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# The contribution of *Aspergillus fumigatus* to COPD exacerbations: a “sensitive” topic

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**Fungal sensitisation appears to play an important role in COPD disease progression** <https://bit.ly/30NcEcL>

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*Aspergillus fumigatus* is a ubiquitous mould that can cause a spectrum of clinical disease ranging from invasive aspergillosis to allergic sensitisation depending on the host immune response [1]. The role of fungi and, in particular, *A. fumigatus* in driving COPD progression has been debated for many years. Susceptibility to invasive aspergillosis in COPD patients has been long reported and is now established as a significant risk factor [2]. The importance of fungi in COPD pathophysiology has curiously been raised for many years in the development of equine COPD which has been shown to be related to hypersensitivity to fungi (including *A. fumigatus*) in poor quality hay and straw bedding [3].