

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

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in collaboration with

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MEDICINE - STATE OF THE ART

UNI-MED Verlag AG, one of the leading medical publishing companies in Germany, presents its highly successful series of scientific textbooks, covering all medical subjects. The authors are specialists in their fields and present the topics precisely, comprehensively, and with the facility of quick reference in mind. The books will be most useful for all doctors who wish to keep up to date with the latest developments in medicine.

Preface and acknowledgements

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 – medically and non-medically –, 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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