

Reviewer 4 v.1

Comments to the Author

I've read the manuscript entitled "Improvements in lung function with budesonide/glycopyrrolate/formoterol fumarate metered dose inhaler versus dual therapies in patients with COPD: a sub-study of the ETHOS trial" by Rabe and colleagues that aimed to investigate the effect of triple therapy on pulmonary function test in a subset of ETHOS patients.

ETHOS is a randomized controlled study recently published in the literature, conducted in a population of moderate-to-very severe COPD patients treated with triple therapy (LABA/LAMA/ICS), that clearly demonstrated a significant reduction in the rate of moderate/severe COPD exacerbation as well as improved symptoms and quality of life compared either with LABA/LAMA and LABA/ICS therapeutic regimen. In this manuscript, Authors demonstrated the improvement in lung function of triple therapy (vs LAMA/LABA and LABA/ICS) in a subset of the ETHOS protocol patients.

The study protocol was elegantly designed and the manuscript is very well written, with results clearly described, helping in assessing the superiority of triple therapy in lung function improvements vs LABA/LAMA and LABA/ICS, in moderate-to-very severe patients with frequent exacerbation rate.

In conclusion, I suggest the manuscript to be accepted for publication.