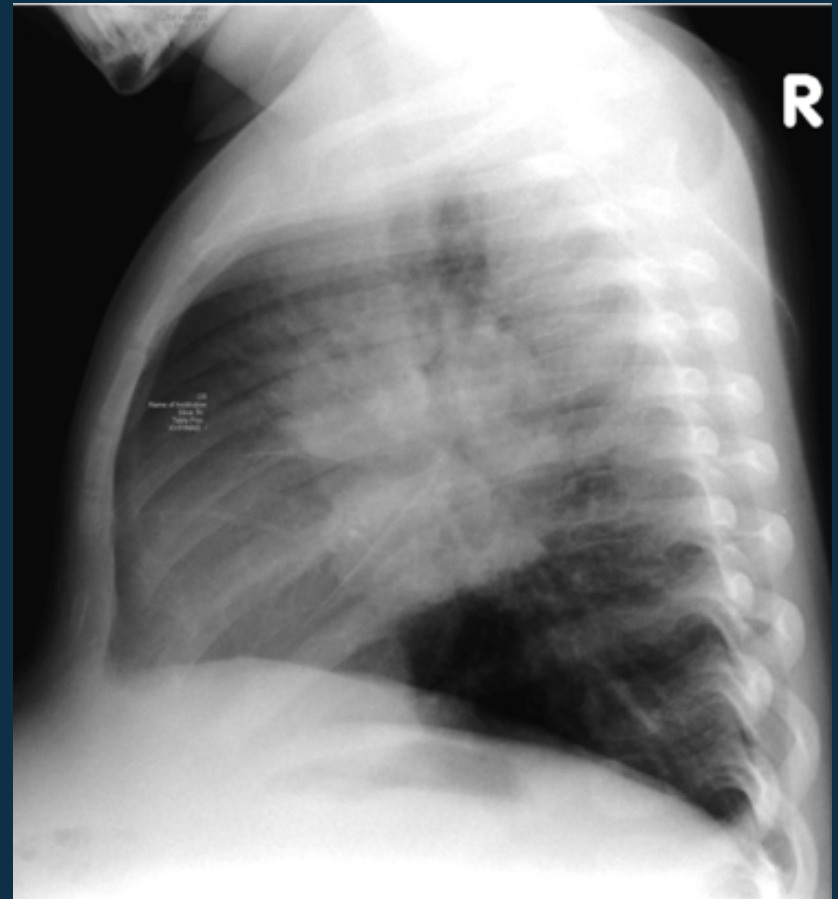
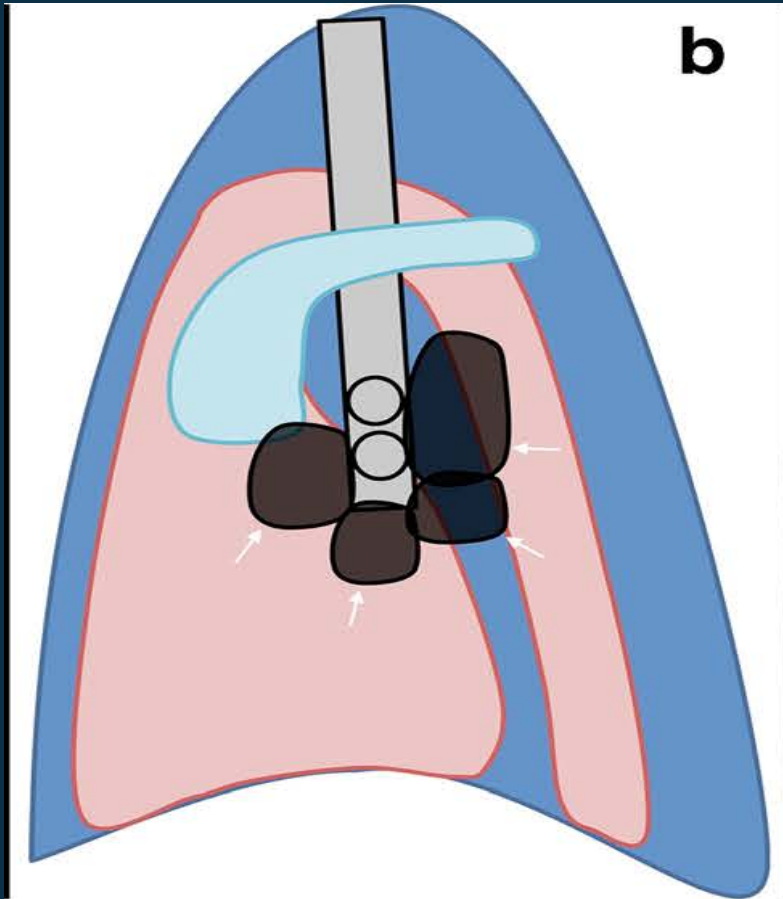
What do you see?

- . Lobulated mass-like densities posterior and inferior to the bronchus intermedius

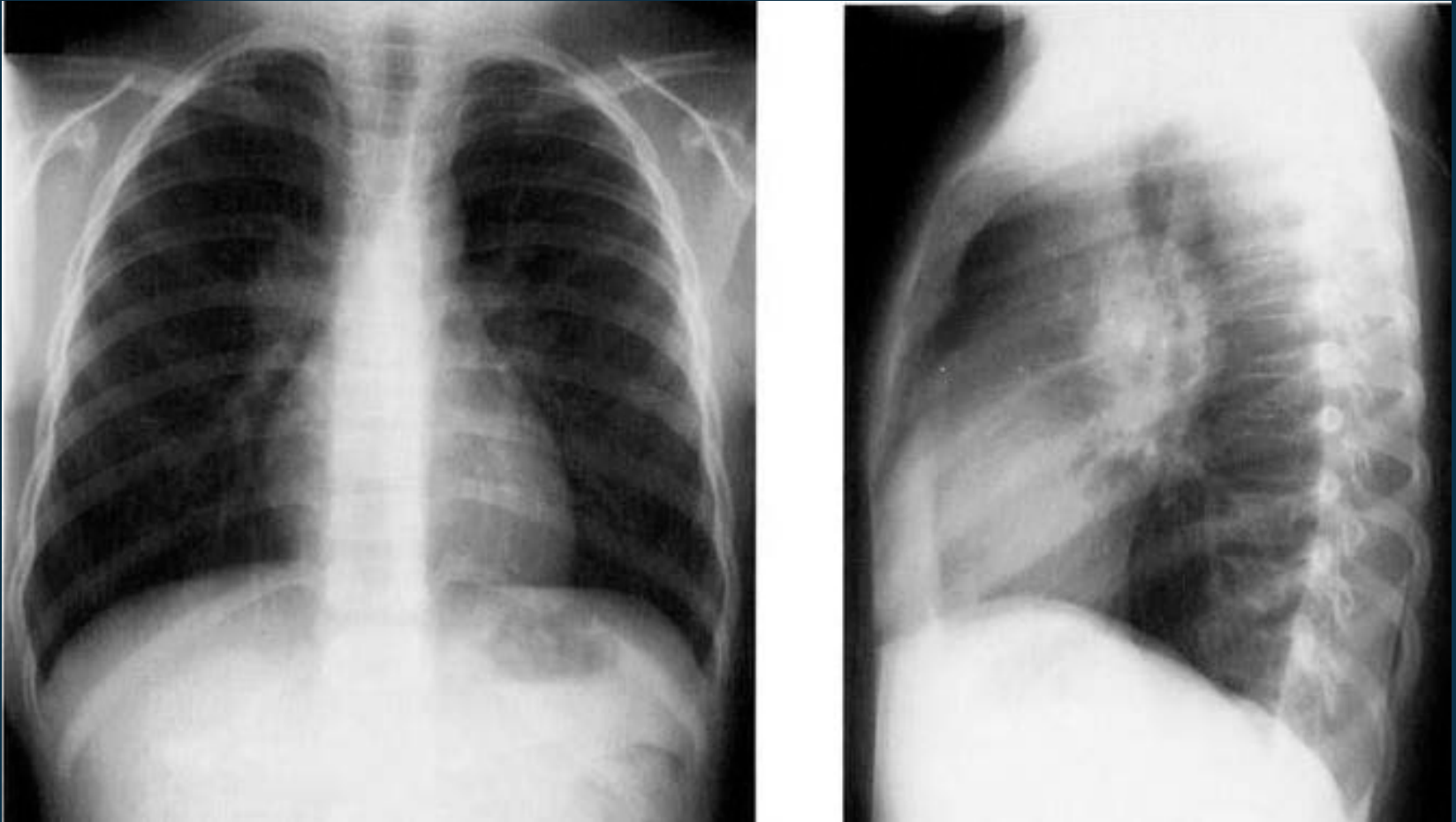


So it is .....

**Enlarged TB sub-carinal and retro-carinal lymph nodes**



Lobulated, mass-like densities in the pre, sub, and retro-carinal regions posterior and inferior to the bronchus intermedius = TB lymphadenopathy.



Lateral view is useful to assess  
for enlargement of hilar lymph nodes





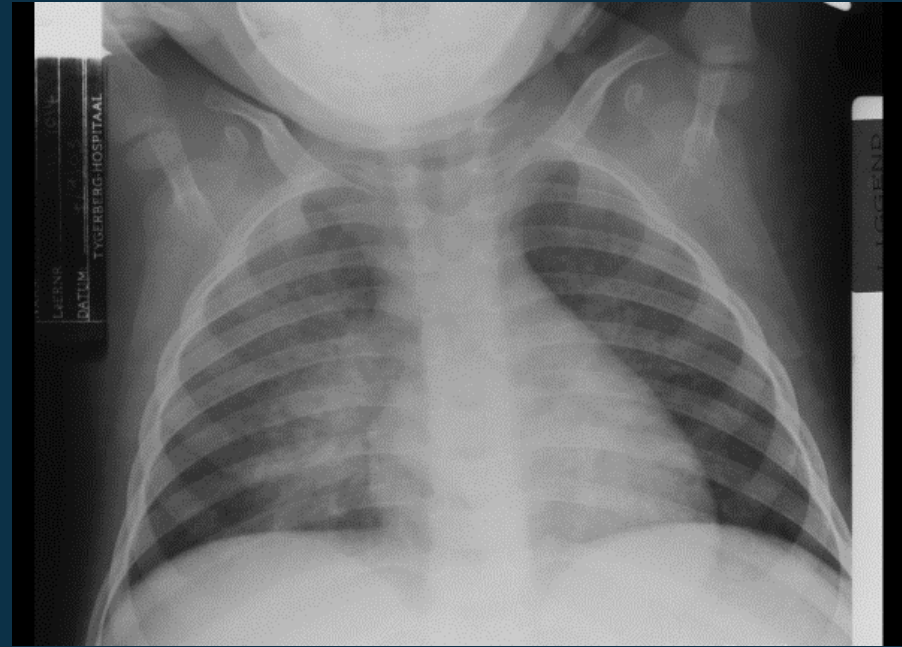
Lateral view is useful to assess for enlargement of hilar lymph nodes in sub-carinal and inter trachea bronchial areas



Normal lateral view

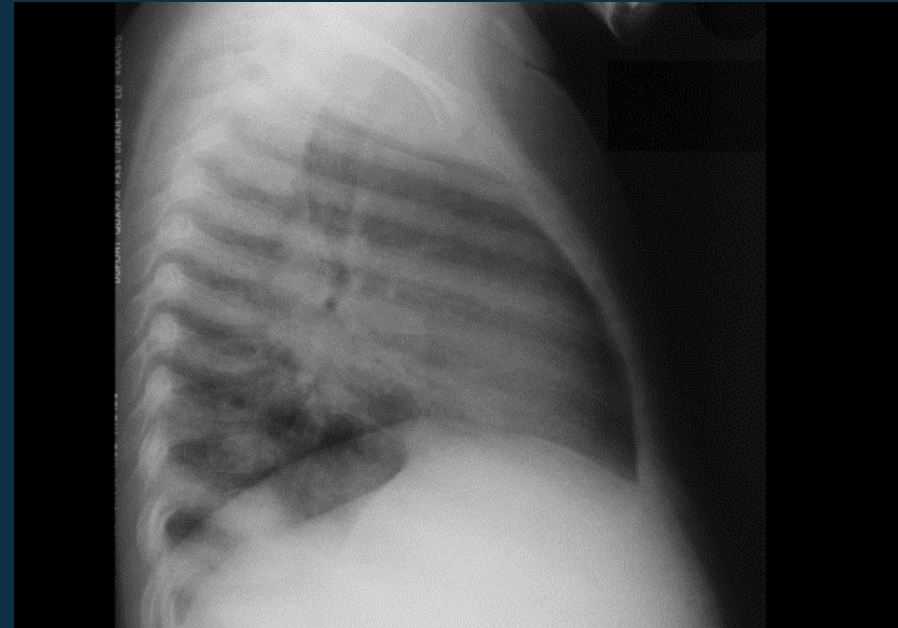
What do you see on these CXRs ?

- Right peri-hilar lymph node enlargement with surrounding opacities



What is your diagnosis ?

**TB lymphadenopathy with pulmonary involvement**



What do you see on this CXR ?

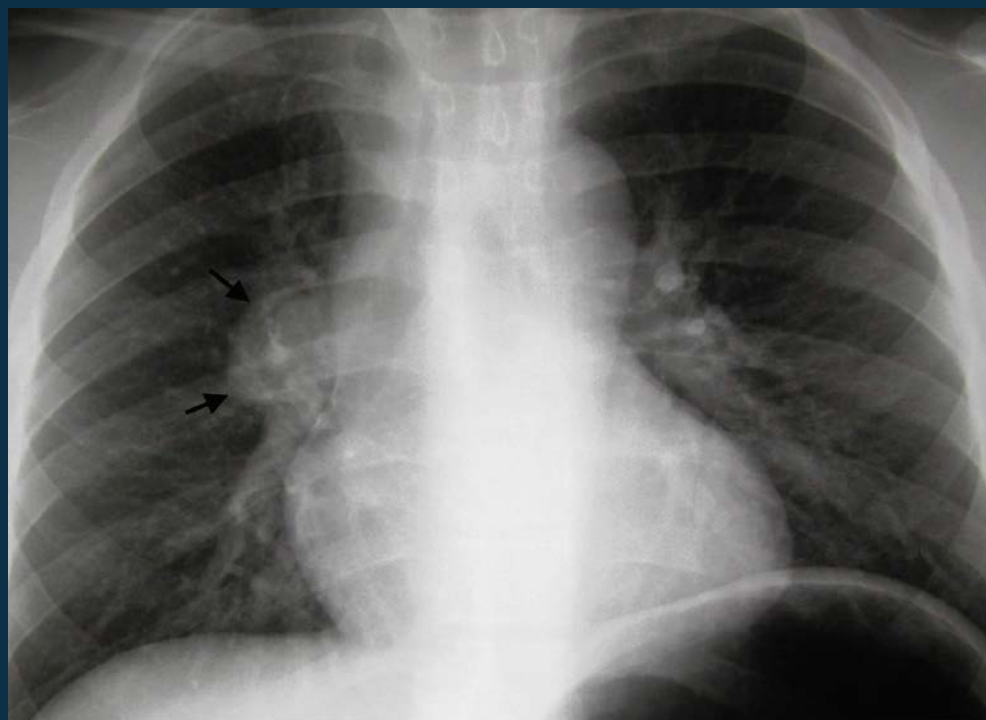
- . Lobulated soft tissue density mass

Where?

- . Right hilar region

Describe the external edge ?

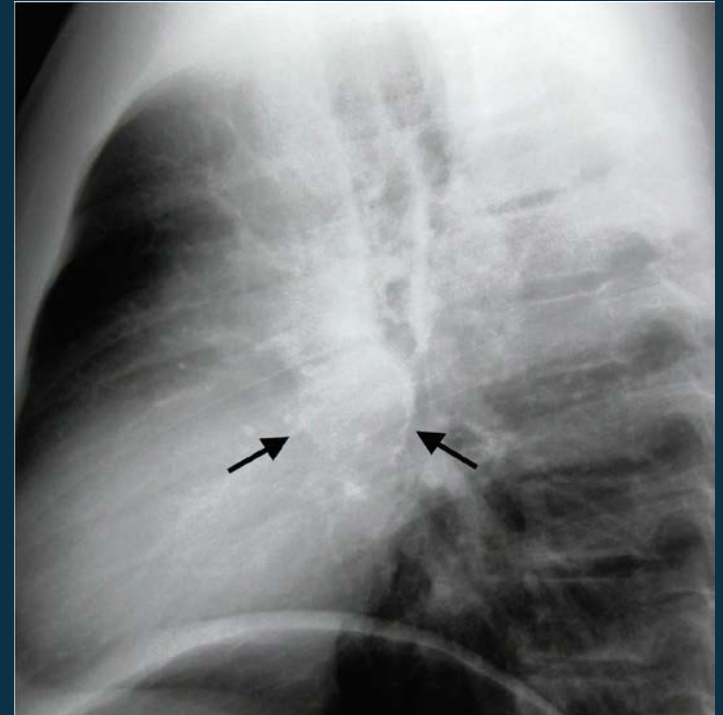
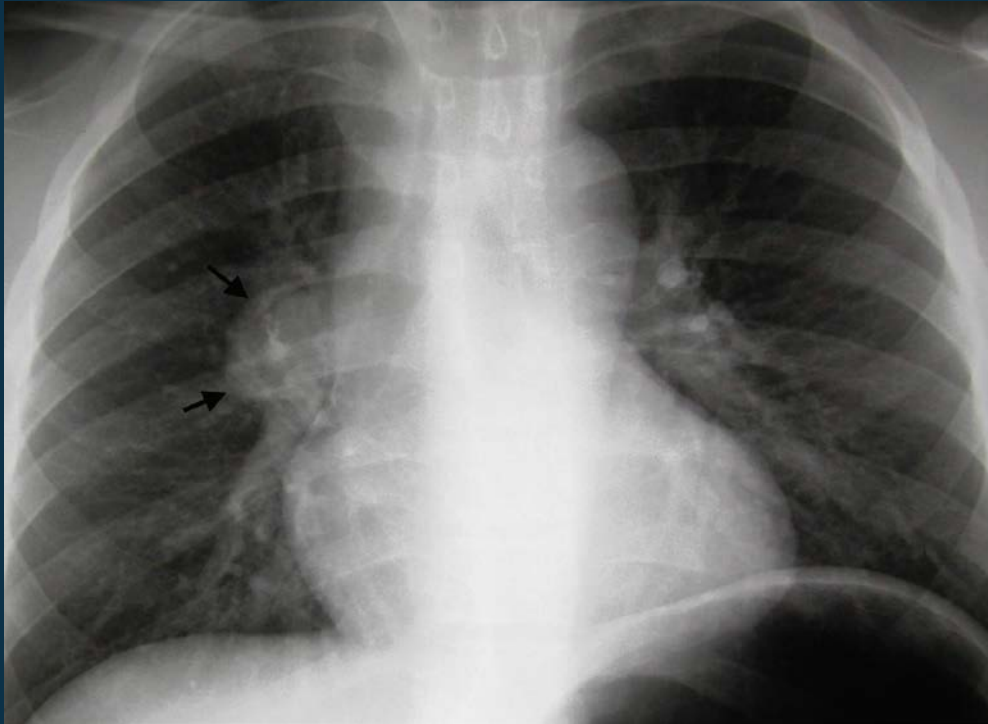
- . Convex



What is your diagnosis ?

**Enlarged right hilar lymph node**

What could you ask for to confirm?



Lateral view : hilar lymphadenopathy.  
Round lymph node visible at the lower  
margin of the hilar area (arrows)..



Bulky lymph node involvement which can be observed in HIV infected children.  
Confusion with lymphoma is possible



Bulky lymph node involvement which can be observed in HIV infected children.

Confusion with hematologic diseases (Hodgkins lymphoma) is possible

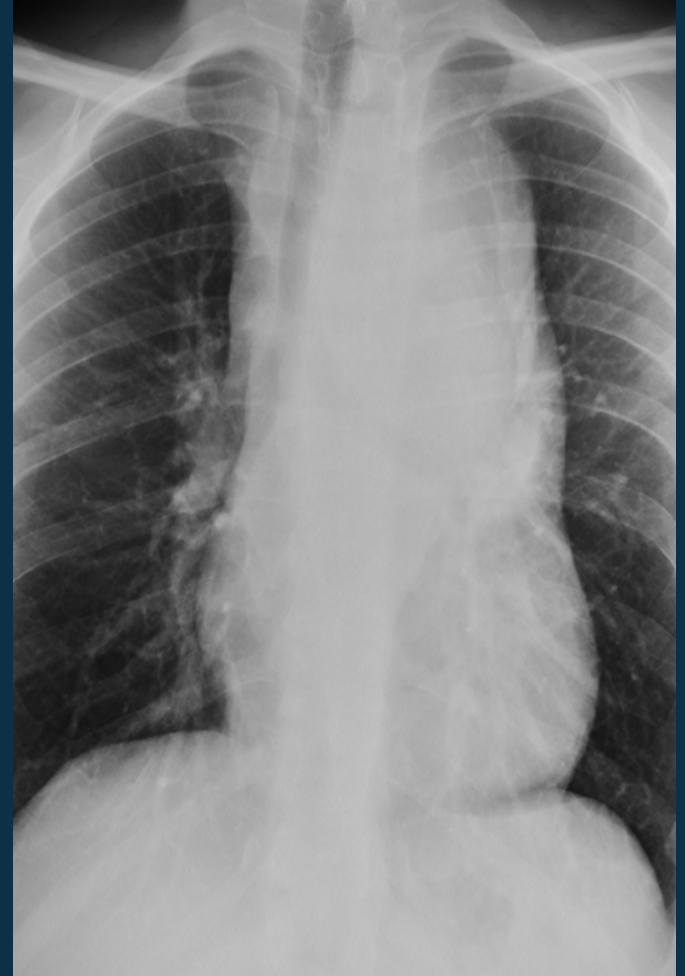
# About TB lymphadenopathy

1. The most frequent radiological image
2. Hallmark of primary infection in children
3. May be the only abnormal finding to support the diagnosis of TB
4. Children are often asymptomatic and respiratory samples are smear and GeneXpert negative
5. Usually unilateral, sometimes bilateral
6. Hilar enlargement
7. Lateral view is of major importance



# The most frequent mediastinal mass is a lymph node

The most frequent aetiology of enlarged mediastinal lymph nodes in high TB incidence countries is **TB**



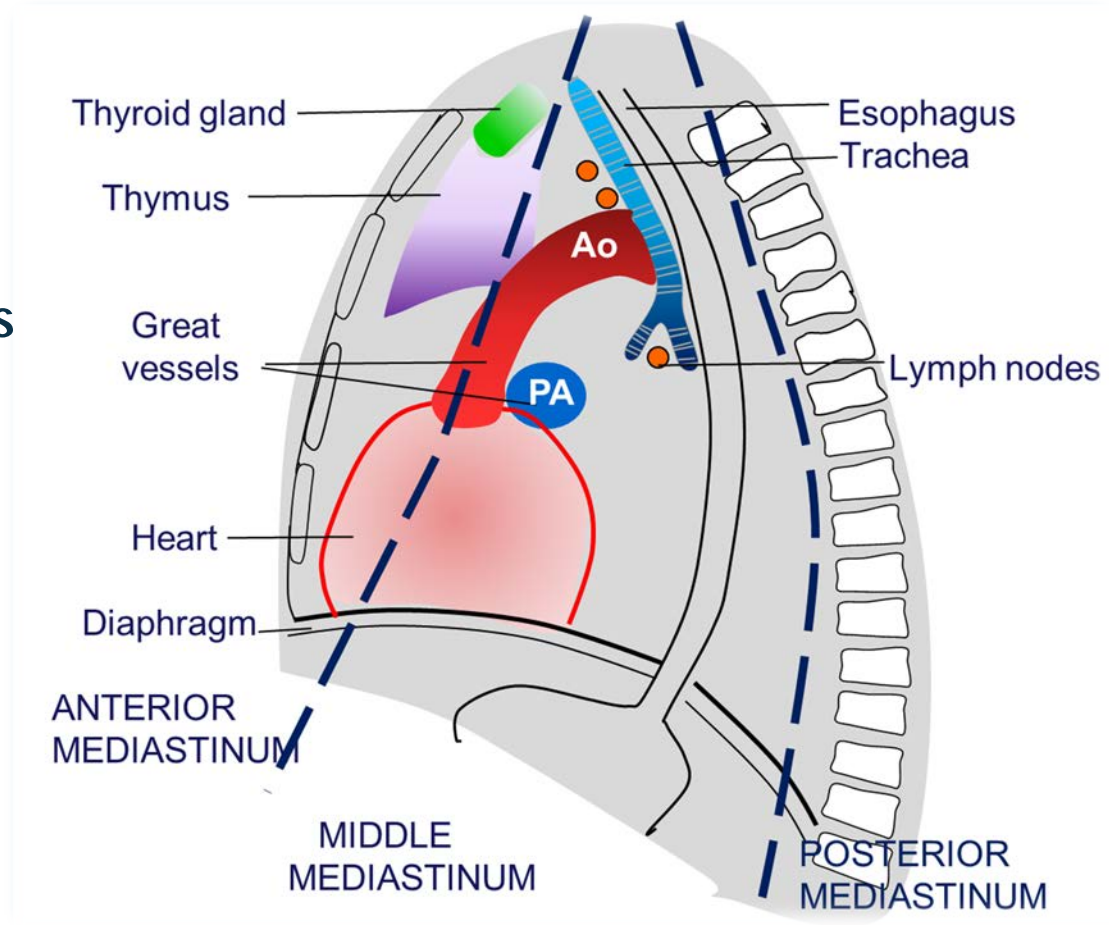


# Enlarged lymph nodes

## Differential diagnosis

# Lymph nodes can be confused with other mediastinal masses

Anterior mediastinum **thymus**



Middle mediastinum TB lymph nodes and lymphoma

What do you see on this CXR ?

What do you see ?

. Opacity on the right hemithorax

Is it anterior or posterior ?

. Anterior

Why ?

. Obscures the right border of the heart

Is it compressive ?

. No

Can you see through it ?

. Yes

So it is .....

**Soft tissue density mass**



What is your diagnosis ?

**Asymmetric hypertrophy of the right lobe of the thymus**

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . Triangular opacity on the upper right hemithorax

Is it anterior or posterior ?

- . Anterior

Why ?

- . Obscures the right border of the heart

Is it compressive ?

- . No

Can you see through it ?

- . Yes

So it is .....

**A triangular soft tissue density mass**



What is your diagnosis ?

**Thymus: 'sail sign'**

(triangular appearance, hypertrophy of the right lobe, angular corner flattened at the right minor fissure)

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . Wavy opacity in the left hemithorax  
.....it moulds to the ribs

Is it anterior or posterior ?

- . Anterior

Why ?

- . Obscures the left border of the heart

Is it compressive ?

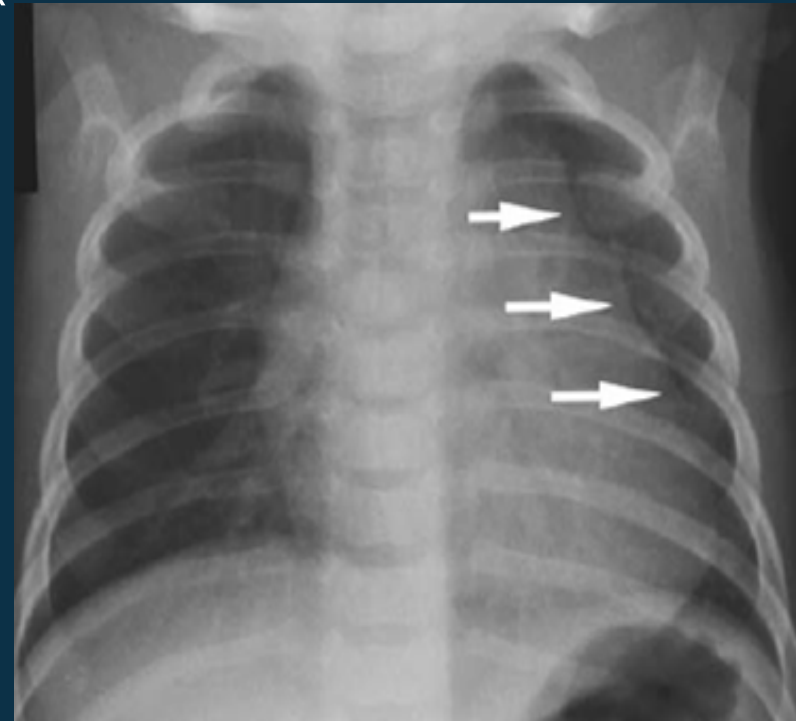
- . No

Can you see through it ?

- . Yes

So it is .....

**A wavy soft tissue  
density mass**



What is your diagnosis ?

**Thymus:**

**'wave' or 'ripple' sign.**

**Undulating appearance  
of the left margin of the  
thymus**

What do you see on this CXR ?

. An opacity contiguous to the heart

Is it anterior or posterior ?

. Anterior

Why ?

. Obscures the borders of the heart

Is it compressive ?

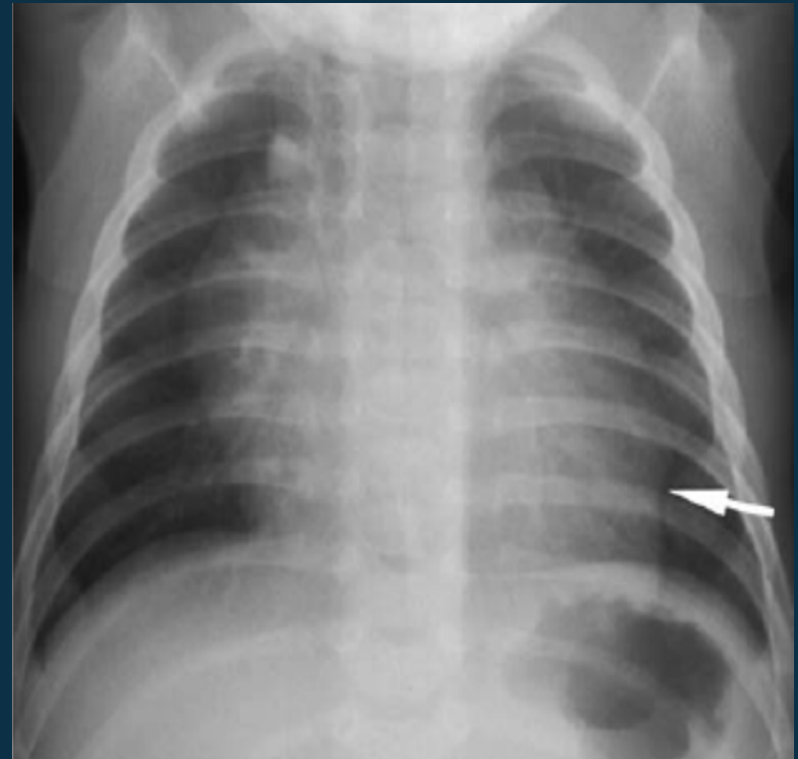
. No

Can you see through it ?

. Yes

So it is .....

**A huge soft tissue  
density mass**



What is your diagnosis ?

**Thymus: 'notch' sign :  
cardiothymic incisure**  
(small indentation between the  
inferior border of the left lobe  
of the thymus and the heart)

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . A right peri-hilar opacity

Is it anterior or posterior ?

- . Anterior

Why ?

- . Obscures the border of the heart

What could you request  
if you are not sure ?







A lateral view

What is your diagnosis ?

**Thymus:**

**Retro-sternal clear space is filled**

What do you see on this CXR ?

How is the trachea ?

- . Physiological buckling

How is the mediastinum ?

- . Widened
- . With a large opacity

Is it anterior or posterior ?

- . Anterior

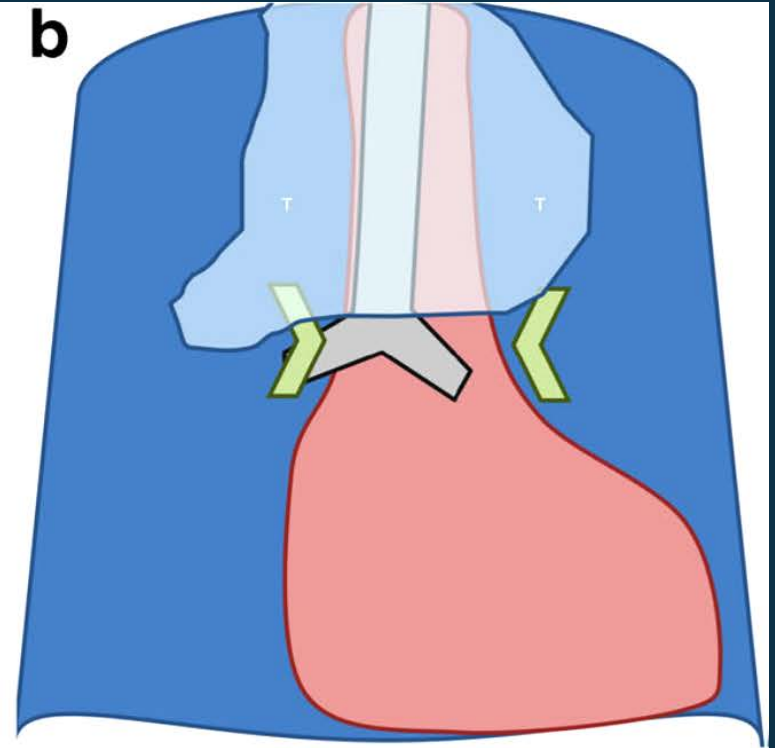


What is your diagnosis ?

**Thymus**

Why ?

- . Obscures the borders of the heart



Normal chest radiography  
in a 14-month-old girl.

# Enlarged Lymph nodes – Differential diagnosis: thymus

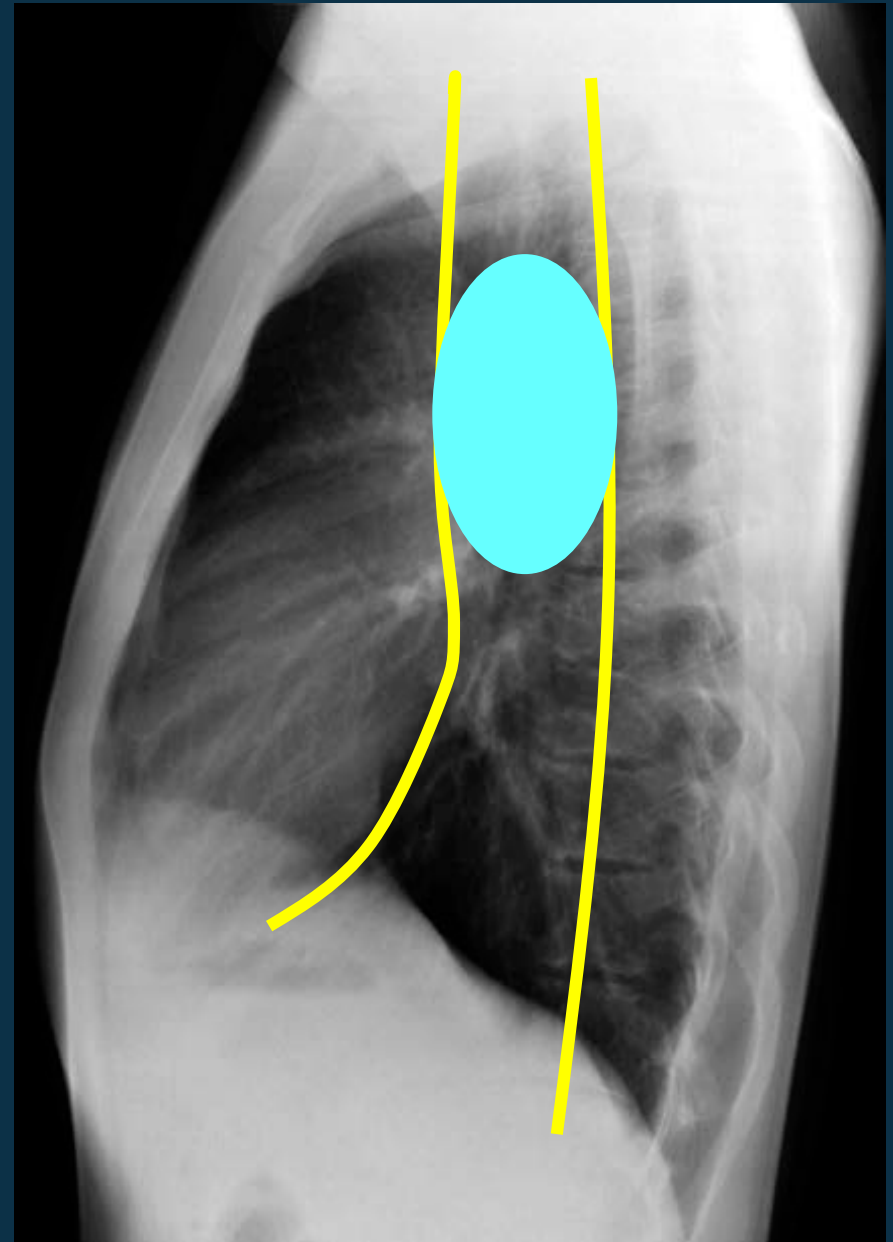
1. Thymus = a diagnosis of exclusion
2. Particularly visible before 2 years of age
3. Never compressive
4. Mobile with change of position
5. Change in size if inspiration or expiration
6. Various radiological appearances
7. Can cause confusion: can simulate cardiac enlargement, atelectasis, pulmonary infiltrates and mediastinal masses or enlarged lymph nodes

# Middle mediastinal masses

Adenopathies

TB as first diagnosis

Lymphoma



What do you see on this X-ray ?

- . Widened mediastinum with convex bilateral opacities

Where is it located?

- . anterior mass

Why ?

- . Obscures the heart borders

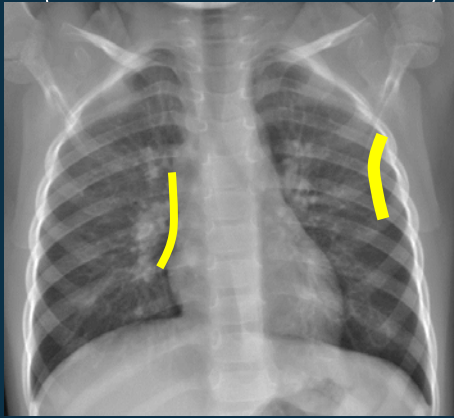
What is your diagnosis

**Lymphoma**

16 year old girl with  
cough and fever



# Key points regarding enlarged lymph nodes



Normal



Suspected on front view



Confirmed on lateral view

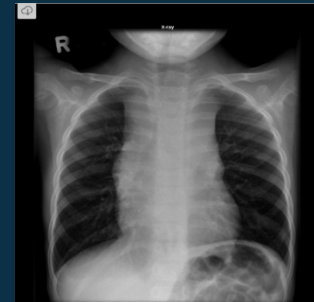
## Beware of main differential diagnosis



Thymus



Lymphoma





# Learning Objectives

## Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

Chap1. Introduction

Chap2. Enlarged lymph nodes

**Chap3. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue**

Chap4. Airways compression

Chap5. Cavitation

Chap6. Pleural or pericardial effusion

Chap7. Miliary

Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second circle:  
Lungs : What do you see ?  
A right lung opacity  
obscuring the right border  
of the heart
- . Third circle : normal

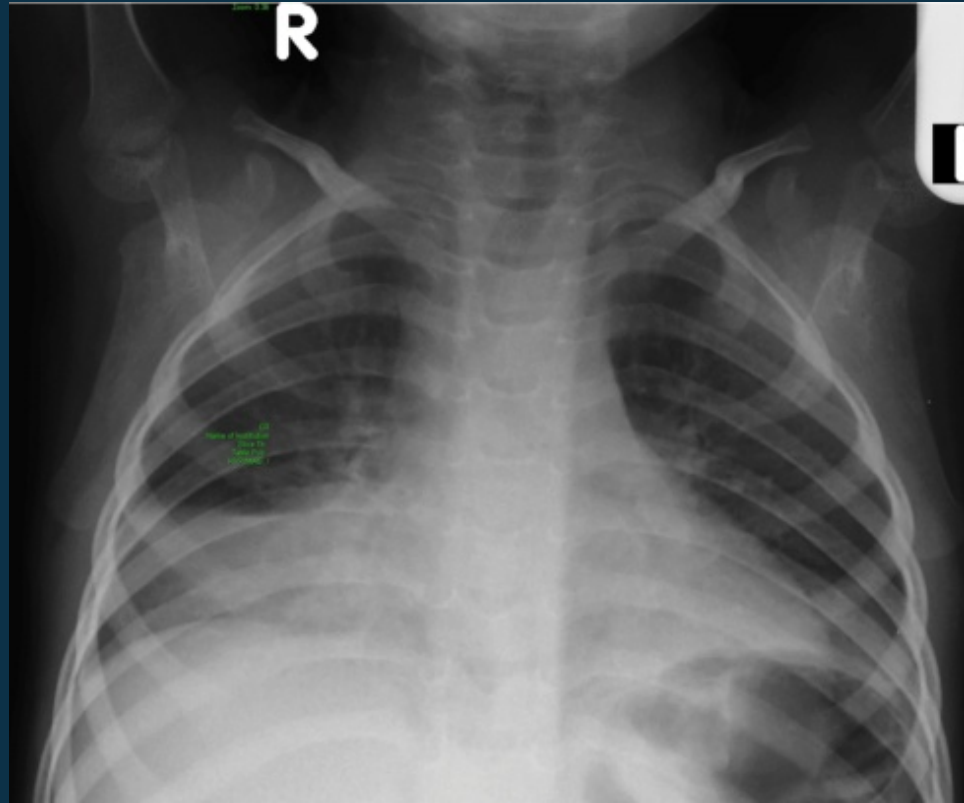
So it is .....

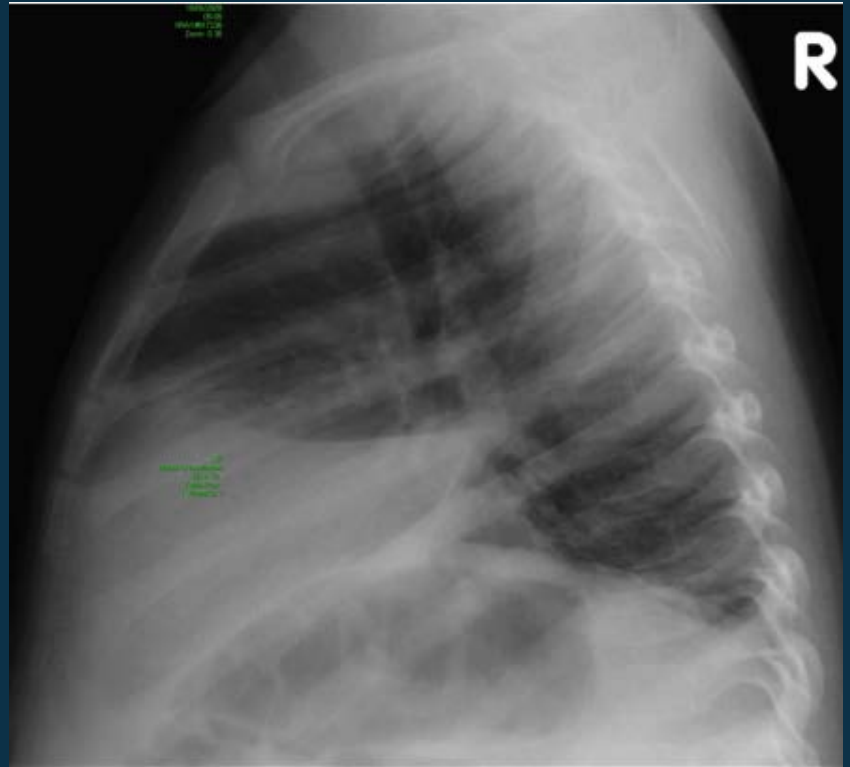
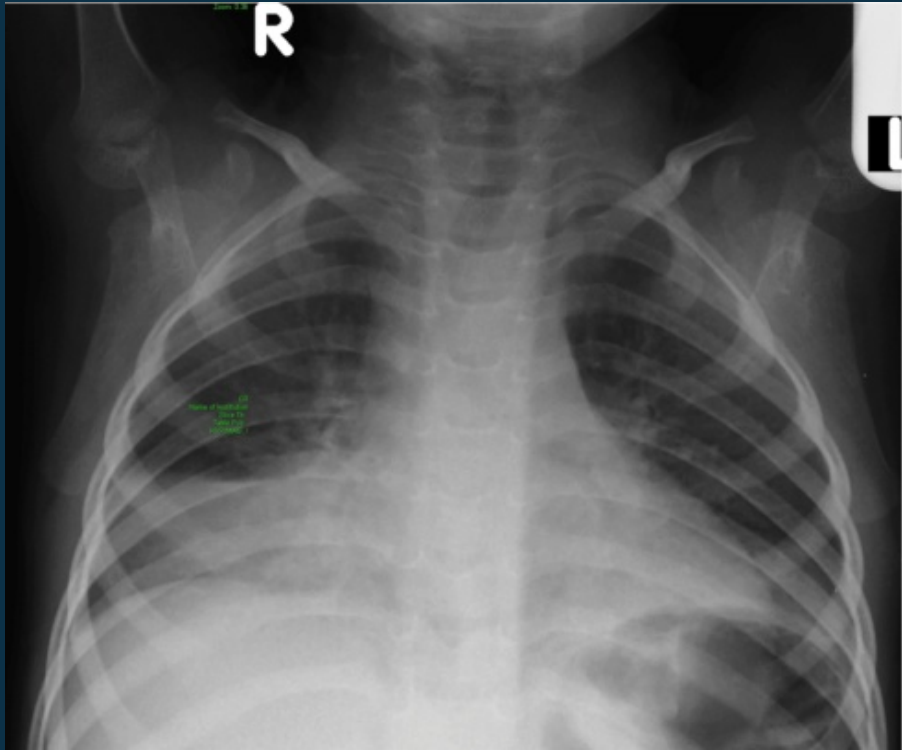
**Pneumonia (middle lobe)**

Is it TB ?

What should you request ?

- . a lateral view





Is it TB ?

- . Middle lobe pneumonia without lymphadenopathy:  
Not Suggestive of TB
- . One should give a course of amoxicillin before considering TB treatment (if GeneXpert negative)

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second circle:  
Lungs :What do you see ?  
A right lung opacity obscuring  
the right border of the heart  
(middle lobe)
- . Third circle : normal

So it is

**Middle lobe pneumonia**

Is it TB ?

What should you request ?

- . a lateral view





Is it TB ?

Middle lobe pneumonia associated with lymphadenopathy  
= Suggestive of TB

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second circle:  
Lungs :What do you see ?  
Right lung opacity in the upper zone
- . Third circle : normal

20 month old child  
with fever, cough  
and dyspnoea

Any tracheal deviation ?

- . No

Any airway compression ?

- . No

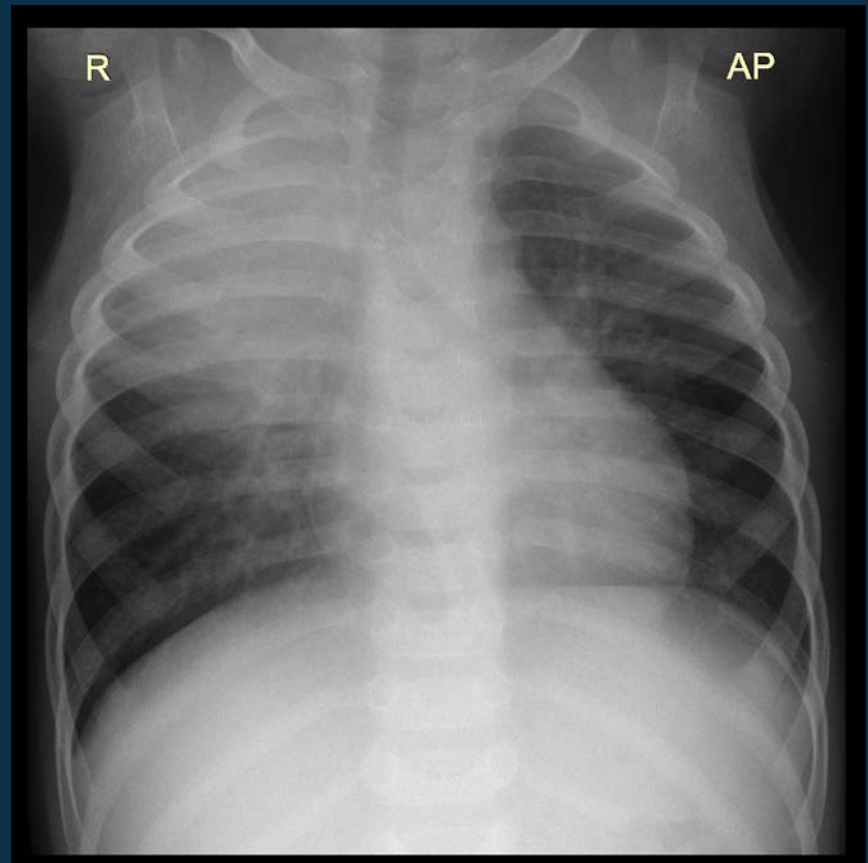
So it is

**Alveolar opacity**

Is it TB ?

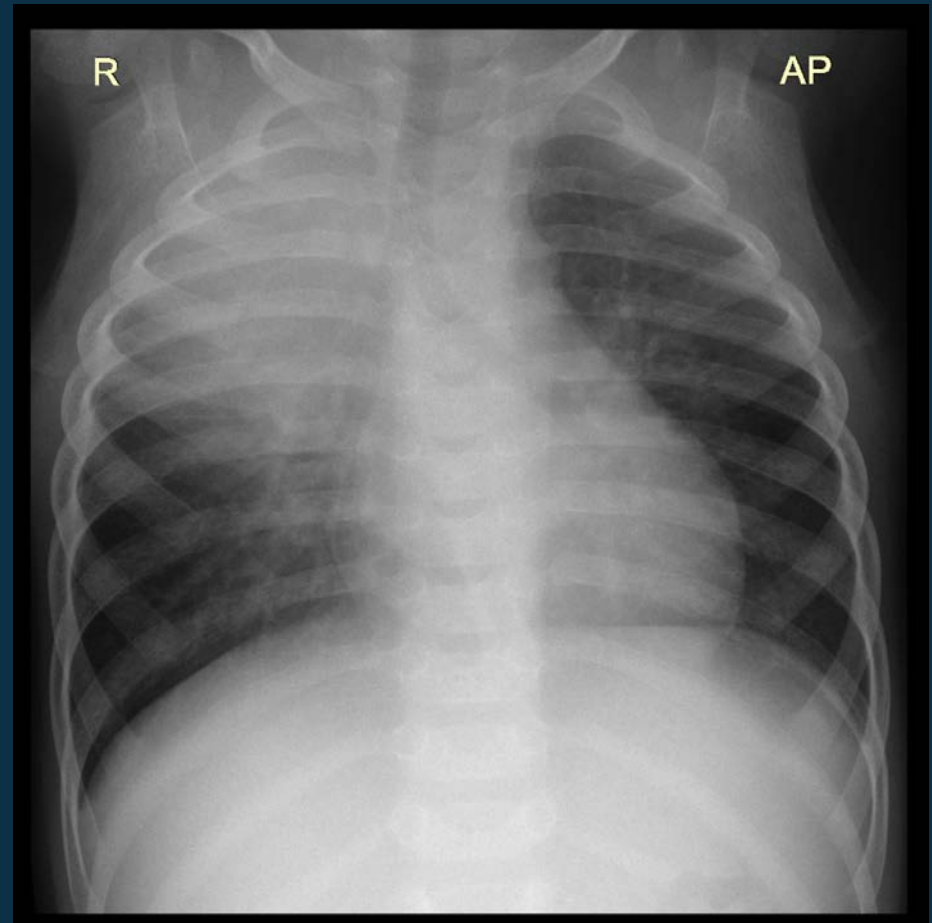
What should you request?

- . a lateral view



We have no lateral view  
for this child so....

TB is possible but one should give  
a course of amoxicillin before  
considering TB treatment  
(if GeneXpert negative)



Right upper alveolar opacity  
in a 20 month old.



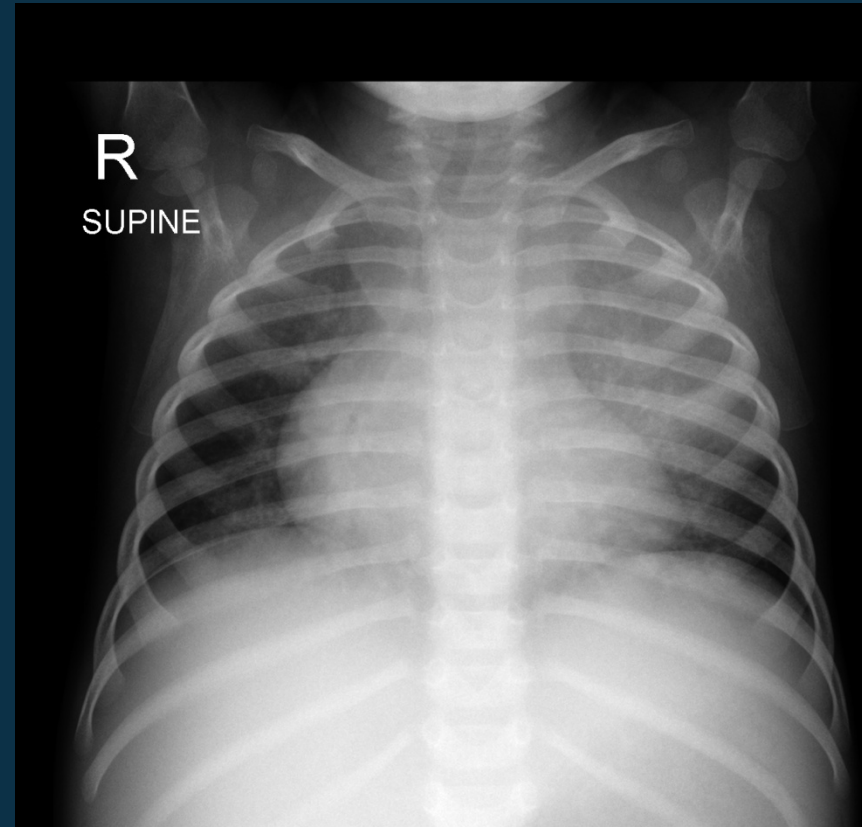
What do you see on this CXR ?

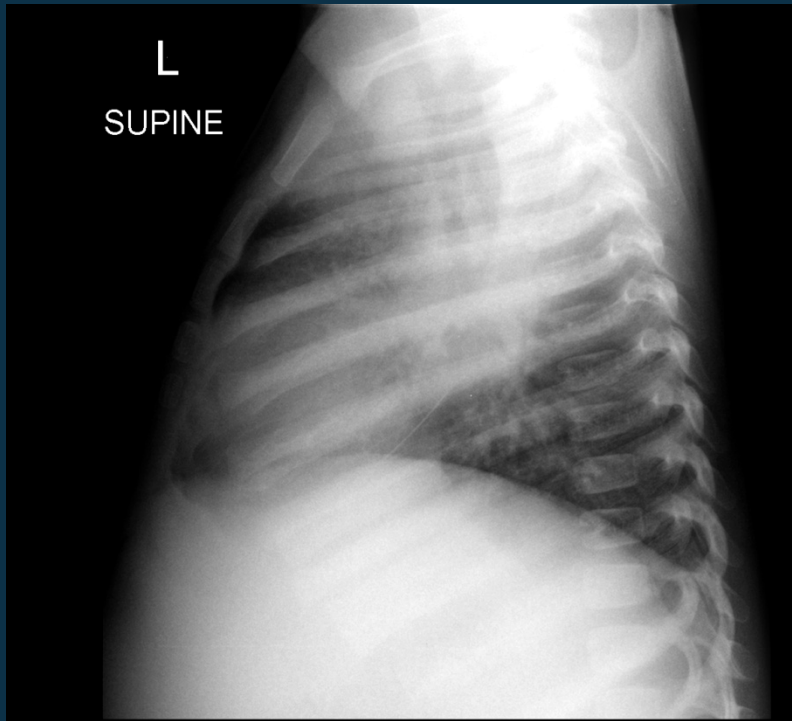
- . First circle: normal
- . Second circle:  
Lungs :What do you see ?  
opacity in the upper zone  
of left lung
- . Third circle : normal

So it is

**Left upper zone alveolar  
opacity (consolidation)**

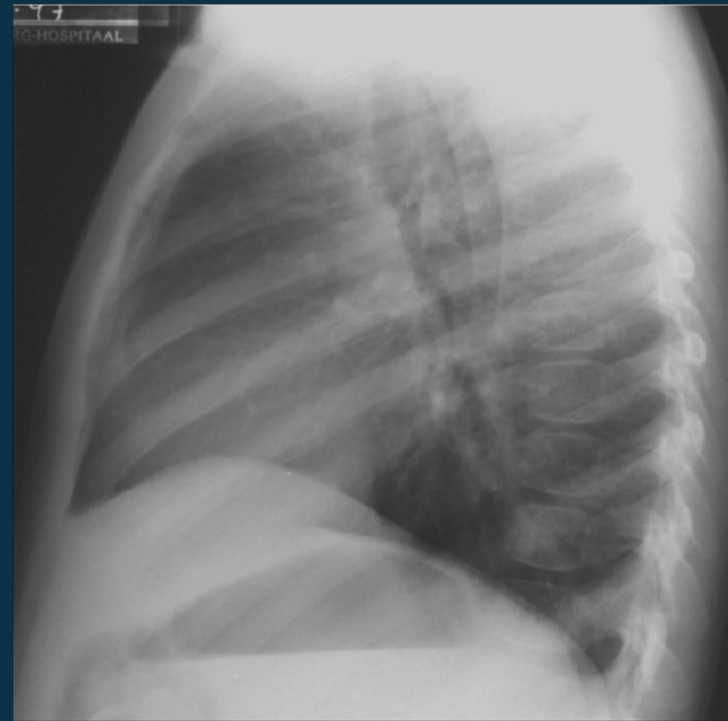
Is it TB ?



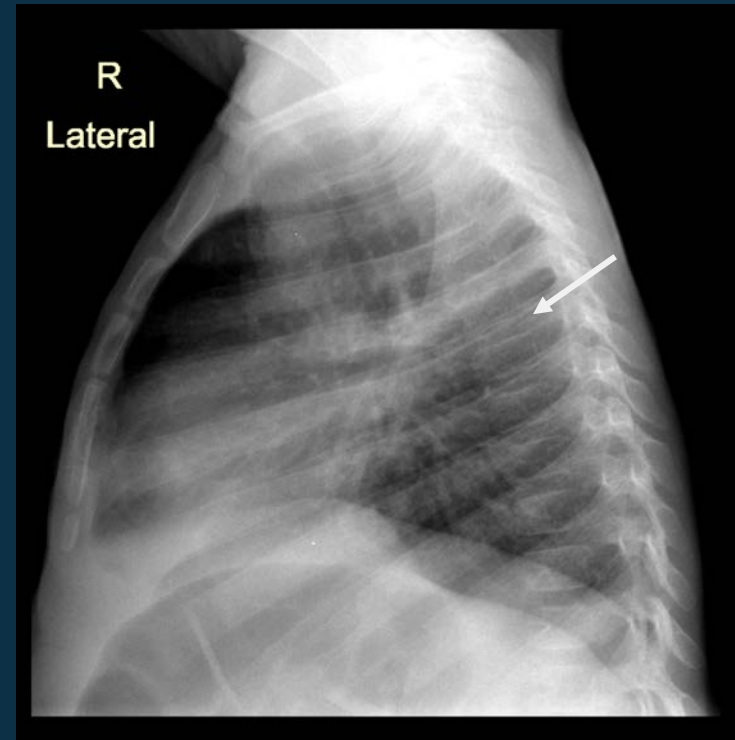
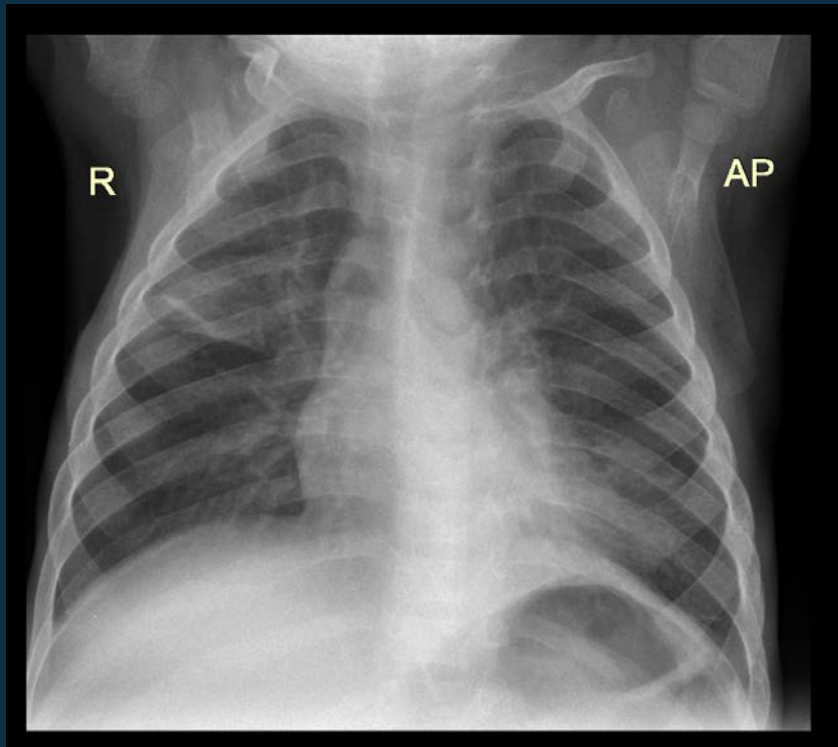


Is it TB ?

Yes , perihilar nodes  
and lobar consolidation:  
It is TB

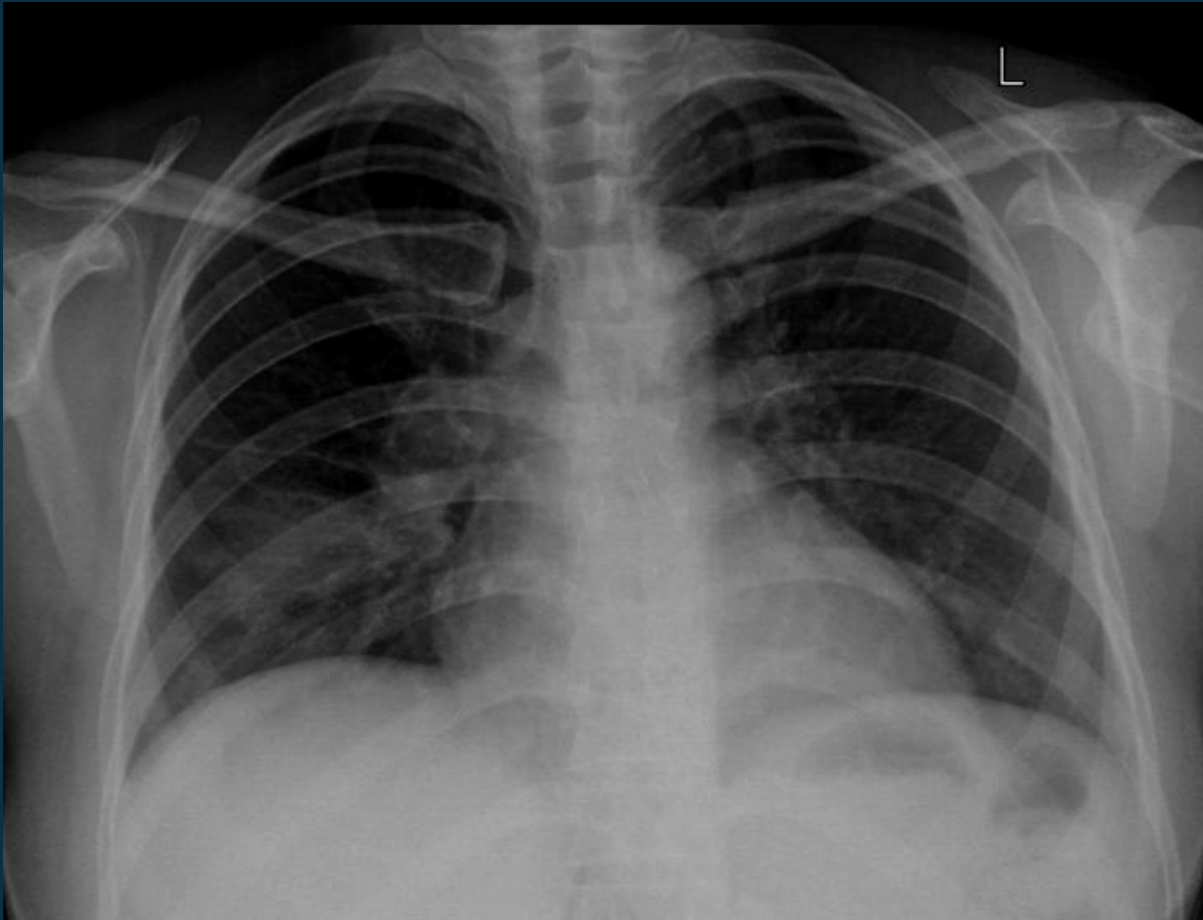


Normal CXR



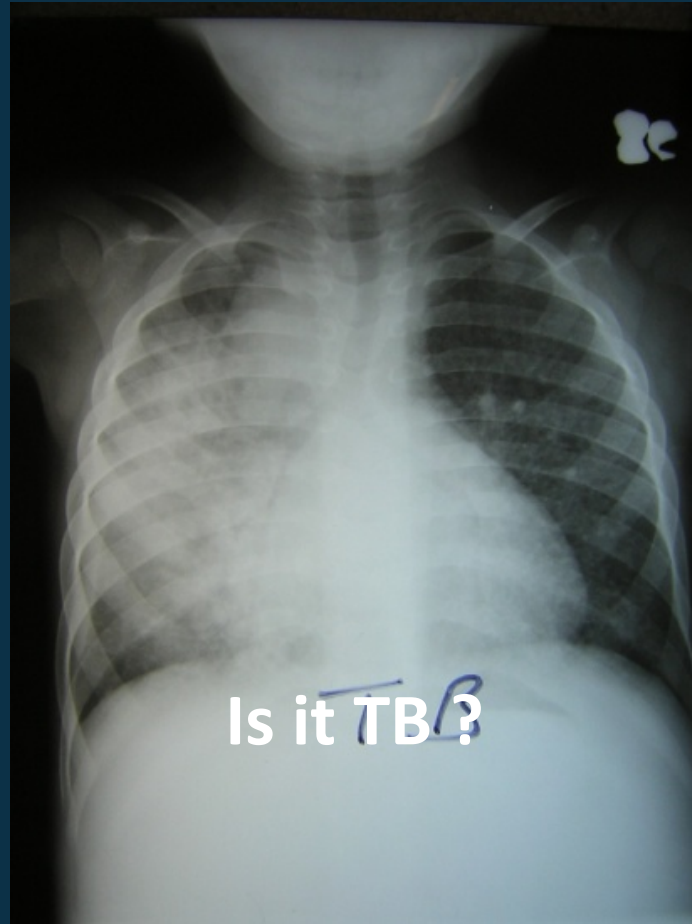
Is it TB ?

Bilateral bronchopneumonia with perihilar lymph node enlargement (visible on lateral view) and possible left bronchus compression in a 5 month old HIV-infected child



Is it TB ?

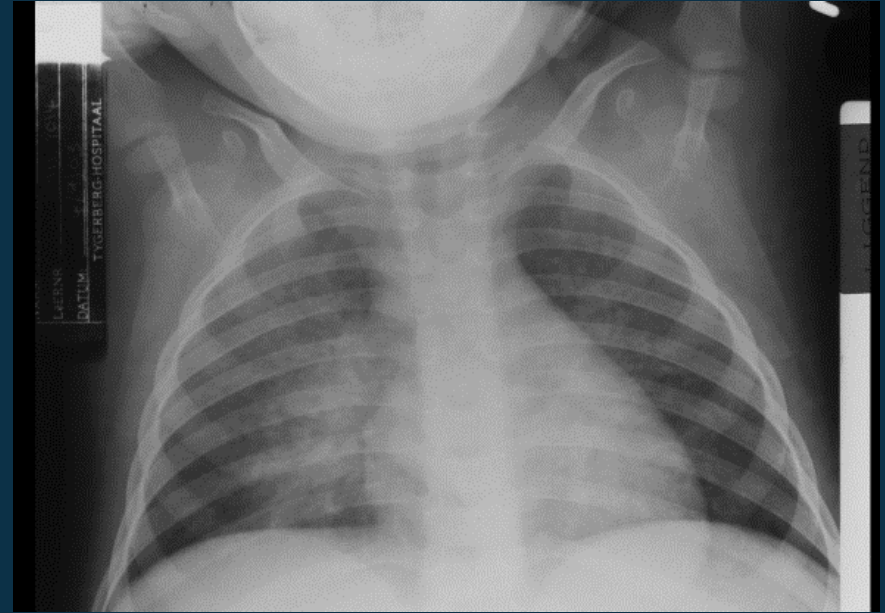
CXR suggestive of TB:  
right perihilar lymph node enlargement with opacity  
in the lower zone of the right lung



CXR suggestive of TB:  
Right middle and upper lobe opacification and  
tracheal deviation with lymph node compression  
of the right main bronchus

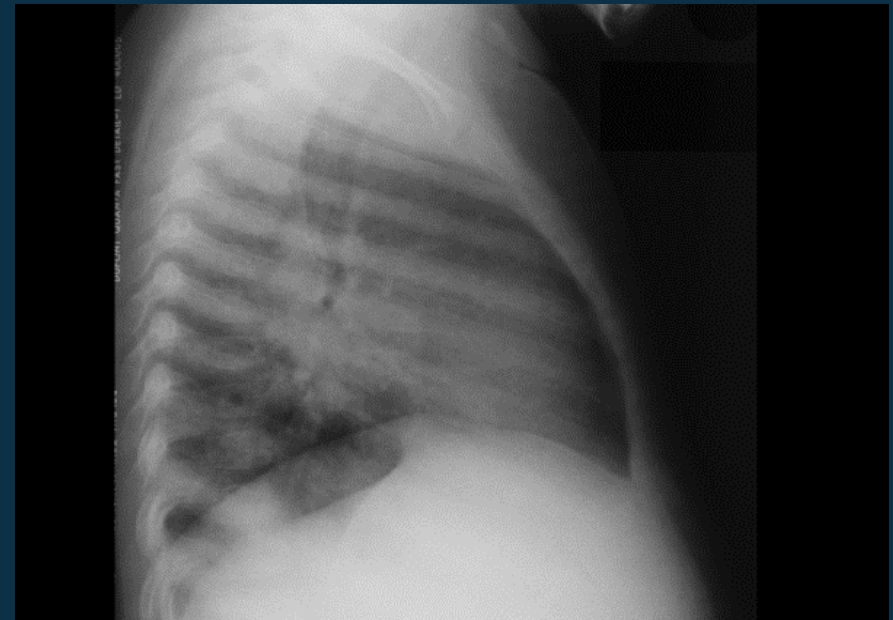
What do you see on these CXRs ?

- Right perihilar lymph node enlargement with surrounding opacities



What is your diagnosis ?

**TB Lymphadenopathy  
with parenchymal  
involvement**





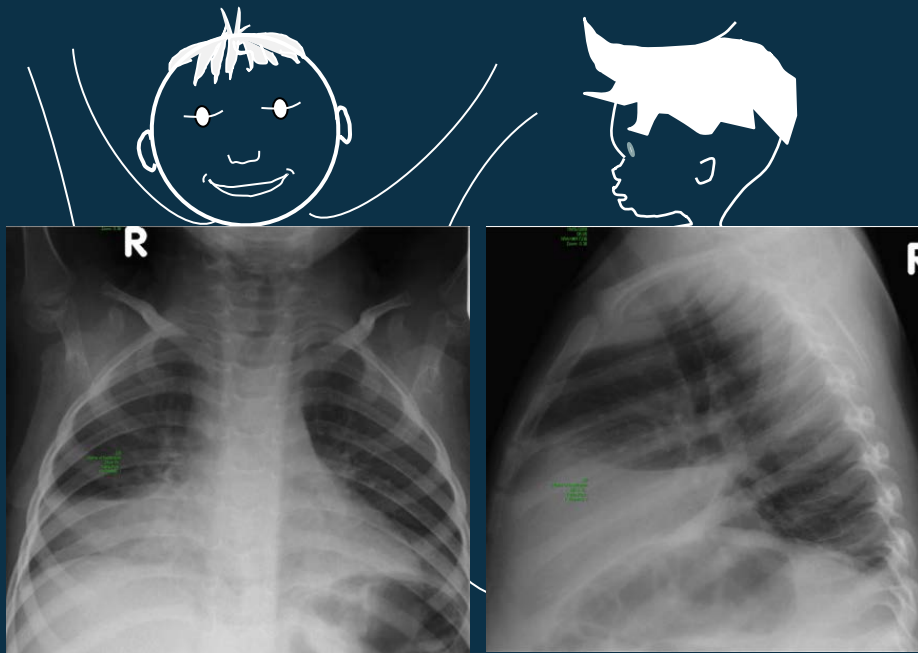
# About alveolar opacity

1. The most common parenchymal involvement
2. It can mimic bacterial pneumonia
3. Strongly suggestive of TB if associated with ipsilateral hilar or para-tracheal lymph node enlargement
4. **Usually smear and xpert positive**  
(especially in older children), if gastric lavage, induced sputum or NPA were collected



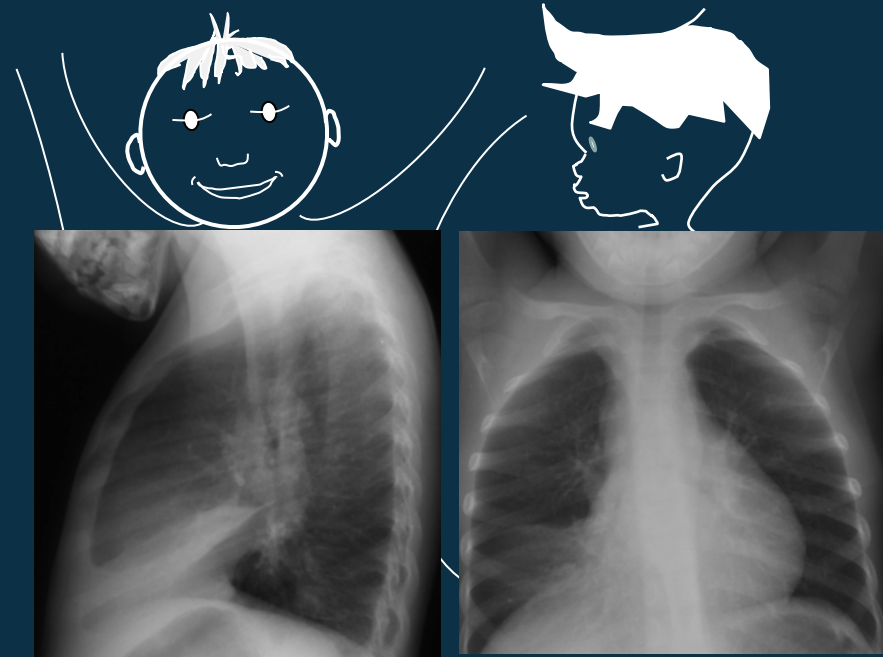
# Key points: alveolar opacities

Is it TB ?



No hilar lymph nodes

If GeneXpert negative then treat with antibiotics according to guidelines (amoxicillin or other) and review the child



Associated with hilar lymph nodes Suggestive of TB

Begin TB treatment (With or without positive GeneXpert result)

# Learning Objectives

## Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

Chap1. Introduction

Chap2. Enlarged lymph nodes

Chap3. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue

**Chap4. Airways compression**

Chap5. Cavitation

Chap6. Pleural or pericardial effusion

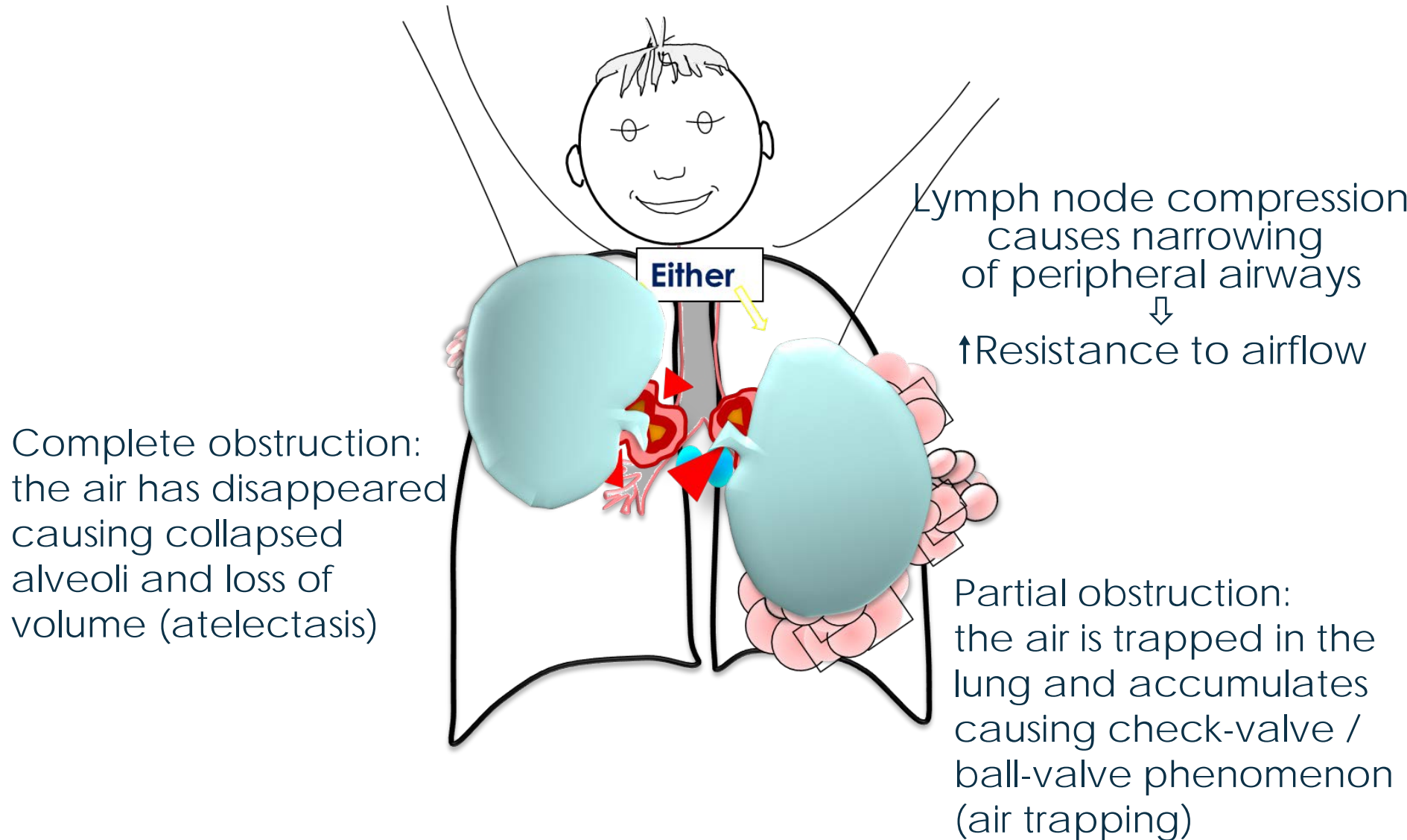
Chap7. Miliary

Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell

# Airway compression by TB lymph node in progressive TB

1. Lymph node compression can cause narrowing or obstruction of airways or can ulcerate into the airways
2. Look at airway position, and for narrowing or deviation
3. Look for:
  - . Airway narrowing
  - . Airway deviation
  - . Splaying of the carina

# Specific anatomical considerations in infants and children



# Airway compression by TB lymph node

The enlarged nodes compress the adjacent trachea or bronchi causing luminal narrowing with either partial or complete obstruction

## Partial obstruction

← either →

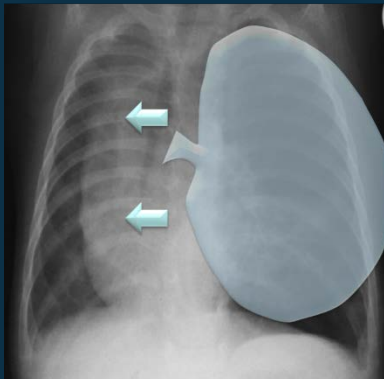
## Complete obstruction

Air-trapping

Lung hyperinflation with check-valve effect and asymmetry between right and left lung

Responsible for radiographic hyperlucency (lung appears blacker)

Shift of surrounding structures: 'pushes'



Atelectasis

alveolar collapse

Responsible for radiographic alveolar opacity (lung appears whiter) with loss of volume

Shift of surrounding structures: 'pulls'



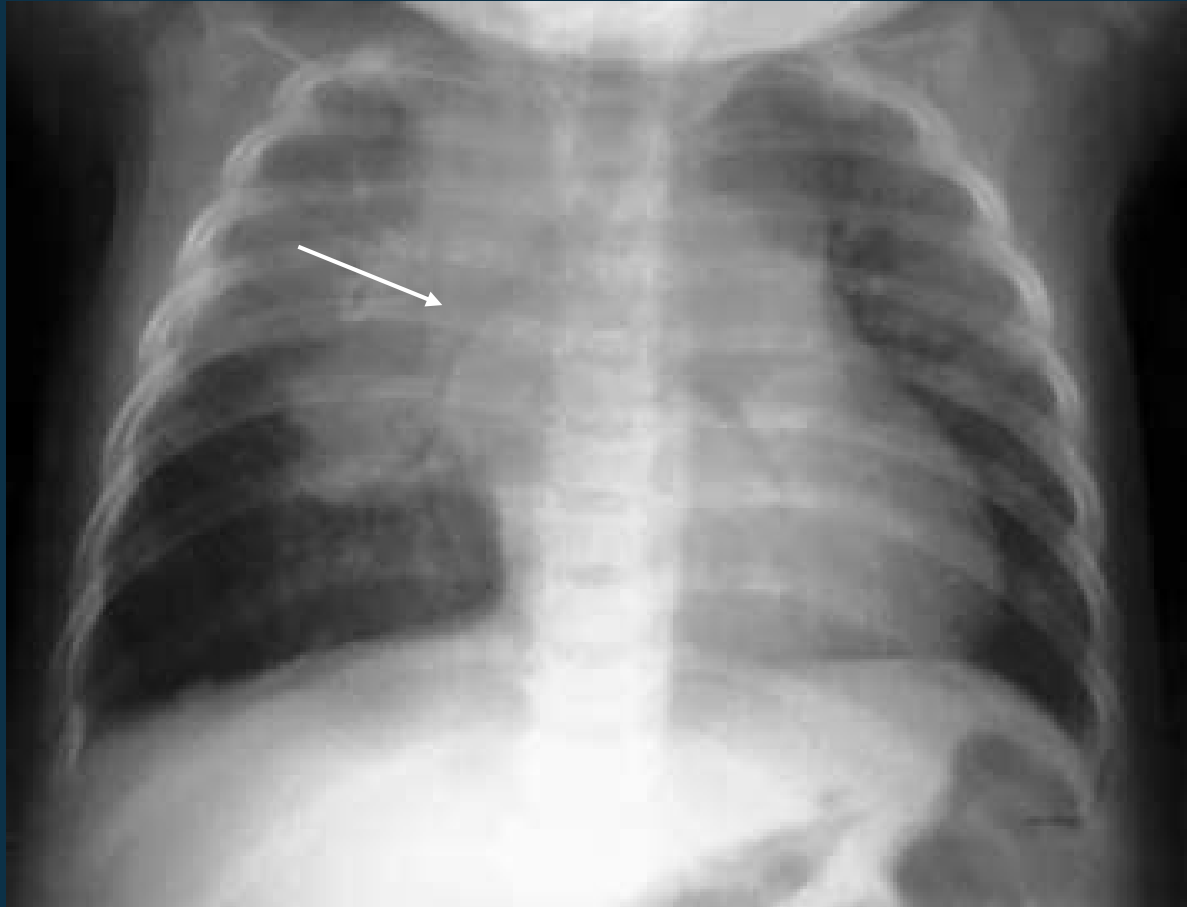
What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second and third circle:  
How are the lungs ?  
Asymmetry in lucency :  
Upper lobe opacity and  
hyperlucency in the right  
lower lobe.  
The right hemidiaphragm  
is flattened



How are the airways ?

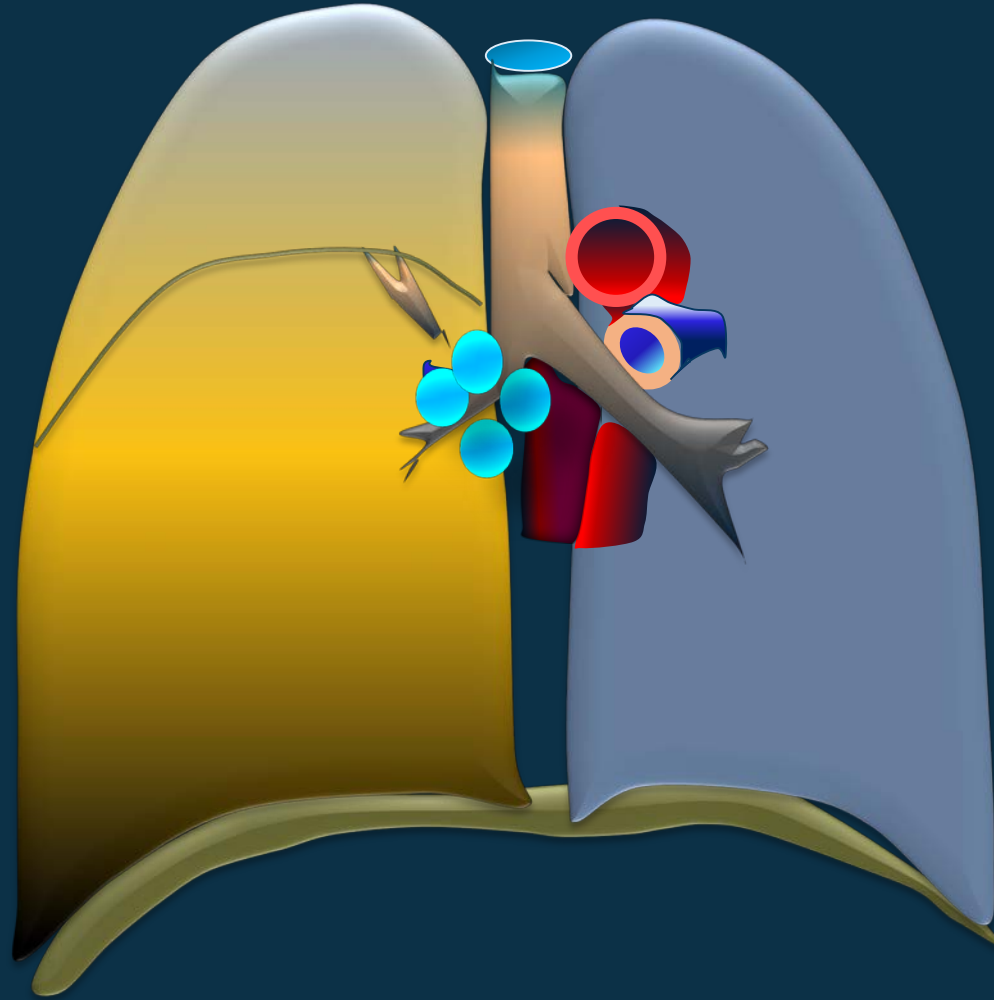
- . Narrowing of the right main bronchus
- . Mediastinum shifted to the right
- . Splaying of the carina



What is your diagnosis?

**Airway compression caused by lymph node enlargement causing check-valve effect (right main bronchus partially obstructed with hyperinflation of the right lower lobe)**





Lymphobronchial tuberculosis with partial obstruction of the right lower lobe bronchus by enlarged lymph nodes and secondary lobar hyperinflation

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second and third circle:  
How are the lungs ?
  - . Asymmetry in lucency:  
left hyperlucent lung
  - . Alveolar opacity of the left  
lower lobe

How are the airways ?

- . Tracheal shift to the right

How is the mediastinum ?

- . Mediastinal shift

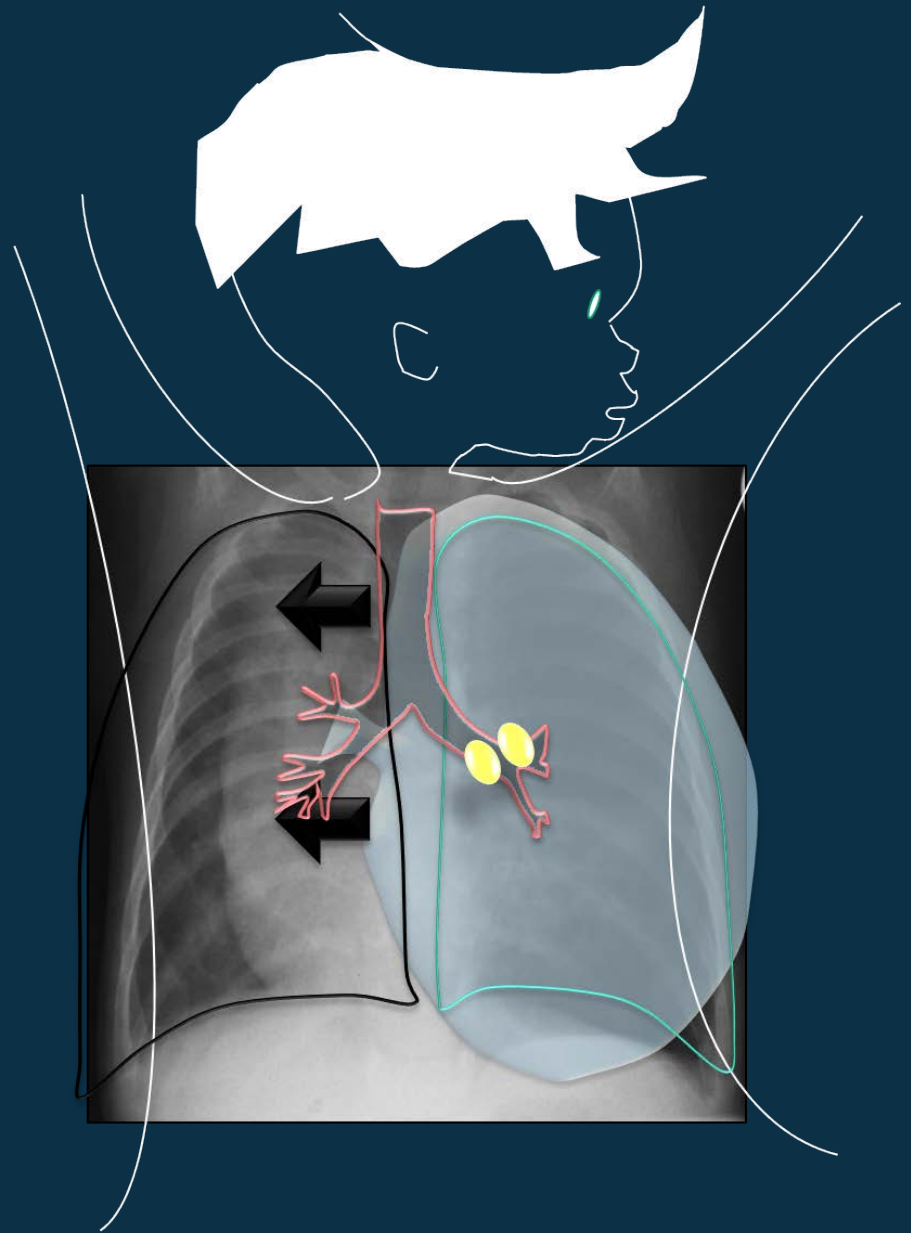
What is your diagnosis ?

**Airway compression by lymph nodes: check-valve effect  
(left main bronchus is partially obstructed with hyperinflation)**



Complicated TB :

Check valve - the main  
left bronchus is partially  
obstructed



What do you see on this CXR ?

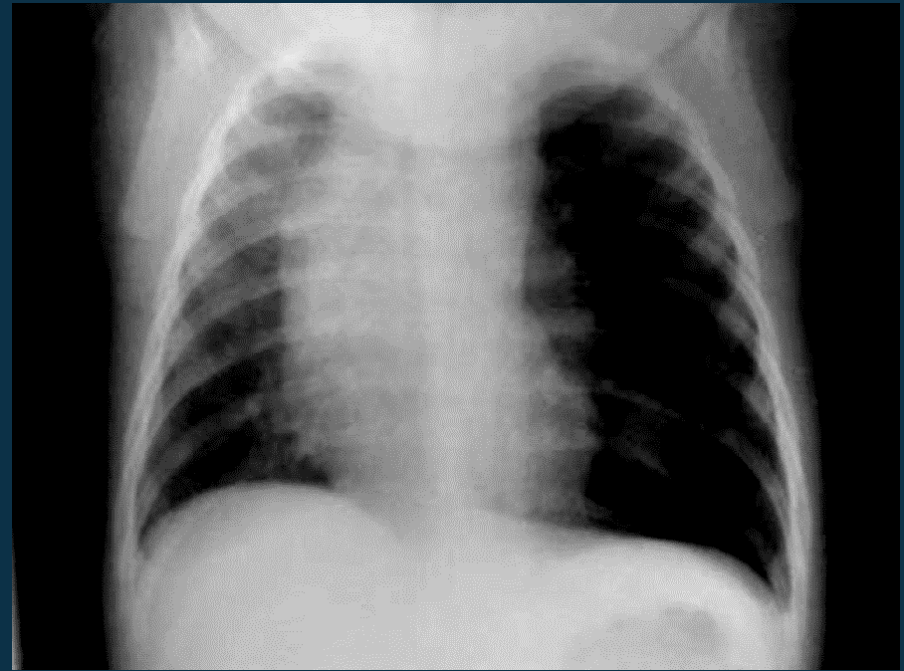
- . First circle: normal
- . Second and third circle:  
How are the lungs ?  
Asymmetry in lucency :  
Left hyperlucent lung,  
flattened hemidiaphragm  
and hyperinflation

How are the airways ?

- . Tracheal shift to the right
- . Left main bronchus partially  
obstructed (but not well visible)

How is the mediastinum ?

- . Mediastinal shift to the right
- . Left lymph node enlargement



What is your diagnosis ?

**Lymph node disease  
with airway compression:  
check-valve effect (the left  
main bronchus is partially  
obstructed with air trapping  
and hyperinflation)**

What do you see on this CXR ?

How are the airways ?

- . Compression of both left and right main bronchi

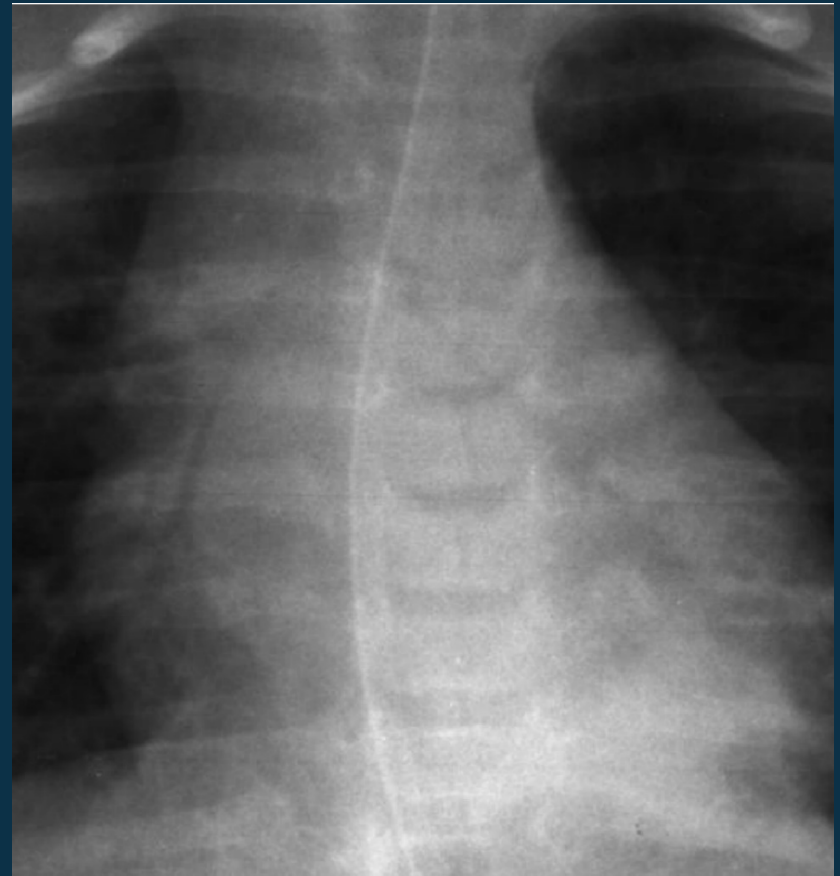
How is the mediastinum ?

- . Widened due to enlarged mediastinal lymph nodes

What is your diagnosis ?

**Bronchial obstruction due to enlarged lymph nodes**

This child has clinical signs of asthma (wheeze) but has no response to bronchodilators



## Wheeze

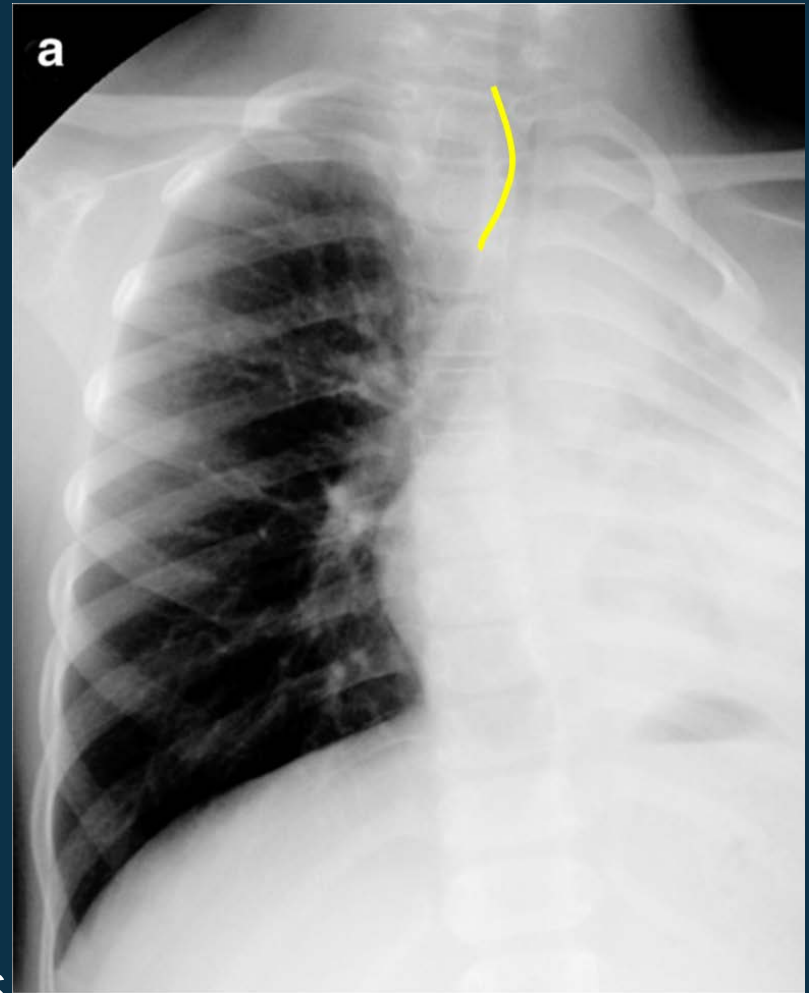
- . Asymmetrical and persistent wheeze can be caused by airway compression secondary to enlarged tuberculous hilar lymph nodes
- . Suspect TB when wheeze is asymmetrical, persistent or not responsive to bronchodilator therapy and/or associated with other typical features of TB

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle :  
We've lost the  
left hemi-diaphragm
- . Second circle :  
Complete opacity of the  
left hemithorax
- . Third circle :  
Tracheal shift towards  
the opacity

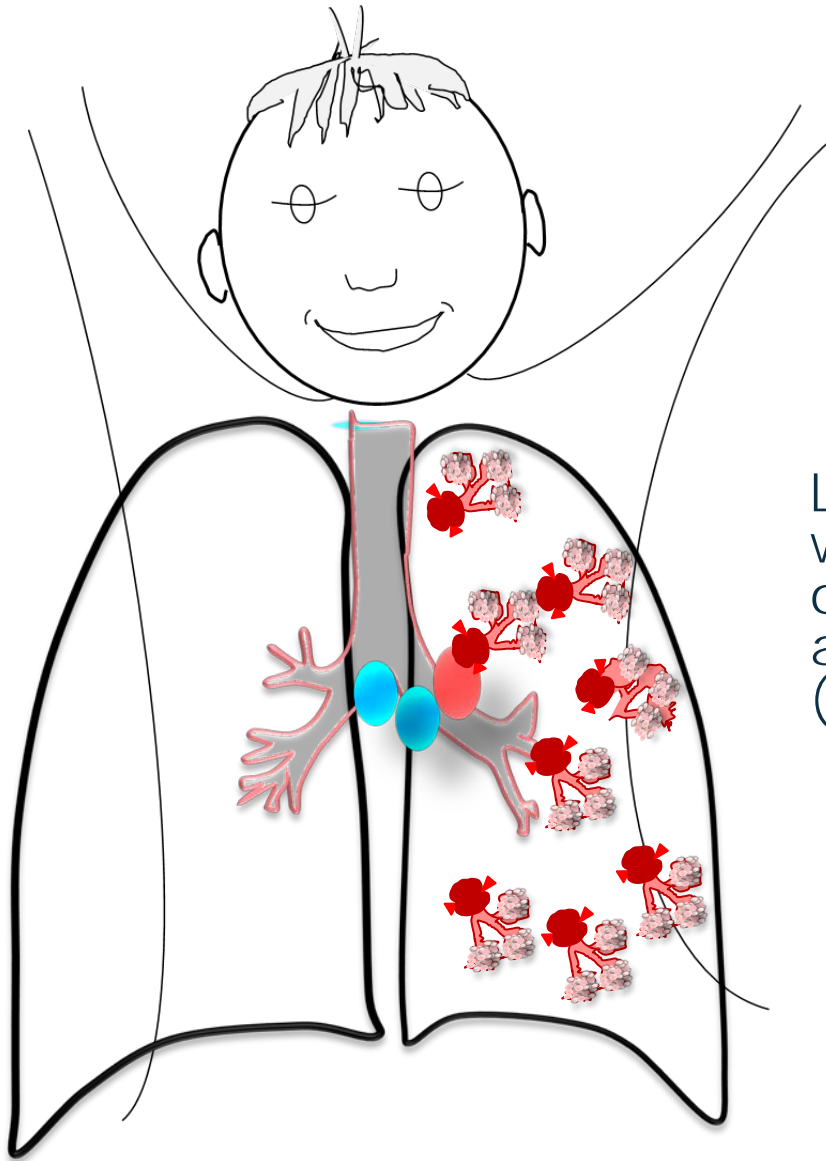
What is your diagnosis ?

**Left lung collapse: 6-year old  
boy with primary progressive  
lymphobronchial tuberculous  
disease.**

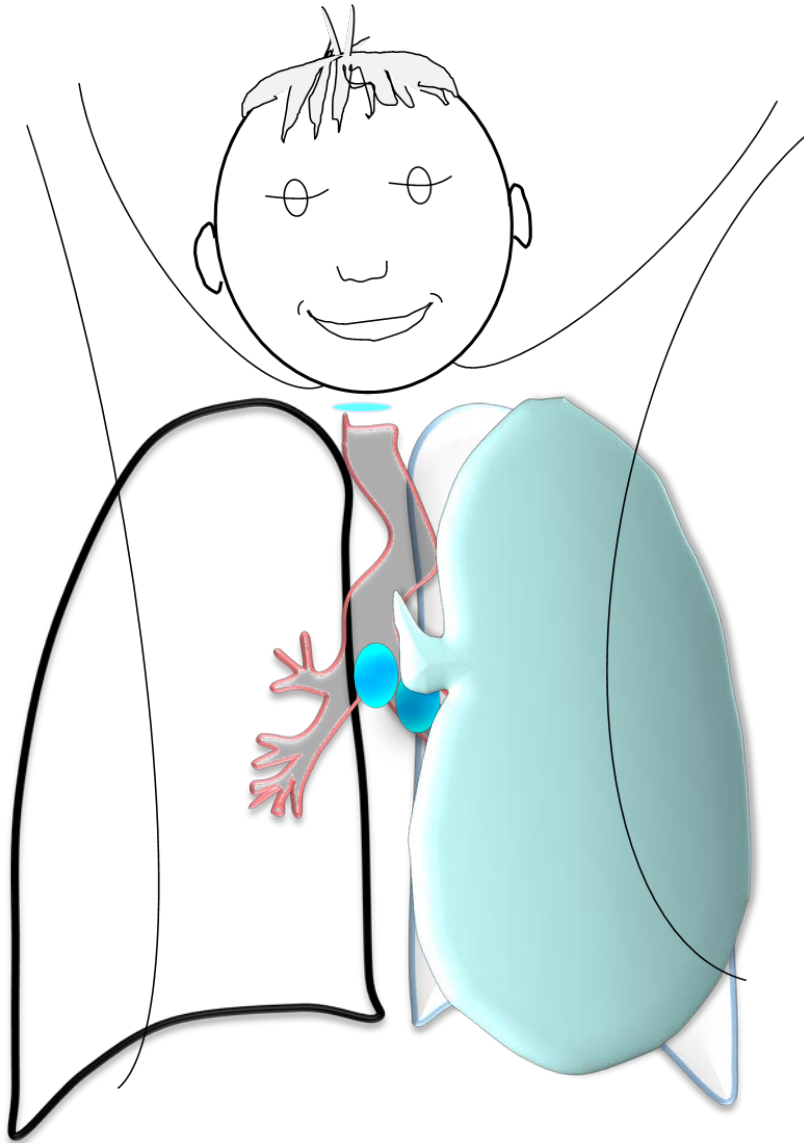


AP chest radiograph



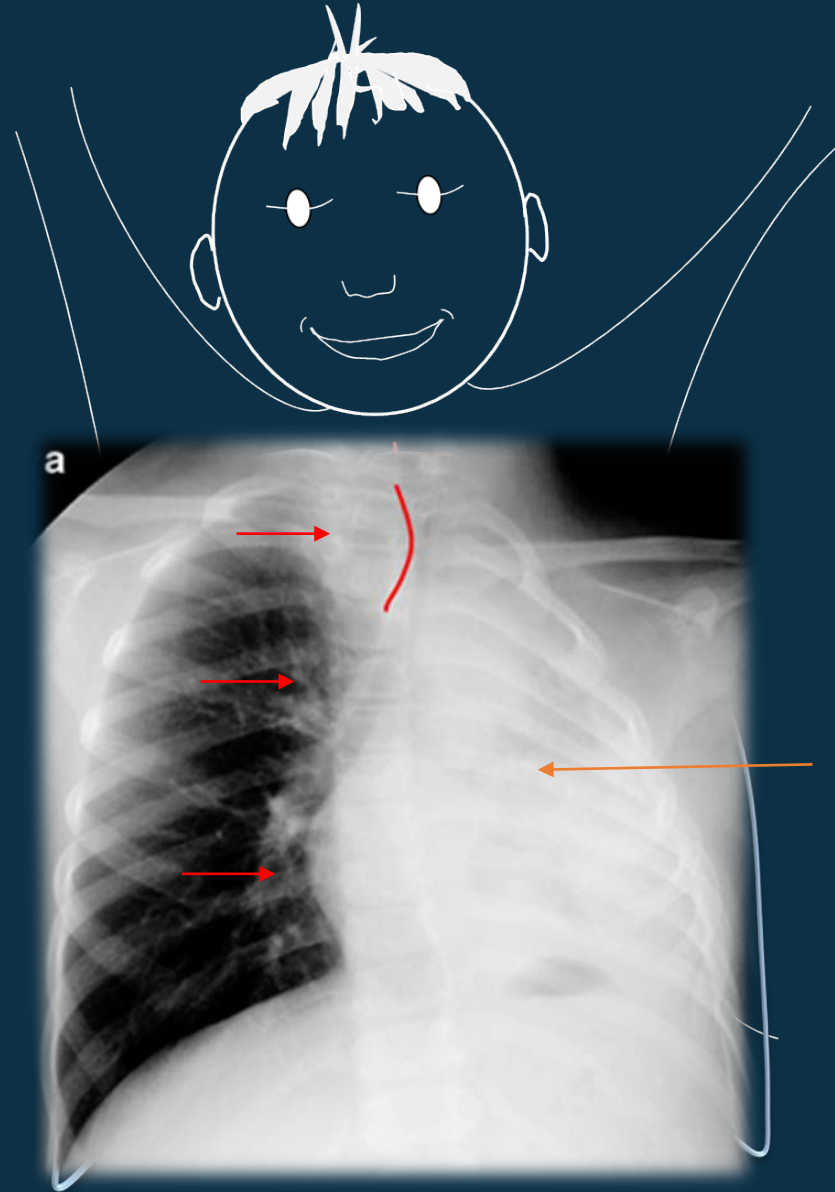


Lymph node compression  
with complete obstruction  
of the airway causing  
alveolar collapse  
(lung collapse)



Lymph node compression with complete obstruction of the airway causing alveolar collapse.

The alveolar air gradually disappears and this is seen radiographically as an opacity with loss of volume.



Shift of trachea  
and mediastinal  
structures  
towards  
the side of the  
atelectasis

Complete  
opacification  
of left hemithorax  
(collapsed lung)

**No more air !**

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . In the right hemithorax ?  
soft tissue density mass  
with convex edge

Where?

- . hilar region with infiltration  
into the surrounding tissue, and  
hyperinflation

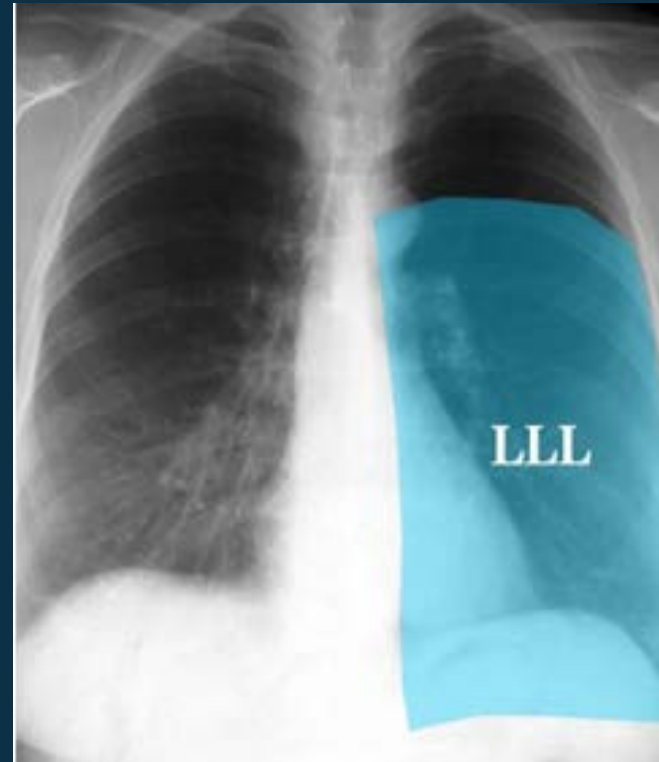
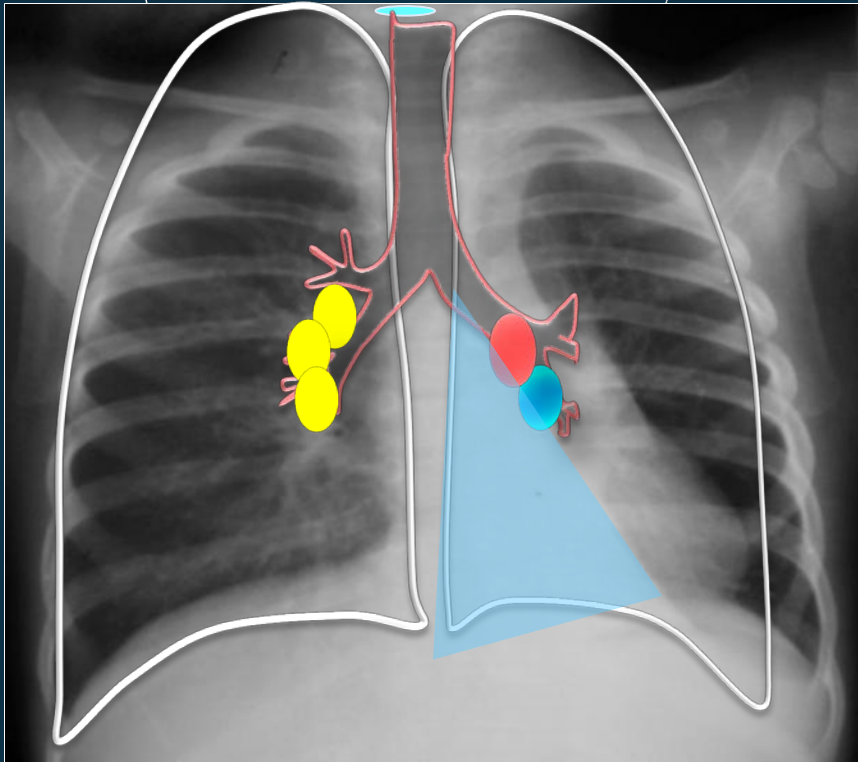
How about the left lung ?

- . Double shadow through  
the cardiac shadow:  
left inferior bronchus is completely  
obstructed with volume loss



What is your diagnosis ?

**Left lower lobe atelectasis caused by complete obstruction of left inferior bronchus by enlarged right hilar lymph nodes, with infiltration and hyperinflation**



Normal left lower lobe

# Airway compression by TB lymph node: differential diagnosis

Infant with cough and  
dyspnoea of sudden onset

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . There seems to be an asymmetry in lucency (hyperlucency of the right hemithorax)

What do you request?

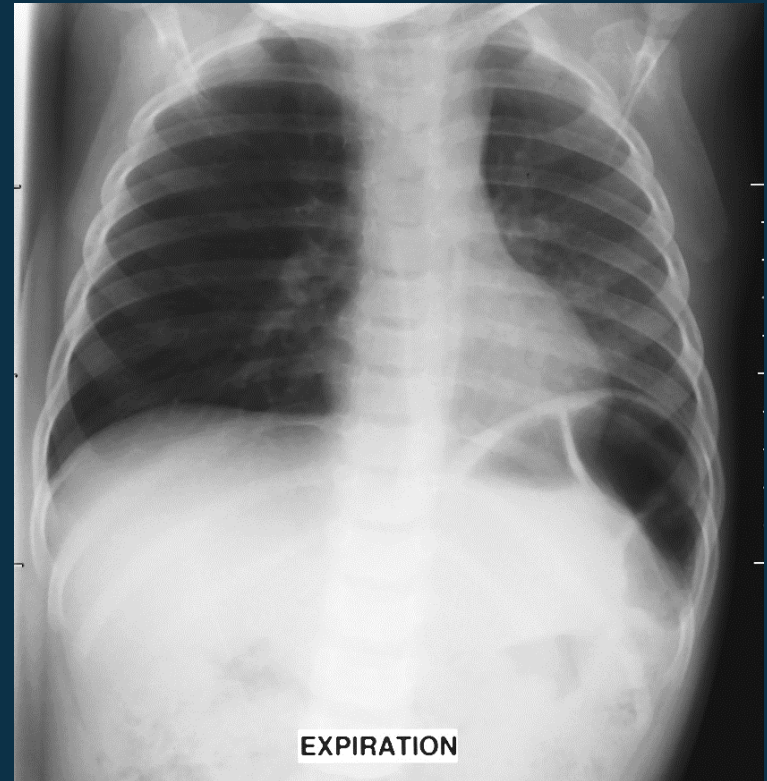




Infant with cough and dyspnoea of sudden onset.



Inspiration



expiration

What is your diagnosis ?

The air is trapped in expiration in the right lung  
with mediastinal shift towards the normal contralateral side :  
Foreign body in the main right bronchus

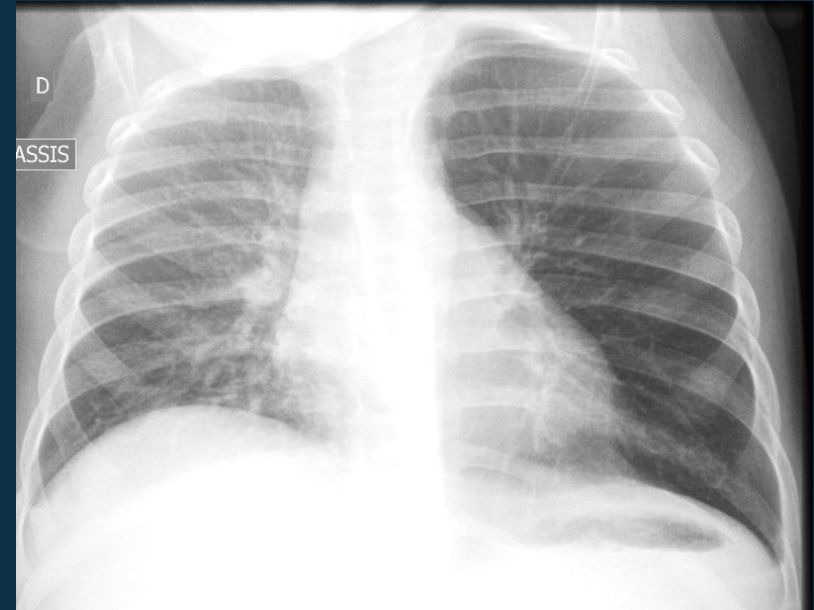
If you suspect foreign body aspiration always ask for an expiratory view

2 year old child with  
cough and  
dyspnoea of  
sudden onset.

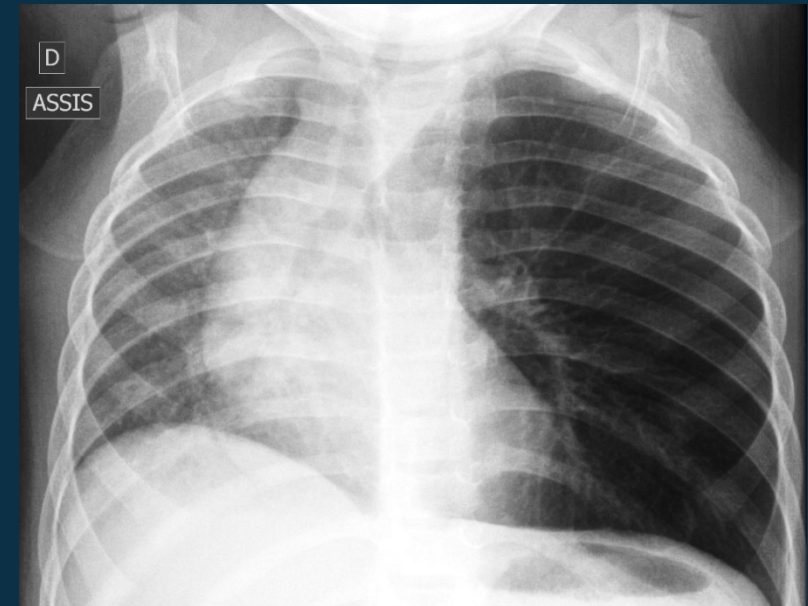
What do you see on this CXR ?

What is your diagnosis ?

**The air is trapped in expiration  
in the left lung  
with mediastinal shift towards  
the normal contralateral side:  
Foreign body in the main left  
bronchus**



Inspiration

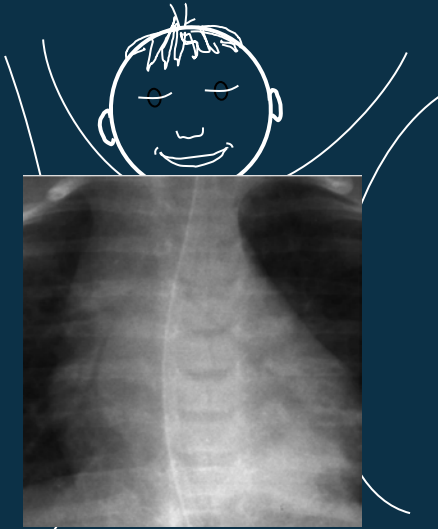


expiration

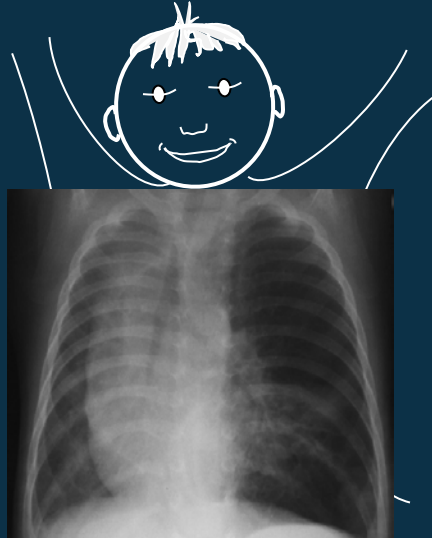
# Key points: airway compression

Partial obstruction

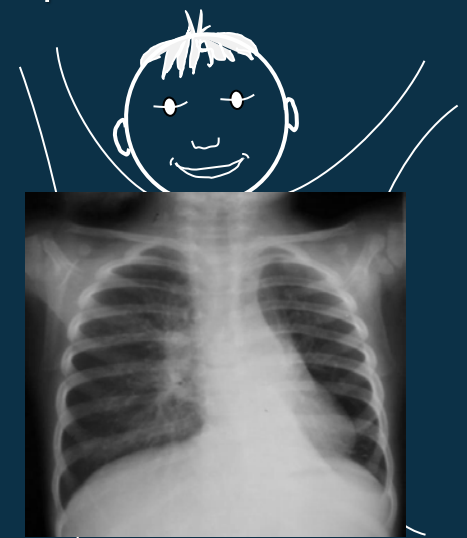
Complete obstruction



Large bronchial obstruction



Check-valve: hyperinflation, left main bronchus obstruction



Left lower lobe atelectasis

**Beware of differential diagnosis**



Foreign body aspiration: expiratory view

# Learning Objectives

## Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

Chap1. Introduction

Chap2. Enlarged lymph nodes

Chap3. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue

Chap4. Airways compression

**Chap5. Cavitation**

Chap6. Pleural or pericardial effusion

Chap7. Miliary

Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell

# TB cavities

They are uncommon in young children

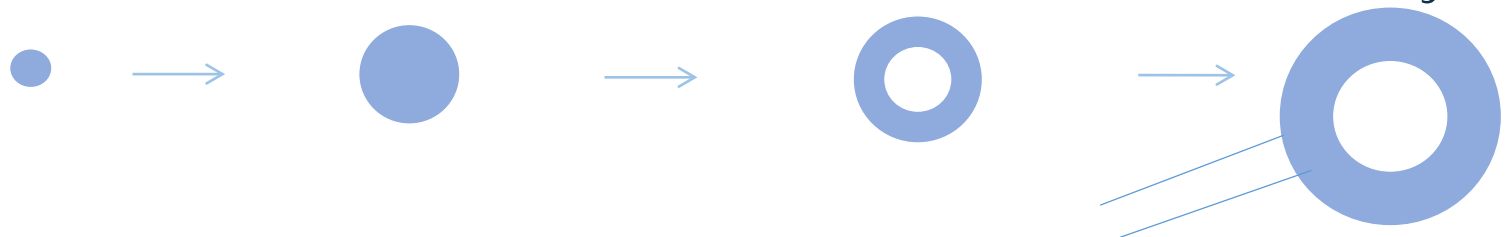
More frequent in children >10 years old

**More likely to be smear and GeneXpert  
positive with a high risk of transmission**

# About Cavities in childhood TB

1. More frequent in children >10 years old with 'adult-like' post primary TB. Usually involve the upper lobes, usually single and unilateral
2. As the alveolar lesion enlarges this leads to central necrosis and cavitation
3. The walls of the cavities are rich with bacilli and represent a risk of relapse and MDR strain development
4. **GeneXpert pos with a high risk of transmission**
5. These images can progress over time :

nodule → macronodule → excavated nodule → cavity



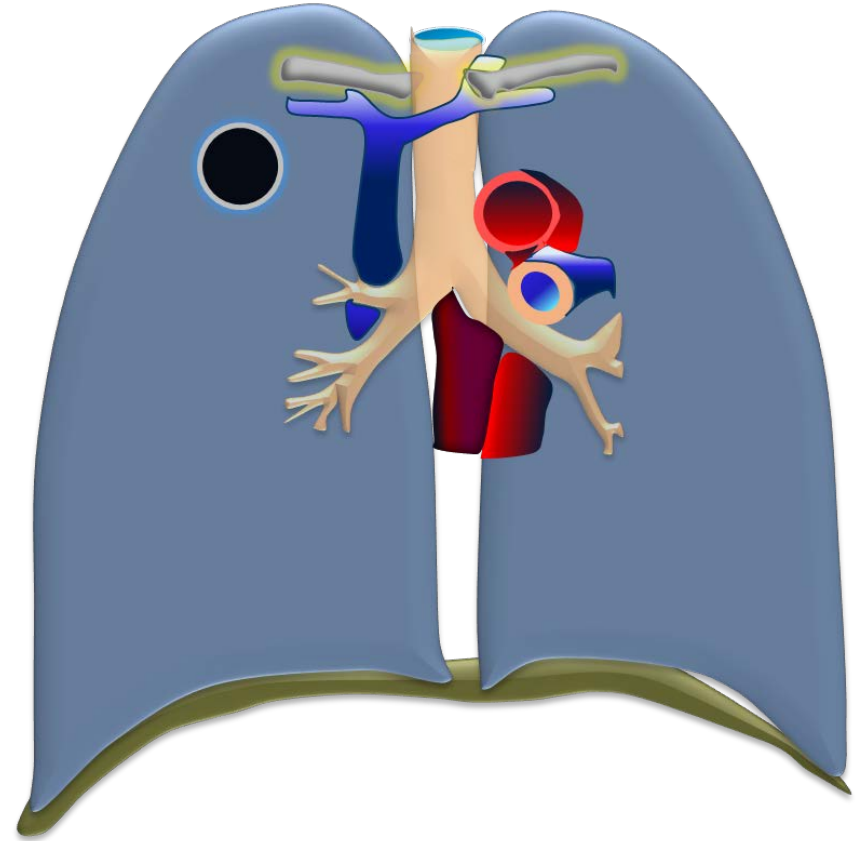


## Older child >10 years old

A cavity is defined as any radiographic opacity with an internal area of lucency

They are usually found in:

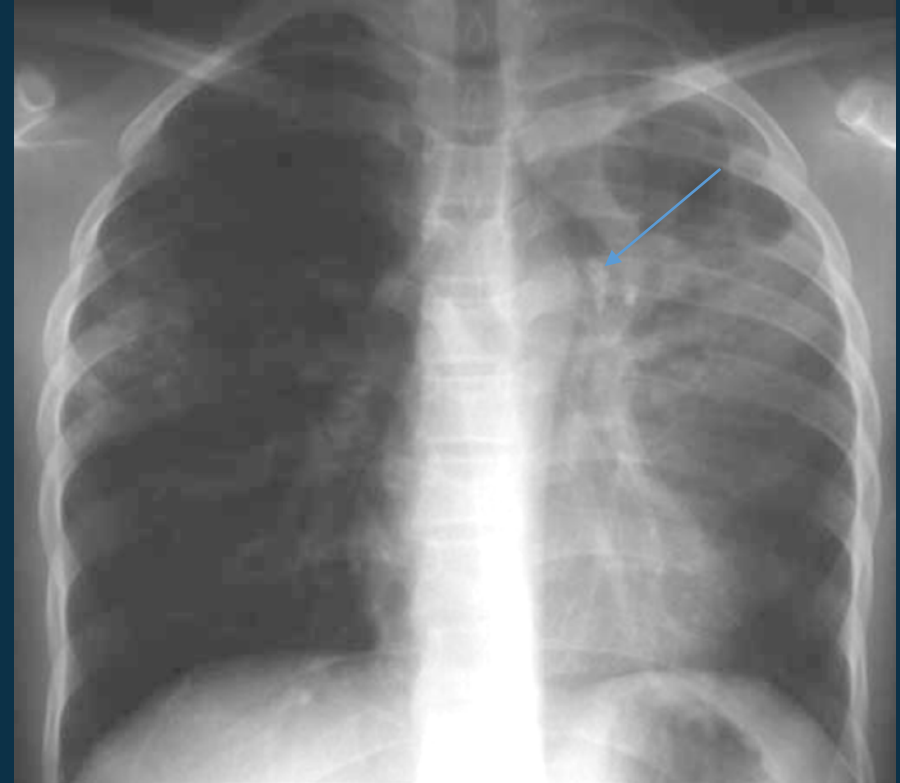
- . the apical and posterior segments of the upper lobes
- . the apical segment of the lower lobes (areas with higher oxygen tension)





What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second circle
  - . Left lung : alveolar consolidation and multiple cavities in LUL leading to intrabronchial spread
  - . Right lung : segmental bronchopneumonia
- . Third circle  
Calcified mediastinal lymph nodes on the left suggest previous primary infection



What is your diagnosis ?

**'Adult-type' TB disease with alveolar consolidation and multiple cavities in the left upper lobe, and right bronchopneumonic consolidation**

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second circle
  - . Some degree of retraction of the right hemidiaphragm
  - . Large TB cavities and
  - . Multiple micro-nodules



What is your diagnosis ?

**Large TB cavities in an adolescent with fever,  
2 month cough, night sweats, AFB+**

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
- . Second circle:  
Lungs: left upper lobe  
shows excavated  
pneumonia

What is your diagnosis ?

**Sputum Smear positive**

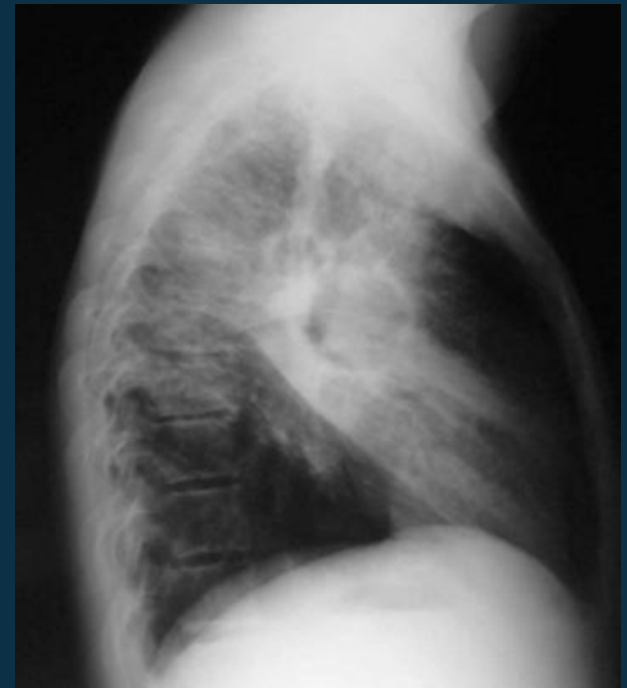


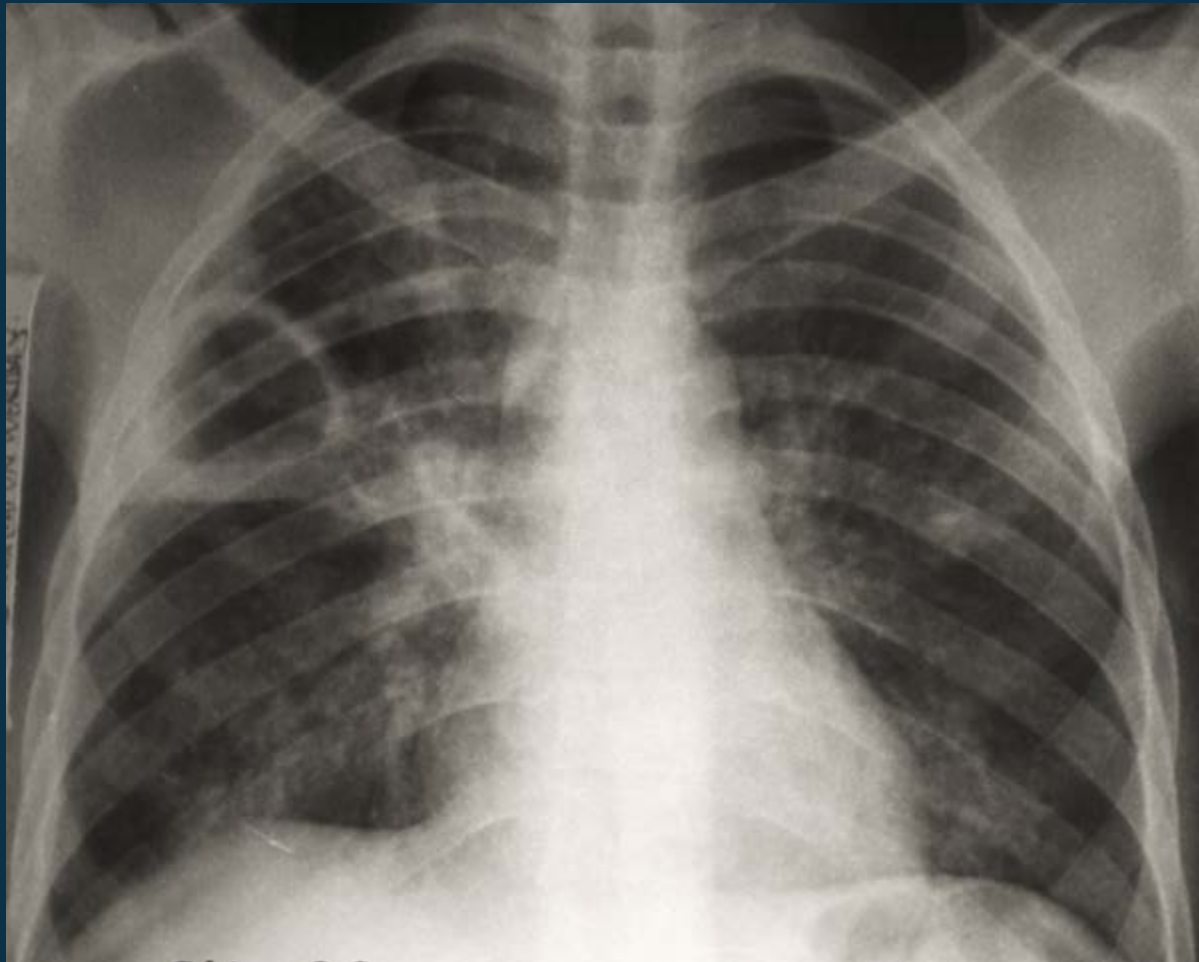
What do you see on this CXR ?

What is your diagnosis ?

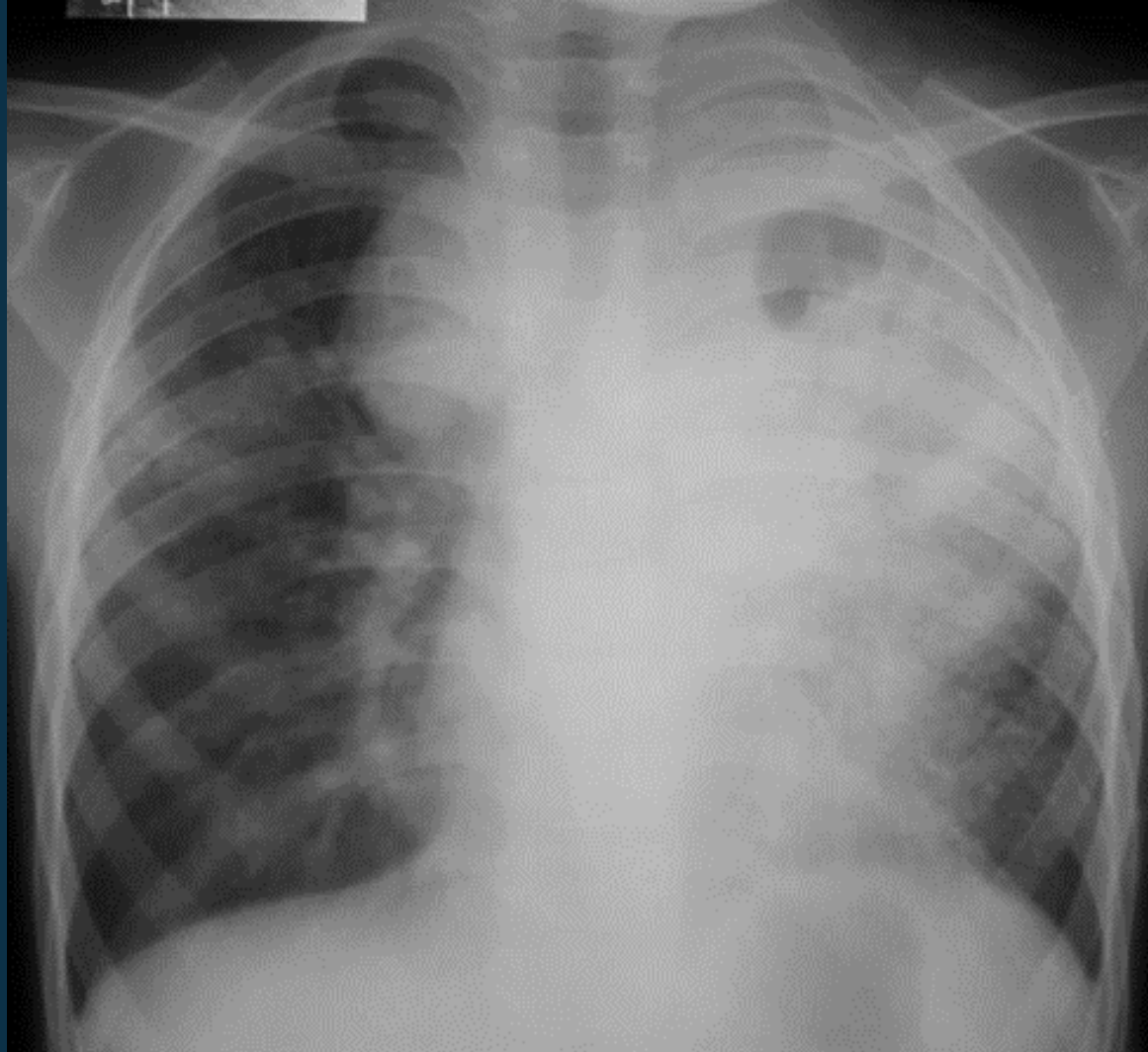
**'Adult-type' TB disease :**  
**alveolar consolidation with**  
**multiple cavities**  
**in the left upper lobe, and right**  
**axillary nodular infiltrates**

Note : association of 2 lesions of different ages is very typical of TB





Association of right cavitation  
and left nodular infiltrates



Left cavitary lung disease and right paratracheal lymph node enlargement

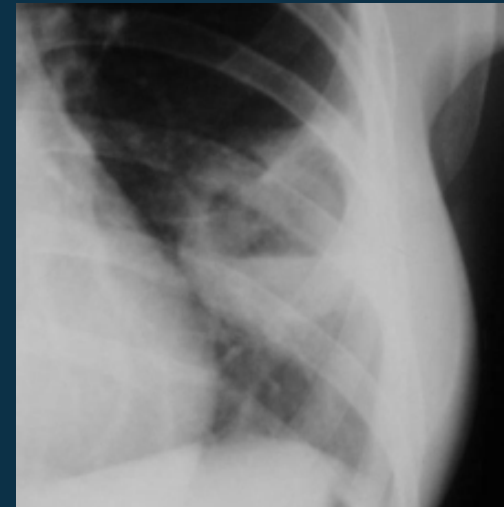
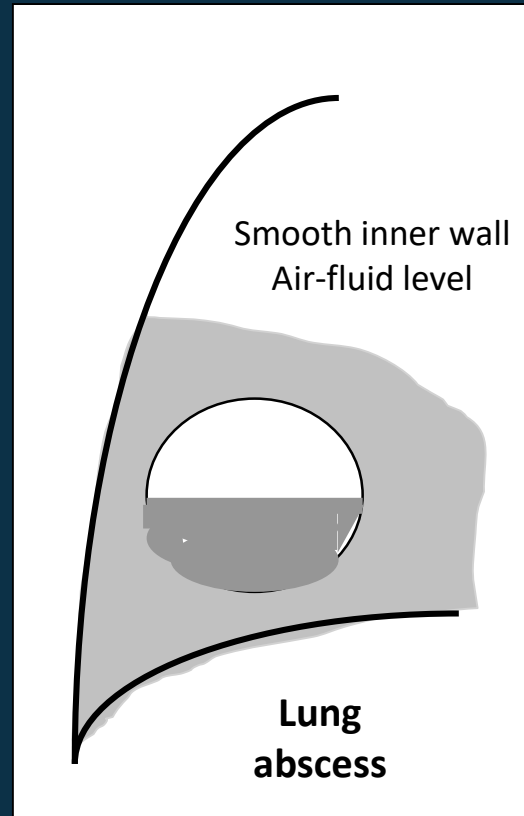
# Cavities: differential diagnosis



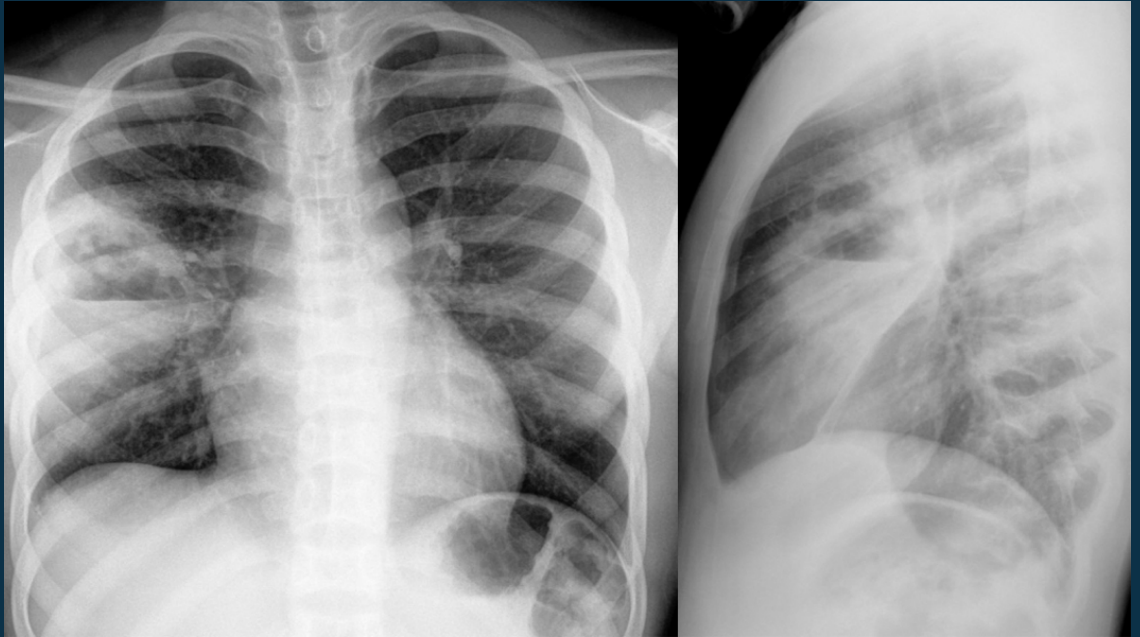
# Differential diagnosis

## Main aetiologies

1. Lung abscess (bacterial infection)
2. Pneumatocele (post staphylococcal or streptococcal pneumonia)



14 year old girl with sickle cell disease presenting with high fever and cough

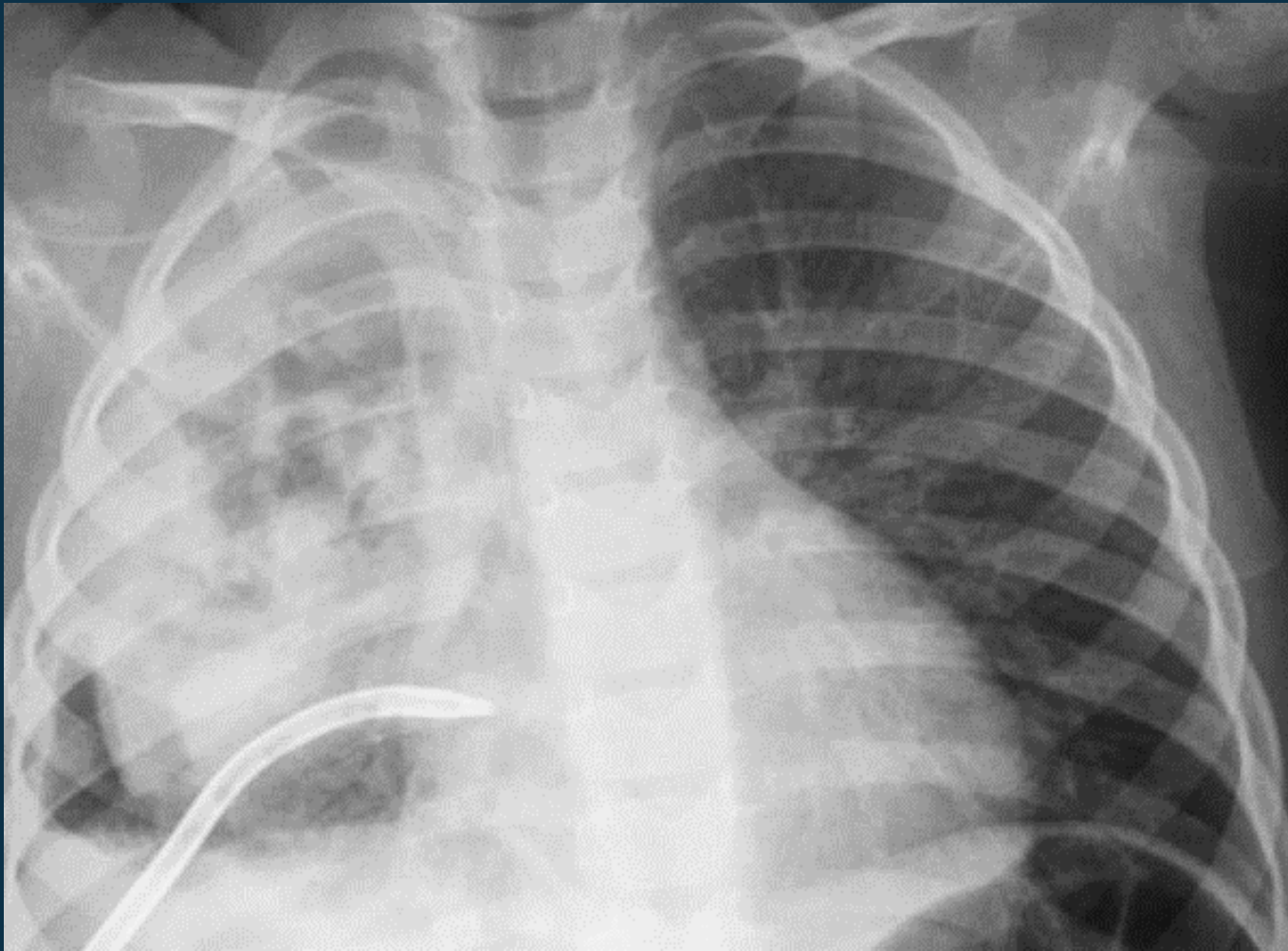


What do you see on these CXR ?

### **Parenchymal Abscess**

- Parenchymal mass forming an acute angle with the chest wall
- Irregular wall thickening
- Air fluid level, similar length between frontal and lateral view
- Smear negative or GeneXpert negative

# Cavities - differential diagnosis



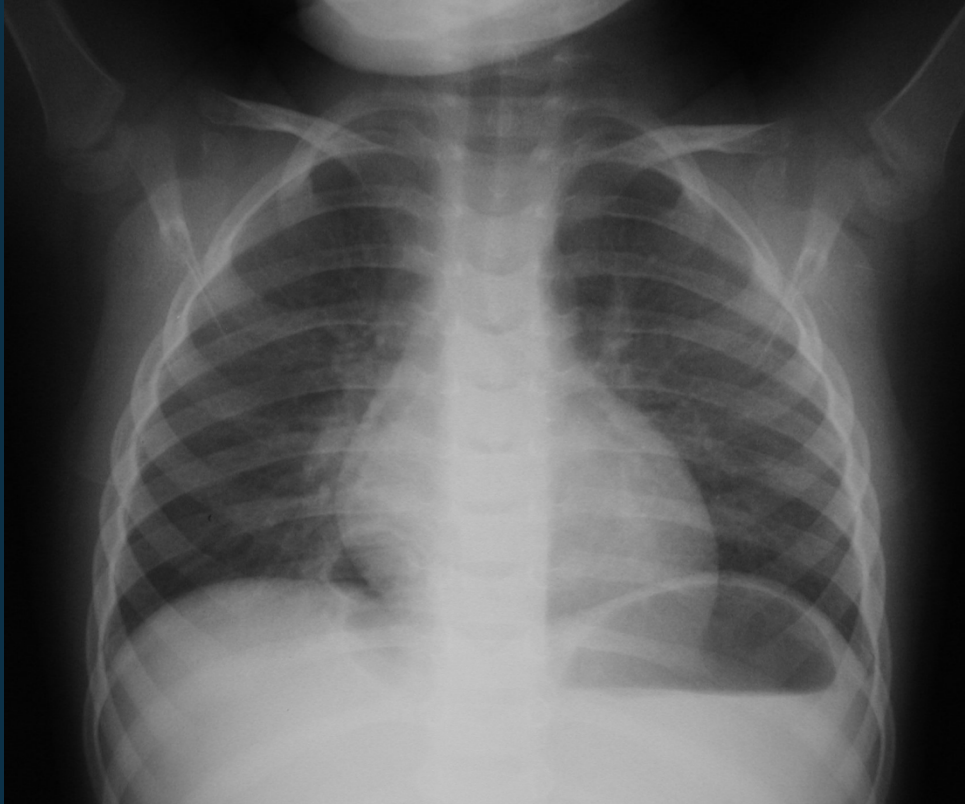
Cavity in the right lung,  
necrotizing pneumonia and hydro-pneumothorax

# Cavities - differential diagnosis



staphylococcal infection

# Cavities - differential diagnosis

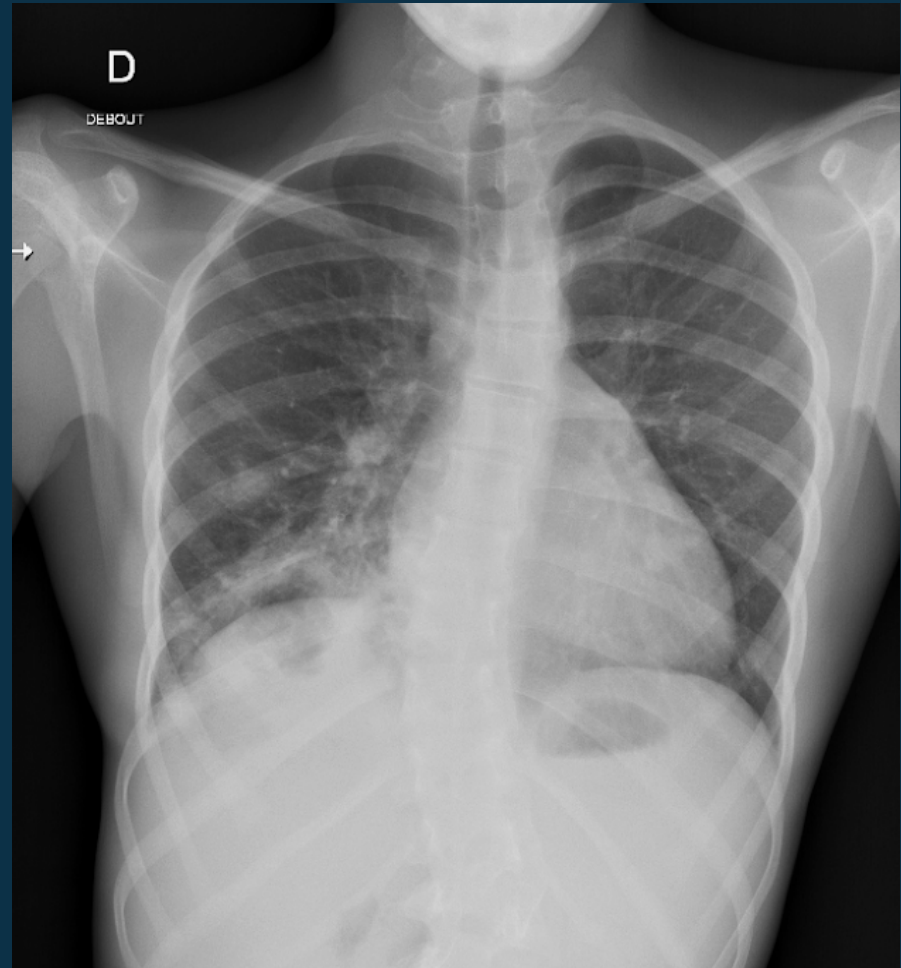


**Pneumatocele:**  
thin walled air filled intraparenchymal cysts  
(post staphylococcal or streptococcal pneumonia )

15 year old boy with fever,  
cough, right thoracic pain  
and diminished vesicular  
breath sounds and crackles  
inferior right lung

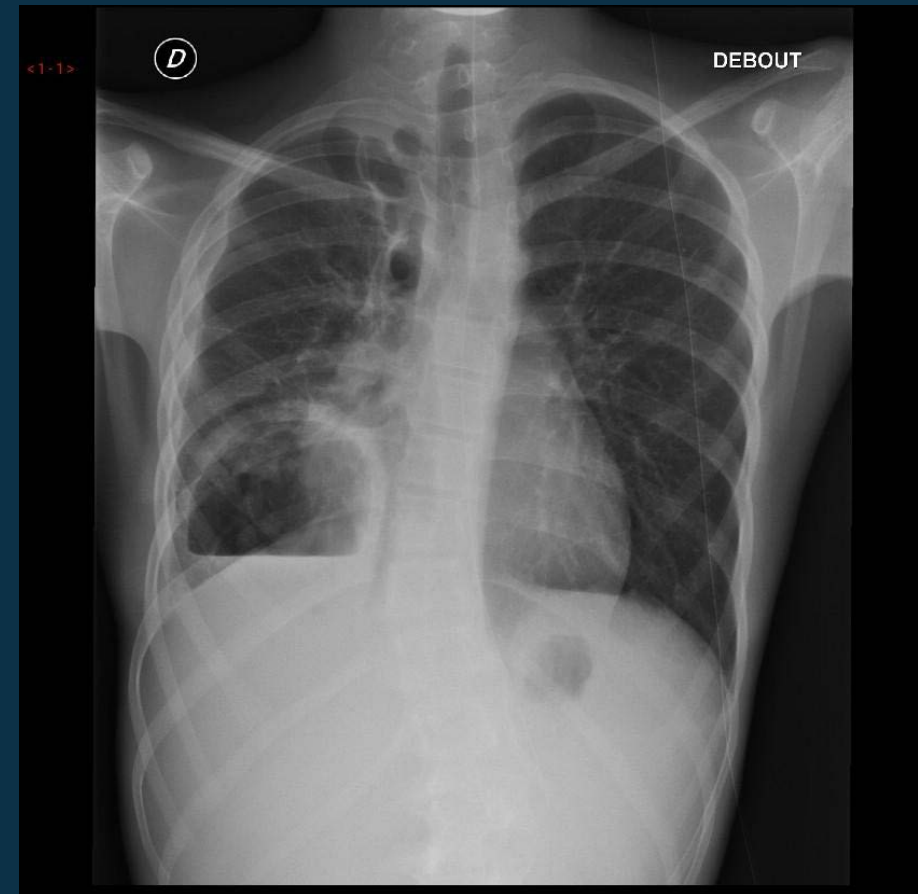
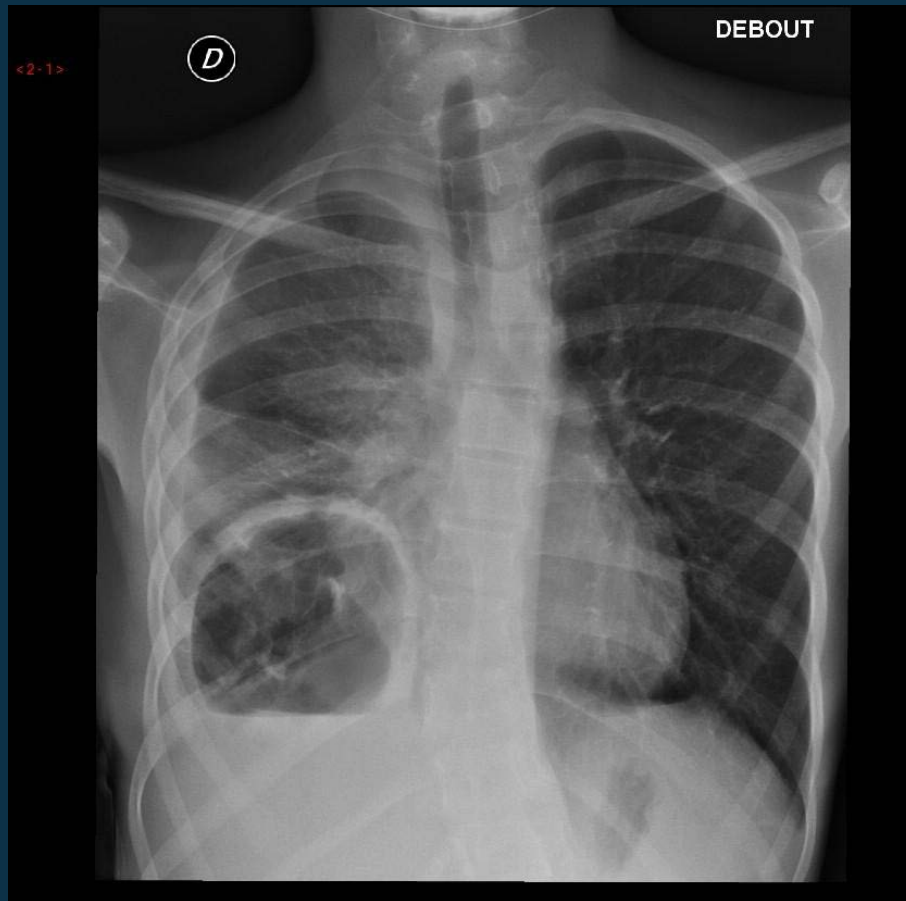
The right hemidiaphragm  
is obscured, left lower  
lobe opacity

A cavity is seen in this  
opacity





....same boy a few days later



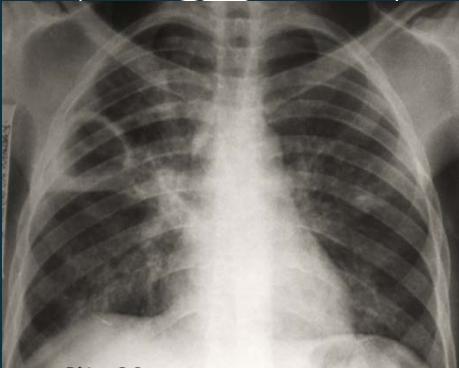
Excavated right inferior hemithorax opacity with air-fluid level and thick wall, suggesting a right inferior lobe abscess

Multiples images:  
hyperlucencies right apex

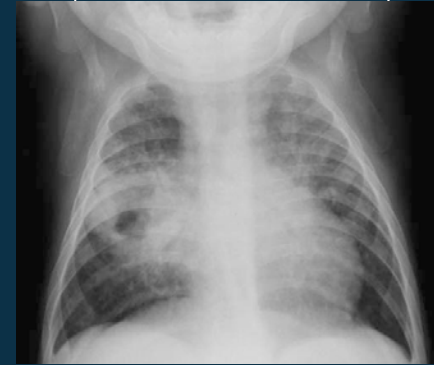


# Key points TB cavities

Mainly older child >10 years  
Post primary TB

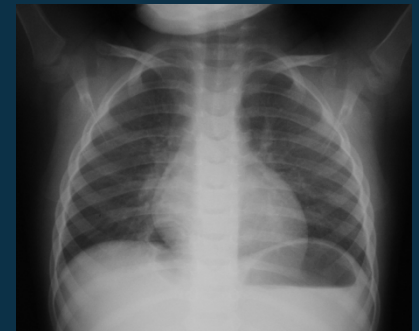


Less common under 5 years old  
Progressive primary TB



Smear and GeneXpert usually positive if sputum available

Beware of many differential diagnoses



Lung abscess Pneumatocele

Staphylococcal infection

# Learning Objectives

## Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

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Chap5. Cavitation

**Chap6. Pleural or pericardial effusion**

Chap7. Miliary

Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell

# Pleural TB

1. Frequency increases with age: more frequent in children >10 years old and adolescents
  - . Commonly isolated pleural effusion
  - . TB is the most frequent cause of large pleural effusion in adolescence
2. Very uncommon in children under 5 years old
  - . Usually associated with parenchymal lesions or hilar adenopathy
3. Clinically: insidious onset of fever and shortness of breath

**Smear neg in pleural fluid**

What do you see on this CXR ?

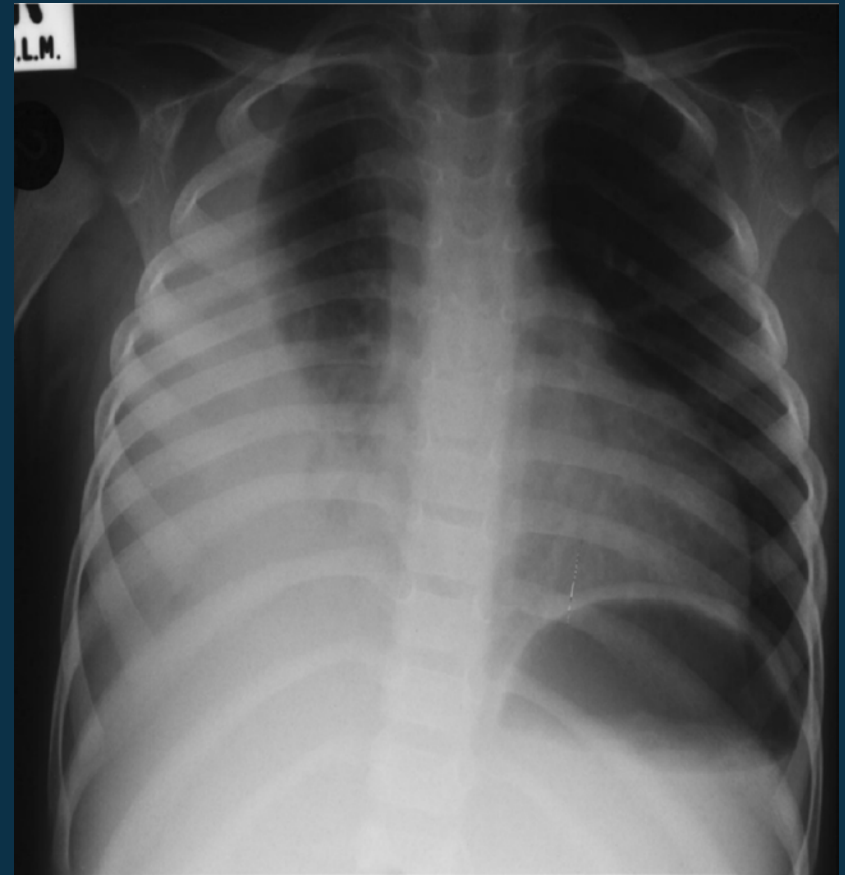
- . Circle 1: normal
- . Circle 2:  
How are the lungs ?
  - . Large right pleural opacity.
  - . Homogeneous picture well defined, with concavity of the upper edge

How are the airways ?

- . No signs of compression

What is your diagnosis ?

**Uncomplicated right pleural TB**



What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle : disappearance of hemi-left diaphragm
- . Second circle:  
How are the lungs ?  
Large left pleural opacity



What is your diagnosis ?

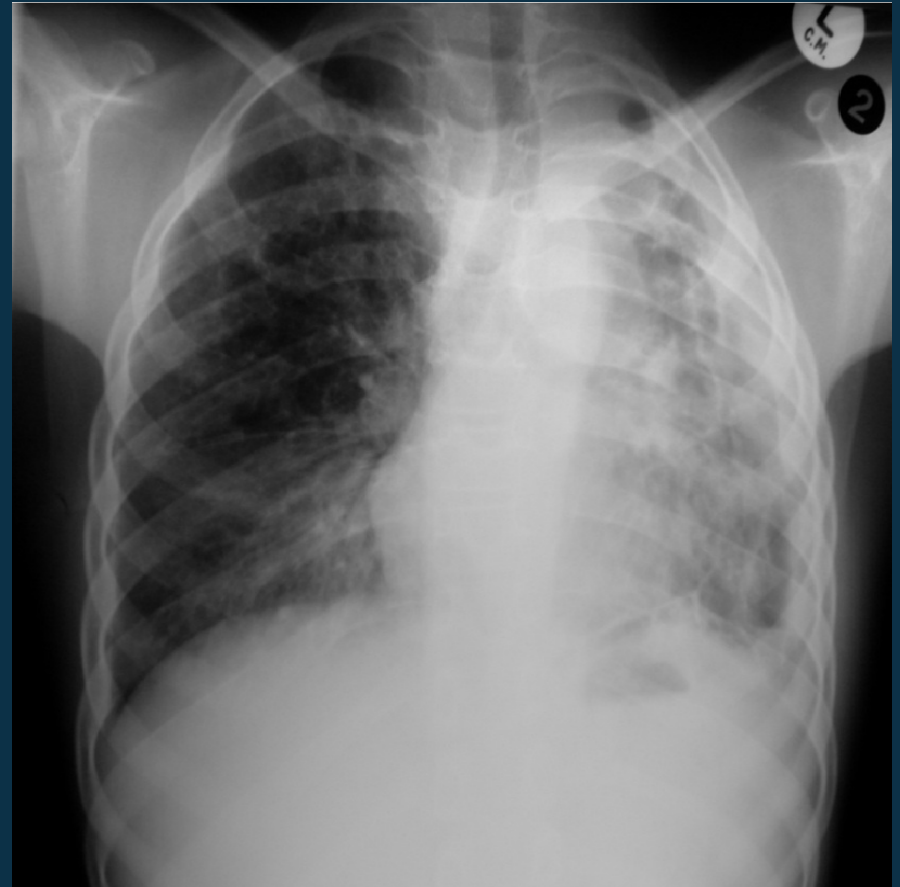
**Uncomplicated left pleural TB**



Left pneumonia with large pleural effusion

What do you see on this CXR ?

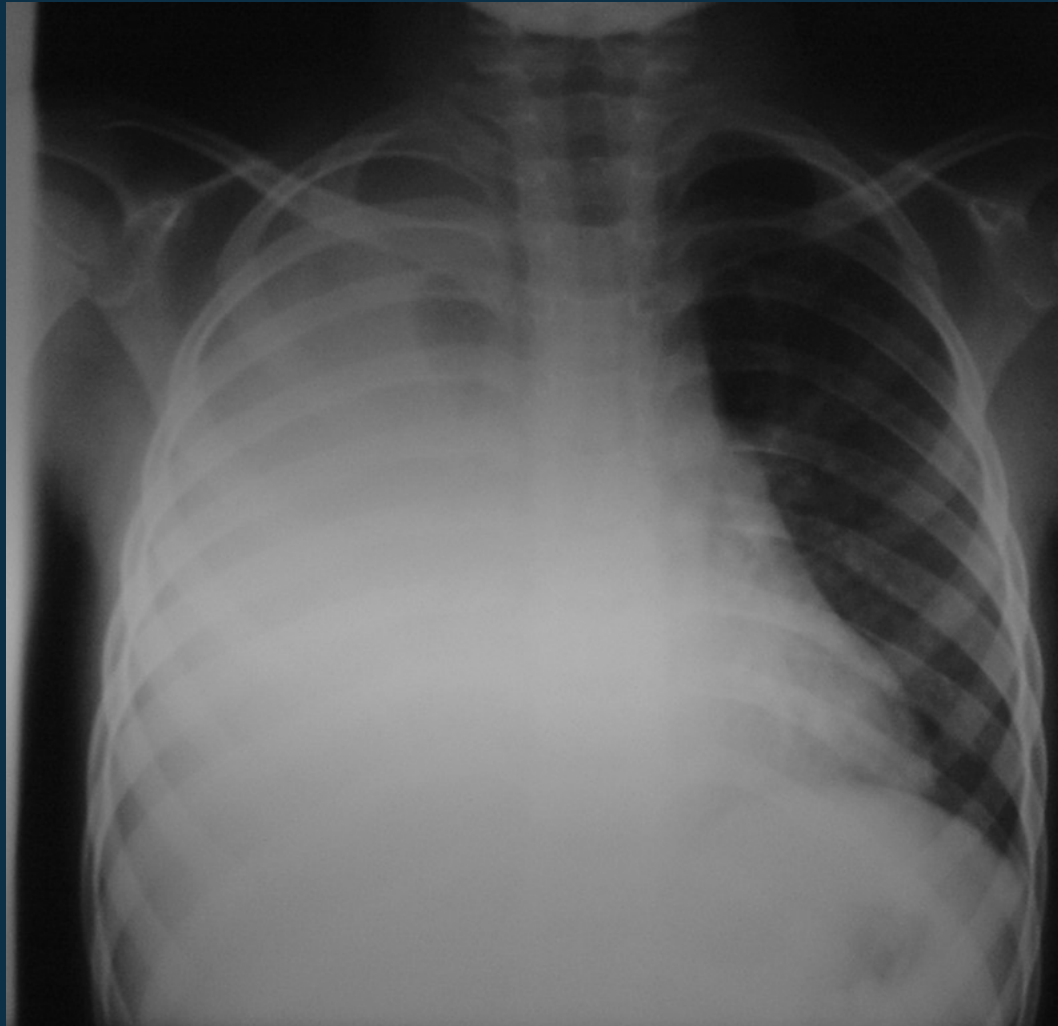
- . First circle: disappearance of left hemidiaphragm
- . Second circle
- How are the lungs ?
- Left pleural opacity and pleural thickening



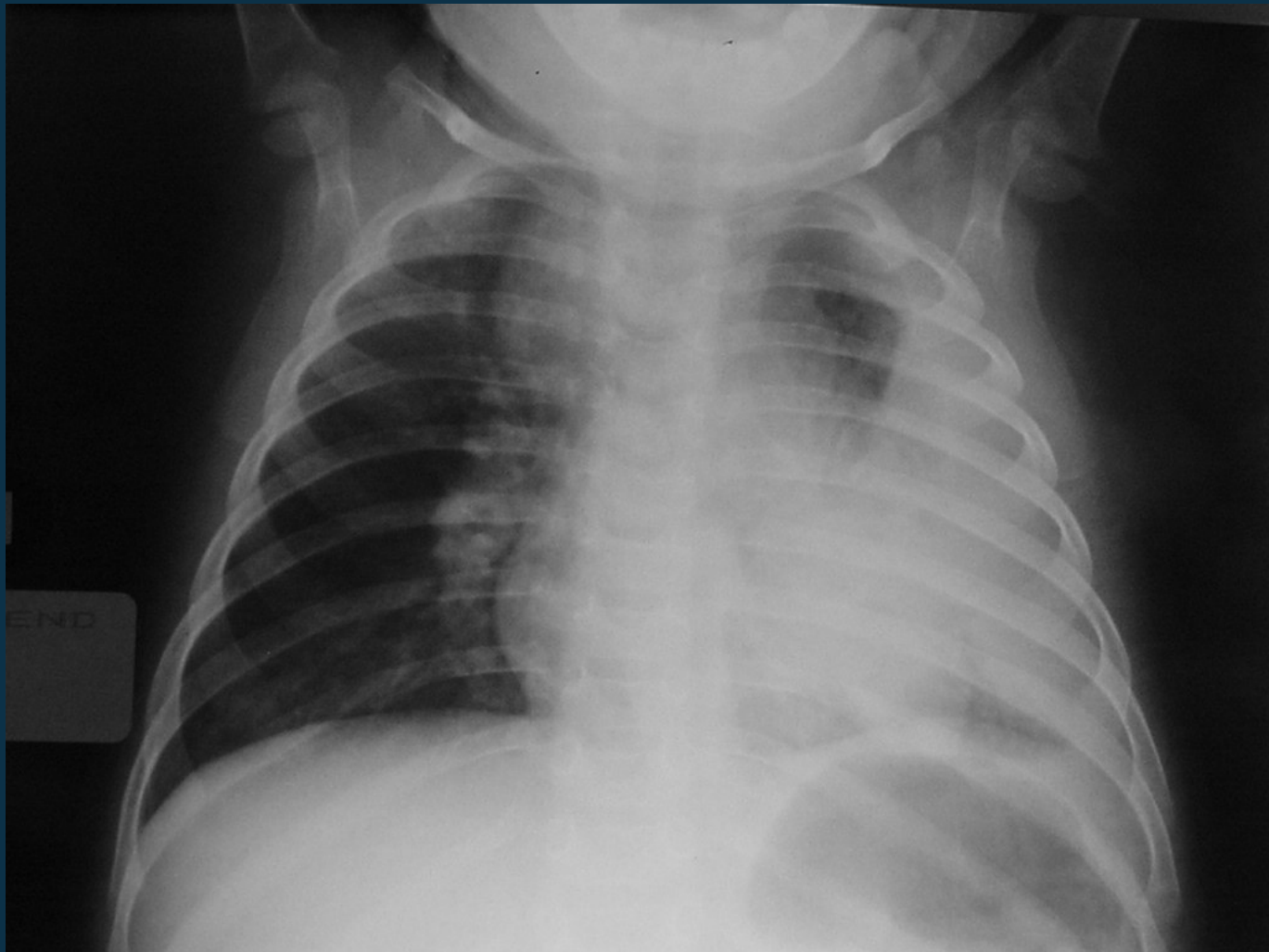
What is your diagnosis ?

**Small left pleural effusion with complicated underlying TB: retraction , fibrosis, pleural thickness (probable important sequelae)**





Large right pleural effusion with tracheal deviation



Paratracheal and hilar lymph nodes, left effusion



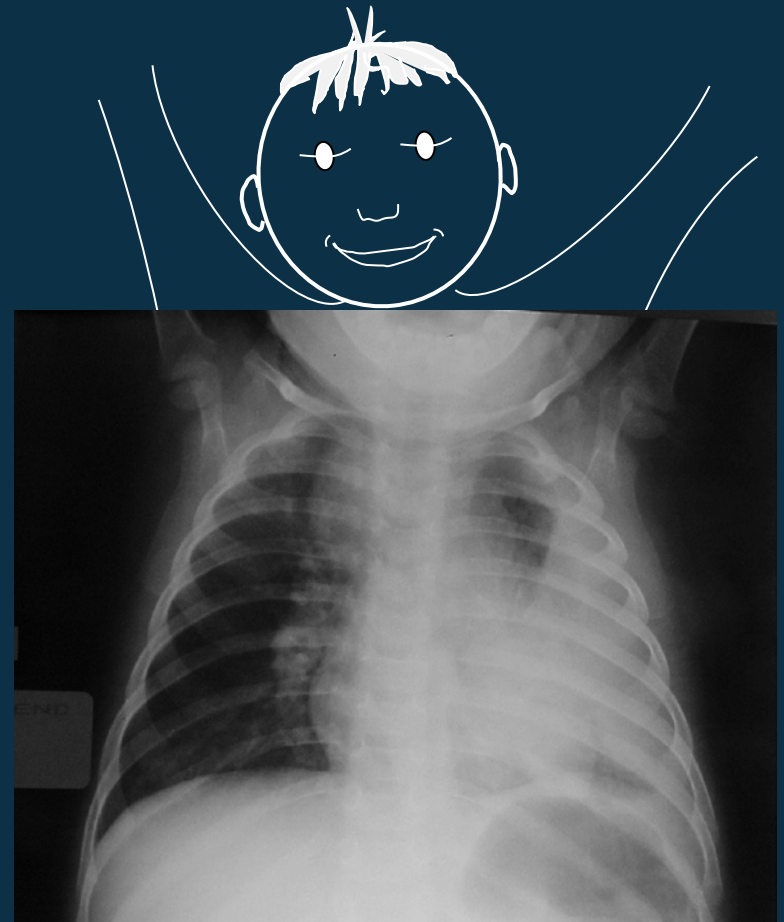
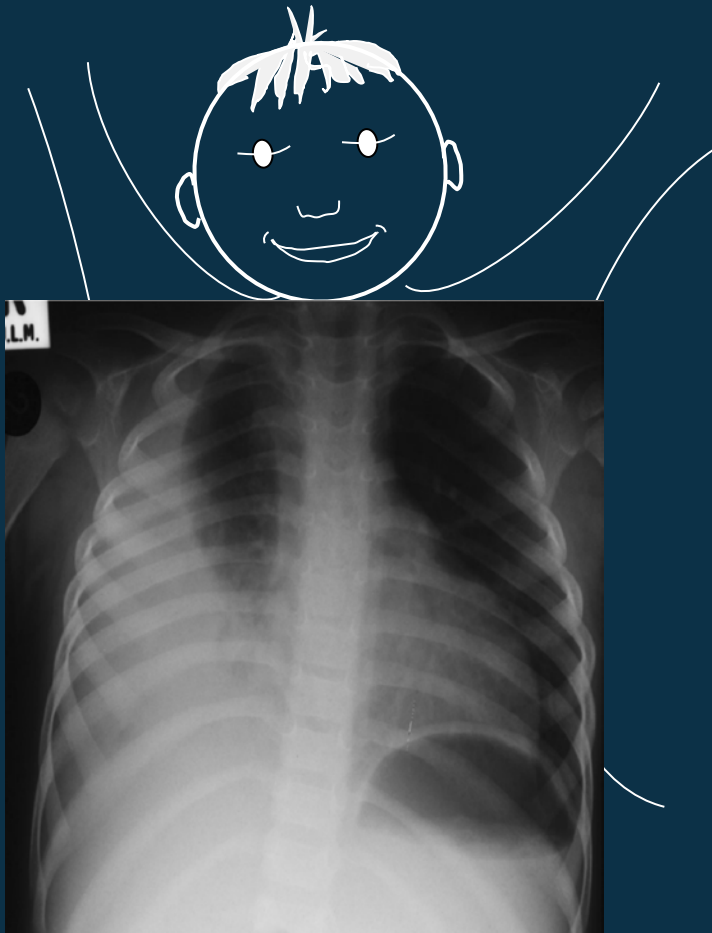
Pleural tuberculosis: there is a large left pleural effusion with some mediastinal shift.

# Key points: pleural TB

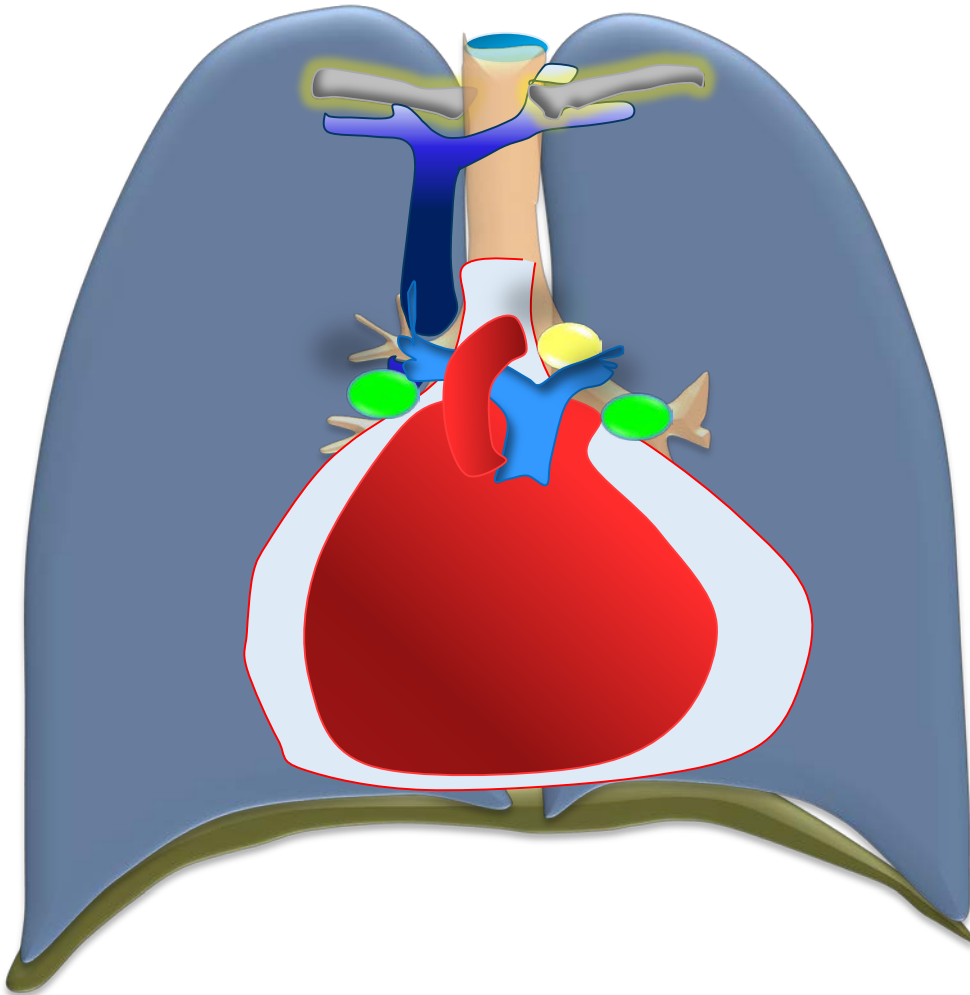
Smear neg in pleural fluid

Frequent in children >10 years old  
Isolated

less common under 5 years old



# Pericardial TB



1. Not very common (less than 1% of the cases)
2. Caused by direct extension of subcarinal lymph nodes into the posterior pericardial sac
3. Can come from miliary spread
4. CXR: large 'water bottle' shape heart

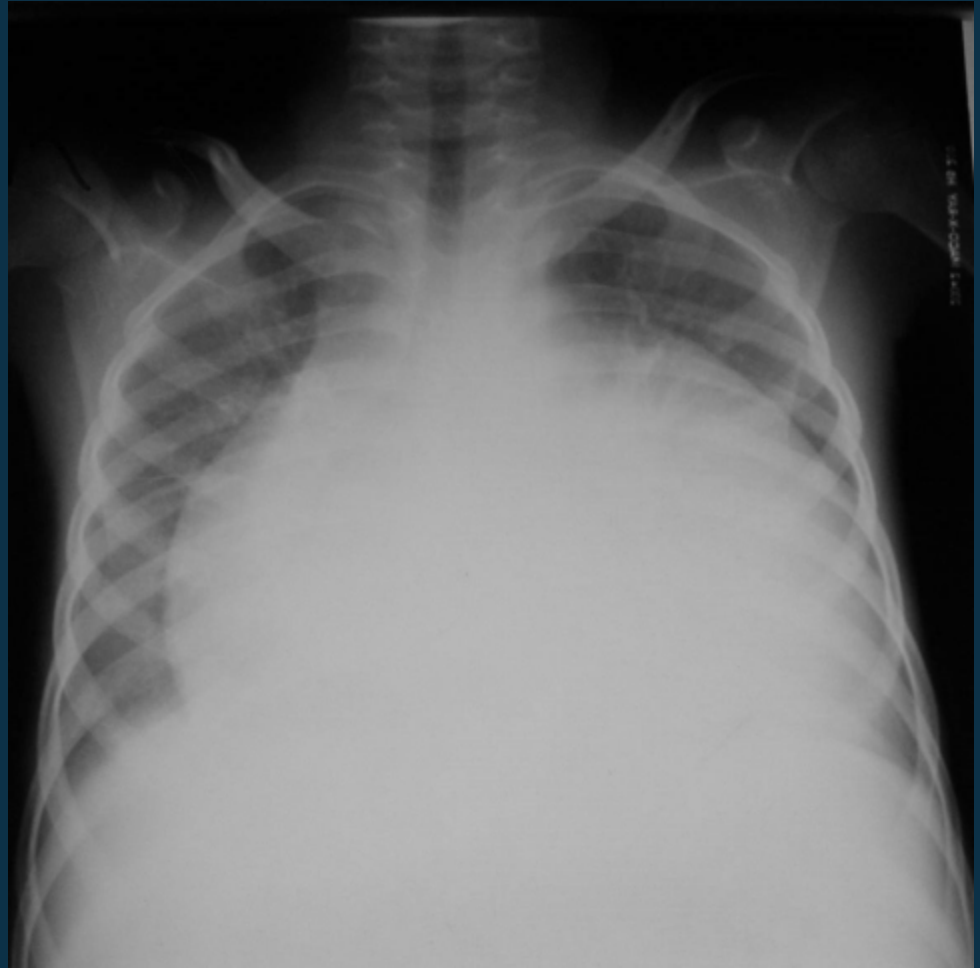
What do you see on this CXR ?

How is the heart ?

- . Cardiomegaly
- . Large 'water bottle' shaped heart

What is your diagnosis ?

**Pericardial effusion**



What do you see on this CXR ?

- . Large 'water bottle' shaped heart (cardiomegaly)

What is your diagnosis ?

**Pericardial effusion**



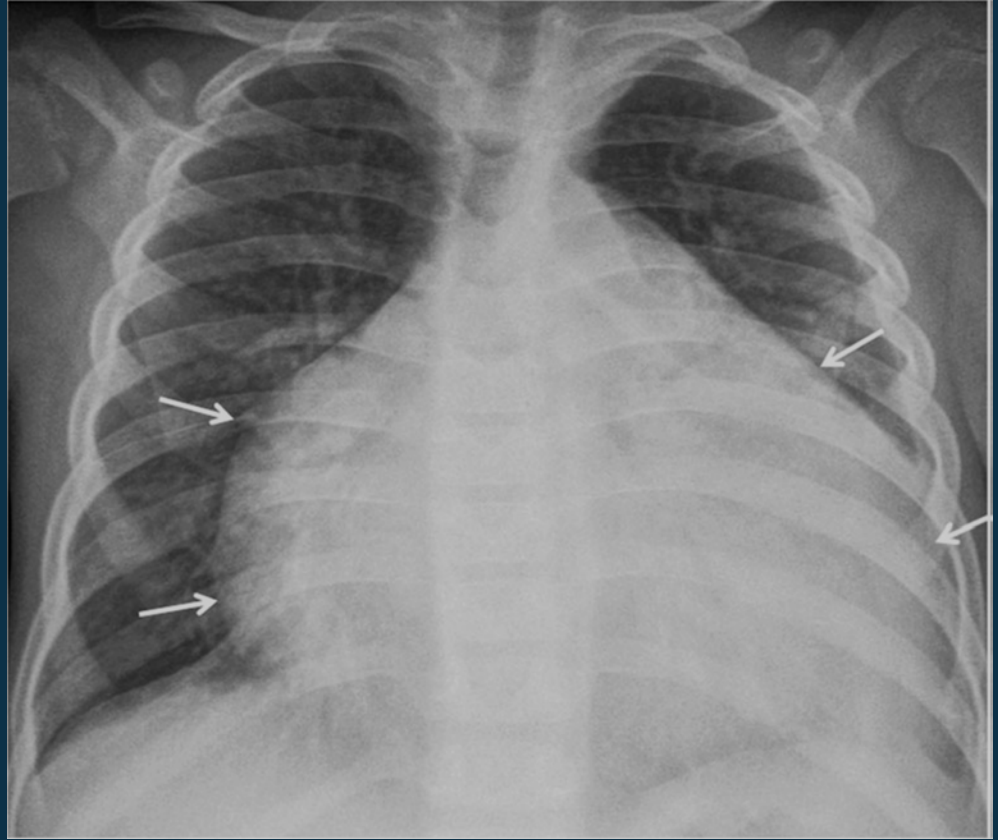


What do you see on this CXR ?

- . Globular enlargement of the cardiac silhouette
- Large 'water bottle' shaped heart

What is your diagnosis ?

**Pericardial effusion  
in a 6 year-old boy**



Anteroposterior chest radiograph

# Key points: pericardial effusion

More frequent under 5 years old



A large 'water bottle' shaped heart

Beware of differential diagnosis:  
Many other causes of  
cardiomegaly



Congestive heart failure with  
pulmonary oedema (as in  
myocarditis)

# Learning Objectives

## Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level

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Chap4. Airways compression

Chap5. Cavitation

Chap6. Pleural or pericardial effusion

**Chap7. Miliary**

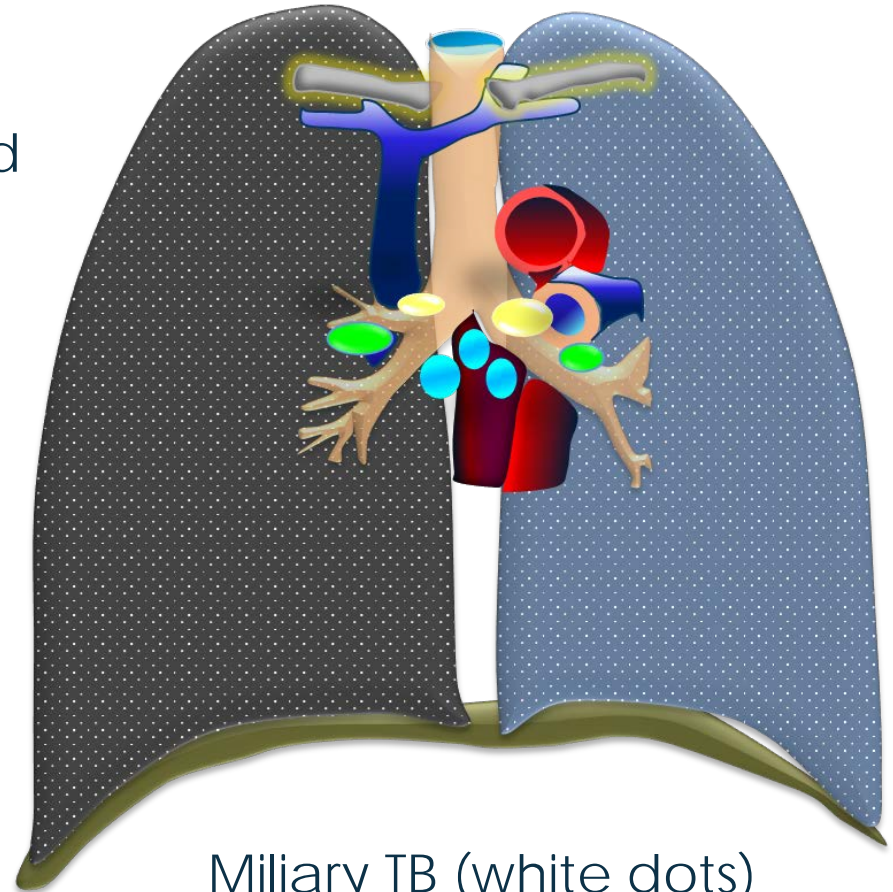
Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell

# Miliary TB

1. Haematogenous dissemination : complication of another pre-existing disease entity (or it may occur in isolation)
2. Development of granulomas in all the involved organs (lungs, liver, spleen, bones, meninges...)
3. Miliary infiltrates are the only pathognomonic finding for TB on CXR
  - . usually in the younger age group (immature immunity)
  - Bilateral and evenly distributed millet seed  $\leq 2\text{mm}$
  - non-calcified nodules
4. Clinically : Severe dyspnoea, worsening condition, often with TB meningitis
5. Smear neg often GeneXpert neg

Typical innumerable even-sized miliary lesions (millet seed  $\leq 2\text{mm}$  non-calcified nodules), scattered in both lungs

The lesions are bilateral and evenly distributed into the periphery of the lung



Miliary TB (white dots)  
with lymphadenopathy

What do you see on this CXR ?

- . First circle: normal
  - . Second circle
- Lungs :  
Bilateral micronodular opacities  
All of equal size  
In all the lobes of the lung

What is your diagnosis?

**Classic bilateral diffuse  
micro nodulapattern  
consistent with miliary TB.  
These children often have  
accompanying meningitis**



# Intrathoracic childhood TB : miliary TB

In countries with high incidence of TB and HIV,  
if CXR shows miliary pattern

Most likely diagnosis is TB



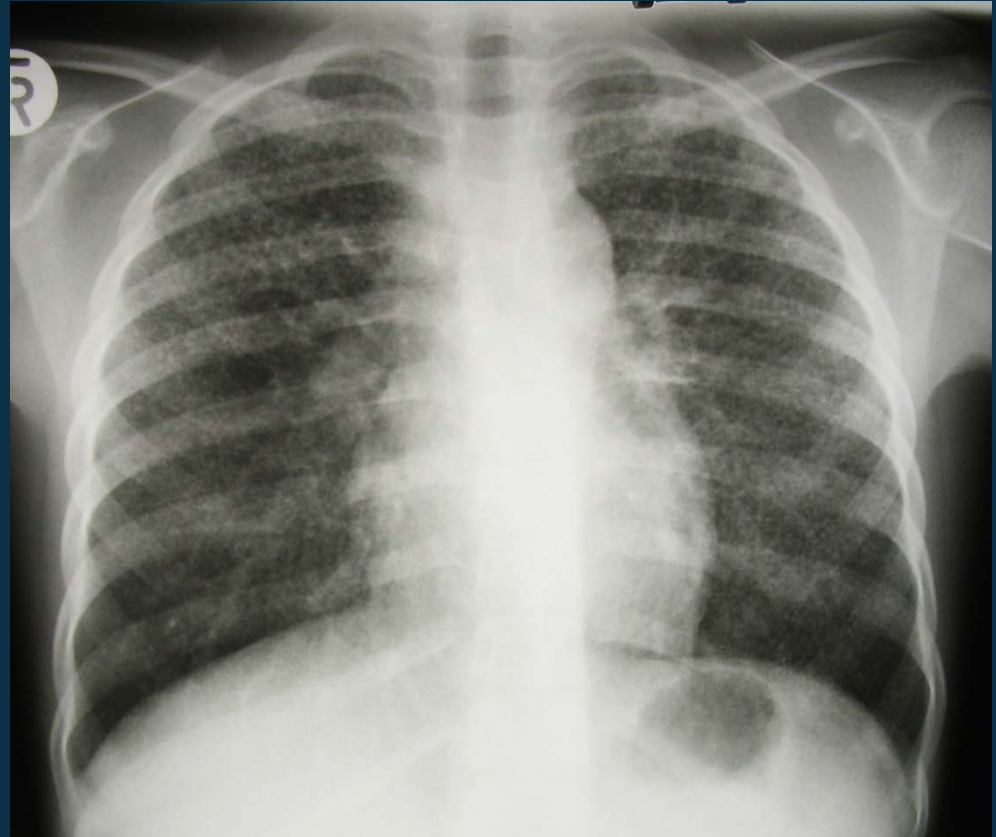
Lymph node disease plus  
disseminated disease: military

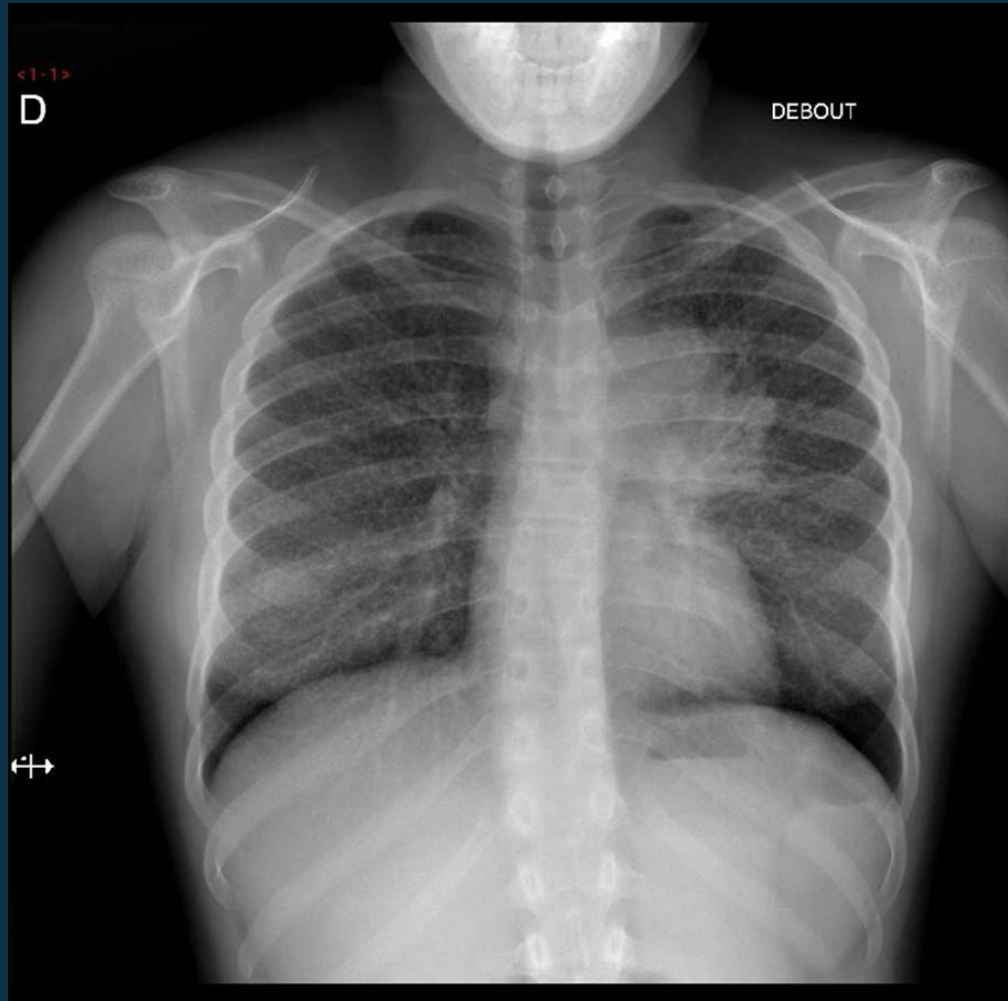
large right-sided paratracheal  
glands shifting the trachea to  
the left with haematogenous  
disease spread (millet seed  
nodular opacities)



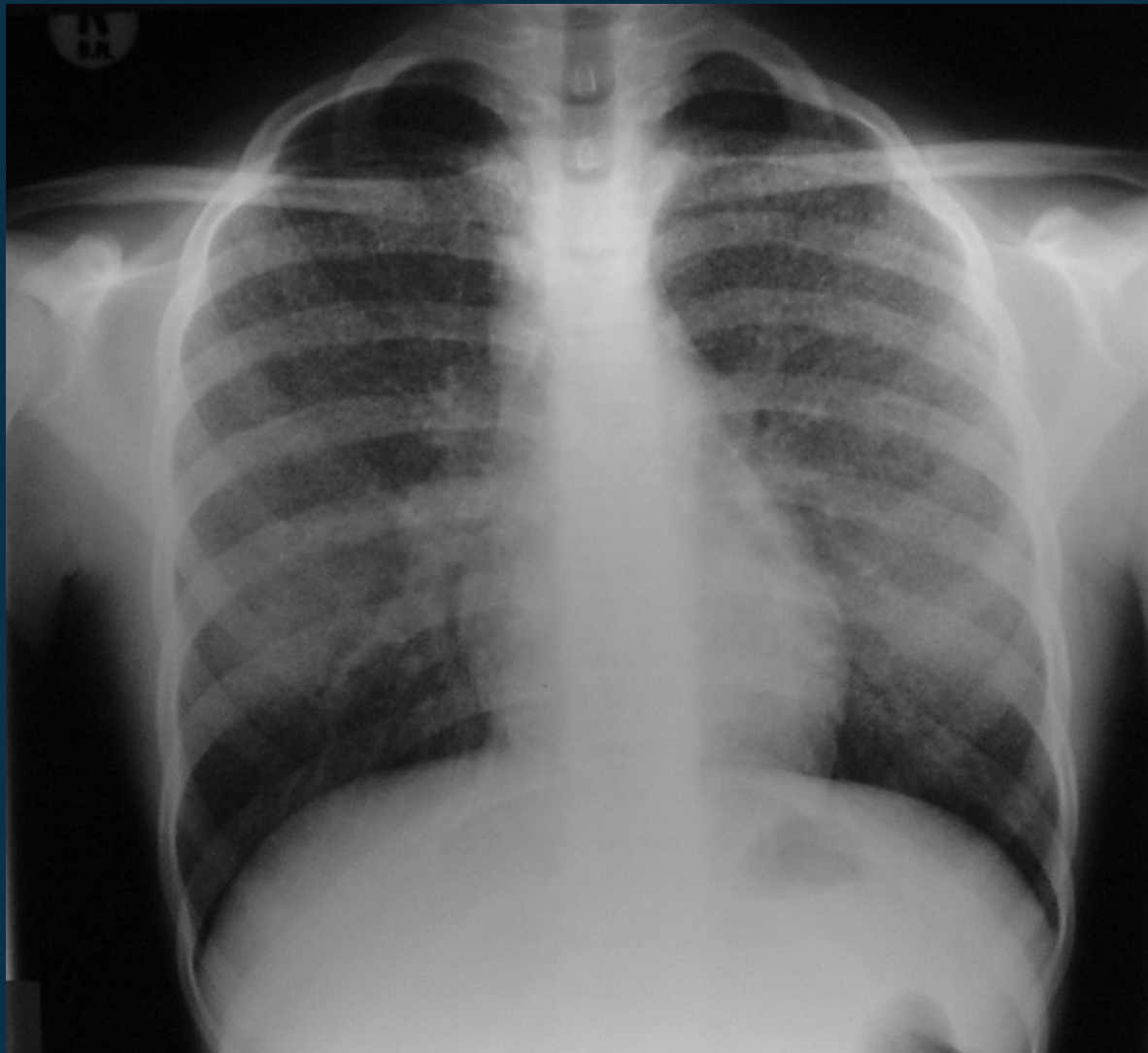
Lymph node disease plus  
disseminated disease: military

Hilar lymph node enlargement  
with haematogenous disease  
dissemination (millet seed  
nodular opacities )





Miliary TB : micronodular opacities disseminated in both lungs  
 Left opacity erasing the upper right heart border and the aorto-pulmonary window  
 Infiltration in the surrounding tissue



Miliary TB

# **Miliary Differential diagnosis**

# Learning Objectives

## **Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level**

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Enlarged lymph nodes

Chapter 3: Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue

Chapter 4: Airways compression

Chapter 5: Cavitation

Chapter 6: Pleural or pericardial effusion

Chapter 7: Miliary

**Chapter 8: Reading tool in a nutshell**

# Learning Objectives

## **Module 2: diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool at PHC level**

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Chap7. Miliary

**Chap8. Reading tool in a nutshell**



# Key points - How to diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool that identifies 6 suggestive CXR patterns

CXR remains the first imaging tool for primary screening of TB in children because respiratory samples are more difficult to obtain and are usually smear-negative. CXR can be highly suggestive.

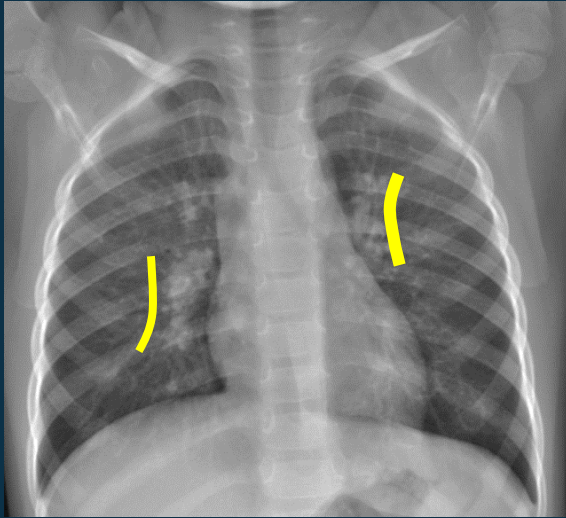
# Key points : how to diagnose TB on a paediatric CX using a simplified reading tool that identifies 6 suggestive CXR patterns

6 abnormalities on a paediatric CXR that are highly suggestive of TB: always look for them using a systematic approach

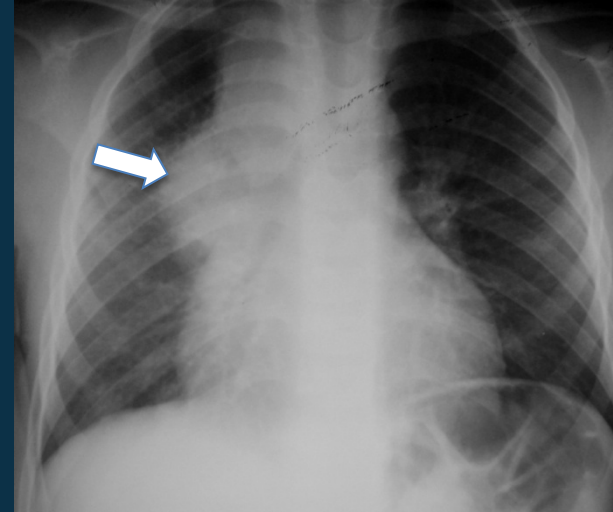
1. Enlarged lymph nodes ( lateral view required) :  
CXR can detect mediastinal and hilar lymph node enlargement.

The most common CXR appearance in young children with intrathoracic TB = lymphadenopathy

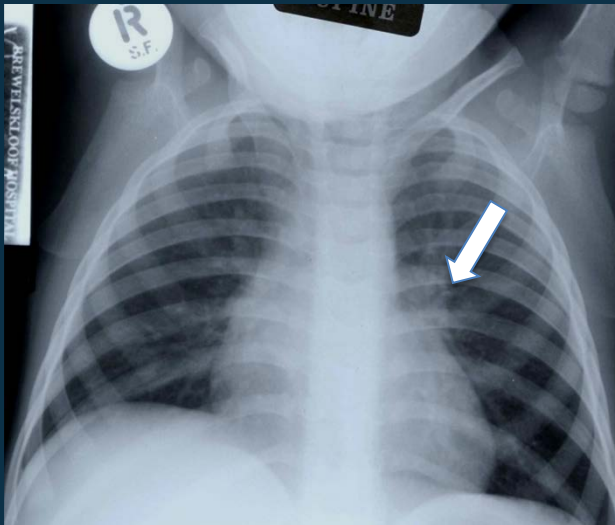
# CXR can detect mediastinal lymph node enlargement



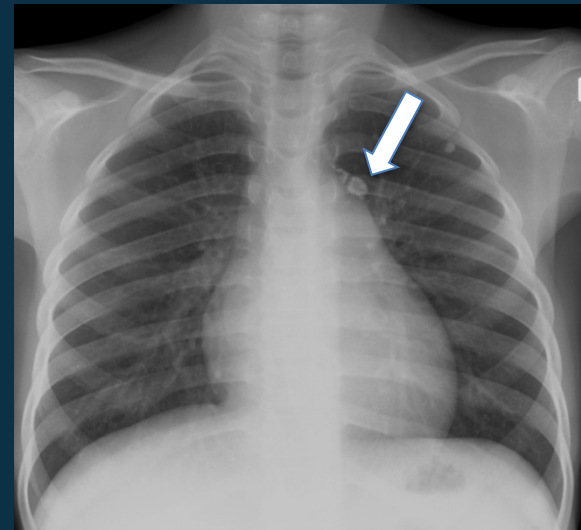
Normal



Right hilar lymphadenopathy

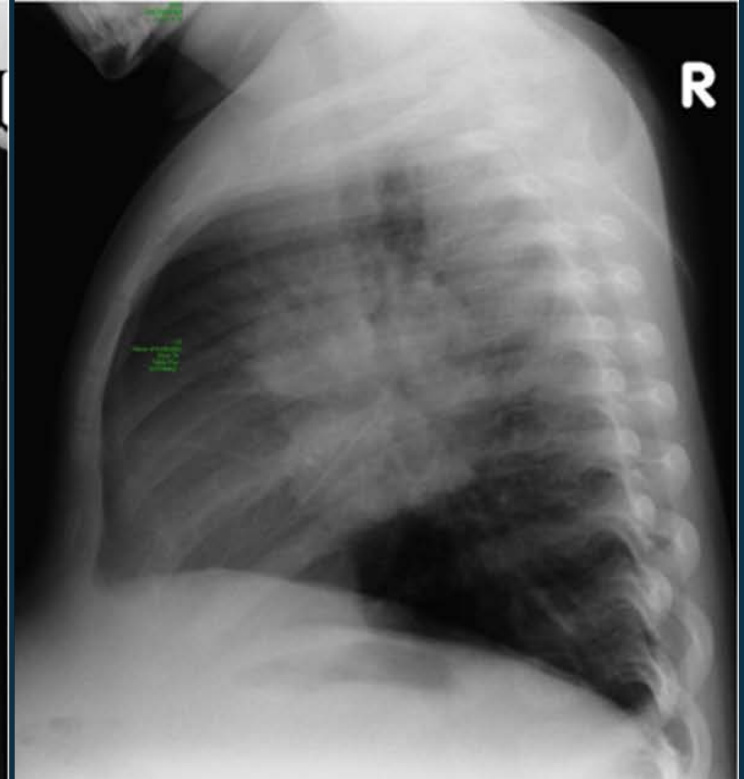


Left hilar lymphadenopathy

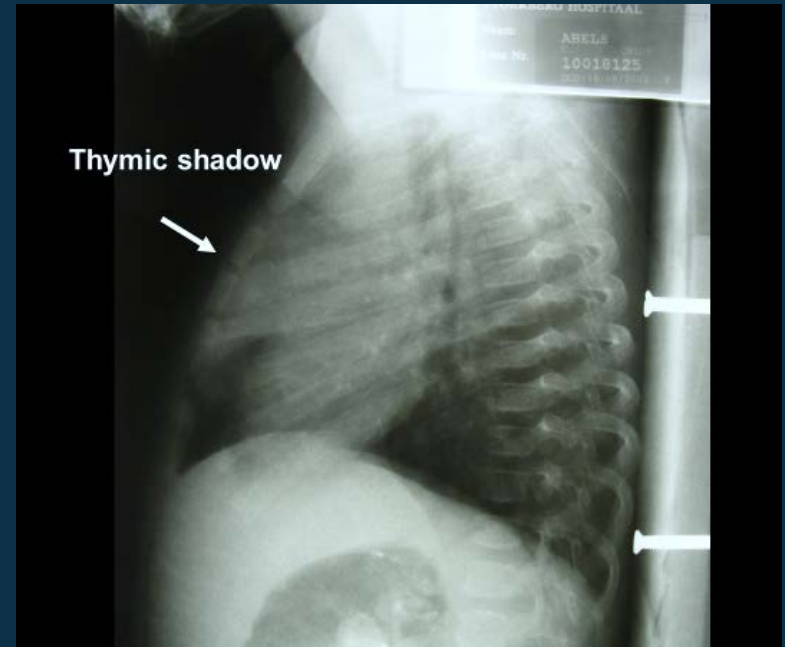
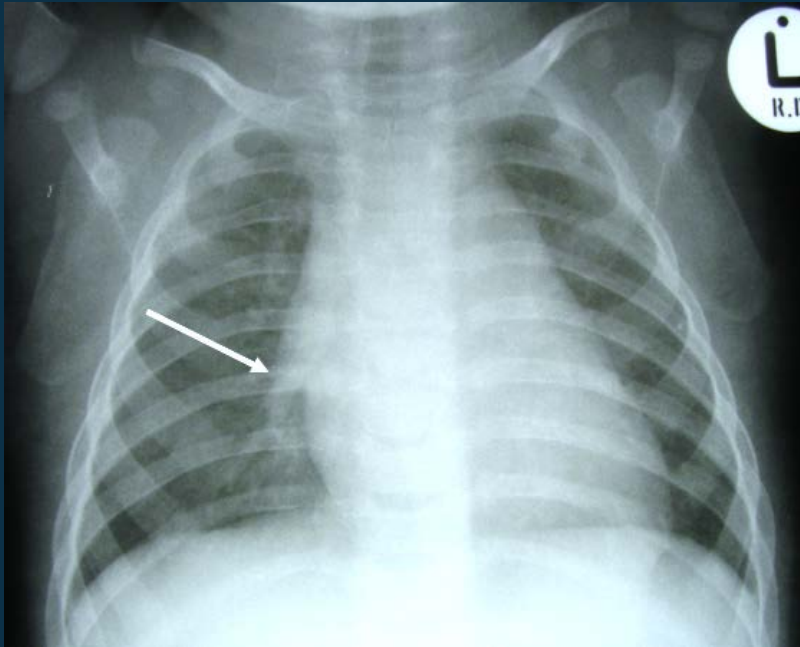


Calcified lymphadenopathy

# Importance of the lateral view



# TB lymph node enlargement can be confused with other mediastinal masses



Thymus

# Key points : how to diagnose TB on a paediatric CX using a simplified reading tool that identifies 6 suggestive CXR patterns

6 abnormalities on a paediatric CXR that are highly suggestive of TB: always look for them using a systematic approach

1. Enlarged lymph nodes ( lateral view required) :  
CXR can detect mediastinal and hilar lymph node enlargement.

The most common CXR appearance in young children with intrathoracic TB = lymphadenopathy

2. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue: CXR can detect alveolar opacities. If associated with hilar nodes.  
This is highly suggestive of TB

# Key points : how to diagnose TB on a paediatric CX using a simplified reading tool that identifies 6 suggestive CXR patterns

6 abnormalities on a paediatric CXR that are highly suggestive of TB: always look for them using a systematic approach

1. Enlarged lymph nodes ( lateral view required) :  
CXR can detect mediastinal and hilar lymph node enlargement.

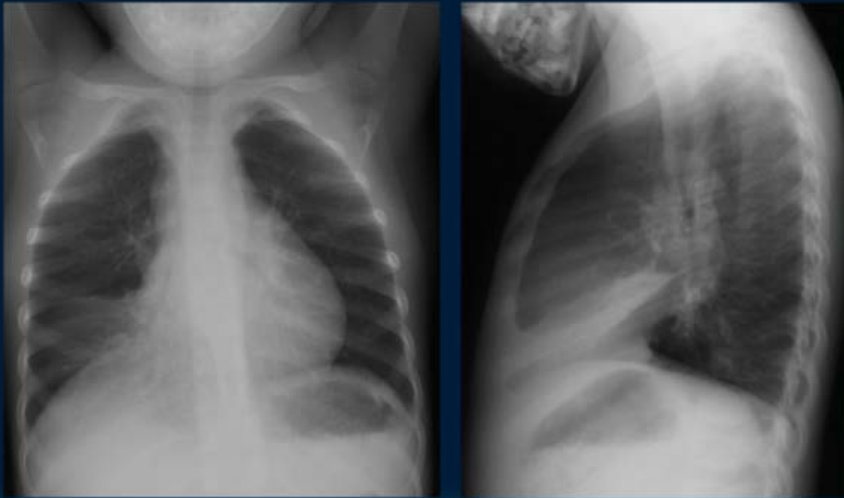
The most common CXR appearance in young children with intrathoracic TB = lymphadenopathy

2. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue: CXR can detect alveolar opacities. If associated with hilar nodes.  
This is highly suggestive of TB

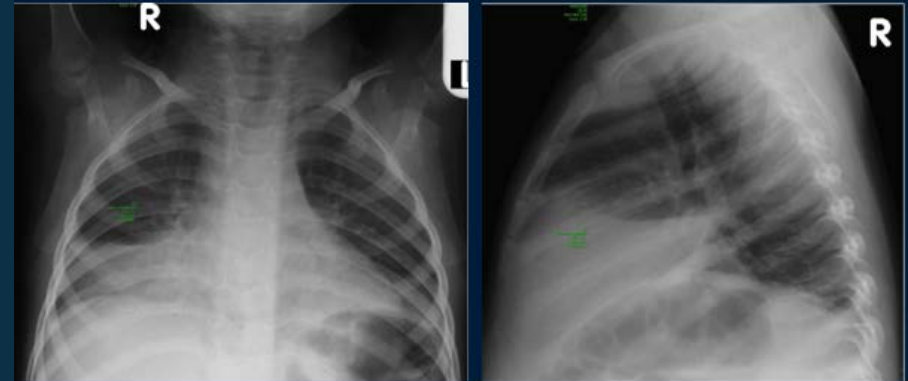
3. Airway compression (which may lead to asymmetry between left and right lung)



**CXR can detect alveolar opacities. If associated with hilar nodes this is highly suggestive of TB.**



Middle lobe pneumonia associated with adenopathies = TB

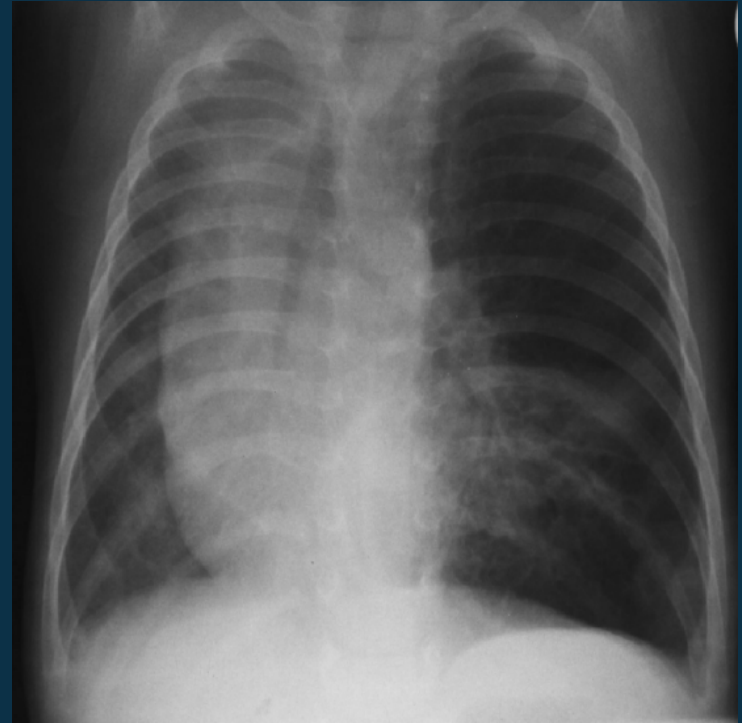


Same middle lobe pneumonia  
but **without adenopathy**: non conclusive ;  
One must begin amoxicillin before considering TB treatment

CXR can be useful for detecting airway compression: complications of primary infection are a result of lymph nodes narrowing, obstructing, or ulcerating into airways



Left lower lobe  
atelectasis right hilar  
lymph nodes



'Check-valve': left  
main bronchus  
obstruction with  
hyperinflation

# Key points : how to diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool that identifies 6 suggestive CXR patterns

6 abnormalities on a paediatric CXR that are highly suggestive of TB:  
always look for them using a systematic approach

1. Enlarged lymph nodes ( lateral view required) :  
CXR can detect mediastinal and hilar lymph node enlargement.

The most common CXR appearance in young children with intrathoracic TB = lymphadenopathy

2. Alveolar opacity of the lung tissue: CXR can detect alveolar opacities. If associated with hilar nodes.  
This is highly suggestive of TB

3. Airway compression (which may lead to asymmetry between left and right lung)

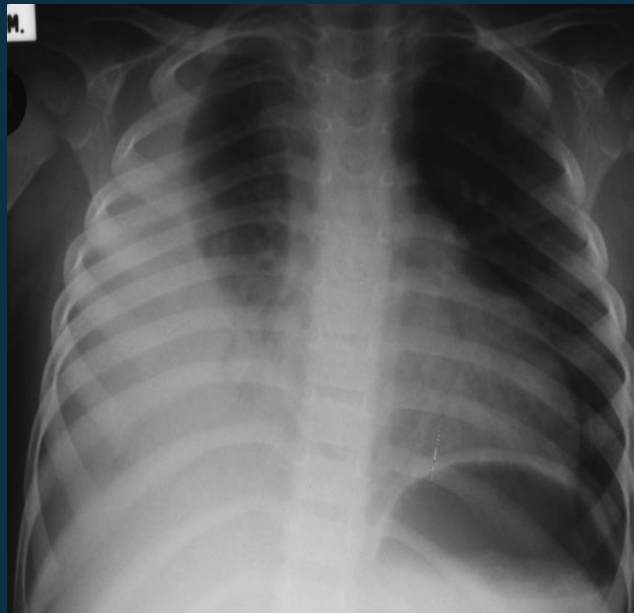
4. Cavitation

5. Pleural or pericardial effusion (especially in older children who develop pathology similar to adults with TB)

CXR can reveal cavitations and pleural and pericardial effusion (usually in older children who develop 'adult-like' TB)



Cavitation



Pleural effusion



Pericardial effusion

# Key points : how to diagnose TB on a paediatric CXR using a simplified reading tool that identifies 6 suggestive CXR patterns

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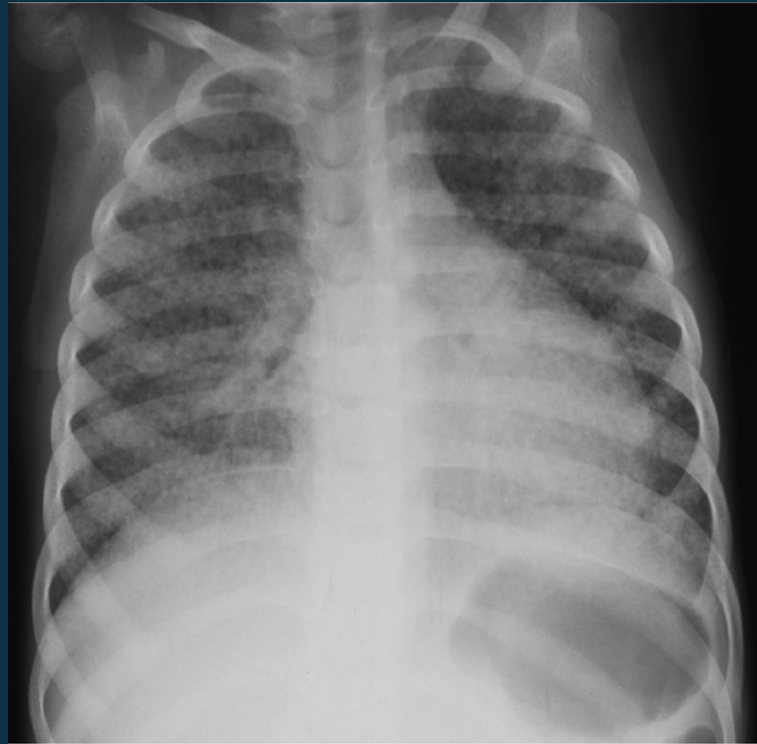
3. Airway compression (which may lead to assymetry between left and right lung)

4. Cavitation

5. Pleural or pericardial effusion (especially in older children who develop pathology similar to adults with TB)

6. Miliary: most pathognomonic CXR pattern of TB

# CXR can be useful for detecting miliary infiltrates



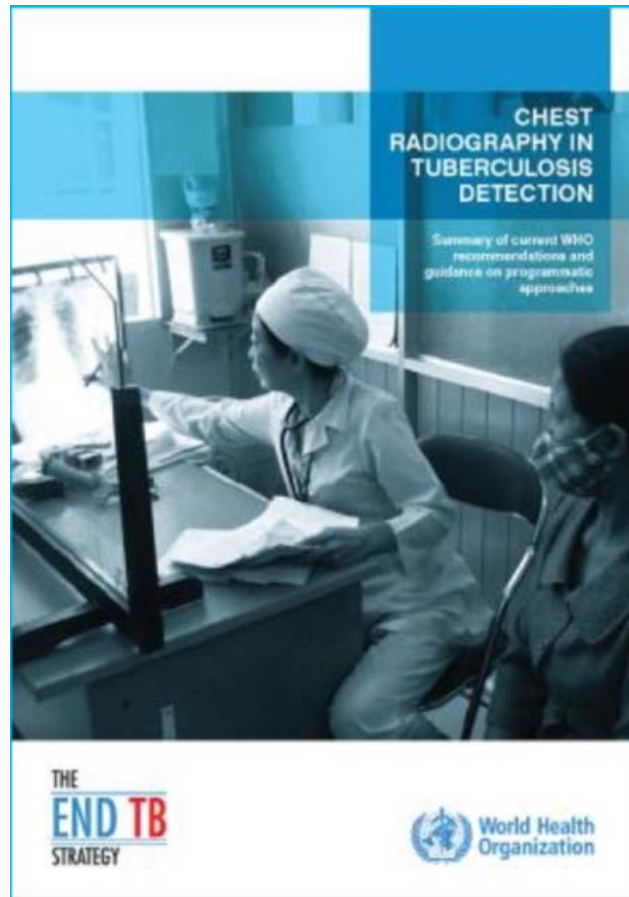
Miliary

# Key points - CXR for the diagnosis of intrathoracic TB in children

1. CXR remains a useful tool for diagnosis of TB in children.
2. CXR can detect mediastinal lymph node enlargement which is the most common appearance of intrathoracic TB on CXR in young children.
3. CXR can be useful for detecting complications: complications of primary infection are a result of lymph nodes compressing, obstructing, or ulcerating into airways
4. CXR can reveal cavitations and pleural and pericardial effusion in older children who develop pathology similar to adults with TB



CXR is useful in the diagnostic evaluation of TB in children and should be part of a comprehensive diagnostic pathway



*The End*

