Early Life Origins of Asthma: A Review of Potential Effectors

Instructions for obtaining 1.1 Continuing Medical Education Credits

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CME Items

1. Which of the following gene(s) is/are correlated with asthma?
   a. 17q21
   b. Ormosomucoid like 3 (ORMDL3)
   c. Protocadherin-1 (PCDH1) in chromosome 5q31-q33
   d. All the above

2. Which of the following statement(s) is correct?
   a. Maternal atopy is correlated with a lower number of offspring
   b. A higher number of siblings as protection against the development of atopic manifestations in the offspring
   c. Maternal atopy is correlated with greater severity of asthma
   d. a and b are correct

3. Which of the following is the most important maternal risk factor of asthma in offspring?
   a. Asthma
   b. Viral respiratory infections, such as respiratory syncytial virus
   c. Vitamin E status
   d. Vitamin D supplementation during pregnancy

4. With which of the following has bronchopulmonary dysplasia been associated?
   a. Lower FEV₁ and FEF₂₅₋₇₅% in adulthood
   b. High birth weight
   c. Younger mothers
   d. All the above

5. Which of the following statement(s) about perinatal factors (especially fetal and infant growth) is correct?
   a. Birth weight is associated with lung function in term-born children at 8-9 years
   b. Birth weight is not important in the development of asthma in childhood
   c. Restricted fetal weight growth is associated with lower childhood lung function measures
   d. a and c are correct

6. On environmental factors in early life, which of the following is correct?
   a. Air pollution is of course unhealthy, but generally does not impair lung function in exposed children
   b. High exposure to endotoxins in the home is a risk factor for asthma
   c. In Southern California, environmental measures aimed to reduce air pollution led to increased pulmonary function in birth cohorts
   d. Children born and raised in West Germany less frequently had asthma than those born in East Germany, apparently owing to better healthcare

7. Which of the following is included in the Tucson asthma predictive index?
   a. Frequent wheezing during the first 3 years of life
   b. Parental history of asthma or eczema
   c. Wheezing without colds
   d. All the above

8. Which of the following is currently included in “the viral march”?
   a. Early infancy respiratory syncytial virus and late human rhinovirus
   b. Early infancy human rhinovirus and late respiratory syncytial virus
   c. Early infancy respiratory syncytial virus (a major cause of asthma development, until specific vaccine has recently become widely available)
   d. Both viruses, independently of parental smoking

9. In which of the following groups does active smoking increase the risk of asthma?
   a. Everybody
   b. Teenagers with previous respiratory syncytial virus before 3 years of age
   c. Teenagers and young people exposed to parental smoking
   d. All the above

10. Occupational asthma can occur in genetically predisposed individuals. Which of the following can it affect?
    a. Bakers
    b. Hairdressers
    c. Cleaners
    d. All the above