

What you need to know about Alpha-1

FAST FACTS

1. Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) is a genetic condition that can result in serious lung disease in adults and liver disease at any age.
2. Alpha-1 is the most common known genetic risk factor for emphysema. For this reason, it is often called “genetic COPD.”
3. More than 12 million Americans have been diagnosed with COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), an umbrella term that includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis. Up to 3% of those diagnosed with COPD may have Alpha-1.
4. Alpha-1 can lead to lung destruction and is often misdiagnosed as asthma or smoking-related COPD.
5. Alpha-1 has been identified in virtually all populations. About 1 in every 2,500 Americans may have Alpha-1.
6. Alpha-1 can't be diagnosed by symptoms or by a medical examination alone. It takes a simple blood test to know for sure.
7. Specific treatments are available for Alpha-1 lung disease, but a cure does not yet exist.
- 8. With your help, we can find a cure.**

Visit www.alpha-1foundation.org for more information

Lend your support at <http://www.alpha-1foundation.org/help/donate-online>