



Could Your COPD *Be Genetic?*

What You Need to Know
and What You Can Do



Did You Know?

Many people get COPD from breathing in tobacco smoke or other harmful fumes.

For others, COPD is passed down through their family. This is called genetic COPD (also known as alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, AATD, or alpha-1).

Sometimes people who develop COPD have both genetic and environmental exposures.

90% of people with alpha-1, the most common form of genetic COPD, do not know they have it.¹

What is Genetic COPD?

Alpha-1 antitrypsin is a protein made in the liver that helps protect the lungs from damage and swelling.²

When someone has alpha-1, their body does not have enough circulating alpha-1 antitrypsin protein to protect their lungs making them more sensitive to harmful substances. This can cause more mucus, swelling, and damage to lung tissue.²

People with alpha-1 are more likely to develop COPD and other lung problems like bronchiectasis, even if they have never smoked.



Without enough alpha-1 antitrypsin the lungs are sensitive to harmful irritants and are more easily damaged, leading to the development of COPD and other lung conditions.

Who Should Get Tested?

All people with COPD and other chronic lung conditions should be tested for alpha-1 once in their lifetime.³

Alpha-1 symptoms are similar to COPD and usually start to appear between the ages of 20 and 50.

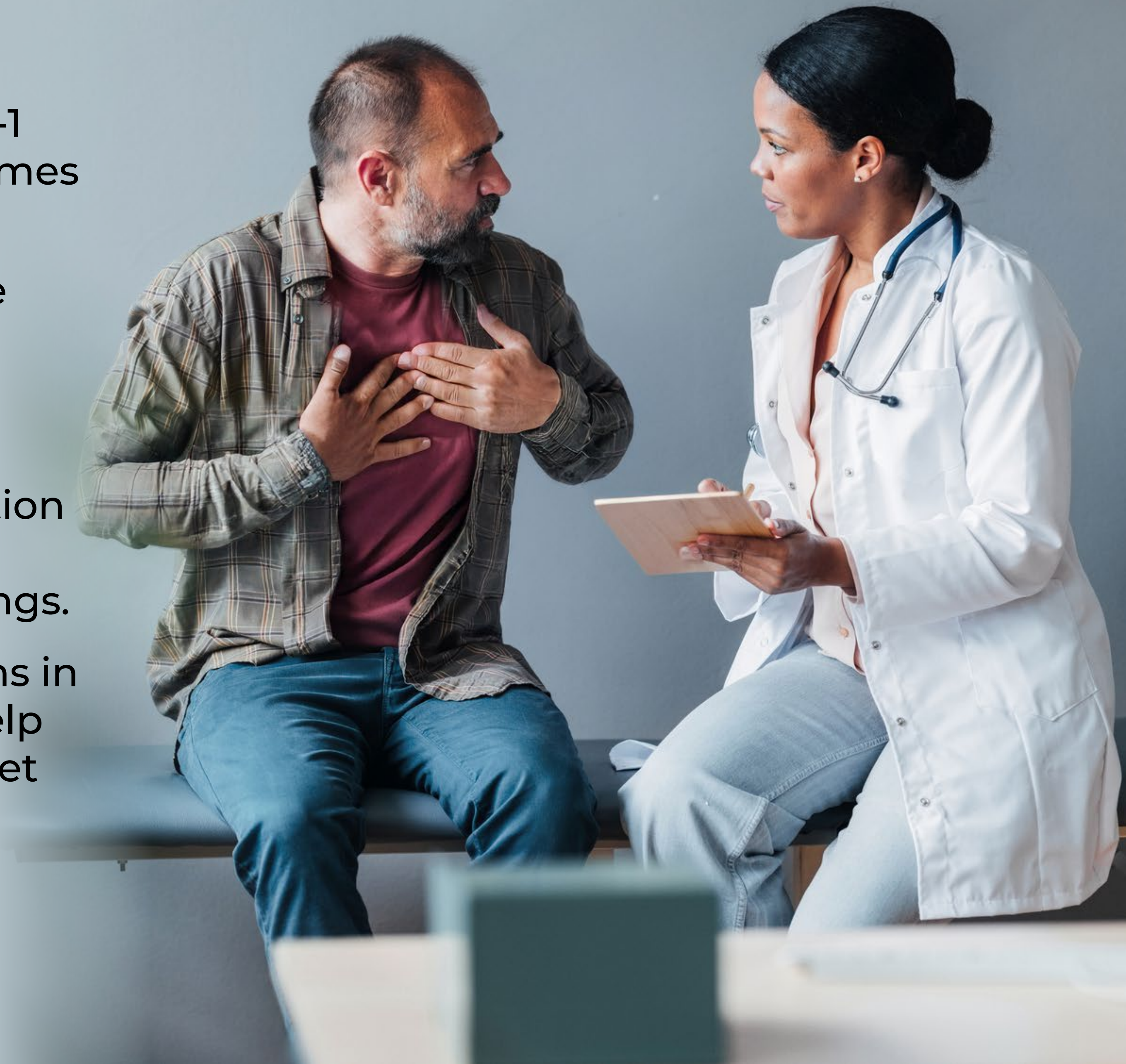
Consider testing for alpha-1 if:

- You have liver disease with an unknown cause.
- You have trouble breathing but have never smoked.
- You have asthma that doesn't get better with treatment.
- A family member has been diagnosed with alpha-1.



Why Get Tested for Alpha-1?

- **Helps you get the right diagnosis:** Alpha-1 can look like asthma or COPD but sometimes needs different care.
- **Access to targeted treatments:** There are special treatments made just for people with alpha-1. Talk to your doctor about personalized treatment plans.
- **Protect your lungs and liver:** Early detection can help you take steps, such as lifestyle changes, to help protect your liver and lungs.
- **It's important for your family:** Alpha-1 runs in families so testing and diagnosis could help inform family decisions and help others get answers, too.



How Can I Get Tested?

One quick swab could change your life!

You can order your own alpha-1 screening test easily at www.AlphaIDAtHome.com or through the [Alpha-1 Foundation](#).

Talk to your health care provider about blood tests or genetic testing to confirm the diagnosis.

All AlphaID™ At Home Saliva Collection Kits are provided by Grifols. The receipt of this free testing service does not create any expectation or obligation on your part to purchase or use any product or service offered by any manufacturer.



Test Today. Protect Tomorrow.



COPD
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References

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