

CORRESPONDENCE

Re: The average Adjusted Symptom Score, a new primary efficacy end-point for specific allergen immunotherapy trials

D. Valenti

Dear Editor,

In a recent publication, J.-M. Grouin et al. describe the average Adjusted Symptom Score (AdSS), a new score for allergen immunotherapy trials developed in collaboration with a pharmaceutical Company [1]. In this article, they state two times “*The EMA has recently accepted use of the average AdSS as a primary end-point in allergen immunotherapy trials*” [4]. The cited reference 4 is the EMA guideline for Clinical

Development of products for Specific Immunotherapy, published in 2008 [2]. Unfortunately, this document does not contain any such acceptance, mentioning only the need for standardized measures, but quite the opposite stating “*So far, no validated system for balancing symptom and medication score exists*” (pag 8/13).

I think that the above statement should be officially rectified.

References

- 1 Grouin JM, Vicaut E, Jean-Alphonse S et al. The average Adjusted Symptom Score, a new primary efficacy end-point for specific allergen immunotherapy trials. *Clin Exp Allergy* 2011; 41:1282–8.
- 2 European Medicines Agency. Guideline On The Clinical Development Of Products For Specific Immunotherapy For The Treatment Of Allergic Diseases. London, 20 November 2008. Doc. Ref. CHMP/EWP/18504/2006

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doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2222.2012.03989.x

Response by P. Devillier, on behalf of the authors

P. Devillier

Dr Valenti is correct and we are grateful to him for pointing out the misleading nature of our comments on the EMA guideline. We have now published an erratum.

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doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2222.2012.03990.x