

Exploring the causes of COPD misdiagnosis in primary care: a mixed methods study.

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/exploring-causes-copd-misdiagnosis-primary-care-mixed-methods-study>

[Misdiagnosis](#) can lead to delayed or [unnecessary treatment](#) and threaten patient safety. This mixed methods study examined the prevalence and features of patients misdiagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Among 1,458 patients, researchers found that 14% had been misdiagnosed with COPD, primarily due to challenges interpreting spirometry reports or misinterpretation of clinical history.