

# Methods of Treating and Diagnosing Pulmonary Emphysema

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## Technology description

Cathepsin E is expressed in human lung tissue and is increased in smokers with emphysema

Cathepsin E is detectable in urine as well as in serum using ELISA and therefore is a good diagnostic marker as well as a therapeutic target for emphysema

Demonstrated increased Nox3 protein expression in smokers compared to nonsmokers and in patients with emphysema compared to people without emphysema

TLR4, Nox3, and Cathepsin E have not been previously implicated in the pathogenesis of emphysema or any other lung process

## Institution

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