**Tracheal obstruction:**

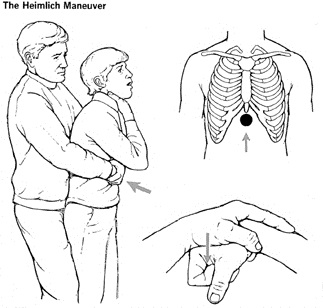
A tracheal obstruction is a blockage in the airway. It may partially or totally prevent air from getting into the lungs. Some airway obstructions are life-threatening emergencies.

**Causes include**

1. Inhaled foreign object.
2. Diphtheria (a thick, gray coating on the throat and tonsils.)
3. Anaphylaxis (the immune system overreacts in a way that causes a full-body allergic reaction).
4. Infections.
5. Trauma.

**Clinical signs include**

1. Stridor.
2. Ineffective breathing, until the person is no longer breathing (apneic).
3. Loss of consciousness occurs because of brain hypoxia.

**Treatment**

Treatment of airway obstruction due to a foreign body, a series of five abdominal thrusts for children over 1 year of age, and a combination of five back blows with the flat of the hand and five abdominal thrusts with two fingers on the upper abdomen for infants.