

Questions to Ask Your Doctor About Genetic COPD

If you've been diagnosed with COPD resulting from alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (sometimes called genetic COPD), there may be a lot you don't know about the condition. Here are 12 key questions to take to your next doctor's appointment.

1 How do people get AAT deficiency?

2 How rare is AAT deficiency?

3 How is AAT deficiency diagnosed?

4 Does everyone with AAT deficiency get COPD?

5 What other complications can result from AAT deficiency?

6 Do I need to see a specialist?

7 Is there a cure for this disorder?

8 What are the treatments?

9 What's it like to get AAT augmentation therapy?

10 What lifestyle changes can help?

11 What's the risk that others in my family have AAT deficiency?

12 Is genetic testing a good idea for my family members?

Sources:

American Lung Association: "Questions to Ask Your Doctor About Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency."

Asthma + Lung UK: "Alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency."

Alpha-1 Foundation: "A Guide for the Recently Diagnosed," "Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency: It's All in the Family."

National Organization for Rare Disorders: "Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency."