

Acute exacerbation of COPD

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Introduction



- **Bronchoobstructive syndrome** is the leading syndrome and pathogenetical mechanism of the group of **obstructive pulmonary diseases**, which includes:
 - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
 - Asthma
 - Bronchiectasis
 - Bronchitis



Bronchoobstructive syndrome



▪ **Bronchoobstructive syndrome** is the complex of symptoms that includes:

- **Expiratory dyspnea**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of breath**



Obstructive pulmonary disease



- **Obstructive lung disease** is a category of respiratory disease characterized by airway obstruction.
- **Reversible** – asthma
- **Irreversible** – COPD, bronchiectasis

Definition



- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)** is the set of progressive lung diseases that characterized by irreversible airway obstruction.





Definition



COPD includes:

- **Chronic Bronchitis** is characterized by
 - Chronic inflammation and excess mucus production
 - Presence of chronic productive cough for 3 months in each of 2 successive years
- **Emphysema** is characterized by
 - Damage and permanent enlargement of the airspaces distal to the terminal bronchioles, accompanied by destruction of their walls
 - Chronic cough

COPD (GOLD, 2015)



- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)** is a common preventable and treatable disease, is characterized by persistent airflow limitation that is usually progressive, irreversible and associated with an enhanced chronic inflammatory response in the airways and the lung to noxious particles or gases.



- This definition does not use the terms chronic bronchitis and emphysema and excludes asthma
- Chronic bronchitis and emphysema are the components of COPD
- Exacerbations and comorbidities contribute to the overall severity in individual patients

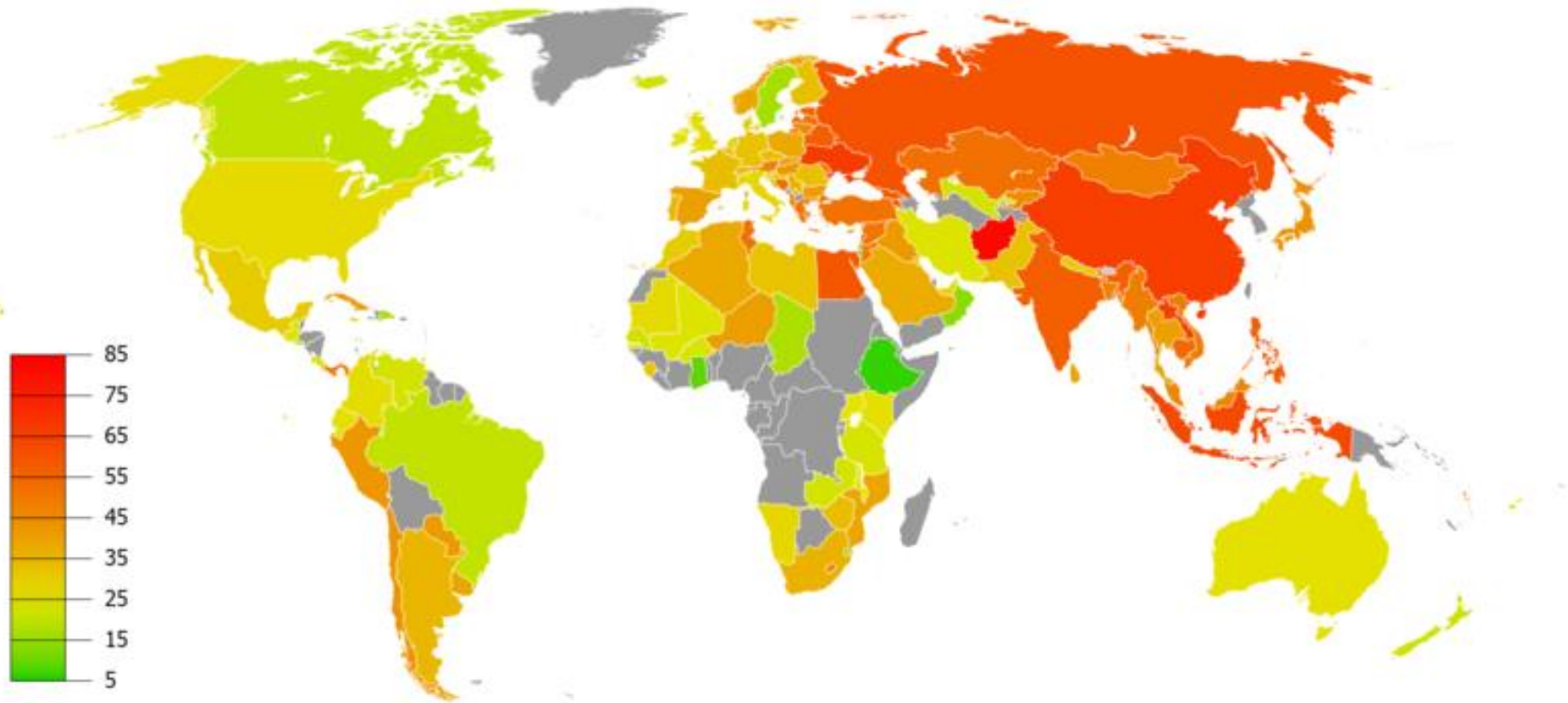
Epidemiology



- COPD is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide (5% of all deaths globally)
- Almost 90% of COPD deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries
- More common among men



Epidemiology



Male-smokers in the World (% of total population of the country)

Pack-years

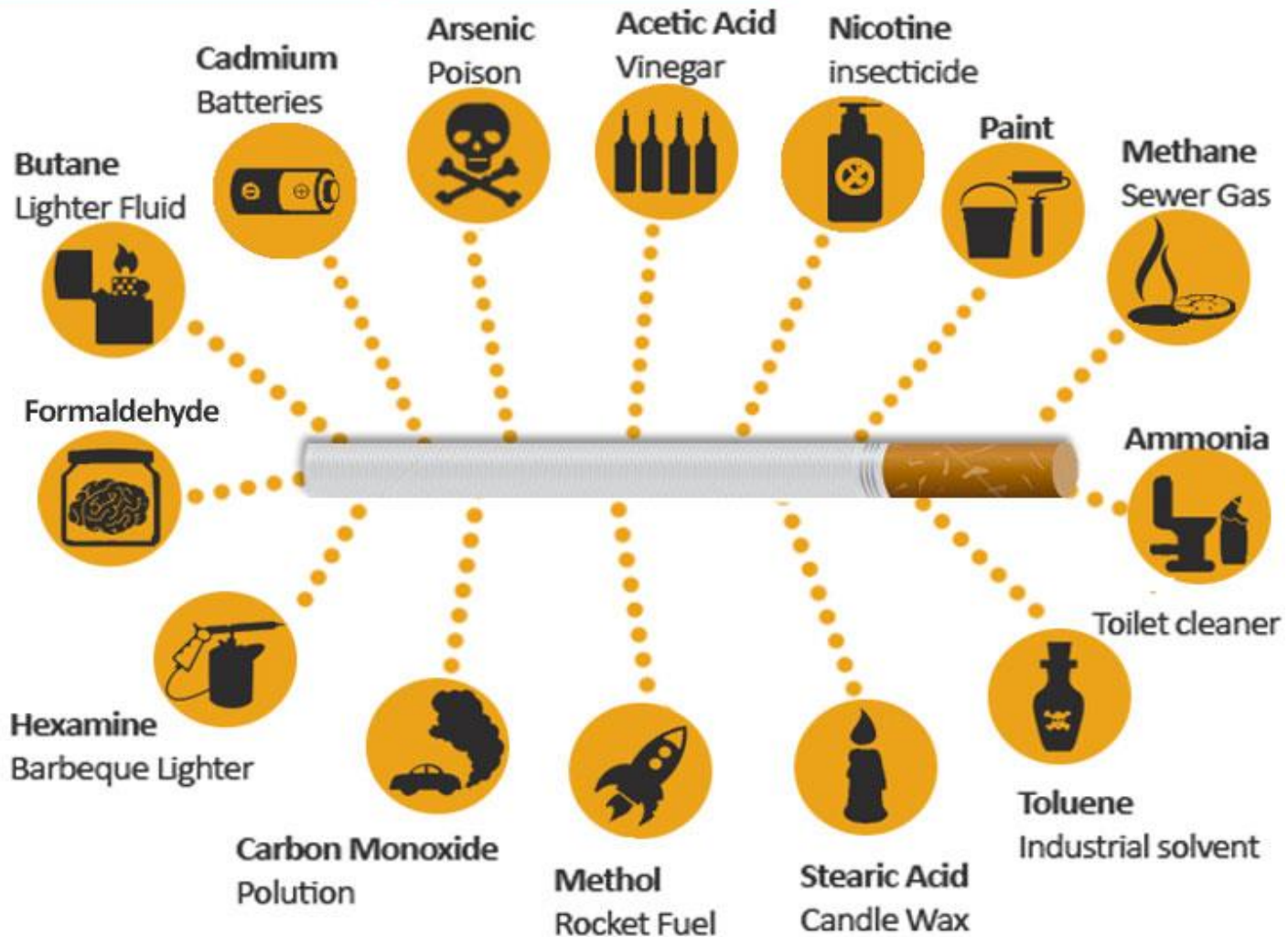


Pack-years = (cigarettes per day X years of smoking)/20

Pack-years > 10 => reliable risk factor of COPD



Cigarette contents



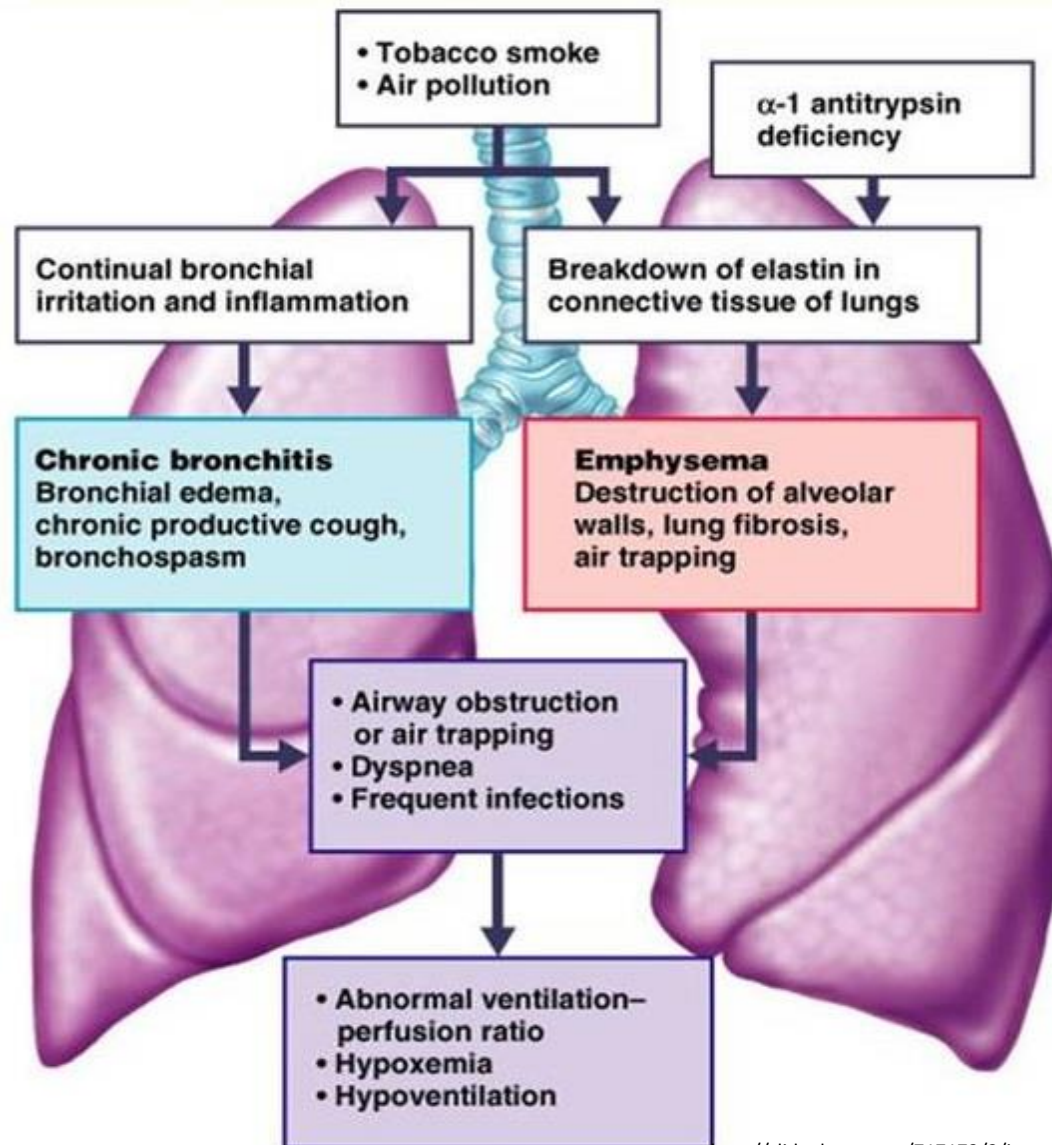


Risk factors



- **Smoking is the primary risk factor**
 - Long-term smoking is responsible for 80-90 % of cases
 - Smoker, compared to non-smoker, is 10 times more likely to die of COPD
- **Prolonged exposures to harmful particles and gases from:**
 - Second-hand smoke,
 - Industrial smoke,
 - Chemical gases, vapors, mists & fumes
 - Dusts from grains, minerals & other materials

Pathogenesis



Complications



- Hypoxemia
- Pulmonary hypertension
- Respiratory failure
- Cor pulmonale
- Heart failure



Symptoms



- **Chronic cough:**
- Earliest sign of COPD
- Poorly productive
- **Wash-up cough**



Symptoms



- **Sputum:**
- Small amount
- Hardly expectorates

Symptoms



- **Dyspnea:**
- Expiratory
- Progressive
- Persistent
- Worse with exercise.

Symptoms



- **Hypercapnia** ($>CO_2$ in blood):
- Headache
- Insomnia
- Muscle tremor
- Sweating
- Bad appetite

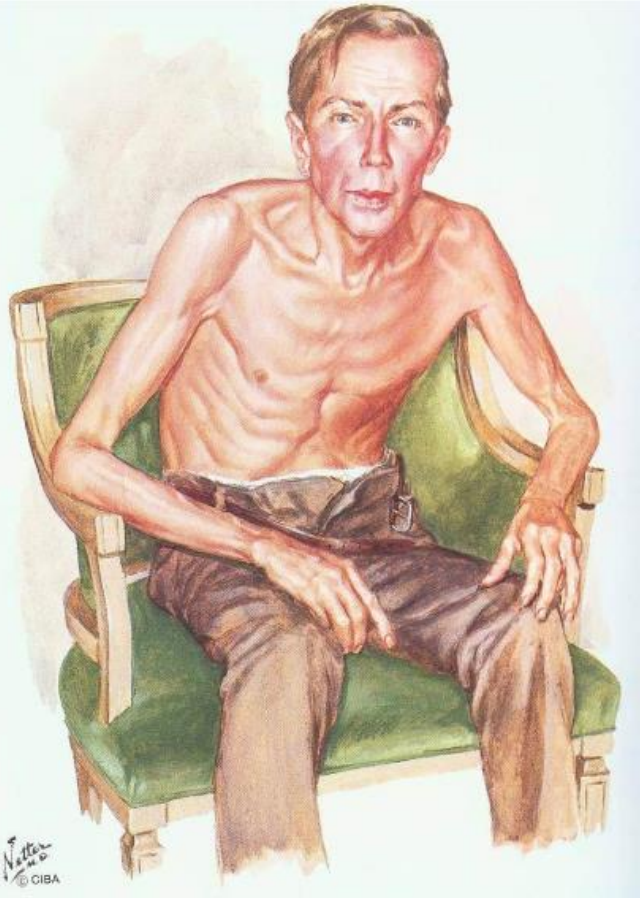


Objective examination



- There are no specific findings on examination, although signs of hyperinflation of the chest are highly suggestive of emphysema.
- These include a **barrel shaped chest** (increased antero-posterior diameter), **use of accessory muscles of respiration**, paradoxical indrawing of the lower ribs on inspiration (**Hoover's sign**), intercostal recession, hollowing out of the supraclavicular fossae, pursed lip breathing and reduced expansion.

Types of COPD patients



Pink Puffer
Emphysema type
Hypoxemia



Blue Bloater
Bronchitis type
Right-sided heart failure

Spirometry



- **Spirometry** is a **lung function test** which measures the amount (volume) and speed (flow) of air that can be inhaled or exhaled from the lungs. An important tool for assessing conditions such as asthma, COPD and cystic fibrosis.





Spirometry

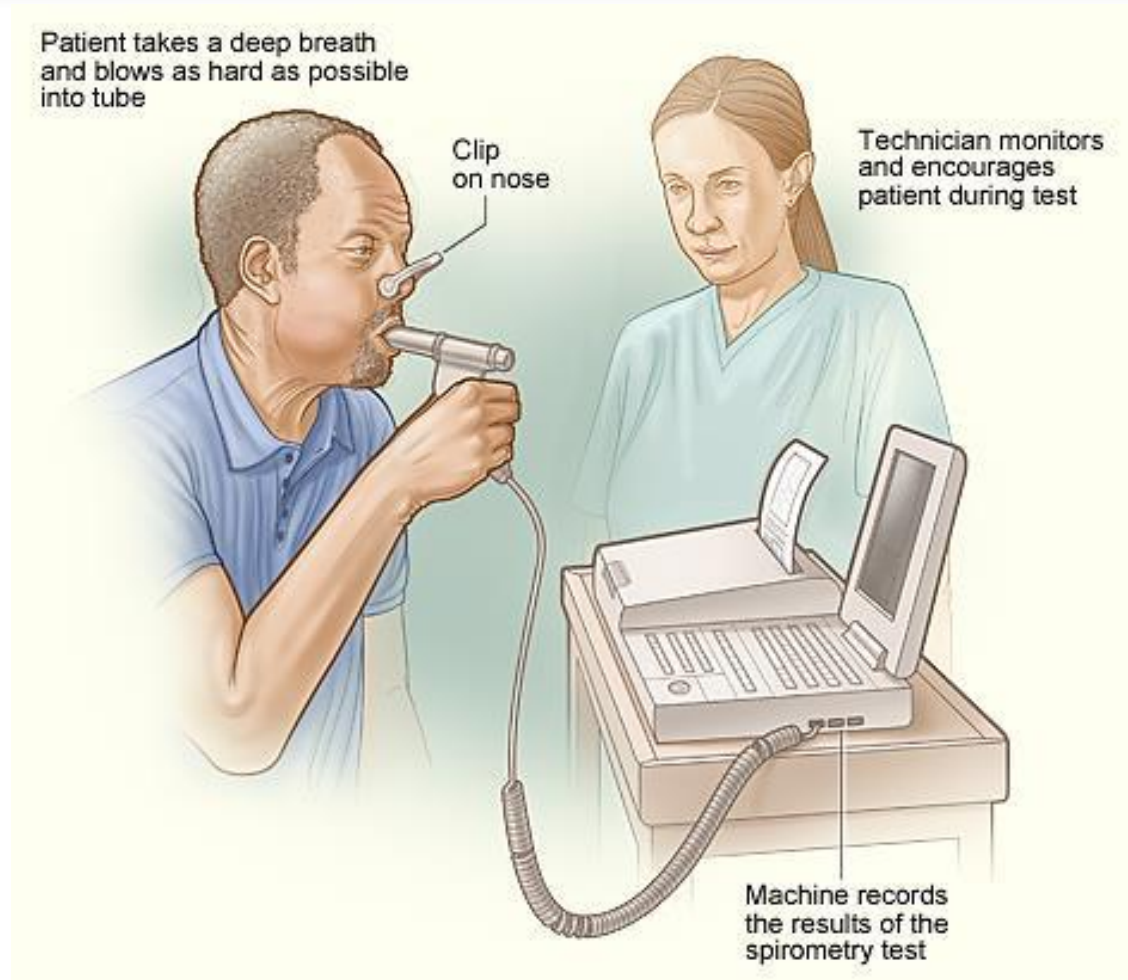


- **Forced vital capacity (FVC)** is the volume of air that can forcibly be blown out after full inspiration, measured in liters. FVC is the most basic maneuver in spirometry tests.
- **Forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV1)** is the volume of air that can forcibly be blown out in one second, after full inspiration.

Spirometry



- **FEV₁/FVC (FEV1%, Tiffeneau index)** is the ratio of FEV₁ to FVC. In healthy adults this should be approximately 75–80%.



Post bronchodilator test



- **Post bronchodilator test** – is a performing of spirometry for 2 times: before and after inhaling bronchodilator.
- If the forced vital capacity after inhaling (FVC_2) is 15% > than FVC_1 before inhaling
=> Ds: Asthma



Airflow limitation severity



In patients with $FEV_1/FVC < 70\%$:

GOLD 1: Mild

$FEV_1 \geq 80\%$ predicted

GOLD 2: Moderate

$50\% \leq FEV_1 < 80\%$ predicted

GOLD 3: Severe

$30\% \leq FEV_1 < 50\%$ predicted

GOLD 4: Very Severe

$FEV_1 < 30\%$ predicted

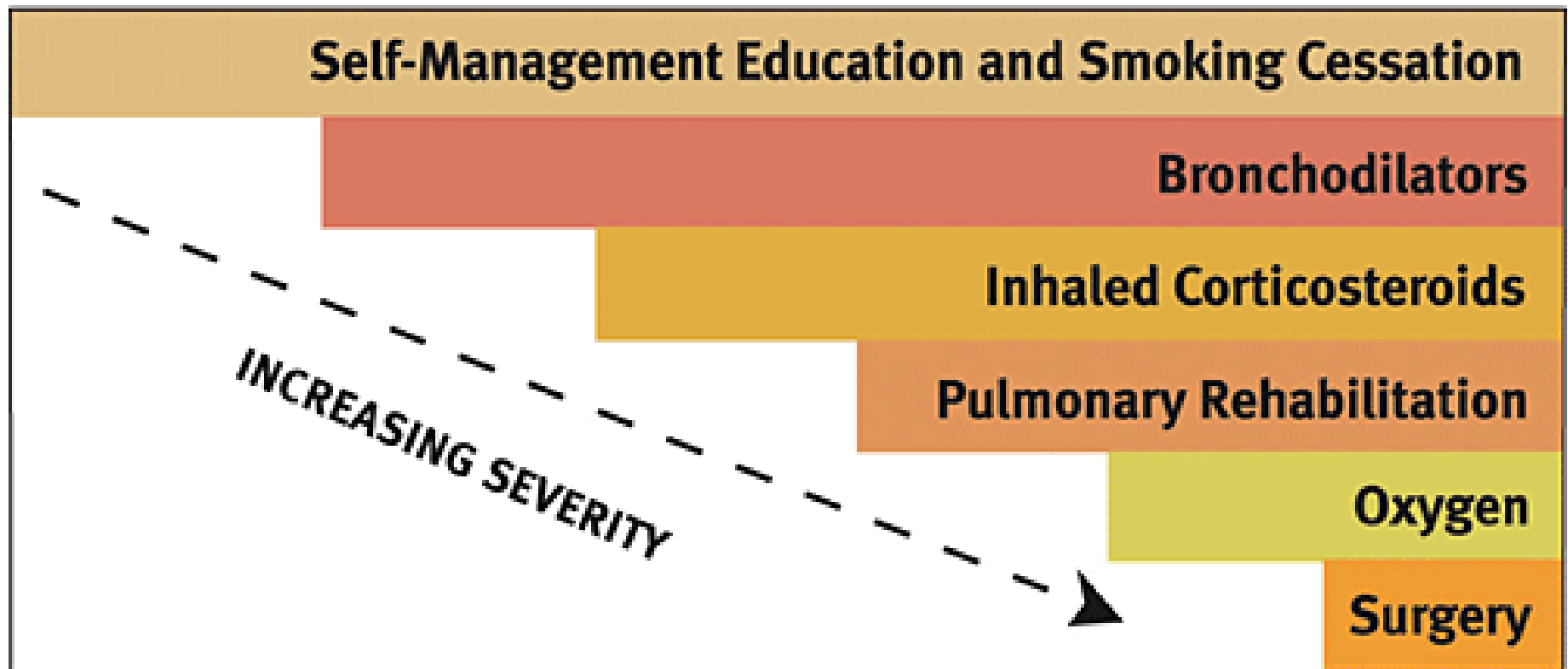
Chest X-ray



- The diaphragm should be intersected by the 5th to 7th anterior ribs in the mid-clavicular line.
- **Hyperexpansion** is diagnosed by counting ribs and by checking for **flattening of the hemidiaphragms**.



Treatment of COPD



Drug therapy



Exacerbation



Exacerbation of COPD is an acute event characterized by a worsening of the patient's respiratory symptoms that is beyond normal day-to-day variations and leads to a change in medication.





Exacerbation



- The most common causes are **viral upper respiratory tract infections** and **infection of the tracheobronchial tree**.
- Diagnosis relies on the clinical presentation of the patient complaining of an acute change of symptoms that is beyond normal day-to-day variation.
- The goal of treatment is to minimize the impact of the current exacerbation and to prevent the development of subsequent exacerbations.

Management of exacerbation



- **Short-acting inhaled β_2 -agonists with/without short-acting anticholinergics**
- **Systemic corticosteroids**
- **Antibiotics**
- **Non-invasive ventilation**
- **Prevention**





AB-therapy



- **Antibiotics** should be given to patients with:
 - **Confirmed acute respiratory bacterial infection**
 - **Three cardinal symptoms:**
 - increased dyspnea
 - increased sputum volume
 - increased sputum purulence
 - **Who requires mechanical ventilation**

Non-invasive ventilation



- **Non-invasive ventilation (NIV)** for patients hospitalized for acute exacerbations of COPD:
 - Improves respiratory acidosis, decreases respiratory rate, severity of dyspnea, complications and length of hospital stay.
 - Decreases mortality and needs for intubation



Indications for hospital admission



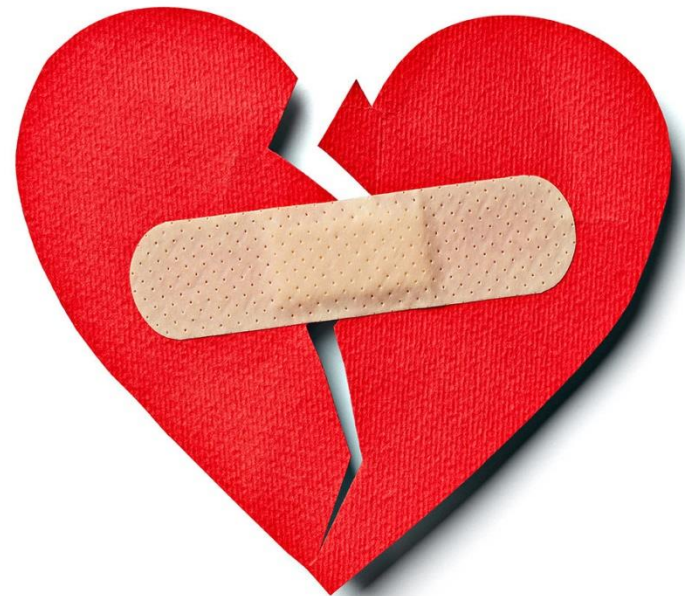
- Marked increase in intensity of symptoms
- Severe underlying COPD
- Onset of new physical signs
- Failure of an exacerbation to respond to initial medical management
- Presence of serious comorbidities (CV pathologies: pulmonary hypertension, right heart failure, Cor pulmonale)
- Frequent exacerbations
- Older age
- Insufficient home support



Common comorbidities



- **Cardiovascular diseases** are the major comorbidity in COPD and the most frequent and most important diseases coexisting with COPD.
- Benefits of cardioselective beta-blocker treatment in heart failure outweigh potential risk even in patients with severe COPD.



Thank you!



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CALM
AND
STUDY
MEDICINE**