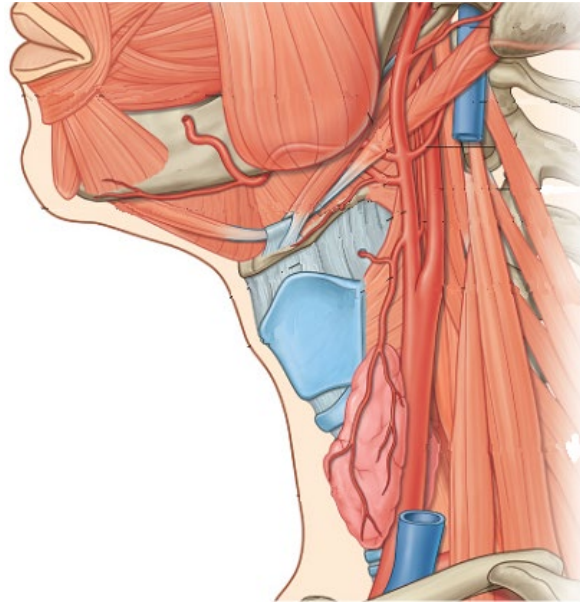


THROAT

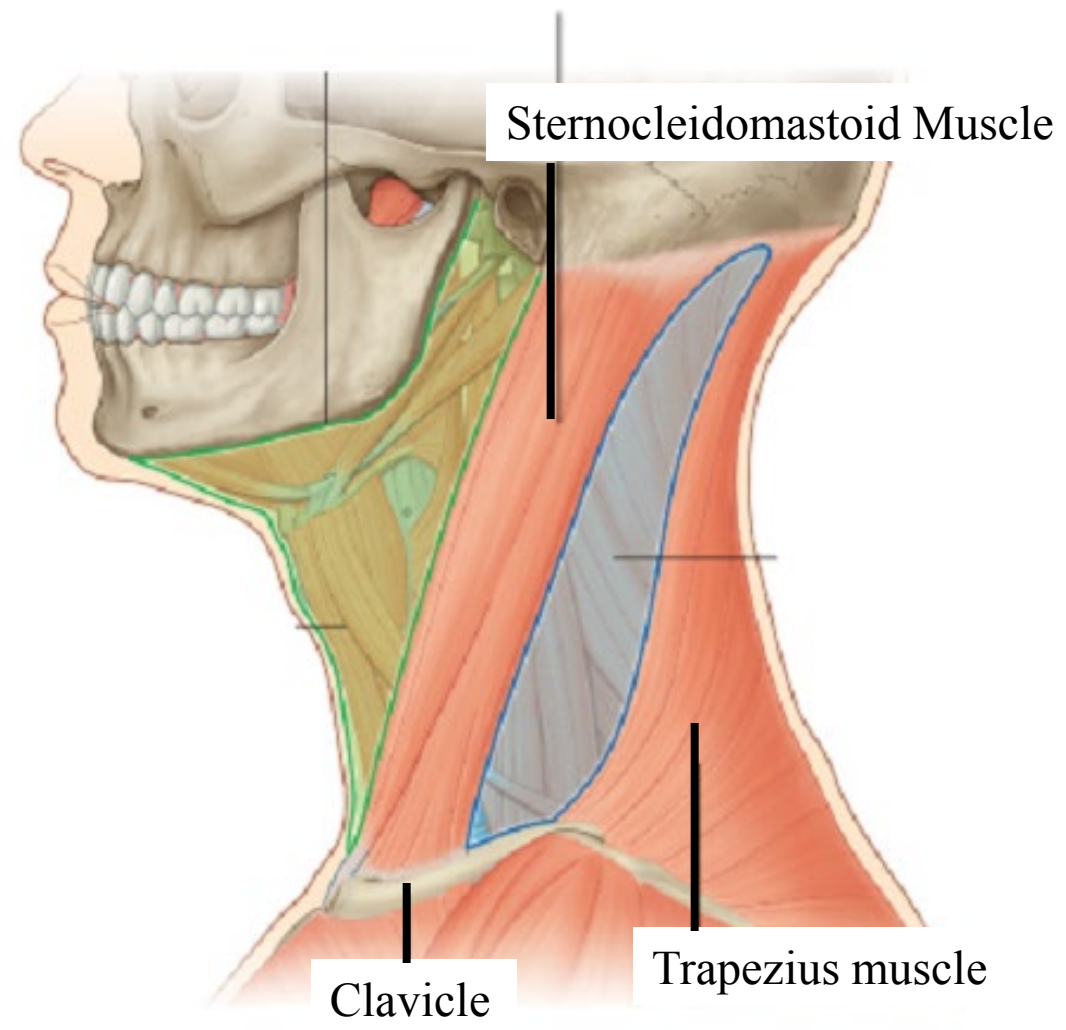


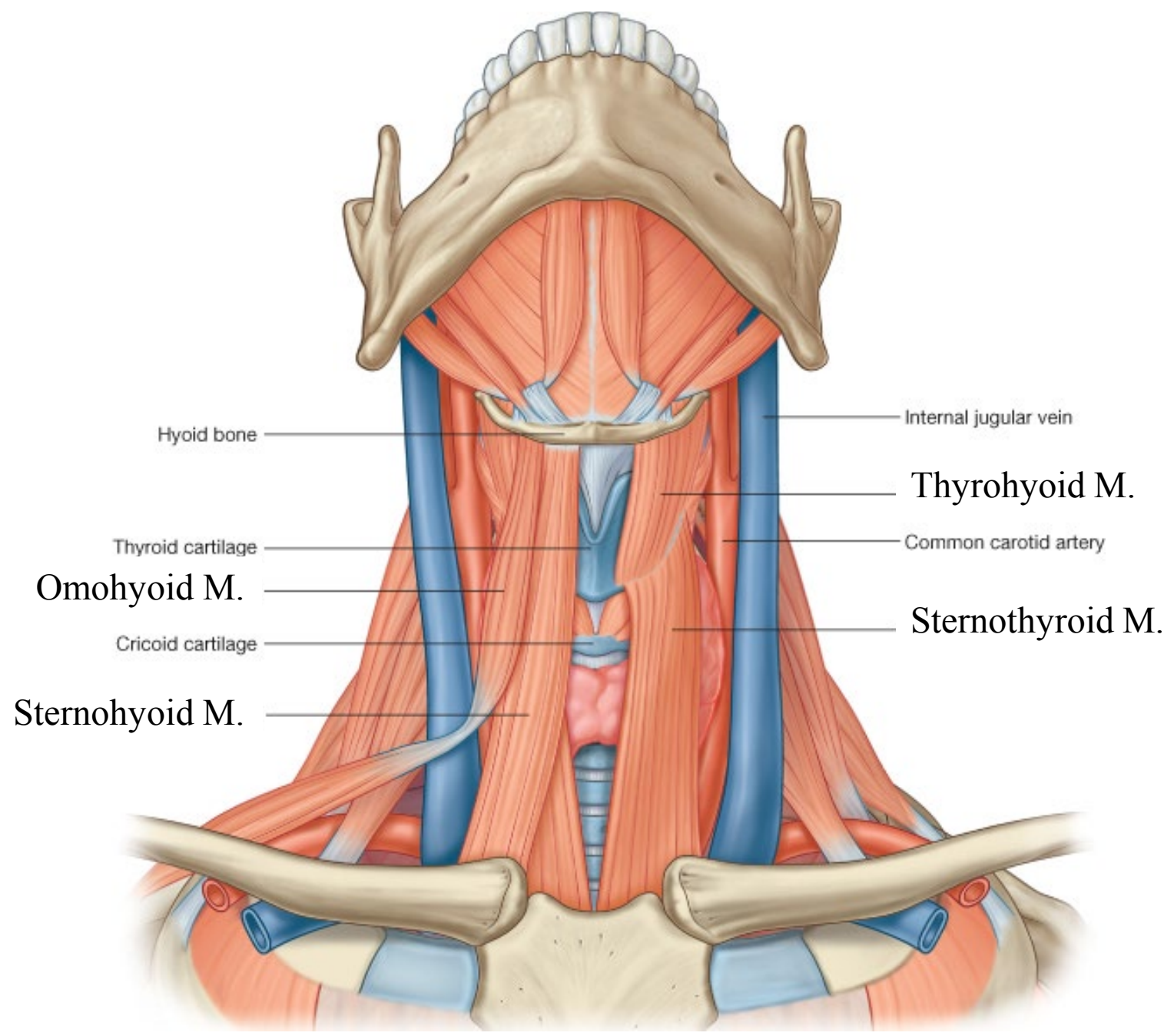
GIOVANNI MACIOCIA

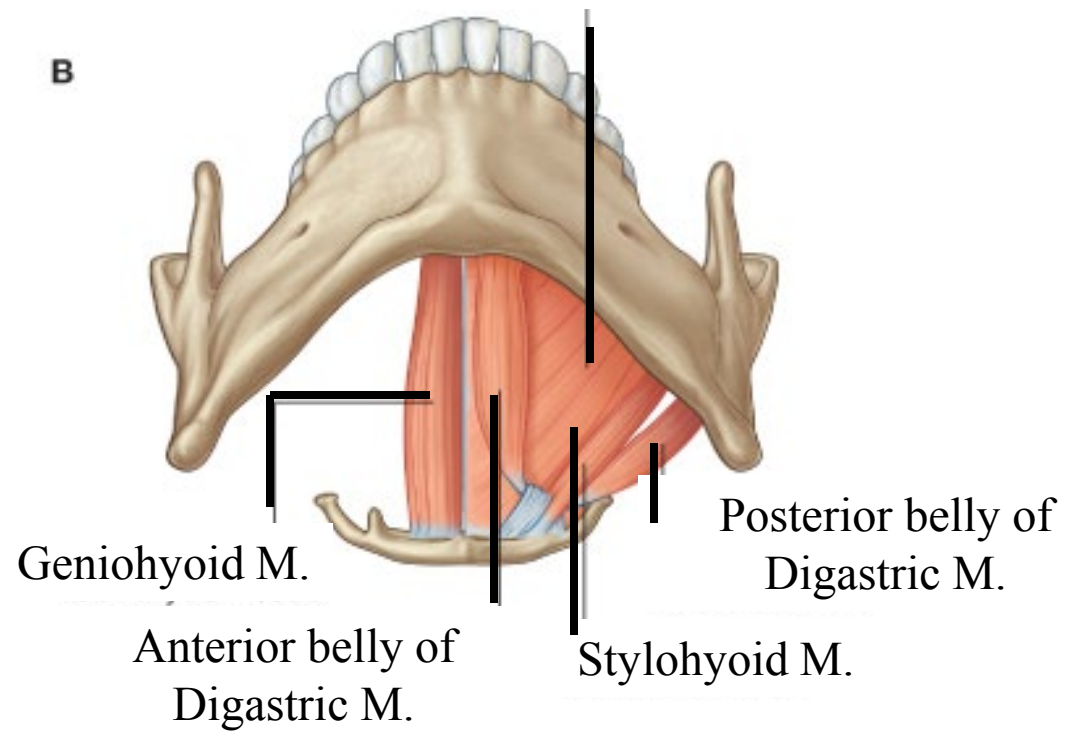
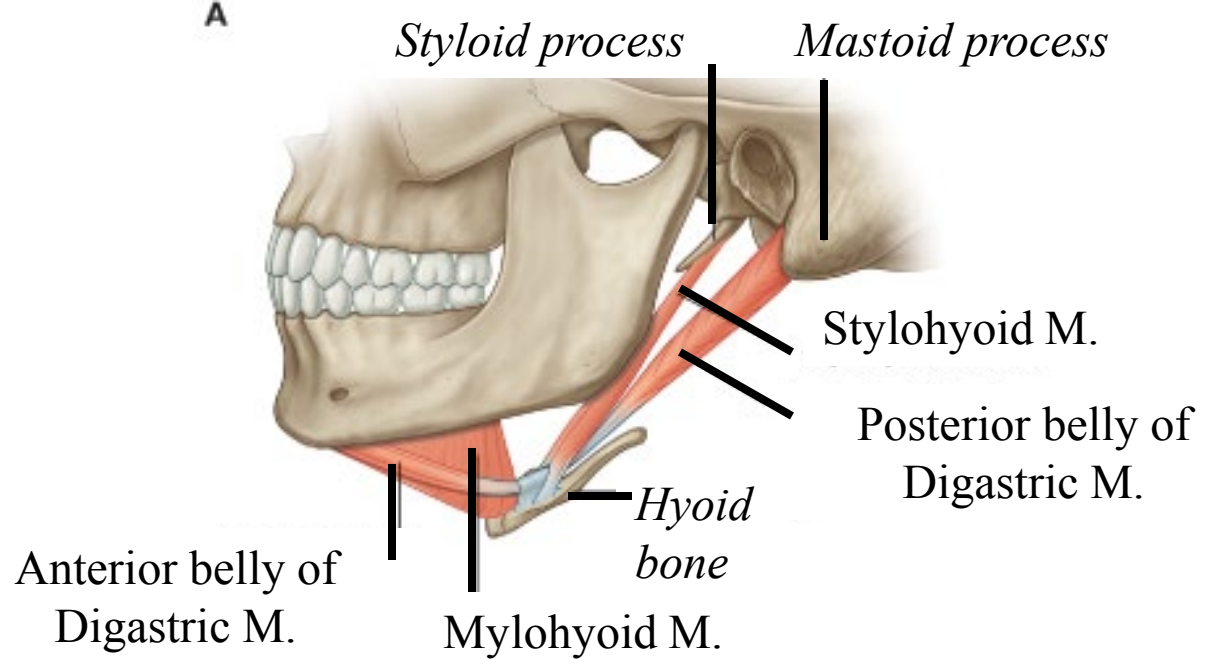
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ANATOMY







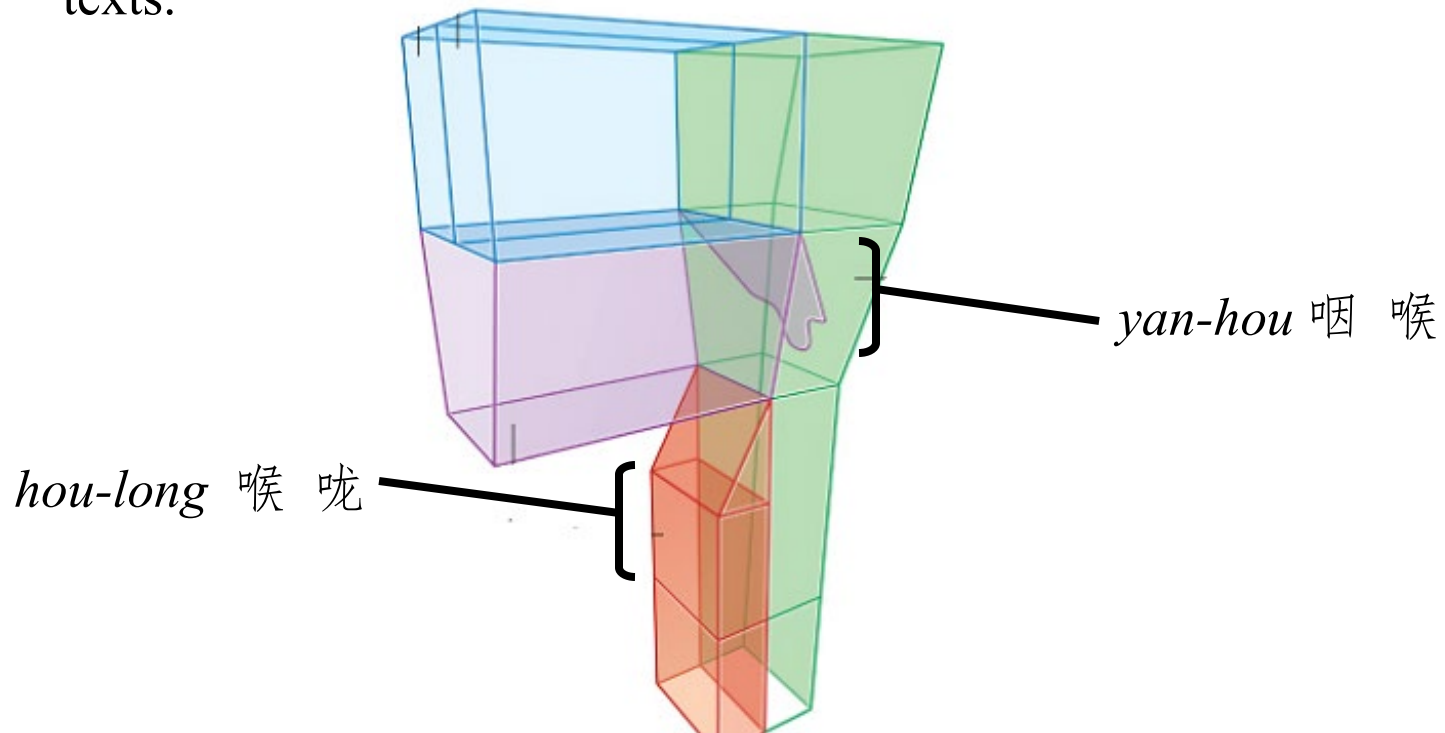
CHANNELS

The throat is an area of convergence of practically all channels with the only exception of the Bladder channel: in fact all the other eleven channels course either through the front or the side of the throat.

Of the 8 Extraordinary vessels, all go through the centre or the side of the throat with the exception of the Dai Mai. Thus, being influenced by so many channels and therefore internal organs, the throat reflects clearly conditions of Yin-Yang, Heat-Cold and Full-Empty and is an important diagnostic area. The throat is influenced particularly by the Lungs, Stomach, Large Intestine, Liver, Kidneys and Ren Mai channels.

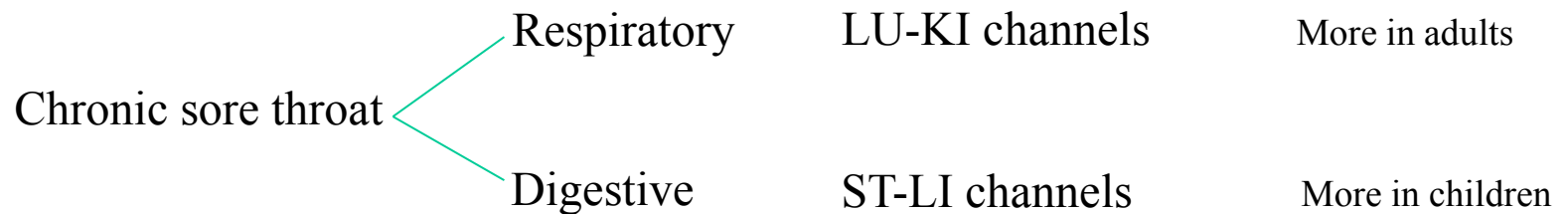
CHANNELS

Ancient Chinese doctors were aware of the differentiation between pharynx (digestive system) and larynx (respiratory system). For example, the “Ling Shu” said in chapter 69: “*The throat [yan hou] is the passage for food and drink; the throat [hou long] is also where Qi goes up and down.*” It is interesting that the Chinese text uses two different terms for the these two phrases, the pharynx being *yan-hou* 咽 喉 and the larynx *hou-long* 喉 咙, both translated as “throat” in modern texts.



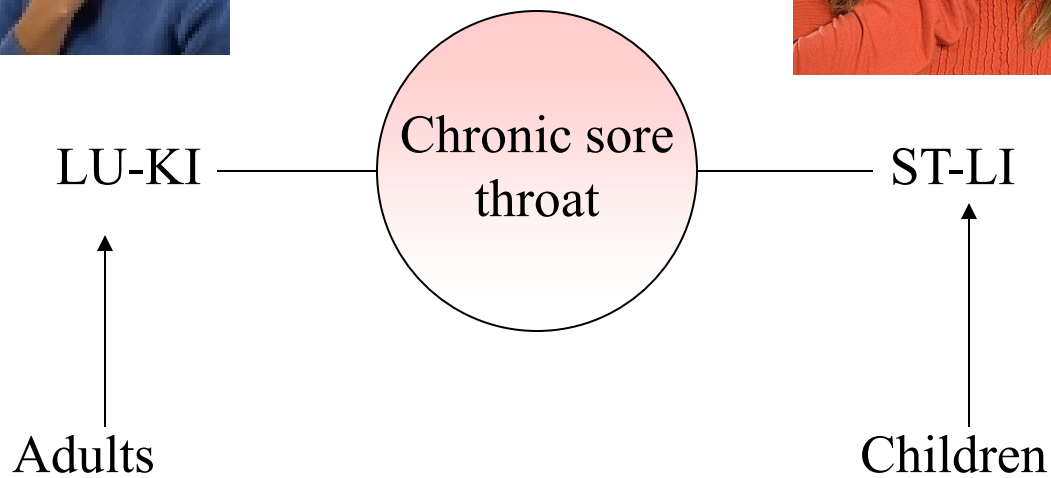
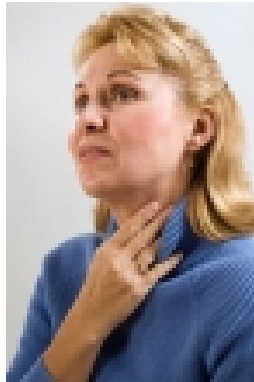
Bearing in mind the dual function of the throat in respect of respiratory and digestive systems, generally speaking, one can differentiate two broad types of throat problems, one related to the respiratory system and in Chinese medicine to the Lungs and Kidney channels, the other related to the digestive system and in Chinese medicine to the Stomach and Large Intestine channels. Chronic sore throats in adults are more commonly related to the Lung and Kidney channels, while in children more to the Stomach and Large Intestine channels.

With regard to Heat and Cold, the throat is much more prone to Heat (whether Full or Empty) than to Cold.



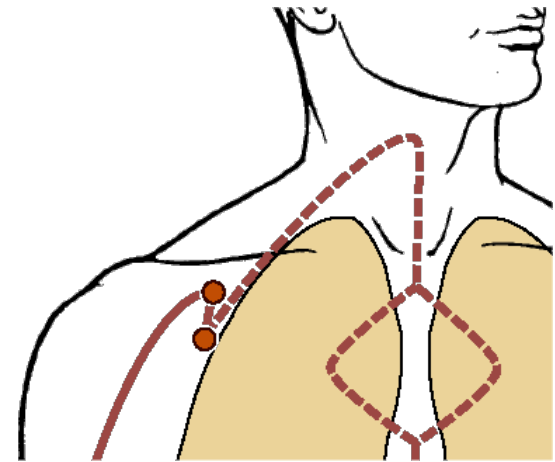
Two broad types of throat problems

- respiratory system, larynx = LU and KI channels
- digestive system, pharynx = ST and LI channels

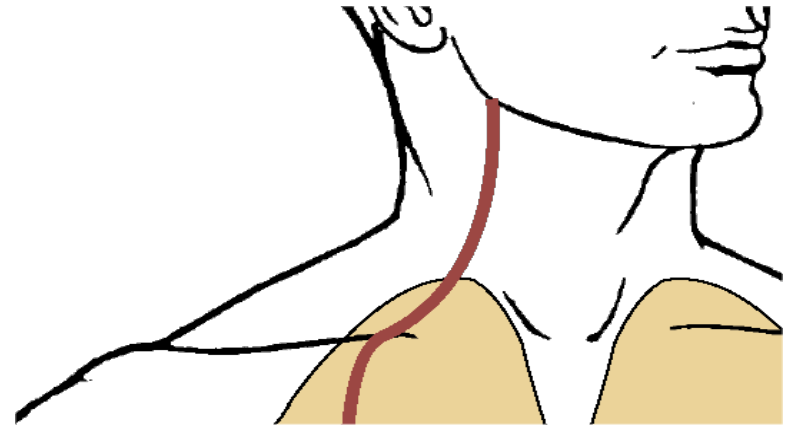


LUNGS

The Lung channel starts in the epigastric area and ascends to the chest and throat on its way to LU-1 Zhongfu.

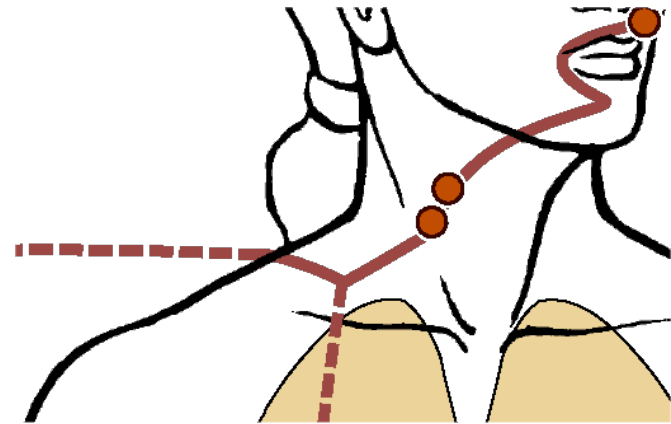


The Lung Divergent channel goes through the throat.

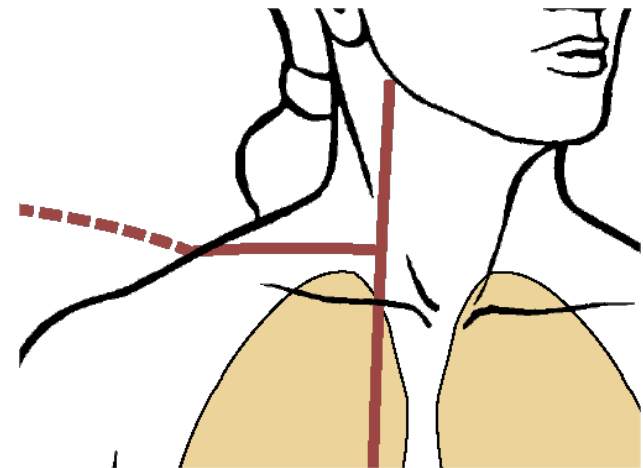


LARGE INTESTINE

The Large Intestine channel goes over the side of the throat on its way up to the nose.



The Large Intestine Divergent channel goes through the throat.



STOMACH

The Stomach channel goes over the side of the throat on its way down from the face.

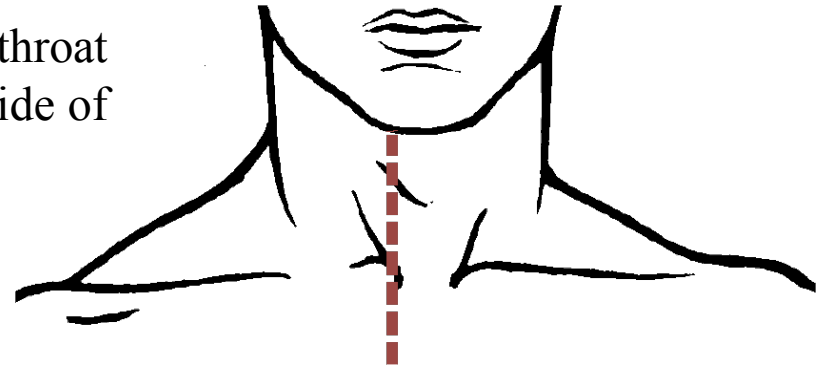


The Stomach Luo channel terminates at the throat (and around the neck).



SPLEEN

The Spleen channel goes through the throat on its way from the chest to the underside of the tongue.



The Spleen Divergent channel goes through the throat and ends in the tongue.

