



# **COPD UPDATE**

PIERRE ERNST

PULMONARY PHYSICIAN, JGH

PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, MCGILL UNIVERSITY

# Disclosures

- I receive research funds from CIHR.
- I have not received any financial or in kind contributions from PHARMA in the last 9 years.
- The opinions I express are my own.



# Learning Objectives

*As a result of attending this session, participants will be able to:*

- Adopt the recent changes to COPD treatment guidelines.
- Recognize specific phenotypes of COPD in order to choose the preferred treatment options in different patients.
- Become comfortable with the new combination inhalers being promoted for the treatment of COPD.



GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE LUNG DISEASE (GOLD):

# TEACHING SLIDE SET

## 2020

This slide set is restricted for academic and educational purposes only. Use of the slide set, or of individual slides, for commercial or promotional purposes requires approval from GOLD.



## ▶ PATHWAYS TO THE DIAGNOSIS OF COPD

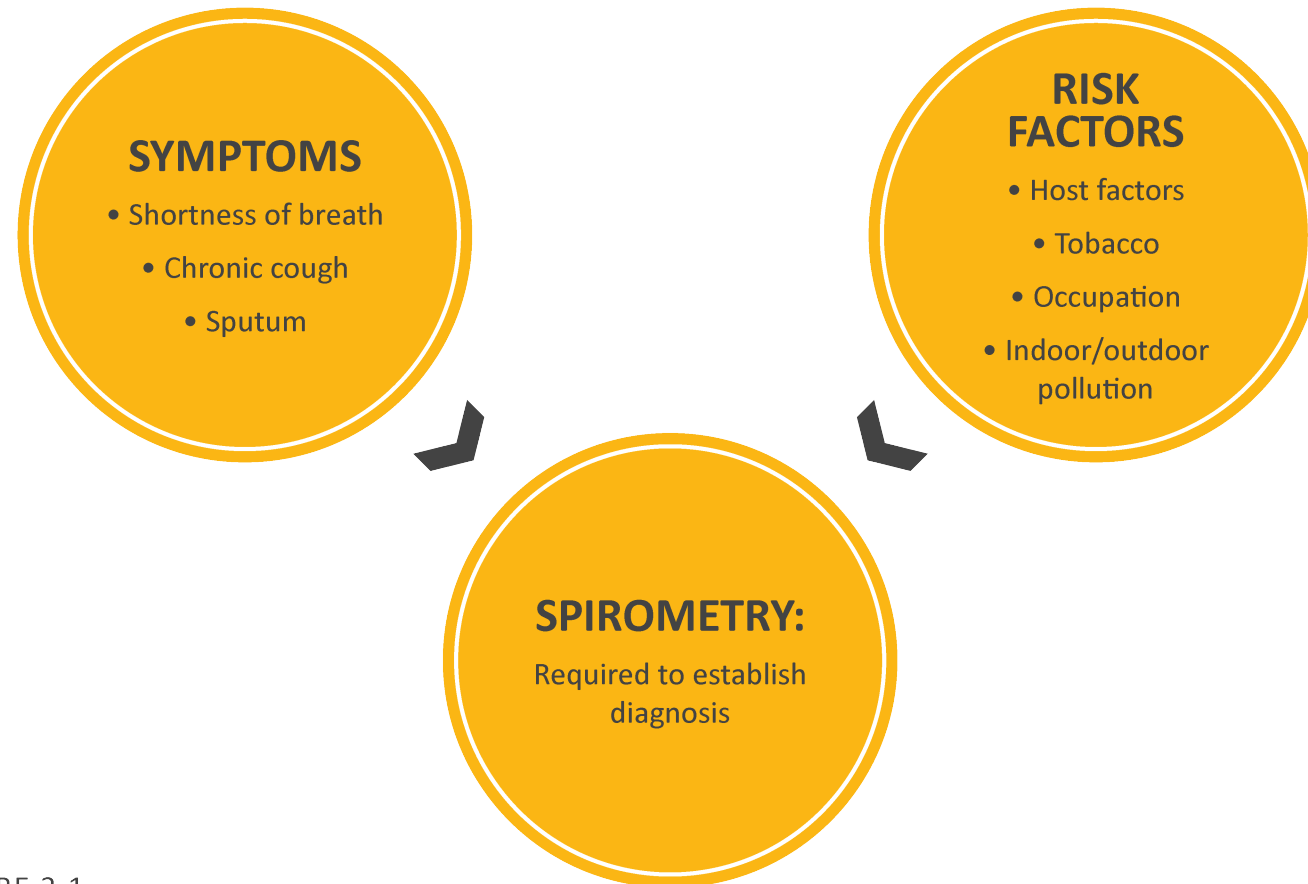
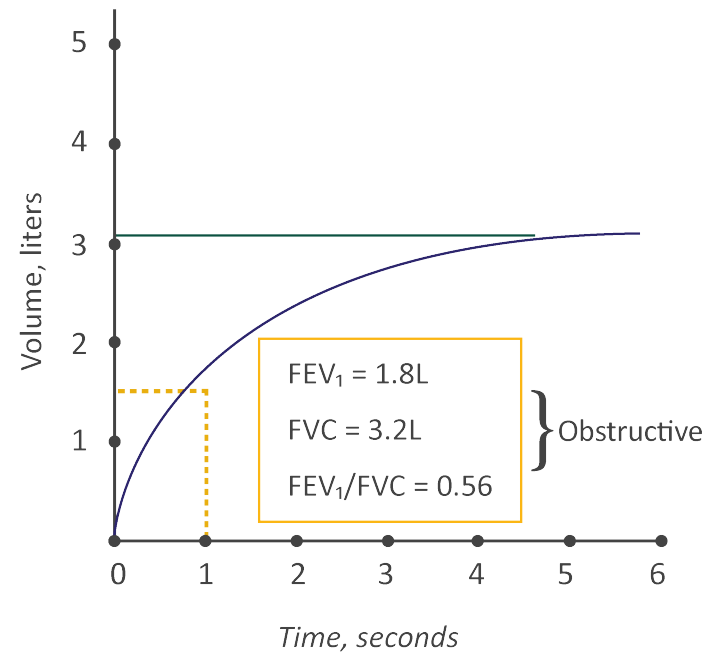
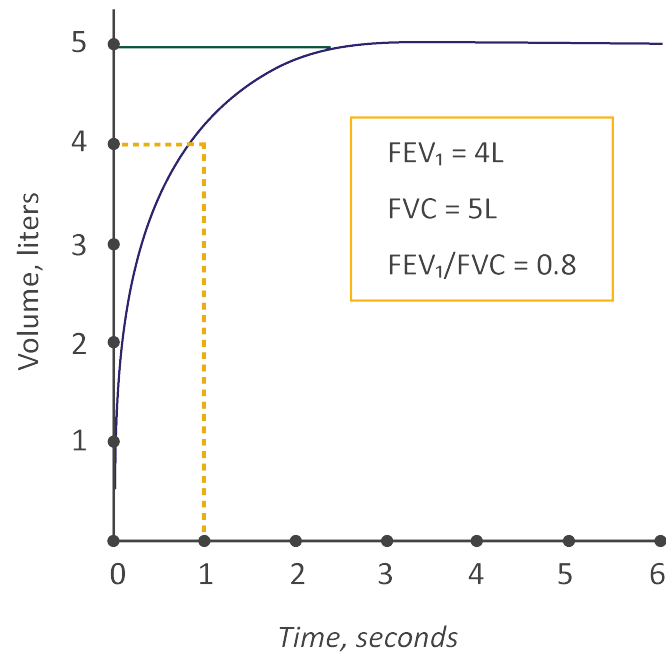


FIGURE 2.1

▶ SPIROMETRY - NORMAL TRACE

▶ SPIROMETRY - OBSTRUCTIVE DISEASE



FVC = ———

FEV<sub>1</sub> = - - - - -

FIGURE 2.2A

FIGURE 2.2B

▶ CLASSIFICATION OF AIRFLOW LIMITATION SEVERITY  
IN COPD (BASED ON POST-BRONCHODILATOR FEV<sub>1</sub>)

In patients with FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC < 0.70:

<b>GOLD 1:</b>	Mild	FEV <sub>1</sub> ≥ 80% predicted
<b>GOLD 2:</b>	Moderate	50% ≤ FEV <sub>1</sub> < 80% predicted
<b>GOLD 3:</b>	Severe	30% ≤ FEV <sub>1</sub> < 50% predicted
<b>GOLD 4:</b>	Very Severe	FEV <sub>1</sub> < 30% predicted

TABLE 2.4

# MODIFIED MRC DYSPNEA SCALE<sup>a</sup>

PLEASE TICK IN THE BOX THAT APPLIES TO YOU | ONE BOX ONLY | Grades 0 - 4

mMRC Grade 0.

I only get breathless with strenuous exercise.

☐

mMRC Grade 1.

I get short of breath when hurrying on the level or walking up a slight hill.

☐

mMRC Grade 2.

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.

☐

mMRC Grade 3.

I stop for breath after walking about 100 meters or after a few minutes on the level.

☐

mMRC Grade 4.

I am too breathless to leave the house or I am breathless when dressing or undressing.

☐

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

Reference: Jones et al. ERJ 2009; 34 (3); 648-54.  
FIGURE 2.3

TOTAL SCORE:

# ▶ THE REFINED ABCD ASSESSMENT TOOL

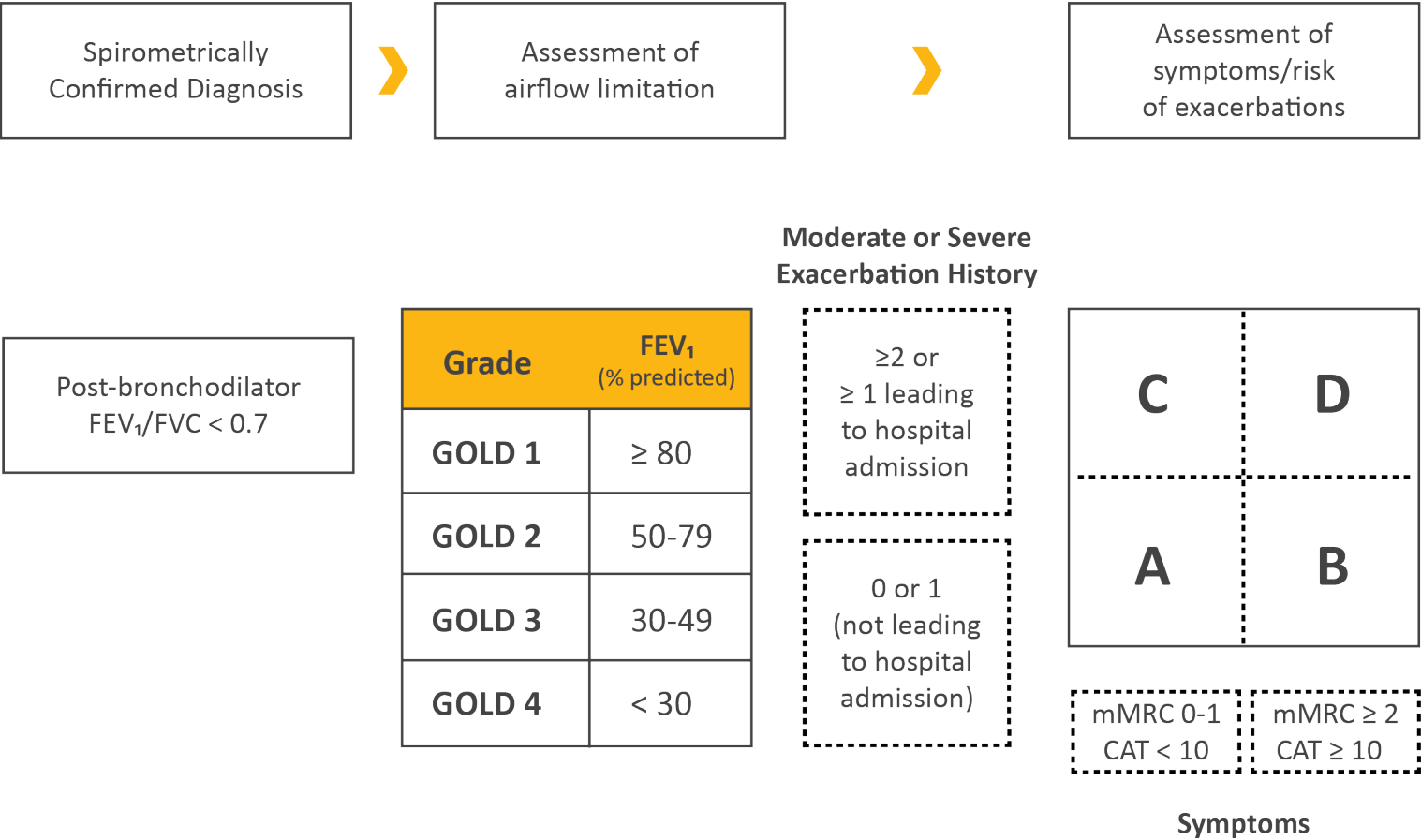


FIGURE 2.4

## BRIEF STRATEGIES TO HELP THE PATIENT WILLING TO QUIT

• <b>ASK:</b>	Systematically identify all tobacco users at every visit. <i>Implement an office-wide system that ensures that, for EVERY patient at EVERY clinic visit, tobacco-use status is queried and documented.</i>
• <b>ADVISE:</b>	Strongly urge all tobacco users to quit. <i>In a clear, strong, and personalized manner, urge every tobacco user to quit.</i>
• <b>ASSESS:</b>	Determine willingness and rationale of patient’s desire to make a quit attempt. <i>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).</i>
• <b>ASSIST:</b>	Aid the patient in quitting. <i>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.</i>
• <b>ARRANGE:</b>	Schedule follow-up contact. <i>Schedule follow-up contact, either in person or via telephone.</i>

TABLE 3.1

## ▶ VACCINATION FOR STABLE COPD

- Influenza vaccination reduces serious illness and death in COPD patients (**Evidence B**).
- The 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) has been shown to reduce the incidence of community - acquired pneumonia in COPD patients aged < 65 years with an FEV<sub>1</sub> < 40% predicted and in those with comorbidities (**Evidence B**).
- In the general population of adults ≥65 years the 13-valent conjugated pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13) has demonstrated significant efficacy in reducing bacteremia & serious invasive pneumococcal disease (**Evidence B**).

TABLE 3.2



## ▶ GOALS FOR TREATMENT OF STABLE COPD

- Relieve Symptoms
- Improve Exercise Tolerance
- Improve Health Status

*and*

- Prevent Disease Progression
- Prevent and Treat Exacerbations
- Reduce Mortality



**REDUCE SYMPTOMS**



**REDUCE RISK**

TABLE 4.1

## ► BRONCHODILATORS IN STABLE COPD

- Inhaled bronchodilators in COPD are central to symptom management and commonly given on a regular basis to prevent or reduce symptoms (**Evidence A**).
- Regular and as-needed use of SABA or SAMA improves FEV<sub>1</sub> and symptoms (**Evidence A**).
- Combinations of SABA and SAMA are superior compared to either medication alone in improving FEV<sub>1</sub> and symptoms (**Evidence A**).
- LABAs and LAMAs significantly improve lung function, dyspnea, health status, and reduce exacerbation rates (**Evidence A**).
- LAMAs have a greater effect on exacerbation reduction compared with LABAs (**Evidence A**) and decrease hospitalizations (**Evidence B**).
- Combination treatment with a LABA and LAMA increases FEV<sub>1</sub> and reduces symptoms compared to monotherapy (**Evidence A**).
- Combination treatment with a LABA/LAMA reduces exacerbations compared to monotherapy (**Evidence B**).
- Tiotropium improves the effectiveness of pulmonary rehabilitation in increasing exercise performance (**Evidence B**).
- Theophylline exerts a small bronchodilator effect in stable COPD (**Evidence A**) and that is associated with modest symptomatic benefits (**Evidence B**).

TABLE 3.4

## ▶ THE INHALED ROUTE

- When a treatment is given by the inhaled route, the importance of education and training in inhaler device technique cannot be over-emphasized.
- The choice of inhaler device has to be individually tailored and will depend on access, cost, prescriber, and most importantly, patient's ability and preference.
- It is essential to provide instructions and to demonstrate the proper inhalation technique when prescribing a device, to ensure that inhaler technique is adequate and re-check at each visit that patients continue to use their inhaler correctly.
- Inhaler technique (and adherence to therapy) should be assessed before concluding that the current therapy is insufficient.

TABLE 3.6

## ▶ FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN INITIATING ICS TREATMENT

Factors to consider when initiating ICS treatment in combination with one or two long-acting bronchodilators (note the scenario is different when considering ICS withdrawal):

• STRONG SUPPORT •	• CONSIDER USE •	• AGAINST USE •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• History of hospitalization(s) for exacerbations of COPD<sup>#</sup></li><li>• ≥ 2 moderate exacerbations of COPD per year<sup>#</sup></li><li>• Blood eosinophils &gt;300 cells/μL</li><li>• History of, or concomitant, asthma</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 moderate exacerbation of COPD per year<sup>#</sup></li><li>• Blood eosinophils 100-300 cells/μL</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Repeated pneumonia events</li><li>• Blood eosinophils &lt;100 cells/μL</li><li>• History of mycobacterial infection</li></ul>

<sup>#</sup>despite appropriate long-acting bronchodilator maintenance therapy (see Table 3.4 and Figure 4.3 for recommendations);

\*note that blood eosinophils should be seen as a continuum; quoted values represent approximate cut-points; eosinophil counts are likely to fluctuate.

Reproduced with permission of the © ERS 2019: *European Respiratory Journal* 52 (6) 1801219;  
DOI: 10.1183/13993003.01219-2018 Published 13 December 2018

FIGURE 3.1

## ▶ INITIAL PHARMACOLOGICAL TREATMENT

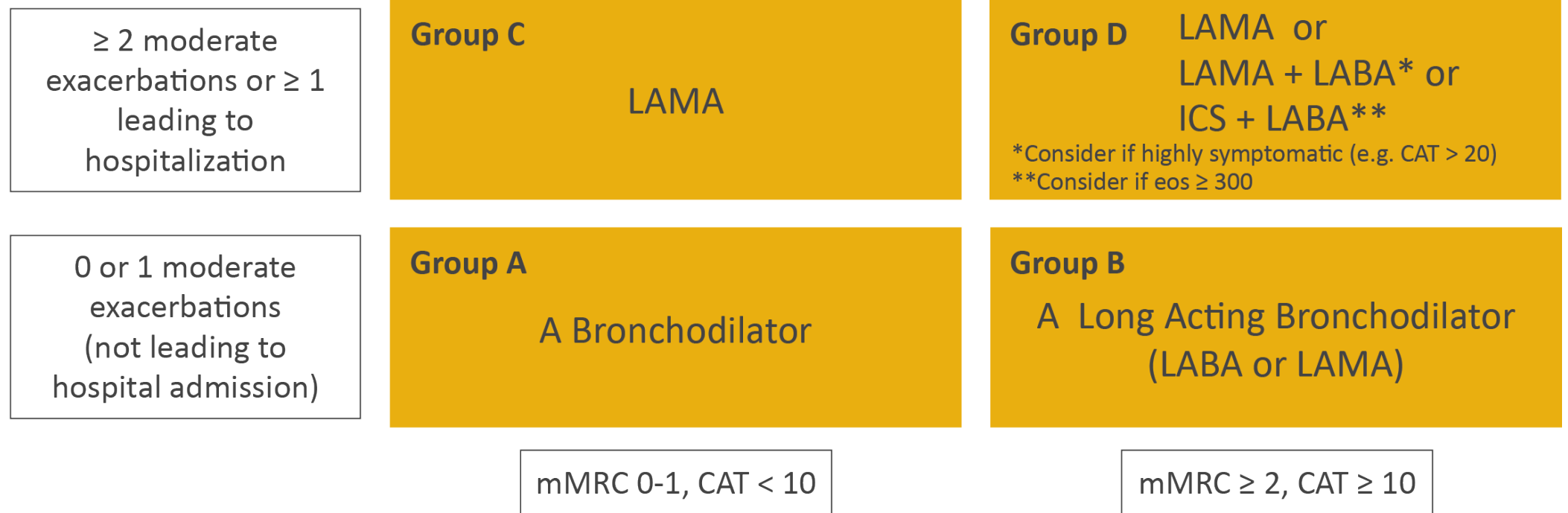


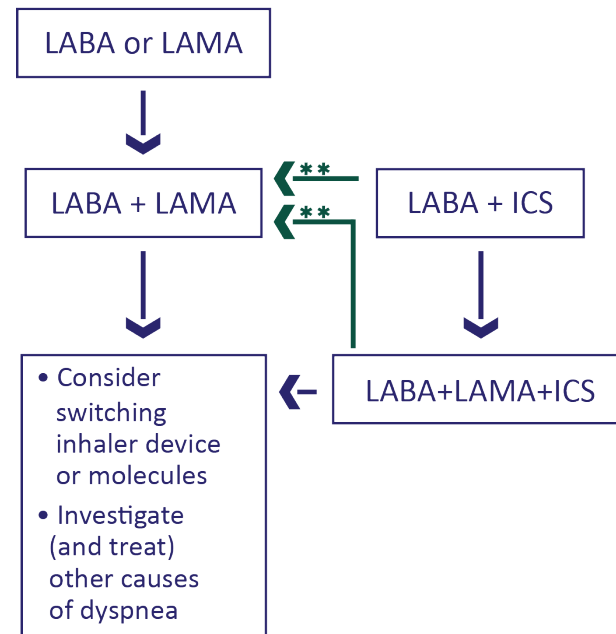
FIGURE 4.2

## FOLLOW-UP PHARMACOLOGICAL TREATMENT

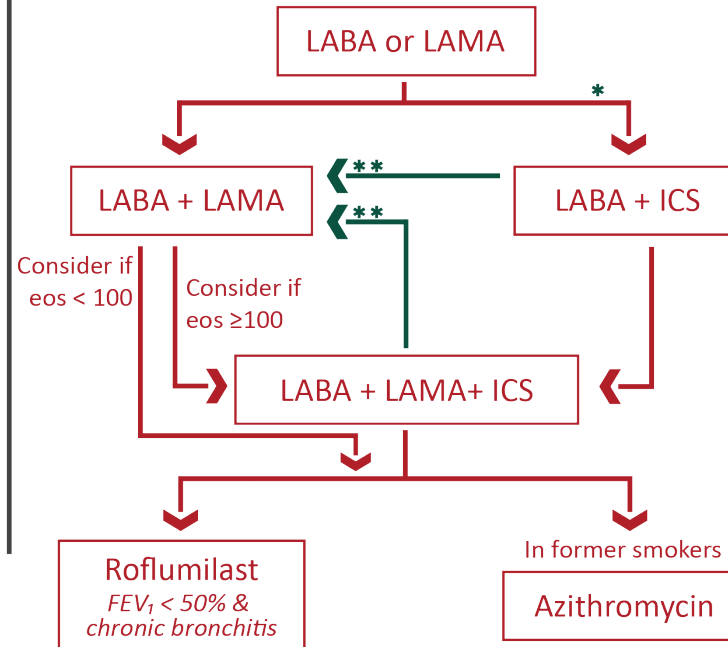
1. IF RESPONSE TO INITIAL TREATMENT IS APPROPRIATE, MAINTAIN IT.

2. IF NOT:
- ✓ Consider the predominant treatable trait to target (dyspnea or exacerbations)
    - Use exacerbation pathway if both exacerbations and dyspnea need to be targeted
  - ✓ Place patient in box corresponding to current treatment & follow indications
  - ✓ Assess response, adjust and review
  - ✓ These recommendations do not depend on the ABCD assessment at diagnosis

### • DYSPNEA •



### • EXACERBATIONS •



*eos* = blood eosinophil count (cells/ $\mu$ L)

\* Consider if *eos*  $\geq 300$  or *eos*  $\geq 100$  AND  $\geq 2$  moderate exacerbations / 1 hospitalization

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

FIGURE 4.4

# Choice of Inhaler Device

- Consider lower carbon footprint (1/20th) of dry powdered inhalers (DPI) vs MDIs
- MDIs must be used with an aerochamber!
- INHALER TECHNIQUE NEEDS TO BE CHECKED AGAIN and AGAIN and AGAIN.....

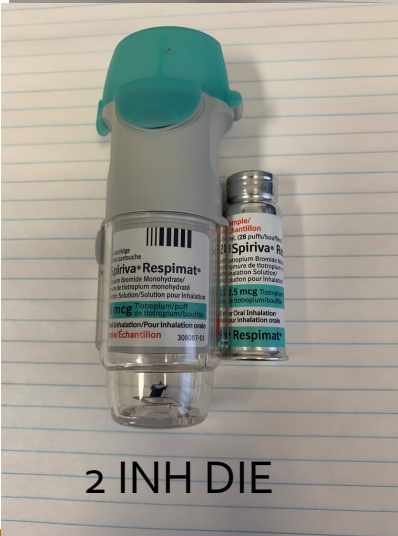
# Long-Acting Anti-Cholinergics

## LAMAs

- First line in COPD as addition to short-acting beta-agonist ((salbutamol MDI or Ventolin Diskus for powder device (code RE113) or again Bricanyl))
- Spiriva Handihaler, Spiriva Respimat, Tudorza (bid), Incruse, Seebri.
- No code required.



# LAMAs



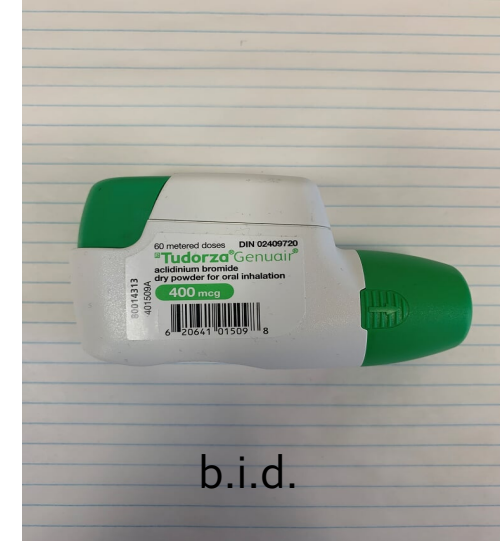
INCRUSE



SEEBRI



TUDORZA



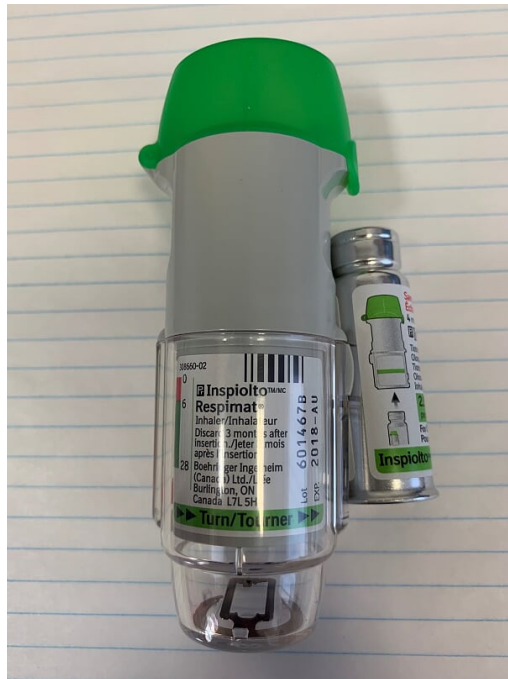
1<sup>st</sup> line maintenance tx in COPD

# LAMA/LABA Combinations

- RE 176 to START
- RE 177 to RENEW
- For patients with continuing symptoms and/or exacerbations on single long-acting bronchodilator therapy BUT without characteristics suggestive of concurrent asthma.
- My order of preference: type of inhaler most important
  - Ultibro=Inspiolto=Anoro
  - Once a day

# LABA/LAMA

INSPIOLOTO



2 inh die

ULTIBRO



ANORO



RE176 NEW; RE177 RENEW. COPD ONLY

# LABA/ICS Combinations in COPD

- RE 172 to START
- RE 173 to RENEW
- For patients with features suggestive of asthma (blood eosinophils > 300) OR with continuing symptoms and exacerbations on LAMA/LABA therapy.
- My order of preference: (compatibility of inhaler techniques a strong consideration).
  - Breo**100** qd, Symbicort200 2bid, Zenhale**100** 2 bid

# ICS/LABA

SYMBICORT 200 2x2



BREO 100  
qd



ONCE A DAY

ZENHALE 100 2x2



EQUIVALENT TO ADVAIR 125 X2, ADVAIR DISKUS 250 x2  
BREO 200 CONTRA-INDICATED IN COPD  
FOR COPD RE172 NEW, RE173 RENEW

# Why not prescribe LABA/ICS in COPD?

Side effects are significant:

- Severe pneumonia
- Mycobacterial infections
- Diabetes onset and progression
- Osteoporosis
- Adrenal insufficiency
- Cataracts

# ICS-LABA-LAMA triple inhaler



BREO 200 WILL SOON BE  
AVAILABLE FOR SEVERE  
ASTHMA  
WILL BE CONTRA-  
INDICATED IN COPD

Once a day



# Vidéos sur techniques d'inhalations

- Association pulmonaire de l'Ontario:  
[www.on.lung.ca/inhalationdevicevideos](http://www.on.lung.ca/inhalationdevicevideos)
- Association pulmonaire canadienne:  
[www.poumon.ca/santé-pulmonaire/demandez-de-laide/comment-utiliser-votre-inhalateur](http://www.poumon.ca/santé-pulmonaire/demandez-de-laide/comment-utiliser-votre-inhalateur)
- National Asthma Council Australia:  
[www.nationalasthma.org.au/living-with-asthma/how-to-videos](http://www.nationalasthma.org.au/living-with-asthma/how-to-videos)



A wide-angle photograph of a frozen lake under a clear blue sky. The ice is a mix of white and light blue, with some darker patches. In the center, a small island covered in evergreen trees stands out. The background shows a distant shoreline with more trees and a few buildings. Bare branches are visible in the foreground, framing the scene.

Thank-you !