

# CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE

## *A study between a patient's feeling of guilt due to their belief of the disease being self-inflicted*

*Gunilla Lindqvist  
PhD, Senior Lecturer  
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# INTRODUCTION

- COPD affects approximately 10% of the population world-wide.
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality worldwide.
- In 2020 COPD is expected to be the third most common cause of death worldwide.
- Cigarette smoking is the most commonly encountered risk factor for the development of COPD.



# INTRODUCTION

- The severity of COPD is classified in four grades, mild, moderate, severe and very severe.
- COPD affects not only the lungs it is also seen as a systemic disease in which a series of complications affecting various organs in the body.



# INTRODUCTION

- The holistic view in caring science entails the patient always being seen and understood in his/her total situation.
- COPD is a disease that changes the lives of both COPD sufferers themselves and their spouses, and both the present and the future will be changed.
- Being breathless is the most difficult and frightening symptom for the patients.
- People suffering from COPD are at high risk of developing malnutrition.



## **AIM**

The aim of the study was to generate a theory, grounded in empirical data, to reveal the main concerns of people who suffer from COPD and how they handle their situation.



## METHOD

- The constant comparative method of grounded theory, developed by Glaser and Strauss (1967), was used.
- Data were collected by interviewing 23 people with COPD all having different grades of the disease, from mild to severe.



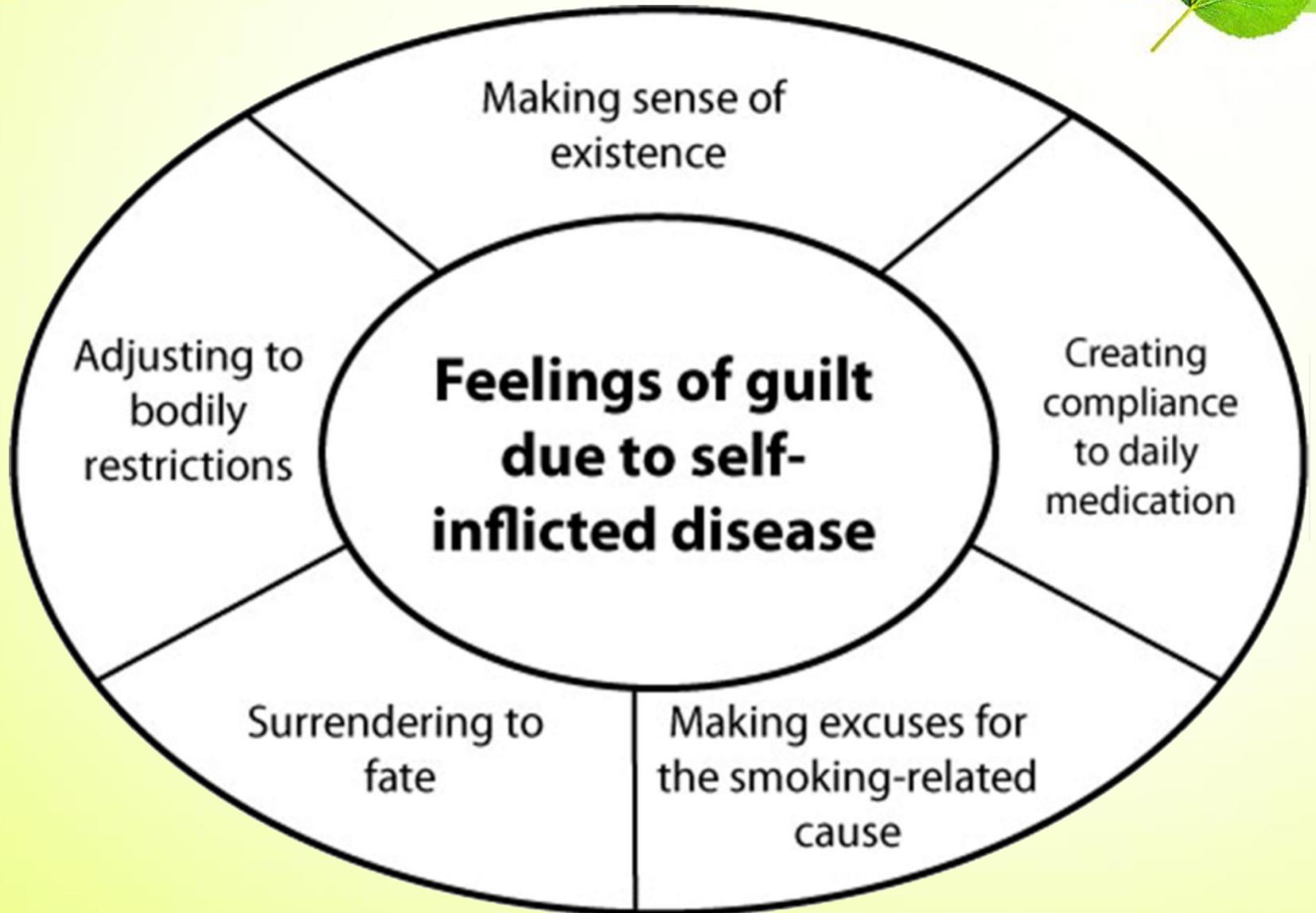
# DATA

PARTICIPANTS	
Age	52-82
Female	13
Male	10

DURATION OF COPD	
< 5 years (n)	6
5–10 years (n)	11
> 10 years (n)	6

SEVERITY OF COPD	
Mild	5
Moderate	5
Severe	13

STATUS	
Gainfully employed (n)	1
Early retirement	3
50 % sickness benefit	4
Retired	15





## **CONCLUSION**

Psychological support and/or psychotherapeutic treatment would be helpful to patients with disabling COPD and are seldom offered in the public healthcare system

# THANK YOU!

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