

The full report is titled: "Asthma pathogenesis, diagnosis, and management in the elderly". It is in the May-June 2017 issue of *Allergy Asthma Proceedings* (volume 38, pages 184 to 191). The authors are M. Asghar Pasha, Britta Sundquist, and Robert Townley.

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Asthma pathogenesis, diagnosis, and management in the elderly

Concomitant with the aging of the U.S. population, the prevalence of elderly patients with asthma has been increasing. Although signs and symptoms of asthma are similar to those in younger patients, in the elderly diagnosis can be challenging due to the presence of coexisting conditions and for these reasons, asthma is often underdiagnosed and undertreated. When compared with younger patients, elderly patients with asthma, not only bear a burden of disease which is higher in medical costs, hospitalization, and mortality but also have different drug responses and more serious manifestations of disease and treatment. In a recent report by Pasha, Sundquist and Townley, from the Division of Allergy and Immunology, Albany Medical College, Albany, NY, and the Division of Allergy and Immunology, Creighton University, Omaha, NE, the disease disparities of asthma in the elderly are presented together with issues that affect diagnosis, treatment and management in this population.

Who or What was Proposed to be Studied?

The article summarizes the many diagnostic and therapeutic challenges of the management of asthma in the elderly and offers useful strategies to overcome these barriers.

How was the Study Done?

The review was conducted at two major academic centers by specialists in allergy-immunology based on their expertise in the management of asthma in the elderly as well as the published literature.

What are the Limitations of the Proposed Study?

Although the article deals with a historical review of issues affecting the management of asthma in the elderly and not from an active clinical study, the conclusions presented are valid.

What are the Implications of the Study?

Recognition of the various expressions of disease and related issues dealing with management of asthma in the elderly are essential both for the health care provider as well as the patient. Application of new strategies that take into account these unique issues affecting the elderly patient with asthma will not only facilitate diagnosis but will offer optimal therapeutic strategies to improve quality of life in this population. □