LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AECOPD: Acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

BMD: Bone mineral density.

BMI: Body mass index.

BODE: Body mass index, obstruction, dyspnea and exercise.

COPD: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

CRP: C-reactive protein.

CT: Computed tomography.

DLCO: Diffusion capacity of the lung to carbon monoxide.

ECG: Electrocardiogram.

ESR: Erythrocyte sedimentation rate.

ETS: Environmental tobacco smoke.

Fcy: Crystallisable fragments gamma.

FEF25-75%: Forced expiratory flow between 25 to 75% of forced vital capacity.

FEF50%: Forced expiratory flow at 50% of forced vital capacity.

FEV1: Forced expiratory volume in the first second.

FFM: Fat free mass.

F-V loop: Flow volume loop.

FVC: Forced vital capacity.

HIV: Human immune deficiency virus.

HRCT: High resolution computed tomography.

ICS: Inhaled corticosteroid.

ICU: Intensive care unit.

IHD: Ischemic heart diseases.

IL-1: Interleukin-1.

IL-6: Interleukin-6.

IL-8: Interleukin-8.

INF-γ: Interferon gamma.

LBP: Lipopolysaccharide binding protein.

LDL: Low density lipoprotein.

LVRS: Lung volume reduction surgery.

MDI: Metered dose inhaler.

mEPHX1: microsomal epoxide hydrolase 1.

MMP: Matrix metalloproteinases.

MVV: Maximal voluntary ventilation.

NF-κβ: Nuclear factor kappa beta.

NICE: National Institute for Clinical Excellence.

NPPV: Non invasive positive pressure ventilation.

PaCO₂: Partial pressure of carbon dioxide in arterial blood.

PaO₂: Partial pressure of oxygen in arterial blood.

PCT: Procalcitonin.

PDE4: Phosphodiesterase 4.

PEF: Peak expiratory flow.

REE: Resting energy expenditure.

SaO₂: Oxygen saturation in arterial blood.

TGF- β_1 : Transforming growth factor beta-1.

TLC: Total lung capacity.

TNF-α: Tumor necrosis factor alpha.

VLDL: Very low density lipoprotein.

WC: Waist circumference.