

DISEASES OF THE LARYNX

EMERGENCIES Stridor

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Stridor means noisy breathing. It may be inspiratory or expiratory or occur in both phases of respiration. Inspiratory stridor is usually due to an obstruction at or above the vocal folds is most commonly the result of an inhaled foreign body or acute infections such as epiglottitis. Expiratory stridor is usually from the lower respiratory tract and gives rise to a prolonged expiratory wheeze. It is most commonly associated with acute asthma or acute infective tracheobronchitis. Biphasic stridor is usually due to obstruction or disease of the tracheobronchial airway and distal lungs. Summary box 52.8 Stridor /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF

Inspiratory Foreign body or epiglottitis Expiratory Acute asthma or infective tracheobronchitis
Biphasic Obstruction, disease of tracheobronchial airway or distal lungs

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