# Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Zones and Rescue Kit



### Green Zone

I am doing my personal best.







Symptoms:

I have my usual cough/mucus. I am eating, sleeping and my activity level is as usual.

Action:

Take your medicine as ordered. Do not smoke or expose yourself to second-hand smoke.



## Yellow Zone

I'm having a bad day or COPD flare-up.

Symptoms:





I have more shortness of breath, thicker mucus or change in color of mucus. I am using my rescue inhaler more often, have poor sleep, chest cold, or reduced energy.

Action:

Ask your doctor to see you today and start your COPD Rescue Kit if available, including antibiotic and/or steroids.



# Red Zone

I need urgent medical care.







**University Hospitals** 

Symptoms:

Nothing is helping. I have severe shortness of breath at rest, am unable to eat, sleep, or do activities. I have a fever, chills, chest pain, am coughing up blood, confused, or very drowsy.

Action:

These symptoms may be noticed by you or someone close to you.

CALL 9-1-1.

This is your COPD self-management guide. This is only a guideline and should never replace medical advice from your doctor. Call your doctor if you start your COPD Rescue Kit. You will need a refill for future use and a follow-up appointment.

For non-emergent concerns, call your COPD Navigator, Tammy at **440-827-5165**.

# Using Your COPD Rescue Kit

### What is included in my COPD Rescue Kit?

- An antibiotic (for infection)
- Prednisolone (for inflamed airways)
- Albuterol inhaler (for shortness of breath)
- Use all medications as directed

### When should I start my COPD Rescue Kit?

I am in my YELLOW ZONE, and have:

- Increased shortness of breath
- More or thicker mucus
- Change in color of mucus

### What should I do after I start my COPD Rescue Kit?

- Use your COPD rescue kit as prescribed.
- Do not smoke. You are at higher risk of COPD exacerbation and readmission to the hospital.
- Stay hydrated and rest. It may take up to 48 hours to start feeling better.
- Use your CPAP as needed if you have one.

#### I do not have a rescue kit, what should I do?

- Call your doctor for a same-day appointment.
- Only your doctor can prescribe or refill your COPD rescue kit.
- Go to urgent care.
- Go to the ER if you are getting worse or in your **RED ZONE**.



Scan this QR code to learn more about the COPD rescue kit and L.U.N.G. program.

