

# Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease

**Amita Vasoya, DO FACOI FCCP FAASM**  
**Christiana Care Pulmonary Associates**  
**Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine**  
**Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University**  
**Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine**  
**ACO I Board Review 2018**

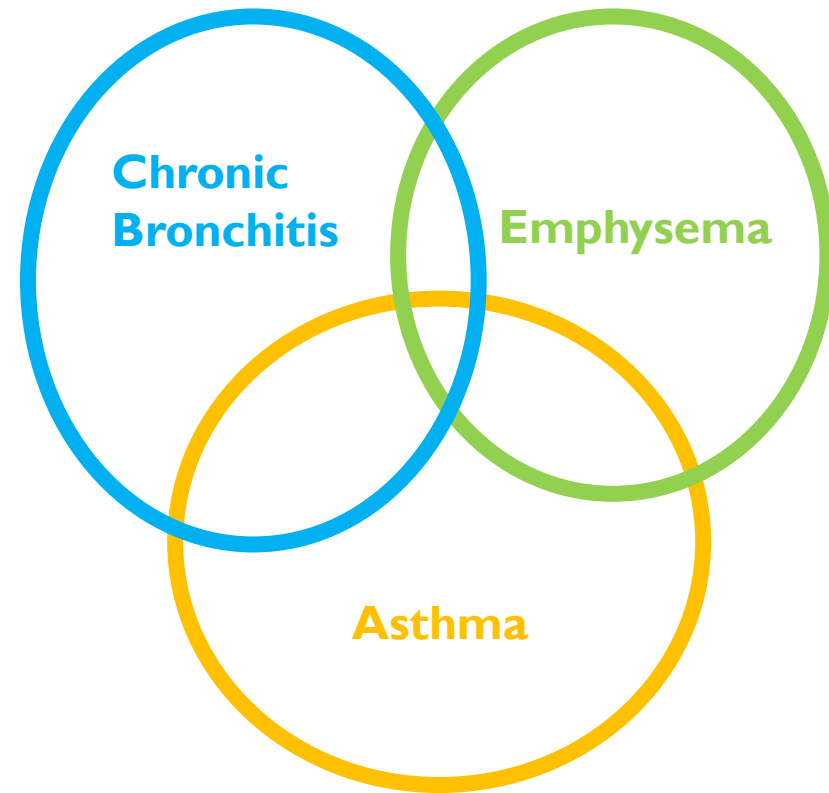


# Disclosures

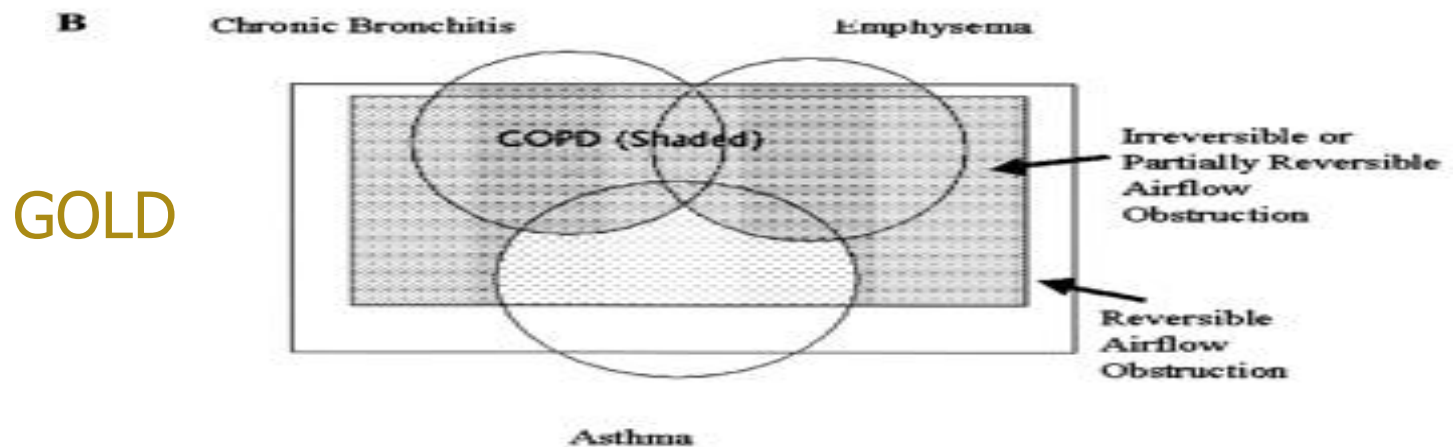
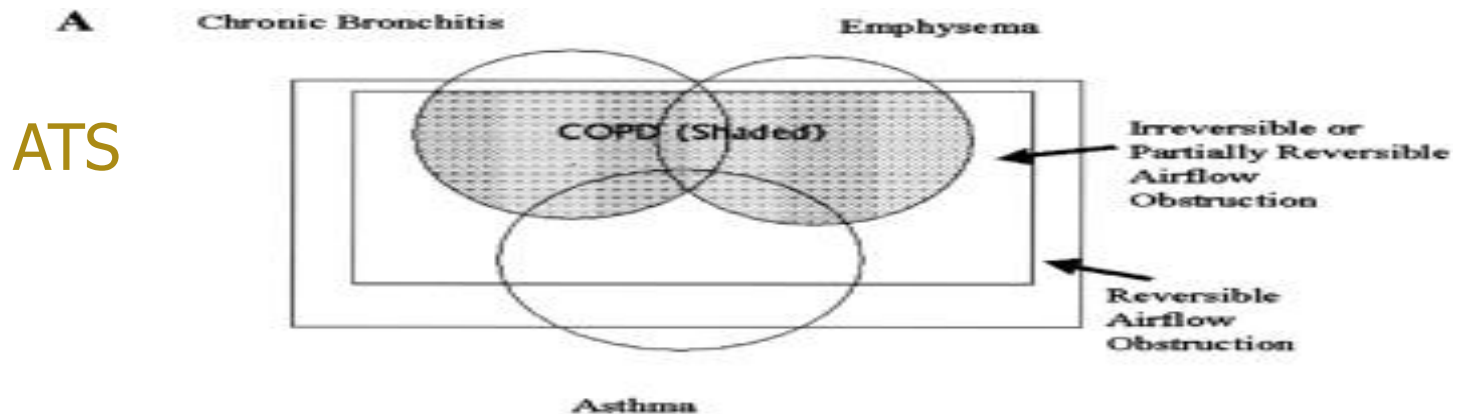
- No Disclosures

# Obstructive Lung Diseases

- COPD
  - Chronic Bronchitis
  - Emphysema
- Asthma
- Other
  - Bronchiectasis
  - Bronchiolitis
  - Cystic Fibrosis
  - Alpha 1 anti-trypsin deficiency

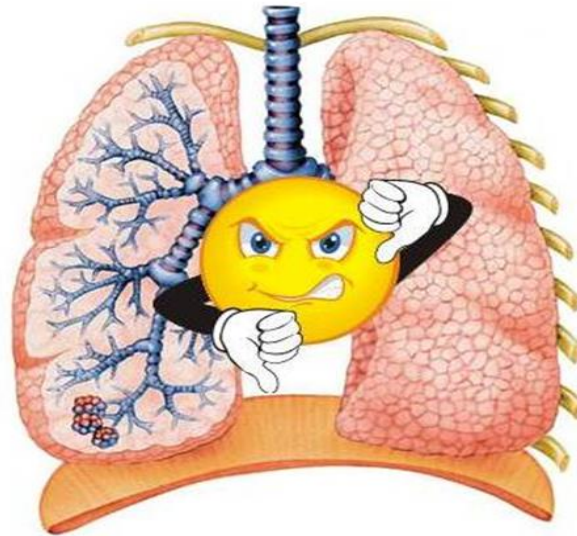


# Inter-relationship: Inflammation and Bronchial Hyperreactivity

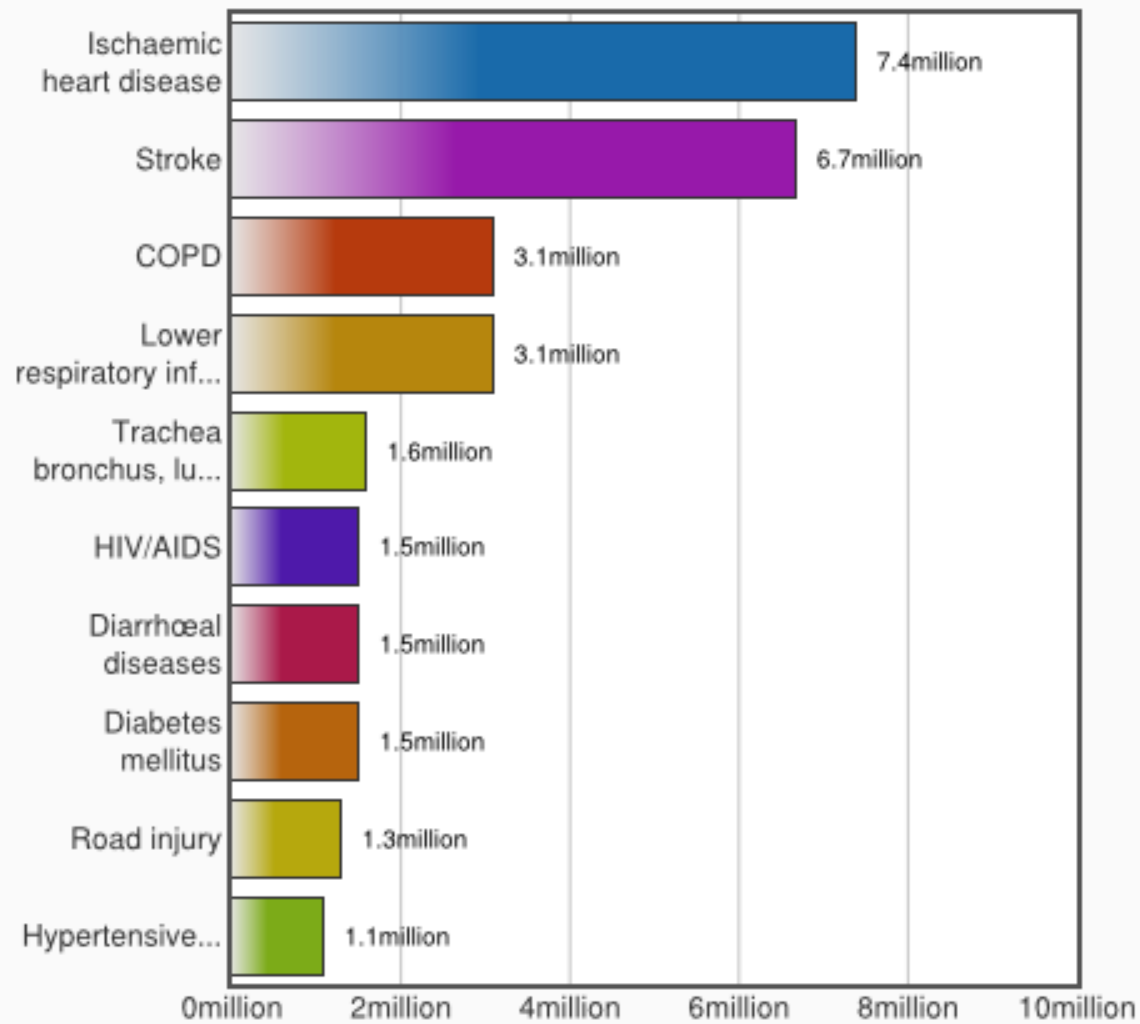


# COPD

- **THIRD** leading cause of death worldwide
- It is the only leading cause of death whose prevalence is increasing!



### The 10 leading causes of death in the world 2012

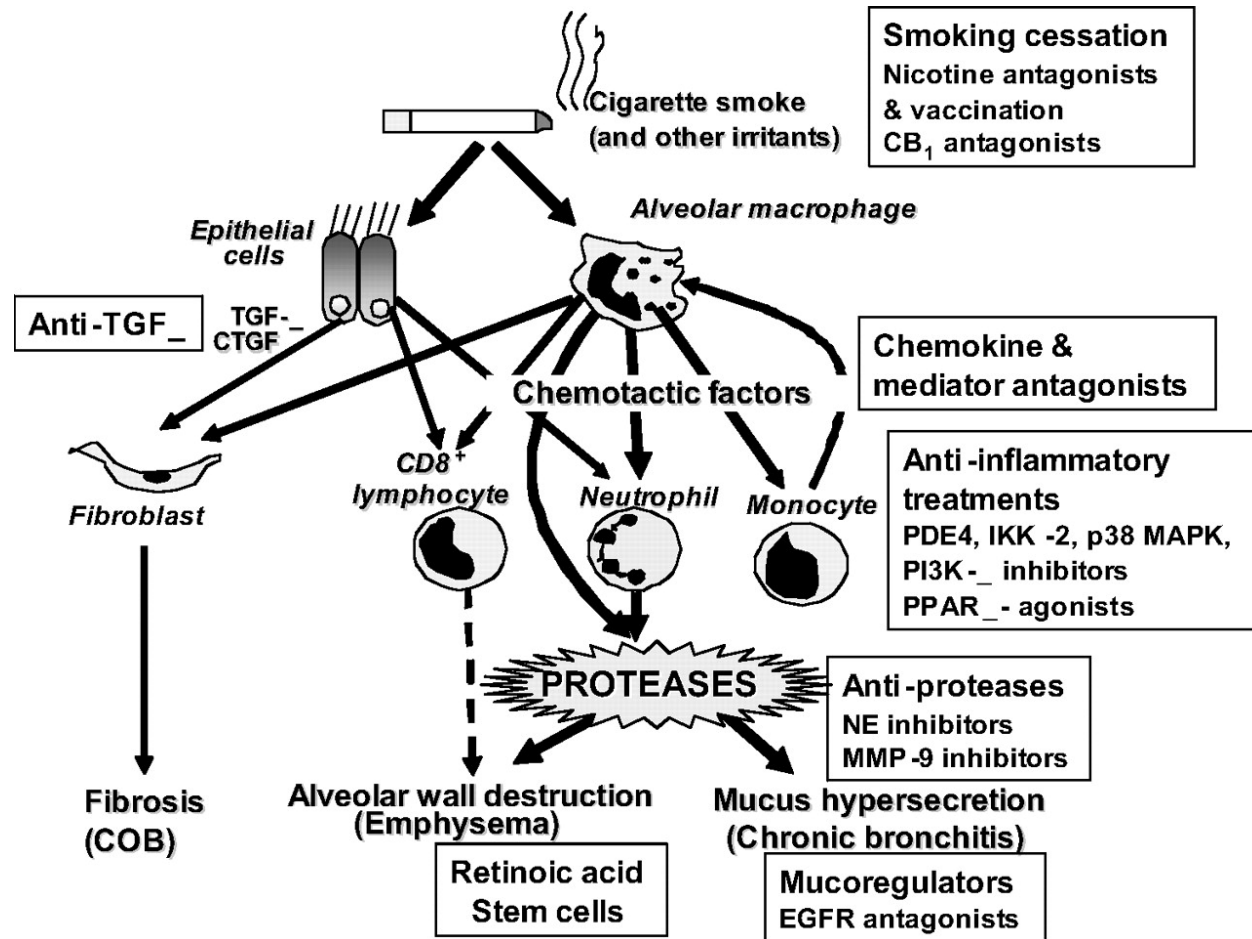


# COPD Risk Factors

- Cigarette smoking
- Occupational exposures
  - Silica, formaldehyde, toluene, nickel, cadmium etc
- Air pollution
- Biomass fuel
- Hyperresponsive airway
- Asthma
- Genetic factors



# Pathogenesis of COPD





# Inflammatory Mediators: COPD

	COPD
Cells	Neutrophils ++, Macrophages +++, CD8+ (TcI)
Key Mediators	IL-8, TNF, IL-1b, IL-6, NO
Oxidative Stress	+++
Site of Disease	Peripheral airways, Lung parenchyma, Pulmonary vessels
Consequences	Squamous metaplasia Mucous metaplasia Small airway fibrosis Parenchymal destruction Vascular remodeling
Response to therapy	Small BD response Poor steroid response

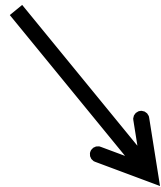
# **INFLAMMATION**



## **Small Airway Disease**

**Airway inflammation**

**Airway remodeling**



## **Parenchyma destruction**

**Loss of alveolar attachments**

**Decreased elastic recoil**



# **AIRFLOW LIMITATION**

# Inflammation and Exacerbations

- Exacerbations represent a further amplification of the inflammatory response in the airways of patients with COPD, and may be triggered by infection with bacteria or viruses or by environmental pollutants

# COPD: Chronic Bronchitis

- Defined as excessive tracheobronchial mucus production associated with cough and sputum expectoration for at least 3 months a year for more than 2 consecutive years
- +/- reversible or fixed airway obstruction

# COPD: Chronic Bronchitis

## Pathology

- Large (cartilaginous) airways
  - Hyperplasia and hypertrophy of the mucus producing glands in the submucosa
  
- Small (non-cartilaginous) airway
  - Goblet cell hyperplasia
  - Mucosal/submucosal inflammation
  - Edema
  - Peribronchial fibrosis
  - Plugs
  - Smooth muscle hypertrophy
  
- **MOSTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION**

Normal bronchi

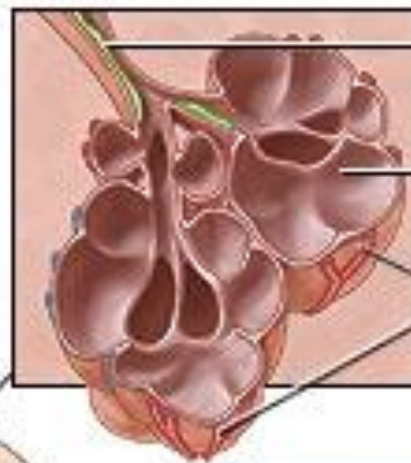


Bronchitis



**Mucus membrane swelling**  
**No muscle contraction**  
**Copious mucus secretion**  
**Narrowing of bronchial opening**

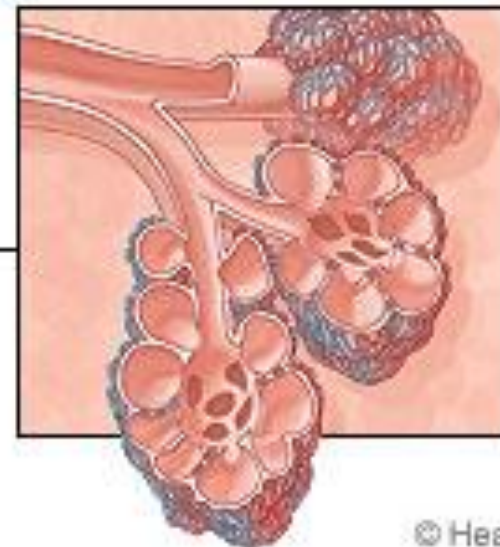
## Emphysema



Mucus in bronchiole

Enlarged alveoli

Fewer capillaries



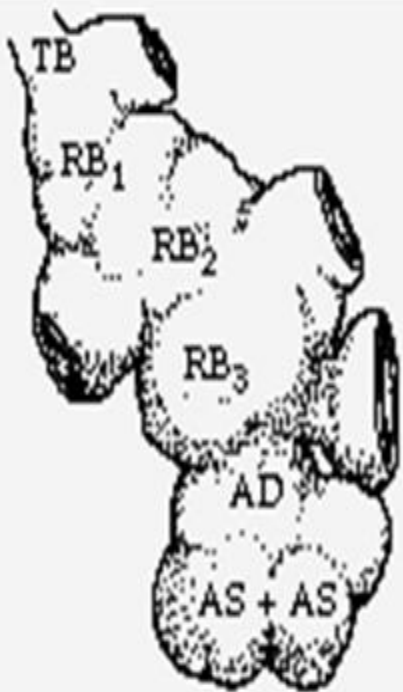


Normal  
bronchiole  
and alveoli

# Morphologic Types of Emphysema

Upper lobe

Lower lobe

	Normal	Centriacinar (Centrilobular) Emphysema	Panacinar (Panlobular) Emphysema
ACINAR STRUCTURE			



Alpha 1 AT



# COPD Definition: GOLD

- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a PREVENTABLE and TREATABLE disease with some significant extrapulmonary effects that may contribute to the severity in individual patients
- Airflow limitation that is NOT fully reversible
- Airflow limitation is usually persistent and progressive
- Associated with an abnormal inflammatory response to noxious particles and gases

# COPD Definition: GOLD

- A clinical diagnosis of COPD should be considered in any patient who has dyspnea, chronic cough or sputum production, and a history of exposure to risk factors for the disease.
- Spirometric evaluation is necessary for the clinical diagnosis.

# COPD Definition: GOLD

- A post bronchodilator FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC <70%
- In combination with an FEV<sub>1</sub> <80% predicted
- In an individual with cough, sputum production or dyspnea, and exposure to risk factors confirms the diagnosis

# Severity of COPD: GOLD

Stage	Severity	FEV1/FVC	FEV1 (%PRED)
1	Mild	< 70%	80% or >
2	Moderate	< 70%	50 to 79%
3	Severe	< 70%	30 to 49%
4	Very Severe	< 70%	< 30% or < 50 with CRF

# Definition of Reversibility

<b>ATS</b>	<b>Increase in FEV1 of 200 cc and a 12% from baseline following BD</b>
ERS	Greater than 10% improvement in FEV1 post BD
GOLD	Increase in FEV1 of 200 cc and a 12% improvement in FEV1 post Tx with either BD or ICS

# Assessment

- **CAT (COPD Assessment Test)**
  - Numeric scale relating 8 functional parameters
    - Cough, sputum, walking, sleeping, energy, etc
  - Lower score=fewer symptoms
  - Higher score=more symptoms
- **mMRC Questionnaire (Modified Medical Research Council)**
  - Degree of breathlessness using 0-4 scale
  - Higher values indicating decreasing exercise tolerance

# CAT

Your name:

Today's date:



## How is your COPD? Take the COPD Assessment Test™ (CAT)

This questionnaire will help you and your healthcare professional measure the impact COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) is having on your wellbeing and daily life. Your answers, and test score, can be used by you and your healthcare professional to help improve the management of your COPD and get the greatest benefit from treatment.

For each item below, place a mark (X) in the box that best describes you currently. Be sure to only select one response for each question.

**Example:** I am very happy 0  1 2 3 4 5 I am very sad

		SCORE	
I never cough	0 1 2 3 4 5	I cough all the time	<input type="text"/>
I have no phlegm (mucus) in my chest at all	0 1 2 3 4 5	My chest is completely full of phlegm (mucus)	<input type="text"/>
My chest does not feel tight at all	0 1 2 3 4 5	My chest feels very tight	<input type="text"/>
When I walk up a hill or one flight of stairs I am not breathless	0 1 2 3 4 5	When I walk up a hill or one flight of stairs I am very breathless	<input type="text"/>
I am not limited doing any activities at home	0 1 2 3 4 5	I am very limited doing activities at home	<input type="text"/>
I am confident leaving my home despite my lung condition	0 1 2 3 4 5	I am not at all confident leaving my home because of my lung condition	<input type="text"/>
I sleep soundly	0 1 2 3 4 5	I don't sleep soundly because of my lung condition	<input type="text"/>
I have lots of energy	0 1 2 3 4 5	I have no energy at all	<input type="text"/>
			<b>TOTAL SCORE</b> <input type="text"/>

# mMRC Questionnaire

Modified Medical Research Council (mMRC) Questionnaire for Assessing Severity of Breathlessness

Score	Description of Dyspnea	Severity
0	I get breathless only with strenuous exercise	None
1	I get short of breath when hurrying on level ground or walking up a slight hill	Mild
2	On level ground, I walk slower than other people my age because of breathlessness, or I have to stop for breath when walking at my own pace	Moderate
3	I stop for breath after walking approximately 100 yards or after a few minutes on level ground	Severe
4	I am too breathless to leave the house, or breathless when dressing	Very severe



# GOLD: Severity of COPD

## GOLD Model for Classifying Severity of Disease in COPD

Patient Category	Characteristics	Spirometric Classification <sup>a</sup>	Exacerbations Per Year	CAT Score	mMRC Score
A	Low risk, fewer symptoms	GOLD 1-2	≤1	<10	0-1
B	Low risk, more symptoms	GOLD 1-2	≤1	≥10	≥2
C	High risk, fewer symptoms	GOLD 3-4	≥2	<10	0-1
D	High risk, more symptoms	GOLD 3-4	≥2/≥1 with hospital admission	≥10	≥2

CAT = COPD Assessment Test; mMRC = Modified Medical Research Council.

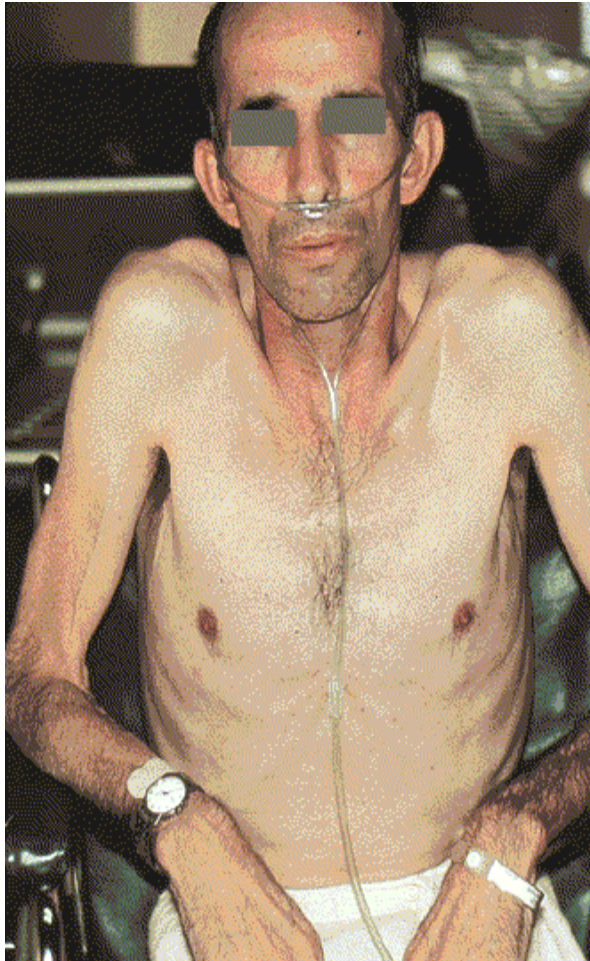
# Reasons for delay in Diagnosis

- Patient does not seek medical attention until late in disease process (ie emphysema)
- Physicians focus on treatment of symptoms rather than disease prevention
- We may be looking at the wrong thing (waiting too long until PFT, x-rays, spirometry, etc are abnormal).

# Diagnostic Techniques

- History/Physical (symptoms – more sensitive)
- Pulmonary Function Testing
- Imaging: CXR, Chest CT, V/Q scan
- Pulse oximetry at rest and with activity
- ABG
- Alpha 1 Antitrypsin Deficiency Screen
  - COPD in caucasian under age 45 y or with strong family history of COPD

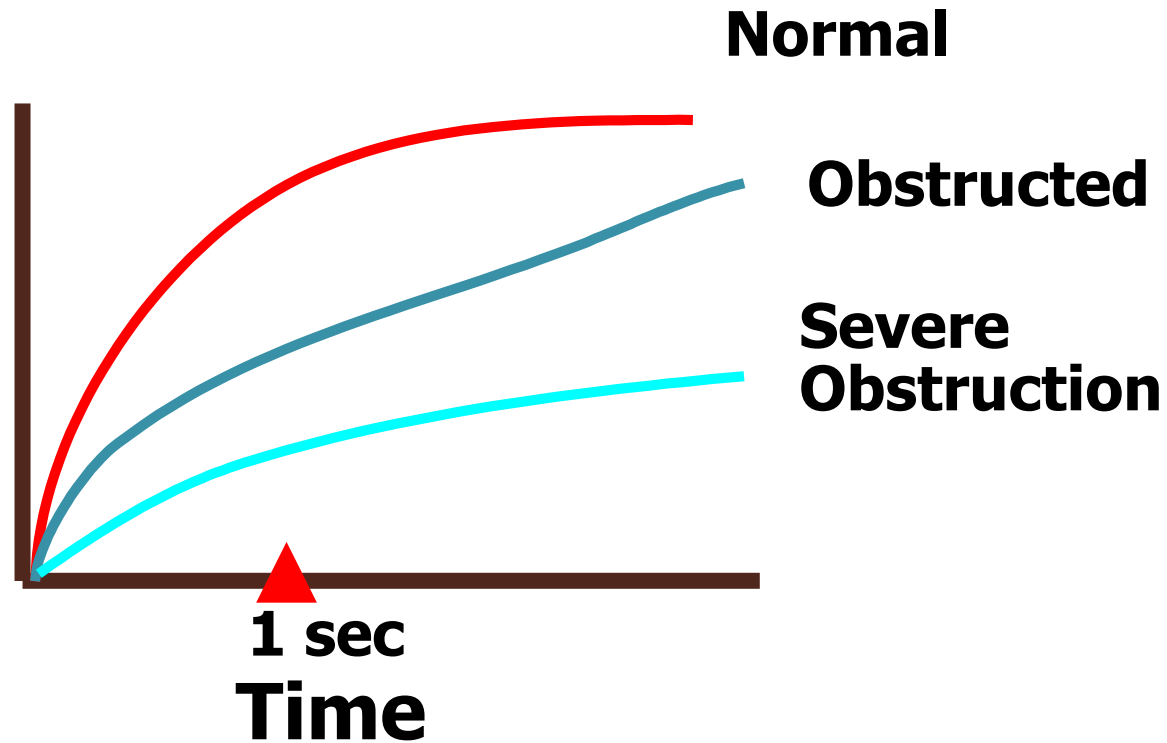
# Physical Exam



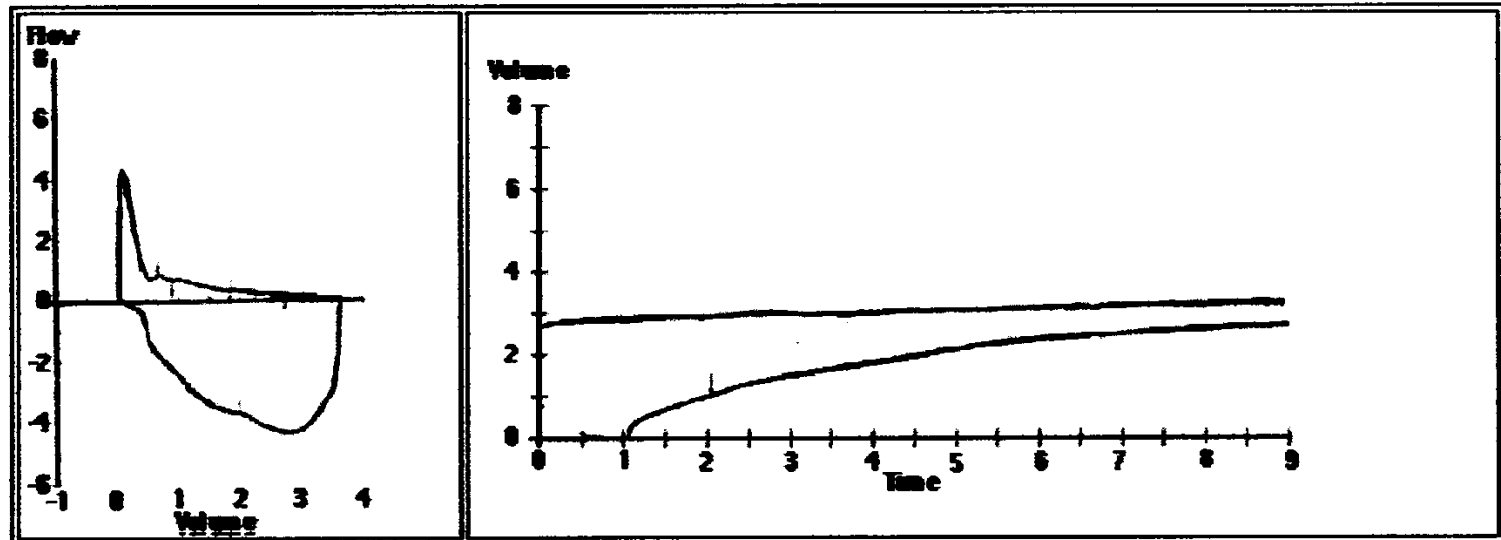
	Predominant Bronchitis	Predominant Emphysema
Age (yr)	40–45	50–75
Dyspnea	Mild; late	Severe; early
Cough	Early; copious sputum	Late; scanty sputum
Infections	Common	Occasional
Respiratory insufficiency	Repeated	Terminal
Cor pulmonale	Common	Rare; terminal
Airway resistance	Increased	Normal or slightly increased
Elastic recoil	Normal	Low
Chest radiograph	Prominent vessels; large heart	Hyperinflation; small heart
Appearance	<i>Blue bloater</i>	<i>Pink puffer</i>

# Volume/Time Curves: Obstruction

**Volume**



	Meas	Ref	%Pred
FVC	3.66	4.39	83
FEV1	1.03	2.87	36
FEV1/FVC	28	65	
FEF25-75	0.33	2.48	13
PEF	4.29	8.33	52



# Systemic Features of COPD

- Cachexia: loss of fat free mass
- Skeletal muscle wasting: apoptosis, disuse atrophy
- Osteoporosis
- Depression
- Normochromic normocytic anemia
- Increased risk of cardiovascular disease: associated with CRP



# Exercise limitation

- Normal individuals never reach a respiratory limitation at peak exercise
- However COPD patients have a reduced maximum ventilation and this can limit their exercise capacity
- These patients can have airflow limitation to exercise
- They can also desaturate with exercise

# COPD Treatment: Goals

- Slow disease progression
- Reduce the frequency and severity of disease exacerbations
- Improve quality of life

# GOLD: Severity of COPD

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CAT = COPD Assessment Test; mMRC = Modified Medical Research Council.

# Optimizing Treatment: A

Patient Category <sup>b</sup>	Recommended First Choice	Alternative Choice	Other Possible Treatments <sup>c</sup>
A	Short-acting anticholinergic PRN  <i>or</i>  Short-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist PRN	Long-acting anticholinergic  <i>or</i>  Long-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist  <i>or</i>  Short-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist <i>and</i>  Short-acting anticholinergic	Theophylline

# Optimizing Treatment: B

Patient Category <sup>b</sup>	Recommended First Choice	Alternative Choice	Other Possible Treatments <sup>c</sup>
B	Long-acting anticholinergic  <i>or</i>  Long-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist	Long-acting anticholinergic <i>and</i>  Long-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist	Short-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist  <i>and/or</i>  Short-acting anticholinergic  <i>or</i>  Theophylline

# Optimizing Treatment: C

Patient Category <sup>b</sup>	Recommended First Choice	Alternative Choice	Other Possible Treatments <sup>c</sup>
C	Inhaled glucocorticoid + Long-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist  <i>or</i> Long-acting anticholinergic	Long-acting anticholinergic <i>and</i> Long-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist  <i>or</i> Long-acting anticholinergic <i>and</i> Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor  <i>or</i> Long-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist <i>and</i> Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor	Short-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist  <i>and/or</i> Short-acting anticholinergic  <i>or</i> Theophylline

# Optimizing Treatment: D

Patient Category <sup>b</sup>	Recommended First Choice	Alternative Choice	Other Possible Treatments <sup>c</sup>
D	<p><i>Inhaled</i> glucocorticoid + Long-acting <math>\beta_2</math>-agonist <i>and/or</i> Long-acting anticholinergic</p>	<p>Inhaled glucocorticoid + Long-acting <math>\beta_2</math>-agonist <i>and</i> Long-acting anticholinergic <i>or</i> Inhaled glucocorticoid + Long-acting <math>\beta_2</math>-agonist <i>and</i> Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor <i>or</i> Long-acting anticholinergic <i>and</i> Long-acting <math>\beta_2</math>-agonist <i>or</i> Long-acting anticholinergic <i>and</i> Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor</p>	<p><i>N</i>-acetylcysteine <i>or</i> Short-acting <math>\beta_2</math>-agonist <i>and/or</i> Short-acting anticholinergic <i>or</i> Theophylline</p>

# Medication side effects

Bronchodilators		
Inhaled short-acting $\beta_2$ -agonists (albuterol, fenoterol, levalbuterol, metaproterenol, pirbuterol, terbutaline)	Tachycardia and hypokalemia (usually dose dependent), but generally well tolerated by most patients	Generally used as needed for mild disease with few symptoms
Inhaled short-acting anticholinergic agents (ipratropium)	Dry mouth, mydriasis on contact with eye, tachycardia, tremors, rarely acute narrow angle glaucoma; this drug class has been shown to be safe in a wide range of doses and clinical settings	Not to be used with tiotropium; generally used as needed for mild disease with few symptoms; avoid using both short- and long-acting anticholinergics



# Medication side effects

Inhaled long-acting anticholinergic agents (tiotropium, aclidinium, umeclidinium, glycopyrronium)	Dry mouth, mydriasis on contact with eye, tachycardia, tremors, rarely acute narrow angle glaucoma	Not to be used with ipratropium; use when short-acting bronchodilators provide insufficient control of symptoms for patients with an FEV <sub>1</sub> <60% of predicted
Inhaled long-acting $\beta_2$ -agonists (salmeterol, formoterol, arformoterol, indacaterol, olodaterol)	Sympathomimetic symptoms such as tremor and tachycardia; overdose can be fatal	Use as maintenance therapy when short-acting bronchodilators provide insufficient control of symptoms for patients with an FEV <sub>1</sub> <60% of predicted; not intended to be used for treatment of exacerbations of COPD or acute bronchospasm

# Medication side effects

Methylxanthines (theophylline, aminophylline; sustained and short-acting)	Tachycardia, nausea, vomiting, disturbed pulmonary function, and disturbed sleep; narrow therapeutic index; overdose can be fatal with seizures and arrhythmias	Used as maintenance therapy; generally use only after long-acting bronchodilator treatment to provide additional symptomatic relief of exacerbations; may also improve respiratory muscle function
Oral $\beta_2$ -agonists (albuterol, metaproterenol, terbutaline)	Sympathomimetic symptoms such as tremor and tachycardia	Used as maintenance therapy; rarely used because of side effects but may be beneficial for patients who cannot use inhalers

# Medication side effects

## Oral Phosphodiesterase-4 Inhibitor

Roflumilast

Diarrhea, nausea,  
backache, decreased  
appetite, dizziness

Used to reduce risk for exacerbations in patients with severe COPD (blood levels not required) with chronic bronchitis and history of exacerbations; roflumilast should not be used with methylxanthines owing to potential toxicity; very expensive and should be used only in select patients

# Medication side effects

Anti-Inflammatory Agents		
Inhaled glucocorticoids (fluticasone, budesonide, mometasone, ciclesonide, beclomethasone)	Dysphonia, skin bruising, oral candidiasis, rarely side effects of oral glucocorticoids (see below)	Most effective in patients with a history of frequent exacerbations and when used in conjunction with long-acting bronchodilators; not approved by the FDA for treatment for COPD
Oral glucocorticoids (prednisone, prednisolone)	Skin bruising, adrenal suppression, glaucoma, osteoporosis, diabetes mellitus, systemic hypertension, pneumonia, cataracts, opportunistic infection, insomnia, mood disturbance	Use for significant exacerbations of COPD with taper; avoid, if possible, in stable COPD to limit glucocorticoid toxicity; consider inhaled glucocorticoids to facilitate weaning of systemic glucocorticoids



# Therapy at Each Stage of COPD

I: Mild	II: Moderate	III: Severe	IV: Very Severe
<b>FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 70%</b> <b>FEV<sub>1</sub> ≥ 80% predicted</b>	<b>FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 70%</b> <b>50% ≤ FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 80% predicted</b>	<b>FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 70%</b> <b>30% ≤ FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 50% predicted</b>	<b>FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC &lt; 70%</b> <b>FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 30% predicted or FEV<sub>1</sub> &lt; 50% predicted plus chronic respiratory failure</b>
<b>Active reduction of risk factor(s); influenza vaccination</b> →			
<b>Add short-acting bronchodilator (when needed)</b> →			
<b>Add regular treatment with one or more long-acting bronchodilators (when needed); Add rehabilitation</b>			
<b>Add inhaled glucocorticosteroids if repeated exacerbations</b>			
<b>Add long term oxygen if chronic respiratory failure. Consider surgical treatments</b>			

# Additional Treatment for COPD

- Smoking cessation
- Pulmonary rehabilitation
- Oxygen therapy
  - $\text{PaO}_2 \leq 55 \text{ mmHg}$  or  $\text{pO}_2 \leq 88\%$
  - $\text{PaO}_2 \leq 59$  with polycythemia or clinical evidence of cor pulmonale
- Surgery (LVRS –upper lobe dz, Lung Transplant)

# Pharmacological Interventions

- Nicotine replacement
- Bupropriion HCL
- Varenicline
- Clonidine HCL
- Nortriptyline



# Assess COPD Comorbidities

- Cardiovascular disease
- Osteoporosis
- Respiratory infections
- Anxiety and Depression
- Diabetes
- LUNG CANCER

**These comorbid conditions influence mortality and hospitalizations; and should be looked for routinely and treated appropriately**



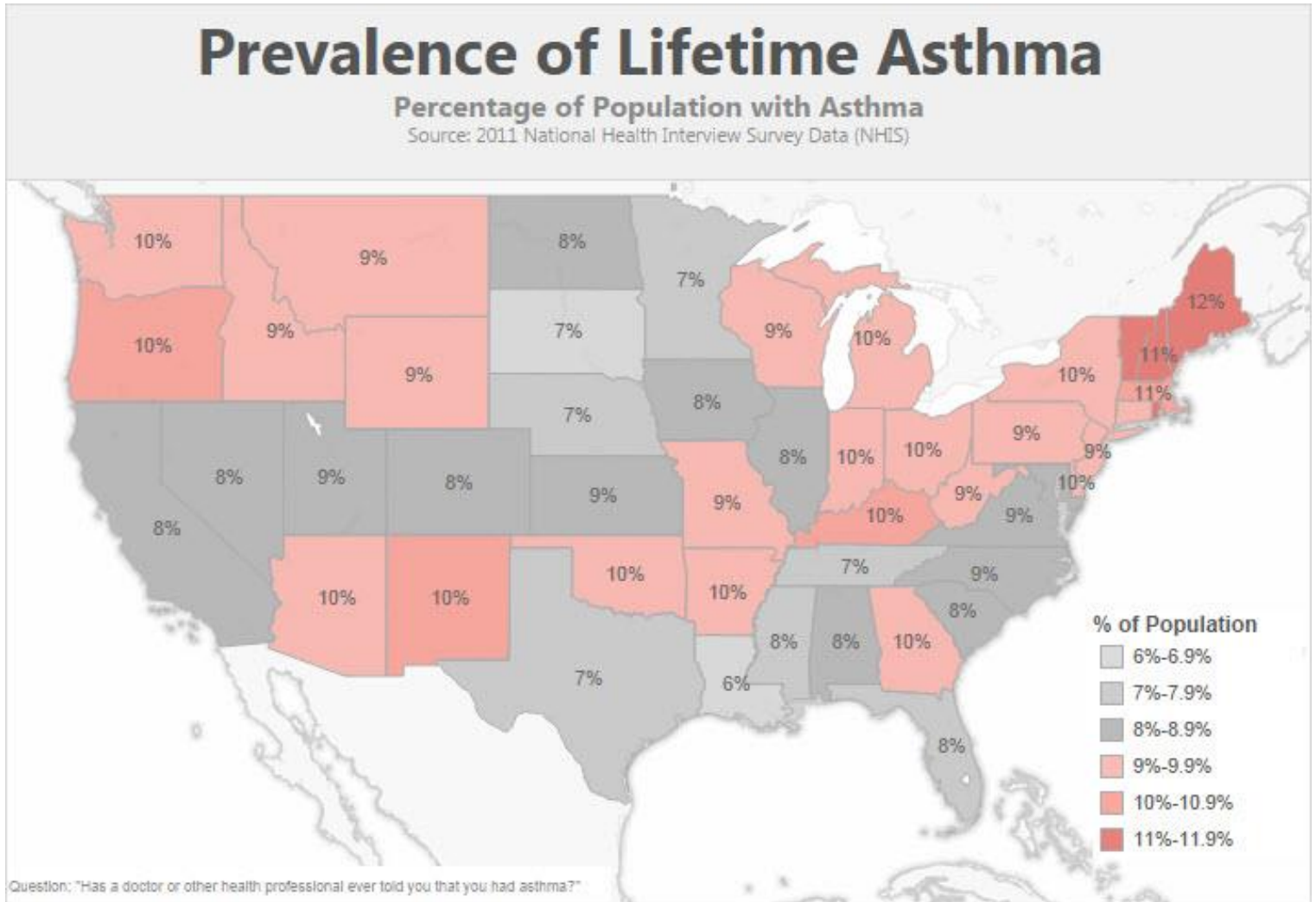
# Vaccination: COPD

- Pneumococcal vaccination
  - All adults 65/+y and high risk <65y
  - PPSV23
  - PCV13
  - PCV13 is more effective in preventing invasive pneumococcal disease than PPSV23
- Flu vaccine
  - Given yearly

# Asthma

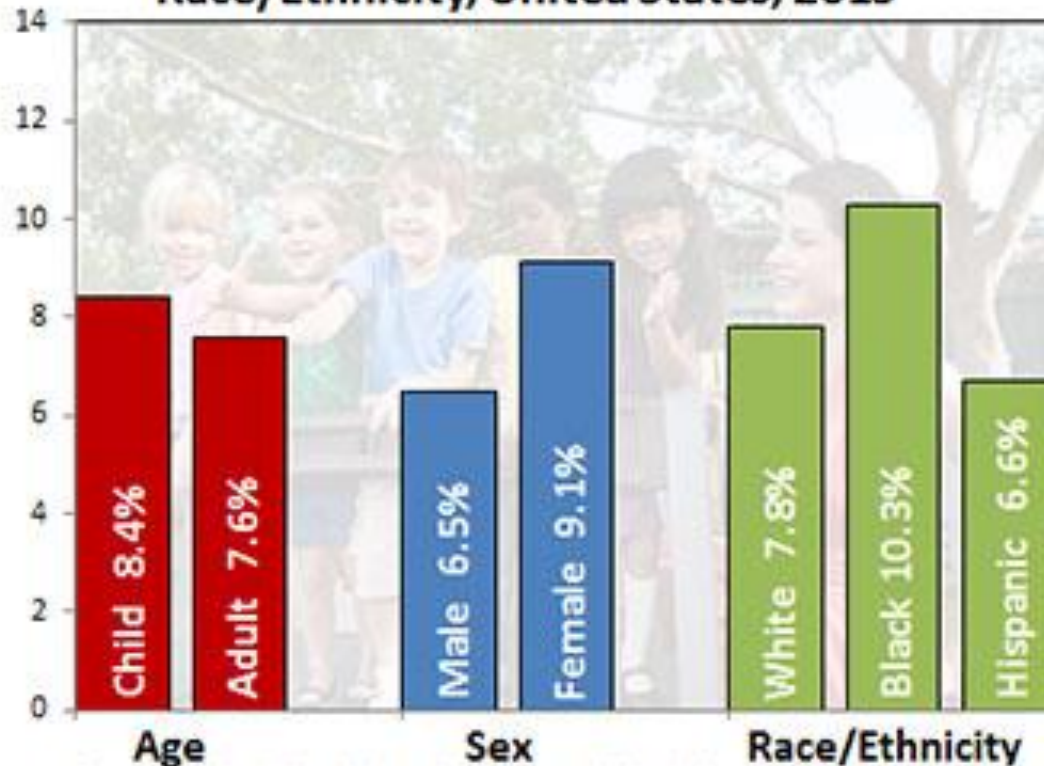


# Prevalence of Asthma: 2011



# Prevalence of Asthma: 2015

**Current Asthma Prevalence Percents by Age, Sex, and Race/Ethnicity, United States, 2015**



Source: National Health Interview Survey, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

# Asthma

- Is an obstructive pulmonary disease with the following characteristics:
  - Airway obstruction that is reversible (in most patients)
  - Airway inflammation
  - Increased airway responsiveness
- Major Symptoms:
  - Cough
  - Wheeze
  - Dyspnea
  - Hypocapnea (usually)

# TRIGGERS

## inflammatory factors



respiratory infections

allergens

work

medication



## irritants



temperature change

exercise

strong odors

cold air

stress and emotions

## others



tobacco

food additives

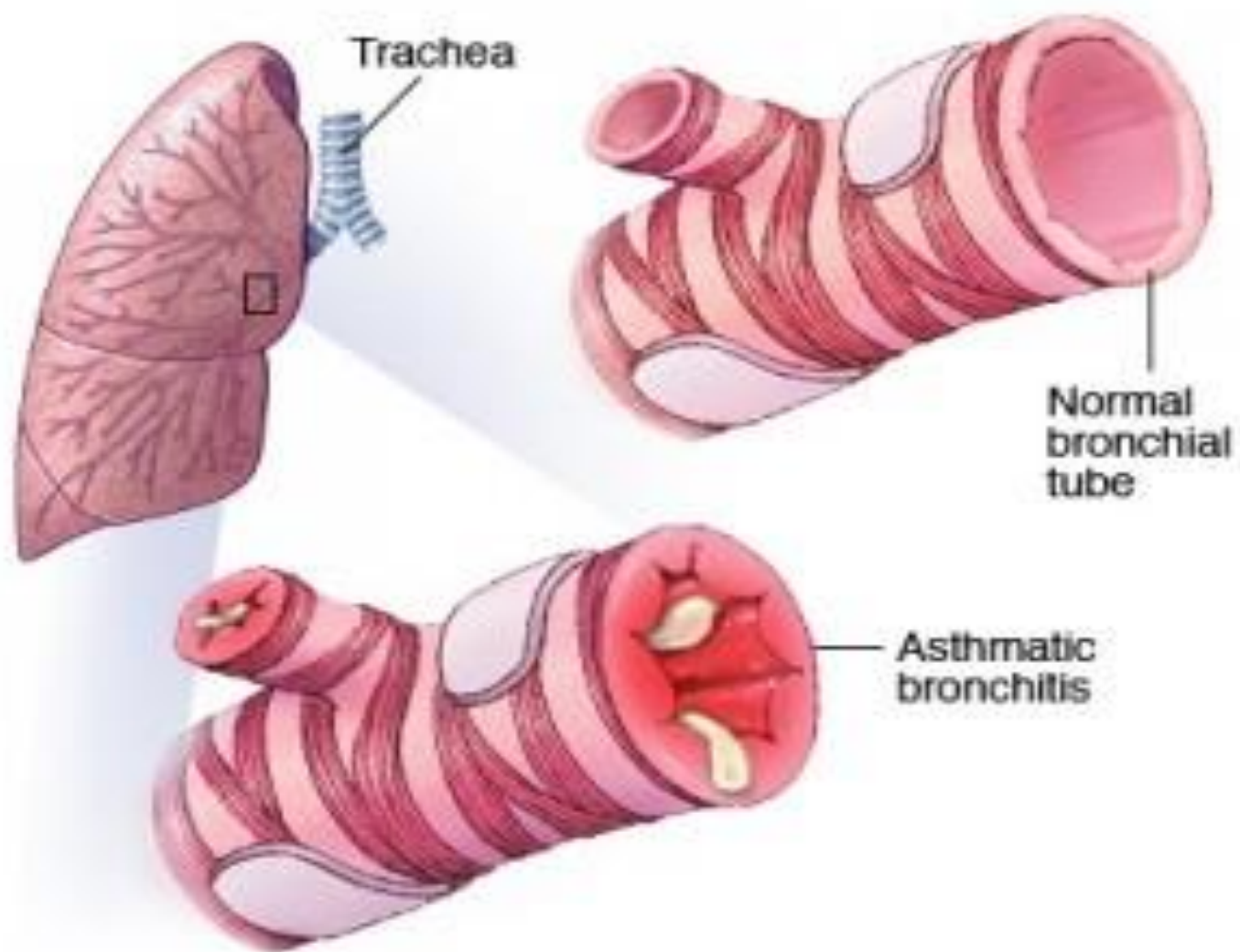
gastric reflux

pollutants

# Pathology of Advanced Chronic Asthma

- Hyperinflation♣
- Increased number of mucus glands
- Thick tenacious mucus♣
- Mucus plugs♣
- Muscular hypertrophy
- Thickened basement membrane
- Peribronchial Eosinophilic infiltration♣

♣ All are significantly reversible





# Differences in inflammatory cells between COPD and asthma

Ranked in relative order of importance

## COPD

Neutrophils

Macrophages

CD8-T-lymphocytes

Eosinophils (exacerbations)

## Asthma

Eosinophils

Mast cells

CD4-T-lymphocytes

Macrophages, Neutrophils

## Similarities and Differences in Asthma and COPD\*: The Dutch Hypothesis

CHEST. 2004;126(2\_suppl\_1):93S-95S.

### Asthma

- Usually intermittent airflow obstruction but often has a less reversible obstruction
- Improvement in airway obstruction with bronchodilators and corticosteroids
- High levels of bronchial responsiveness
- Cellular inflammation with eosinophils, mast cells, T lymphocytes; in severe disease neutrophils
- Broad inflammatory mediator responses
- Airway remodeling (epithelial injury and fibrosis)

### COPD

- Progressive airflow obstruction
- Smaller bronchodilator and corticosteroid response
- Most patients have increased bronchial responsiveness
- Cellular inflammation including neutrophils, macrophages, eosinophils and mast cells may occur
- Cytokine, chemokine, protease responses
- Emphysema (lung destruction) frequent

# Two Phases of Asthma

- Early (immediate) response
  - Major problem - bronchospasm
- Late (delayed) response
  - Major problem - inflammation
  - Typically more severe than early response

# Characteristics of Early Asthmatic Response

- Occurs in all patients with asthma
- Caused by release of mediators from mast cells (Histamine)
- Occurs 5-10 minutes after exposure
- Lasts 1.5-2 hours
- Responds to:
  - Bronchodilators (b-agonists preferred)
  - Cromolyn sodium (effective prophylactically)
  - Corticosteroids (no effect acutely, partial effect chronically)

# Characteristics of Late Asthmatic Response

- Occurs in 50%-90% of patients
- Caused by chemotactic factors recruiting eosinophils, platelets, neutrophils
- Occurs 3-8 hours after exposure
- Lasts a widely varying amount of time
- Responds well to:
  - Cromolyn sodium
  - Corticosteroids

# Asthma Syndromes

- **Allergic Asthma**
  - Most common form of asthma in adults
  - Atopy, positive FH
- **Cough Variant**
- **Exercise Induced Bronchospasm**
  - Triggered by drying of airways
- **Occupational Asthma**
  - Farmers, factory workers, hairdressers
- **Aspirin Sensitive Asthma (Samter triad)**
  - Asthma, asa sensitivity, sinusitis/nasal polyposis
- **Reactive Airways Dysfunction Syndrome**
  - Exposure to high concentration of irritant; short lived
- **Virus-Induced bronchospasm**
- **Allergic Bronchopulmonary Aspergillosis**
  - Colonization of aspergillus sp
  - Mucus plugging, bronchiectasis, asthma, fleeting infiltrates

# Contributing Factors

- GERD
- Sinus disease
- OSA/Obesity
- Chronic aspiration
- Vocal Cord Dysfunction
  - Mid-chest tightness, dyspnea, dysphonia/stridor, partial response to asthma medication
  - Adduction of VC on laryngoscopy

# Four Components of Asthma Management

- Objective measures
- Patient education
  - Trigger avoidance
  - Peak flow measurements
- Environmental control measures
- Pharmacotherapy
  - Medications
  - Secretion clearance



Table 2

## Asthma Management Therapies

Class	Examples	Properties and Uses
<b>SABAs</b>	Albuterol, levalbuterol	Relax airway smooth muscle; treatment of choice for acute symptoms
<b>LABAs</b>	Salmeterol, formoterol	Bronchodilation lasting for $\geq 12$ hours; usually used in combination with ICS after step 2
<b>ICS</b>	Beclomethasone, budesonide, flunisolide, fluticasone, triamcinolone	Reduce airway hyperresponsiveness, decrease inflammatory cell migration and activation, block late-phase reactions to allergens
<b>OCS</b>	Prednisone	Systemic anti-inflammatory effects; used for moderate to severe exacerbations to accelerate recovery and prevent late-phase response; may be used for long-term control
<b>Mast cell stabilizers</b>	Cromolyn sodium, nedocromil	Interfere with release of inflammatory mediators from mast cells; maintenance therapy for mild to moderate asthma or as prophylaxis for exercise-induced asthma
<b>Leukotriene modifiers</b>	Montelukast, zafirlukast, zileuton	Interfere with leukotriene mediators released from mast cells, eosinophils and basophils; prophylaxis of exercise-induced asthma and long-term treatment as alternative to low doses of ICS
<b>Methylxanthines</b>	Theophylline, aminophylline	Mild to moderate bronchodilation; toxic at higher doses
<b>Anticholinergics</b>	Ipratropium bromide	Enhance effects of SABAs in acute attacks by inhibiting muscarinic cholinergic receptors and reducing vagal tone of airway
<b>Immunomodulators</b>	Omalizumab	Binds to IgE, forming complexes that prevent initiation of allergic cascade by inhibiting mast cell and basophil degranulation; reserved as add-on therapy for patients $\geq 12$ years with refractory asthma (steps 5 and 6)

**Abbreviations:** ICS, inhaled corticosteroids; LABAs, long-acting beta-agonists; OCS, oral corticosteroids; SABAs, short-acting beta-agonists

Adapted from: National Asthma Education and Prevention Program Expert Panel Report 3: Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma. Bethesda, MD: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, US Dept of Health and Human Services; 2007, NIH publication 08-5846.

# Corticosteroid

## Mechanism of Action

- Prevents the activation and directed migration of inflammatory cells
- Interferes with arachidonic acid metabolism and the synthesis of leukotrienes and prostaglandins
- Increase the responsiveness of the  $\beta$ -receptors of airway smooth muscle

# Systemic vs. Inhaled Corticosteroids

## Major Adverse Effects

- **High dose, short-term, oral therapy:**
  - Reversible abnormalities in glucose metabolism, increased appetite, fluid retention, weight gain, rounding of the face, mood alteration, hypertension, peptic ulcer, and aseptic necrosis of the femur
- **Lowest possible dose, long-term, oral therapy:**
  - Osteoporosis, hypertension, Cushing's syndrome, cataracts, myopathy, hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis suppression, impaired immune mechanisms (rare)
- **Aerosolized therapy:**
  - Infrequent systemic adverse effects
  - Local adverse events include oropharyngeal candidiasis, dysphonia, occasional coughing resulting from upper airway irritation caused by aerosol inhalation

# LT Antagonist: Clinical Utility

- Prophylaxis of mild to moderate asthma
- Aspirin induced asthma
- Prevention of antigen and exercise induced asthma
- Not effective in relieving acute asthma exacerbations
  
- Bronchodilation
- Anti-inflammatory action
- Less effective than inhaled corticosteroids
- Potentiate oral corticosteroid action

# LT Antagonist Side Effects

- Elevation of liver enzymes
- Headache
- Dyspepsia
- Rare:
  - Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (formerly Churg-Straus syndrome)

# Theophylline:

## Pharmacologic Properties

- Mechanism of action:
  - Inhibits action of phosphodiesterase which prevents breakdown cAMP, thereby increasing cAMP levels in tissue resulting in smooth muscle relaxation
- Bronchodilation
- Improved airflow
- Increased mucociliary clearance
- Improved respiratory muscle strength and endurance
- Increased cardiac output (in some)
- Moderate respiratory center stimulation

# Theophylline - Clinical Utility

- Chronic asthma
- Manage reversible components of chronic bronchitis and emphysema
- Effective at low doses, minimizing potential for serious side effects
- Additive effects with oral and inhaled  $\beta_2$ -agonists
- Especially useful when given before bedtime for the patient with primarily nocturnal symptoms

# Adverse Effects of Theophylline

- Cardiac
  - Tachycardia, arrhythmia
- CNS
  - Seizure, tremors
- GI
  - Nausea, vomiting
- GU
  - Prostatism, detrusor muscle relaxation
- Metabolic
  - Hyperglycemia, hypokalemia



# Theophylline Clearance

- **Increased by:**

- B-agonist
- Carbamazepine
- Phenytoin
- Furosemide
- Hyperthyroidism
- Ketoconazole
- Marijuana
- Phenobarbital
- Rifampin
- Tobacco smoke

- **Decreased by:**

- Allopurinol
- Macrolides
- Ciprofloxacin
- Isoniazid
- Propranolol
- Caffeine
- Cirrhosis
- CHF
- Cimetidine
- Mexiletine
- Oral contraceptives
- Viral infections

# Immunomodulators

- Omalizumab
- Monoclonal antibody directed against human IgE
- Prevents IgE binding with its receptors on mast cells and basophils
- Decrease release of allergic mediators
- Used to treat allergic asthma
- Subcutaneous injection
- Expensive
- Not first line therapy
- Anti IL 5: Mepolizumab

# Classifying Asthma Severity and Initiating Treatment in Youths ≥ 12 Years of Age and Adults

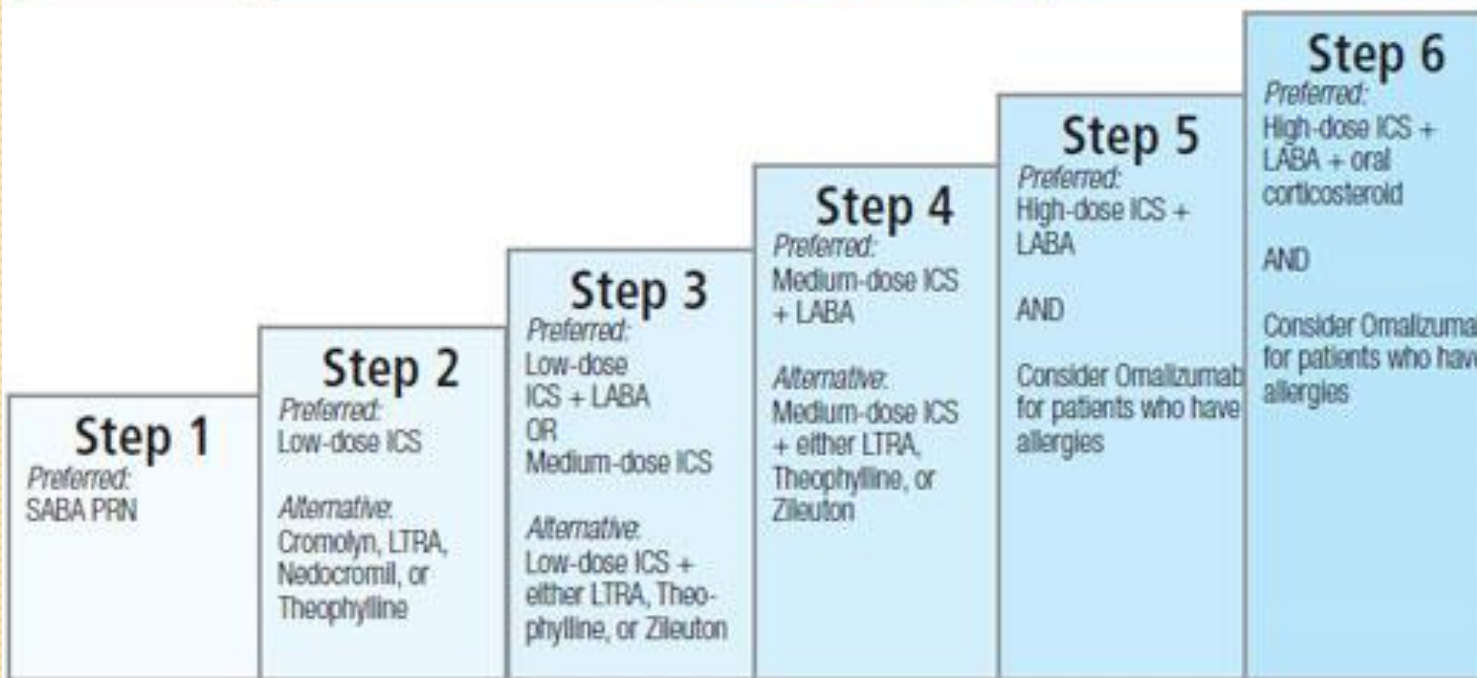
Assessing severity and initiating treatment for patients who are not currently taking long-term control medications.

Components of Severity		Classification of Asthma Severity ≥ 12 years of age			
		Intermittent	Persistent		
			Mild	Moderate	Severe
<b>Impairment</b>  Normal FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC: 8-19 yr 85% 20-39 yr 80% 40-59 yr 75% 60-80 yr 70%	Symptoms	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week but not daily	Daily	Throughout the day
	Nighttime awakenings	≤2 x/month	3-4 x/month	>1x/week but not nightly	Often 7x/week
	Short-acting beta agonist use for symptom control (not prevention of EIB)	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week but not daily, and not more than 1x on any day	Daily	Several times per day
	Interference with normal activity	None	Minor limitation	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	Lung function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Normal FEV<sub>1</sub> between exacerbations</li> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub> &gt; 80% predicted</li> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC normal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub> &gt; 80% predicted</li> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC normal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub> &gt; 60% but &lt;80% predicted</li> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC reduced 5%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub> &gt; 60% predicted</li> <li>● FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC reduced &gt;5%</li> </ul>
<b>Risk</b>	Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids	0-1/year	>2/year		
		Consider severity and interval since last exacerbation. Frequency and severity may fluctuate over time for patients in any severity category. Relative annual risk of exacerbations may be related to FEV <sub>1</sub> .			
<b>Recommended Step for Initiating Treatment</b>		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3 and consider short course of oral systemic corticosteroids	Step 4 or 5
		In 2-6 weeks, evaluate level of asthma control that is achieved and adjust therapy accordingly.			

FEV<sub>1</sub> - forced expiratory volume in one second; FVC - forced vital capacity

**Intermittent Asthma**

**Persistent Asthma: Daily Medication**  
 Consult with asthma specialist if step 4 care or higher is required.  
 Consider consultation at step 3.



Step up if needed.  
 (first, check adherence, environmental control, and comorbid conditions)

Assess control

Step down if possible  
 (and asthma is well controlled at least 3 months)

Each step: Patient education, environmental control, and management of comorbidities.  
 Steps 2-4: Consider subcutaneous allergen immunotherapy for patients who have allergic asthma (see notes).

- Quick-Relief Medication for All Patients**
- SABA as needed for symptoms. Intensity of treatment depends on severity of symptoms: up to 3 treatments at 20-minute intervals as needed. Short course of oral systemic corticosteroids may be needed.
  - Use of SABA >2 days a week for symptom relief (not prevention of EIB) generally indicates inadequate control and the need to step up treatment.

# Bronchial thermoplasty

- FDA approved 2010
- Adjunctive therapy despite optimization of asthma treatment
- Bronchoscopically induced catheter applies thermal energy to conducting airways 3mm or greater with goal of reducing smooth muscle thickening
- 3 sessions, 3 weeks apart
- Lung function remains unchanged
- Notable improvement in symptoms
- Adverse effect: temporary bronchospasm after procedure

# Also important to review...

- Alpha 1 Antitrypsin deficiency
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Bronchiectasis
  - Right Middle Lobe Syndrome
  - Ciliary Dyskinesia Syndrome
  - Allergic Bronchopulmonary Aspergillosis

