

## Clinical Manifestations of Asthma

### Cough

Hacking, paroxysmal, irritative, and nonproductive

Becomes rattling and productive of frothy, clear, gelatinous sputum

### Respiratory-Related Signs

Shortness of breath

Prolonged expiratory phase

Audible wheeze

May have a malar flush and red ears

Lips deep, dark red color

May progress to cyanosis of nail beds or circumoral cyanosis

Restlessness

Apprehension

Prominent sweating as the attack progresses

Older children sitting upright with shoulders in a hunched-over position, hands on the bed or chair, and arms braced (tripod)

Speaking with short, panting, broken phrases

### Chest

Hyperresonance on percussion

Coarse, loud breath sounds

Wheezes throughout the lung fields

Prolonged expiration