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Title: Course features of COPD in women and men

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Body: Background. COPD is a leader among the present problems in Pulmonology. Epidemiological data indicate a greater prevalence of this nosology among men. Prevalence of COPD in the world among men is 9.3%, and among women - 7.3%. Given that COPD - a disease mainly of the second half of life, it should be noted that at this period women are characterized by a extinguishing of steroidogenesis function. This factor may be one of those that aggravating the course COPD in women. Aim: To study the severity of breathlessness on a MMRC scale in women and men with newly diagnosed 2nd stage of COPD. Materials and methods: The main inclusion criteria were: 1) age of patients ≥ 40 years; 2) Experience smoking ≥ 10 pack / years 3) FEV_1 after salbutamol $50\% \leq FEV_1 \leq 70\%$, $FEV_1/FVC \leq 0,7$; 4) No other clinically significant disease. There were surveyed 57 patients (including 22 women and 35 men) with newly diagnosed 2nd stage of COPD who were treated at pulmonology department of Ivano-Frankivsk regional center of phthisiology and pulmonology. The average age of women was $(58,5 \pm 2,8)$ years and men - $(54,7 \pm 3,1)$ years). Results. The level of FEV_1 on average was $61,2 \pm 4,2\%$ in women, and - $58,4 \pm 3,9\%$ ($p > 0.05$) in men. Index of breathlessness on a MMRC scale in women was $3,6 \pm 0,4$, and $2,9 \pm 0,4$ - in men. Thus, exploring the clinical course of 2nd stage of COPD among women and men aged 50 to 60 years, we can say that, despite the almost identical clinical manifestations of disease, there is a greater severity of breathlessness on a MMRC scale in women as in men. Conclusion: The clinical course of COPD in women compared with men characterized with more severe shortness of breath on a MMRC scale with less ventilation violations, according to spirometry.