

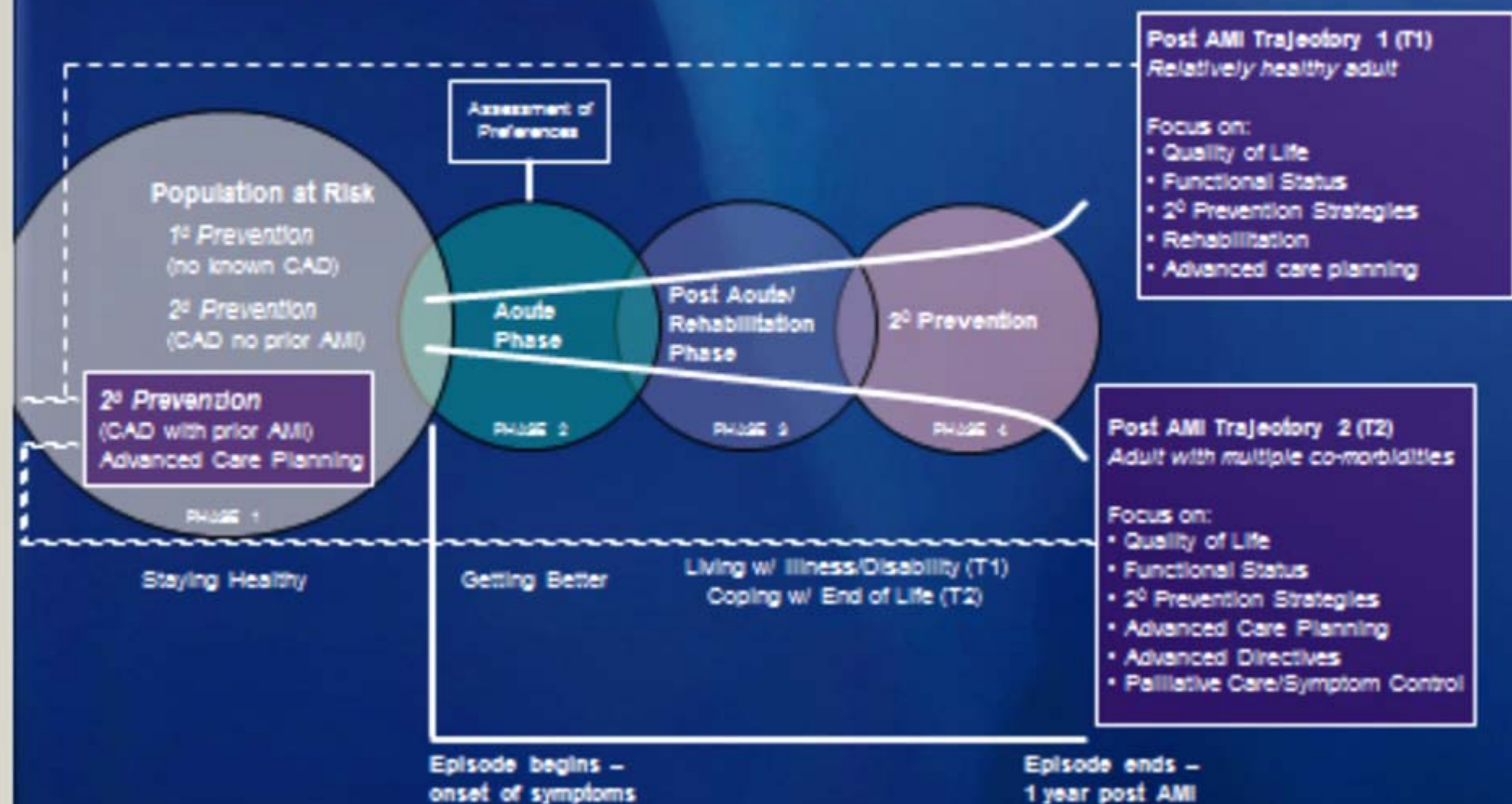
# The Best Kept Secret in Your Medical Neighborhood

## *Evidence Based Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation*

Marjorie King, MD, FACC, MAACVPR  
Past President, AACVPR  
Chief Medical Officer  
Helen Hayes Hospital  
West Haverstraw, NY  
Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine  
Columbia University

[kingm@helenhayeshosp.org](mailto:kingm@helenhayeshosp.org)

# NQF's Evolving View of Quality Care: Importance of Longitudinal Measures



# What is Cardiac Rehabilitation?

- Cardiac rehabilitation is a comprehensive exercise, education, and behavioral modification program designed to improve the physical and emotional condition of patients with heart disease
- Prescribed to control symptoms, improve exercise tolerance, and improve overall quality of life
- The primary goal of Cardiac Rehabilitation is to enable the participant to achieve his/her optimal physical, psychological, and social and vocational functioning through exercise training and lifestyle change
- Although traditional program models provide episode care, many are now providing longitudinal services, ranging from integration with home care to population health

# The Comparative Effectiveness of Heart Disease Prevention and Treatment Strategies

Kottke TE et al, Am J Prev Med 2009;36(1):82–88) © 2009 American Journal of Preventive Medicine

- Model developed to calculate number of deaths prevented or postponed if perfect care for heart disease treatment was achieved
- Hypothetical population aged 30-84, 2007-2008
- 44% of deaths were from heart disease
- Perfect care included achieving guidelines recommendations for physical activity, diet, and medications

# The Comparative Effectiveness of Heart Disease Prevention and Treatment Strategies

Kottke TE et al, Am J Prev Med 2009;36(1):82–88) © 2009 American Journal of Preventive Medicine

## Results:

- Perfect care before first event would prevent or postpone **33%** of prevented or postponed deaths
- Perfect care between events would prevent or postpone **23%** of prevented or postponed deaths
- Perfect care during acute events would prevent or postpone **8%** of prevented or postponed deaths

# Impact of Physical Activity on Deaths Prevented or Postponed (DPP)

- Prior to diagnosis of heart disease
  - Meeting physical activity guidelines had most impact
  - Followed by diet, omega 3, tobacco cessation, BP control
- Heart disease without heart failure
  - Largest percent increase in DPP by increasing physical activity
  - Followed by coumadin, omega 3, tobacco cessation, ACEI, statins, beta blockers, aspirin, environmental tobacco
- Heart disease with heart failure
  - Largest percent increase in DPP by increasing physical activity
  - Followed by ICD, drugs, tobacco cessation

# Cardiac Rehab is not Just Exercise!

- Prescribed exercise to improve cardiovascular fitness without exceeding safe limits.
- Education about heart disease along with counseling on ways to stabilize or reverse heart disease by improving risk factors.
  - Reduction/Cessation of Smoking
  - Lowering Cholesterol
  - Controlling High Blood Pressure
  - Weight Loss/Control
  - Improve/Manage Diabetes
  - Increasing Physical Activity
- Encourage Healthy Eating Habits
- Improve Psychological Well Being



# Known efficacy of CR for elderly

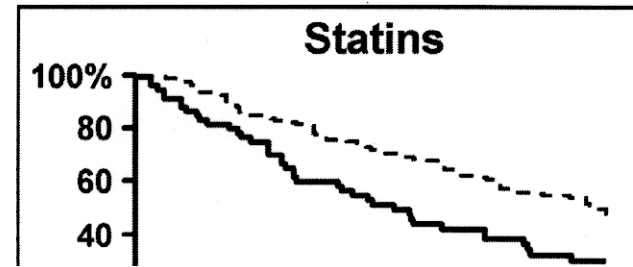
**Table 4. Benefits of Cardiac Rehabilitation for Older Adults**

Cardiac Rehabilitation Effects	Clinical Implication
<p>Exercise training CV effects</p> <p>Increased functional capacity (10%–60%) with decrease myocardial work (10%–25%) at standardized work with 12 weeks of exercise training posthospitalization.</p> <p>Training effect from improved skeletal muscle work capacity, although exercise may also improve health of the vasculature, autonomic balance, and cardiac performance.</p> <p>Absolute levels of functional gain are less in elderly than in younger cohorts, particularly for those patients <math>\geq 75</math> years of age.<sup>4-6</sup></p> <p>Extended periods of training result in further modest gains.</p> <p>Improved heart rate recovery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved CV health, both in terms of plaque stability and CV work efficiency</li> <li>• Enhanced ability to perform ADLs and prolonged independence with aging</li> </ul> <p>Peripheral physiology is an important part of CV health</p> <p>Lifelong training is a worthwhile goal</p> <p>Decreased susceptibility to arrhythmia</p>
<p>Exercise training non-CV effects</p> <p>Enhanced quality of life</p> <p>Reduced depression</p> <p>Decreased BMI and body fat</p> <p>Improved lipid profiles</p>	<p>Improved self-efficacy and self-worth</p> <p>Improved quality of life</p> <p>Improved metabolism and decreased inflammation, increased joint stability</p> <p>Decreased CV events and mortality</p>
<p>Cardiac rehabilitation effects on diet and lifestyle</p> <p>Comprehensive assessment and management in relation to diet, medications, exercise that can compensate/reinforce compliance, monitor for iatrogenesis, and monitor/compensate for possible cognitive deficiencies.</p>	<p>Appropriate care for a population with predictable polypharmacy, multimorbidity, frailty, cognitive limitations, and atypical symptoms.</p>



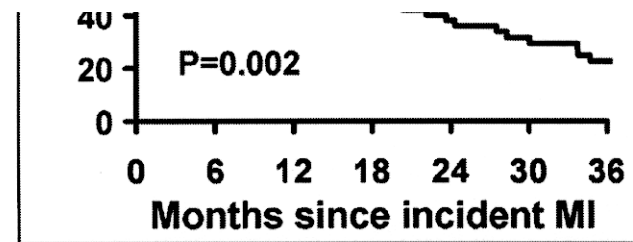
Hazard  
Ratio

0.66



“Cardiac Rehabilitation was the **sole** independent predictor of improved medication adherence in this study”

“Improved medication adherence may represent a **novel benefit** associated with cardiac rehabilitation



Shah et al, Am J Med. 2009

# Mortality Benefit from Cardiac Rehabilitation Participation

<p><b>MI, Angina, CABG surgery</b> 70,040 matched pairs of Medicare patients in 1997 <i>Suaya et al, J Am Coll Cardiol 2009</i></p>	<p>34% relative risk reduction in mortality at 5 years Benefit seen in regardless of age, sex, or presence of heart failure</p>
<p><b>Percutaneous Intervention</b> 2,395 patients from 1994-2005 Retrospective analysis from registry <i>Goel et al, Circulation 2011</i></p>	<p>46% relative risk reduction mortality Median f/u 6.3 years</p>
<p><b>CABG surgery</b> 846 patients from 1996-2007 Retrospective analysis from registry <i>Pack et al, Circulation 2013</i></p>	<p>46% relative risk reduction in mortality at 10 years Absolute 10 year risk reduction 12.7%</p>
<p><b>CABG plus valve surgery</b> 201 patients from 1996-2007 <i>Goel et al, Eur J Prev Cardiol 2013</i></p>	<p>14.5% absolute risk reduction in mortality at 10 years</p>

# Cardiac Rehab and Heart Failure

- Exercise reverses changes in muscle oxygen extraction, perfusion, and function caused by heart failure
- Supervised exercise is safe
- HF-Action Trial
  - Close relationship between volume of exercise and prognosis
  - 30% reduction in hospitalization and mortality
- Cochrane Review
  - 19 trials with 3647 participants
  - 28% reduction in hospitalization rates at 1 year
- ExTraMATCH meta-analysis
  - 801 patients in 9 studies
  - 2 year follow-up
  - 35% reduction in mortality

# **ACC/AHA Guideline Recommendations Recognize the Value of Cardiac Rehabilitation**

## ***Referral to Cardiac Rehabilitation***

- **Class I indication in clinical guidelines for**
  - Myocardial Infarction
  - Percutaneous Coronary Intervention
  - Coronary Bypass Grafting
  - Chronic stable angina
  - Heart failure
  - Peripheral arterial disease
  - Cardiovascular prevention in women

# Diagnoses Covered, Based on Evidence

- Medicare Coverage:
  - Stable Angina Pectoris
  - Myocardial Infarction
  - Coronary Artery Bypass Graft
  - Heart Transplant
  - Valve Surgery, including TAVR
  - Following PTCA/Stent
  - Heart Failure – Systolic,  $EF \leq 35\%$ , stable for 6 weeks
- Private insurance coverage may vary and may cover
  - Peripheral Artery Disease with claudication
  - Other Heart Failure Patients
  - Other cardiovascular disease or surgery

# Referral to Cardiac Rehabilitation Performance Measures

Referral to CR is included in ACC/AHA Performance Measure Sets for

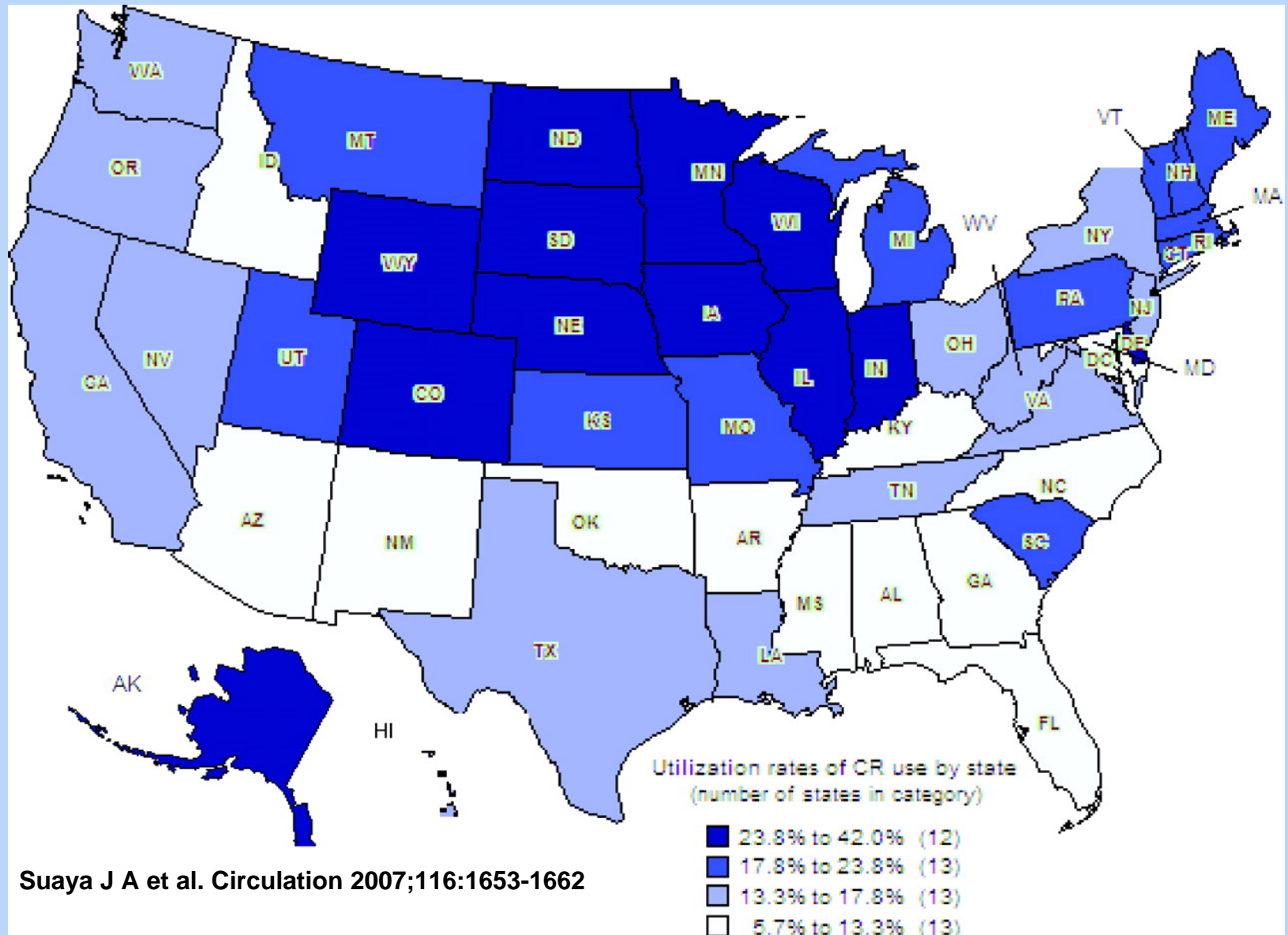
- Coronary Artery Disease
- Myocardial Infarction
- Percutaneous Intervention

and included in ACC/AHA Registries

- PINNACLE
- GWTG/Action
- Cath PCI

Plus included in PQRS as a quality measure

# Geographic Variation in Cardiac Rehabilitation Participation



Suaya J A et al. *Circulation* 2007;116:1653-1662



# Despite Evidence Showing Benefit, Cardiac Rehabilitation is Underutilized

- Of eligible patients, only **14-35%** of heart attack survivors and approximately **31%** of patients after CABG participate in cardiac rehabilitation
- Participation is lowest in women, minorities, socio-economically disadvantaged patients, and the elderly

# **AHA Presidential Advisory**

## **Referral, Enrollment, and Delivery of Cardiac Rehabilitation/Secondary Prevention Programs at Clinical Centers and Beyond**

**A Presidential Advisory From the American Heart Association**

Gary J. Balady, MD, FAHA, Chair; Philip A. Ades, MD; Vera A. Bittner, MD, FAHA; Barry A. Franklin, PhD, FAHA; Neil F. Gordon, MD, PhD, MPH; Randal J. Thomas, MD, FAHA; Gordon F. Tomaselli, MD, FAHA; Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc, FAHA

The remarkably wide treatment gap between scientific evidence of the benefits of cardiac rehabilitation and clinical implementation of rehabilitation programs is unacceptable.

## Barriers to Cardiac Rehabilitation Participation

- Patient-oriented
  - Knowledge
  - Cost, travel concerns
  - Perceived need
- Provider-oriented
  - Referral
  - Competing concerns
- System-oriented
  - Insurance coverage
  - Program availability

## Potential Solutions to Cardiac Rehabilitation Under-utilization

- Patient-oriented
  - *Education*
  - *Flexible models, coverage*
  - *One-on-one, incentives*
- Provider-oriented
  - *Education, accountability*
  - *Systematic tools*
- System-oriented
  - *Coverage, accountability*
  - *Networks, new models*

**Patients who were automatically referred after talking with healthcare professionals or peer liaisons were the most likely to enroll in cardiac rehabilitation**

<u>Referral System</u>	<u>Percent Referred to CR</u>	<u>Percent Enrolled in CR</u>
Combined automatic and liaison referral	85.8%	73.5%
Automatic referral	70.2%	60.0%
Liaison referral	59.0%	50.6%
Usual referral	32.2%	29.0%

# Contemporary CR: Is it Time for an Updated Rationale and Design?

- Exercise surveillance (telemetry) usually less critical as patients less prone to arrhythmia
- Secondary prevention medications addressed in physicians' offices
- Return to work promptly is important for younger patients
- Older patients have complex needs



***Is it time to rethink our program model – at least for some patients – and especially in light of healthcare payment reform which includes medical homes and neighborhoods?***

# Home-based versus centre-based cardiac rehabilitation

*Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2010*

- Twelve studies (1,938 participants), majority of studies recruited a lower risk patient
- There was no difference in outcomes of home- versus center-based cardiac rehabilitation in
  - mortality
  - cardiac events
  - exercise capacity
  - modifiable risk factors (systolic blood pressure; diastolic blood pressure; total cholesterol; HDL-cholesterol; LDL-cholesterol)
  - proportion of smokers at follow up
  - health-related quality of life
  - healthcare costs

# Using CR Expertise in Wellness and Prevention

- Evaluated a 6-month worksite health intervention using CR staff
- 308 employees and 31 spouses
- Randomized to active intervention versus usual care
- Active intervention included
  - Health education and counseling
  - Nutritional counseling
  - Smoking cessation counseling
  - Physical activity promotion
  - Selected physician referral

Milani and Lavie, Impact of Worksite Wellness Intervention on Cardiac Risk Factors and One-Year Health Care Costs. *Am J Cardiol* 1009;104:1389-1392



# Using CR Expertise in Wellness and Prevention

Significant Improvements were noted in:

- Quality of life scores
  - Behavioral symptoms
  - High density lipoprotein cholesterol
  - Diastolic blood pressure
  - Health habits
  - Total health risk
- Of employees categorized at high risk at baseline, 57% were converted to low risk status
  - Average employee annual claim costs decreased by 48% for 12 months after the intervention
  - Control employees claim costs remained the same
  - Six-fold return on investment

Milani and Lavie, Impact of Worksite Wellness Intervention on Cardiac Risk Factors and One-Year Health Care Costs. Am J Cardiol 1009;104:1389-1392

# Next Frontiers for Cardiac Rehabilitation

- Integrating cardiac rehabilitation into heart failure, stroke, and peripheral artery disease management
- Working with home care, medical homes, accountable care organizations, and community resources to improve patient engagement in healthy behaviors
- Leveraging cardiac rehabilitation expertise to enhance population health via worksite and other prevention and wellness programs

# What About Pulmonary Rehabilitation?

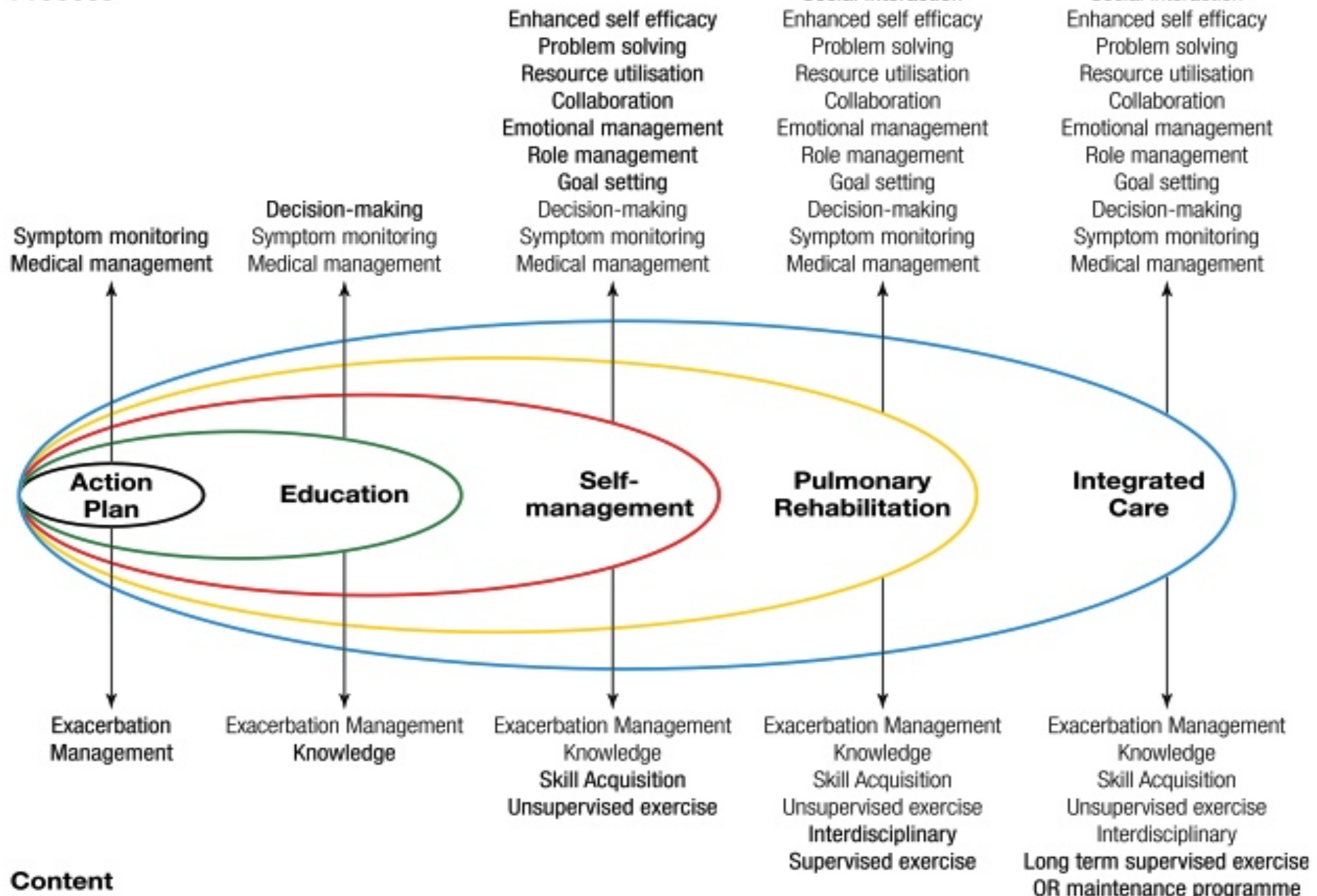
Pulmonary rehabilitation is a multidisciplinary program integrating

- Supervised Exercise (aerobic, strength-training, upper and lower)
- Education in Self Management Skills
- Monitoring (oximetry, symptoms)

Benefits of Pulmonary Rehabilitation

- Improves quality of life
- Increases functional capacity
- Decreases sensations of dyspnea
- Improves self management skills
- Decreases acute exacerbations of COPD
- Decreases acute care hospital utilization

**Process**



**Content**

# ATS/ERS Key Concepts and Advances in Pulmonary Rehabilitation. AmJRespCritCareMed.2103.188:e13-64

**TABLE 7. CONDITIONS APPROPRIATE FOR REFERRAL TO PULMONARY REHABILITATION**

Obstructive diseases

- COPD (including  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin deficiency)
- Persistent asthma
- Diffuse bronchiectasis
- Cystic fibrosis
- Bronchiolitis obliterans

Restrictive diseases

- Interstitial lung diseases
- Interstitial fibrosis
- Occupational or environmental lung disease
- Sarcoidosis
- Connective tissue diseases
- Hypersensitivity pneumonitis
- Lymphangiomyomatosis
- ARDS survivors
- Chest wall diseases
- Kyphoscoliosis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Posttuberculosis syndrome

Other conditions

- Lung cancer
- Pulmonary hypertension
- Before and after thoracic and abdominal surgery
- Before and after lung transplantation
- Before and after lung volume reduction surgery
- Ventilator dependency
- Obesity-related respiratory disease

*Definition of abbreviations:* ARDS = acute respiratory distress syndrome; COPD = chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

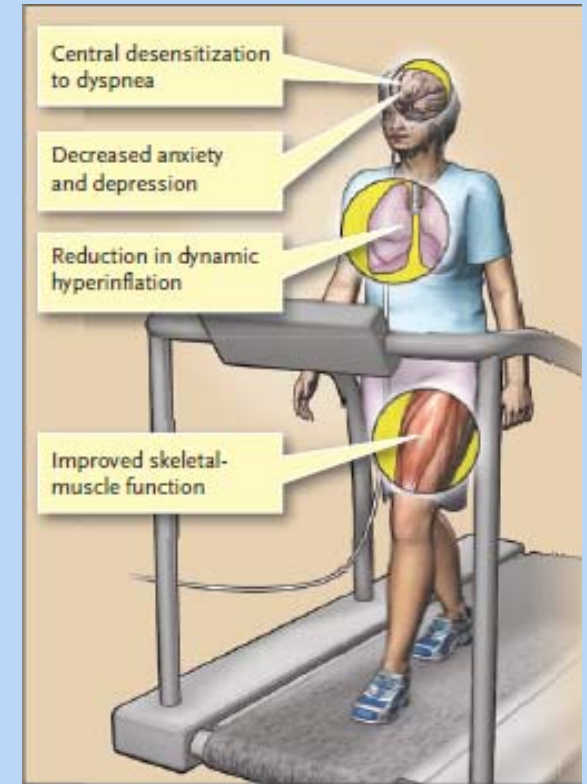
**TABLE 8. INDICATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASE THAT COMMONLY LEAD TO REFERRAL TO PULMONARY REHABILITATION**

---

- Dyspnea/fatigue and chronic respiratory symptoms
- Impaired health-related quality of life
- Decreased functional status
- Decreased occupational performance
- Difficulty performing activities of daily living
- Difficulty with the medical regimen
- Psychosocial problems attendant on the underlying respiratory illness
- Nutritional depletion
- Increased use of medical resources (e.g., frequent exacerbations, hospitalizations, emergency room visits, MD visits)
- Gas exchange abnormalities including hypoxemia

# Targeted Outcomes of Pulmonary Rehabilitation

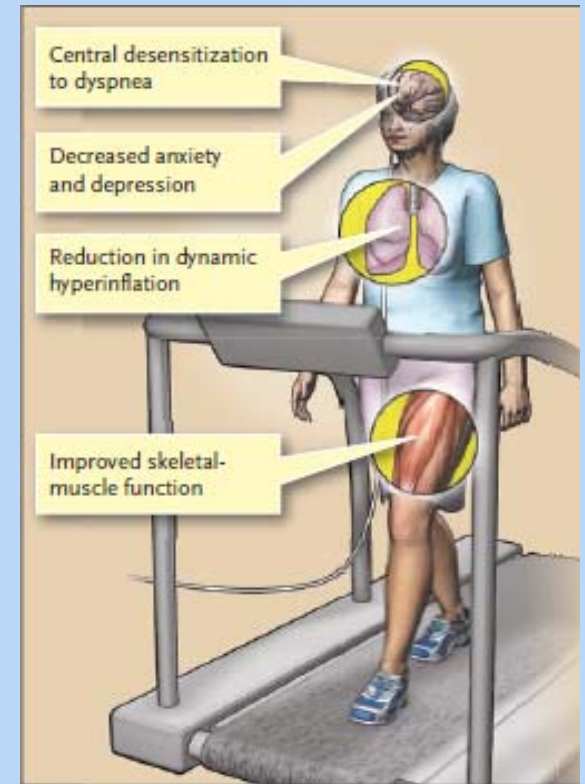
- **Exercise training does not improve lung function**
- Increasing exercise tolerance
  - Exercise training improves aerobic function of the muscles of ambulation.
  - Improves strength and endurance of secondary muscles of respiration
- Reducing dyspnea
  - Reduction in dynamic hyperinflation
  - Exercise training reduces the ventilatory requirement and respiratory rate during heavy exercise, prolonging the time allowed for expiration
  - Desensitization to dyspnea occurs centrally as a result of exercise training; underlying mechanism is uncertain.





# Targeted Outcomes of Pulmonary Rehabilitation

- **Exercise training does not improve lung function**
- Improves quality of life
  - Decreased anxiety and depression are thought to result from increased exercise capacity and consequent increases in activities of daily living, coupled with feelings of mastery.



**TABLE 4. EDUCATIONAL TOPICS CONCERNING  
SELF-MANAGEMENT**

---

- Normal pulmonary anatomy and physiology
- Pathophysiology of chronic respiratory disease
- Communicating with the health care provider
- Interpretation of medical testing
- Breathing strategies
- Secretion clearance techniques
- Role and rationale for medications, including oxygen therapy
- Effective use of respiratory devices
- Benefits of exercise and physical activities
- Energy conservation during activities of daily living
- Healthy food intake
- Irritant avoidance
- Early recognition and treatment of exacerbations
- Leisure activities
- Coping with chronic lung disease

**TABLE 5. EDUCATIONAL TOPICS CONCERNING ADVANCE CARE PLANNING**

---

- Diagnosis and disease process
  - Prognosis
  - Patient autonomy in medical decision-making
  - Life-sustaining treatments
  - Advance directives documents
  - Surrogate decision-making
  - Durable powers of attorney for health care
  - Discussing advance care planning with health care professionals and family caregivers
  - Process of dying
  - Prevention of suffering
-

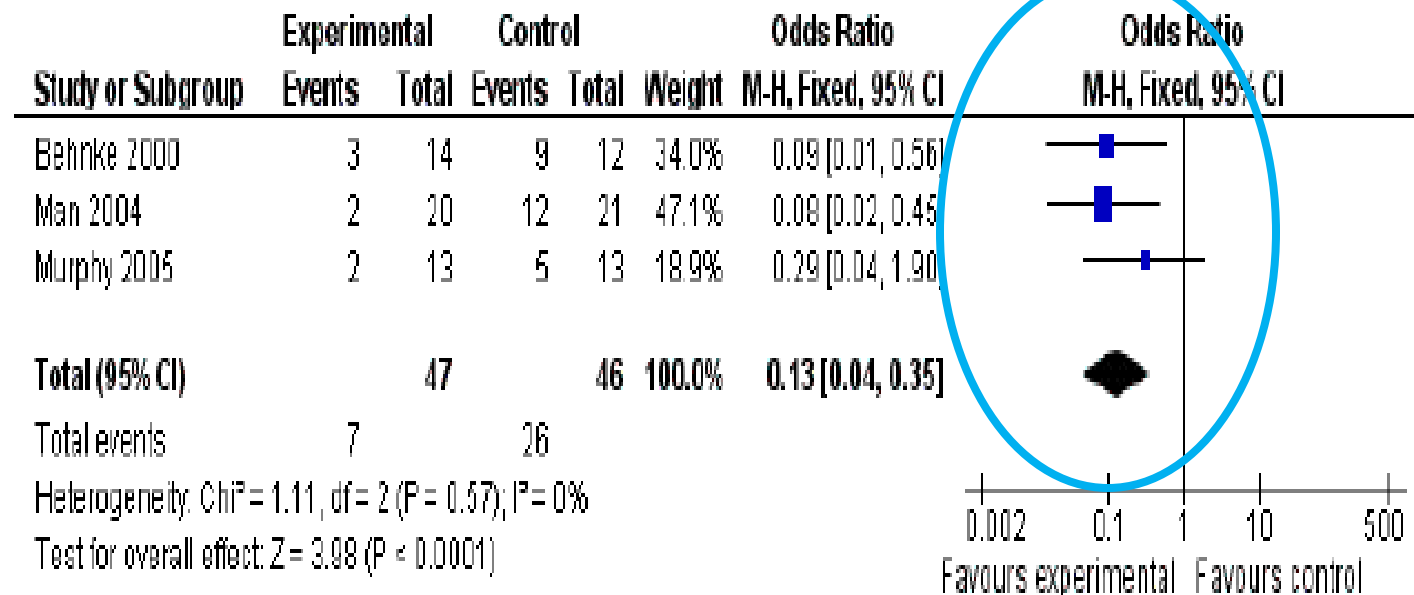
# Evidence for Outpatient Pulmonary Rehabilitation

	Functional Capacity*	Dyspnea	QOL	Health Care Utilization	Mortality	O <sub>2</sub> with Hypoxemia	O <sub>2</sub> w/o Hypoxemia
COPD	1A	1A	1A	2B	X	1C	2C
Others	1B	1B	1B	X	X	X	X

\*1A evidence for both upper & lower extremity training

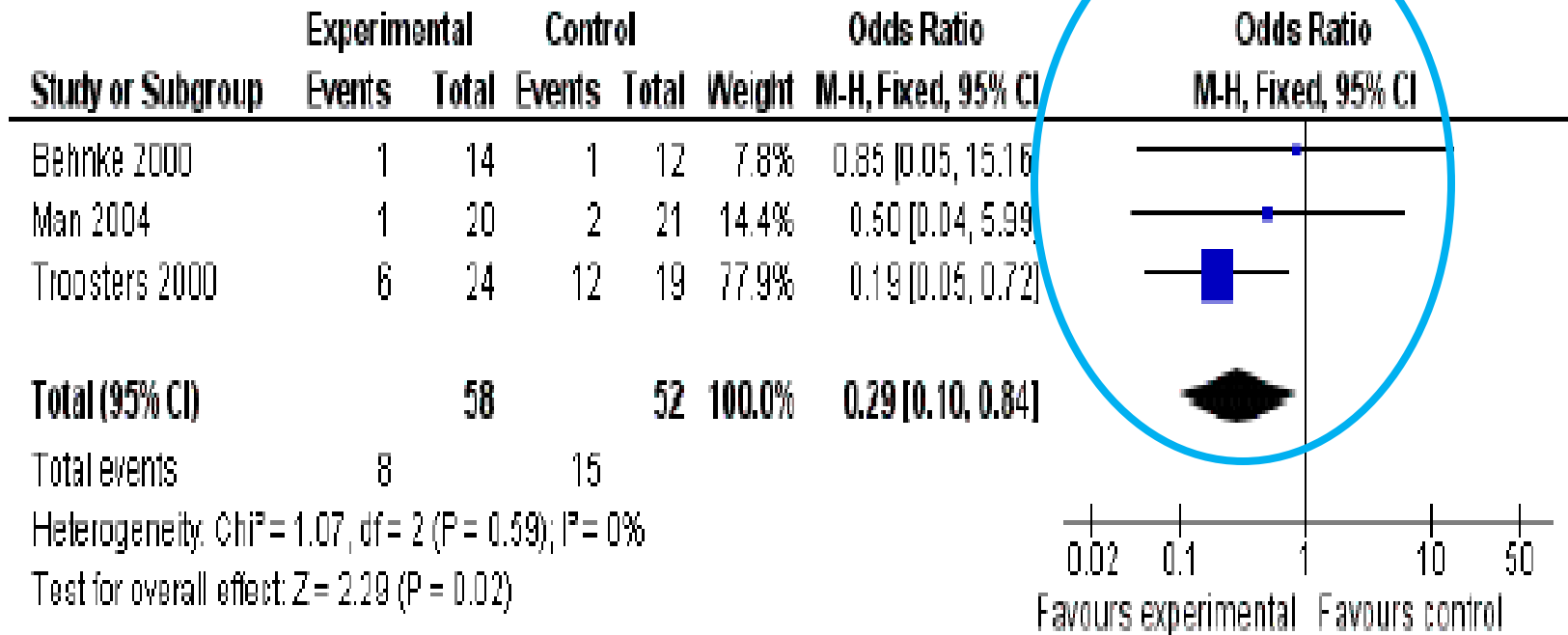
# Effect of Pulmonary Rehabilitation on Hospitalization Rate

Figure 2. Forest plot of comparison: 1 Rehabilitation versus control, outcome: 1.1 Hospital admission (to end of follow-up).



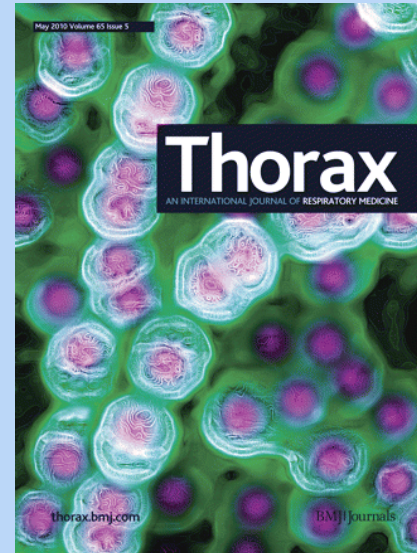
# Effect of Pulmonary Rehabilitation on Mortality

Figure 4. Forest plot of comparison: I Rehabilitation versus control, outcome: I.2 Mortality.



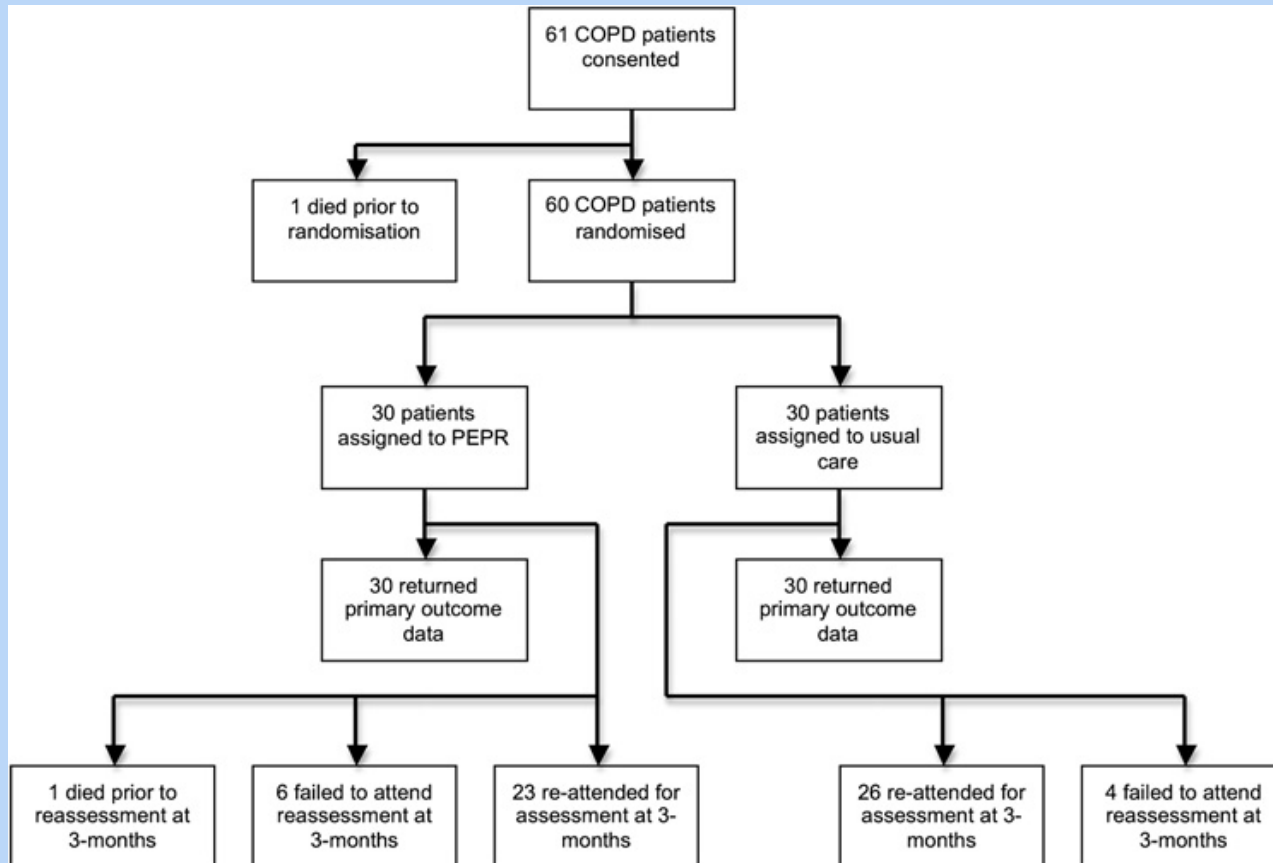
# Outpatient Pulmonary Rehabilitation Following Acute Exacerbations of COPD

- Exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are characterized by increased dyspnea, reduced quality of life and muscle weakness. Re-exacerbation and hospital admission are common.
- Tested the hypothesis that pulmonary rehabilitation following a COPD exacerbation can reduce subsequent hospital admissions over a 3-month period.



John M Seymour, Lauren Moore, Caroline J Jolley, Katie Ward, Jackie Creasey, Joerg S Steier, Bernard Yung, William D-C Man, Nicholas Hart, Michael I Polkey, John Moxham. *Thorax* 2010;65:423e428.

# Methods



The PR programs used were standard programs that consisted of two 2-hour sessions per week for 8 weeks that included aerobic exercise as well as upper- and lower-extremity strength training.



# Results

- The PR group completed 77% of the scheduled sessions.
- In the 3 months following study enrollment, 12/60 patients were readmitted for COPD exacerbation and an additional 13/60 were treated in the emergency department for an exacerbation (p=0.02).
- For both, the *PR group had significantly less re-hospitalization* (PR=7% vs. usual care=33%).
- Additionally, the *usual care group sought care earlier* following hospitalization than the PR group (median + 16 days vs. median +48 days, p < 0.01).
- Secondary findings also report *improvement in quadriceps strength* (p < 0.01) in the PR group that is thought to explain improvement seen in exercise capacity.
- *Quality of life was also improved* in the PR group.

# Conclusions

- This study provides *support for the use of early intervention in the form of PR* following hospitalization.
- While improvements in exercise capacity and quality of life are well-known benefits of PR, this study describes *reduction in re-hospitalization and emergency department use* in this group.
- The authors suggest that the *frequent contact with PR professionals improves health care utilization*.

# Thank you Any Questions?



**Helen Hayes Hospital**  
*The Power of Rehabilitation*  
Route 9W, West Haverstraw, NY 10993  
1-888-70-REHAB

