The following tables provide further details of the variables that were analysed and found not to add significantly to the already identified predictors of outcome.

It is suggested that if accepted these be included on the web site but not within the full published text for the sake of brevity. They are not referred to in the current text document for this reason.

Table 1a: Death due to COPD within 3 months of admission: summary of other variables considered – Each cell is in the format "Variable being considered: no of cases: % of deaths for patients in that cell"

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY						
Gender	Males: 716: 15%	Females: 597: 12%			NK: 29: 3%	
Previous admission	First time: 389: 9%	Readmission: 879: 16%			NK: 74: 14%	
Smoking status	Current: 429: 11%	EX: 751: 15%	Never: 74: 8%		NK: 88: 24%	
FEV1 tertiles *	Lower: 243: 18%	Middle: 218: 12%	Upper: 232: 9%		NK: 649: 15%	
FEV1 % Predicted tertiles	<29% pred: 164: 21%	29-45% pred: 169: 9%	>45% pred: 159: 12%		NK: 850: 14%	
Comorbidity **	Yes: 865: 15%	No: 477: 12%				
Comorbidity: Heart Disease	Yes: 548: 16%	No: 794: 12%				
On Oral Steroids	Yes: 455: 17%	No/NK: 887: 12%				
On Antibiotics	Yes: 263: 12%	No/NK: 1079: 14%				
Known Medications count	0-1:238: 13%	2-4: 903: 13%	5+: 201: 17%			
ASSESSMENT AND MEASUREMENTS ON ADMISSION						
Increased breathlessness	Yes: 1248: 14%	No: 44: 18%			NK: 50: 16%	
Increased volume of sputum	Yes: 551: 10%	No: 394: 14%			NK: 397: 19%	
Change in colour of sputum	Yes: 482: 10%	No: 432: 14%	NK: 428: 18%			
Colour of sputum	White/grey: 298: 10%	Yellow: 216: 14%	Green: 300: 12%		NK: 528: 17%	
Respiratory rate	<20: 94: 10%	20-29: 561: 11%	30+: 289: 18%		NK: 398: 15%	
Temperature	<37: 723: 16%	37.0-37.4: 228: 12%	37.5+: 209: 8%		NK: 182: 14%	
PaO2	<7.3: 238: 18%	7.3-8.0: 118: 10%	>8.0: 700: 13%		NK: 286: 14%	
PaCO2	≤6.0: 616: 10%	>6.0: 440: 19%			NK: 286: 14%	
Comments on Chest X ray	Infiltrates: 231: 14%	Other comment: 653: 13%	No comment: 426: 13%			
INITIAL MANAGEMENT – WITHIN THE FIRST 24 HOURS						
Formally prescribed oxygen	Yes: 848: 15%	No: 471: 11%	NK: 23: 30%			
Oral steroids	Oral / IV: 651: 14%	Inhaled: 116: 19%	Both: 341: 11%	Yes but NK: 30: 7%	No/NK: 204: 14%	
Antibiotics	IV: 208: 22%	Oral: 619: 10%	Both: 187: 12%	Yes but NK: 55: 13%	No/NK: 273: 17%	

^{*} Lower, middle and upper thirds of FEV1 values in litres were derived separately for males and females:

l		Lower tertile	Middle tertile	Upper tertile
ſ	Males	≤ 0.75	0.76 - 1.16	> 1.16
ſ	Females	≤ 0.60	0.61 - 0.89	> 0.89

^{**}Comorbidity: Any record of Heart disease, Stroke, Diabetes, Locomotor problems, Other chest problems, Visual impairment

Table 2a: Length of stay of 8 days or more: summary of other variables considered

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY						
Gender	Males: 727: 49%	Females: 607: 52%	NK: 28: 43%			
Previous admission	evious admission First time: 399: 47%		NK: 80: 54%			
Smoking status Current: 439: 43%		EX: 757: 53%	Never: 74: 55%	NK: 92: 62%		
FEV1 % Predicted tertiles <29% pred: 162: 59%		29-45% pred: 169: 49%	>45% pred: 164: 48%	NK: 867: 49%		
Home circumstances	Alone no support: 191: 52%	Spouse or relative: 762: 47%	Alone + support: 274: 59%	Nursing home: 57: 61%	Other & NK: 78: 45%	
Comorbidity **	Yes: 876: 53%	No: 486: 45%				
Comorbidity: Heart Disease	Yes: 558: 55%	No: 804: 47%				
On Oral Steroids	Yes: 459: 53%	No/NK: 903: 49%				
On Antibiotics	Yes: 265: 49%	No/NK: 1097: 51%				
Known Medications count	0-1: 243: 48%	2-4: 919: 51%	5+: 200: 50%			
	ASS	ESSMENT AND MEASUREME	ENTS ON ADMISSION			
Increased breathlessness	Yes: 1264: 50%	No: 47: 53%	NK: 51: 47%			
Increased volume of sputum Yes: 554: 50%		No: 408: 51%	NK: 400: 50%			
Change in colour of sputum	Yes: 486: 51%	No: 441: 50%	NK: 435: 50%			
Colour of sputum	White/grey: 301: 41%	Yellow: 215: 52%	Green: 304: 52%	NK: 542: 54%		
Bilateral leg oedema	Yes: 341: 60%	No: 557: 47%	NK: 464: 47%			
Respiratory rate	<20: 95: 41%	20-29: 567: 49%	30+: 294: 52%	NK: 406: 53%		
Temperature	<37: 734: 50%	37.0-37.4: 229: 53%	37.5+: 213: 47%	NK: 186: 51%		
PaO2	<7.3: 242: 58%	7.3-8.0: 119: 40%	>8.0: 703: 50%	NK: 298: 49%		
PaCO2	≤6.0: 623: 46%	>6.0: 441: 57%	NK: 289: 48%			
PH	<7.26: 70: 59%	7.26 – 7.34: 147: 55%	7.35+: 836: 49%	NK: 309: 49%		
Comments on Chest X ray	Infiltrates: 237: 55%	Other comment: 659: 49%	No comment: 431: 51%	NK: 35: 40%		
INITIAL MANAGEMENT – WITHIN THE FIRST 24 HOURS						
Formally prescribed oxygen	Yes: 857: 53%	No: 481: 46%	NK: 24: 46%			
Repeat of blood gases	Yes: 433: 59%	No: 607: 46%	NK: 35: 37%	NA: 287: 48%		
Oral steroids	Oral / IV: 658: 49%	Inhaled: 119: 66%	Both: 340: 48%	Yes but NK: 31: 45%	No/NK: 214: 50%	
Antibiotics	IV: 213: 59%	Oral: 627: 48%	Both: 188: 51%	Yes but NK: 55: 44%	No/NK: 279: 50%	
CONTINUING MANAGEMENT						
PaO2>7.3 at anytime	Yes: 445: 52%	No: 224: 58%	NK: 693: 47%			
PEF	Un-recordable: 18: 67%	≤150: 181: 49%	>150: 396: 44%	Done but NK: 95: 71%	Not Done/NK: 672: 51%	
Inhaler technique	Yes: 234: 58%	No/NK: 950: 48%	NA: 178: 53%			

^{**}Comorbidity: Any record of Heart disease, Stroke, Diabetes, Locomotor problems, Other chest problems, Visual impairment

Table 3a: Readmission within 3 months of study admission: summary of other variables considered

	BACKGROUND AND HISTORY					
Gender	Males: 643: 34%	Females: 551: 35%	NK: 27: 22%			
Age	<65: 266: 36%	65-69: 204: 37%	70-74: 288: 37%	75-79: 242: 33%		
Smoking status	Current: 404: 36%	EX: 674: 34%	Never: 67: 33%	NK: 76: 25%		
Home circumstances	Alone no support: 176: 30%	Spouse or relative: 692: 35%	Alone + support: 238: 38%	Nursing home: 48: 25%		
Comorbidity **	Yes: 784: 34%	No: 437: 35%				
Comorbidity: Heart Disease	Yes: 495: 34%	No: 726: 34%				
On Oral Steroids	Yes: 409: 42%	No/NK: 812: 30%				
On Antibiotics	Yes: 236: 39%	No/NK: 985: 33%				
	ASSESSMENT AND MEASUREMENTS ON ADMISSION					
Bilateral leg oedema	Yes: 293: 36%	No: 517: 38%	NK: 411: 28%			
Temperature	<37: 655: 36%	37.0-37.4: 208: 39%	37.5+: 197: 27%	NK: 161: 30%		
PaO2	<7.3: 213: 28%	7.3-8.0: 107: 36%	>8.0: 638: 38%	NK: 263: 29%		
PaCO2	≤6.0: 579: 34%	>6.0: 379: 39%	NK: 263: 29%			
PH	<7.26: 44: 50%	7.26 – 7.34: 120: 37%	7.35+: 782: 35%	NK: 265: 30%		
Comments on Chest X ray	Infiltrates: 210: 34%	Other comment: 597: 35%	No comment: 385: 32%	NK: 29: 41%		
	CONTINUING MANAGEMENT					
PaO2>7.3 at anytime	Yes: 420: 35%	No: 192: 33%	NK: 609: 34%			
PEF	Un-recordable: 14: 29%	≤150: 175: 38%	>150: 386: 33%	Done but NK: 76: 37%		
Inhaler technique	Yes: 221: 30%	No/NK: 868: 35%	NA: 132: 33%			
	ON DISCHARGE					
Inhaled steroids	Yes: 744: 36%	No/NK: 477: 32%				
Oral steroids	Yes: 757: 37%	No/NK: 464: 29%				
Antibiotics	Yes: 463: 30%	No/NK: 758: 37%				
Home oxygen	Yes: 236: 41%	No/NK: 985: 33%				
Outpatient follow-up arranged	Yes: 764: 34%	No: 391: 33%	NK: 66: 42%			

^{**}Comorbidity: Any record of Heart disease, Stroke, Diabetes, Locomotor problems, Other chest problems, Visual impairment