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The IPA World Congress of Pediatrics

The 2nd International Congress on Pediatric Nursing

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Dear Dr. Abdulrahman S. Al-Frayh,

This is to inform you that your abstract "**HUMAN SENSITIZATION TO PROSOPIS JULIFLORA ANTIGEN IN SAUDI ARABIA**" has been accepted by the Congress.

The status of your presentation is as follows:

Type of Presentation (Free Paper Sessions): **Oral**

Abstract Number: **3P-F1-07**

Date of Presentation (Display Date if Poster): **09/13 PM, 2001**

For your information, some of the Congress policies regarding scientific arrangements are:

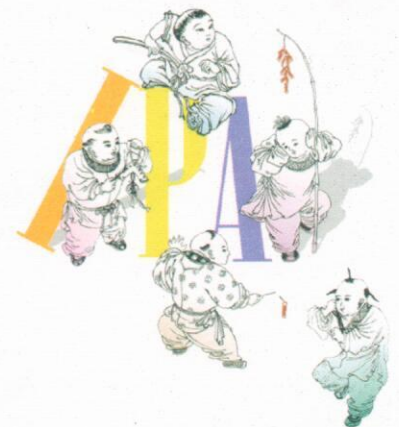
1. For each oral presentation (Free Paper Sessions), **eight minutes** will be given;
2. A single slide projector will be available in each room, but not LCD projector nor overhead projector;
3. Slide preview procedures will be given in the Program Book which will be available at on-site Registration;
4. Poster size: 1.2 m (H) x 0.9 m (W);
5. An abstract number with the two letters NF in it is an oral presentation for the 2nd International Congress on Pediatric Nursing (2nd ICPN).

We look forward to welcoming you here in Beijing.

Yours sincerely,

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**HUMAN SENSITIZATION TO *PROSOPIS JULIFLORA* ANTIGEN
IN SAUDI ARABIA**

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Objectives: Allergenicity to *Prosopis juliflora* pollen antigen has been reported from only a few countries, including the US, South Africa, India and Kuwait. In some parts of Saudi Arabia, species of *Prosopis* have been introduced by the millions as roadside ornamentation. There appear to be four flowering seasons during which pollen grains float in all directions. However, the role of *Prosopis* pollen as the sensitizing and/or triggering agent of allergic asthma and/or rhinitis in the Kingdom has never been evaluated.

Methods: A total of 473 allergic patients suffering from bronchial asthma in four different geographical regions (Abha, Qassim, Hofuf and Gizan), and attending allergy clinics and chest disease centers of university and Ministry of Health hospitals in the region were tested for immediate hypersensitivity reaction to *Prosopis juliflora* allergens. Airborne pollen grains at one center were also studied for one full year, using volumetric sampling techniques.

Results: 76.1% patients in Qassim, 37.5% in Gizan, 29% in Abha and 11% in Hofuf reacted positively to *Prosopis* antigen. Multiple sensitivities to other pollen antigens were detected in all patients. The level of airborne *Prosopis* pollen detected in Gizan exceeded 90 grains m⁻³ of air.

Conclusion: In view of the documented evidence of *Prosopis*-involved allergenicity, the role of *Prosopis* pollen as a sensitizing factor in Saudi Arabia has been confirmed. However, the cause of elicitation of symptoms in many multiple sensitive patients, together with the question of cross-reactivities, needs thorough and detailed investigation. In vitro confirmation of all positive results is also required to incriminate *Prosopis* as one of the major allergens in parts of Saudi Arabia.

Type abstract within the box (see instructions). This form can be copied to make extras.

SESSION TITLES for the 23rd International Congress of Pediatrics

Code

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Adolescent Medicine | 20. Hepatology / Gastroenterology |
| 2. AIDS | 21. Infectious Disease / Vaccination |
| 3. Allergy / Immunology | 22. Integrated Management of Childhood Illness |
| 4. Asthma | 23. Iron Deficiency |
| 5. Cardiology | 24. Medical Ethics for Clinical Practice |
| 6. Child Health Care | 25. Molecular Biology |
| 7. Childhood Injuries | 26. Natural Disaster |
| 8. Children and Media | 27. Neonatology / Perinatology |
| 9. Community Pediatrics | 28. Nephrology |
| 10. Continuing Medical Education | 29. Neurology |
| 11. Critical Care Medicine | 30. Pharmacology |
| 12. Dermatology | 31. Psychiatry / Psychology |
| 13. Diabetes Mellitus | 32. Pulmonology |
| 14. Endocrinology | 33. Radiology / Imaging |
| 15. Environmental Medicine | 34. Rheumatology |
| 16. Evidence-Based Medicine | 35. Surgery |
| 17. Genetics | 36. Traditional Medicine |
| 18. Growth and Nutrition | 37. Tropical Diseases |
| 19. Hematology / Oncology | 38. Tuberculosis |
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