

Does low levels of vitamin D only show the severity of the disease in children with asthma?

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We read with great interest the article that has recently been published by Ozkars et al. entitled “The relationship between serum vitamin D level and asthma” [1]. The authors of this study have detected significantly low levels of serum vitamin D concentration in children with moderate persistent asthma when compared to children with mild persistent asthma and control subjects. The most important component of the treatment of children with asthma is inhaled corticosteroids, and as the severity of the disease increases, the applied dose of inhaled corticosteroid increases [2]. Searing et al. have shown that the use of inhaled corticosteroids may decrease the serum vitamin D levels in children with asthma [2]. Stelmach et al. have shown that use of low-dose inhaled corticosteroids have beneficial effects on calcium-phosphorus metabolism without changing the serum vitamin D levels and adding vitamin D to high-dose inhaled corticosteroid treatment can positively affect calcium-phosphorus metabolism in newly

diagnosed asthmatic children [3]. In Ozkars et al.’s study, the information on the dose and duration of inhaled corticosteroid use has not been provided.

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AUTHOR'S REPLY

To the Editor,

We would like to express our gratitude to the researcher who took the time to read our article titled “The relationship between serum vitamin D level and asthma” and added value to our writing by writing to the editor. Contacted by a valuable researcher, “Patients with inhaled steroids may have decreased serum vitamin D” information is available in the literature [1, 2]. In this respect, the researcher is extremely right. Thus, we included patients with newly diagnosed and not receiving treatment (inhaled steroids and others). We mentioned this in the study design section of the material and method section [3].

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