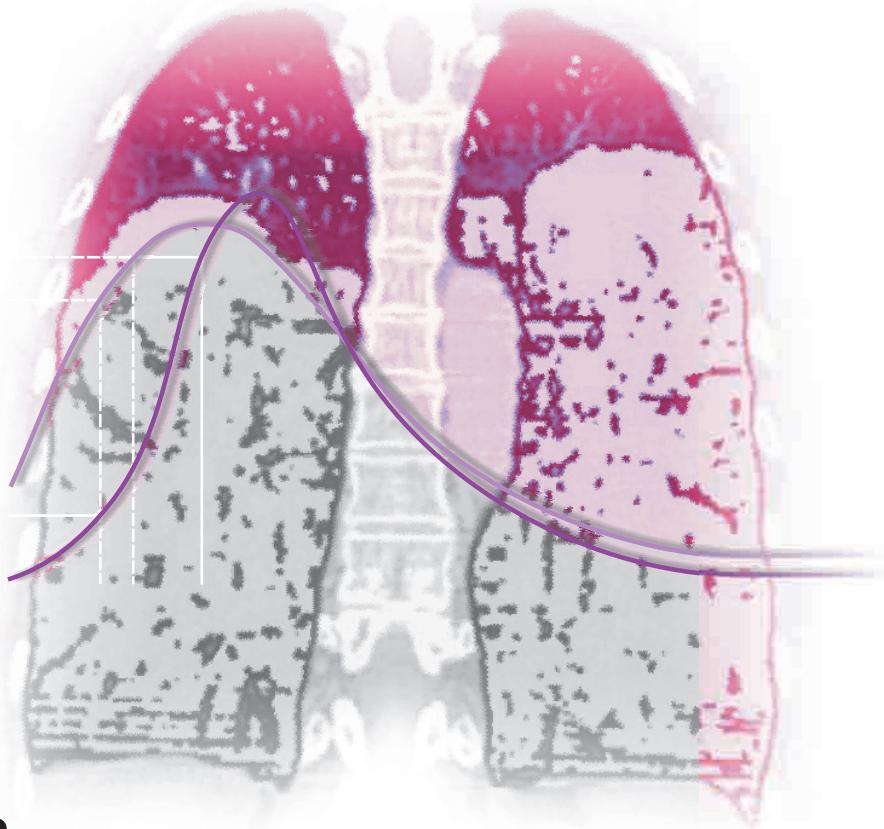


# ***Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency and replacement therapy – Current developments and clinical significance***

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in collaboration with

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## Preface and acknowledgements

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Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (AATD) is one of the most common genetic defects in Europe. As a consequence of the reduced serum level, the protease-antiprotease balance is disturbed, which can lead to the early development of emphysema.

AATD is still underdiagnosed. Based on blood bank data, it is assumed that only 5-15% of homozygous patients are currently identified. In most cases, there is also a diagnostic delay that can be 5 years or more.

This textbook is intended to provide an overview of the diagnosis and therapy – medicinally and non-medicinally –, the role of comorbidities, but also questions about vaccinations. The increasing importance of imaging is addressed as well as the overall clinical evaluation and the need for follow-up examinations.

R. Koczulla and his co-authors have written a very practice-oriented textbook that can be very helpful in everyday clinical practice for doctors who care for patients with AATD.

Marburg, September 2020

Claus Franz Vogelmeier

*Many thanks to the alpha-1 team of experts around Prof. Koczulla,  
who supports us patients at all times and helps us to live with  
alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency in the best possible way.*

Marion Wilkens, first chairwoman of the patient organization *Alpha1 Deutschland e.V.*

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