



## Early View

## Correspondence

## Response to Letter to the Editor ERJ-00920-2021

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**Text:**

We take the opportunity to respond to Wark PAB, et al.,<sup>i</sup> on our recent publication.<sup>ii</sup>

it is indeed worth exploring the relationships of respiratory disease and SARS-CoV-2 infection / COVID-19, and the potential mechanisms involved to understand better the pathophysiology of COVID-19, and eventually new treatments. However, based on others and our own observations, we disagree with the statement that use of Th2 targeting biologics in patients with asthma may increase susceptibility to SARS-CoV-2 infection due to an increased expression of ACE2. Our results in Table 3 with biologics (omalizumab n=641, mepolizumab n=308, benralizumab n=98, reslizumab n=26) point to a beneficial effect in asthmatics with COVID-19, as suggested elsewhere.<sup>iii</sup>

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**References:**

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<sup>i</sup> Wark PAB, et al. Asthma, COPD and SARS-CoV-2 infection (COVID-19): potential mechanistic insights. *Eur Respir J.* 2021 (n press). *Manuscript ID ERJ-00920-2021*

<sup>ii</sup> Izquierdo JL, Almonacid C, González Y, Del Rio-Bermudez C, Ancochea J, Cárdenas R, Lumbreras S, Soriano JB. The impact of COVID-19 on patients with asthma. *Eur Respir J.* 2021 Mar 4;57(3):2003142. doi: 10.1183/13993003.03142-2020. Print 2021 Mar. PMID: 33154029.

<sup>iii</sup> Pala D, Pistis M. Anti-IL5 Drugs in COVID-19 Patients: Role of Eosinophils in SARS-CoV-2-Induced Immunopathology. *Front Pharmacol.* 2021 Mar 9;12:622554. doi: 10.3389/fphar.2021.622554. eCollection 2021. PMID: 33767626.