Baseline Participation SAPALDIA 1
- questionnaire only  n=9651
  - plus spirometry  n=9552
  n=9050 valid results SAP1
  n=8666 with symptom data on at least chronic bronchitis

Follow-up Participation Rate, SAPALDIA 2: 85.9%
- questionnaire only  n=8047
  - plus spirometry  n=6528
  n=6222 valid results SAP2
  n=5953 VALID RESULTS SAP1&2
  n=5490 with symptom data on at least chronic bronchitis

- died 2.9%
- not traceable 6.8%
- no participation 4.4%

exclusions for longitudinal analysis due to missing information on covariates n=463

Sample with FEV1/FVC value >=0.70  N= 4949
Sample with FEV1/FVC value <0.70  N= 541