SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Table E1. Characteristics of patients included in the study

Characteristics	Total	Relapse Group	Non-relapse Group	Asthma in follow-up	
No. subjects	41	13	22	6	
Male sex	15 (36.58%)	6 (30.76%)	10 (45.45%)	1 (16.67%)	NS
Age, years, mean (SD)	58.85 (13.14)	58.97 (12.44)	58.85 (13.14)	59.5 (24.20)	NS
Dry cough	41 (100%)	13 (100%)	22 (100%)	6 (100%)	NS
Atopy	24 (58.54%)	7 (53.84%)	11 (50.00%)	6 (100%)	<0.05
Allergic rhinitis	22 (53.66%)	5 (38.46%)	11 (50.00%)	6 (100%)	<0.05
Never Smoker	23 (56.09%)	10(76.92%)	10 (45.45%)	4 (66.67%)	NS
Current smoker	10 (24.39%)	4 (30.77%)	4 (18.18%)	1 (16.67%)	NS
Ex-smoker	8 (19.51%)	4 (30.77%)	5 (22.72%)	1 (16.67%)	NS
FeNO at baseline, ppb	46.59 (57.11)	47.82(57.99)	58.59 (57.15)	95.2 (124.33)	<0.05
FeNO at last visit, ppb	34.56 (33.87)	31.89 (34.09)	34.56 (33.81)	34.7 (28.27)	NS
Sputum eosinophilia at baseline, >3%	8% (5.91)	7.57% (5.46)	8.23% (6.73)	8% (0.01)	NS
Sputum eosinophilia after ICS treatment, (SD)	2.42% (2.45)	1.8% (2.24)	1.5% (1.29)	3% (0.03)	NS
FEV_1 predicted % (SD)	108.63 (15.06)	106 (9.30)	110.16 (16.27)	110.8 (18.22)	NS
FEV_1 predicted % at last visit	111.83 (15.59)	111.28 (0.16)	104.32 (9.92)	105 (43.24)	NS
FEV_1 predicted Litres (SD)	3.05 (0.79)	2.97 (0.74)	3.05 (0.76)	2.98 (0.76)	NS
FEV_1 predicted Litres at last visit	2.87(0.75)	2.88 (0.76)	2.87 (0.75)	2.83 (0.69)	NS
FEV_1/FVC % at baseline	80.40 (5.85)	80.48 (5.65)	80.40 (5.85)	80.90 (5.92)	NS
FEV_1/FVC % at last visit	79.87 (5.26)	80.34 (5.16)	79.87 (5.27)	80.1 (5.71)	NS
Negative Methacholine at baseline	100%	100%	100%	100%	NS
Negative adenosine at baseline	22 (53.66%)	7 (53.85%)	13 (59.09%)	2 (33.33%)	NS

* Quantitative variables are expressed as means (standard deviation, SD); qualitative variables are presented as total number of events (percentage), ICS: inhaled corticosteroids. NS: not significant (p>0.05).