SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

Incidence and predictors of asthma exacerbations in middle-aged and older adults: the Rotterdam Study

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Diagram of examination cycles of the Rotterdam Study (RS). The three cohorts and their re-examinations are horizontally depicted; RS-I, RS-II and RS-III.

Outlined in blue are examinations RS-I-5, RS-II-3, and RS-III-2, these share the same program items and were used to determine determinants of asthma exacerbations.

Figure derived from [16],

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5662692/figure/Fig1/?report=objectonly

Supplemental figure 2; FLOWCHART



Figure 2. Study profile of participants with the exacerbation status determined at end of follow-up.

| | | Asthma subjects without exacerbations | Asthma subjects with exacerbations (not frequent) | Asthma subjects with frequent exacerbations |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| n | | 336 | 396 | 31 |
| Females (%) | | 226 (67.3) | 282 (71.2) | 20 (64.5) |
| Age (mean (sd)) | | 60.85 (8.43) | 62.00 (8.17) | 57.40 (7.59) |
| BMI (mean (sd)) | | 28.20 (4.61) | 28.16 (4.70) | 29.42 (5.77) |
| Smoking status (%) | never | 103 (31.2) | 142 (36.4) | 8 (25.8) |
| | former | 171 (51.8) | 174 (44.6) | 12 (38.7) |
| | current | 56 (17.0) | 74 (19.0) | 11 (35.5) |
| Packyears(mean(sd)) | | 14.17 (19.66) | 15.01 (20.54) | 17.92 (23.53) |
| Total follow-up years (m | ean (sd)) | 11.98 (6.08) | 14.97 (6.20) | 11.22 (5.37) |
| Follow-up years with ast | :hma (mean (sd)) | 10.74 (5.59) | 13.36 (5.82) | 9.74 (4.86) |
| Asthma onset after 40 y | o (%) | 274 (81.5) | 321 (81.1) | 20 (64.5) |
| Asthma onset age (mear | n (sd)) | 54.81 (17.43) | 53.48 (21.98) | 46.34 (20.86) |
| Total N. exacerbations (| mean (sd)) | 0.00 (0.00) | 3.49 (3.32) | 17.03 (11.06) |
| Exacerbation rate (mear | n (sd)) | 0.00 (0.00) | 0.29 (0.23) | 1.81 (1.06) |
| Diabetes mellitus (%) | | 38 (11.3) | 35 (8.8) | 4 (12.9) |
| Hypertension (%) | | 170 (53.5) | 197 (51.8) | 19 (61.3) |
| Depressive symptoms (%) | | 37 (15.5) | 44 (19.0) | 10 (37.0) |
| Osteoporosis (%) | normal | 132 (48.4) | 138 (42.9) | 12 (48.0) |
| | osteopenia | 132 (48.4) | 167 (51.9) | 12 (48.0) |
| | osteoporosis | 9 (3.3) | 17 (5.3) | 1 (4.0) |

Supplemental table I with frequent exacerbators

Supplemental table II; Baseline characteristics of fifth examination round participants, stratified by sex

| | Males | Females | n |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| | (n=150) | (n=345) | Р |
| Age | 69.5 (8.3) | 69.1 (9.1) | 0.401 |
| BMI <30 | 104 (69.3) | 215 (62.3) | 0.134 |
| >30 | 46 (30.7) | 130 (37.7) | |
| Smoking never | 33 (22.0) | 131 (38.0) | <0.001 |
| former | 107 (71.3) | 181 (52.5) | |
| current | 10 (6.7) | 33 (9.6) | |
| Education low | 42 (28.4) | 224 (64.9) | <0.001 |
| intermediate | 69 (46.6) | 71 (20.6) | |
| high | 37 (25.0) | 50 (14.5) | |
| Follow-up time | 4.2 (1.8) | 4.2 (1.7) | 0.800 |
| Time to exacerbation* | 3.2 (1.9) | 2.9 (1.9) | 0.347 |
| Spirometry normal | 102 (69.4) | 257 (79.3) | 0.042 |
| restriction | 4 (2.7) | 7 (2.2) | |
| obstruction | 41 (27.9) | 60 (18.5) | |
| FEV1%predicted | 91.1 (17.3) | 91.3 (17.4) | 0.900 |
| FEV1/FVC | 72.6 (8.4) | 75.3 (7.4) | <0.001 |
| Prior exacerbation# | 0.2 (0.6) | 0.2 (0.7) | 0.355 |
| Respiratory medication | 63 (42.0) | 131 (38.0) | 0.399 |
| Complaints (≥3) | 71 (47.3) | 225 (65.4) | <0.001 |
| Wheezing | 87 (58.0) | 236 (69.2) | 0.016 |
| Dyspnea | 67 (48.2) | 234 (72.9) | 0.011 |
| Chronic cough | 27 (18.1) | 78 (22.8) | 0.296 |
| COPD co- | 23(15.3) | 25(7.2) | 0.009 |
| diagnosis Diabetes | 21 (14.0) | 23 (6.8) | 0.011 |
| Heart Failure | 9 (6.0) | 12 (3.5) | 0.203 |
| CHD | 34 (22.8) | 20 (5.9) | |
| Depressive symptoms | 11 (7.4) | 61 (17.8) | |

Original data are given and presented as mean(sd) or %. Follow-up time given in years.

* N=177, 318 participants did not exacerbate during follow-up

*exacerbation rate of previous year.

Data were missing in (n=): Education(2), Physical Activity (128), NLR and PLR and SII (8), Spirometry and FEV1 and FEF1/FVC (24), Complaints (1), Diabetes(8), Heart failure (1), CHD(6), Depressive symptoms(4)

Supplemental figure 3; Asthma exacerbation free survival probabilities in subjects with incident (i.e. late onset) asthma





Supplemental Figure C2. Asthma exacerbation free survival probabilities from 2009 onwards

Figure C2. Asthma exacerbation free survival probabilities by sex and by previous asthma exacerbation in the last year. Median survival times (lower-upper): males 5.96 (5.48 – NA), females 6.23(5.67-7.67), no exacerbation in the past year 6.70(6.23-NA), exacerbation in the past year 3.09(2.68- 3.83).

| Variable | | N | Hazard ratio | p |
|-----------------------|---------|-----|--------------|------------------------|
| Smoking | never | 31 | • | Reference |
| | former | 107 | ⊢ ∎-4 | 0.50 (0.28, 0.90) 0.02 |
| | current | 9 | | 0.20 (0.03, 1.49) 0.12 |
| Age | | 147 | • | 0.97 (0.93, 1.01) 0.12 |
| FEV1percent_predicted | | 147 | | 0.99 (0.98, 1.01) 0.32 |

Supplemental Figure 4; Forest plot of the interaction between smoking and sex Males

Females

| Variable | N | Hazard ratio | р |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Smoking | never 119 | | Reference |
| | former 172 | | 2.06 (1.33, 3.18) 0.001 |
| | current 33 | | 2.34 (1.26, 4.33) 0.007 |
| Age | 324 | | 0.98 (0.96, 1.01) 0.169 |
| FEV1percent_predicted | 324 | ļ. | 0.97 (0.96, 0.98) <0.001 |

HR's for asthma exacerbation in males and females