



# ACHIEVING OPTIMAL COPD MANAGEMENT THROUGH INDIVIDUALIZED TREATMENT AND DEVICE SELECTION



This CME activity is provided by Integrity Continuing Education.  
This CE activity is jointly provided by Global Education Group and Integrity Continuing Education.

# Faculty

Brian Carlin, MD, FCCP, MAACVPR, FAARC  
Sleep Medicine and  
Lung Health Consultants  
Senior Staff Physician  
Pittsburgh Critical Care Associates  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

# Faculty Disclosures

- Consultant: GlaxoSmithKline, Monaghan, Mylan, Sunovion, Theravance
- Speakers' Bureaus: GlaxoSmithKline, Monaghan, Mylan, Philips Respironics, Sunovion, Theravance

# Learning Objectives

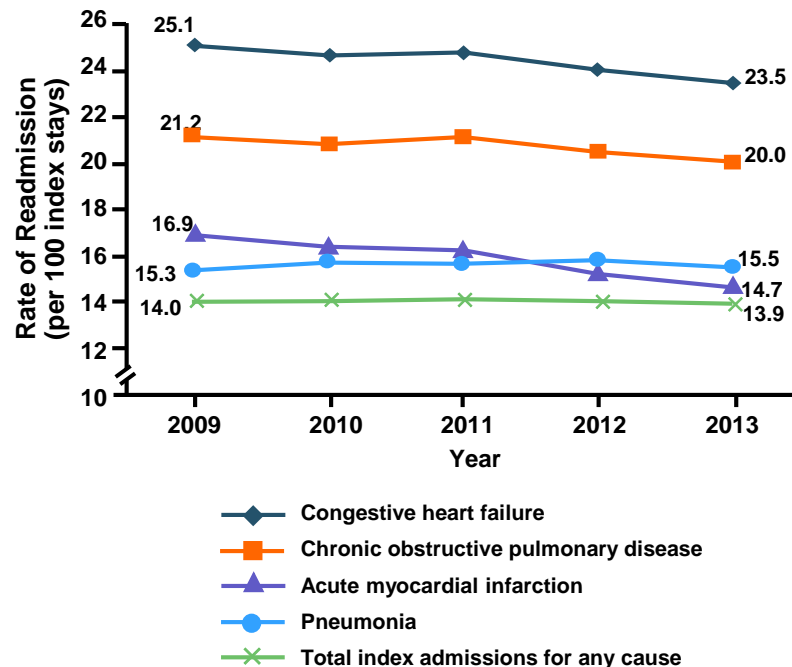
- Describe an approach to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) treatment that is consistent with current evidence-based guideline recommendations
- Review the efficacy, safety, and utility of available therapies for the long-term management of COPD
- Match patients with appropriate COPD medication delivery devices

# **COPD IN THE HOSPITAL SETTING**

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM

# In-hospital Burden of COPD

- 1.1 million COPD-related ED visits
- 660,000 discharges with a primary diagnosis of COPD
- 20% all-cause 30-day readmission rate among patients with an index hospitalization for COPD
- In-hospital mortality:
  - 2.5% for exacerbation-related admissions
  - Up to 28% for patients requiring mechanical ventilation



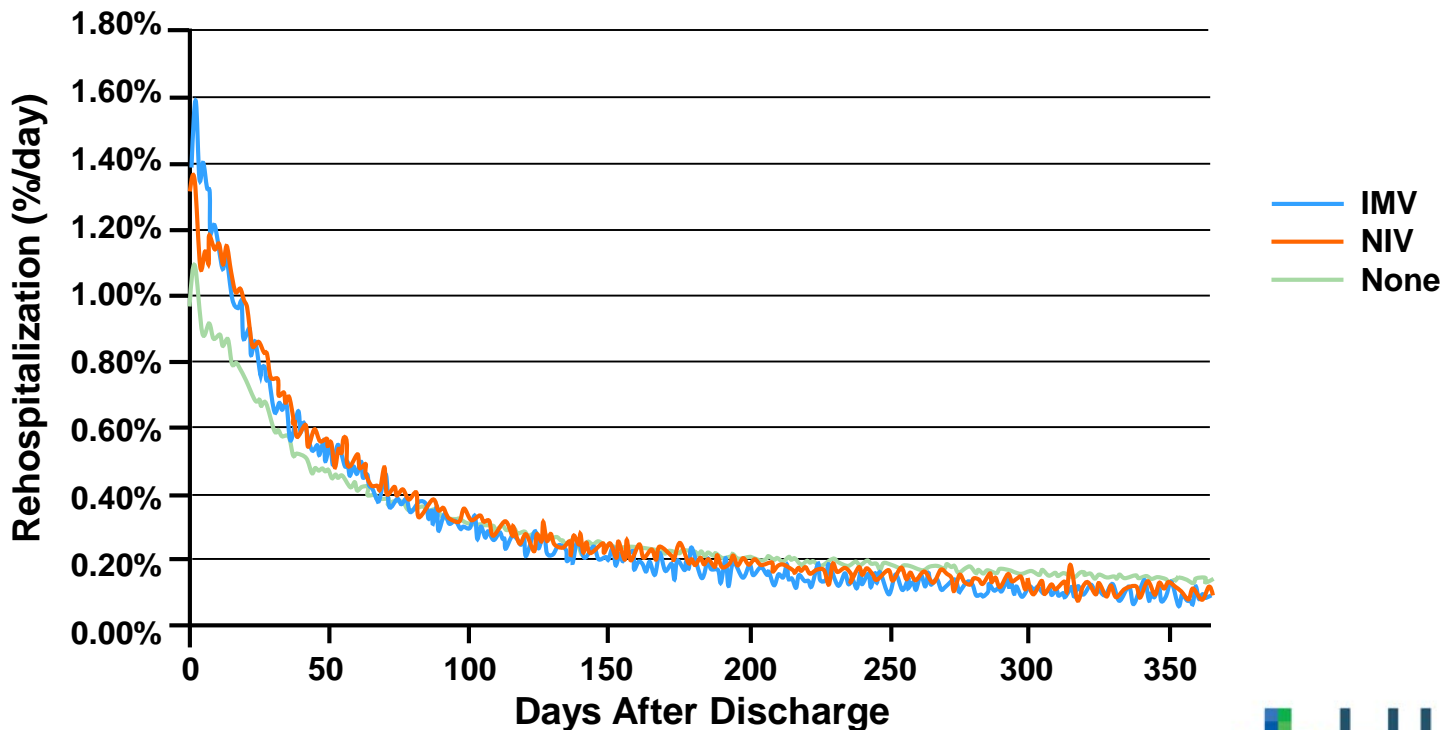
ED, emergency department.

Singh JA, Yu S. *Respir Res.* 2016;17:1; Ford ES. *Chest.* 2015;147(4):989-998;

Fingar K, et al. *HCUP Stat Briefs.* 2015;196; Perera PN, et al. *J COPD.* 2012;9:131-141.

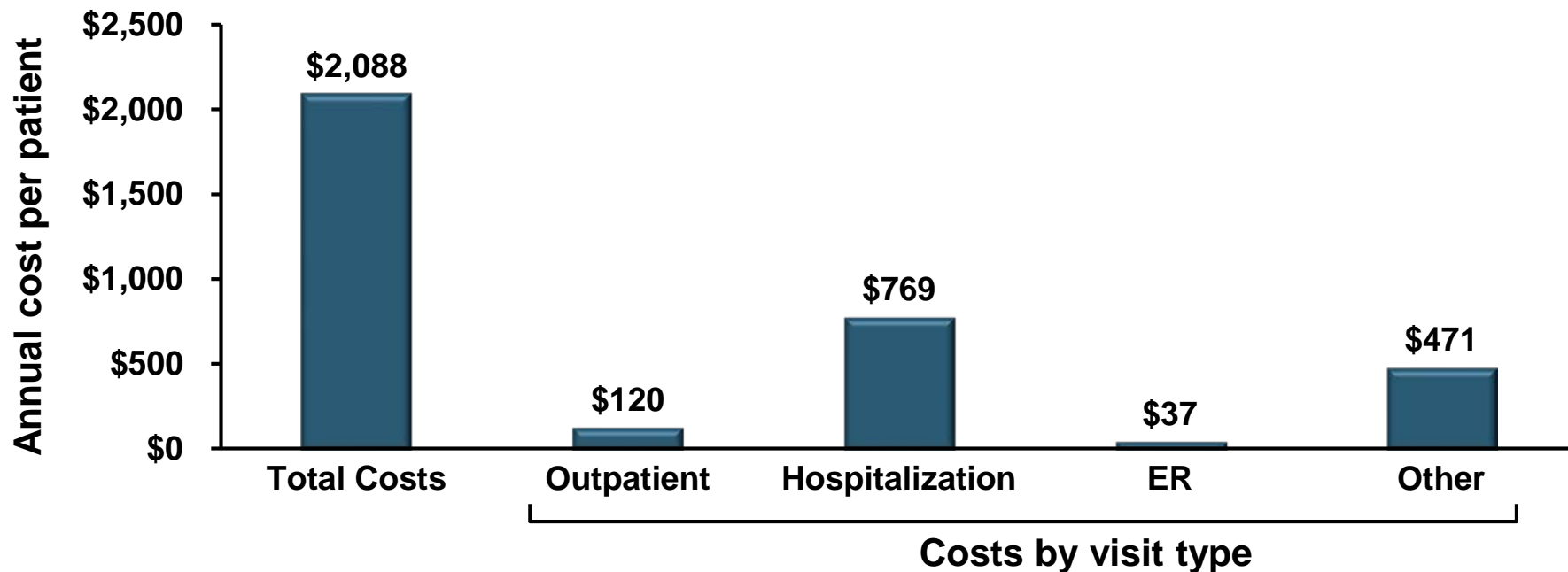


# Prolonged Risk for Readmission Following Hospitalization for COPD



IMV, invasive mechanical ventilation; NIV, noninvasive mechanical ventilation.  
Lindenauer PK, et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*. 2017.

# COPD-related Healthcare Costs

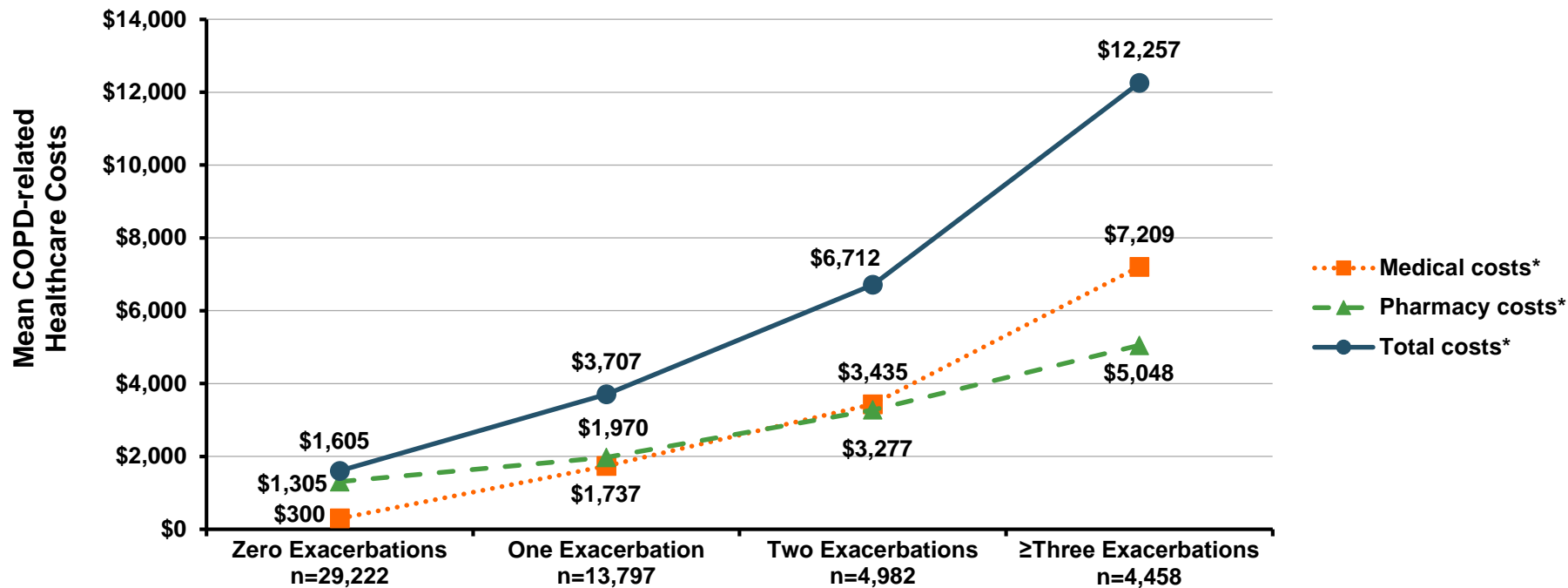


ER, emergency room.

Schwab P. *Int J COPD*. 2017;12:735-744.



# COPD-related Healthcare Costs Increase with Greater Exacerbation Frequency



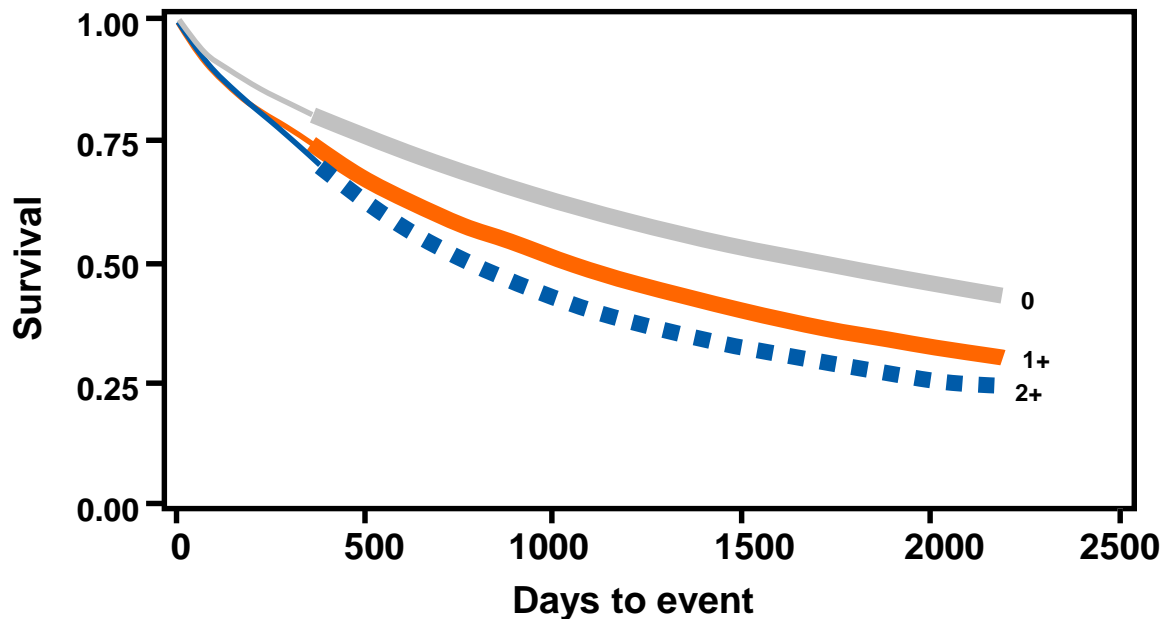
\*Statistically significant ( $P < .001$ ) trend.  
Dhamane AD, et al. *Int J COPD*. 2015;10:2609-2618.

# Factors Associated With Increased Risk of Early Readmission After an Acute Exacerbation

- Black race
- Comorbidities
  - Congestive heart failure
  - Frailty
  - Other medical conditions (eg, chronic renal insufficiency, diabetes)
  - Psychiatric conditions, including depression, anxiety, psychosis, alcohol and drug use
  - Risk of readmission is increased with increasing number of comorbidities
- Discharge to post-acute care
- Dual eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid
- Elevated serum arterial blood carbon dioxide level
- Low body mass index
- Longer length of stay
- Male sex



# Mortality After Hospitalization In COPD



51,353 VA patients in the USA.

Increasing mortality with additional hospitalizations.

McGhan R, et al. *CHEST*. 2007;132:1748-1755.

# MANAGEMENT OF AN ACUTE EXACERBATION

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM

# Assessment of an Exacerbation

- Assess severity of symptoms
- Chest radiograph
- Blood gases and/or O<sub>2</sub> saturation

# Initial Treatment of an Acute Exacerbation

- Bronchodilator therapy
  - Increase doses/frequency of SABA therapy
  - Combine SABAs with anticholinergics
  - Use spacers or air-driven nebulizers
- Corticosteroids
- Antibiotics
- Oxygen therapy
- Noninvasive ventilation/Invasive mechanical ventilation

SABA, short-acting beta2-agonist.

Vesto J, et al. GOLD 2018 Update. Available at <http://goldcopd.org>.



# Criteria for Hospital Admission

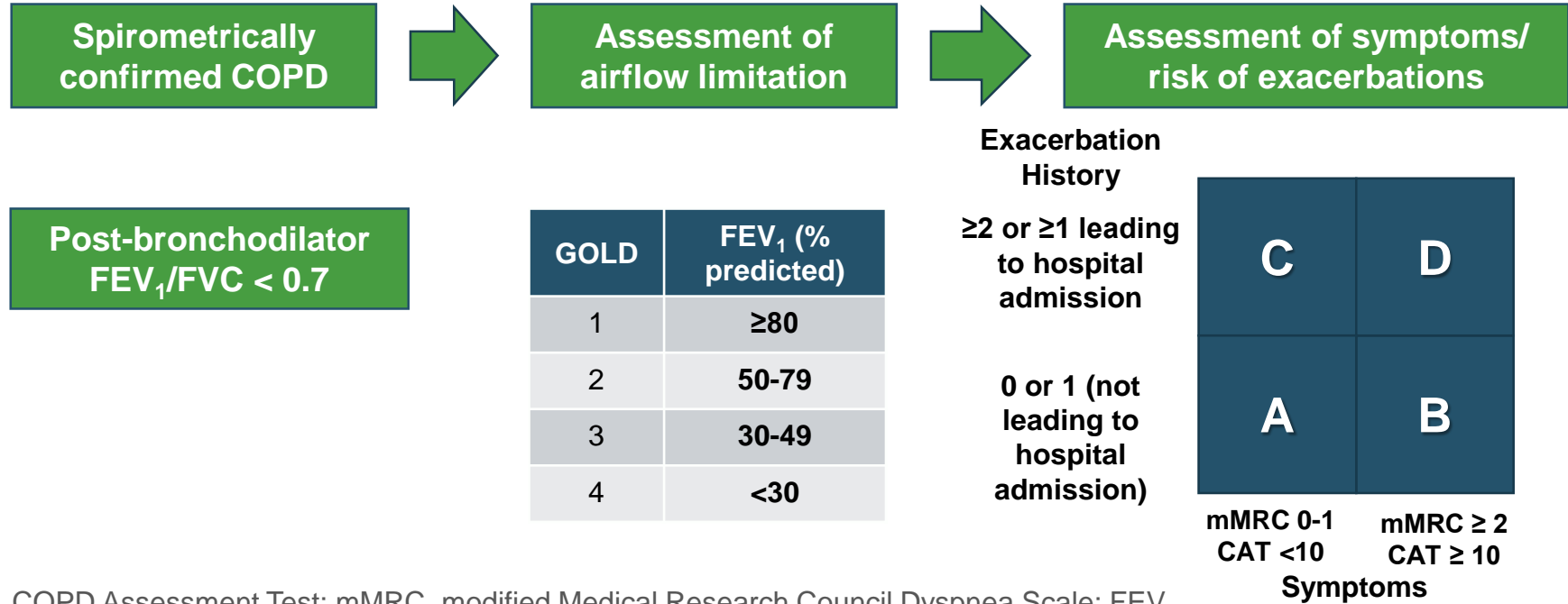
- Clinical assessment
  - Symptoms
  - Severity (as determined by spirometry)
  - Risk of exacerbations
  - Comorbidities
- Response to therapy
- Post-discharge environment

# **ASSESSMENT OF COPD SEVERITY AND EXACERBATION RISK**

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM



# The Redefined ABCD Assessment Tool



CAT, COPD Assessment Test; mMRC, modified Medical Research Council Dyspnea Scale; FEV<sub>1</sub>, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; FVC, forced vital capacity; GOLD, Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease.

Vestbo J, et al. GOLD 2018 Update. Available at <http://goldcopd.org>.

# The Redefined ABCD Assessment Tool

**Assess**  
**1 – symptoms**  
**and**  
**2 – risk of**  
**exacerbations**

## Exacerbation History

**≥2 or ≥1 leading to  
hospital admission**

**0 or 1 (not leading to  
hospital admission)**

<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>

**mMRC 0-1  
CAT <10**

**mMRC ≥ 2  
CAT ≥ 10**

**Symptoms**

CAT, COPD Assessment Test; mMRC, modified Medical Research Council Dyspnea Scale; FEV<sub>1</sub>, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; FVC, forced vital capacity.

Vestbo J, et al. GOLD 2018 Update. Available at <http://goldcopd.org>.



# mMRC Questionnaire

**PLEASE TICK THE BOX THAT APPLIES TO YOU**

<b>mMRC Grade 0</b>	<b>I only get breathless with strenuous exercise.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>mMRC Grade 1</b>	<b>I get short of breath when hurrying on the level or walking up a slight hill.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>mMRC Grade 2</b>	<b>I walk slower than people of the same age on the level because of breathlessness, or I have to stop for breath when walking on my own pace on the level.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>mMRC Grade 3</b>	<b>I stop for breath after walking about 100 meters or after a few minutes on the level.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>mMRC Grade 4</b>	<b>I am too breathless to leave the house or I am breathless when dressing or undressing.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# CAT Assessment

For each item below, place a mark (X) in the box that best describes you currently. Be sure to only select one response for each question.

Example:	I am very happy	0	1	2	3	4	5	I am very sad	SCORE
I never cough	0	1	2	3	4	5	I cough all the time		
I have no phlegm (mucus) in my chest at all	0	1	2	3	4	5	My chest is completely full of phlegm (mucus)		
My chest does not feel tight at all	0	1	2	3	4	5	My chest feels very tight		
When I walk up a hill or one flight of stairs, I am not breathless	0	1	2	3	4	5	When I walk up a hill or one flight of stairs, I am very breathless		
I am not limited doing any activities at home	0	1	2	3	4	5	I am very limited doing activities at home		
I am confident leaving my home despite my lung condition	0	1	2	3	4	5	I am not at all confident leaving my home because of my lung condition		
I sleep soundly condition	0	1	2	3	4	5	I don't sleep soundly because of my lung		
I have lots of energy	0	1	2	3	4	5	I have no energy at all		

**TOTAL  
SCORE**

# MEDICATION SELECTION

Long-term Maintenance Therapy

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM

# Approved Long-acting Bronchodilator Monotherapies

Class	Agent	Brand	Delivery
LABA	Arformoterol	Brovana®	Nebulizer
	Formoterol	Perforomist®	Nebulizer
		Foradil® Aerolizer	DPI
	Indacaterol	Arcapta® Neohaler®	DPI
	Olodaterol	Striverdi® Respimat®	SMI
	Salmeterol	Serevent® Diskus®	DPI
LAMA	Acclidinium	Tudorza® Pressair®	DPI
	Tiotropium	Spiriva® Respimat®	DPI IS
		Spiriva® Handihaler®	IS
	Umeclidinium	Incruse® Ellipta®	DPI
	Glycopyrronium	Seebri® Neohaler®	DPI
		Lonhala® Magnair®	Nebulizer
	Revefenacin	Yupelri®	Nebulizer

IS, inhalation spray; SMI, slow mist inhaler.

GOLD. Global Strategy for the diagnosis, management, and prevention of COPD. 2019 Report. Available at: <https://www.goldcopd.org>.



# Approved Fixed-dose Combination Therapies

Combination	Agent	Brand	Delivery
LABA/LAMA	Vilanterol + umeclidinium	Anoro <sup>®</sup> Ellipta <sup>®</sup>	DPI
	Olodaterol + tiotropium	Stiolto <sup>®</sup> Respimat <sup>®</sup>	SMI
	Indacaterol + glycopyrrolate	Utibron <sup>®</sup> Neohaler <sup>®</sup>	DPI
	Formoterol + glycopyrrolate	Bevespi <sup>®</sup> Aerosphere <sup>®</sup>	MDI
	Aclidinium + formoterol	Duaklir <sup>®</sup> Pressair <sup>®</sup>	DPI
LABA/ICS	Formoterol + budesonide	Symbicort <sup>®</sup>	MDI
	Salmeterol + fluticasone	Advair <sup>®</sup> Diskus <sup>®</sup>	DPI
	Vilanterol + fluticasone	Breo <sup>®</sup> Ellipta <sup>®</sup>	DPI
	Formoterol + mometasone*	Dulera <sup>®</sup>	MDI
LABA/LAMA/ICS	Fluticasone furoate + vilanterol + umeclidinium	Trelegy <sup>®</sup> Ellipta <sup>®</sup>	DPI

\*Off-label use. Not indicated for the treatment of patients with COPD.

MDI, metered dose inhaler.

GOLD. Global Strategy for the diagnosis, management, and prevention of COPD. 2019 Report.

Available at: <https://www.goldcopd.org>.

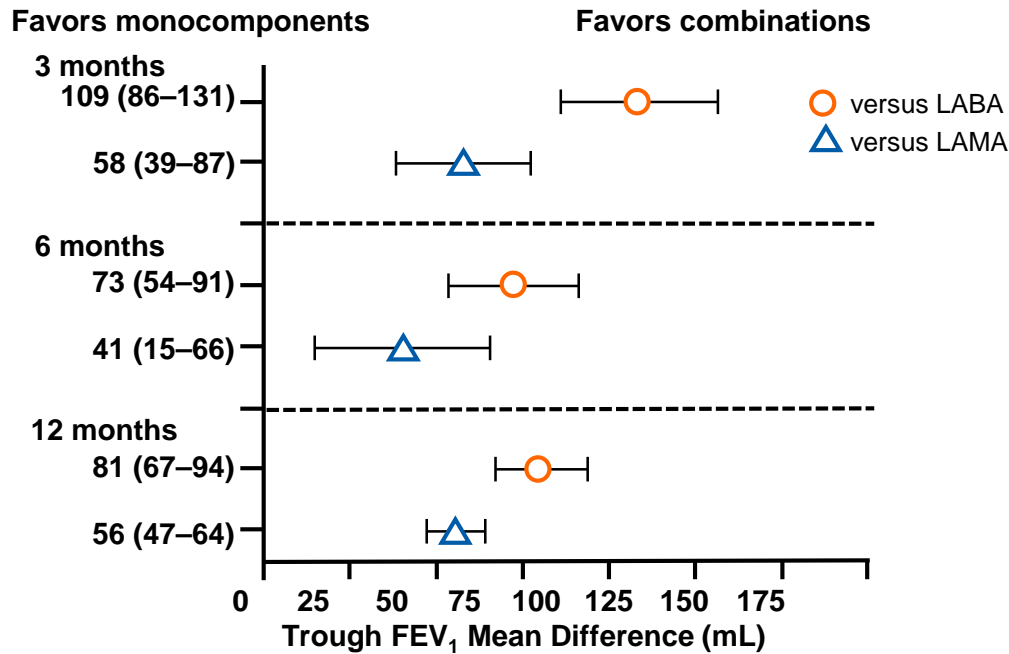


# Emerging Therapies

Type	Agent	Delivery
<b>LABA/LAMA/ICS</b>	Glycopyrronium + formoterol + budesonide	MDI
	Glycopyrronium + formoterol + beclomethasone	MDI



# LABA/LAMA Combined Bronchodilator Therapy vs Monotherapy



- Meta analysis of 14 studies
- N=20,329 patients
- LABA/LAMA combinations were more effective vs monocomponents at 3, 6, and 12 months of treatment
  - Improvements in trough FEV<sub>1</sub>
  - Transition dyspnea index
  - SGRQ scores

# Effect of Combined Therapy with LABA/LAMA vs LABA/ICS on Lung Function

## Study or Subgroup

### Ind/Gly (110/50 µg od) vs Sal/FP (50/500 µg bid)

Vogelmeier et al

Wedzicha et al<sup>3</sup>

Zhong et al

### Umecl/Vi (62.5/25 µg od) vs Sal/FP (50/250 or 500 µg bid)

Donohue et al (DB2114930)

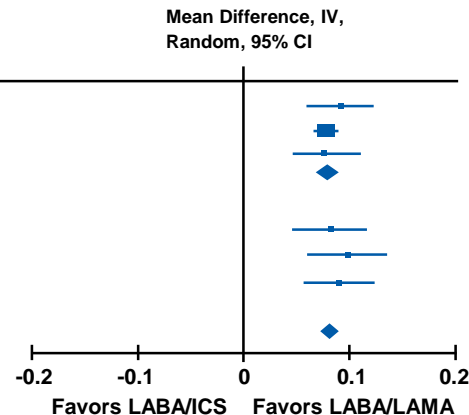
Donohue et al (DB2114951)

Singh et al<sup>38</sup>

### Total (95% CI)

Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2=0.00$ ,  $\chi^2=1.82$ ,  $df=5$  ( $P=.87$ ),  $I^2=0\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z=17.30$  ( $P<.0001$ )



## Study or Subgroup

### Ind/Gly (110/50 µg od) vs Sal/FP (50/500 µg bid)

Vogelmeier et al

Wedzicha et al<sup>3</sup>

Zhong et al

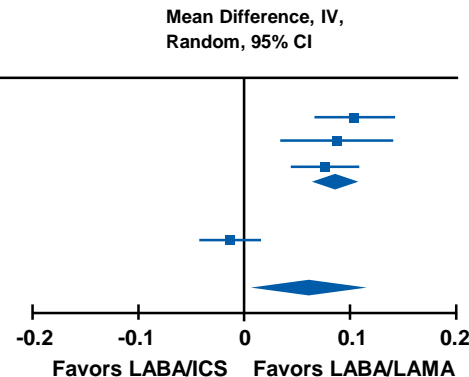
### Acli/For (400/12 µg bid) vs Sal/FP (50/500 µg bid)

Vogelmeier et al

### Total (95% CI)

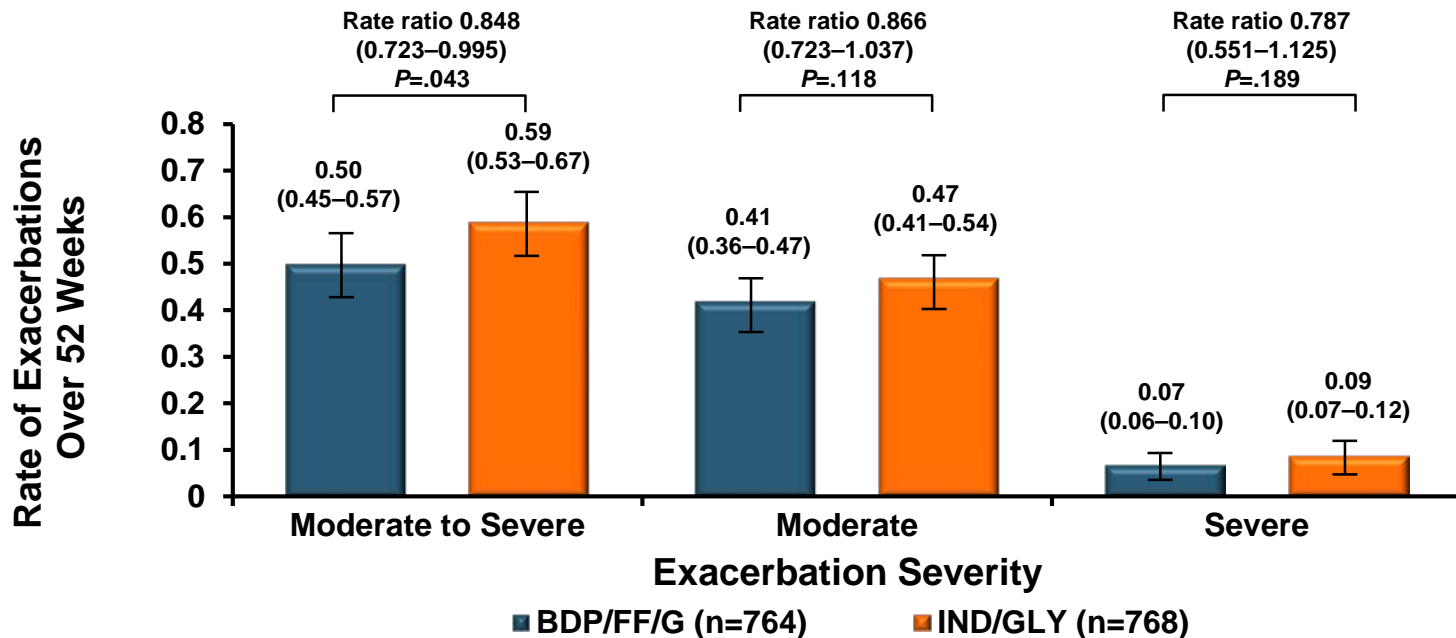
Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2=0.00$ ,  $\chi^2=30.20$ ,  $df=3$  ( $P<.0001$ ),  $I^2=90\%$

Test for overall effect:  $Z=2.09$  ( $P=.04$ )



Ind, indacaterol;  
Gly, glycopyrronium;  
Sal, salmeterol;  
FP, fluticasone propionate;  
bid, twice daily;  
Umecl, umeclidinium;  
Vi, vilanterol;  
Acli, aclidinium;  
Od, once daily  
For, formoterol.

# Extrafine Inhaled Triple Therapy Reduces Exacerbations vs Dual Bronchodilator Therapy



BDP/FF/G, beclometasone dipropionate, formoterol fumarate, and glycopyrronium;

IND/GLY, indacaterol plus glycopyrronium.

Papi A, et al. *Lancet*. 2018;391:1076-1084.

# Initial Treatment Recommendations by GOLD Grade

≥2 moderate exacerbations  
or ≥1 leading to hospitalization

## GROUP C

LAMA

0 or 1 moderate exacerbations  
(not leading to hospitalization)

## GROUP A

Bronchodilator

## GROUP D

LAMA or  
LAMA + LABA\* or  
ICS + LABA\*\*

\*Consider if highly symptomatic.

\*\*Consider if eosinophils ≥300.

## GROUP B

Long-acting bronchodilator  
LABA or LAMA

mMRC 0-1; CAT <10

mMRC ≥2; CAT ≥10

ICS, inhaled corticosteroid.

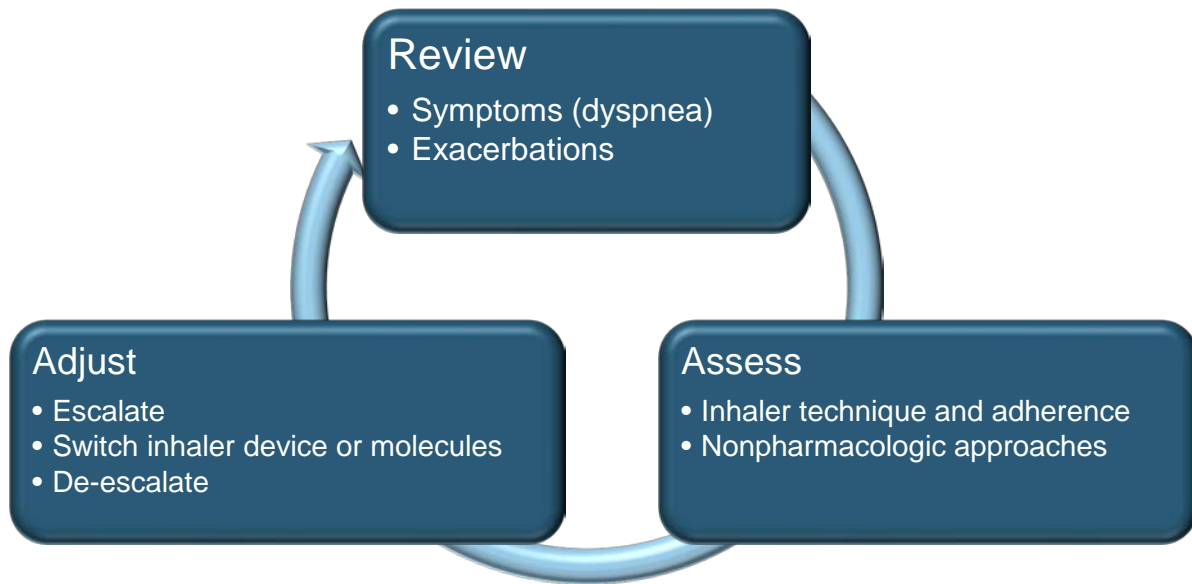
GOLD. Global Strategy for the diagnosis, management, and prevention of COPD. 2019 Report. Available at:

<https://www.goldcopd.org>.



# COPD Management Cycle

## Following Implementation of Therapy:

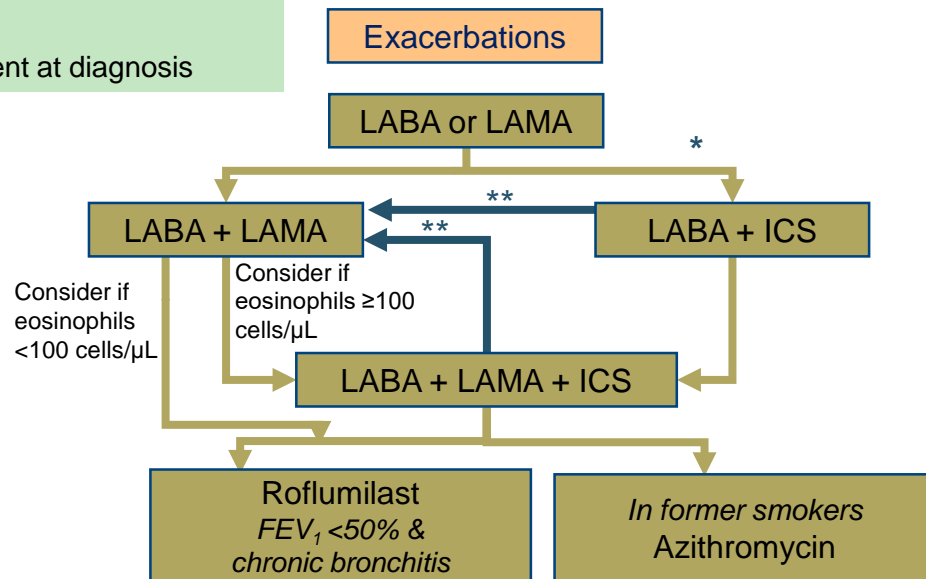
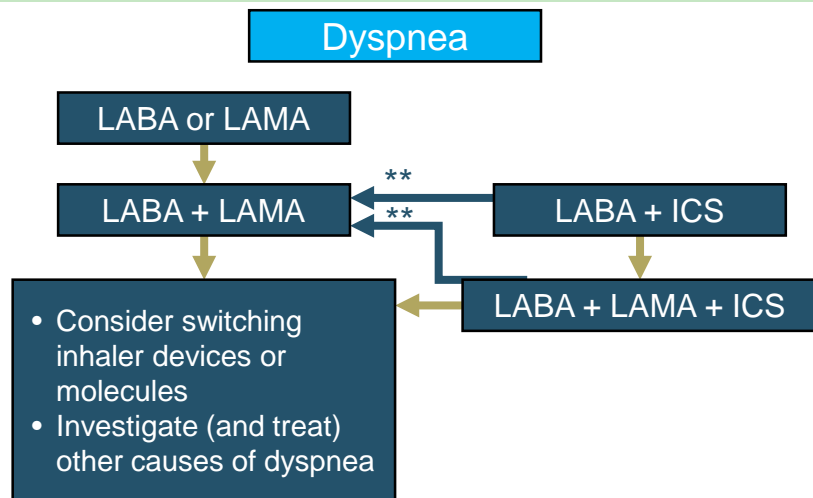


# Follow-up Pharmacologic Treatment

If response to initial treatment is appropriate, maintain it.

If not:

- Consider predominant treatable trait to target
- These recommendations do not depend on the ABCD assessment at diagnosis



\*Consider if eosinophils  $\geq 300$  cells/ $\mu$ L or eosinophils  $\geq 100$  cells/ $\mu$ L and  $\geq 2$  moderate exacerbations/hospitalizations.

\*\*Consider de-escalation of ICS if pneumonia, inappropriate original indication, or lack of response.

GOLD. Global Strategy for the diagnosis, management, and prevention of COPD. 2019 Report. Available at:

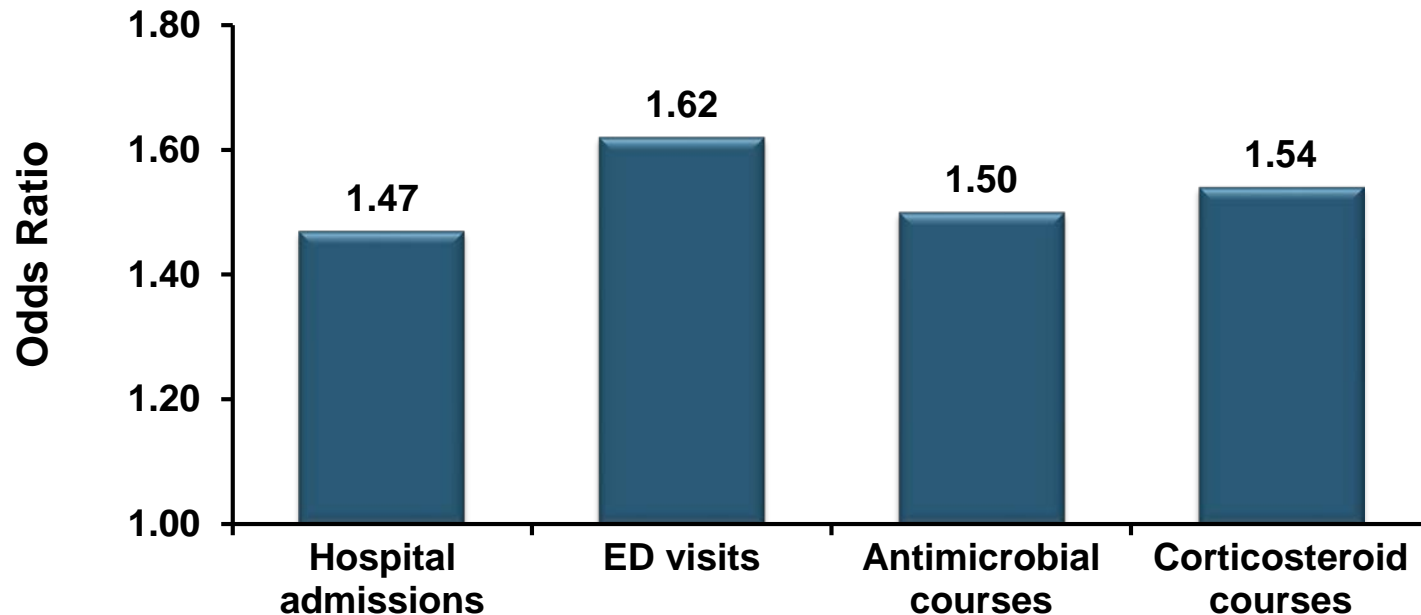
<https://www.goldcopd.org>.

# APPROPRIATE DELIVERY DEVICE SELECTION

Long-term Maintenance Therapy

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM

# Association between Critical Inhaler Errors\* and Healthcare Utilization



\*Data includes asthma and COPD patient populations.

Dekhuijzen PNR, et al. *Patient Prefer Adherence*. 2016;10:1561-1572;

Melani AS, et al. *Respir Med*. 2011;105(6):930-938.



# Assessments to Aid in Device Selection

## Cognitive

- Any test for higher level cognitive function
  - Failure indicates MDI or DPI may be inappropriate

## Physical

- Validated teach-back methods for specific devices
- Check for inspiratory flow (eg, In-Check DIAL)



# Key Characteristics of Different Device Types

Characteristics	pMDIs	DPIs	SIMs	Nebulizers
Ease of use	Requires coordination between actuation and inhalation (ease of use increased when used in conjunction with a spacer, or by using a breath-actuated pMDI)	Varies, they are generally breath-actuated and do not require coordination between actuation and inhalation	Requires assembly and coordination between actuation and inhalation	No specific breathing techniques have to be taught for using nebulizers
Suitable for maintenance or reliever medication	Reliever and maintenance	Reliever and maintenance	Reliever and maintenance	Reliever and maintenance
Treatment time	Short	Short	Short	Longer than pMDIs/ DPIs (duration depends on nebulizer device type)
Portability	High	High	High	Depends on type
Multi-dose device	Yes	Some DPIs	Yes	No
Dose counter	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

DPIs, dry powder inhalers; pMDIs, pressurized metered-dose inhalers.

Dhand R, et al. *Cleve Clin J Med*. 2018;85(2 Suppl 1):S19-S27; Bonini M, Usmani OS. *COPD Res Pract*. 2015;1:9.;

Lavorini F, et al. *Respiration*. 2014;88(1):3-15. Ibrahim M, et al. *Med Devices (Auckl)*. 2015;8:131-139.



# **PULMONARY REHABILITATION**

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM

# Cochrane Review Conclusions

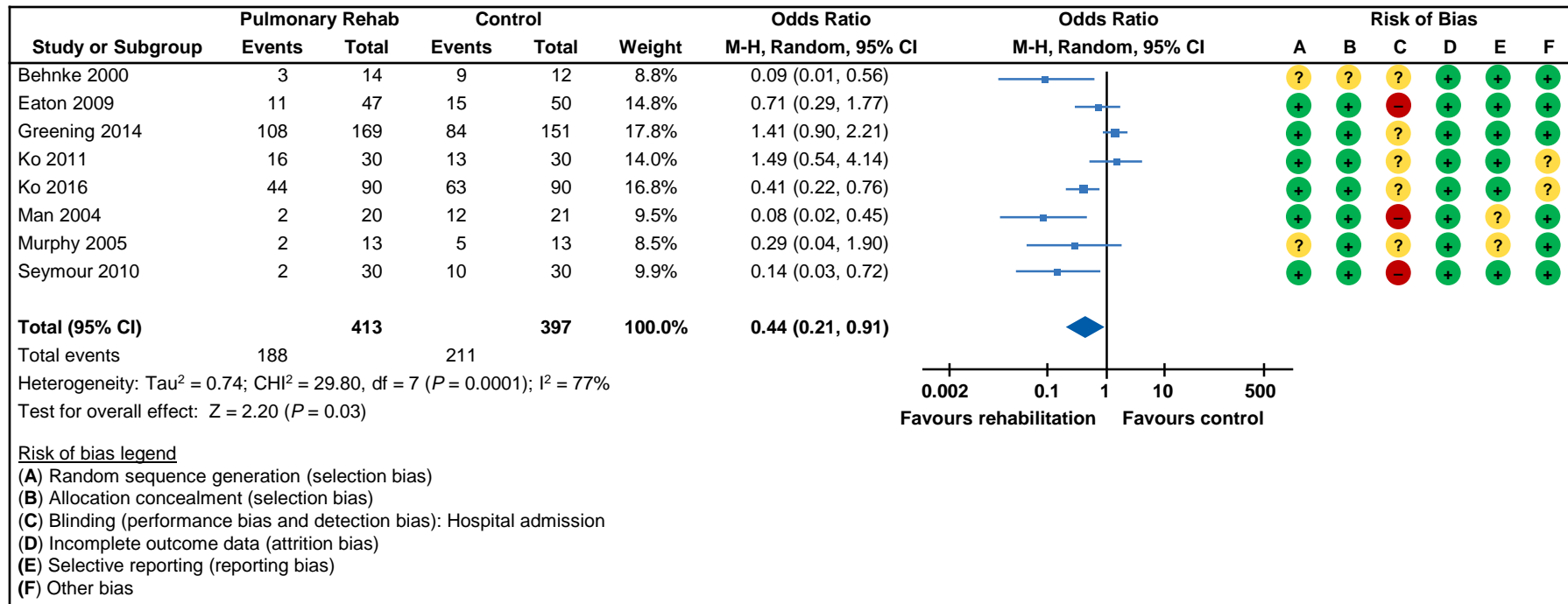
- Pulmonary rehabilitation following COPD exacerbations:
  - Exercise and health status improve; high quality evidence of benefit
  - Readmissions and mortality: heterogeneity of effect with both positive and negative studies
  - Pulmonary rehabilitation programs differ widely in components, duration



**No serious adverse  
events reported!**

# Pulmonary Rehabilitation Reduced Hospital Readmissions Over Period of 3-18 Months

## Hospital Readmission Outcomes in PR Patients vs Controls



# Patient Resistance & Acceptance of PR

## Why Do Patients Decline Pulmonary Rehabilitation?<sup>1,2</sup>

- Too sick; fear COPD/comorbidities would worsen
- Not sick enough, lack of relevance
- Other obligations, interruption of daily routine
- Lack of information/referral
- Transportation problems, location of PR
- Financial burden

## Why Do Patients Accept Pulmonary Rehabilitation?<sup>3,4</sup>

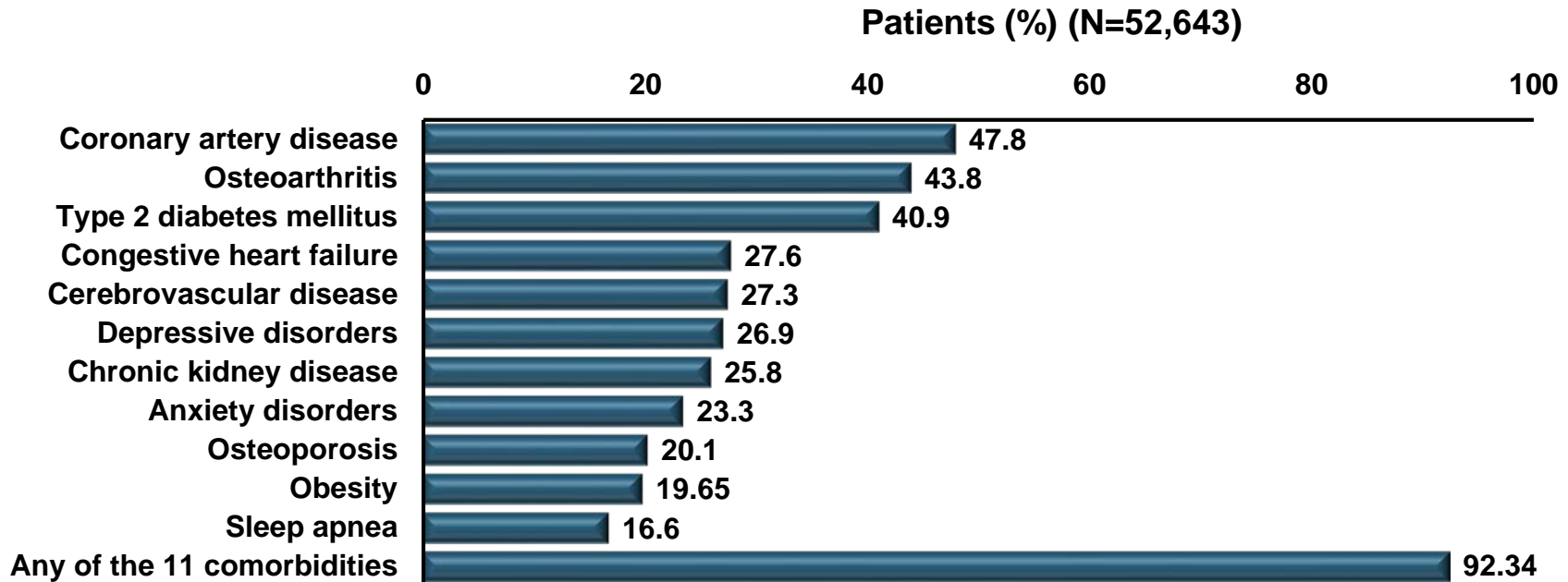
- Build confidence, learn to live/cope with limitations
- Gain support and encouragement from professionals
- Gain tangible results
- 11-fold increased likelihood of uptake if patients have a spouse/resident caregiver<sup>5</sup>

# CONSIDERATION OF COMORBIDITIES

Opportunities to Improve Long-term COPD Care

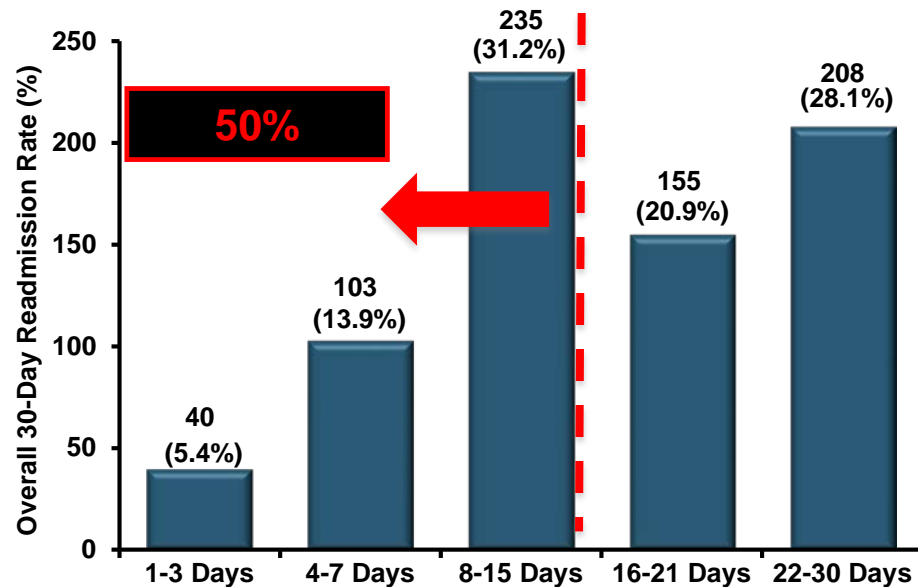
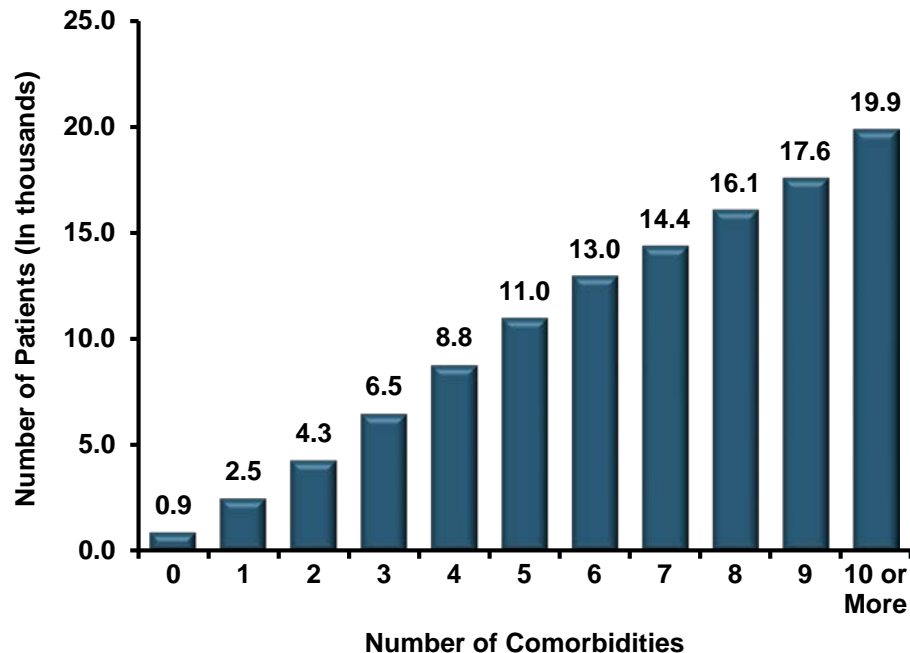
HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM

# Prevalence of Comorbidities Among Patients with COPD





# Impact of Comorbidities and Outpatient Follow-up on Readmission Risk



# PATIENT DISCHARGE AND FOLLOW-UP

Opportunities to Improve Long-term COPD Care

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM

# Crucial Issues to Address Prior to Discharge

## Pharmacotherapy

- Individualized maintenance therapy
- Medication/device training

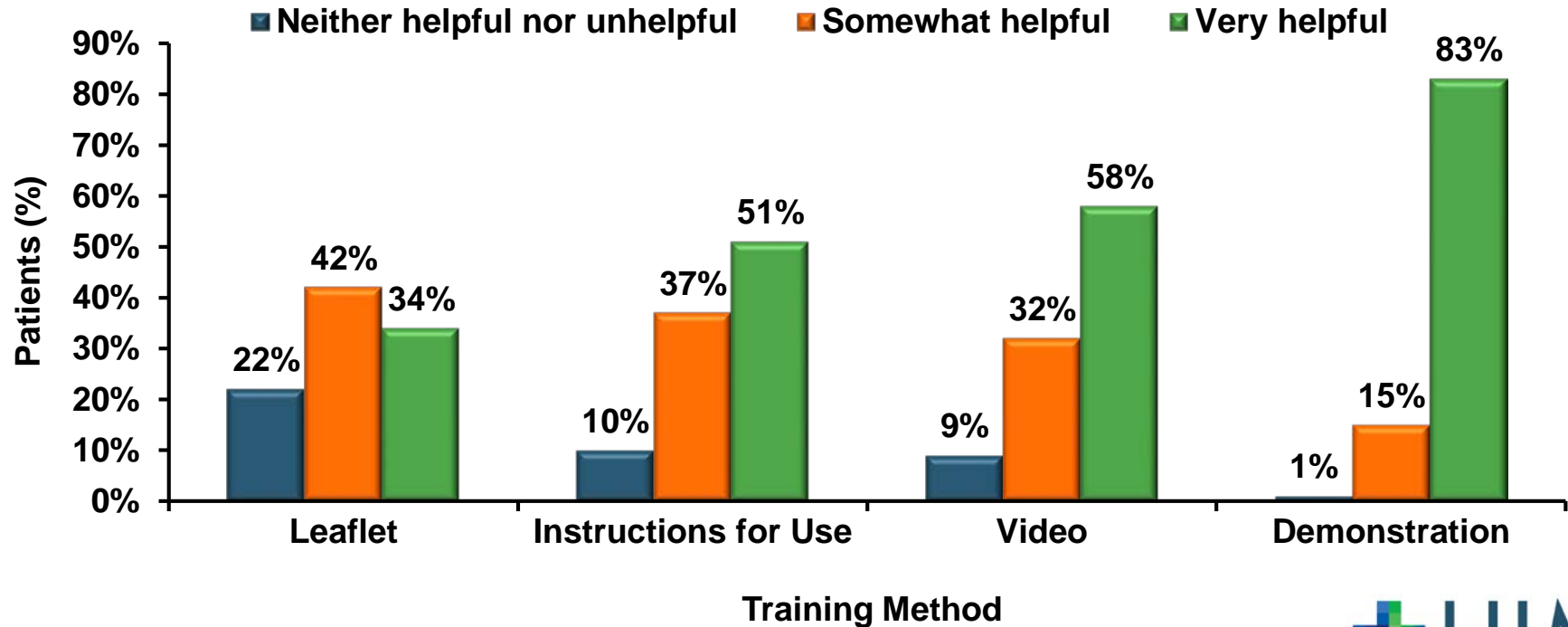
## Patient/Caregiver Education

- Expectations
- Adherence
- Nonpharmacologic intervention
  - Smoking cessation
  - PR program
  - Vaccinations

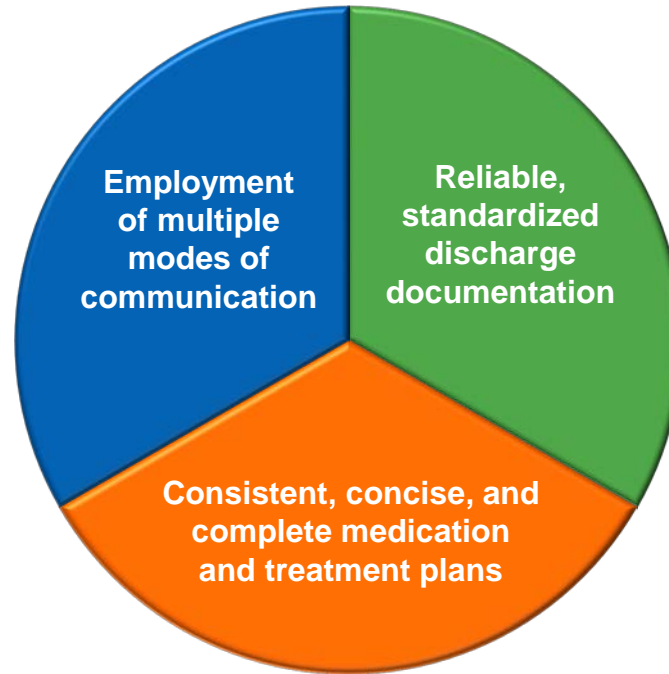
## Referral & Follow-up

- Schedule:
  - Home care visit and/or transition care team call
  - PCP appointment
- Ensure information transfer from ED to community HCPs

# Patient Preferences for Using Different Training Methods



# Improving Communication Between Inpatient and Outpatient HCPs



# Follow-up After Hospitalization for an Exacerbation Improves Patient Outcomes

- An outpatient visit within 1 month after admission resulted in fewer ED visits (14%) and 30-day readmissions (9%)<sup>1</sup>
- Not attending primary care follow-up within 4 weeks was associated with a 10-fold greater likelihood of 30-day readmission<sup>2</sup>
- Not attending a follow-up visit within 30 days was associated with an increased risk of rehospitalization within 90 days of discharge<sup>3</sup>

# Follow-up Assessment Recommendations

## 72 Hours (Call)

- Health status
- Medications
- Clinician appointments & laboratory tests
- Home services coordination
- Action plan

## 1 to 4 Weeks (Visit)

- Ability to cope in usual environment
- Treatment regimen
- Inhaler technique
- Need for long-term O<sub>2</sub>
- Capacity for physical activity & ADLs
- Symptoms (CAT/mMRC)
- Comorbidities

## 12 to 16 Weeks (Visit)

- Same as at 1 to 4 weeks
- Spirometry (FEV<sub>1</sub>)



# CASE EVALUATIONS

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM



# Case Evaluation #1: Patient Description

Jim is a 65-year-old male who presents to his internal medicine clinician with a complaint of shortness of breath while walking. He is a former smoker with a 35-pack-year history and was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes at age 56, which is managed with metformin. His physical exam is within normal limits. He reports no exacerbations in the past but describes multiple episodes of “having to take a break” while walking with his wife. He is referred for pulmonary function testing and his clinician administers an mMRC. His  $FEV_1/FVC$  is .65 and his mMRC score is 2.



# Case Evaluation #1: Question 1

**Based on the information presented, does Jim meet criteria for diagnosis of COPD?**

- A. Yes**
- B. No, additional testing is needed
- C. No, he does not have COPD



## Case Evaluation #1: Question 2

Which of the following is the appropriate GOLD grade for Jim?

- A. Group A
- B. Group B**
- C. Group C



## Case Evaluation #1: Question 3

**Jim is diagnosed with GOLD Group B COPD. Which of the following is the appropriate medication class?**

- A. A short-acting bronchodilator
- B. LABA or LAMA
- C. LABA + LAMA

# Case Evaluation: 6 Months Later

Jim is managed with a LAMA monotherapy and responded well over the first 3 months. However, after 6 months he presents to the ED with a moderate exacerbation that requires hospitalization. He is treated and stabilized with oxygen therapy and repeated doses of nebulized SABA. On evaluation for discharge with the rounding physician, Jim states that he has not experienced increases in symptoms but he has reduced his activity levels. He says he frequently misses doses of his medication or does not remember if he took it and takes an extra dose. He has gained approximately 10 lbs in 6 months. His laboratory values are unremarkable and his blood eosinophil count is 150 cells/ $\mu$ L.



## Case Evaluation #2: Question 1

**What is your next step in management?**

- A. Discharge on current medications and instruction to follow-up with internist
- B. Addition of a second long-acting bronchodilator to Jim's regimen and instruction to follow-up with internist
- C. Evaluation of device technique
- D. Evaluation of home care environment or environmental exposures



## Case Evaluation #2: Question 2

**If Jim exhibits correct inhaler technique, which of the following therapeutic strategies would you recommend on discharge?**

- A. Maintain current treatment regimen with a dose counter
- B. LABA + LAMA with a dose counter
- C. LABA + LAMA via nebulizer
- D. LABA + ICS with a dose counter



## Case Evaluation #2: Question 3

**If Jim DOES NOT exhibit correct inhaler technique, which of the following therapeutic strategies would you recommend on discharge?**

- A. Retrain on technique and maintain current treatment regimen with a dose counter
- B. Switch to LABA or LAMA via nebulizer
- C. Switch to LABA + LAMA via nebulizer



# Summary

- Exacerbations of COPD represent a significant health and economic burden in the hospital setting
- Diagnosis and COPD group stage is based on pulmonary function, symptoms, and exacerbations
- Newest GOLD Guidelines separate initial pharmacotherapy from step-up strategies on follow-up
- Individualized treatment and follow-up care that address behavioral, physical, and environmental barriers to effective COPD management are essential for preventing hospital readmissions



# Clinical Pearls

- Utilize an assessment of symptoms with mMRC or CAT and exacerbation history to establish GOLD Group and guide initial pharmacotherapy
- Evaluate symptoms and exacerbations at follow-up and make treatment modifications based on the predominant treatable trait
- Provide patients with education that includes device training, and addresses therapeutic expectations, medication adherence, and nonpharmacologic interventions
- Schedule follow-up that consists of a home care visit or a call from the transition care team, and an appointment with a PCP

**THANK You!**

HOSPITAL  INTERNAL MEDICINE FORUM