



# Reply to: Early-life respiratory infections and pre-adult asthma: could there be an interaction and differential misclassification?

Evelien R. van Meel<sup>1,2</sup> and Liesbeth Duijts <sup>2,3</sup> on behalf of the participating authors of the meta-analysis “Early-life respiratory tract infections and the risk of school-age lower lung function and asthma”

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Shareable abstract (@ERSpublications)

**Upper respiratory tract infections solely in early life are associated with school-age asthma as well, although not as strongly as lower respiratory tract infections solely or both combined**  
<https://bit.ly/3ocwwAD>

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*Reply to J.L. Perret and co-workers:*

We have read the correspondence of J.L. Perret and co-workers regarding our meta-analyses on early-life respiratory tract infections and the risk of school-age lower lung function and asthma [1] with great interest, and thank them for their critical appraisal. In their correspondence, two main comments are raised. First, whether children with upper respiratory tract infections *without* (concomitant) lower respiratory tract infections in early life would have similar odds of school-age asthma as presented, and second, whether differential misclassification of school-age asthma might have affected our findings of the association of upper respiratory tract infections in early life with school-age asthma.

