

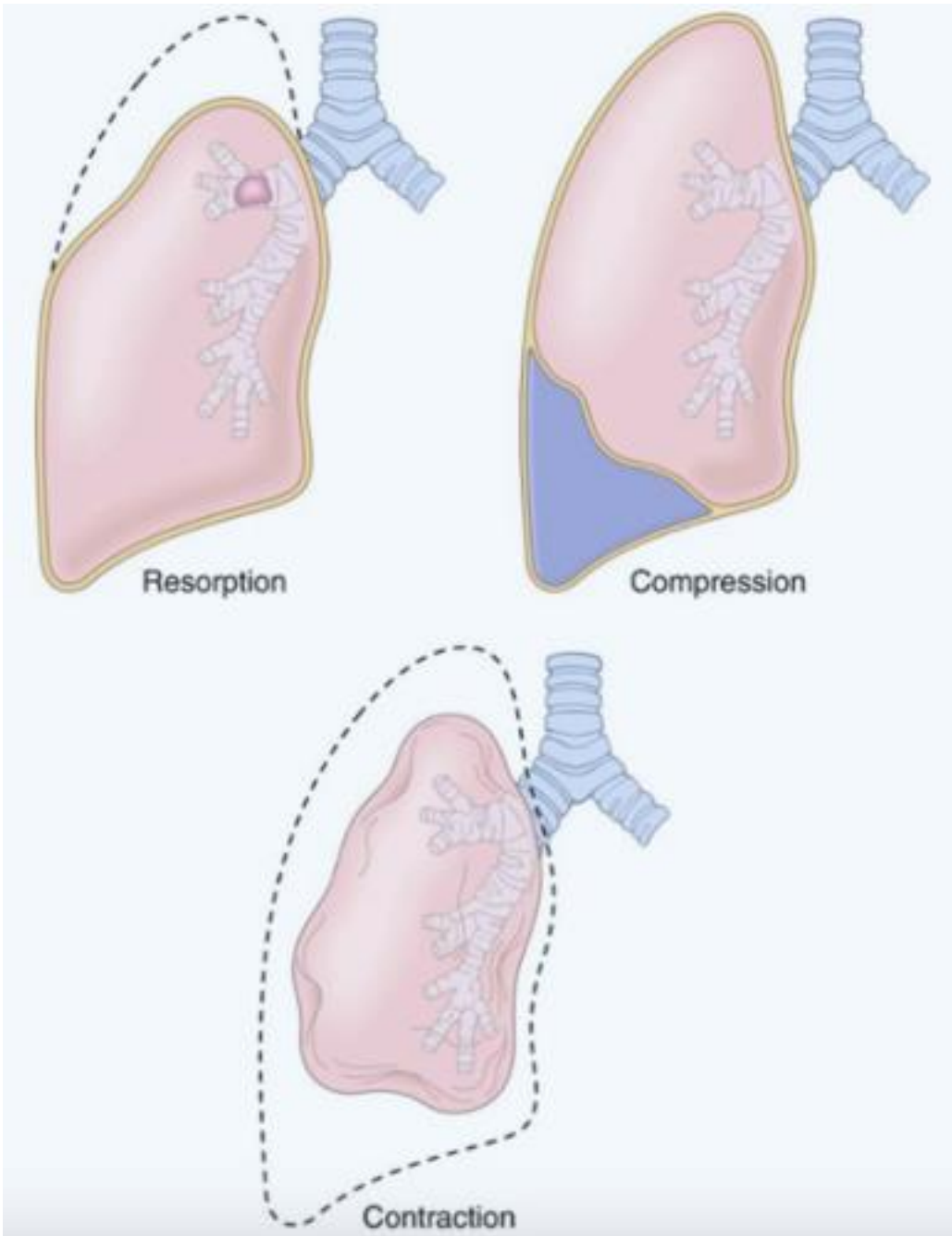
Histopathology Lab 2

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Atelectasis refers to an area of collapsed or nonexpanded lung. It is reversible, but areas of atelectasis predispose for infection due to decreased mucociliary clearance.

There are four type of **Atelectasis**:

- **Obstruction/resorption atelectasis** is collapse of lung due to resorption of air distal to an obstruction; examples include aspiration of a foreign body, **chronic obstructive pulmonary disease** (COPD), and postoperative atelectasis.
- **Compression atelectasis** is atelectasis due to fluid, air, blood, or tumor in the pleural space.
- **Contraction (scar) atelectasis** is due to fibrosis and scarring of the lung.
- **Patchy atelectasis** is due to a lack of surfactant, as occurs in (hyaline membrane disease) of newborn or acute (adult) respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).



What are the **symptoms**?

Some time it's hard to get enough oxygen to your blood. Having low blood oxygen can lead to:

- trouble breathing
- sharp chest pain, especially when taking a deep breath or coughing
- rapid breathing
- increased heart rate
- blue-colored skin, lips, fingernails

How is it diagnosed?

* **check your blood oxygen** level with an oximeter, a small device that fits on the end of your finger

* **take blood from an artery**, usually in your wrist, and check its oxygen, carbon dioxide levels, and blood chemistry with a blood gas test

* **order a chest X-ray**

* **order a CT scan** to check for infections or blockages, such as a tumor in your lung or airway

* **perform a bronchoscopy**, which involves inserting a camera, located on the end of a thin, flexible tube, through your nose or mouth and into your lungs