



10th Symposium on Experimental Rhinology and Immunology of the Nose (SERIN) organised by the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) in Stockholm (Sweden)

A step closer to more effective treatments for chronic sinusitis

- **Up to 15% of the European population is affected by chronic sinusitis and a significant number of patients do not respond to conventional treatment¹**
- **Almost half of the affected patients suffer from a severe variant of the disease, which is often accompanied by asthma**
- **Innovative treatment options, which are currently in the research phase, will be capable of controlling chronic sinusitis and replacing other more invasive techniques such as surgery**

Stockholm, Sweden, 19 March 2015 – Chronic sinusitis or rhinosinusitis (CRS) is a common condition that affects around 11-15% of the general population^{1,2}. It is known to seriously impact quality of life as it causes pain and other symptoms such as nasal obstruction, nasal secretions and/or reduced olfactory function³.

In addition, 40% of the affected individuals suffer from a frequently recurring form of CRS, chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (CRSwNP)⁵. This form is characterised by frequent comorbid asthma and aspirin intolerance, and is often difficult to treat. Many of these patients fail to respond to conventional treatment and require extensive health care such as surgeries and multiple medical visits. Hence, the quality of life of patients living with the CRSwNP is even more impaired⁴.

New treatments with better results

Due to the poor response to treatment and high recurrence of CRSwNP, there is significant demand for new therapeutic approaches for this debilitating disease, say **Prof. Claus Bachert, Ghent University (Belgium)** and **Prof. Lars-Olaf Cardell, from the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm (Sweden)**, chairs of the **10th Symposium on Experimental Rhinology and Immunology of the Nose (SERIN)**.

According to these experts, in the past the only options for treating patients were oral steroids and surgery. Patients often suffered side effects and complications with these treatments. *"In the future, however, we will have several innovative treatment options with monoclonal antibodies (biological) which will be administered in the form of an injection and will be capable of controlling this serious disease, replacing oral steroids and repeated surgery"* says **Prof. Bachert**.



These new treatments are currently being researched. One is already available for patients with severe asthma. *"Knowledge of the immune processes in the upper airways has evolved rapidly in recent years and allowed us to better understand this severe, chronic sinus disease. In the next five years we expect to see new and more effective options that will significantly improve the situation of many patients"*, adds **Prof. Cardell**.

Leading international symposium on rhinology

Approximately 300 specialists in the field of rhinology from all over the world will meet from 19 to 21 March at the **10th Symposium on Experimental Rhinology and Immunology of the Nose (SERIN)** organised by the **European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI)** in Stockholm (Sweden).

The meeting, which is a leading event at an international level, offers an extensive scientific programme and the opportunity for both well-known experts and young scientists to share the latest advances in the field. For more information about **SERIN 2015** visit www.eaaci-serin.org

About EAACI

The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) is a non-profit organisation active in the field of allergic and immunologic diseases such as asthma, rhinitis, eczema, occupational allergy, food and drug allergy, and anaphylaxis. EAACI was founded in 1956 in Florence and has become the largest medical association in Europe in the field of allergy and clinical immunology. It includes over 8,000 members from 121 countries, as well as 49 National Allergy Societies.

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