# Understanding Bronchiectasis & COPD:

Why these chronic pulmonary conditions have more in common than you may realize!

## What You Should Know

Bronchiectasis and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) share many similarities. Recognizing that COPD can coexist with bronchiectasis is essential to help prevent your symptoms from worsening and causing irreversible lung damage.

### COPD

COPD is an umbrella term used to describe certain pulmonary illnesses including emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and refractory (non-reversible) asthma. This condition can be caused by:

- Smoking
- Air pollutants
- Dust particles
- Toxic chemicals

### BRONCHIECTASIS

Bronchiectasis is a chronic lung condition caused by chronic inflammation and/or repeated infections, that abnormally widen the airways. This condition is characterized by:

- Recurring respiratory infections
- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing
- Chronic cough that produces mucus

### COMMONALITIES

Bronchiectasis and COPD share many symptoms, including recurring infection, chronic cough, and increased sputum production. If left untreated, each recurring infection can severely damage the airways and lead to other bronchiectasis symptoms.

## Think You May Have Bronchiectasis?

Talk to your doctor

If you're experiencing any or a combination of the symptoms mentioned above, contact your

doctor to learn more about diagnosing bronchiectasis. Your doctor may recommend a highresolution CT scan to help diagnosis your condition. After evaluating your symptoms, your doctor's next step might be to prescribe you an effective airway clearance treatment.



### WHAT AIRWAY CLEARANCE IS

Airway clearance is a technique administered through a hand-held device, manually, or by a respiratory vest. High frequency chest wall oscillation (HFCWO) via the SmartVest Airway Clearance System delivers airway clearance therapy through a wearable vest that squeezes and releases the chest wall.

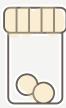
#### WHAT AIRWAY CLEARANCE DOES

SmartVest delivers rapidly repeating pulses of air to loosen, thin, and propel mucus to the larger airways, where it is more easily coughed out. Patients can perform their therapy in the comfort of their home.



#### HOW AIRWAY CLEARANCE HELPS

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lt Can Reduce Antibiotic Use

SmartVest users reported a 57% decrease in antibiotic prescriptions after using the respiratory vest for bronchiectasis treatment.<sup>1</sup>



lt Can Reduce Hospital Stays

Patients who used SmartVest as a bronchiectasis treatment experienced a reduction in hospitalizations by 59%.<sup>1</sup>



It Can Improve Quality of Life

**68% of patients** reported an improvement in their quality of life after one year of using SmartVest.<sup>1</sup>

### Learn More About SmartVest

Visit www.smartvest.com or call Electromed

## at 800.462.1045 for more information.



REFERENCE:

<sup>1</sup>SmartVest. "Using High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation in a Bronchiectasis Patient Population: An Outcomes-Based Case Review."