

# European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

**Abstract Number:** 1208

**Publication Number:** P3952

**Abstract Group:** 6.1. Epidemiology

**Keyword 1:** Asthma - management **Keyword 2:** Epidemiology **Keyword 3:** Asthma - diagnosis

**Title:** Characteristics of the uncontrolled asthmatic patients on GINA step 4 treatment in Korea

Prof. Kwang Ha 8657 Yoo khyou@kuh.ac.kr MD , Prof. Ki Suck 8658 Jung pulmoks@hallym.ac.kr MD , Prof. Yong Il 8659 Hwang hyicyk@gmail.com MD , Prof. Yong Bum 8660 Park bfspark@medimail.co.kr MD , Prof. San Yeub 8661 Lee pulsy0309@hotmail.com MD , Prof. Seung Hun 8662 Jang chestor@hallym.or.kr MD , Prof. Joo Hee 8663 Kim luxjhee@naver.com MD , Prof. Dong Gyu 8664 Kim dongyu@hallym.ac.kr MD and Prof. Yang Deok 8665 Lee lydmd@hanmail.net MD . <sup>1</sup> Internal Medicine, Konkuk University Hospital, Seoul, Korea, 143-729 ; <sup>2</sup> Internal Medicine, Hallym University Medical Center, Pyung Chon, Korea ; <sup>3</sup> Internal Medicine, Hallym University Medical Center, Pyung Chon, Korea ; <sup>4</sup> Internal Medicine, Hallym University Medical Center, Seoul, Korea ; <sup>5</sup> internal Medicine, Korea University Hospital, Seoul, Korea ; <sup>6</sup> Internal Medicine, Hallym University Medical Center, Pyung Chon, Korea ; <sup>7</sup> Internal Medicine, Hallym University Medical Center, Pyung Chon, Korea ; <sup>8</sup> Internal Medicine, Hallym University Medical Center, Pyung Chon, Korea and <sup>9</sup> Internal Medicine, Eulji University Hospital, Seoul, Korea .

**Body:** Although the majority of asthma patients can obtain the targeted level of control, some patients will not do so even with the best therapy. The aim of this study was to explore the clinical characteristics of the bronchial asthma patients who do not achieve the well-controlled status despite the step 4 treatment of the GINA guideline in Korea. This study was a part of the clinical phenotype of asthma investigation in Korea which was performed using structure questionnaire during February 2011 ~ June 2011. Of the overall study subjects, we enrolled 112 patients from 5 teaching hospitals in Korea who were on GINA step 4 treatment at least 1 year. We defined the difficult-to-treat asthma as uncontrolled asthma status or at least 1 unscheduled visit during the prior year of the enrollment despite GINA step 4 treatment. We compared the demographic, clinical, and laboratory data between difficult-to-treat asthma patients and well controlled patients. The difficult-to-asthma patients had lower the ratio of FEV1/FVC than well controlled asthma patients(66.8% vs. 69.0%, p=0.008) The proportion of patients with experiencing the symptom aggravation in work-place was higher in difficult-to treat group than well controlled group (33.3% vs. 14.5%, p=0.03). However, the age, FEV1, smoking status and body-mass index were not different between the groups. The presence of co-morbidities such as COPD, reflux esophagitis and cardiovascular was not also different. In conclusion, a total 24.1 % of asthma patients are not in well controlled status despite GINA step 4 treatment. Occupational history should be considered in these patients an addition to the known risk factors.