

Understanding and Living With COPD*

What is COPD?

COPD is a lung disease, which causes problems with your breathing.

COPD breakdown

Chronic = long lasting and doesn't go away

Obstructive = partly blocks the flow of air from the lungs

Pulmonary = has to do with the lungs

Disease = a sickness

COPD is not just one disease. It is a group of different lung diseases, including chronic bronchitis (brong-eye-tis) and emphysema (em-fuh-zee-muh). You may have one of these diseases, or you may have both.

Living with COPD

When your doctor says you have COPD, you may feel scared and confused. But you are not alone.



Doctor portrayal

Did you know?

More than 12 million American adults have COPD. About 12 million more Americans have it, but do not know it.

COPD cannot be cured, but it can be managed and treated. To learn more about living with COPD, ask your healthcare practitioner (prak-tih-shun-er).

*Chronic (kron-ick) obstructive (ob-struck-tiv) pulmonary (pul-muh-nair-ee) disease, including chronic bronchitis (brong-eye-tis), emphysema (em-fuh-zee-muh), or both.

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