Shorter duration of antibiotic therapy for exacerbation of COPD

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Shareable abstract (@ERSpublications)
Highlighting the evidence that supports a more explicit statement recommending shorter duration of antibiotics for exacerbation of COPD http://bit.ly/3KmLmQR

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To the Editor:

We would like to thank the authors of the recently released Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) 2023 report and express one area of concern related to the general recommendation for 5- to 7-day antibiotic therapy duration [1]. We believe the totality of evidence supports a shorter course (5 days or less) for treating mild to moderate exacerbations of COPD (ECOPD). Although longer courses of antibiotics have traditionally been recommended for many infections, the basis for this originated from dogma versus rigorous trial evidence [2]. Excessive antibiotic durations are not sustainable in the face of increasing antibiotic resistance, one of the top global public health threats.