

Bronchoscopy

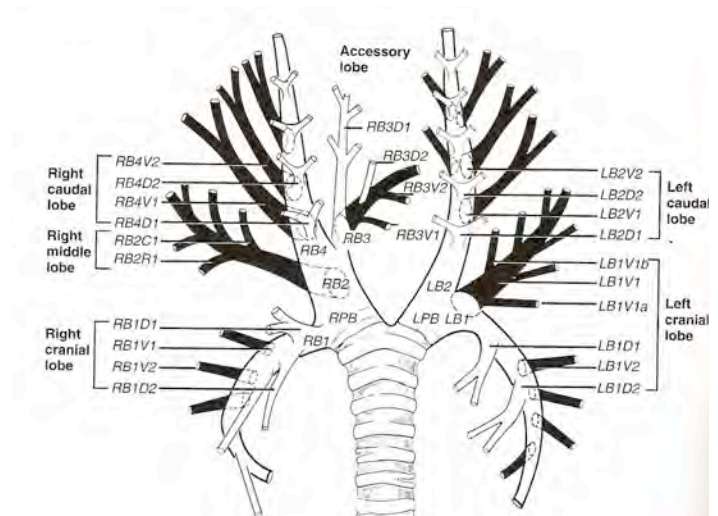
Advantages:

- Most sensitive test to evaluate large and small airways
- Functional assessment of upper airway disease and tracheal collapse
- Only method available to collect samples from lower airways/interstitium
- Directed sampling possible
- Determination of prognosis for many diseases, e.g. chronic bronchitis



Indications:

- Chronic Coughing
- Pulmonary neoplasia
- Suspected tracheal collapse or other dynamic airway disease
- Abnormal radiographic findings
- Stridor and other abnormal breathing patterns
- Foreign body



Therapeutic applications:

- Intraluminal tracheal stent
 - Most effective treatment for intrathoracic tracheal collapse that fails medical management
- Foreign body removal

Risks/complications:

- Reflex stimulation (laryngospasm, bronchospasm)
- Hypoxemia
- Prolonged recovery from anesthesia
- Barotrauma

Preparation for procedure:

- Cats – terbutaline (0.01 mg/kg SQ BID) starting 24 hours prior to procedure

