

# OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this presentation, the participant will be able to:

1. Define differences between asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD).
2. Recognize key aspects of asthma and COPD diagnosis and management.
3. Apply general principles of asthma and COPD management to practice.

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# Asthma

## National Statistics

### Adults

- 20 million
- Highest rates in Black adults
- Female > male

### Children

- 5.1 million
- Leading chronic disease in children.
- Black children 3x more likely to have asthma than white children
- Male > female



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# Asthma - Pathophysiology

## Brief Overview

Usually characterized by **airway hyper-responsiveness and chronic airway inflammation**

Defined by the **history of respiratory or breathing symptoms** that change over time and increase in strength

- Wheeze
- Shortness of breath
- Chest tightness and cough
- Variable expiratory airflow limitation

Variations often **triggered** by factors such as exercise, allergen or irritant exposure, change in weather, or viral respiratory infections

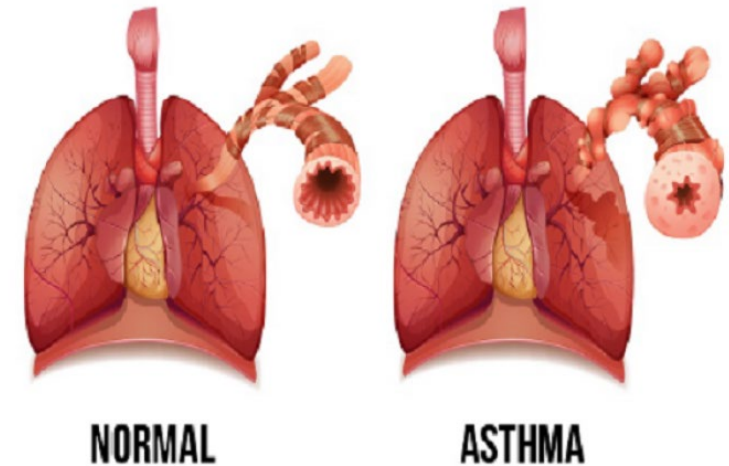
Airflow limitation **may become persistent** later in the course of the disease.



# Asthma - Pathophysiology

## Asthma Phenotypes

- Allergic asthma
- Non-allergic asthma
- Adult-onset (late-onset) asthma
- Asthma with persistent airflow limitation
- Asthma with obesity



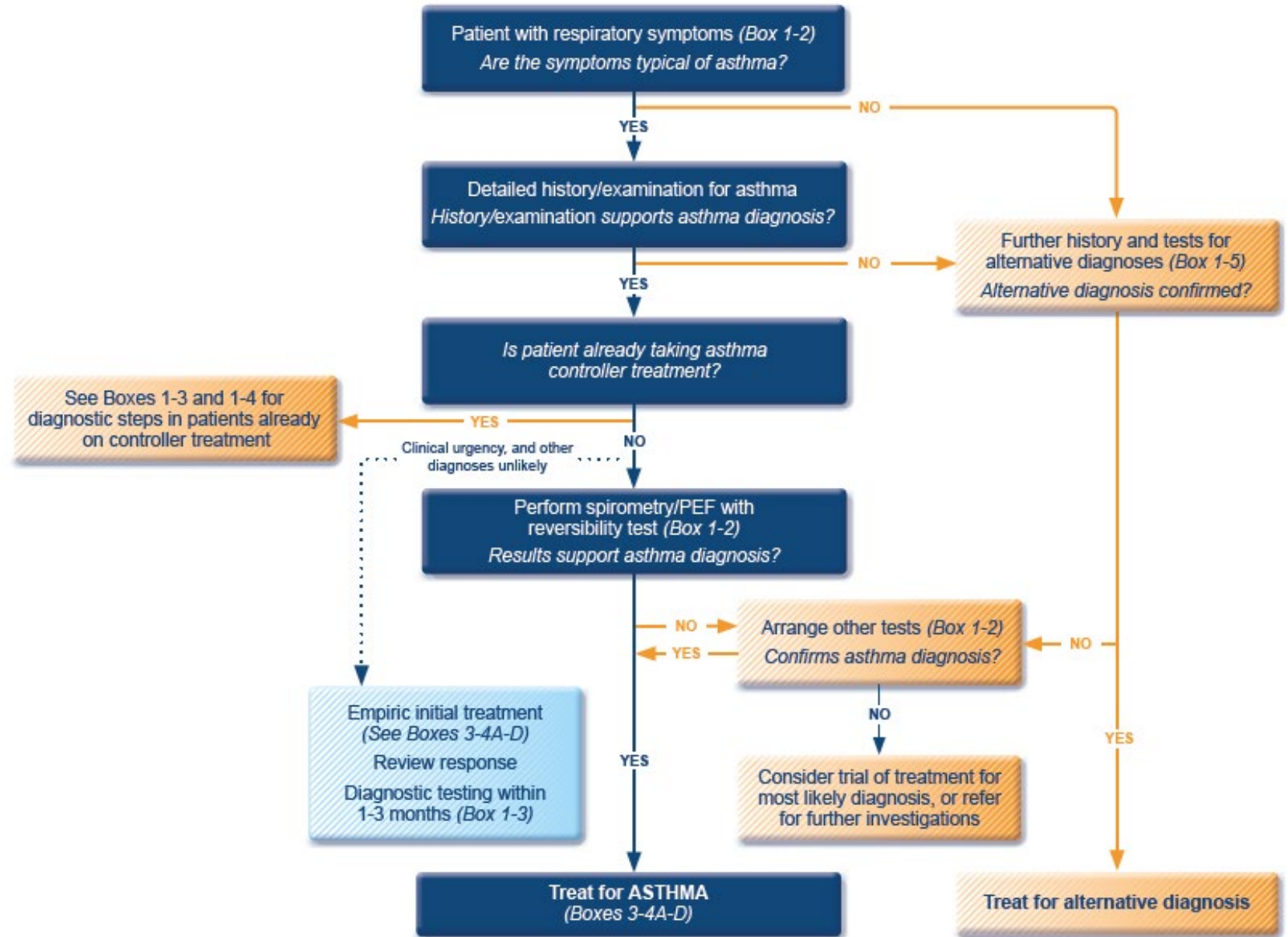
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### General Overview

Khadori R. Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. Available from: <https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/117853-overview>. Last updated April 25, 2022. Accessed May 14, 2022.  
Robertson RP and Udler MS. Pathogenesis of type 2 diabetes mellitus. In: UpToDate, Mulder JE (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham, MA, 2022.



# Asthma Diagnosis



# COPD

## Statistics & Pathophysiology

### Statistics

#### *Worldwide*

- 10% of individuals  $\geq$  40 years of age
- Prevalence varies by country and increases with age

#### *United States*

- 4th-ranked cause of death

### Pathophysiology

Characterized by persistent respiratory/breathing symptoms and airflow limitation

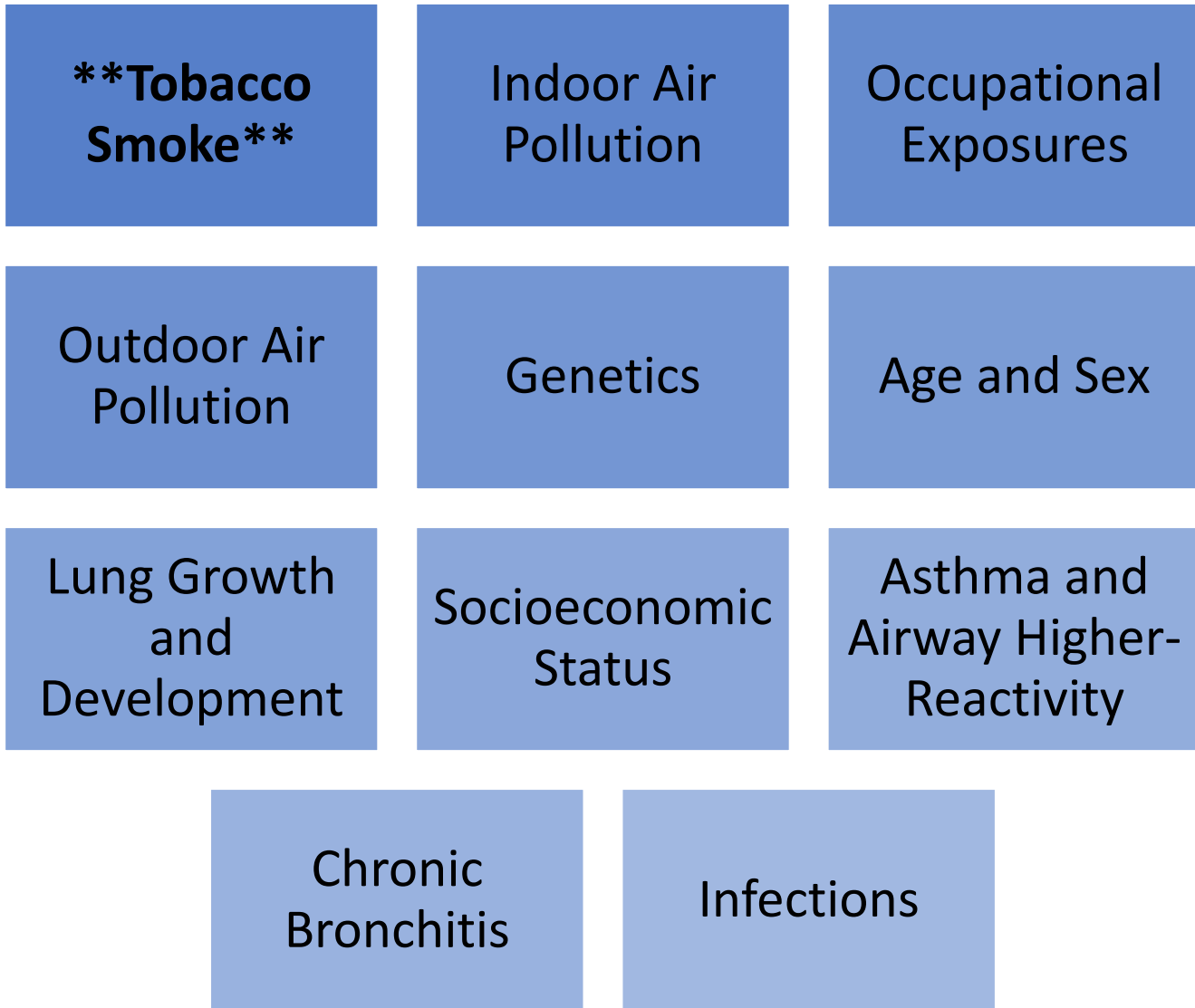
Symptoms result from airway and/or alveolar (part of the lung that contains air) abnormalities

Usually caused by significant exposure to harmful particles or gases





# Clinical Risk Factors COPD



# Smoking and Mental Illness

## According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse:

“A larger proportion of people diagnosed with mental disorders report cigarette smoking compared with people without mental disorders. Among US adults in 2019, the percentage who reported past-month cigarette smoking was 1.8 times higher for those with any past-year mental illness than those without (28.2% vs. 15.8%).<sup>140</sup> Smoking rates are particularly high among people with serious mental illness (those who demonstrate greater functional impairment). While estimates vary, as many as 70-85% of people with schizophrenia and as many as 50-70% of people with bipolar disorder smoke.”

Smoking is believed to be more prevalent among people with depression and schizophrenia because nicotine may temporarily lessen the symptoms of these illnesses, such as poor concentration, low mood, and stress. But it is important to note that **smoking cessation has been linked with improved mental health—including reduced depression, anxiety, and stress, and enhanced mood and quality of life.**”





## ▶ PATHWAYS TO THE DIAGNOSIS OF COPD

### SYMPTOMS

- Shortness of breath
- Chronic cough
- Sputum

### RISK FACTORS

- Host factors
  - Tobacco
  - Occupation
- Indoor/outdoor pollution

### SPIROMETRY:

Required to establish diagnosis



# Spirometry

## Brief Overview

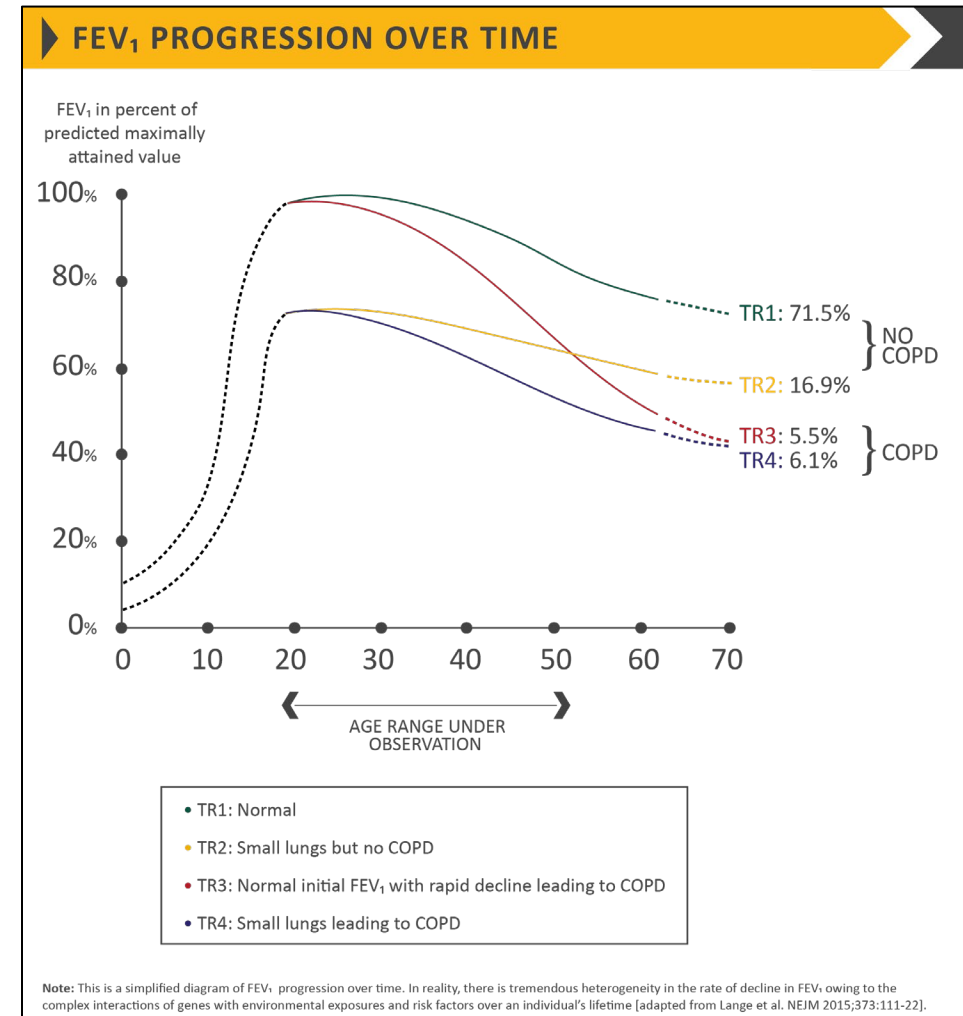
Most common and readily available type of pulmonary function / breathing test

FVC = forced vital capacity

FEV<sub>1</sub> = forced expiratory volume in one second

- Declines over time in COPD (see graph to right)

FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC ratio may also be considered



# Asthma Treatment

## Goals of Therapy

Symptom control

Minimize future risk

- Asthma-related death
- Exacerbations
- Persistent airflow limitation
- Medication side effects

The patient's own goals should be identified and considered as well



# Treatment of Asthma

## Medication Treatment Options

### Controller Medications

- Contain inhaled corticosteroids
- Reduce airway inflammation, control symptoms, and reduce future risks (e.g., exacerbation and lung function decline)

### Reliever Medications

- Provided to all patients
- As-needed relief of breakthrough symptoms
- Short-acting and long-acting beta agonists (SABAs and LABAs)

### Add-On Therapies

- Considered when patients have persistent symptoms and/or exacerbations despite optimized treatment with high dose controller medications and treatment of modifiable risk factors



# Diagnosing & Management of Asthma

## General Guidelines

Diagnosis and management goals:

**Detailed medical history and physical exam** to determine precipitating factors and that symptoms of recurrent episodes of airflow obstruction are present and reversed by bronchodilator.

Use **spirometry** (FEV1 , FEV6 , FVC, FEV1 /FVC) in all patients age  $\geq 5$  to determine that airway obstruction is at least partially reversible. [C]

**Consider alternative causes** of airway obstruction.

**Goals of therapy** are to achieve control by:

- *Reducing impairment:* chronic symptoms, need for rescue therapy and maintain near-normal lung function and activity level. [A]
- *Reducing risk:* exacerbations, need for emergency care or hospitalization, loss of lung function or reduced lung growth in children, or adverse effects of therapy.[A]



# Education

## Develop a written asthma action plan in partnership with the patient

- Provide **self-management education**. [A]
- **Teach and reinforce:** self-monitoring to assess control and signs of worsening asthma (either symptoms or peak flow monitoring)
- [B]; using **written asthma action plan**; taking medication correctly (inhaler technique and use of devices); recognizing, reporting and avoiding environmental and occupational factors that worsen asthma (outdoor activity, reflux; see Eligible Population column ).
- **Tailor education to literacy level** of patient; appreciate potential role of patient's cultural beliefs and practices in asthma management. [C]





# Asthma Management

## Control environmental factors and comorbid conditions

- **Recommend measures to control exposures** to allergens (dust, mold, pollen), smoke, pollutants, or other irritants (perfumes, chemicals) that make asthma worse. [A]
- **Consider allergen immunotherapy** for patients with persistent asthma and when there is clear evidence of a relationship between symptoms and exposure to an allergen (dust, mold, pollen, pets) to which the patient is sensitive. [B]
- **Treat relevant conditions** (e.g., gastroesophageal reflux/laryngotracheal reflux [B], allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis [A], obesity [B], obstructive sleep apnea [D], rhinitis and sinusitis [B], chronic stress or depression [D], vocal cord dysfunction, especially in adolescent females [D].)
- **Inactivated influenza vaccine for all patients over 6 months of age** [A] unless contraindicated. Do not use intranasal influenza vaccine. Give 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) age 19 and older (age 2-18 if using high-dose oral steroids). Provide self-management education. [A]
- **Teach and reinforce: self-monitoring** to assess control and signs of worsening asthma (either symptoms or peak flow monitoring) [B]; using written asthma action plan; taking medication correctly (inhaler technique and use of devices); recognizing, reporting and avoiding environmental and occupational factors that worsen asthma (outdoor activity, reflux; see Eligible Population column ). T



# Asthma Management

## Medications

Initial treatment should be based on the **severity of asthma**, both impairment and risk.

Inhaled short-acting beta agonist and/or inhaled corticosteroids (ICS), for **intermittent asthma**.

For **persistent asthma**, Inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) alone or in combination with Long-Acting Beta Agonist (LABA) appears to be the most effective long-term control strategy. [D]

**Re-evaluate in 2 - 6 weeks** for control. Modify treatment based on level of control.



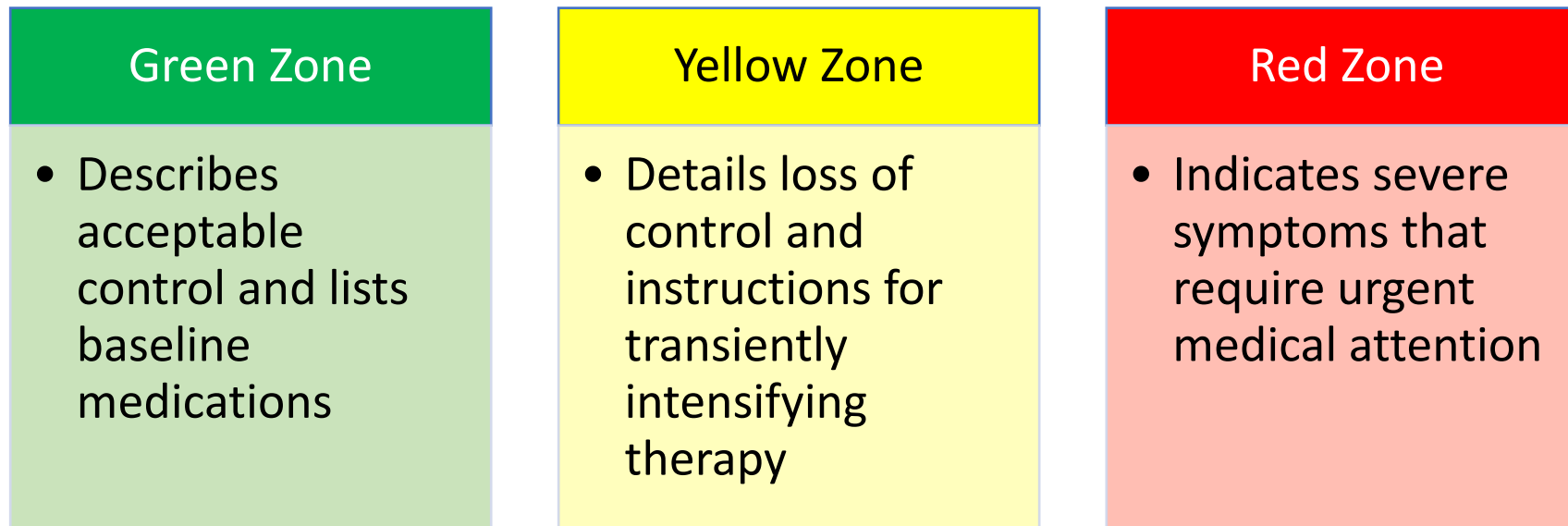
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# Asthma Action Plan (AAP)

## Brief Overview

ALL patients with asthma should receive an AAP, education, and follow-up  
"Traffic light" configuration



Kouri, A., Kaplan, A., Boulet, L. P., & Gupta, S. (2019). New evidence-based tool to guide the creation of asthma action plans for adults. *Canadian family physician Medecin de famille canadien*, 65(2), 103–106.



# Example Asthma Action Plan (AAP)

Name: Janette Doe

Date: Jan 16th, 2018

Review with your healthcare provider at every visit.

## Asthma Action Plan

Emergency contact name: <u>Mrs. Betty Smith</u>	Phone: <u>416-555-5555</u>	Personal Best Peak Flow <u>440</u> L/min
Physician name: <u>Dr. B. Lung</u>	Phone: <u>416-333-3333</u>	

The goal of asthma treatment is to live a healthy, active life.

Remember that it is very important to remain on your maintenance medication, even if you are having no symptoms of asthma.

Go: Maintain Therapy	Caution: Step Up Therapy	Stop: Get Help Now																									
<p><b>Description</b> You have ALL of the following:</p> <p>Rarely need extra reliever</p> <p>Almost no cough, wheezing, shortness of breath or chest tightening</p> <p>Can do normal physical activities and sports without difficulty</p> <p>No missed regular activities or school or work</p> <p>Night asthma symptoms less than 1 night per week</p> <p>Peak Flow: &gt;80% personal best, or &gt; <u>350</u></p> <p>Other: <u>n/a</u></p>	<p><b>Description</b> You have ANY of the following:</p> <p>Use your reliever more than 3 times per week</p> <p>Have daytime cough, wheezing, shortness of breath or chest tightening more than 3 days per week</p> <p>Physical activity is limited</p> <p>Asthma symptoms at night or in early AM 1 or more nights per week</p> <p>Peak Flow: 60-80% personal best, or <u>260</u> to <u>350</u></p> <p>Other: <u>n/a</u></p>	<p><b>Description</b> You have ANY of the following:</p> <p>Reliever lasts 2-3 hours or less</p> <p>Continuous asthma symptoms</p> <p>Continuous cough</p> <p>Wheezing all the time</p> <p>Severe shortness of breath</p> <p>Sudden and severe attack of asthma</p> <p>Peak Flow: &lt;60% personal best, or &lt; <u>260</u></p> <p>Other: <u>n/a</u></p>																									
<p><b>Instructions:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Medication</th> <th>Puffer colour</th> <th>Dose</th> <th>Puffs</th> <th>Times per day</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="5"><i>Controller</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Fluticasone/Salmeterol</u></td> <td><u>Purple</u></td> <td><u>250/50µg</u></td> <td><u>One</u></td> <td><u>Twice daily</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5"><i>Reliever</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Salbutamol</u></td> <td><u>Blue</u></td> <td><u>100µg</u></td> <td><u>One to two</u></td> <td><u>Every 4-6 hours as needed</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Other: <u>Can take 1-2 puff of blue reliever inhaler before exercise as needed</u></p>	Medication	Puffer colour	Dose	Puffs	Times per day	<i>Controller</i>					<u>Fluticasone/Salmeterol</u>	<u>Purple</u>	<u>250/50µg</u>	<u>One</u>	<u>Twice daily</u>	<i>Reliever</i>					<u>Salbutamol</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>100µg</u>	<u>One to two</u>	<u>Every 4-6 hours as needed</u>	<p><b>Instructions:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Increase _____ (colour) controller to: _____ puffs _____ times per day for _____ <i>Orange Fluticasone</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add <u>Diskus 250µg</u> (colour) controller <u>three</u> puffs <u>two</u> times per day for <u>7 days</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take <u>Blue</u> (colour) reliever 1 to 2 puffs every 4 to 6 hours as needed</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no improvement in your symptoms and/or peak flows in 2 days or your reliever only lasts for 2-3 hours, go to red zone</p> <p>Other: <u>Remember to keep taking your Purple controller inhaler one puff twice daily</u></p>	<p><b>Instructions:</b></p> <p>Take <u>Blue</u> (colour) reliever <u>2-4</u> puffs every 10-30 minutes as needed</p> <p>Asthma symptoms can get worse quickly. When in doubt, seek medical help.</p> <p>Asthma can be a life-threatening illness. Do not wait!</p> <p>If you cannot contact your doctor: call 911 for an ambulance, or go directly to the Emergency Department!</p> <p>Bring this asthma action plan with you to the emergency room or hospital</p> <p>Stay calm</p> <p>Other:</p>
Medication	Puffer colour	Dose	Puffs	Times per day																							
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Allergies may be triggering your asthma - avoid the things that you are allergic to and have allergy skin testing if you are unsure.

Controller: has a lasting effect, treats inflammation, prevents asthma attacks, may take time to act

Reliever: rapidly relieves symptoms of cough, wheeze, lasts 4 hours



# COPD Treatment

## Approach to Therapy

### Goals

- Reduce symptoms and risk
- Improve function and quality of life

**Treatment will vary** depending on if COPD is stable, unstable, or the patient is having an acute exacerbation

**Non-pharmacologic management** in addition to medications

- Supplemental oxygen
- Pulmonary rehabilitation is recommended for symptomatic COPD



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# Treatment of COPD

## Medication Therapy Options

### Beta agonists

- SABAs
- LABAs

### Antimuscarinic

- Short-acting antimuscarinics (SAMAs)
- Long-acting antimuscarinics (LAMAs)



### Inhaled corticosteroids



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# COPD Treatment Continuous Evaluation

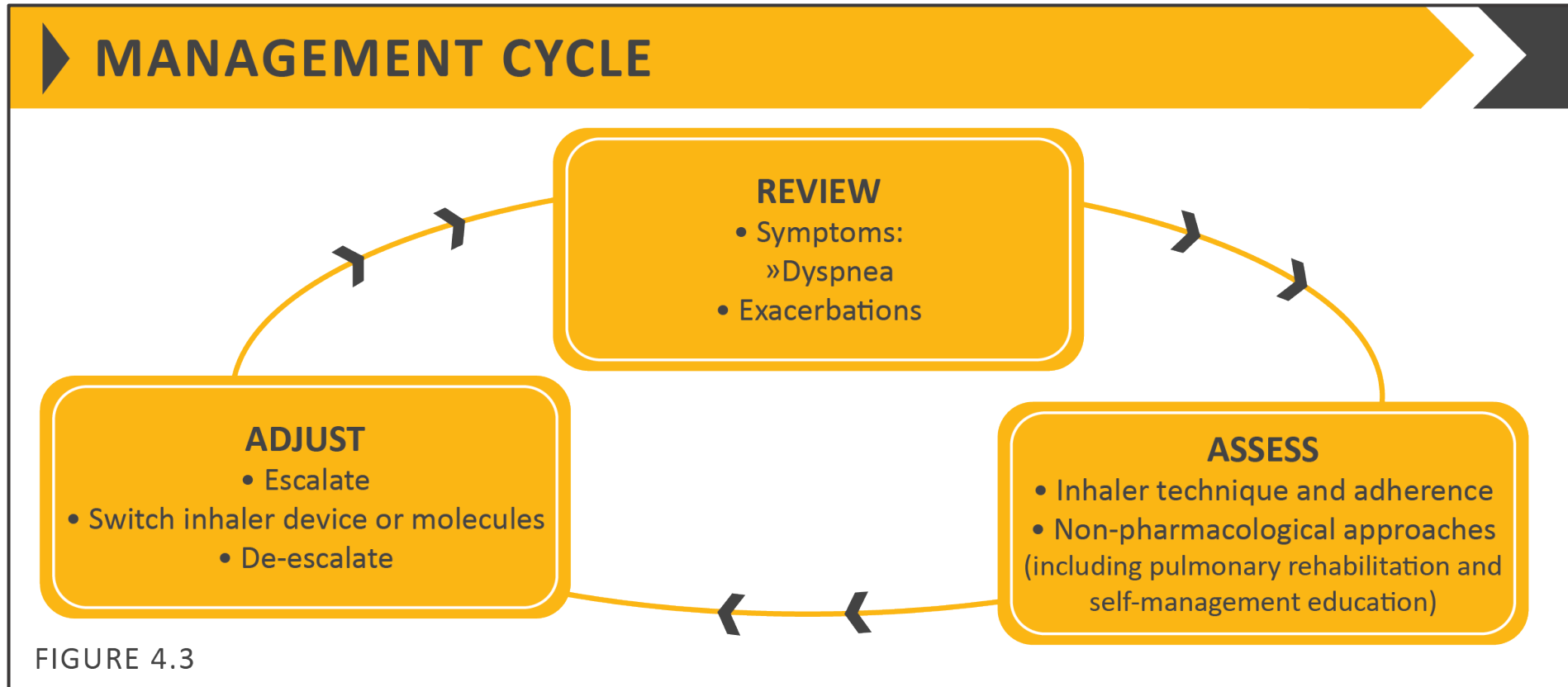


FIGURE 4.3



# COPD Action Plan

## My COPD Action Plan

**Patients and healthcare providers should complete this action plan together. This plan should be discussed at each visit and updated as needed.**

The green, yellow and red zones show symptoms of COPD. The list of symptoms is not complete. You may experience other symptoms. In the “Actions” column, your healthcare provider will recommend actions for you to take. Your healthcare provider may write down other actions in addition to those listed here.

### Green Zone: I am doing well today

#### Actions

- Usual activity and exercise level
- Usual amounts of cough and phlegm/mucus
- Sleep well at night
- Appetite is good

- Take daily medicines
- Use oxygen as prescribed
- Continue regular exercise/diet plan
- Avoid tobacco product use and other inhaled irritants
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Yellow Zone: I am having a bad day or a COPD flare

#### Actions

- More breathless than usual
- I have less energy for my daily activities
- Increased or thicker phlegm/mucus
- Using quick relief inhaler/nebulizer more often
- More swelling in ankles
- More coughing than usual
- I feel like I have a “chest cold”
- Poor sleep and my symptoms woke me up
- My appetite is not good
- My medicine is not helping

- Continue daily medication
- Use quick relief inhaler every \_\_\_\_\_ hours
- Start an oral corticosteroid (specify name, dose, and duration)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Start an antibiotic (specify name, dose, and duration)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Use oxygen as prescribed
- Get plenty of rest
- Use pursed lip breathing
- Avoid secondhand smoke, e-cigarette aerosol, and other inhaled irritants
- Call provider immediately if symptoms do not improve
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Red Zone: I need urgent medical care

#### Actions

- Severe shortness of breath even at rest
- Not able to do any activity because of breathing
- Not able to sleep because of breathing
- Fever or shaking chills
- Feeling confused or very drowsy
- Chest pains
- Coughing up blood

- Call 911 or seek medical care immediately
- While getting help, immediately do the following:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



# Smoking Cessation Resources



- [American Lung Association](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)
- Your local pharmacist



# Smoking Cessation Strategies

## BRIEF STRATEGIES TO HELP THE PATIENT WILLING TO QUIT

- **ASK:** Systematically identify all tobacco users at every visit.  
*Implement an office-wide system that ensures that, for EVERY patient at EVERY clinic visit, tobacco-use status is queried and documented.*
- **ADVISE:** Strongly urge all tobacco users to quit.  
*In a clear, strong, and personalized manner, urge every tobacco user to quit.*
- **ASSESS:** Determine willingness and rationale of patient's desire to make a quit attempt.  
*Ask every tobacco user if he or she is willing to make a quit attempt at this time (e.g., within the next 30 days).*
- **ASSIST:** Aid the patient in quitting.  
*Help the patient with a quit plan; provide practical counseling; provide intra-treatment social support; help the patient obtain extra-treatment social support; recommend use of approved pharmacotherapy except in special circumstances; provide supplementary materials.*
- **ARRANGE:** Schedule follow-up contact.  
*Schedule follow-up contact, either in person or via telephone.*

Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD): Teach Slide Set 2022. Available from: <https://goldcopd.org/2022-gold-reports-2/>. Accessed June 29, 2022.



# Role of the Case Holder

Determine the consumers understanding of the diagnosis

If gaps, encourage the consumer to discuss this with their health care provider.

Consider using the “Ask Me 3” tool

1. What is my main problem?

*Diagnosis*

2. What do I need to do?

*Treatment*

3. Why is it important for me to do this?

*Context*



# Health Coaching

## Review risk behaviors with the client

*Smoking, not using maintenance inhaler, exposure to toxins/triggers*

Explore the **consumer's knowledge**

*With permission, fill in gaps*

Use motivational interviewing to **promote ambivalence**

*"If you did quit smoking what would be different?"*

Explore the consumer's ideas to quit, and **create a SMART plan**

*Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time bound*

Using the Readiness ruler, **assess the consumer's readiness to implement the plan**

*On a scale of 0-10 how ready are you with this plan?*

- If below 7, why this higher number and not a 0 or 1
  - Listen for the consumer's own arguments for change
- Then, what will it take to get this number to a 6 or 7?
  - Allow the consumer to come up with their own plan

Emphasize the importance of the plan. **Follow up** with the consumer within 1-2 weeks. How did it go?

*If the consumer was not able to complete the plan – honor small successes and re-evaluate the plan. Make adjustments and follow up on the new plan.*





# Thank You

Please email [Sue.Vos@miccsi.org](mailto:Sue.Vos@miccsi.org) with any questions.

