

Data helps find 'missing millions' with undiagnosed and serious lung condition

Overview:

A pioneering respiratory project in Hull is supporting the timely diagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), helping hundreds of people access life-changing care.

Since its launch in 2023, the FRONTIER project has reviewed over 1000 people who have consented to the use of their data and diagnosed COPD in more than 500 of these patients.



A collaboration between Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Chiesi Ltd, a biopharmaceutical company, FRONTIER used patient data from the Hull Lung Health study, hosted by the University of Hull with the Yorkshire and Humber Secure Data Environment (SDE).

Using this data, the study identified people at high risk of undiagnosed COPD during Lung Cancer Screening appointments and offered rapid access to diagnosis, treatment and support in a single visit.

Before FRONTIER, patients showing signs of emphysema during lung screening often received no further assessment.

The project has uncovered significant unmet need:

- 25% of newly diagnosed patients had previously been treated repeatedly for "chest infections"
- 50% patients diagnosed were current smokers
- More than 60% of eligible patients accepted a referral to pulmonary rehabilitation.

Find out more

