

## CURRENT APPROACH TO FOLLOW-UP THERAPY OF COPD AFTER AN EXACERBATION

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### *Abstract*

*Aim:* to assess the appropriateness of therapy revision in patients hospitalized due to COPD exacerbation, based on severity criteria outlined in clinical guidelines.

*Materials and methods.* A retrospective analysis of the medical records of 30 hospitalized patients diagnosed with COPD exacerbation was conducted. The study included an evaluation of exacerbation severity according to clinical guidelines criteria, analysis of prescribed inpatient therapy, and comparison of C-reactive protein (CRP) levels between hospitalized patients and those with stable COPD.

*Results.* According to the analysis, only 27 % of patients met the severity criteria for hospitalization. The CRP level in the patients with exacerbation was lower compared to those in the control group.

*Conclusion.* Using clear severity assessment criteria allows optimizing point of care decision and concentrating the resources for patients with severe exacerbation. A critical approach to retrospective assessment of COPD exacerbation severity helps avoiding unnecessary revision of inhalation therapy.

**Key words:** COPD, tiotropium bromide, hospitalization, exacerbation, therapy, C-reactive protein, exacerbation severity.

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