WORLD COPD DAY 2026

Tuesday 17th NOV 2026

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE

Galerie de la Reine 13 Koninginnegalerij
1000 Brussels

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 organized by BeLF and BeRS and dedicated entirely to COPD—aims to inform healthcare professionals, patients, policymakers, and other stakeholders about the latest developments in COPD management.

The program combines 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.

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.

FINAL PROGRAM

Raising Awareness, Improving Lives

18:00	**Welcome & walking dinner**
19:15	**Opening ceremony** *Prof. Thérèse Lapperre (Pulmonologist - UZ Antwerpen - Chair BeRS WG COPD & Revalidation)* *Prof. Marie Bruyneel (Pulmonologist - CHU Saint-Pierre - Co-chair BeRS WG COPD & Revalidation)*
19:25	**GOLD 2027 Update: interactive quiz** *Dr. Charlotte De Fays (Pulmonologist - CU Saint-Luc / UCLouvain)*
19:50	**COPD management in Primary Care: the role of spirometry** *Prof. Ines Van Rossem (General practitioner, VUB & Groepspraktijk De Nieuwe Baan Halle)*
20:05	**Vaccination in persons with COPD** *Prof. Charlotte Martin (Head of the Department of Infectious Diseases - CHU Saint-Pierre)*
20:20	**Physical activity in persons with COPD** *Prof. Heleen Demeyer (Physiotherapist, Ghent University)*
20:35	**Management of COPD exacerbations: round table discussion** *Moderator: Prof. Wim Janssens* *Panellists: Marc Demeulemeester (general practitioner), Irina De Knop (member of parliament)* *Lin Gysen (patient representative)* *Didier Cataldo (Pulmonologist)* *Louise Mathieu (Respiratory physiotherapist)*
21:00	**Conclusion** *Prof. Thérèse Lapperre & Prof. Marie Bruyneel*

REGISTER NOW

A joint event of BELGIAN RESPIRATORY SOCIETY & BELGIAN LUNG FOUNDATION