

Croup Syndromes

| | Acute Epiglottitis (Supraglottitis) | Acute Laryngotracheobronchitis (LTB) | Acute Spasmodic Laryngitis (Spasmodic Croup) | Acute Tracheitis |
|-----------------|--|---|--|---|
| Age | 2-8 yo | 6 months- 3 y0 | 1-3 yo | 1 month – 6 y0 |
| Etiologic Agent | H. Influenza type B | Viral (parainfluenza) | Viral, allergies | Bacterial (staph aureus) |
| Onset | -Sudden, rapid, hours | -Gradual, can develop over days | -Sudden, at night, episodic | -Abrupt w/ high fever |
| Major Symptoms | -High fever, sore throat, tripod position, drooling, muffled voice, severe stridor | -Barky “seal-like” cough, inspiratory stridor, low-grade fever, retractions | -Nighttime episodes of barky cough and stridor, no fever, resolves quickly | -High fever, toxic appearance, thick/purulent secretions, stridor unresponsive to typical croup therapies |
| Treatment | -Emergency! Airway management, humidified O ₂ , IV antibiotics | -Humidified air, corticosteroids (dexamethasone), nebulized epinephrine if severe | -Cool mist, reassurance, possible steroids, resolves on its own | -Airway management, IV antibiotics, frequent suctioning, may need intubation |