

# COPD Update: 2019

Philip T. Diaz, MD OSU Pulmonary and Critical Care  
Medicine

You see a new patient for shortness of breath. He is a former smoker (50 pack years) and has had progressive DOE, such that he has some trouble keeping up with people his own age walking on level ground. In the office, spirometry shows an FEV1/FVC of 0.55 and an FEV1 of 60% of predicted. Room air oxygen saturation is 94% at rest and while walking. What is the diagnosis? Why is he dyspneic without significant oxygen desaturation?

# Presentation Outline

- Diagnosis/pathophysiology/pathogenesis
- Management of stable COPD
  - Pharmacologic treatment
  - COPD as a systemic disease
  - Oxygen therapy
- Management of exacerbations
- Surgical and bronchoscopic management

# Definition of Disease

- COPD, a common preventable and treatable disease, is characterized by persistent respiratory symptoms and airflow limitation due to airway and/or alveolar abnormalities that is usually caused by significant exposure to noxious particles or gases.

Global Initiative for Chronic  
Obstructive Lung Disease: “GOLD”  
guidelines 2019 update.

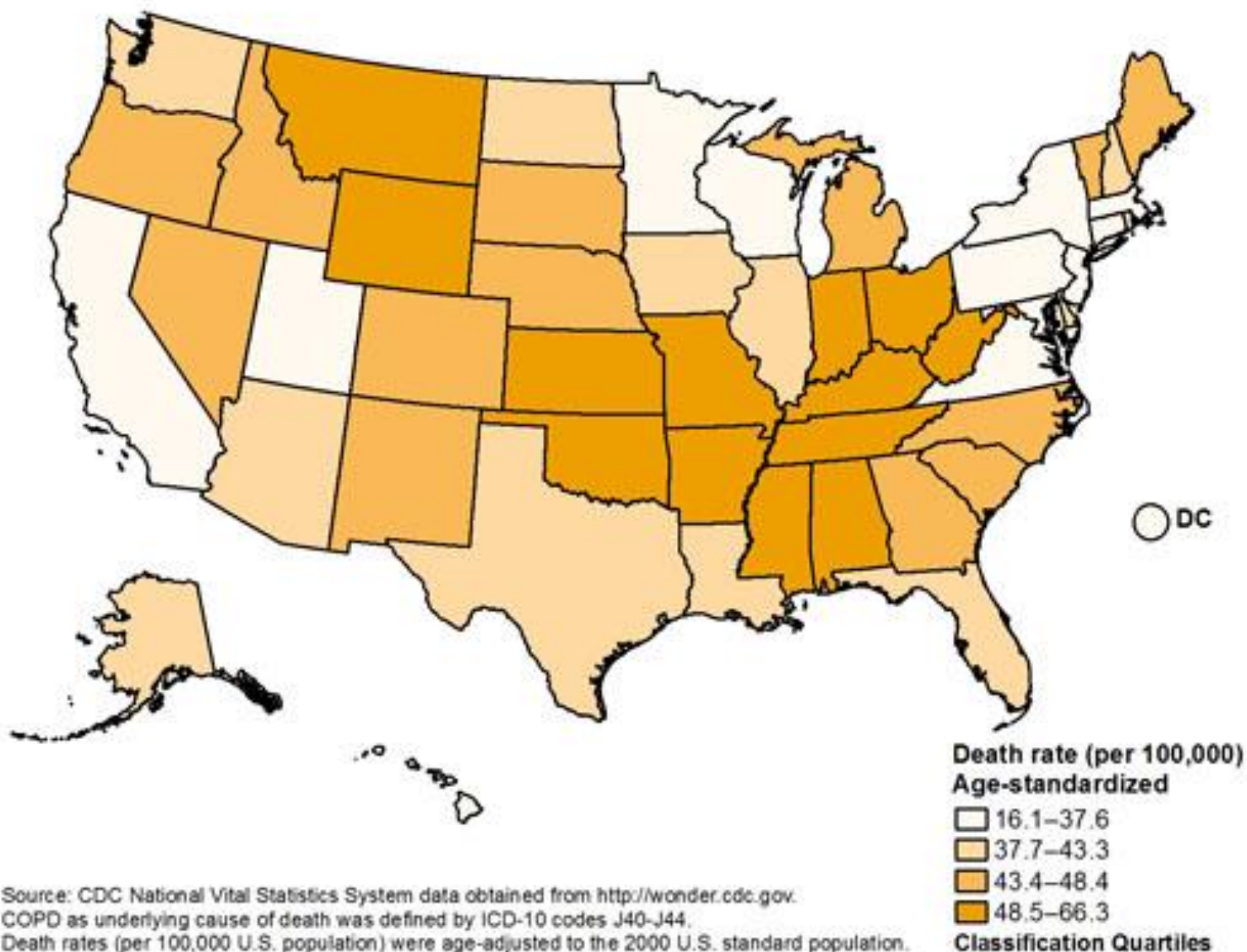
# COPD: major diagnostic criteria

- Symptoms: dyspnea on exertion, cough
- Exposure
  - Cigarette smoking: generally  $> 20$  pack years
- Air-flow obstruction
  - Reduced ratio of forced expiratory volume in one second to forced vital capacity (FEV1/FVC)

# COPD Epidemiology

- 6.3% of US adults have COPD (CDC 2011)
- Leading cause of mortality
  - In US: 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause
  - Worldwide: projected to be 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2020
- Annual cost in US
  - 29.5 billion direct
  - 20.4 billion indirect

**Age-Standardized Death Rate (Per 100,000 U.S. Population)  
for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)—  
United States, 2010**

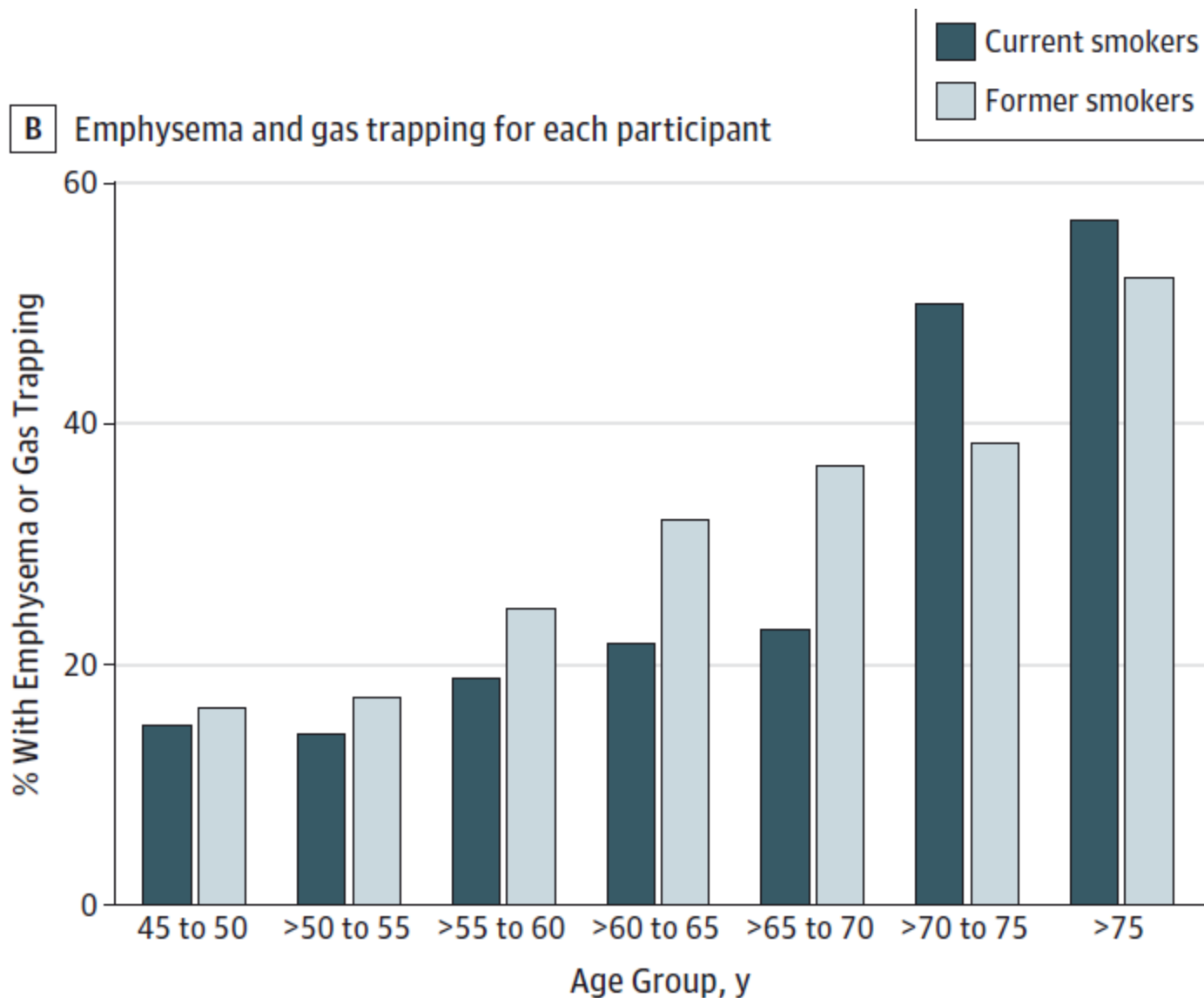


# Lung disease in smokers with normal spirometry

- Clinical significance of symptoms in smokers with normal pulmonary function (**NEJM 2016**)
  - High prevalence of symptoms, chest CT airways disease and “COPD” treatment among current/former smokers with normal spirometry
- Clinical and radiologic disease in smokers with normal spirometry (**JAMA 2015**)
  - High prevalence of symptoms, chest CT emphysema among current former smokers with normal spirometry
  - “35 million smokers in US with unrecognized disease”

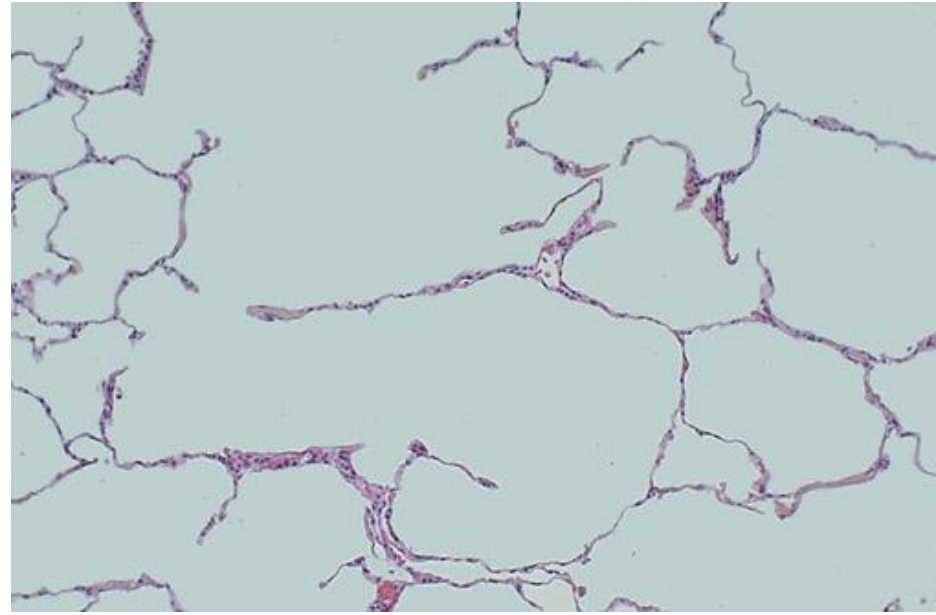
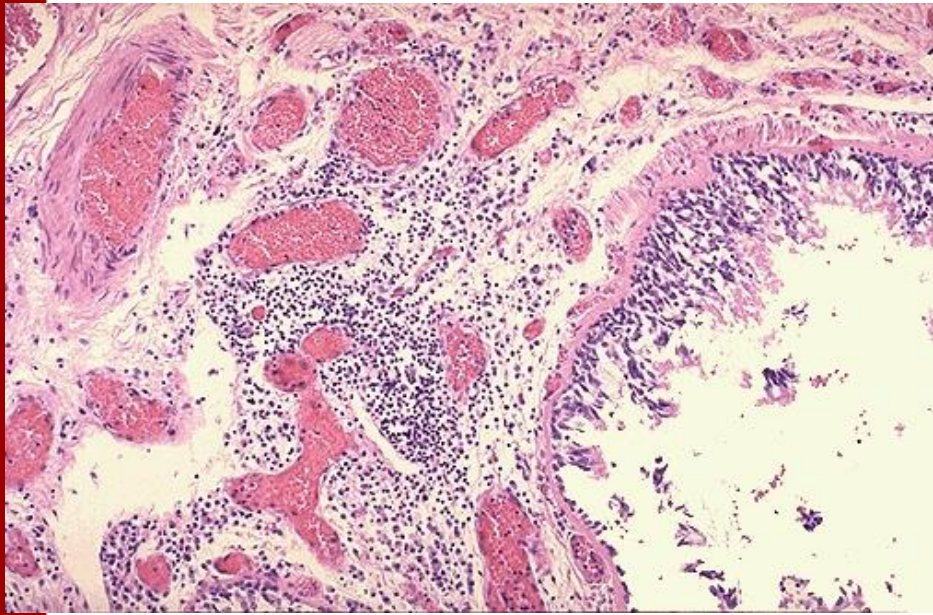


## High prevalence of HRCT abnormalities in subjects with normal spirometry, Regan et al. JAMA 2015



# COPD: pulmonary pathophysiology

- Expiratory air-flow limitation
- Ventilation-perfusion mismatch
- Hyperinflation

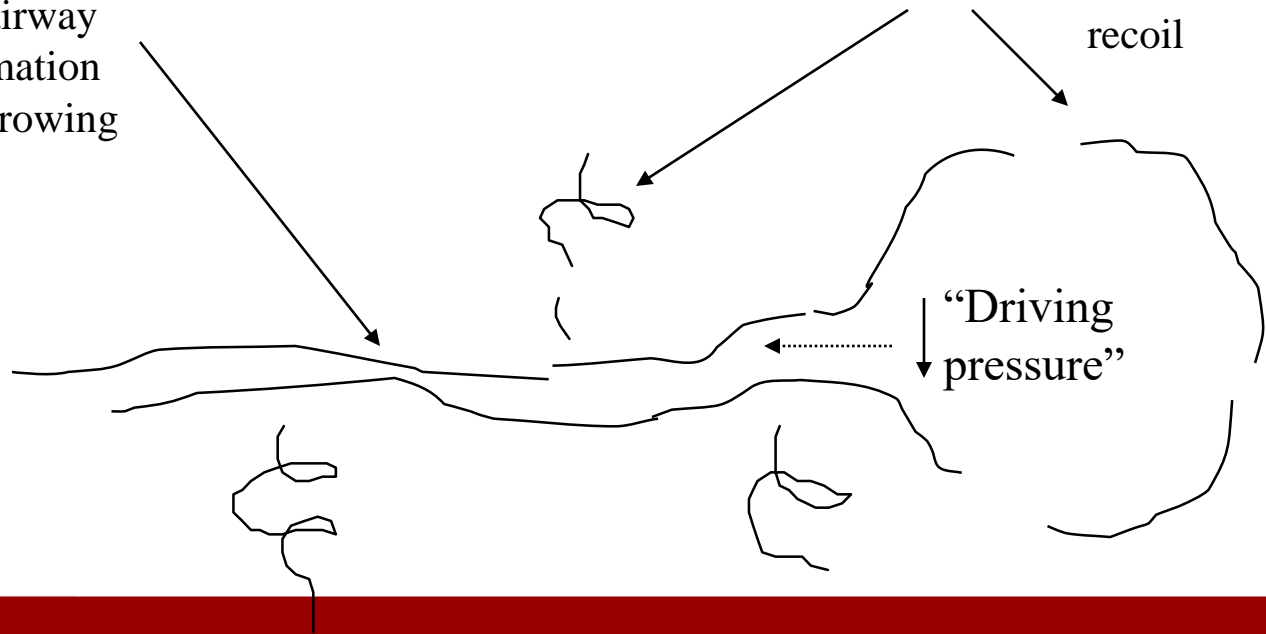


## Chronic bronchitis

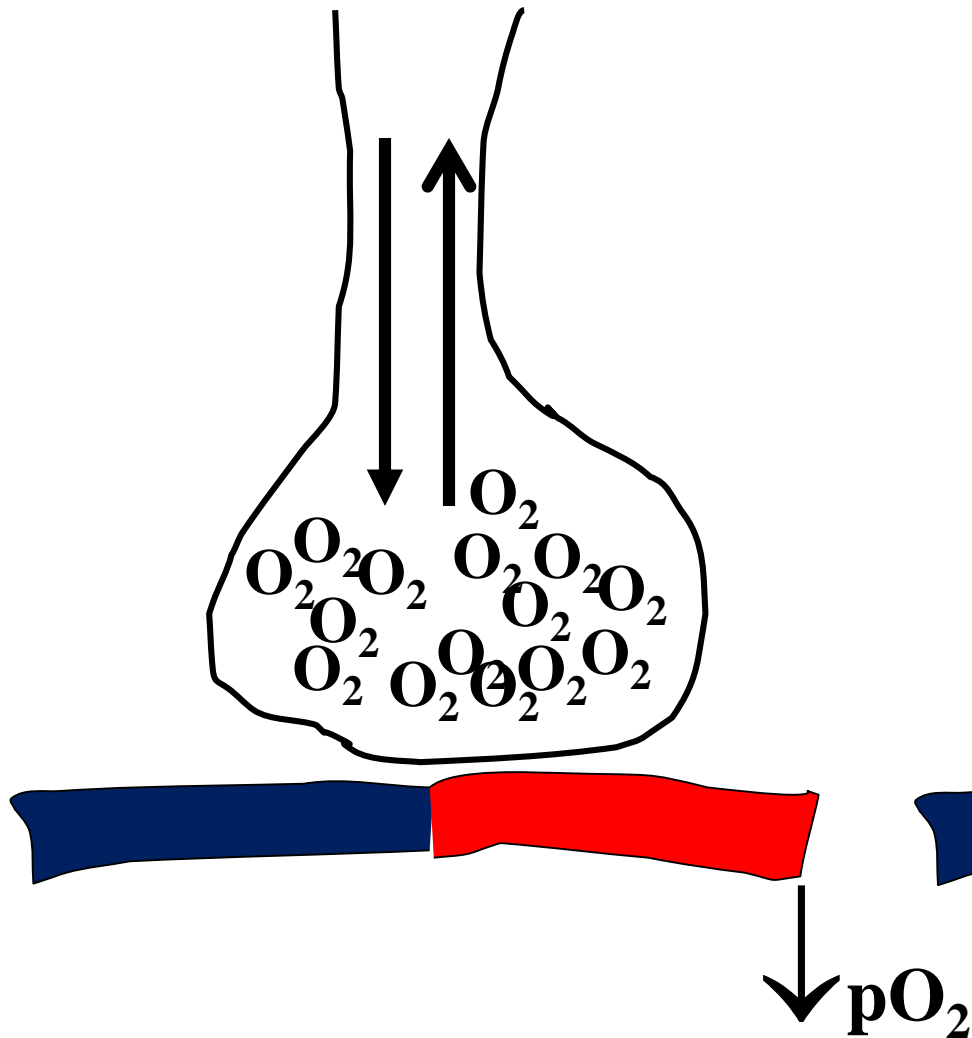
Small airway  
inflammation  
and narrowing

## Emphysema

Loss of elastic  
recoil

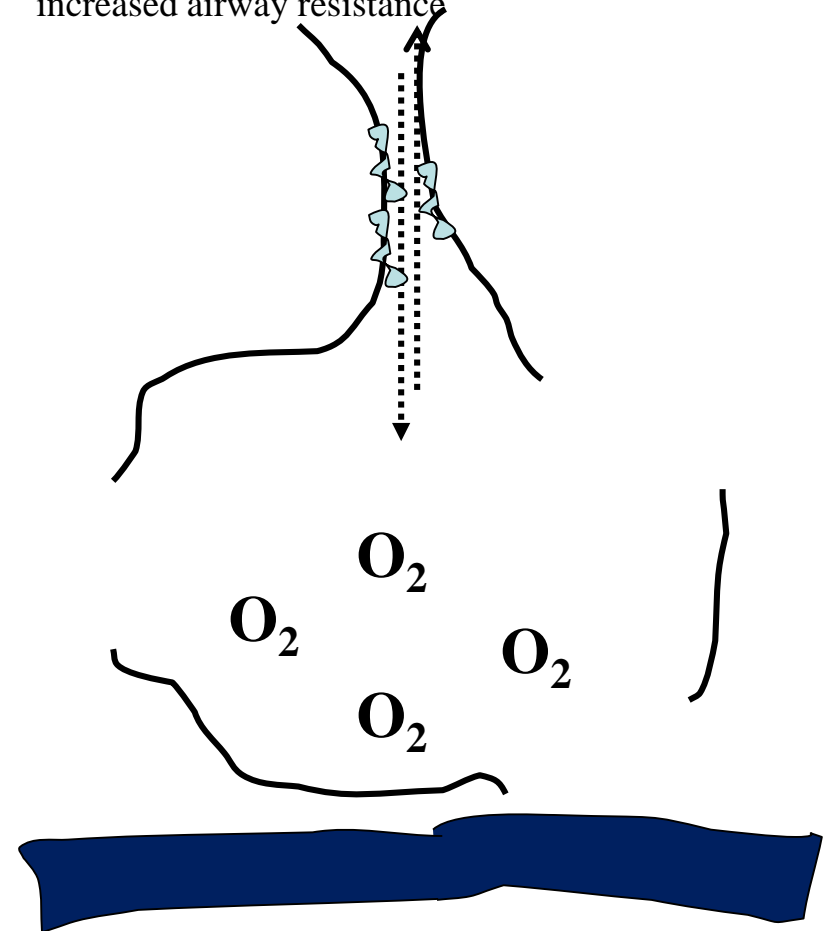


## Normal

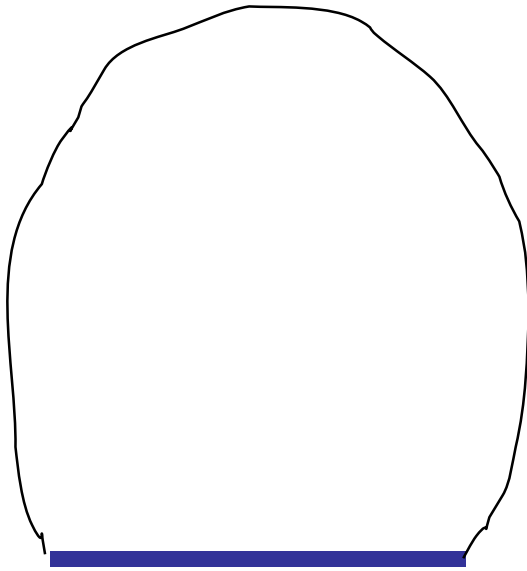


Emphysema: lung units with increased compliance fill and empty more slowly

Chronic bronchitis: airway inflammation/mucous production leads to increased airway resistance



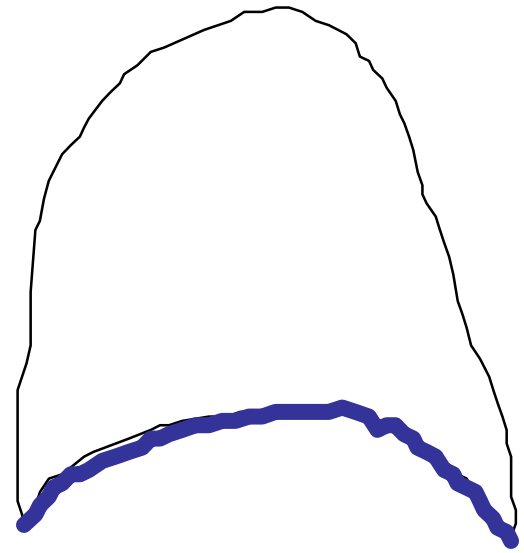
# Hyperinflation and respiratory muscle weakness



Shorter muscle length - less actin, myosin overlap

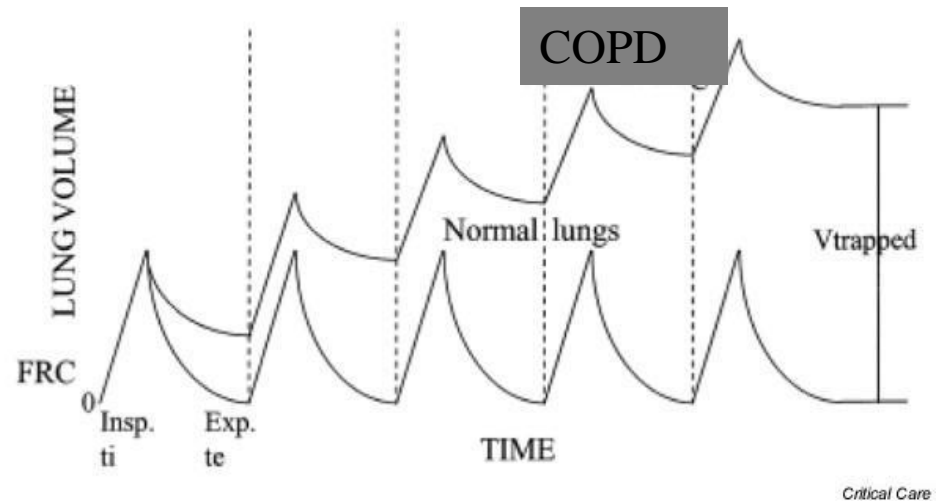
Decreased zone of apposition

Emphysema



Normal

# Dynamic hyperinflation in COPD

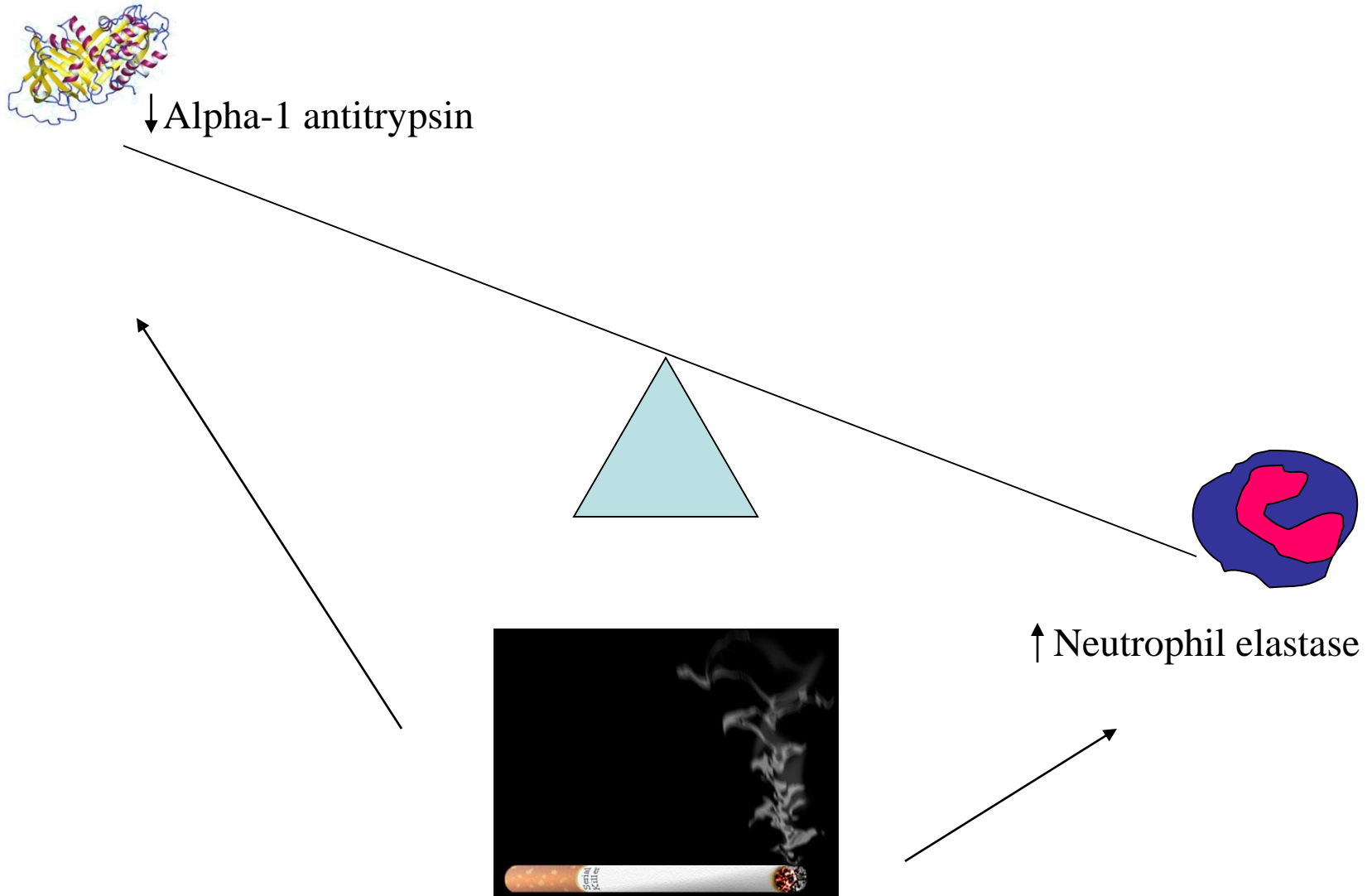


# COPD Pathogenesis

54 y.o. non-smoker with severe air-flow obstruction

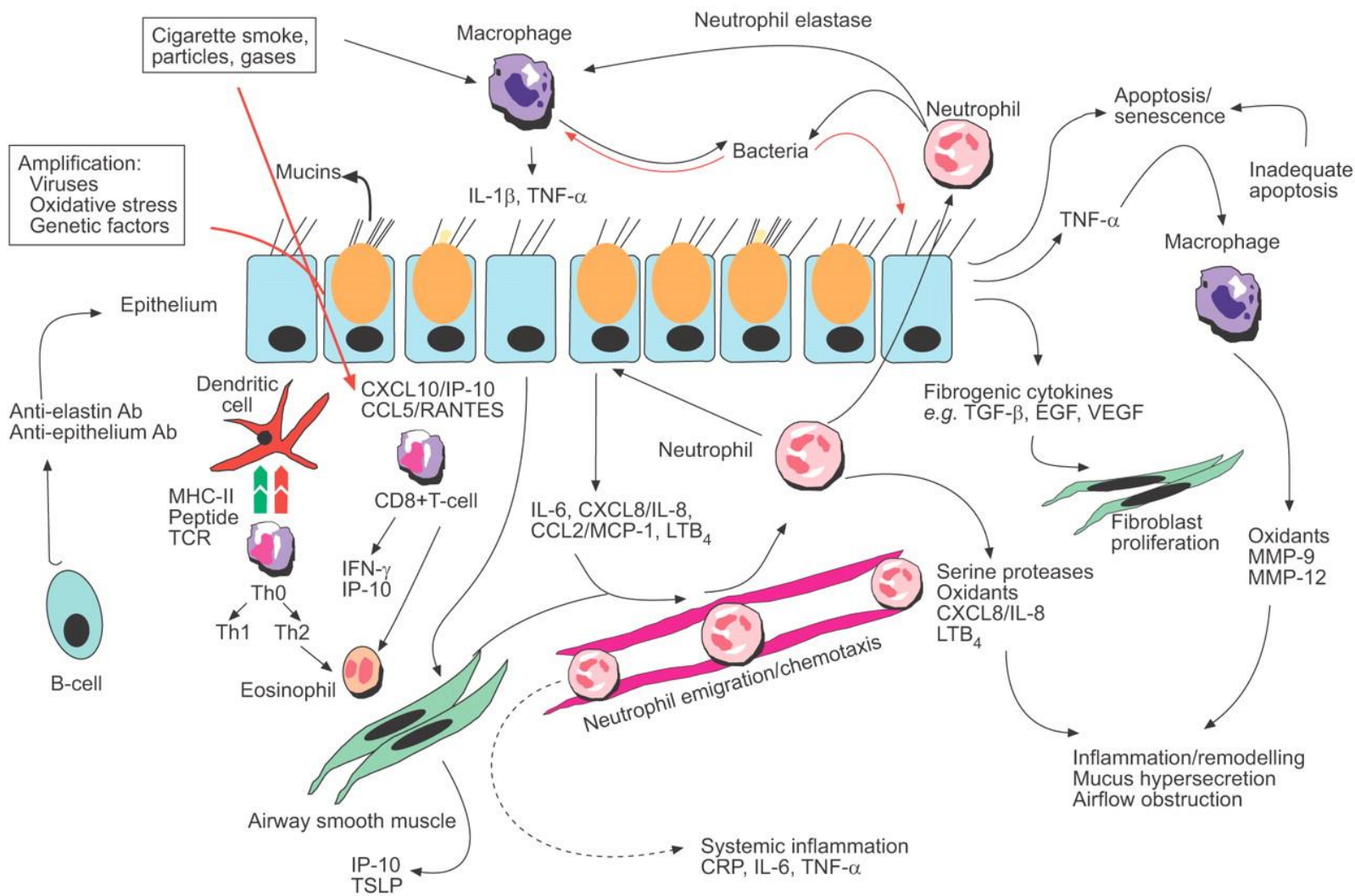


# Protease – Antiprotease hypothesis of emphysema pathogenesis



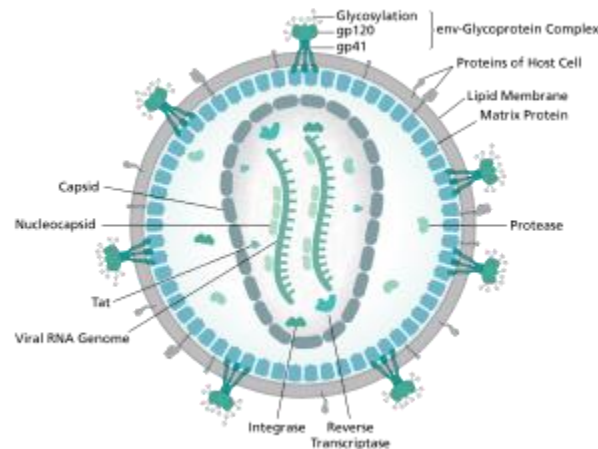


# Inflammation, immunity, tissue repair and destruction in COPD

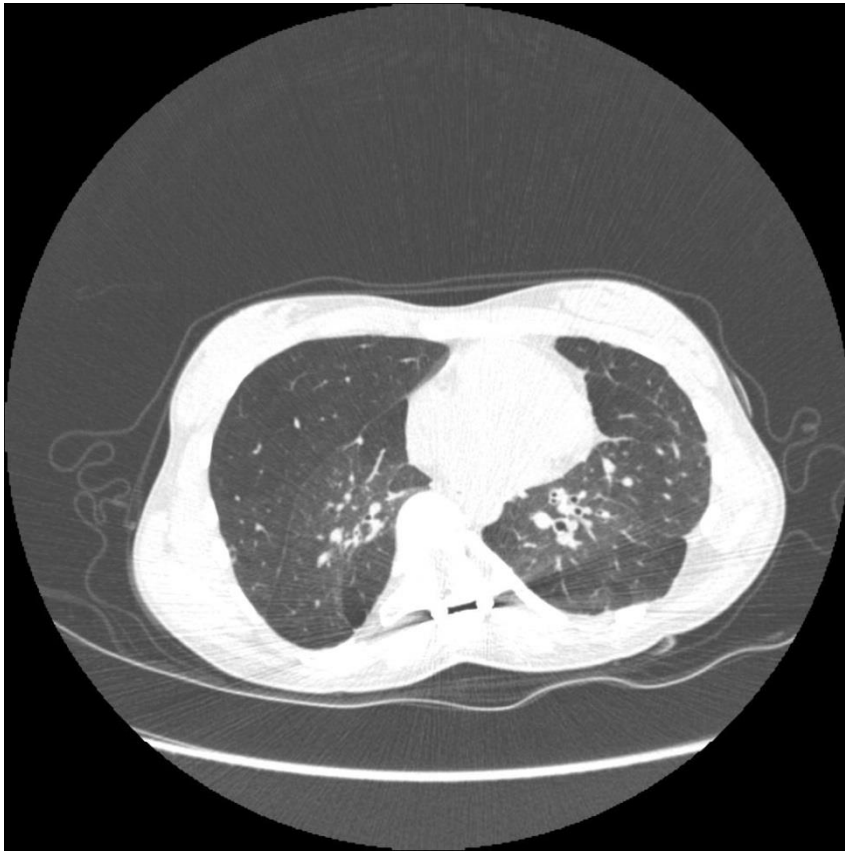


Fare, Eur Respir J,  
2008

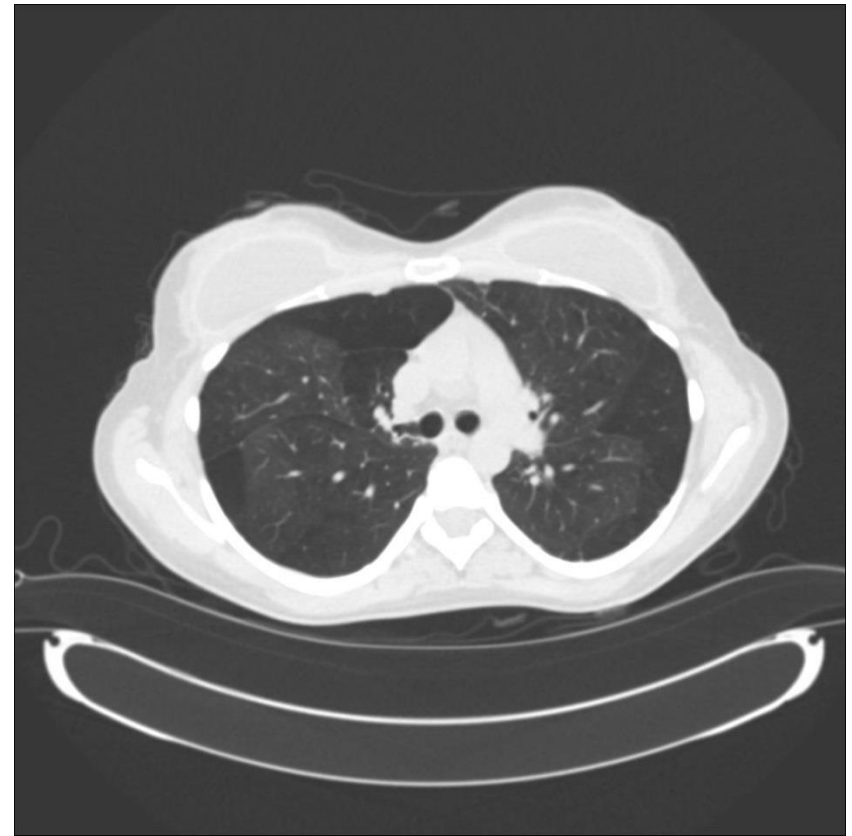
# Risk factors for COPD development



**HIV+**



24 y.o. female never  
smoker with severe air-  
flow obstruction



34 y.o. female never  
smoker with severe air-  
flow obstruction

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You see a new patient with shortness of breath. He is a former smoker (50 pack years) and has had progressive DOE, such that he has some trouble keeping up with people his own age walking on level ground. In the office, spirometry shows an FEV1/FVC of 0.55 and an FEV1 of 60% of predicted. He has never been treated with prednisone or antibiotics for his lungs. What treatment would you recommend?

1. Inhaled corticosteroid (ICS)
2. Inhaled corticosteroid/long acting beta agonist combination (ICS/LABA)
3. Long acting muscarinic antagonist (LAMA)
4. Whatever the insurance company tells you to do...

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# COPD Assessment

- “GOLD” Categories based on:
  - Severity of spirometric abnormality
  - Symptoms
  - Future risk of exacerbations
- Other assessment considerations
  - CXR
  - Pulse oximetry; consider ABG if  $\leq 92\%$
  - Alpha-1 anti-trypsin if age  $< 45$  or strong family history

# GOLD COPD “phenotyping” based on degree of air-flow obstruction

FEV1/FVC less than 0.7

- **GOLD 1**                      FEV1  $\geq$  80% predicted
- **GOLD 2**                      50%  $\leq$  FEV1  $>$  80%
- **GOLD 3**                      30%  $\leq$  FEV1  $>$  50%
- **GOLD 4**                      FEV1  $<$  30% predicted



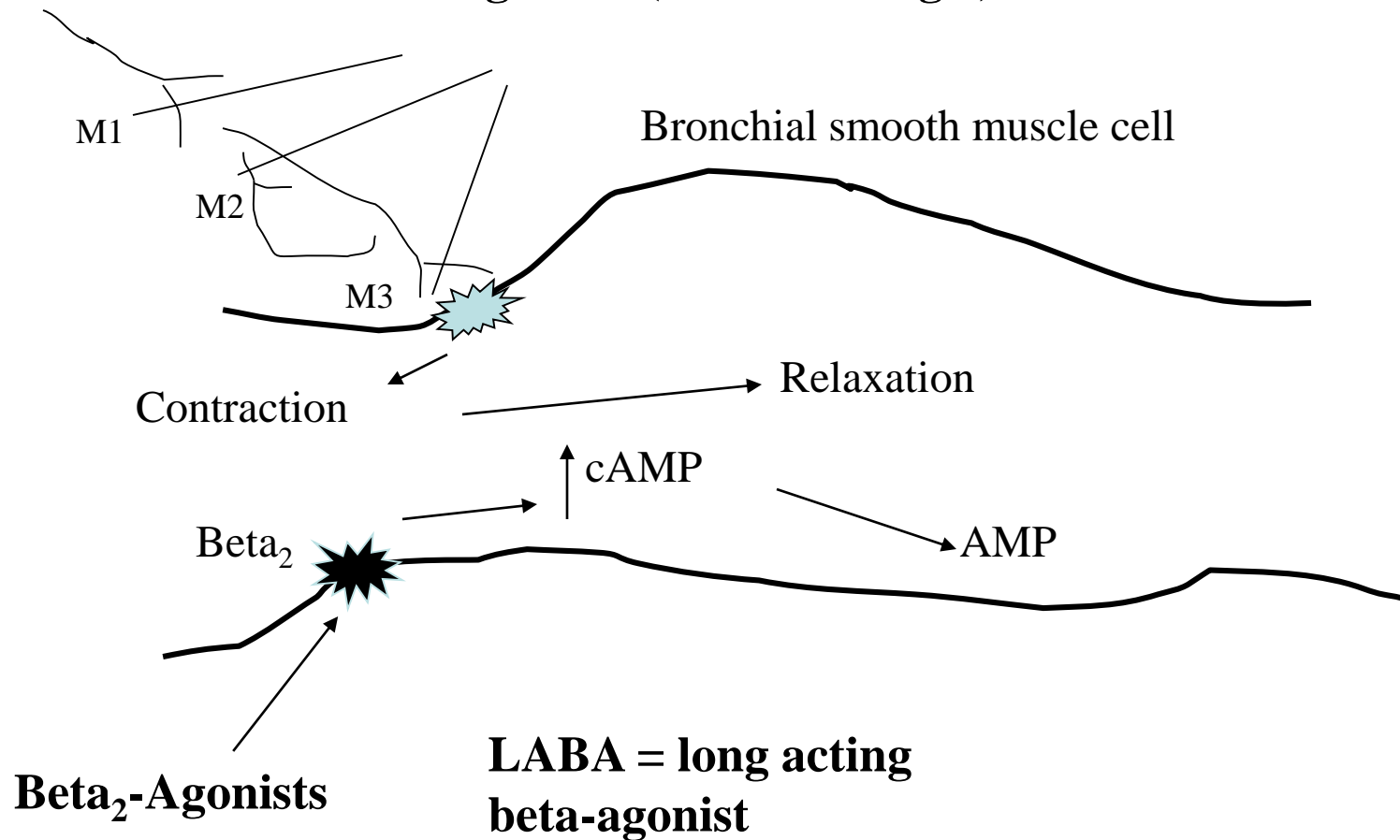
# Additional GOLD “COPD phenotyping” – based on exacerbation risk and symptoms

- **C , D = Increased Risk of Exacerbations**
  - 2 or more exacerbations in the previous year (or 1 requiring hospitalization)
- **B, D = Increased Breathlessness/Dyspnea**
  - Walk slower than a similar age person on level ground (MRC stage 2)
  - COPD Assessment Test (CAT) score  $\geq 10$

# Bronchodilator therapy in COPD

**LAMA = long acting  
muscarinic antagonist**

**Muscarinic Antagonists (anticholinergic)**



# Combination inhalers for COPD

- **LAMA/LABA**

- Umeclidinium/Vilanterol
  - **Anoro**
- Tiotropium/Olodaterol
  - **Stiolto**
- Glycopyrrolate/Formoterol
  - **Bevespi**
- Glycopyrrolate/indacaterol
  - **Ultibro**

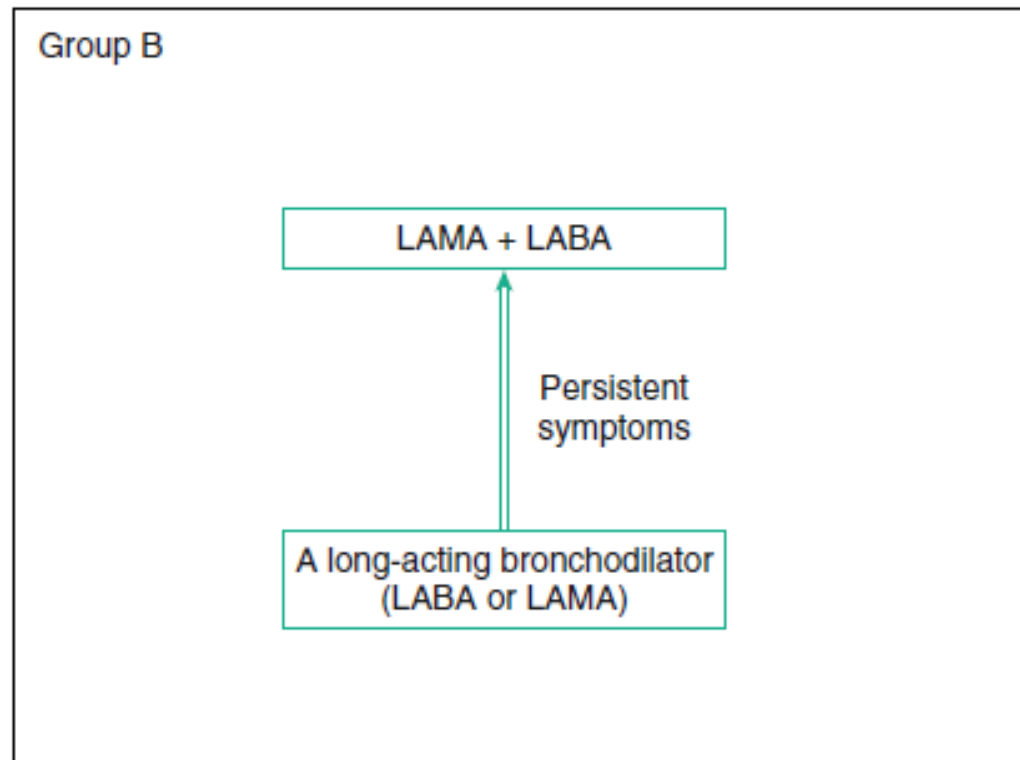
- **ICS/LABA**

- Fluticasone/Salmeterol
  - **Advair**
- Budesonide/Formoterol
  - **Symbicort**
- Mometasone/Formoterol
  - **Dulera**
- Fluticasone/Vilanterol
  - **Breo**

## **LAMA/LABA/ICS**

- Umeclidinium/Vilanterol/Fluticasone
  - **Trelegy**

# COPD patient with substantial symptoms, but no increased exacerbation risk



You see a new patient for evaluation of COPD. He was hospitalized earlier in the year for an acute exacerbation but is now back to baseline. He notes significant DOE, such that he has trouble walking 100 yards without stopping. His only respiratory medication is albuterol MDI and in a nebulizer which he uses 6 times a day. Recent post-bronchodilator spirometry shows an FEV1/FVC of 0.49 and an FEV1 of 51% of predicted. He has a CAT score of 22 and his blood eosinophil count is 150. Based on the available information you should recommend the following maintenance therapy:

1. LAMA
2. ICS/LABA
3. LAMA/LABA
4. ICS

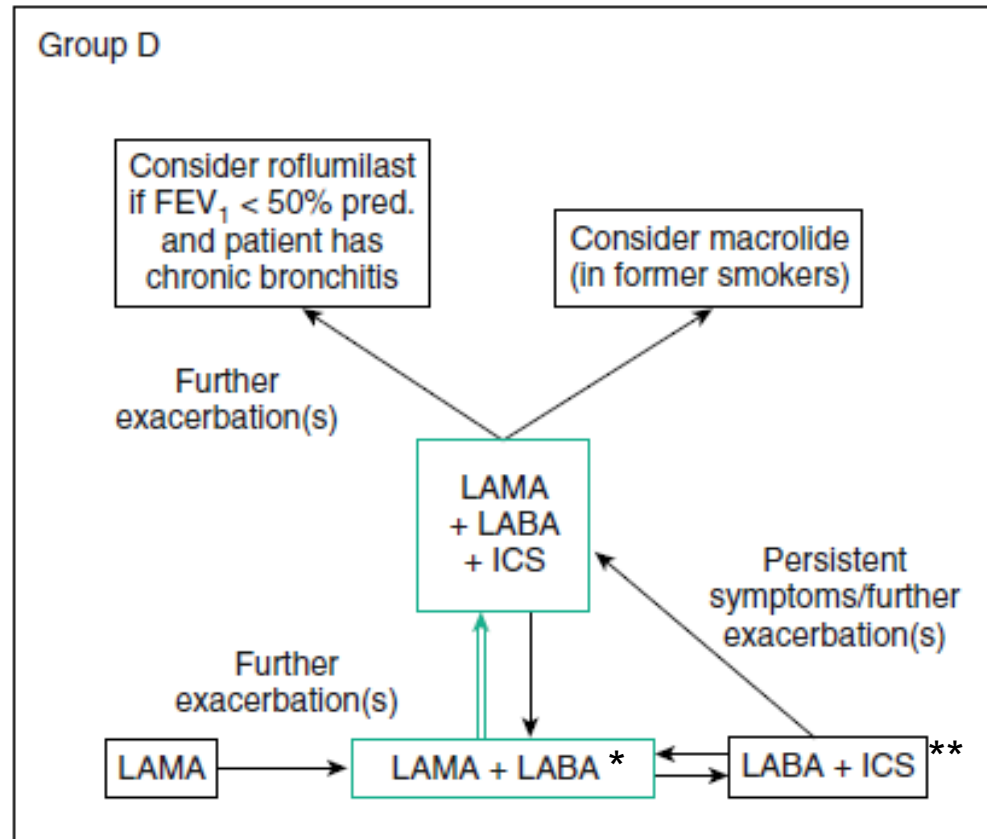
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# Drug therapy considerations based on exacerbation risk

- If increased risk of exacerbation (GOLD C,D) the regimen should contain a LAMA or ICS
- ICS therapy in COPD should be given in a combination inhaler ICS/LABA
- Increased eosinophils ( $\geq 300$ ) may predict ICS responsiveness

COPD patient with substantial symptoms, and increased exacerbation risk



- \*if highly symptomatic

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** if blood
eos ≥300
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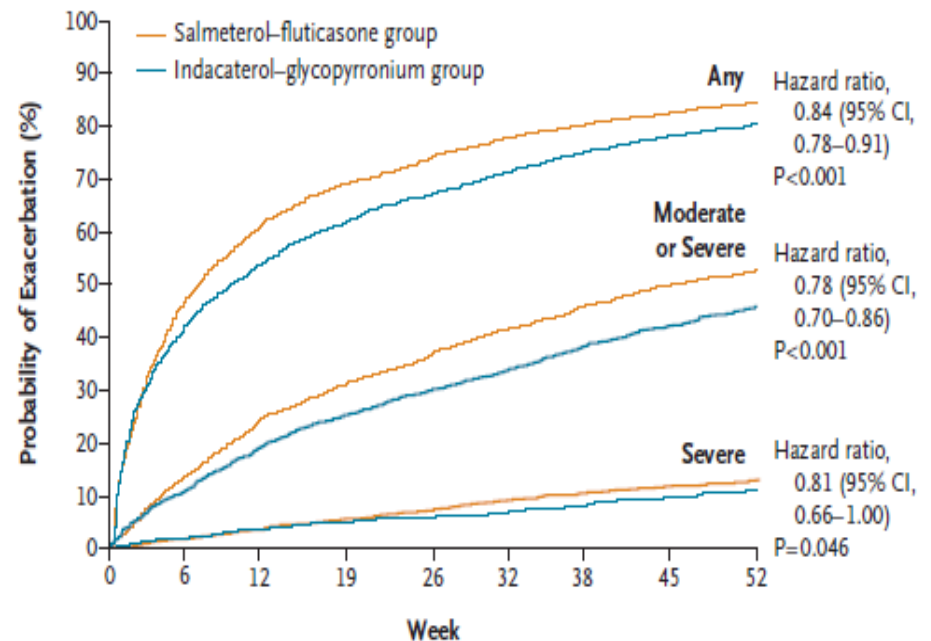
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

“Ultibro”  
“Advair” Indacaterol–Glycopyrronium versus  
Salmeterol–Fluticasone for COPD

“FLAME” Trial

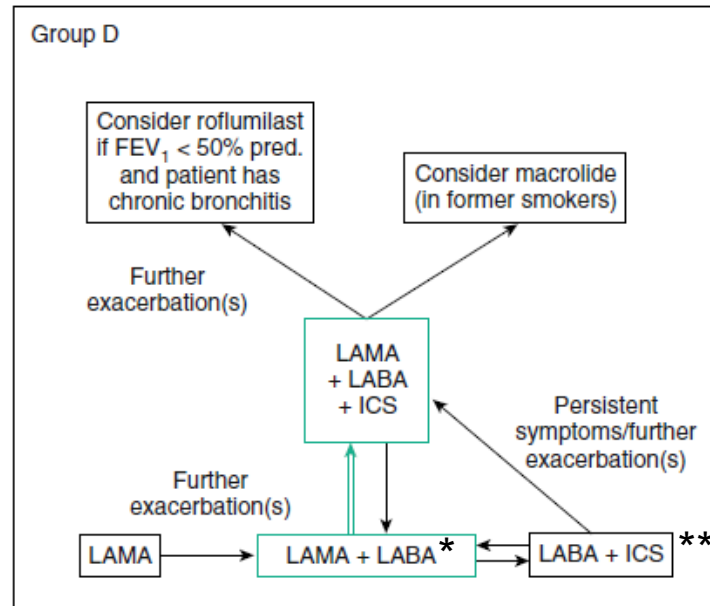
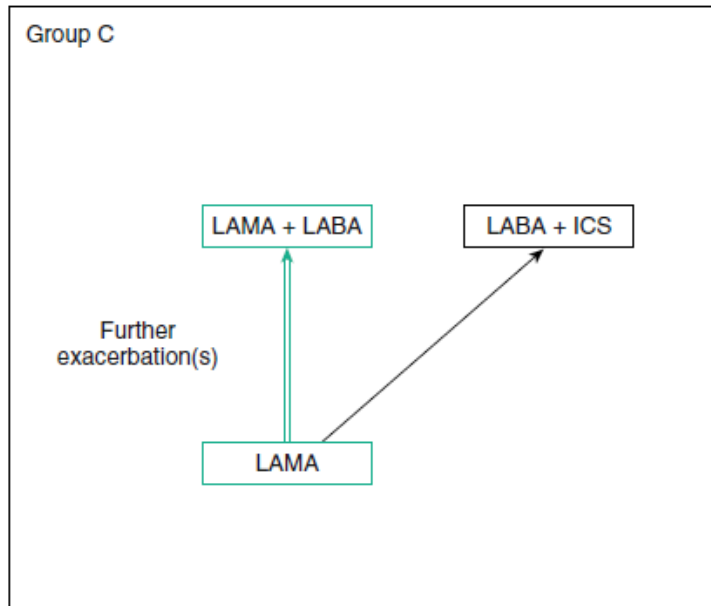
3200 COPD  
patients with at  
least one  
exacerbation the  
previous year  
randomized to  
ICS/LABA or  
LAMA/LABA

**B** Time to First Exacerbation



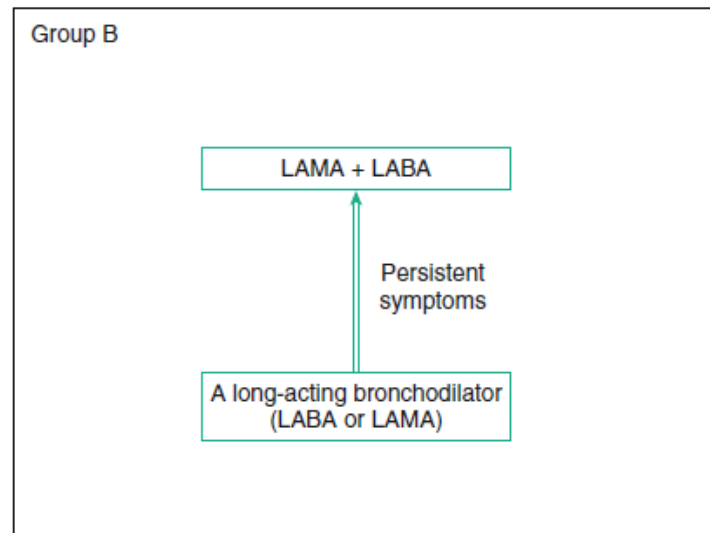
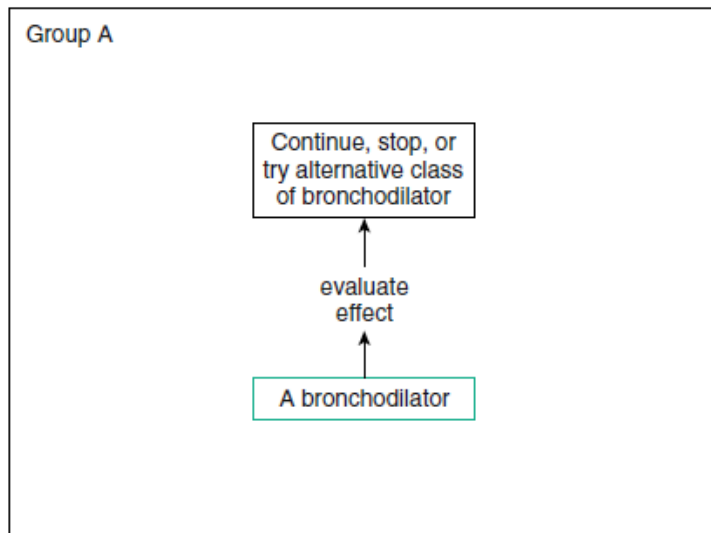
Wedzicha May 2016

# COPD treatment algorithm based on symptoms and exacerbation history



\*if highly symptomatic

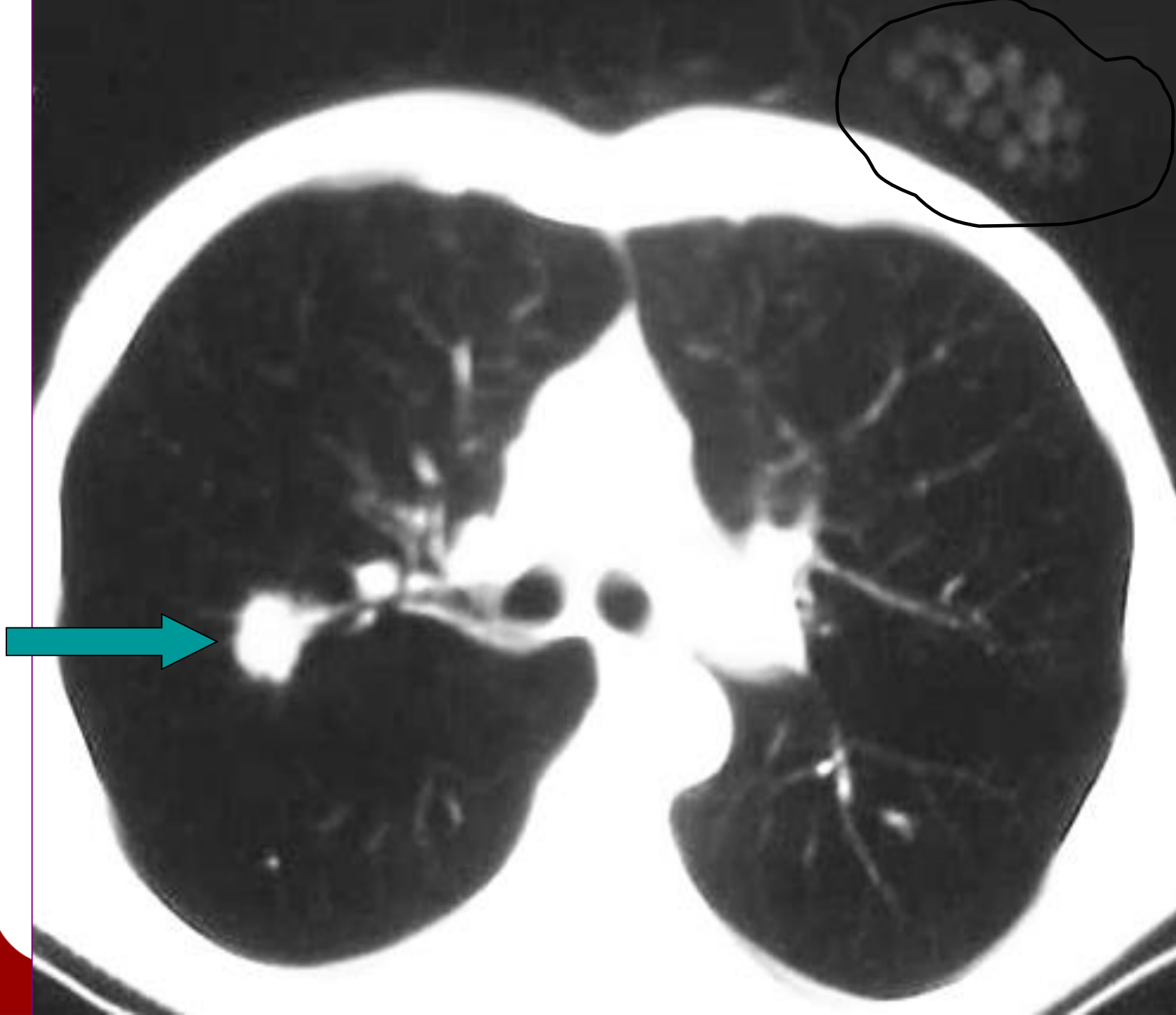
\*\* if blood eos  $\geq 300$



Preferred treatment = ==

# First line therapy based on letter assessment (GOLD guidelines 2019)

- Category A – a bronchodilator (short-acting or long-acting)
  - Category B – LAMA or LABA
  - Category C – LAMA
  - Category D – LAMA or LAMA/LABA\* or LABA/ICS\*\*
- 
- \* Consider in highly symptomatic patients
  - \*\* Consider if eosinophils > 300 cells/ $\mu$ L



# Other Treatment Considerations

- Smoking Cessation

- Can alter the natural history of disease
- Intervention
  - Strong and personalized message from physician
  - Nicotine replacement
  - Varenicline
  - Bupropion
  - Smoking cessation counseling/classes

- Vaccination

- Influenza – associated with improved outcomes in COPD
- Pneumococcal – decreases CAP/AECOPD

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Your patient does well with LAMA therapy for quite some time. Now, 10 years after his initial presentation he notes gradually increasing DOE, such that he trouble walking 100 yards without stopping. He had one exacerbation in the last year – 2 months ago and has had considerably more trouble after that. In the office, spirometry shows an FEV1/FVC of 0.49 and an FEV1 of 51% of predicted. Room air oxygen saturation is 93%. What treatment addition is expected to have the greatest effect of alleviating his DOE?

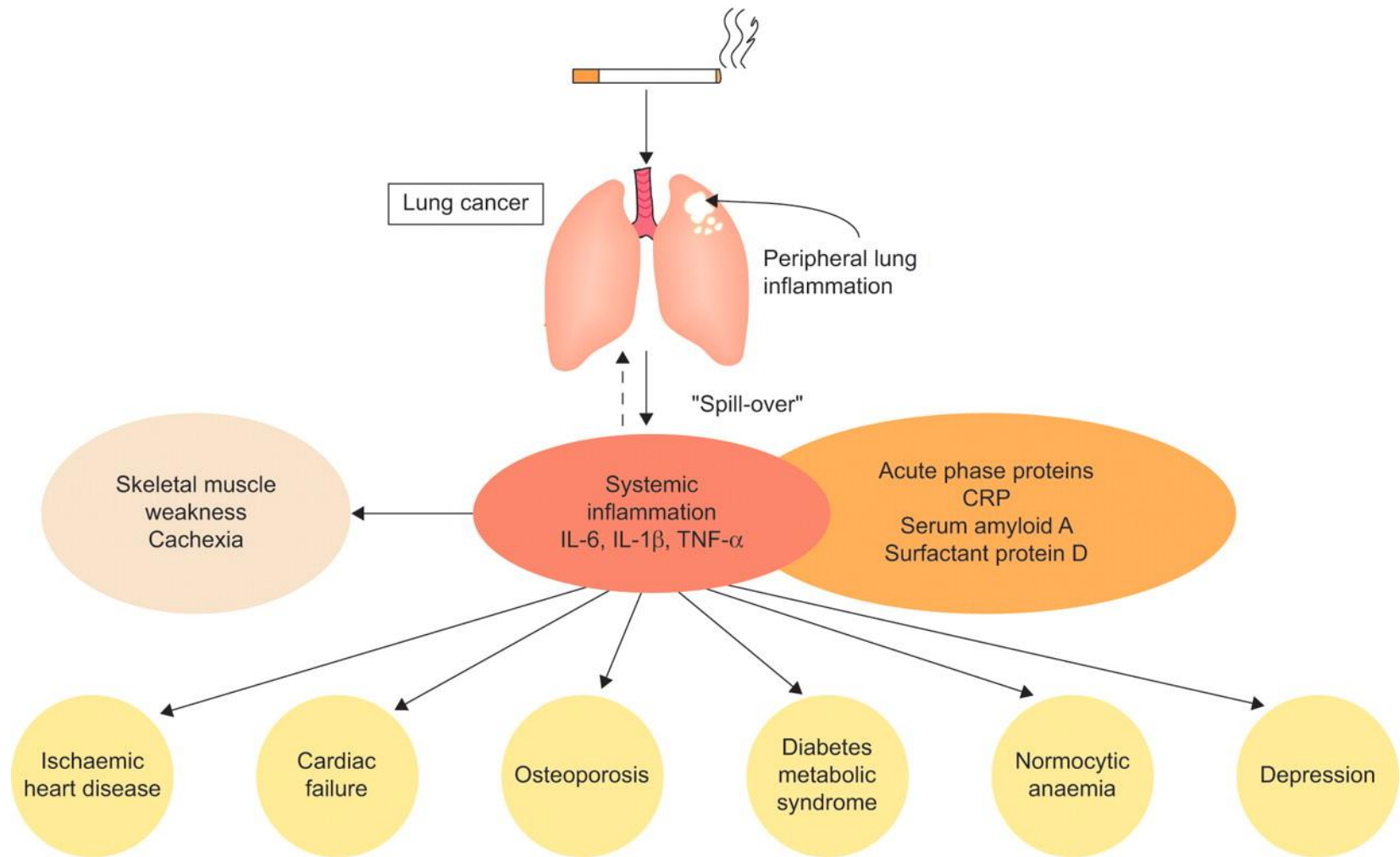
1. LABA
2. ICS/LABA
3. Theophylline
4. Pulmonary rehabilitation

Your patient does well with LAMA therapy for quite some time. Now, 15 years after his initial presentation he notes gradually increasing DOE, such that he trouble walking 100 yards without stopping. He had one exacerbation in the last year – 2 months ago and has had considerably more trouble after that. In the office, spirometry shows an FEV1/FVC of 0.49 and an FEV1 of 51% of predicted. Room air oxygen saturation is 93%. What treatment addition is expected to have the greatest effect of alleviating his DOE?

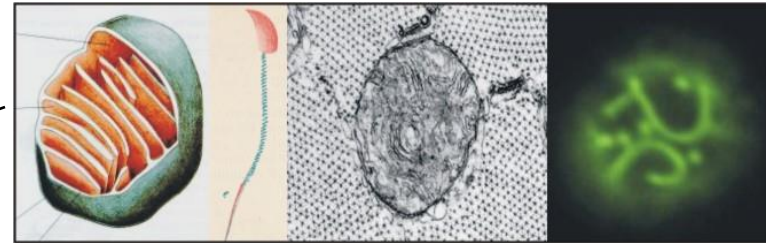
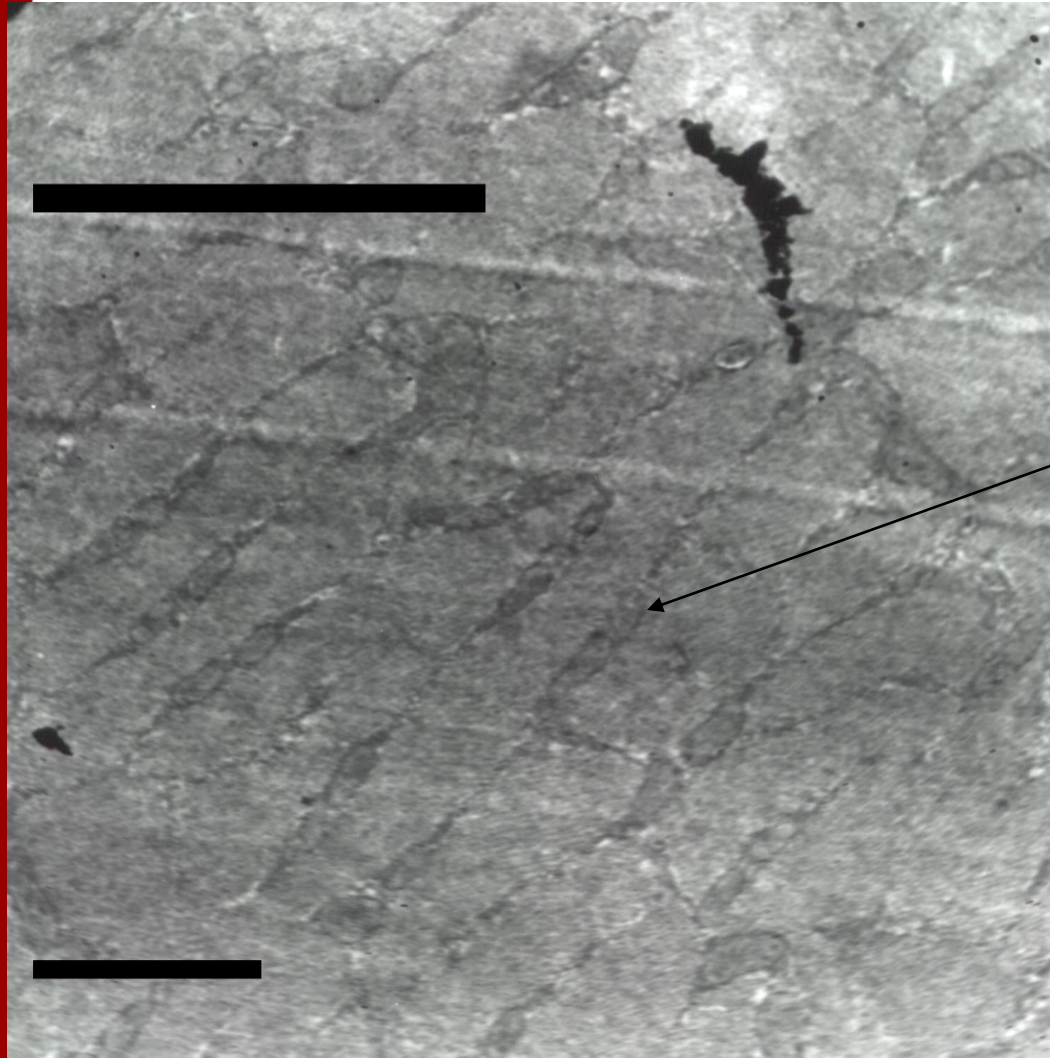
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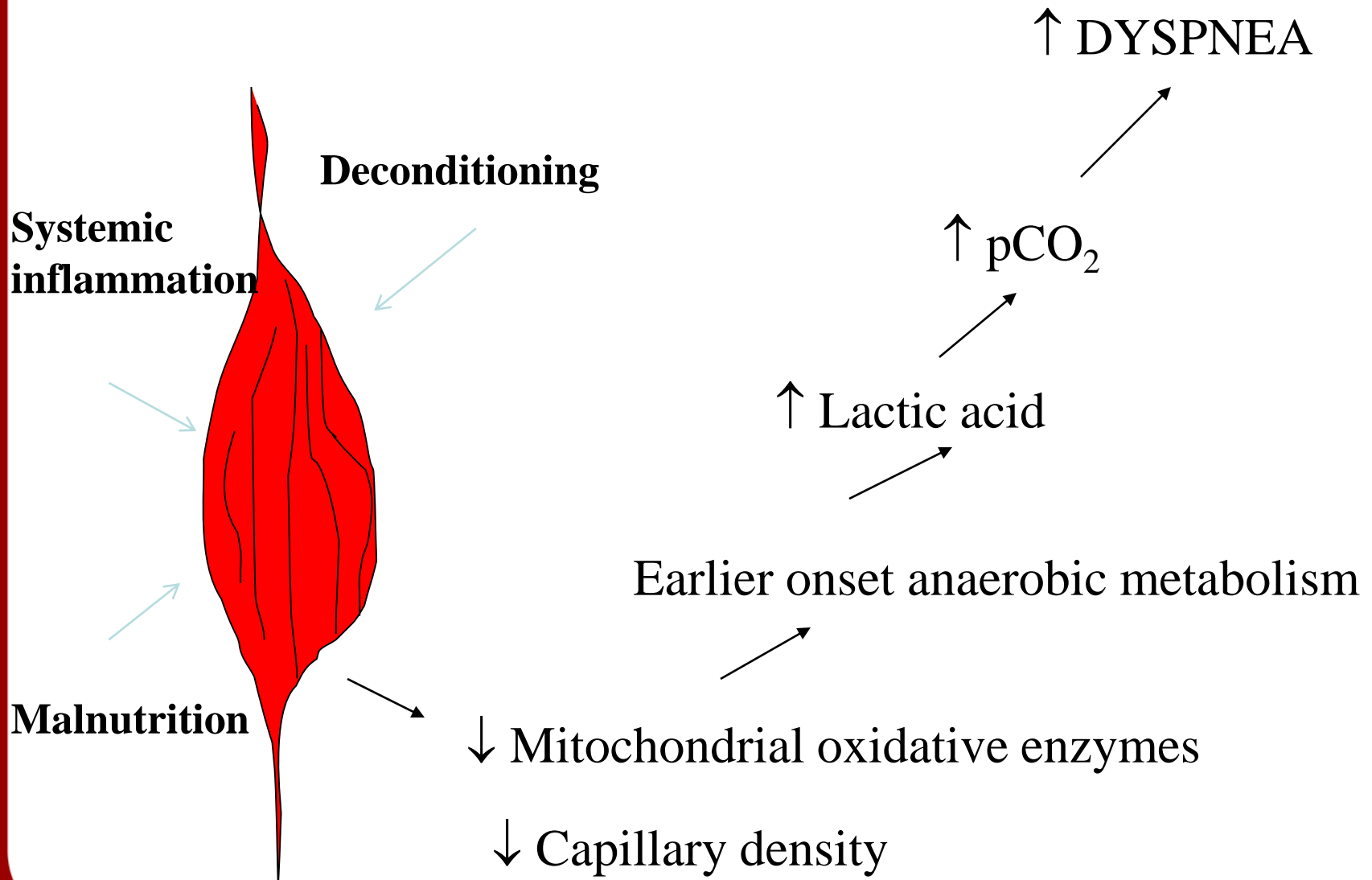
## Systemic effects and comorbidities of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).



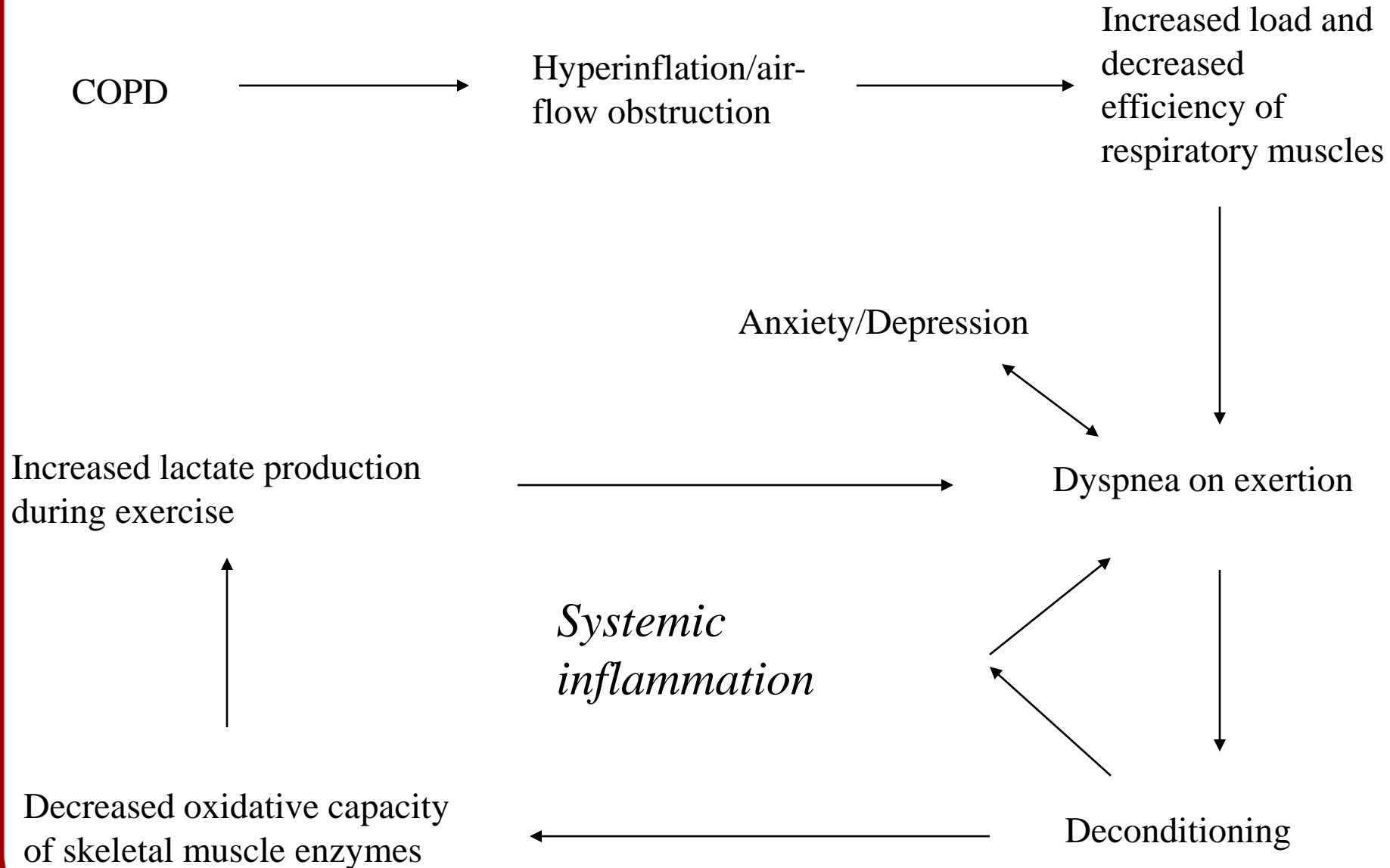
P. J. Barnes, and B. R. Celli Eur Respir J 2009;33:1165-1185



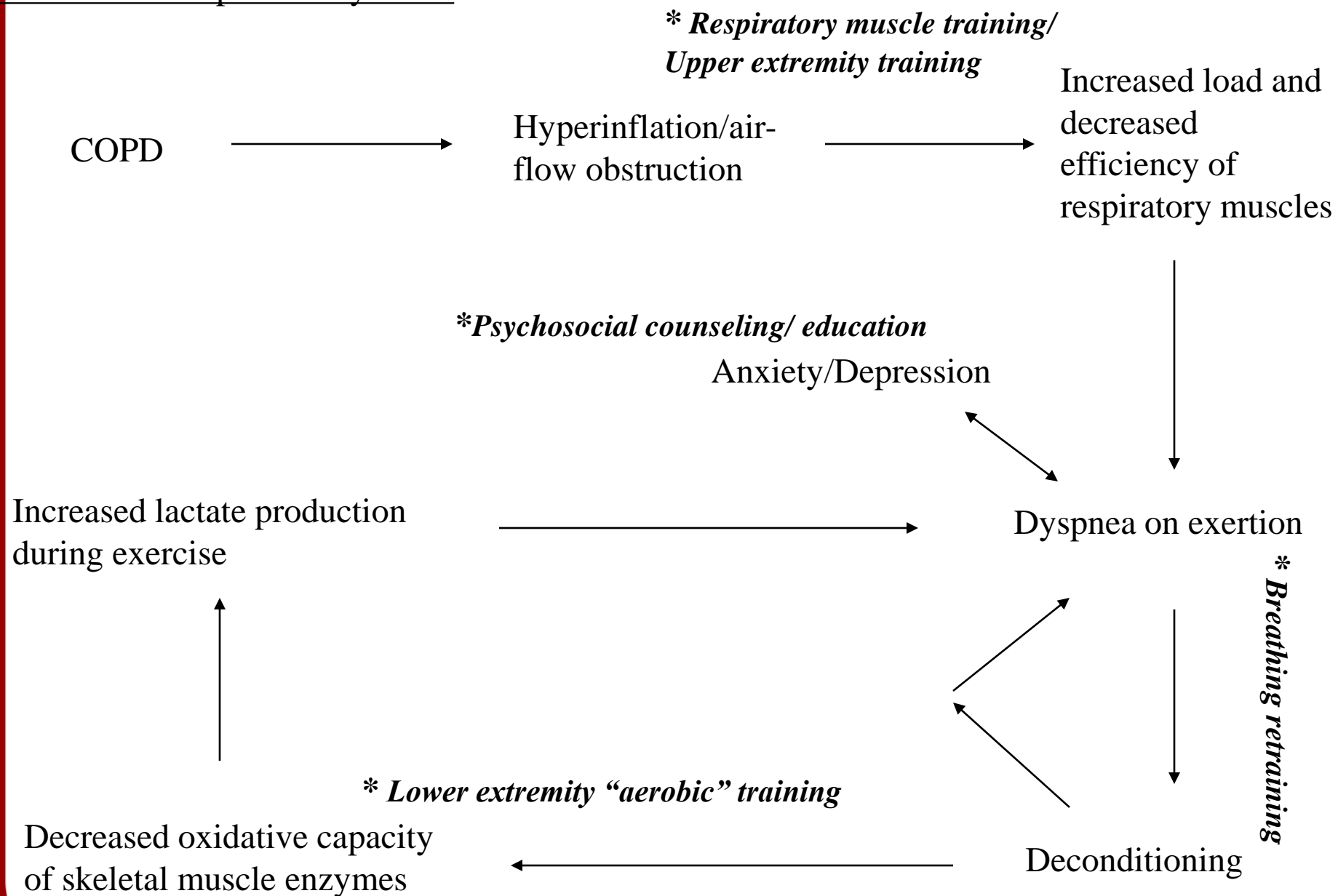
# *Skeletal muscle dysfunction and COPD*



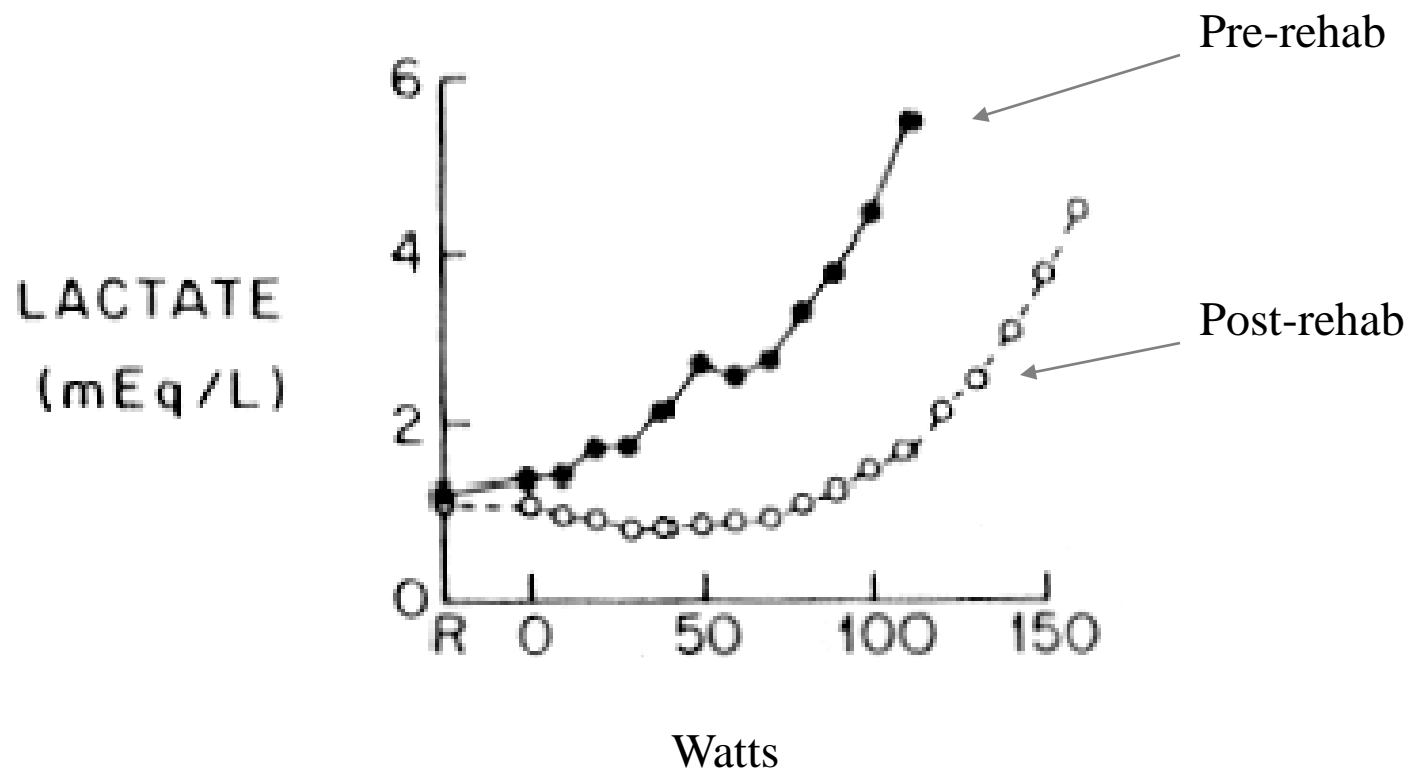
## COPD vicious cycle



## Intervention with pulmonary rehab







Lactate production during exercise in COPD patients, Casaburi et al. Am Rev Respir Dis 1991

# Ischemic heart disease in COPD

- Ischemic heart disease increased in COPD
  - Shared risk factors
  - Shared inflammatory pathways
- Myocardial injury overlooked in COPD (Respir Med 2008)
- In general, treatment of IHD should be similar to guidelines for the non-COPD population



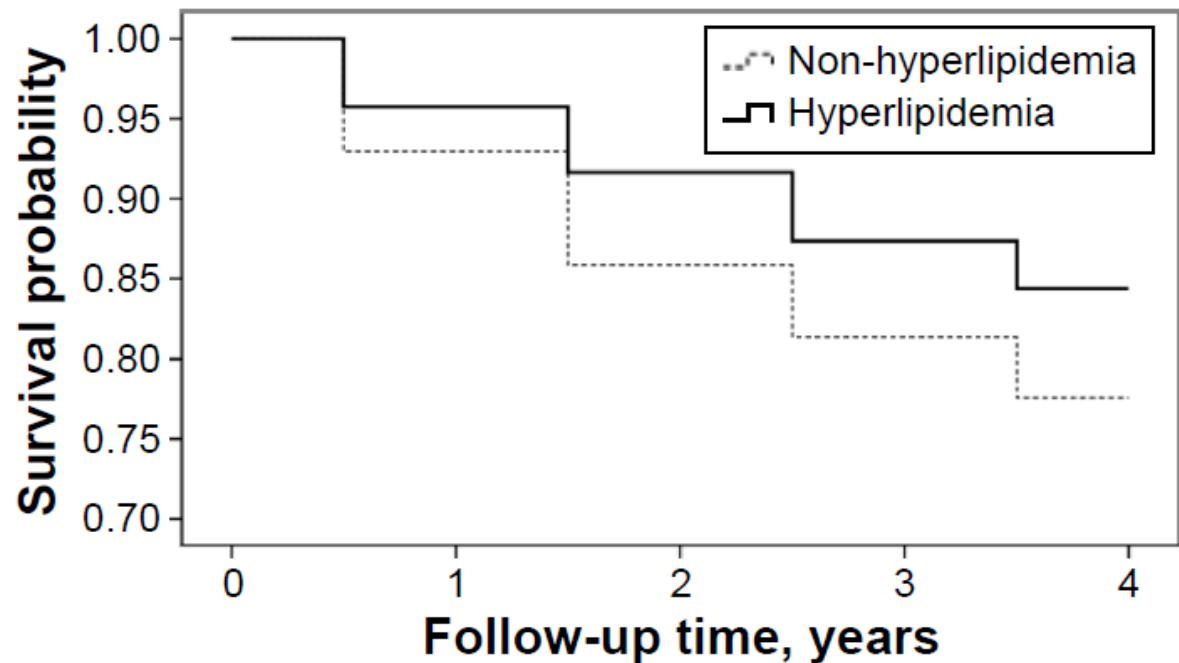
# Ischemic heart disease in COPD

- Dietary/nutrition “paradox”
  - Higher BMI even into obese range associated with improved survival in COPD
  - Hyperlipidemia associated with improved lung function and survival in COPD

# “Hyperlipidemia in COPD is associated with decreased incidence of pneumonia and mortality”

Chan, Int J of COPD 2016

1491 COPD patients analyzed in a retrospective cohort study



**Figure 2** Kaplan–Meier survival estimates for hyperlipidemia and non-hyperlipidemia in patients with COPD.

**Note:** Patients with COPD having hyperlipidemia are associated with better survival ( $P < 0.05$ ).

# Beta-blockers in COPD: change in attitude timeline

**1983**

“It has been established that no beta-blocker is entirely safe in patients with chronic obstructive lung disease.”

*J Cardiovasc Pharm.*

**2005**

“...cardioselective beta-blockers should not be routinely withheld from patients with COPD.”

*Cochrane Review*

**2016**

βBLOCK COPD: placebo-controlled trial to definitively assess the impact of metoprolol succinate on the rate of COPD exacerbations.

*Federally funded multi-center trial*

**2011**

“β blockers may reduce mortality and COPD exacerbations ..., independently of overt cardiovascular disease and cardiac drugs”

*BMJ*

Your patient with COPD, hospitalized with an acute exacerbation is ready for discharge. At rest on room air her O<sub>2</sub> saturation is 94%. Walking around the nurses station several times she is not short of breath, but her O<sub>2</sub> sat drops to 86%. As part of her discharge planning you should arrange the following outpatient therapy:

1. Supplemental oxygen 2 liters/min at rest, sleep and with exertion
2. Supplemental oxygen 2 liters/min with exertion only
3. Supplemental oxygen 2 liters/min with exertion and while sleeping
4. Discharge without oxygen; follow-up in 2 weeks

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**ANNALS**



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# **of Internal Medicine**

**SEPTEMBER 1980 • VOLUME 93 • NUMBER 3**

*Published Monthly by the American College of Physicians*

## **Continuous or Nocturnal Oxygen Therapy in Hypoxemic Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease**

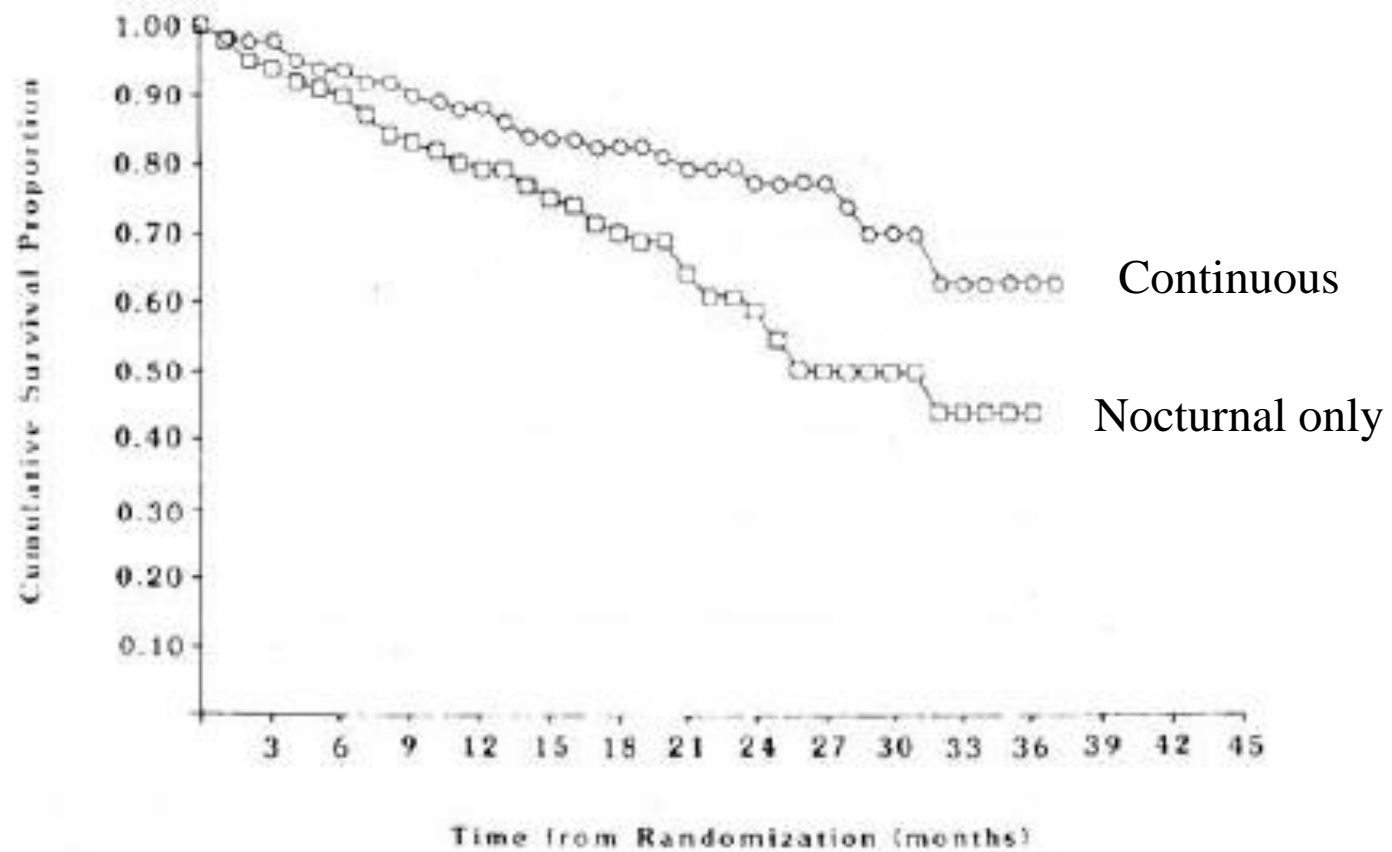
**A Clinical Trial**

**NOCTURNAL OXYGEN THERAPY TRIAL GROUP\***

# Nocturnal Oxygen Therapy Trial (NOTT): Main selection criteria

- Clinical diagnosis of COPD with  $FEV_1/FVC < 70\%$
- Resting room air  $pO_2 \leq 55$  mmHg (roughly equivalent to  $O_2$  sat of 88%)
- If cor pulmonale, polycythemia:  $pO_2$  of 56-59 ( $O_2$  of ~89%) eligible





**TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF THE AVAILABILITY OF COVERAGE FOR LONG-TERM HOME OXYGEN TREATMENT UNDER MEDICARE**

Measurement		Condition for Testing <sup>1</sup>		
Arterial O <sub>2</sub> (mm Hg)	O <sub>2</sub> Saturation (%)	At Rest	During Exercise	During Sleep
≤ 55	≤ 88	<i>Available</i>	Available <sup>2</sup>	Available <sup>3</sup>
56–59	89	<i>Available for dependent edema, pulmonary hypertension, or hematocrit &gt; 56</i>		
≥ 60	≥ 90	Coverage available only by special approval		
Devices Covered		Stationary ± Ambulatory	Ambulatory ± Stationary	Stationary Only

Data from Reference 37. Data in *italics* represent conditions similar to the entry criteria of the NOTT and MRC studies, which showed effects of long-term oxygen treatment on survival in subjects with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

<sup>1</sup> While breathing room air in a chronic stable state or no earlier than 2 days prior to hospital discharge.

<sup>2</sup> Requires demonstration that supplemental O<sub>2</sub> improves the exercise-associated hypoxemia.

<sup>3</sup> Also available for subjects who show a greater than normal fall in Arterial O<sub>2</sub> (> 10 mm Hg) or arterial O<sub>2</sub> Saturation (> 5%) during sleep with associated symptoms or signs reasonably attributable to hypoxemia.

# Supplemental O2 in US

- ~ 1.4 million users
- ~ 2.8 billion dollars/year
- Cost increasing by 12-13%
- ~75% of Medicare's outpatient costs for COPD

# Long Term Oxygen Treatment Trial (LOTT)

- Patients randomized to supplemental O<sub>2</sub> or no O<sub>2</sub>
- Outcomes tracked: mortality, hospitalizations, quality of life
- Eligibility
  - COPD – FEV1/FVC < 70%; FEV1  $\leq$  65% of predicted
  - Age > 40
  - Resting O<sub>2</sub> sat 89-93% or
  - O<sub>2</sub> sat 80 – 89% with exertion

# The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

OCTOBER 27, 2016

VOL. 375 NO. 17

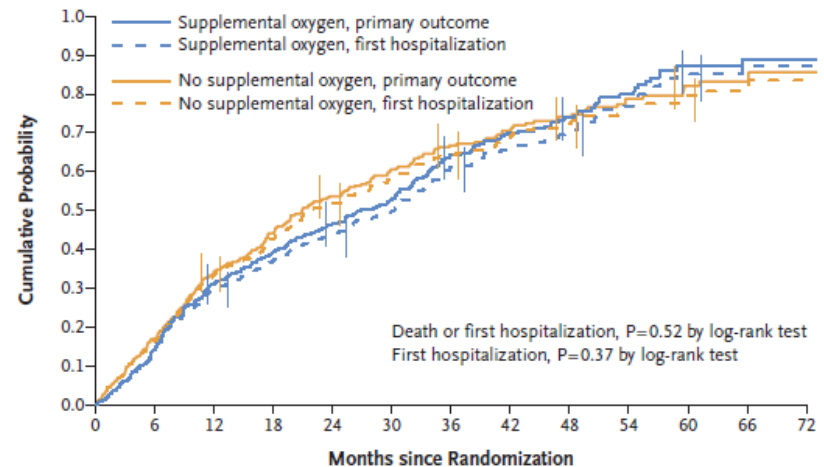
## A Randomized Trial of Long-Term Oxygen for COPD with Moderate Desaturation

The Long-Term Oxygen Treatment Trial Research Group\*

For patients with  
moderate hypoxemia  
or desaturation with  
exercise:

No effect of  
supplemental oxygen  
on mortality,  
hospitalization or  
quality of life

A Primary Outcome (Death or First Hospitalization) or First Hospitalization



No. at Risk

No supplemental oxygen  
Supplemental oxygen

370	304	232	181	139	102	76	59	43	29	21	7	1
368	314	243	198	158	125	86	61	44	24	13	6	1

# Management of stable COPD

- Take home points
  - Goals of therapy: improve quality of life, decrease symptoms, decrease acute exacerbations
  - Bronchodilators central to symptomatic management – alleviation of hyperinflation key
  - Strongly consider pulmonary rehabilitation in patients short of breath despite pharmacologic management
  - Supplemental oxygen improves survival in severe resting hypoxemia.
    - No data has demonstrated benefit of supplemental oxygen for exercise or sleep related desaturation. Consider an individualized approach in these settings.

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Your 66 y.o. patient with COPD presents with increased productive cough, dyspnea and chest tightness following a “cold”. On exam he is in no acute distress and vital signs are stable. There is increased wheezing on chest exam and the rest of the exam is unchanged. Which of the following biomarkers has recently been shown to help guide antibiotic therapy?

- A. Oxygen saturation
- B. Eosinophil count
- C. CRP
- D. Hemoglobin



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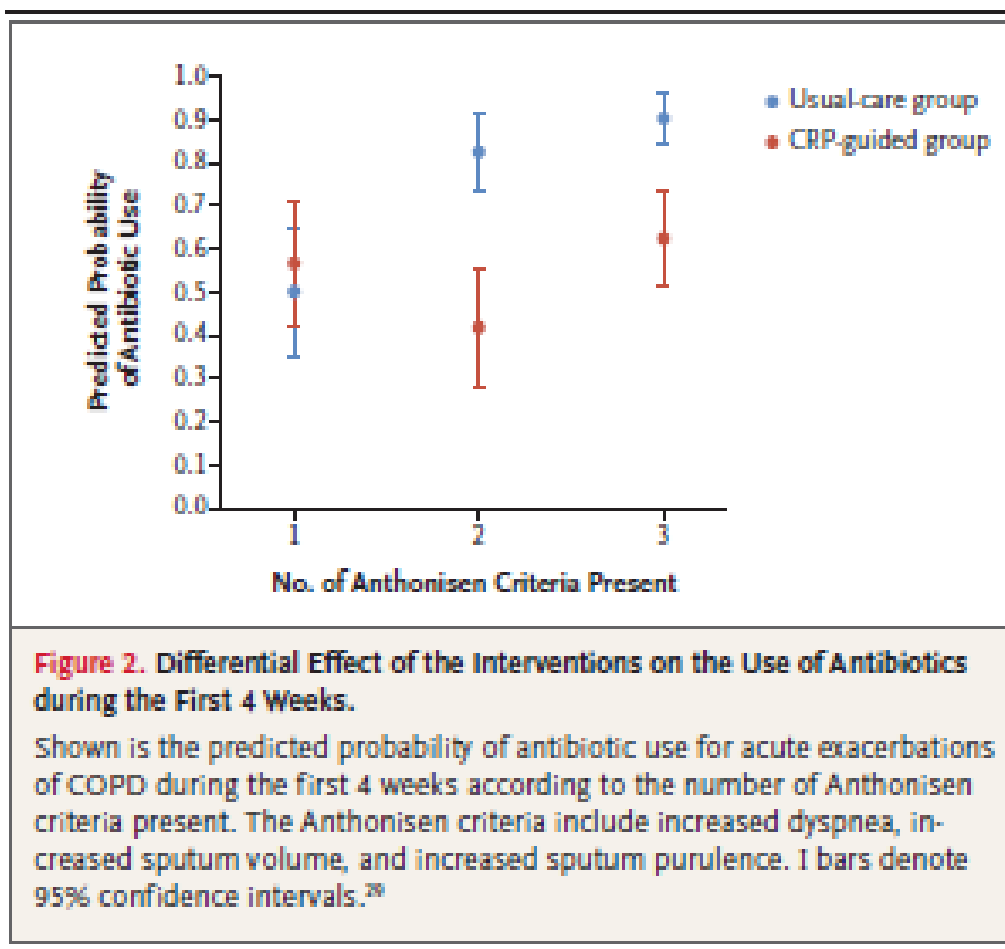
JULY 11, 2019

VOL. 381 NO. 2

## C-Reactive Protein Testing to Guide Antibiotic Prescribing for COPD Exacerbations

Christopher C. Butler, F.Med.Sci., David Gillespie, Ph.D., Patrick White, M.D., Janine Bates, M.Phil., Rachel Lowe, Ph.D.,  
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- Randomized controlled study – primary care setting
- 653 COPD patients with acute exacerbation
  - CRP guideline used
    - < 20 antibiotics not recommended
    - 20-40 antibiotics may be beneficial
    - > 40 antibiotics likely to be beneficial
  - Usual care



- CRP guided group used less antibiotics
- No difference in outcomes between the groups

# Management of COPD exacerbations

- Exacerbations are associated with:
  - Accelerated decline in lung function
  - Increased morbidity/mortality
  - High costs
- Most common causes: infection of tracheobronchial tree and air-pollution; no cause can be found in ~1/3 of cases
- Outpatient considerations
  - Inhaled bronchodilators and system glucocorticoids are effective
  - Use antibiotics if: hospitalized or increased dyspnea and increased sputum volume/color change in outpatients
    - Possible role of CRP

Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease, NIH pub. #2701A;

# Management of Acute Exacerbations of COPD: Inpatient considerations

- Antibiotics for inpatients:
  - Faster is better (JAMA 2010)
- Corticosteroids
  - More is not better (JAMA 2010)
- Oxygen
  - Titrate to keep sats 88-92%: improved mortality compared to high FIO<sub>2</sub> (BMJ 2011)
- Non-invasive ventilation for respiratory acidosis

# Non-invasive ventilation in COPD exacerbations: improved mortality

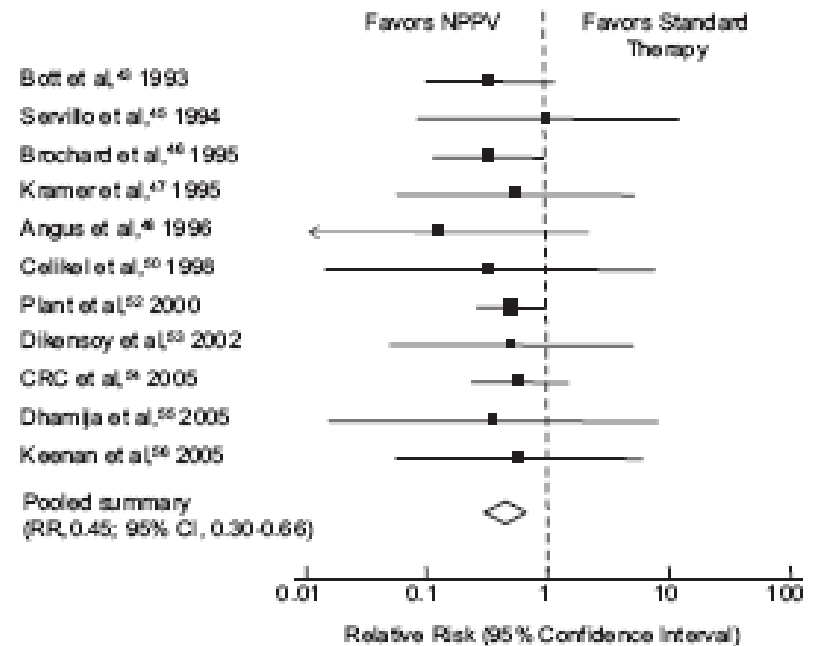


FIGURE 6. Effects of NPPV on the risk of in-hospital mortality during COPD exacerbations. See Figure 4 legend for expansion of abbreviation.

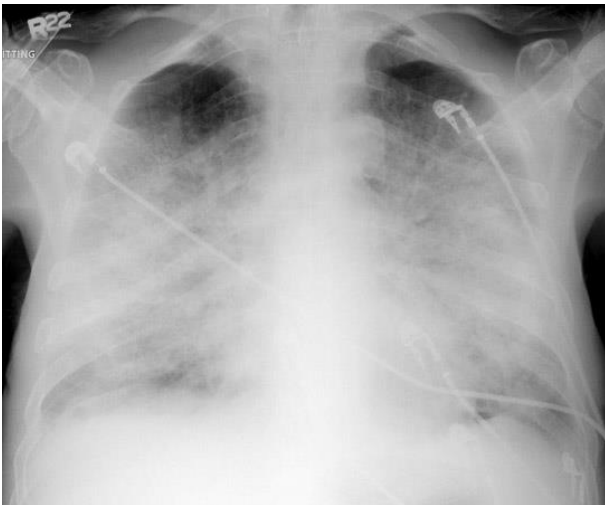
Lungs and respiratory muscle a “CO<sub>2</sub> pump”



COPD

↑pCO<sub>2</sub>

Pulmonary edema



Often  
normal  
pCO<sub>2</sub>

Pulmonary fibrosis



# Prevention of COPD exacerbations

- Smoking cessation, avoidance of environmental exposures
- Inhaled corticosteroids
- Inhaled long-acting bronchodilators
- Roflumilast
- Azithromycin
- Pulmonary rehab



# Presentation Outline

- Diagnosis/pathophysiology/pathogenesis
- Management of stable COPD
  - Pharmacologic treatment
  - COPD as a systemic disease
  - Oxygen therapy
- Management of exacerbations
- Surgical and bronchoscopic management

# Case

- 62 y.o. female; presents in a wheelchair; dyspneic getting dressed
- Long history of emphysema
- 40 pack year smoking history
  - No longer smoking

# Pulmonary function studies

## 8/25/04

- \*FEV<sub>1</sub> - 0.42 liters (17% of predicted)
- FVC – 0.91 liters (30% of predicted)
- Total lung capacity (TLC) – 8.01 liters (159% of predicted)
- Residual volume (RV) – 7.07 liters (352% of predicted)

# Arterial blood gases

- pCO<sub>2</sub> - 57 mmHg
- pO<sub>2</sub> - 60 mmHg



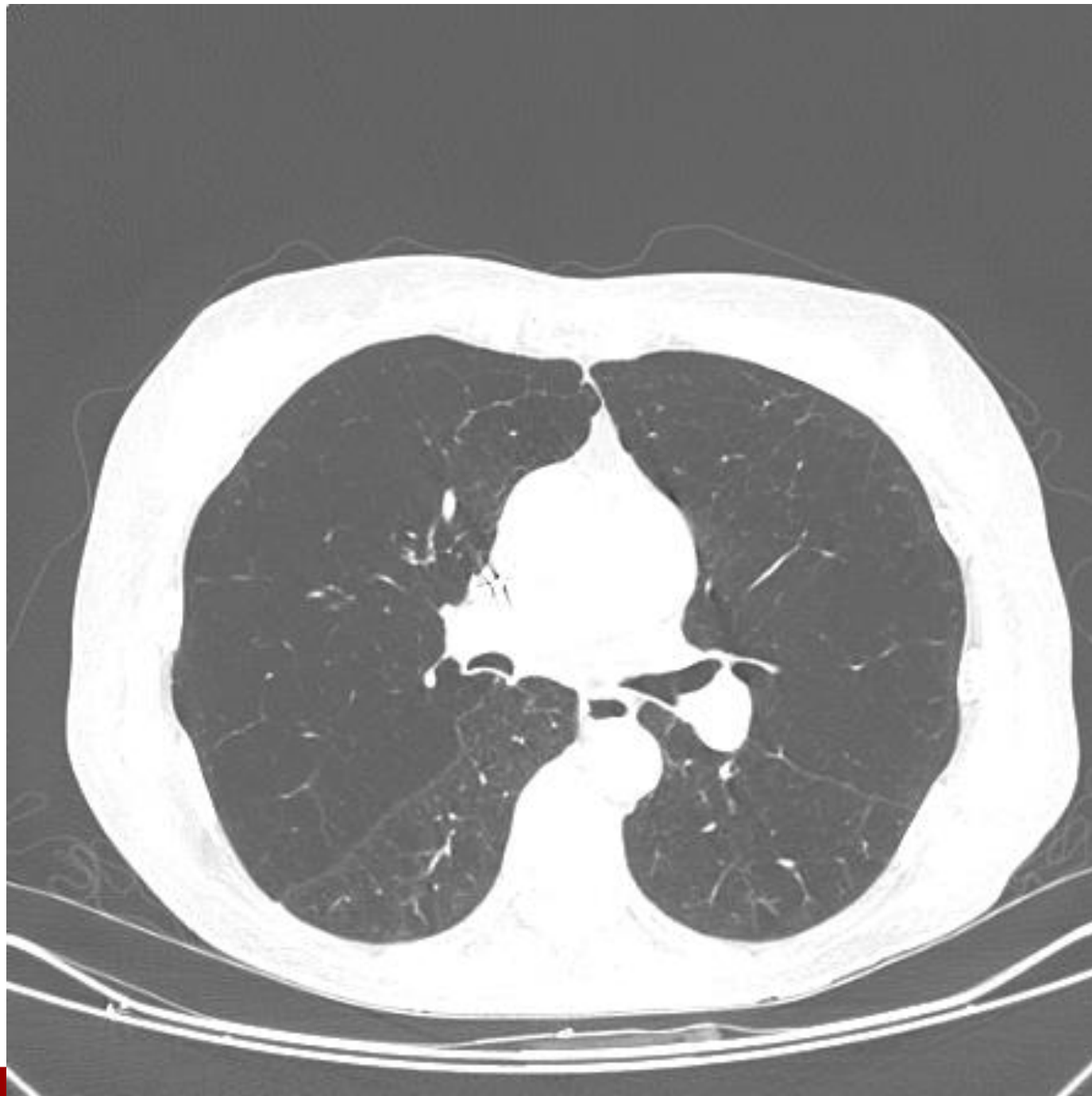


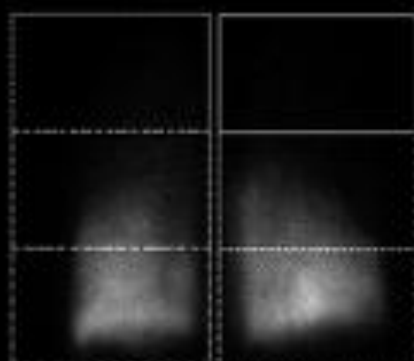
Upper lobe  
predilection  
for  
emphysema:

?Differences  
in  
inflammatory  
cell trafficking

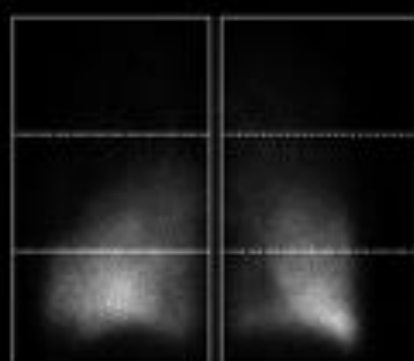
?Differential  
accumulation  
of inhaled  
particulate  
matter, gases

?Differences  
in oxidant  
stress





Posterior



Anterior

Rt Upper 8116.00 cts  
 Rt Middle 109481.00 cts  
 Rt Lower 276495.00 cts  
 Lt Upper 12378.00 cts  
 Lt Middle 94517.00 cts  
 Lt Lower 236709.00 cts

Rt Upper 15481.00 cts  
 Rt Middle 124258.00 cts  
 Rt Lower 251938.00 cts  
 Lt Upper 21985.00 cts  
 Lt Middle 112952.00 cts  
 Lt Lower 202301.00 cts

#### Geometric Mean

Rt Upper 11209.09 cts  
 Rt Middle 116635.72 cts  
 Rt Lower 263931.06 cts  
 Lt Upper 16496.37 cts  
 Lt Middle 103324.17 cts  
 Lt Lower 218829.77 cts

#### Percent

1.53 %  
 15.97 %  
 36.13 %  
 2.26 %  
 14.15 %  
 29.96 %

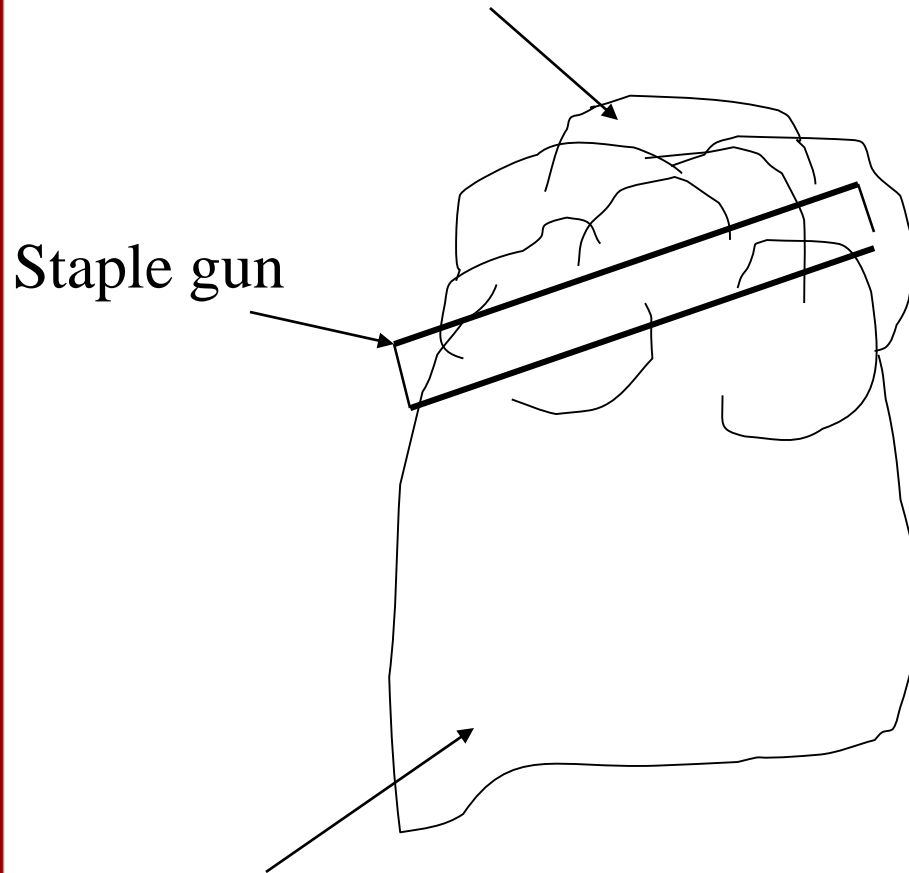
*total cts = 730426.19*





# Lung volume reduction surgery (LVRS) for emphysema

Emphysematous upper lung zones



More normal lower lung zones

Protocol: Median sternotomy or bilateral video-assisted thoracoscopy. Target areas identified by CT scan and perfusion scan. ~30% of each lung removed by a stapling technique.

Post-op: Improved elastic recoil and V/Q matching in remaining lung. Decreased hyperinflation.



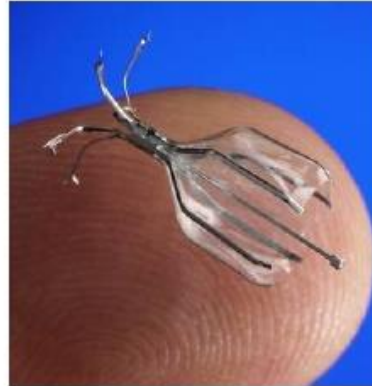


# Major selection criteria for LVRS

- Severe air-flow obstruction ( $FEV_1 < 45\%$  predicted)
- Hyperinflation/Air-trapping
- Upper lobe predominant disease
- No longer smoking

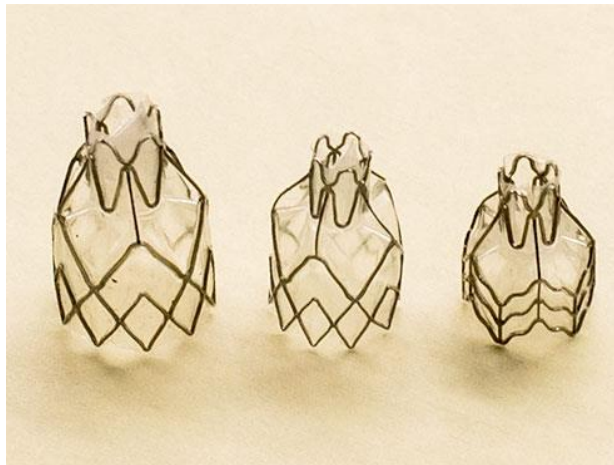
## Bronchoscopic LVR with Endobronchial Valves

The use of one-way endobronchial valves in emphysematous regions of the lungs aimed at inducing atelectasis of the worst affected regions, reducing hyperinflation and possibly providing symptomatic relief.



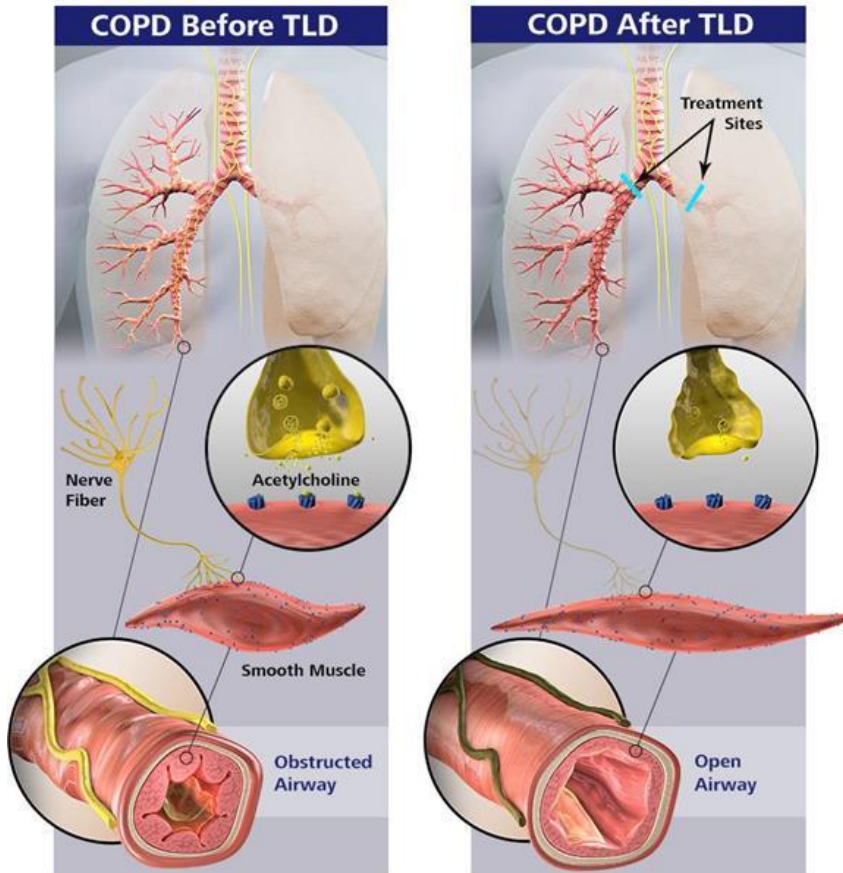
Spiration valve

Fig. (2). IBV® umbrella (Spiration Inc. Redmond USA). The valve consists of a Nitinol framework, with umbrella-shaped hooks which hold the valve in position without damaging the airway, while covered by synthetic polymer. In theory, it allows exhalation and mucus outflow from the bronchus where is placed, without allowing air entrance, thus gradually causing atelectasis of the specific lung segment.



Zephyr valve

# Nuvaira study of Targeted Lung Denervation



Targeted lung denervation (TLD) uses radiofrequency ablation to ablate airway nerve trunks to decrease cholinergic signaling – less airway constriction and less secretions



# Lung transplant for COPD

- **Consider referral**
  - FEV1 < 25% pred
  - Room air pO<sub>2</sub> < 55-60
  - Hypercapnia
  - Secondary pulmonary hypertension
  - Accelerated decline in FEV1



