
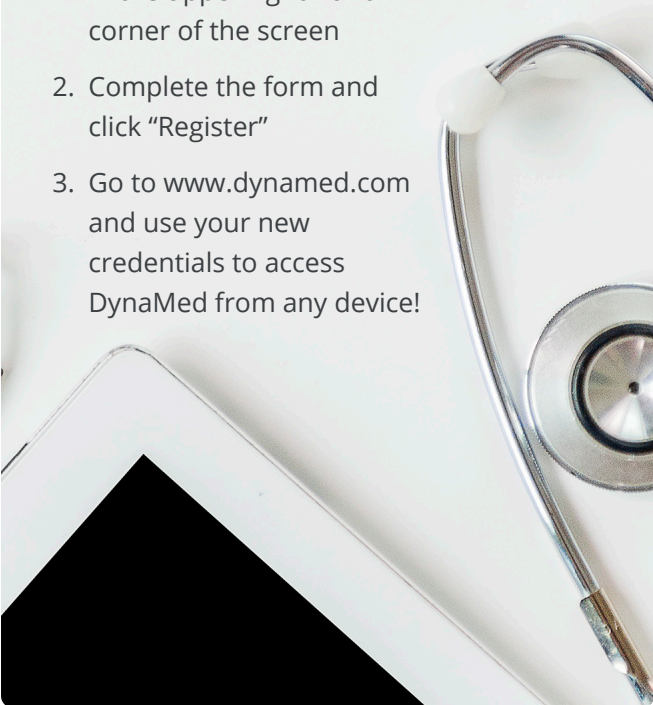


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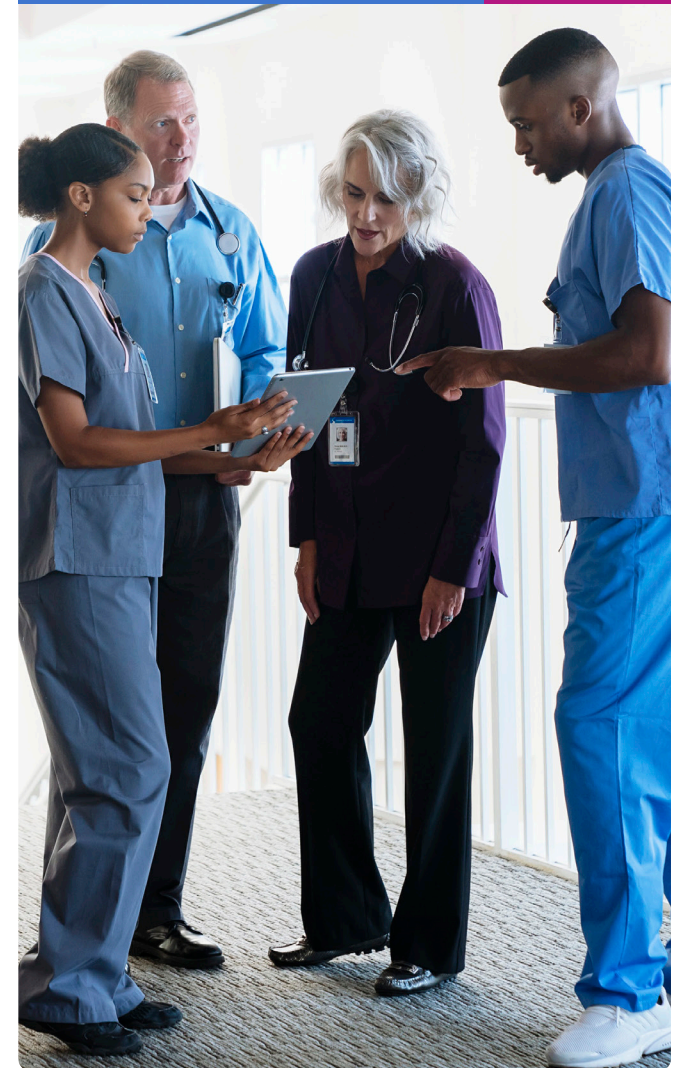
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Overview and Recommendations

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Background

- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is characterized by significant airflow limitation associated with a chronic inflammatory response in the airways and lungs resulting in the destruction of lung tissue.
 - It commonly affects adults > 40 years old who experience significant exposure to combusted tobacco, with an estimated worldwide prevalence of about 11%, with about 14.3% in males and 7.6% in females.
 - The disease course is usually progressive with a long-term decline in lung function and it is the third leading cause of mortality worldwide. Up to 90% of COPD deaths are reported to occur in low- and middle-income countries.
 - It is a preventable and treatable disease that is commonly associated with comorbidities (such as, cardiovascular disease) and significant systemic consequences (such as, skeletal muscle dysfunction).
- Use of combusted tobacco is the most common risk factor for COPD worldwide; other risk factors include occupational exposures (for example, organic and inorganic dusts, chemical agents, and fumes), alpha-1 antitrypsin (AAT) deficiency, and indoor air pollution (particularly from smoke that is

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