

OP05.4

The impact of spirometry in the Ebeltoft Health Promotion Study (EHPS)

Lene Maria Ørts(1), A Løkke(2), A-L Smidt Hansen(1), T Lauritzen(1), A Sandbæk(1)

(1) Section for General Practice, Department of Public Health, Aarhus University, Denmark

(2) Department of Respiratory Diseases, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

Corresponding author: PhD Fellow Lene Maria Ørts, Section for General Practice, Department of Public Health, Aarhus, Denmark. E-mail: lmo@ph.au.dk

Background: It has been stressed that early detection of impaired lung function can be useful in prevention of lung diseases. It is unknown whether spirometry as an integrated part of preventive health checks including a questionnaire regarding risk factors and exposure, can be used for early detection of lung diseases.

The aim of the study is to describe exposure characteristics and spirometry parameters 15 years ahead of a diagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD*) *Defined by $FEV1/FVC < 70$ and $FEV1 < 80\%$ of predicted.

Method: in a cohort study of citizens of Ebeltoft municipality (n=573), aged 30-49 years at baseline, attended in 1991 and 2006 a health check and a follow-up consultation at their own general practitioner. The characteristics of the citizens are described according to sex, age, smoking history, exposure, lung symptoms and spirometry values. Register information on sociodemographic, diagnosis, redeemed medication and mortality will be obtained from the Danish National Registers.

Results: 44(7.6%) out of 573 citizens had COPD at the final examination. The characteristics of this group show a significant difference on baseline spirometry values. 44.7% of the COPD group reported respiratory symptoms at baseline compared to 24% in the no-COPD group. We also found an overweight of current smokers and a higher proportion using inhalation medication. Finally we found that only 4.5% of the COPD patients knew they had COPD and no more than 27.3% of the COPD patients received inhalation medication at the final examination.

Conclusion: Persons with COPD had a significant lower lung function at baseline than persons without COPD. Self-reported symptoms and smoking history were also more frequent in the COPD group. Further analysis on socioeconomic characteristics will be done.