

A Brief report on Allergy School on Insect Venom Allergy and Mastocytosis

Held during 11th – 13th April 2019, The University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands

Organized by: European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Switzerland

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Mumbai

Allergy school on insect venom allergy and mastocytosis program covered sessions with theoretical content (lectures) and practical approaches over a period of three days, which took place at The University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands.

The main topics of this allergy school includes:

1. Epidemiology, including insects all over the world
2. Large local vs systemic reactions
3. Unusual reactions
4. Diagnosing Immunotherapy
5. Mastocytosis (how to diagnose, when to think of it, and how to treat)

Objectives covered were:

1. To improve the understanding of insect venom allergy in the context of mastocytosis
2. Diagnosing insect venom allergy Deciding about the right venom (diagnostic tools including skin tests, serologic IgE including recombinant Venom; other tests like BAT)
3. Indications for AAI (when and how long) Immunotherapy (treatment schedules, duration of treatment)
4. Relation with mastocytosis
5. Diagnosing mastocytosis
6. Sting challenges (how to perform) Indications before, during and after immunotherapy

Learning Outcome from Allergy School:

Allergy school on insect venom allergy and mastocytosis created a vibrant ecosystem for clinicians and basic scientists to-come-together and discuss on current trends in venom allergy and diagnosis. As a learning outcome, this school has provided a solid foundation on diagnosing the right insect venom allergy, which in turn helps clinicians for right treatment. Further, it was great to meet and discuss with peer-scientists cum clinicians from Stanford University, USA, Luxembourg Institute of Health, Luxembourg, Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen, Germany, University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands and many others. This school is attractive for individuals like us as it was a limited group size of around 100 international participants, which enabled a great dialogue throughout the allergy school.

Financial Support:

Being the Junior Member of European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Switzerland, from last 9 years, it was a great privilege to receive a reduction in registration fee and accommodation at the allergy school venue. Further, I am highly honoured to receive the individual Professional Enhancement Grant Support from TATA Education and Development Trust, Mumbai for attending this Allergy School.