TASC COPD Resources and Efforts

Caleb Siem
Program Specialist
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The Center’s Purpose

The National Rural Health Resource Center (The Center) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and improving health care in rural communities. As the nation’s leading technical assistance and knowledge center in rural health, The Center focuses on five core areas:

• Transition to Value and Population Health
• Collaboration and Partnership
• Performance Improvement
• Health Information Technology
• Workforce
Purpose of TASC

• Provides technical assistance (TA) and resources to 45 state Flex Program grantees
• Offers a resource network for Flex Program information
• Assists state Flex grantees in building capacity and supporting critical access hospitals (CAHs)
The goal of the 2018 Fiscal Year (FY) Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (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 following resources and efforts:

- “A Rural Hospital Guide to Improving Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease”
- The Rural COPD Podcast series
- Three webinars
- Dissemination of an COPD/Pulmonary Rehab assessment
Rural COPD Resources and Efforts Collection

• TASC has created a Rural COPD Resources and Efforts page on The Center website that provides links to the guide, the podcast series, the webinars, and other organizations’ resources regarding COPD.

• This will soon be available under the Topics column of The Center’s Resource Library
The overall 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.

Rural hospitals should use this manual to identify areas for improvement in diagnosis, treatment, and long-term care of COPD patients in their communities. State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) partners may also benefit from this guide when meeting with hospital leadership to assist them in thoughtful discussion related to improving the community’s health.

Find the full guide here.
This webinar was hosted by The Center on April 2, 2019. Review [here](#).

**Speakers included:**
- Kristi Martinsen, Director, Hospital State Division, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)
- Grace Anne Dorney Koppel, MA, JD, President of the Dorney-Koppel Foundation
- Lannette Johnston, MS, BSN, RN, CHC, Quality Improvement Coordinator with the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health

**Learning objectives included:**
- 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
This webinar was hosted by The Center on June 19, 2019. Review here.

This COPD Webinar covered financial topics surrounding COPD care. Led by Lindsay Corcoran of Stroudwater Associates, participants of this webinar were able to:

• Discover the financial importance of providing COPD/Pulmonary Rehab care

• Examine the reimbursements aspects of COPD-related care.
The Rural COPD Podcast Series

The Rural COPD Podcast series discussed COPD and its prevalence in rural America

• **The Rural COPD Podcast: Episode 1** -- This episode features Grace Ann Dorney Kopple, COPD Foundation, COPD patient.

• **The Rural COPD Podcast: Episode 2** -- This episode features Paul Moore, Pharmacist, Executive Secretary, National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services, Senior Health Policy Advisor, FORHP.

• **The Rural COPD Podcast: Episode 3** -- This episode features Dan Doyle, MD, a physician at New River Health Association, a federally qualified health center (FQHC) in West Virginia

• **The Rural COPD Podcast: Episode 4** -- This episode features Michelle Collins, a registered respiratory therapist at Lincoln Health, Franklin Memorial Hospital, and Central Maine Medical Center in Maine

• **The Rural COPD Podcast: Episode 5** -- This episode features Lindsay Corcoran and Laurie Daigle of Stroudwater Associates.

• Episode 6 and 7 will be released soon
In collaboration with Stroudwater Associates, TASC created and dispersed a **COPD/Pulmonary Scope of Services Assessment** in order to further understand efforts in current and future COPD treatment. The assessment was intended for rural hospitals, critical access hospitals, and rural clinics that already have Pulmonary Rehab programs, facilities who plan to implement a program, and facilities currently facing barriers to starting a program.

**In total, we received 345 responses! Thank you to all Flex colleagues and staff who sent out the assessment earlier this summer to your hospitals!**
As part of this project, TASC convened a work group to support awareness of key issues and trends involving COPD. Thank you to the COPD Workgroup for your work and support all throughout this project.

- Dr. Dan Doyle
- Ira Moscovice
- Karla Weng
- Dr. Mark Lindsay
- Susan Michelle Collins
- Pat Schou
- Lannette Fetzer
- Grace Anne Dorney Koppel
- Don Uden
- Owmy Bouloute
- Paul Moore

- Kristi Martinsen
- Dr. Antonello Punturieri
- Neyal Ammary-Risch
- Carla Wilber
- Kristin Sande
- Lindsay Corcoran
- Terry Hill
- Sally Buck
Questions?
Contact Information

Caleb Siem, MH
Program Specialist
(218) 216-7043
csiem@ruralcenter.org

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http://www.ruralcenter.org