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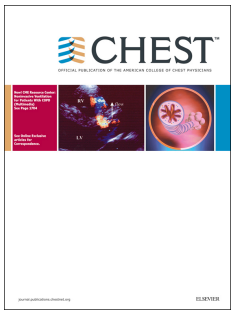

Pulmonary rehabilitation as a mechanism to reduce hospitalizations for acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis

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Running Head: Pulmonary rehabilitation for exacerbations of COPD

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Conflicts of Interest Statement

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Abbreviations: COPD = Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease; AECOPD = Acute Exacerbation of COPD; GP = General Practitioner; ER = Emergency Room; PR = pulmonary rehabilitation; UC = Usual Care; ED = Emergency Department; FEV1 = Forced Expiratory Volume in 1 second; FCV = Forced Vital Capacity; CI = Confidence Intervals; SD = Standard Deviation; RCT = randomised controlled trial; OR = odds ratio; ICD = International Classification of Diseases

Key words: COPD, exacerbations, hospitalizations, pulmonary, rehabilitation