

Obstructive Properties of Tar

Purpose -- To demonstrate how an accumulation of tar can inhibit the absorption of oxygen.

Equipment

2 coffee filters

Water

Funnel

Beaker or jar

Black strap molasses or other tar-like substance

Procedure

Place the funnel in the jar. Line the funnel with filter paper, and pour in the water. Note how quickly it flows through. Remove the wet paper. Coat another piece of filter paper with molasses or other tar-like substance and place it in the funnel. Pour water into the filter, noting how slowly the water flows through the coated paper.

Key Points

The filter paper represents lung tissue.

The water represents oxygen.

The molasses represents **tobacco** tar.

The lungs coated with tar do not exchange oxygen as well as healthy lungs without tar.



