

**SPIROMETRY, SYMPTOMS, AND TREATMENT OF 3305 PATIENTS WITH
ASTHMA DIAGNOSED BY FAMILY PHYSICIANS**

A. Doboszynska^{1,2} and E. Świetlik²

¹Clinical Nursing Department, Warsaw Medical University, Warsaw, Poland and ²Department of Internal and Pulmonary Medicine, Miedzyleski Hospital, Warsaw, Poland;
anna.doboszynska@wp.pl

Objectives: The study aimed at evaluating of symptoms, spirometry, and treatment of 3305 patients with diagnosed asthma. **Patients and methods:** 3305 patients were examined. All patients answered a questionnaire. Physicians provided information about the diagnosis and treatment. Spirometric tests were performed in all examined patients. **Results:** Everyday, 18.4% of patients complained of daily cough, 11.0% night cough; 12.0% of the patients complained of dyspnea during the day, and 8% had dyspnea at night; 11% percent awoke at night, 11.0% did not experience cough during the day, and 23.0% at night; 22.5% did not experience dyspnea at all during the day, and 34.0% at night. 31.5 % of the patients did not awake in the night. Conversation with a doctor (79.0%) remains a main source of information about the disease. 818 patients (24.7%) actually smoke cigarettes, and 941 (28.5%) are passive smokers. Long-acting beta₂-mimetics regularly use 67% of the patients, inhaled glucocorticosteroids 83.0%, short-acting beta₂mimetics 74.0% , antileucotriens 25.0%, methylxanthines 21.0%, and oral corticosteroids uses regularly - 13.0%. Diagnosis according to the attending physicians: intermittent asthma 11.6%, mild persistent 39.0%, moderate persistent 38.0%, severe persistent 11.0% of the examined patients. The mean spirometric values were in the normal limits. **Conclusions:** About 20.0% of patients complain of everyday symptoms. Over 50% of patients are exposed to tobacco smoke. The main source of information about asthma is the doctor. 83% of patients take inhaled glucocorticosteroids regularly.

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