

Strategies for Addressing COPD in the Workplace

There are many different directions you can take when selecting your COPD activities depending on your data, objectives, employee interests and budget.

Here are some examples of activities and policy changes to get you started.

For more information on implementing these strategies please go to www.copdfoundation.org/employertoolkit.

ENCOURAGE EMPLOYEES TO TAKE THE 5 QUESTION ONLINE COPD SCREENER

- ✓ Include the link to the COPD screener within your employee intranet and/or wellness portal, or on your company website or facebook page.
- ✓ Incorporate the COPD screener into your health risk assessment
- ✓ Send the template email blast with the link to the COPD screener to employees
- ✓ Include the link to the COPD screener and/or printed version of the COPD screener in employee paychecks
- ✓ Include the COPD screener along with each flu shot administered in your on-site clinics
- ✓ Incorporate the COPD screener into your tobacco cessation program

INCORPORATE COPD INFORMATION IN ANNUAL WELLNESS ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Host an on-site COPD screening day through the COPD Foundation so employees can receive peak flow and spirometry screening
- ✓ Include on-site COPD screening through the COPD Foundation in your annual health fair activities
- ✓ Hold a COPD-related worksite fundraiser to engage employees during COPD Awareness Month

PARTNER WITH YOUR HEALTH PLAN

- ✓ Request a claims analysis to determine identifiable COPD-related costs
- ✓ Examine your employee benefit plan to identify existing coverage for COPD-related care and performance on COPD quality measures
- ✓ Work with your health plan to incorporate value based design components for COPD
- ✓ Request that your health plan provide the COPD Foundation's Big Fat Reference Guide to all employees with a COPD diagnosis
- ✓ Request that your health plan provide coverage for pulmonary rehabilitation services
- ✓ Encourage participation in health management & adherence programs

DISTRIBUTE COPD COMMUNICATION MATERIALS TO EMPLOYEES

- ✓ Post the "What is COPD" poster in the employee break-room or another place that employees gather
- ✓ Include the template newsletter article about the risk factors for COPD in your company newsletter
- ✓ Provide the COPD Information Line postcard to employees so they can connect to the COPD Foundation's support and education resources

IMPLEMENT HEALTHY WORKPLACE POLICIES FOR COPD

- ✓ Enforce a smoking ban around building entrances and gathering points or implement a smoke-free worksite campus
- ✓ Offer rewards for participation and compliance in tobacco cessation programs with targeted incentives for employees diagnosed with COPD
- ✓ Install HEPA air filters that do NOT emit ozone, especially in the work areas of individuals diagnosed with COPD

