

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2013

Abstract Number: 3003

Publication Number: P2089

Abstract Group: 6.3. Tobacco, Smoking Control and Health Education

Keyword 1: Smoking **Keyword 2:** Spirometry **Keyword 3:** Physiotherapy care

Title: Lung function, clinical symptoms and mucociliary clearance in smokers: Frequency and correlation

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Body: Smoking is considered to be the leading cause of preventable death in the world. There is an association of smoking and clinical respiratory symptoms in individuals who have not been diagnosed with any respiratory diseases. Aims: evaluate frequency and correlate clinical symptoms, lung function and mucociliary clearance in smokers. Methods: 73 smokers aged between 40 and 70 years old, inserted in a smoking cessation program were divided in: Smoker group (n=47) with normal lung function and Obstructive Group: smokers with obstructive disorders (n=26). They underwent an evaluation for clinical symptoms assessment (dyspnea, fatigue and cough) and measurement of exhaled carbon monoxide (COex) and nasal mucociliary clearance (MC). Results: A negative correlation ($r = -0,39$) between MC and lung function (FEF25-75% estimated) in the obstructive group has been identified. In the smoker group, 59,6% of individuals were symptomatic, and out of these 19,1% presented all clinical symptoms evaluated. Besides in the group with obstructive disorders, it was identified that 61,5% of individuals were symptomatic and out of them, 30,8% reported all clinical symptoms. Moreover, there was a higher predominance of females in both groups (smokers: 68,1% and 57,7% in obstructive group) and clinical symptoms in smokers of 51 to 60 years old. Conclusion: Although many smokers showed normal lung function, it could be observed that they present clinical symptoms which may generate significant impact on their health condition. This finding allows us to act in a preventive manner in order to provide guidance about the importance of smoking cessation and the need to minimize the harmful effects of tobacco consumption.