

The national perioperative anaphylaxis audit project

The National Audit Project 6 perioperative anaphylaxis final report was launched on 14 May 2018.¹ The project has collected comprehensive information on perioperative anaphylactic events² to facilitate collaboration between anaesthetics and allergy to improve patient care. A total of 266 cases met the inclusion criteria between 2015 and 2016. Of these, 192 (72%) had anaphylaxis with a trigger identified with 140 (75%) meeting the NAP6 criteria for IgE-mediated allergic anaphylaxis. UK allergy clinics were generally accurate in diagnosis and agreed with the panel in most cases. There are though things to learn from the report. More details can be found at <http://www.nationalauditprojects.org.uk/NAP6Report#pt>.

In this issue of the Journal, Brew et al³ investigate the co-existence of atopic diseases and an internalizing disorder in families. An association between atopy and internalizing disorders has been previously found.^{4,5} They used the Swedish Childhood and Adolescent

Twin Study (CATSS, n = 14 197). Their analysis demonstrated that where one participant had one or more atopic diseases, their twin was at risk of having an internalizing disorder (depression or anxiety) regardless of their own atopic status (adjusted odds ratio 1.22, 95% confidence interval 1.08, 1.37). Interestingly, the association for monozygotic twins was not higher than for dizygotic ones suggesting that the association does not have a genetic origin. Parental education, recent maternal psychological stress, childhood family trauma and parental country of birth did not seem to explain the associations. They suggest that potential explanations may be epigenetic or an unknown environmental factor.

Also in this issue of the Journal, Prodic et al⁶ have examined the digestion products of the major peanut allergens and assessed their potential to elicit an IgE response. The Ara h 2 and Ara h 6 proteins remained largely intact. Short digestion-resistant peptides from Ara h

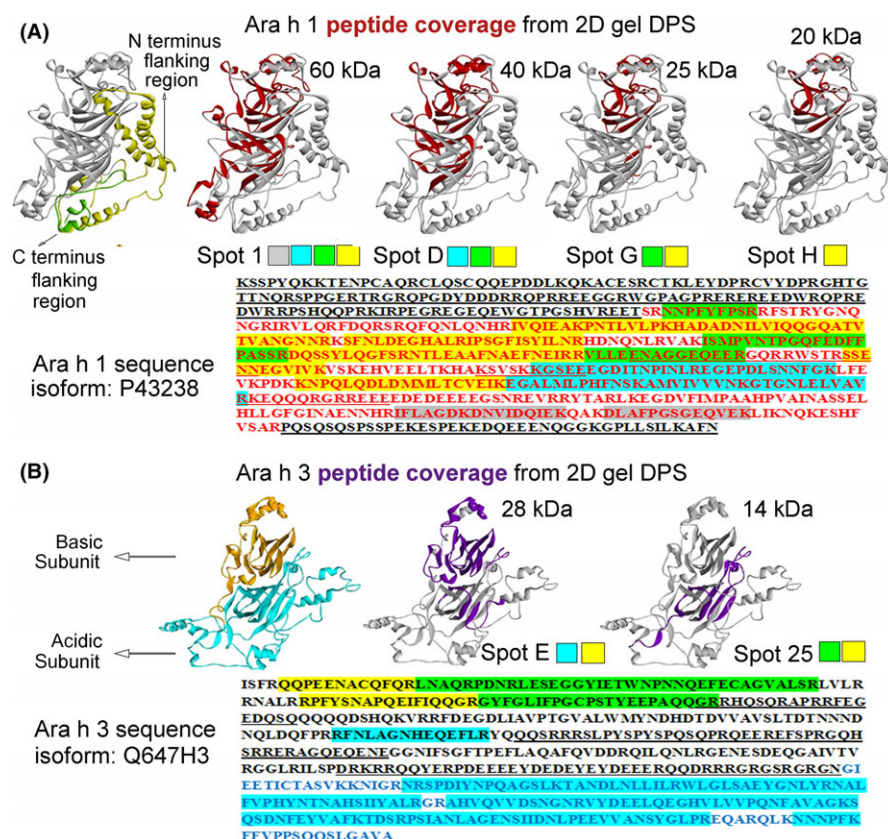


FIGURE 1 Main pepsin digestion-resistant fragments of Ara h 1 showing 3D structure [(see Figure 2 in Prodic et al. (pp. 731–740)]

2 inhibited IgE binding more than Ara h 1- and Ara 3-derived peptides. Digestion of Ara h 1 and Ara h 3 gave a series of peptides with preserved allergenic capacity (Figure 1). The survival of peptides with intact allergenic capacity after oral and gastric enzymatic digestions may explain why peanuts are such important allergens.

I hope to see you at the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) Congress in Munich. You will see lots of coverage of the EAACI Allergen Immunotherapy (AIT) Guidelines. The prevention AIT guideline was published in *Pediatric Allergy and Immunology* in December 2017, and the other guideline papers (rhinoconjunctivitis, food allergy, venom hypersensitivity allergen manufacturing and primary care) were published in the April 2018 issue of *Allergy*. All the papers can be found at <http://www.eaaci.org/resources/guidelines/ait-guidelines-part-2.html> (last accessed 8 May 2018) along with the supporting systematic reviews. These guidelines will only be a success whether we all read them and incorporate them into your daily clinical practice.

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