

# THE INFLUENCE OF COPD MAINTENANCE THERAPY ON MORPHOLOGICAL REMODELING AND LOCAL BARRIER RESISTANCE FACTORS OF BRONCHIAL MUCOSA

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## *Summary*

The local defense barrier disturbances and damage of bronchial mucosa with a significant growth of the lamina propria connective tissue, accompanied by significantly increased production of collagen IV and reducing lysozyme and sIgA in bronchoalveolar contents are already seen in stage II COPD. Elimination of stage II COPD exacerbation and one month treatment with tiotropium bromide led only to partial improvement of morphology and functional condition of bronchial epithelial cells and connective tissue of lamina propria. Complete resolution of signs of dystrophy or edema of epithelial cells, normalization of collagen IV level in bronchoalveolar content and restoration of local defense barrier factors (sIgA, lysozyme) was only registered after 6 months tiotropium bromide treatment of patients with II stage COPD.