

# Respiratory Updates

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Pan-Northern Clinical Rounds

March 3, 2021

# Learning Objectives

- 1.To describe the appropriate treatment of patients diagnosed with COVID-19.
- 2.Demonstrate the appropriate way to diagnose and treat COPD.
- 3.Identify how to manage acute exacerbations of COPD in the outpatient and hospital settings.
- 4.To explain indications for referral to respirology including identifying expanded respirology services in Northeastern Ontario.

# Disclosure of Affiliations, Financial Support, and Mitigating Bias

Speaker Name: Dr. Curtis Addison

**Affiliations:** Honoraria: AstraZeneca (Train-the-Trainer)

**Financial Support:** Dr. Addison has received payment from AstraZeneca, whose products are being discussed in this program

**Mitigating Potential Bias:** Respiratory medications are being discussed in terms of their pharmacologic class and device



Hydroxychloroquine

# Patients Diagnosed with COVID-19

1. Ensure the patient is placed on appropriate precautions.  
“...minimum of Droplet and Contact Precautions” *PHAC*  
Centre-specific Infection Control policies, up to/including  
N95/helmets, double-gloving
2. Supportive care
3. Careful search for and treatment of comorbid disease
4. COVID-19 treatments

Treatment	Mechanism	Evidence (April 17, 2020)	Evidence (February 2021)
Hydroxychloroquine		Reduced in-vitro activity <sup>1</sup> Small <i>nonrandomized</i> CT in mild COVID-19: slightly faster time to improvement in cough, fever and CXR. <sup>2</sup>	RCT-No significant difference in mean reduction of viral load, hospitalization, time to complete resolution of symptoms. <sup>6</sup>
+ azithromycin		Nonrandomized trial, reduced virus carriage at day 6. <sup>2</sup>	RCT-No improvement in clinical status at 15 days. <sup>7</sup>
Remdesivir	Nucleotide analogue (prevents viral replication)	in-vitro activity <sup>3</sup> Animal studies in SARS and MERS-CoV <sup>4</sup> Case series	RCT-Reduced time to recovery. No reduction in mortality or need for IMV. <sup>8</sup>
Lopinavir-ritonavir	Protease inhibitors (prevents viral replication)	RCT severe COVID-19, no change in time to clinical improvement, improved mortality trend <sup>5</sup>	RCT-No improvement in 28-day mortality or need for IMV <sup>9</sup>
Tocilizumab	Anti-IL6 Reduced “cytokine storm”	Case reports	Preliminary unpublished data, 2 RCTs: reduced 28-day mortality <sup>10</sup> ; reduced in-hospital mortality
Convalescent plasma	Antibodies	Case series	No mortality benefit in severe disease. <sup>11</sup> Reduced severe respiratory disease in outpatients. <sup>12</sup>

# References for Investigational Treatments

1. Yao et al. In Vitro Antiviral Activity and Projection of Optimized Dosing Design of Hydroxychloroquine for the Treatment of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). *Clin Infect Dis*. **2020**. [doi: 10.1093/cid/ciaa237](https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaa237)
2. Gautret et al. Hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin as a treatment of COVID-19: results of an open-label non-randomized clinical trial. *Int J Antimicrob Agents*. **2020**. [doi.org/10.1016/j.ijantimicag.2020.105949](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijantimicag.2020.105949)
3. Wang et al. Remdesivir and chloroquine effectively inhibit the recently emerged novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in vitro. *Cell Res*. **2020**; 30(3) 269-271. [doi: 10.1038/s41422-020-0282-0](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41422-020-0282-0)
4. Sheahan et al. Broad-spectrum antiviral GS-5734 inhibits both epidemic and zoonotic coronaviruses. *Sci Transl Med*. **2017**; 9(396). [doi: 10.1126/scitranslmed.aal3653](https://doi.org/10.1126/scitranslmed.aal3653)
5. Cao et al. A Trial of Lopinavir–Ritonavir in Adults Hospitalized with Severe Covid-19. *N Engl J Med*. 2020. [doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2001282](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2001282)



# References for Investigational Treatments

6. Mitjà, O. et al. Clin. Infect. Dis. 2020. DOI: [10.1093/cid/ciaa1009](https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaa1009) [Online]
7. Cavalcanti, A.B. et al. *N. Engl. J. Med.* **2020**; 383:2041-205.  
DOI: [10.1056/NEJMoa2019014](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2019014)
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DOI: [10.1056/NEJMoa2007764](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2007764)
9. Horby, P.W. et al. *Lancet.* **2020**;396(10259):1345-1352.  
DOI: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32013-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32013-4).
10. Preliminary results manuscript:  
[RECOVERY Tocilizumab MainPaper medRxiv \(1253\)](https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.09.01.20197261v1)
11. Piechotta V, et al. *Cochrane Database Syst. Rev.* **2020**;7(7):CD013600. doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD013600.pub2. Update in: *Cochrane Database Syst Rev.* 2020 Oct 12;10:CD013600. PMID: 32648959; PMCID: PMC7389743.  
[Convalescent plasma or hyperimmune immunoglobulin for people with COVID-19: a living systematic review - PubMed \(nih.gov\)](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32648959/)



# Outpatients

- Monoclonal antibodies
  - Use in context of clinical trial
    - ***Bamlanivumab alone (BLAZE-1)***
      - Phase 2/3 showed trend toward reduced ED visits or hospitalizations
    - Bamlanivumab-etesevimab (BLAZE-1)
      - Phase 3 RCT, 1035 outpatients, unpublished preliminary data:
      - Reduced hospitalization or death (2% vs 7 %)
    - Casirivimab-imdevimab
      - RCT, 799 outpatients patients, unpublished, preliminary results:
        - Fewer medical visits (2.8% vs 6.5%)
        - Fewer ED visits (3% vs 9%)
- Convalescent plasma
  - RCT 160 patients, Adults  $\geq 75$  or  $\geq 65$  with at least one specific comorbidity
  - Reduced severe respiratory disease (16% vs 32%)

# Severe disease

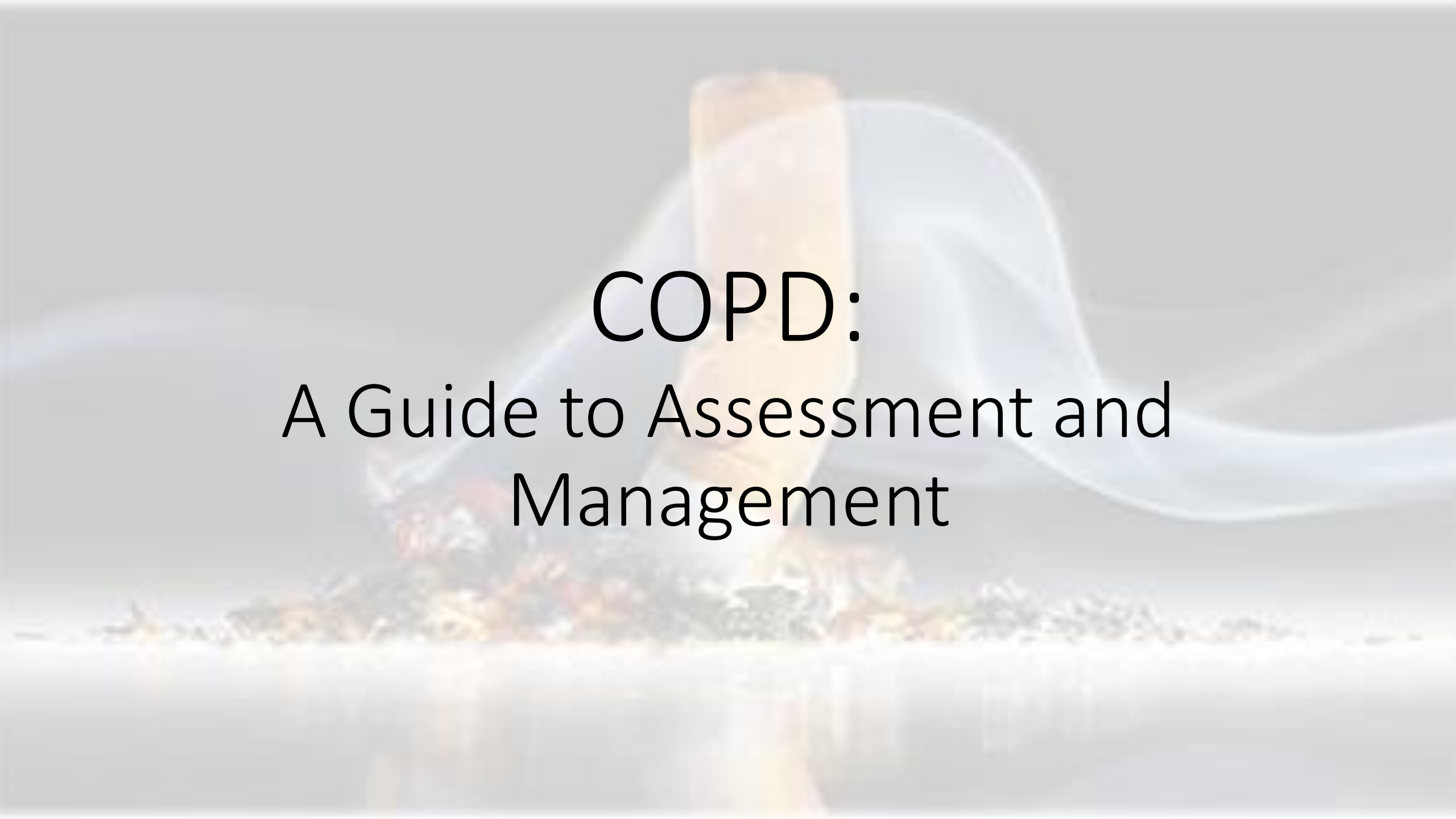
- Remdesivir
- Dexamethasone
- Tocilizumab: require high-flow O<sub>2</sub> or IMV within 48 hours of ICU admission

# COVID-19

- Lessons to learn from the pandemic:
  - The differential of COVID-19 is extremely broad
  - Many patients with “suspected COVID-19” have an alternative diagnosis with highly effective treatment
  - Don’t routinely use unproven treatments
  - Don’t abandon high-value care due to infection control concerns
  - Don’t withhold life-saving therapy due to infection control concerns
  - Don’t restrict prescribing of medications with strong evidence-based indications for common conditions
  - There are unintended consequences when using fear to change public behaviour

# Diseases in Respirology

obliterans  
aspirin asthma  
lung metastasis bronchiectasis  
diaphragmatic weaknesses  
induced pneumonitis drug tissue disease ild  
idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis  
lung transplant rejection  
nontuberculous mycobacterial disease  
silicosis exacerbated respiratory disease  
obesity hypoventilation syndrome lung cancer  
sarcoidosis pleural effusion obstructive sleep apnea  
pulmonary edema connective tissue disease  
systemic sclerosis pulmonary hypertension  
radiation pneumonitis muscular dystrophy  
tuberculosis cystic fibrosis  
copd



# COPD:

## A Guide to Assessment and Management

# Definition

- Respiratory disorder largely caused by smoking
- Progressive, partially reversible airway obstruction and lung hyperinflation, systemic manifestations, and increasing frequency and severity of exacerbations
- Post-bronchodilator  $FEV_1/FVC < 70\%$

# Definition – GOLD 2021

- Common, preventable and treatable disease
- Persistent respiratory symptoms and airflow limitation
- Due to airway and/or alveolar abnormalities
- Usually caused by exposure to noxious particles or gases
- Influenced by host factors including abnormal lung development

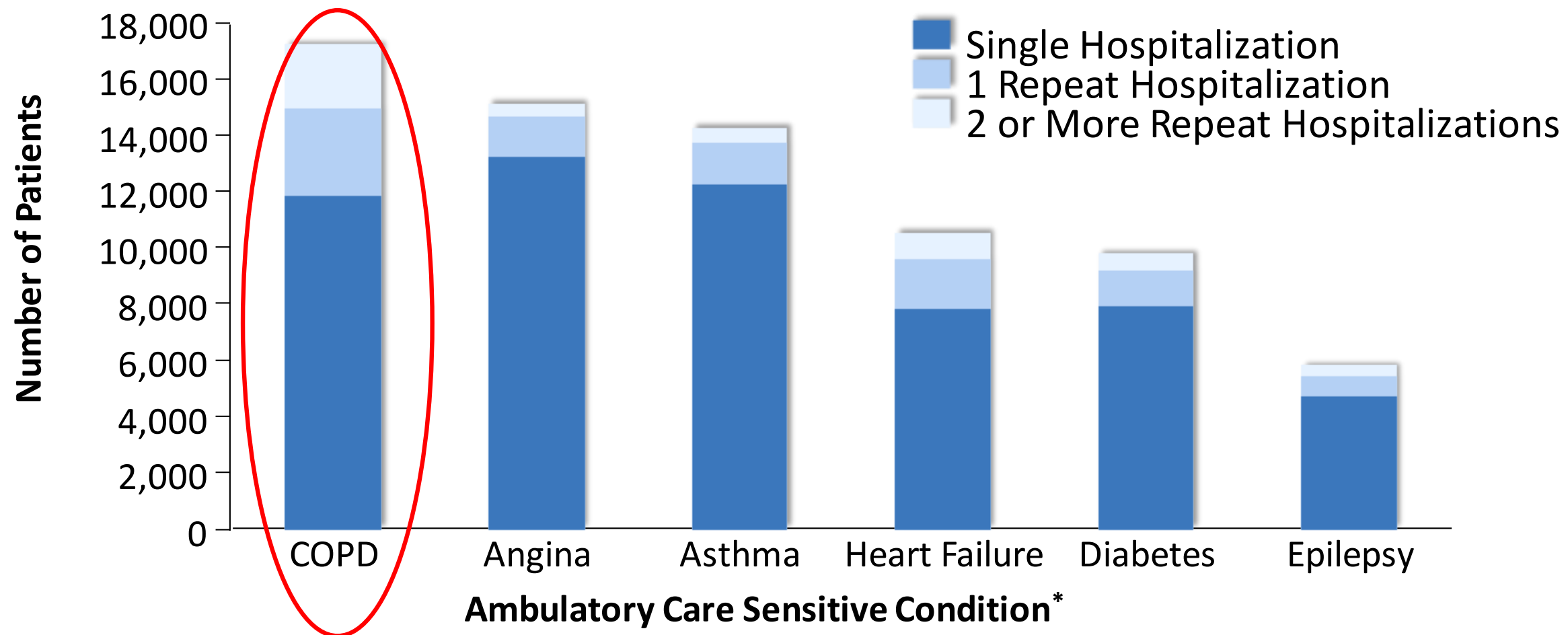


# Epidemiology

- 3rd leading cause of death worldwide (WHO)
- Prevalence:
  - 3.9 % men, 4.8 % women in Canada (probably COPD, by health-care professional reporting)
  - Studies suggest up to 50 % undiagnosed
  - 30-70 % no or suboptimal treatment
- Highest rate of hospital admissions among major chronic illnesses in Canada<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Information ClfH. Health Indicators. Ottawa: CIHI; 2008, 2008

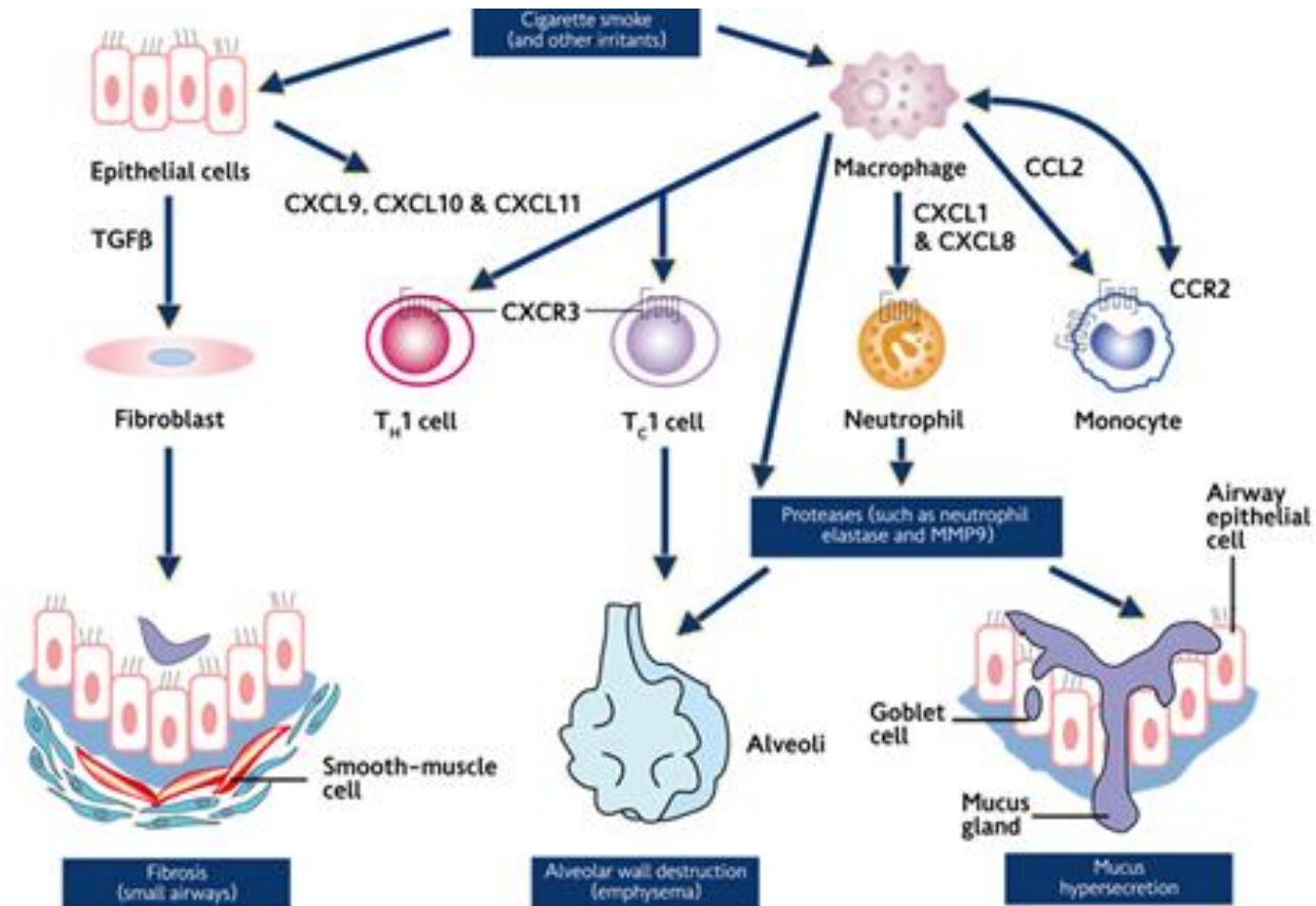
# COPD: A Leading Cause of Hospital Admissions



\*An ambulatory care sensitive condition is a condition that is normally manageable on an outpatient basis  
Data are for the Canadian population, excluding Quebec Canadian Institute for Health Information. Health Indicators 2008. Ottawa: CIHI; 2008.

# Pathophysiology

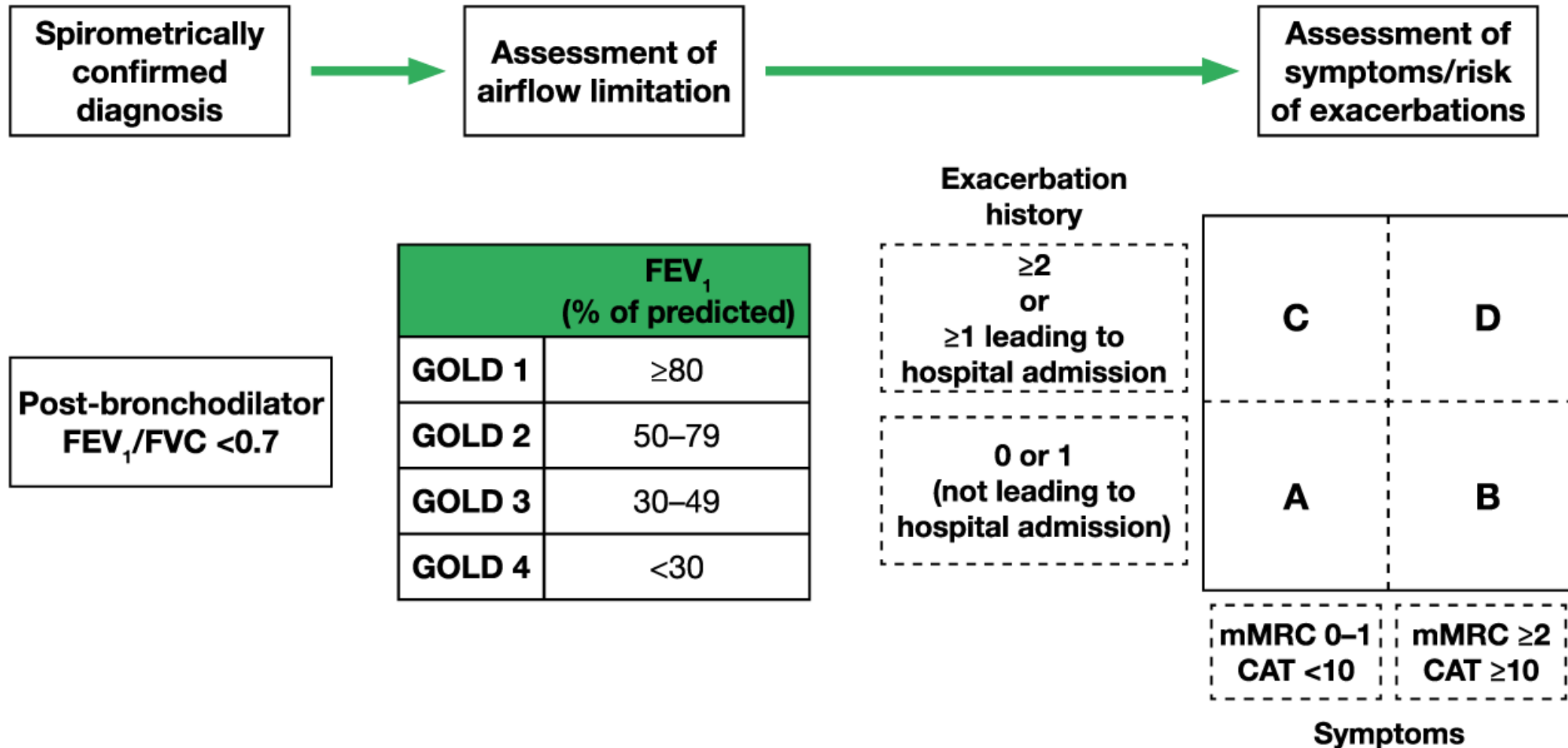
- Airway inflammation
  - Persists long after stimulus is removed
- edema, remodelling with fibrosis, secretions
- Compression by overinflated alveoli
- Emphysematous destruction leading to loss of tethering of airways



# Diagnosis

- Targeted screening:
  - Canadian Lung Associations suggests:
    - current or ex-smokers AND
      - Regular coughing
      - Regular phlegm
      - Dyspnea with simple chores
      - Wheezing on exertion or at night
      - Frequent colds that last longer than others
- Spirometry:
  - GOLD Criteria:
    - $FEV_1/FVC < 70 \%$

# GOLD 2017 “Refined ABCD Assessment Tool”



$FEV_1$ =forced expiratory volume in the first second; FVC=forced vital capacity; mMRC=modified Medical Research Council; CAT=COPD assessment test.

# Evaluation

1. Smoking history (pack-years), current smoking, occupational exposures
2. Comprehensive Assessment of Symptoms

### The Modified Medical Research Council (MMRC) Dyspnoea Scale

Grade of dyspnoea	Description
0	Not troubled by breathlessness except on strenuous exercise
1	Shortness of breath when hurrying on the level <i>or</i> walking up a slight hill
2	Walks slower than people of the same age on the level because of breathlessness <i>or</i> has to stop for breath when walking at own pace on the level
3	Stops for breath after walking about 100 m <i>or</i> after a few minutes on the level
4	Too breathless to leave the house <i>or</i> breathless when dressing or undressing

Predicts future mortality

Correlates well with other measures of health status




# CAT

- Comprehensive assessment
- Feasible for clinical use

Your name:

Today's date:

  
COPD Assessment Test

### 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 **X** 2 3 4 5 I am very sad

			SCORE
I never cough	0 1 2 3 4 5	I cough all the time	
I have no phlegm (mucus) in my chest at all	0 1 2 3 4 5	My chest is completely full of phlegm (mucus)	
My chest does not feel tight at all	0 1 2 3 4 5	My chest feels very tight	
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	
I am not limited doing any activities at home	0 1 2 3 4 5	I am very limited doing activities at home	
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	
I sleep soundly	0 1 2 3 4 5	I don't sleep soundly because of my lung condition	
I have lots of energy	0 1 2 3 4 5	I have no energy at all	
			<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>

COPD Assessment Test and the CAT logo is a trade mark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies.  
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Last Updated: February 04, 2012

# Evaluation

## 3. Frequency and Severity of exacerbations

- Antibiotic/steroid requirements
- Number of hospitalizations

## 4. Assessment of complications

- Right-sided volume overload (cor pulmonale)
- Malnutrition

## 5. Assessment of Comorbidities

- Heart disease
- Lung cancer
- Osteoporosis
- Mood/anxiety disorders

## 6. Current medical treatment

- Ask about inhaled therapy specifically
- Home O<sub>2</sub> therapy
- Immunizations: pneumococcal, influenza
- Pulmonary rehabilitation

# Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency

	GOLD 2017	CTS 2012 Position Statement
Screening	All patients with COPD	COPD and either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Age &lt; 65</li><li>• Smoking &lt; 20 pack·years (Grade 1A)</li></ul>
Treatment (A1AT augmentation)	All patients with progressive lung disease	COPD <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FEV1 25-80 % predicted</li><li>• Nonsmoking or exsmoking</li><li>• Emphysema</li><li>• A1AT <math>\leq 11 \mu\text{mol/L}</math></li><li>• Optimal pharmacological and nonpharmacological therapy (Grade 2B – CT lung density; Grade 2C – mortality)</li></ul>

# Management




1. Education
2. **Smoking Cessation (A)**
3. Inhaled therapy (A)
4. Azithromycin (A)
5. Roflumilast (A)
6. Mucolytics (B)
7. Vaccinations: pneumococcal (B) and **annual influenza** (B)
8. Written Action Plan
9. Pulmonary Rehabilitation (A)
  - Most effective therapy for improving symptoms, exertional tolerance, and quality of life
  - Indications: stable, symptomatic: reduced activity and increased dyspnea despite optimal medical management, post-exacerbation
10. **Oxygen therapy (A)**
11. NIPPV (B)
12. Nutritional Support (B)
13. Lung volume reduction surgery (A)
  - Ambulatory, symptomatic patients with upper-lobe predominant emphysema, low post-rehab exercise tolerance
14. Bronchoscopic interventions (B)
15. Lung transplantation (C)
  - FEV<sub>1</sub> less than 25 %, Pco<sub>2</sub> > 55 mmHg, or pulmonary hypertension with deterioration
16. Palliation




This is to tell me how I will take care of myself when I have a COPD flare-up.

My goals are \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

My support contacts are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name & Phone Number) (Name & Phone Number)

My Symptoms	I Feel Well 	I Feel Worse 	I Feel Much Worse <b>URGENT</b>
I have sputum.	My usual sputum colour is: _____	Changes in my sputum, for <b>at least</b> 2 days. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	My symptoms are not better after taking my flare-up medicine for 48 hours.
I feel short of breath.	When I do this: _____ _____	More short of breath than usual for <b>at least</b> 2 days. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	I am very short of breath, nervous, confused and/or drowsy, and/or I have chest pain. 

My Actions	Stay Well	Take Action	Call For Help
	I use my daily puffers as directed.	If I checked 'Yes' to one or both of the above, I use my <b>prescriptions</b> for COPD flare-ups.	I will call my support contact and/or see my doctor and/or go to the nearest emergency department.
	If I am on oxygen, I use _____ L/min.	I use my daily puffers as usual. If I am <b>more</b> short of breath than usual, I will take ___ puffs of _____ up to a <b>maximum</b> of ___ times per day.	I will dial 911. 

**Notes:**

I use my breathing and relaxation methods as taught to me. I pace myself to save energy.

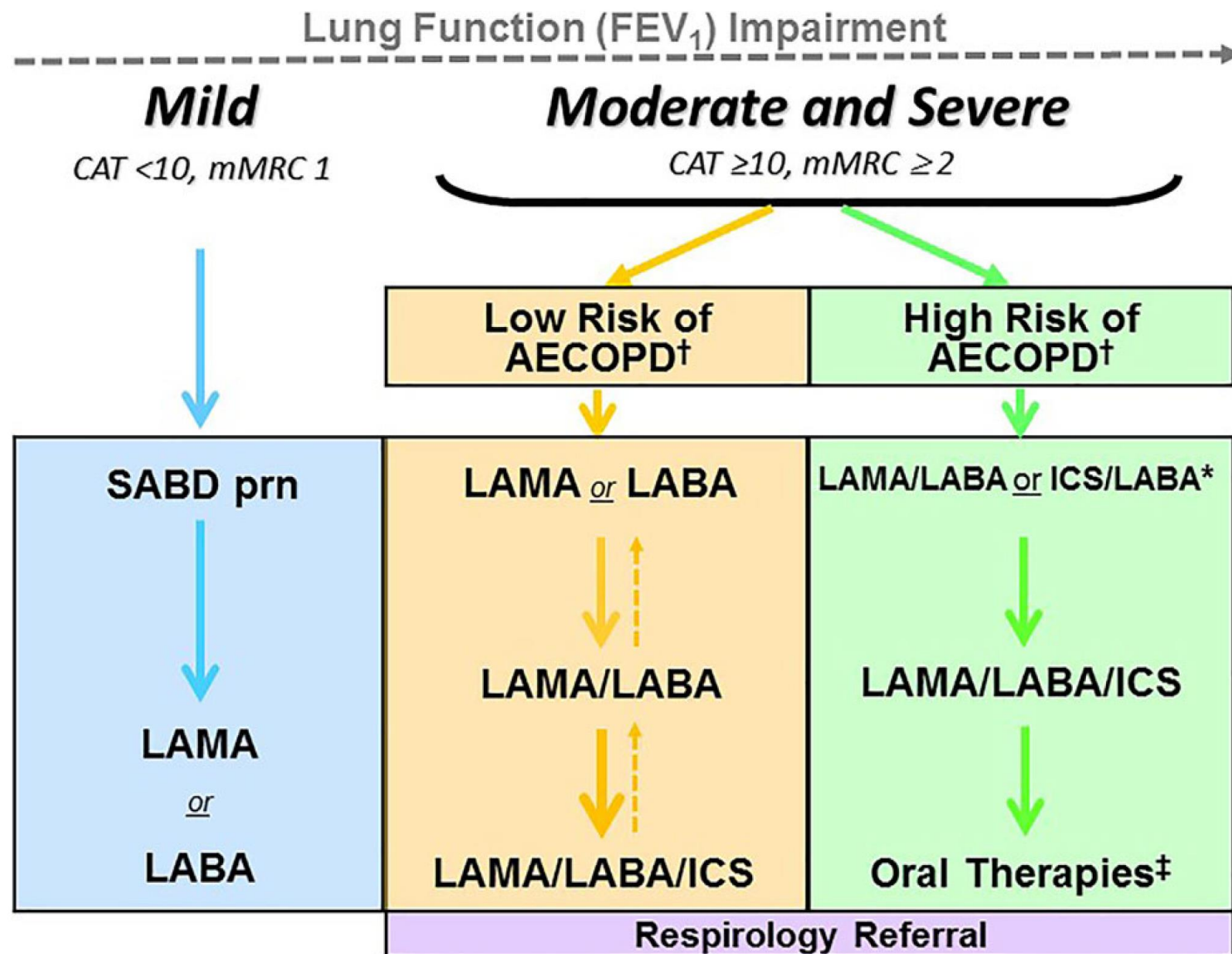
If I am on oxygen, I will increase it from \_\_\_ L/min to \_\_\_ L/min.

**Important information:** I will tell my doctor, respiratory educator, or case manager **within 2 days** if I had to use any of my flare-up prescriptions. I will also make follow-up appointments to review my COPD Action Plan twice a year.

# Oxygen Therapy

- Indications:
  - $\text{PaO}_2 \leq 55 \text{ mmHg}$
  - $\text{PaO}_2 \leq 60 \text{ mmHg}$  plus one of:
    - Ankle edema
    - Cor pulmonale
    - Polycythemia ( $\text{Hct} > 56 \%$ )





















# CTS Guidelines 2019





# Management of Exacerbations

- Bronchodilators
- Antibiotics for purulent exacerbations (1A)
- Systemic corticosteroids for purulent exacerbations (1A)
  - Prednisone 40 mg po daily for 5 days
- NIV for severe exacerbations with pH <7.30
- Intubate patients with severe exacerbations and classical “contraindications” to NIV

RELIEVERS		CONTROLLERS / MAINTENANCE		
Short-Acting Beta2-Agonist (SABA)	Inhaled Corticosteroids (ICS)	Long-Acting Bronchodilators also known as: Long-Acting Beta2-Agonist (LABA)	Combination ICS/LABA	Combination LAMA/LABA
 <p><b>Airmir®**†</b> (salbutamol) Valeant Strength: 100mcg Capacity: 200 actuations/canister, 100 actuations for hospital pack</p>  <p><b>Bricanyl® Turbuhaler®**†</b> (terbutaline) AstraZeneca Strength: 0.5mg Capacity: 100 or 200 doses/device</p>  <p><b>Ventolin® HFA **††</b> (salbutamol) GlaxoSmithKline Strength: 100mcg Capacity: 200 actuations/canister</p>  <p><b>Ventolin® Diskus®**††</b> (salbutamol) GlaxoSmithKline Strength: 200mcg Capacity: 60 blisters/device</p> <p>Salbutamol HFA generic products such as: Apo-Salvent® Apotex, Salbutamol HFA Sanis, Novo-Salbutamol HFA Teva</p>	 <p><b>Alvesco®**†</b> (ciclesonide) AstraZeneca Use: OD or BID Strength: 100mcg, 200mcg Capacity: 120 actuations/canister</p>  <p><b>Arnuity® Ellipta®*</b> (fluticasone furoate) GlaxoSmithKline Use: OD Strengths: 100mcg, 200mcg Capacity: 14 or 30 blisters/device</p>  <p><b>Asmanex® Twisthaler®*</b> (mometasone) Merck Use: OD or BID Strength: 100mcg, 200mcg, 400mcg Capacity: 30 (100 &amp; 400mcg) or 60 (200 &amp; 400mcg) doses/device</p>  <p><b>Flovent® HFA**†</b> (fluticasone propionate) GlaxoSmithKline Use: BID Strength: 50mcg, 125mcg, 250mcg Capacity: 120 actuations/canister</p>	 <p><b>Foradil®**†† via Aerolizer®</b> (formoterol) Novartis Use: BID Strength: 12mcg Capacity: 60 capsules/carton</p>  <p><b>Onbrez® Breezhaler®†</b> (indacaterol) Novartis Use: OD Strength: 75mcg Capacity: 10 or 30 capsules/carton</p>  <p><b>Serevent® Diskus®**††</b> (salmeterol) GlaxoSmithKline Use: BID Strength: 50mcg Capacity: 60 blisters/device</p>  <p><b>Oxeze® Turbuhaler®*</b> (formoterol) AstraZeneca Use: BID Strength: 6mcg, 12mcg Capacity: 60 doses/device</p>	 <p><b>Advair® Diskus®**††</b> (fluticasone propionate/salmeterol) GlaxoSmithKline Use: BID Strength: 100/50mcg, 250/50mcg, 500/50mcg Capacity: 28 or 60 blisters/device</p>  <p><b>Advair®**†</b> (fluticasone propionate/salmeterol) GlaxoSmithKline Use: BID Strength: 125/25mcg, 250/25mcg Capacity: 120 actuations/canister</p>  <p><b>Breo® Ellipta®**††</b> (fluticasone furoate/vilanterol) GlaxoSmithKline Use: OD Strength: 100/25mcg**†, 200/25mcg* Capacity: 14 or 30 blisters/device</p>  <p><b>Symbicort® Turbuhaler®**††</b> (budesonide/formoterol) AstraZeneca Use: OD or BID Strength: 100/6 mcg, 200/6mcg (FORTE) Capacity: 120 doses/device</p>  <p><b>Zenhale®**†</b> (mometasone/formoterol) Merck Use: BID Strength: 100/5mcg, 200/5mcg Capacity: 120 actuations/canister</p>  <p><b>Wixela® Inhub®**††</b> (fluticasone propionate/salmeterol) Mylan Inc. Use: BID Strength: 100/50mcg, 250/50mcg, 500/50mcg Capacity: 60 blisters/device</p> <p><b>Other Fluticasone/salmeterol products:</b> pms-Fluticasone propionate/Salmeterol DPI</p>	 <p><b>Anoro® Ellipta®†</b> (umeclidinium/vilanterol) GlaxoSmithKline Use: OD Strength: 62.5/25mcg Capacity: 7 or 30 blisters/device</p>  <p><b>Duaklir® Genuair®†</b> (aclidinium/formoterol) AstraZeneca Use: BID Strength: 400mcg/12mcg Capacity: 60 actuations/device</p>  <p><b>Inspiro™ Respimat®†</b> (tiotropium/olodaterol) Boehringer Ingelheim Use: OD Strength: 2.5/2.5mcg per actuation Capacity: 28 or 60 actuations/cartridge</p>  <p><b>Ultibro®Breezhaler®†</b> (indacaterol/glycopyrronium) Novartis Use: OD Strength: 110mcg/50mcg Capacity: 6 or 30 capsules/carton</p>
Short-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist (SAMA) (Anticholinergic)	Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist (LAMA) also known as: Long-Acting Anticholinergic (LAAC)	Combination ICS/LABA/LAMA	Additional Medications	
 <p><b>Atrovent® HFA**†</b> (ipratropium) Boehringer Ingelheim Strength: 20mcg Capacity: 200 actuations/canister</p>	 <p><b>Flovent® Diskus®*</b> (fluticasone propionate) GlaxoSmithKline Use: BID Strength: 100mcg, 250mcg, 500mcg Capacity: 60 blisters/device</p>  <p><b>Pulmicort® Turbuhaler®*</b> (budesonide) AstraZeneca Use: BID Strength: 100mcg, 200mcg, 400mcg Capacity: 200 doses/device</p>  <p><b>Qvar®**†</b> (beclomethasone) Valeant Use: BID Strength: 50mcg, 100mcg Capacity: 200 actuations/canister</p>	 <p><b>Incruse® Ellipta®†</b> (umeclidinium) GlaxoSmithKline Use: OD Strength: 62.5mcg Capacity: 7 or 30 blisters/device</p>  <p><b>Seebri® Breezhaler®†</b> (glycopyrronium) Novartis Use: OD Strength: 50mcg Capacity: 10 or 30 capsules/carton</p>  <p><b>Spiriva®†† via HandiHaler®</b> (tiotropium) Boehringer Ingelheim Use: OD Strength: 18mcg Capacity: 10 or 30 capsules/carton</p>  <p><b>Tudorza® Genuair®†</b> (aclidinium) AstraZeneca Use: BID Strength: 400mcg Capacity: 30 or 60 actuations/device</p>	<p><b>Trelegy® Ellipta®</b> (fluticasone furoate/umeclidinium/vilanterol) GlaxoSmithKline Use: OD Strength: 100/62.5/25mcg Capacity: 7 or 30 blisters/canister</p> <p><b>Combivent® Respimat®†</b> (ipratropium/salbutamol) Boehringer Ingelheim Use: QID Strength: 20/100mcg Capacity: 120 actuations/cartridge Product monograph recommends: 1 inhalation 4 times/day for COPD</p>	
		Combination SAMA/SABA	<p>• <b>Leukotriene Receptor Antagonists (LTRA)*:</b> Accolate® (zafirlukast) AstraZeneca, Singulair® (montelukast) Merck</p> <p>• <b>IL-5 Inhibitor*:</b> Cinqair® (reslizumab) Teva, Nucala® (mepolizumab) GlaxoSmithKline, Fasenra® (benralizumab) AstraZeneca</p> <p>• <b>Anti-IgE*:</b> Xolair® (omalizumab) Novartis</p> <p>• <b>Oral Corticosteroid (Oral Corticosteroids)**†:</b> Prednisone e.g. Apotex, Teva, Jaspaham, Pro Doc Lte</p> <p>• <b>Methylxanthines†:</b> (aminophylline, oxtriphylline, theophylline)</p> <p>• <b>Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor†:</b> Daxas®† (roflumilast) AstraZeneca</p> <p>• <b>Macrolides†:</b> e.g. Azithromycin</p> <p>• <b>Mucolytic†:</b> oral N-acetylcysteine</p>	
			<p>†Note: The addition of a valved-holding chamber (spacer) with a pMDI is helpful in improving coordination, reducing side effects and increasing drug delivery and deposition (CTS 2010 Asthma Guidelines—<a href="https://respiratoryguidelines.ca">respiratoryguidelines.ca</a>)</p>	

**Acronyms:** OD = Once daily, BID = Twice Daily, QID = Four times daily **Symbols:** \*Indicated for the treatment of Asthma, †Indicated for the treatment of COPD, †Indicated for use with a valved-holding chamber (spacer).

This is not a complete list of respiratory medications. Please refer to the respective product monographs for detailed information on indications, contraindications, adverse events, dosing and administration and patient selection. Health Canada Drug Product Database: <https://health-products.canada.ca/dpd-bdpp/index-eng.jsp> This chart is provided for information purposes only. Medications are listed in alphabetical order.

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## Once-Daily Single-Inhaler Triple versus Dual Therapy in Patients with COPD

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# Triple-combined inhaler

- Population: COPD, age  $\geq 40$ , CAT  $\geq 10$  + FEV1  $< 50\%$  OR 2 mod or 1 severe exacerbation
- Primary outcome: Mod-severe exacerbations
  - 0.91/yr vs 1.07/yr (ICS/LABA) vs 1.21 (LABA/LAMA) ( $p < 0.001$ )
- Secondary outcomes:
  - FEV<sub>1</sub> +97 mL (ICS/LABA), +54 mL (LABA/LAMA)
  - SGRQ decrease by  $\geq 4$  points
    - (42% vs 34% (ICS/LABA) vs 34% (LABA/LAMA))
- Protocol-defined other outcomes:
  - Death from any cause (HR 0.58,  $p = 0.01$ )





**Cochrane**  
**Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

**Non-invasive ventilation for the management of acute hypercapnic respiratory failure due to exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (Review)**

Osadnik CR, Tee VS, Carson-Chahhoud KV, Picot J, Wedzicha JA, Smith BJ

# NIV for AECOPD

- 17 randomised controlled trials involving 1264 participants
- NIV
  - **decreased the risk of mortality by 46%** (RR 0.54, 95% CI 0.38-0.76)
  - **decreased the risk of needing endotracheal intubation by 65%** (RR 0.36, 95% CI 0.28-0.46)



## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOR THE MAIN COMPARISON [\[Explanation\]](#)

Non-invasive ventilation versus usual medical care for management of acute hypercapnic respiratory failure due to exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (overall effects)						
<b>Patient or population:</b> Patients admitted to hospital with acute hypercapnic respiratory failure due to an exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) <b>Setting:</b> Acute inpatient <b>Intervention:</b> Non-invasive ventilation <b>Comparison:</b> Usual care						
Outcomes	Anticipated absolute effects* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	No. of participants (studies)	Quality of the evidence (GRADE)	Comments
	Risk with usual care -	Risk with NIV Overall				
Mortality	183 per 1000	99 per 1000 (70 to 139)	RR 0.54 (0.38 to 0.76)	854 (12 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE <sup>a</sup>	Downgraded owing to risk of bias for some included studies
Need for endotracheal intubation	341 per 1000	123 per 1000 (95 to 157)	RR 0.36 (0.28 to 0.46)	1105 (17 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE <sup>a</sup>	Downgraded owing to risk of bias for some included studies
Length of hospital stay (days)	Mean length of hospital stay (days) was 17.5	MD 3.39 lower (5.93 lower to 0.85 lower)	-	888 (10 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE <sup>a,b</sup>	Downgraded owing to risk of bias and inconsistency of findings for some included studies
<b>*The risk in the intervention group</b> (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on assumed risk in the comparison group and the <b>relative effect</b> of the intervention (and its 95% CI)  CI: confidence interval; OR: odds ratio; RR: risk ratio						
<b>GRADE Working Group grades of evidence</b> <b>High quality:</b> We are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect <b>Moderate quality:</b> We are moderately confident in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different						



# Respirology Referral

- COPD and increased symptoms, young age at onset, or exacerbations
- Uncontrolled asthma despite ICS/LABA therapy
- Undiagnosed lung disease
- Undiagnosed dyspnea without suspicion for heart failure or coronary artery disease
- Mediastinal lymphadenopathy NYD
- Sarcoidosis
- Non-group 2 pulmonary hypertension
  - (secondary to left heart disease)
- Respiratory failure
- Neuromuscular disease (e.g. ALS)
- Hemoptysis
- Pleural effusion
- Preoperative respiratory consultation
- Local care for lung transplantation

# What I don't do

- Sleep Medicine
  - (consults provided by Dr. Chandy, Dr. Dales, and Dr. Alewan – refer through the Sleep Lab at HSN)

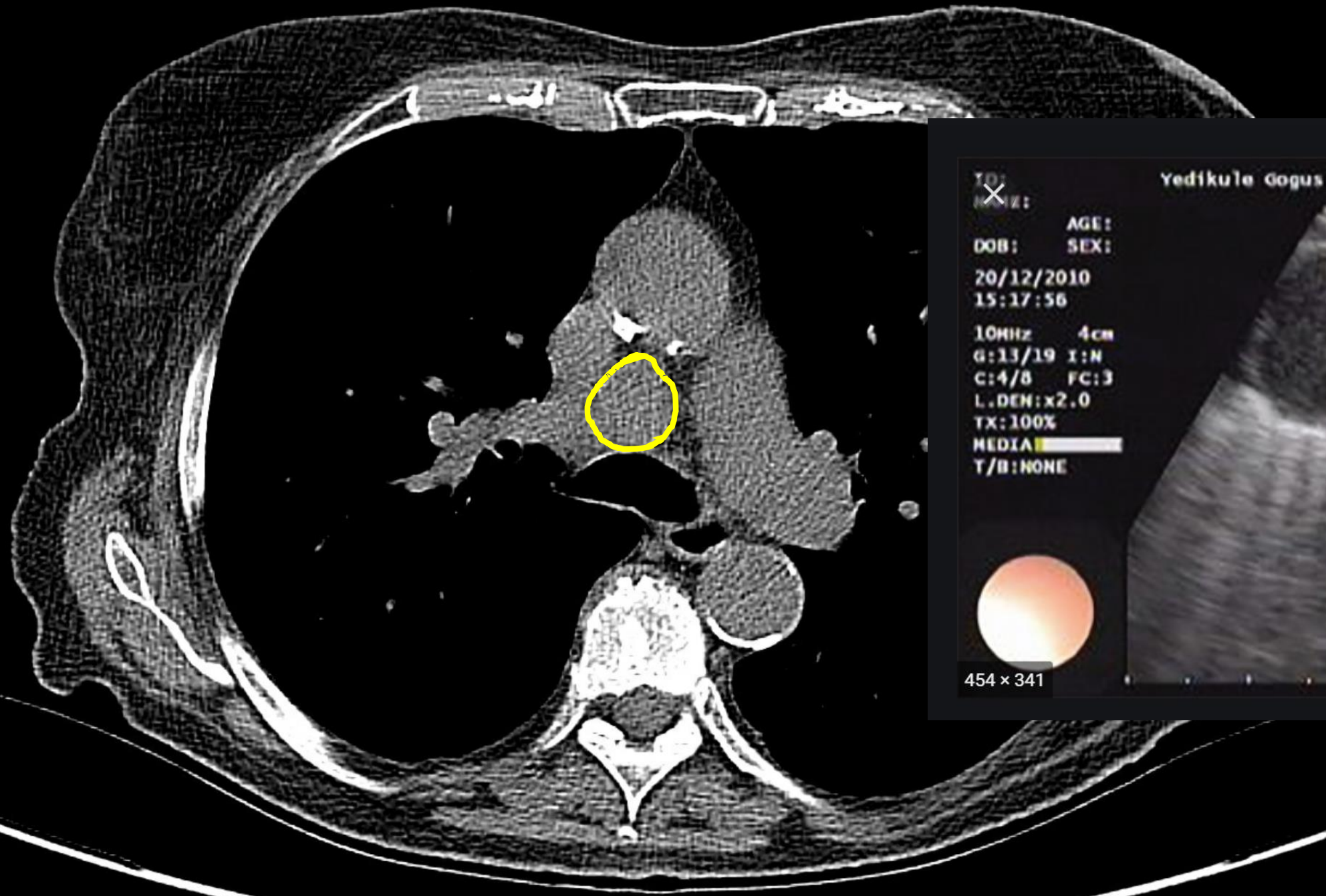
# Introduction to Interventional Pulmonology

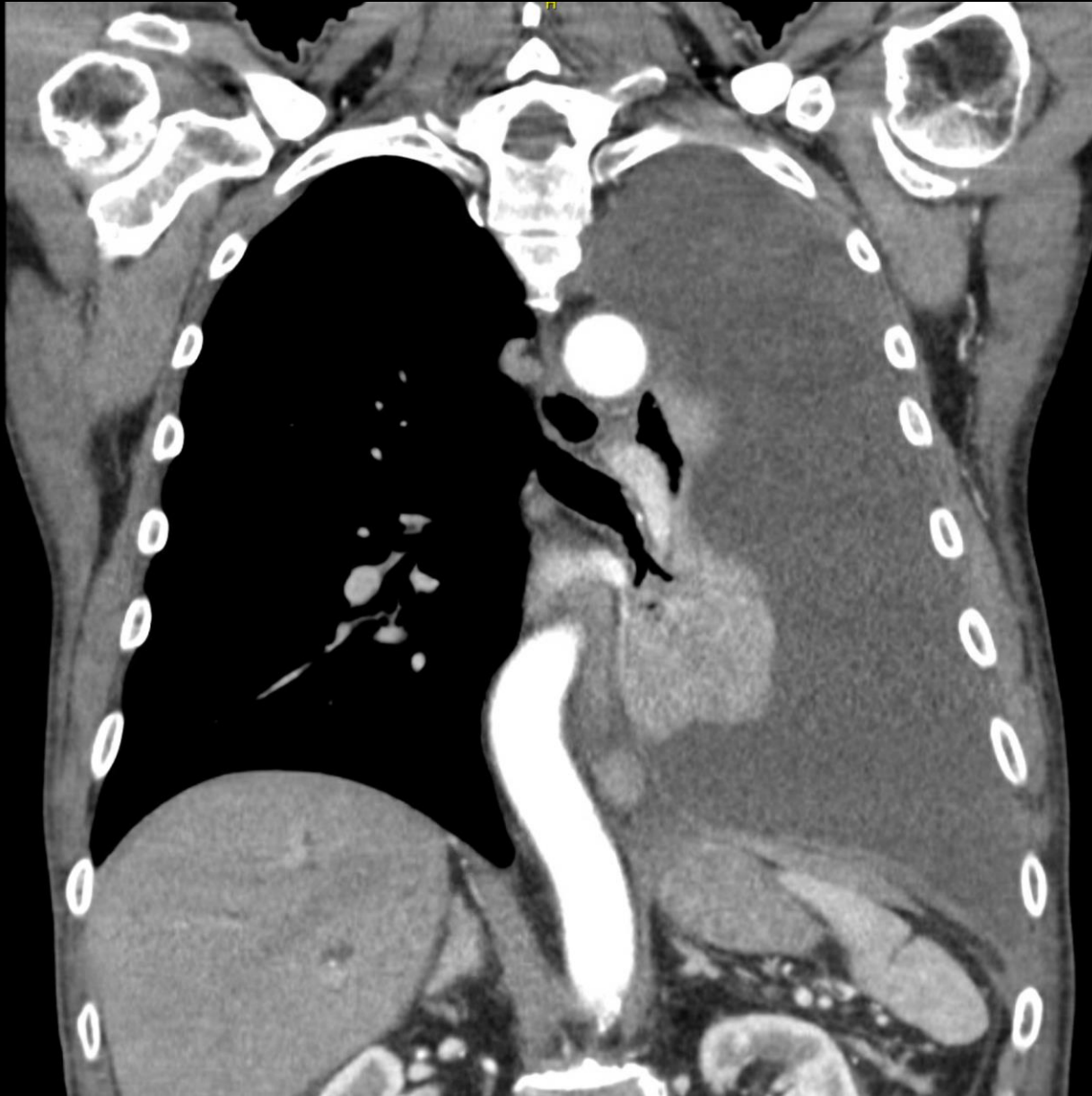
- Use of advanced airway and pleural procedures for diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the airways, lungs, and pleura

- Procedures:

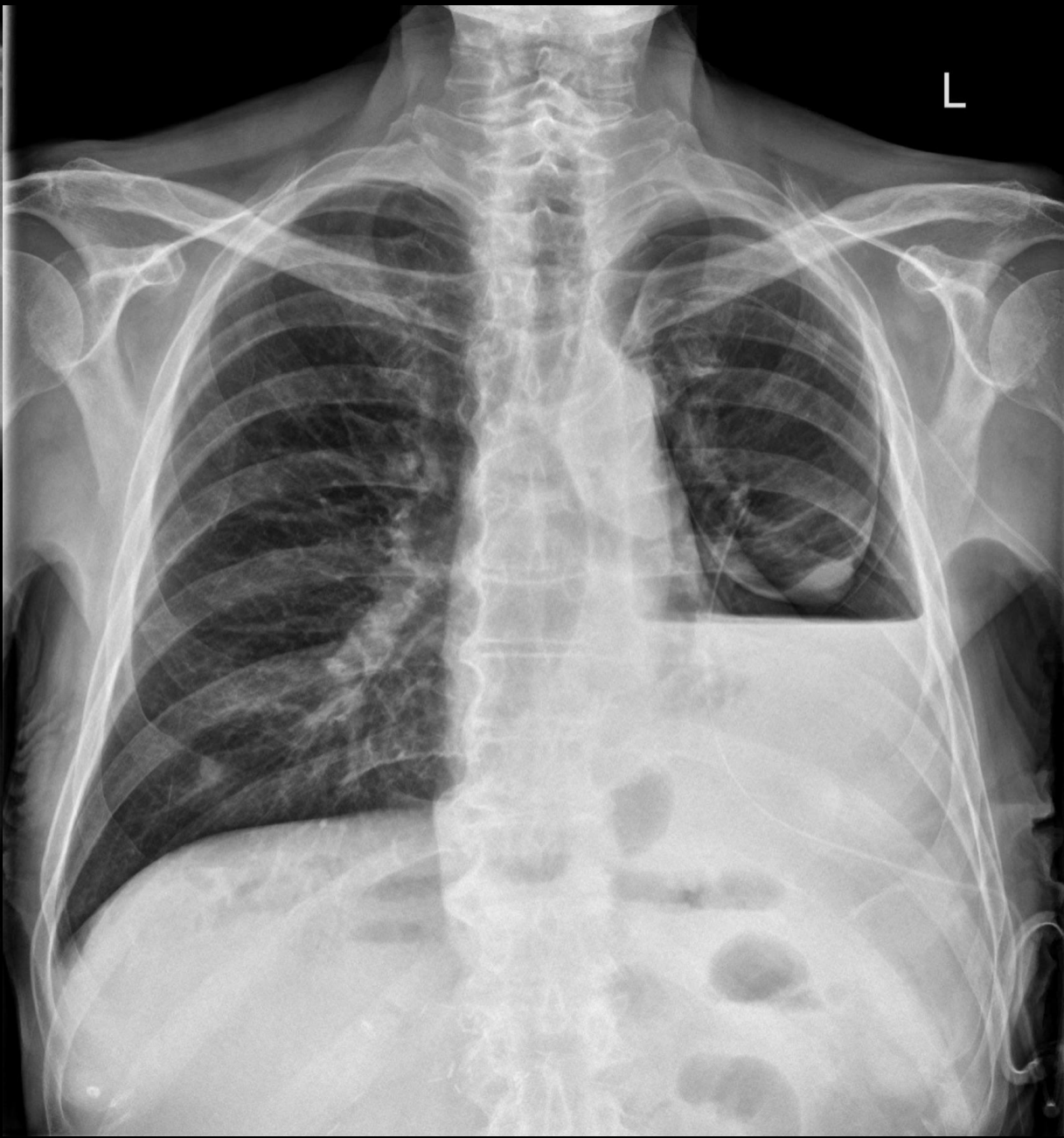
- Endobronchial ultrasound (Linear EBUS)
- Transbronchial and endobronchial biopsies
- Tunnelled indwelling pleural catheter (IPC) insertion
- Debulking or dilatation of short-segment obstructive lesions
- Medical Pleuroscopy
- Endobronchial stents
- Endobronchial valves
- Bronchial thermoplasty
- Radial EBUS

Currently available at HSN

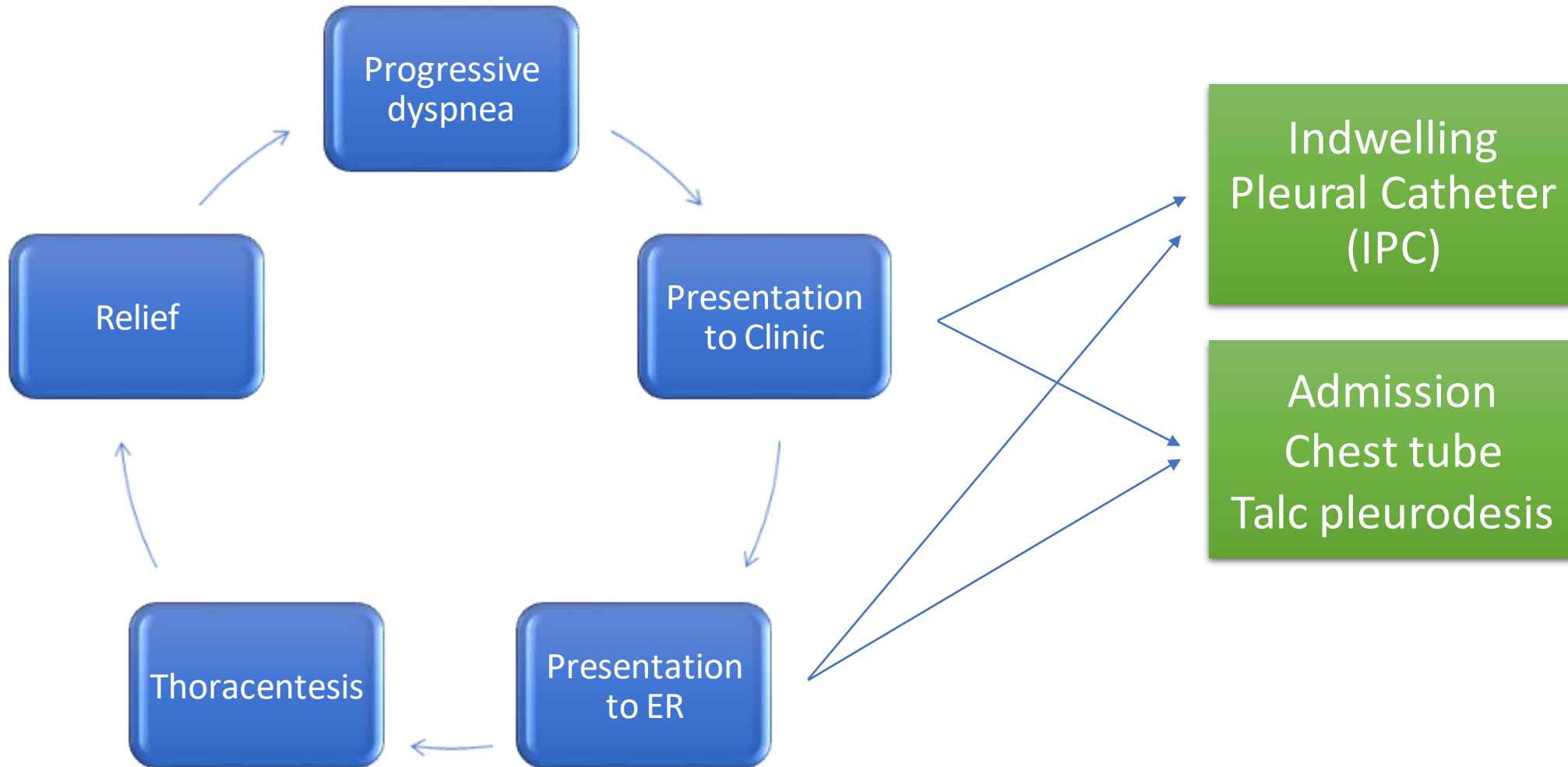


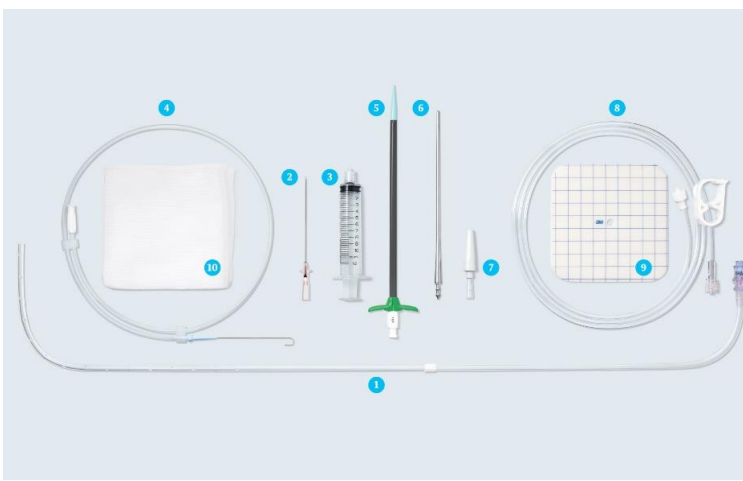






# Natural History of Malignant Pleural Effusions

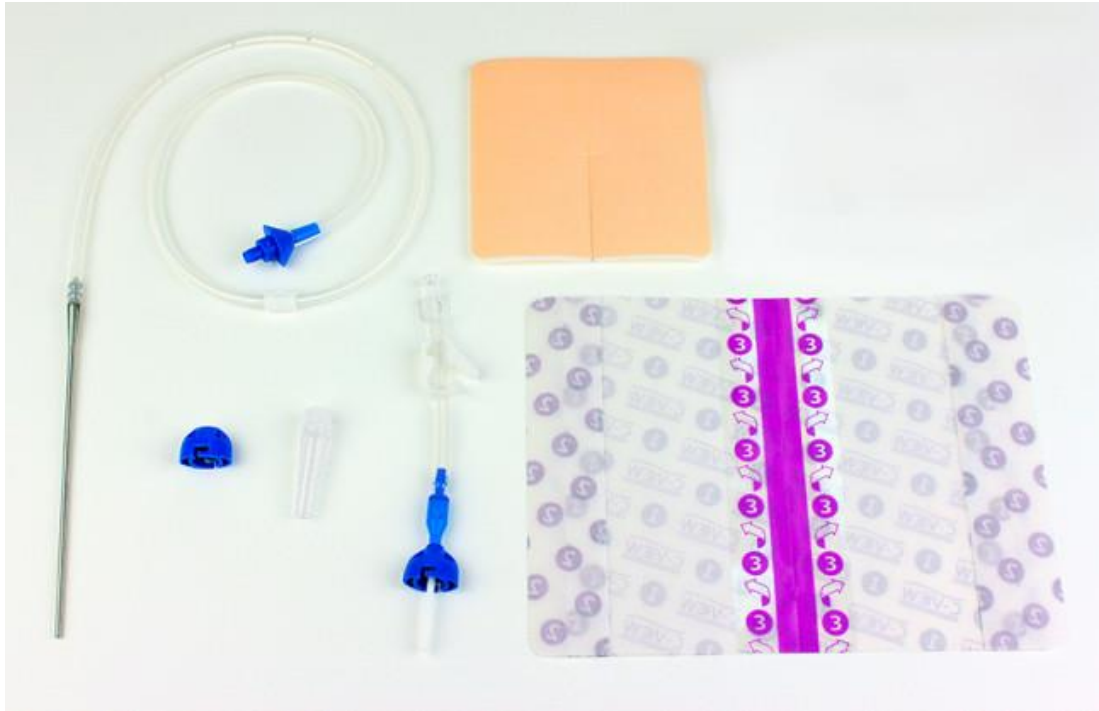




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# Choosing Wisely Canada

**1. Don't initiate long-term maintenance inhalers in stable patients with suspected COPD if they have not had confirmation of post-bronchodilator airflow obstruction with spirometry.**

**2. Don't perform CT screening for lung cancer among patients at low risk for lung cancer.**

**3. Don't perform chest computed tomography (CT angiography) or ventilation-perfusion scanning to evaluate for possible pulmonary embolism in patients with a low clinical probability and negative results of a highly sensitive D-dimer assay.**

**4. Don't treat adult cough with antibiotics even if it lasts more than 1 week, unless bacterial pneumonia is suspected (mean viral cough duration is 18 days).**

**5. Don't initiate medications for asthma (e.g., inhalers, leukotriene receptor antagonists, or other) in patients  $\geq 6$  years old who have not had confirmation of reversible airflow limitation with spirometry, and in its absence, a positive methacholine or exercise challenge test, or sufficient peak expiratory flow variability.**

**6. Don't use antibiotics for acute asthma exacerbations without clear signs of bacterial infection.**

# Take-Home Messages

- The differential of “symptoms of COVID-19” is extremely broad
- A careful search for alternative or comorbid respiratory disease is likely to result in high-value care
- Confirm suspected COPD with pre-/post-bronchodilator spirometry
- Don’t miss asthma
- Refer patients with uncontrolled airway disease or undiagnosed dyspnea
- Interventional techniques are available at HSN including EBUS, transbronchial biopsies, and indwelling pleural catheters