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Educational questions.

“Severely reduced diffusion capacity in idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension: patient characteristics and treatment responses”

For some questions more than one answer could be correct.

1. Which of the following statements is not true: a typical feature of an idiopathic PAH patient with a low DL_{CO} (<45% predicted) is:
 Age above 60 years. Female sex. Former smoker.

2. Which of the following statements is true?

Treatment response and life expectancy is similar for idiopathic PAH patients with a low DL_{CO} in comparison to patients with a preserved DL_{CO} . Treatment response and life expectancy is worse for idiopathic PAH patients with a low DL_{CO} in comparison to patients with a preserved DL_{CO} . Treatment response and life expectancy is better for idiopathic PAH patients with a low DL_{CO} in comparison to patients with a preserved DL_{CO} . Although treatment response is similar for idiopathic PAH with a low DL_{CO} in comparison to patients with a preserved DL_{CO} , life expectancy is better.

3. DL_{CO} can be used in the differential diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension:

To diagnose patients with pulmonary hypertension secondary to left heart failure. To differentiate patients with idiopathic PAH from patients with chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension. To guide treatment decisions. None of the above.