

A satellite-style map of South America is the background. A small red dot is placed on the coast of Argentina, specifically in the region of Córdoba. The text is overlaid on this map.

**3° Jornadas Nacionales Conjuntas de  
Alergia e Inmunología en Pediatría**

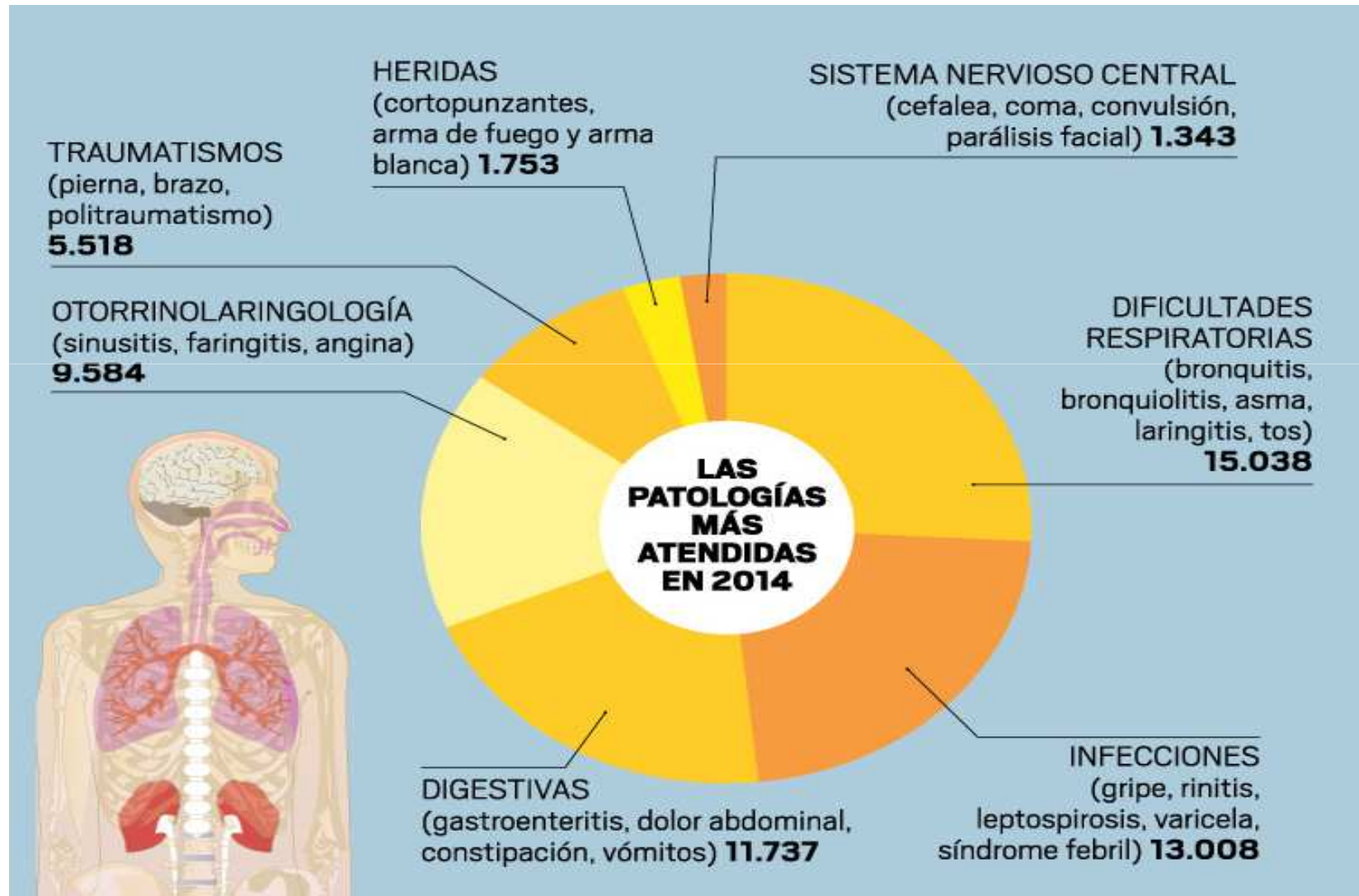
**Tratamiento del asma:  
¿Nuevas guías, nuevas  
realidades?**

**Córdoba, 23 de abril de 2016**

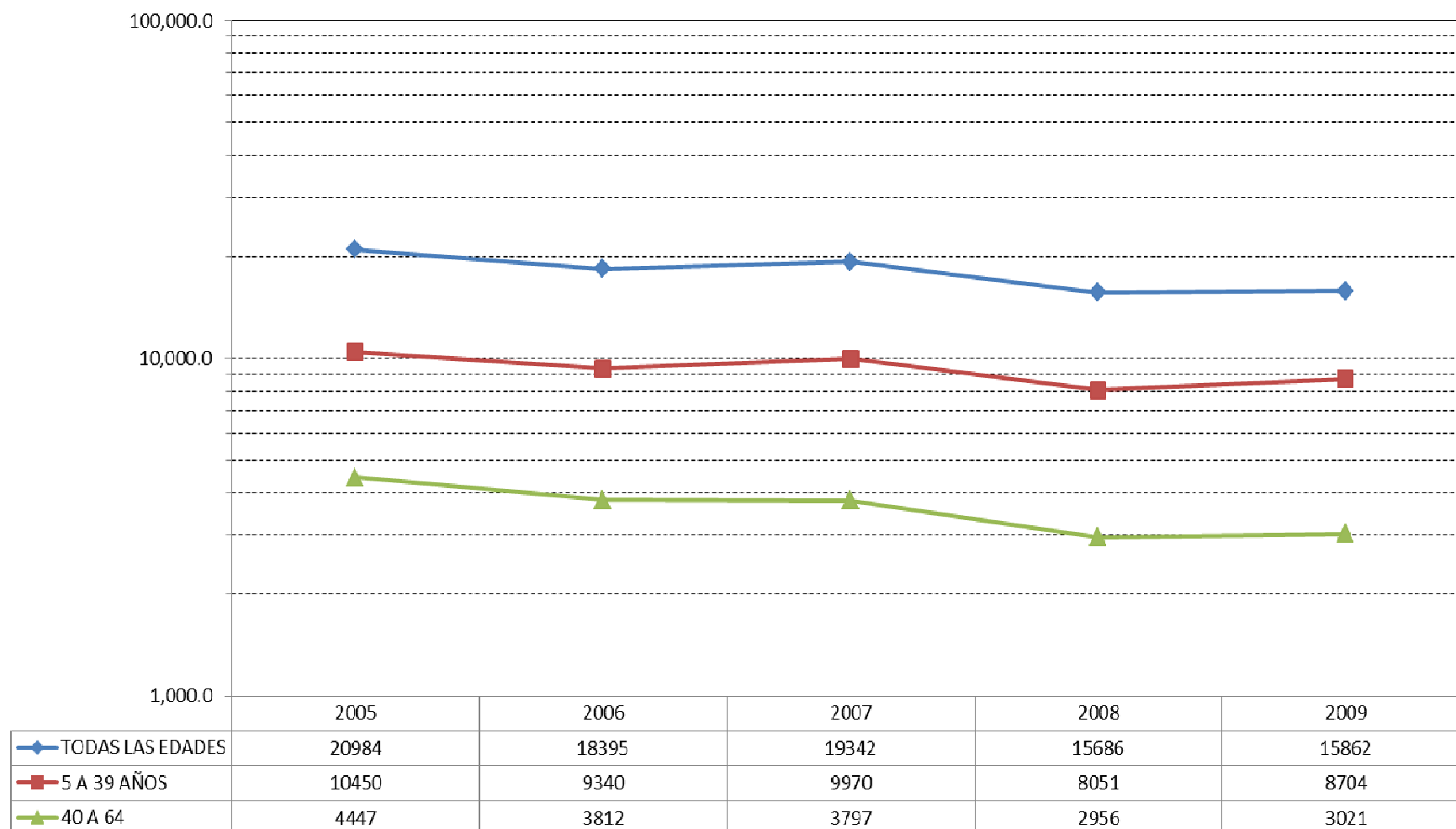
- **Nuevas realidades**
- **Manejo del asma en menores de 5 años**
- **Manejo en escolares y adolescentes**
- **Conclusiones**

- **Nuevas realidades**
- **Manejo del asma en menores de 5 años**
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- **Conclusiones**

# Hospital de Niños Orlando Alassia 2014 – Total de consultas: 92.069

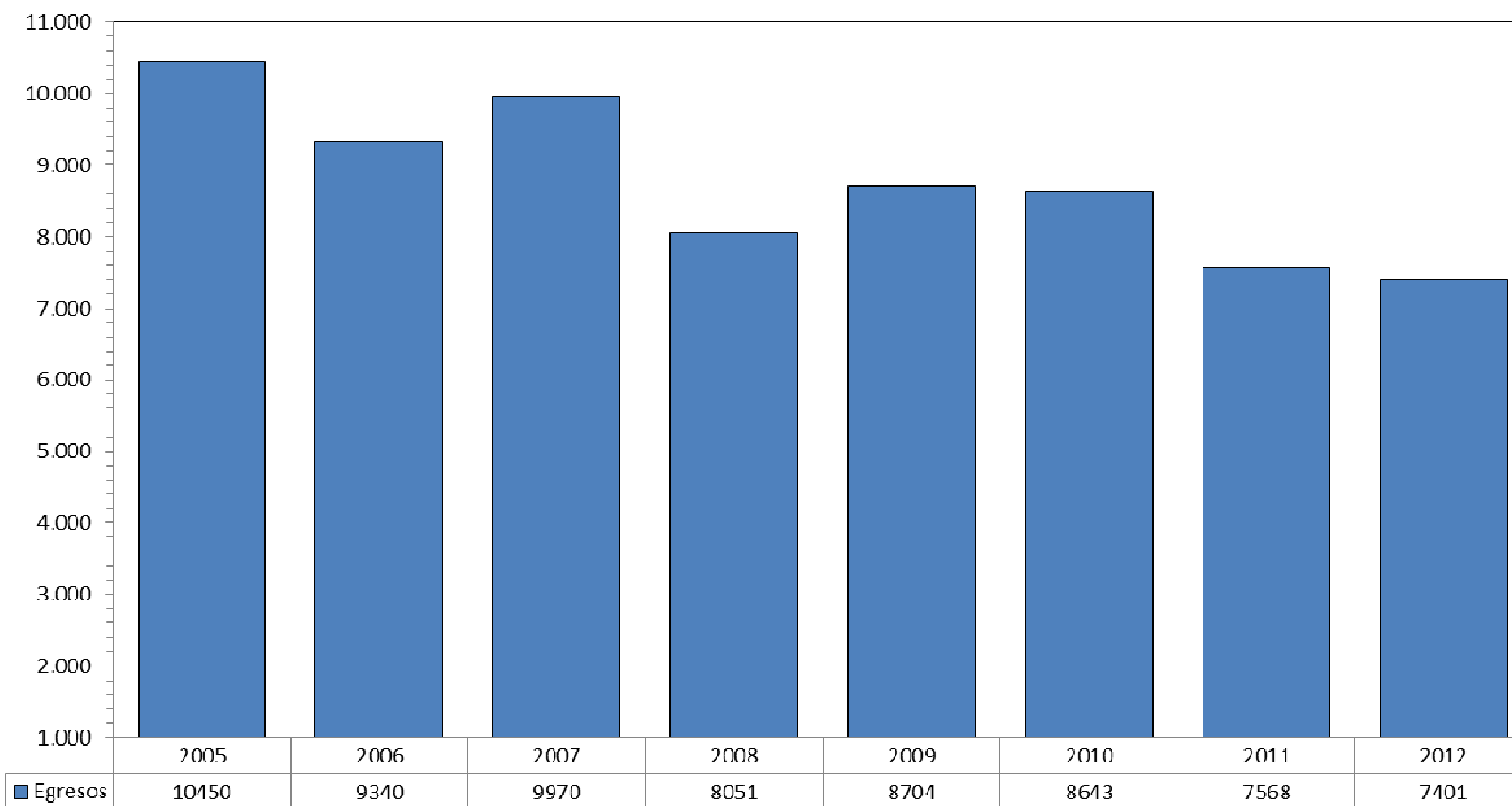


## Tendencia de los Egresos Hospitalarios por Asma (J45-J46) para Todas las Edades, 5 a 39 y 40 a 64 años. República Argentina, 2005 - 2009



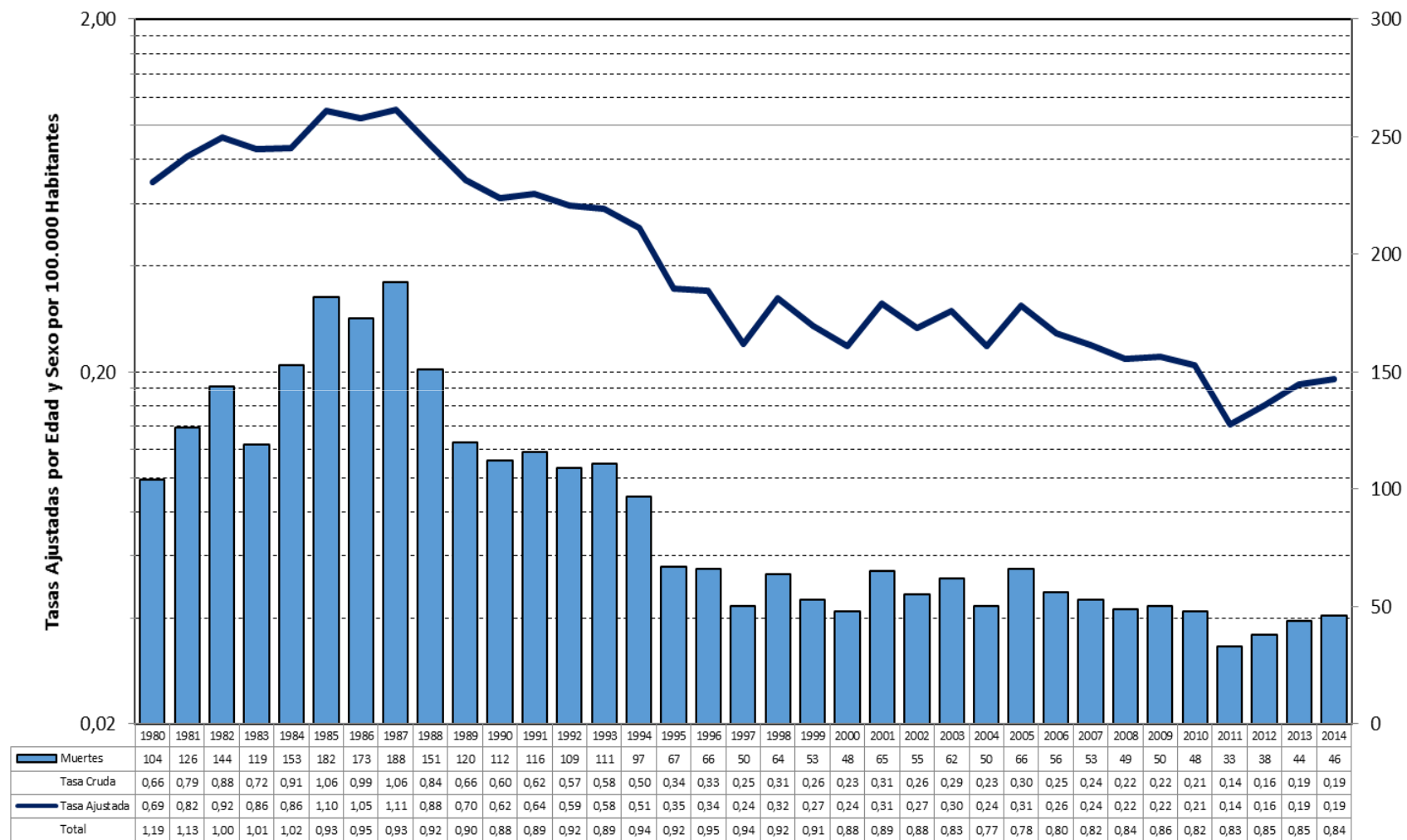
Fuente: Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias (INER) "Emilio Coni", Administración Nacional de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud (ANLIS), con base en datos de la Dirección de Estadísticas e Información de Salud (DEIS). Ministerio de Salud de la Nación, Argentina, 2012.

## Tendencia de los Egresos Hospitalarios por Asma (J45-J46) de 5 a 39 años. República Argentina, 2005 - 2012



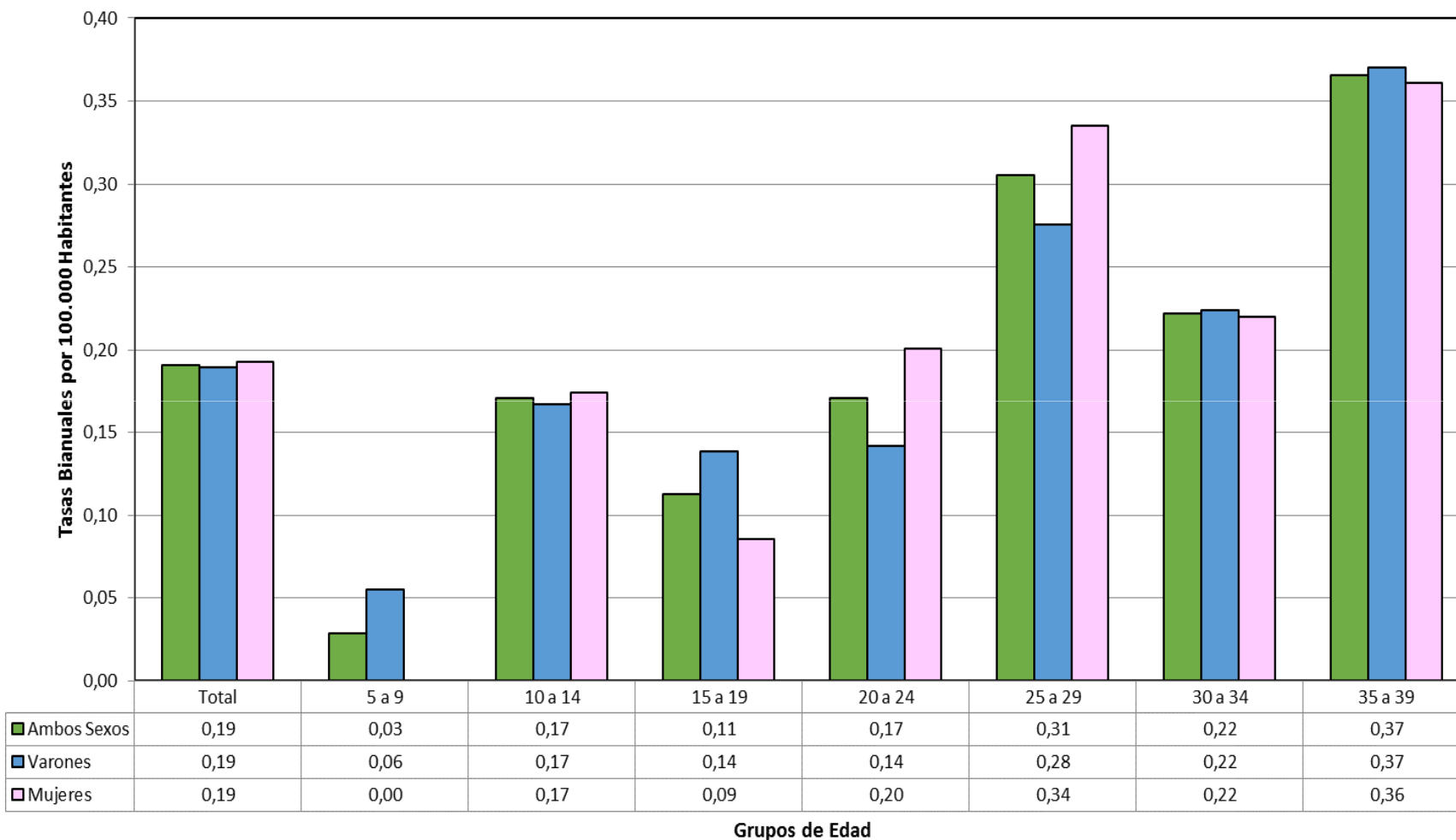
Fuente: Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias (INER) "Emilio Coni", Administración Nacional de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud (ANLIS), con base en datos de la Dirección de Estadísticas e Información de Salud (DEIS). Ministerio de Salud de la Nación, Argentina, Agosto 2015.

**Tendencia de la Mortalidad por Asma (CIE 9: 493; CIE 10: J45-J46) en Población de 5 a 39 Años, Ambos Sexos. Número de Defunciones, Tasas Crudas y Tasas Ajustadas por Edad y Sexo, por 100.000 Habitantes. Argentina, 1980-2014**



Fuente: Información Procesada en el Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias (INER) "Emilio Coni", Administración Nacional de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud (ANLIS), con base en datos de la Dirección de Estadísticas e Información de Salud, Ministerio de Salud de la Nación, República Argentina, Marzo de 2016.

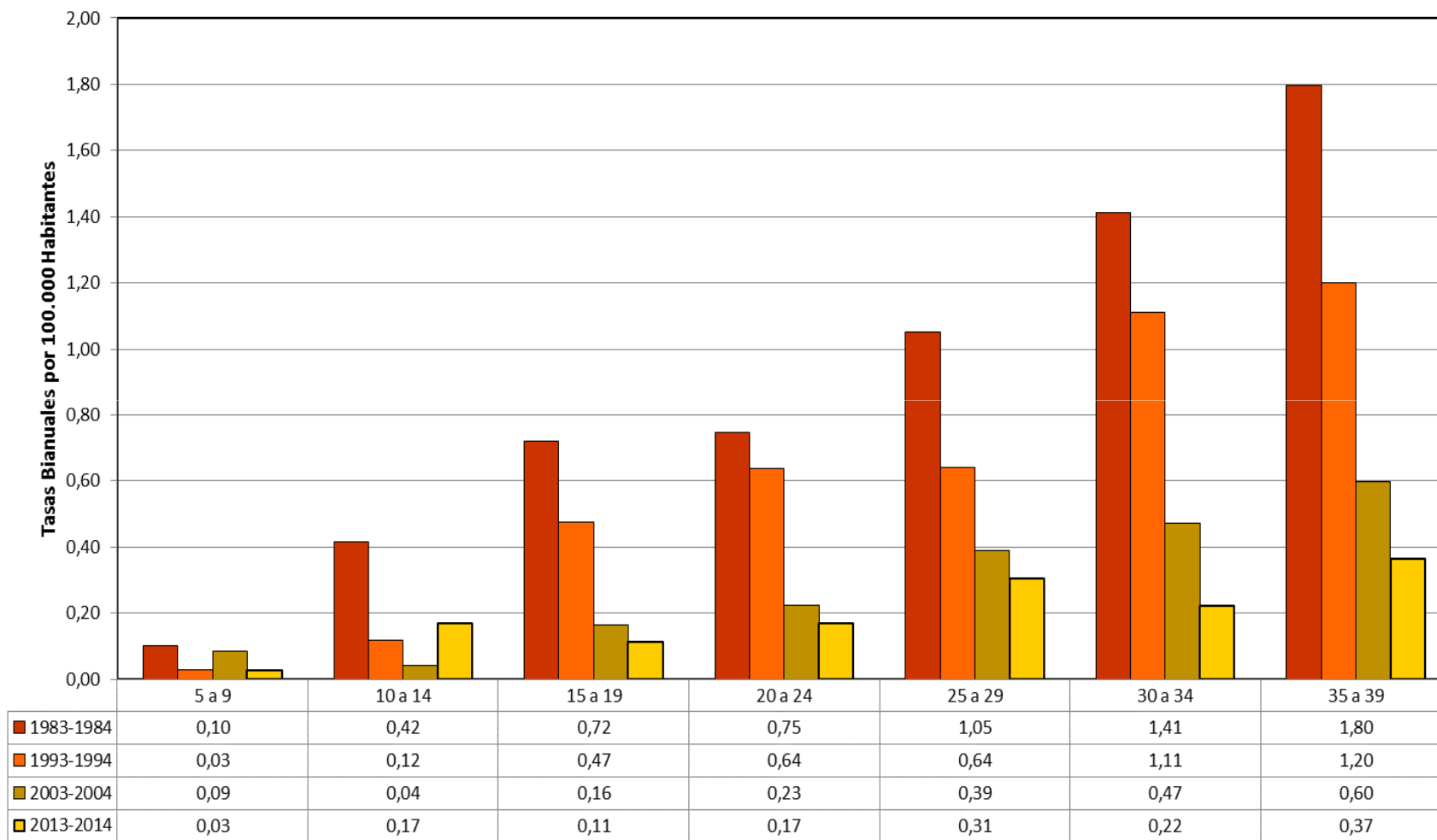
**Mortalidad por Asma (CIE 9: 493; CIE 10: J45-J46) en Población de Ambos Sexos de 5 a 39 Años, por Grupos de Edad. Tasas Bianuales por 100.000 Habitantes. Argentina, 2013-2014**



Fuente: Información Procesada en el Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias (INER) "Emilio Coni", Administración Nacional de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud (ANLIS), con base en datos de la Dirección de Estadísticas e Información de Salud, Ministerio de Salud de la Nación, República Argentina, Marzo de 2016.



**Mortalidad por Asma (CIE 9: 493; CIE 10: J45-J46) en Población de Ambos Sexos de 5 a 39 Años, por Grupos de Edad. Tasas Bianuales por 100.000 Habitantes. Argentina, 1983-2014**



**Grupos de Edad**

Fuente: Información Procesada en el Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias (INER) "Emilio Coni", Administración Nacional de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud (ANLIS), con base en datos de la Dirección de Estadísticas e Información de Salud, Ministerio de Salud de la Nación, República Argentina, Marzo de 2016.

# FÁRMACOS ASMA Y EPOC - ARGENTINA 2012 (IMS)

Fármacos	Unidades	Porcentaje
<b>LABA + CI</b>	<b>2 514 858</b>	<b>(35.58%)</b>
<b>SABA + CI</b>	392 881	(5.56%)
<b>CI MDI PS</b>	<b>867 542</b>	<b>(12.27%)</b>
<b>CI NEB.</b>	329 890	(4.67%)
<b>SABA + AC</b>	869 237	(12.3%)
<b>MONTELUKAST</b>	768 568	(10.8%)
<b>ANTICOLINÉRGICOS</b>	731541	(10.3%)
<b>TEOFILINAS</b>	220 203	(3.12%)
<b>SABA ORAL</b>	98 947	(1.40%)
<b>LABA</b>	98 302	(1.33%)

# FÁRMACOS ASMA Y EPOC PEDIATRÍA 2015/16 (8,54 / 8,63%)

Fármacos	03/2015 %	03/2016 %
<b>AGO. B-2 + CORT.</b>	<b>11,65</b>	<b>11,81</b>
<b>SABA</b>	<b>39,6</b>	<b>37,83</b>
<b>CORT. INH.</b>	<b>29,65</b>	<b>30,02</b>
<b>ANTILEUCOTRIENOS</b>	<b>15,85</b>	<b>17,13</b>
<b>ANTICOLINÉRGICOS</b>	<b>1,34</b>	<b>1,51</b>
<b>SABA + AC</b>	<b>0,76</b>	<b>0,76</b>
<b>ANTIINFLAM. ORALES</b>	<b>0,84</b>	<b>0,69</b>
<b>XANTINAS</b>	<b>0,26</b>	<b>0,17</b>

- **Nuevas realidades**
- **Manejo del asma en menores de 5 años**
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- **Conclusiones**

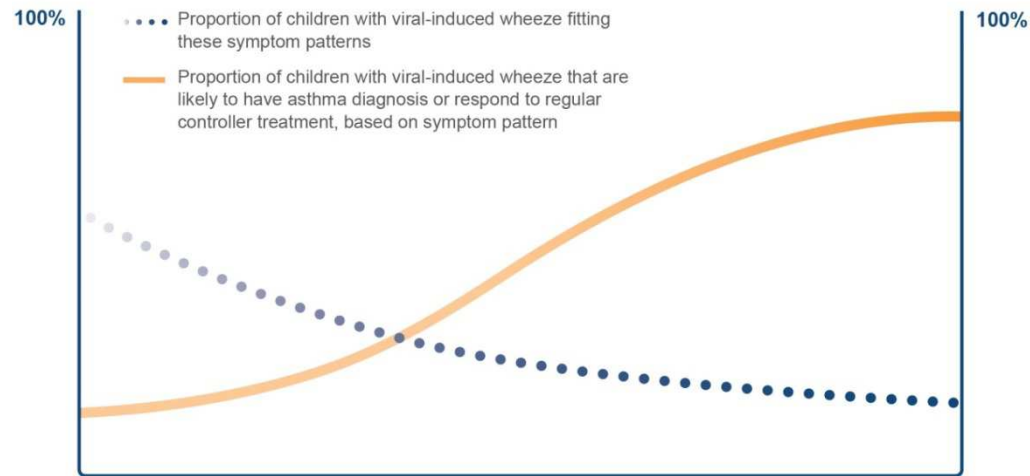
# Diagnosis and management of asthma in children 5 years and younger



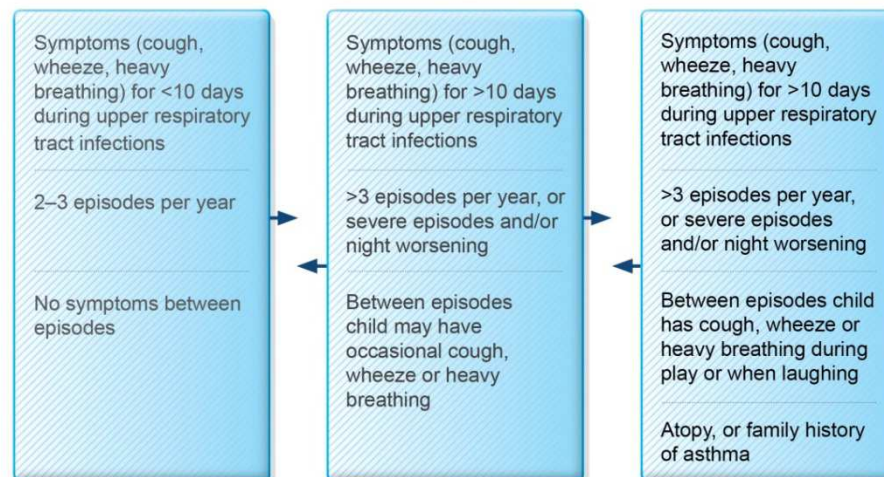
## GINA Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention 2015

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# Probability of asthma diagnosis or response to asthma treatment in children $\leq 5$ years



← SYMPTOM PATTERN (may change over time) →

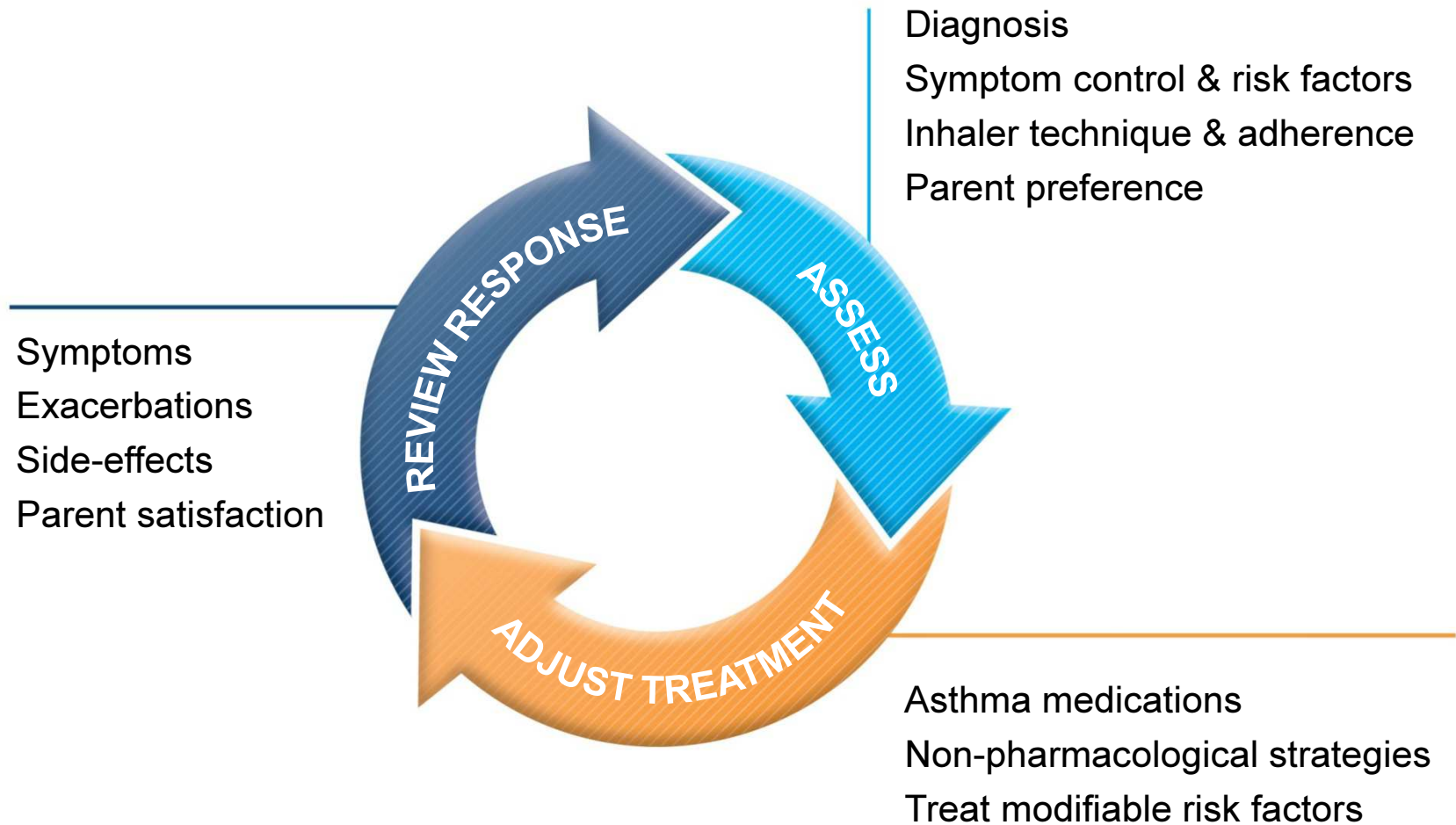


# GINA assessment of asthma control in children $\leq 5$ years



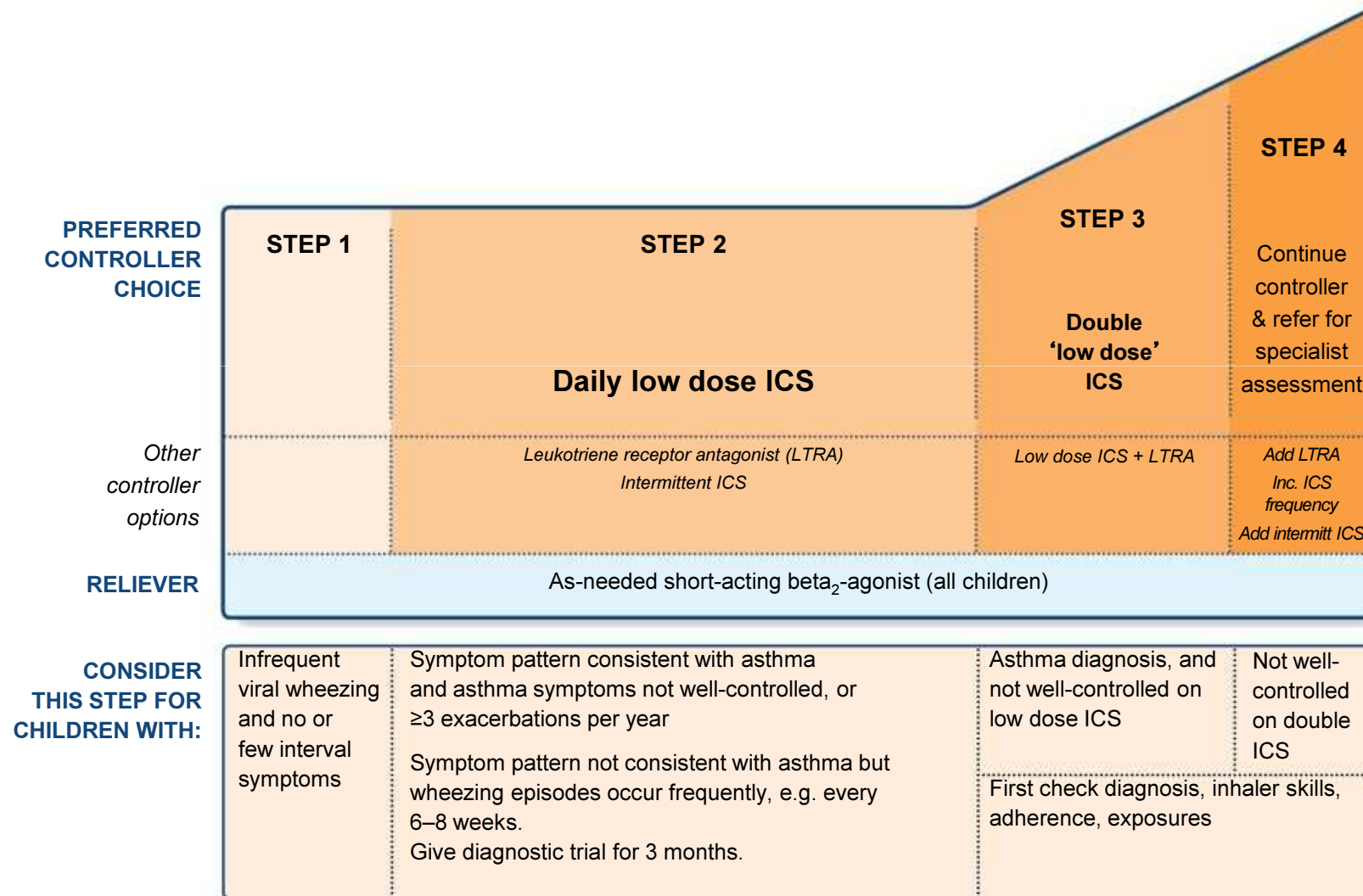
A. Symptom control		Level of asthma symptom control		
		Well-controlled	Partly controlled	Uncontrolled
<b>In the past 4 weeks, has the child had:</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daytime asthma symptoms for more than few minutes, more than once/week? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Any activity limitation due to asthma? (runs/plays less than other children, tires easily during walks/playing) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Reliever needed* more than once a week? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Any night waking or night coughing due to asthma? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<div style="font-size: 3em; color: #f4a460;">}</div>	None of these	1-2 of these	3-4 of these
B. Risk factors for poor asthma outcomes				
<b>ASSESS CHILD'S RISK FOR:</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exacerbations within the next few months</li> <li>• Fixed airflow limitation</li> <li>• Medication side-effects</li> </ul>				

# Control-based asthma management cycle in children $\leq 5$ years

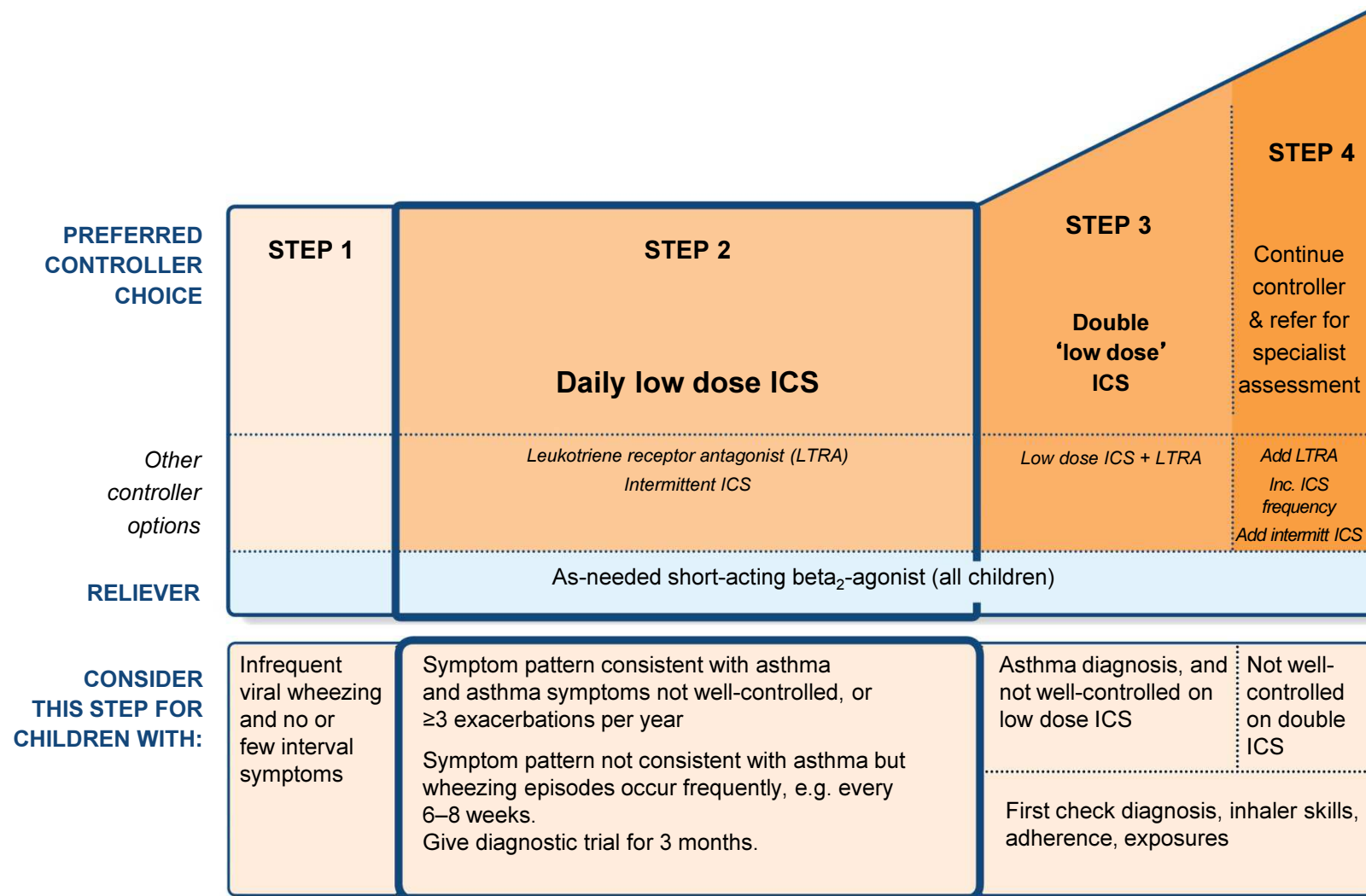




# Stepwise approach – pharmacotherapy (children ≤5 years)



# Step 2 (children ≤5 years) – initial controller + as-needed SABA



## Step 2 (children $\leq 5$ years) – initial controller + as-needed SABA



- Indication
  - Child with symptom pattern consistent with asthma, and symptoms not well-controlled, or  $\geq 3$  exacerbations per year
  - May also be used as a diagnostic trial for children with frequent wheezing episodes
- Preferred option: regular daily low dose ICS + as-needed inhaled SABA
  - Give for  $\geq 3$  months to establish effectiveness, and review response
- Other options depend on symptom pattern
  - (Persistent asthma) – regular leukotriene receptor antagonist (LTRA) leads to modest reduction in symptoms and need for OCS compared with placebo
  - (Intermittent viral-induced wheeze) – regular LTRA improves some outcomes but does not reduce risk of exacerbations
  - (Frequent viral-induced wheeze with interval symptoms) – consider episodic or as-needed ICS, **but give a trial of regular ICS first**

# ICS for recurrent preschool wheeze

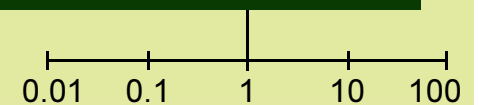
Study or subgroup	ICS		Placebo		Weight	M-H, Fixed, 95% CI	Risk Ratio M-H, Fixed, 95% CI
	Events	Total	Events	Total			
Baker <i>et al</i>	89	386	37	95	15.1%	0.59 [0.43, 0.81]	
Bisgaard <i>et al</i>	36	156	30	81	10.0%	0.62 [0.42, 0.93]	
Connett <i>et al</i>	3	20	8	20	2.0%	0.38 [0.12, 1.21]	
De Blic <i>et al</i>	8	20	15	18	4.0%	0.48 [0.27, 0.85]	

**ICS are effective in recurrent wheeze in preschool children, irrespective of wheeze pattern**

Murray <i>et al</i>	16	101	14	99	3.6%	1.12 [0.58, 2.17]	
Nielsen <i>et al</i>	9	19	14	19	3.6%	0.64 [0.37, 1.11]	
Nobel <i>et al</i>	0	24	2	24	0.6%	0.20 [0.01, 3.96]	
Qaqundah <i>et al</i>	12	239	15	120	5.1%	0.40 [0.19, 0.83]	
Roorda <i>et al</i>	38	152	54	153	13.7%	0.71 [0.50, 1.00]	
Shapiro <i>et al</i>	12	134	16	44	6.1%	0.25 [0.13, 0.48]	

**Wheeze pattern not specified in most of these studies**

Heterogeneity:  $\text{Chi}^2=16.63$ ,  $\text{df}=15$  ( $P=0.34$ );  $I^2$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z=8.15$  ( $P<0.00001$ )



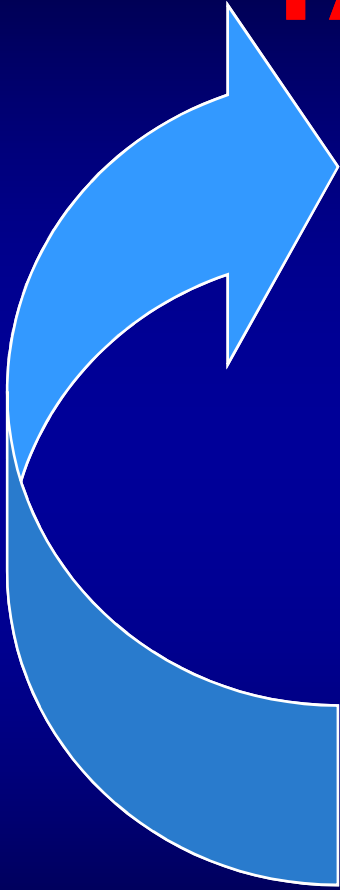
Favours ICS Favours placebo

Castro-Rodriguez JA & Rodrigo GJ. *Pediatrics* 2009;123:e519-25

**FARMACO**



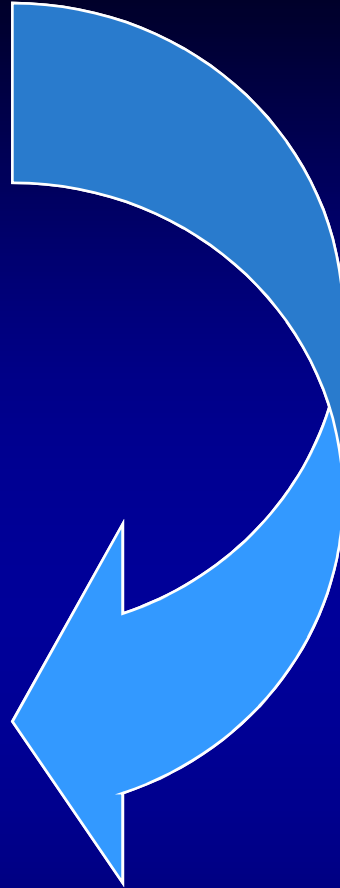
**SEGURIDAD**



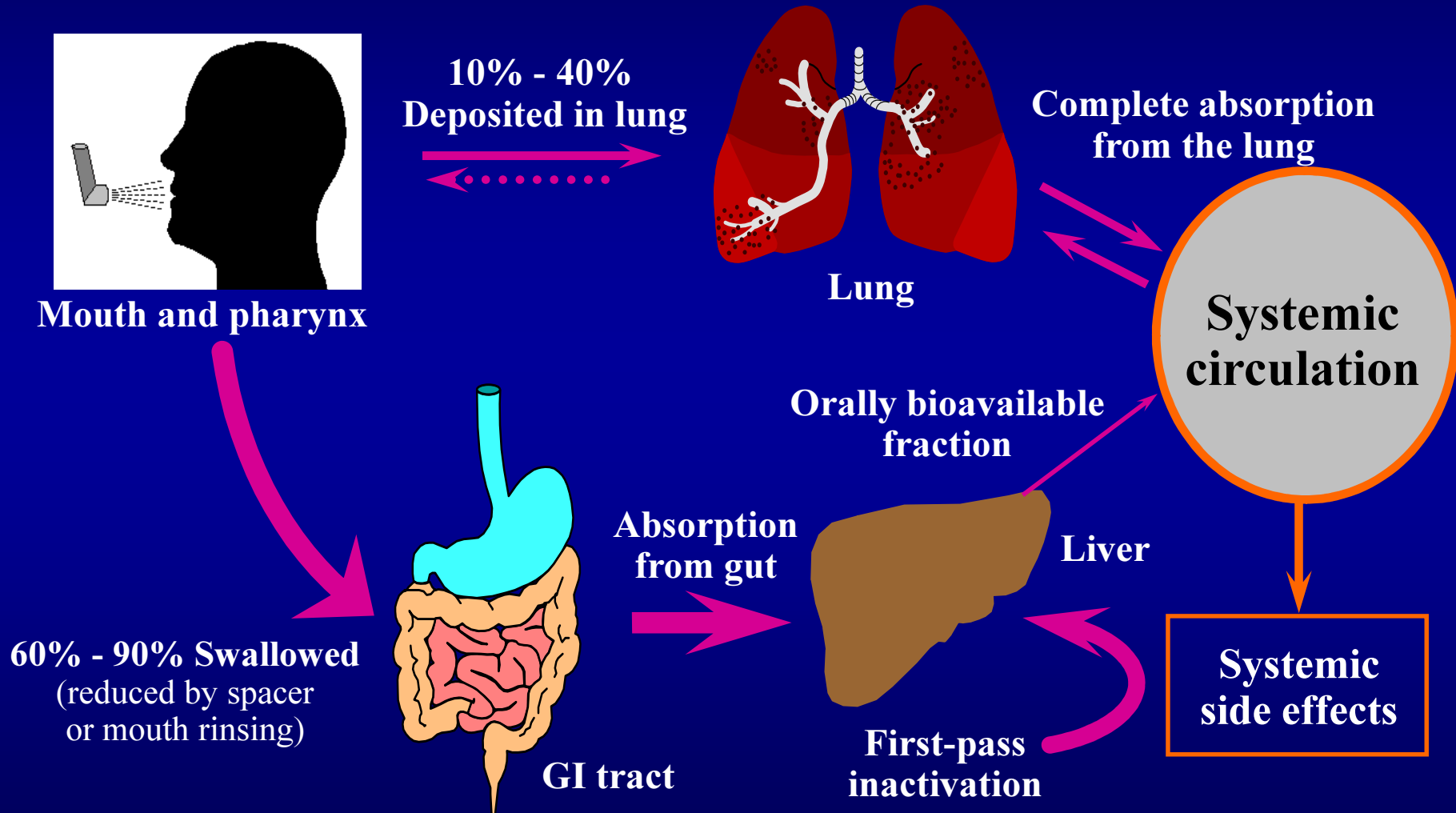
**ORGANISMO**



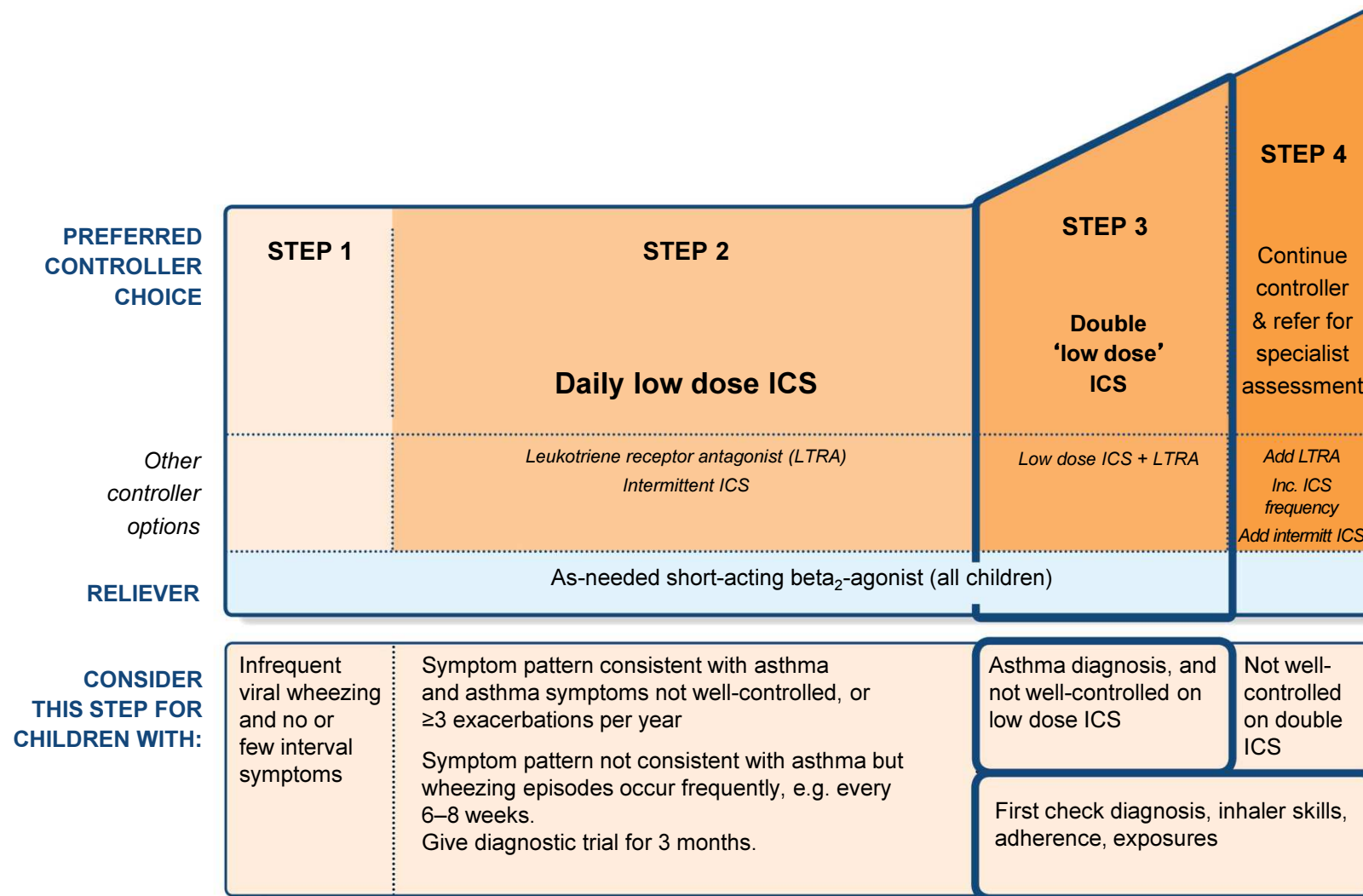
**EFICACIA CLINICA**



# The Fate of Inhaled Corticosteroids



# Step 3 (children ≤5 years) – medium dose ICS + as-needed inhaled SABA



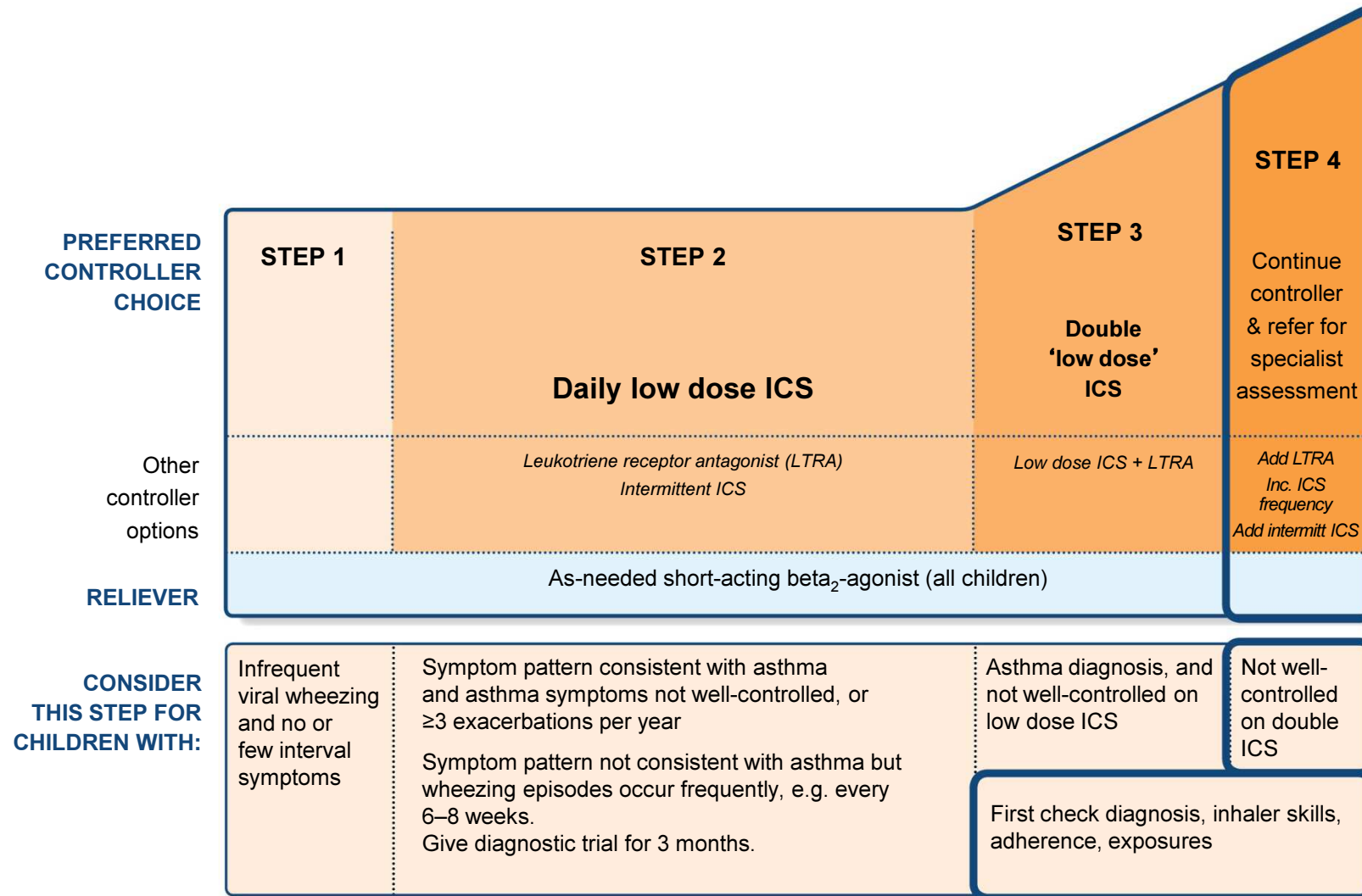
## Step 3 (children $\leq 5$ years) – medium dose ICS + as-needed inhaled SABA



- Indication
  - Asthma diagnosis, and symptoms not well-controlled on low dose ICS
  - First check symptoms are due to asthma, and check adherence, inhaler technique and environmental exposures
- Preferred option: medium dose ICS with as-needed inhaled SABA
  - Review response after 3 months
- Other options
  - Consider adding LTRA to low dose ICS (based on data from older children)



# Step 4 (children ≤5 years) – refer for expert assessment



## Step 4 (children $\leq 5$ years) – refer for expert assessment



- Indication
  - Asthma diagnosis, and symptoms not well-controlled on medium dose ICS
  - First check symptoms are due to asthma, and check adherence, inhaler technique and environmental exposures
- Preferred option: continue controller treatment and refer for expert assessment
- Other options (preferably with specialist advice)
  - Higher dose ICS and/or more frequent dosing (for a few weeks)
  - Add LTRA, theophylline or low dose OCS (for a few weeks only)
  - Add intermittent ICS to regular daily ICS if exacerbations are the main problem
  - **ICS/LABA not recommended in this age group**

## 'Low dose' inhaled corticosteroids (mcg/day) for children $\leq 5$ years



Inhaled corticosteroid	Low daily dose (mcg)
Beclometasone dipropionate (HFA)	100
Budesonide (pMDI + spacer)	200
Budesonide (nebulizer)	500
Fluticasone propionate (HFA)	100
Ciclesonide	160
Mometasone furoate	Not studied below age 4 years
Triamcinolone acetonide	Not studied in this age group

- This is not a table of equivalence
- A low daily dose is defined as the dose that has not been associated with clinically adverse effects in trials that included measures of safety

# Choosing an inhaler device for children $\leq 5$ years



Age	Preferred device	Alternate device
0–3 years	Pressurized metered dose inhaler plus dedicated spacer with face mask	Nebulizer with face mask
4–5 years	Pressurized metered dose inhaler plus dedicated spacer with mouthpiece	Pressurized metered dose inhaler plus dedicated spacer with face mask, or nebulizer with mouthpiece or face mask

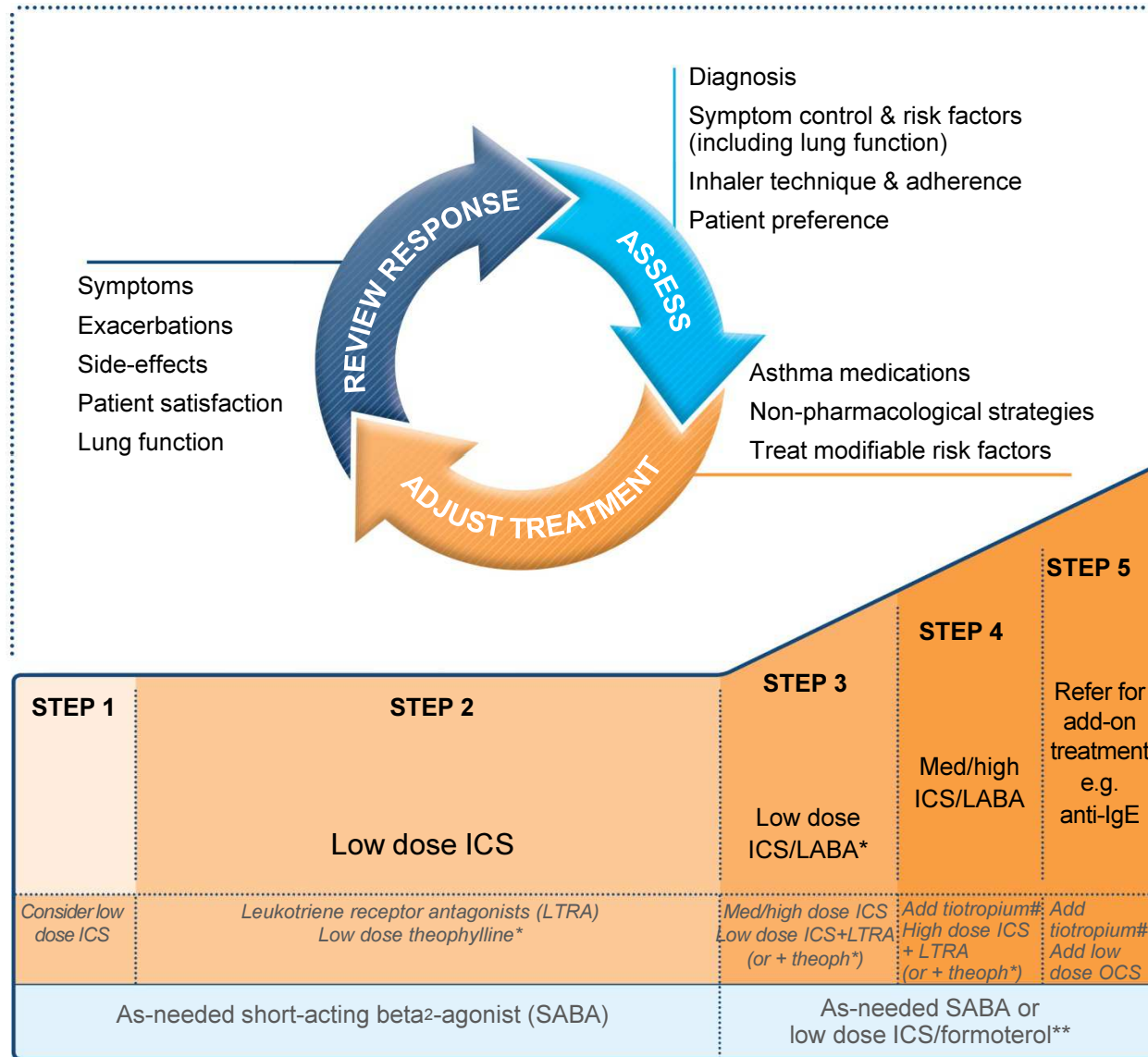
- **Nuevas realidades**
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# Initial controller treatment for adults, adolescents and children 6–11 years



- Start controller treatment early
  - For best outcomes, initiate controller treatment as early as possible after making the diagnosis of asthma
- Indications for regular low-dose ICS - any of:
  - Asthma symptoms more than twice a month
  - Waking due to asthma more than once a month
  - Any asthma symptoms plus any risk factors for exacerbations
- Consider starting at a higher step if:
  - Troublesome asthma symptoms on most days
  - Waking from asthma once or more a week, especially if any risk factors for exacerbations
- If initial asthma presentation is with an exacerbation:
  - Give a short course of oral steroids and start regular controller treatment (e.g. high dose ICS or medium dose ICS/LABA, then step down)

# Stepwise management - pharmacotherapy

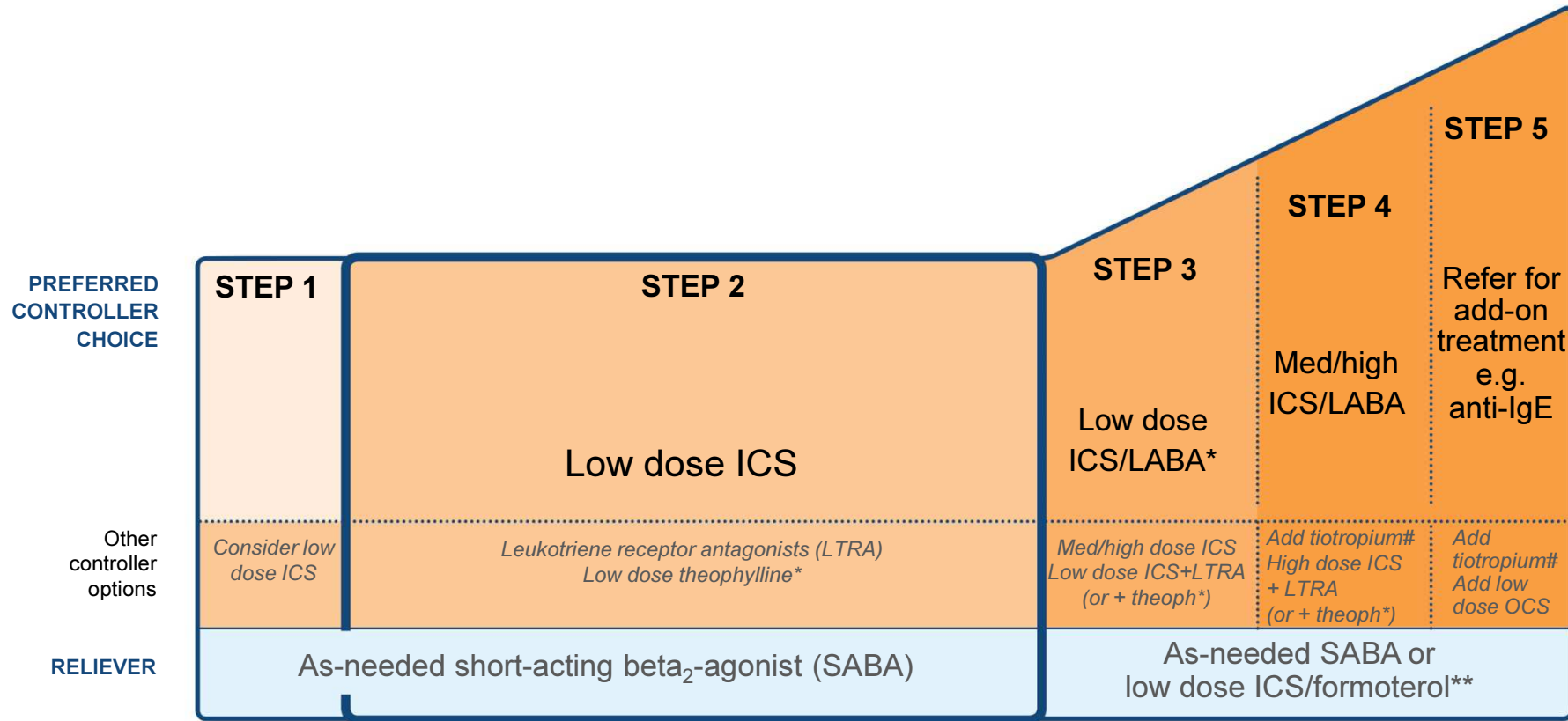


\*For children 6-11 years, theophylline is not recommended, and preferred Step 3 is medium dose ICS

\*\*For patients prescribed BDP/formoterol or BUD/formoterol maintenance and reliever therapy

# Tiotropium by soft-mist inhaler is indicated as add-on treatment for adults (≥18 yrs) with a history of exacerbations

# Step 2 – low-dose controller + as-needed inhaled SABA



\*For children 6-11 years, theophylline is not recommended, and preferred Step 3 is medium dose ICS

\*\*For patients prescribed BDP/formoterol or BUD/formoterol maintenance and reliever therapy

# Tiotropium by soft-mist inhaler is indicated as add-on treatment for patients with a history of exacerbations; it is not indicated in children <18 years.



# Tratamiento de mantenimiento adultos – GEMA 2015

		Escalones terapéuticos					
		Bajar			Subir*		
		Escalón 1	Escalón 2	Escalón 3	Escalón 4	Escalón 5	Escalón 6
TRATAMIENTO DE MANTENIMIENTO	De elección		GCI a dosis bajas	GCI a dosis bajas + LABA	GCI a dosis medias + LABA	GCI a dosis altas + LABA	GCI a dosis altas + LABA + <b>tiotropio</b> , ARLT o teofilina
	Otras opciones		ARLT	GCI a dosis medias ----- GCI a dosis bajas + ARLT	GCI a dosis medias + ARLT	Si persiste mal control considerar: - Tiotropio y/o ARLT y/o Teofilina Si persiste mal control considerar tratamiento por fenotipos: - Omalizumab: asma alérgica - Azitromicina: asma neutrofilica - Reducción ponderal: obesidad	Si persiste mal control considerar: - Termoplastia y/o Triamcinolona IM o Glucocorticoides VO
	A demanda	SABA		SABA o GCI a dosis bajas + formoterol			
		Educación, control ambiental, <b>tratamiento de la rinitis</b> , otras comorbilidades					
		Considerar inmunoterapia con alérgenos					

\*tras confirmar la correcta adhesión terapéutica y empleo del inhalador/es

ARLT: Antagonista de los receptores de los leucotrienos; GCI: Glucocorticoide inhalado, LABA: Agonista  $\beta_2$ -adrenérgico de acción larga; SABA: Agonista  $\beta_2$ -adrenérgico de acción corta.

# (DMMA) de los aerosoles generados por los diferentes dispositivos – GEMA 2015

	Depósito pulmonar (%)		Depósito orofaríngeo (%)		DMMA (µm)
	<i>in vivo</i>	<i>in vitro</i>	<i>in vivo</i>	<i>in vitro</i>	
<b>pMDI</b>					
pMDI convencional	7,8-34	-	53,9-82,2	-	1,4-8
pMDI convencional + cámara inhalación	11,2-68,3	-	31,2	40	2-3,2
pMDI autodisparo	50-60	-	30	-	-
Modulite®	31-34	-	33-58	-	1-2
Alvesco®	50-52	-	32,9	-	-
Respimat®	40-53	-	19,3-39	-	-
<b>DPI (por orden alfabético)</b>					
Accuhaler®	7,6-18	15-30	-	-	3,5
Aerolizer®	13-20	21,7-28	73	-	1,9-7,9
Breezhaler®	36	39	-	45	2,8
Easyhaler®	18,5-31	29	-	-	-
Genuair®	30,1	-	54,7	-	-
Handihaler®	17,8	17,3-22	-	71	3,9
Inhalador Ingelheim®	16	-	59	-	-
Nexthaler®	56	-	43	-	1,4-1,5
Spinhaler®	11,5	-	30,9	-	-
Turbuhaler®	14,2-38	28	53-71,6	57,3-69,3	1,7-5,4
Twisthaler®	36-37	-	-	-	2-2,2

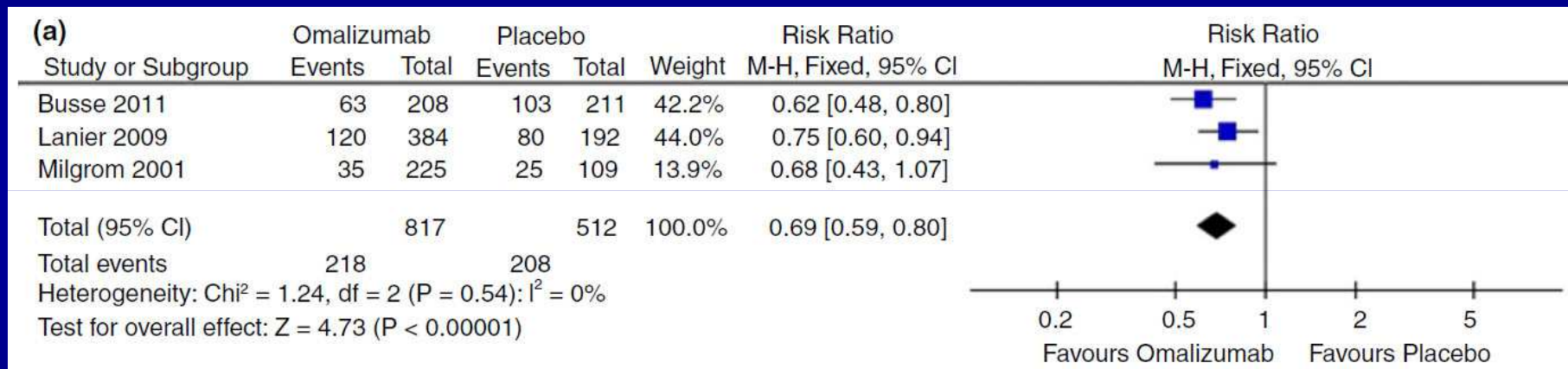
Tomado de la Normativa SEP-AR-ALAT terapia inhalada. Arch Bronconeumol 2013

# **Systematic review on the use of omalizumab for the treatment of asthmatic children and adolescents**

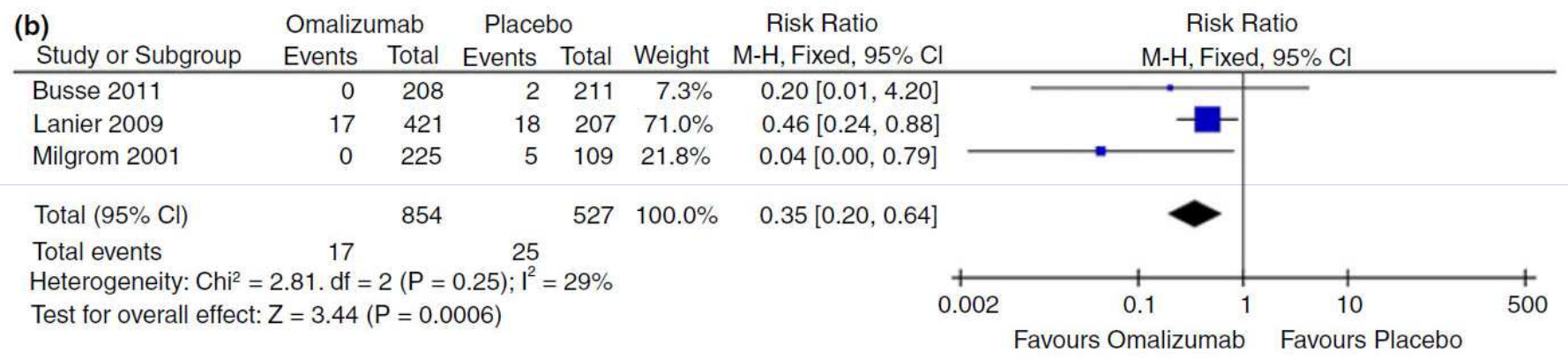
**Gustavo J. Rodrigo & Hugo Neffen**

**Pediatric Allergy and Immunology, 2015; 26: 551–556**

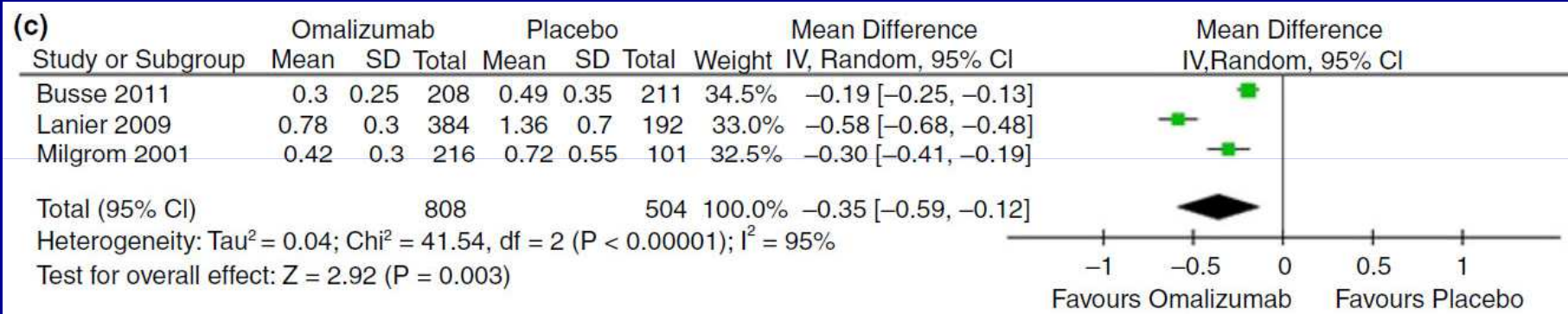
# Number of patients with at least one significant asthma exacerbations



# Number of patients with a serious exacerbation requiring hospitalization



# Mean asthma exacerbations per patient (with 95% confidence interval) of eligible studies comparing omalizumab with placebo at the end of the stable-steroid phase.



- **Nuevas realidades**
- **Manejo del asma en menores de 5 años**
- **Manejo en escolares y adolescentes**
- **Conclusiones**

NOT EVERYTHING THAT  
LOOKS LIKE ASTHMA **IS** ASTHMA





# **Principal findings of systematic reviews for chronic treatment in childhood asthma**

**José A. Castro Rodríguez MD, Gustavo J.  
Rodrigo MD & Carlos E. Rodríguez-Martínez MD.**

**Journal of Asthma, 52:4, 407-416 - 2015**

Table 2. Principal findings of the 39 SRCTs included according to the international asthma guideline's steps [2,3].

Outcomes	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Steps 4 and 5
Reduction of severe exacerbations	SABA = IB SABA = SABA + IB	ICS > LTRA ICS > cromones ICS > xanthines FP = HFA-DBP or ciclofenide Daily = intermittent ICS Moderate = low ICS doses	ICS + LTRA = ICS ICS + LABA = ICS ICS + LABA = 2ICS	ICS + OMA > ICS
Improvement of clinical outcomes	SABA = IB SABA = SABA + IB	ICS > LTRA ICS > cromones ICS > xanthines FP = HFA-DBP or ciclofenide Daily > intermittent ICS Moderate = low ICS doses	ICS + LTRA = ICS ICS + LABA = ICS ICS + LABA = 2ICS	
Improvement of lung function parameters	SABA = IB SABA = SABA + IB	ICS > LTRA ICS > cromones Daily > intermittent ICS Moderate > low ICS doses FP > BDP or BUD FP = HFA-BDP or ciclofenide	ICS + LTRA > ICS ICS + LABA > ICS ICS + LABA > 2ICS	

an); = (equal to); + (plus), 2 (double doses). BDP, beclomethasone dipropionate; BUD, budesonide; FP, fluticasone propionate; ICS, corticosteroids; HFA, hydrofluoroalkane; IB, ipratropium bromuro; LABA, long acting beta2-agonists; OMA, omalizumab; SABA, short-acting beta2-agonists; SRCTs, systematic reviews of randomized clinical trials.

> (better than)  
inhaled corticosteroids  
acting better

# Muchas Gracias



*Antonio Berni (1905-1981).*

# Algoritmo Predictor Asma (Asthma Predict Index)

\*Premio Mundial Investigación

Montreal 2002



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health 2007  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute



International Union  
Against Tuberculosis  
and Lung Disease

*Sibilancias frecuentes*

> 3 episodios/año en primeros 3 años vida)  
+

*1 criterio mayor ó 2 criterios menores*

- Criterios mayores:
  - *Diagnóstico médico de eczema (<3 a)*
  - *Antecedente asma padres*
- Criterios menores:
  - *Diagnóstico médico de rinitis alérgica (<3a)*
  - *Sibilancias no asociada de resfríos(<3a)*
  - *Eosinofilia  $\geq 4\%$*

Table 1. The Modified Asthma Predictive Index<sup>2</sup>

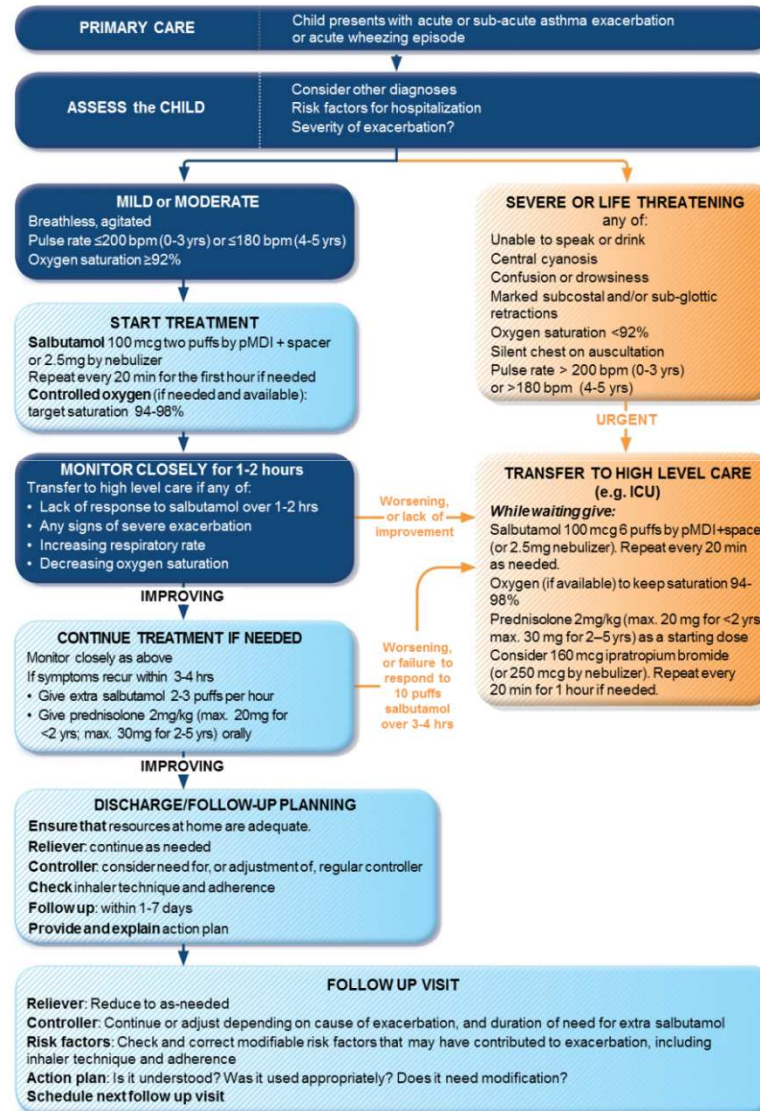
Major criteria	Minor criteria
Parental history of asthma	Allergic sensitization to egg, milk, or peanut
Physician-diagnosed atopic dermatitis	Wheezing apart from colds
Allergic sensitization to $\geq 1$ aeroallergens	Blood eosinophilia (eosinophil count, $\geq 4\%$ )

Chipps B. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol 2010;104

## A very interesting precedent The ERS 2008 Guideline

	<b>Episodic Viral Wheeze</b>	<b>Multi Trigger Wheeze</b>
<b>Wheeze episodes</b>	Only with URTIs	With URTIs, but also with other triggers
<b>Interval symptoms</b>	No	Yes, with other triggers
<b>Response to ICS</b>	-	++
<b>Response to montelukast</b>	+	+
<b>Many people think:</b>		
<b>Allergy</b>	Thought to play no role	Important driver/trigger
<b>Long-term outcome</b>	Transient wheeze	Persistent wheeze

# Primary care management of acute asthma or wheezing in pre-schoolers



# Tratamiento de mantenimiento adultos – GEMA 2015

		Escalones terapéuticos					
		Bajar			Subir*		
		Escalón 1	Escalón 2	Escalón 3	Escalón 4	Escalón 5	Escalón 6
TRATAMIENTO DE MANTENIMIENTO	De elección		GCI a dosis bajas	GCI a dosis bajas + LABA	GCI a dosis medias + LABA	GCI a dosis altas + LABA	GCI a dosis altas + LABA + <b>tiotropio</b> , ARLT o teofilina
	Otras opciones		ARLT	GCI a dosis medias ----- GCI a dosis bajas + ARLT	GCI a dosis medias + ARLT	----- - Tiotropio y/o - ARLT y/o - Teofilina  Si persiste mal control considerar tratamiento por fenotipos: - Omalizumab: asma alérgica - Azitromicina: asma neutrofilica - Reducción ponderal: obesidad	Si persiste mal control considerar: - Termoplastia y/o - Triamcinolona IM o Glucocorticoides VO
	A demanda	SABA		<b>SABA o GCI a dosis bajas + formoterol</b>			
		Educación, control ambiental, <b>tratamiento de la rinitis</b> , otras comorbilidades					
		Considerar inmunoterapia con alérgenos					

**\*tras confirmar la correcta adhesión terapéutica y empleo del inhalador/es**

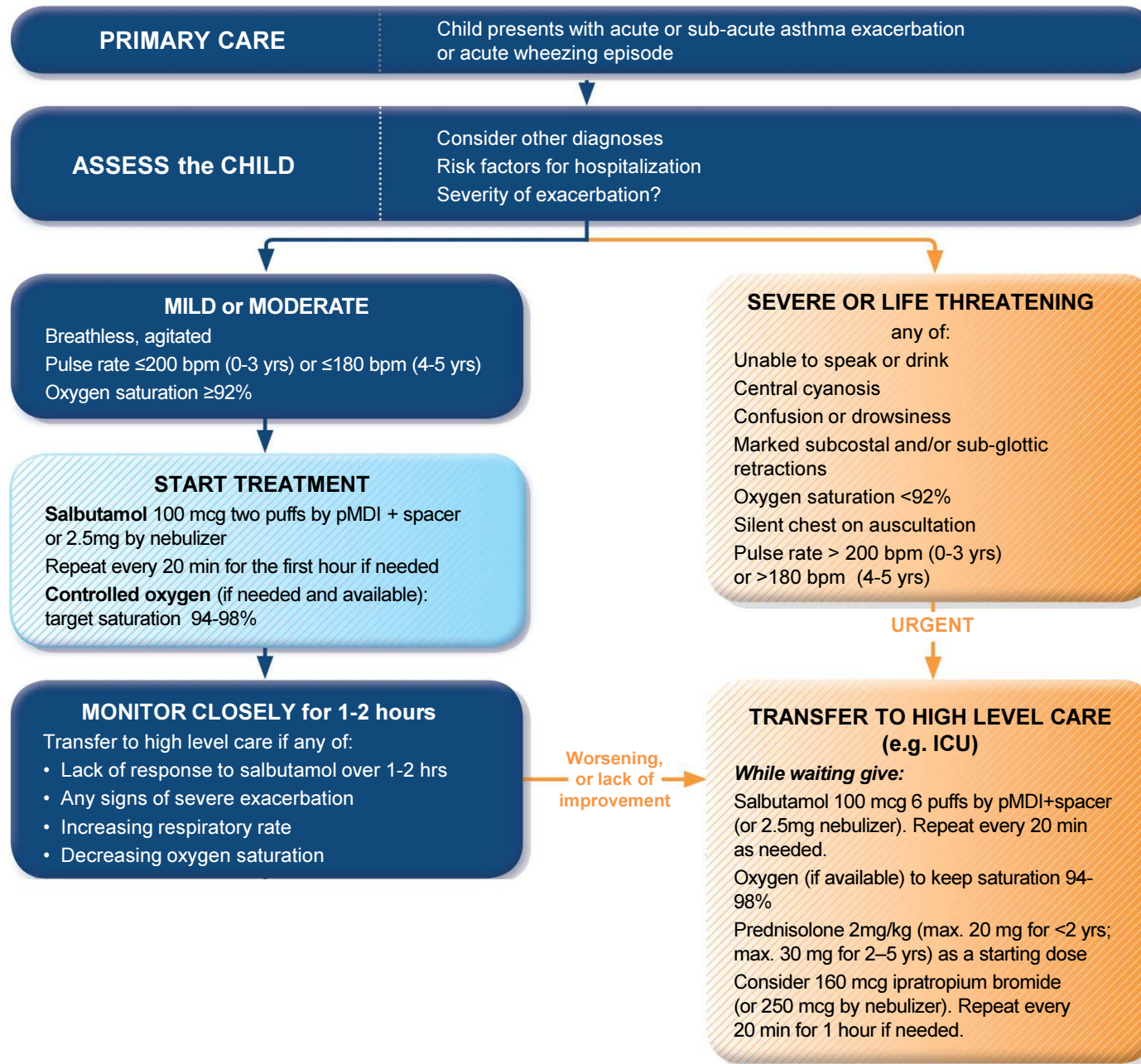
ARLT: Antagonista de los receptores de los leucotrienos; GCI: Glucocorticoide inhalado, LABA: Agonista  $\beta_2$ -adrenérgico de acción larga; SABA: Agonista  $\beta_2$ -adrenérgico de acción corta.

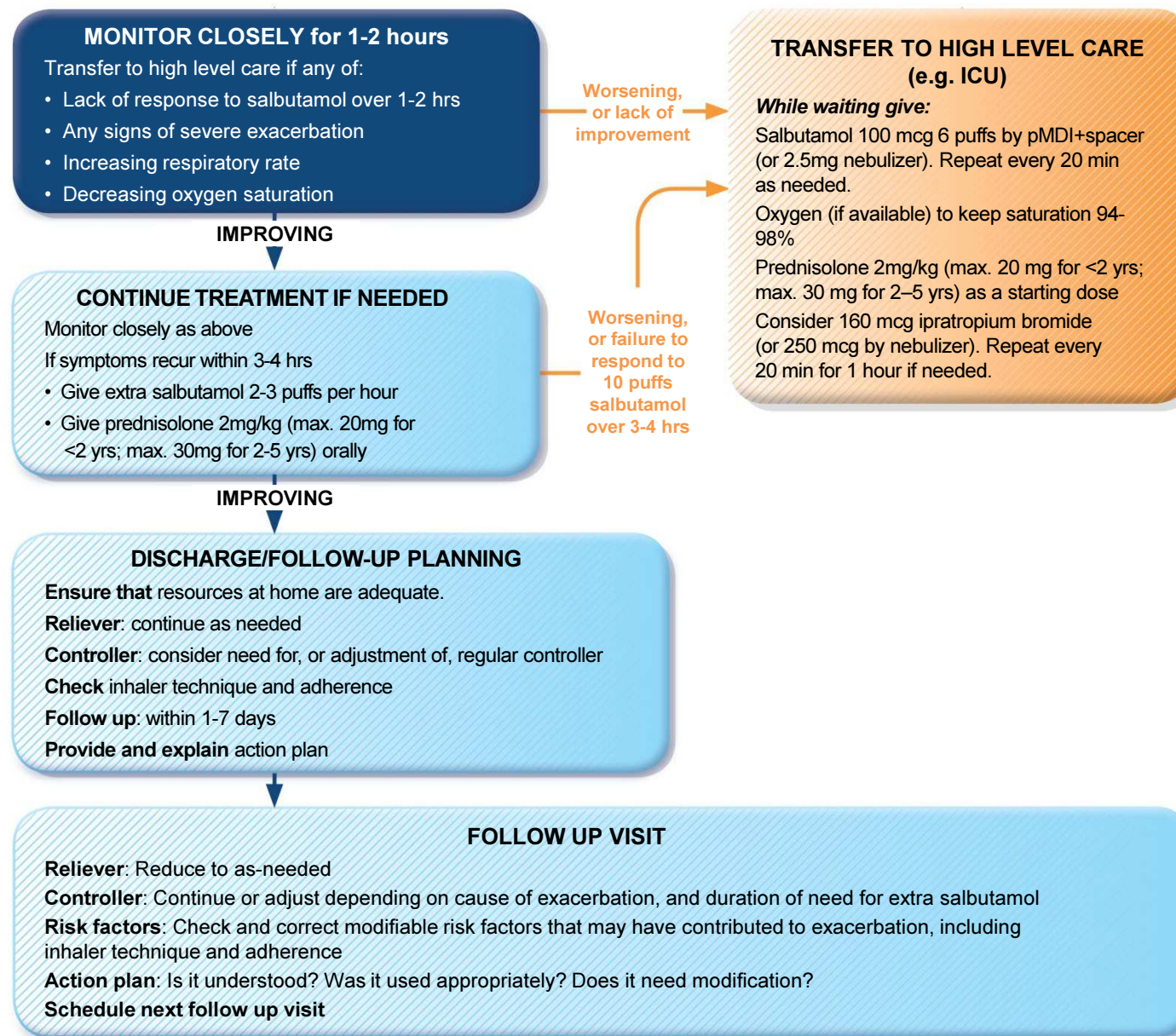


# (DMMA) de los aerosoles generados por los diferentes dispositivos – GEMA 2015

	Depósito pulmonar (%)		Depósito orofaríngeo (%)		DMMA (µm)
	<i>in vivo</i>	<i>in vitro</i>	<i>in vivo</i>	<i>in vitro</i>	
<b>pMDI</b>					
pMDI convencional	7,8-34	-	53,9-82,2	-	1,4-8
pMDI convencional + cámara inhalación	11,2-68,3	-	31,2	40	2-3,2
pMDI autodisparo	50-60	-	30	-	-
Modulite®	31-34	-	33-58	-	1-2
Alvesco®	50-52	-	32,9	-	-
Respimat®	40-53	-	19,3-39	-	-
<b>DPI (por orden alfabético)</b>					
Accuhaler®	7,6-18	15-30	-	-	3,5
Aerolizer®	13-20	21,7-28	73	-	1,9-7,9
Breezhaler®	36	39	-	45	2,8
Easyhaler®	18,5-31	29	-	-	-
Genuair®	30,1	-	54,7	-	-
Handihaler®	17,8	17,3-22	-	71	3,9
Inhalador Ingelheim®	16	-	59	-	-
Nexthaler®	56	-	43	-	1,4-1,5
Spinhaler®	11,5	-	30,9	-	-
Turbuhaler®	14,2-38	28	53-71,6	57,3-69,3	1,7-5,4
Twisthaler®	36-37	-	-	-	2-2,2

Tomado de la Normativa SEP-AR-ALAT terapia inhalada. Arch Bronconeumol 2013





# Initial assessment of acute asthma exacerbations in children ≤5 years



Symptoms	Mild	Severe*
Altered consciousness	No	Agitated, confused or drowsy
Oximetry on presentation (SaO <sub>2</sub> )**	>95%	<92%
Speech†	Sentences	Words
Pulse rate	<100 beats/min	>200 beats/min (0–3 years) >180 beats/min (4–5 years)
Central cyanosis	Absent	Likely to be present
Wheeze intensity	Variable	Chest may be quiet

\*Any of these features indicates a severe exacerbation

\*\*Oximetry before treatment with oxygen or bronchodilator

† Take into account the child's normal developmental capability

# Indications for immediate transfer to hospital for children $\leq 5$ years



## Transfer immediately to hospital if ANY of the following are present:

### Features of severe exacerbation at initial or subsequent assessment

- Child is unable to speak or drink
- Cyanosis
- Subcostal retraction
- Oxygen saturation  $< 92\%$  when breathing room air
- Silent chest on auscultation

### Lack of response to initial bronchodilator treatment

- Lack of response to 6 puffs of inhaled SABA (2 separate puffs, repeated 3 times) over 1-2 hours
- Persisting tachypnea\* despite 3 administrations of inhaled SABA, even if the child shows other clinical signs of improvement

### Unable to be managed at home

- Social environment that impairs delivery of acute treatment
- Parent/carer unable to manage child at home

\*Normal respiratory rates (breaths/minute): 0-2 months:  $< 60$ ; 2-12 months:  $< 50$ ; 1-5 yrs:  $< 40$

# Initial management of asthma exacerbations in children $\leq 5$ years



Therapy	Dose and administration
Supplemental oxygen	24% delivered by face mask (usually 1L/min) to maintain oxygen saturation 94-98%
Inhaled SABA	2–6 puffs of salbutamol by spacer, or 2.5mg by nebulizer, every 20 min for first hour, then reassess severity. If symptoms persist or recur, give an additional 2-3 puffs per hour. Admit to hospital if >10 puffs required in 3-4 hours.
Systemic corticosteroids	Give initial dose of oral prednisolone (1-2mg/kg up to maximum of 20mg for children <2 years; 30 mg for 2-5 years)

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Systemic corticosteroids	Give initial dose of oral prednisolone (1-2mg/kg up to maximum of 20mg for children <2 years; 30 mg for 2-5 years)
Additional options in the first hour of treatment	
Ipratropium bromide	For moderate/severe exacerbations, give 2 puffs of ipratropium bromide 80mcg (or 250mcg by nebulizer) every 20 minutes for one hour only
Magnesium sulfate	Consider nebulized isotonic $MgSO_4$ (150mg) 3 doses in first hour for children $\geq 2$ years with severe exacerbation

# Primary prevention of asthma



## GINA Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention 2015

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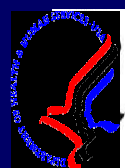



# Primary prevention of asthma

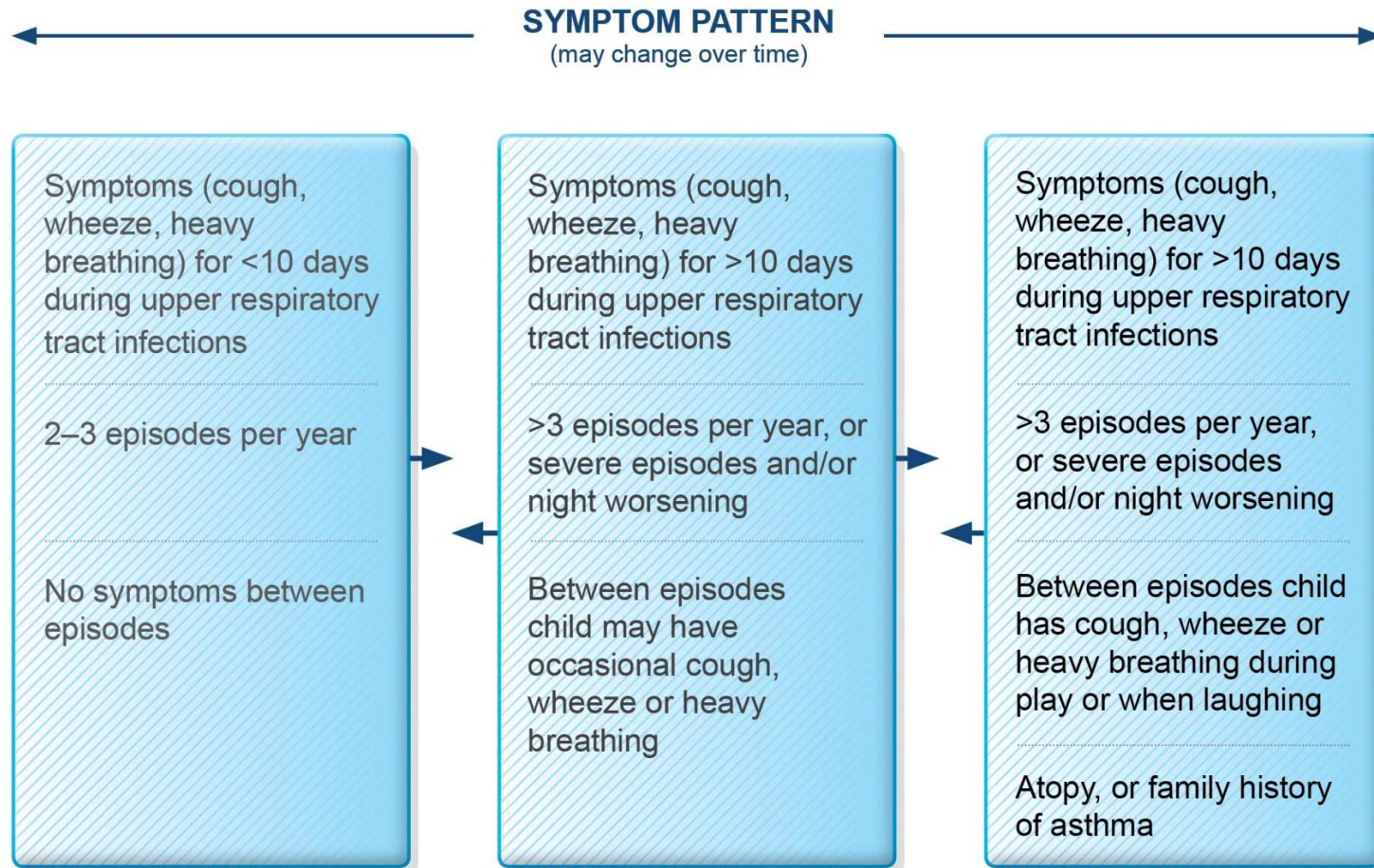


- The development and persistence of asthma are driven by gene-environment interactions
- For children, a ‘window of opportunity’ exists *in utero* and in early life, but intervention studies are limited
- For intervention strategies including allergen avoidance
  - Strategies directed at a single allergen have not been effective
  - Multifaceted strategies may be effective, but the essential components have not been identified
- Current recommendations are
  - Avoid exposure to tobacco smoke in pregnancy and early life
  - Encourage vaginal delivery
  - Advise breast-feeding for its general health benefits
  - Where possible, avoid use of paracetamol (acetaminophen) and broad-spectrum antibiotics in the first year of life

# Principales Guías Clínicas sobre Asma

GUIA CLINICA	Ultima edición	Páginas	Comentarios
	<b>GINA</b> Diciembre 2007	<b>96</b>	<b>Pocket Guide (Asma en niños y adultos) de 28 páginas</b> Disponible en ppt <a href="http://www.ginasthma.org">http://www.ginasthma.org</a>
 <p>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute</p>	<b>NAEPP-EPR 3</b> Agosto 2007	<b>415</b>	No Pocket Guide No disponible en ppt <a href="http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/index.htm">http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/index.htm</a>
	<b>British Guideline</b> Mayo 2008	<b>94</b>	No Pocket Guide Disponible en ppt <a href="http://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/guidelines.html">http://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/guidelines.html</a>
<b>PRACTALL</b> EAACI and AAAAI Consensus Report	Enero 2008	<b>30</b>	<b>Consenso de Diagnóstico y Tratamiento del Asma en Niños.</b> Allergy 2008;63(1):5-34 <a href="http://www.blackwell-synergy.com">http://www.blackwell-synergy.com</a>

# Symptom patterns in children $\leq 5$ years



# Features suggesting asthma in children $\leq 5$ years



Feature	Characteristics suggesting asthma
Cough	Recurrent or persistent non-productive cough that may be worse at night or accompanied by some wheezing and breathing difficulties. Cough occurring with exercise, laughing, crying or exposure to tobacco smoke in the absence of an apparent respiratory infection
Wheezing	Recurrent wheezing, including during sleep or with triggers such as activity, laughing, crying or exposure to tobacco smoke or air pollution
Difficult or heavy breathing or shortness of breath	Occurring with exercise, laughing, or crying
Reduced activity	Not running, playing or laughing at the same intensity as other children; tires earlier during walks (wants to be carried)
<b>Past or family history</b>	Other allergic disease (atopic dermatitis or allergic rhinitis) Asthma in first-degree relatives
<b>Therapeutic trial with low dose ICS and as-needed SABA</b>	Clinical improvement during 2–3 months of controller treatment and worsening when treatment is stopped

# Common differential diagnoses of asthma in children $\leq 5$ years



Condition	Typical features
Recurrent viral respiratory infections	Mainly cough, runny congested nose for $<10$ days; wheeze usually mild; no symptoms between infections
Gastroesophageal reflux	Cough when feeding; recurrent chest infections; vomits easily especially after large feeds; poor response to asthma medications
Foreign body aspiration	Episode of abrupt severe cough and/or stridor during eating or play; recurrent chest infections and cough; focal lung signs
Tracheomalacia or bronchomalacia	Noisy breathing when crying or eating, or during URTIs; harsh cough; inspiratory or expiratory retraction; symptoms often present since birth; poor response to asthma treatment
Tuberculosis	Persistent noisy respirations and cough; fever unresponsive to normal antibiotics; enlarged lymph nodes; poor response to BD or ICS; contact with someone with TB
Congenital heart disease	Cardiac murmur; cyanosis when eating; failure to thrive; tachycardia; tachypnea or hepatomegaly; poor response to asthma medications

# Common differential diagnoses of asthma in children $\leq 5$ years (continued)



Condition	Typical features
Cystic fibrosis	Cough starting shortly after birth; recurrent chest infections; failure to thrive (malabsorption); loose greasy bulky stools
Primary ciliary dyskinesia	Cough and recurrent mild chest infections; chronic ear infections and purulent nasal discharge; poor response to asthma medications; situs inversus (in ~50% children with this condition)
Vascular ring	Respirations often persistently noisy; poor response to asthma medications
Bronchopulmonary dysplasia	Infant born prematurely; very low birth weight; needed prolonged mechanical ventilation or supplemental oxygen; difficulty with breathing present from birth
Immune deficiency	Recurrent fever and infections (including non-respiratory); failure to thrive

# Risk factors for poor asthma outcomes in children $\leq 5$ years



## Risk factors for exacerbations in the next few months

- Uncontrolled asthma symptoms
- One or more severe exacerbation in previous year
- The start of the child's usual 'flare-up' season (especially if autumn/fall)
- Exposures: tobacco smoke; indoor or outdoor air pollution; indoor allergens (e.g. house dust mite, cockroach, pets, mold), especially in combination with viral infection
- Major psychological or socio-economic problems for child or family
- Poor adherence with controller medication, or incorrect inhaler technique

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## Risk factors for fixed airflow limitation

- Severe asthma with several hospitalizations
- History of bronchiolitis



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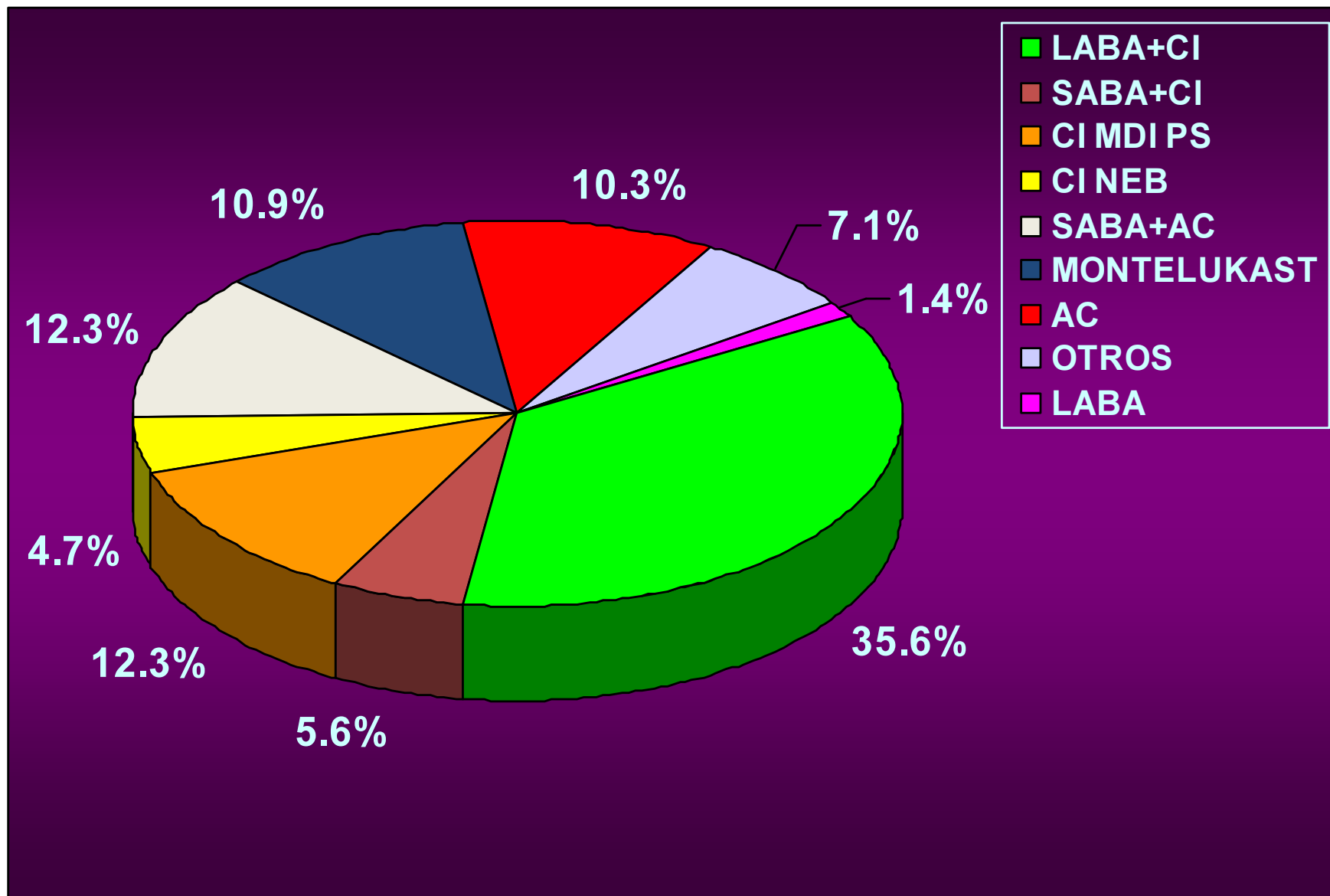
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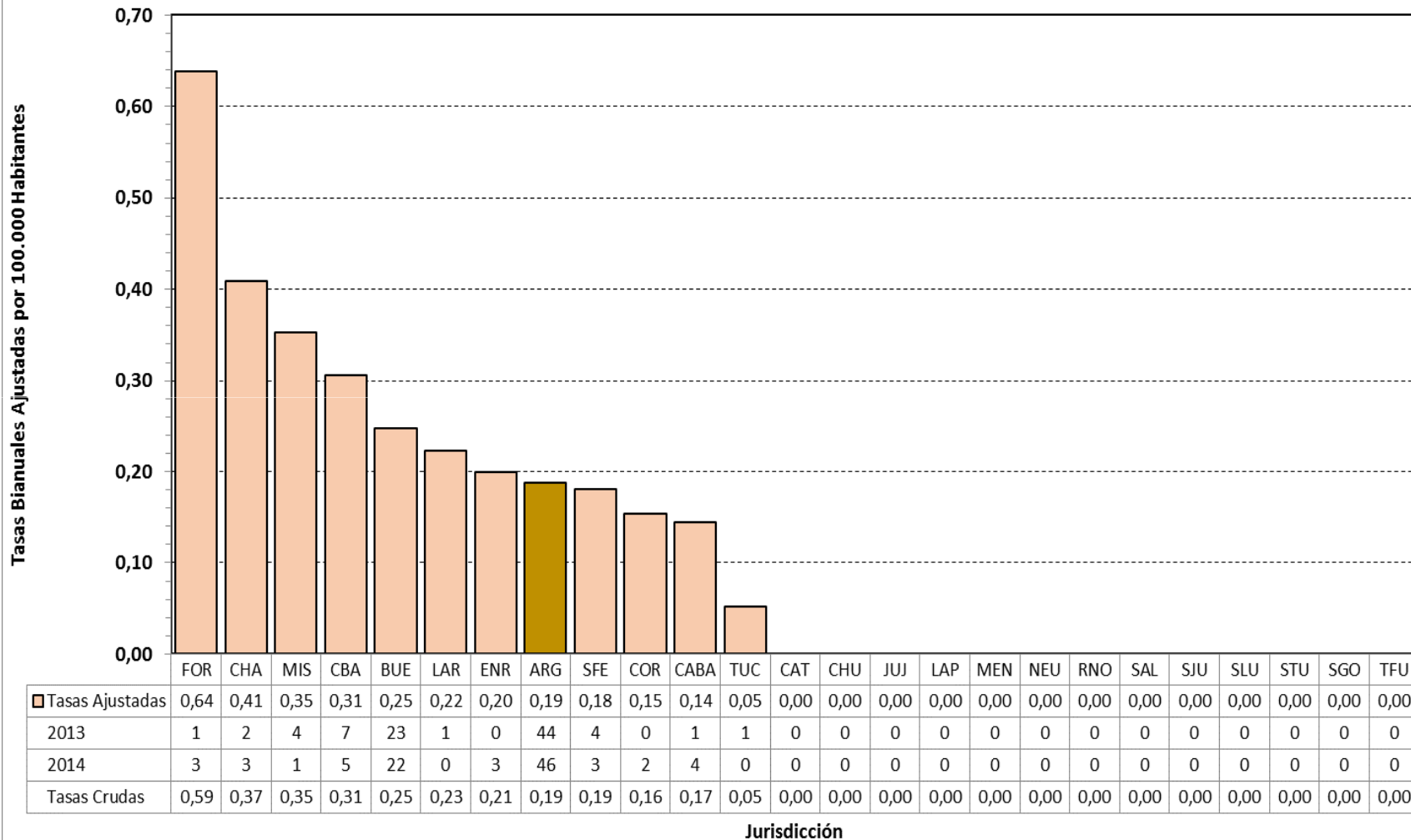
## Risk factors for medication side-effects

- Systemic: Frequent courses of OCS; high-dose and/or potent ICS
- Local: moderate/high-dose or potent ICS; incorrect inhaler technique; failure to protect skin or eyes when using ICS by nebulizer or spacer with face mask

# FÁRMACOS ASMA Y EPOC - ARGENTINA 2012 (IMS)

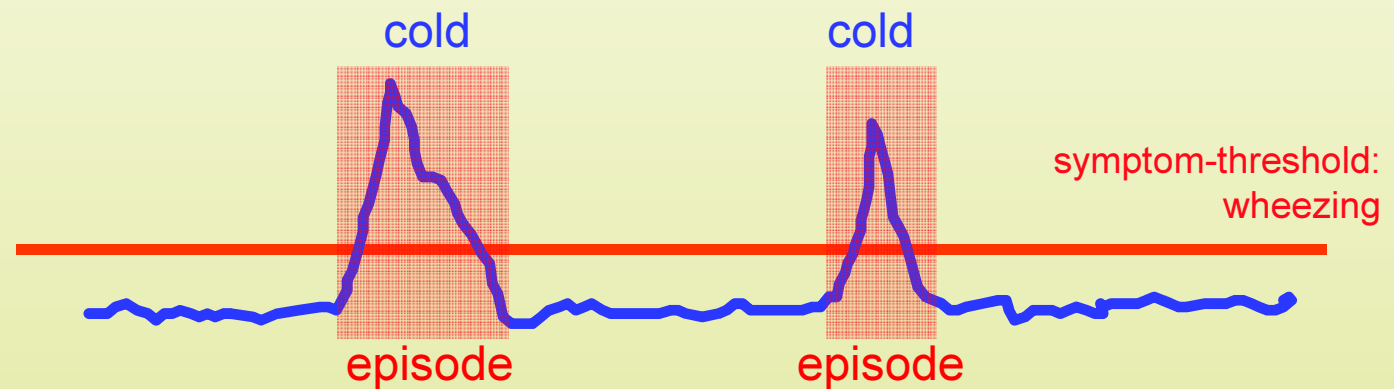


**Mortalidad por Asma (J45-J46) en Población de 5 a 39 Años de Ambos Sexos, por Jurisdicción.  
Defunciones, Tasas Crudas y Ajustadas por Edad y Sexo por 100.000 Habitantes. Argentina, Bienio  
2013-2014**



Fuente: Información Procesada en el Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Respiratorias (INER) "Emilio Coni", Administración Nacional de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud (ANLIS), con base en datos de la Dirección de Estadísticas e Información de Salud, Ministerio de Salud de la Nación, República Argentina, Marzo de 2016.

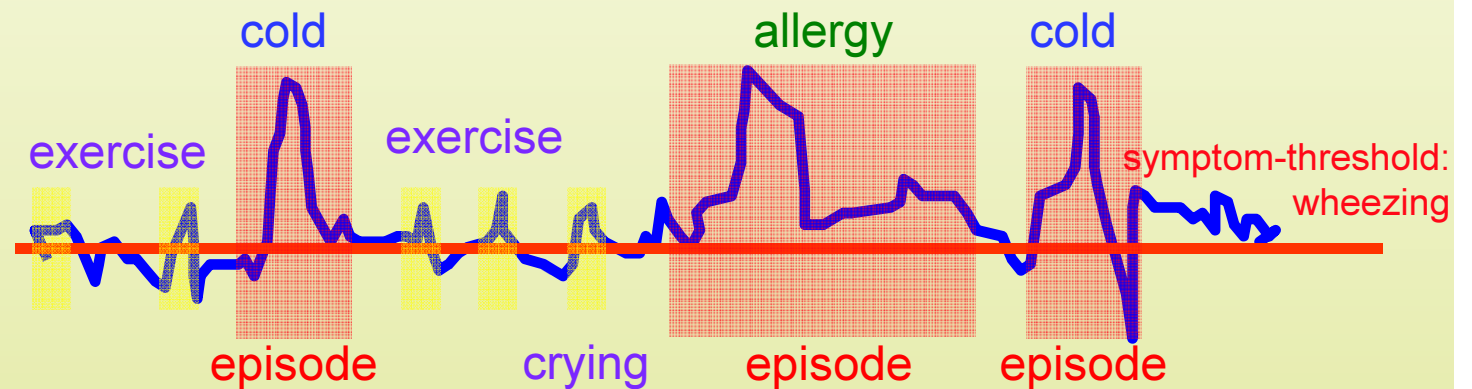
## Defining clinical phenotypes



- Transient wheezing symptoms associated with viral colds
- Discrete episodes, with the child being well between episodes

➔ ***Episodic (viral) wheeze***

## Defining clinical phenotypes



- Wheeze also between (viral) episodes
- Wheeze in response to other triggers than infection

**→ Multiple-trigger wheeze**



## Asthma in small children: the diagnostic dilemma

Many children wheeze during infancy - only some will have asthma

- Asthma diagnosis can be challenging in young children!
  - Heterogeneity
  - Overlapping diseases
  - Objective assessment difficult to impossible
- Asthma diagnosis is important in young children
  - Severe episodes of asthma begin in early childhood
  - **Early treatment may influence disease course**
  - Frequent symptoms, exacerbations, hospitalizations

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# Preschool asthma is different

Table 1. Natural history and pathophysiologic changes of asthma by age

	Age (y)			
	<5	5-11	12-17	≥18
Prevalence by sex	M > F	M > F	Before puberty: M > F After puberty: F > M	F > M
Predominant effector cell	Neutrophil Eosinophil	Eosinophil	Eosinophil	Eosinophil Significance of neutrophils in some patients controversial phenotypes
RBM thickening	Begins after the first birthday	Not as thick as adults	Thickening approaches that seen in adults	Established
Lung function findings	Lung function measures difficult to obtain	Lung function changes associated with duration of asthma symptoms	Lung function deficits present in those patients who began wheezing before age 3y but might not be present in those who began wheezing in later childhood	Progressive decrease in lung function can occur, irreversible airway obstruction might also be seen
Incidence of exacerbations	++++	+++	++	++

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Szefer SJ, et al. *Asthma across the ages: Knowledge gaps in childhood asthma.* *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2014;133(1):3-14. Reprinted with permission from Elsevier