

References

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From the authors:

On behalf of our Task Force, I would apologise for “inappropriately” referencing the quoted article co-authored by Jean-Luc Malo, which was published in his highly renowned textbook *Asthma In the Workplace* [1]. Actually, we referred to this article because this expert investigator was the first to outline the need to gradually increase the exposure to low-molecular weight agents on consecutive days, mainly to avoid the occurrence of severe delayed asthmatic reactions. Nevertheless, the same sentence also refers to the recent paper by VANDENPLAS *et al.* [2] who reported a 3% incidence rate of severe asthmatic reactions recorded during 335 specific inhalation challenges with occupational agents. The result of this retrospective analysis showed that only one severe reaction was delayed and that more than half of the severe reactions developed within the first 30 min of exposure. These findings indicated that the cumulative duration of exposure to low-molecular weight agents could be safely limited to 15–30 min on the first challenge day rather than 1 min on the first day, 5 min on the second day and 30 min on the third day as initially proposed by Jean-Luc Malo.

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