

# **Tobacco Smoking and Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease – The Indian Evidence**

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## ***Abstract***

There is a large body of data on adverse effects of tobacco on non-neoplastic lung diseases. Adequate evidence on these effects is now available from studies in India. Tobacco smoking is the most important cause of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. It is also responsible for increased morbidity and progressive deterioration of lung function in these patients. Passive exposure of nonsmoker individuals, especially women to smoking from others is a significant risk factor for the development of COPD.

Exposure to smoking is also known to adversely influence asthma. Childhood parental exposure to maternal smoking is important in the development of asthma. Passive smoking exposure is responsible for an increase in morbidity indices and acute exacerbation of asthma in both children and adults.