Clinical updates in aspirin-exacerbated respiratory disease

Aspirin-exacerbated respiratory disease (AERD), a syndrome that includes asthma, sinus disease with recurrent nasal polyps, and sensitivity to aspirin and other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs is a condition that patients with chronic rhinosinusitis are at increased risk of developing. A proper diagnosis of this condition requires a careful history of previous adverse reactions to nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and may also require an outpatient oral challenge procedure for confirmation. In a recent report, Laidlaw, from the Department of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, the Division of Rheumatology, Immunology and Allergy, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, reviewed the most recent clinical updates in the evaluation and treatment of patients with AERD and provided some useful recommendations.

Who or What Was Proposed to be Studied?
Recent clinical research studies relevant to patients with AERD were reviewed.

How Was the Study Done?
Review of literature and the author’s patient experiences were reviewed.

What Are the Limitations of the Proposed Study?
The report is subject to limitations based on being the perspective of a single medical center.

What Are the Implications of the Study?
Despite a poor understanding of the underlying causative mechanisms of AERD and by the absence of any AERD-specific patient-reported outcome measure or clinical response measures, the article offers some useful guidelines for management of this condition and recommendations for future areas of research, including the development of an AERD-specific outcome or clinical response measures that could be applied in future longitudinal studies of disease severity and in therapeutic response trials.