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Research Topic: Incidence of disease in the communities

Introduction

In the UK people live with diagnosed COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) and research shows that an estimated of 1.2 million people are living with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease COPD. COPD causes Chronic air trapping resulting in reduce gas exchange due to inflammatory damage to the lungs and high CO₂ that causes patients not being able to breathe out fully due to the narrow airflow and the inability to fully exhale. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary disease COPD is the name obtained to illustrate several conditions in addition to Emphysema and chronic Bronchitis. Emphysema affects the air sacs (alveoli) in your lungs, and Chronic Bronchitis affects your airways (bronchi). Most COPD patients have fluctuated degrees of both Emphysema and Chronic Bronchitis. These breathing difficulties can affect numerous areas of your life. COPD is a typical condition that primarily affects middle aged or older adults who smoke. The possibility of developing COPD escalates the more you smoke and the longer you have smoked. Many people do not realise they have it. Statistics shows an estimated 1.2 million people are living with diagnose COPD extensively more than the 835,000 predicted by the Department of Health in 2011. In terms of diagnose cases, this makes COPD the second most common lung disease in the UK, after asthma. Around 2% of the full population – 4.5% of all people aged over 40 – live with diagnose COPD.