

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a degenerative disorder of the lungs in which there is a reduced ability to expire air. COPD includes a combination of lung diseases such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, and emphysema. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease affects at least 15 million Americans. The majority of people diagnosed with COPD can be directly related to former heavy or current cigarette use. However, not all who smoke get COPD. Obstructive lung disease develops in 10-15% of all cigarette smokers and individuals who continue to smoke cigarettes are more likely to sustain a rapid progression of the disease than non-smokers. The most accurate method of diagnosing COPD is the pulmonary function test, otherwise known as a spirometry test. It measures the amount of forced air exhaled into a tube. FEV1 is the maximum amount of air exhaled during the first second of a forced exhalation. The results help determine the severity of the COPD for the underwriter. The average non-smoking adult shows a decline in FEV1 of 20-25 ml per year whereas the average heavy smoker declines 40-45 ml per year.

If your client has a chronic pulmonary (lung) disease, please answer the following and give details:

1. Type of lung disease:

Chronic bronchitis _____
Emphysema _____
Restrictive lung disease _____
Asthma _____

2. Please list date when first diagnosed:

3. Has your client ever been hospitalized for this condition?

If yes, please give details

4. Has your client ever smoked?

If yes, and currently smokes _____ (amount/day)

If yes, smoked in the past but quit _____ (date)

Never smoked _____

5. Is your client on any medications (include inhalers)?

If yes please give details _____

6. Have pulmonary function tests (a breathing test) ever been done?

If yes, please give most recent test results

7. Please note client's build:

Height _____ Weight _____

8. Does your client have any abnormalities on an ECG or x-ray?

If yes, please give details

9. Does your client have any other major health problems (ex: heart disease, etc.)?

If yes, please give details
