



Cystic Fibrosis Research News

Title and Citation:

Socioeconomic Status and Environmental Tobacco Smoke Impact on Lung Outcomes in Cystic Fibrosis. *Pediatrics*. 2017 Feb;139(2). pii: e20162730.

Authors:

Ong T, Schechter M, Yang J, Peng L, Emerson J, Gibson RL, Morgan W, Rosenfeld M for the EPIC Study Group.

What was your research question? (50 words maximum)

How do exposure to environmental tobacco smoke and socioeconomic status independently affect outcomes in young children with CF?

Why is this important? (100 words maximum)

Understanding the independent effects of environmental tobacco smoke and socioeconomic status can help to inform interventions and preventive counseling for patients.

What did you do? (100 words maximum)

We looked at data from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Patient Registry's Early Anti-Pseudomonal Treatment in Children With CF-Observational Study (EPIC Obs) cohort over a period of at least four years. We tracked lung function, crackles and wheezing, and weight at each CF clinic visit.

What did you find? (100 words maximum)

Lower socioeconomic status and exposure to environmental tobacco smoke are both independently associated with lower lung function, lower weight, and the presence of crackles and wheezing, even after adjusting for the other.

What does this mean and reasons for caution? (100 words maximum)

Counseling families to limit exposure to environmental tobacco smoke is very important for maximizing lung and nutritional health in young children with cystic fibrosis.

What's next? (100 words maximum)

No further analyses are planned at this time.