Overview of Endoscopy

Direct examination of the airways; sampling via aspiration or biopsy

Small animal bronchoscopy requires general anesthesia and allows direct visualization of airway lesions, foreign bodies, mucosal edema, and mucous plugs:

* allows direct assessment of dynamic airway changes (ex. collapse)
* allows sample collection by BAl or biopsy, and foreign body or mucous plug removal
* direct culture of secretions or catheter brush samples

Large animal bronchoscopy is usually performed standing with sedation, and allows direct visualization of the nasal passages, larynx and trachea

Rhinoscopy is done with general anesthesia using an arthroscope in small animals. Nasal passages and sinuses can be examined and biopsied