

*M.Ng et al. Clinical and Experimental Allergy (Oct 2000) Vol. 30.*

Development of a probabilistic method of diagnosis of seasonal allergic rhinitis, using combinations of symptoms and signs. In this method, skin prick tests were particularly strong indicators.

This was a preliminary study based on just 47 cases, but confidence is high.

Comment

The success of this approach suggests a similar method could be developed for occupational asthma. This could one day improve the accuracy of diagnosis.

In our view it would be helpful if skin prick tests for common occupational asthmagens could be made available and tested by the method adopted in this paper.

Diagnosis and determination of cause would be made more certain.

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