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Title: Plasma surfactant protein D (SP-D) in patients (pts) with stable (S) COPD and during COPD acute exacerbation (AE)

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Body: Aim: To evaluate plasma SP-D in pts with S COPD and during AE COPD in comparison with healthy control. Study population: 44 pts with S COPD, 12 pts with AE COPD and 26 healthy persons made the study sample. Methods: Medical history, SP-D in plasma by ELISA (Hycult Biotech, Netherlands), Spirometry by Masterscope (Viasis, Germany) were performed in all study population. Results: SP-D levels in groups are shown in the table 1.

Groups	Valid N	Median, ng/ml	Quartiles [25-75 %], ng/dl
S COPD	44	613.21	395.84-1164.84*\$
AE COPD	12	883.24	721.1-1121.80#
Healthy	26	395.04	203.88-551.16

*p(S COPD-healthy) = 0.001; \$p(AE COPD-healthy) < 0.001; #p(S COPD-AE COPD)=0.106

Conclusions: 1. Both S and AE COPD pts have significantly higher plasma SP-D level, than healthy control. 2. Tendency to increasing of plasma SP-D was found in pts with AE COPD in comparison with S COPD. However this difference was not statistically significant. 3. Probably, plasma SP-D more likely reflects chronic lung inflammation, than acute injury in pts with COPD.