



September 19, 2009

**SUMMARY: GOLD NATIONAL LEADERS**  
**Saturday, September 12, 2009, 10:00am–12:00noon**  
**Vienna Marriott Hotel, Parkring 12a, 1010 Vienna Austria**

**Participants Executive committee:** R. Rodriguez-Roisin, *Chair* (Spain), A. Anzueto, *Vice-Chair* (US), T. de Guia (Philippines), Y. Fukuchi (Japan), D. Hui (Hong Kong), S. Hurd (US), C. Lenfant (US).

**GOLD National Leaders:** J. Abreu (Brazil), K. Al-Shair (Yemen), A. Camelier (Brazil), C. Casanova (Spain), N. Q. Chau (Vietnam), L. Corbetta (Italy), G. Eriksson (Sweden), E.M. Iruksen (South Africa), J. Jardim (Brazil), A. Koleilat (Lebanon), S. Kos (Czech Republic), L.T. Lan (Vietnam), H. Magnussen (Germany), N. Miculinic (Croatia), Y. Mohammad (Syria), D. Nugmanova (Kazakhstan), E. Omenaas (Norway), V. Petrovic (Serbia), S. Prete (US), Y.S. Shim (South Korea), D. Stav (Israel), J. Vestbo (Denmark), J. Zimichman (US).

**GOLD Sponsors:** J. Book (AstraZeneca); G. Nadeau (GlaxoSmithKline); A. Brehaen, G. Higgs, L. Mich (Nycomed).

**Guest:** Dr. Ann Pietinalho (Finland)

**I. Welcome and Introductions:** The GOLD Executive Committee Chair, Dr. Rodriguez-Roisin welcomed participants and thanked them for their continued contributions to the care of patients with COPD. He encouraged participants to visit the GOLD website – [www.goldcopd.org](http://www.goldcopd.org) – to learn of new activities of the GOLD program. Preparations for World COPD Day, November 18, 2009, coordinated by GOLD, are well underway.

**II. Science Committee Update:** Dr. Rodriguez-Roisin introduced Dr. Jorgen Vestbo who now serves as Chair, GOLD Science Committee, replacing Dr. Peter Calverley who stepped down from this position following the May meeting. Dr. Vestbo holds appointments as Professor of Medicine at Hvidovre University Hospital, Hvidovre, Denmark and the University of Manchester, Manchester United Kingdom.

Dr. Vestbo announced the appointment of three new members, Dr. Don Sin (Vancouver, Canada), Dr. Wedzicha (UK), and Dr. Leonardo Fabbri (Italy). He confirmed the commitment of GOLD to update the guidelines annually and provided a summary of the work of the Committee to prepare the 2009 update that will reflect the impact of the publications that appeared during the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The updated report is expected to be posted on the GOLD website in December.

As reported to the GOLD National Leaders in May, 2009, the Science Committee is increasingly aware of the impact of co-morbid conditions on patients with COPD; new publications appear each month to provide important information on COPD and the impact of co-morbid conditions such as cardiovascular diseases, psychosocial diseases, musculoskeletal diseases and osteoporosis. The annual GOLD Executive Committee meeting in February 2009 was devoted to this topic and recommended that a new chapter be added to the current report.

At this meeting in Vienna, the Science Committee recommended preparation of a completely revised GOLD report to more accurately reflect the changing information about COPD care with an estimated release date in 2011. A new chapter on COPD and co-morbid conditions will be included. Diagnosis will continue to be based on spirometry, and the fixed ratio, and the four GOLD stages will remain. However, the plan is to unlink management strategy from the specific stages. More emphasis will be placed on patient history, risk factors and symptoms in the development of a management strategy. New evidence on how to predict patients at risk for exacerbations and data about non-smoking COPD are other topics to be included in the revised document.

During the discussion period, it was recommended that the new report provide more information and specific recommendations related to COPD and tuberculosis, especially related to infection control. Questions were also raised related to the continued use of the fixed ratio, and it was emphasized that the report will indicate the potential problems of the fixed ratio. However, the main audience for this global report is the practicing physician, not the respiratory physiologist and thus the Science Committee recommended unanimously that the fixed ratio be maintained.

At each GOLD National Leader meeting, a progress report will be provided along with some of the issues/problems that are being addressed. GOLD plans to contact the ERS to request a 2-3 hour symposium at the 2010 meeting to present proposed new ideas to a general audience for feedback.

In closing, Dr. Vestbo mentioned that in preparation of the revised report, GOLD will continue to evaluate the current evidence from published literature, identifying recommendations with evidence levels A, B, C and D according to the current format. Where difficult issues are identified with a vast amount of literature, an in-depth review will be conducted possibly using an evidence review process, such as the GRADE technology.

**III. COPD Program Implementation in Finland:** Dr. Anne Pietinalho, Finnish Lung Health Association, presented work underway in Finland to implement COPD programs and evaluate their success. She described a COPD action program that was developed and implemented over a 10 year period and presented some of the work underway to evaluate the project. Important – but not part of the project - was the implementation in 1995 of a ban on smoking in public places and at work. Data to show the impact of the smoking ban on reduction of exposure to passive smoking in public places was provided.

The initiative for a Finnish National COPD program was a combined effort among the Finnish professors in respiratory medicine, the Finnish Lung Health Association, the Association of the Pulmonary Disabled, and the Respiratory Society. Together, they submitted a proposal to the

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and, in 1998, a COPD Action plan (Respiratory Medicine 1999; 93: 297-332) was implemented. The goals of the program, and the tools to measure success were presented.

During the first ten years of the program, 25,000 people participated in intensive COPD training programs, presented in 900 sessions throughout Finland. This national COPD program has resulted in providing information to the population leading to better knowledge about COPD and earlier contact with health care. For health care professionals, it has provided multidisciplinary education/training resulting in improved knowledge and skills, change of the attitude towards smokers and COPD patients, and improved resources in health care clinics and pharmacies including better access to PEF-meters, spirometry equipment and respiratory devices. Data was provided to show a decline in hospital days for COPD patients, more active oxygen therapy for patients with severe COPD and a decrease in disability pensions due to COPD. Work is underway to determine the costs due to COPD and the economic impact of this COPD Action plan.

**IV. Summary: First World Congress for COPD Patients:** Dr. Yousser Mohammad, Professor of Chest Diseases at the Tishreen University School of Medicine in Lattakia Syria and Co-Chair, International COPD Coalition (ICC) provided a summary of the First World Conference of COPD Patients held on June 14, 2009 in Rome, Italy immediately following the annual meeting of GARD (Global Alliance Against Chronic Respiratory Diseases). The meeting was organized by the ICC, a non-profit patient organization with 77 member organisations and the European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients Associations (EFA). The Italian patients association chaired by Mariadelaide Franchi – ICC co-chair was a collaborating organization along with GOLD, IPCRG, Wonca and APSR.

The objectives of the conference, attended by nearly 250 people from 40 countries, was to gain a better understanding of global COPD prevention and management strategies and the impact of co-morbidities on patient care. The outcome was to develop networks to improve communication between patients, health care providers and health authorities, and to help create groups of COPD patients in developing countries. The ICC has developed a “Global COPD Bill of Rights” that was presented during the meeting; the goal is to have this introduced in every country.

**V. World COPD Day, November 18, 2009:** This year World COPD Day will be held on November 18. The theme will continue to be “Breathless not Helpless,” the same theme that has been in place for the past few years. However, this year GOLD is encouraging the National Leaders to adopt “subthemes” related to topics such as COPD and exacerbations; COPD and co-morbidities; the impact of COPD in women; COPD and exercise/rehabilitation. Some new materials have been developed and will be posted on the GOLD website – [www.goldcopd.org](http://www.goldcopd.org). A piece on the H1N1 virus and its potential impact on patients with COPD was prepared and sent to GOLD National leaders by email. Upon completion of World COPD Day activities, participants will be encouraged to send recommendations for new World COPD Day themes.

Dr. Yoshi Fukuchi presented the plans for World COPD Day in Japan, coordinated by the GOLD Japanese Committee. Activities are planned to impact on health care professionals, the public

and patients. A media event will be held on November 11 in Tokyo with a main theme “COPD and health promotion for aged people.”

Representatives from Italy, the Czech Republic and the Philippines summarized their plans for World COPD Day, 2009. In Italy, a meeting with doctors and patients will be held at the Parliament to raise awareness of diagnostic tests for COPD. A press conference will be held in the Czech Republic on November 9<sup>th</sup> to describe the work underway to diagnose and manage COPD and to introduce the implementation of the GARD program. In the Philippines, the government will publish a short form of the GOLD report and an effort made to raise awareness of COPD throughout the country through media programs designed to reach remote, rural areas. Many of the participants indicated the plan to introduce the issues related to H1N1 virus in COPD patients.

**VI. General Discussion:** Dr. Rodriguez-Rosin thanked all the speakers and meeting participants for an informative session. He encouraged GOLD National Leaders to keep in touch with us if they have suggestions or ideas for the GOLD Executive Committee. He invited all those who plan to attend the ATS meeting in New Orleans Louisiana to join us for the GOLD National Leader meeting on Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 10:00am to 12:00 noon.



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Roberto Rodriguez-Rosin, MD  
Chair, GOLD Executive Committee

Vienna Meeting Speakers:

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***Next Meeting: Saturday, May 15, 2010, 10:00am–12:00noon, SpringHill Suites New Orleans/Convention Center, 301 St. Joseph Street, New Orleans, LA, 70130***



**AGENDA**  
**GOLD NATIONAL LEADERS**  
**Saturday, September 12, 2009, 10:00am–12:00noon**  
***Vienna Marriott Hotel, Parkring 12a, 1010 Vienna Austria***

**Roberto Rodriguez-Roisin, MD, Chair, GOLD Executive Committee**  
**Antonio Anzueto MD, Vice Chair, GOLD Executive Committee**  
**Jorgen Vestbo, MD, Chair, GOLD Science Committee**

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| I. Welcome and Introductions  | Dr. Rodriguez-Roisin<br>Dr. Antonio Anzueto |
| • GOLD Program Summary/Update   |   |
| II. Science Committee Update  | Dr. Jorgen Vestbo                           |
| • Status of 2009 Update   |   |
| • Strategy for Revision of GOLD Report including<br>COPD and Co-morbidities |   |
| III. COPD Program Implementation in Finland                                 | Dr. Anne Pietinalho                         |
| IV. Summary: First World Congress for COPD Patients                         | Dr. Youssef Mohammad                        |
| V. World COPD Day, November 18, 2009  | Dr. Suzanne S. Hurd                         |
| VI. General Discussion  | All Participants                            |

**12:00 noon to 1:00 pm: Buffet lunch with GINA Assembly**

***Next Meeting: Saturday, May 15, 2010, 1:00-3:00 pm, SpringHill Suites New Orleans/Convention Center, 301 St. Joseph Street, New Orleans, LA, 70130 USA***