

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

Abstract Number: 4792

Publication Number: P756

Abstract Group: 1.6. General Practice and Primary Care

Keyword 1: Asthma - management **Keyword 2:** COPD - management **Keyword 3:** COPD - exacerbations

Title: Practice patterns in the management of acute asthma and COPD in Turkey

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Body: Introduction The recognition and management of the asthma and COPD exacerbations is a cornerstone in the achievement of optimum control of these diseases. Aims and objectives The “ONDINE Study” aimed to evaluate practice patterns in the management of acute asthma and COPD in Turkey. Methods Patients with asthma or COPD were included in this national, multicenter, cross-sectional, non-interventional study. Patient demographics, control level, exacerbation severity and the exacerbation management of asthma and COPD were evaluated. Results A total of 596 patients included in the study having the diagnosis of asthma [n=301; mean (standard deviation; SD) age: 45 (13) years; 74% were females] or COPD [n=295; mean (SD) age: 62 (11) years; 86% males]. Disease control was evident in 38% of COPD patients while in 51% of asthma patients while severe COPD (31%) and intermittent asthma (51%) were the most common forms of disease severity. Hospital admission due to an acute exacerbation within the last 12 months was identified in 75% of asthma and 78% of COPD patients. Emergency and intensive care unit hospitalization rates were 40% and 1% in asthma patients and 53% and 2% in COPD patients, respectively. The most commonly performed tests in asthma and COPD patients were chest XR (98% and 99%) and spirometry (98% and 99%). Long-acting beta-agonist and inhaled corticosteroid combination was the most common continuous prophylactic treatment (69%) in asthma and (71%) in COPD. Conclusions The study revealed that acute asthma exacerbations were managed better than COPD exacerbations and higher control rates were obtained in both diseases as exacerbation were managed more appropriate with respect to recommendations in the guidelines.