# **ACT NOW**

## Make Early Action Your Best Defense Against COPD Exacerbations

An exacerbation is an important event in the progression of COPD.<sup>1</sup> A survey showed a misalignment between patients and physicians about identifying and reporting exacerbation events.<sup>2</sup> Proactive discussions about exacerbation prevention are critical to protecting COPD patients.<sup>1</sup>

## COPD exacerbations can be devastating events<sup>1</sup>...

#### A single event† may result in

- Permanent loss of lung function3
- Increased susceptibility for future events1,4

#### Frequent events† may also lead to5

- Lower quality of life<sup>6,7</sup>
- Faster disease progression8,9
- Increased risk of death 10,11

†Effects may be seen across exacerbations of any severity, with higher impact/risk observed with more severe events

Following the first hospitalization for a severe event, half of all COPD patients died within **3.6 years**<sup>12</sup>



## ...but exacerbations are undertreated because they are underreported<sup>2\*,13</sup>

77%
of patients recall
their HCPs
advising them
to report changes
in symptoms<sup>2\*</sup>

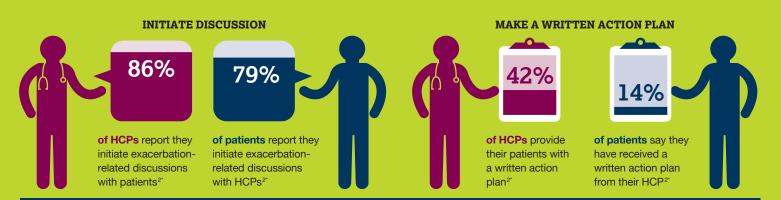
ONLY
29%

of patients
do so at
symptom onset<sup>2\*</sup>

## 

## Preventing exacerbations is pivotal to patient care<sup>1,5</sup>

Effective communication is required for early detection of exacerbation symptoms but there appears to be a gap between patients and physicians<sup>2\*,5</sup>



COPD management should be aimed not only at relieving COPD symptoms but also early exacerbation prevention<sup>1</sup>

\*Based on 2019-2020 CHEST online quantitative survey of 401 HCPs (189 PCPs and 212 pulmonologists) and a 2020 COPD Foundation online quantitative survey of 428 people with a diagnosis of COPD.

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