



Diagnostic Criteria for Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis in the Absence of a Surgical Lung Biopsy

Major Criteria

Exclusion of other known causes of diffuse parenchymal lung disease, such as certain drug toxicities, environmental exposures, and connective tissue diseases.

Abnormal pulmonary function studies that include evidence of restriction (reduced vital capacity (VC) often with an increased FEV₁/FVC ratio) and/or impaired gas exchange [increased AaPO₂ (alveolar-arterial pressure difference for O₂) with rest or exercise or decreased DL_{CO} (diffusing capacity of the lung for CO)]

Bibasilar reticular abnormalities with minimal ground glass opacities on HRCT scans

Transbronchial lung biopsy or bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) showing no features to support an alternative diagnosis.

Minor Criteria

Age >50 y

Insidious onset of otherwise unexplained dyspnea on exertion

Duration of illness >3 months

Bibasilar, inspiratory crackles (dry or "Velcro®-like" in quality)

FEV₁ = forced expiratory volume in 1 second; FVC = forced vital capacity.

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