

DETERMINATION OF DIFFUSING CAPACITY OF ALVEOLAR-CAPILLARY MEMBRANE AS BIOMARKER OF EARLY LUNG FUNCTION IMPAIRMENT IN PATIENTS WITH COAL-WORKER PNEUMOCONIOSIS

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Summary

543 Ukrainian coal miners with pneumoconiosis (CWP) and 187 miners of control group (without bronchopulmonary pathology) were examined using evaluation of DLCO (method of single expiration with CO). Diagnosis of CWP was made in accordance with ILO International Classification of Pneumoconiosis 2000. It was revealed that impairment of alveolo-capillary membrane played an important role in respiratory failure development in patients with CWP and subsequent restrictive changes in lungs. It is proposed to use DLCO (along with exercise testing) as a biomarker of lung function impairment in patients with early stage of CWP.