



POSTER PRESENTATION

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The relationship of children sensitized to peanut and parental asthma in Study Asthma Genes and the Environment (SAGE)

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Background

Children with asthma most often have associated allergy, and peanut allergy with asthma is more common in children whose parents have asthma. It is not clear how common peanut allergy is among these children. The St. John's cohort, India has found 6.2% peanut sensitivity children whose mothers have asthma. Children are at greater risk for severe life threatening reactions and hospitalization.

Materials and methods

The SAGE cohort is a study of children born in 1995 in Manitoba. We created a nested case-control cohort of 723 children for asthma and allergy at 8 years of age. Atopy was defined as having at least one positive skin test, to common inhalants and to peanut (wheal diameter ≥ 3 mm.) Chi-square test and Fisher's exact test was applied, the likelihood (odds ratio, OR) of parental asthma of non-peanut allergic children compared to parental asthma of peanut sensitized children was determined.

Results

In the cohort, 220 (30.4%) parents were diagnosis with asthma. 718 children skin tested, 333 (46.4%) were atopic with 42 (5.8%) sensitized to peanut. Peanut sensitized children are more likely to have asthma (OR = 2.8, 95%CI 1.5-5.2). Among 246 (34.1%) children with asthma, 6 (2.5%) children who had a parent with asthma were sensitized to peanut (OR = 0.8, 95% CI 0.3-1.9) when compared with children whose parents did not have asthma.

Conclusion

Peanut allergy is more common in children who have asthma, but there is not an additional significant association with parental asthma. Diagnosing peanut allergy in an early childhood is an early marker for increased asthma risk.

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