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A golden age of asthma research

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There has been an extraordinary increase in the understanding of asthma pathogenesis and treatment over the past decade. The *ERJ* is launching a series of reviews to highlight these advances in asthma and identify areas that still require investigation. <https://bit.ly/2HrPfpO>

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More than a decade ago, there was a widely held opinion among respiratory clinicians and researchers that asthma was, for the most part, solved and not worth investing intellectual or financial capital into research. There was certainly a small proportion of the asthma population (<10%) with severe refractory asthma, who merited attention [1]; but the vast majority of asthmatic patients were well served with the available treatment armamentarium of rapid onset bronchodilators (mainly short-acting inhaled β_2 -agonists (SABAs)), inhaled corticosteroids (ICS), or ICS and long-acting inhaled β_2 -agonist (LABA) combinations delivered from a single inhaler.