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# **Genetic susceptibility to Occupational asthma**

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# Topics today ...

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**LMW vs. HMW allergens**

**Isocyanate ( TDI / MDI) vs. wheat flour**

**/ lab animals**

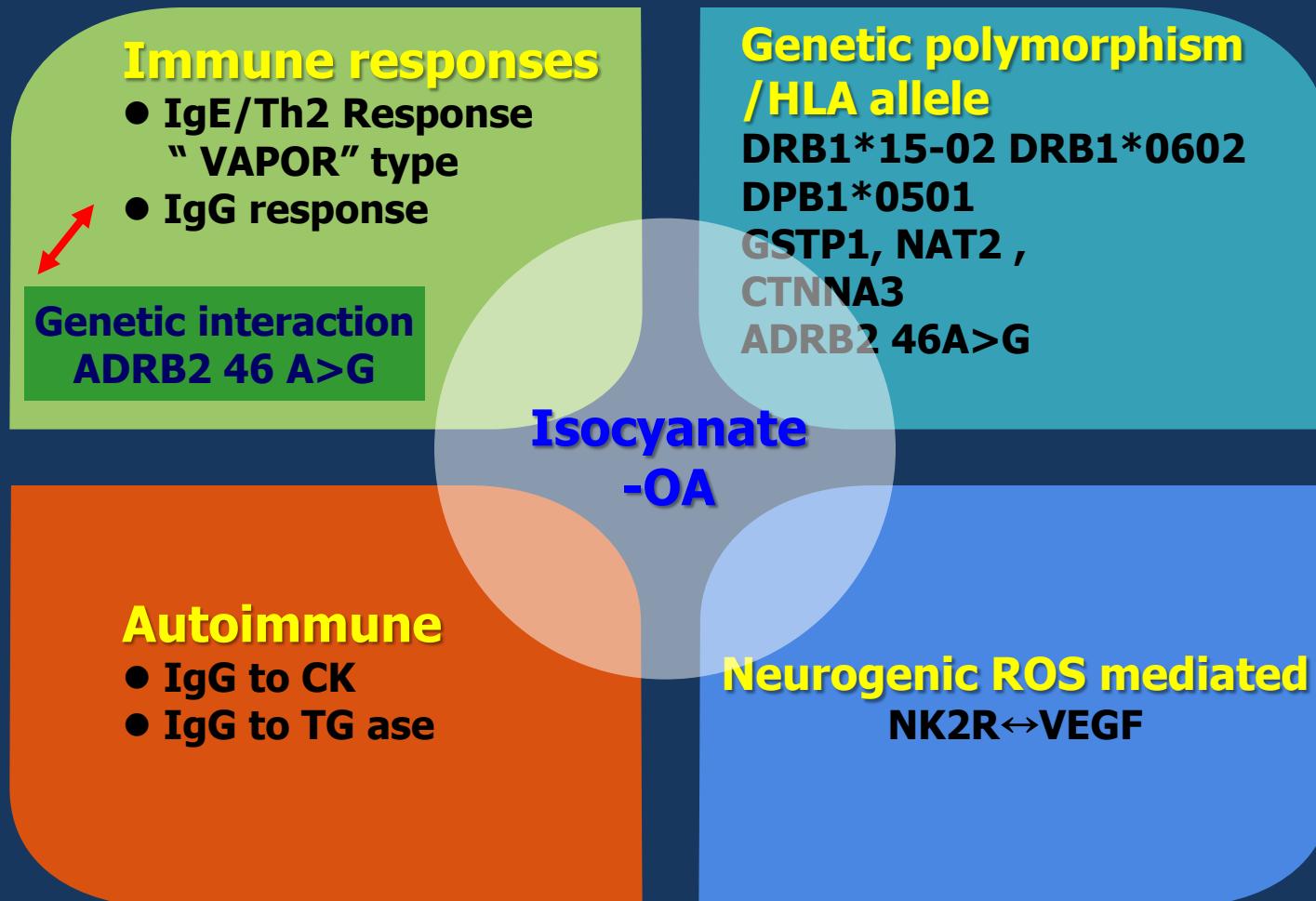
**/digestive enzymes in health professionals**

- 1. HLA allele study**
- 2. Candidate gene approach**
- 3. Genome wide association studies**
- 4. Gene to environmental interaction**

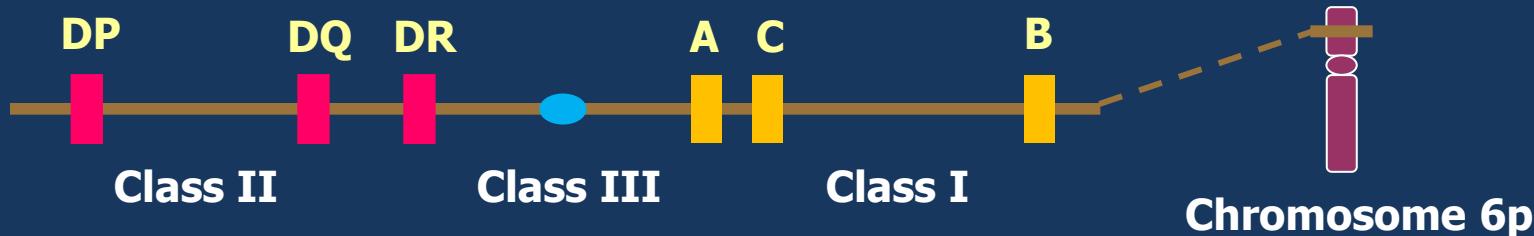
# Occupational asthma : etiologies and risk factors

Agent	Finland	Canada, Quebec*	UK <sup>†</sup>	France <sup>†</sup>	South Africa <sup>†</sup>	Australia <sup>†</sup>	Belgium <sup>†</sup>	Belgium <sup>*‡</sup>	Spain, Catalonia <sup>†</sup>	Korea <sup>*†</sup>
	1995- 2002	1995- 1999	1996- 2001	1996- 1999	1997- 1999	1997- 1999	2000- 2002	1998- 2002	2002	1992-2006
Flour, cereals	17%	24%	9%	22%	12%	2%	13%	31%	10%	1%
<b>Isocyanates</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>50%</b>
Latex	<1%	10%	3%	7%	24%	3%	10%	23	7%	4%
Aldehydes	1%	na	4%	6%	1%	5%	1%	1%	2%	3%
Animals	24%	5%	5%	2%	1%	2%	4%	1%	4%	na
Wood dusts	3%	9%	6%	4%	Na	14%	3%	6%	8%	1%
Metals	1%	7%	4%	na	15%	7%	4%	4%	Na	9%

# The pathogenic mechanisms of Isocyanate induced PA-complicated



# Association of HLA genes with TDI-OA



- **DQB1\*0503(Asp)↑ vs. DQB1\*0501(Val)↓**

*Bignon et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 1994;149:71-75,  
Balboni et al. Eur Respir J 1996;9:207-210*

- **DQA1\*0104 and DQB1\*0503↑ vs. DQA1\*0101 and DQB1\*0501↓**

*Mapp et al. Clin Exp Allergy 2000;30:651-656*

- **DRB1\*15-DPB1\*05 haplotype↑**

*Kim SH and Park HS et al. Allergy 2006;61:891-894*

- **DRB1\*1501-DQB1\*0602-DPB1\*05010.001(OR=7.235)**

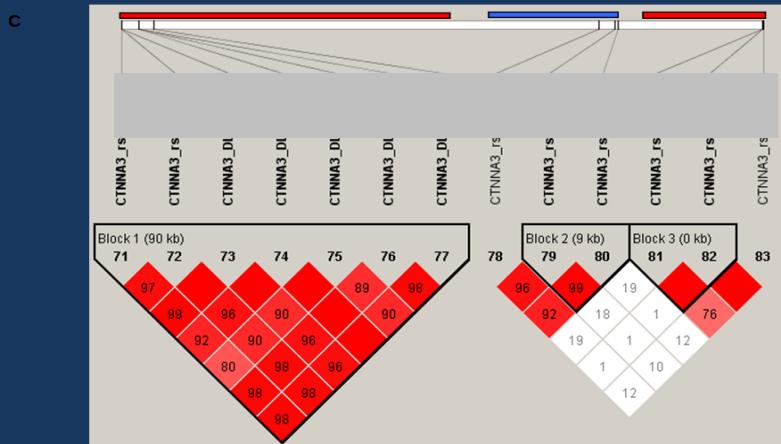
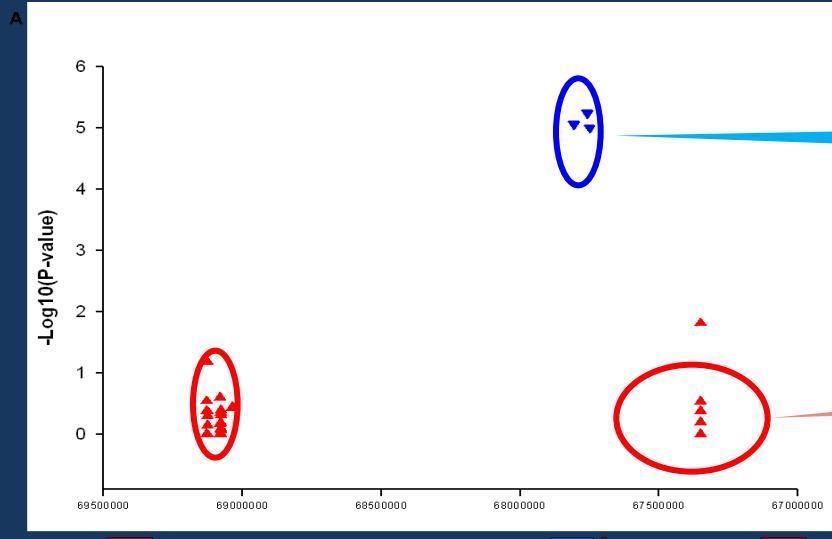
*Choi JH and Park HS et al. Int Arch Allergy Immunol, 2008*

## Table . Genetic biomarkers for isocyanate-induced asthma

Gene	Full name	Genotype	Association	Population
<b>Genetic biomarkers</b>				
HLA	Human leukocyte antigen	DRB1*1501-DQB1*0602-DPB1*	Yes	Korean
HLA	Human leukocyte antigen	DQB1*0503	Yes	European
HLA	Human leukocyte antigen	DQB1 *05	Yes	Swedish
HLA	Human leukocyte antigen	DQB1*0501	No	European
CTNNA3	Catenin alpha 3, alpha-T catenin	HT2 [GG]	Yes	Korean
NK2R	Neurokinin2 receptor	7853G>A, 11424 G>A	Yes	Korean
NAT1	N-acetyltransferase	slow acetylator	Yes	Finnish
GSTP1	Glutathione transferase	105 Val	Yes	Swedish
NAT1	N-acetyltransferase	NAT1*10	Yes	Swedish
CCL5	Chemokine receptor	-403 AG+AA	Yes	Swedish

HLA; Human leukocyte antigen, CTNNA3; Catenin alpha 3, alpha-T catenin, NK2R; Neurokinin 2 receptor, NAT1; N-acetyl transferase, GSTP1; Glutathione transferase, CCL5; Chemokine receptor 5; AUC Area under curve

# Genome wide scan using Affymetrix 500 k Gene chip in TDI-OA



SNPchip

Fine-mapping

⇒ **CTNNA3**  
was associated with  
the phenotype of  
**TDI-OA**

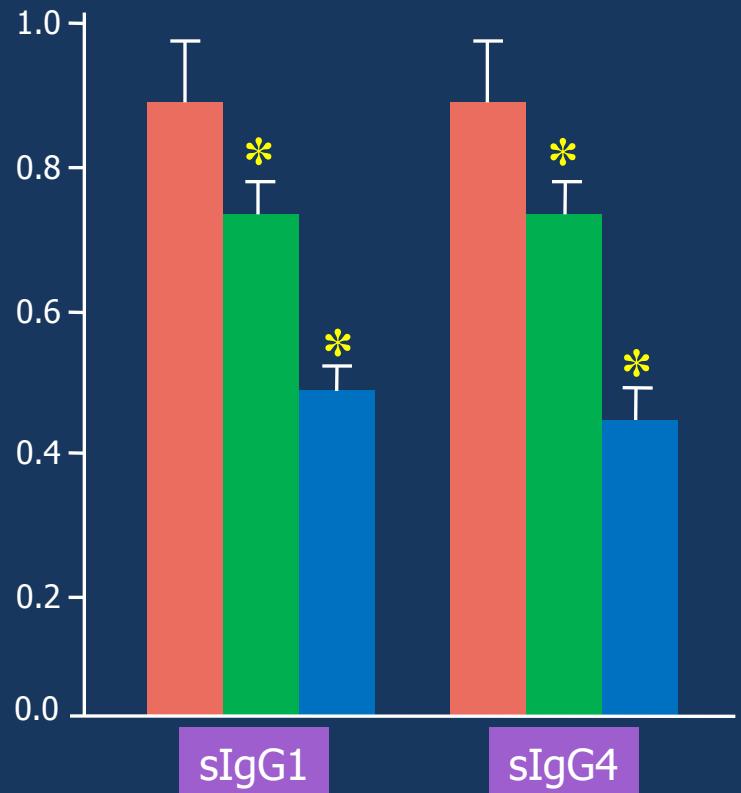
# ADRB2 46 A>G polymorphism and specific IgE sensitization in TDI - exposed workers

Loci	Genotype /Haplotype	IgE to TDI-HSA		<i>p</i> -value*	OR (95% CI)
		positive n=23 (%)	negative n=117(%)		
<b>46 A&gt;G (Arg16Gly)</b>	<b>AA</b>	11(47.8)	22(20.8)	0.013	14.95(1.77-126.01)
	AG	11(47.8)	55(51.9)	0.089	6.22(0.76-51.13)
	GG	1(4.3)	29(27.4)		R
252 G>A (Leu134Leu)	GG	12(52.2)	31(30.1)	0.045	8.87(1.05-74.93)
	AG	10(43.5)	51(49.5)	0.166	4.51(0.53-38.12)
	AA	1(4.3)	21(20.4)		R
523 C>A (Arg175Arg)	CC	13(56.5)	29(28.2)	0.021	12.33(1.45-104.74)
	AC	9(39.1)	51(49.5)	0.146	4.92(0.57-42.31)
	AA	1(4.3)	23(22.3)		R
<b>ht1[TTACGC]</b>	ht1/ht1	10(43.5)	20(18.7)	0.012	15.40(1.81-131.06)
	ht1/-	12(52.2)	57(53.3)	0.078	6.60(0.81-53.73)
	-/-	1(4.3)	30(28.0)		R
ht2[TTGCAA]	ht2/ht2	1(4.3)	18(16.8)	0.064	0.13(0.02-1.13)
	ht2/-	9(39.1)	55(51.4)	0.087	0.43(0.17-1.13)
	-/-	13(56.5)	34(31.8)		R

# Baker's Asthma



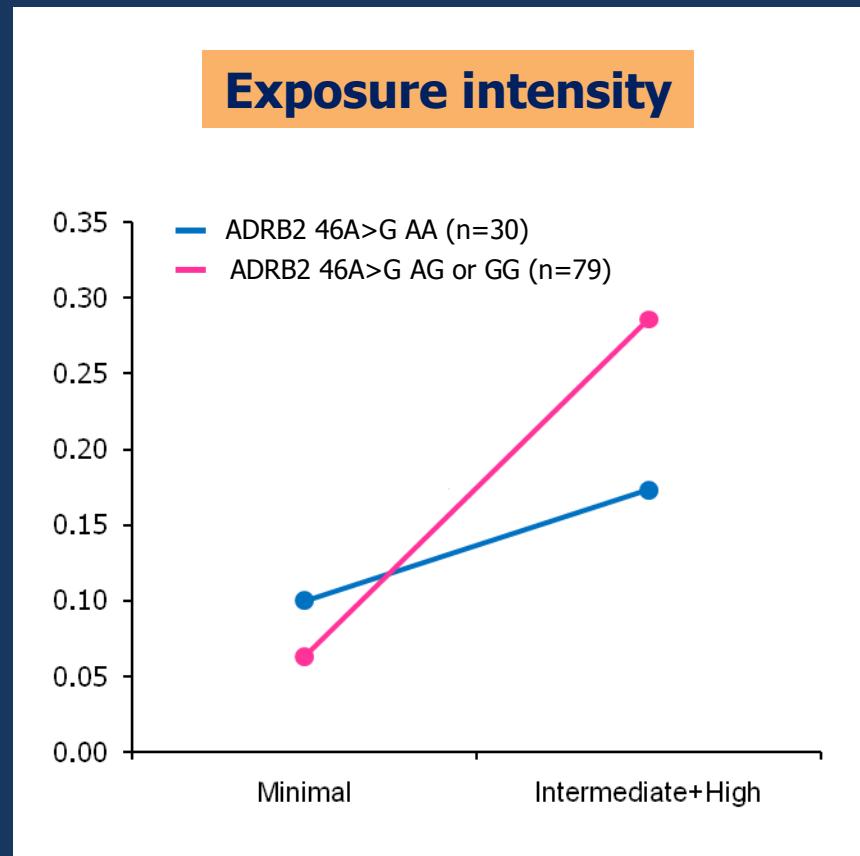
# Serum specific IgG antibodies and ADRB2 interaction



- Exposed workers with respiratory symptoms
- Exposed workers without respiratory symptoms
- non-exposed workers

\*  $p < 0.001$

Hur GY et al. Resp Med J, 102:545, 2008



Hur GY et al. Yonsei Med J, 52:488, 2010

# Activated neutrophils in wheat exposed workers

A



B

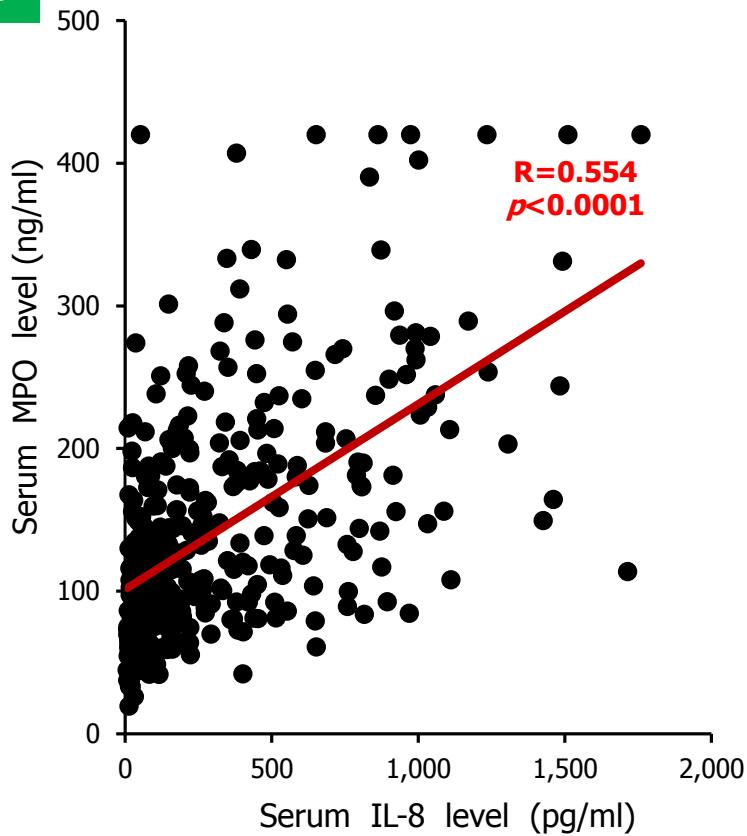


Fig. (A) Comparison of serum IL-8 level in the bakery workers and unexposed normal healthy controls. The mean value is indicated as horizontal line(---). (B) Correlation between the serum levels of MPO and IL-8 in the bakery workers.

# TLR4 polymorphism in bakers asthma

♣ LPS→TLR4→ Neutrophil activation in wheat flour

TLR4 -2026 A>G			TLR4 -1607 T>C			
	AA+AG (%)	GG (%)	<i>p</i>	TT+TC (%)	CC (%)	<i>p</i>
Work-related respiratory symptoms						
Upper	104 (32.5)	19(32.8)	1.000	108 (31.2)	11 (39.3)	0.402
<b>Lower</b>	<b>52 (16.1)</b>	<b>2 (3.4)</b>	<b>0.007</b>	<b>54 (15.5)</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>	<b>0.021</b>
Positive skin prick test to wheat flour						
	22 (7.0)	1 (1.8)	0.226	22 (6.5)	0 (0)	0.395
Specific IgE to wheat flour						
	20 (6.2)	5 (8.6)	0.562	21 (6.0)	3 (10.7)	0.408
IL-8 (pg/ml)*	299.15±19.92	283.74±46.03	0.754	297.92±18.85	286.92±52.60	0.872
MPO (ng/ml)*	141.61±4.68	129.23±8.02	0.284	284.70±22.35	311.73±28.70	0.458

# Clinical features of occupational allergy in hospital personnel

## High molecular weights

- Drugs: **digestive enzymes**  
Porcine extracts, empynase,  
Latex

## Low molecular weights

- Antibiotics: **cephalosporin**, quinolone,  
piperacillin  
Cleaning and fixing agents

Inhalation

Skin

- Occupational rhinitis
- Occupational asthma
- Allergic contact dermatitis
- Acute urticaria
- Anaphylaxis

## The pathogenic mechanisms

- Immediate (specific IgE) hypersensitivity reaction
- Delayed type hypersensitivity

# Risk factor for IgE sensitization to digestive enzymes in HCWs

## Digestives Allergy

- Specific IgE to digestives : OR 5.70 (1.919~16.923)
- SPT with digestives : OR 1.90 (0.865~4.179)

Asymptomatic exposed workers

Work-related Respiratory symptoms

Occupational Asthma / Rhinitis in HCW

- ADRB2 46A>G AA [p=0.023, OR=1.694(1.077-2.666)]
- IL10-1082 A>G AG or GG [p=0.027, OR=2.251(1.2254.138)]
- Total IgE, exposure intensity

# Perspectives

1

More efforts should be focused on developing **early diagnostic genetic markers** based on complicated pathogenic mechanisms of OA.

2

More efforts could be devoted for identifying **asymptomatic sensitizers** and **occupational rhinitis**, which are risk factors for OA.

3

We should set up a **surveillance system** to initiate the screening of OA patients using early diagnostic marker. If OA is suspected, we should refer the patients to a specialist to confirm OA.