

Combination of LABA + inhaled glucocorticoid safe in asthma

June 28 2018



(HealthDay)—Compared to treatment with an inhaled glucocorticoid

alone, combination therapy with a long-acting β_2 -agonist (LABA) and an inhaled glucocorticoid is not associated with a significantly higher risk of serious asthma-related events, according to a study published online June 27 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

William W. Busse, M.D., from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in Madison, and colleagues performed a combined analysis of four trials comparing an inhaled glucocorticoid plus a LABA with an inhaled glucocorticoid alone in adolescents and adults with asthma.

The researchers identified three asthma-related intubations (two in the inhaled-glucocorticoid [group](#), one in the [combination therapy](#) group) and two asthma-related deaths (both in the combination-[therapy](#) group) in four patients among the 36,010 patients in the intention-to-treat study. In a secondary analysis of serious asthma-related events, 0.6 percent of 18,006 patients in the inhaled-glucocorticoid group and 0.66 percent of 18,004 [patients](#) in the combination-therapy group had at least one composite event (relative risk in the combination therapy group, 1.09; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.83 to 1.43; $P = 0.55$); 11.7 and 9.8 percent, respectively, had at least one asthma exacerbation (relative risk, 0.83; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.78 to 0.89; P

"Combination therapy with a LABA plus an inhaled glucocorticoid did not result in a significantly higher risk of serious asthma-related events than treatment with an inhaled glucocorticoid alone but resulted in significantly fewer asthma exacerbations," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed ties to the pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

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

Copyright © 2018 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Combination of LABA + inhaled glucocorticoid safe in asthma (2018, June 28)
retrieved 6 May 2024 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-06-combination-laba-inhaled-glucocorticoid-safe.html>

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.