

Atelectasis

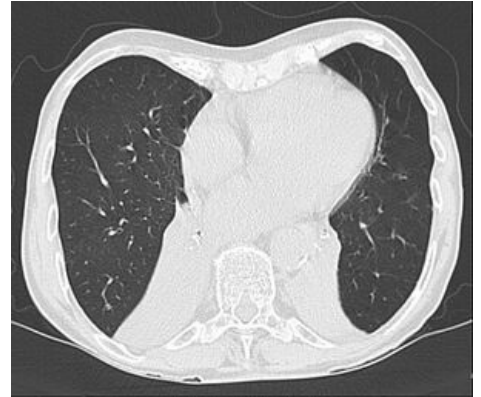
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Atelectasis is the lack of air in the lung tissue.

Lung collapse and atelectasis express the same condition, ie "airlessness" of the lung tissue. **CAVE !!! The term atelectasis is reserved for newborns (their lungs have never been developed). The collapse** is reserved for secondary lung airtightness (the lungs have already developed, but have secondarily become airtight).

The lungs did not develop at all = atelectasis - in newborns for various reasons (atelectasis neonatorum):

- immature infants who have insufficient surfactant production;
 - ventilation disorders due to CNS damage or chest deformities;
 - massive amniotic fluid aspiration in complicated childbirth.
- The lungs were developed but collapsed = collapse.



Atelectasis

Causes of lung collapse

1. **Obstructive** collapse - stenosis to obstruction of the bronchi with subsequent resorption of air present during obstruction - body aspiration, tumor, accumulated secretion, blood coagulum, external compression - lymph node, aneurysm
2. **Compression** collapse - expulsion of air from lung tissue in connection with pathological contents in the pleural cavity (fluid, blood, air) - oppression of the lungs, especially at the base; pneumothorax.

Consequences

With the early elimination of the cause, the collapsed lungs will re-develop, but with prolonged airiness, the respiratory surface will be lost - so-called splenization (the lung tissue is red-purple with a consistency similar to the spleen), it is an irreversible condition.

- increased susceptibility to infections - dysteletric pneumonia;
- sometimes secondary bronchiectasis occurs.

Links

Related articles

- Lung
- Respiratory mechanics
- Ventilation failure (pathophysiology)

References

- POVÝŠIL, Ctibor. *Speciální patologie*. 2. edition. Praha : Galén, 2007. vol. 430. ISBN 978-807262-494-2.