Reviewer's report

Title: Unmet needs of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD): are we listening? A qualitative study on patients and doctors.

Version: 2 Date: 11 June 2013

Reviewer: an A de sutter

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Minor essential revisions

Introduction: “the sixth leading cause of disability adjusted life years (DALYs) in 2010 [3]” I don’t think something can be a leading cause of disability adjusted life years. Loss of disability adjusted life years?

The results and discussion do not really answer the research question. The study explored unmet needs, but the results rather describe problems patients experience (from the point of view of the patients and doctors).

Discretionary revisions

The finding that large meals cause shortness of breath is interesting in view of the weight loss many COPD suffer from a consequence of their disease. Maybe the authors could comment on this in the discussion?

All patients were recruited in a chest clinic. Is this a department of pneumology in a hospital? In this case probably only patients with severe complaints (and all male) were recruited. This could influence results.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests