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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
AHR	Airway Hyperresponsiveness
AUC	Area Under the ROC Curve
ATS	American Thoracic Society
BTS	British Thoracic Society
COAD	Chronic Obstructive Airway Disease
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CI	Confidence Interval
DL_{CO}	Diffusion capacity of the lung for carbon monoxide
EGFR	Epidermal growth factor receptor
ERS	European Respiratory Society
FEV1	Forced expiratory volume in 1 second
FVC	Forced Vital Capacity
GOLD	Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease
ICS	Inhaled Corticosteroids
LFQ	Lung Function Questionnaire
LLN	Lower Limit of Normal
MRC	Medical Research Council
NHANES	National Health And Nutrition Examination Survey
P_i	Phase inhibitor
ROC	Receiver Operator Characteristic
SD	Standard deviation
t	Student's test

V_A/Q	Alveolar Ventilation-To-Perfusion ratio
VC	Slow Vital Capacity
WHO	World Health Organization
(α1-AT)	Alpha 1-antitrypsin

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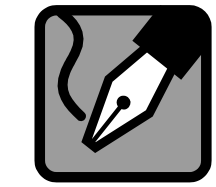

Introduction

Aim of the Work

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