

Table 1 Characteristics of cases (chronic bronchitis) and controls (without chronic bronchitis)

Characteristic	Controls (<i>n</i> = 559)	Cases (<i>n</i> = 274)	<i>P</i> -value
	%	%	
<i>Age (years)</i>			< 0.001
40–44	34.5	6.9	
45–49	26.3	9.5	
50–54	12.7	10.6	
55–59	8.6	15.7	
60–64	6.6	15.3	
65 +	11.3	42.0	
<i>Sex</i>			0.007
Male	44.1	54.0	
Female	55.9	46.0	
<i>Education</i>			< 0.001
Never been to school	2.0	3.7	
Primary or less	8.7	29.4	
Complementary ^a or less	12.1	19.9	
Secondary or less	31.1	30.1	
University degree	46.1	16.9	
<i>Working status</i>			< 0.001
Currently working	66.4	35.8	
Retired	8.9	25.5	
Currently unemployed	0.9	0.7	
Never worked	23.8	38.0	
<i>Marital status</i>			< 0.001
Married	83.0	85.3	
Single	13.9	6.6	
Widowed or divorced	3.1	8.1	

^aUp to 15 years of age.