

Management of COPD in Latin America: The PLATINO Study



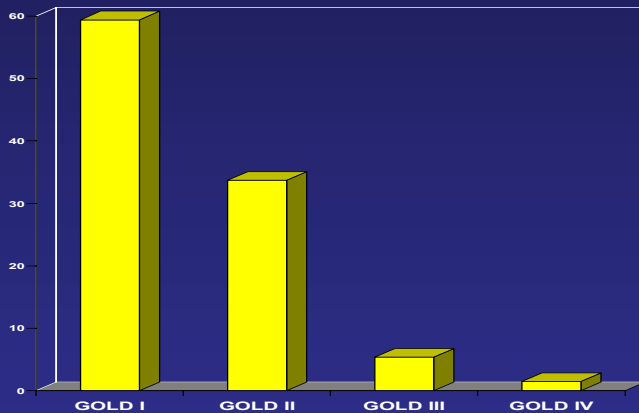
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1- UFPEL/Brazil 2- INER/Mexico 3-UNIFESP/Brazil 4-Universidad de la Republica/Uruguay 5-PUC/Chile

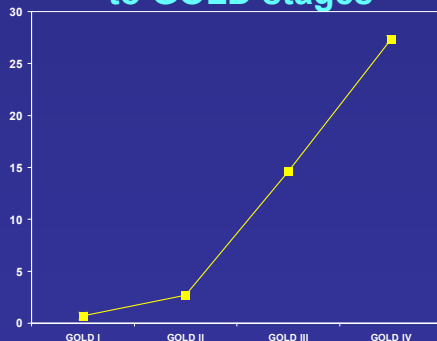
Introduction

COPD is an increasing cause of morbidity and mortality; the prevalence of COPD in individuals ≥ 40 years in Latin America is around 15%. Data on the management of this disease in population-based samples of this region are rare.

COPD according to GOLD stages



Medical diagnosis according to GOLD stages



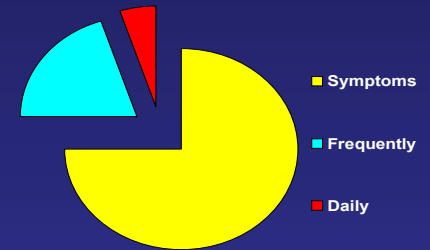
Methods

PLATINO is a multicenter study on COPD in Latin America. Representative samples of households were undertaken in 5 major metropolitan areas from Latin America (n=4214): Sao Paulo (Brazil), Mexico City (Mexico), Montevideo (Uruguay), Santiago (Chile) and Caracas (Venezuela). Individuals (n=602) classified as having COPD (FEV1/FVC<70%) were administered a standardized questionnaire on COPD management by trained interviewers.

Results

- Only 2.5% of all COPD cases had a previous medical diagnosis
- 20.0% of all COPD cases had ever performed spirometry
- Only 24.6% of all COPD cases used medicines for lower respiratory problems in the past 12 months
- 27.7% of all COPD cases were immunized against influenza in the year prior to the interview
- 52.7% of all COPD patients had at any time received medical advice to quit smoking
- Approximately 8% of the COPD cases in Chile reported oxygen therapy; this proportion was 1.9% in Venezuela, 0.9% in Mexico and 0% in Brazil and Uruguay

Medication use



Discussion

COPD in Latin America is under diagnosed and under treated. Strategies to improve the diagnosis and treatment are highly recommended.