GRASP-COPD

Working in collaboration with PRIMIS, NHS Improvement is now able to offer a new toolkit to GPs to help audit and improve the quality of care for patients with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease).

GRASP-COPD builds upon the success of GRASP-AF, and is the second in a suite of GRASP tools being developed over the coming months to support GPs in improving their management of long term conditions.

The toolkit contains two audits which the practice can run at a time convenient to them.

The first audit looks at patients already diagnosed with COPD. Data suggest that up to 30% of patients on COPD registers may be inaccurately diagnosed and sub-optimally treated\(^1\). Ensuring accurate diagnosis can improve outcomes, help manage demand and reduce waste, and results from a combination of history, physical examination and confirmation of airflow obstruction using spirometry.


\(^2\) NICE clinical guideline 101. Management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease


The results will enable you to:

- Audit your management of patients with COPD against current NICE guidance\(^2\)
- Identify patients who may be inaccurately diagnosed and therefore not being treated according to the NICE guidance\(^2\)
- Review patients who have a diagnosis of both asthma and COPD
- Easily assess and visualise clinical data about your patients with COPD

A summary of the results is displayed in both dashboard and tabular views similar to the GRASP-AF tool.
Around 835,000 people are currently diagnosed with COPD in England but there are estimated to be around a further 2,000,000 people who are undiagnosed and living with the disease. Studies have shown that many patients have had repeated consultations for respiratory problems over the years prior to their diagnosis, suggesting that there is scope to identify and modify the disease at an earlier stage.

The second audit in the GRASP-COPD toolkit supports this work by:

- Identify patients potentially missing a COPD diagnosis code
- Identifying patients at risk of developing COPD
- Providing several pre-set filters to prioritise those patients most likely to need a review

The toolkit also incorporates a data analysis and interpretation guide, providing in depth details of the audit as well as an overview of its technical aspects.

The toolkit provides the facility to upload anonymous data to CHART Online so that practices, CCGs and clinical networks can benchmark both practice prevalence and management of COPD against local peer sets and national data.

“COPD GRASP tool is an innovative user-friendly tool to help your practice identify key areas of improvement and will help improve your quality of care for COPD patients.”

Dr Tarek Bakht, GP, Bolton

“I am really glad that this tool is being rolled out by NHS IQ as it gives us as respiratory leads a real lever in the system for improvement.”

June Roberts, Consultant Nurse, Salford

Tariq and June are both members of PCRS-UK Executive committee.

The GRASP-COPD tool is free, and can be downloaded from the PRIMIS website (free PRIMIS Hub registration is required): www.primis.nottingham.ac.uk/hub

It will run on all practice systems in England. For practices already using GRASP-AF, you can download the new tool from within the PRIMIS CHART update facility.

NHS Improvement is now closed. NHS Improving Quality (NHS IQ) now exists to bring together the wealth of knowledge, expertise and experience of a number of former NHS improvement organisations: www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/qual-clin-lead/nhsiq

PRIMIS provides a range of primary care health informatics services to the health sector and to the research community. PRIMIS improves patient care using general practice data of better quality and accessibility, by helping organisations to:

- access patient data from GP IT systems
- transform data into information
- use information as a vehicle for change

PRIMIS Hub membership grants GP practices access to information, advice, training and tools from PRIMIS, the experts in data quality, and the effective use of health information for commissioning, and - above all - improved patient care.

Full Hub membership is open to CCGs, GP practices and other primary healthcare organisations.

PRIMIS was formed in 2000 and is a business unit of The University of Nottingham.

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