



REGGIO CALABRIA 19-22 ottobre 2016



L'efficacia terapeutica nella pratica clinica: aderenza fattore discriminante tra successo ed insuccesso

Leonardo Antonicelli

Dip. Medicina Interna

SOD Allergologia

Ospedali Riuniti Ancona

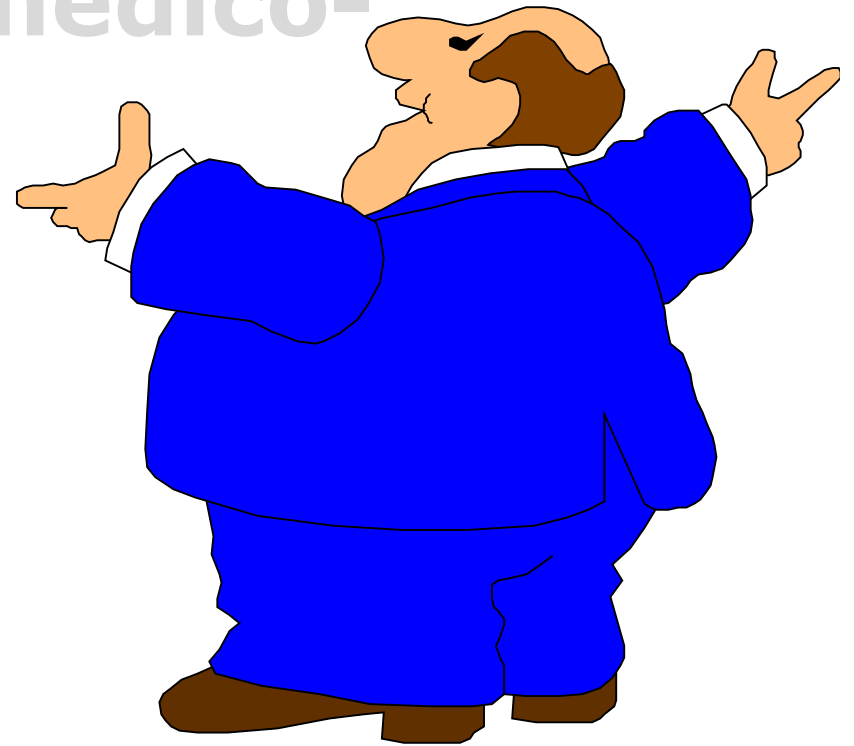
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**VI CONGRESSO
NAZIONALE**

AAITO

Argomenti in discussione

- **Introduzione**
- Aderenza: ruolo del paziente
- Aderenza: ruolo della farmacologia
- Aderenza: relazione medico-paziente



Can Guideline-defined Asthma Control Be Achieved?

The Gaining Optimal Asthma Control Study

Eric D. Bateman, Homer A. Boushey, Jean Bousquet, William W. Busse, Tim J. H. Clark, Romain A. Pauwels, and Søren E. Pedersen for the GOAL Investigators Group

University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa; University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, California; Hôpital Arnaud De Villeneuve, Montpellier, France; University of Wisconsin Medical School, Madison, Wisconsin; Imperial College, London, United Kingdom; Ghent University Hospital, Ghent, Belgium; and University of Southern Denmark, Kolding Hospital, Kolding, Denmark

Am J Respir Crit Care Med Vol 170. pp 836-844, 2004

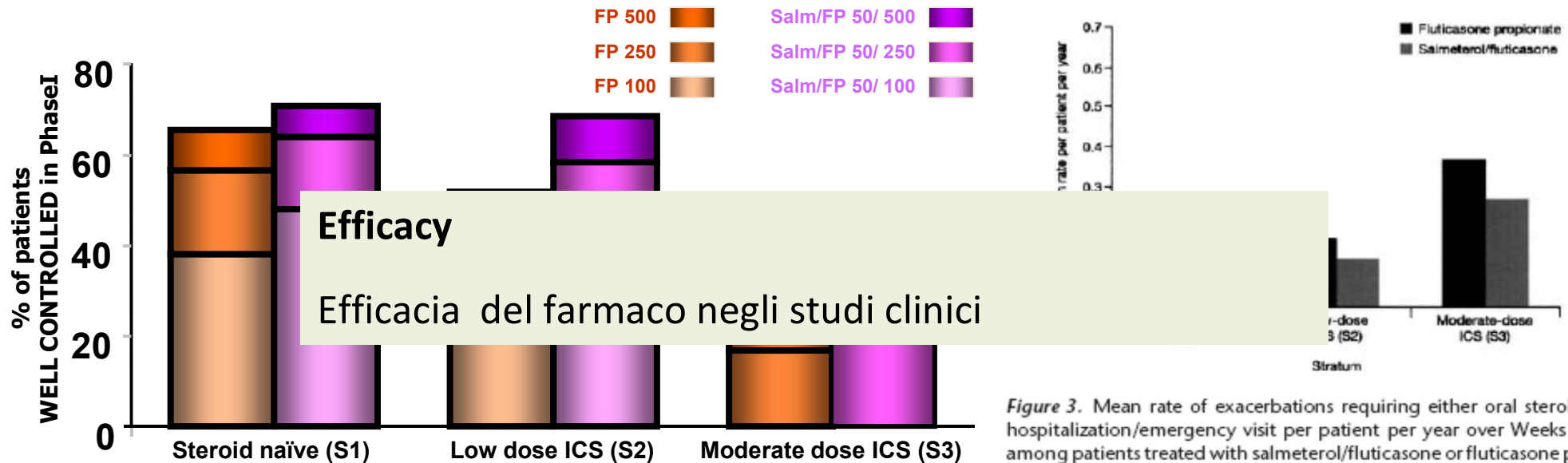
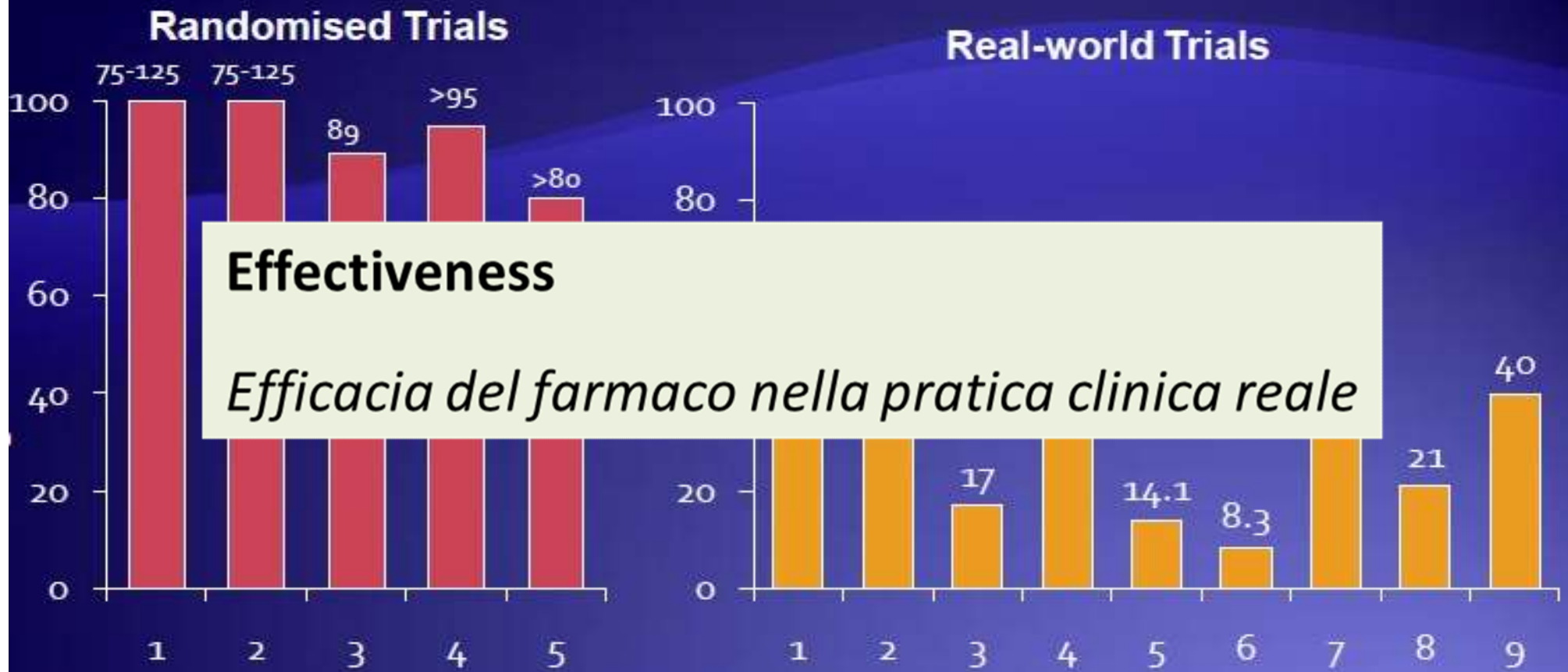


Figure 3. Mean rate of exacerbations requiring either oral steroids or hospitalization/emergency visit per patient per year over Weeks 1–52 among patients treated with salmeterol/fluticasone or fluticasone propionate according to use of ICS in previous 6 months (S1–S3). $p \leq 0.009$ salmeterol/fluticasone versus fluticasone propionate, all strata.

In addition, the approach of aiming for total control and maintaining treatment resulted in the virtual elimination of exacerbations and near-normal quality of life in the majority of patients and brought substantial benefit even to those who failed to achieve this high level of control.

Real-life adherence in observational studies vs. randomised trials



RCT References

- 1) Pawels R et al. *N Engl J Med* 1997
- 2) Kips J et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care* 2000
- 3) Bateman E. *Am J Respir Crit Care* 2004
- 4) Papi A et al. *Eur Respir J* 2007
- 5) Busse W et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2008

Real-world References

- 1) Partridge *Pulm Med* 2006
- 2) De Marco et al. *Int Arch Allergy Immunol* 2005
- 3 and 4) Janson et al. *Eur Respir J* 2001 3=Italy 4=UK
- 5 and 6) Breekveldt-Postma et al. *Pharmaco-epidemiol Drug Saf* 2008 5=fixed combination 6=ICS
- 7) Stallberg et al. *Resp Med* 2003
- 8) Adams et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2002
- 9) Corrigan *Prim Care Resp J* 2011

Original article

Persistence with asthma treatment is low in Germany especially for controller medication – a population based study of 483 051 patients

Hasford et al.

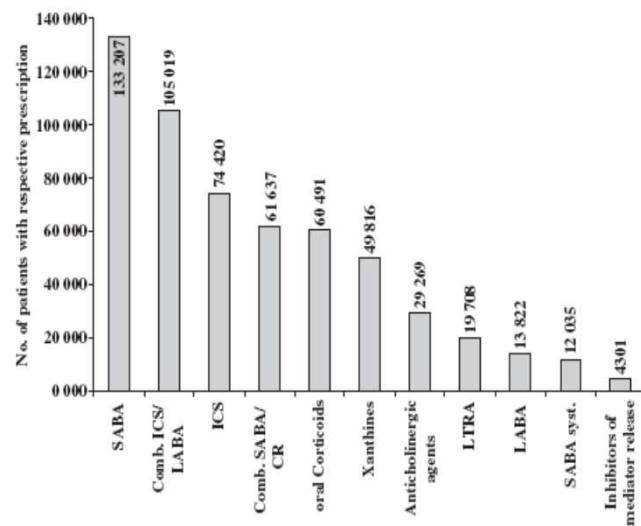


Figure 2. Number of asthma patients with corresponding prescription. SABA, short-acting β_2 -agonists; Comb. SABA + CR, SABA + Cromoglycate; SABA sys, systemic SABA; ICS, inhaled corticosteroids; LABA, long acting β_2 -agonists; Comb. ICS/LABA, ICS and LABA combined; LTRA, leukotriene receptor antagonists.

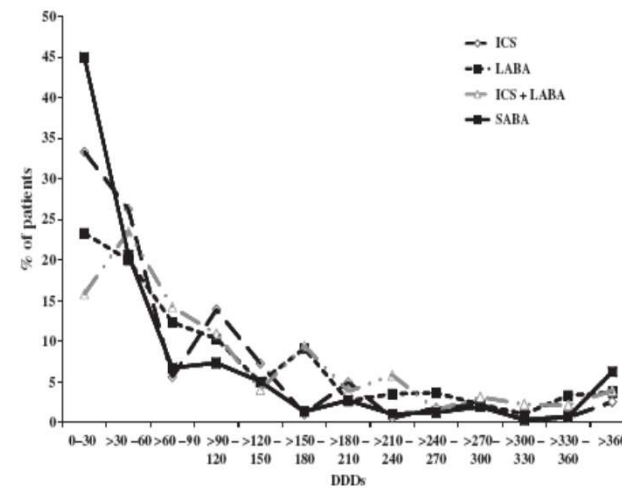
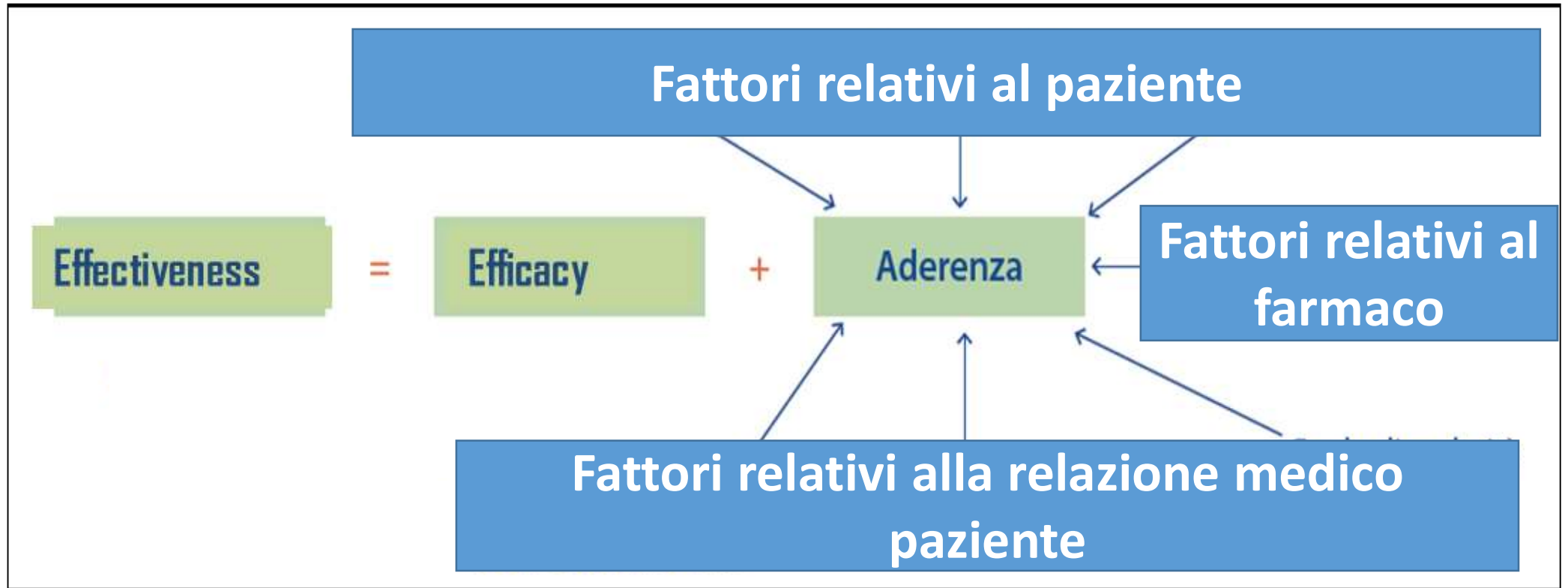


Figure 3. Proportion of patients receiving the indicated number of DDDs over the course of 1 year. ICS, inhaled corticosteroids; LABA, long acting β_2 -agonists; SABA, short-acting β_2 -agonists.

Fattori determinanti dell'efficacia terapeutica nella pratica clinica (effectiveness)



Efficacy

Efficacia del farmaco negli studi clinici

Effectiveness

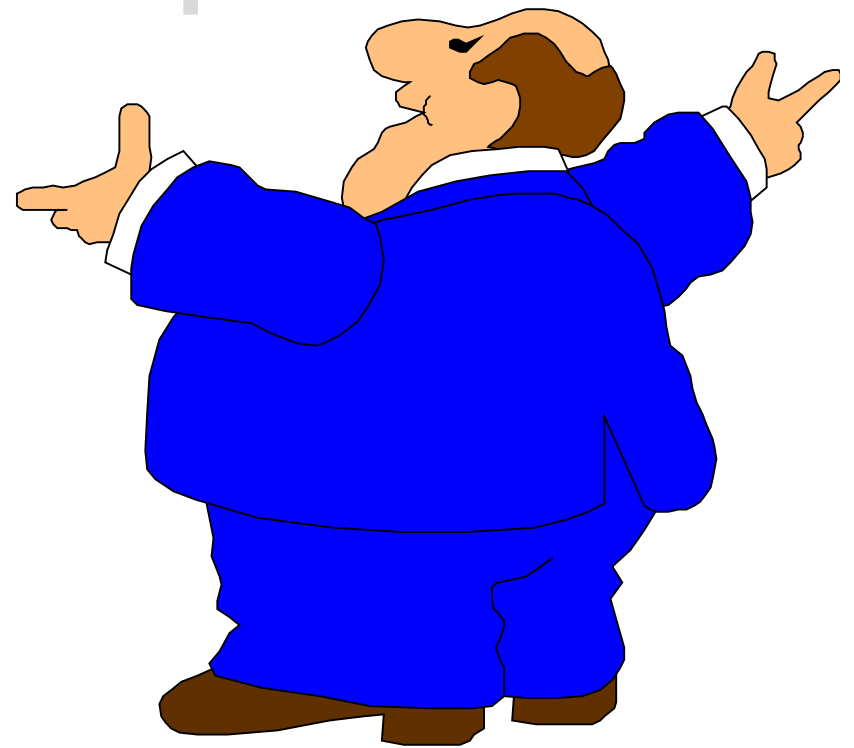
Efficacia del farmaco nella pratica clinica reale

Eichler HG NATURE REV DRUG DISCOVERY 2011

Ribeiro J et al Jornal de Pediatria 2006

Argomenti in discussione

- **Introduzione**
- **Aderenza: ruolo del paziente**
- Aderenza: ruolo della farmacologia
- Aderenza: relazione medico-paziente



Rischieresti la vita pur di evitare una pillola ?

Prevenire le malattie cardiovascolari

Sondaggio promosso dall'American Heart Association

- **L'8% dei partecipanti si è detto disposto a rinunciare a due anni di vita pur di evitare medicine da assumere giornalmente**
- **Il 13% dei soggetti interpellati ha dichiarato che pur di evitarle accetterebbe anche un minimo rischio di mortalità.**
- **Il 21% dei partecipanti inoltre pagherebbe più che volentieri 1000 dollari o anche di più se questo consentisse di evitare la pillola quotidiana.**





Asthma medication adherence: the role of God and other health locus of control factors

Brian K. Ahmedani, PhD^{a,*}; Edward L. Peterson, PhD[†]; Karen E. Wells, MPH[‡]; Cynthia S. Rand, PhD[‡]; and L. Keoki Williams, MD, MPH[§]

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ABSTRACT

Background: Medication adherence is an important determinant of disease outcomes, yet medication use on average tends to be low among patients with chronic conditions, including asthma. Although several predictors of non-adherence have been assessed, more research is needed on patients' beliefs about God and how these relate to medication use.

Objective: To examine the relationship between perceptions about "God's" role in health and other locus of control factors with inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) adherence among asthma patients.

Methods: Participants were from a clinical trial to improve ICS adherence and were 5–56 years old, had a diagnosis of asthma, and were receiving ICS medication. Baseline adherence was estimated from electronic prescription and pharmacy fill records. Patients were considered to be adherent if ICS use was $\geq 80\%$ of prescribed. A baseline survey with the Multidimensional Health Locus of Control scale was used to assess five sources (God, doctors, other people, chance, and internal).

Results: Medication adherence was low (36%). Patients' who had a stronger belief that God determined asthma control were less likely to be adherent (odds ratio [OR] 0.82, 95% confidence interval [CI] 0.70–0.96). This relationship was stronger among African American (OR 0.68, 95% CI 0.47–0.99) compared to white patients (OR 0.89, 95% CI 0.75–1.04), and among adults (OR 0.81, 95% CI 0.69–0.96) compared to children (OR 0.84, 95% CI 0.58–1.22).

Conclusion: Patients' belief in God's control of health appears to be a factor in asthma controller use, and therefore should be considered in physician-patient discussions concerning course of treatment.

Trial Registration: ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT00459368.

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Table 2

Predictors of inhaled corticosteroid adherence among individuals with asthma^a

Predictor	Two-variable models ^b		Multivariable model ^c	
	OR (95% CI)	P value	OR (95% CI)	P value
Age	1.45 (1.25–1.69)	.001	1.41 (1.23–1.63)	.001
Female sex ^d	0.90 (0.58–1.42)	.66	0.73 (0.47–1.23)	.19
African American race ^e	0.48 (0.33–0.70)	.001	0.51 (0.37–0.72)	.001
Medical history ^f				
ED visits for asthma	1.58 (0.96–2.60)	.07	2.21 (1.36–3.61)	.001
Oral corticosteroid medication fills	0.94 (0.81–1.08)	.38	0.89 (0.77–1.03)	.13
Health locus of control ^g				
God/higher power	0.74 (0.63–0.86)	.001	0.80 (0.67–0.94)	.008
Internal	1.07 (0.93–1.24)	.34	0.97 (0.84–1.12)	.66
Chance	0.89 (0.70–1.13)	.33	1.08 (0.79–1.48)	.61
Physicians (Powerful others)	1.40 (1.12–1.75)	.003	1.34 (1.08–1.67)	.008
Other people (powerful others)	0.97 (0.88–1.07)	.51	0.98 (0.89–1.09)	.75

Table 3

Predictors of inhaled corticosteroid adherence among individuals with asthma stratified by race^a

Predictor	White individuals		African American individuals	
	OR (95% CI) ^b	P value	OR (95% CI) ^b	P value
Age	1.37 (1.19–1.59)	.001	1.60 (1.07–2.38)	.02
Female sex ^c	0.82 (0.48–1.40)	.46	0.43 (0.16–1.13)	.09
Medical history ^d				
ED visits for asthma	0.97 (0.24–3.91)	.97	3.85 (2.05–7.24)	.001
Oral corticosteroid medication fills	0.89 (0.75–1.05)	.17	0.89 (0.68–1.16)	.40
Health locus of control ^e				
God/higher power	0.89 (0.75–1.04)	.15	0.68 (0.47–0.99)	.04
Internal	0.92 (0.78–1.08)	.31	1.21 (0.90–1.64)	.21
Chance	1.12 (0.78–1.61)	.52	1.07 (0.69–1.65)	.76
Physicians (powerful others)	1.44 (1.13–1.85)	.004	1.04 (0.70–1.53)	.86
Other people (powerful others)	0.97 (0.85–1.09)	.58	0.93 (0.73–1.19)	.59

I rischi percepiti della terapia

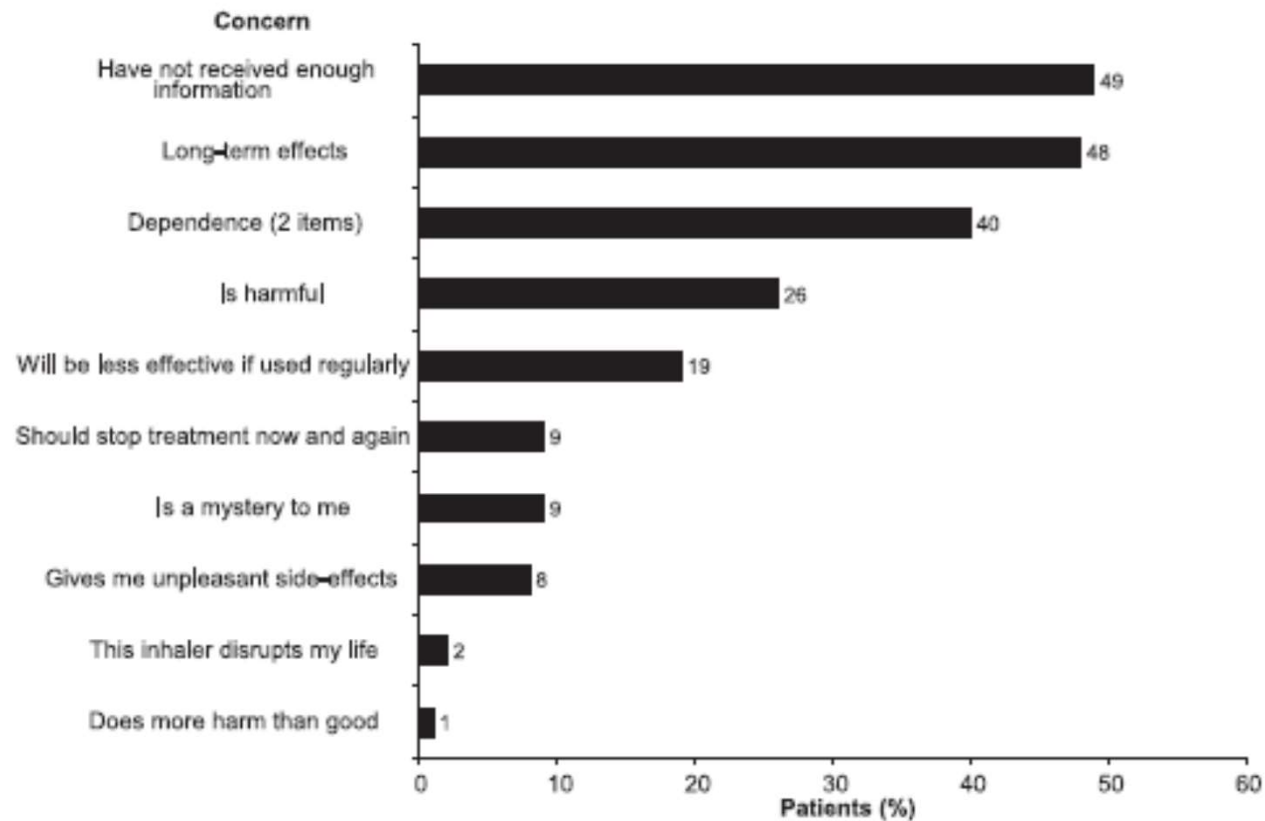


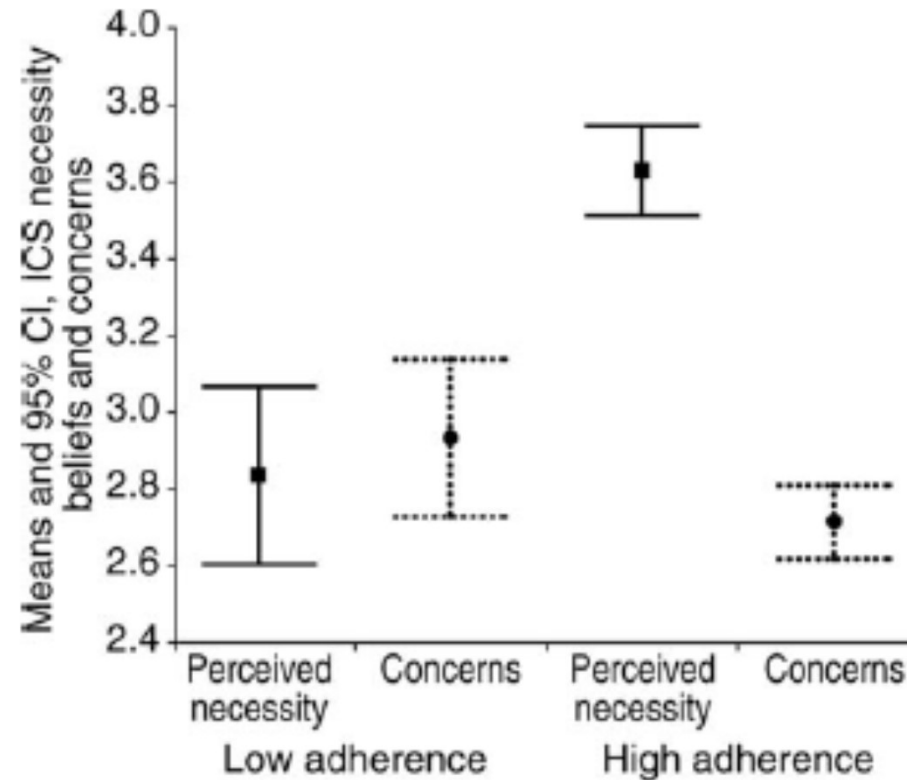
FIGURE 2. Profile of concerns about the use of ICS among 100 primary care patients with asthma (Horne and Weinman¹⁹).

The concerns about the adverse effects of ICS, is not necessarily related to actual experience, but rather to beliefs about the link between regular use and dependency or other perceived side effects.

Rob Horne

Chest 2006;130:65-72

Low rate of adherence are related to doubts about personal need for medication and concerns about potential adverse effects.



Patients with the greatest doubts about the need for ICS, coupled with the most concerns, had significantly higher rates of nonadherence, while the converse was also true.

SHORT REPORT

The utility of the Necessity–Concerns Framework in explaining treatment non-adherence in four chronic illness groups in Italy

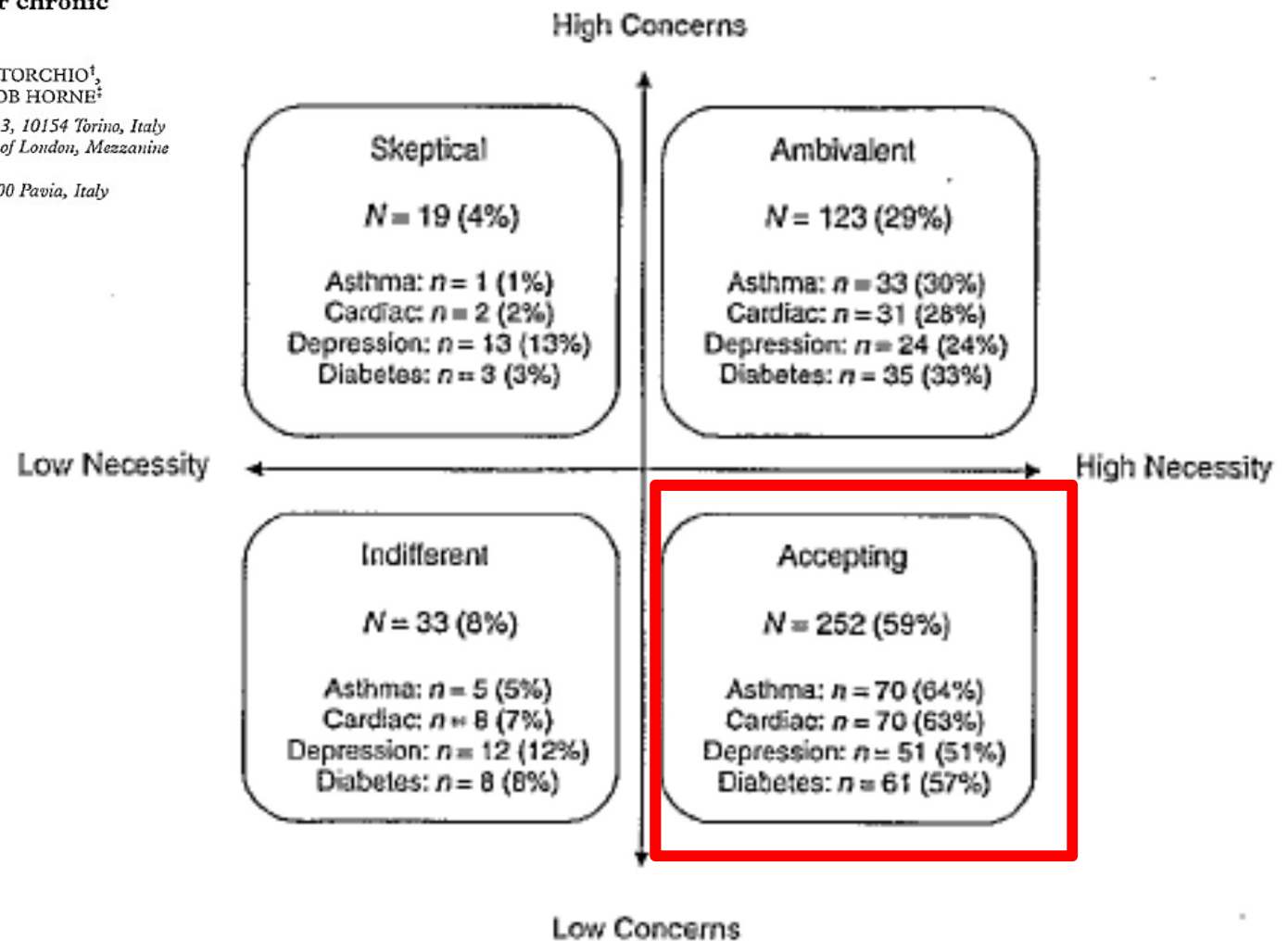
GIUSEPPE TIBALDI[†], JANE CLATWORTHY[‡], ELISABETTA TORCHIO[†], PIERGIORGIO ARGENTERO[§], CARMINE MUNIZZA[†] and ROB HORNE[‡]

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[§]Department of Psychology, University of Pavia, Piazza Botta 6, I-27100 Pavia, Italy

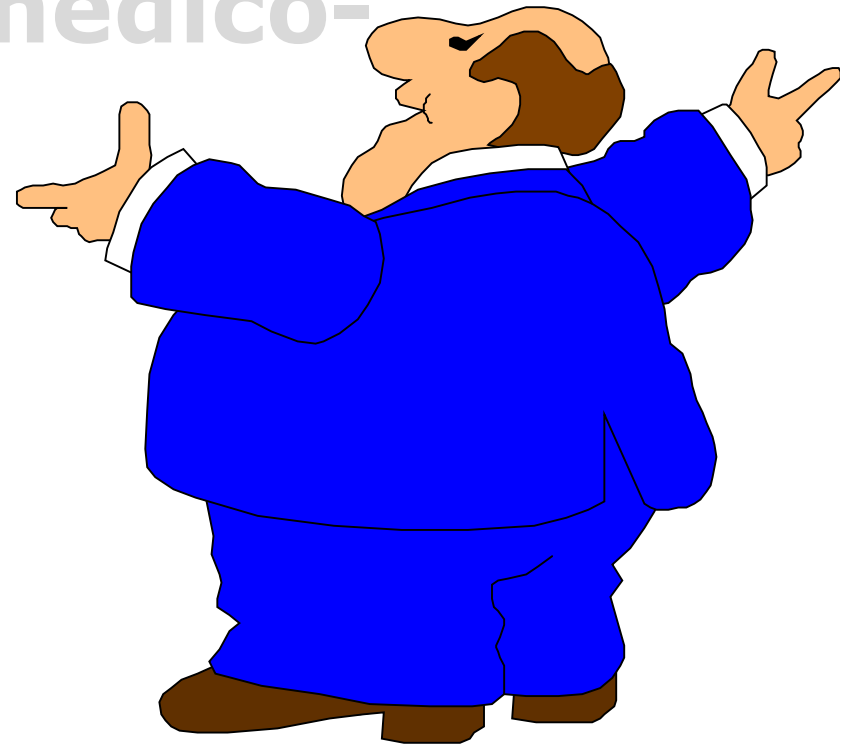
Received 16 January 2009, Accepted 20 January 2009



with Cronbach's alphas of 0.78 (Necessity subscale) and 0.72 (Concerns subscale). Participants were divided into four attitudinal groups based on their responses to the BMQ: 59% Accepting (high Necessity, low Concerns), 29% ambivalent (high Necessity, high Concerns), 8% Indifferent (low Necessity, low Concerns) and 4% Skeptical (low Necessity, high Concerns). Those in the Accepting group reported the highest adherence to medication and those in the Skeptical group the lowest ($p < 0.01$).

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Adherence to Asthma Treatment

PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY AND DRUG SAFETY 2008; 17: 411–422

Published online 21 January 2008 in Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com) DOI: 10.1002/pds.1552

ORIGINAL REPORT

Treatment with inhaled corticosteroids in asthma is too often discontinued[†]

Nancy S. Breekveldt-Postma PhD¹, Jeroen Koerselman MD, PhD¹, Joëlle A. Erkens PhD¹, Thys van der Molen MD, PhD², Jan-Willem J. Lammers MD, PhD³ and Ron M. C. Herings PhD^{1,4*} for the CAMERA Study Group[†]

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²*Department of General Practice, University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands*

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CHEST[®]

Official publication of the American College of Chest Physicians



Compliance, Adherence, and Concordance*

Rob Horne

Chest 2006;130;65S-72S

DOI 10.1378/chest.130.1_suppl.65S

Patient Beliefs

The necessity/concerns framework was perceived to be useful in understanding why many patients decide not to use ICS as prescribed (Fig 5). The panel agreed that because ICS do not immediately relieve symptoms, patients believed that they were ineffective and, therefore, unnecessary. The panel

Does use of a corticosteroid/long-acting beta-agonist combination inhaler increase adherence to inhaled corticosteroids?

Table 1. Characteristics of subjects.

	ICS/LABA	ICS
N	25	57
Median age (IQR)	40 (36 to 42)	33 (26 to 40)
Gender, % female	62.5	63.8
Inhalers		
Seretide	21	
Symbicort	4	
Beclomethasone		51
Fluticasone		5
Budesonide		1
Adherence % (IQR)	72.2 (54.8 to 98.6)	40.5 (27.4 to 82.2)
Median SABA use (IQR)	3 (2 to 7)	4 (2 to 6)

ICS/LABA = Inhaled corticosteroid/long-acting beta-agonist combined inhaler; ICS = Inhaled corticosteroid inhaler; IQR = Interquartile range; SABA = Short-acting beta-agonist inhaler

Foden et al, 2008

Primary Adherence to Controller Medications for Asthma Is Poor

Ann Chen Wu^{1,2,3}, Melissa G. Butler⁴, Lingling Li¹, Vicki Fung⁵, Elyse O. Kharbanda⁶, Emma K. Larkin⁷, William M. Vollmer⁸, Irina Miroshnik¹, Robert L. Davis⁹, Tracy A. Lieu^{1,2,3,10}, and Stephen B. Soumerai¹

¹Center for Child Health Care Studies, Department of Population Medicine, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute and Harvard Medical School; ²Division of General Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital, and ³Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts; ⁴Center for Health Research–Southeast, Kaiser Permanente Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia; ⁵Mongan Institute for Health Policy, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts; ⁶HealthPartners Institute for Education and Research, Minneapolis, Minnesota; ⁷Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee; ⁸Center for Health Research–Northwest, Kaiser Permanente, Portland, Oregon; ⁹Center for Biomedical Informatics, University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center, Memphis, Tennessee; and ¹⁰Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente Northern California, Oakland, California

We found that 14–20% of subjects who were prescribed controller medicines for the first time did not fill their prescriptions. The mean proportion of days covered was 19% for ICS, 30% for LTRA, and 25% for ICS/LABA over 12 months.

Table 3. Odds of medication adherence outcomes by asthma controller medication class

	OR (CI)	
	LTRA vs. ICS	ICS/LABA vs. ICS
Primary adherence	0.82 (0.74–0.92)	0.88 (0.80–0.97)
Early-stage persistence	1.82 (1.64–2.04)	0.96 (0.88–1.04)
Adjusted PDC ≥ 75%	6.21 (5.41–7.19)	2.13 (1.82–2.48)

Definition of abbreviations: CI = confidence interval; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; ICS/LABA = inhaled corticosteroid/long-acting β -agonist; LTRA = leukotriene antagonist; OR = odds ratio; PDC = proportion of days covered.

REVIEW ARTICLE

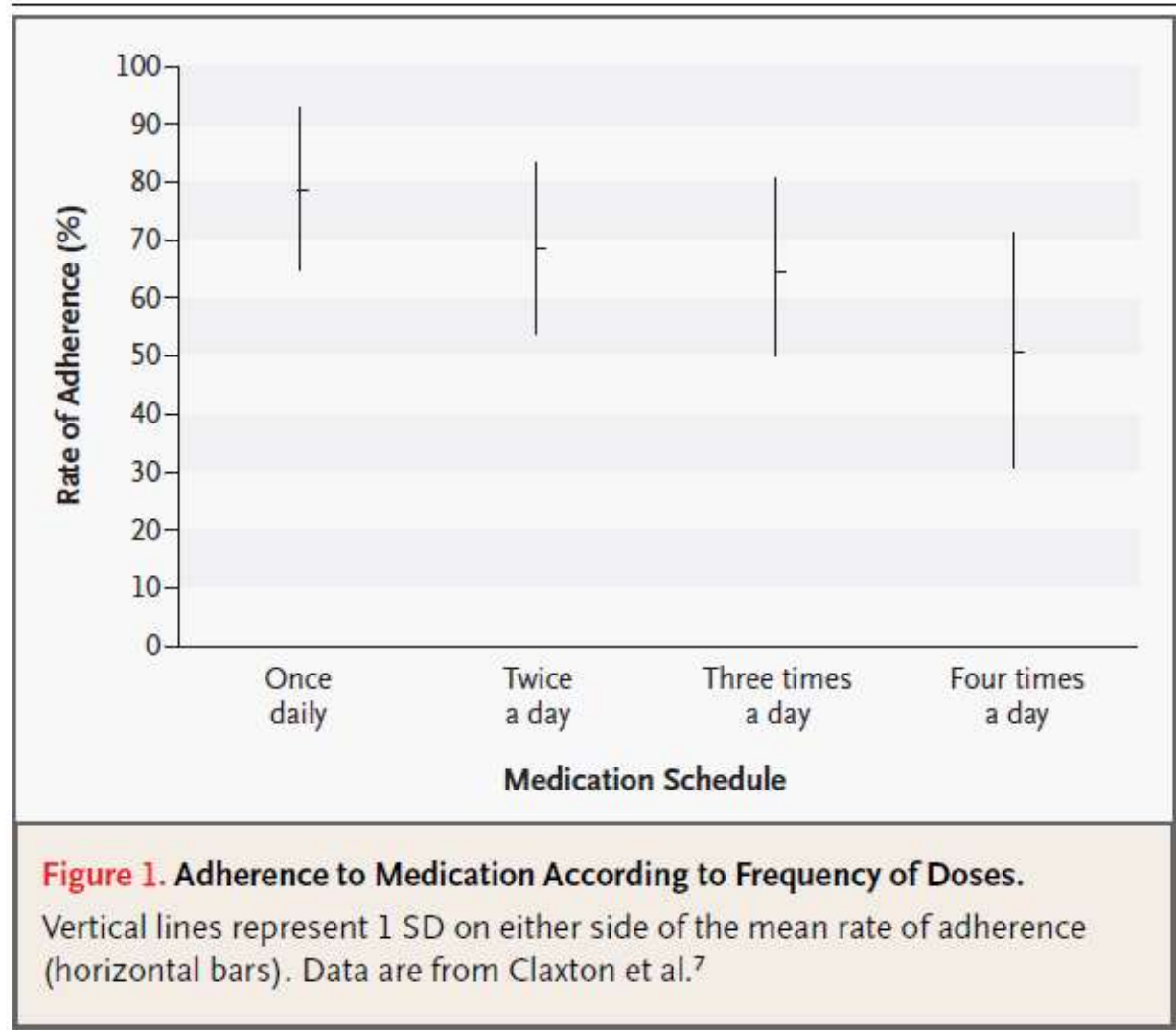
DRUG THERAPY

Adherence to Medication

Lars Osterberg, M.D., and Terrence Blaschke, M.D.

Drugs don't work in patients who don't take them.

—C. Everett Koop

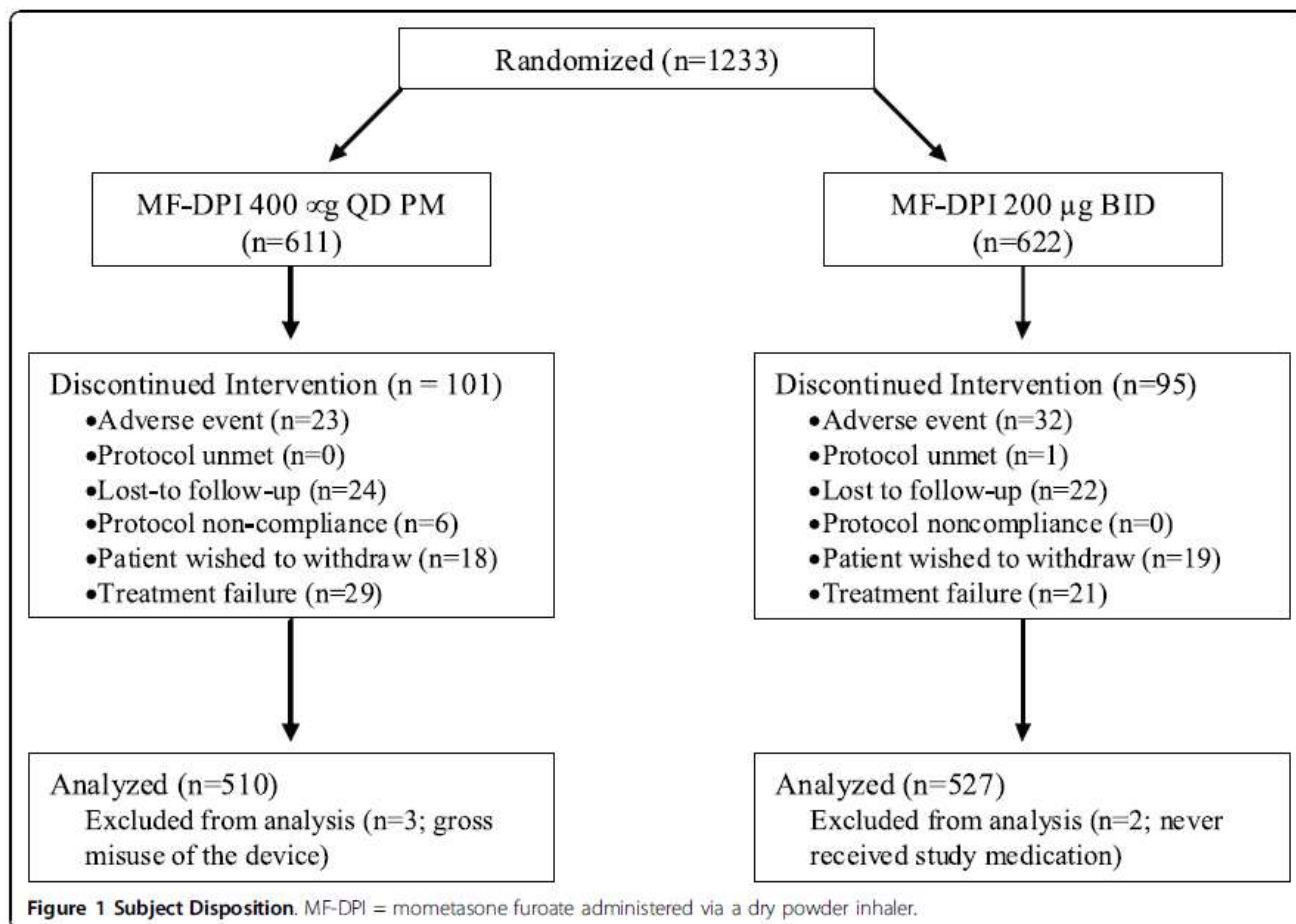


RESEARCH ARTICLE

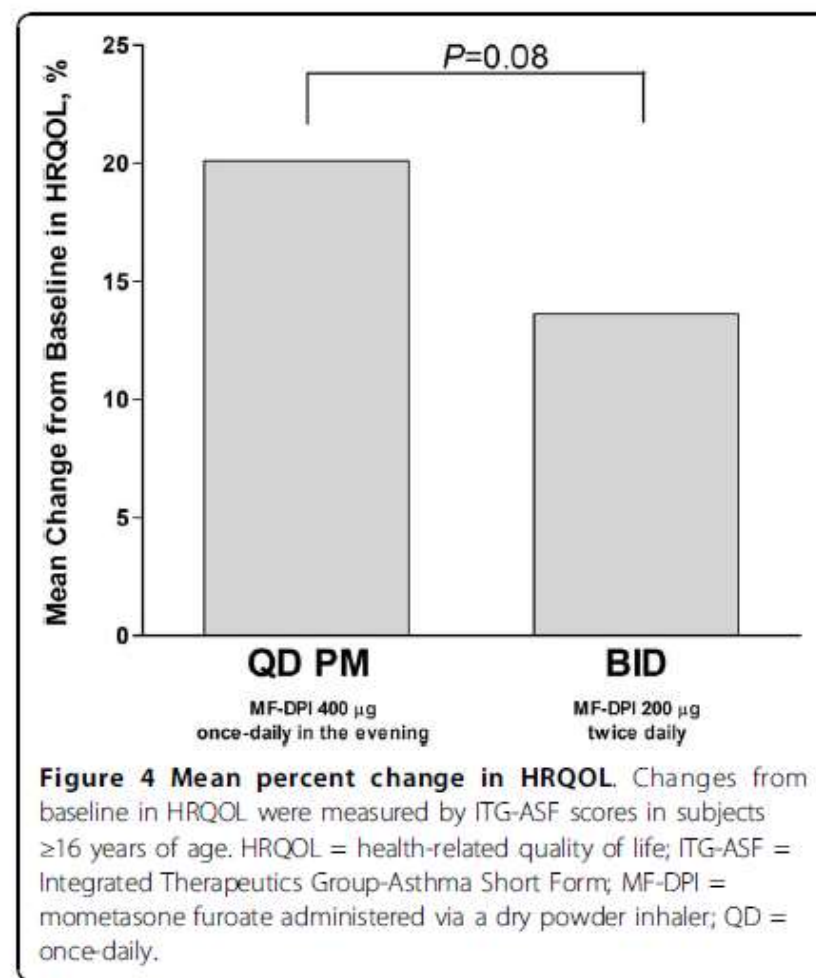
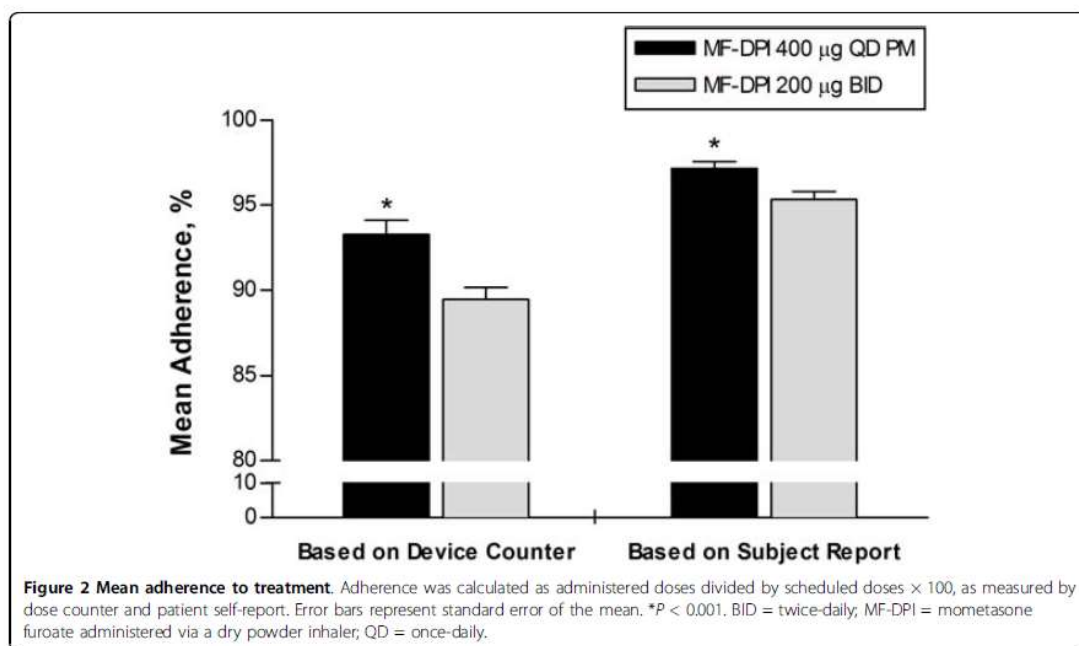
Open Access

Improved adherence with once-daily versus twice-daily dosing of mometasone furoate administered via a dry powder inhaler: a randomized open-label study

David Price^{1*}, Anne Robertson², Kevin Bullen³, Cyntia



Results: 1233 patients were randomized. The mean adherence rates, as measured by the automatic dose counter, were significantly better ($P < 0.001$) with MF-DPI 400 μg once-daily in the evening (93.3%) than with MF-DPI 200 μg twice-daily (89.5%). Mean adherence rates based on self-reports were also significantly better ($P < 0.001$) with MF-DPI 400 μg QD PM (97.2%) than with MF-DPI 200 μg twice-daily (95.3%). Adherence rates were lower in adolescents (12-17 years old). Health-related quality of life improved by 20% in patients using MF-DPI once-daily in the evening and by 14% in patients using MF-DPI twice-daily. Very few (<8%) patients missed work/school.



Efficacy and Safety of Fluticasone Furoate/Vilanterol Compared With Fluticasone Propionate/Salmeterol Combination in Adult and Adolescent Patients With Persistent Asthma

A Randomized Trial

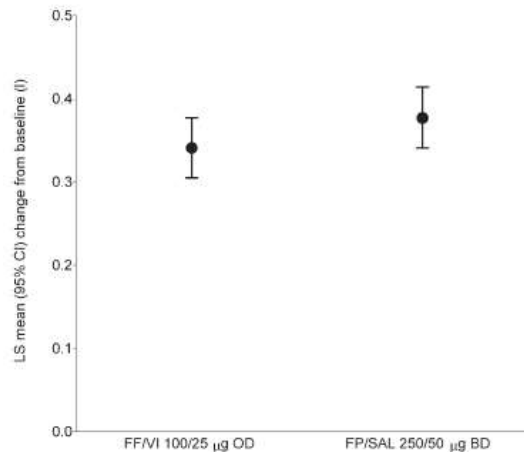
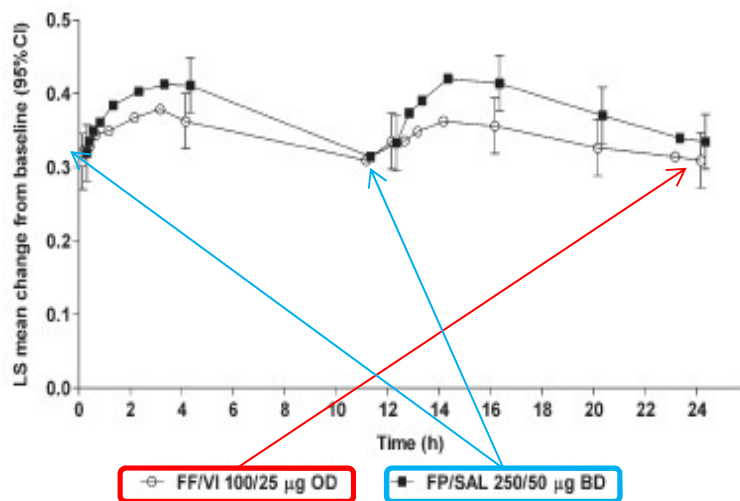


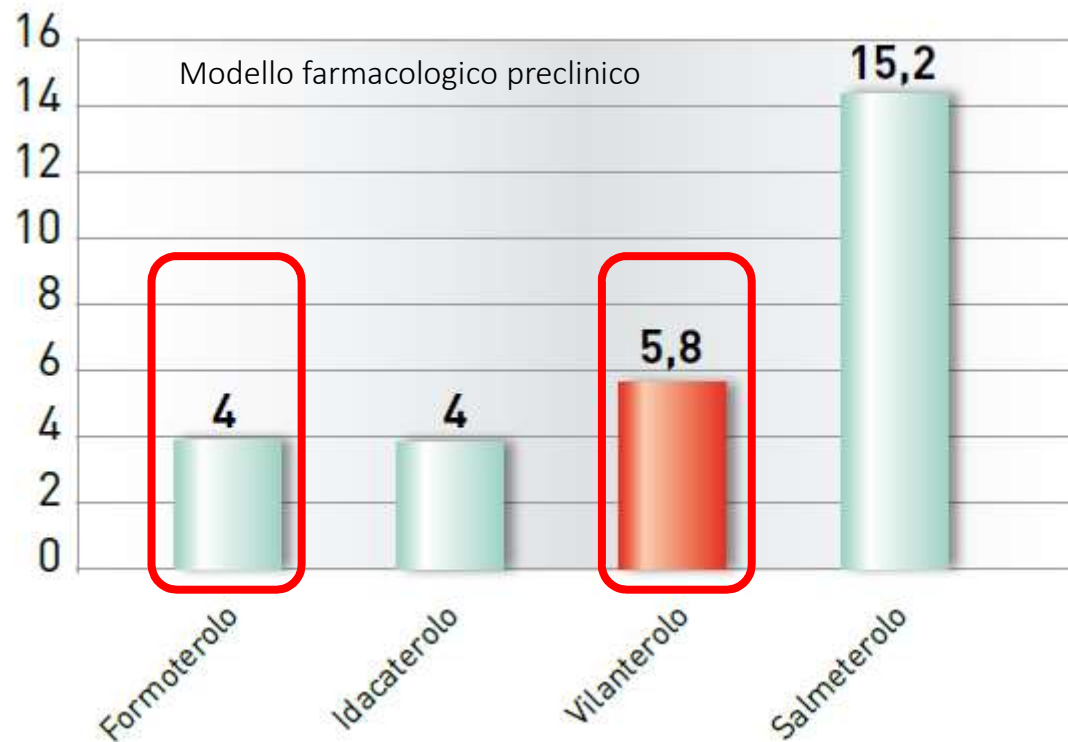
FIGURE 2. Adjusted means for 0- to 24-h serial weighted mean FEV₁ at week 24 (intention-to-treat population). LS = least squares. See Figure 1 legend for expansion of other abbreviations.

In a randomized, double-blind, double-dummy, parallel group study, **806 patients** received FF/VI (100/25, n = 403) **once daily** in the evening delivered through ELLIPTA dry powder inhaler, or FP/SAL (250/50, n = 403) bid through DISKUS.

The efficacy of once-daily FF/VI was **similar** to bid FP/SAL in improving lung function in patients with persistent asthma. No safety issues were identified.

In Vitro Pharmacological Characterization of Vilanterol, a Novel Long-Acting β_2 -Adrenoceptor Agonist with 24-Hour Duration of Action

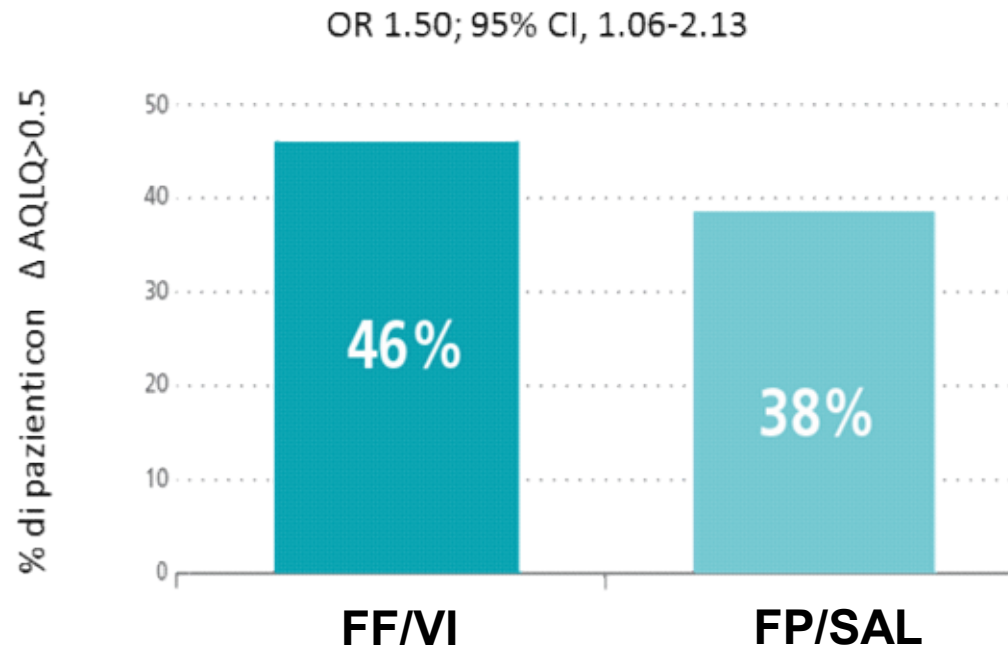
VILANTEROLO: RAPIDA BRONCODILATAZIONE



Incremento del FEV1 dopo
5 minuti dall'inalazione



Effetto sulla qualità della vita



FF/VI ha avuto miglioramento clinicamente rilevante nella QoL in una percentuale maggiore di pz rispetto a FP/SALM (analisi post-hoc) .

Historical cohort study examining comparative effectiveness of albuterol inhalers with and without integrated dose counter for patients with asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

This article was published in the following Dove Press journal:
Journal of Asthma and Allergy
26 August 2016
[Number of times this article has been viewed](#)

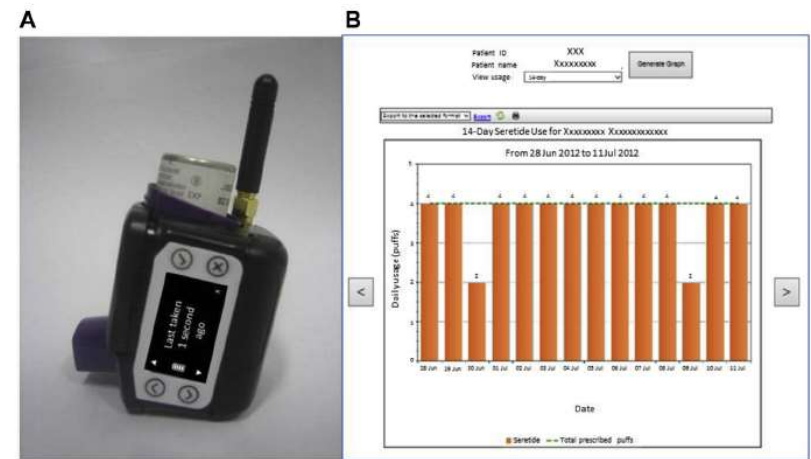
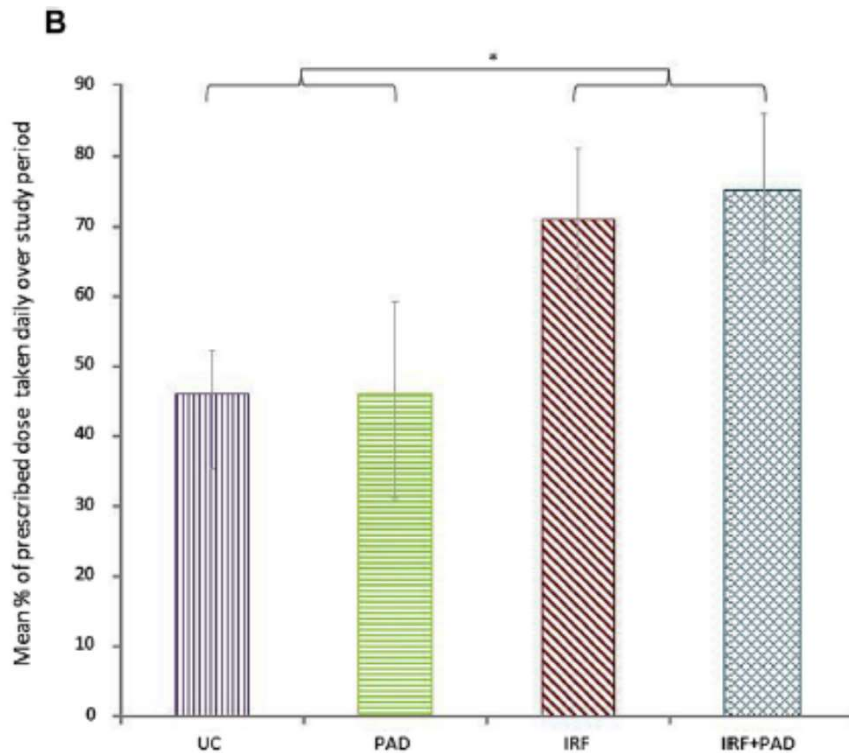
Results: A total of 93,980 patients were studied, including 67,251 (72%) in the dose counter cohort and 26,729 (28%) in the non-dose-counter cohort. The cohorts were broadly similar at baseline (55,069 [59%] female patients; median age, 37 years). The incidence rate of respiratory-related ED visits during the outcome year was 45% lower in the dose counter cohort than in the non-dose-counter cohort (adjusted rate ratio: 0.55; 95% confidence interval: 0.47–0.64). Exacerbation rates and short-acting β -agonist use were similar between cohorts.

Conclusion

We found that the integration of dose counters into rescue inhaler devices is associated with decreased ED visit frequency. The presence of integrated dose counters on rescue inhalers can help patients avoid using an empty or near-empty inhaler during exacerbations, thereby ensuring available medication for relief of their symptoms. The integration of dose counters on rescue MDIs could represent a simple and effective tool to improve clinical outcomes during exacerbations, with a potential for cost savings to health care systems.

Inhaler reminders improve adherence with controller treatment in primary care patients with asthma

Juliet M. Foster, PhD,^a Tim Usherwood, BSc, MD, BS,^b Lorraine Smith, PhD,^c Susan M. Sawyer, MBBS, MD,^{d,e,f}
Wei Xuan, MSc, MAppStat, PhD,^g Cynthia S. Rand, PhD,^h and Helen K. Reddel, MBBS, PhD^a
Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, and Baltimore, Md



Conclusions: Inhaler reminders offer an effective strategy for improving adherence in primary care compared with a behavioral intervention or usual care, although this may not be reflected in differences in day-to-day asthma control. (J Allergy Clin Immunol 2014;■■■■:■■■-■■■.)



Editorial

Treatment adherence in asthmatic patients: The last frontier?

Eric D. Bateman, MD, FRCP *Cape Town, South Africa*

Methods for ensuring adherence recommended in management guidelines focus mainly on improving the skills of health professionals to communicate and motivate patients, and some include aids to assist and encourage patients to take their medications.⁸ However, effecting behavior change, first among physicians and then in their patients, is difficult and time-consuming, and in general, published methods for achieving this are complex and impractical in the primary care setting because of time and other constraints.⁹



Editorial

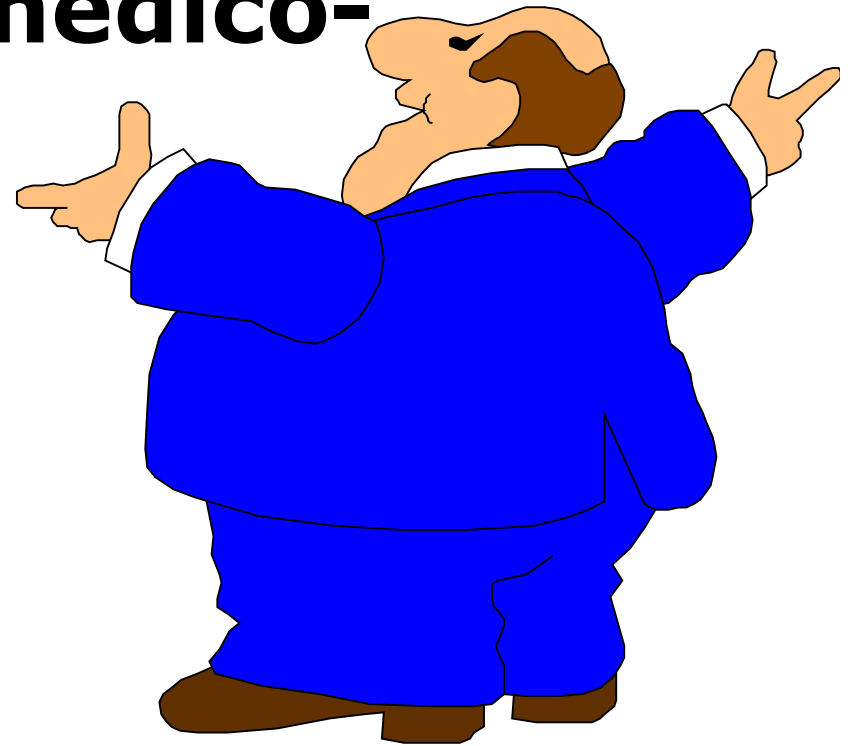
Treatment adherence in asthmatic patients: The last frontier?

Eric D. Bateman, MD, FRCP *Cape Town, South Africa*

than those who received usual care. Thus the primary message of the study is that patient-friendly technology is superior to a behavioral approach in improving adherence. However, the

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Adherence to Long-Acting Inhaled Therapies among Patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Laura M. Cecere^{1,2}, Christopher G. Slatore^{3,4}, Jane E. Uman¹, Laura E. Evans⁵, Edmunds M. Udris¹, Chris L. Bryson^{1,6}, and David H. Au^{1,2}

self-management. Conclusions: Adherence to long-acting inhaled medications among patients with COPD is poor, and determinants of adherence likely differ by medication class. Patient perception of clinician expertise in lung disease was the factor most highly associated with adherence to long-acting therapies.

Table 3. Associations of patient perceptions with adherence status

	Long-Acting Beta Agonists		Inhaled Corticosteroids	
	Odds Ratio (95%CI)	P-value	Odds Ratio (95%CI)	P-value
Self-Efficacy*				
Confidence in self-management of breathing problems				
Never-some of the time	1.00	Referent [†]	1.00	Referent [†]
A good bit-most of the time	3.57 (1.09, 11.71)	0.036	0.69 (0.23, 2.07)	0.508
All of the time	5.92 (1.86, 18.85)	0.003	1.58 (0.47, 5.28)	0.461
Confidence in Provider*				
Perception of provider skill/knowledge				
Not at all-somewhat knowledgeable	1.00	Referent [‡]	1.00	Referent [‡]
Quite knowledgeable	4.21 (1.27, 13.93)	0.019	3.03 (0.67, 13.61)	0.149
Very knowledgeable	15.28 (4.25, 54.97)	< 0.001	2.62 (0.58, 11.94)	0.213
Expert	21.70 (6.79, 69.37)	< 0.001	7.93 (1.71, 36.67)	0.008

Odds of adherence to each medication estimated using multiple logistic regression clustered by clinician and using robust standard errors. *Adjusted for Age, Education, Marital Status, Race, Income, SIC score, FEV₁% predicted, and complexity of medication regimen; Values in bold indicate p-value < 0.05. [†]p-value for grouped linear trend = 0.003 for LABA and 0.240 for ICS; [‡] p-value for grouped linear trend = < 0.001 for LABA and 0.007 for ICS.



ELSEVIER

respiratoryMEDICINE

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Factors affecting adherence to asthma treatment in an international cohort of young and middle-aged adults

Angelo G. Corsico^{a,*}, Lucia Cazzoletti^b, Roberto de Marco^b, Christer Janson^c, Deborah Jarvis^d, Maria C. Zoia^a, Massimiliano Bugiani^e, Simone Accordini^b, Simona Villani^f, Alessandra Marinoni^f, David Gislason^g, Amund Gulsvik^h, Isabelle Pinⁱ, Paul Vermeire^j, Isa Cerveri^a

Evidenze Ottenute

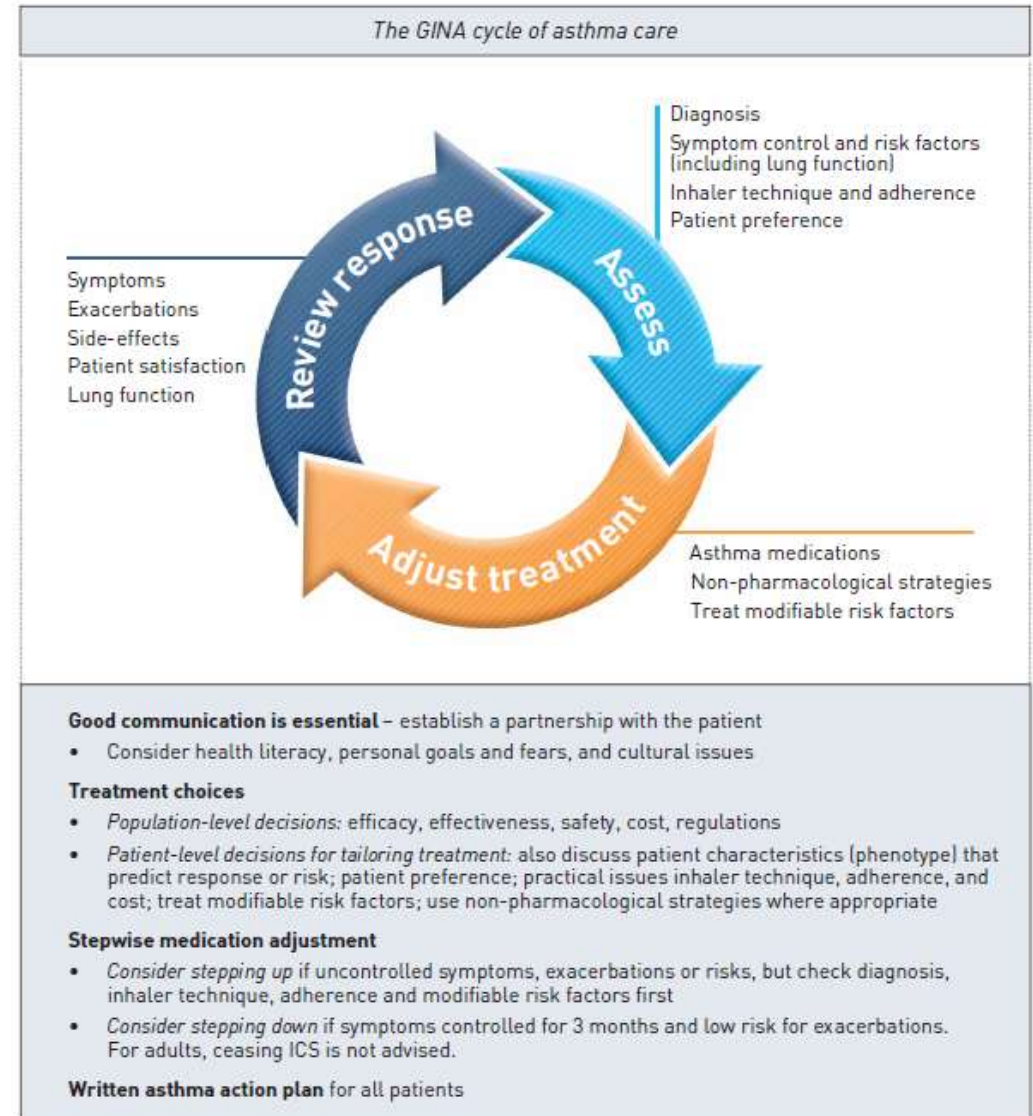
- La non aderenza al trattamento è la principale ragione dello scarso controllo dell'asma
- Il controllo regolare presso il proprio medico curante è risultato il più forte predittore di miglioramento dell'aderenza (OR 3.32; 95% CI: 1.08–10.17).



CrossMark

A summary of the new GINA strategy: a roadmap to asthma control

Helen K. Reddel¹, Eric D. Bateman², Allan Becker³, Louis-Philippe Boulet⁴, Alvaro A. Cruz⁵, Jeffrey M. Drazen⁶, Tari Haahtela⁷, Suzanne S. Hurd⁸, Hiromasa Inoue⁹, Johan C. de Jongste¹⁰, Robert F. Lemanske Jr¹¹, Mark L. Levy¹², Paul M. O'Byrne¹³, Pierluigi Paggiaro¹⁴, Soren E. Pedersen¹, Emilio Pizzichini¹⁶, Manuel Soto-Quiroz¹⁷, Stanley J. Szeftler¹⁸, Gary W.K. Wong¹⁹ and J. Mark FitzGerald²⁰





Original article

Unmet needs in asthma: Global Asthma Physician and Patient (GAPP) Survey: global adult findings

G. W. Canonica¹, C. E. Baena-Cagnani², M. S. Blaiss³, R. Dahl⁴, M. A. Kaliner⁵, E. J. Valovirta⁶
(The GAPP Survey Working Group)

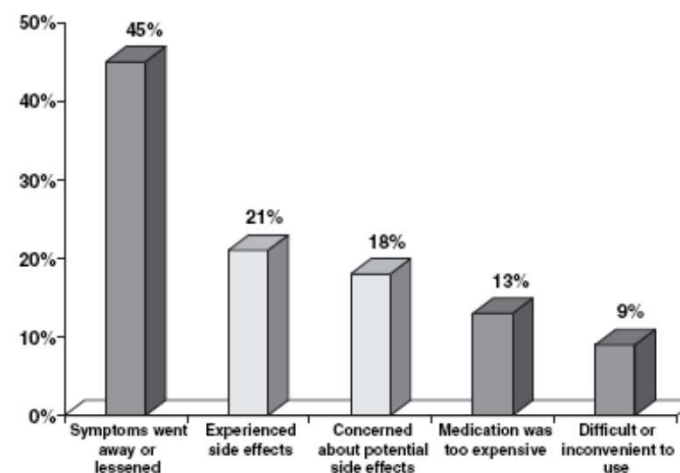
¹Department of Internal Medicine, University of Genova Pad., Genova, Italy; ²Catholic University of Córdoba, Córdoba, Argentina; ³University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN, USA; ⁴Department of Respiratory Diseases, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus, Denmark; ⁵Institute for Asthma and Allergy, Chevy Chase, MD, USA; ⁶Turku Allergy Center, Turku, Finland

Levels of asthma education

When questioned on perceptions of asthma education, 87% of physicians and 64% of patients said that up to half of the office visit was devoted to educational issues, such as correct inhaler technique, monitoring peak expiratory flow and developing an individual management plan. On average, patients reported that only 25% of office visit time was devoted to asthma education, and 23% of patients estimated that no time was spent discussing techniques for successful asthma management. Patients who categorize their asthma as

Awareness and impact of side effects

Most patients (>70%) reported that they 'never' or 'rarely' had discussions with their physician about medication side effects, while most physicians (>60%) reported that they 'sometimes' or 'always' discussed side effects with patients. The majority of patients and physicians reported that they initiated discussions about side effects (60% vs 76%).



from one asthma medication to another or discontinued asthma medication due to various reasons. Question: In asthma, have you ever switched from one asthma medication to another or discontinued an asthma medication? (Currently or has ever used asthma medication (patients)).



Inhaler mishandling remains common in real life and is associated with reduced disease control

Andrea S. Melani ^{a,*}, Marco Bonavia ^b, Vincenzo Cilenti ^c, Cristina Cinti ^d, Marco Lodi ^e, Paola Martucci ^f, Maria Serra ^g, Nicola Scichilone ^h, Piersante Sestini ⁱ, Maria Aliani ^j, Margherita Neri ^k, on behalf of the Gruppo Educazionale Associazione Italiana Pneumologi Ospedalieri (AIPO)¹

We have a total of 2288 records of inhaler technique. Critical mistakes were widely distributed among users of all the inhalers, ranging from 12% for MDIs, 35% for Diskus[®] and HandiHaler[®] and 44% for Turbuhaler[®]. Independently of the inhaler, we found the strongest association between inhaler misuse and older age ($p = 0.008$), lower schooling ($p = 0.001$) and lack of instruction received for inhaler technique by health caregivers ($p < 0.001$). Inhaler misuse was associated with increased risk of hospitalization ($p = 0.001$), emergency room visits ($p < 0.001$), courses of oral steroids ($p < 0.001$) and antimicrobials ($p < 0.001$) and poor disease control evaluated as an ACT score for the asthmatics ($p < 0.0001$) and the whole population ($p < 0.0001$).

We conclude that inhaler mishandling continues to be common in experienced outpatients referring to chest clinics and associated with increased unscheduled health-care resource use and poor clinical control. Instruction by health caregivers is the only modifiable factor useful for reducing inhaler mishandling

Improved asthma outcomes with a simple inhaler technique intervention by community pharmacists



Iman A. Basheti, BPharm Sci^a
Helen K. Reddel, MBBS, PhD, FRACP^b
Carol L. Armour, BPharm(Hons), PhD^a
Sinthia Z. Bosnic-Anticevich, BPharm(Hons), PhD^a

In summary, this study demonstrated that a simple educational intervention taking only 2.5 minutes and targeting inhaler technique was feasible for delivery by community pharmacists and resulted in improved clinical and humanistic outcomes for patients with asthma. Active patients had significantly better inhaler technique, reduced peak expiratory flow variability, and improved AQOL and PC of asthma than control patients. For patients in the active group, inhaler technique, although maintained during monthly retraining, tended to decline over the final 3 months during which no further education was delivered. This was associated with a decrease in some asthma outcomes.

These observations confirm that rechecking and re-educating patients about inhaler technique needs to be a regular and ongoing process. Community pharmacists are well placed to do this because they can engage the patient every time an inhaler is dispensed. This study thus highlights the critical role of face-to-face pharmacist-patient interactions about inhaled medications. Improved inhaler technique will have an effect on asthma control and health care use.

Medico di medicina generale e specialisti: opinioni a confronto su identificazione, diagnosi e monitoraggio del paziente asmatico in Italia

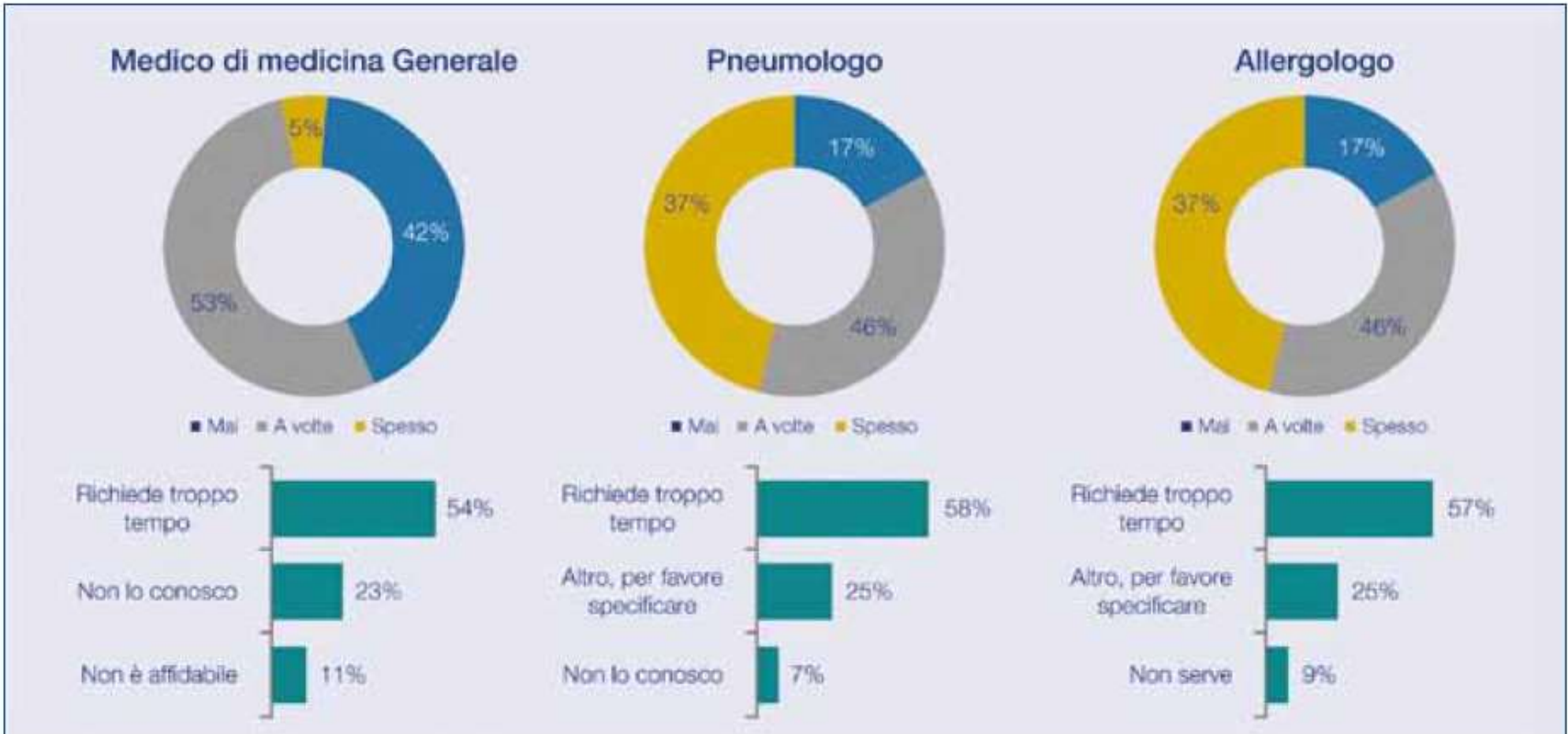


Figura 5. Frequenza di utilizzo e motivazioni.

Long-Term Inhaled Corticosteroid Adherence in Asthma Patients with Short-Term Adherence

Laurent Laforest, MD, PhD^{a,b}, Manon Belhassen, MSc^{a,b}, Gilles Devouassoux, MD, PhD^c, Alain Didier, MD, PhD^d, Marine Ginoux, MSc^b, and Eric Van Ganse, MD, PhD^{a,b,c} *Lyon and Toulouse, France*

In summary, in patients with asthma identified at selection by regular ICS use, this regularity did not last over the following months, with less than 25% of patients continuously using ICS over 12 months. Adherence increased with asthma severity, lower control, and continuity of care. A better understanding of the determinants of this discontinuous use of controller therapy is needed, along with identification of specific patient or health care professional profiles.

TABLE III. Probability of achieving a CMA value of $\geq 80\%$ over 12 mo postindex date, multivariate logistic regression

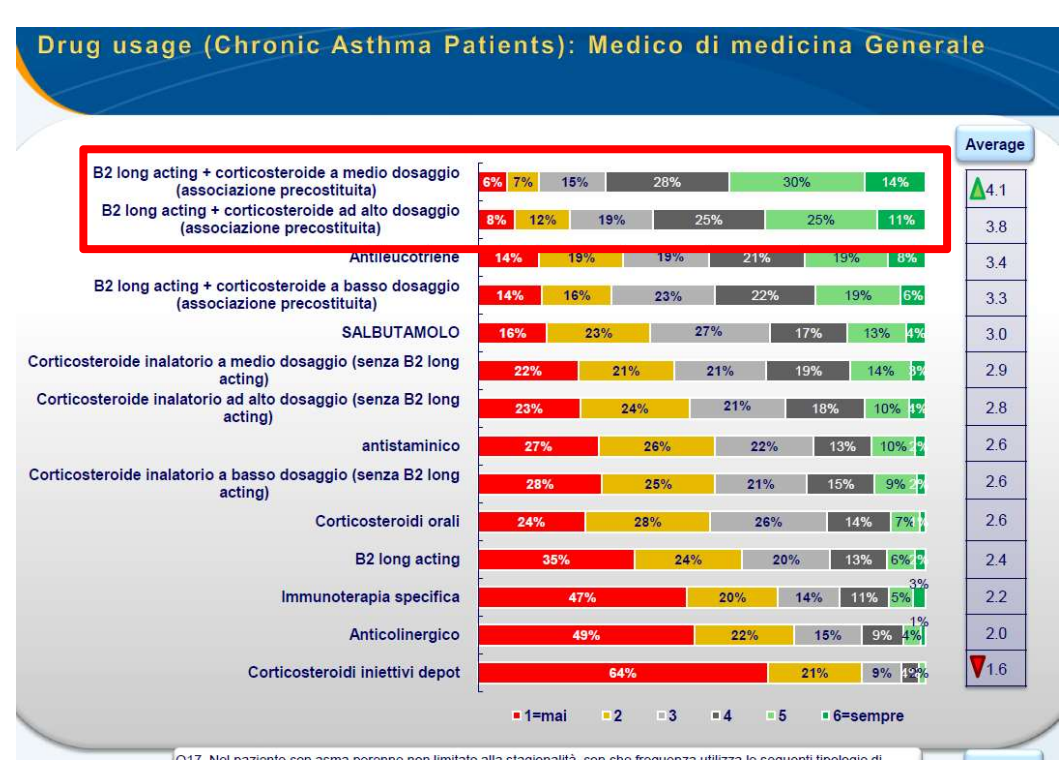
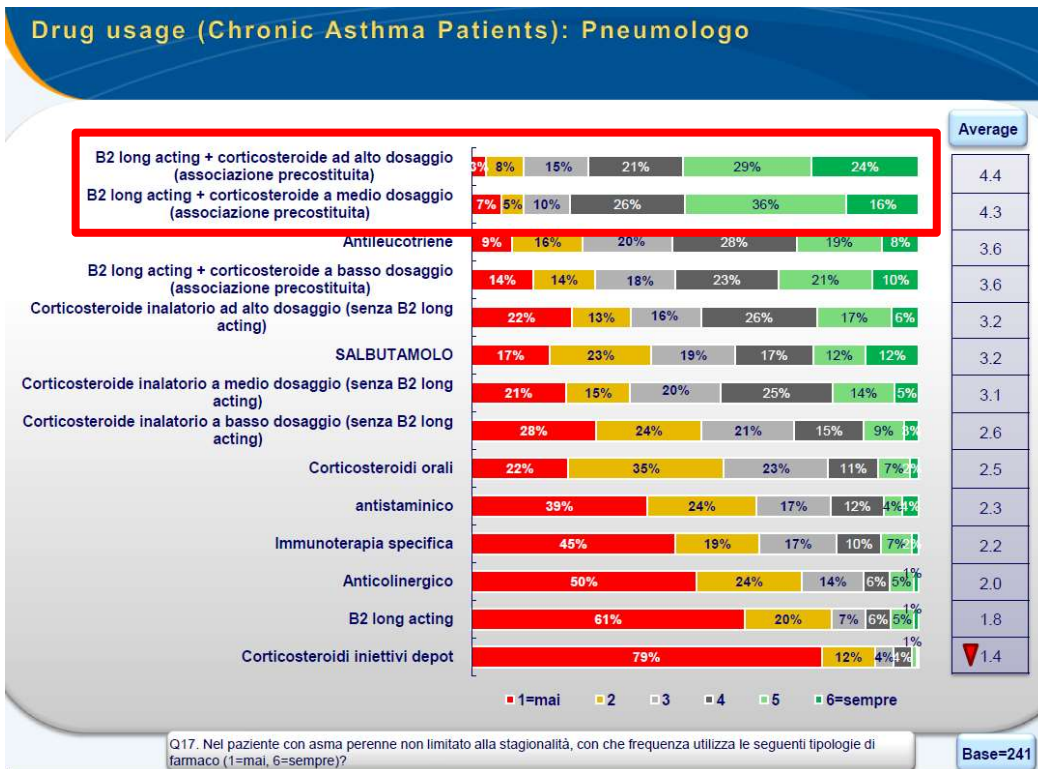
Patient characteristics at baseline or during study period	N = 5044		
	OR	95% CI	P
Age group			.0021
Adults (17-40 y)	1.00	—	
Teenagers (13-16 y)	1.28	1.01-1.61	
Children (6-12 years)	1.34	1.13-1.59	
Sex			.0555
Male	1.00	—	
Female	0.87	0.76-1.00	
Free-access-to-care status			.5065
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.06	0.89-1.27	
Previous SABAs (12 mo before the index date)			<.0001
None	1.00	—	
1-4 refills	0.98	0.83-1.16	
≥ 5 refills	1.97	1.61-2.41	
Systemic corticosteroids (12 mo before the index date)			0.1148
None	1.00	—	
1-2 refills	0.87	0.75-1.01	
≥ 3 refills	1.03	0.84-1.26	
Rhinitis (12 mo before the index date)			.1179
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.12	0.97-1.30	
Depression, anxiety (12 mo before the index date)			.1164
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.24	0.95-1.63	
LTD status and/or hospitalization for asthma (12 mo before the index date)			.0073
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.41	1.10-1.81	
No. of doses in the ICS device dispensed at the index date			<.0001
<100	1.00	—	
100-199	1.27	0.98-1.64	
200	3.30	2.33-4.67	
ICS/LABA fixed-dose combination at the index date			.7054
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.05	0.83-1.32	
Inhaler device at the index date			.0453
Pressurized metered-dose inhaler	1.00	—	
Dry powder inhaler multidose Diskus	0.91	0.67-1.23	
Dry powder inhaler Turbuhaler	1.22	0.98-1.52	
Breath-actuated device	1.26	0.89-1.78	
Others	1.08	0.74-1.57	
Speciality of initial prescriber (index date)			.0025
GP	1.00	—	
Private practice specialist	0.99	0.81-1.20	
Hospital physician	1.48	1.18-1.86	
Any switch of ICS during the study period			<.0001
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.58	1.36-1.82	
≥ 3 different prescribers of respiratory drugs during the study period			.0002
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.42	1.18-1.71	
Frequency of GP visits during the study period			<.0001
0-2	1.00	—	
3-6	1.45	1.20-1.74	
>6	1.79	1.47-2.19	
≥ 1 visit to a specialist* during the study period			.6295
No	1.00	—	
Yes	1.04	0.89-1.22	

LABA, Long-acting beta agonist.

*Respiratory physician, ear, nose, and throat specialist, pediatrician, hospital physician. The speciality was not documented in the database for hospital physicians.

M. CAMINATI¹, M. S. MAGNONI², A. RIZZI², F. BRAIDO³, A. FORESI⁴, G. BETTONCELLI⁵,
A. INFANTINO⁶, C. D'ANDRIA⁷, L. ANTONICELLI⁸, P. L. PAGGIARO⁹, F. FALCONE¹⁰, G. SENNA¹

Asthma management among different specialists: results from a national Italian survey



RESEARCH

Open Access



Determinants and impact of suboptimal asthma control in Europe: The INTERNATIONAL CROSS-SECTIONAL AND LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT ON ASTHMA CONTROL (LIAISON) study

Fulvio Braido¹, Guy Brusselle^{2,3}, Daniele Guastalla⁴, Eleonora Ingrassia^{4*}, Gabriele Nicolini⁴, David Price⁵, Nicolas Roche⁶, Joan B. Soriano⁷, Heinrich Worth⁸ and on behalf of the LIAISON Study Group

Results: Overall, 8111 asthmatic patients were enrolled in 12 European countries. Asthma control was suboptimal in 56.5 % of patients and it was associated with poorer asthma-related QoL, higher risk of exacerbations and greater consumption of healthcare resources. Variables associated with suboptimal control were age, gender, obesity, smoking and comorbidities. Major determinants of poor asthma control were seasonal worsening and persisting exposure to allergens/irritants/triggers, followed by treatment-related issues.

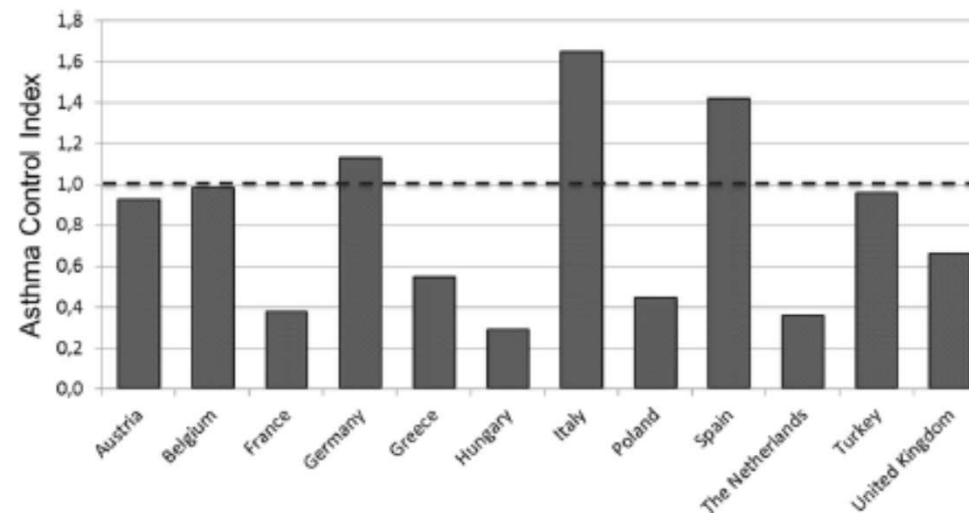
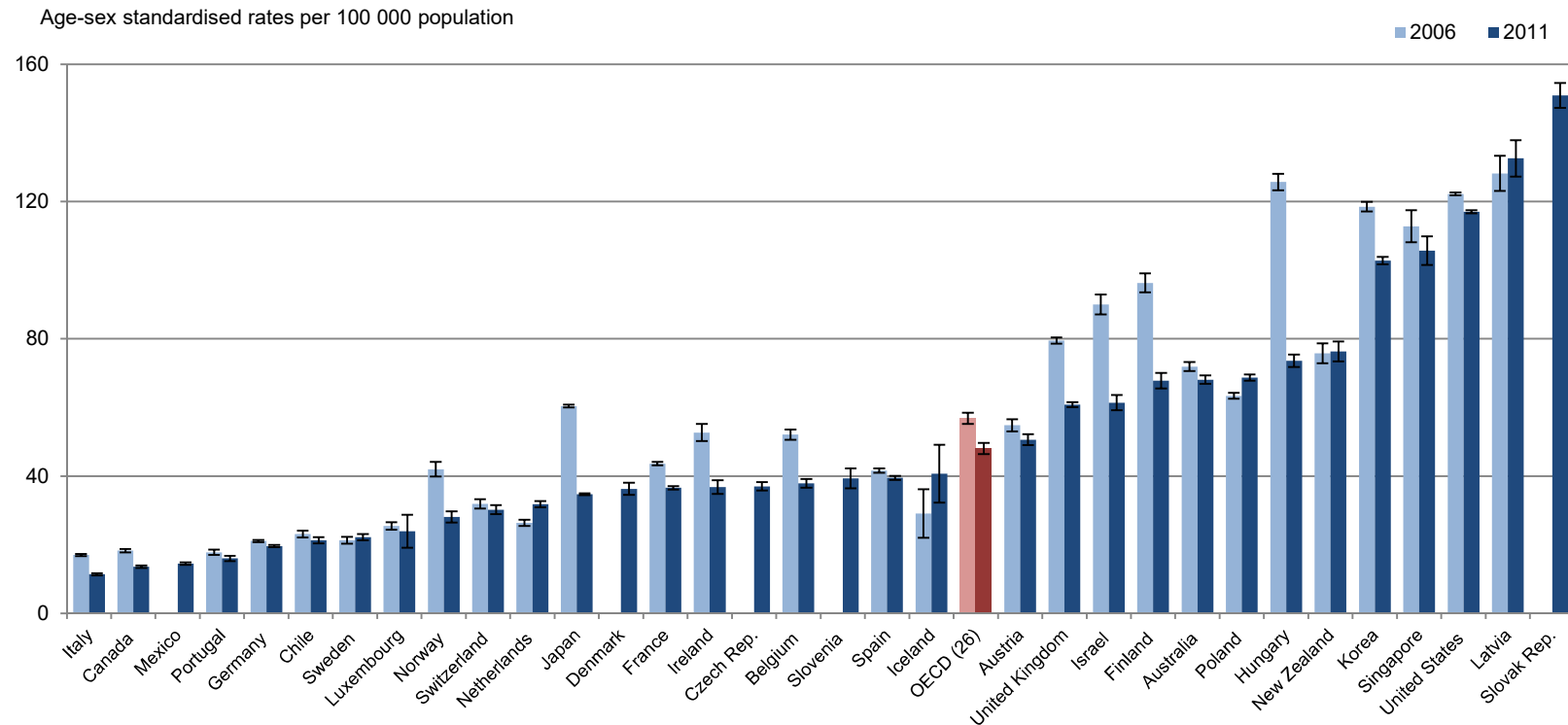


Fig. 1 Asthma Control Index among countries of the LIAISON study. The index was computed as the ratio of patients with controlled asthma (6-item ACQ < 0.75) to patients with not well-controlled asthma (6-item ACQ \leq 0.75). Asthma Control Index > 1: greater proportion of patients with controlled asthma. Asthma Control Index < 1: greater proportion of patients with not well-controlled asthma

Asthma hospital admission in adults, 2006 and 2011 (or nearest year)



Note: 95% confidence intervals represented by H.

Source: OECD Health Statistics 2013, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/health-data-en>.

RESEARCH

Open Access

Determinants and impact of suboptimal asthma control in Europe: The INTERNATIONAL CROSS-SECTIONAL AND LONG/TUDINAL ASSESSMENT ON ASTHMA CONTROL (LIAISON) study

Fulvio Braido¹, Guy Brusselle^{2,3}, Daniele Guastalla⁴, Eleonora Ingrassia^{4*}, Gabriele Nicolini⁴, David Price⁵, Nicolas Roche⁶, Joan B. Soriano⁷, Heinrich Worth⁸ and on behalf of the LIAISON Study Group

Treatment-related factors are crucial for the control of the disease, representing 60.0 % and 42.6 % of all reasons for poor control (as expressed by doctors and patients, respectively), as a whole. The risk of non-adherence was low in the overall study population as well as in uncontrolled subjects (16.3 %). Two times more physicians

No significant interaction was found between the asthma control level and the non-adherence categories ($p = 0.398$; Additional file 1: Table S3).

Table 4 Reasons for poor asthma control, according to patients' and doctors' perspective

Reasons for poor control ^a : n = 4585	Patients' perspective n (%)	Doctors' perspective n (%)	Kappa coefficient ^b
Seasonal worsening	1848 (40.3)	1756 (38.3)	0.72
Continued exposure to allergens/irritants/triggers	1148 (25.0)	1270 (27.7)	0.73
Comorbidities	769 (16.8)	1028 (22.4)	0.68
Poor adherence to therapy	507 (11.1)	965 (21.0)	0.47
Inadequate therapy	571 (12.5)	868 (18.9)	0.56
Poor efficacy of therapy	675 (14.7)	622 (13.6)	0.53
Active smoking	339 (7.4)	462 (10.1)	0.81
Depression	388 (8.5)	453 (9.9)	0.67
Passive smoking	421 (9.2)	319 (7.0)	0.64
Inadequate inhalation technique	104 (2.3)	195 (4.3)	0.39
Poor patient-physician communication	78 (1.7)	197 (4.3)	0.27
Poor tolerability of therapy	97 (2.1)	100 (2.2)	0.44
Co-administration of drugs	70 (1.5)	68 (1.5)	0.55
Incorrect diagnosis	57 (1.2)	40 (0.9)	0.30

N number of patients

^aMore than one reason could be indicated

^bKappa agreement interpretation: <0: poor, 0.01–0.20: slight, 0.21–0.40: fair, 0.41–0.60: moderate, 0.61–0.80: good, 0.81–1.00: very good



Asthma control in patients treated with inhaled corticosteroids and long-acting beta agonists: A population-based analysis in Germany

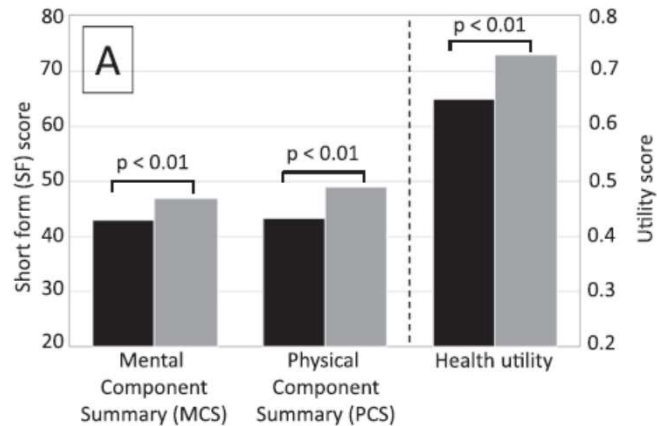
Anke Kondla^b, Thomas Glaab^b, Riccardo Pedersini^{c,d}, Marek Lommatzsch^{a,*}

^a University of Rostock, Department of Respiratory Medicine, Rostock, Germany

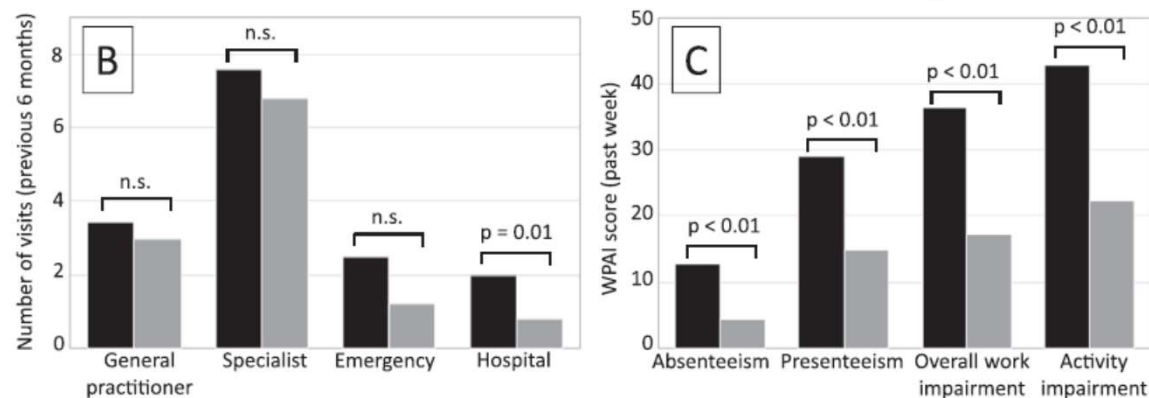
^b Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co. KG, Medical Affairs Respiratory Medicine, Ingelheim, Germany

^c Kantar Health, Epsom, Surrey, UK

^d RTI Health Solutions, Barcelona, Spain



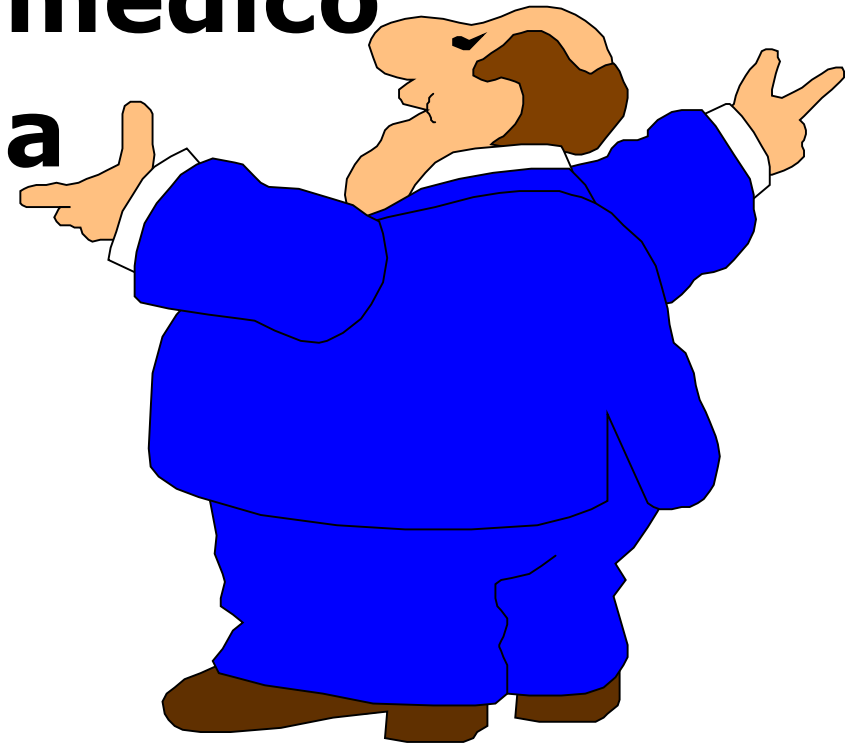
Self-reported medication adherence did not differ significantly between groups: 55.4% of well-controlled patients and 60.4% of not well-controlled patients reported high levels of adherence as measured by MMAS-4 and -8. The result was confirmed by a logistic



However, it is noteworthy that patient attitudes toward their patient-physician relationship were the main differentiator between well-controlled and not well-controlled ICS-LABA treated patients (in contrast to the plethora of different patient character-

Argomenti in discussione

- **Aderenza alla terapia :una interazione complessa**
- **Aderenza ruolo del paziente**
- **Aderenza ruolo del medico**
- **Aderenza ruolo della farmacologia**
- **Conclusioni**



REVIEW ARTICLE

DRUG THERAPY

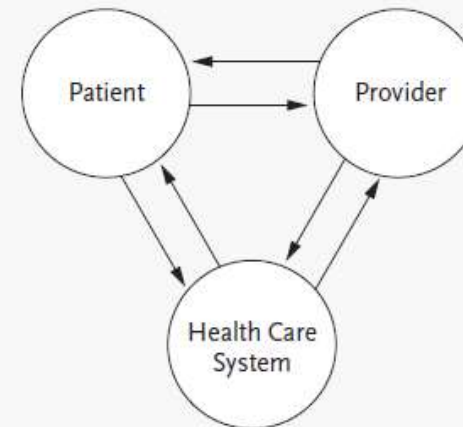
Adherence to Medication

Lars Osterberg, M.D., and Terrence Blaschke, M.D.

Drugs don't work in patients who don't take them.

—C. Everett Koop, M.D.

Poor provider–patient communication
Patient has a poor understanding of the disease
Patient has a poor understanding of the benefits and risks of treatment
Patient has a poor understanding of the proper use of the medication
Physician prescribes overly complex regimen



Patient's interaction with the health care system
Poor access or missed clinic appointments
Poor treatment by clinic staff
Poor access to medications
Switching to a different formulary
Inability of patient to access pharmacy
High medication costs

Physician's interaction with the health care system
Poor knowledge of drug costs
Poor knowledge of insurance coverage of different formularies
Low level of job satisfaction

Figure 2. Barriers to Adherence.

The interactions among the patient, health care provider, and health care system depicted are those that can have a negative effect on the patient's ability to follow a medication regimen.



Editorial

Treatment adherence in asthmatic patients: The last frontier?

Eric D. Bateman, MD, FRCP *Cape Town, South Africa*

controlled. However, acceptance of this fact, and that poor adherence is endemic might be better than current practice, in which physicians, believing that the prescribed dose is being taken, are likely to overprescribe (increase the dose or add other medications), adding cost and potential for side effects, which introduce a further burden on the patient and erode adherence.



Editorial

Treatment adherence in asthmatic patients: The last frontier?

Eric D. Bateman, MD, FRCP *Cape Town, South Africa*

Thus the term “intentional nonadherence” should be reviewed and possibly be changed to “patient-adjusted maintenance therapy.”

The implications of revised terminology for maintenance treatment is that rather than expecting patients to adapt to an unrealistic regimen, perhaps treatment strategies should be designed to better fit normal human behavior. This is not peculiar to asthma but is the basis for promoting once-daily or even intermittent treatment for avoiding use of more than 1 treatment and for the use of depot injections for certain conditions.



Editorial

Treatment adherence in asthmatic patients: The last frontier?

Eric D. Bateman, MD, FRCP *Cape Town, South Africa*

However, this study, together with other studies that have accurately measured inhaler use, has exposed deficiencies in our concepts of adherence and points to a need for a broader view than simply counting doses. Customized patient-friendly treatment that anticipates and accommodates usual behavior and addresses conscious and unconscious medication beliefs is more likely to achieve the desired goal of disease control. Arguably, this, rather than the development of new drugs, should be viewed as the “last frontier” of asthma management.

L'attenzione è la forma più rara
e più pura della generosità.

Simone Weil



Randomized controlled trial of adherence with single or combination inhaled corticosteroid/long-acting β -agonist inhaler therapy in asthma

Kyle Perrin, MBChB, FRACP,^{a,b} Mathew Williams, Dip Ex Sci,^a Meme Wijesinghe, BSc, MBBS, MRCP,^{a,b}
Kate James, MBChB,^{a,b} Mark Weatherall, MBChB, FRACP,^{b,c} and Richard Beasley, MBChB, DSc^{a,b,c}
Wellington, New Zealand

Conclusion: In the setting of a randomized controlled trial, use of a combination ICS/LABA inhaler does not markedly increase adherence above that observed with separate inhaler use. LABA monotherapy was observed in a small proportion of patients prescribed ICS and LABA therapy via separate inhalers. (J Allergy Clin Immunol 2010;126:505-10.)

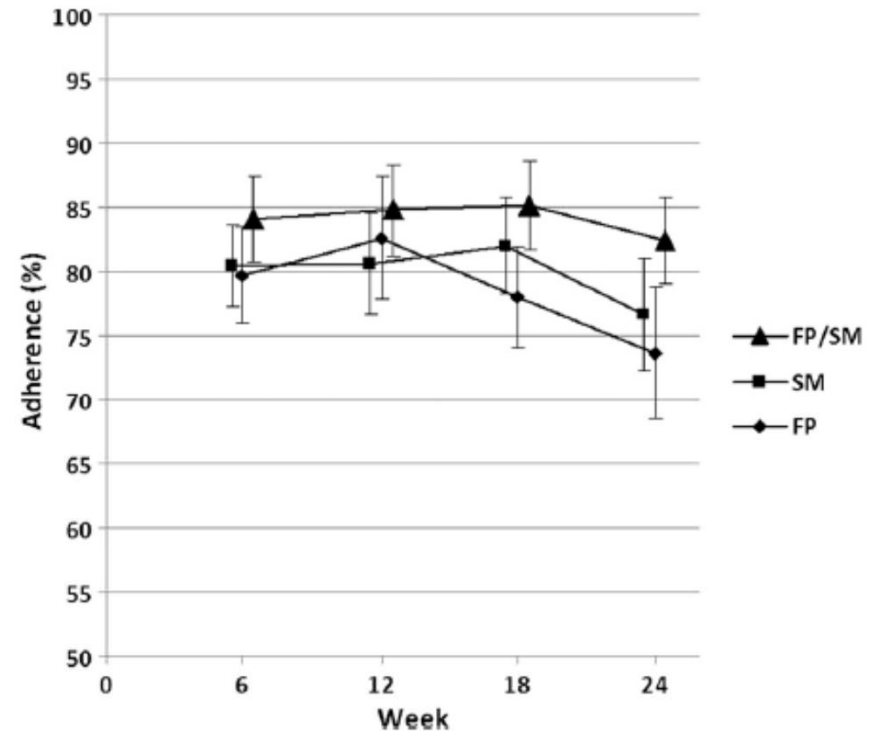


FIG 2. Adherence in the four 6-week periods of the study in the subjects prescribed FP/salmeterol (SM; \blacktriangle), SM (\blacksquare), and FP (\blacklozenge). The symbols show the mean and the error bars the SEM.