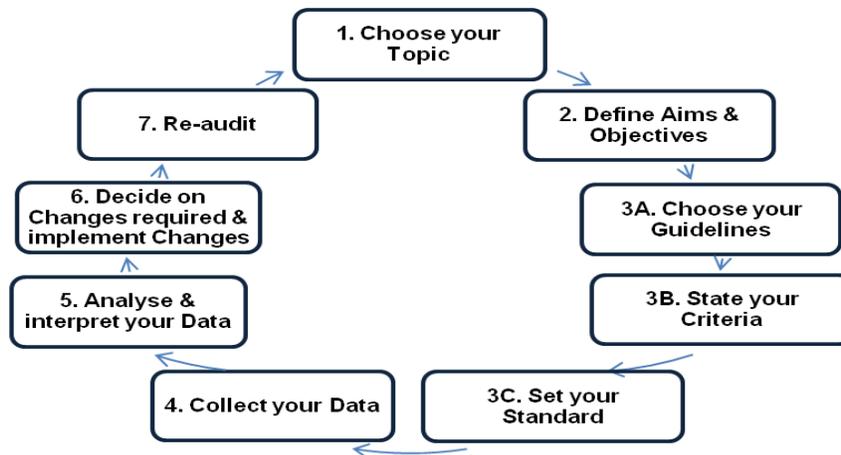




## Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Sample Audit



### **ICGP PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

AUTHOR

Dr. Claire Collins

Reviewed July 2019 by Dr. Mark O'Kelly

## Purpose of ICGP sample audits on specific topics

The purpose of the ICGP sample audit for each topic area is to provide practitioners with audit topic proposals and related tools in order to aid them in carrying out a clinical audit in this topic area. For each topic, a specific guideline is chosen which identifies best practice for the relevant topic. Following this, examples of the elements of care or activity that could be measured are provided – these are referred to as “criteria”. Finally, examples of the type of data that is required in order to audit the sample criteria are provided. A separate document, the ICGP Audit Toolkit, provides detailed generic instructions on how to carry out and report your audit.

**Sample Audit Topic:** Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

**Evidence:** *Global Strategy for the Diagnosis, Management and Prevention of COPD*, Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) 2019. Available from: <http://www.goldcopd.org/>  
[<https://goldcopd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GOLD-2019-v1.7-FINAL-14Nov2018-WMS.pdf>]

**Professional Competence Domains:** Clinical Skills  
Management  
Patient Safety and Quality of Care

## Disclaimer

In all instances where ‘your patients’ are referred to, this can be taken to mean the patients you see. Where ‘your practice’ is mentioned, this refers to the work you do, not necessarily that you need to be based in one particular practice.

## Sample Criteria

1. Spirometry should be performed to diagnose COPD
2. All COPD patients should be offered annual influenza immunization
3. All COPD Patients should be offered pneumococcal vaccine
4. Patient’s smoking status should be recorded and if smoking, should be given brief smoking cessation advice at every contact with a health professional
5. Inhaler technique training and review at every visit required

Choose the criteria from the above on which to conduct your audit and then set your standard (sometimes known as your target). This is your desired level of performance and is usually stated as a percentage. Beware of setting standards of 100%; standards should be realistic for your practice (perfection may not be possible).

There is no minimum or maximum number of patients stipulated, however your sample should include current/recent patients. In general if you have a very small number of patients with the condition being considered, it is recommended that you examine a greater number of criteria in these patients. By contrast in an audit of a very large number of patients it may only be necessary to examine one criterion.

**The aim of a Data Collection tool is** to provide examples of the types of data that are required in order to audit each sample criteria.

### **Data Collection Tool**

#### **Criteria 1:**

- Number of cases of COPD reviewed for this audit
- Number of the above who have had diagnostic spirometry

#### **Criteria 2:**

- Number of cases of COPD reviewed for this audit
- Number of the above who were offered influenza vaccination in the last flu season

#### **Criteria 3:**

- Number of cases of COPD reviewed for this audit
- Number of the above who have ever had pneumococcal vaccination
- Number of those who had not, who were offered pneumococcal vaccination

#### **Criteria 4:**

- Number of cases of COPD reviewed for this audit
- Number of the above who have their smoking status recorded
- Number of above who are current smokers
- Number of the above given smoking cessation advice at their last visit

#### **Criteria 5:**

- Number of cases of COPD reviewed for this audit
- Number of above where inhaler technique reviewed and recorded at last visit

The next steps are to:

- Analyse and interpret your data via comparison with your target
- Decide on what changes need to be made and to implement these changes
- Re-audit your (individual) practice

A detailed explanation of all of these steps can be found in the ICGP Audit Toolkit, which is available on the ICGP Website at: <http://www.icgp.ie/audit>