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Pollen food syndrome: Clinical utility of molecular allergy (component) testing in the management

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Pollen Food Syndrome, in particular Oral Allergy Syndrome (OAS) has been increasing in adults. As it is often difficult to assess the risk for anaphylaxis, a number of these patients are prescribed adrenaline autoinjectors for oral allergy syndrome to peanut and tree nuts with the associated anxiety of carrying an adrenaline autoinjector. Molecular component testing has revolutionized the management of these patients. Patients with symptoms of OAS who have been prescribed an adrenaline autoinjector because of throat tightness and features of anxiety, who have PR-10 / Bet v 1 proteins only and have a safe single blind food challenge and have their adrenaline autoinjectors removed with reassurance that they are not at risk of anaphylaxis, with significant improvement in their quality of life. The talk will present patients from my practice that have had their adrenaline removed following molecular allergy testing and oral challenges, and also patients with less striking history of nut reaction, but molecular testing has identified storage protein sensitization and the risk for anaphylaxis confirmed from this and adrenaline prescribed based on these tests.

Biography

Vincent St Aubyn Crump is a consultant allergist at Manchester University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and setting the only allergy service in Jamaica. He has written a number of review articles on allergy, developed Patient Education Aids and frequently participates in public and professional presentations on allergy in New Zealand and UK. He has constantly been working on expanding the database for his allergy website: www.allergyclinic.co.nz. He has published a book "Allergies New Zealand's Growing Epidemic" in 2009. The book has been described by Penny Jorgensen, CEO of Allergy New Zealand, as 'a must have book for every New Zealander'. Dr Crump's book offers an in-depth examination on the treatment of allergies and the ways in which allergic conditions are inter-related. It also includes case studies illustrating how allergies manifest themselves and a wealth of practical advice on how to recognize allergies and where to look for the most effective treatment options. To address the growing gap between the rising prevalence of allergies and the shortage of allergy specialists in New Zealand, the idea of AllergyDoctor was considered the most realistic solution to improving the unmet needs of allergy service in New Zealand. The core structure of AllergyDoctor is to train/up skill general practitioners in allergy. They are trained to be proficient in comprehensive allergy assessment, skin prick testing, patch testing and administering immunotherapy, safely and effectively.

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