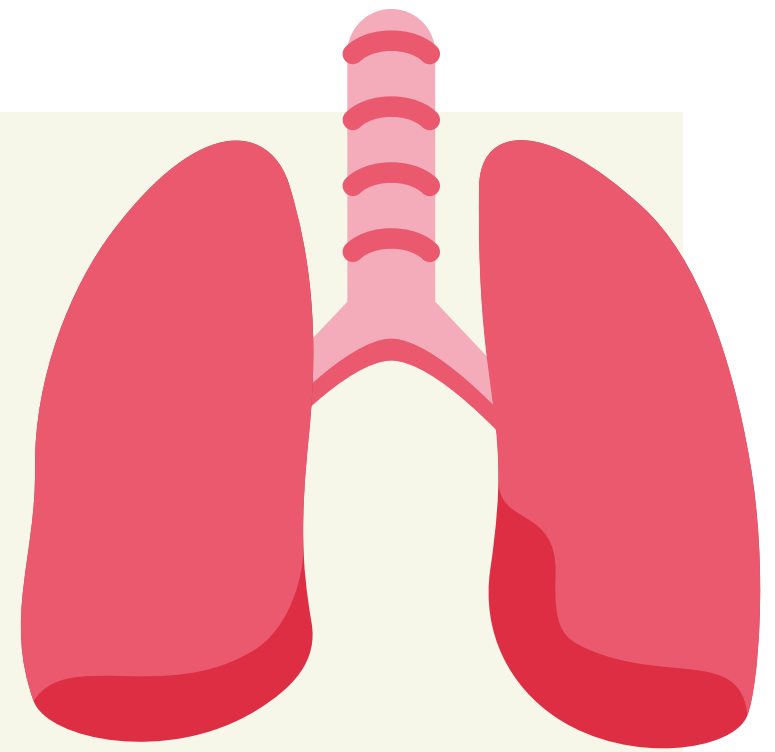


# PULMONARY HYPERTENSION

## WHAT IS PULMONARY HYPERTENSION?

Pulmonary hypertension happens when the pressure in the blood vessels that go from the heart to the lungs is too high. These blood vessels have walls that have increased muscle in them. When the pressure in the blood vessels from the heart to the lungs gets too high, blood does not flow as well as it should, and less oxygen enters the lungs.



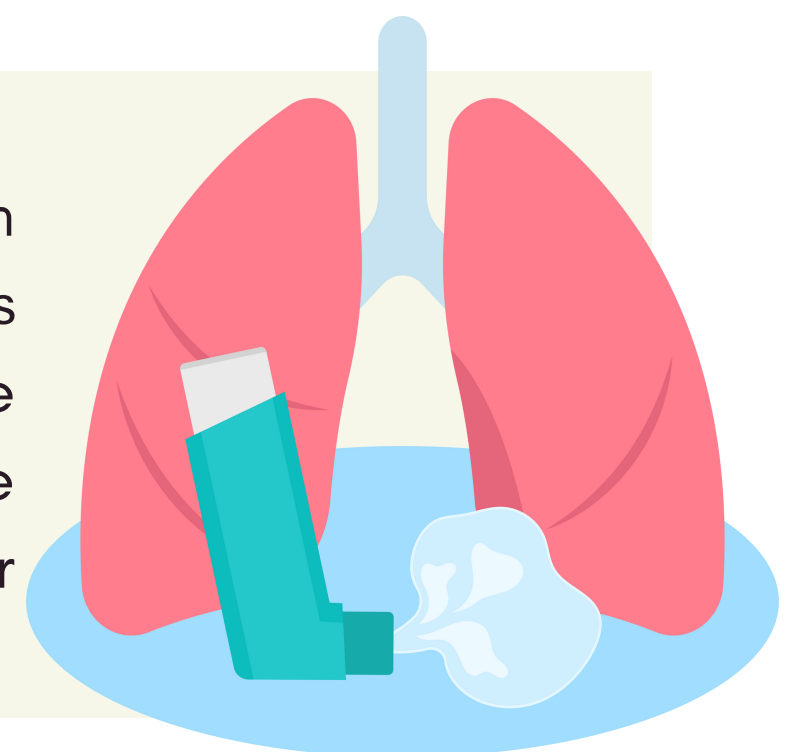
## CAUSES:

- Congenital heart disease
- Connective tissue disease
- Coronary artery disease
- High blood pressure
- Liver disease (cirrhosis)
- Blood clots in the lungs (pulmonary embolism)
- Chronic lung disease like Emphysema or COPD
- Genetics also play a role



## SYMPTOMS:

At the beginning, the symptoms of pulmonary hypertension are common in many other medical conditions. Symptoms include difficulty breathing or fatigue. This can make diagnosis both difficult and delayed. More severe symptoms include dizziness, chest pain, ankle swelling, or feeling the heart race or pound (palpitations).



## TREATMENT OPTIONS:

There is no cure for pulmonary hypertension. Some treatments include:

- Inhaled medicine
- Medicine given through an IV (in the veins)
- Medicine to reduce swelling in the feet (like diuretics)
- Oxygen therapy

