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Asthma control and bronchodilator response



We thank Dr. Yeshashree Rajaure and colleagues for having appreciated our article and for their comments on it.

Actually they are right when correcting us for a syntax error that may lead to misunderstand the final message of our article. The correct conclusion is that “our study highlights that lung airway reversibility is an important component of poor asthma control BOTH in patients with airway obstruction AND in those with normal spirometry according to percent of predicted method of evaluation.”

As far as the correlation, shown in Figure 3 of our manuscript [1], between Asthma Control Test (ACT) values and post-bronchodilator FEV1% change, we agree that it is quite weak, but still statistically significant. This reinforces all our other results that were clearly demonstrating that the poorer the asthma control the higher is the degree of residual airway reversibility in patients regularly taking anti-asthmatic drugs.

We believe that the relative weakness of the correlation between ACT values and airway reversibility is explainable considering that there are many other determinants of asthma control (i.e.: some influencing comorbidities [2] or the commonly poor adherence to treatment [3]), so that airway reversibility becomes a piece of a more complex puzzle.

Conflict of interest

No conflict of interest to declare.

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References

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