

Lung, t.s.

In order to bring fresh air and the blood stream into close contact and thus ensure the exchange of gases, the respiratory tracts – the drawing shows a **bronchiole** (1) – branch more and more finally ending in groups of **alveoli** (3). Their wall is surrounded by a network of **capillaries** (4). Here the exchange of carbondioxyde and oxygen takes place. As great quantities of blood have to be pumped through the lungs, bigger **blood vessels** (2) are found alongside the respiratory tracts.