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Increasing bronchiectasis prevalence in Germany, 2009–2017: a population-based cohort study

Felix C. Ringshausen^{1,2}, Jessica Rademacher^{1,2}, Isabell Pink¹, Andrés de Roux³, Lennart Hickstein⁴, Tina Ploner⁴, Tobias Welte^{1,2} and Roland Diel^{5,6,7}

Affiliations: ¹Dept of Respiratory Medicine, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany. ²Biomedical Research in End-stage and Obstructive Lung Disease Hannover (BREATH), German Center for Lung Research (DZL), Hannover, Germany. ³Pneumologische Praxis am Schloss Charlottenburg, Berlin, Germany. ⁴InGef – Institute for Applied Health Research Berlin GmbH, Berlin, Germany. ⁵Institute for Epidemiology, University Medical Center Schleswig-Holstein, Kiel, Germany. ⁶LungenClinic Grosshansdorf, Airway Research Center North (ARCN), German Center for Lung Research (DZL), Grosshansdorf, Germany. ⁷Institution for Statutory Accident Insurance and Prevention in the Health and Welfare Services (BGW), Hamburg, Germany.

Correspondence: Felix C. Ringshausen, Dept of Respiratory Medicine, Hannover Medical School, Carl-Neuberg-Strasse 1, 30625 Hannover, Germany. E-mail: Ringshausen.Felix@mh-hannover.de



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Bronchiectasis prevalence in Germany increased on average by 10% per year between 2009 and 2017
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To the Editor:

Bronchiectasis is a chronic airway disease with often disabling symptoms, which is associated with excess mortality and a substantial economic burden for healthcare systems [1]. Although considered to be one of the most neglected diseases in respiratory medicine [2], bronchiectasis is apparently more common than previously thought [3, 4]. While trends regarding its epidemiology have been published for the UK and the USA, with marked increases in prevalence rates reported [5–7], such studies are missing for most countries including Germany. However, these basic epidemiological data are needed in order to inform healthcare authorities and policy makers regarding resource allocation and requirements planning. Thus, the objective of the present study was to provide insights into the trends of bronchiectasis prevalence in Germany.