



XIX Congresso Nazionale
Società Italiana di Pediatria
Preventiva e Sociale

**Gestire i cambiamenti
per prevenire**

con il patrocinio del Ministero della Salute



26 - 28 Ottobre 2007

Hotel Atlantic - Torino

Asma e infezioni

Michele Miraglia del Giudice

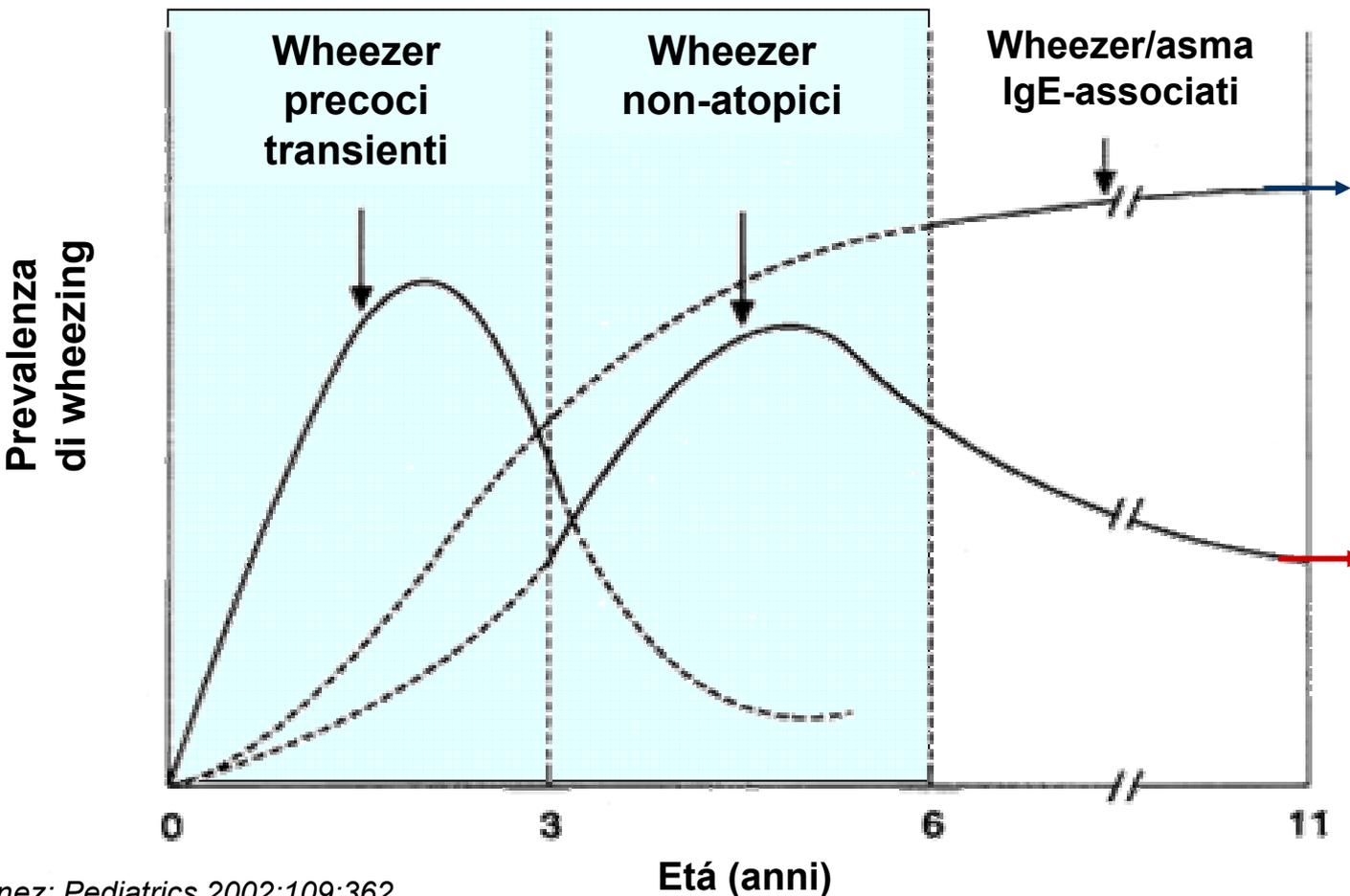
Servizio Speciale Autonomo Asma e Fisiopatologia Respiratoria Infanzia

"Maurizio Miraglia del Giudice"

Dipartimento di Pediatria

Seconda Università di Napoli

Differenti fenotipi di wheezing in età pediatrica e relativa prevalenza



PERSISTENT WHEEZING
Atopic wheezers (60%)

Nonatopic wheezers
children continue to wheeze
beyond the third year of life
after having had an LR
early life.

Riacutizzazioni asmatiche e virus respiratori

Le infezioni virali sono causa frequente
di riacutizzazioni asmatiche

I soggetti asmatici sono più suscettibili
all'infezione da rinovirus

È dimostrato un sinergismo tra infezioni virali
ed esposizione ad allergeni nell'indurre
le riacutizzazioni e nel determinare la gravità
delle riacutizzazioni

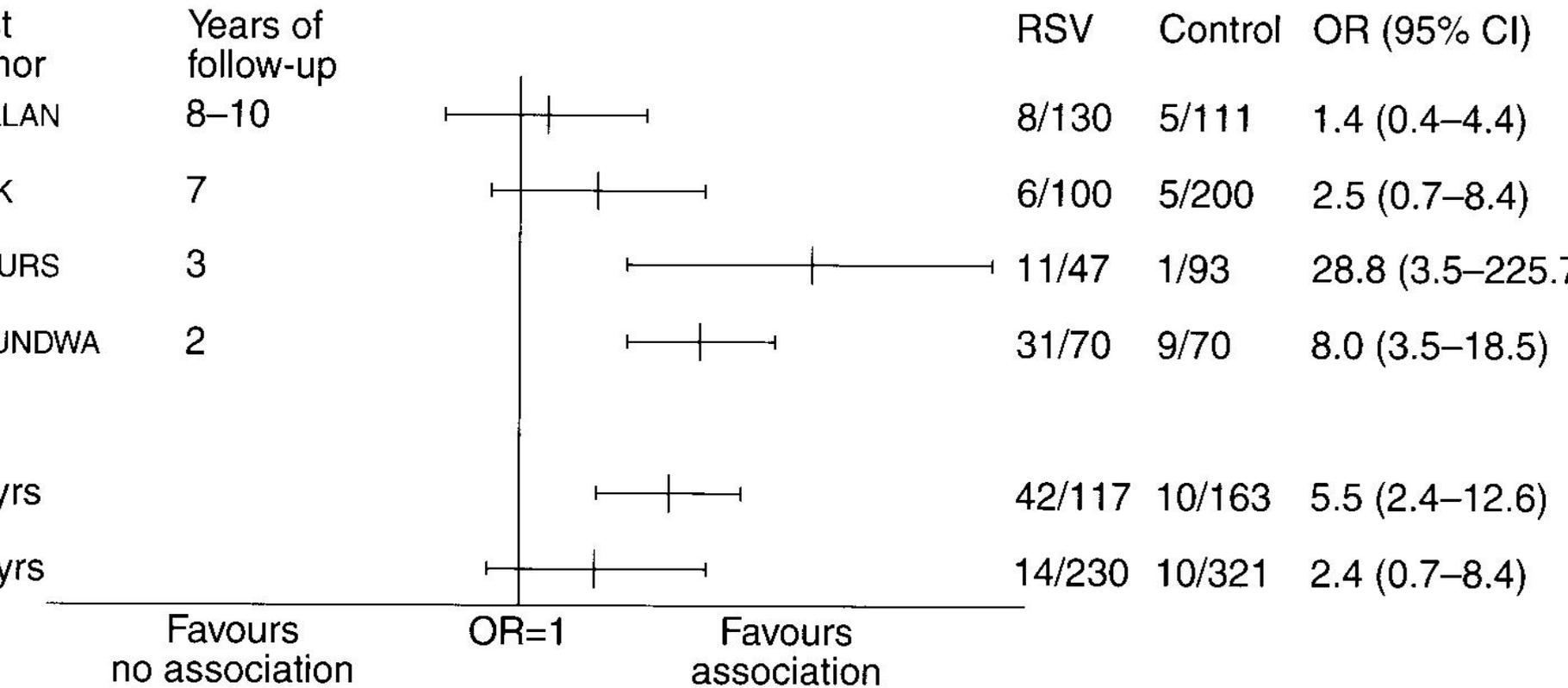
Respiratory syncytial virus is the most important agent causing acute respiratory infections in children aged under two years.

Hall CB J Infect Dis 1990



Prostatix

RSV bronchiolitis and recurrent wheezing



Relationship between respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) bronchiolitis in infancy and recurrent wheezing in childhood. Odds ratios (OR) with 95% confidence interval (CI) are indicated. No significant difference in the RSV bronchiolitis and the control group is seen by 5 yrs of follow-up. The solid vertical line represents OR=1.

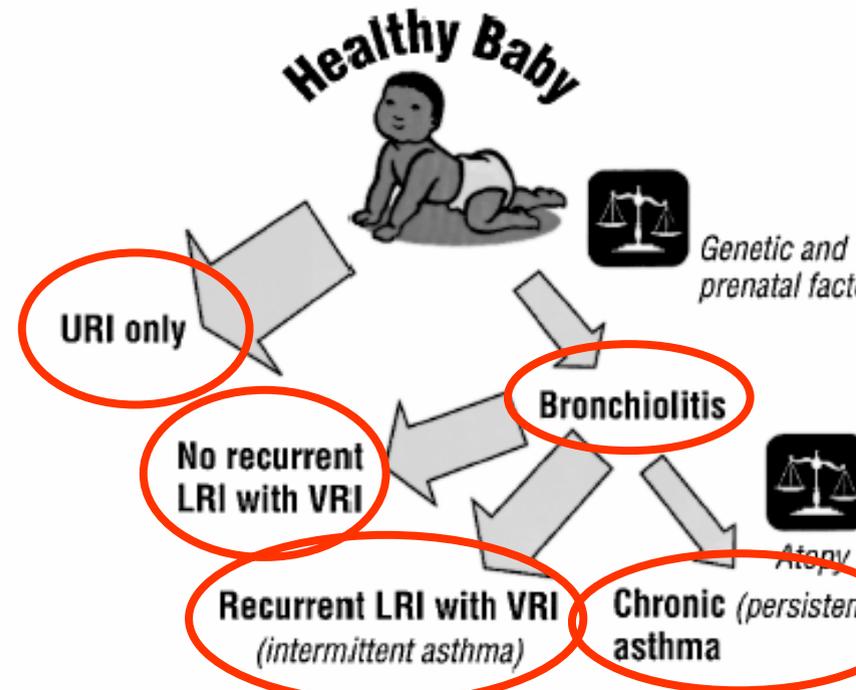
CLINICAL PATTERNS AND NATURAL HISTORY OF THMA

einberger – *J Pediatr* 2003;142:S15- S20

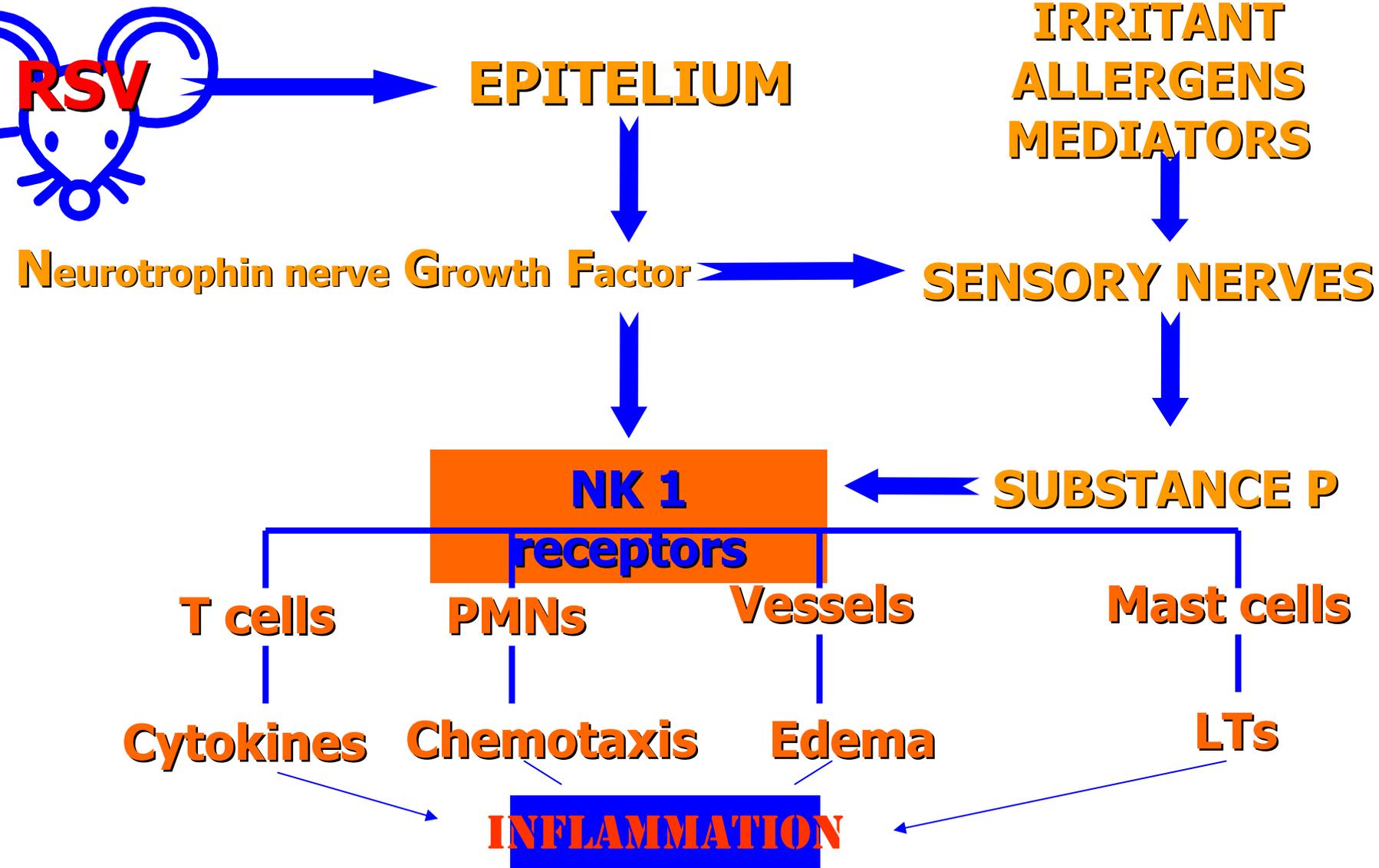
Clinical experience and natural history studies suggest that:

the majority of such children lose their symptoms later in childhood about 25% to 50% subsequently have symptoms of asthma manifested by recurrent wheezing in association with VRI some continue to have chronic lower airway disease from asthma throughout childhood some remain symptomatic into adult life

When an Infant Becomes Infected with RSV

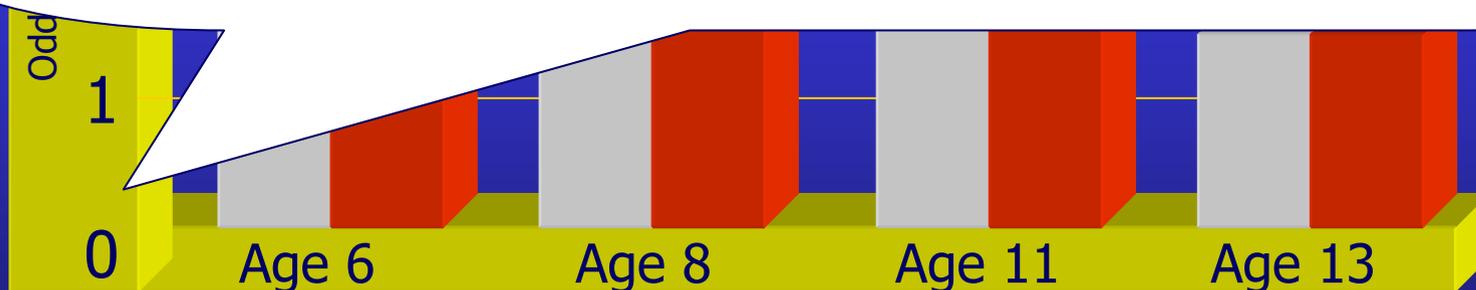


Micro inflammatory interactions and neural modelling in RSV-infected airway *da Piedimonte G. 200*

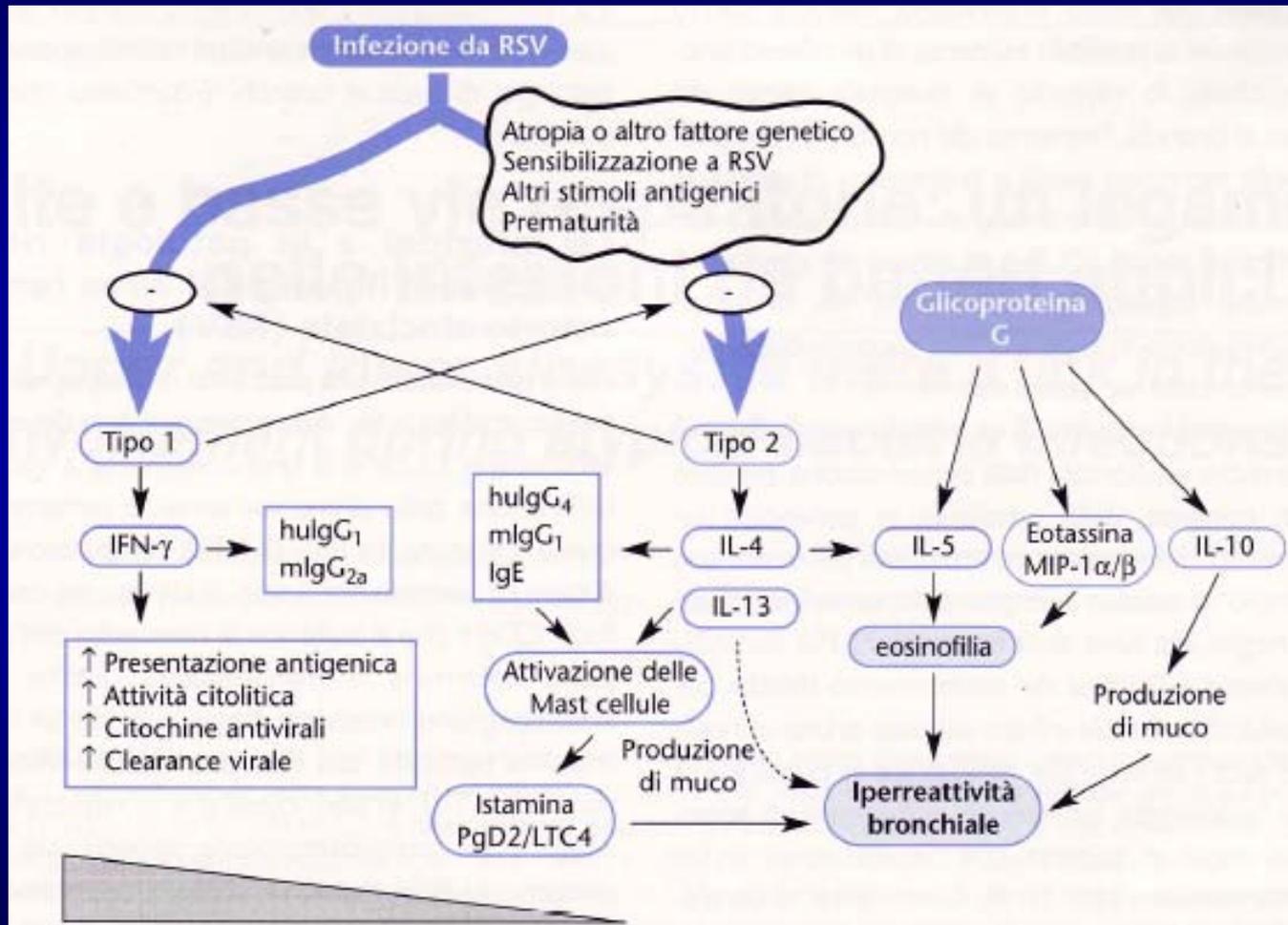


Increased risk of frequent and infrequent wheeze in children who had mild-moderate RSV LRTI

Children with a history of RSV infection had significantly lower FEV₁, partly reversible by bronchodilator administration, at age 11 years.



*** $p < 0,001$ ** $p < 0,01$ * $p < 0,05$

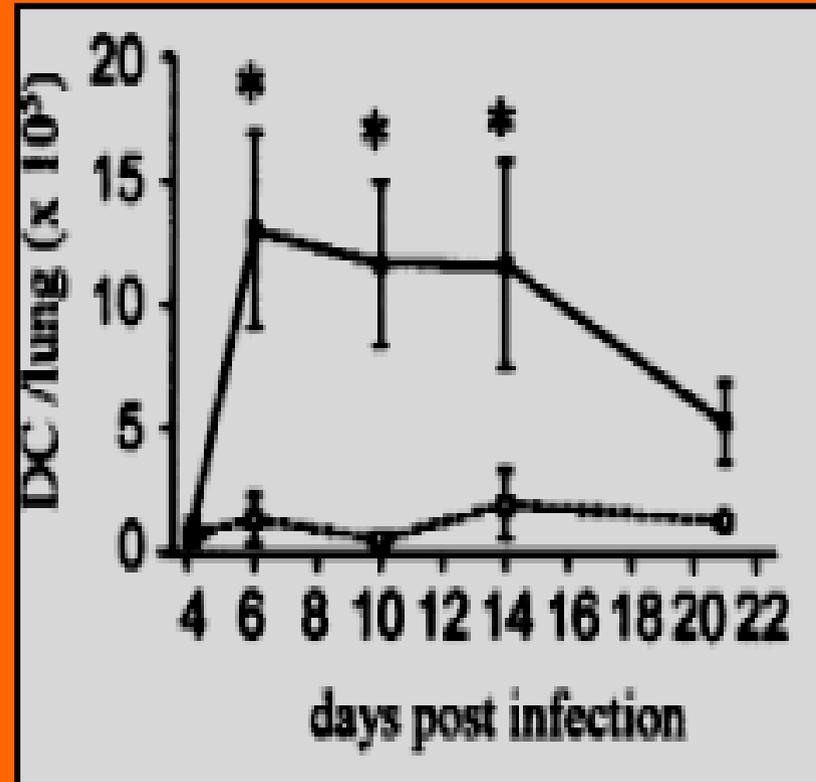


Sustained increases in numbers of pulmonary dendritic cells after respiratory syncytial virus infection

Marc Beyer-J Allergy Clin Immunol 2004;113:127-33

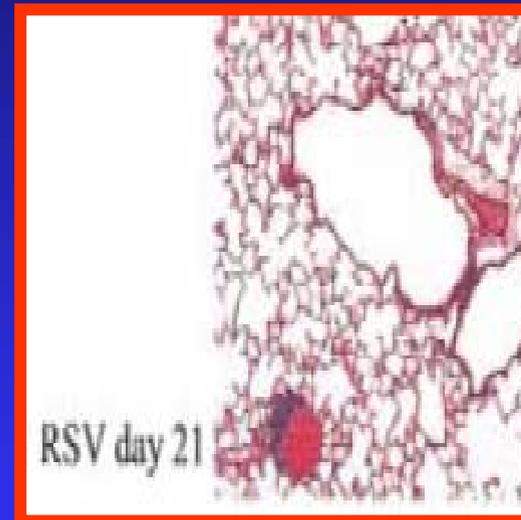
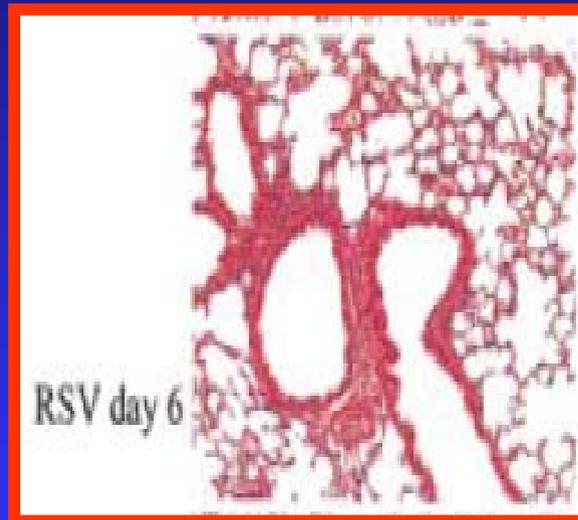
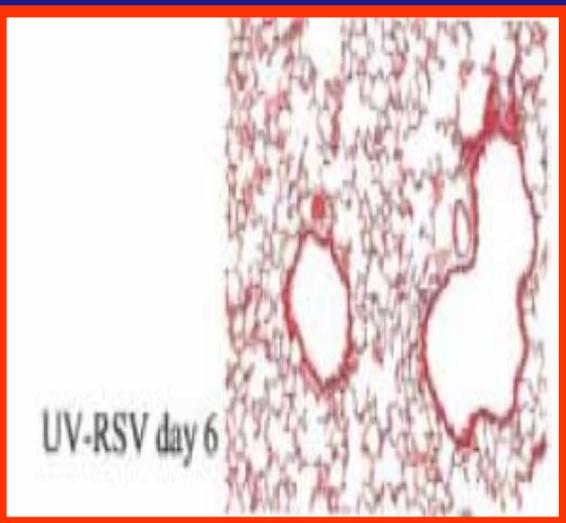
RSV infection results in sustained increases in numbers of mature dendritic cells in the lung.

These might well contribute to the development of intense airway inflammation and airway hyperresponsiveness after RSV infection and to enhancement of subsequent responses to allergen exposure.



Increased numbers of pulmonary dendritic cells after respiratory syncytial virus infection

de Beyer-J Allergy Clin Immunol 2004;113:127-33



Low dose RSV infection results in peribronchial and perivascular inflammation in the lungs of mice. Mice were infected with RSV or UV-RSV (RSV inactivated by ultraviolet light) and killed at 6 and 21 days.

Differences in total serum IgE (A) and peripheral blood (PB) eosinophil levels (B) during and after the first LRI for children grouped as to their subsequent age 6 wheezing patterns.



These data support the possibility that children destined to develop persistent wheezing are already “programmed” immunologically before the first LRI to respond differently to a respiratory viral infection.



Palivizumab Prophylaxis, Respiratory Syncytial Virus, and Subsequent Recurrent Wheezing

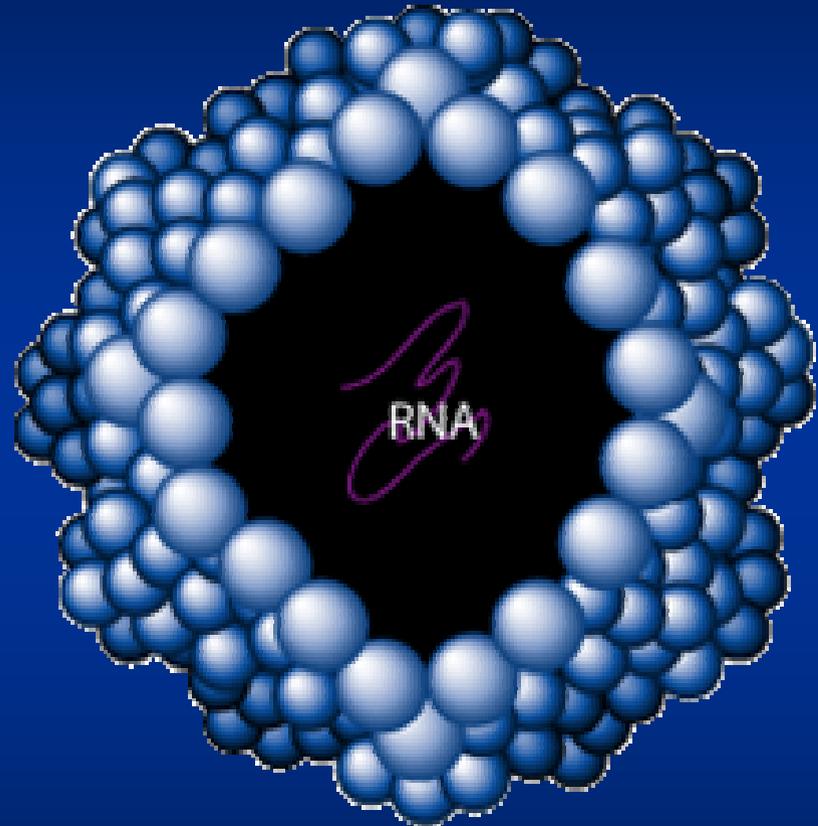
Simoes E et al. J Pediatr 2007;151:34-42

Cohort of preterm infants who had received palivizumab and were not hospitalized for RSV (n = 191) or who never received palivizumab (n = 230) were hospitalized for RSV and 154 who were not), were prospectively

Preventing RSV LRTI with palivizumab may reduce subsequent recurrent wheezing in premature infants

8%, respectively) compared with all 230 untreated subjects (26%, P = 0.001, 16%, P 0.011, respectively) and with the 154 patients in the subgroup hospitalized for RSV LRTI (23%, P 0.022 and 16%, P 0.027, respectively)

Rhinovirus is a genus of the *Picornaviridae* family of viruses. Rhinoviruses are the most common viral infective agents in humans, and a causative agent of the common cold. There are over 105 serologic virus types that cause cold symptoms, and rhinoviruses are responsible for approximately 50% of all cases. Rhinoviruses have single-stranded positive sense RNA genomes.



Rotavirus-induced wheezing in infancy - the first sign of childhood asthma?

Uusitalo-Syrjänen, R. Vainionpää et coll – JACI 2003;111:66-71

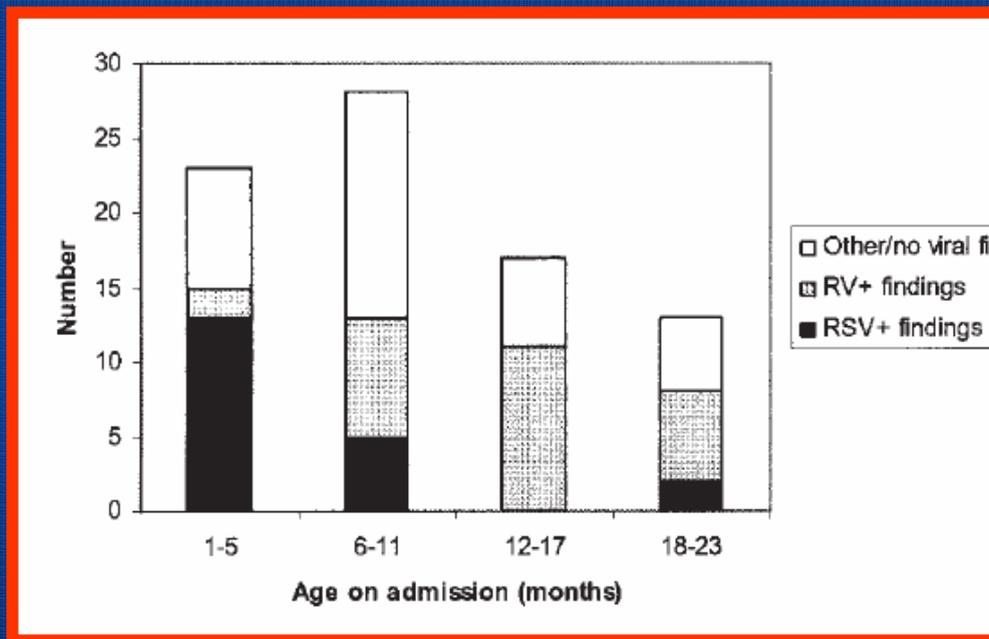
82 CHILDREN WHO HAD BEEN HOSPITALIZED FOR WHEEZING

Under the age of 6 months the most common viral finding was RSV.

From the age of 6 months RVs were the most prevalent of the respiratory viruses identified

Infants with atopic dermatitis were especially likely to wheeze during RV infection.

Hospitalization for RV-induced wheezing in infancy was significantly associated with early school-age asthma (more than 4-fold)



RV-induced wheezing leading to hospitalization seems to predict the development of asthma

Frequency, severity, and duration of rhinovirus infections in asthmatic and non-asthmatic individuals: a longitudinal cohort study

Forde, C Marshall, S Smith et coll – *Lancet* 2002;359:831-34

Individuals with asthma are not at increased risk of rhinovirus infection but **have LRT clinical illness twice as frequently, more severe and long lasting LRT symptoms** when infected by rhinovirus than do healthy individuals.

The effects of rhinovirus infection on the frequency of URT clinical illness and on the severity and duration of all symptoms associated with infection were similar in individuals with and without asthma.

Symptoms	Participants with asthma (n=76)	Healthy participants (n=76)
URT		
Severity (score)	2 (0-12)	2 (0-7)
Duration (days)	3.5 (0-11)	3 (0-17)
LRT		
Severity (score)	1 (0-17)	0 (0-7)*
Duration (days)	2.5 (0-35)	0 (0-22)†

Data are median (range). *p=0.001. †p=0.005.

Severity and duration of upper-respiratory-tract (URT) and lower-respiratory-tract (LRT) symptoms associated with rhinovirus infection

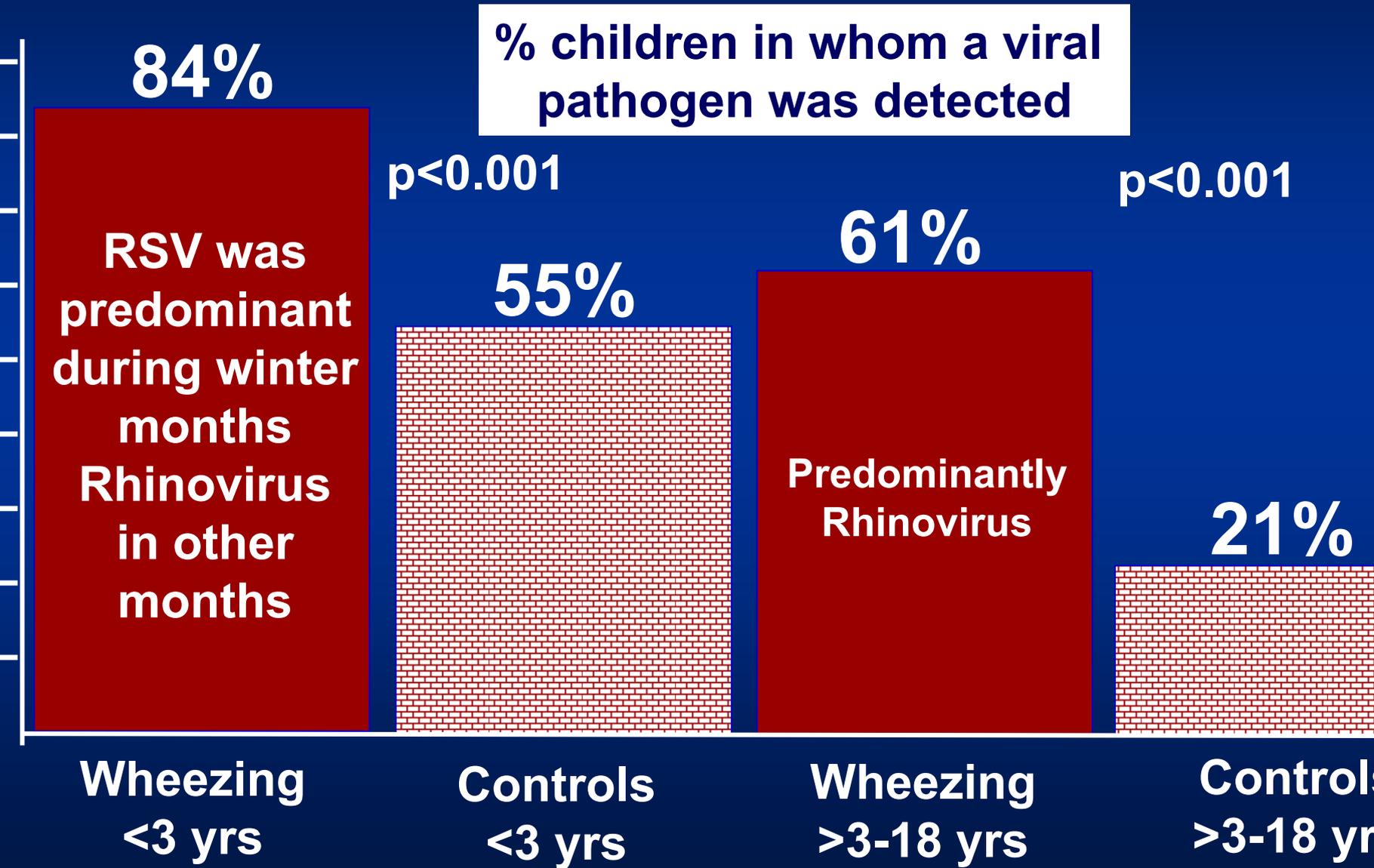
RAL INFECTIONS IN RELATION TO AGE, ATOPY, AND SEASON OF ADMISSION AMONG CHILDREN HOSPITALIZED FOR WHEEZING

Heymann JACI 2004; 114: 239

- **Case control study of children (age 2 months to 18 yrs) admitted for wheezing over a period of 12 months**
- **Children without wheezing were enrolled as controls**
- **Nasal secretions evaluated for viral pathogens by cultures, PCR tests, and antigen detection**
- **Total IgE and specific IgE antibody**

RAIL INFECTIONS IN RELATION TO AGE, ATOPY, AND SEASON OF ADMISSION AMONG CHILDREN HOSPITALIZED FOR WHEEZING

Heymann JACI 2004; 114: 239

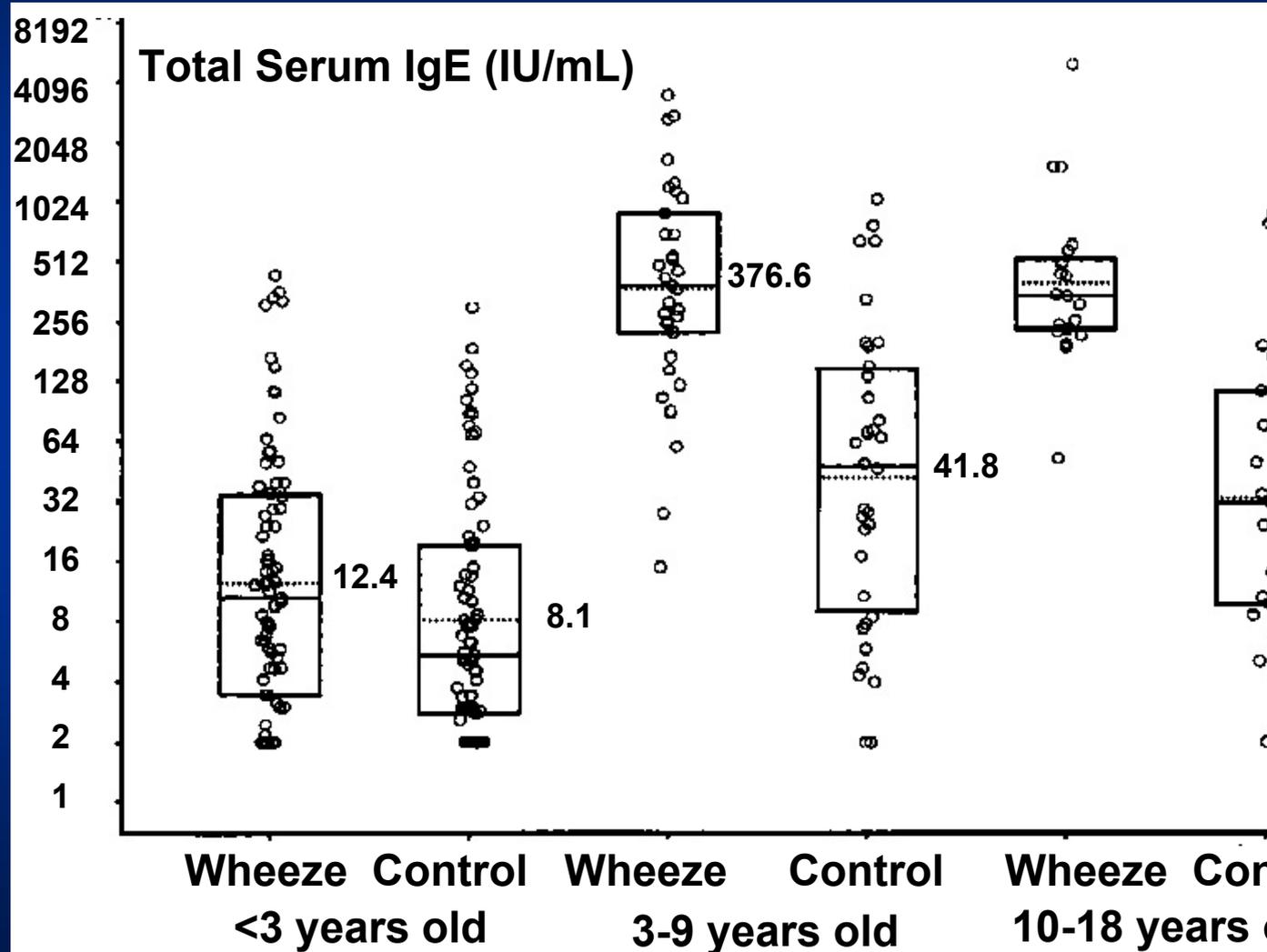


ALLERGIC INFECTIONS IN RELATION TO AGE, ATOPY, AND SEASON OF ADMISSION AMONG CHILDREN HOSPITALIZED FOR WHEEZING

Heymann JACI 2004; 114: 239

Allergic infections were a dominant risk factor for wheezing among children hospitalized under 3 yrs of age. In comparison, a large majority of the wheezing children age 3 to 18 had striking atopic characteristics that may be critical as a risk factor for hospitalization and adverse response to viral infections.

Hospitalization and exposure to allergens may be a posing risk factor for augmented response to acute infections with rhinovirus



HRV in infants with asthmalike symptoms and airway function

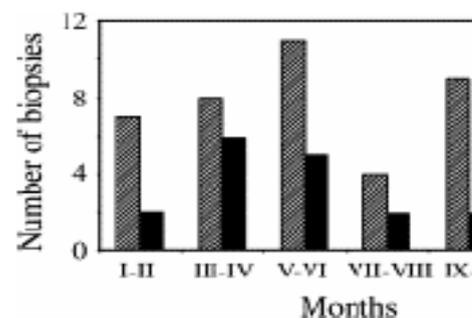
Malmström et al JACI 2006

Objective: To evaluate the presence of HRV in infants (3-26 mo) with recurrent asthmalike respiratory symptoms (recurrent respiratory symptoms for ≥ 4 wk within the preceding 2 mo).

Method: Body plethysmography (n=201), bronchoscopy (n=68), bronchial biopsies (n=59) for HRV detection.

Results: HRV+ 21/47 (45%) specimens. Abnormal lung function (decreased airways conductance) 18/21 (86%) HRV+ infants vs. 15/26 (58%) HRV- infants (p=0.037). Occurrence of a respiratory infection in the 6 wk preceding bronchoscopy correlated with HRV positivity (p=0.036).

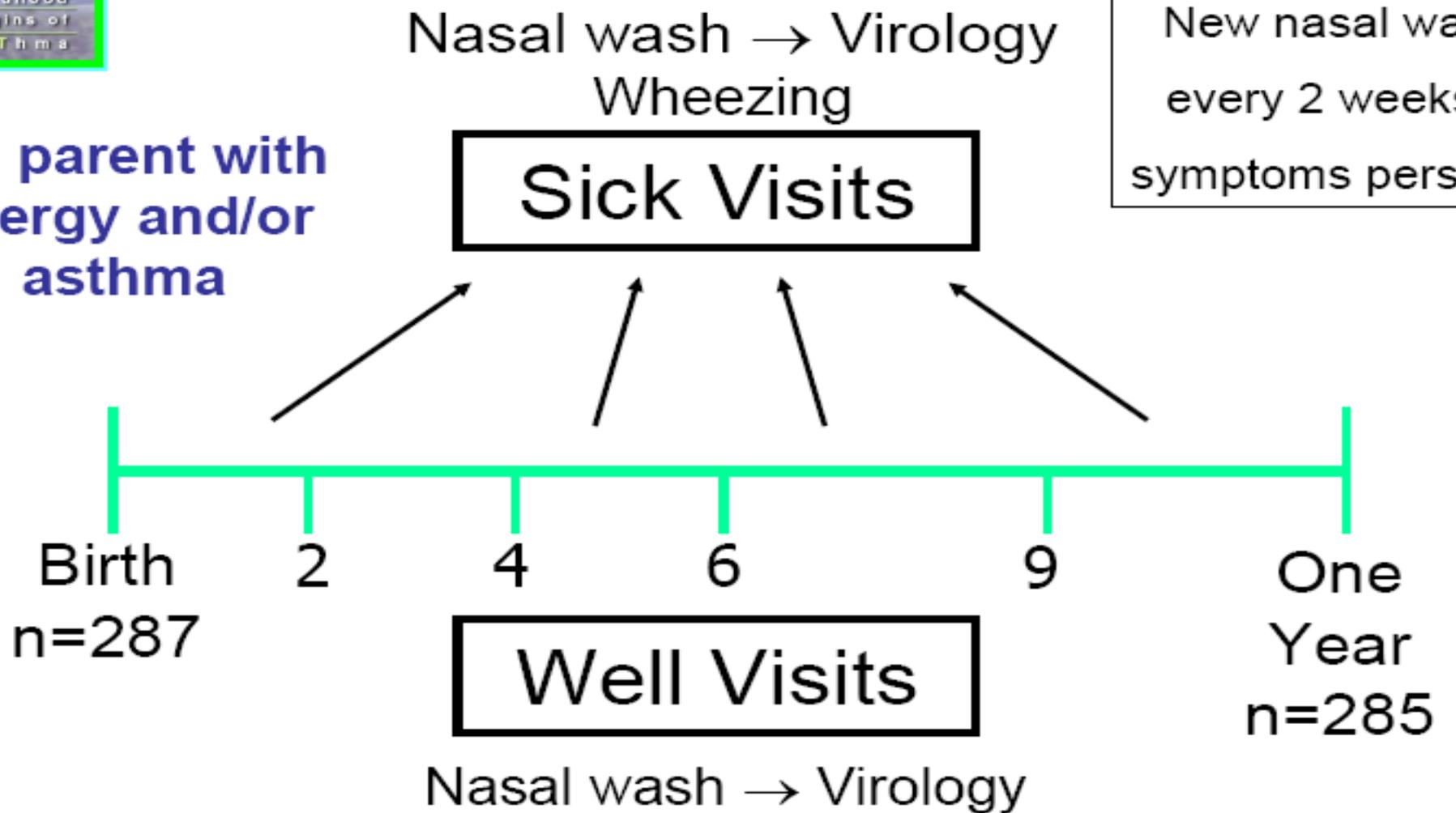
Conclusion: HRV is **frequently found** in the lower airways in infants with recurrent respiratory symptoms, and the majority of these HRV+ infants also showed **increased airway resistance**.





COAST study design

1 parent with allergy and/or asthma

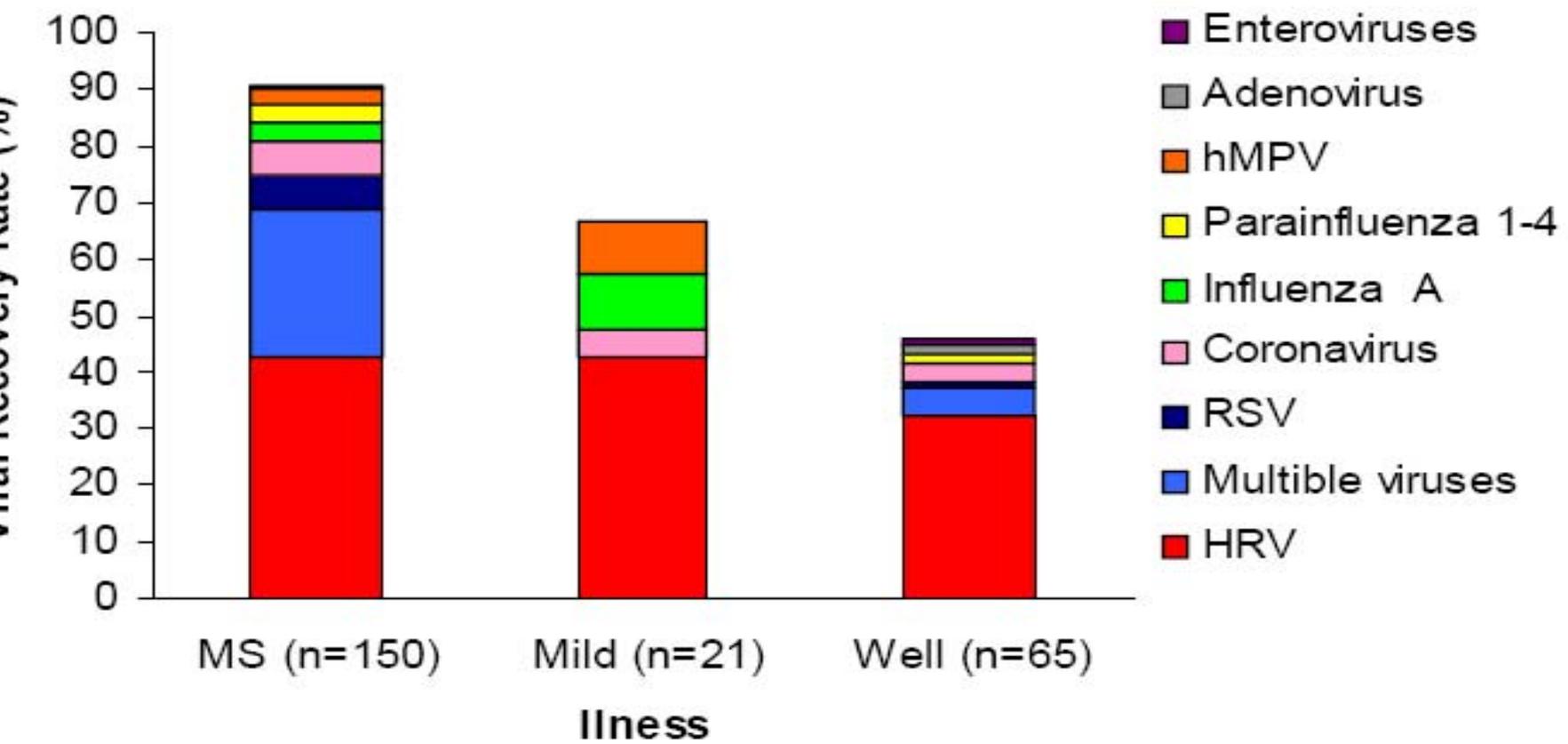


uses and >160 serotypes tested (not HBoV and HKU1)

Coronavirus (HRV) was most commonly detected in all visits.

Overall, **mixed viral** and RV findings were linked with severity of illness.

4 double RV infections were found.



findings in the 236 study samples of 27 frequently (≥ 5) ill infants.

Wheezing was closely associated with rhinovirus infection

23 / 27 infants who wheezed had wheezed **at least once** with viral infection

- **78% with rhinovirus**
- **70% with RSV**
- ≤ 39% with other viruses

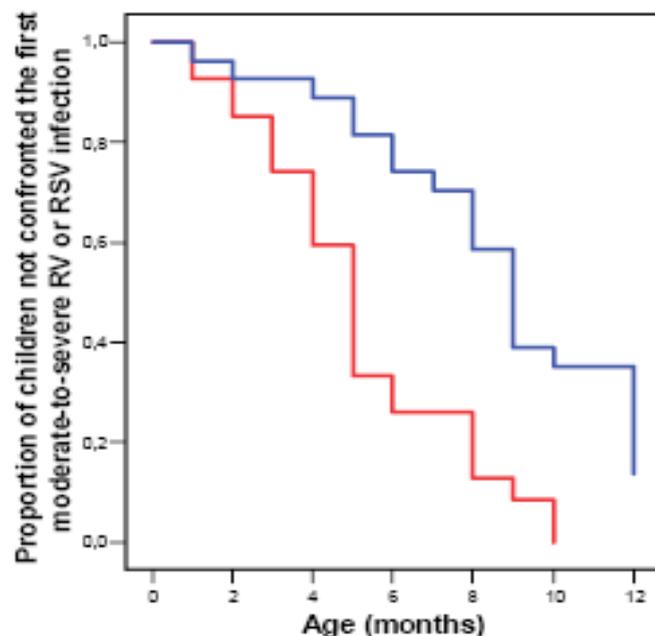
88% of the 68 wheezing **episodes** were associated with viral infection

- **47% with rhinovirus**
- **24% with RSV**
- ≤ 13% with others

Clinical impact of mod-to-sev rhinovirus infections compared to other viruses during the first year of life

rhinovirus infections:

- occurred **earliest** (mean age at first infection was 4 months vs. ≥ 6 months for other viruses, before first RSV infections in 73% of cases)
- were **most frequent** (mean 3.6 vs. < 1.0 MSIs for other viruses)
- had **similar severity** compared to RSV (mean [SEM] symptom score, rhinovirus 8.5 [0.8] vs. RSV 9.0 [1.0])



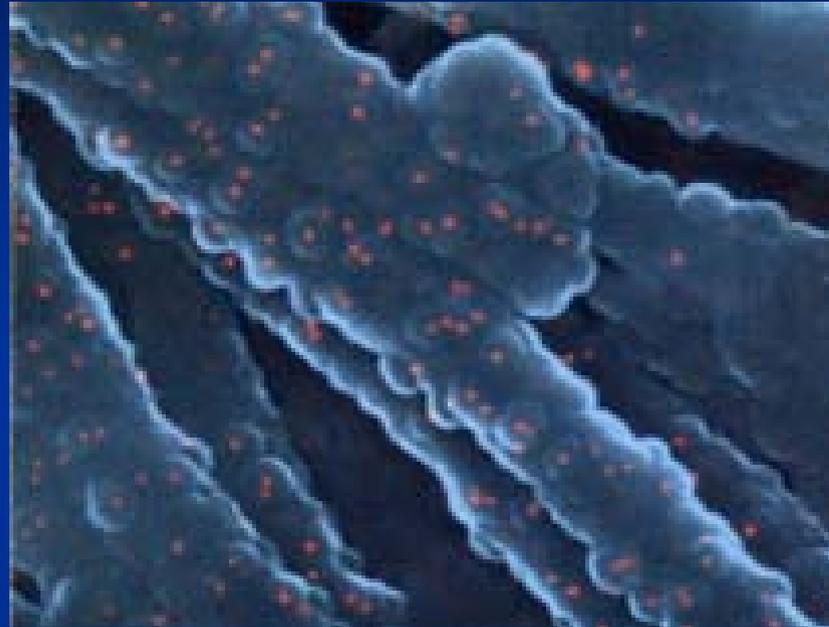
Respiratory syncytial virus and the lower respiratory tract

Hayden - Rev. Med. Virol. 2004; 14: 17–31

- **Clinical studies report that RV infection is the second most frequently recognised agent associated with pneumonia and bronchiolitis in infants and young children and commonly causes exacerbations of pre-existing airways disease in older children with asthma.**
- **RV infection is associated with 1/3 to 1/2 of asthma exacerbations depending on age and is linked to asthma hospitalisations in both adults and children.**

HUMAN METAPNEUMOVIRUS

hMPV) was first isolated in the Netherlands, in June 2001, from nasopharyngeal aspirates of 28 children with respiratory tract infections (van den Hoogen et al. 2001). The clinical manifestations of hMPV infection in young children are indistinguishable from the clinical manifestations of RSV infection

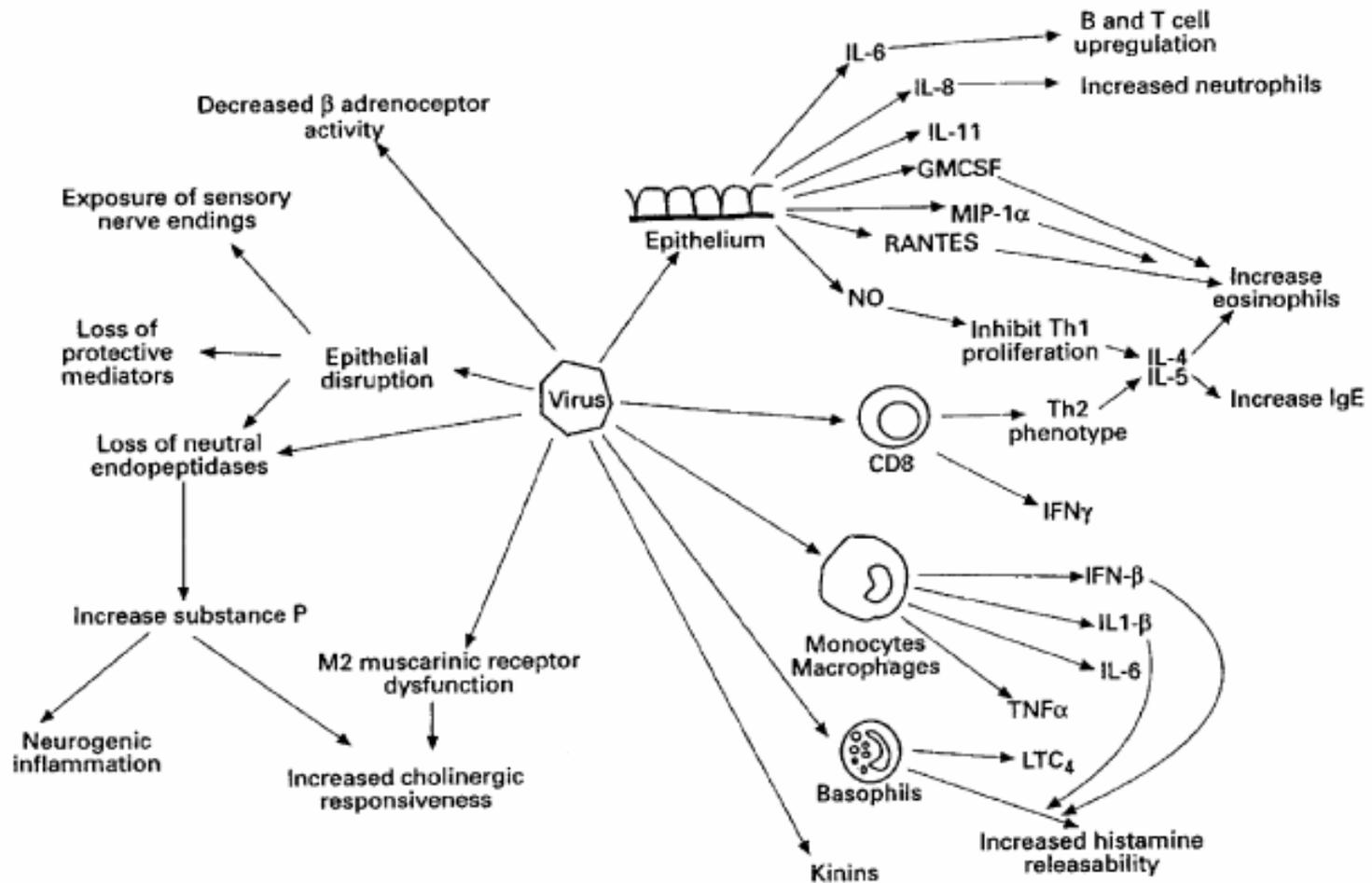


Human metapneumovirus bronchiolitis in infancy is an important risk factor for asthma at age 5. *García-García ML et al. Pediatr Pulmonol. 2007 May;42(5):458-64*

In 55 children (23 hMPV and 32 RSV acute bronchiolitis) aged 3-5 years and hospitalized, asthma was significantly more frequent in children with hMPV-bronchiolitis

Virus infections, wheeze and asthma

Wilson – Paediatric Respiratory Reviews 2003; 4: 184–192



Fattori in grado di indurre cutizzazioni asmatiche

Infezioni delle vie respiratorie

- Virus (RV,RS, metapneumovirus)

→ Germi atipici (Mycoplasma pn., Clamidia pn.)

Allergeni

Inquinanti atmosferici interni (fumo, ecc..)

ed esterni (urbani, industriali, ecc..)

Esercizio fisico

Fattori meteorologici

Farmaci

Alimenti

Ruolo della chlamydia pneumoniae

Capacità del batterio di crescere e moltiplicarsi in cellule epiteliali della mucosa, macrofagi alveolari, cellule muscolari lisce e cellule endoteliali

Effetto ciliostatico

Capacità di indurre la sintesi e il rilascio di citochine proinfiammatorie da parte di cellule mononucleari periferiche e dei macrofagi alveolari

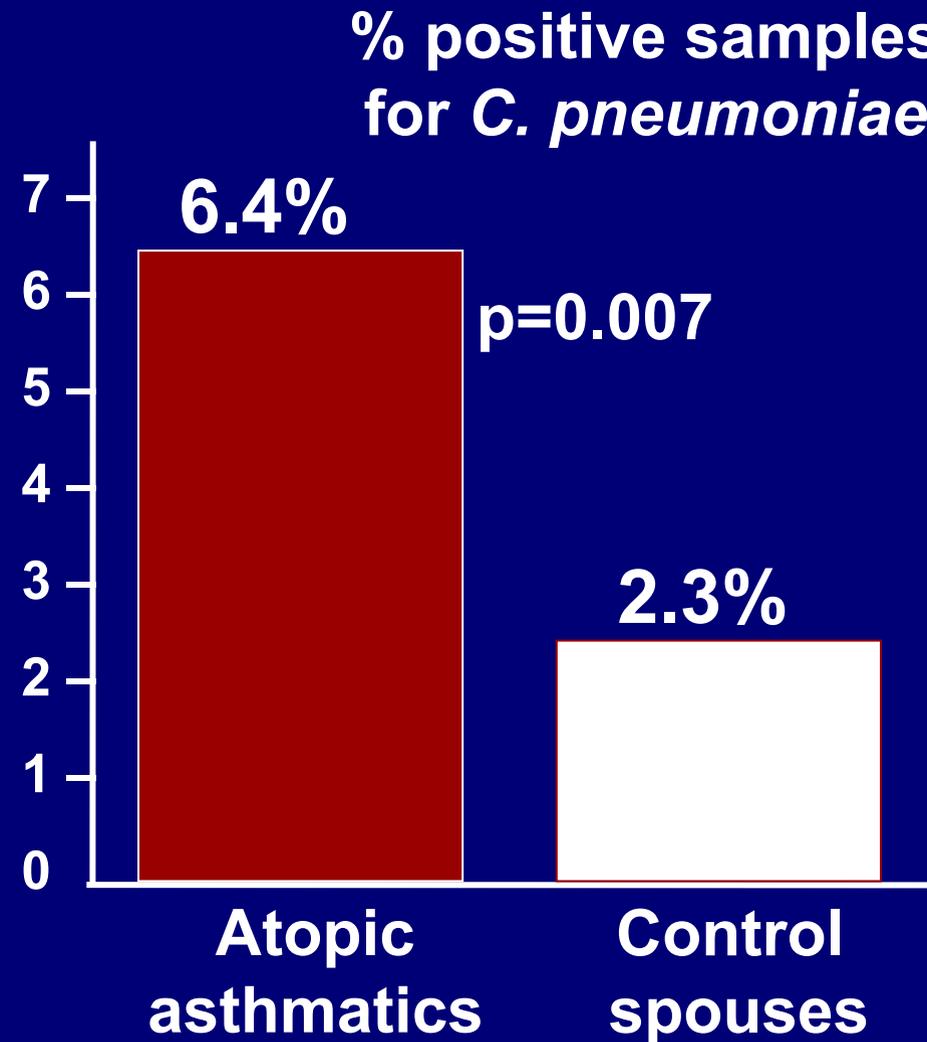
Stretta correlazione tra severità dell'asma ed elevati livelli anticorpali anti-chlamydia pneumoniae

INCREASED FREQUENCY OF DETECTION OF *CHLAMYDOPHILA PNEUMONIAE* IN ASTHMA

Biscione et al. Eur. Respir. J. 2004; 24: 745

74 spouse pairs, consisting of one atopic asthmatic and one nonatopic nonasthmatic. Nasal secretions were sampled every 2 weeks from October to December and actively replicating *C. pneumoniae* infection was detected by specific PCR.

Chlamydophila pneumoniae infection is detected more frequently among asthmatic participants than normal control participants.



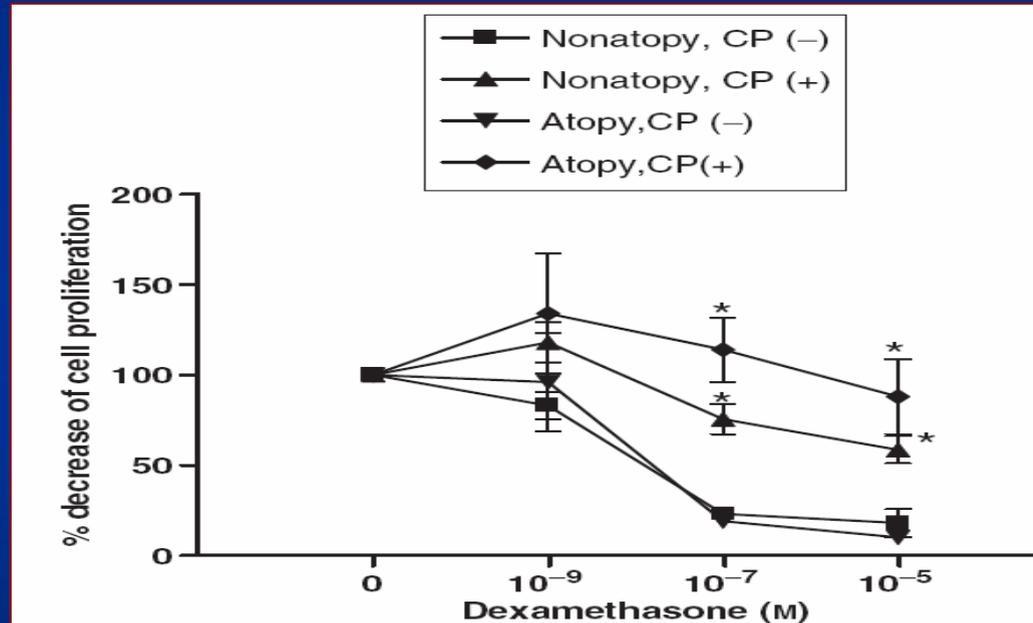
C. pneumoniae infection enhances cellular proliferation and reduces steroid responsiveness of human peripheral blood mononuclear cells via a tumor necrosis factor- α -dependent pathway

Cho YS et al. - *Clinical and Experimental Allergy*, 35:1625–1631

Human peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) were cultured in vitro in the presence or absence of *C. pneumoniae* infection.

Results Cellular proliferation was significantly higher in *C. pneumoniae*-infected PBMCs than in uninfected PBMCs, which is more prominent in Th2-dominant microenvironment.

Antiproliferative and pro-apoptotic effects of corticosteroid were significantly reduced in *C. pneumoniae* infected PBMCs compared with uninfected PBMCs



***C. pneumoniae* infection enhanced the proliferation and survival of immune and inflammatory cells, resulting in steroid resistance**

Pneumoniae and wheezing

In childhood, C. pneumoniae infection may induce wheezing, which can persist, even after a systemic and/or inhalatory steroid therapy, until the infection has been completely treated

Block S. et al. - *Pediatr. Infect. Dis.* 1995;14,471

Esposito S. et al. - *Eur. Resp. J.* 2000;16, 1142

Schmidt MN. et al - *P.A.I.* 2001;12, 257

Kutlin S. et al. - *Antimicrob. Ag. Chemiother.* 2002;46,409

Lewanske jr RF – *CHEST* 2003;123:385s-390s

Infezione da mycoplasma pneumoniae



Formazione bronchiale di un infiltrato di neutrofili



**Maggiore produzione di IL-4, IL-5, TNF α
Minore produzione di IFN- γ , Th1**



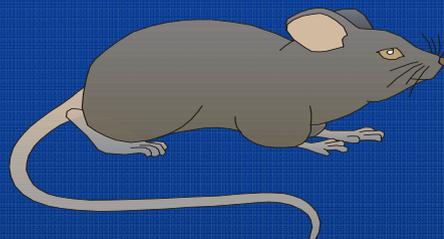
Iperreattività bronchiale e asma

Angiogenesis and Remodeling of Airway Vasculature in Chronic Inflammation

Donald - *AJRCCM* 2001; 164: S39-45

MYCOPLASMA INFECTION MODEL OF CHRONIC AIRWAY INFLAMMATION

*inoculated intranasally with
M. pneumoniae*



the microvasculature of the airway mucosa begins to change soon after infection

angiogenesis and microvascular remodeling become long-lasting features of the disease

Cytokine Secretion in Children With Acute Mycoplasma pneumoniae Infection and Wheeze

Posito et al - Pediatric Pulmonology 2002;34:122–127

- *The children with acute M. pneumoniae infection and wheeze had **higher IL-5 concentrations** than those with asymptomatic acute infection and without wheeze ($P < 0.0001$).*
- *No significant between-group differences were observed in terms of IL-2, IFN- γ , or IL-4 levels.*

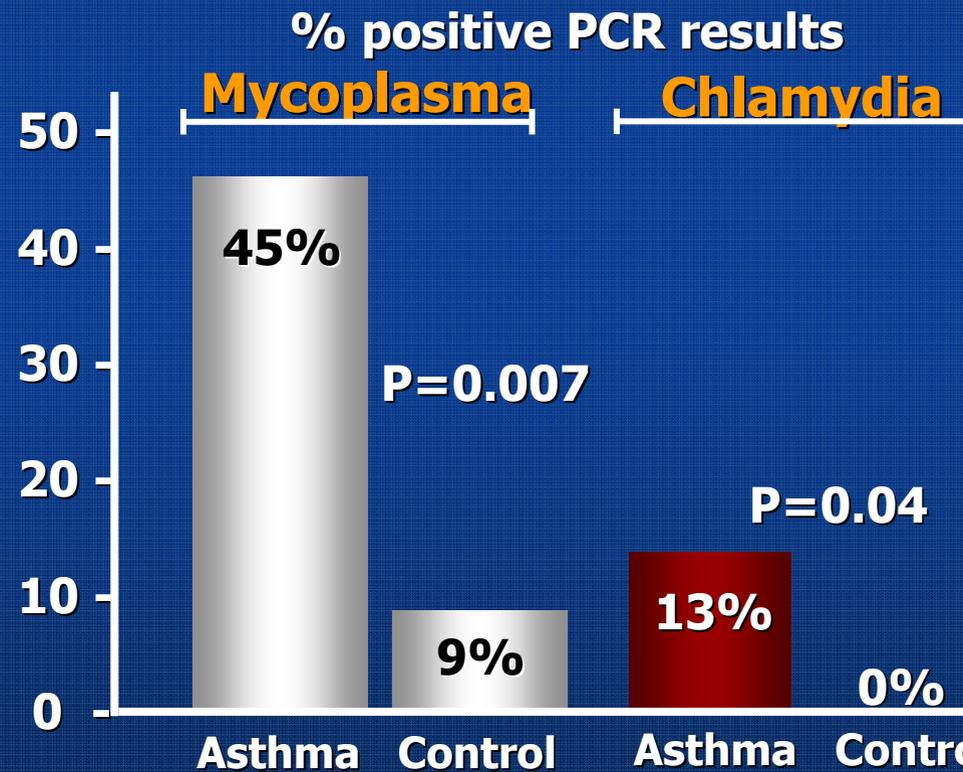
- *IL-5 seems to be essential for the development of hyperresponsiveness.*
- *IL-5 can therefore cause a high level of local inflammation that may cause considerable local damage to host tissues.*

**Schwarze J et al. - J Immunol 1998
AJRCCM 2000**

Link between chronic asthma and chronic infection

in - JACI 2001; 107: 595

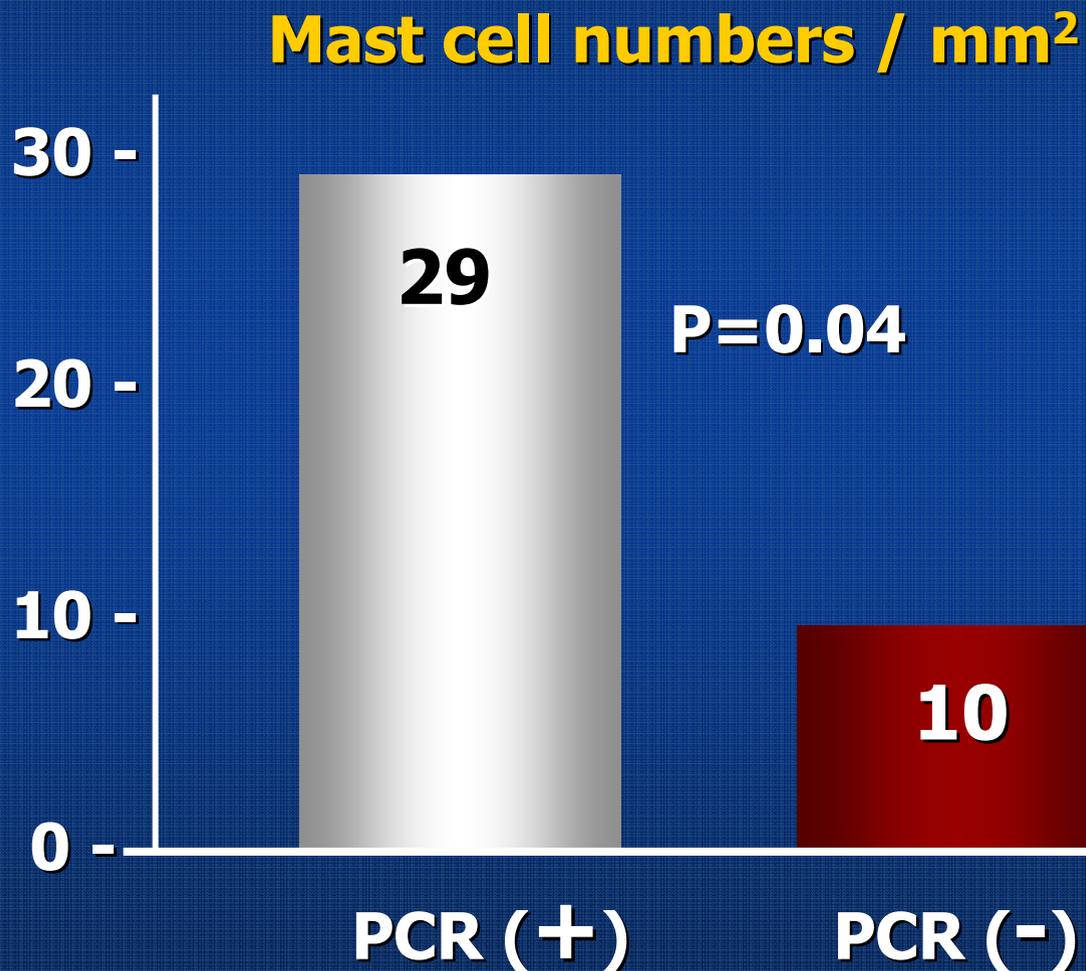
*This study on the relationship of **M. pneumoniae** and **C. Pneumoniae** in patients with chronic stable asthma gives further insight into the possible link between chronic infection and chronic asthma.*



Link between chronic asthma and chronic infection

in - JACI 2001; 107: 595

The increased number of tissue mast cell in the group with PCR (+) results suggests a potential interaction between infection and allergen sensitization.

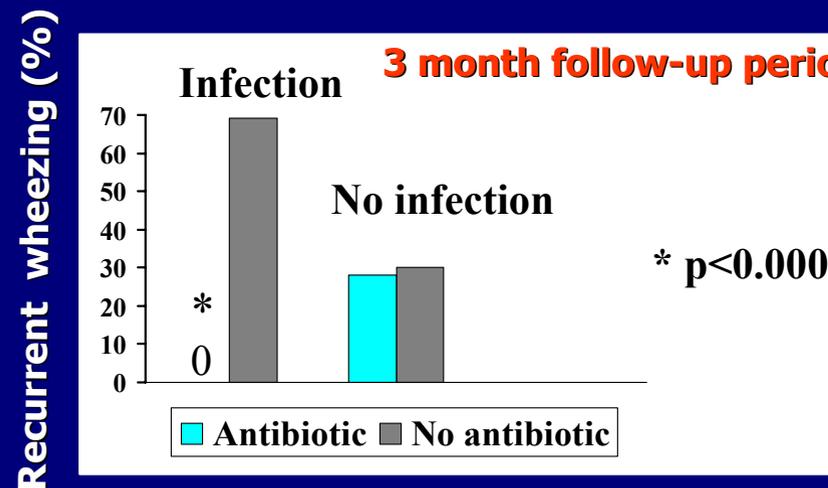
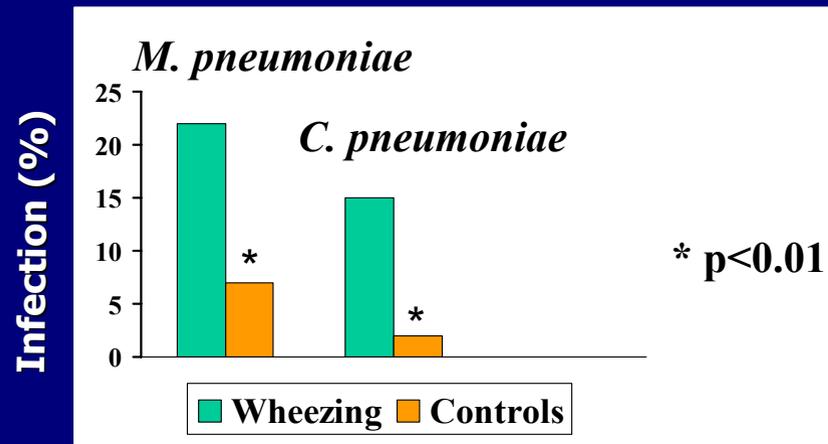


Importance of acute *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* and *Chlamydia pneumoniae* infections in children with wheezing

Posito - Eur Respir J 2000;16:1142

- ▶ *M. pneumoniae* and *C. pneumoniae* are significantly related to wheezing in children particularly in those with recurrent episodes

- ▶ Clarithromycin may improve the course of wheezing in patients with acute infection



Effect of clarithromycin on cytokines and chemokines in children with an acute exacerbation of recurrent wheezing: a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial

de la Torre J, et al. - *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2006;97:457–463

Children with a history of recurrent wheezing or asthma and who presented with an acute exacerbation of wheezing

with a confirmed *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Chlamydia pneumoniae* infection were

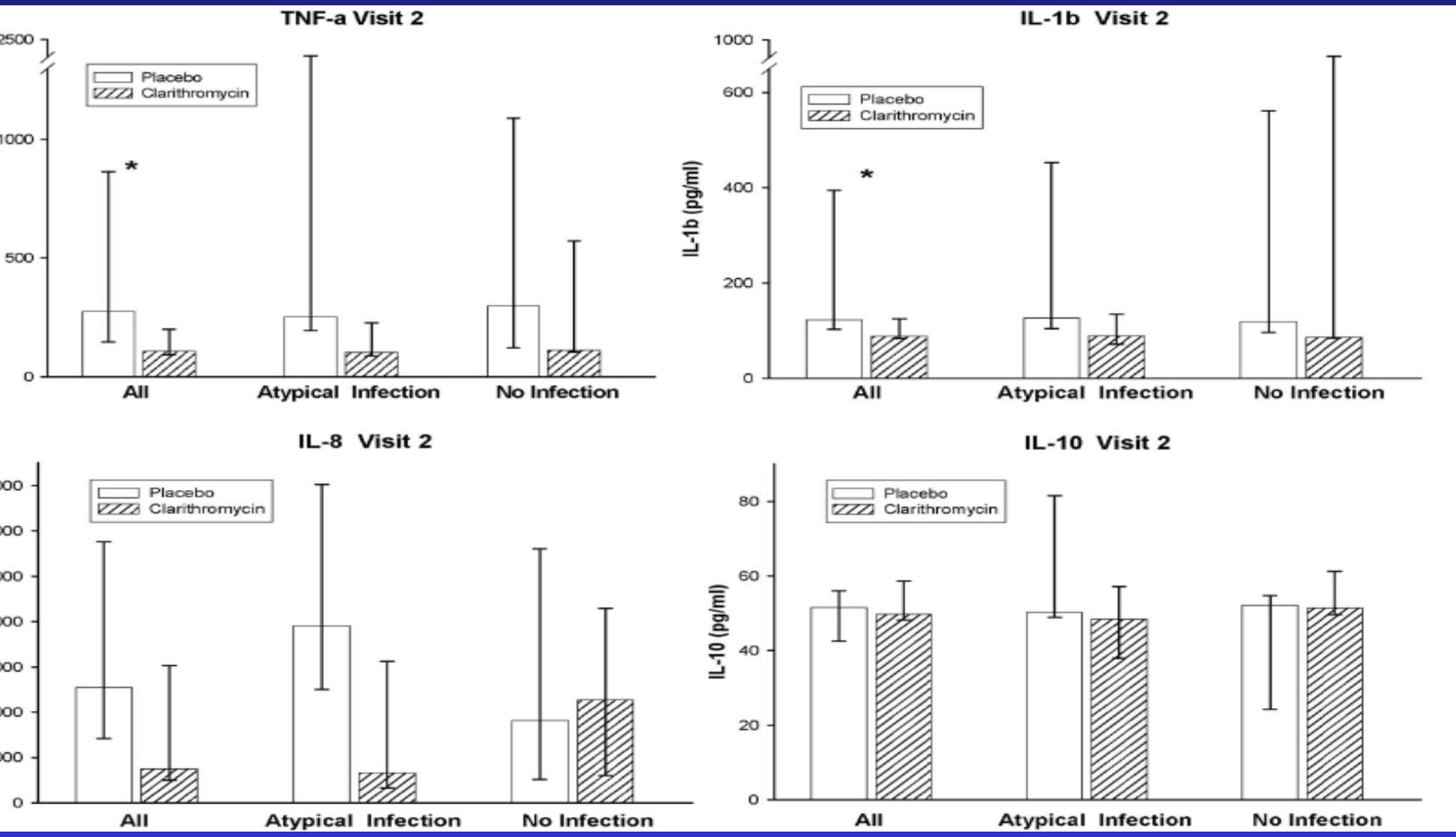
Clarithromycin therapy reduces mucosal TNF- α , IL-1 β , and IL-10 concentrations in children with an acute exacerbation of recurrent wheezing

Macrophage inflammatory protein 1, and monocyte chemoattractant protein 1 were measured in serum and/or nasopharyngeal aspirates before, during, and after therapy

Nasopharyngeal concentrations of TNF-, IL-1, and IL-10 were significantly and consistently lower in children treated with clarithromycin compared with placebo

Effect of clarithromycin on cytokines and chemokines in children with an acute exacerbation of recurrent wheezing: a doubleblind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial

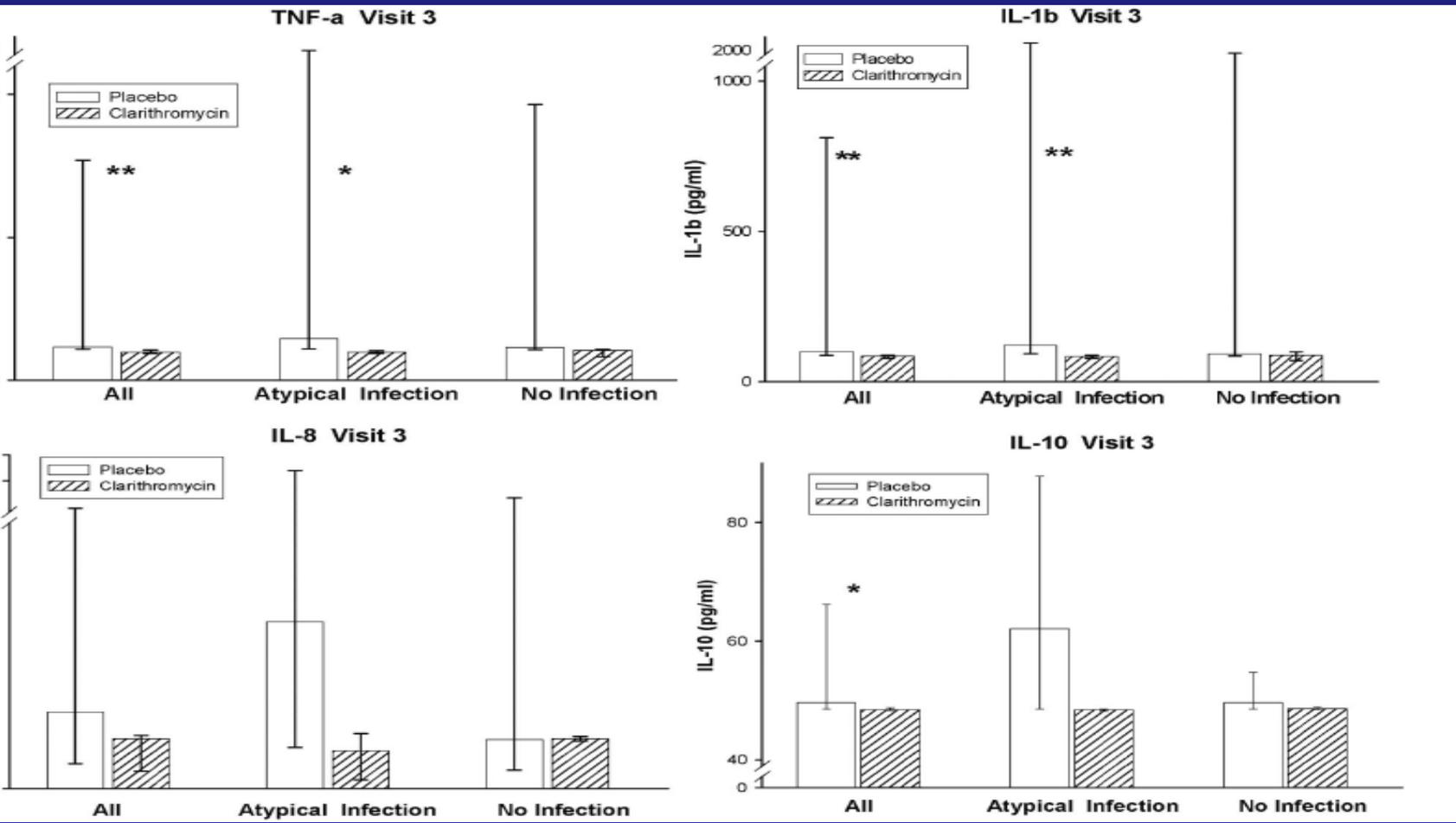
Fonseca-Aten M et al. - *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2006;97:457–463



*p < 0.05

Effect of clarithromycin on cytokines and chemokines in children with an acute exacerbation of recurrent wheezing: a doubleblind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial

Fonseca-Aten M et al. - *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2006;97:457–463



*p < 0.05

Effetto antinfiammatorio dei macrolidi

Agiscono sulla funzione dei neutrofili (ne riducono numero e attività)

Riducono il livello di citochine quali IL-1 β , IL-6 e IL8 (chemiotattica per eosinofili e neutrofili)

Riducono il reclutamento degli eosinofili nelle vie aeree

Sopprimono la produzione di TNF- α e GM-CSF

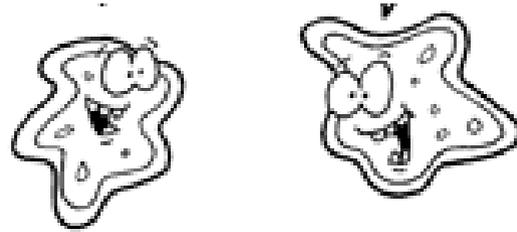
Inibiscono la generazione dei superossidi ed elastasi da parte dei granulociti attivati

Accelerano l'apoptosi dei neutrofili

Riducono la broncocostrizione inibendo le risposte colinergiche a livello delle vie aeree

Inducono una riduzione nella secrezione di muco da parte delle goblet cells delle vie aeree

Germ and asthma



Grazie

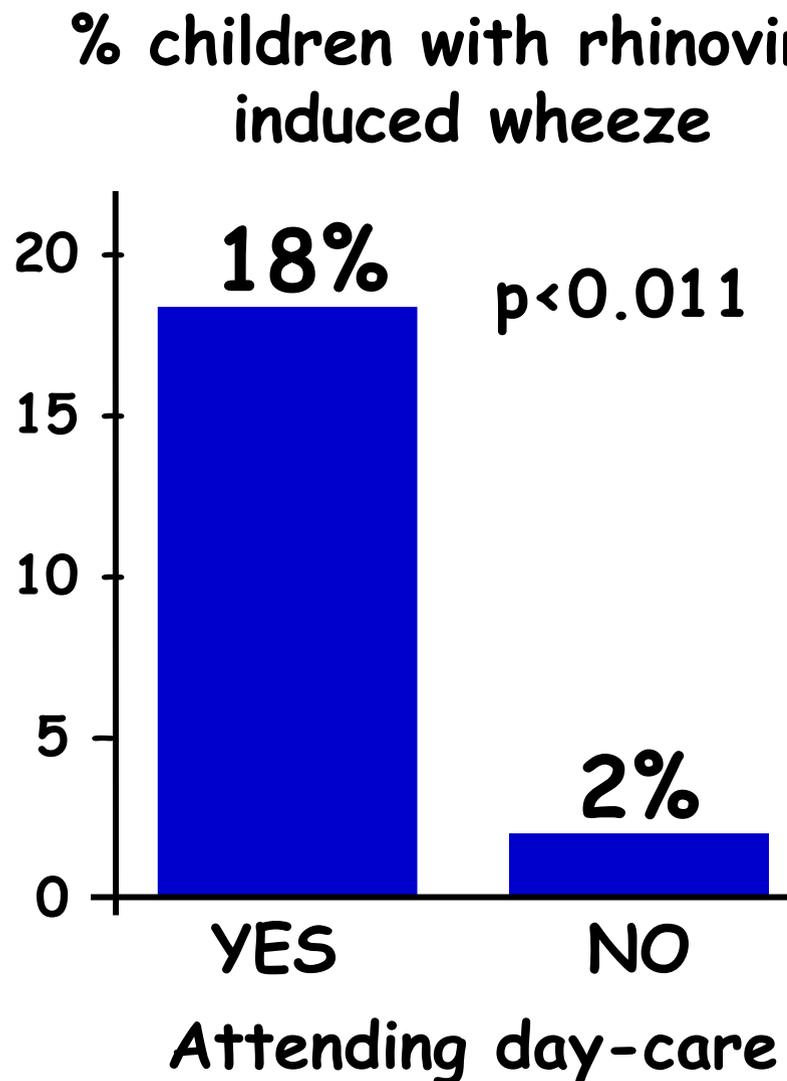
CYTOKINE RESPONSE PATTERNS, EXPOSURE TO VIRUSES, AND RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS IN THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE

Copenhaver AJRCCM 2004; 170: 175

285 children were enrolled in the Childhood Origins of Asthma Project at birth and followed for at least 1 year

Cord blood and 1-year mononuclear cells were stimulated with phytohemagglutinin

Cytokine-response profiles were measured by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

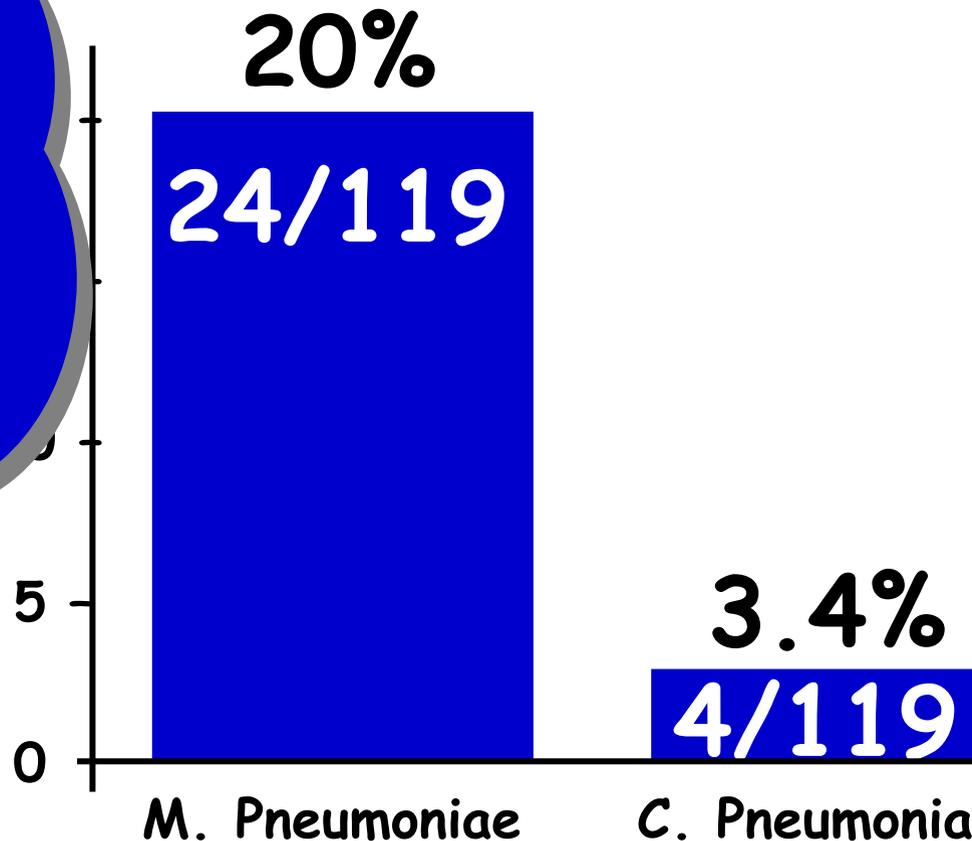


MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE AND ASTHMA IN CHILDREN

Biscardi Clin. Infect. Dis. 2004; 38: 1341

% children with acute infection
in 119 children with previous
diagnosed asthma

M. Pneumoniae may play a role in the onset of asthma in predisposed children and could be a trigger for recurrent wheezing

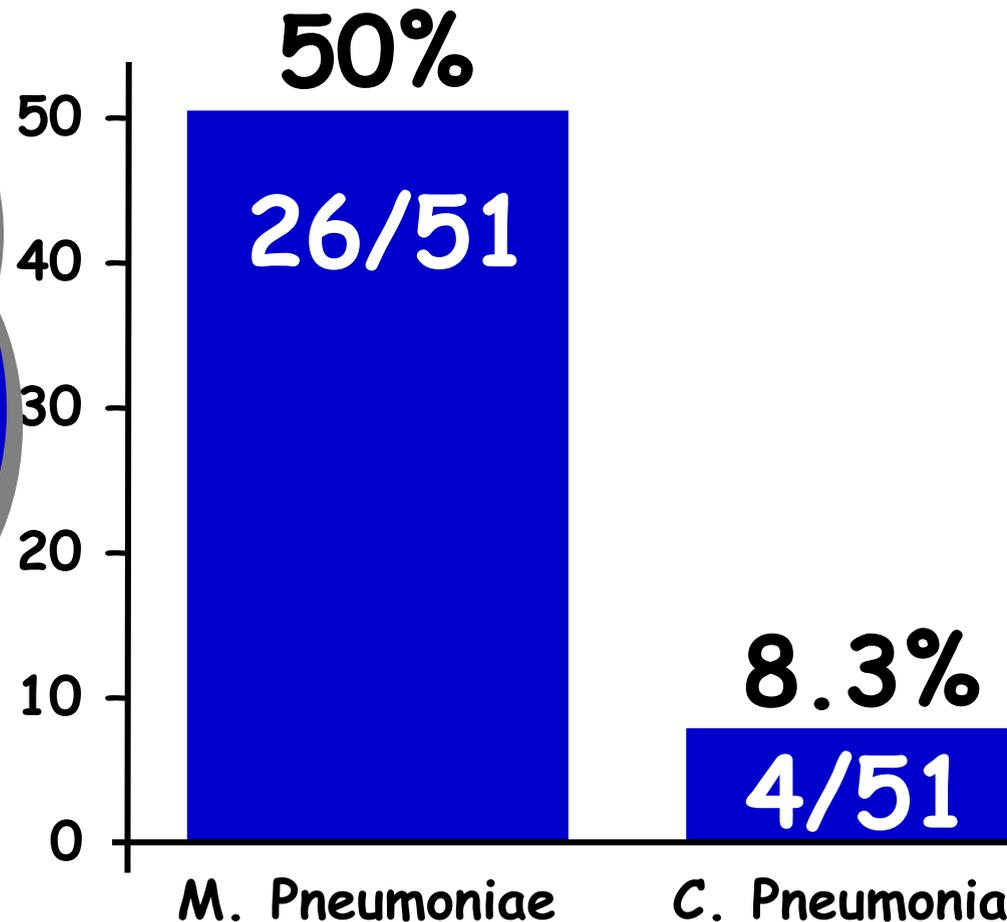


MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE AND ASTHMA IN CHILDREN

Biscardi Clin. Infect. Dis. 2004; 38: 1341

% children with acute infection
in 51 children with new asthma

Infected children
were more likely
than non infected
children to present
recurrence of
exhacerbations
 $p < 0.05$



PRIOR *BORDETELLA PERTUSSIS* INFECTION MODULATES ALLERGEN PRIMING AND THE SEVERITY OF AIRWAY PATHOLOGY IN A MURINE MODEL OF ALLERGIC ASTHMA.

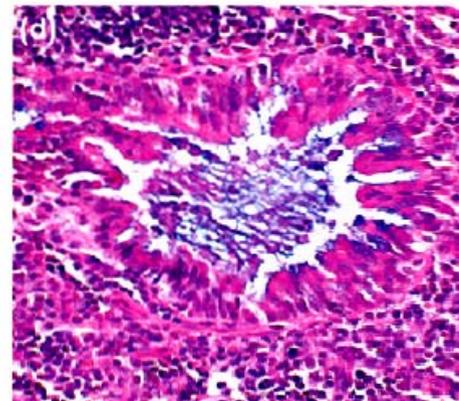
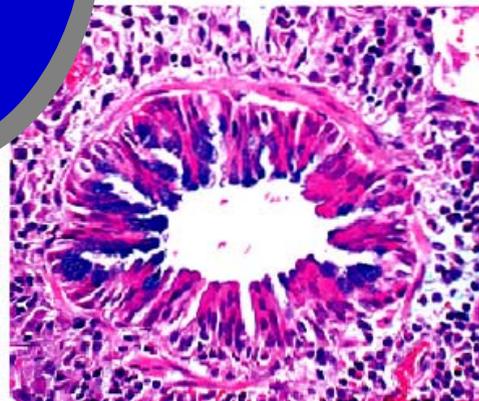
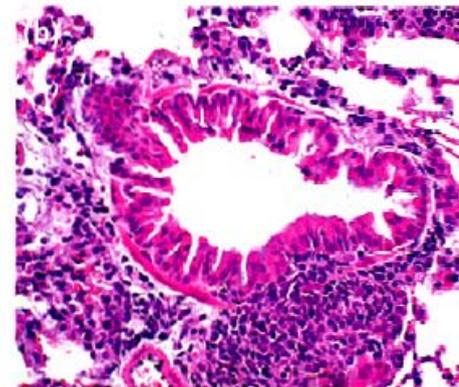
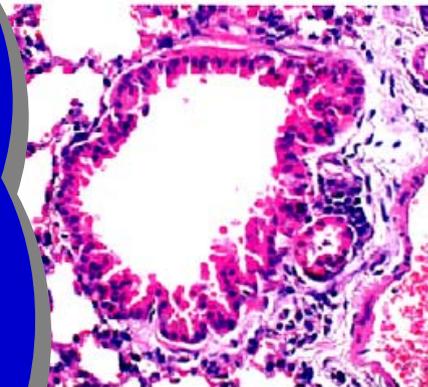
Environ. Clin. Exp. Allergy 2004; 34: 1488

A Th1 response induced by a common childhood infection does not protect against bronchial hyper-reactivity, but rather exacerbates the allergic asthmatic response, despite modulation of immune mediators.

sensitization

Control

B pertussis only



OVA only

OVA +
B pertussis

✓ Increased AIR



INCREASED FREQUENCY OF DETECTION OF *CHLAMYDOPHILA PNEUMONIAE* IN ASTHMA

Biscione *Eur. Respir. J.* 2004; 24: 745

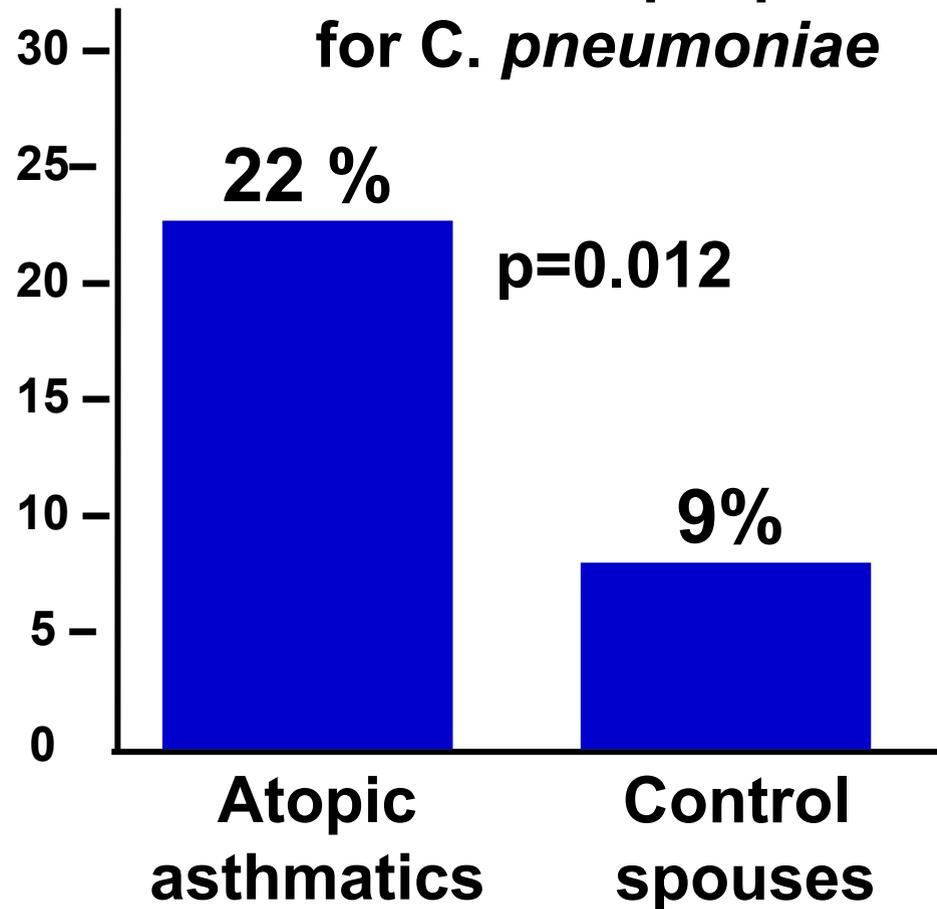
4 spouse pairs

onopic

possible explanation
the above findings
d be the presence
impaired immune
responses to
C. pneumoniae
ctions in asthma
icient production
of IFN- γ ?)

tion

% subjects with at least
one nasal sample positive
for *C. pneumoniae*



Neonatal Chlamydial Infection Induces Mixed T-Cell Responses That Drive Allergic Airway Disease

Horvat JC et al. - Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2007; 176:556–564,

Neonatal or adult mice were given a chlamydial infection and 6 weeks later were sensitized and subsequently challenged with ovalbumin.



RESULTS: Neonatal but not adult infection resulted in significant decreases in interleukin-5 production from helper T cells and by the numbers of eosinophils recruited to the lung in response to ovalbumin exposure

Neonatal Chlamydial Infection Induces MIXED T-Cell Responses That Drive Allergic Airway Disease

Horvat JC et al. - Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2007; 176:556–564,

The effects of early-life infection were associated with the generation of both type 1 and 2 ovalbumin-specific helper T-

Early-life chlamydial infection induces a mixed type 1 and 2 T-cell response to antigen, which differentially affects the development of key features of AAD in the adult

exacerbated other hallmark features of asthma: mucus hypersecretion and airway hyperresponsiveness

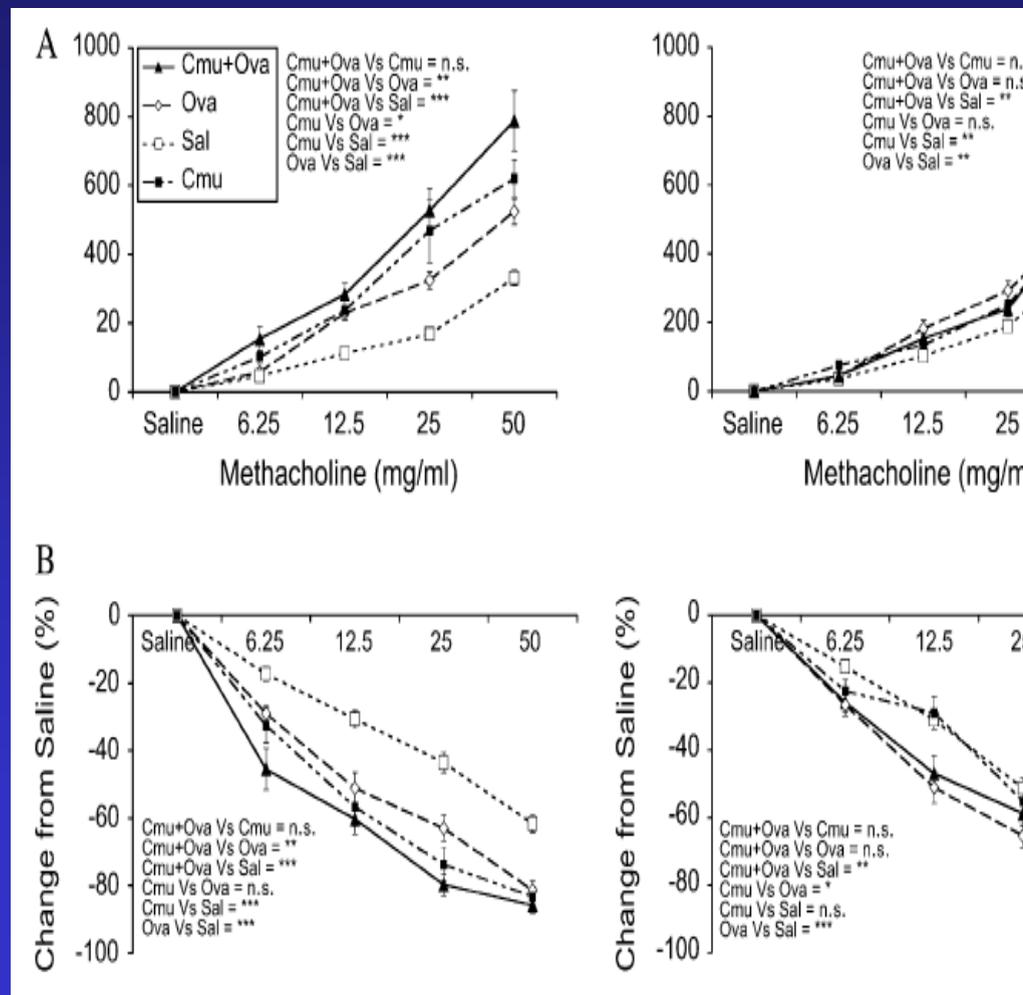
Infection prolonged the expression of AAD and these effects were restricted to early-life infection

Neonatal Chlamydial Infection Induces Mixed T_H-Cell Responses That Drive Allergic Airway Disease

Horvat JC et al. - *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2007; 176:556–564,

airway hyperresponsiveness, measured as airway resistance (A) and dynamic compliance (B), after muridarum infection and peritoneal induction of allergic disease (Cmu/Ova), compared with infection (Cmu), ovalumin (Ova), and saline [Sal] groups.

* < 0.05
 ** < 0.01
 *** < 0, 0.001.
 n.s.: not significant



IFN- γ -induced protein 10 is a novel biomarker of rhinovirus-induced asthma exacerbations

Wark P et al. - J Allergy Clin Immunol 2007;120:586-93

bronchial epithelial cells (BECs) were obtained from bronchial washings of steroid naive asthmatic subjects and healthy nonatopic control subjects. Cells were infected with rhinovirus 16. Inflammatory mediators were measured by means of flow cytometry with a cytometric bead array

Subjects with acute asthma and virus infection were recruited; they were characterized clinically by using lung function tests and had blood taken to measure the inflammatory mediators identified as important by the BEC experiments

IFN- γ -induced protein 10 (IP-10) and RANTES were released in the highest quantities, followed by IL-6, IL-8, and TNF- α

IP-10 is a novel biomarker for rhinovirus-induced asthma exacerbations

Wark P et al. - J Allergy Clin Immunol 2007;120:586-93

Corticosteroid treatment of BECs only partially suppressed IP-10 and TNF- α but was more effective at suppressing RANTES, IL-6, and IL-8.

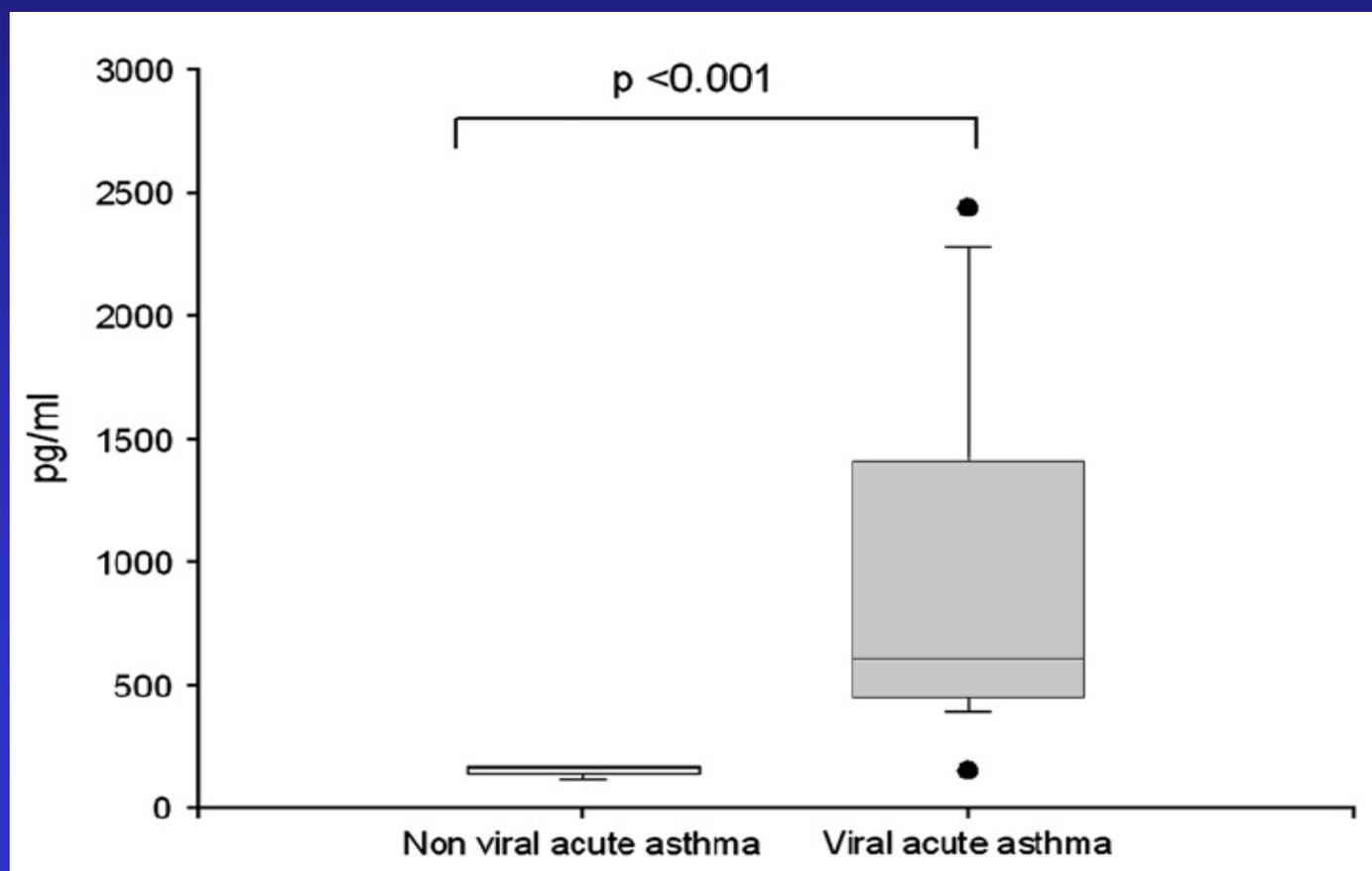
IP-10 release is specific to acute virus-induced asthma; measurement of serum IP-10 could be used to predict a viral trigger to acute asthma

Increased serum IP-10 levels were strongly associated with more severe airflow obstruction ($r=0.8$; $p < 0.01$).

N-γ-induced protein 10 is a novel biomarker of rhinovirus-induced asthma exacerbations

Wark P et al. - J Allergy Clin Immunol 2007;120:586-93

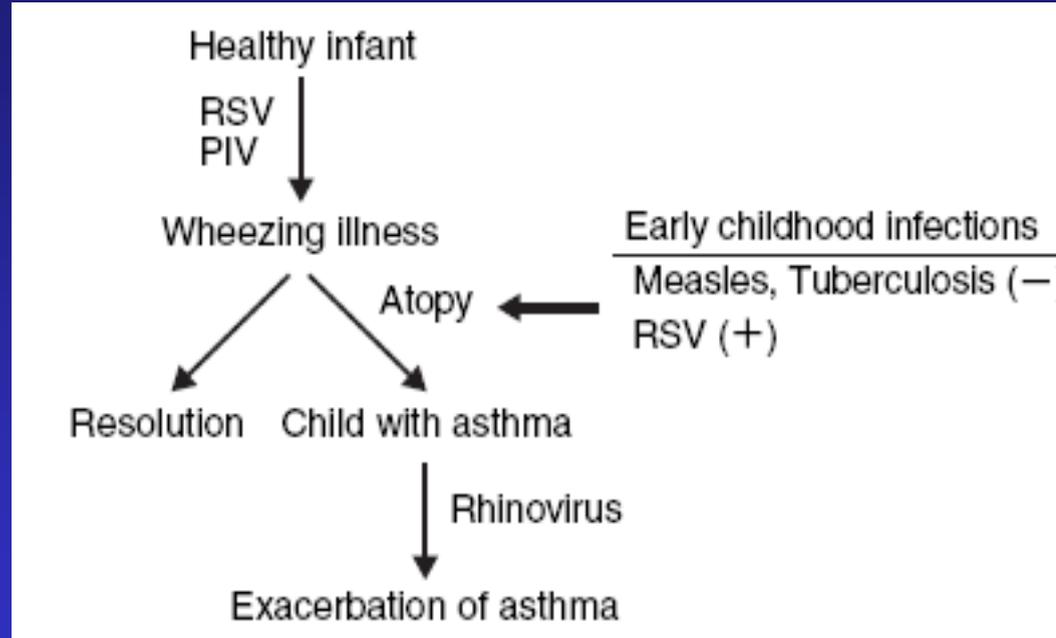
Serum IP-10 levels at presentation with acute asthma



Respiratory Viral Infections and Early Asthma in Childhood

Jae-Won Oh - Allergy International. 2006;55:369-372

Relationship of viral infections to acute wheezing illnesses and asthma.



RSV: respiratory syncytial virus

PIV: parainfluenza virus

(-) expresses inhibition

(+) expresses stimulation

MONTELUKAST AND THE PREVENTION OF VIRAL INDUCED ASTHMA (The PREVIA multi-centric study)

Disgaard et al. – ERS 2003

The results demonstrate that montelukast significantly reduced the rate of asthma exacerbations, compared to placebo, in 2 to 5 year-old children with history of episodic asthmatic symptoms.

This one year treatment was well tolerated.

