

# Cambridge English for Nursing

## GLOSSARY

# UNIT 2

## Respiratory problems

| Medical term                  |                                                                                     | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Translation |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| AE                            |    | Air Entry; entry of air into the lungs which is heard by auscultation (listening using a stethoscope)                                                                                                                                       |             |
| alveolus (pl. alveoli)        |    | the final branchings of the respiratory tree and perform gas exchange for the lung                                                                                                                                                          |             |
| apnoea                        |    | cessation of breathing, often temporary e.g. sleep apnoea                                                                                                                                                                                   |             |
| asthma                        |    | a condition marked by episodes of wheezing and dyspnoea                                                                                                                                                                                     |             |
| basely                        |    | at the base of the lungs                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |
| bilateral<br>(abbrev. bilat.) |    | both sides                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |             |
| bradypnoea                    |    | abnormally slow breathing                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |             |
| bronchus<br>(pl. bronchi)     |  | one of two large air passages which branch from the trachea and take air to and from the lungs                                                                                                                                              |             |
| chamber                       |  | the receptacle where liquid asthma medication is placed, also called <i>nebuliser bowl</i>                                                                                                                                                  |             |
| dyspnoea                      |  | difficulty breathing, also called <i>shortness of breath</i>                                                                                                                                                                                |             |
| epiglottis                    |  | a flap of tissue at the base of the tongue that keeps food from going into the trachea when food or fluids are swallowed                                                                                                                    |             |
| eupnoea                       |  | easy, free respiration under normal resting conditions                                                                                                                                                                                      |             |
| exhale                        |  | to breathe out                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |
| FBC                           |  | 1 Full Blood Count, also called <i>Complete Blood Count (CBC)</i> tests the cells in a patient's blood for abnormalities<br>2 Fluid Balance Chart is a chart which documents the fluid intake and the output of a patient on a daily basis. |             |
| inhale                        |  | to breathe in                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |             |
| intercostal space             |  | the space between the ribs which is filled in by the intercostal muscles                                                                                                                                                                    |             |
| larynx                        |  | the voice box that produces sound                                                                                                                                                                                                           |             |
| mask                          |  | a device worn over the nose and mouth which allows the patient to breathe oxygen from a storage tank into the lungs, also called an <i>oxygen mask</i> .                                                                                    |             |
| nasal                         |  | relating to the nose                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |             |
| nebuliser                     |  | a device that converts liquid medication into a fine mist, which is then breathed in through a mask or mouthpiece                                                                                                                           |             |
| oral                          |  | relating to the mouth                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |
| oxygen outlet                 |  | an oxygen source to connect tubing to                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |

| Medical term     |                                                                                    | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Translation |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| paediatrics      |   | the branch of medicine dealing with children                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |
| PCA              |   | Patient Controlled Analgesia; a specialised pump containing pain control medication is connected to an IV infusion. The pump has a hand button attached to it which patients press to administer pain control medication whenever needed and a lock-out function prevents overdose |             |
| peak flow        |   | a measurement of the total lung capacity after forced breathing in followed by forced breathing out, also called <i>peak expiratory flow</i>                                                                                                                                       |             |
| peak flow meter  |   | a home-use device for people with asthma which measures peak flow rates                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             |
| pharynx          |   | the throat                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |             |
| pleural membrane |   | a shiny, thin, transparent membrane which covers each lung preventing the lung from making direct contact with the chest wall and the diaphragm, also called <i>pleura</i>                                                                                                         |             |
| respirations     |   | breaths                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             |
| respiratory      |   | relating to respiration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             |
| tachypnoea       |   | abnormally fast breathing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |             |
| trachea          |   | the tube which carries air from the nasal and oral cavities to and from the lungs, also called the <i>wind pipe</i>                                                                                                                                                                |             |
| URTI             |   | Upper Respiratory Tract Infection, also called <i>a cold</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |
| wheezing         |  | a continuous, coarse whistling sound heard in the respiratory airways if the patient has difficulty breathing                                                                                                                                                                      |             |