



EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY SOCIETY



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June 12, 1998

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Abstract no. 442

Dear Prof. Al-Frayh,

We are pleased to inform you that your abstract entitled:

Prevalence of asthma in three regions of Saudi Arabia

has been accepted for the World Asthma Meeting, which will take place in Barcelona, Spain next December, 1998.

Instructions regarding the type of presentation, time, day and venue will follow in October, 1998.

If you have not registered for the congress, please note that the deadline for an early registration fee is September 4, 1998.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Sterk
Chairman
Scientific Programme Committee

Encl.: Registration form
Hotel reservation form

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM



DEADLINE: This abstract form should be received at the AOPC office, Barcelona, together with 7 photocopies, before 5 May 1998

Original

PREVALENCE OF ASTHMA IN THREE REGIONS OF SAUDI ARABIA

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Prevalence of bronchial asthma and other atopic diseases in children was conducted in three geographically different regions of Saudi Arabia using a standard protocol comprising 35 questions. The questionnaire used in this study was similar to that being used by International Study of Asthma and Allergies (ISAAC). A total of 1600 children ages 1-16 years were incorporated in the study. A high prevalence of asthma in all three regions i.e. Hail 22.1%, Taif 23.1% and Gizan 21.0% was recorded. In addition, an overall percentage of atopic symptoms including allergic rhinitis 24.1% (18.1% - 32.1%), eczema 11.5% (9.5% - 15.9%), as well as wheezing 20.8% (17.4% - 23.1%), cough 26.8% (24.2% - 29.0%) and breathlessness 23.7% (21.4% - 25.3%), were recorded. The present prevalence of asthma (mean 22.4%) observed in the three regions is higher than that reported for other areas of the Kingdom. It should, however, be noted that survey for the other regions were conducted in the recent past. The diagnostic accuracy over time control have improved as well as the actual definition of asthma. However, if the results of these studies are pooled together the actual prevalence of asthma will emerge to be 20.9%. The study suggest that there is a high prevalence of asthma in Saudi Arabia despite the variations in geography and climate and associated causative factors.

ATTENTION: Please read the instructions on the next screen before keying in your abstract
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- a. adults b. children c. experimental animals d. in vitro studies