

Study confirms link between rheumatoid arthritis and COPD

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Patients with rheumatoid arthritis are two times more likely to have concurrent chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) than healthy controls -- an association which was sustained even when variables such as age, gender, smoking and obesity were controlled for, according to a study presented today at the EULAR 2011 Annual Congress.

The study of 15,766 patients with RA and 15,340 controls found that the prevalence of [COPD](#) was significantly higher in RA patients than healthy controls (8.9% vs 4.4%, p

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