HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

# Introduction to COPD



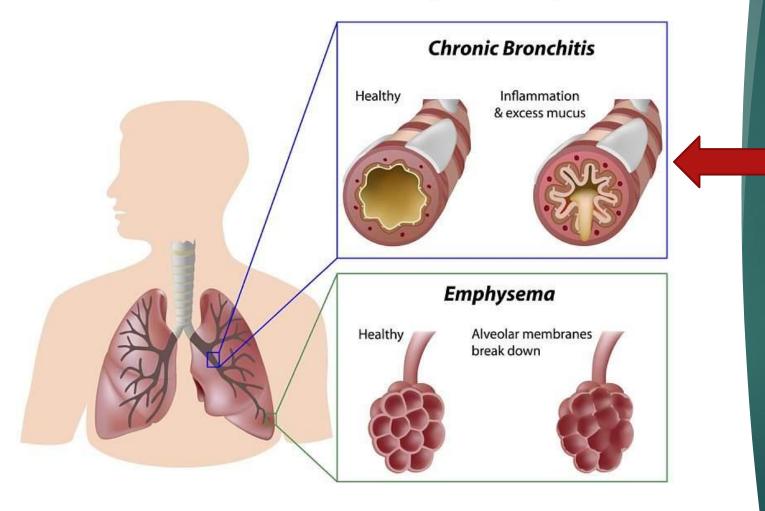
## What is COPD?

C (Chronic)=Long term and does not go away

- Obstructive)=Makes it difficult to expel air
- P (Pulmonary)=Affects the lungs
   D (Disease)=A problem to be taken seriously



#### Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

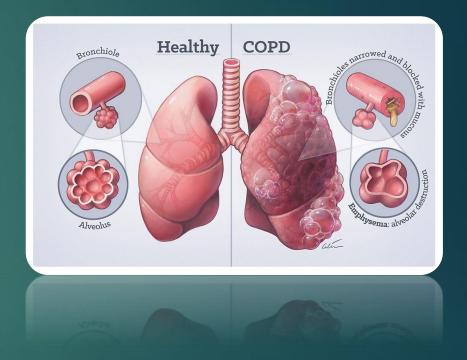


Healthy lungs on Left and COPD lungs on the right!



## 4 Stages of COPD

Stage 1 (Mild) Stage 2 (Moderate) Stage 3 (Severe) Stage 4 (Very Severe)





## Stage 1 of COPD (Mild)

Minimal symptoms, mostly goes undiagnosed until later stages (mistaken for cold/flu)

#### Symptoms include:

- Nagging Cough
- Slight increase of mucus production
- Shortness of breath when you push yourself

### Treatment-most patients are prescribed an inhaler "



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#### HOW QUITTING TOBACCO HELPS YOUR BODY

OUIT

SMOKING

TODAY!

48 HOURS Ability to smell and taste is enhanced

> 2-WEEKS to 3-MONTHS Walking becomes easier

1 to 9 MONTHS Body's overall energy increases

1 YEAR Excess risk of coronary heart disease is half that of a non-smoker

5 YEARS Lung cancer death rate decreases by almost half

10 YEARS Risk of cancer of the mouth, throat, esophagus, bladder, kidney, cervix, and pancreas decreases If you smoke, stop. Your healthcare provider can help you quit and provide information on support groups. There are also prescription and over-the-counter medication that can help you to quit.

1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)



## Stage 2 of COPD (Moderate)

Patient really starts to notice changes in their health

#### Symptoms include:

- Constant coughing and increased mucus in the morning
- Shortness of breath(dyspnea- short of Breath, winded, hard catching your breath) during normal daily activities-examples: cleaning, walking to mailbox, showering, grocery shopping
- Wheezing when exerting themselves

## Freatment at this stage

✓ PEP device
✓ Nebulizer
✓ Base line overnight oximetry



AerobiKA.



## Stage 3 of COPD (Severe)

Patients can no longer ignore the problem, because it is having a bigger impact on their way of life (frequent hospital visits due to exacerbations- increase in the severity of a problem or illness)

#### Symptoms include:

- Morning headaches (due to lack of oxygen)
- Difficulty with any physical activity (more fatigued)
- Edema (feet and ankles)- fluid retention causing swelling in the feet, ankles and legs.
- Worsening cough and increased mucus

## Treatment at this stage

- Supplemental oxygen
- > Flu and Pneumonia shots
- Rescue inhaler (Albuterol)
- Long-acting
   Bronchodilator
- ➢ Steroids









Stage 4 (Very Severe) The lungs are seriously impaired, and quality of life is poor.

Symptoms include:

- Frequent hospitalizations
- Airflow is limited
- Heart issues
- Confusion/Disorientation



# <u>Time to reflect:</u>



## Do you find yourself sitting in front of a blowing fan?

#### Are you frequently in the hospital?

Do you ever feel like your oxygen concentrator needs to be turned up because you feel like you are not getting enough air?

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# How to live a healthy lifestyle & prevent rehospitalization

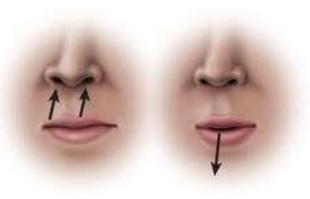
- Taking your medication as prescribed every day
- Continue physical activities
- Eating the right foods
- Reduce stress
- Conserving your energy
- Controlling your breathing
- Quit smoking (all forms of tobacco)
- Minimize your exposure to other irritants



### Stay away from fumes, smoke or dust:

- Leave your house if it is being painted or sprayed for insects.
- Stay in air-conditioned rooms if it is hot outside.
- Listen to weather reports and stay inside when the air quality is poor.







Inhalation

Exhalation



*Learn breathing techniques*, such as pursed-lip breathing, that will help you breathe easier, especially when you feel short of breath.

### Breathing Exercises

Pursed Lip Breathing

In through your nose – 1, 2, 3 out through your mouth-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6



### Diaphragmatic Breathing Technique

- Breathe in good air (O2) and breathe out the bad air (CO2)
- Use the proper breathing muscles to not overexert yourself and use vital calories
- Using your stomach muscles and not your shoulder muscles helps you to get oxygen in and CO2 out



Outbreath Inbreath Exhale Diaphragm Diaphragm releases contracts upwards downwards ABDOMEN FALLS BACK ABDOMEN EXPANDS Performance Home Medical Front Runners in Medical Equipment & Respiratory Service for the Northw

Take your COPD medications the way your healthcare provider tells you, or it may not help you.

Tell your healthcare provider if your medication doesn't seem to be working as well as it used to.

Do not stop taking your medications or change the dose without talking to your healthcare provider first.

► Make a list of all your medications and keep it with you in case you need to go to the hospital suddenly.



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A great way to keep track of your medications is to write them out!



Day	Medication Name	In these spaces, write down when you should take your pill (e.g. breakfast, lunch or morning, bedtime) and the dosage or quantity you should take at that time. When taken, strike out or put a checkmark through the appropriate box.					
		Breakfast	Morning Snack	Lunch	Afternoon Snack	Dinner	Bedtime
Monday							
Tuesday							
Wednesday							
Thursday							
Friday							
Saturday							
Sunday							
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## Questions for my Respiratory Therapist



## **Questions for my Physician**

