

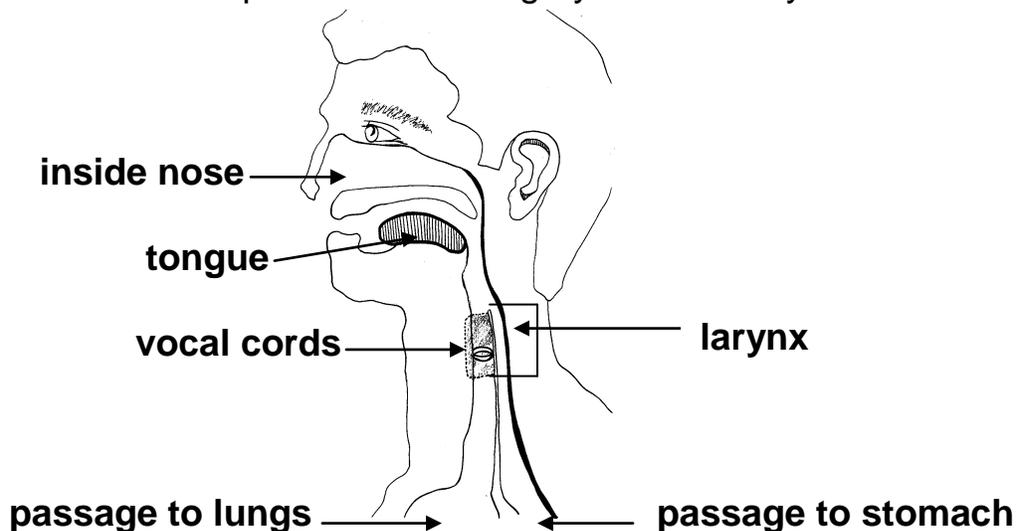
## Hemilaryngectomy Surgery

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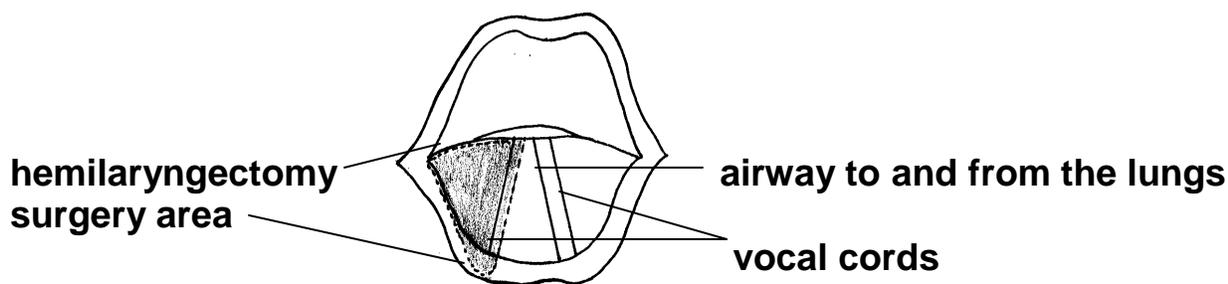
### What is hemilaryngectomy surgery?

Hemilaryngectomy surgery means one vocal cord is removed. Sometimes, part of the other vocal cord is removed as well.

Here is a picture of the surgery area when you look at a side view.



Here is a picture of your vocal cords if you were looking down your throat.



### What happens to my voice after surgery?

Your voice will change after surgery. Your voice will be hoarse, breathy and weak. A Speech-Language Pathologist may be able to help you learn ways to improve the sound of your voice.

## **Will I be able to eat?**

You will be able to eat.

A Dietitian will help you learn:

- what food to eat and
- how to prepare your food

You may have some problems swallowing, but you can learn new ways to swallow.

If you have trouble swallowing please ask your doctor to refer you to a Speech-Language Pathologist.