

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2013

Abstract Number: 500

Publication Number: P948

Abstract Group: 6.1. Epidemiology

Keyword 1: COPD - management **Keyword 2:** Oxygen therapy **Keyword 3:** Epidemiology

Title: Increasing difference in survival between women and men from 2001 to 2010: Data from the Danish oxygen register

Dr. Thomas 4594 Ringbaek thomasringbaek@gmail.com MD ¹, Dr. Christina 4595 Brinkved brinkved@hotmail.com MD ¹ and Prof. Peter 4596 Lange plange@dadlnet.dk MD ¹. ¹ Respiratory Medicine, University of Copenhagen, Hvidovre Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark, 3140 .

Body: Objectives: To evaluate the changes over time in survival of COPD patients on long-term oxygen therapy (LTOT) in Denmark. Setting: The Danish Oxygen Register, covering >99% of all Danish patients on LTOT. Subjects: 14.967 COPD patients who started LTOT in the study period from 01.01.2001 to 31.12.2010. Results: During the study period, the incidence of LTOT increased from 30.5 to 32.2 per 100,000. Mean age at start on LTOT was 74.0 (SD: 9.4), and 60.1% were females. Most of the patients (85.3%) started LTOT in connection with discharge after hospitalisation for an exacerbation. During the study, this proportion of patients increased from 76.5% to 91.7%. The median survival was 1.5 years – better for females than males (1.69 versus 1.26 years; $p < 0.001$) and better for patients who started LTOT from the outpatient clinic compared to patients who started LTOT after a hospitalisation (hazard ratio (95% CI): 0.85 (0.80-0.90)). During the study period, the survival for all patients didn't change ($p = 0.4$), but the difference in survival between women and men increased significantly. The hazard ratios (95% CI) for men compared to women starting in 2001 was 1.16 (1.03-1.30) in 2001 versus 1.41 (1.22-1.63) in 2010; increasing 1.022 (1.007-1.037) per year, adjusted for start of LTOT after hospitalisation. Conclusions: The difference in survival between women and men increased significantly from 2001 to 2010.