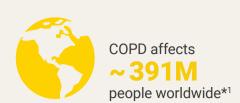
## **Understanding Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)**

Breathe in the truth about COPD - a lung condition that demands our immediate attention and is of greater significance than you may realise.









Yet, is often under-prioritised, underfunded and undertreated.<sup>3-5</sup>

#### What is COPD?

'COPD' refers to a group of lung diseases, including emphysema and chronic bronchitis, that cause airflow blockage and breathing-related problems.6

#### **Symptoms include**<sup>6,7</sup>:

- Shortness of breath, especially during physical activity
- Wheezing or a whistling sound when breathing Persistent cough
- Chest tightness
- Frequent respiratory infections

#### Genetics

Risk factors include8:

- Early-life events
- Respiratory infections
- Tobacco exposure
- Other environmental exposures

# How does COPD affect individuals and societies?

COPD is a pressing global health concern, transcending borders and affecting individuals from all socioeconomic backgrounds and age groups.8 Most cases are amongst socioeconomically disadvantaged populations and countries.1



~80% of COPD patients live in low- or middle-income countries.

**COPD** has a significant impact on patients' lives, including:



difficulty carrying out everyday activities and decline in quality of life.6



feelings of stigma, shame, blame and guilt.9

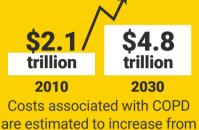


COPD also exerts economic pressure on already strained healthcare systems and entire economies: **Costs associated with COPD** 

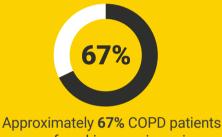


admissions in many countries, generating significant burdens in cost and care. 13-15

of emergency hospital



\$2.1 trillion globally in 2010 to \$4.8 trillion in 2030.16



are of working age, incurring additional burden associated with reduced productivity, early retirement, and diminished tax revenues. 1,10-12

### A recent poll\*\* of 14,890 members of the public in 14 countries, May-August 2022, underscores the

Despite its impact, the burden of COPD is still under-recognised:

need for greater COPD awareness and prioritisation.<sup>17</sup>



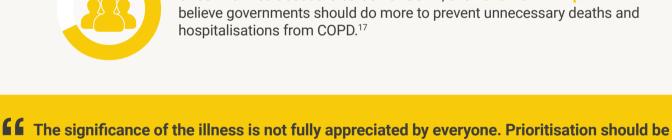
hospitalisations from COPD.<sup>17</sup>



an "extremely serious" burden on their country's healthcare system.<sup>17</sup>

of the public

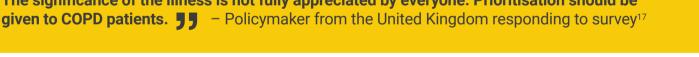
believed COPD has



It's time to Speak Up for COPD

and policymakers agree.<sup>17</sup>

Once informed about the burden of COPD, over 60% of the public believe governments should do more to prevent unnecessary deaths and



Lend your voice to drive greater awareness of COPD

your support to SPEAK UP FOR COPD.



Roche, Sanofi and Regeneron.

Join our growing movement by using the hashtag #SpeakUpForCOPD to spread the message. Together, we can raise public awareness and drive policy change to alleviate burden that COPD places on patients, societies, and healthcare systems around the globe.

The world can no longer afford to overlook COPD. We need greater recognition of the impact of COPD on individuals and society to ensure people living with this disease receive the care they need and deserve. We need

Speak Up for COPD is supported by a coalition of partners across industry and the non-profit sector to raise awareness and understanding of COPD amongst policymakers and healthcare decision makers by amplifying the voices of patients, the COPD community and the public. All partners contribute time and expertise to the coalition activities. Our one critical goal is to establish COPD as a public health \*Coalition partners: Global Allergy & Airways Patient Platform (GAAPP), International Federation of Ageing (IFA), COPD Foundation,

International AstraZeneca 2 Federation on Ageing

REGENERON

International Coalition of Respiratory Nurses (ICRN), International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), with funding from AstraZeneca,



sanofi



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\*\* Poll initiated and funded by AstraZeneca

COPDFOUNDATION

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