

COPD remains one of the leading chronic respiratory diseases, with a major impact on patients, their families and healthcare systems. Yet it is still too often underdiagnosed, diagnosed too late or insufficiently controlled. Improving outcomes requires action at every stage: identifying the disease earlier, ensuring appropriate treatment and vaccination, promoting physical activity, preventing exacerbations and strengthening collaboration between primary and specialist care.

Under the theme “Raising Awareness, Improving Lives”, this evening, jointly organised by BeRS and BeLF, aims to bring healthcare professionals, patients and other respiratory stakeholders together around practical and evidence-based approaches that can make a real difference in the lives of people living with COPD.

The programme will combine an interactive GOLD 2027 update with presentations and discussions on key aspects of COPD care, including the role of spirometry in primary care, vaccination, physical activity and the management of COPD exacerbations. Particular attention will be given to translating the latest scientific evidence and recommendations into everyday clinical practice.

By bringing together different perspectives and expertise, we hope to encourage dialogue, strengthen collaboration and contribute to better prevention, earlier diagnosis and improved care for people living with COPD in Belgium.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Raising Awareness, Improving Lives

18:00	Welcome & walking dinner
19:15	Opening ceremony
19:25	GOLD 2027 Update: interactive quiz <i>Prof. Wim Janssens</i> (Pulmonologist – UZ Leuven & GOLD National Representative)
19:50	COPD in Primary Care: the role of spirometry in general practice
20:05	Vaccination in COPD <i>Prof. Charlotte Martin</i> (Head of the Department of Infectious Diseases - CHU Saint-Pierre)
20:20	Physical activity in COPD
20:35	Management of COPD exacerbations: round table discussion
21:00	Conclusion

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