

AUTHOR CORRECTIONS

“EXCESS MORTALITY IN PATIENTS WITH ASTHMA ON LONG-ACTING β_2 -AGONISTS” J. HASFORD AND J.C. VIRCHOW. *EUR RESPIR J* 2006; 28: 900–902.

Unfortunately, a small section of text in the fifth paragraph of the above paper was reported incorrectly. It should have appeared as follows: “Studies similar in size to SMART are not available for formoterol, which has been approved in the USA in a 12- μ g formulation based on two 12-week studies [15, 16] and a 1-yr study in children aged 5–12 yrs [4].” The authors apologise for this error.

DOI: 10.1183/09031936.50085606

“THE HUMAN LUNG: DID EVOLUTION GET IT WRONG?”. J.B. WEST, R.R. WATSON AND Z. FU. *EUR RESPIR J* 2007; 29: 11–17.

Unfortunately, in table 1 of this manuscript, the information presented in the row labelled “Uniform thickness of blood–gas barrier” was incorrect. The table is printed correctly below and the manuscript authors would like to apologise for this error.

DOI: 10.1183/09031936.50133306

| TABLE 1 Comparison of some features of mammalian and avian lungs and gas exchange | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Mammalian lung | Avian lung |
| Ventilation | | |
| Gas flow | Reciprocating | Flow-through |
| Mode of gas flow | Convection and diffusion | Convection (almost entirely) |
| Stratification of inspired gas | Probable at times | None |
| Gas-exchanging tissue | | |
| Parenchyma | Deformable | Rigid |
| Terminal air spaces | Large | Small |
| Support of blood capillaries | None at right angles to alveolar wall | Extensive from air capillaries |
| Mean thickness of the blood–gas barrier | Greater than in the bird | Minimal |
| Type I collagen cables in the parenchyma | Yes | No |
| Uniform thickness of blood–gas barrier | No | Yes |
| Gas exchange | | |
| Highly efficient cross-current gas exchange | No | Yes |
| Vulnerability of parenchyma to aspiration | Large | Presumably small |
| Mass-specific maximal oxygen consumption | High | Higher |
| Aerobic scope | High | Higher |