eConsults for COPD

Are your patients COPD exacerbations getting worse over time?

Consider an eConsult with a Pulmonologist to prevent COPD exacerbations. When submitting a consult request, be sure to include:





1 Assessment

Does the patient have a history of any of the following?

- Increased coughing
- Dyspnea
- Less energy for daily activities
- Increased or thicker phlegm/mucus
- Swelling of ankles
- More trouble sleeping than usual

What other comorbidities or complications does the patient have?



2 Diagnostics

Always include:

- Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency
- Pulmonary Function Tests (PFTs)
- Chest X-Ray (CXR)
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)

Helpful to include:

- Patients dependency on supplemental oxygen
- History of frequent/reoccuring pulmonary infections



Vidya Krishnan, MD Pulmonologist and Critical Care, eConsult Specialist

Dr. Vidya Krishnan is a Professor at Case Western Reserve University, MetroHealth Campus in Cleveland, OH. She is board-certified in Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine. She has a Master's degree in Health Science from the Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her research interests are generally how sleep disorders affect the course of other chronic medical diseases. She serves as the Chairperson for the American Thoracic Society's Patient and Family Education Committee, as well as the American Academy of Sleep Medicine's Advocacy Committee.

