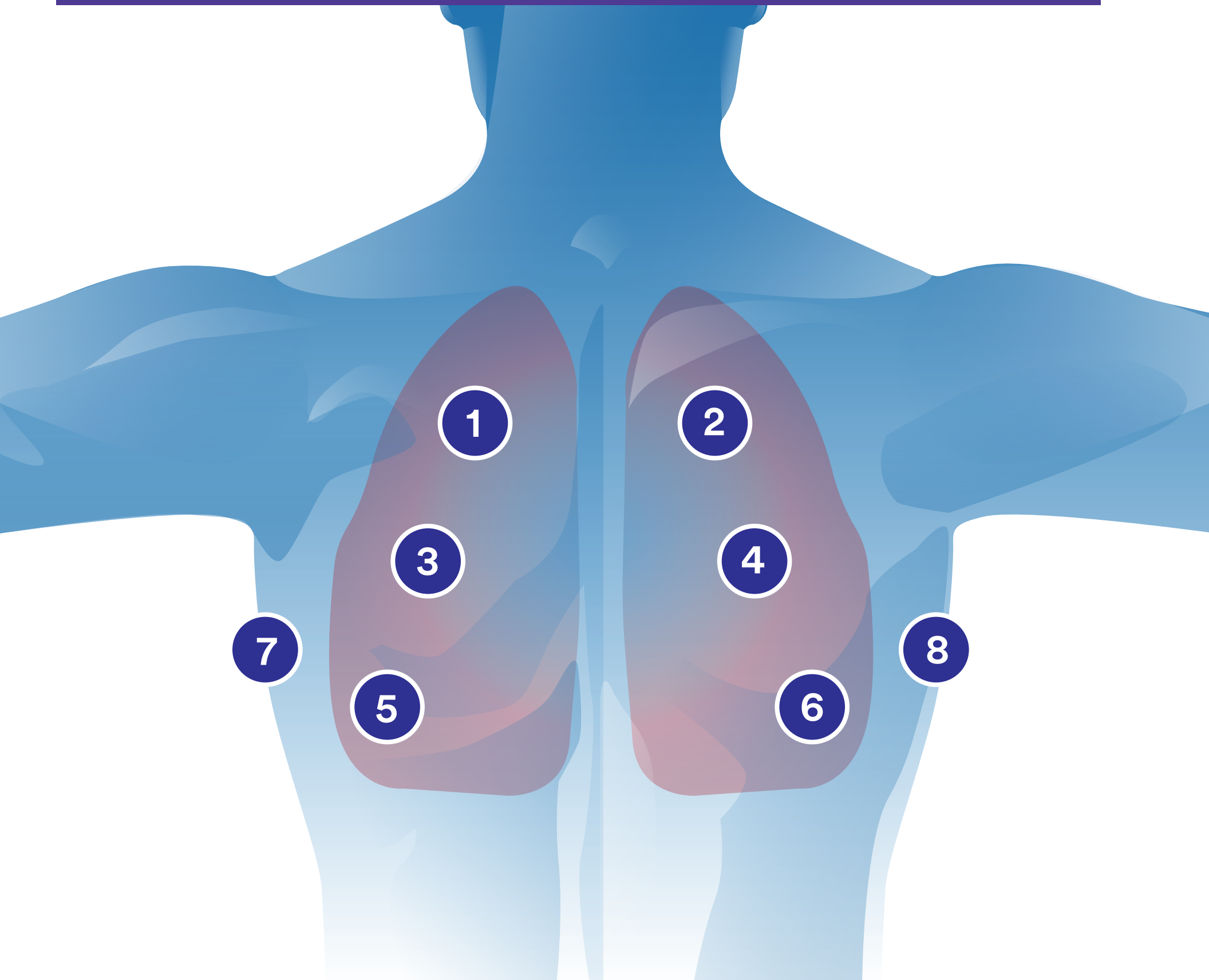


Pulmonary Auscultation



The most important aspect of lung auscultation is to be consistent in preparing and auscultating the patient. This will allow for a complete assessment that is more accurate and increases the chances that you will identify a subtle breath sound change. It is important to compare equivalent positions on each side of the chest to identify asymmetry in the quality or loudness of the breath sounds.

Knowing lung anatomy is important so that you can be sure that you auscultate at the correct positions. The most common sites are shown below.



- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Left Upper Zone | 4 Right Mid Zone | 7 Left Axilla |
| 2 Right Upper Zone | 5 Left Lower Zone | 8 Right Axilla |
| 3 Left Mid Zone | 6 Right Lower Zone | |

Learn more auscultation skills.

The 3M™ Littmann® Learning Institute App is packed with auscultation training resources that help you sharpen your ability to hear through a stethoscope. The basic version of the app is a free download from the iTunes App Store (for iOS devices) or from Google Play (for Android devices).

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