

# *Salivary secretion, Swallowing & esophageal motility*

By

**Dr\ Nour A. Mohammed**

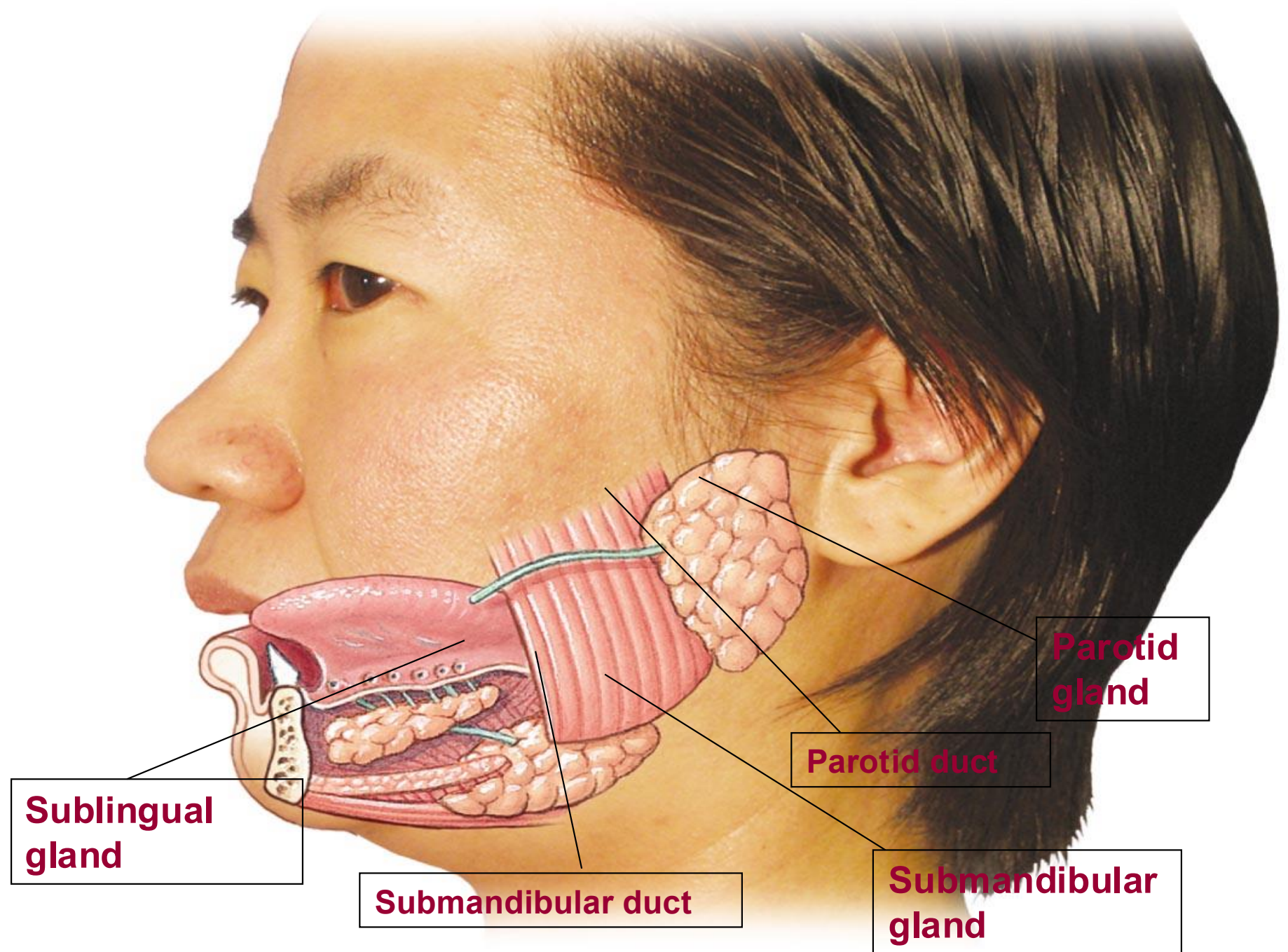
**Associate professor of physiology**

**Faculty of Medicine, Mutah University**

**2024-2025**

# ***Salivary secretion & Swallowing***





## *Salivary Secretion*

- **Saliva** : 1.5 L/day, hypotonic, pH is 6.3-6.8
- **Salivary glands** : three pairs of salivary glands

Parotid	Sub maxillary	sublingual
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 %.</li> <li>• Serous acini for secretion (watery &amp; rich in enzy.).</li> <li>• supplied by glossopharyngeal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75 %.</li> <li>• Mixed.</li> <li>• Facial. → chorda tympani</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 %.</li> <li>• Mucus acini (thick, rich in mucin).</li> <li>• Facial. → chorda tympani</li> </ul>

↳ lesser superficial petrosal nerve



## ➤ Composition of saliva

**a- 99.5 % water.**

**b- 0.5 % solids.**

- **0.3 % organic** : as enzymes (amylase, Lipase, Lysozymes) and mucus.
- **0.2 % inorganic:**
  - ❖ **Buffers** as **phosphate & bicarbonate** buffering systems
  - ❖ **Soluble calcium salts**: which saturate saliva to prevent decalcification of teeth.
  - ❖ **Some electrolytes** as  $\text{Na}^+$  ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Hco}_3^-$ , and  $\text{K}^+$  ,they act as coenzymes for salivary enzyme amylase.

# Functions of saliva

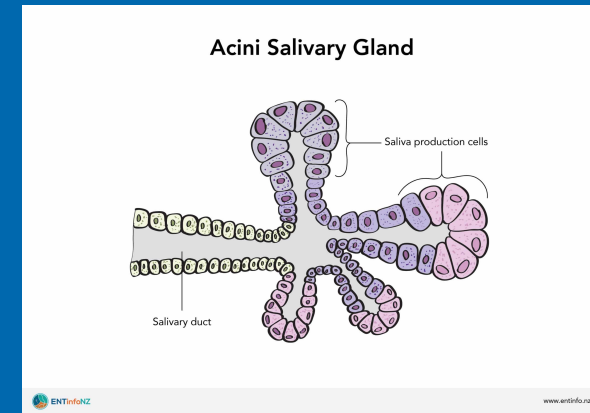
1. **Facilitation of speech** and **deglutition**.
2. **Cleaning (hygiene)** of the mouth by washing and antibacterial effect of lysozymes & immunoglobulin A
3. **Buffering function** : by bicarbonate and phosphate systems to keep the PH at about 7.0 → the teeth do not loose their calcium.  
Also, saliva neutralizes gastric secretion in case of gastroesophageal reflux.
4. **Digestive function** :
  - Ptyalin** (salivary  $\alpha$ - amylase) : digest starch to maltose in PH 6.9 so it is inhibited in the stomach.
  - Lingual Lipase**: digest 30 % of lipids and secreted from Ebner's gland of tongue.
5. **Excretory function** : of lead, mercury, fluoride and some drugs as morphine and alcohol.
6. **Facilitate taste sensation**
7. **Regulation of water balance** (↓ in dehydration and give thirst sensation).



# The Stages of salivary secretion

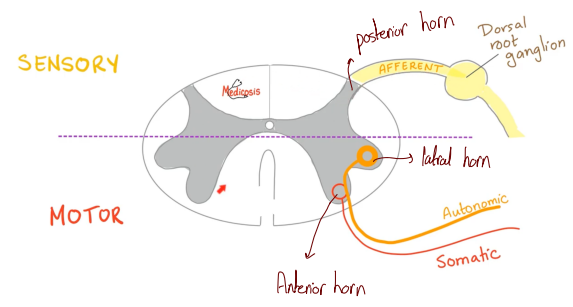
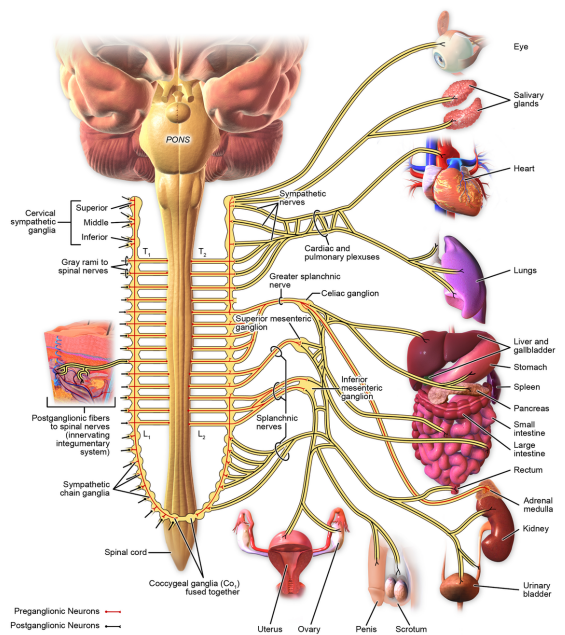
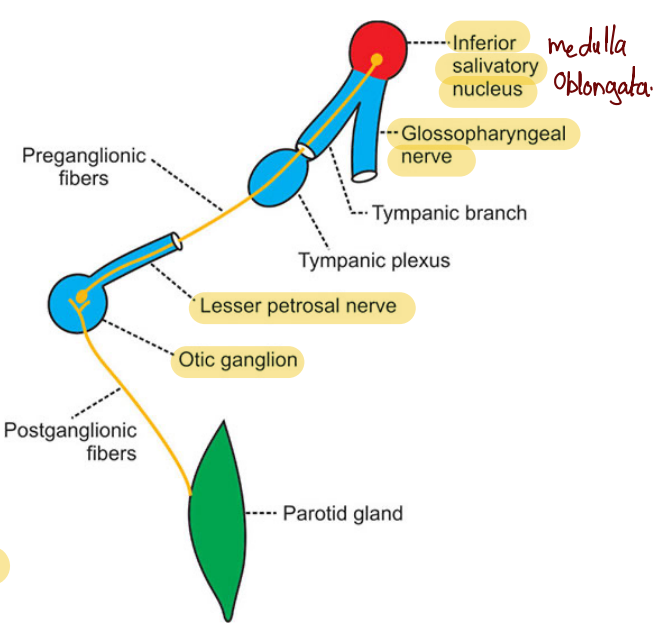
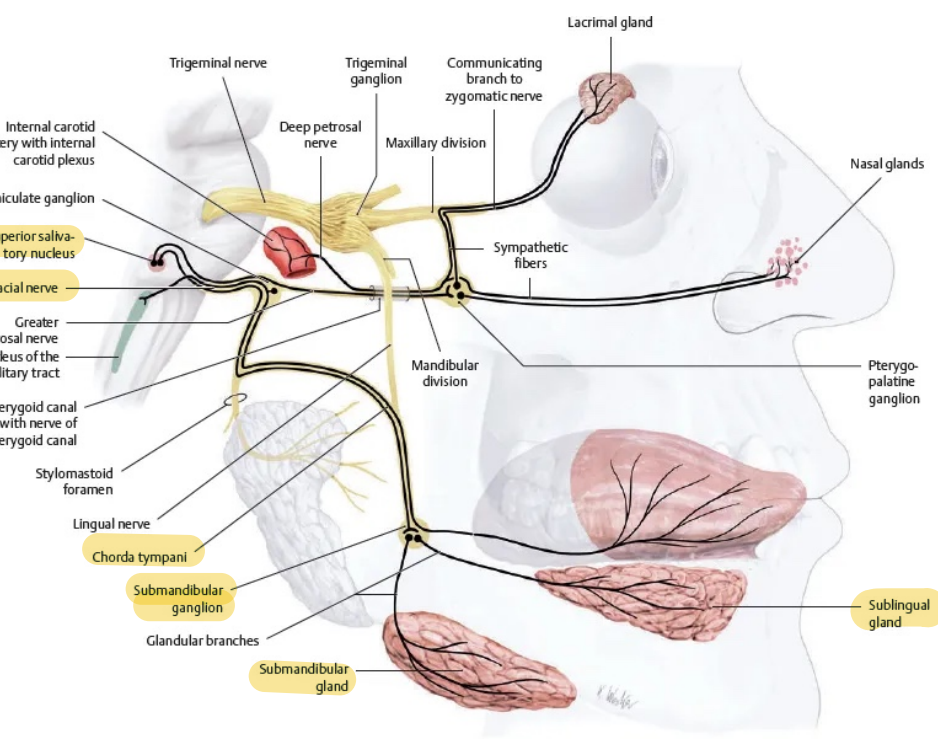
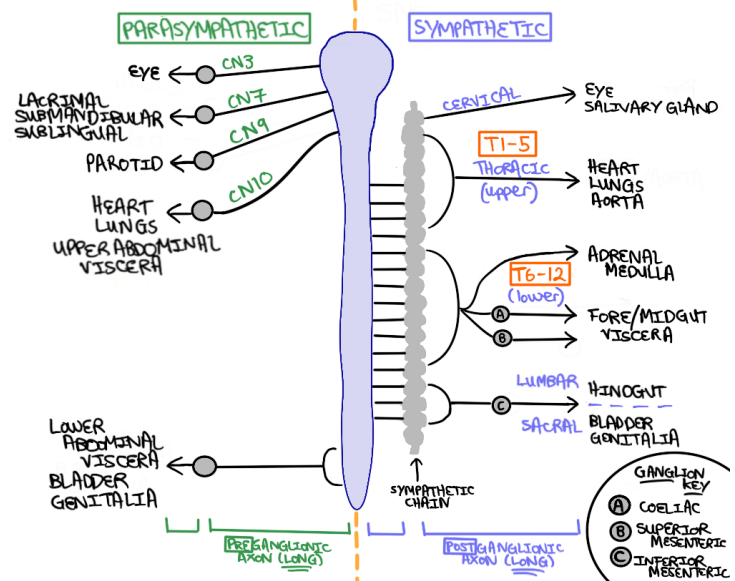
## ➤ I) Salivary acini (Primary):

→ saliva similar in composition to plasma  
isotonic



## ➤ II) Salivary duct (secondary):

Due modification by the duct under effect of **aldosterone** hormone → active reabsorption of  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$  &  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and active secretion of  $\text{K}^+$ . So, saliva becomes hypo- tonic to plasma .



**Sympathetic Innervation**



# Innervation of salivary glands

## *A-Parasympathetic*

*It arises from **superior salivatory nucleus in the pons** → chorda tympani as a branch of the **facial nerve** → **submandibular ganglion** → submandibular and sublingual glands.*

Also, **inferior salivatory nucleus in medulla oblongata** → lesser superficial petrosal nerve as a branch of **glossopharyngeal nerve** → otic ganglion → parotid gland

→ **True secretion** : large in volume watery, rich in enzymes ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ .

**Parasympathetic causes V.D of blood vessels of salivary glands**

## ***B- Sympathetic***

- It arises from lateral horn cells of the upper two thoracic segments and relay in the superior cervical sympathetic ganglia → **Salivary glands**
- ***Trophic secretion***: little in volume, viscus, and rich in mucin.
- **VC** of blood vessels of salivary glands.

### **N.B**

if the flow of salivary secretion increased → little time for modification  
→ ↑ Na<sup>+</sup>, CL<sup>-</sup>, Hco<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> & ↓ K<sup>+</sup> concentration as in **parasympathetic stimulation.**

# Control of salivary secretion

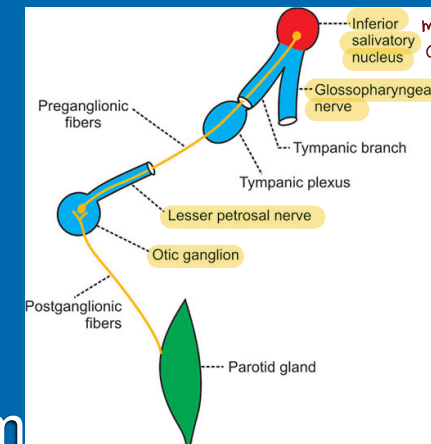
- Nervous only via conditioned and unconditioned reflexes.

- **[I] Unconditioned reflex**

- Inborn reflex that needs no previous learning.
- **Stimuli** : direct contact of food , Chewing
- **Receptor** : taste receptors & Receptors in GIT wall.

## ➤ Afferent

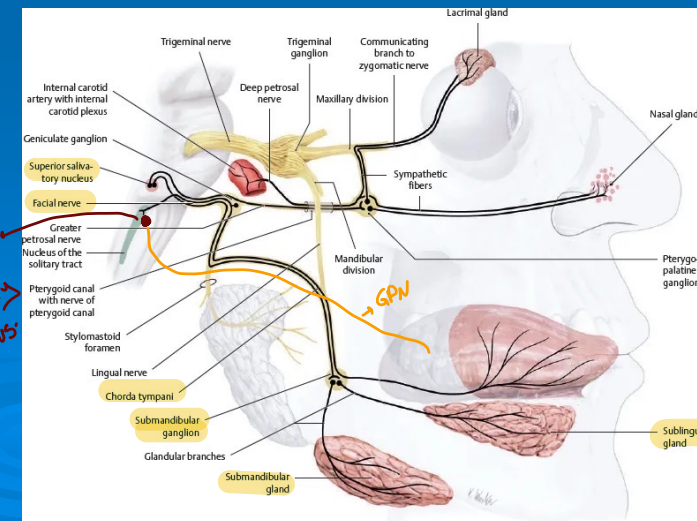
- Chorda tympani : from ant. 2/3 of tongue.
- Glossopharyngeal : from post. 1/3 of tongue
- Lingual nerve : movement of tongue.
- Vagus nerve : from epiglottis.



➤ **Center** : superior & inferior salivatory nuclei in brain stem

➤ **Efferent**: chordae tympani & glossopharyngeal.

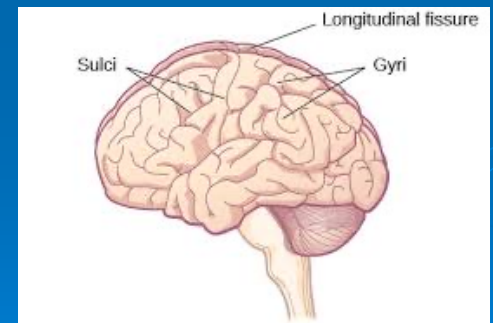
➤ **Response**: ↑ salivary glands secretion.





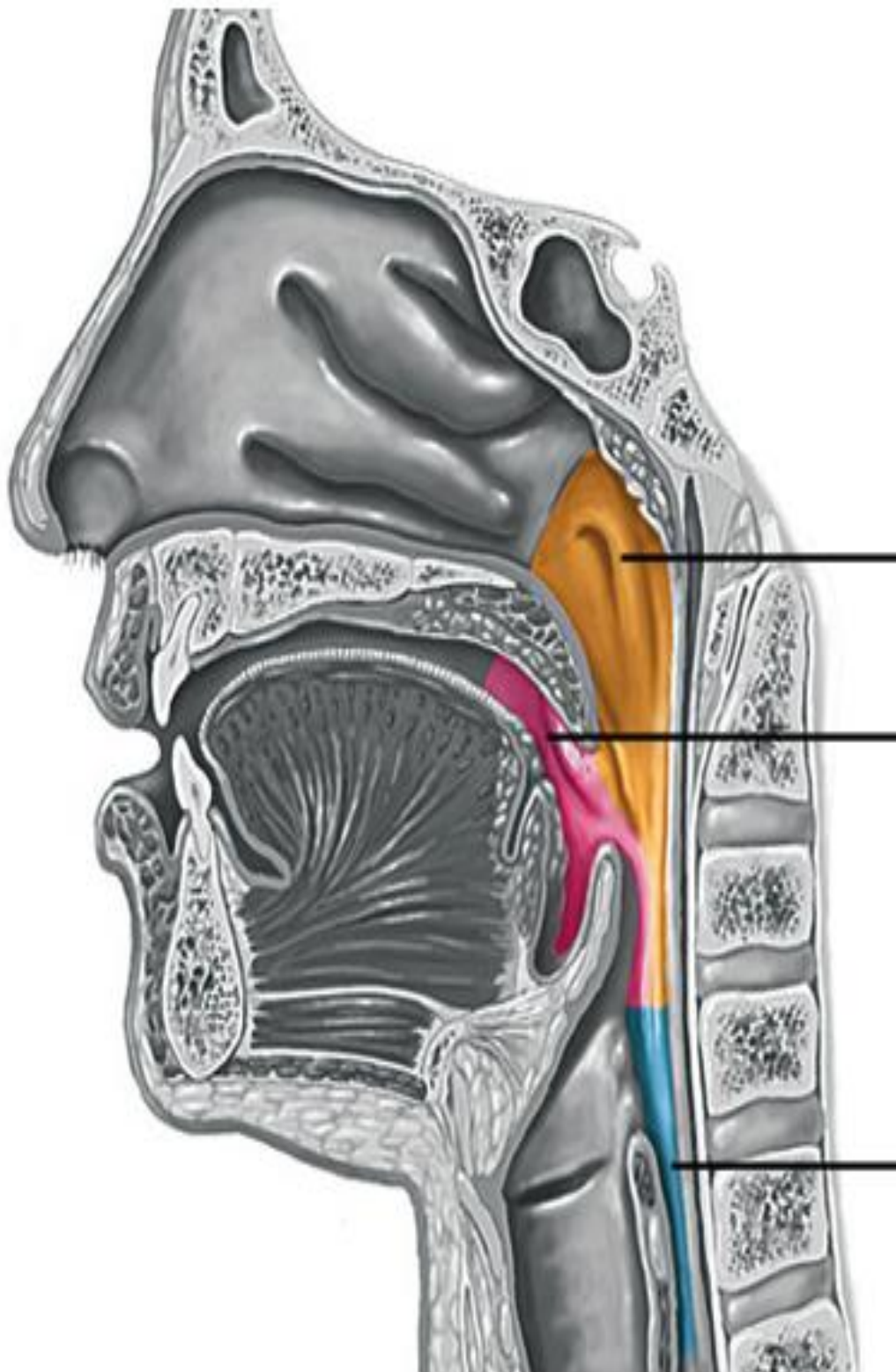
## [II] Conditioned reflex

- Acquired reflexes and need previous learning
- **Stimuli** :
  - Sight of food.
  - Smelling of food.
  - Hearing about food.
  - Thinking of food.
- **Receptors** : special sense receptors.
- **Afferent** : optic, olfactory & auditory nerves.
- **Center** : to cerebral cortex → salivatory nuclei.
- **Efferent & response** → as unconditioned reflex.



# **Pharynx and esophagus**





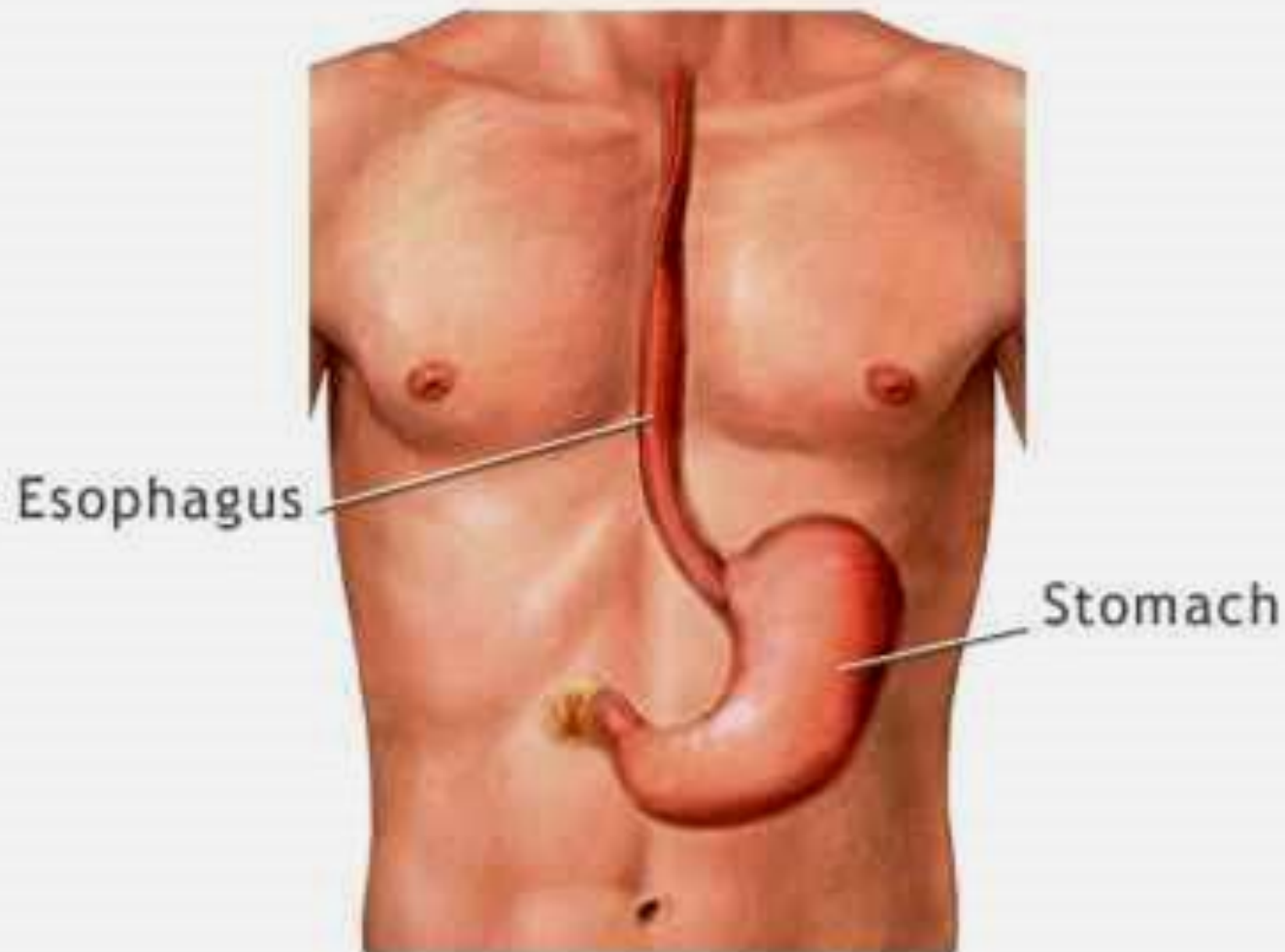
# Pharynx

# Pharynx

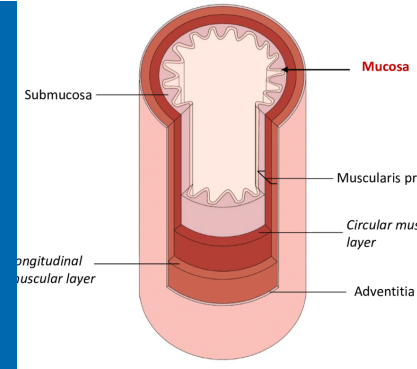
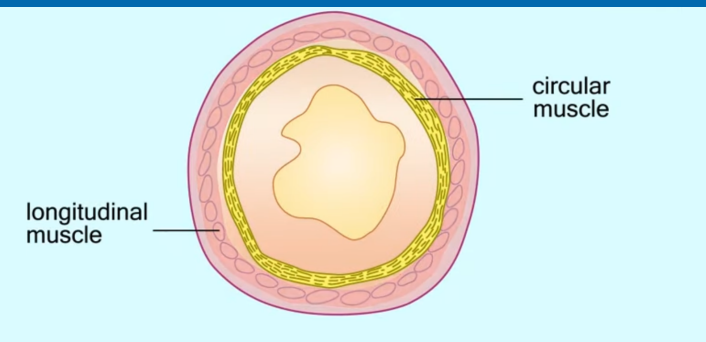
- It is a common pathway for respiratory and digestive system and has **swallowing receptor area** and **the primary peristalsis waves** start from it. It is separated from esophagus by the upper esophageal sphincter which is normally closed.



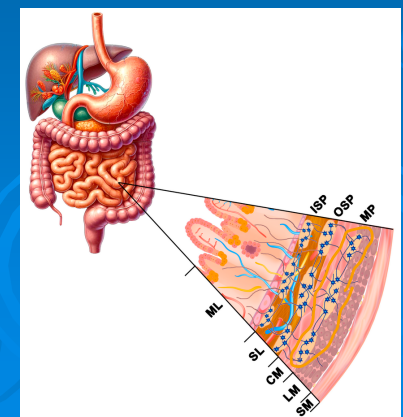
# Esophagus



# Esophagus

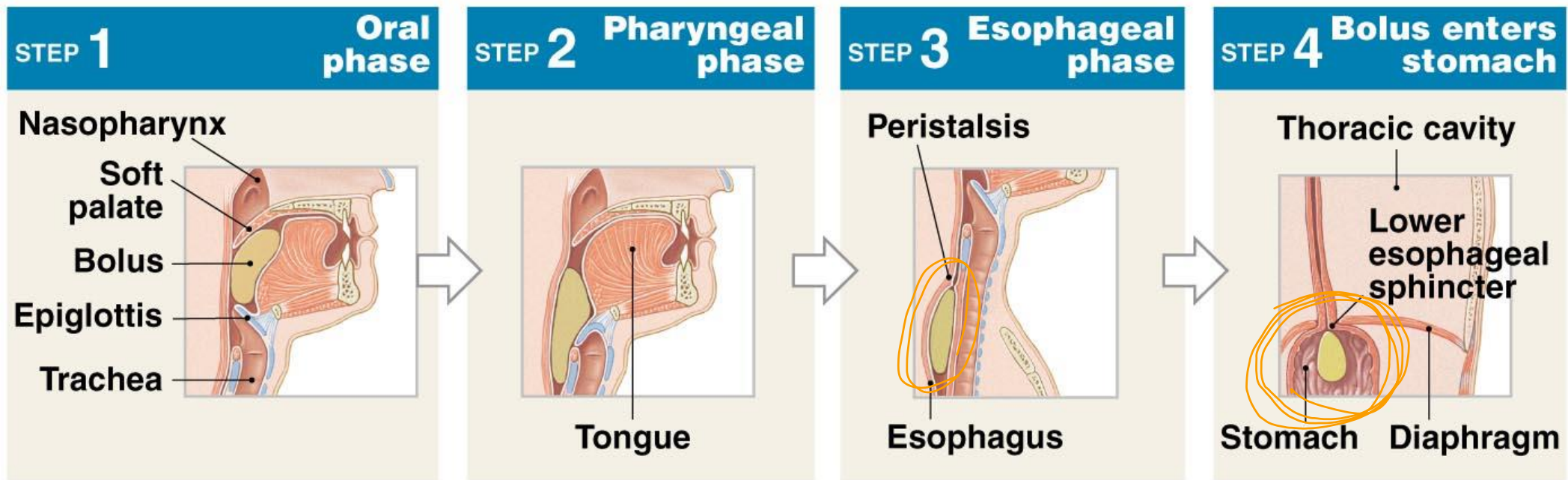


- It is a muscular tube has outer longitudinal and inner circular muscle layers which are striated in the upper portion and smooth in the lower portion .So, the **peristalsis in the upper portion** depends on the **vasovagal reflex**, however in the lower portion it depends on the **local enteric reflex**.



# Swallowing (Deglutition)

- It is the propelling of food bolus from mouth to stomach.
- It is under control of the **swallowing center in the medulla.**
- *It can be divided into **3 phases:***





# Swallowing (Deglutition)

➤ *It can be divided into 3 phases:*

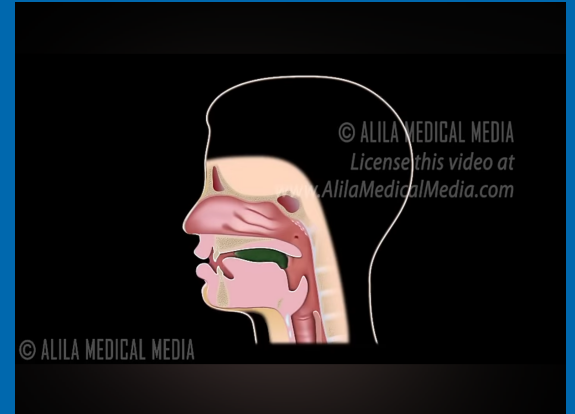
➤ **Buccal phase: (voluntary)**

(voluntary) elevation and retraction of tongue against the hard palate propels the bolus to the pharynx.

➤ **Pharyngeal phase (involuntary)**

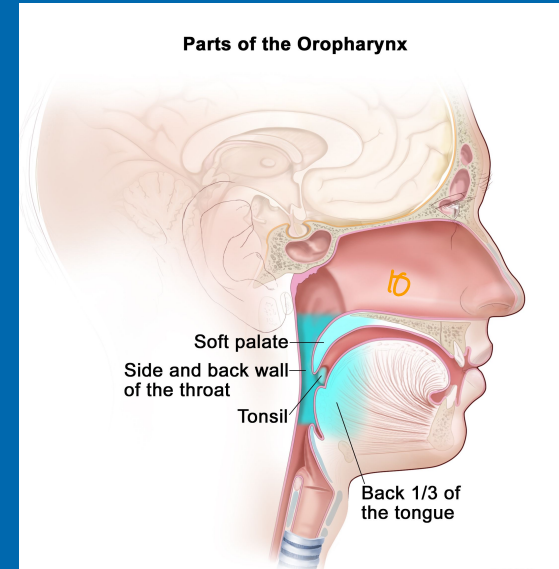
It is very rapid (1 second), occur reflexely via :

**Swallowing reflex**



# Swallowing reflex

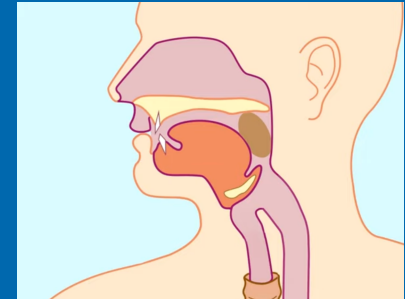
- **Receptor:** in oropharynx (tonsillar pillars).
- **Afferent:** 5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Cranial nerves.
- **Center:** medulla oblongata (swallowing center).
- **Efferent:** motor fibers of 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> cranial nerves.



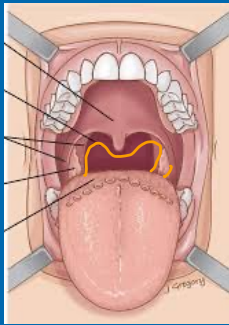
➤ **Response:** Series of reflexes (**Protective reflexes**)

➤ to prevent entry of food into air passages

❖ Elevation of soft palate → closure of nasal cavity.

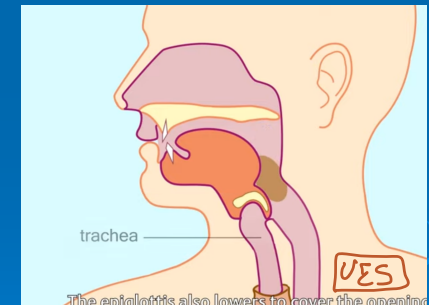


❖ Approximation of palate-pharyngeal folds → sagittal slit through which small food particles pass and prevent passage of large particles.

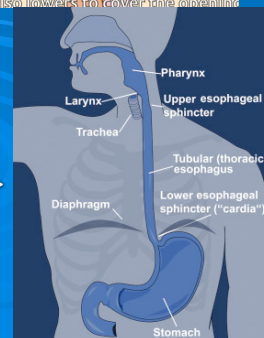


❖ Closure of glottis (opening of larynx) by approximation of vocal cords & elevation of larynx and folding of epiglottis

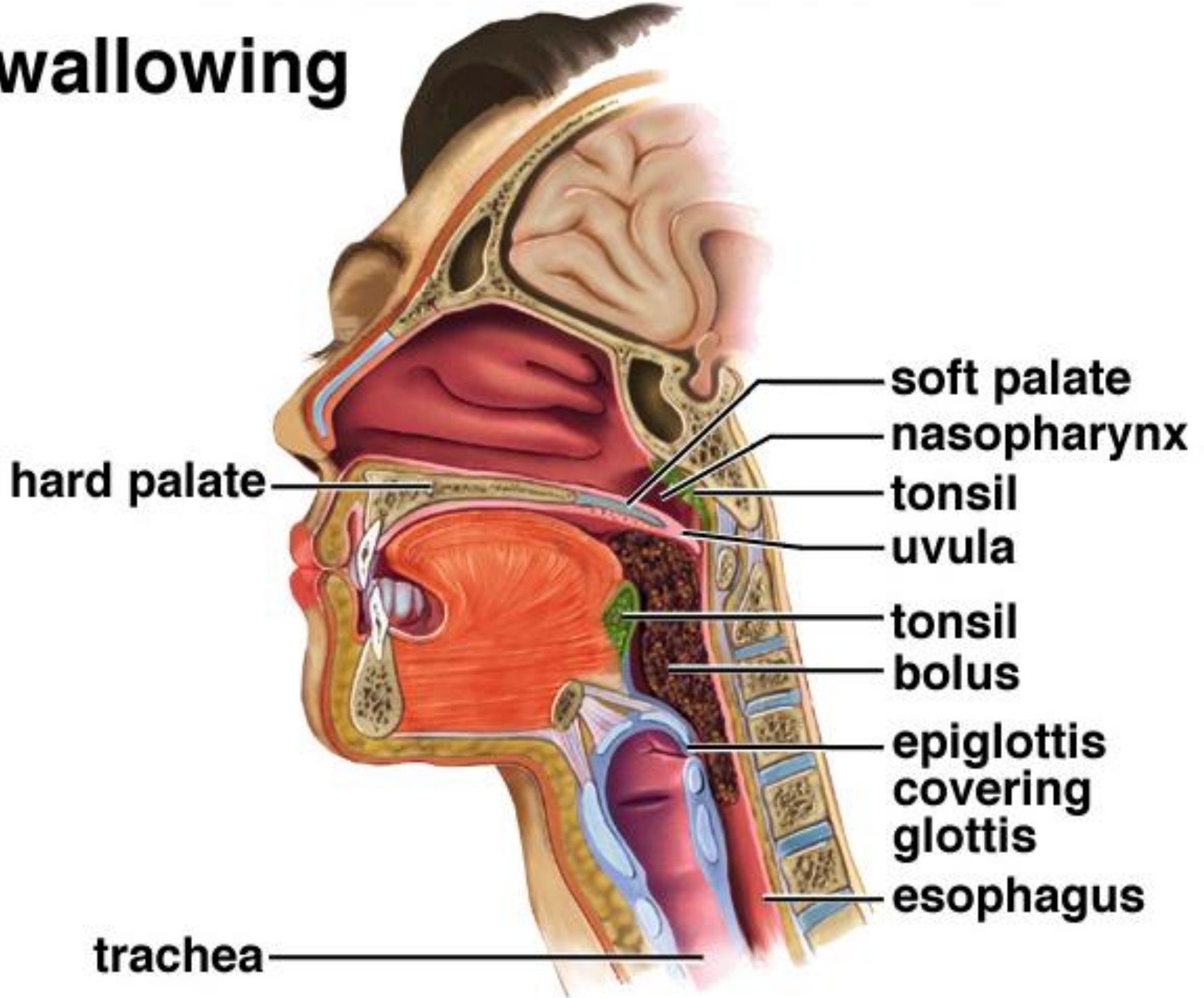
❖ Inhibition of breathing (**swallowing apnea**)



Relaxation of pharyngo-esophageal sphincter and contraction of superior pharyngeal muscle → rapid pharyngeal peristalsis → forces the food into relaxed upper esophagus.



# Swallowing

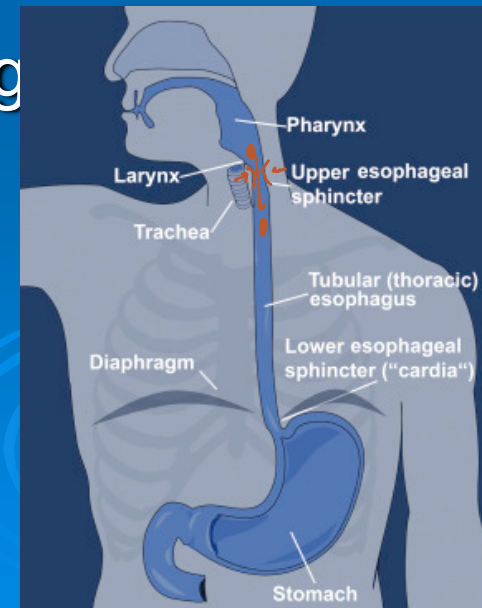




# Esophageal phase (involuntary)

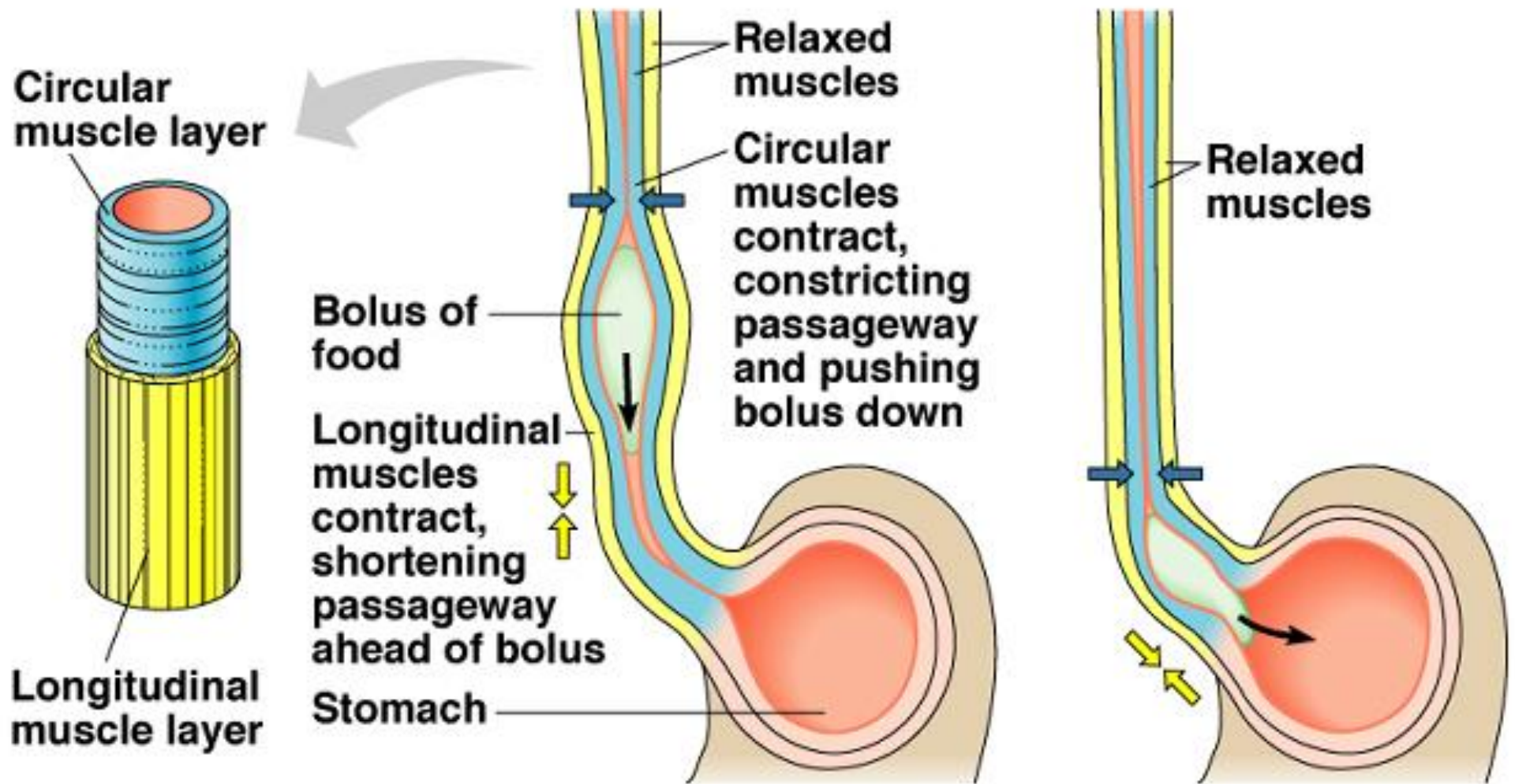
- *Upper esophageal sphincter : (UES)*
- The pharyngeo – esophageal junction is normally closed by striated muscle tone to prevent entry of inspired air into stomach. During swallowing the sphincter relaxes reflexely and then reclosed after swallowing

- *Traveling along the esophagus*





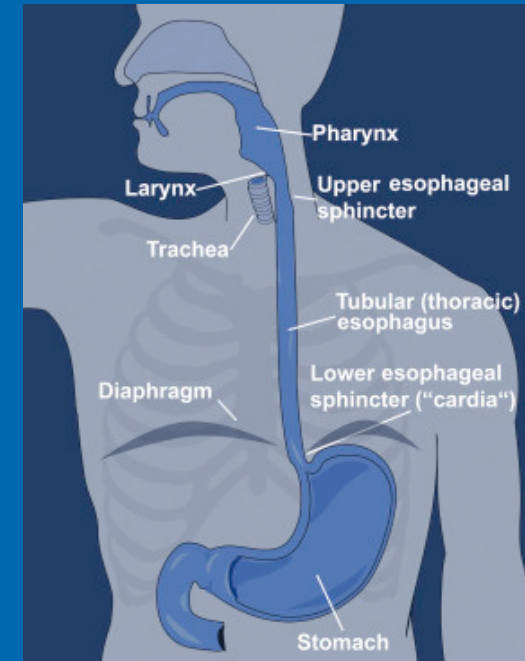
# Smooth Muscle Peristalsis Moves Food Along Alimentary Canal



- Entry of food bolus into the esophagus initiate peristaltic waves of 2 types :

### *Primary peristaltic waves :*

- They start at the upper end of esophagus.
- They are continuation of the pharyngeal peristalsis.
- It travels at the rate of **2-4 cm/sec**. But gravity may increase velocity of food bolus .



# Secondary peristaltic waves

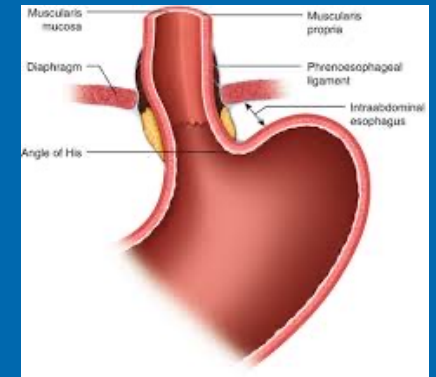
- Presence of bolus in the esophagus initiate peristaltic waves at site of bolus.
- These waves repeated until food bolus is driven down the stomach.
- Peristaltic movements in the **upper part** of esophagus is coordinated by **vago – vagal reflex** (striated ms.), while in **lower part** is coordinated by **local enteric reflex**.

Table summarizes the main differences between the upper & lower parts of esophagus

	Upper part	Lower part
<b>Musculature</b>	Striated	Smooth
<b>Nerve Supply</b>	Vagus nerve only	Vagus nerve + E.N.S
<b>Movement</b>	Rapid	Slow
<b>Effect of bilateral Vagotomy</b>	Complete Paralysis	Secondary Peristalsis Persists

# *Lower esophageal sphincter (LES)*

- It is called the cardiac sphincter.
- It is the lower 3-5 cm of the esophagus.
- It has high resting tone (**High – pressure zone**) and exert a pressure **15-30 cm H<sub>2</sub>O** above intra – abdominal pressure to prevent reflux of gastric content into esophagus.
- It is relaxed when food bolus reaches it **with some delay**, so this area is liable to damage or ulceration by cold, hot and spicy food.





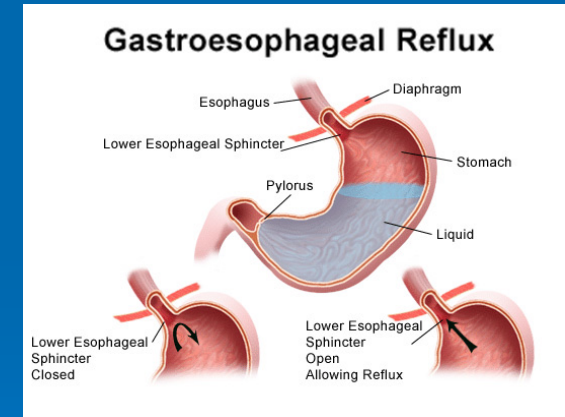
# ***Lower esophageal sphincter (LES)***

## ➤ **Its tone is increased by : (contracted)**

- ❖ Sympathetic alpha adrenergic receptors activation.
- ❖ Gastrin hormone (so, drugs which neutralize gastric acidity → ↑ gastrin hormone release → contraction of the LES.

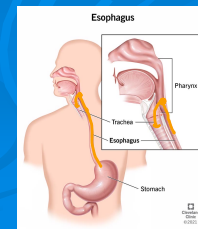
## ➤ **Its tone is decreased by : (Relaxed)**

- ❖ Inhibitory vagal effect via VIP secretion.
- ❖ Some food as fats, chocolate, alcohol & coffee.



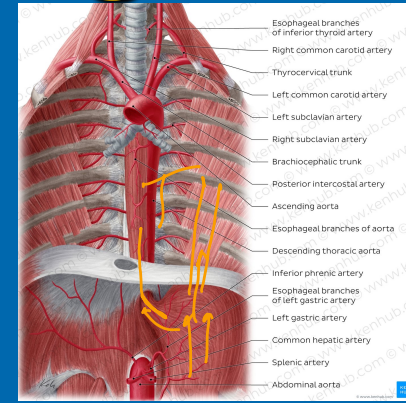
# Achalasia

- is failure of relaxation of lower esophageal sphincter during swallowing.
- **Causes** : **a.** Decrease the myenteric nerve plexus. **b.** High sensitivity to gastrin hormone. **c.** Lesions of the vagus.
- **Complications**: **a.** Mega-esophagus due to accumulation of food in the esophagus causing its dilatation. **b.** Increase incidence of esophageal ulcer & carcinoma. **c.** Recurrent pneumonia due to aspiration of esophageal contents.
- **Treatment**: Dilatation or surgical cardio-myotomy (removal of LES).



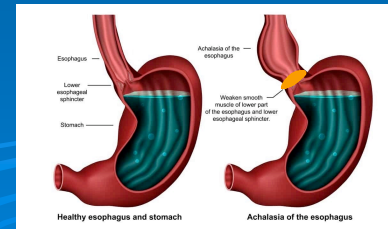
# How gastric reflux into esophagus is prevented ?

- High pressure zone sphincter.
- The intra abdominal small part of the oesoph. is squeezed by the increased intra abdominal pressure.
- The oesophagus enters the stomach in acute angle and act as a flap.
- Gastrin hormone increases the tone in the lower oesophagus.



# Gastro esophageal reflux

- It is the return of gastric contents to esophagus due to failure of anti-reflux mechanisms as weak sphincter pressure.
- **-Increases in:** pregnancy, smoking, ↑ coffee, alcohol & obesity.
- **-Leads to:**
  - ❖ Ulcer of lower esophagus.
  - ❖ **Heart burn** : It is pain across the chest to neck (similar to anginal pain) due to gastric acid reflux. This pain increased at night when the patient lies flat and increased by **hot drinks** and **alcohol**.
  - ❖ Stricture of cardiac sphincter.
  - ❖ **Barrett's esophagus** due to prolonged effect on mucosa which are premalignant.







**Thank you**