Appendix - i

Description of some important medical terms used in the thesis.

Acidaemia - A relative excess of hydrogen ions in blood.
Airway obstruction - Narrowing or occlusion of airway.
Alkalaemia - A relative deficiency of hydrogen ions in blood.
Angina pectoris - Severe but temporary attack of cardiac pain which may radiate to arm.
Anoxia - Absence of oxygen.
Apnoea - Cessation of breathing.
Asphyxia - Hypoxia or hypercapnia due to severe diminution in ventilation.
Atelectasis - No air in alveoli; lung solid.
Atheroma - Deposition of hard yellow plaques of lipid material in the intimal layer of arteries.
Atrial septal defect (ASD) - Non closure of foramen ovale at birth resulting in congenital heart disease.
Bradyptnoea - Decreased frequency of breathing.
Bronchoconstriction - Airways obstruction due to an increase in tone of bronchial smooth muscle.
Cheyne stokes respiration - Cyclical waxing and waning of respiration.
Compression - Contraction.
Congenital - Existing from birth or before.
Cyanosis - Condition in which skin is of blue-purple colour.
Dyspnnoea - A consciousness of difficulty in breathing.
Emphysema - Gaseous distension of tissue.
Hypercapnia - A relative high tension of carbon dioxide of blood.
Hyperinflation - Condition associated with an increase in functional residual capacity.
Hyperpnoea - An increase in ventilation relative to the metabolic rate.
Hypocapnia - A relative low tension of carbon dioxide.
Hypoventilation - A reduction in ventilation sufficient to cause hypercapnia.

Hypoxaemia - A relative deficiency of oxygen in blood.

Hypoxia - A relative low tension of oxygen at a specified site.

Incompetence - Inadequacy to perform a natural function.

Ischaemia - Deficient blood supply.

Lactacidemia - Acidaemia due to raised concentration of lactic acid.

Orthopnoea - Dyspnoea ameliorated by an upright posture.

Paroxysmal - Coming on in attacks or paroxysms.

Patent ductus arteriosus (PAD) - Failure of ductus arteriosus to close soon after birth, so that the abnormal shunt between pulmonary artery and the aorta is preserved.

Rheumatic - pertaining to rheumatism.

Regurgitation - Backward flow.

Stenosis - A narrowing.

Tachypnoea - Increased frequency of breathing.

Thrombosis - The intravascular formation of blood clot.