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Title: Epidemiology of COPD in North America and Europe: Results from a systematic literature review

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Body: Rationale: A systematic review of the published medical literature was conducted to compare reported hospitalization and mortality rates in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) populations in North America and Europe. Methods: Literature indexed in the PubMed and EMBASE databases were searched and reference lists from selected studies were evaluated. Articles were included if they identified a COPD study population from ≥ 1 country of interest. Population characteristics, disease information, outcomes, and outcome rates were extracted. Results: More than 4000 unique studies were found; 16 met inclusion criteria for analysis. Reported COPD hospitalization rates were similar between studies in US and Canadian populations (Table). Apart from Spain, all-cause hospitalization rates were similar for studies of COPD populations across North America and Europe. Reported all-cause mortality rates were similar for COPD populations in the USA, Canada, and UK. Conclusions: Reported rates of all-cause hospitalizations and all-cause mortality in COPD populations in North America and Europe are similar.

Table. Hospitalization and Mortality Rates (per 100 person-years) in Patients with COPD

		North America		Europe			
Rate Type		Canada	United States	United Kindom	France	Italy	Spain
COPD hospitalization	Event Rate*	18-33	27-30	-	-	-	-
	Patient Rate†	19	19	-	-	-	-
All-cause hospitalization	Event Rate*	28-40	38	43	34	33	100
	Patient Rate†	14-60	14-38	14	11	11	20
All-cause mortality		11	9	4-33	-	-	-

*Total number of hospitalizations; †Total number of patients having an event.

