

What Are the Differences in Characteristics Between Individuals With Persistent Asthma and Asthma Remission in Adults With a History of Severe Childhood Asthma?

STUDY DESIGN

- 60-year follow-up study
- Included adults with a 4-month childhood stay in an asthma care facility in Norway between 1950 and 1979
- Participants completed questionnaires and underwent spirometry, bronchial provocation, and bronchodilator reversibility and blood tests

RESULTS

232 participants



Those With Current Asthma 90%



Annual Outpatient Secondary Care Visit 17%



Those With Exacerbations in the Past Year 26%



Those With Persistent Asthma (vs Those in Remission) Showed:

- ↑ Higher Total IgE ($P = 0.03$)
- ↓ Lower FEV₁ % predicted ($P = 0.03$)
- ↓ Lower FEV₁ to FVC ratio ($P < .001$)
- ↑ Higher fractional exhaled nitric oxide
- ↑ Higher blood eosinophil count

Common Comorbidities

Allergic Rhinitis: 60%
Hypertension: 21%
Eczema: 16%
Cataract: 8%

Most adults with a history of severe childhood asthma continued to have current disease in late adulthood. Persistent asthma was associated with reduced lung function and higher levels of type 2 inflammatory biomarkers compared with those with asthma remission.