

President: Professor S G Spiro

**Editor-in-Chief**

J A Wedzicha (London, UK)

**Editors**

S L Johnston (London, UK)  
D M Mitchell (London, UK)

**Associate Editors**

J S Elborn (Belfast, N Ireland)  
J M FitzGerald (Vancouver, Canada)  
J A Fleetham (Vancouver, Canada)  
N M Foley (Bath, UK)  
I Hall (Nottingham, UK)  
B G Higgins (Newcastle, UK)  
J R Lamb (Edinburgh, UK)  
D A Lomas (Cambridge, UK)  
C Robertson (Melbourne, Australia)  
B Schonhofer (Hanover, Germany)  
S O Shaheen (London, UK)  
D P Strachan (London, UK)

**Statistical editor**

S A Lewis (Nottingham, UK)

**North America editor**

F D Martinez (Arizona, USA)

**Asia-Pacific editor**

G I Town (Christchurch, New Zealand)

**Images editors**

J M FitzGerald (Vancouver, Canada)  
N Müller (Vancouver, Canada)  
J C Hogg (Vancouver, Canada)

**Lung Alert editors**

A Bhowmik (London, UK)  
J R Hurst (London, UK)

**Managing editor**

Andrea Horgan

**Editorial assistant**

Edward Howard

**Technical editor**

Elizabeth Stockman

**International advisory board**

N Ambrosino (Italy)	A Morice (UK)
J N Baraniuk (USA)	A Papi (Italy)
P J Barnes (UK)	R Panettieri (USA)
C R W Beasley (New Zealand)	N G Papadopoulos (Greece)
J R Britton (UK)	M R Partridge (UK)
A S Buist (USA)	I D Pavord (UK)
P M A Calverley (UK)	M G Pearson (UK)
E R Chilvers (UK)	T A E Platts Mills (USA)
S-H Cho (Korea)	L Restrick (UK)
S-E Dahlen (Sweden)	D S Robinson (UK)
G C Donaldson (UK)	R M Rudd (UK)
M W Elliott (UK)	T Sethi (UK)
Y Fukuchi (Japan)	A K Simonds (UK)
D M Geddes (UK)	P Sliwinski (Poland)
P Goldstraw (UK)	R A Stockley (UK)
R Goldstein (Canada)	J K Stoller (USA)
C Griffiths (UK)	M Tobin (USA)
J C Hogg (Canada)	A Torres (Spain)
S T Holgate (UK)	J Vestbo (Denmark)
P Hopewell (USA)	E H Walters (Australia)
C K W Lai (China)	S T Weiss (USA)
G J Laurent (UK)	A Wells (UK)
A Kendrick (UK)	J W Wilson (Australia)
T King (USA)	A A Woodcock (UK)
A J Knox (UK)	M Woodhead (UK)
P LeSouef (Australia)	R Zuwallack (USA)
W MacNee (UK)	Editor, <i>BMJ</i>
C Mayaud (France)	

**Instructions to authors**

Full instructions are available online at [www.thoraxjnl.com/misc/ifora.shtml](http://www.thoraxjnl.com/misc/ifora.shtml).

If you do not have web access please contact the editorial office: Thorax Editorial Office, 17 Doughty Street, London WC1 2PL, UK. Telephone: +44 (0)20 7269 5793

Fax: +44 (0)20 7269 5794

Email: [thorax@bmjgroup.com](mailto:thorax@bmjgroup.com)

**Subscription information**

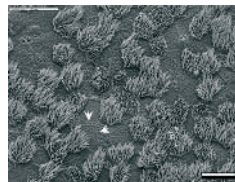
See page ii

**Copyright**

© 2004 BMJ Publishing Group and British Thoracic Society. All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior permission of *Thorax*. Authors are required to grant *Thorax* an exclusive licence to publish; further details available online at [www.thoraxjnl.com/misc/ifora.shtml](http://www.thoraxjnl.com/misc/ifora.shtml)

• *Thorax* is published by BMJ Publishing Group, typeset by The Charlesworth Group, and printed in UK on acid-free paper by Thanet Press Limited, Margate

• Periodicals postage paid, Rahway, NJ. Postmaster: send address changes to: *Thorax*, c/o Mercury Airfreight International Ltd, 365 Blair Road, Avenel, NJ 07001, USA



See p 140

**NEW  
ONLINE  
SUBMISSION  
GO TO  
WEBSITE  
TO SUBMIT YOUR  
MANUSCRIPT**



[www.publicationethics.org.uk](http://www.publicationethics.org.uk)

This journal is a member of and subscribes to the principles of the Committee on Publication Ethics

### Editorials

- 87 Written asthma action plans *M R Partridge*
- 89 COPD in the ECRHS *J Vestbo*
- 90 New insights into oxygen sensing at a cellular level *S R Walmsley, K K K Sheares, A Sobolewski, N W Morrell, E R Chilvers*
- 92  $\alpha_1$ -Antitrypsin deficiency *J K Stoller*

### Asthma

- 94 Written action plans for asthma: an evidence-based review of the key components *P G Gibson, H Powell*
- 100 Increase in urinary leukotriene LTE<sub>4</sub> levels in acute asthma: correlation with airflow limitation *S A Green, M-P Malice, W Tanaka, C A Tozzi, T F Reiss*
- 105 Fatty acid levels and risk of asthma in young adults *R K Woods, J M Raven, E H Walters, M J Abramson, F C K Thien*
- 111 Nebulised salbutamol administered during sputum induction improves bronchoprotection in patients with asthma *M Delvaux, M Henket, L Lau, P Kange, P Bartsch, R Djukanovic, R Louis*
- 116 Two functional variants of the superoxide dismutase genes in Finnish families with asthma *V L Kinnula, S Lehtonen, P Koistinen, S Kakko, M Savolainen, J Kere, V Ollikainen, T Laitinen*

### Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

- 120 An international survey of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in young adults according to GOLD stages *R de Marco, S Accordini, I Cerveri, A Corsico, J Sunyer, F Neukirch, N Künzli, B Leynaert, C Janson, T Gislason, P Vermeire, C Svanes, J M Anto, P Burney, for the European Community Respiratory Health Survey (ECRHS) Study Group*
- 126 Transforming growth factor- $\beta_1$  genotype and susceptibility to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease *L Wu, J Chau, R P Young, V Pokorny, G D Mills, R Hopkins, L McLean, P N Black*

### Assisted ventilation

- 130 Local activation of coagulation and inhibition of fibrinolysis in the lung during ventilator associated pneumonia *M J Schultz, J Mollo, M Levi, C E Hack, G J Weverling, C S Garrard, T van der Poll*

### Airway biology

- 136 Rapid and efficient clearance of airway tissue granulocytes through transepithelial migration *J S Erjefält, L Uller, M Malm-Erjefält, C G Persson*

### Lung cancer

- 144 BTS randomised feasibility study of active symptom control with or without chemotherapy

in malignant pleural mesothelioma:  
 ISRCTN 54469112 M F Muers, R M Rudd,  
 M E R O'Brien, W Qian, A Hodson,  
 M K B Parmar, D J Girling, on behalf of the  
 British Thoracic Society Mesothelioma  
 Group

## Cystic fibrosis

- 149 Bone mineral density in Australian children, adolescents and adults with cystic fibrosis: a controlled cross sectional study  
*H M Buntain, R M Greer, P J Schluter, J C H Wong, J A Batch, J M Potter, P J Lewindon, E Powell, C E Wainwright, S C Bell*
- 156 Nitric oxide synthase 1 as a potential modifier gene of decline in lung function in patients with cystic fibrosis  
*J Texereau, S Marullo, D Hubert, J Coste, D J Dusser, J Dall'Ava-Santucci, A T Dinh-Xuan*

## Review series

- 159 Sleep · 2: Pathophysiology of obstructive sleep apnoea/hypopnoea syndrome  
*R B Fogel, A Malhotra, D P White*
- 164  $\alpha_1$ -Antitrypsin deficiency · 1: Epidemiology of  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin deficiency  
*M Luisetti, N Seersholm*

## Occasional review

- 170 Oxidants and asthma  
*G Caramori, A Papi*

## Case report

- 174 Elimination of central sleep apnoea by mitral valvuloplasty: the role of feedback delay in periodic breathing  
*A E Rubin, S H Gottlieb, A R Gold, A R Schwartz, P L Smith*

## Letters to the editor

- 177 Squawks in pneumonia  
*R Paciej, A Vyshefskiy, D Bana, R Murphy*
- 178 BTS guidelines for the management of pleural infection  
*H S A Roberts, R J O Davies, C W H Davies, F V Gleeson*
- 178 Bronchodilator reversibility testing in COPD  
*J E Cotes, P M A Calverley*
- 179 Prednisolone response in patients with COPD  
*I D Pavord, R Siva, C E Brightling, P S Burge, P M A Calverley, P W Jones, S Spencer*
- 179 Breathing exercises in asthma  
*M R Partridge*
- 179 Correction

## Miscellanea

- 99 Lung alert: No clear benefit of parent initiated oral steroids in preschool children with viral wheeze  
*S S Birring*
- 104 Lung alert: Oral gefitinib produces symptomatic and radiological benefit in advanced NSCLC  
*A K Banerjee*
- 115 Lung alert: Higher tuberculosis mortality in India seen in those who have ever smoked  
*K Dheda, G Rook*
- 143 Lung alert: Mesothelin-family proteins: a novel diagnostic marker for malignant mesothelioma?  
*A B Rajasekaran*
- 180 Images in *Thorax*: Selective pulmonary fat aspiration complicating oesophageal achalasia  
*G V Robinson, H Kanji, R J O Davies, F V Gleeson*

