



Clinical Advances in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and Its Complications

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

In recent decades, COPD has evolved from a disease characterized by persistent airflow limitation to a clinical syndrome involving a wide scatter of pathologies beyond the lung. Our current understanding of COPD is hampered by a variety of factors: the definition of COPD based on FEV₁/VC ratio, cross-sectional design of studies, and invalid diagnosis of underlying pathologies. Furthermore, current insights underscore the importance of individual lung trajectories in the development of psionically defined flow limitation but have explored neither the impact of these different trajectories on multimorbidity profiles nor the role of lung size itself as a marker of organ health in individuals. Ongoing research has identified that in addition to lung trajectories, other aspects, such as body compositional changes, need to be considered as well, including the interplay between different body compartments, such as fat tissue and gut microbiome. This issue of *JCM* aims to offer new perspectives to better understand the pathophysiological mechanisms of COPD syndrome.

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Guest Editor





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