

## Establishing a COPD Register

**Run baseline search on COPD with PEN tool, print data & record the date.**

*NB. For all following searches & related tasks, please keep a note of any problems encountered, time taken, etc.*

### A. Identify patients with formal diagnosis of COPD

Step 1: GPs to agree on the main diagnostic term to code all COPD patients.

Step 2: Using PEN tool search Medical Director:

- Filter chosen extract by ⇒ Active patients (General tab)  
& ⇒ COPD (Conditions tab)
- Recalculate
- Using the recalculated data go to:
  - ⇒ “Smoking” – select all
  - ⇒ “Immunisations” – Influenza – select all  
– Pneumococcal – select all

**COPD within PEN searches for:**

Chronic airways limitation  
Chronic bronchitis  
Chronic obstructive airways disease  
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease  
COAD  
COAD – infective exacerbation  
COAD (Chronic Obstructive Airways Disease)  
COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)  
Emphysema  
Emphysema – infective exacerbation

- Go to “Report” (top of page) and export the table as an Excel document.  
Within this document you can add extra columns for additional data, e.g. GPMP, Spirometry.

Step 3: Using the recalculated data go to “MBS Items”, highlight 721 (GPMP), print list and enter data into spreadsheet.

Step 4: To identify which patients have had spirometry done, it will be necessary to run a billing report in PracSoft for item no.11506, enter data into spreadsheet.

Step 5: GPs check spreadsheet generated from searches and decide if any patients need re-coding.

Step 6: Apply agreed code to identified patient records.

Using the spreadsheet it will be possible to answer the following:

- Have they had a spirometry screen recorded in past 24 months?
- Have they had a Fluvax in past 12 months?
- Have they had a Pneumovax if aged 65 and repeat dose if aged 70?
- Does patient have a GP Management Plan?

*It may be necessary to check patient records to fill in gaps in data.*

*There are several other searches that can be done to identify patients without a coded diagnosis:*

- *Using the PEN tool perform a search using the latest extract filtered by “active patients”, and under the medications tab select “COPD medications”.*
- *Do a search of the MD database for patients coded with COPD and compare the two lists.*

### B. Identify undiagnosed patients with strong risk factors

Step 1: Search Medical Director for:

- ⇒ Smokers aged 35+ who have smoked 20 cigarettes/day
- ⇒ Ex-smokers aged 35+ who have ever smoked 20 cigarettes/day

(Ideally this would be patients who had smoked for a period of 10 years but it is not possible to refine the search this far.)

Step 2: **Record baseline search data**