

EFFECT OF AERODYNAMIC FEATURES OF THE UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT ON PERIPHERAL AIRWAY REACTIVITY AND FORCE OF RESPIRATORY MUSCLES IN PATIENTS WITH SEVERE BRONCHIAL ASTHMA

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Summary. *Studied 60 patients (27 men and 33 women aged from 24 to 83 years) with severe asthma ($FEV_1 - (56,4 \pm 2,0) \%$). 76,6 % of patients complained on difficulty in nasal breathing. 22 (36,7 %) of them were diagnosed with allergic rhinitis and 24 (40,0 %) – vasomotor rhinitis. Chronic rhinitis in 18 (30,0 %) patients was combined with the curvature of the nasal septum. Chronic polypoid gaymoroetmoidit detected in 4 (6,7 %) patients. Asthma Control Test (ACT) was $(16,3 \pm 0,9)$ points, the average duration of disease – $(16,8 \pm 1,9)$ years.*

The studies proved that the aerodynamic features of the upper respiratory tract affect the strength of respiratory muscles, discoordination in the respiratory muscles, changes in the central regulation of respiration. Therefore, the pathology of upper respiratory tract should be treated parallel with the treatment of asthma.

Key words: *upper respiratory tract, peripheral airways, strength of respiratory muscles, bronchial asthma.*