Figure 1. Flow chart for selection of study participants

PFT=pulmonary function test; Normal=FEV₁/FVC≥70% and FEV₁≥80% predicted; Restrictive=FEV₁/FVC≥70% and FEV₁<80% predicted; Obstructive=FEV₁/FVC<70%; Non-user=person who did not use healthcare resources at all with first-listed and secondary diagnosis of COPD; User=person who used any kind of healthcare resource with first-listed and secondary diagnosis of COPD.