

# Rural COPD Resources and Efforts

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is the third leading cause of death by disease in the United States. The percentage of adults in rural areas who have been diagnosed with COPD is nearly double the percentage in large metropolitan areas.

In response to the National COPD Action Plan, the goal of the COPD Supplemental Project, supported by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP), was to address rural disparities in COPD services and to provide resources and technical assistance to rural hospitals and provider-based clinics in order to address these disparities. The COPD Supplemental Project resulted in the creation of a guide, a podcast series, dissemination of an assessment, and three webinars. The components of the COPD Supplemental Project addressed the following topics: the importance of addressing COPD services in rural America, the current landscape in rural, payment, workforce needs, clinical treatment, and technology.

**The guide, the podcast series, and the webinars can be found below, along with other organizations' COPD resources.**

Guide	Description	Link
A Rural Hospital Guide to Improving Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	The purpose of this guide is to provide information about COPD and clarity around best practices of care management for those with COPD in rural communities.	<a href="https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/a-rural-hospital-guide-to-improving-chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease">https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/a-rural-hospital-guide-to-improving-chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease</a>

Webinars	Description	Link
COPD Prevalence and Impact	In this webinar playback, discover the scope and scale of COPD matters in rural America. Understand the personal impact of COPD. Learn about national initiatives and FORHP efforts. Hear an example of state-level efforts underway with COPD.	<a href="https://www.ruralcenter.org/events/copd-prevalence-and-impact">https://www.ruralcenter.org/events/copd-prevalence-and-impact</a>
COPD Finance	In this webinar playback, discover the financial importance of providing COPD/Pulmonary Rehab care and examine the reimbursement aspects of COPD-related care.	<a href="https://www.ruralcenter.org/events/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-copd-finance">https://www.ruralcenter.org/events/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-copd-finance</a>
August TASC 90: COPD	In this webinar playback, understand the COPD resources recently created and learn about other resources available from partner organizations.	<a href="https://www.ruralcenter.org/tasc/events/tasc-90/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease">https://www.ruralcenter.org/tasc/events/tasc-90/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease</a>



Additional Resources

Podcasts	Description	Link
Rural COPD Podcasts	This six-part podcast series discusses COPD and its prevalence in rural America.	<a href="http://ruralcenter.libsyn.com/category/The+Rural+COPD+Podcast+">http://ruralcenter.libsyn.com/category/The+Rural+COPD+Podcast+</a>

Other Resources	Description	Link
Availability of Respiratory Care Services in Critical Access and Rural Hospitals	This policy brief from the University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center describes the availability of respiratory therapy and therapists in critical access hospitals (CAH) and in urban and rural prospective payment system (PPS) hospitals. It includes statistics with breakdowns by hospital type and rural or urban location.	<a href="https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/availability-of-respiratory-care-services-in-critical-access-and-rural-hospitals">https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/availability-of-respiratory-care-services-in-critical-access-and-rural-hospitals</a>
COPD National Action Plan	The COPD National Action Plan from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute is the first-ever blueprint for a multi-faceted, unified fight against the disease. Developed at the request of Congress with input from the broad COPD community, it provides a comprehensive framework for action by those affected by the disease and those who care about reducing its burden.	<a href="https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/copd-national-action-plan">https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/copd-national-action-plan</a>
Addressing the Burden of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in America	This publication from the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services discusses the burden of COPD and its impact on rural America. This document covers rural risk factors for COPD, healthcare disparities influencing rural COPD patients' ability to access care, discusses ongoing federal COPD programs, and offers policy recommendations and considerations to improve access to COPD care and treatments for individuals living in rural areas.	<a href="https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/addressing-the-burden-of-chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-in-rural-america">https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/addressing-the-burden-of-chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-in-rural-america</a>

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