

Nasal, pharyngeal EPX levels linked to sputum eosinophilia

December 16 2015



(HealthDay)—For individual patients with poorly-controlled asthma, nasal and pharyngeal eosinophil peroxidase (EPX) levels are strongly associated with the eosinophil percentage of induced sputum, according to a study published online Dec. 8 in *Allergy*.

Matthew A. Rank, M.D., from the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz., and colleagues compared nasal, pharyngeal, and sputum EPX levels with induced sputum eosinophil percentage in 10 adults with poorly-controlled asthma and 10 controls.

The researchers observed a significant difference in sputum EPX levels between asthma and [control subjects](#) ($P = 0.024$). EPX levels measured in nasal and pharyngeal swab samples derived from the same patients were significantly different between [asthma](#) and control subjects (each P

= 0.002). Compared with induced sputum eosinophil percentage, Spearman's correlation coefficients for nasal EPX and pharyngeal EPX levels were 0.81 (P = 0.0007) and 0.78 (P = 0.0017), respectively.

"There is a strong association in a given patient between both nasal and pharyngeal EPX levels and the eosinophil percentage of induced sputum," the authors write. "The use of nasal or [pharyngeal](#) swabs may represent a clinically relevant diagnostic metric whose simplicity of use would provide a novel point-of-care assay in the management of [asthma patients](#)."

Members of Lee Laboratories reviewed the manuscript.

More information: [Abstract](#)
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2015 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Nasal, pharyngeal EPX levels linked to sputum eosinophilia (2015, December 16)
retrieved 26 April 2024 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-12-nasal-pharyngeal-epx-linked-sputum.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
