**Supplementary Fig. 1.** Study design.

BDP, beclomethasone dipropionate; FP, fluticasone propionate; ICS, inhaled corticosteroid.

Initiation date, defined as date of initiation of ICS therapy

- No ICS therapy
- Extrafine-particle ciclesonide
- Fine-particle ICS (FP and non-extrafine BDP)

1-year baseline period (confounder and matching criteria definition)


1-year outcome period (evaluation of outcomes)