

TITLE OF THE PROJECT: Surveillance of chronic respiratory diseases

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SUMMARY**Background**

Data on prevalence of chronic respiratory diseases in French adults are rare. Regarding COPD, only two studies conducted in the beginning included lung function testing. The only data on incidence and natural history of asthma and COPD were provided by the European community health respiratory survey (ECRHS), but no specific data from the French participants have been published.

Objectives

The specific objectives of the project are : 1/ to assess the prevalence of COPD, the proportion of undiagnosed COPD, the prevalence and the control of asthma, and the prevalence of allergic sensitization in the French adult population according to demographic and socioeconomic characteristics; 2/ To assess the incidence of COPD and the progression of airflow obstruction in COPD patients according to demographic and socioeconomic characteristics; 3/ To assess the incidence and natural history of asthma according to demographic and socioeconomic characteristics; 4/ To assess the incidence of allergic sensitization.

Methods

The study population will comprise all participants in the cohort, except for the estimation of prevalence and incidence of allergic sensitization (performed in a random sample of participants at inclusion) and the estimation of control of asthma (performed in a random sample of asthmatic patients at inclusion). All prevalence and incidence estimates (and confidence intervals) will take into account the sampling plan and nonresponse, which will make it possible to extrapolate the results to the entire French adult population.

Perspectives

The monitoring of chronic respiratory diseases will provide a factual basis from which policy-makers could appropriately set priorities, plan programs, and take actions to promote and protect the public's health.

Note: this project is part of the research consortium 'CONSTANCESRespi – Surveillance, determinants, natural history and impact of chronic respiratory diseases and accelerated lung function decline in CONSTANCES - An Integrative project'