

**UPDATED VIEW ON COPD MANAGEMENT:
PREVENTION OF PREMATURE DEATH BY MEANS OF PREVENTION
OF EXACERBATION DUE TO EARLY OPTIMIZATION
OF THERAPY**

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Abstract

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) causes significant burden for all mankind: according to WHO data (2023) about 384 million people suffer from this disease worldwide. COPD is a third leading cause of death. The cost of COPD treatment reaches 100 billion US dollars per year.

This review focuses on key changes of 2023-2024 COPD guidelines. Particularly, GOLD guidelines give new definitions of COPD and its exacerbation considering the grade of severity; initial treatment is prescribed based on ABCD assessment has been changed for ABE, based on the number of exacerbations in previous year. New etiotypes, like PRISm and pre-COPD, etc have been introduced.

The information on chronic bronchitis as an essential from clinician's perspective component of COPD have been reflected in GOLD 2024 guidelines.

Rome classification of COPD exacerbation has been also presented in updated GOLD document. Four special variants of COPD, requiring attention, have been characterized: early COPD, mild COPD, COPD in younger persons and pre-COPD.

Despite a significant advance in respiratory medicine COPD diagnosis remains challenging and sometimes inadequate even today, causing the difficulties with therapy (wrong medications or no treatment at all). In contrast, timely and adequate COPD diagnosis may improve public health.

Key words: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), clinical symptoms, dyspnea, cough, exacerbations, diagnosis, treatment.

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