

## COPD awareness amongst participants at a mobile spirometry clinic - What is changing?

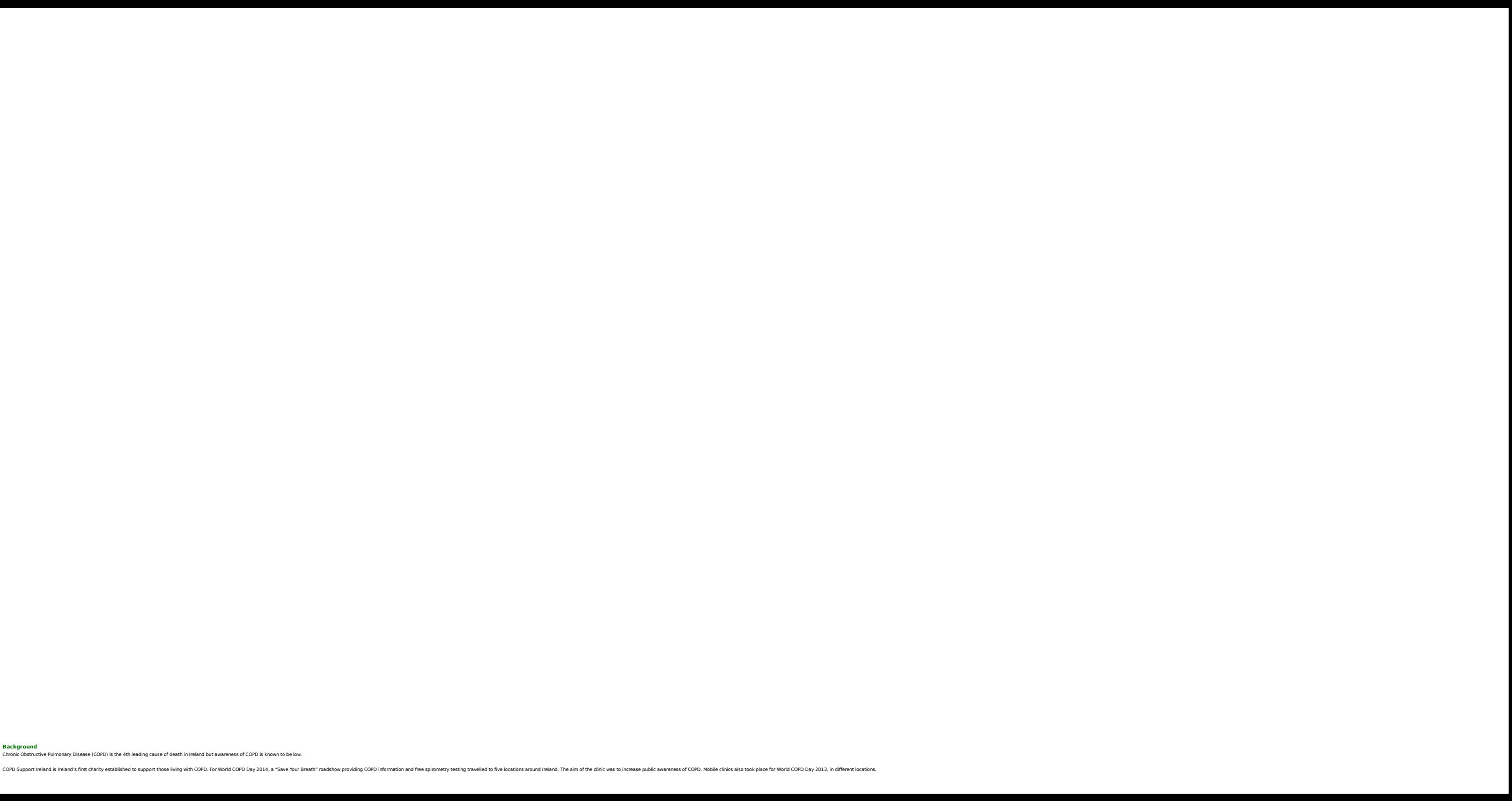
Item type	Conference Poster
Authors	SoRa, B; Migone, C; O'Connor, M; Peelo, Damien; McCormack, S
Publisher	Irish Thoracic Society
Downloaded	7-Nov-2017 05:02:31
Link to item	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/10147/592525">http://hdl.handle.net/10147/592525</a>



# COPD awareness amongst participants at a mobile spirometry clinic - What is changing?



1 University of California, Berkeley.  
2 Department of Public Health, HSE-East.



## Results

Increased COPD awareness was found among participants in 2014 compared with 2013 (n=317 participants) (Table 2). The proportion of participants with abnormal spirometry remained unchanged (18.0% in 2014 vs. 18.1% in 2013, p=0.97). Of those referred with abnormal spirometry in 2014, more than three quarters were aware of COPD. This had increased significantly since 2013. Almost two thirds of those with abnormal spirometry had symptoms of lung disease but only 32% had attended their GP with symptoms of lung disease.

Table 2: COPD awareness and symptoms among participants with abnormal spirometry, 2013 and 2014	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	p
Awareness of COPD all participants	168 (43.3)	162 (63.3)	0.001
Abnormal spirometry and referred	63 (18.1)	60 (18.0)	0.90
Awareness COPD*	32 (50.8)	46 (76.7)	0.01
Symptoms of lung disease*	31 (49.2)	38 (63.3)	0.08
Attended GP with symptoms of lung disease*	22 (34.9)	19 (31.7)	0.92

\* in those with abnormal spirometry

## Conclusions

The findings of this study suggest that initiatives such as those of COPD Support Ireland can help to increase awareness of COPD, particularly in those most likely to have COPD i.e. those with abnormal spirometry. However, findings also suggest room for further improvement as evidenced by the relatively low level of attendance of those with symptoms to primary care. Greater awareness and understanding of COPD is needed to increase earlier diagnosis and more timely effective interventions.



	n	%
Total Participants	335	100.0
Male	133	40.1
Smoking habits		
Current smoker	69	20.8
Ex-smoker	150	45.2
Never smoked	113	34.0
Abnormal Spirometry	60	18.0
Symptoms of lung disease*	38	63.3
Attended GP with symptoms of lung disease*	19	31.6

22.0. Missing data were excluded from analysis. Differences between variables were explored using the Chi-square test for categorical variables, statistical significance set at <0.05.

## Results