

Ciliated cells

These are tall, slender, **cylindrical cells** of the airway lining with an oval nucleus at the base. Of particular importance in their morphology are:

- **cilia with embedded microvilli** in the apical membrane, these are responsible for **movement of mucus** with trapped microbes and debris;
- **aquaporins**, i.e. channels of the cell membrane regulating **water discharge** into the lumen of the airways and thus **humidity** of the air and **viscosity of the mucus layer**.



Ciliated multilayered columnar epithelium of airways

Links

Related Articles

- Mucous membranes of the airways
- Epithelium
- Trachea (histology) • Bronchi (histology) • Bronchioly (histology)

References

- LÜLLMANN-RAUCH, Renate. *Histologie*. 3. edition. Praha : Grada, 2012. 576 pp. ISBN 978-80-247-3729-4.
- MESCHER, Anthony L. *Junqueira's Basic Histology*. 12. edition. United States : McGraw-Hill Education - Europe, 2009. 480 pp. ISBN 9780071630207.