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# Translation of *in vitro* findings to patients with asthma: a timely and compelling challenge

Pieter S. Hiemstra <sup>1</sup> and Peter J. Sterk<sup>2</sup>

**Affiliations:** <sup>1</sup>Dept of Pulmonology, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands. <sup>2</sup>Dept of Respiratory Medicine, Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**Correspondence:** Pieter S. Hiemstra, Leiden University Medical Center, Dept of Pulmonology, PO Box 9600, Leiden, 2300 RC, The Netherlands. E-mail: P.S.Hiemstra@lumc.nl



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This editorial discusses the value of various approaches and models to study asthma, and the need for an open-minded dialogue between basic, translational and clinical scientists to discuss potential discrepancies between findings in the various models. <http://bit.ly/2m5ZvJo>

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Our increased understanding of airway inflammation in asthma has resulted in major breakthroughs in the treatment of patients. Following the introduction of anti-inflammatory inhaled corticosteroids in the 1970s, the introduction of biologicals that selectively neutralise the activity of, for example, IgE and interleukin-5, has been a major development in targeting inflammation in subgroups of patients with severe asthma [1]. The development of these biologicals required identification of targets for therapy and proof of concept intervention studies to establish the validity of these targets. This was the result of the combined power of clinical research in patients with asthma, as well as experimental studies using *in vivo* and *in vitro* models of the disease.