
Clinical Practice Guideline

Diagnosis, Management, and Prevention of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Revised / Effective: January 2021

Next Review: December 2022

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

The plan supports the recommendation of the Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) and the content of the latest version of the guideline entitled Global Strategy for the Diagnosis, Management, and Prevention of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

REFERENCE

Global Strategy for the Diagnosis, Management and Prevention of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD), Updated 2020. Available at: <https://goldcopd.org/gold-reports/>

POSITION STATEMENT

The GOLD guideline is supported by the plan because it is based on scientific evidence, and where evidence is lacking, on expert consensus. The guidelines reflect the most current standard of care for COPD and incorporate the following:

- The panel members are recognized experts practicing in a variety of professional settings;
- Recommendations are based on a well-defined scientific literature search;
- The methods used to critically appraise the evidence supporting guideline recommendations are readily transparent;
- The guidelines clearly state the strength of the evidence for which recommendations are based; and
- Financial disclosures/potential conflicts of interest for individual panel members are described.

GUIDELINE ADOPTION AND RECOMMENDED USE

This guideline has been adopted based on nationally and locally recognized sources. This guideline is based on the most recent medical evidence available at the time of the report or on a consensus of panel experts. The guidelines help practitioners and members make decisions about appropriate health care for specific conditions. Guidelines are not a substitute for professional medical advice.

BENEFIT DETERMINATION

Benefit determinations should be based in all cases on the applicable contract coverage. To the extent that there are any conflicts between these guidelines and the contract language, the contract language takes precedence.

Date of Origin: September 2007