



ASTHMA+  
LUNG UK

FIGHTING  
FOR BREATH

# A patient's perspective

**Sarah Sleet**  
**Chief Executive**



# Meet Richard

*“ I have seen first-hand the transformative impact of biologics when I participated in research trials*

*In the future, I hope that biologics like dupilumab can help patients like me get their life back.”*

**There has not been a new class of treatment for COPD in 20 years.**



## **Richard and COPD**

**Diagnosed in 2010 with COPD aged 52.**

**Today:** reliant on oxygen with a lung function of 35%. Most days coughs up blood. Turned down for lung transplant. Outlook poor.

**Devastating impact on life:** Loss of independence, inability to work or exercise, and fear of triggers, fundamentally changing his and his family's life.

## **COPD in the UK**

**1.7m diagnosed  
620k estimated undiagnosed**

**Costs the NHS £4.5bn**

**Drives A&E admissions**

# It's a long and winding road



# NICE Matters

*"Being in that NICE meeting was terrifying. I'm a retired teacher, not a medical expert. But I knew my life depended on making them understand what this disease takes from you every single day. The support from Asthma + Lung UK made it possible - but it took weeks of preparation."*

## Takeaways

**Patient charities and individual patients recognise the important role NICE has to play.**

**And they want to play their part.**

**But the work started long before NICE's activity and will continue long after.**

**The emotional burden to patients participating should not be underestimated.**

**Nor should the resource implications for patient charities.**