Asthma Allergy Immunology

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FROM THE EDITOR

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Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Editorial Board, it is my great pleasure to announce that the new issue of Asthma Allergy and Immunology has been published and contains 10 research articles, seven case reports, one review article, and an interesting editorial on the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in medicine. The editorial is written by Turk et al., and they claim that the integration of AI in medicine creates various opportunities in research. However they conclude that the ethical aspects, risks, and regulatory frameworks must be taken into consideration to guarantee its efficient use in medicine (1).

Familial Mediterranean Fever is the most prevalent autoinflammatory disease in the world, predominantly in the Eastern Mediterranean region including Türkiye (2). Altiner et al., focus on the significant association of interleukin-33 levels with Familial Mediterranean Fever disease activity, particularly with arthritis in their study (3).

Anaphylaxis is the most severe life-threatening allergic reaction and its prevalence is increasing so that physicians can encounter it in almost every branch. In their research, Kaya and Alaylar, draw attention to the knowledge gap about the diagnosis and management of anaphylaxis among general practitioners and physicians from different branches of surgery and internal medicine and the need for postgraduate training on anaphylaxis (4).

In another original article published in the current issue, written by Yorgun Altunbas et al., the results of the study reveal that fractional exhaled nitric oxide (FENO) and serum periostin levels were higher in children with uncontrolled asthma compared to the patients with asthma under control. Asthma control status in this case was based on GINA criteria. Supporting this finding, patients with controlled asthma have significantly higher pediatric asthma control test levels and the authors conclude that FENO and serum periostin would be important predictive biomarkers of asthma control (5).

Liver disease in CVID patients can result from infectious or neoplastic causes or immune dysregulation. In the following research article, Evcen et al. investigated the clinical characteristics and hepatic involvement in common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) patients, including laboratory parameters and serum and liver immunophenotyping of the patients that revealed important findings (6). CVID is one of the common symptomatic inborn errors of immunity seen in adults and it seems to have a nonnegligible impact in terms of quality of life. In the following research, Eyice et al. compares the Turkish version of the CVID quality of life questionnaire with the Short-Form Health Survey- 36 questionnaire in patients with CVID and they have found that the Turkish version has appropriate validity and reliability (7).

Although the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines have been proven, parents with allergic children may still be hesitant to get their children vaccinated. In another study, Turgay Yagmur et al. have revealed that vaccine hesitancy in the parents of patients with allergic diseases was most commonly due to the concern about the adverse effects of the Covid-19 vaccine on human health in the long term (8).

Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a common chronic inflammatory skin disease. Although numerous indicators have been investigated, reliable biomarkers are still needed to objectively measure the severity of AD. In one of the articles of the new issue, written by Balaban Berber et al., the levels of Thymus and activation-regulated chemokine (TARC), one of the type 2 chemokines, and serum Squamous Cell Carcinoma Antigen-2 (SCCA2) are evaluated in patients with atopic dermatitis in relation to the existence of food sensitivity, and only the TARC level is found to be higher in patients with food sensitivity (9).

First-line antituberculosis drugs may result in non-immediate hypersensitivity reactions, and the diagnostic approach and the management of such conditions are important for the patients to complete their treatment successfully.

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In their study, Koycu Buhari et al. have evaluated anti-tuberculosis drug non-immediate hypersensitivity through patch tests and drug provocation tests, and revealed that patch testing with anti-tuberculosis drugs is useful as a diagnostic method (10).

Rapid drug desensitization is an effective treatment method for preventing severe hypersensitivity reactions. Gemici Karaaslan et al. show the safety and efficacy of desensitization and present management strategies for breakthrough reactions in pediatric patients with immediate hypersensitivity reactions in their study (11).

The last research article of the current issue is about the comorbidities in pediatric asthma, and the authors have shown that atopic sensitization is the sole risk factor for the development of comorbidity in children and adolescents with asthma (12).

Besides the research articles, there are interesting case reports related to late onset chronic localized urticaria emerging after a wasp sting, successful oral acetazolamide desensitization in an 8 year-old child due to anaphylaxis, etodolac-induced acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis, concurrent occurrence of mutations in the WIPF1 and ICOS genes in a patient, rectal enema-induced immediate-type hypersensitivity reactions, purine nucleoside deficiency with neurological involvement, and Kimura disease as a rare cause of eosinophilia and high total Immunoglobulin E level (13-19).

Lastly, there is a comprehensive review written by Uysal and Ogut on the effect of maternal nutrition with a high antioxidant diet and Mediterranean diet during pregnancy on the prevention of allergic diseases in children. In their review article, the authors summarize the results of the studies and meta-analyses and conclude that low antioxidant intake is associated with wheezing, increased asthma, airway reactivity, and reduced respiratory function. However, a diet with high maternal antioxidant content has not been shown to have a protective effect on food allergy and other allergic diseases, but further studies in which allergists and dieticians work in cooperation are needed on this topic (20).

On behalf of the Editorial Board of Asthma Allergy and Immunology, we hope that the articles published in this issue of the journal will help the readers to gain different and beneficial opinions and attitudes during patient-oriented clinical and laboratory issues in the field of allergy and immunology. We would like to thank all the authors and reviewers who have contributed to the publication of the new issue.

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Kind Regards,

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