

# Infezioni respiratorie ricorrenti: nuove evidenze e bandierine rosse per la prevenzione nella pratica quotidiana

Peroni Diego  
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- ✓ IRR ..
- ✓ Le bandierine rosse
- ✓ Immunomodulanti e IRR
- ✓ IRR ma non solo ..
- ✓ Le novità ..

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# **Immunomodulanti oggi... Novità ?**

**IN LETTERATURA NON ESISTE**

**UNA DEFINIZIONE UNIVOCA DELLE IRR**

- Alte e/o basse vie respiratorie?
- Forme febbrili e non?
- Il wheezing va considerato?
- Limiti di età?
- Forme virali e/o batteriche?

**Clin Rev Allergy Immunol 2002. Ballow  
Pediatr Infect Dis J 2004. Griffin**

# **Le Infezioni Respiratorie Ricorrenti**

**IN LETTERATURA NON ESISTE**

**UNA DEFINIZIONE UNIVOCA DELLE IRR**

Immunology Study Group of the Italian Pediatric Society

6 o più infezioni per anno

1 o più infezioni respiratorie al mese tra Settembre e Aprile

3 o più infezioni delle vie respiratorie inferiori per

**Criterio Numerico diventa il parametro Ottimale**

Pediatric Allergy Immunol 2007. De Martino

## Chi è il bambino con infezioni respiratorie ricorrenti?



**Criteri per definire il bambino affetto da Infezioni Respiratorie Ricorrenti (IRR) in età pediatrica:**

**1-3 anni:** 6 o più infezioni delle vie respiratorie superiori (o una o più al mese da ottobre a marzo) in un anno e/o 2 infezioni delle vie respiratorie inferiori (polmonite confermata da criteri clinici e/o radiologici) in un anno

**3-6 anni:** 5 o più infezioni delle vie respiratorie superiori (o una o più al mese da ottobre a marzo) in un anno e/o 2 infezioni delle vie respiratorie inferiori (polmonite confermata da criteri clinici e/o radiologici) in un anno

**>6 anni fino a 10 anni\*\*\*:** 3 o più infezioni delle vie respiratorie superiori (o una o più al mese da ottobre a marzo) in un anno e/o 2 infezioni delle vie respiratorie inferiori (polmonite confermata da criteri clinici e/o radiologici) in un anno

**\*\*\* Limite di età oltre il quale la WHO definisce l'adolescente**

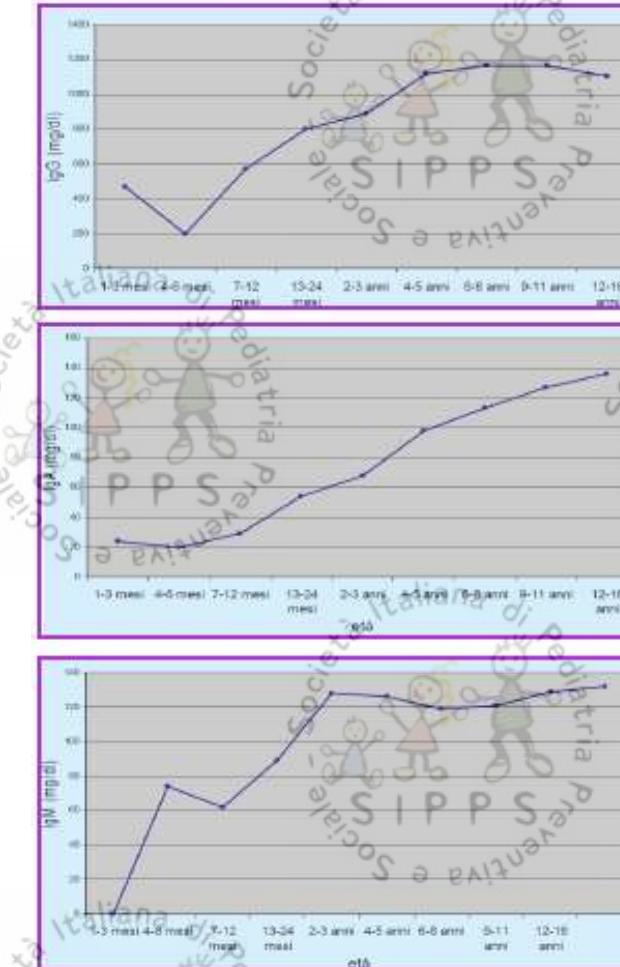
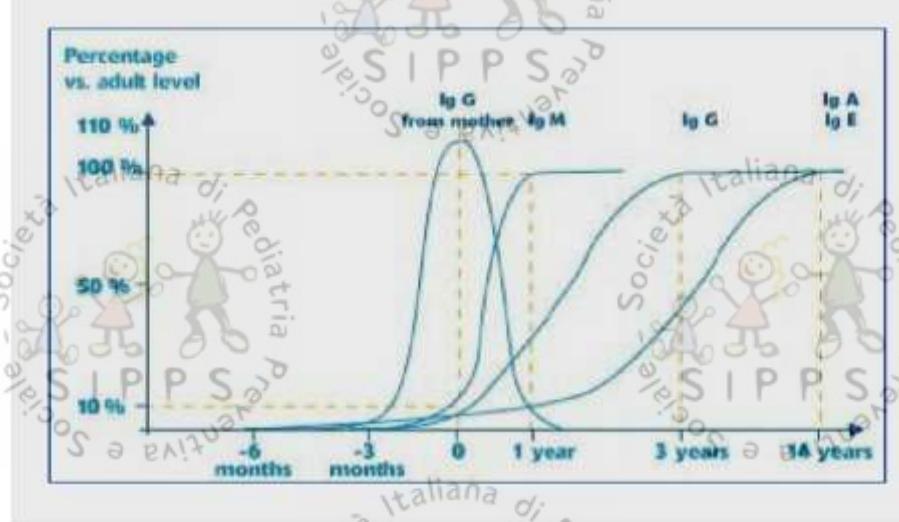
*proposta dal Prof. Maurizio de Martino*

# Fattori di rischio individuali

- Fattori anatomici individuali**
- Immaturità immunologica**
- Immunodepressione postinfettiva  
(convalescenza)**
- Atopia**

# IRR : fattori di rischio **individuali**

**Fisiologica immaturità  
immunologica del  
bambino !**



# IRR : fattori di rischio **individuali**

## Presenza di Atopia



- persistente flogosi delle vie aeree
- rinosinusite ricorrente nel 25-70 % dei pazienti
- batteri colonizzatori patogeni del microbioma
- possibilità di inizio precoce di IRR
- disfunzione immunologica nel 13.2% dei casi

## Fattori di rischio ambientali

- ❖ Il fumo passivo, (ma tutti giurano di fumare fuori al balcone)
  - ❖ La socializzazione precoce (... sa, la nonna non ce lo tiene)
  - ❖ La presenza di fratelli (beati i primi...)
  - ❖ Livello socioeconomico basso
- non solo i maschi si ammalano di più rispetto alle femmine (62% vs. 38%), ma i maschi sono più atopici delle femmine (67% vs. 33%).

# Infezioni respiratorie ricorrenti: nuove evidenze e bandierine rosse per la prevenzione nella pratica quotidiana

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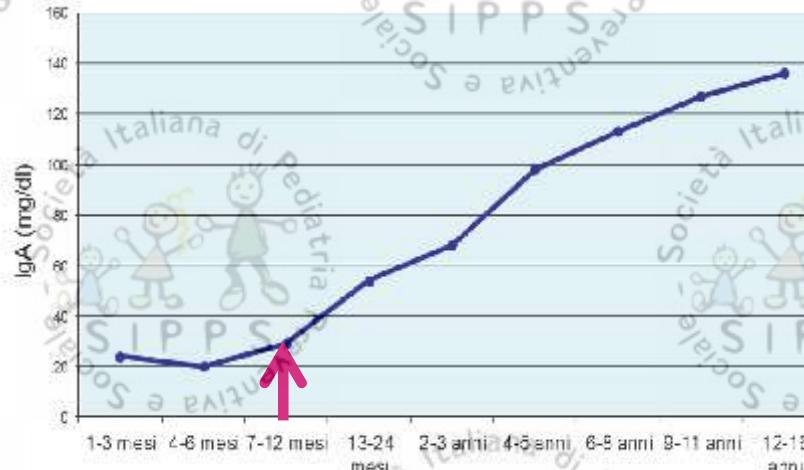
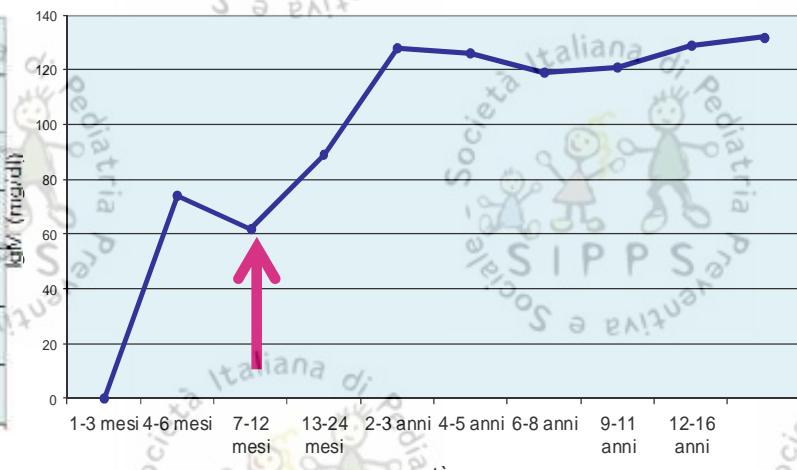
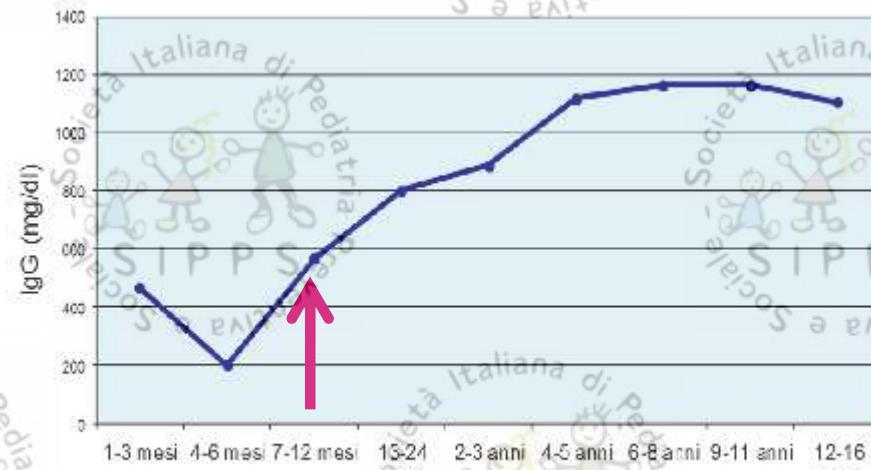
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# Infezioni respiratorie ricorrenti: approfondimento diagnostico

- Anamnesi - Esame obiettivo
- Esame emocromocitometrico
- Immunoglobuline sieriche



# Fattori costituzionali



- Adeguata risposta a stimoli proteici
- Deficitaria risposta a stimoli polisaccaridici
- IgA secretorice: produzione dai 3 mesi e lento incremento

# Infezioni respiratorie ricorrenti: approfondimento diagnostico II livello

- Anamnesi
- Esame obiettivo
- Accertamenti immunologici:
  - Esame emocromocitometrico
  - Immunoglobuline sieriche
  - Sottopopolazioni linfocitarie  
**(CD3, CD4, CD8, CD19, DR, CD16)**
  - Ab anti-Tetano, Ab anti-epatite
  - Ig E totali



# Tonsilliti ricorrenti: PFAPA

**PF:** Periodic fever (Febbre elevata)

**A:** Aphthous stomatitis (Stomatite aftosa)

**P:** Pharingitis (Faringotonsillite)

**A:** Cervical Adenitis (Adenopatia laterocervicale)

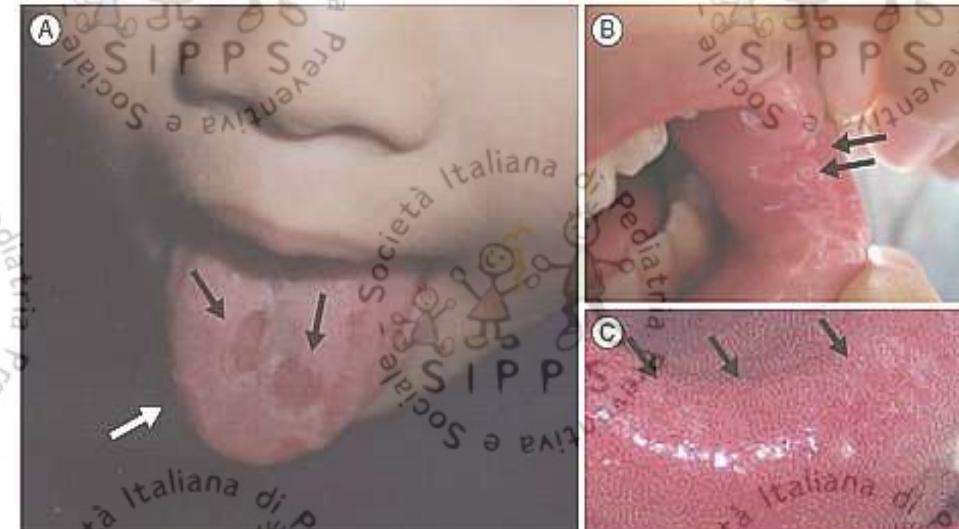


図 3 PFAPAにおける口腔内アフタ性病変

# Tonsilliti ricorrenti: PFAPA

- Età di esordio < 5 anni
- Normalità intercritica
- Estrema regolarità (periodo intervallare fisso)
- Indici infiammatori elevati nella fase acuta
- Mancata risposta all'antibiotico
- SBEGA negativa
- Evoluzione: risoluzione spontanea
- Terapia:
  - monodose steroidi
  - tonsillectomia

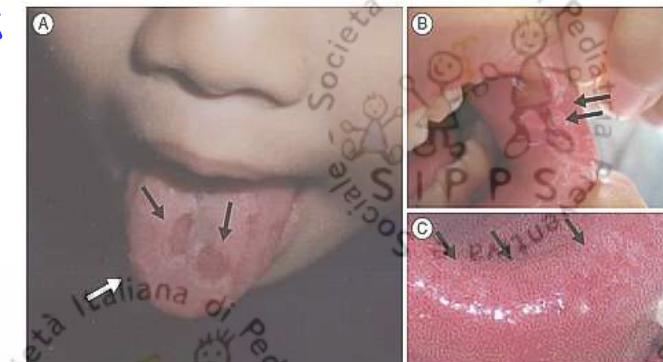


図 3 PFAPAにおける口腔内アフタ性病変

## I 10 warning signs della Jeffrey Modell Foundation

- 1. Più di 4 otiti in un anno**
- 2. Più di 2 sinusiti in un anno**
- 3. Più di 2 mesi di antibiotici in un anno**
- 4. Due polmoniti in un anno**
- 5. Bambino con ritardo di crescita o sottopeso**
- 6. Accessi ricorrenti della cute o degli organi interni**
- 7. Candidiasi orale o cutanea persistente**
- 8. Necessità di terapia antibiotica per via endovenosa per eradicare un'infezione**
- 9. Più di 2 infezioni gravi in un anno**
- 10. Familiarità per immunodeficienza primitiva**



GUIDA PRATICA

## LE IMMUNODEFICIENZE NELL'AMBULATORIO DEL PEDIATRA



Sintesi  
infoMedica

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# Come gestire le IRR ? Gli Immunomodulanti

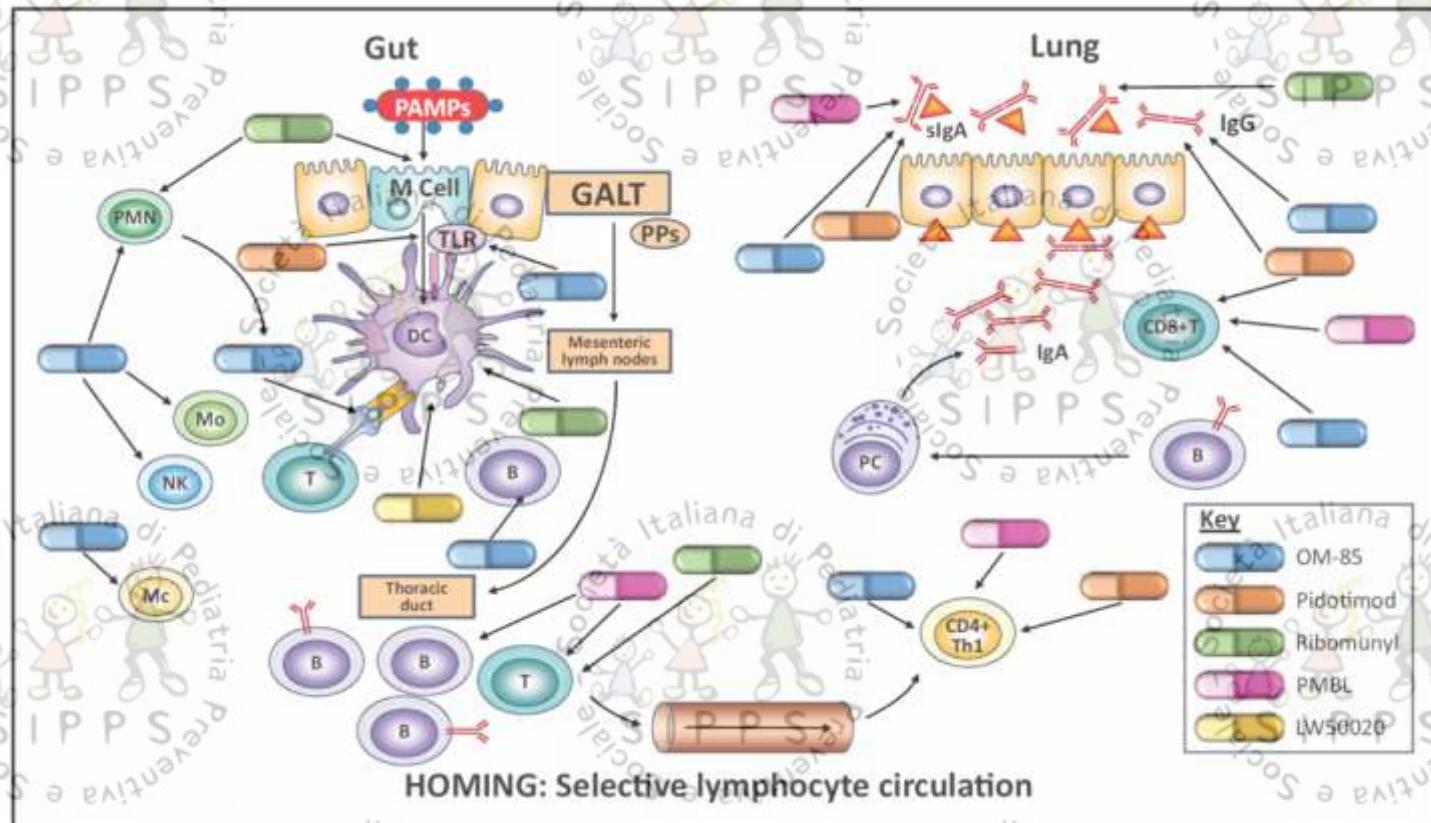
Immunostimulators are substances that interact with the immune system and modulate its function by stimulating a more rapid and effective immune response

Table 2 The different kinds of immune modulators

Bacterial extracts
LW 50020 (Pacnet)
OM-85 BV
Immucytal/Biomunil
Plant extracts
<i>Echinacea</i> sp
Chemical compounds
Pidotimod CAS 121808-62-6

# Nonspecific immunomodulators for recurrent respiratory tract infections, wheezing and asthma in children: a systematic review of mechanistic and clinical evidence

S Esposito, COACI, 2018



The gut-lung immune axis illustrating points of immunomodulator activity in RTI prophylaxis

# **Nonspecific immunomodulators for recurrent respiratory tract infections, wheezing and asthma in children: a systematic review of mechanistic and clinical evidence**

S Esposito, COACI, 2018

**Antigen sampling** by M cells and dendritic cells resident in the Peyer's patches of the gut-associated lymphoid tissue leads to **maturity of dendritic cells** into an antigen-presenting cell phenotype.

The subsequent dendritic cell-initiated immune cascade involves **homing of cells from both innate and adaptive branches** of the immune system to the mucosal-associated lymphoid tissue of the lungs and subsequent antibody production.

They can also act to aid **maturity of the immune system in children, correcting T helper cell (Th) Th1/Th2 imbalance through activation of T regulatory (Treg) cells.**

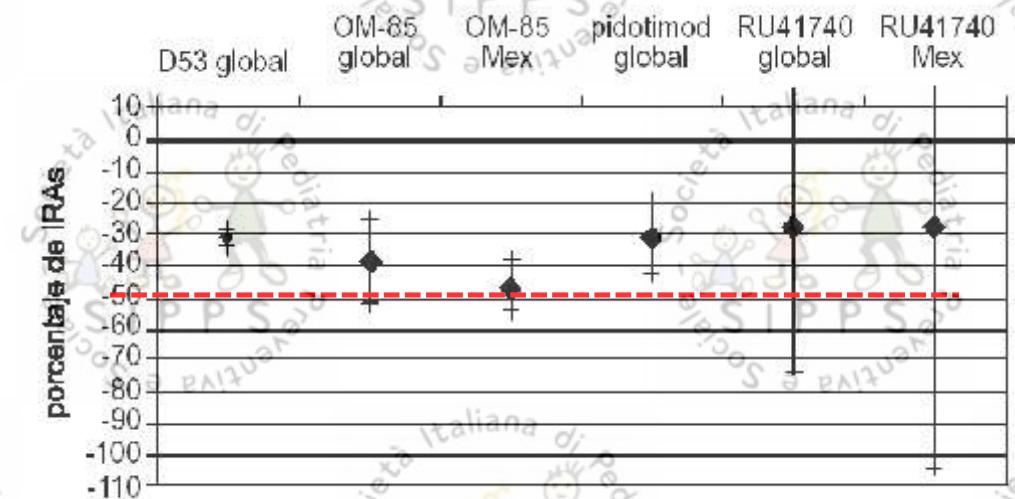
The correction of this Th2-oriented imbalance and other anti-inflammatory activities **may reduce atopic responses related to wheezing and asthma.**

## Immunostimulants for preventing respiratory tract infection in children (Review)

Del-Rio-Navarro BE, Espinosa-Rosales FJ, Flenady V, Sierra-Monge JJL



THE COCHRANE  
COLLABORATION

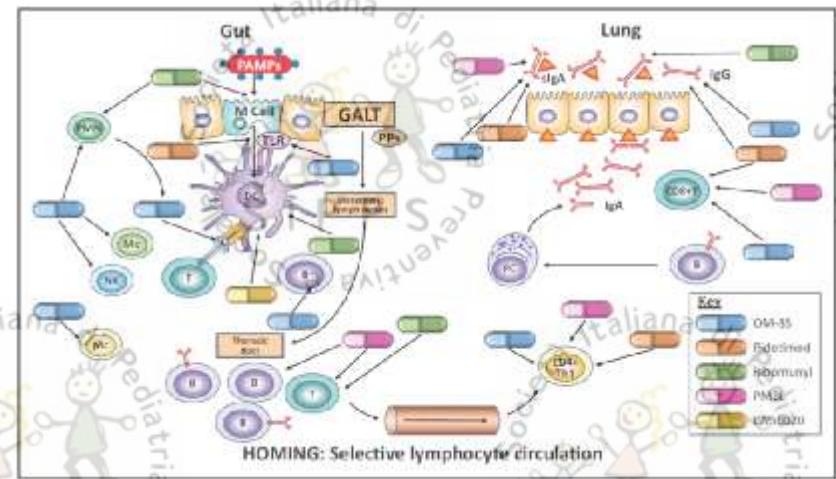


TUTTI gli immunostimolanti studiati (estratti batterici, pidotimod) riducono di circa il 40% il numero delle infezioni respiratorie, rispetto al placebo.

**OM-85** is the product of alkaline lysis of **21 strains of common bacterial respiratory tract pathogens**.

The active ingredients of OM-85 are resistant to gastric transit and cause **maturity of mucosal dendritic cells** in gastrointestinal Peyer's patches, a key step in orally induced respiratory immunity.

OM-85-induced dendritic cell activation occurs in a modulated manner, resulting in a putative prealert antiinfective state in the mucosal immune system



## **EFFICACY OF IMMUNOMODULATORS IN CHILDREN WITH RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTION**

**OM-85 reduced the duration of infections** in children with a history of RRTI compared with placebo and versus probiotic therapy.

In a study of children with recurrent tonsillitis, OM-85 prophylaxis improved outcomes in the majority of patients and, importantly, removed the need for surgery in a significant proportion of those treated [Bitar MA, 2013].

In children with subacute sinusitis, OM-85 prophylaxis sped recovery and reduced infections [Gomez Barreto D, 1998],

whereas children with chronic rhinosinusitis had a reduced symptom burden and a lower incidence of attacks [Chen J, 2017].

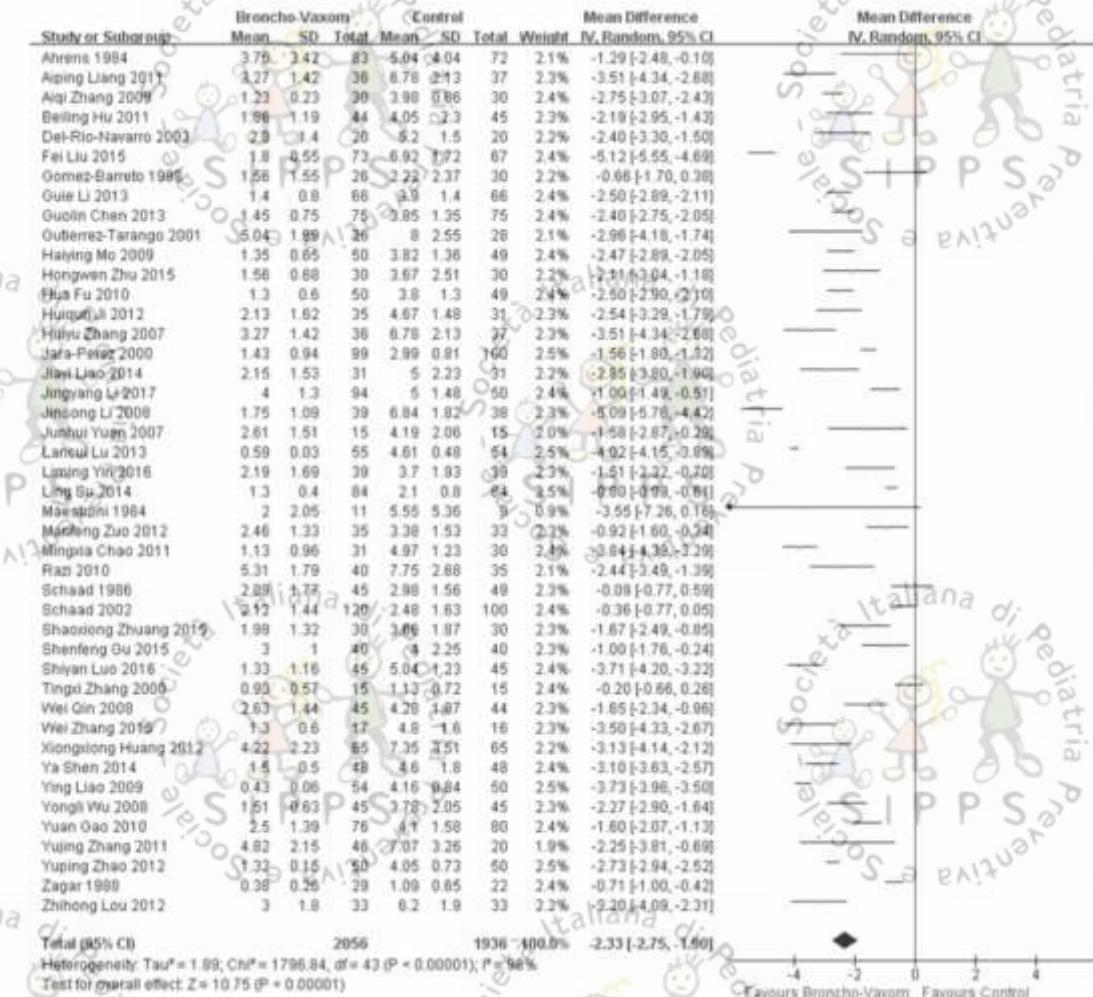
**Reductions in antibiotic and drug treatment** following prophylactic therapy with OM-85 have also been demonstrated in children with a history of RRTI, subacute.

OM-85 therapy reduced school absenteeism in children

## OM-85 in pediatric recurrent respiratory tract infections: A systematic review and meta-analysis. YIN J, Intern Immunopham 2018; 54,198

53 RCTs involving 4851 pediatric patients were included in this meta-analysis.

Frequency of RTIs in OM-85 and control group



## OM-85 in pediatric recurrent respiratory tract infections: A systematic review and meta-analysis. YIN J, Intern Immunopham 2018; 54,198

53 RCTs involving 4851 pediatric patients were included in this meta-analysis.

Study or Subgroup	Broncho-Vaxom			Control			Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI
	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	
Beijing Hu 2011	8	0.75	44	13	2.63	45	-13.0%
Guo Li 2013	8.4	3.5	65	11.4	4.5	66	-3.0% [-4.14, -1.86]
Guolin Chen 2013	8.5	1.8	75	11.5	4.5	75	-3.0% [-4.07, -1.93]
Haiying Mo 2009	7.5	2.5	50	12.5	3.5	49	-5.0% [-6.20, -3.80]
Hua Fu 2010	7.5	2.5	50	12.5	3.5	49	-5.0% [-6.20, -3.80]
Huiyu Zhang 2007	16.5	4.05	36	28.43	9.77	37	-6.2% [-11.93, -15.34, -8.52]
Junhui Yuan 2007	21.2	13.6	16	26.71	24.1	15	-5.5% [-29.51, -1.51]
Manfeng Zuo 2012	26.07	9.88	35	33.47	13.39	33	-3.2% [-7.40, -13.02, -1.78]
Shengeng Gu 2015	16	9.5	40	22	23.5	40	-1.9% [-6.00, -13.86, -1.86]
Wei Qin 2008	21.52	12.32	45	38.46	21.73	44	-6.94% [-24.30, -9.56]
Ya Shen 2014	8.2	1.3	48	11.4	4.6	48	-3.20% [-4.45, -1.85]
Yuan Gao 2010	9	1.2	76	15	3.38	80	13.0% [-6.00, -6.79, -5.21]
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>	<b>580</b>			<b>581</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>-5.26 [-6.41, -4.12]</b>

Heterogeneity:  $Tau^2 = 2.44$ ;  $Chi^2 = 65.34$ ,  $df = 11$  ( $P < 0.00001$ );  $I^2 = 83\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z = 0.05$  ( $P = 0.00001$ )

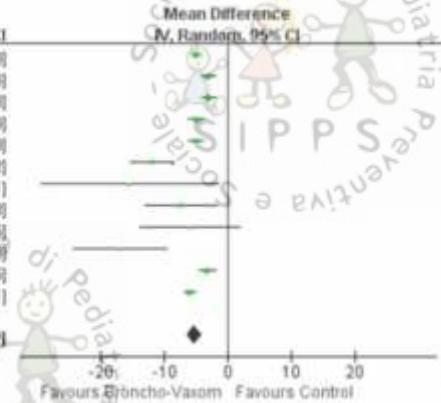


Fig. 5. The cough length in Broncho-Vaxom and control group.

Study or Subgroup	Broncho-Vaxom			Control			Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI
	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	
Gobin Chen 2013	6.5	2.5	75	10.5	1.5	75	-13.0% [-4.00, -4.66, -3.34]
Haiying Mo 2009	5.5	1.5	50	9.5	2.5	49	-13.0% [-4.00, -4.81, -3.19]
Hua Fu 2010	4.5	1.5	60	8.5	2.5	49	-13.0% [-4.00, -4.81, -3.19]
Huiyu Zhang 2007	5.18	2.92	36	11.24	4.33	37	-10.7% [-6.06, -7.75, -4.37]
Junhui Yuan 2007	0.21	0.47	15	1.73	2.52	15	11.8% [-1.52, -2.82, -0.22]
Wei Qin 2008	0.18	0.42	45	1.65	0.89	44	13.8% [-1.47, -1.76, -1.18]
Ya Shen 2014	6.3	2.1	48	10.2	1.7	48	-13.1% [-3.90, -4.66, -3.14]
Yujing Zhang 2011	4.32	1.82	46	6.57	3.41	20	11.0% [-2.25, -3.83, -0.67]
<b>Total (95% CI)</b>	<b>365</b>			<b>337</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>-3.37 [-4.52, -2.22]</b>

Heterogeneity:  $Tau^2 = 2.46$ ;  $Chi^2 = 128.23$ ,  $df = 7$  ( $P < 0.00001$ );  $I^2 = 94\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z = 5.75$  ( $P < 0.00001$ )

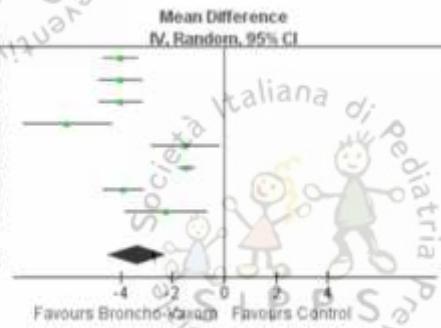


Fig. 6. Duration of wheezing in Broncho-Vaxom and control group.

**Cough length and frequency of wheezing in OM-85 and control group**

# Impact of OM-85 Given during Two Consecutive Years to Children with a History of Recurrent Respiratory Tract Infections: A Retrospective Study. Esposito, Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health 2019, 16, 1065;

200 children aged three to six years  
history of recurrent RTIs, defined as at least six documented episodes of acute RTI in a single year, received OM-85 for two consecutive years (3.5 mg once a day for 10 days for 3 months of each year) were selected and matched based on age, sex, and period of evaluation with children with recurrent RTIs who did not receive OM-85.

	First Year		Second Year	
	Treated with OM-85 (n = 200)	Untreated with OM-85 (n = 200)	Treated with OM-85 (n = 200)	Untreated with OM-85 (n = 200)
Children with respiratory infections (any)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
No	128 (64.0) *	72 (36.0)	134 (67.0) *	79 (39.5)
Yes	72 (36.0)	128 (64.0)	66 (33.0)	121 (60.5)
Children with wheezing (any)				
No	167 (83.5) *	140 (70.0)	179 (89.5) *	152 (76.0)
Yes	33 (16.5)	60 (30.0)	21 (10.5)	48 (24.0)
Children treated with antibiotics (any)				
No	139 (69.5) *	90 (45.0)	146 (73.0) *	99 (49.5)
Yes	61 (30.5)	110 (55.0)	54 (27.0)	101 (50.1)
Children who required an outpatient medical visit				
No	91 (45.5) *	51 (25.5)	103 (51.5) *	62 (31.0)
Yes	109 (54.5)	149 (74.5)	97 (48.5)	138 (69.0)
Number of infections				
URTI, Mean ± SD	0.41 ± 0.39 *	0.76 ± 0.49	0.36 ± 0.25	0.61 ± 0.46
Wheezing, Mean ± SD	0.22 ± 0.18 *	0.36 ± 0.31	0.16 ± 0.10	0.31 ± 0.27
LRTI, Mean ± SD	0.16 ± 0.33	0.22 ± 0.58	0.06 ± 0.16	0.14 ± 0.19

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## EFFICACY OF IMMUNOMODULATORS IN WHEEZING AND ASTHMA

OM-85 prophylaxis reduced the duration and incidence of wheezing/asthma exacerbations in children with a history or recurrent wheezing or asthma [Lu Y, 2015, Razi C, 2010], as well as hospitalizations related to asthma [Chen ZG; 2009].

The reductions in exacerbations appear to be related to reduced incidence of RTIs.

Safety data and its addition to corticosteroid therapy caused no apparent issues.

## EFFICACY OF IMMUNOMODULATORS IN WHEEZING AND ASTHMA

The two studies investigating pidotimod in asthma and the related condition obstructive syndrome did not report data on asthma exacerbations; however, there were reductions in the incidence of RTI in both studies [Lokshina EE, 2011].

RTI duration was also reduced in children with allergic rhinitis and asthma [Vargas Correa, 2002].

# The immunostimulant OM-85 BV prevents wheezing attacks in preschool children.

Razi JACI, 2010;126:763

75 children with recurrent wheezing who were 1 to 6 years old.

Participants were randomly assigned to groups given either OM-85 or a placebo (1 cps per day for 10 days each month for 3 consecutive months) at the start of the trial.

Participants were followed for 12 months

TABLE II. Cumulative number of wheezing attacks per patient in the 2 groups

Period (mo)	OM-85 BV	Placebo	Mean difference (95% CI)	Cumulative % difference	P value*
0-3	1.60 ± 0.88 1 (1-2)	2.30 ± 1.34 2 (1-3)	-0.70 (-1.23 to -0.17)	30.4	.013
0-6	2.54 ± 1.12 3 (2-3)	3.87 ± 2.10 4 (2-5)	-1.33 (-2.12 to -0.54)	34.3	.003
0-9	3.20 ± 1.41 3 (2-4)	5.00 ± 2.50 5 (3-7)	-1.80 (-2.75 to -0.85)	36.0	.001
0-12	3.57 ± 1.61 3 (3-4)	5.75 ± 2.71 5.5 (4-8)	-2.18 (-3.22 to -1.13)	37.9	<.001

**The immunostimulant OM-85 BV prevents wheezing attacks in preschool children.**

Razi JACI, 2010;126:763

75 children with recurrent wheezing who were 1 to 6 years old.

Participants were randomly assigned to groups given either OM-85 or a placebo (1 cps per day for 10 days each month for 3 consecutive months) at the start of the trial.

Participants were followed for 12 months

TABLE III. Cumulative number of ARTIs per patient in the 2 groups

Period (mo)	OM-85 BV	Placebo	Mean difference (95% CI)	Cumulative % difference	P value*
0-3	2.25 ± 0.98 2 (2-8)	2.87 ± 0.93 3 (2-3)	-0.62 (-1.05 to -0.17)	21.6	.009
0-6	2.82 ± 1.15 2 (2-10)	3.70 ± 1.04 3 (2-10)	-0.88 (-1.67 to -0.10)	22.0	.007
0-9	3.33 ± 1.15 3 (2-10)	4.20 ± 1.04 4 (2-10)	-0.87 (-1.66 to -0.08)	22.0	.007
0-12*	3.83 ± 1.15 3 (2-10)	4.67 ± 1.04 4 (2-10)	-0.84 (-1.63 to -0.05)	22.0	.007

**Clinical implications: OM-85 BV might be used as a complementary therapy to reduce the number and duration of ARTI-provoked wheezing attacks in preschool children with recurrent wheezing.**

TABLE V. Sec-

	OM-85 BV	Placebo	Mean difference (95% CI)	P value
No. of hospitalizations (mean no. per patient)	0.14 ± 0.35	0.40 ± 0.81	-0.26 (-0.55 to -0.39)	.195
Duration of hospitalizations (mean days per patient)	0.80 ± 2.09	2.02 ± 4.49	-1.22 (-2.88 to -0.42)	.310
Duration of wheezing attacks (cumulative days per patient)	20.80 ± 13.15 19 (11-27)	43.22 ± 22.57 43 (26-57.5)	-22.42 (-31.09 to -13.75)	<.001
Duration of each wheezing attack (days per patient)	5.57 ± 2.10 6 (4.5-7)	7.66 ± 2.14 7.5 (6-8.5)	-2.09 (-3.06 to -1.19)	<.001
Duration of systemic steroid therapy (cumulative days per patient)	2.68 ± 4.26 0 (0-5)	4.72 ± 5.76 5 (0-5)	-2.04 (-4.39 to -0.32)	.102
No. of wheezing attacks requiring systemic steroid therapy (no. per patient)	0.57 ± 0.88 0 (0-1)	0.90 ± 1.03 1 (0-1)	-0.33 (-0.77 to -0.11)	.116

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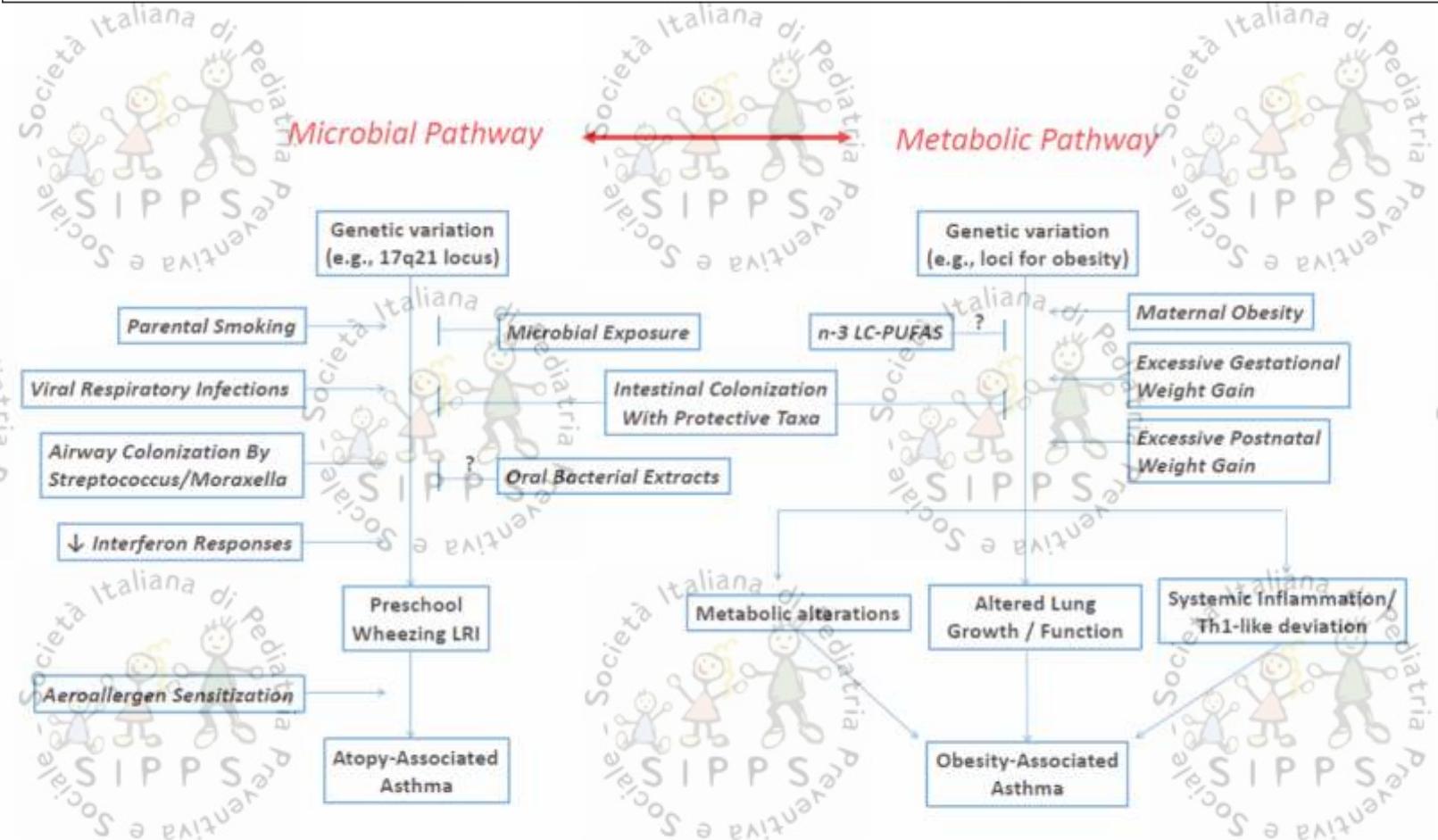
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# Early Origins of Asthma: Role of Microbial Dysbiosis and Metabolic Dysfunction

F. Martinez, AJRCCM 2017



Holt PG. Prevention - what is the most promising approach?

Pediatr Allergy Immunol 2014;25:12-4.

## And wheezing.. The next future

The ORal Bacterial EXtracts for the prevention of wheezing lower respiratory tract illness (ORBEX) trial represents a step change in immunomodulatory research.

This large, multicentre, NIH-funded RCT (NCT02148796) will enrol upwards of 1000 infants at high asthma risk due to having atopic eczema and/or parents or siblings with asthma.

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02148796>.

## **Early Origins of Asthma: Role of Microbial Dysbiosis and Metabolic Dysfunction**

F. Martinez, AJRCCM 2017

### **And wheezing.. The next future**

Participants will receive long-term OM-85 prophylaxis (3.5 mg/day for 10 days/month for 2 years).

The primary outcome will be time to first wheezing episode in the third observational year when children are not receiving prophylaxis.

Preliminary results of the ORBEX trial are expected by December 2022.

[https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02148796.](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02148796)

**Ricapitolando**

Che efficacia? 40% e più

Ma nel bambino complicato ..

Non solo Infezioni alte vie aeree ma anche basse vie

E la storia naturale?

Esclusione delle «bandierine..»