

Glossary

C.2. Upper Respiratory Airways

pharynx	Also called the throat, is a passageway for both food (from the oral cavity to the esophagus) and air (from the nasal cavity to the larynx).
larynx	Also called the voice box is the upper part of the bronchial tree and contains the vocal cords
trachea	Also called the windpipe connects the larynx to the lungs
nasal septum	Septum that separates the left and right nasal (nose) cavities
palatum	The 'roof' of the mouth cavity that separates the oral cavity from the nasal cavity. It consists of two parts; the bony hard part in the front and a soft part in the back.
uvula	Soft 'hinge' at the end of the soft palatum, that closes the trachea (airway) when food passes the pharynx to reach the esophagus.
epiglottis	A small elastic cartilage at the 'start' of the larynx that closes the larynx when food passes upon swallowing.