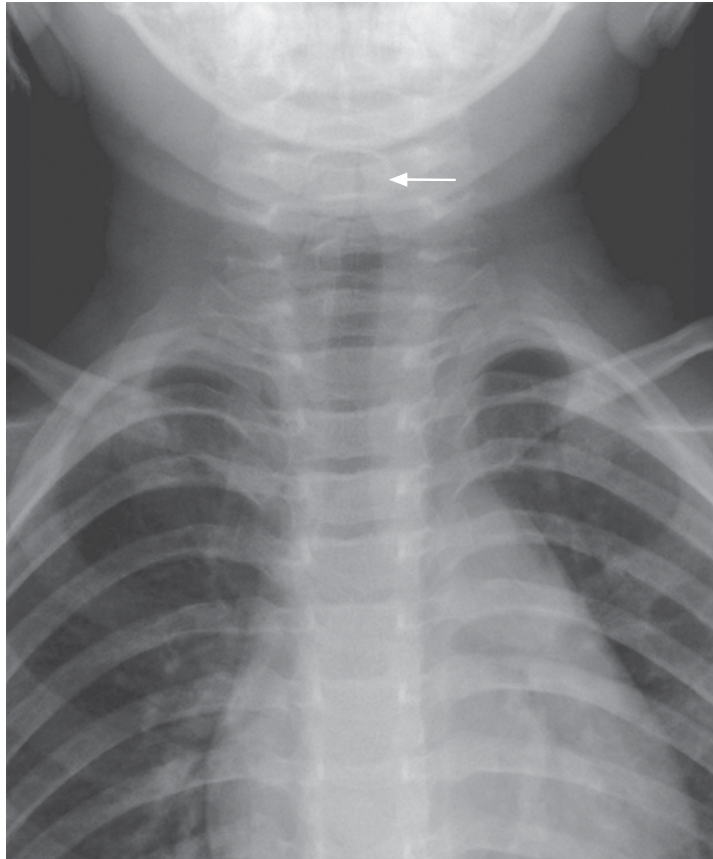


## IMAGES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

## Steeple Sign of Croup



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**A** 1-YEAR-OLD BOY PRESENTED WITH A 3-DAY HISTORY OF INTERMITTENT fever, barking cough, and hoarseness. The physical examination revealed neck lymphadenopathy and audible stridor, but the patient was not in respiratory distress and was not drooling. An oropharyngeal examination did not detect any major abnormality. Chest radiography showed a so-called steeple sign, which results from subglottic narrowing of the trachea (arrow) and is suggestive of the diagnosis of laryngotracheobronchitis, or croup. The patient received 5 mg of oral dexamethasone, but the symptoms progressed to respiratory distress. He was admitted to the hospital, and the symptoms ultimately subsided with the administration of oxygen and inhaled epinephrine. He was discharged after 4 days and was doing well at a follow-up visit 5 days after discharge.

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