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Press Release

HYGEIA S.A.: Free test for pulmonary function control with spirometry

NOVEMBER 17th, 2010: World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Day (COPD)

HYGEIA Smoking Cessation Clinic on the occasion of the World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Day (COPD) gives the possibility of **one (1) free test for pulmonary function control with spirometry, on November 17th, 2010.**

There will be also the possibility of being **informed** by specialized pulmonologist on **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease** and the **modern smoking cessation methods.**

The test will be carried out in **HYGEIA Preventive Check-up** (4th floor), from **10.00 am** to **15.00 pm.**

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is considered by experts as the 'Silent Disease' of the 21st century, as it has acquired world epidemic dimensions-almost half a billion people worldwide suffer from COPD! The World Health Organization forecasts that it will constitute the third most important cause of death by 2030. It is estimated that Greece numbers 500,000 - 700,000 sufferers.

Smoking, active and passive, is the main risk factor for COPD. However, ignorance is equally hazardous as the disease itself. The disease is 'silent and insidious' developing for 10-20 years with very mild and tolerable symptoms; as a result, patients consider such symptoms as a normal consequence of smoking and ageing.

Prompt diagnosis, correct selection of treatment and regular monitoring minimize the risk for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

DIAGNOSTIC & THERAPEUTIC CENTER OF ATHENS HYGEIA S.A.