

Allergen components ID latex-induced occupational asthma

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(HealthDay)—High levels of specific immunoglobulin E (sIgE)

reactivity to recombinant *Hevea brasiliensis* (rHev b) can diagnose natural rubber latex (NRL) allergy, according to a study published online March 4 in *Allergy*.

Olivier Vandenas, M.D., from the Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium, and colleagues assessed sIgE [levels](#) to NRL extract and 12 recombinant NRL allergen components in 82 subjects with occupational asthma ascertained by a positive specific inhalation challenge (SIC) with NRL gloves. Levels were also examined for 25 symptomatic subjects with a negative challenge.

The researchers found that a NRL-sIgE level ≥ 0.35 kU_A/L had sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative [predictive](#) values of 94, 48, 86, and 71 percent, respectively, compared to the result of SICs. When increasing the cut-off value to 5.41 kU_A/L, the positive predictive value increased above 95 percent. Compared to those with negative SIC, participants with a positive SIC showed a significantly higher rate of sIgE reactivity to rHev b 5, 6.01, 6.02, and 11. The [positive predictive value](#) was above 95 percent, with sensitivity of 76 percent and diagnostic efficiency of 0.67 on Youden index, for a sIgE sum score against rHev b 5 plus 6.01/6.02 ≥ 1.46 kU_A/L, compared with a NRL-sIgE ≥ 5.41 kU_A/L (49 percent and 0.41, respectively).

"High levels of sIgE against rHev b 5 combined with rHev b 6.01 or 6.02 are the most efficient predictors of a bronchial response to NRL," the authors write.

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More information: [Abstract](#)
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