

## Assessment of Bronchiectasis Severity: The FACED Score versus the Bronchiectasis Severity Index (BSI)

Dr. Jitendrakumar A. Sisodia<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Amit R. Dedun<sup>2\*</sup>, Dr. Priyanka K. Patel<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Hardik P. Pandya<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup> Associate professor, <sup>3</sup> Assistant professor, <sup>4</sup> Senior resident; Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Medical College Baroda & S.S.G Hospital, Vadodara

\*Corresponding author: Dr. Amit R. Dedun

Email: [amitonly007@gmail.com](mailto:amitonly007@gmail.com)

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Bronchiectasis is a multi-dimensional, chronic inflammatory and heterogeneous lung disorder characterized by unpredictable clinical course and progression. Two multivariable score systems, the FACED score and the BSI, which are composites of multiple variables have been used to assess the severity and prognosis of bronchiectasis.

**Objectives:** (1) To assess the severity of bronchiectasis in patients using two different validated scores, the FACED score and the Bronchiectasis Severity Index (BSI). (2) To identify microbial profile among bronchiectasis patients and its impact on predicting future exacerbation and hospitalization. **Methods:** A total of 37 patients from June 2019 to November 2019 were enrolled in this prospective study. The FACED score and BSI score of patients were calculated. Severity of bronchiectasis has been defined by both scores and its impact on exacerbation was examined. **Results:** Mean age of patients was  $45.8 \pm 12.7$  years. We found mild, moderate and severe bronchiectasis in 17 (45.95%), 15 (40.54%) and 5 (13.51%) patients as assessed by FACED scores. Low, intermediate and high BSI scores were found in 7 (18.92%), 9 (24.32%) and 21 (56.76 %) patients respectively. Patients with high BSI score demonstrated more exacerbations during the follow up period as compared to those with high FACED score. **Conclusions:** The BSI score is superior to predicting the severity of bronchiectasis as compared to the FACED score. It also helps to identify patients at risk of future exacerbations and hospitalization. Further large-scale studies are recommended to substantiate the findings.

**Keywords:** Bronchiectasis, FACED, BSI, Pseudomonas, Exacerbations