

EFA supports World COPD Day 19 November 2003

EFA believes in the importance of raising awareness of COPD and encouraging those at risk to see their doctor.

The aims of EFA to improve the lives of COPD patients include:

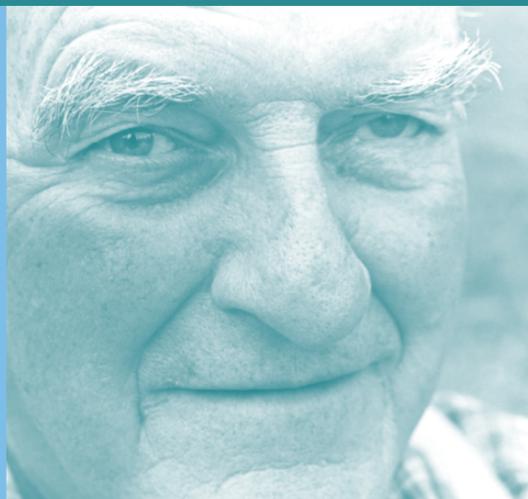
- Improve early diagnosis and management of COPD
- Reduce risk factors
- Increase programmes for training, education, empowerment and rehabilitation
- Safeguard COPD patient rights
- Lobby relevant institutions and European authorities to give adequate attention to COPD.

COPD:

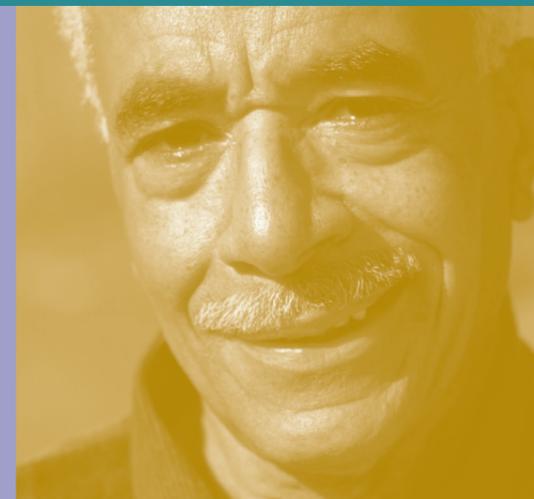
- Kills more than 2.6 million people every year
- Is the fifth leading cause of death
- Is predicted to rise to the third leading cause of death by 2020
- Up to 75% of sufferers in Europe are unaware they have the disease.

For further information please visit www.efanet.org and www.goldcopd.com

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*'As soon as I found the courage to speak to a pneumologist about my shortness of breath, and was diagnosed and received treatment; my life became so much easier'.
Edoardo, Italy*



*'I just thought I was getting older, that my breathlessness was something I had to learn to live with. Now I realise that I had had COPD for some time. Treatment does make a difference, but I wish I had started it earlier'.
Helena, The Netherlands*



"Breathing for Life!"



November 19, 2003