Pediatric Infectious Disease: Croup in Terms of Endearment (1983)

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American poster.
Action: Houston (Texas), Des Moines (Iowa), Nebraska, and New York (The story goes on for 30 years).

Technical Details

Original title: Terms of Endearment.
Country: USA.
Year: 1983.
Director: James L. Brooks.
Music: Michael Gore.
Photography: P. Andrzej Bartkowiak.
Film editor: Richard Marks.
Screenwriter: James L. Brooks, who adapted the homonymous novel by Larry McMurtry.
Cast: Shirley MacLaine, Debra Winger, Jack Nicholson, Danny DeVito, Jeff Daniels, John Lithgow, Lisa Hart Carroll, Betty King, Huckleberry Fox, Troy Bishop, Shane Serwin, Megan Morris, Tara Yeakey, Norman Bennett, Jennifer Josey,...
Color: Color.
Runtime: 132 minutes.
Genre: Comedy, Drama.
Language: English.
Production Companies: Paramount Pictures.
Synopsis: “An account of the complex and difficult relationship between a mother (Shirley MacLaine) and a daughter (Debra Winger) as they face life’s challenges over three decades” (FilmAffinity).
Awards: Oscar for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actress (Shirley MacLaine), Best Supporting Actor (Jack Nicholson) and Best Screenplay Based on Material from Another Medium (1984).
Explanatory comment: Debra has two children and a daughter. The girl suffers a croup.
https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0086425
Trailer
Often it starts at night. ("Dad. Come on, wake up, Dad, Melanie's sick").

Croup is common in children.
In the croup there is fever (in the film it is not said that the girl has it, only the temperature is taken).

“I'm sure it's the croup. Remember, Tommy had it twice?”. 
“God, that’s the worst sound in the world” (barking cough).

Mild forms of croup can be treated at home. Steam generated by hot water from the shower help minimize symptoms.
“How long do you keep her in here?”

“Well, I don’t know. Until her throat clears or I lose 20 pounds, whichever comes first,..., about 20 minutes, I guess.”
Croup is a acute viral respiratory infection of short duration (The next day: “Don’t kiss the baby, she may still be sick”).