

Incidence and risk of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in a Korean community-based cohort

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Purpose: COPD is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality. However, few studies have used spirometry to investigate its incidence, especially in Asia. In the present study, we analyzed the incidence and risk factors of COPD using a community cohort database in Korea.

Patients and methods: The study included 6,517 subjects aged 40–69 years from the Ansung–Ansan cohort database I–III (2001–2006). We calculated the crude incidence rate and the standardized incidence rate corrected for the Korean general population and the world population with COPD. We also determined the relative risks (RRs) for incident COPD and the attributable risks.

Results: In total, 329 new COPD cases were diagnosed during follow-up. The overall crude incidence rate per 100,000 person-years was 1,447. The standardized incidence rate corrected for the Korean general population was 1,550; this value was higher in men and increased with increasing age. Risk factors for incident COPD were age ≥ 60 years (adjusted RR [aRR] = 2.52 vs age < 60 years), male sex (aRR = 2.02 vs female), heavy smoking (≥ 20 pack-years; aRR = 2.54 vs never smoker), and lowest income group (first quartile; aRR = 2.03 vs fourth quartile). The adjusted attributable risk was highest for education level of high school or lower (44.9%), followed by smoking history (25.8%), income (22.9%), and sex (12.0%).

Conclusion: In Korea, 15.5/1,000 people are diagnosed with COPD annually. The incidence rate increases with increasing age, heavier smoking, and decreasing income, with a higher rate in men than in women.

Keywords: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, incidence rate, relative risk, attributable risk

Introduction

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a common, preventable, and treatable airflow limitation disease that is usually progressive and associated with enhanced inflammation in the airways and lungs.¹ COPD is a leading cause of chronic morbidity, mortality, and increased healthcare costs worldwide.^{2,3} It is currently the fourth leading cause of death globally, and the World Health Organization predicts that it will become the third leading cause by 2030.⁴

As COPD constitutes a major public health problem, precise and informative epidemiologic data about COPD are needed. However, reported prevalence estimates vary widely because of different definitions and methodologies.⁵ Furthermore, in contrast with many reports on the prevalence of COPD, there are fewer community-based studies on the incidence of COPD.^{6–10} A wide range of incidence rates can be observed among the studies, depending on the COPD definition used and the population studied.^{6–10} Despite the high burden of COPD in the Asia-Pacific region, there are few reports on the incidence rate of COPD in Asian countries.¹¹

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Although cigarette smoking is the most common risk factor for COPD, it is not the only one, and there is consistent evidence from epidemiologic studies that nonsmokers may also develop chronic airflow limitation.^{12–15} Moreover, most of the evidence concerning risk factors for COPD comes from cross-sectional epidemiologic studies that identify associations rather than cause-and-effect relationships. Thus, the current understanding of risk factors for COPD is still incomplete in many respects.

In this study, we investigated the incidence rate of COPD and risk factors for incident COPD, including age, sex, smoking status, and income, in a Korean patient population from the Ansong–Ansan cohort database.

Methods

Study populations

The Ansong–Ansan cohort study is an ongoing prospective study that was started in 2001 with support from the National Genome Research Institute (Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Cheongju, Korea). The study is a part of the Korean Genome and Epidemiology Study, a large community-based epidemiologic survey conducted to investigate chronic disease in Koreans. Detailed information on the study design and procedures has been published previously.¹⁶ Each study comprised a population-based sample of male and female Koreans aged 40–69 years and from the same ethnic background, but cohort members were enrolled at the following two different sites: Ansan, which is an urban community with a population of 555,000, and Ansong, which is a rural community including 133,000 residents, on the basis of the 2000 census. To enroll members for each cohort, the most efficient method was used on the basis of knowledge about characteristics of each community. For enrollment at the Ansan site, 10,957 eligible subjects were identified by telephone contact on the basis of a two-stage cluster-sampling method with the information of a governing district called Dong and demographic characteristics. Similarly, Ansong members were recruited from 5 of 11 governing districts called Myon by using a cluster-sampling method, and as a result, 7,192 eligible subjects were identified by mail or telephone contact and a door-to-door visit. For the baseline health examination from 18 June 2001 to 29 January 2003, 5,020 participants (2,523 men and 2,497 women) from Ansan and 5,018 (2,239 men and 2,779 women) from Ansong visited the Korea University Ansan Hospital and the Ajou University Medical Center, respectively. In these subjects, the results of pulmonary function test were available in 8,613 subjects.

Initial data were obtained from the 8,613 subjects aged 40–69 years who participated in Ansong–Ansan cohort I

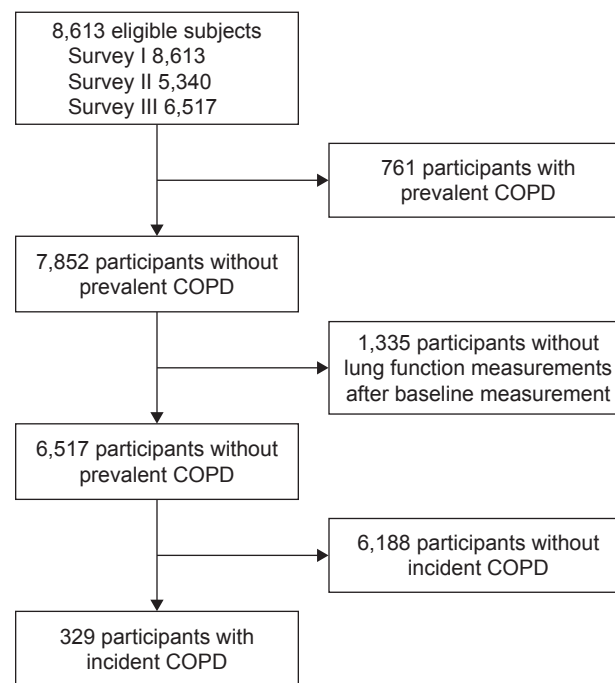


Figure 1 Flowchart of patient selection for the study.

(2001–2002) and have valid lung function measurements. Follow-up examinations were conducted biennially. Data from a baseline survey and two subsequent biennial surveys (I–III: 2001–2006) were analyzed in our study. Of the 8,613 subjects in the study, 6,517 who underwent pulmonary function testing two or more times during I–III were included in this study (Figure 1).

The Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention obtained written informed consent from all participants, and the Institutional Review Board of Severance Hospital approved this study protocol (4-2016-0458).

Spirometry

Lung function was measured by spirometry (VMAX2130, SensorMedics Corporation, Yorba, CA, USA) at every visit (at baseline and at the first and second follow-up visits). COPD was defined as a pre-bronchodilator FEV_1/FVC ratio <0.7 .

Statistical analysis

COPD is a progressive disease, and we assumed that subjects were affected if they were diagnosed with COPD at least once during follow-up. Lung function was measured in all subjects up to three times, and if subjects who had been healthy at the previous visit became affected at the next visit, they were assumed to be affected at the mid time point between these two visits. On the basis of these definitions, we calculated crude, age-specific, and sex-specific incidence rates

per 100,000 person-years (PY); CIs of incidence rates were obtained under the assumption that the number of events follows the Poisson distribution. Age-specific and sex-specific incidence rates were summed to obtain the standardized Korean incidence rates by weighting them with their proportions in the Korean general population.

Furthermore, we calculated relative risks (RRs) by using log-binomial regression.¹⁷ Response variables were assumed to follow a binomial distribution, and a logarithm was used as a link function. We included age, sex, smoking history, and income as covariates, and our generalized linear model for subject i was

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Log} \left(\frac{E(Y_i)}{1 - E(Y_i)} \right) \\ & = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{age}_i + \beta_2 \text{sex}_i + \beta_3 \text{smoking}_i + \beta_4 \text{income}_i \end{aligned}$$

The estimated $\exp(\beta)$ indicates the RRs when the corresponding covariate increases by 1 unit and the other covariates are the same.

Finally, we estimated attributable risks (ARs) with RRs. We assumed that there are k different groups and that the RR in each group j is \tilde{R}_j . If we denote the proportion of cases in group j compared with all cases by ρ_j , the adjusted ARs can be estimated by $\text{AR} = 1 - \sum_j \frac{\rho_j}{\tilde{R}_j}$.¹⁸

Results

Baseline characteristics

Of the 8,613 subjects, 761 (8.8%) had prevalent COPD at baseline, and 329 of the 6,517 at-risk subjects developed COPD during the follow-up period. The median follow-up duration was 4 years (interquartile range 3.0–4.0 years). Table 1 shows the baseline characteristics of the study population. Half of the subjects were aged 40–49 years, and 46.0% were men.

Incidence rate of COPD

During follow-up, 329 new cases of COPD were diagnosed. The overall crude incidence of COPD in persons aged ≥ 40 years was 1,447/100,000 PY (Table 2). The incidence of COPD was higher in men than in women (2,541/100,000 PY vs 564/100,000 PY, respectively). The incidence rate increased almost fourfold from 713/100,000 PY at the age of 40–49 years to 2,888/100,000 PY at the age of 60–69 years (Table 2, Figure 2A). The overall standardized incidence rate corrected for the Korean general population

Table 1 Baseline characteristics of the study population stratified according to age, sex, smoking status, and income

Characteristics	Total n (%)	Male n (%)	Female n (%)
Age (n=6,517)			
40–49	3,334 (51.2)	1,686 (56.2)	1,648 (46.8)
50–59	1,733 (26.6)	775 (25.9)	958 (27.2)
60–69	1,450 (22.2)	536 (17.9)	914 (26.0)
Sex (n=6,517)			
Male	2,997 (46.0)	–	–
Female	3,520 (54.0)	–	–
Smoking history (n=6,517)			
Never smokers	4,018 (61.7)	643 (21.5)	3,375 (95.9)
Former smokers	1,005 (15.4)	965 (32.2)	40 (1.1)
Current smokers	1,494 (22.9)	1,389 (46.3)	105 (3.0)
Income (n=6,514)			
First quartile	2,064 (31.6)	657 (21.9)	1,409 (40.0)
Second quartile	1,941 (29.8)	928 (31.0)	1,013 (28.8)
Third quartile	1,972 (30.2)	1,087 (36.3)	886 (25.2)
Fourth quartile	537 (8.2)	325 (10.8)	212 (6.0)
Education (n=6,485)			
Elementary school or lower	1,963 (30.3)	464 (15.5)	1,499 (42.9)
Middle school	1,440 (22.2)	611 (20.5)	829 (23.7)
High school	2,118 (32.7)	1,168 (39.1)	950 (27.1)
College/university or higher	964 (14.9)	744 (24.9)	220 (6.3)

was 1,550/100,000 PY. The standardized incidence rate for COPD was higher in men than in women and increased with increasing age (Table 3; Figure 2B).

Risk factors for incident COPD

Table 4 shows the risk factors for incident COPD. After adjusting for other variables, the risk factors for incident COPD were age ≥ 60 years (adjusted RR 2.52; 95% CI 2.23–2.85), male sex (adjusted RR 2.02; 95% CI 1.64–2.48), heavy smoking (≥ 20 pack-years; adjusted RR 2.54; 95% CI 2.09–3.08), and lowest income group (first quartile; adjusted RR 2.03; 95% CI 1.64–2.50). Table S1 demonstrates the risk factors for incident COPD including smoking history of never, former, and current smokers. The adjusted RRs were 1.90 (95% CI 1.55–2.33) for the former smokers and 2.48 (95% CI 2.05–2.99) for the current smokers. Table 5 shows the adjusted AR for incident COPD. When adjusted for the risk

Table 2 Overall, age-specific, and sex-specific crude incidence rates of COPD per 100,000 person-years

Age groups, years	Overall, COPD IR	Men, COPD IR	Women, COPD IR
40–49	713.9	1,104.5	332.9
50–59	1,288.4	2,430.3	327.3
60–69	2,888.5	6,137.6	1,105.3
All age categories	1,447.8	2,541.6	564.7

Abbreviation: IR, incidence rate.

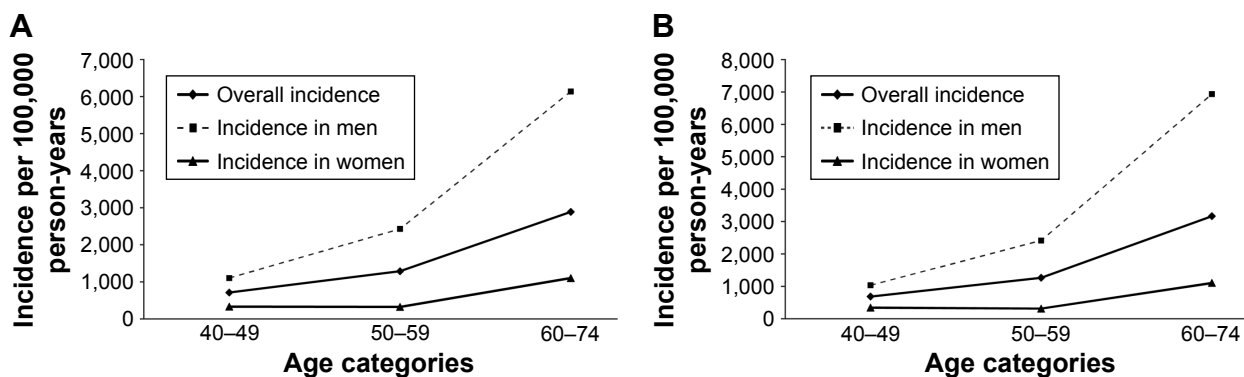


Figure 2 Age-specific and sex-specific (A) incidence rates of COPD per 100,000 person-years, and (B) standardized incidence rates of COPD per 100,000 person-years (standardized for the Korean general population).

factors, the AR for education level of high school or lower predominated (adjusted AR 44.9%), followed by smoking history (adjusted AR 25.8%), income in the first to third quartiles (adjusted AR 22.9%), and male sex (adjusted AR 12.0%).

Discussion

In our study, the overall crude incidence rate of COPD was 1,447/100,000 PY and the standardized incidence rate corrected for the Korean general population was 1,550/100,000 PY. The incidence increased with older age, heavier smoking, lower income, and male sex. After adjustment for the other three variables, the AR for smoking history was the highest, followed by low income, older age, and male sex.

Previous epidemiologic studies of COPD were mainly focused on the prevalence of COPD because they often applied a cross-sectional spirometry-based approach to obtain the true prevalence of COPD. In the present study, the prevalence of COPD at baseline was found to be 8.8%, which is lower than that reported previously for Korea.¹⁹ The subjects in the present study were aged 40–69 years, whereas the previous study included subjects aged ≥45 years, with 20% of the subjects aged >65 years.

Several studies have reported the incidence of COPD in various populations and countries using different diagnostic

methods, including spirometry and healthcare databases (Table 6).^{7–9,11,20–27} In a Swedish report based on the Obstructive Lung Disease in Northern Sweden cohort, Lindberg et al estimated the incidence rate of COPD at 13.1/1,000 PY according to the Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) spirometric criteria (FEV₁/FVC <0.7).⁷ In that study, a random sample of 963 subjects aged 46–77 years were invited for a structured interview and spirometry.⁷ The findings of Lindberg et al are similar to ours, which may be because of the similar age categories and spirometry-based criteria for COPD used in the two studies. In a study by de Marco et al the incidence rate of COPD was found to be 2.8/1,000 PY in an international cohort of 5,002 subjects aged 20–44 years.²⁰ The lower incidence rate in their study when compared with that in ours may be explained by the younger age of their study population. In a study performed by van Durme et al in the Netherlands, the incidence of COPD was evaluated in a large prospective population-based cohort of 7,983 subjects aged ≥55 years.⁸ Their study was part of the Rotterdam Study, an ongoing population-based cohort study that is assessing the occurrence of and risk factors for chronic diseases in the elderly. COPD was diagnosed using an algorithm based on validation of hospital discharge letters, files from the general practitioner, and spirometry reports. Only 44.5% (3,550/7,983) of

Table 3 Overall, age-specific, and sex-specific standardized incidence rates of COPD per 100,000 person-years (standardized for the Korean general population)

Age groups, years	Overall		Men		Women	
	COPD IR	95% CI	COPD IR	95% CI	COPD IR	95% CI
40–49	684.8	523.8–845.9	1,033.6	755.5–1,311.7	341.6	176.4–506.8
50–59	1,263.0	999.0–1,527.0	2,412.0	1,873.4–2,950.7	311.2	134.9–487.5
60–69	3,165.4	2,628.5–3,702.3	6,933.1	5,624.5–8,241.7	1,104.1	724.0–1,484.3
All age categories	1,550.0	1,368.2–1,731.8	3,007.8	2,609.7–3,405.9	551.6	412.4–690.8

Abbreviation: IR, incidence rate.

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Table 4 Risk factors and adjusted relative risk of incident COPD^a

Risk factors	Total		Male		Female	
	Adjusted relative risk ^a	95% CI	Adjusted relative risk ^a	95% CI	Adjusted relative risk ^a	95% CI
Age						
<60 years	Reference		Reference		Reference	
≥60 years	2.52	2.23–2.85	2.60	2.26–2.98	2.18	1.68–2.84
Sex						
Female	Reference		–	–	–	–
Male	2.02	1.64–2.48	–	–	–	–
Smoking history						
Never smoker	Reference		Reference		Reference	
1–19 pack-years	1.78	1.44–2.20	1.58	1.25–1.99	2.66	1.77–3.99
≥20 pack-years	2.54	2.09–3.08	2.30	1.88–2.81	3.94	2.12–7.31
Income						
Fourth quartile	Reference		Reference		Reference	
Third quartile	1.29	1.01–1.65	1.14	0.87–1.49	2.48	1.27–4.86
Second quartile	1.56	1.26–1.93	1.48	1.18–1.86	2.18	1.15–4.15
First quartile	2.03	1.64–2.50	1.89	1.51–2.37	2.99	1.61–5.57

Note: ^aAdjusted for other factors (age, sex, smoking history, and income).

participants underwent spirometry. In the absence of spirometry, the investigators reviewed all medical information for subjects who had used respiratory medication for at least 6 months and all hospital discharge letters or mortality reports with a coded diagnosis of COPD. The overall incidence rate was 9.2/1,000 PY, which is much lower than that in our study, although their study was conducted in an elderly population. Detection of COPD on the basis of medical records and healthcare utilization may have resulted in an underestimation of COPD incidence. Respiratory symptoms are often absent in patients with early COPD, and not all patients with respiratory symptoms seek medical services because of low public awareness of COPD.²⁸ Therefore, the incidence of physician-diagnosed (coded diagnosis) COPD can be lower than the incidence of COPD defined by spirometry.^{8,29}

In our study, we used spirometry as a screening tool for the detection of COPD in all subjects. Therefore, we could

detect asymptomatic patients with COPD, resulting in a higher but more accurate incidence rate than that in other studies. In a study by Kojima et al in Japan, the incidence rates per 1,000 PY were 8.1 in men and 3.1 in women.¹¹ In this study, participants were aged 25–74 years at the time of health check-ups, including spirometry, at a single regional medical center. Differences in the study populations may be the reason why the incidence rates in Korea and Japan are different, even though the follow-up duration was similar. Moreover, high rate of smoking, especially in male Korean adults (62% in 2000 and 52% in 2012, decreasing down to 43.1% in 2014), is attributable to the relatively high incidence rate of COPD in Korea compared with that in most European countries.^{30,31}

In the present study, we confirmed known risk factors for COPD, including smoking history, male sex, and increasing age. Cigarette smoking is a widely proven risk factor for COPD. The proportion of smokers in COPD patients is two-thirds, while age, sex, exposure to particles including organic and inorganic dusts, socioeconomic status, and bronchial hyperreactivity have been regarded as possible risk factors for COPD.¹ However, limited longitudinal data are available on other risk factors and RRs associated with COPD development.^{6–9,25} In the Swedish study by Lindberg et al, incident COPD according to the GOLD criteria (FEV₁/FVC <0.7) was significantly associated with increasing age and the smoking status of current smokers, but not with sex in a general population sample.⁷ In the study by van Durme et al, male sex and smoking status of current smokers were related to occurrence of COPD.⁸ In a study by Afonso et al in

Table 5 Adjusted attributable risk of incident COPD

Risk factors	Total	Male	Female
	Adjusted attributable risk ^a	Adjusted attributable risk ^b	Adjusted attributable risk ^b
Sex, male	0.120	–	–
Ever-smokers	0.258	0.244	0.365
Income of first to third quartiles	0.229	0.208	0.323
Education of high school or lower	0.449	0.458	0.393

Notes: ^aAdjusted for other factors (sex, smoking status, income, and education level). ^bAdjusted for other factors (smoking status, income, and education level).

Table 6 Overview of studies that investigated the incidence of COPD

Author	Source population	Country	COPD definition ^a	Year of study	Cohort size	Follow-up time (years)	Number of incident COPD patients (%)	Age range in years	IR COPD (per 1,000 PY)	Men (per 1,000 PY)	Women (per 1,000 PY)	Smoking prevalence, males (% of adults) ^b	
												2000	2012
Huhti et al ²¹	Non-selected population	Finland	Spirometry	1961–1971	1,476	10	1,163 (78.7)	40–64	2.0 and 10.0 for smokers	–	–	34	25
Krzyzanowski et al ²³	Longitudinal data, random sample	Poland	Spirometry	1968–1981	4,612	13	112 (2.4)	19–70	5.0	–	–	47	35
Vestbo and Lange ²⁵	Population based	Denmark	Spirometry	1976–1978 1981–1983 1992–1994	14,223	9	–	≥20	19 (5 years) and 9 (15 years)	–	–	42	21
Johannessen et al ²²	Participants selected via postal questionnaire (1985), a questionnaire (1987–1988), and spirometry (1996–1997)	Norway	Spirometry	1985, 1987–1988, 1996–1997	908	12	40 (4.4)	18–74	7	–	–	43	26
Terzikhan et al ²⁴	Population based; embedded within the Rotterdam study	the Netherlands	Spirometry	RSI: 1989–1992 RSII: 2000–2003 RSIII: 2006–2009	14,619	10.7	1,304 (8.9)	≥45	8.9	13.3	6.1	37	28
van Durme et al ⁸	Population based	the Netherlands	Spirometry/ discharge letters	1990–2004	7,983	11	648 (8.1)	≥55	9.2	14.4	6.2	37	28
de Marco et al ²⁰	ECRHS on random sample of young adults. Participants were invited by questionnaire. Of the responders, a random sample of 20% were invited for spirometry	Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK	Spirometry	ECRHSI: 1991–1993 ECRHSII: 1999–2002	5,002	8.9	123 (2.4)	20–44	2.8	3.2	2.4	–	–
Lindberg et al ⁷	Participants selected via postal questionnaire and a random sample was invited to a structured interview and spirometry in 1996 and 2003	Sweden	Spirometry	Participated in 1996 and 2003	963	7	45 (≥GOLD II) (4.6) 91 (≥GOLD I) (9.4)	46–77	6.7 GOLD II 13.5 GOLD I and more	–	–	33	22

Author	Participants subjected to health checkups including spirometry	Country	Study Design	Year	Population (million)	Number of participants	Age range	Incidence (per 1,000 person-years)	OR (95% CI)	Number of cases
Kojima et al ¹¹	Population based	Japan	Spirometry	1997–2005	17,106	8	25–74	8.1	3.1	51
Garcia Rodriguez et al ²⁶	Population based	UK	Based on COPD-specific OXMS and Read Codes ^c	1996	808,513	–	40–89	–	–	31
Gershon et al ²⁷	Population based	Canada	ICD codes	1996–2007	5–6.4	12	≥35	1996: 11.8 2007: 8.5	1996: 13.9 2007: 9.4	29
Afonso et al ⁸	Population based	the Netherlands	Spirometry/ medical records	2000–2007	7,308	7	≥40	2.92	2.34	37
Leem et al (current study)	Population based	Korea	Spirometry	2001–2006	8,613	4	40–69	15.50	5.52	62

Notes: ^aBTS criteria: FEV₁/FVC ratio <0.70 and FEV₁ <80% predicted; GOLD criteria: FEV₁/FVC ratio <0.70. ^bData from World Health Organization, Global Health Observatory Data Repository. ^cREAD codes, current UK coding system for diseases.

Abbreviations: BTS, British Thoracic Society; ECRHS, European Community Respiratory Health Survey; GOLD, Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease; ICD, International Classification of Diseases; OXMS, Oxford Medical Information System; PY, person-years; RS, Rotterdam Study.

the Netherlands, male sex, increasing age, and smoking history were strong risk factors for COPD, and these associations remained significant after adjustment for other variables.⁹ In our study, increasing age, heavier smoking, lower income, and male sex were risk factors for incident COPD. This is the first study to identify income as a risk factor for incident COPD. Furthermore, no previous reports exist on the AR of each risk factor for incident COPD. In our study, the adjusted AR was highest for low education level of high school or lower, followed by smoking history, low income, and male sex. Low income included the first to third quartiles, suggesting that subjects with an intermediate income are also at high risk of COPD.

The strengths of this study are its prospective population-based design, large cohort size, and the use of spirometric results for all cohort participants. However, the study also has several limitations. First, the follow-up period was relatively short. Because half of the subjects were aged 40–49 years, their age was <55 years even after a median follow-up duration of 4 years. However, the Ansong–Ansan cohort study is ongoing, and we expect to be able to analyze the data further with longer follow-up. Second, we used pre-bronchodilator spirometric values instead of post-bronchodilator values to define COPD. However, previous study reported that the assessment of prognostic risk factors for COPD was not influenced by the type of lung function assessment (before or after bronchodilation), even if the prevalence of COPD defined without bronchodilation may be overestimated.³² Third, information on mortality of subjects was not available. Further study is warranted to investigate mortality rates and mortality-related factors in a longitudinal cohort of Koreans with COPD. Lastly, the data on smoking cessation have not been confirmed objectively using biological method.

In conclusion, in the Korean general population, around 15.5/1,000 individuals are newly diagnosed with COPD every year. The incidence rate increases with increasing age, increasing amount of smoking, and decreasing income and is higher in men than in women.

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and Boram Park contributed equally to this work as first authors. Sungho Won and Ji Ye Jung contributed equally to this work as corresponding authors.

Author contributions

All authors contributed toward data analysis, drafting, and critically revising the paper and agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

Disclosure

The authors report no conflicts of interest in this work.

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Supplementary material

Table S1 Risk factors and adjusted relative risk of incident COPD^a

Risk factors	Total		Male		Female	
	Adjusted relative risk ^a	95% CI	Adjusted relative risk ^a	95% CI	Adjusted relative risk ^a	95% CI
Age						
< 60 years	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
≥ 60 years	2.66	2.35–3.01	2.78	2.42–3.2	2.21	1.69–2.89
Sex						
Female	Reference	Reference	–	–	–	–
Male	2.15	1.76–2.63	–	–	–	–
Smoking history						
Never smokers	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Former smokers	1.90	1.55–2.33	1.79	1.44–2.23	1.02	0.34–3.01
Current smokers	2.48	2.05–2.99	2.28	1.86–2.80	4.04	2.84–5.75
Income						
Fourth quartile	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Third quartile	1.27	0.99–1.62	1.14	0.87–1.49	2.29	1.16–4.53
Second quartile	1.56	1.26–1.93	1.48	1.18–1.86	2.19	1.15–4.15
First quartile	2.03	1.64–2.5	1.91	1.52–2.39	2.90	1.56–5.42

Note: ^aAdjusted for other factors (age, sex, smoking history, and income).

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