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# Exhaled volatile organic compounds for better asthma control: could it be a future noninvasive adherence test?

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VOCs are surrogate markers for salbutamol and OCS use, which are part of the definition of poor asthma control. This suggests that VOCs are promising biomarkers that could possibly be used to detect poor adherence to inhaled therapy. <http://bit.ly/2SgE44R>

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In the study presented in this issue of the *European Respiratory Journal*, BRINKMAN *et al.* [1] investigated the link between traces of asthma medication in urine of severe asthmatic patients and exhaled volatile organic compounds (VOCs). One potential application of this study in clinical practice would be an easy, indirect measurement of compliance using detection of exhaled breath biomarkers resulting from metabolism and excretion of medications by the lungs.