

# Bronchiectasis- COPD Overlap Syndrome BCOS- it matters Tony De Soyza anthony.de-soyza@ncl.ac.uk





# Aims



- Highlight why BCOS occurs
- Define why the diagnosis BCOS should be sought
  - & Refute the counter argument
  - case examples
- Some suggestions on what is needed in terms of research & management of these patients

# Why <u>must</u> COPD and Bronchiectasis overlap?

- COPD is a common neutrophilic lung disease affecting approximately 5-10% of the population. It is characterised by functional changes (airflow obstruction)
- Bronchiectasis is a rarer neutrophilic lung disease characterised by structural changes in airway calibre (dilatation) affecting 0.1-0.5% of population

Do we have reliable tests to distinguish COPD and Bronchiectasis?

• Yes;

 In the absence of bronchial dilatation that is permanent then bronchiectasis is excluded

- No;
  - We don't robust scoring that is reproducible with limited observer variability on CT
  - Bronchial wall thickening/ modest dilatation / definite bronchiectasis

Loebinger et al ERJ 2009 McDonnell et al Resp Med 2012

# Models to explain BCOS



**Co-incidence** 

Two events independent of each other happening in the same patient

Causality

One disease process in % of susceptible individuals leads to the second condition

# Mechanistically could COPD lead to bronchiectasis?

- Pathogenesis & Aetiology of bronchiectasis without smoking:
  - Neutrophilic lung inflammation
  - Post infectious bronchiectasis
  - Reflux/ micro aspiration
  - Auto-immunity
  - Impaired immunity
  - Impaired mucociliary clearance
  - Neutrophil elastase, TNF and II-8
  - Matrix metalloproteinases (MMP)

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Demonstrated as a component of COPD

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Can we reliably define bronchiectasis as being caused by COPD?

- NO:
- Prevalence of bronchiectasis is higher in aged populations
  - Smoking was more prevalent 40 yrs ago
- Presence of airflow obstruction, recurrent infective exacerbations and bronchial wall dilatation could be independent of the smoking history...

# How common is BCOS?

#### **COPD** cohorts

- O'Brien Thorax 2000 UK
- ECLIPSE cohort EU,US
- Stewart et al COPD gene ATS 2012
- Patel et al AJRCCM UK
- Baker et al J. COPD UK 2014
- Baker et al Abstract ATS 2011

29% (n= 110- primary care pts) <5% (n=2164) 20% (n=3758) 50% (n=54) 69% (n=496) 19% (n=882)

#### Reported in Bronchiectasis series:

- Pasteur et al AJRCCM 2001
- Anwar et al Resp Med

0% 20%

# Is there a typical CT appearance that helps us define BCOS?

- Many Bronchiectasis doctors quote "mild basal cylindrical bronchiectasis"-
- Patel et al AJRCCM 2004
  - Twenty-seven of 54 patients (50%) had bronchiectasis on HRCT, most frequently in the lower lobes (18 of 54, 33.3%).

# Bronchiectasis in COPD

- S. London, UK : 406 patients (71 ± 11 years, 56% male, FEV1 52 ± 23% predicted)
- 278 (69%) patients had bronchiectasis:
- minor, 112 (40%);
- mild, 81 (29%);
- moderate, 62 (22%);
- severe 23 (8%).

Baker et al COPD: Journal of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Dec 2014



# So BCOS exists- but does it matter?

- Mortality: Belgian Cohort of BR; significant numbers with COPD
  - 5yrs f/up: Overall mortality was 20% but 50% mortality in BCOS (HR = 2.12; p = 0.038)
- Patel et al BCOS vs COPD
  - higher levels of airway inflammatory cytokines,
  - lower airway bacterial colonization,
  - higher sputum interleukin-8 levels
  - longer symptom recovery time at exacerbation

Goeminne Respir Med. 2014 Patel AJRCCM 2004

### Does Bronchiectasis matter in COPD?

### Prognostic Value of Bronchiectasis in Patients with Moderate-to-Severe Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

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Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2013 Apr 15;187(8):823-31

#### Does Bronchiectasis matter in COPD?

- B-COS independently determined
  - sputum isolation of Pseudomonas aeruginosa (Odds ratio (OR) 1.39 (95% Cl 1.07 to 1.80), p = 0.013)
  - atypical mycobacteria (OR 2.44 (95% CI 1.04 to 5.69), p = 0.04),
  - annual respiratory admissions (p = 0.044) and inpatient days (p < 0.001),</li>
  - did not predict survival (p = 0.256).
- Gatheral T J COPD 2014

#### Predictors of Pseudomonas in COPD...

Factor	OR	95% Cl	P value			
Bronchiectasis score (>5)	9.8	1.7 - 54.8	0.009			
Antibiotic prescriptions/year	1.7	1.1 – 2.5	0.008			
Days of hospital stay	1	0.9 - 1	0.3			
Corticosteroid courses/year	0.7	0.5 – 1.2	0.2			
		Gallego et a	Gallego et al BMC			

Pulm Med. 2014; 14: 103.

# Do BCOS patients harbour the same Ps aer isolates?



# Standards of care... should we look for BCOS in COPD?

- In bronchiectasis
  - Physiotherapy training (ACBT) is recommended
  - Nebulised antibiotics eg gentamicin
  - ?Lower threshold for long term macrolide therapy than COPD
- BCOS diagnosis may also prompt;
  - Aetiological testing as per BTS guidelines
  - Screening for Non Tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM)

# COPD Treatments not to be used in BCOS

• Inhaled steroids (?)



• Endobronchial valves and Endobronchial coils

 Single lung transplant (but bilateral lung transplant can be used)

### Case 1 B-COS?



68 yr old smoker 6<sup>th</sup> admission in 12 months Sputum volume 30 mls / day or more



### Case 1 B-COS?



### Case 1



### Case 1

• Careful history as child recurrent LRTI

• Mounier Kuhn syndrome PLUS emphysema

• Bronchiectasis and then COPD..?

### Case 2: COPD 2012



Male

COPD 35 Pk yr history

Recurrent exacerbations

HRCT by me ? Bronchiectasis..

2012 "no bronchiectasis seen"..

## Case 2: 3 yrs later- BCOS 2015



Male

COPD 35 Pk yr history

Further exacerbations

HRCT by me ? Bronchiectasis.. Symptoms worse than 2102

"Bilateral multilobar bronchiectasis"..

# Case 3: ? COPD associated bronchiectasis



40 pack years Usually

Female

culture negative

FEV1

# Case 4: "COPD"- ? BCOS



Prev LVRS surgery for advanced Emphysema

Hx of recurrent AE-COPD Baseline tests as per BTS broncheuictasis guidance

 Hypogammaglobulinaemia ; Immunology review Late diagnosis of CVID

• Now on long term lvlg

Likely CVID and COPD mixed

# Case 5: BCOS



2011

- 8 Exacerbations per year-
- Referred to COPD clinic
- FEV1 25% pred
- Gentamicin nebulised therapy and physio started after BCOS diagnosed
- 2015 4
  - exacerbations per yr and no hospitalisations

FEv1 30% predicted....

## What we don't know...

- What predicts BCOS in COPD (Pseudomonas in sputum)
- Does treating BCOS aggressively reduce admissions or mortality?
  - Is there a genetic locus predicting BCOS (eg MMP1, etc etc)
- Do anti-inflammatory therapies for COPD help or worsen BCOS?

– ICS, PDE4 inhibitors roles all unclear

# Suggested references

- COPD-related bronchiectasis; independent impact on disease course and outcomes. Gatheral T, Kumar N, Sansom B, Lai D, Nair A, Vlahos I, Baker EH. COPD. 2014 Dec;11(6):605-14.
- Bronchiectasis, Exacerbation Indices, and Inflammation in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Patel at al Am J Respir Crit Care Med Vol 170. pp 400–407, 2004
- Mortality in non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis: a prospective cohort analysis Goeminne et al Respir Med. 2014 Feb;108(2):287-96.
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa isolates in severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: characterization and risk factors Gallego et al BMC Pulm Med. 2014; 14: 103.
- Characterisation of COPD heterogeneity in the ECLIPSE cohort. Agusti A1,
- Respir Res. 2010 Sep 10;11:122. doi: 10.1186/1465-9921-11-122.

GOLD II			GOLD III				GOLD IV		Comparing		
	Females (n = 380)	Males (n = 574)	p value	Females (n = 293)	Males (n = 618)	p value	<b>Females</b> (n = 77)	Males (n = 219)	p value	GOLD stage within females	GOLD stage within males
					Clinical D	ata					
Age (years)	63.0 ± 7.1	63.8 ± 7.3	0.043	62.6 ± 6.8	64.2 ± 7.0	< 0.001	60.7 ± 6.8	63.0 ± 7.0	0.012	0.034	0.075
Number of exacerbations <sup>a</sup>	0.8 ± 1.2	0.5 ± 0.9	< 0.001	1.2 ± 1.4	0.9 ± 1.3	0.005	1.5 ± 1.6	1.1 ± 1.4	0.044	< 0.001	< 0.001
					Imagin	g					
Emphysema (%)	11.2 ± 9.5	12.7 ± 9.5	0.002	20.1 ± 11.7	20.0 ± 11.5	0.876	27.1 ± 13.7	28.6 ± 12.1	0.435	< 0.001	< 0.001
Bronchiectasis (%)	< 1	2	0.057	3	6	0.044	9	7	0.468	< 0.001	0.003