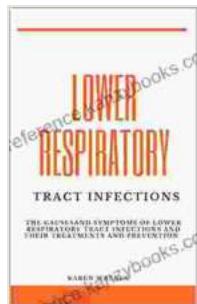


The Causes and Symptoms of Lower Respiratory Tract Infections and Their Treatment

Lower respiratory tract infections (LRTIs) are a major cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide. They can be caused by a variety of microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi. The most common LRTIs are pneumonia, bronchitis, and bronchiolitis.



LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS: The causes and symptoms of lower respiratory tract infections and their treatments and prevention

by Alice Gregory

 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 644 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 109 pages

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Symptoms of LRTIs

The symptoms of LRTIs can vary depending on the underlying cause. However, some common symptoms include:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath

- Fever
- Chest pain
- Wheezing
- Fatigue
- Loss of appetite

Causes of LRTIs

LRTIs can be caused by a variety of microorganisms, including:

- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Fungi

The most common bacteria that cause LRTIs are *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, and *Moraxella catarrhalis*. The most common viruses that cause LRTIs are respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza virus, and adenovirus. The most common fungi that cause LRTIs are *Aspergillus* and *Candida*.

Risk factors for LRTIs

There are a number of risk factors for LRTIs, including:

- Age
- Smoking
- Chronic respiratory conditions

- Immunodeficiency
- Exposure to secondhand smoke
- Hospitalization

Treatment for LRTIs

The treatment for LRTIs depends on the underlying cause. Antibiotics are used to treat bacterial LRTIs, antiviral medications are used to treat viral LRTIs, and antifungal medications are used to treat fungal LRTIs.

In addition to medication, supportive care may also be needed to treat LRTIs. This may include:

- Rest
- Fluids
- Pain relievers
- Oxygen therapy

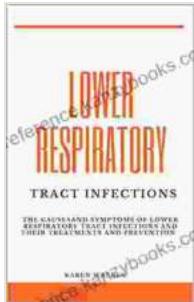
Prevention of LRTIs

There are a number of things that can be done to prevent LRTIs, including:

- Getting vaccinated against influenza and pneumococcal disease
- Practicing good hand hygiene
- Avoiding exposure to secondhand smoke
- Maintaining a healthy weight
- Eating a healthy diet

- Getting regular exercise

LRTIs are a serious health problem, but they can be prevented and treated. By understanding the causes and symptoms of LRTIs, and by taking steps to prevent them, you can help to protect yourself and your loved ones from these infections.



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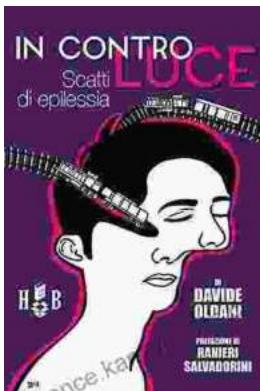
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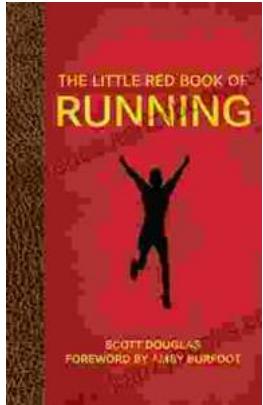
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