FACTS.FACTS.FACTS

RESPIRATORY HEALTH ASSOCIATION℠
of Metropolitan Chicago

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

- In Illinois, COPD was the fourth leading cause of death in 2005[1].
- An estimated 557,120 Illinoisans have been diagnosed with either chronic bronchitis, emphysema or a combination of both[2]. True prevalence data is unknown.
- COPD is a preventable, treatable chronic lung disease, in which the airways are partly blocked, making it hard to breathe over time. It is also referred to as emphysema and chronic bronchitis.
- COPD is the fourth leading cause of death[3] and is predicted to be the third leading cause of death by 2020[4]. Of the five leading causes of death, it is the only one on the rise[4].
- An estimated 12 million people in the United States have been diagnosed with COPD. An additional 12 million people are believed to have the disease and not even know it**Error! Bookmark not defined.**.
- COPD kills more than 120,000 Americans each year[1].
- COPD cost the nation an estimated $42.6 billion in 2007[5].
- COPD has increased dramatically in women over the last 50 years[6] and since 2000, more women have died from COPD than men[6].

[1] Illinois Department of Public Health, Leading Causes of Death, Illinois, 2005. http://www.idph.state.il.us/health/bdmd/leadingdeaths05.htm.
[2] Number was derived from Illinois population data and estimates of number of COPD cases diagnosed nationwide.

[3] National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, COPD Learn More Breathe Better Campaign, *COPD Are You at Risk*. http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/lung/copd/campaign-materials/html/copd-atrisk.htm.
[4] Murray CJ and Lopez AD. *Lancet* 1997; 349: 1498-1504.
[5] National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Morbidity and Mortality Chartbook, 2007. http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/resources/docs/07a-chtbk.pdf.
[6] Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Surveillance – United States, 1971 – 2000. *MMWR*, August 2, 2002; 51(SS06); 1-16.

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