

Bronchiectasis

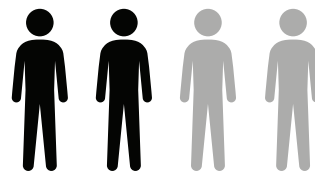
europeanlung.org/bronchiectasis/

Bronchiectasis describes the widening (“ectasis”) of some of the airways. This occurs in patches due to damage caused by infection. This prevents the effective clearance of mucus which then increases the chances of further infection and inflammation. The smaller airways are thickened and narrowed due to the inflammation and this leads to breathlessness.



Areas for action

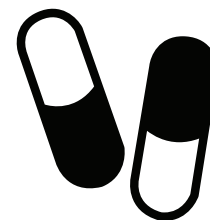
- Bronchiectasis, other than that due to cystic fibrosis (called “nonCF bronchiectasis”) is one of the most neglected respiratory diseases - there are currently few specialist services and few studies of the effectiveness of treatments
- Research is needed to improve both understanding of the condition and the management of people who suffer from it



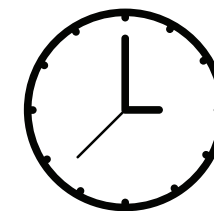
50% of people with bronchiectasis **have an existing condition**, such as cystic fibrosis or an immune deficiency, which makes them more likely to develop the condition



A **CT scan** is often needed to **diagnose** bronchiectasis



Recurring or persistent infections may require **regular physiotherapy and frequent antibiotic treatment**



Prompt recognition and treatment are key for **better long-term outcome**