## THE INFLUENCE OF TOBACCO SMOKING ON THE CONCENTRATION OF NITRIC OXIDE IN EXHALED AIR IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE

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The aim of the study was to evaluate the influence of tobacco smoking on exhaled NO (eNO) concentration in patients with stable chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). 29 men with COPD, stage III–IV, were divided on groups depending on smoking status. Pulmonary function tests (by MasterLab, Jaeger); eNO concentration (by Niox Mino, Aerocrine) were performed in all patients. Nicotine dependence was evaluated by Fagerstrem questionnaire.

We determined, that eNO level depended on smoking status: active smoking led to decreasing eNO concentration. Tobacco burden did not influence an exhaled NO level. In contrary, nicotine dependence statistically significantly correlated with eNO. eNO did not correlate with pulmonary function in patients with COPD.