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Abstract

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide, resulting in a significant increase in economic and social burden. The natural course of COPD is disrupted by exacerbations with short- and long-term impacts on patients and healthcare systems. Evidence-based guidelines state that early detection and prompt treatment of exacerbations are essential to ensure optimal outcomes and reduce the burden of COPD. Several factors can identify populations at risk of exacerbations. Implementing preventive measures in at-risk patients is an important goal in the management of COPD.

Keywords: Bronchodilators; Chronic bronchitis, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

Introduction

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a common preventable and treatable disease characterized by persistent, usually progressive airflow caused by an increased chronic inflammatory response of the airways and lungs to harmful particles or gases [1]. COPD is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide, greatly increasin

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