# **ZONE TOOL** | COPD

# Remember:

- ✓ Keep your doctor appointments.
- ✓ Take all of your medications to each doctor's appointment.
- ✓ Ask your doctor about getting a pneumonia vaccine.
- ✓ Get a flu shot and COVID vaccine every year.

### **GREEN Zone: Great Control**

- · I am able do my usual activities and exercises.
- · My usual amounts of cough and phlegm/mucus
- My symptoms aren't changing how well I eat or sleep at night.
- · No chest pain

### **GREEN Zone Means I Should:**



- · Continue taking my medicine as ordered
- · Keep all provider appointments
- · Refill medications timely
- · Use oxygen as prescribed
- · Continue balancing activity and rest
- · Avoid smoking and secondhand smoke

### **YELLOW Zone: Caution**

### **Call Your Physician!**

- · I am short of breath more than usual
- · It is more difficult to breathe
- · I have less energy for my daily activities
- I have more mucus or the mucus is thicker or a different color
- I am using my relief/rescue inhaler more often than
  usual
- · I am coughing more often than usual
- · I feel like I have a "chest cold"
- My symptoms are waking me up and I am not sleeping well
- · My appetite is not good
- · My medicine is not helping the way it usually does
- I am needing to change my position to sleep to breathe better.

# YELLOW Zone Means I Should:



### Contact my doctor with a list of symptoms.

Mark each symptom you have in the yellow zone box for easy reference when you speak with your doctor's office. Ask for a same day appointment or to be seen as soon as possible.

These symptoms may indicate that an adjustment in medication or oxygen therapy is needed.

### **Physician Contact:**

Doctor:		 	
Phone:			

# **RED Zone: Medical Alert!**

- · I have severe shortness of breath even when resting.
- I am not able to do my much activity at all because of difficulty breathing.
- Difficulty breathing is making it hard for me to get any sleep.
- $\cdot\;$  Fever (\*specific to individual) or shaking chills.
- · I feel confused or very drowsy
- I have chest pain
- · I am coughing up blood
- My skin, lips or nails have changed color to gray or blue

# **RED Zone Means I Should:**



- Act Fast... COPD is Serious!
- Call 9-1-1 and request an ambulance to the Emergency Department
  - ✓ Unlock the door so EMS can enter.
  - ✓ Keep a list of current medicines and supplements on your refrigerator.



# **COPD Symptom Tracker**

Use this log to track and discuss your symptoms with your medical provider as part of your COPD self-management plan. Follow your medical providers' guidance for how often and https://www.copdfoundation.org/Learn-More/The-COPD-Pocket-Consultant-Guide/ how long to track symptoms and when to seek medical attention. You can also log your symptoms in a virtual platform (for example: Patient-Caregiver-Track.aspx)



your plan and monitor **GREEN:** Continue to follow

changes

YELLOW: Note your symptoms, triggers, and any



**RED:** Stop and Call 911

changes



Symptoms are now:	□ Worse □ Same □ Improved	□ Worse □ Same □ Improved	□ Worse □ Same □ Improved
Interventions Medications, breathing techniques or rest that relieved symptoms.			
<b>Trigger(s)</b> What were you doing before your symptoms?			
Symptoms	□ Cough □ Tight Chest □ Mucus □ Shortness of Breath □ Tired □ Not sleeping □ Change in day-to-day activities □ Other	☐ Cough ☐ Tight Chest☐ Mucus ☐ Shortness of Breath☐ Tired ☐ Not sleeping☐ Change in day-to-day activities☐ Other	☐ Cough ☐ Tight Chest☐ Mucus ☐ Shortness of Breath☐ Tired ☐ Not sleeping☐ Change in day-to-day activities☐ Other
ВED	STOP and CALL 911	STOP and CALL 911	STOP and CALL 911
Wolley			
Creen			
Day/Date			