

**ANALYSIS OF FIFTY CASES OF CHRONIC  
OBSTRUCTIVE LUNG DISEASE WITH  
CLINICAL PARAMETERS, ECG AND ECHO**



**Dissertation Submitted to  
THE TAMILNADU DR. M.G.R. MEDICAL UNIVERSITY  
for  
M.D. Degree in General Medicine**



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**DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL MEDICINE  
COIMBATORE MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL  
COIMBATORE**

**CERTIFICATE**  
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This is to certify that the Dissertation entitled "**Analysis of fifty cases of Chronic obstructive lung disease with clinical parameters , ECG, and ECHO**" herewith submitted by **Dr. L .Saravanan** , post graduate in General Medicine, oimbatore medical college to the Tamilnadu Dr . M. G.R University is a record of a bonafide research work carried out by him under my guidance nd supervision from Jan 2006 to Jan 2007.

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Head of Department of Medicine

## **DECLARATION**

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I solemnly declare that the Dissertation titled "**Analysis Of fifty cases Of Chronic obstructive lung disease with clinical parameters , ECG, and ECHO**" , was done by me at Coimbatore Medical College & Hospital during the period from Jan 2006 to Jun 2007 under the guidance and supervision of Prof .Dr .k.Umakanthan and Prof . Dr. Ramasamy.

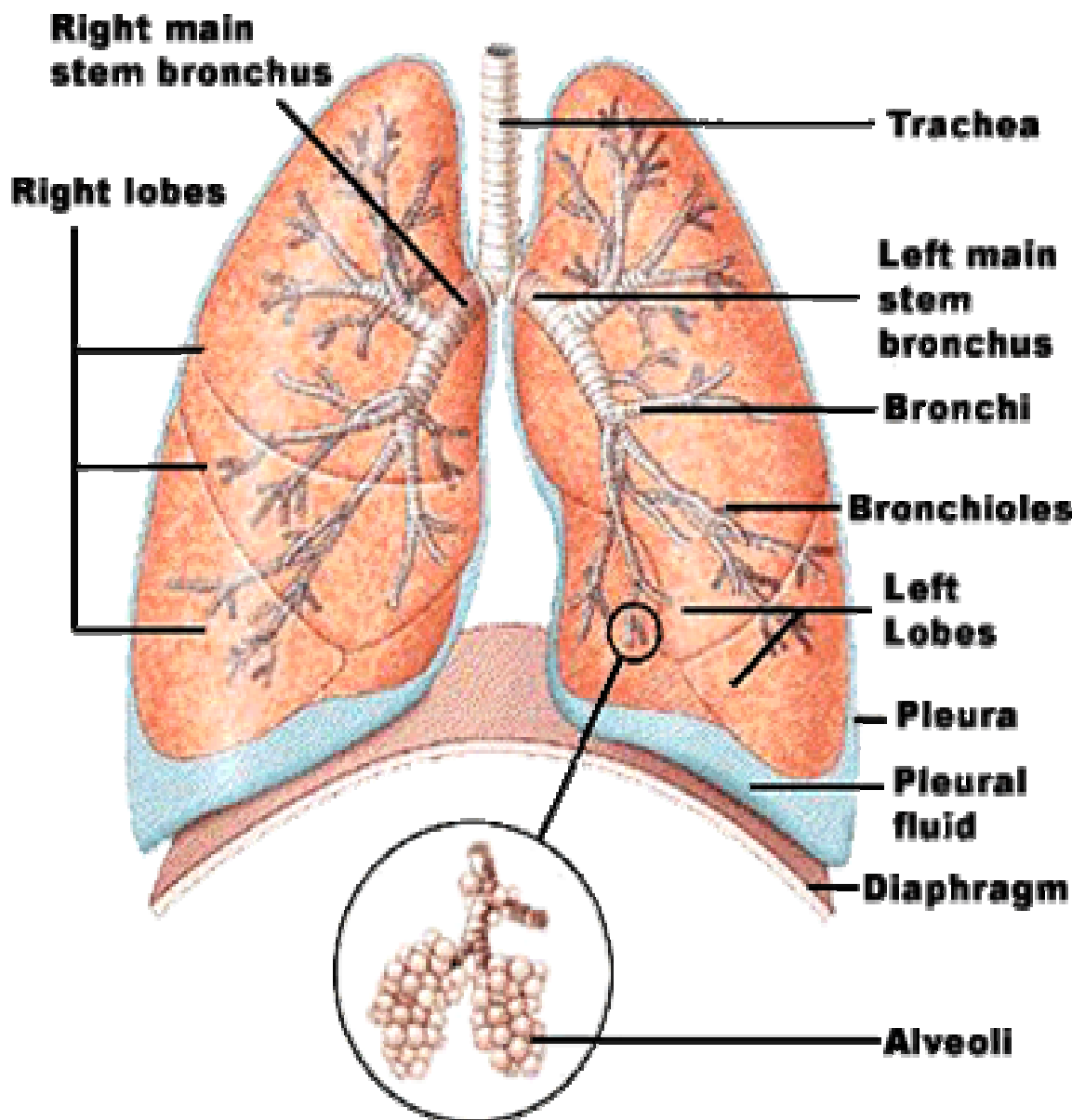
This dissertation is submitted to the Tamilnadu Dr. M.G.R Medical university towards the partial fulfillment of the Requirement for the award of M.D. Degree[ Branch 1] in General Medicine.

Place : Coimbatore

**Dr.L. Saravanan**

Date :

# LUNGS



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## INTRODUCTION

### DEFINITION

The American Thoracic Society defines COPD as a disorder characterized by abnormal tests of expiratory flow [ on a structural or functional basis ] that do not change markedly over several months of observation. The diagnosis usually refers to the presence of chronic obstructive bronchitis with varying degrees of emphysema and bronchospasm [ asthmatic bronchospasm ] .

The American Thoracic Society , defines chronic obstructive pulmonary Disease [ COPD] as a disease state characterized by the presence of airway obstruction due to chronic bronchitis or emphysema ; the airflow obstruction is

Generally progressive ,may be accompanied by airway hypersensitivity and may be partially reversible . Diagnostic of this non specific entity are chronic productive cough, breathlessness on exertion, physiological evidence of airflow

Limitation [ reduced FEV1 ] ,and poor reversibility [ e.g , response to bronchodilator ]

## **EMPHYSEMA**

This entity is defined in anatomic terms -- abnormal permanent enlargement of the gas-exchanging units of the lungs [acini] in association with the predominant physiologic consequence of these anatomic abnormalities, a decrease in the elastic recoil of the lungs -- which in turn causes outward displacement of the chest wall and flattening of the diaphragm. Hyperinflation of the lungs, and increased resistance to airflow, which in turn increases the work of breathing although imbalances in ventilation-perfusion are seldom marked in as those in chronic bronchitis, derangement sufficient to cause arterial hypoxemia are common.

## **CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE**

Lung disease patients are divided into chronic bronchitis and emphysematous patients. Typically they have reduced FEV1 and reversibility less than 15 percent while bronchial asthma patients have more than 15 percent reversibility. Then analysis of symptoms and signs of pulmonary hypertension was undertaken.

Then ECG, And ECHO CARDIOGRAM, X RAY CHEST PA view, lateral view were taken. And the ECG is looked for any evidence of pulmonary hypertension, right axis deviation, p wave morphology, RBBB, P wave amplitude in 2, 3, avF. And the echocardiogram was taken to look for any evidence of pulmonary hypertension, and tricuspid regurgitation. X-RAY chest PA view, and lateral were views taken to look for the presence of right heart hypertrophy, or small pendulous heart of Emphysema.



## LUNG FUNCTION

GOLD has classified COPD as "a disease state characterized by airflow limitation that is not fully reversible. The airflow limitation is usually both progressive and associated with an abnormal inflammatory response of the lungs to noxious particles or gases" 18. This definition has also been adopted in the new ATS/ERS guidelines, with the important observation that COPD is both preventable and treatable 4. Impaired lung function is of central importance in the diagnosis of COPD. Airflow limitation is the slowing of expiratory airflow as measured by spirometry, with a persistently low forced expiratory volume in one second (FEV1) and a low FEV1/forced vital capacity (FVC) ratio despite treatment. The current GOLD and ATS/ERS definition for airflow limitation is an FEV1/FVC ratio of  $<70\%$  4, 18. Although this "fixed" ratio is easy to remember and simple, there is some concern that it may underestimate COPD in younger populations, overestimate it in older ones, and misclassify other patients 19, 20. Declining lung function over time is an important component in understanding the natural history of COPD. The concept that different populations (i.e. susceptible smokers, nonsusceptible smokers, nonsmokers) have different trends in their lung function decline was developed by Peto et al. 21 and expanded by Burrows et al. 22. Interventions, such as smoking cessation, have been shown to alter this trend in populations, although individual patients may have a great deal of variability in their lung function decline over time 23.

## **EPIDEMIOLOGY**

Prevalent COPD in the WORLD is influenced predominantly by smoking and age. Figure 1 shows age-specific GOLD categories of COPD stratified by smoking status, and shows that a high proportion of people aged 65 yrs have evidence of COPD. Impaired lung function is an excellent predictor of both morbidity and mortality, including the development of lung cancer 25, functional impairments 26, elevated C-reactive protein levels 27, osteoporosis 28 and death 29. However, people with similar levels of impaired lung function may have markedly different outcomes. In an analysis of participants in the first National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) and follow-up, current and former smokers with GOLD stage 3 or 4 COPD had a significantly increased mortality risk (compared with participants with no lung disease), whereas never-smokers with GOLD stage 3 or 4 COPD did not have an increased mortality risk 29. The NHANES findings regarding lack of increase in mortality in nonsmokers with more severe disease has not been replicated in other studies. Celli et al. 30 demonstrated that an index that includes body mass, dyspnoea and the 6-min walk, in addition to lung function, is much better at predicting mortality than lung function alone.

## **AIM OF STUDY**

The study selects patients with cough , dyspnoea ,wheezOn the basis of pulmonary function test and reversibility and the presenting signs and symptoms are analysed with ECG ,ECHO TO FIND

- 1. To know the cardiovascular complications of COPD like pulmonary hypertension**
- 2. ECG changes of COPD , 2,3 ,AVF P WAVE amplitude Morphology , RBBB, RVH , OR PHT**
- 3. Concurrent coronary artery disease patients have increased incidence of right heart failure**
- 4. to confirm with echocardiogram the presence of pulmonary hypertension and tricuspid regurgitation and right side failure and analyse the incidence of right heart failure and pulmonary hypertension**

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Laennec divided bronchitis into two humid [ copious expectoration] and dry [scarcely any expectoration]. Recognition of chronic bronchitis as a potentially grave illness rather than as a trivial but nondisabling disease had to await the LONDON FOG 1952. This fog brought about by bad weather and air pollutants carried with it a surge in morbidity and mortality. Epidemiologists in the United States, Netherlands, elsewhere began to take serious stock of the prevalence of chronic bronchitis and emphysema and to wonder why the diagnosis of emphysema rarely appeared on the death certificates in Great Britain and why the diagnosis of chronic bronchitis never appeared in the United States.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

### DEFINITIONS

#### Emphysema

This entity is defined in anatomic terms -- abnormal permanent Enlargement of the gas-exchanging units of the lungs[acini] in association With destruction of the alveolar walls and without obvious fibrosis The predominant physiologic consequence of these anatomic abnormalities. Is a decrease in the elastic recoil of the lungs -- which in turn causes Outward displacement of the chest wall and flattening of the diaphragm Hyperinflation of the lungs , and increased resistance to airflow .which in turn Increases the work of breathing . although imbalances in ventilation Perfusion are seldom marked in as those in chronic bronchitis ,derangement sufficient to cause arterial hypoxemia are common .

## **CHRONIC BRONCHITIS**

As has been pointed out chronic bronchitis is not a single clinicalEntity , and it is the airflow limitation that it produces that leads toMorbidity and mortality . this limitation has been identified from a Decrease in FEV1

## **CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE**

The American Thoracic Society , defines chronic obstructive pulmonaryDisease [ COPD] as a disease state characterized by the presence of airwayObstruction due to chronic bronchitis or emphysema ; the airflow obstruction is Generally progressive ,may be accompanied by airway hypersensitivity and may be partially reversible . Diagnostic of this non specific entity are chronic productive cough, breathlessness on exertion, physiological evidence of airflow Limitation[ reduced FEV1] ,and poor reversibility[ e.g , response to bronchodilator

## **Asthma**

As a rule clinicians believe that they can identify most patients with atopic or extrinsic asthma that begins in childhood and those with intrinsic asthma of middle age. However, uncertainty creeps in when wheezing accompanies limitation to airflow in some patients with an acute exacerbation of bronchitis in the course of COPD. The key elements in the differential diagnosis are the reversibility in asthma to the obstruction to airflow [either by treatment or spontaneously] and hyperresponsiveness of the airways. The diverse cause of asthma are reflected in a variety of qualifiers, such as atopic, occupational, cardiac, and cold induced. It is the hyperresponsiveness of asthma that is responsible for the widespread but reversible, narrowing of airways. In asthma, the larger bronchi are predominantly affected, goblet cells undergo hyperplasia, bronchial glands hypertrophy, the basement membrane thickens, airway smooth muscle hypertrophies, and the luminal walls are invaded by eosinophils and shed necrotic bronchiolar epithelium. The inflammatory changes coupled with submucosal edema, contribute to the airway obstruction.

## **Bronchiectasis**

Localized bronchiectasis is often present in patients with COPD. As a rule, however, bronchiectasis is characterized by dilatation of airways rather than by narrowing. It does not contribute to obstruction of airways. In cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis is a common finding. Proximal airways are dilated, distal airways are obstructed by mucopurulent exudates and narrowed by obliterated airways.

## **Bronchiolitis obliterans (and BOOP)**

The lesions affected the terminal branches of Branchial tree where bronchi became devoid of their cartilage in their wall caused by plugging of the terminal bronchioles ,fromwithin by organizing exudates , by constriction of bronchioles dueto inflammation and fibrosis, broncho alveolar process .causes are connective tissue disorders , toxic inhalants ,and cigarette smokingimmulogic disorders ,infections in immunocompromised individualsafter allogenic bone transplantation as graft versus host reaction cytomegalo virus , adeno virus infection ,the hall mark is presence of ranulation tissue in he airways



General appearance	Mesomorphic overweight dusky Suffused conjunctiva warm extremities	Thin ,emaciated ,pursed lip breathing,anxious,prominent Use of accessory muscles ,normal or cool extremities
Age		
Onset	40--55 cough	50---75 dyspnea
Cyanosis	marked	slight o none
Cough	more evident than	less evident than dyspnea
Sputum	dyspnea copious	scanty
Uri	common	occasional
Breath sounds	moderately diminished	markedly diminished
Corpulmonale	common	terminally
Radiograph	normal diaphragm cardiomegaly ,lungs normal with increased bronchovascular markings	low ,flat diaphragm ,small pendulous heart,areas of increased radiolucency
course	ambulatory but constantly on verge of right sided heart failure and coma	incapacitating breathlessness punctuated by life threatening bouts of upper respiratory infections,prolonged course culminating in right sided failure and coma

FEV1	REDUCED	REDUCED
FRC	Mildly increased	Markedly increased
TLC	Normal or slightly increased	Considerably increased
RV	Normal or slightly increased	Considerably increased
LUNG COMPLIANCE	Normal or low	Normal or low
Recoil pressure	Normal or high	Low
MVV	Moderately decreased	Markedly decreased
Airway resistance	Increased	Normal or slightly increased
Dco2	Normal or low	Low
Arterial po2	Marked reduction	Slight to moderate
Arterial hypercapnia	Chronic	Only during acute respiratory infection
Hematocrit	High --70	Normal 55
Pulmonary artery pressure	Increased	Normal or slightly increased

## Proposed risk factors for COPD

<i>Risk factor</i>	<i>comment</i>
Increasing age	ventilatory impairment primarily reflects cumulative life time smoking
gender	males more risk
smoking	relation to cigarettes smoking per day cumulative pack years
environmental	more in urban
occupation	more in coal ,gold miners , farmers, cement cotton workers
socioeconomic status	common in low socio
diet	high fish may reduce risk
genetic	alpha 1 anti trypsin deficiency
birthweight	low birth weight lowFEV1 AND high COPD later in life
recurrent broncho pulmonary infections	short term decline in lung function
Allergy and airway hyper responsiveness	increased eosinophils subgroup of smokers

## Proteinase inhibitors present in the Lung Parenchyma

Proteinase inhibitor	Cell of origin	proteinase inhibited
Alpha 1 AT	HEPATOCYTE	Serine proteinase
SLPI	Type 2 pneumocytes	Serine proteinase
Elafin	Large airway epithelial cells	Serine proteinase
Aipha2 macroglobulin	Hepatocytes,lung fibroblasts	Serine proteinase
TIMP-1	Macrophages, lung resident cells	MMPS
Cystatin C	Bronchial epithelial cells	cysteine proteinase

INDICATIONS FOR HOSPITALISATION OF COPD PATIENTS  
Acute exacerbation [ increased dyspnea or sputum production]inadequate response to op management

1. Inability to ambulate
2. Inability to eat or sleep de to dyspnea
3. Inadequate home care resources
4. Serious co morbid conditions
5. Prolonged progressive symptoms
6. Altered mentation
7. Worsening hypoxemia
8. Worsening hypercapnia
9. New or worsening cor plmonale
- 10.Surgical or diagnostic procedure

## Algorithm for the management of COPD

Ipratropim [via MDI with spacer  
3, 6 pffs ,4 times a day

Suboptimal  
response

Add b2 agonist 2-6 puffs every 3-6  
hours as needed

Suboptimal  
response

Add long acting theophylline  
200 – 400 mg at bed time serum  
level 8—12 micro gram/ml

Continued  
symptoms on  
maximal  
bronchodilators

Trial of prednisone  
40 mg /day for 14 days

**<15**  
improvement  
inFEV1 discontue  
prednisone

**>15**  
improvement  
inFEV1 low dose  
prednisone

## **BETA ADRENERGICAGONISTS**

Beta adrenergic agonists have been the mainstay of treatment of obstructive lung disease. These agents increase cyclic adenosine monophosphate formation which alters intracellular calcium homeostasis and modifies vascular tone. The drugs are best taken on an as needed basis, hence they may be used as primary therapy, in patients who have dyspnea intermittently. They may be added to the regular doses of ipratropium when patients have daily symptoms. Excessive use of beta agonist may result in tachyphylaxis via a down regulation of receptors. The side effects of beta agonists are tachycardia, dysrhythmias, exacerbation of myocardial ischemia, and hypo or hypotension. Nervous system side effects include tremor, agitation, and insomnia. Fortunately tolerance develops to most of the side effects. Hypokalemia has been noted in patients receiving large dose *sisoproterenol*, *isoetharine*, *meaproterenol*, *terbutaline*, *albuterol*, *bitolterol*, *pirbuteral*, *salmeterol* are some of the beta adrenergic agonists

## **CORTICOSTEROIDS**

Based on the common pathologic finding of airway inflammation in COPD, use of corticosteroids in preventing decline in lung function has been investigated. In one retrospective study, daily oral doses of 10 mg of prednisone produced a reduction in the rate of decline of FEV1 over 14 – 20 years in patients with COPD. More recently, results from an ongoing study indicate addition of inhalational steroid to a bronchodilator regimen may delay the expected decline in FEV1 in patients with COPD. In this study which includes patients with reversible airway obstruction, long term inhaled corticosteroids appear to be most effective in subjects with the greatest variability of air flow. Furthermore, although the decline in FEV1 continued over time, airflow started from a new higher level hence the anti inflammatory effects of corticosteroids may affect the long term decline in FEV, in COPD.



## **Anti-cholinergic Agents**

Acetylcholine is a chemical released by nerves that attaches to receptors on the muscles surrounding the airway causing the muscles to contract and the airways to narrow. Anti-cholinergic drugs such as ipratropium bromide (Atrovent) dilate airways by blocking the receptors for acetylcholine on the muscles of the airways and preventing them from narrowing. Ipratropium bromide (Atrovent) usually is administered via a MDI. In patients with COPD, ipratropium has been shown to alleviate dyspnea, improve exercise tolerance and improve FEV1. Ipratropium has a slower onset of action but longer duration of action than the shorter-acting beta-2 agonists. Ipratropium usually is well tolerated with minimal side effects even when used in higher doses. Tiotropium (SPIRIVA) is a long acting and more powerful version of Ipratropium and has been shown to be more effective. In comparing ipratropium with beta-2 agonists in the treatment of patients with COPD, studies suggest that ipratropium may be more effective in dilating airways and improving symptoms with fewer side effects. Ipratropium is especially suitable for use by elderly patients who may have difficulty with fast heart rate and tremor from the beta-2 agonists. In patients who respond poorly to either beta-2 agonists or ipratropium alone, a combination of the two drugs sometimes results in a better response than to either drug alone without additional side effects.

## **METHYLYXANTHINES**

Theophylline (Theo-Dur, Theolair, Slo-Bid, Uniphyll, Theo-24) and aminophylline are examples of methylxanthines. Methylxanthines are administered orally or intravenously. Long acting theophylline preparations can be given orally once or twice a day. Theophylline, like a beta agonist, relaxes the muscles surrounding the airways but also prevents mast cells around the airways from releasing bronchoconstricting chemicals such as histamine. Theophylline also can act as a mild diuretic and increase urination. Theophylline also may increase the force of contraction of the heart and lower pressure in the pulmonary arteries. Thus, theophylline can help patients with COPD who have heart failure and pulmonary hypertension. Patients who have difficulty using inhaled bronchodilators but no difficulty taking oral medications find theophylline particularly useful. The disadvantage of methylxanthines is their side effects. Dosage and blood levels of theophylline or aminophylline have to be closely monitored. Excessively high levels in the blood can lead to nausea, vomiting, heart rhythm problems, and even seizures. In patients with heart failure or cirrhosis, dosages of methylxanthines are lowered to avoid high blood levels. Interactions with other medications, such as cimetidine (Tagamet), calcium channel blockers (Procardia), quinolones (Cipro), and allopurinol (Zyloprim) also can alter blood levels of methylxanthines. Interactions Aminoglutethimide, barbiturates, carbamazepine, ketoconazole, loop diuretics, charcoal, hydantoins, phenobarbital, phenytoin, rifampin, isoniazid, and sympathomimetics may decrease effects; effects may increase with allopurinol, beta-blockers, ciprofloxacin, corticosteroids, disulfiram, quinolones, thyroid hormones, ephedrine, carbamazepine, cimetidine, erythromycin, macrolides, propranolol, and interferon

## **Future Directions in COPD**

As opposed to bronchial asthma, which has been well researched in the last 20 years, COPD has not been fully investigated. There is significant evidence that COPD is an inflammatory process just as is bronchial asthma, however, it seems that there are different patterns of lung inflammation in these patients. The mechanisms of baseline inflammation in COPD and inflammation during exacerbation of the disease need to be investigated and better understood. There is minimal or no information on the molecular mechanisms of inflammation in stable COPD patients. This latter issue becomes important particularly in the area of treatments. Currently, there are numerous clinical trials looking to intervene at the various inflammatory pathways. A newer class of medications that work to reduce this inflammation is being developed. They are referred to as PDE4 inhibitors. Drugs under investigation include rolipram, piclamilast, cilomilast, and Roflumilast. These inhibitors reduce the number and the activity of the different types of inflammatory cells and inflammatory substances seen in COPD

## **FURTHER INPATIENT CARE:**

In cases in extremis, CPAP or BiPAP may be attempted prior to intubation. This can be started in the ED and continued for several hours in the hospital. Usual recommended settings are an inspiratory positive airway pressure (IPAP) of 10 cm H<sub>2</sub>O and an expiratory positive airway pressure (EPAP) of 2 cm H<sub>2</sub>O, with further adjustments based on the individual. This is contingent on the patient's ability to withstand the mask. This treatment is not a substitute for intubation; rather, it is a means of trying to avoid intubation. Heliox is an additional strategy that can be attempted prior to intubation. Whether Heliox or CPAP is used will depend on the individual patient and local hospital availability. Again, like several other therapies mentioned in this chapter, study results both for and against Heliox have been published. The current summation of that literature indicates that Heliox actually may decrease the work of breathing while the patient is breathing the mixture, but its effects are not long lasting once it is removed. The proper mixture of the gases and the ability to deliver enough oxygen to the patient also are issues. Inhaled nitric oxide has been suggested, but at this point does not seem to have a role in acute treatment. Lung volume reduction surgery has also been touted as effective, but most recent studies demonstrate varying levels of success.

## **FURTHER OUTPATIENT CARE:**

Disposition from the ED depends on the clinical picture for each patient more than any single laboratory value or test. In general, the longer the exacerbation, the more airway edema and debris are present, making resolution in the ED increasingly more difficult. Patients who state that they "feel back to normal" and have no overt reason for admission can reasonably be discharged home with follow-up arrangements. The corollary to this is that patients who state they "do not feel comfortable," regardless of the numbers, are the best predictors of outcome and probably should be admitted. Data on risk factors for relapse and need for admission are limited at present. For patients who are sent home, nearly all should receive a short steroid burst and an increase in the frequency of inhaler therapy. Close follow-up should be arranged with the patient's regular care provider. Other therapies should be considered on a case-by-case basis. Patients with severe or unstable disease should be seen monthly. When their condition is stable, patients may be seen biannually. Check theophylline level with each dose adjustment, then every 6-12 months. For patients on home oxygen, check ABGs yearly or with any change in condition. Monitor oxygen saturation more frequently than ABGs.

## **COMPLICATIONS:**

Some complications that must be anticipated in COPD treatment include the following: Incidence of pneumothorax due to bleb formation is relatively high; consider pneumothorax in all patients with COPD who have increased shortness of breath. In patients who require long-term steroid use, the possibility of adrenal crisis is very real; at a minimum, patients with steroid-dependent COPD should receive stress dosing in the event of an exacerbation or any other stressor.

- ✓ Infection (common)
- ✓ Cor pulmonale
- ✓ Secondary polycythemia
- ✓ Bullous lung disease
- ✓ Acute or chronic respiratory failure
- ✓ Pulmonary hypertension
- ✓ Malnutrition

## **Prognosis:**

Patient's age and postbronchodilator FEV1 are the most important predictors of prognosis. Young age and FEV1 greater than 50% of predicted are associated with a good prognosis. Older patients and those with more severe lung disease do worse. Supplemental oxygen (when indicated) has been shown to increase survival rates. Smoking cessation improves prognosis. Cor pulmonale, hypercapnia, tachycardia, and malnutrition indicate a poor prognosis

	<b>Hospital Admission</b>	<b>inpatient bed days</b>	<b>general practice</b>
<b>Chronic branchiis</b>	100	1500	4400
<b>Emphysema</b>	240	3300	2700
<b>Asthma</b>	410	1800	11900
<b>Total</b>	750	6600	19000

**Lab Studies:**

Arterial blood gas

Arterial blood gas (ABG) analysis provides the best clues as to acuteness and severity.

In general, renal compensation occurs even in chronic CO<sub>2</sub> retainers (ie, bronchitics); thus, pH usually is near normal.

Generally, consider any pH below 7.3 a sign of acute respiratory compromise.

Serum chemistry

These patients tend to retain sodium.

Diuretics, beta-adrenergic agonists, and theophylline act to lower potassium levels; thus, serum potassium should be monitored carefully.

Beta-adrenergic agonists also increase renal excretion of serum calcium and magnesium, which may be important in the presence of hypokalemia.

CBC - Polycythemia

### **Imaging Studies:**

Chest x-ray

Chronic bronchitis is associated with increased bronchovascular markings and cardiomegaly.

Emphysema is associated with a small heart, hyperinflation, flat hemidiaphragms, and possible bullous changes.

### **Other Tests:**



Pulse oximetry

Pulse oximetry does not offer as much information as ABG.

When combined with clinical observation, this test can be a powerful tool for instant

feedback on the patient's status.

Electrocardiogram

The presence of underlying cardiac disease is highly likely.

Establish that hypoxia is not resulting in ischemia.

Establish that the underlying cause of respiratory difficulty is not cardiac in nature.

Pulmonary function tests

Decreased forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV1) with concomitant reduction in FEV1/forced vital capacity (FVC) ratio

Poor/absent reversibility with bronchodilators

FVC normal or reduced

Normal or increased total lung capacity (TLC)

Increased residual volume (RV)

Normal or reduced diffusing capacity

**Pulmonary hypertension , cardiac function and fluid balance**

Pulmonary hypertension develops late in the course of COPD with the development of hypoxemia [ $p_{aO_2} < 8 \text{ kPa}$ , 60 mm Hg] and usually hypercapnia.

It is the most common cardiovascular complication of COPD, and is associated with the development of right ventricular failure

### **Pulmonary circulation**

Changes occur characteristically in the peripheral arteries in the pulmonary circulation of lungs. Among the earliest changes in the vasculature as the airflow obstruction worsens is the thickening of the intima of the small pulmonary arteries. Medial hypertrophy then develops in the muscular arteries. Peripheral airway inflammation is associated with pulmonary arterial thrombosis.

There is increasing evidence to suggest that endothelial dysfunction is an underlying factor.

Thus the putative role of nitric oxide in preventing an excessive rise in pulmonary vascular tone as a result of hypoxemia may be lost.

**Factors contributing to the development of**

## **pulmonary hypertension in COPD**

Destruction of the pulmonary vascular bed

Abnormal blood gas tensions

Abnormal pulmonary mechanics

Increased cardiac output

Blood volume changes

Increased blood velocity

Endothelial abnormalities

## Haemo dynamics and blood gases in 74 patients with COPD

	COPD		NORMAL	
	Mean	Range	Mean	Range
Pao <sub>2</sub> [mmHg]	43	23—67	91	75—105
Paco <sub>2</sub>	51	33---68	38	32---- 43
Cardiac output	3.8	2.3—5.8	3.6	2.6----4.5
Right arterial pressure	3	0--- 21	5	2----- 9
Mean pulmonary arterial pressure	35	15---78	13	8----20
Pulmonary vascular Resistance[dyens/s/cm <sup>2</sup> ]	660	231—1377	58	40-----200
Right ventricular stroke work Index	16	5---29	6	3-----18

## **Clinical assessment of pulmonary haemodynamics**

The presence of pulmonary hypertension produces loud p<sub>2</sub>, and a systolic parasternal heave indicates right ventricular hypertrophy

However these clinical signs are often difficult to detect in patients with COPD because of over inflation.

Extra heart sounds like tricuspid regurgitation murmurs best heard on

Inspiration may be obscured by over inflation.

The jugular venous pulse is often difficult to detect because of large swings in Intra thoracic pressure Peripheral edema is present in PHT of COPD

The presence of pulmonary hypertension can be assumed on a plain chest Radiography if the right main pulmonary artery has a width of more than 16 mm

Right ventricular hypertrophy is detected in lateral view by encroachment of retrosternal space

ECG CRITERIA right ventricular hypertrophy is detected by r wave height

More than 5mm or r/s >50%

Detectable tricuspid regurgitation by echo Doppler is probably the best Technique to measure pulmonary arterial pressure non-invasively.

## Materials and Methods

### **Selection criteria\***

**Step 1**                      The patients with cough ,sputum production  
dyspnea [wheeze] are chosen and sputum AFB negative confirmed.

**Step 2**                      Pulmonary function test was done to pick up patients With  
reduced FEV<sub>1</sub> < 80 % were chosen

**step 3**                      They are nebulised with salbutamol bronchodilator  
And PFT was done to select patients with < 15% reversibility

**Step 4**                      They were clinically examined for over inflation,ascites,  
edema, parasternal heave, JVP, loud P2 , tricuspid murmur

### **Step 5**

X ray chest PA view , lateral view taken to rule out the right pulmonary artery dilatation > 16mm [characteristic of pulmonary arterial hypertension] lateral view to rule out retrosternal space obliteration[RVH]

### **Step 6**

ECG was taken in patients to look for p wave Morphology , amplitude,2,+3 +,avF P amplitude > 9mm,p axis, R wave > 5mm , r/s>50% ,RBBB ,

### **Step 7**

Echocardiogram was done for the chosen patients chosen Looked for pulmonary arterial hypertension, and tricuspid regurgitation[ as it is the non invasive measure of pulmonary arterial pressure ,surrogate , for measuring PAP]

The patients were selected from the coimbatore medical College hospital .

They are interviewed for the symptoms like cough, dyspnea, wheeze.

They were examined to look for signs of pulmonary hypertension, Corpulmonale.

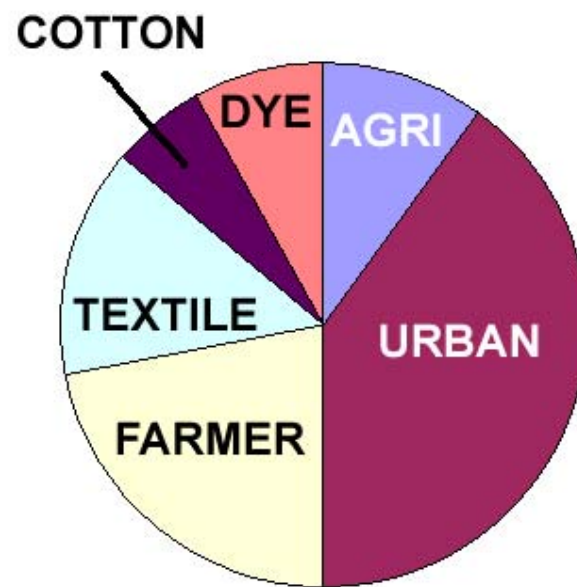
They are subjected to pulmonary function tests to select patients with

FEV1 < 80 , and reversibility < 15

Then ECG , ECHO , taken for analysis.



## Occupational Analysis of COPD



## DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

### OCCUPATION

	percentage	
Farmers[rural]	11	22%
urban people	20	40 %
Cotton workers	3	6%
Textile workers	7	14 %
Agricultural laborers[rural]	5	10 %
Workers in dye industry	4	8 %

## **RESULTS AND ANALYSIS COPD PATIENTS**

### **SEX WISE ANALYSIS OF COPD PATIENTS**

<b>Sex wise analysis of patients</b>		
	<b>percentage</b>	
<b>Male</b>	<b>27/50</b>	<b>54 %</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>23/50</b>	<b>46%</b>

### Age wise analysis

Age group	Number of Copd	percentage
40----50	10	20 %
50----60	22	44 %
60---70	15	30 %
70—80	3	6 %

## **SYMPTOM ANALYSIS OF COPD PATIENTS**

	<b>Percentage</b>	
<b>Cough</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Dyspnea</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>90%</b>
<b>Wheeze</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **HISTORY ANALYSIS OF COPD PATIENTS**

<b>Smoker</b>	<b>23/50</b>
<b>More frequent</b>	
<b>Admissions</b>	<b>35/50</b>

## SIGN ANALYSIS OF COPD PATIENTS

<b>Signs</b>	<b>num</b>	<b>percentage</b>
<b>Jugular venous pulse</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>As cites</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Edema</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Parasternal heave</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Loud p2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22%</b>

## PULMONARY FUNCTION TEST ANALYSIS

**PFT FEV1 < 80 %**

**50/50**

**Reversibility < 15 %**

**50/50**

## ECG ANALYSIS OF COPD PATIENTS

<b>ECG FINDING</b>	<b>NUM</b>	<b>percentage</b>
<b>P pulmonale</b>	<b>17/50</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>Rt axis</b>	<b>29/50</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>R &gt; 5mm</b>	<b>5/50</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>2+3+avF p wave amplitude &gt; 9mm</b>	<b>9/50</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>RBBB</b>	<b>2/50</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>CAHD</b>	<b>9/50</b>	<b>18%</b>

## ECHO ANALYSIS

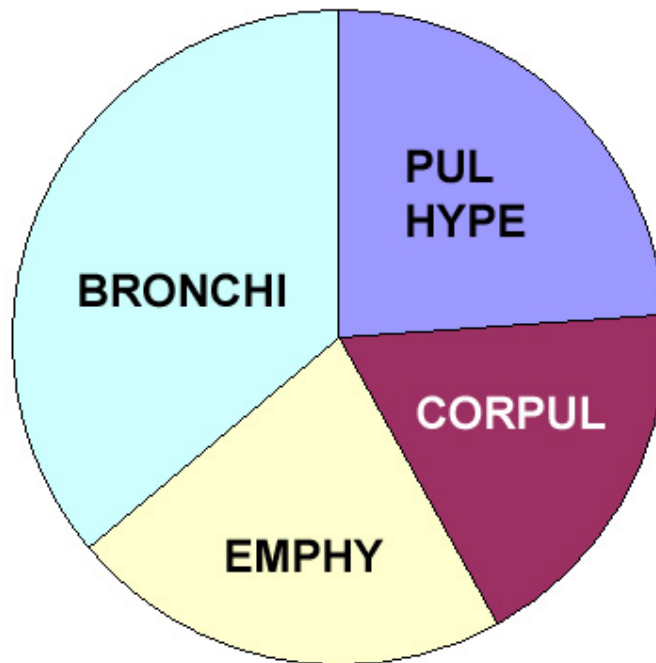
Complication		Percentage
PHT	12/50	24%
Tricuspid		
Regurgitation	11/50	22%

## X RAY ANALYSIS

X RAY PA VIEW	
RVH	13/50
Lateral view	13/50
RVH	



## DISEASE WISE ANALYSIS



## DISEASE ANALYSIS

<b>Pulmonary</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>percentage</b>
<b>Hypertension</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Corpulmonale</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Emphysema</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>COPD Bronchitis</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>36 %</b>

## DISCUSSION

From the above data and analysis, It is clear male patients with Smoking history is more prone for COPD, in particular Emphysema. Out of the fifty patients, 27 patients were males. among them 23 Patients were smokers. out of these 23, 13 males presented with, cough, Dyspnea., Wheeze.

Radiologically all the 13 patients showed small, pendulous heart, with. Flattened diaphragm and increased radiolucency with widened intercostals spaces [ hyperinflation]

Among the 50, 12 were echocardiographically had pulmonary hypertension 11 had tricuspid regurgitation [ which is a noninvasive measure of pulmonary arterial pressure, which we can not afford to measure via catheter.

Among the 50 patients ECG 17 patients had p pulmonale, 29 Patients had right axis, deviation 5 had **r** wave height more than 5 mm [ indicating they had severe Right ventricular hypertrophy or pulmonary hypertension.

9 had  $2+3+avF > 9$  mm of p wave amplitude this is specifically taken Into consideration as this [  $2+3+avF > 9$ mm ] is an indication for Long term oxygen therapy in copd patients as per the American Thoracic Society .

Also the ECGs were looked for any ischemic heart disease 9 Out of 50 had CAHD . as this increases the incidence of corpulmonale [ smoking is an risk facor for both COPD [Emphysema, Bronchitis] and CAHD.

## **Industrialization and impact**

Out of the fifty patients fourteen patients were working in various industries in coimbatore . seven were working in textile industry , while four were working in dye industry , three were working in cotton mills .out seven workers in textile 5 patients were smokers ,2 females are non smokers . four textile workers had bronchitis , 2 were emphysematous 1 had mild copd . generally the incidence of emphysema was more common in smokers 13 /23 in the group of 50 patients . in smokers working in textile mills it was the bronchitis that was more common. while smoking commonly produce centri acinar emphysema , in textile workers the fine fabric related chemical particles increase the incidence of bronchitis in these patients. In dye related workers ou of the four 2 were emphysematous , and 2 had mild degree of copd in the 3 cotton workers 2 had bronchitis , 1 had mild copd

## Urbanization and impact

out of the fifty copd patients ,20 were from urban areas .among the twenty 9 were urban females without smoking history , but they had copd . seven had bronchitis, one had mild copd ,one had emphysema .this indicates the increased level pollution in urban areas .11 males were copd patients .all the 11 were smokers and nine out the11 were emphysematous ,2 were bronchitis patients . While just 16 out of 50 were from rural areas , the major air pollutants were released from automobiles like carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide , sulphurdioxide ,lead. So urbanization had its toll , by increasing the level of pollutants. In the air and increasing the number of copd patients even though coimbatore has green trees all around I had high level of copd patients .so we want strict pollution control acts which should be implemented strictly .

From the above data we can infer that the rapid pace of Urbanization, pollution of air, textile industry, dye industry, cotton industry, farming activities, smoking are major triggers for COPD. More over the complications of COPD like pulmonary hypertension, cor pulmonale were better found by ECG and echocardiogram. The use of ECG was in detecting the patients who need O<sub>2</sub> Therapy [if the combined 2+3+avF P wave amplitude more than 9 mm]. The evidence of pulmonary hypertension, right Ventricular hypertrophy, detected well. Normally it is difficult to estimate pulmonary arterial pressure invasively via catheter but easy to measure it indirectly if we measure it by detecting Tricuspid regurgitation noninvasively by echocardiogram. 11 patients had tricuspid regurgitation.

## Cardiovascular complications

Out of the 50 COPD patients , 24 % developed pulmonary hypertension, 22 % developed tricuspid regurgitation .the chronic hypoxia of COPD is responsible for the development of pulmonary hypertension.the tricuspid regurgitation is the best possible non invasive way of measuring pulmonary artery pressure

34 % patients had p pulmonale , 18 % patients had the total p wave amplitude in 2, 3 , avF more than 9 mm , this is important because this one of the indication for life long oxygen therapy.

18% patients had concomitant CAHD ,this observation is important, because systemic inflammation plays enhanced role in atherosclerosis, diabetes. TNF alpha is increased in COPD, patients



## CONCLUSION

Pulmonary hypertension was the major cardiovascular complication of COPD, the chronic hypoxia of COPD is responsible for the development of pulmonary hypertension. 24 percent of the total cases had pulmonary hypertension. The need for life long oxygen therapy was reemphasized in this study by establishing that nine patients had p wave amplitude summation in 2, 3, av F of more than 9 mm.

The study also established that the best non invasive way to detect raised pulmonary arterial pressure was detecting tricuspid regurgitation by echocardiogram.

Males Predominantly had Emphysema female had predominantly Chronic Bronchitis with corpulmonale

9 /50 had 2+3+avF \*P\* wave amplitude > 9m as this the one of the indication for \*\*Long Term Oxygen Therapy as per The American Thoracic Society\*\*.

Urbanization , pollution of air , textile industry , dye industry ,cotton industry , farming activities , smoking are major triggers for copd more over the complications of copd like pulmonary hypertension corpulmonale were better found by ecg and echocardiogram.

The use of ecg was in detecting the patients who need o2 Therapy [ if the combined 2+3+avF P wave amplitude more than 9 mm ] . the evidence of pulmonary hypertension right Ventricular hypertrophy were, detected well,. Normally it is difficult to Estimate pulmonary arterial pressure invasively via catheter but Easy to measure it indirectly if we measure it by detecting Tricuspid regurgitation noninvasively by echocardiogram. 18% patients had concomitant CAHD ,this observation is important, because systemic inflammation plays enhanced role in atherosclerosis , diabetes .[TNF alpha is increased in COPD, patients ]

Finally the study by analyzing COPD patients with clinical parameters , ECG , ECHOCARDIOGRAM, concluded that pulmonary hypertension was the most common cardiovascular complication leading to cor pulmonale, and emphysema was more common in smokers , bronchitis was more common in females , the prevalence of COPD was more in urban areas due to pollution of air by automobiles. The textile based industries were mainly responsible for the increased prevalence of COPD .

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## ABBREVIATIONS IN MASTER CHART

Paraste----- parasternal heave  
Freqadi----- frequency of admission  
Reversi----- reversibility  
P pulmonale-----p pulmonale  
Rbbb-----right bundle branch block  
CAHD----- coronary artery disease  
PHT-----pulmonary hypertension  
TR-----tricuspid regurgitation  
p-----present,  
A----- absent  
R-----right axis deviation  
RVH----- right ventricular hypertrophy  
Small hear----- small heart  
Ne----- sputum AFB negative  
N----- normal axis  
Ag ----- agricultural worker  
urb ----- urban  
Fa -----farmer  
Co ----- cotton  
Tex -----Textile worker  
Dye----- dye industry worker  
Oc----- occupation

S.No	IP no	Age	Sex	cough	dyspnea	wheeze	jvp	ascites	pedal ede	parasthe	loud p2	smoker	frequadl	FEV1<80	reversi<15	p pulmona	
1	446022	56	male	p	A	P	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	P	P	A	
2	467211	42	female	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	
3	468123	57	male	P	P	P	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	P	P	A	
4	487199	63	female	p	p	p	p	p	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	P	
5	486612	57	female	P	P	P	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	P	P	
6	486954	60	MALE	P	P	P	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	P	P	A	
7	495163	55	female	p	p	p	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	A	
8	494251	40	female	p	A	P	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	A	
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45	595342	65	male	P	P	P	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	P	P	A	
46	602342	60	male	p	p	P	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	P	A	
47	607234	72	female	p	p	p	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	
48	607245	59	male	P	P	P	A	A	A	A	A	P	A	P	P	A	
49	607754	64	female	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	
50	608765	65	male	P	P	P	A	A	A	A	A	PP	P	P	P	A	

# LUNGS

