Appendix 1: Questions asked of participants aged 40 years and older with known risk factors for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) who visited a primary care practitioner for any reason

Pre-spirometry interview about respiratory symptoms

- Do you cough regularly?
- Do you cough up phlegm regularly?
- Do even simple chores make you short of breath?
- Do you wheeze when you exert yourself, or at night?
- Do you get frequent colds that persist longer than those of other people you know?

Post-spirometry interview with participants who had spirometric evidence of COPD

- Do you use oxygen? [If answer is yes, ask next question]
- How often do you use it? [choose only one answer]
 - All of the time
 - Only during the night
 - Only during the day
 - Only when I exercise
 - At night and when I exercise
- Has the doctor or other health care provider ever told you that you had:
 - Heart disease
 - Hypertension
 - Diabetes
 - Lung cancer
 - Stroke
 - Tuberculosis