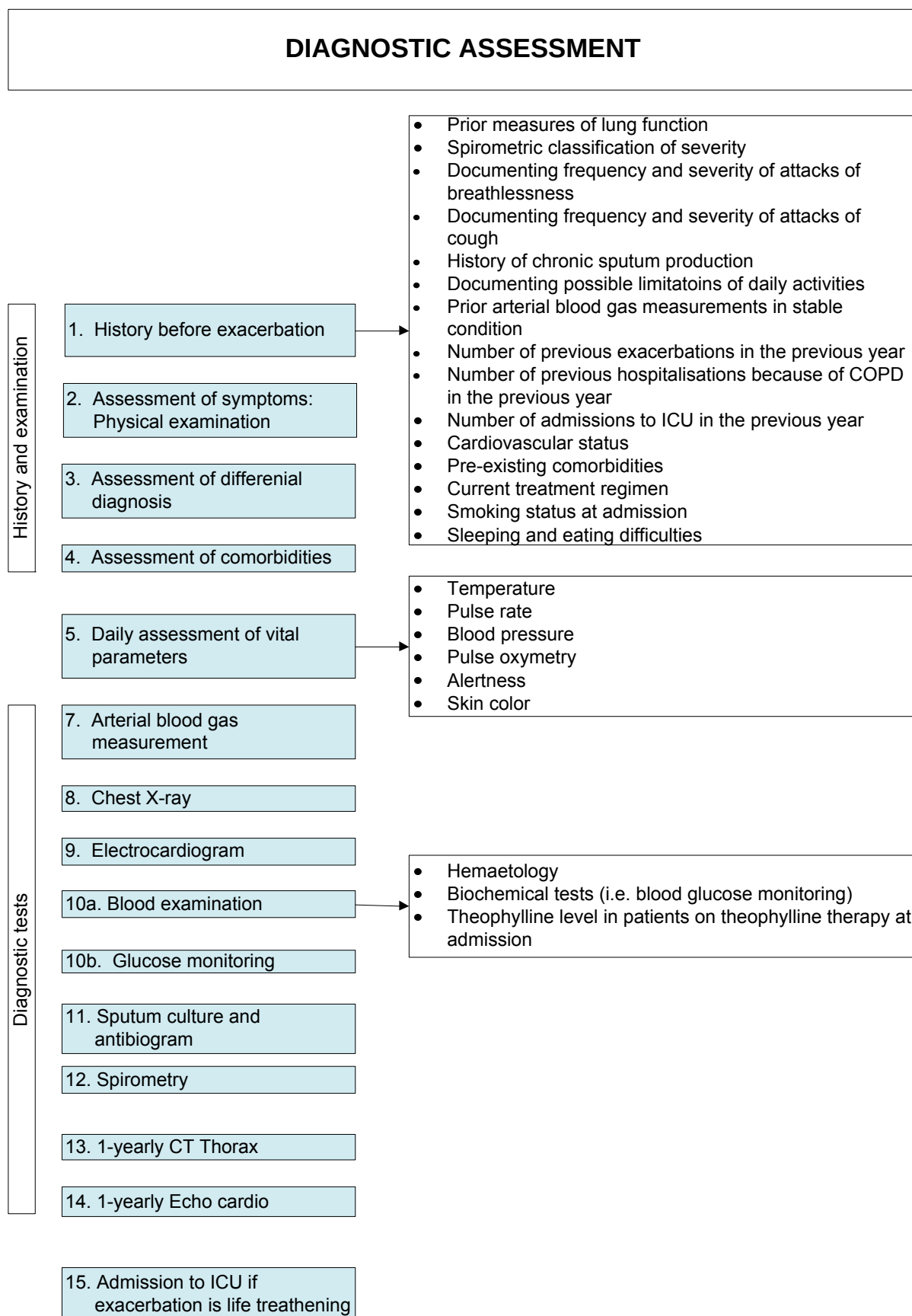
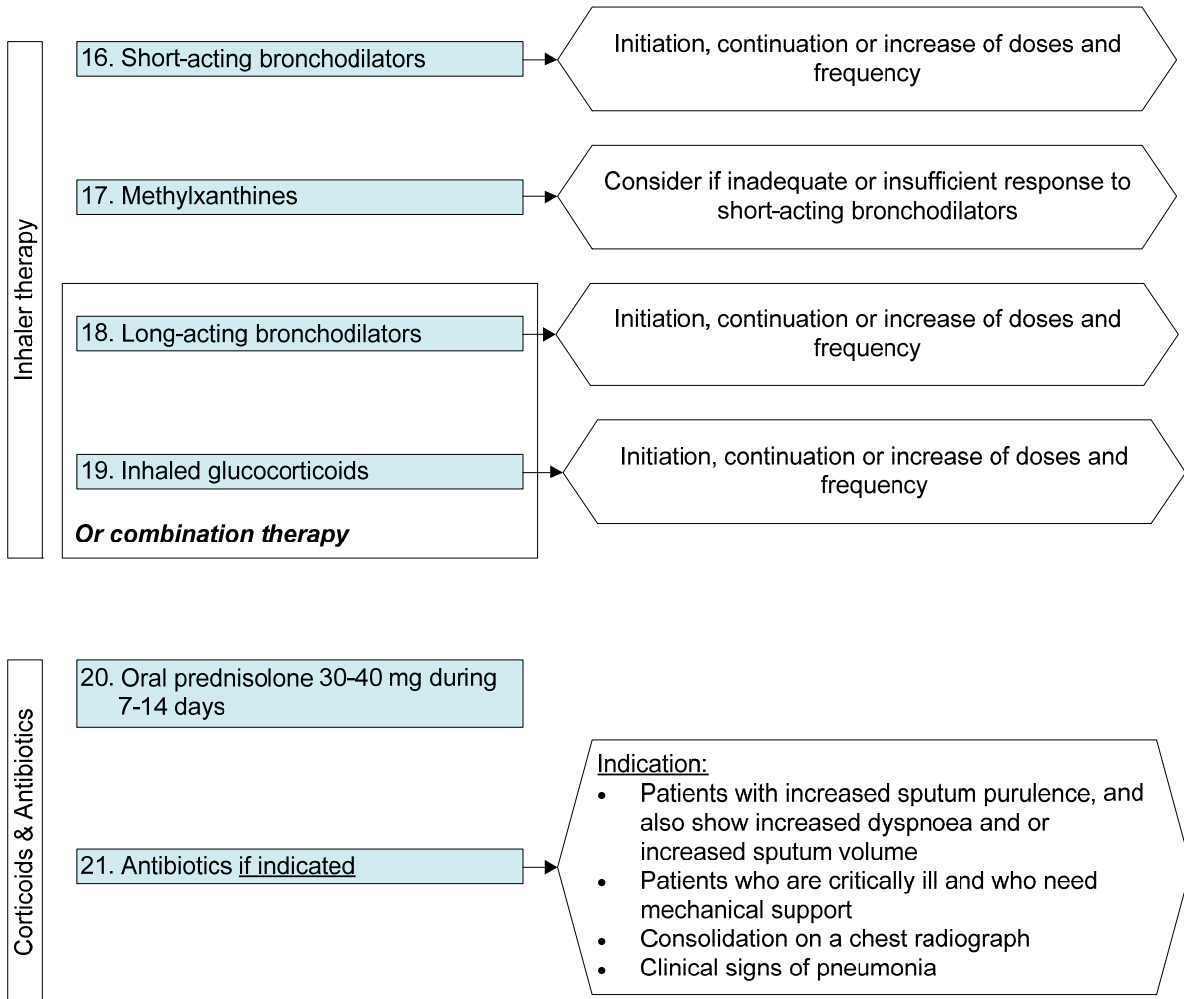


Additional file 1: Process flow diagram for in-hospital management of COPD exacerbation



PHARMACOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT



NON-PHARMACOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT

Ventilation	22. Controlled oxygen therapy in patients hypoxemic during admission	
	23. Assisted ventilation if indicated	
Education	24. Smoking cessation advice in active smokers	
	25. Patient education: COPD & self management	• Nature of COPD • Recognition and treatment of exacerbations • Self management strategies • Strategies for minimizing dyspnoea
	26. Patient education: Inhaler therapy	
	27. Patient education: Home oxygen therapy	
Physiotherapy	28. Physiotherapy	• Training / support in activities of daily life • Positioning • Chest Physiotherapy: airway clearance • Breathing techniques
	29. Pulmonary rehabilitation	• Identification for pulmonary rehabilitation • Referral to pulmonary rehabilitation
Other measures	30. Screening and updating of vaccinal status: influenza; pneumococcus	
	31. Nutritional status	• Assessment: □ BMI □ Weight loss • Dietician: □ Malnutrition: nutritional supplement; advice □ Overweight: advice
	32. Deep venous thrombosis prophylaxis	
	33. Fluid balance	• Monitoring of fluid balance • Fluid administration in dehydrated patients
	34. Treatment of co-morbid conditions	
Discharge	35. Assessment and management of anxiety and depression	
	36. Arterial blood gas measurement prior to discharge in patients hypoxemic during exacerbation	• Assessment of medical discharge criteria • Assessment and management of home situation • Oral information and discharge letter regarding prescribed home therapy and follow-up appointment • Arrangement of follow-up appointment 4-6 weeks after discharge □ The patient's ability to cope at home □ Measurement of FEV1 □ Re-assessment of inhaler technique and understanding treatment regime □ In severe COPD: need for LTOT* and/or home nebuliser usage □ Advice on smoking cessation as necessary □ Arterial blood gas measurement: ○ In the following three months in patients hypoxemic during a COPD exacerbation ○ After discharge with LTOT • Information letter for general practitioner • Discharge checklist
	37. Prescription of home oxygen therapy in patients who remain hypoxemic at discharge from the ward	
	38. Discharge management	

* LTOT= Long Term Oxygen Therapy