

Supplemental Appendix

Table S1– Use, obtain information, interest in receiving information, and interest in asking a physician through ICT types by age.

	≤60 years old (n=56)	61-75 years old (n=171)	>75 years old (n=68)	Chi- square p-value	Total (n=295)
Internet Access	40.8%	40.6%	29.7%	.285	38.1%
Owning					
Cellphone	75.5%	85.0%	59.4%	.000	77.5%
Smartphone	32.0%	33.1%	25.6%	.647	31.5%
Use of ICT type (at least once a week)					
SMS	59.6%	43.0%	46.8%	.115	47.1%
Facebook	35.3%	26.5%	22.0%	.325	27.6%
Twitter	7.0%	4.4%	6.1%	.662 ^a	5.2%
YouTube	10.2%	9.7%	7.9%	1.000 ^a	9.5%
Email	25.5%	29.1%	34.1%	.655	29.3%
Internet	33.3%	36.2%	34.1%	.919	35.3%
LinkedIn	2.3%	0.8%	3.0%	.302 ^a	1.4%
Skype	2.4%	4.5%	3.0%	1.000 ^a	3.8%
Uses ICT to obtain information about disease					
Internet	29.4%	26.4%	17.8%	.388	25.5%
Facebook	12.0%	3.4%	7.1%	.060 ^b	5.8%
Twitter	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%	.752 ^b	1.3%
YouTube	4.0%	2.7%	2.5%	.860 ^b	3.0%
Email	6.1%	7.4%	7.1%	1.000 ^b	7.1%
Interest in receiving information through electronic media type (high/some interest)					
SMS	56.6%	38.7%	51.1%	.049	44.7%
Facebook	30.0%	16.8%	15.4%	.099	19.4%
Twitter	0.0%	3.5%	0.0%	.428 ^a	2.2%
LinkedIn	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	0.0%
Email	25.5%	30.9%	26.2%	.698	28.9%
Interest in asking physician through ICT type (high/some interest)					
SMS	82.1%	81.9%	98.5%	.003	85.8%
Facebook	39.2%	34.2%	39.1%	.725	36.1%
Twitter	8.2%	10.4%	14.6%	.604	10.7%
LinkedIn	2.0%	2.1%	0.0%	1.000 ^a	1.7%
Email	6.1%	4.3%	0.0%	.429 ^a	4.0%
Interest in receiving information through WhatsApp (Yes/No)					
Interested	42.3%	29.6%	22.0%	.075	30.7%
Interest in asking physician about disease through WhatsApp (Yes/No)					
Interested	42.0%	36.4%	31.0%	.546	36.6%

Notes: All data are presented as percentages. Differences in values between the 3 age groups are significant at .05 significance level. N/A, not applicable.

^a. Fisher exact test performed.

Table S2 – Use, obtain information, interest in receiving information, and interest in asking a physician through ICT types by gender.

	Male (n=192)	Female (n=102)	Chi-square p-value	Total (n=295)
Internet Access	35.3%	44.4%	.142	38.3%
Owning				
Cellphone	77.5%	78.3%	.892	77.8%
Smartphone	32.4%	30.2%	.727	31.6%
Use of ICT type (at least once a week)				
SMS	49.1%	44.2%	.452	47.3%
Facebook	21.0%	37.9%	.004	27.7%
Twitter	4.8%	5.9%	.759 ^a	5.2%
YouTube	10.9%	7.5%	.396	9.5%
Email	29.3%	29.5%	.981	29.4%
Internet	35.2%	35.8%	.922	35.4%
LinkedIn	1.6%	1.2%	1.000 ^a	1.4%
Skype	3.2%	4.8%	.716 ^a	3.8%
Uses ICT to obtain information about disease				
Internet	24.1%	28.1%	.471	25.6%
Facebook	6.1%	5.4%	.835	5.8%
Twitter	1.4%	1.1%	1.000 ^a	1.3%
YouTube	1.4%	5.4%	.114 ^a	3.0%
Email	8.2%	5.4%	.425	7.1%
Interest in receiving information through electronic media type (high/some interest)				
SMS	42.4%	48.9%	.313	44.8%
Facebook	16.5%	23.9%	.166	19.5%
Twitter	3.7%	0.0%	.082 ^a	2.2%
LinkedIn	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	0.0%
Email	32.7%	23.4%	.123	29.0%
Interest in asking physician through ICT type (high/some interest)				
SMS	88.0%	81.4%	.121	85.7%
Facebook	36.9%	35.1%	.770	36.3%
Twitter	11.4%	9.7%	.672	10.7%
LinkedIn	2.2%	1.1%	.647 ^a	1.8%
Email	3.0%	5.5%	.491 ^a	4.0%
Interest in receiving information through WhatsApp (Yes/No)				
Interested	26.9%	37.6%	.073	30.8%
Interest in asking physician about disease through WhatsApp (Yes/No)				
Interested	35.1%	39.5%	.546	36.8%

Notes: All data are presented as percentages. Differences in values between the 2 gender groups are significant at .05 significance level. N/A, not applicable.

^a. Fisher exact test performed.

Table S3 – Use, obtain information, interest in receiving information, and interest in asking a physician through ICT types by education level.

	No education/ Primary school (n=136)	Secondar y school (n=95)	Undergraduate / Graduate (n=64)	Chi- square p-value	Total (n=295)
Internet Access	19.4%	47.1%	64.5%	.000	38.1%
Owning					
Cellphone	69.5%	82.8%	87.1%	.009	77.5%
Smartphone	23.5%	30.9%	46.4%	.013	31.5%
Use of ICT type (at least once a week)					
SMS	34.2%	47.1%	71.2%	.000	47.1%
Facebook	15.6%	36.0%	35.1%	.003	27.6%
Twitter	1.1%	9.2%	6.3%	.041 ^a	5.2%
YouTube	3.2%	9.4%	20.4%	.003	9.5%
Email	10.1%	27.3%	64.4%	.000	29.3%
Internet	12.4%	37.2%	70.7%	.000	35.3%
LinkedIn	0.0%	2.7%	2.2%	.326 ^a	1.4%
Skype	0.0%	5.4%	8.5%	.015 ^a	3.8%
Uses ICT to obtain information about disease					
Internet	14.2%	26.1%	44.3%	.000	25.5%
Facebook	5.9%	5.9%	5.5%	1.000 ^a	5.8%
Twitter	1.0%	0.0%	3.6%	.179 ^a	1.3%
YouTube	2.0%	1.2%	7.4%	.118 ^a	3.0%
Email	3.0%	3.7%	19.0%	.000	7.1%
Interest in receiving information through electronic media type (high/some interest)					
SMS	36.7%	45.3%	58.6%	.025	44.7%
Facebook	15.6%	21.7%	22.6%	.470	19.4%
Twitter	0.0%	3.7%	3.8%	.107 ^a	2.2%
LinkedIn	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	0.0%
Email	12.1%	26.7%	61.4%	.000	28.9%
Interest in asking physician through ICT type (high/some interest)					
SMS	83.1%	86.3%	90.6%	.357	85.8%
Facebook	26.4%	41.2%	47.4%	.014	36.1%
Twitter	10.1%	12.2%	9.4%	.853	10.7%
LinkedIn	2.1%	2.5%	0.0%	.683 ^a	1.7%
Email	1.1%	3.8%	9.8%	.040 ^a	4.0%
Interest in receiving information through WhatsApp (Yes/No)					
Interested	20.4%	29.1%	51.6%	.000	30.7%
Interest in asking physician about disease through WhatsApp (Yes/No)					
Interested	28.3%	34.6%	54.5%	.005	36.6%

Notes: All data are presented as percentages. Differences in values between the 3 education level groups are significant at .05 significance level. N/A, not applicable.

^a. Fisher exact test performed.

Table S4 – Use, obtain information, interest in receiving information, and interest in asking a physician through ICT types by years since diagnosis.

	≤ 5 years with COPD (n=174)	> 5 years with COPD (n=119)	Chi-square p-value	Total (n=295)
Internet Access	39.4%	36.9%	.681	38.4%
Owning				
Cellphone	79.0%	75.7%	.509	77.7%
Smartphone	32.4%	30.2%	.727	31.6%
Use of ICT type (at least once a week)				
SMS	46.8%	47.4%	.927	47.1%
Facebook	26.4%	29.2%	.632	27.4%
Twitter	5.3%	5.1%	1.000 ^a	5.2%
YouTube	7.5%	13.1%	.162	9.5%
Email	24.0%	37.2%	.027	29.1%
Internet	36.2%	34.1%	.732	35.4%
LinkedIn	1.5%	1.3%	1.000 ^a	1.4%
Skype	3.8%	3.9%	1.000 ^a	3.8%
Uses ICT to obtain information about disease				
Internet	24.2%	27.1%	.609	25.3%
Facebook	4.6%	6.8%	.558 ^a	5.4%
Twitter	0.7%	1.2%	1.000 ^a	0.9%
YouTube	2.0%	4.7%	.263 ^a	3.0%
Email	4.6%	10.3%	.090	6.7%
Interest in receiving information through electronic media type (high/some interest)				
SMS	42.7%	47.9%	.423	44.6%
Facebook	20.4%	16.9%	.512	19.1%
Twitter	3.4%	0.0%	.163 ^a	2.2%
LinkedIn	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	0.0%
Email	28.7%	28.9%	.971	28.8%
Interest in asking physician through ICT type (high/some interest)				
SMS	84.5%	87.4%	.485	85.7%
Facebook	34.0%	39.4%	.390	36.0%
Twitter	10.8%	9.5%	.757	10.3%
LinkedIn	2.7%	0.0%	.300 ^a	1.8%
Email	4.2%	3.7%	1.000 ^a	4.0%
Interest in receiving information through WhatsApp (Yes/No)				
Interested	32.1%	29.0%	.602	30.9%
Interest in asking physician about disease through WhatsApp (Yes/No)				
Interested	35.4%	39.1%	.570	36.8%

Notes: All data are presented as percentages. Differences in values between the 2 “years since diagnosis” groups are significant at .05 significance level. N/A, not applicable.

^a. Fisher exact test performed.