



**RESPIRATORY  
HEALTH  
ASSOCIATION<sup>SM</sup>**  
*of Metropolitan Chicago*

For Immediate Release  
April 28, 2008

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## **Illinois releases plan to tackle 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death** *Illinois only the second state to address COPD*

**WHAT:** Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago (RHAMC) and the Illinois COPD Coalition will release the Illinois COPD State Plan. Doctors, clinicians, patients and experts will discuss the impact and management of COPD as well as recommendations and implementation of the second state COPD plan in the nation.

**WHY:** Over half a million Illinoisans suffer from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). In the United States COPD claims the life of one person every four minutes. This progressive disease is the 4th leading cause of death, killing more women than men, and is predicted to be the 3rd leading cause by 2020. COPD is diagnosed in more than 12 million people and an additional 12 million likely have the disease and don't know it.

**WHO:** **Grace Anne Dorney Koppel**—COPD patient/advocate  
**James P. Kiley, PhD**—Director of the Division of Lung Diseases, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute  
**Jeffrey Glassroth, MD**—Illinois COPD State Plan Chair and Vice Dean & Chief Academic Officer, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University  
**Terry Mason, MD**—Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Public Health  
**David Goldberg, MD** — Director, Section of Preventive Medicine, Cook County Bureau of Health Services  
**Joel Africk**—President and Chief Executive Officer, Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 1, 2008 at 10AM

**WHERE:** James R. Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph St., Chicago; 15<sup>th</sup> Floor Press Room

### **VISUALS / INTERVIEWS:**

- All press conference speakers
- Local COPD patients

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Leader Since 1906

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