Supplementary appendix
Table S1. Hazard ratios (95% confidence intervals) for the development of OLD by eosinophil % categories.

	Eosinophil % category				
	<1.0	1.0-1.9	2.0-2.9	3.0-3.9	≥4.0
Person-years (PY)	273,391.6	702,031.5	533,311.3	327,889.7	512,787.6
Incident cases	408	1,273	1,083	780	1,464
ID (cases per 10^3 PY)	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.9
Multivariable-adjusted HR (95% CI) [a]					
Model 1	*Reference*	1.15 (1.03-1.29)	1.25 (1.11-1.40)	1.41 (1.25-1.59)	1.63 (1.46-1.82)
Model 2	*Reference*	1.13 (1.01-1.27)	1.21 (1.08-1.36)	1.35 (1.20-1.53)	1.55 (1.38-1.74)
HR (95% CI)[b] in time-varying model	*Reference*	1.00 (0.90-1.11)	1.07 (0.96-1.20)	1.21 (1.08-1.36)	1.35 (1.21-1.51)

[a] Estimated from parametric proportional hazards models. Model 1: adjusted for age and sex. Model 2: Model 1 plus adjustment for center, year of screening exam, BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake, history of pulmonary tuberculosis, hsCRP and blood neutrophils (percentage).
[b] Estimated from parametric proportional hazard models with baseline age, sex, center, and year of screening exam as time-fixed variables and blood eosinophil % categories, smoking status, alcohol intake, BMI, history of tuberculosis, hsCRP and blood neutrophil percentage as time-varying variables.
Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; hsCRP, high sensitivity C-reactive protein: ID, incidence density; OLD, obstructive lung disease.

Table S2. Multivariable-adjusted hazard ratios (95% confidence intervals) for the development of OLD by eosinophil count categories after applying additional exclusion criteria.

	Eosinophil count category (cells/μL)				
	<100	100-199	200-299	300-499	≥ 500
After excluding participants with incident asthma over follow-up (a)	*Reference*	1.06 (0.98-1.14)	1.25 (1.15-1.37)	1.31 (1.19-1.45)	1.55 (1.36-1.78)
After excluding participants with eosinophil count ≥600 at baseline (b)	*Reference*	1.07 (1.00-1.15)	1.31 (1.20-1.43)	1.47 (1.34-1.61)	1.65 (1.37-1.99)
(a) + (b)	*Reference*	1.06 (0.98-1.14)	1.25 (1.15-1.37)	1.31 (1.19-1.45)	1.50 (1.23-1.83)

Hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals estimated from parametric proportional hazard models adjusted for age, sex, center, year of screening exam, BMI, smoking, alcohol intake, history of pulmonary tuberculosis, hsCRP and blood neutrophil counts.

Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; hsCRP, high sensitivity C-reactive protein; OLD, obstructive lung disease.

Table S3. Multivariable-adjusted hazard ratios (95% confidence intervals) for the development of OLD by eosinophil count categories according to different criteria to identify incident OLD (lung function test, self-reported of a physician-diagnosis, or both)

	Eosinophil count category (cells/µL)				
	<100	100-199	200-299	300-499	≥ 500
Lung function test (pre-bronchodilator FEV_1/FVC < 70% & FEV_1 < 80% pred (a)	*Reference*	1.07 (1.00-1.15)	1.30 (1.20-1.42)	1.46 (1.33-1.60)	1.72 (1.51-1.95)
Self-reported of a physician-diagnosis of COPD (b)	*Reference*	1.13 (1.05-1.21)	1.11 (1.02-1.21)	1.25 (1.14-1.37)	1.30 (1.14-1.49)
(a) + (b)	*Reference*	1.11 (1.05-1.16)	1.20 (1.13-1.27)	1.33 (1.24-1.42)	1.49 (1.36-1.64)

Hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals estimated from parametric proportional hazard models adjusted for age, sex, center, year of screening exam, BMI, smoking, alcohol intake, history of pulmonary tuberculosis, hsCRP and blood neutrophil counts.

Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; hsCRP, high sensitivity C-reactive protein; OLD, obstructive lung disease.