

COPD Essentials for Physicians

Presenting Organization

- Event Name
- Event Date
- Presenter Name, Title

Why COPD? Why Now?

- 4th leading cause of death
 - Only top killer with increasing mortality
- 12 million diagnosed
- Another 12 million undiagnosed

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Why COPD? Why Now?

- COPD patients **will** become a greater proportion of caseload.
- Treatment advances
 - Can improve quality of life.
 - May slow the progression of the disease.
 - Diagnosis is key.

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Risk Factors

- Age 40 and over
 - Persistent/progressive dyspnea
 - Chronic cough
 - Sputum production
 - Unusual and noticeable decline in activity level, especially with smoking history.
- Genetic factors (AAT deficiency) and occupational exposures also play a role.
 - *1 out of 6 Americans with COPD has never smoked*

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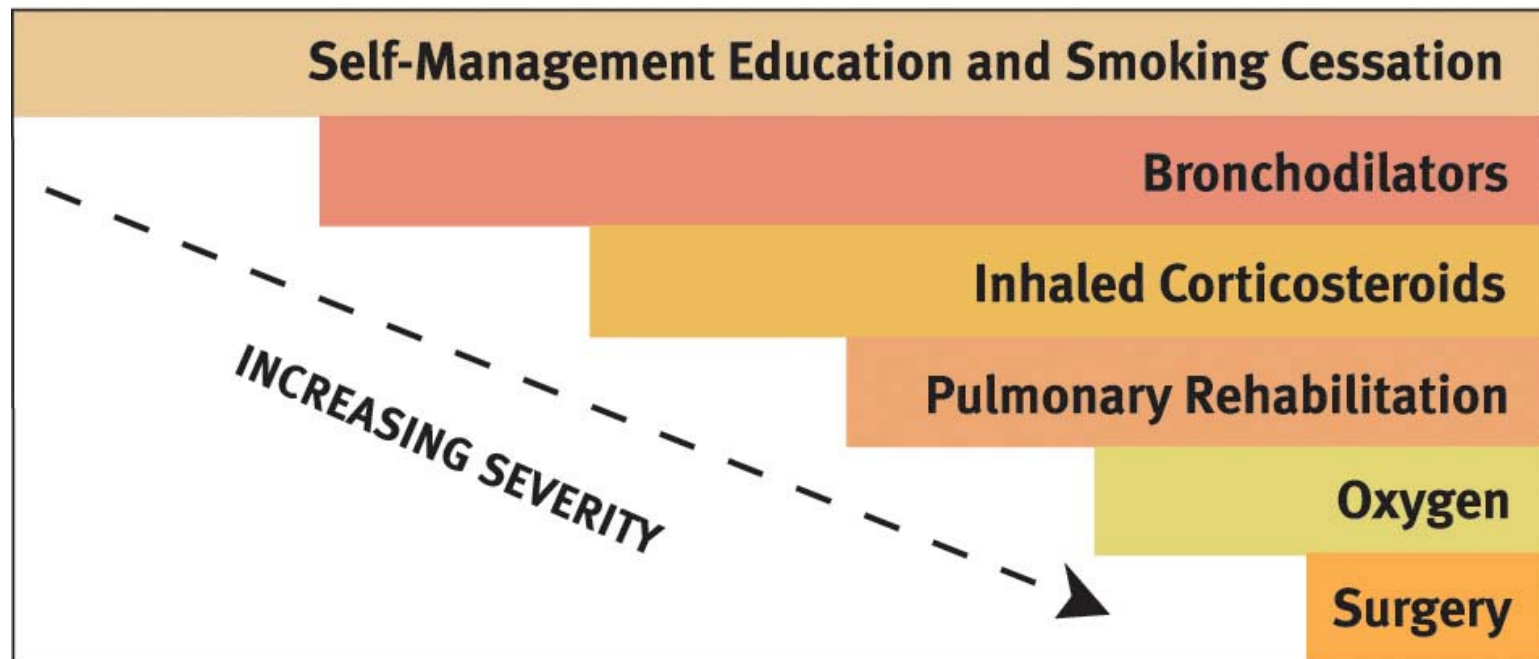
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Diagnosis: Pulmonary Function Testing

- Spirometry
 - Determines severity
 - Distinguishes from asthma
- Diagnosis
 - $FEV_1/FVC < 0.7$ (postbronchodilator)
 - Smoking cessation

Treatment

TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR COPD



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Treatment

- Early detection and early treatment can slow COPD and improve quality of life.
 - Aggressive management makes a difference.
 - Advances in therapies can improve survival or quality of life.
- Smoking cessation
 - www.smokefree.gov

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Summary

- Diagnosis and treatment of COPD is worth our efforts and attention.
- Consider COPD diagnosis in your patients with chronic shortness of breath.
- Proactive treatment can improve and extend lives.

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or

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