

THE ROLE OF VIRUSES IN EXACERBATIONS OF ASTHMA

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Summary. *Today, asthma is one of the most common chronic respiratory diseases, and may be accompanied by periodic exacerbations. Numerous clinical and epidemiological data showing that approximately 85 % of all cases of exacerbations of asthma in children and in 75 % – in adults as the main triggers are the respiratory viruses. Acute respiratory viral infections annually affect a significant number of people around the world, so it becomes clear role and significance of acute respiratory viral infections in causing exacerbations of asthma. In this review we discuss how respiratory viruses are able to enhance airway inflammation in bronchial asthma and, consequently, cause aggravation.*

Key words: *bronchial asthma, respiratory viruses, virus-induced exacerbation, airway inflammation, bronchial hyperreactivity, therapy.*