



The coexistence of asthma and COPD: some considerations about prevalence and lung function decline

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Mounting evidence suggests that FEV₁ decline is slower among patients with COPD and asthma compared to those with COPD alone <https://bit.ly/33NyoJq>

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To the Editor:

With great interest we read the editorial by MANNINO [1] regarding the investigation on the coexistence between asthma and COPD that we conducted using data from the population-based European Community Respiratory Health Survey (ECRHS) [2]. The ECRHS is an international cohort study based on two-stage sampling, where a 20% random sample of participants in a postal screening was invited to take part in a clinical assessment, along with a sample enriched for subjects with respiratory symptoms [3]. After a motivating historical view on the concept of asthma–COPD overlap, the author underlined how a more comprehensive understanding of the heterogeneity and complexity of this condition might help reshaping clinical decision-making and result in more precise disease treatment.