

Determinants of Intra-Alveolar Pressure

- **Factors determining intra-alveolar pressure**
 - **Quantity of air in alveoli**
 - **Volume of alveoli**
- **Lungs expand – alveolar volume increases**
 - **P_{alv} decreases**
 - **Pressure gradient drives air into lungs**
- **Lungs recoil – alveolar volume decreases**
 - **P_{alv} increases**
 - **Pressure gradient drives air out of lungs**