

ASTHMA

EPIDEMIOLOGY, TREATMENT AND EXACERBATIONS

IN REAL LIFE



1. Machine learning techniques can facilitate the identification and validation of asthma cases in unstructured electronic medical health records. *(this thesis)*
2. A quarter of all children with an asthma exacerbation will experience a next exacerbation within 1 year. *(this thesis)*
3. Adherence to inhalation therapy is driven by treatment need or intensity of medical follow up. *(this thesis)*
4. Of all asthma patients who experienced a severe asthma exacerbation, 0.1-0.3% died in the 1st week following that exacerbation and 1.1-4.8% in the 1st year. *(this thesis)*
5. Switching between generic and brand inhalation medication seems to carry an increased risk of asthma exacerbations. *(this thesis)*
6. Inclusion criteria of randomized controlled trials of respiratory drugs in asthma exclude approximately 95% of asthma patients due to their inclusion criteria and the results are hence not per se applicable to daily life practice. *(Price, Breathe, 2015)*
7. Electronic health records are essential to improving patient safety. *(Blumenthal, NEJM, 2007)*
8. Every active drug is a poison, when taken in large enough doses. *(Garrod, 1858-1936)*
9. Freedom is the oxygen without which science cannot breathe. *(Sarnoff, 1891-1971)*
10. The use of massive datasets provides a wealth of information, but also tons of frustration.
11. Faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the whole staircase. *(Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929-1968)*

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