

Syed A. Hassan

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ABSTRACTS



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AIRBORNE ALLERGENS IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA

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In order to examine the influence of extrinsic allergenic factors in asthmatic children in Saudi Arabia, allergological studies were conducted at various locations of Eastern, Western and Central regions from 1987 to 1990. Outdoor, indoor and dust borne allergens were analyzed using Burkard Volumetric and Personal volumetric traps, gravity cultures and immunochemically by ELISA. The results for various regions completed indicate variations in the range and concentration of allergens. The allergen identified included house dust mite, cat, cockroach, fungal and pollen allergens. The dominant category included known allergens such as Dermatophagoides faranie, Cyanodon dactylon, Chenopodium Artemisia, Cladosporium, Alternaria and Ulocladium. Airborne fungal and pollen allergen calendars for several regions were completed. Skin Prick Test (SPT) profile has been revised accordingly. SPT conducted with several locally identified allergens also revealed considerable variation in its reactivity. The study suggests a thorough and careful analysis of all such allergens in the whole Arabian peninsula to prepare relevant diagnostic profile, for treatment by immunotherapy and/or educational and prevention program.