



PRESS RELEASE

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Children with rhinitis almost five times more likely to experience severe asthma attack

Athens, Greece 18.10.2013 – Children who suffer from asthma are much more likely to experience a serious asthma attack if they also have rhinitis. This is according to results from a study announced at the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) Pediatric Asthma and Allergy Meeting, [PAAM 2013](#). The meeting began on Thursday at the Megaron Athens International Conference Centre and ends on Saturday. Nearly 1,000 clinicians and researchers are discussing the issues facing children with asthma and allergy across three days of presentations.

Additionally, the research revealed that at least half of children that have had asthma at one point in their lives also suffered from rhinitis.

The [study](#) concludes more than a decade of work spearheaded by a team from the University of Manchester, UK and involved a group of children who were chosen before birth. Parents were interviewed when their children reached the ages of three, five, eight and 11 years and they reported back any symptoms of rhinitis or asthma.

Elaborate measures were taken to diagnose asthma, including measures of lung function. Additional information was extracted from participants' medical records and the effect of having rhinitis on asthma exacerbations and lung function was investigated using this information.

The results show that of the 356 children who had asthma, 198 had rhinitis and they were significantly more likely to have frequent asthma attacks.

PAAM 2013

PAAM is the largest EAACI Focused Meeting, attracting nearly 1000 participants. As the premier pediatric allergy and asthma event of the year, it has covered topics from anaphylaxis, food allergy and asthma to rhinitis, eczema and immunotherapy.

"Allergy, asthma and health aspects relating to them are issues facing young people that are often misdiagnosed by physicians," EAACI President Professor Nikos Papadopoulos said. "What PAAM continues to do, is illustrate how sufferers not only from Europe, but around the world, can combat some of the fastest growing global diseases. It is the biggest event of its



kind and I hope that the success and knowledge gained from this meeting continues into 2015 when PAAM will be held in Berlin, Germany.”

About EAACI

The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, EAACI, is a non-profit organisation active in the field of allergic and immunologic diseases such as asthma, rhinitis, eczema, occupational allergy, food and drug allergy and anaphylaxis. EAACI was founded in 1956 in Florence and has become the largest medical association in Europe in the field of allergy and clinical immunology. It includes over 7,800 members from 121 countries, as well as 42 National Allergy Societies.

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