

composed invades the region of the eustachian tube and the fossæ Rosemüller, it is called the tubal tonsil, although really only an extension of the pharyngeal. The mucous membrane is usually thin and formed of columnar epithelium, superimposed in part by a layer of cilia. This gland in its developed stage is richly supplied with blood. When normal the size is never large enough to interfere with respiration. Development is accomplished by the eighth or tenth year. Atrophy then commences and is complete by the expiry of adolescence.

The pharyngeal tonsil differs from the faucial and lingual in being located in a region that is comparatively free from germ life, the inspired air being filtered of bacteria during its passage through the nasal cavities. The secretions of the numerous glands, of which this tonsil is partially composed, likewise act as a covering to protect against attack from morbid agencies; while the invaginations of mucous membrane, being shallower than those located in the faucial tonsil, are less likely to favor retention and decomposition of any foreign matter that perchance may find a lodgment in the naso-pharynx. These facts refer to the normal pharyngeal tonsil, which pursues its development between the first and the eighth years, and disappears by atrophy during the period of early maturity.

The Fauical tonsils, while coinciding with the pharyngeal in regard to period of development and atrophy, differ from it in several important points. The crypts are wider, deeper, and more numerous. Owing, also, to the oft-repeated action of the pillars of the fauces they favor both secretion and absorption. The loose reticulum in the deep invaginations readily admits the passage of bacteria into the lymph channels. At the same time there is constant exposure to the passage of bacilli of various forms in the act of deglutition, which does not occur in the case of the pharyngeal tonsil.

The Lingual tonsil, composed of a series of rounded elevations or follicles of adenoid tissue, situated on the base of the tongue, rarely develops to any observable degree during child life, being practically absent up to the adolescent period. In it the lacunæ are short and wide-mouthed, and the construction racemose. The mucosa within the crypts being composed of dense, stratified epithelium, there is less likelihood of absorption through its meshes, than is the case in the faucial tonsil. Retention of lacunar contents in it is practically impossible, as the fluids that are so frequently swallowed wash not only the surface but the crypts likewise.