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# A new breeze from an inspiring past: normality with multiple breath washout in school-aged children

Anne-Christianne Kentgens<sup>1,2</sup>, Marc Oppelaar<sup>1,2</sup> and Peter Merkus<sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** <sup>1</sup>Division of Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology, Amalia Children's Hospital, Radboud University Medical Centre, Nijmegen, The Netherlands. <sup>2</sup>These authors contributed equally.

**Correspondence:** Peter Merkus, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Dept of Paediatrics, Division of Respiratory Medicine and Allergy, PO Box 9101, 6500 HB, The Netherlands. E-mail: peter.merkus@radboudumc.nl

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**Multiple breath washout is likely to gain clinical relevance due to the recent availability of reference data. This may stimulate its clinical applicability in CF and other small airway diseases.** <http://bit.ly/2Wa72qE>

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Often, the past can help us more than we realise. The *European Respiratory Journal* has, since its early childhood about 30 years ago, demonstrated that publication of reference values for various lung function tests is something that receives priority. Although one may argue that publication of reference values for lung function tests will not yield a Nobel Prize, everyone will agree that valid and reliable reference values are crucial for proper interpretation of test results of our patients and, therefore, indispensable for providing optimal care in respiratory medicine. In that sense, we owe the authors of such papers a lot.