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Title: Exploring the association between active hormonal life and the presence of emphysema/airway obstruction in female smokers

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Body: Introduction Data suggest that women are more susceptible to the harmful effects of tobacco on the respiratory system. Little is known about the potential impact that active hormonal life could have on the presence of emphysema/airway obstruction. Material and methods From January 2011 until November 2012 we recruited former and current female smokers which we performed a chest CT, lung function tests and a questionnaire asking their age at menarche, age at menopause, contraceptive/hormone replacement therapy consumption and age of initiation of smoking. Results

Conclusions Our data does not show an association between active hormonal life and emphysema/airway obstruction presence in female smokers. Larger studies should confirm our findings.