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Title: Residual lung volume is associated with increased left ventricular mass

Dr. Benjamin 27239 Smith benjamin.m.smith@mcgill.ca MD 1,2, Dr. David 27240 Bluemke bluemked@cc.nih.gov MD³, Dr. Eric 27241 Hoffman eric-hoffman@uiowa.edu⁴, Dr. Robert 27242 Basner rcb42@columbia.edu MD 1, Dr. Steven 27243 Kawut kawut@mail.med.upenn.edu MD 5, Dr. Martin 27244 Prince map2008@med.cornell.edu MD ⁶, Dr. Antoinette 27257 Gomes agomes@mednet.ucla.edu MD ⁷, Dr. Daichi 27259 Shimbo ds2231@columbia.edu MD 1, Dr. Chia-Ying 27265 Liu cliu51@jhmi.edu MD 8, Dr. João 27266 Lima jlima@jhmi.edu MD 9, Dr. Erin 27267 Michos edonnell@jhmi.edu MD 9, Dr. Ravi 27268 Kalhan r-kalhan@northwestern.edu MD 10, Dr. Daniel 27271 Rabinowitz dan@stat.columbia.edu 11, Dr. Steven 27272 Shea ss35@columbia.edu MD 1,12 and Dr. R. Graham 27273 Barr rgb9@mail.cumc.columbia.edu MD 1,12, 1 Medicine, Columbia University, New York, NY, United States; 2 Medicine, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada; ³ Radiology and Imaging Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, United States; ⁴ Radiology, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA, United States; ⁵ Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, United States; ⁶ Radiology, Columbia University, New York, NY, United States; ⁷ Medicine, UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA, United States; 8 Radiology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, United States; 9 Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, United States; 10 Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, United States; ¹¹ Statistics, Columbia University, New York, NY, United States and ¹² Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY, United States.

Body: Increased left ventricular (LV) mass and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) predict cardiovascular (CV) events, but their relationship is poorly understood. We hypothesized that residual volume would be associated with increased LV mass. We recruited participants ages 50–79 years with ≥10 pack-year smoking history that were free of clinically apparent CV disease. LV mass was estimated by cardiac magnetic resonance. Body plethysmography and pre- and post-bronchodilator spirometry were performed according to ATS/ERS guidelines. Percent emphysema-like lung was estimated on full-lung CT. Anthropometry, medication use, blood pressure (BP), fasting glucose and lipid levels were measured in a standardized fashion. COPD was defined according to GOLD criteria. Multiple linear regression was used to adjust for age, sex, race-ethnicity, height, weight, body surface area term, smoking status, pack-years, systolic BP, BP meds, fasting glucose, diabetes meds, low density lipoprotein, lipid lowering meds, and percent emphysema. Of 119 participants completing all study components, 65% had COPD (24% mild, 29% moderate, and 12% severe/very severe). Mean LV mass was 122±34 grams. Residual lung volume was independently associated with increased LV mass in the fully adjusted model (p<0.001). The magnitude of

association for residual volume was similar on a SD basis to that of systolic BP (8.7 gm 95%Cl 4.5-13 gm per 714 ml increase in residual volume versus 6.9 gm 95%Cl 3.5-10 gm per 16 mmHg increase in systolic BP, respectively). Residual volume is associated with increased LV mass. Further understanding of this relationship may improve cardiovascular risk assessment and represent a novel therapeutic target.