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Use of sputum clearance devices in patients with COPD in Saudi Arabia

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Sputum clearance devices like the Acapella and Flutter can be used to aid sputum clearance. We are interested in finding out about health professionals' experience with their use in people with COPD.

The survey is about short-term and long-term home and clinical use. The results will be analysed anonymously by researchers at Umm Al-Qura University. There are no right or wrong answers, we are trying to find out about professional's attitudes and experiences. The survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete.

If you have any questions please free to contact the project coordinator

By completing the survey questions, you freely agree to engage in this study and offer your agreement to utilize your anonymous data for research purposes.

* Indicates required question

Demographic data

1. Please indicate your age *

Mark only one oval.

- 20 - 30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-60
- 61-70

2. Please pick your gender *

Mark only one oval.

- Male
- Female

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3. Your nationality *

Mark only one oval.

- Saudi
- Non-Saudi

4. Geographic location *

Mark only one oval.

- Central region
- Northern region
- Southern region
- Eastern region
- Western region

5. Academic qualification *

Mark only one oval.

- Associate diploma
- Bachelor degree
- Master degree
- PhD degree

6. Please tick one box which best describes your role in your clinical centre/ Hospital *

Mark only one oval.

- General physician
- Family medicine doctor
- Pulmonology
- Respiratory Therapy
- Nurse
- Physiotherapy
- Other: _____

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7. Where do you work? - pick one description that fits the best for you *

Mark only one oval.

- General practice/ Local primary care centre
- Governmental Hospital
- Privet clinic/ Hospital
- Rehabilitation centers

8. Are you still intern/ under training program / under preceptorship program? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

9. How many years you were certified/registered? *

Mark only one oval.

- 1-2 years
- 3-4 years
- 5-6 years
- 7-8 years
- > 8 years

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10. Which of the following sputum clearance devices are you aware of? **Choose all that apply** *

Tick all that apply.



Flutter



Acapella



Aerobika



Aerosure



Bubble PEP



PEP mask

Other: _____

Option 7

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11. Device preference - if only one device is available for COPD patients, which would you choose? *
pick one

Mark only one oval.

- Flutter
- Acapella
- Aerobika
- PEP mask
- Bubble mask
- Other: _____

How often would you consider the use of sputum clearance device to help sputum clearance in the following situation? For this question assume that the person has been taught active cycle of breathing techniques or standard care for sputum clearance in your place.

Please answer the following scenarios

12. COPD patient with daily difficult to clear thick sputum *

Mark only one oval.

- Always
- Usually
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

13. COPD patient producing sputum throughout the day but able to clear it *

Mark only one oval.

- Always
- Usually
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

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14. COPD patient with morning sputum only *

Mark only one oval.

- Always
 Usually
 Sometimes
 Rarely
 Never

15. COPD patient who only has sputum with exacerbations. Has 0-1 exacerbations/year *

Mark only one oval.

- Always
 Usually
 Sometimes
 Rarely
 Never

16. COPD patients who only has sputum with exacerbations. Has 2-3 exacerbations/year *

Mark only one oval.

- Always
 Usually
 Sometimes
 Rarely
 Never

17. COPD patients who only has sputum with exacerbations. Has >4 exacerbations/year *

Mark only one oval.

- Always
 Usually
 Sometimes
 Rarely
 Never

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18. How many patients with COPD have you actually started on the following devices in the last 12 months? *

Mark only one oval per row.

| | None | 1-2 | 3-5 | >5 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Flutter | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Acapella | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Aerobika | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| PEP mask | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other devices | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

19. How would you usually provide sputum clearance device to a COPD patient (pick the one that applies most commonly)? *

Mark only one oval.

- I don't provide them
- I have them available to give to patients
- Prescription
- Advise patient to buy their own

Policy and Guidelines

20. Do you recommend sputum device in COPD based on clinical practice guidelines? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

21. If yes, which guidelines?

Mark only one oval.

- GOLD guidelines for COPD
- NICE guidelines for COPD
- AARC guidelines for COPD
- Saudi Thoracic Society guidelines for diagnosis and management of COPD
- Domestic clinical practice guidelines at your center/hospital

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