



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
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Sistema Socio Sanitario



Regione  
Lombardia

ASST Fatebenefratelli Sacco

## ***Asma severo: quale farmaco per quale paziente***

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# GINA 2020

Box 3-5A

## Adults & adolescents 12+ years

### Personalized asthma management:

Assess, Adjust, Review response

Symptoms  
Exacerbations  
Side-effects  
Lung function  
Patient satisfaction



Confirmation of diagnosis if necessary  
Symptom control & modifiable risk factors (including lung function)  
Comorbidities  
Inhaler technique & adherence  
Patient preferences and goals

Treatment of modifiable risk factors and comorbidities  
Non-pharmacological strategies  
Asthma medications (adjust down or up)  
Education & skills training



### Asthma medication options:

Adjust treatment up and down for individual patient needs

#### PREFERRED CONTROLLER

to prevent exacerbations and control symptoms

Other controller options

#### PREFERRED RELIEVER

Other reliever option

#### STEP 1

As-needed low dose ICS-formoterol \*

Low dose ICS taken whenever SABA is taken †

#### STEP 2

Daily low dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS), or as-needed low dose ICS-formoterol \*

Daily leukotriene receptor antagonist (LTRA), or low dose ICS taken whenever SABA taken †

#### STEP 3

Low dose ICS-LABA

Medium dose ICS, or low dose ICS+LTRA ‡

#### STEP 4

Medium dose ICS-LABA

High dose ICS, add-on tiotropium, or add-on LTRA ‡

#### STEP 5

High dose ICS-LABA  
Refer for phenotypic assessment ± add-on therapy, e.g. tiotropium, anti-IgE, anti-IL5/5R, anti-IL4R

Add low dose OCS, but consider side-effects

As-needed low dose ICS-formoterol \*

As-needed low dose ICS-formoterol for patients prescribed maintenance and reliever therapy‡

As-needed short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist (SABA)

\* Data only with budesonide-formoterol (bud-form)

† Separate or combination ICS and SABA inhalers

‡ Low-dose ICS-form is the reliever only for patients prescribed bud-form or BDP-form maintenance and reliever therapy

# Consider adding HDM SLIT for sensitized patients with allergic rhinitis and FEV1 >70% predicted



## International ERS/ATS guidelines on definition, evaluation and treatment of severe asthma

TABLE 3 Definition of severe asthma for patients aged  $\geq 6$  years

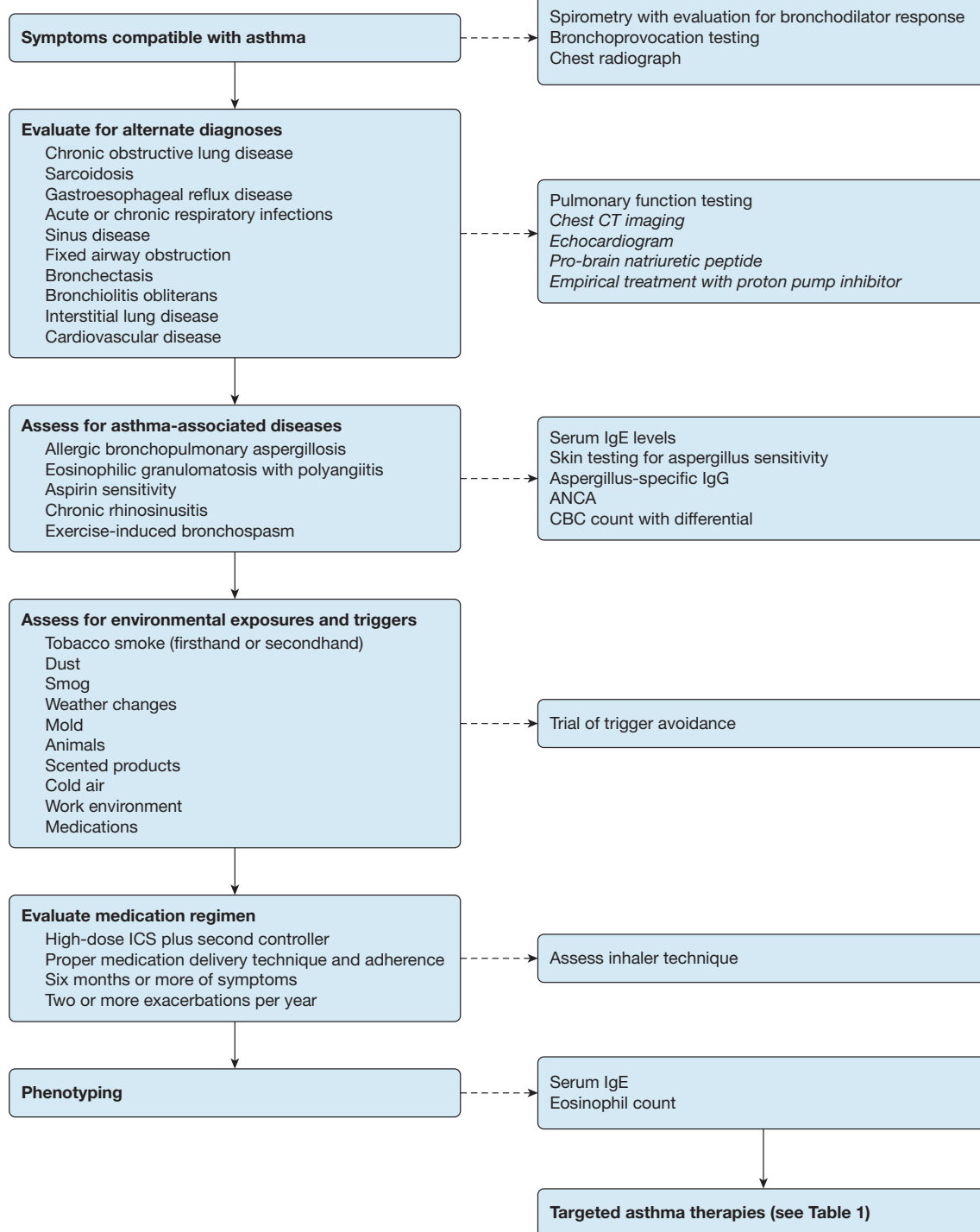
Asthma which requires treatment with guidelines suggested medications for GINA steps 4–5 asthma (high dose ICS<sup>#</sup> and LABA or leukotriene modifier/theophylline) for the previous year or systemic CS for  $\geq 50\%$  of the previous year to prevent it from becoming “uncontrolled” or which remains “uncontrolled” despite this therapy

Uncontrolled asthma defined as at least one of the following:

- 1) Poor symptom control: ACQ consistently  $> 1.5$ , ACT  $< 20$  (or “not well controlled” by NAEPP/GINA guidelines)
- 2) Frequent severe exacerbations: two or more bursts of systemic CS ( $> 3$  days each) in the previous year
- 3) Serious exacerbations: at least one hospitalisation, ICU stay or mechanical ventilation in the previous year
- 4) Airflow limitation: after appropriate bronchodilator withhold FEV<sub>1</sub>  $< 80\%$  predicted (in the face of reduced FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC defined as less than the lower limit of normal)

Controlled asthma that worsens on tapering of these high doses of ICS or systemic CS (or additional biologics)

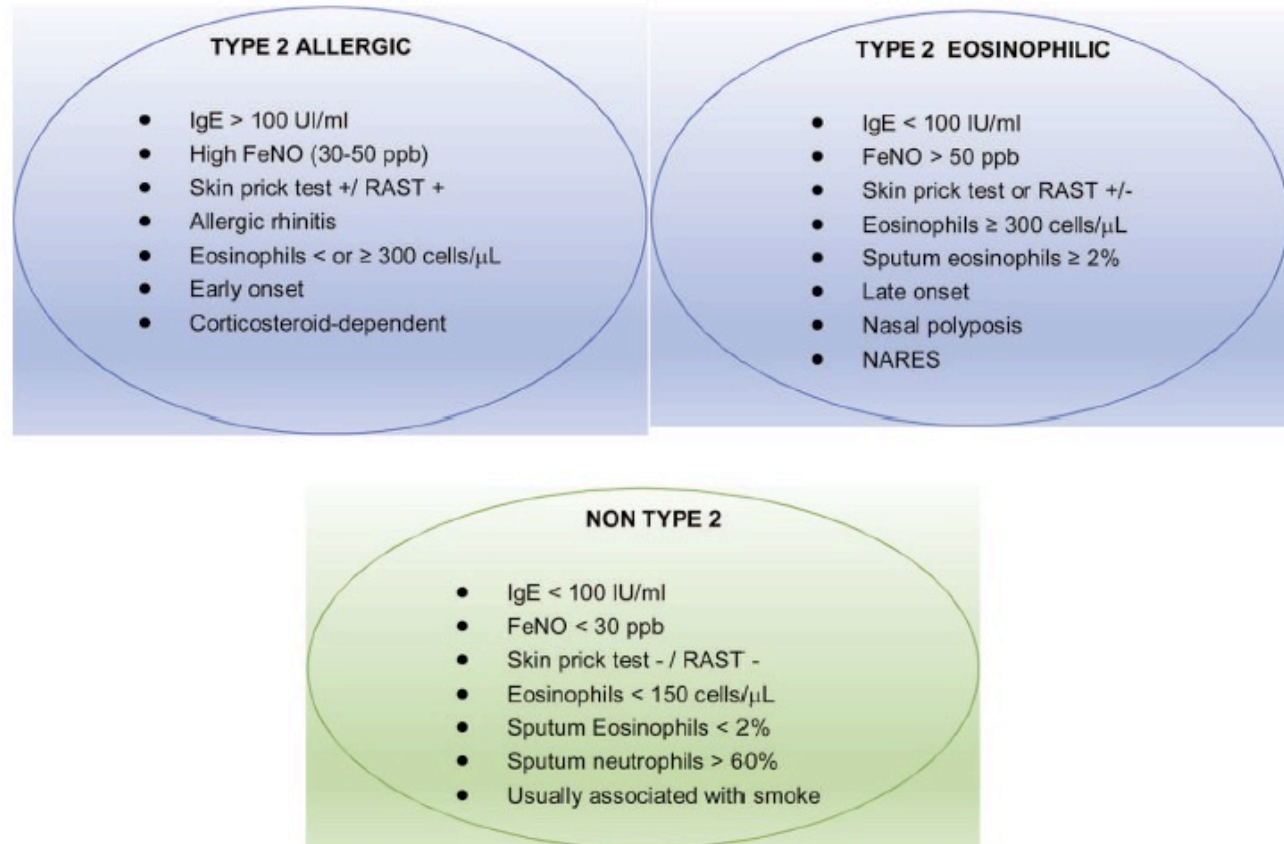
<sup>#</sup>: the definition of high dose inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) is age-specific (table 4). GINA: Global Initiative for Asthma; LABA: long-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonists; CS: corticosteroids; ACQ: Asthma Control Questionnaire; ACT: Asthma Control Test; NAEPP National Asthma Education and Prevention Program.



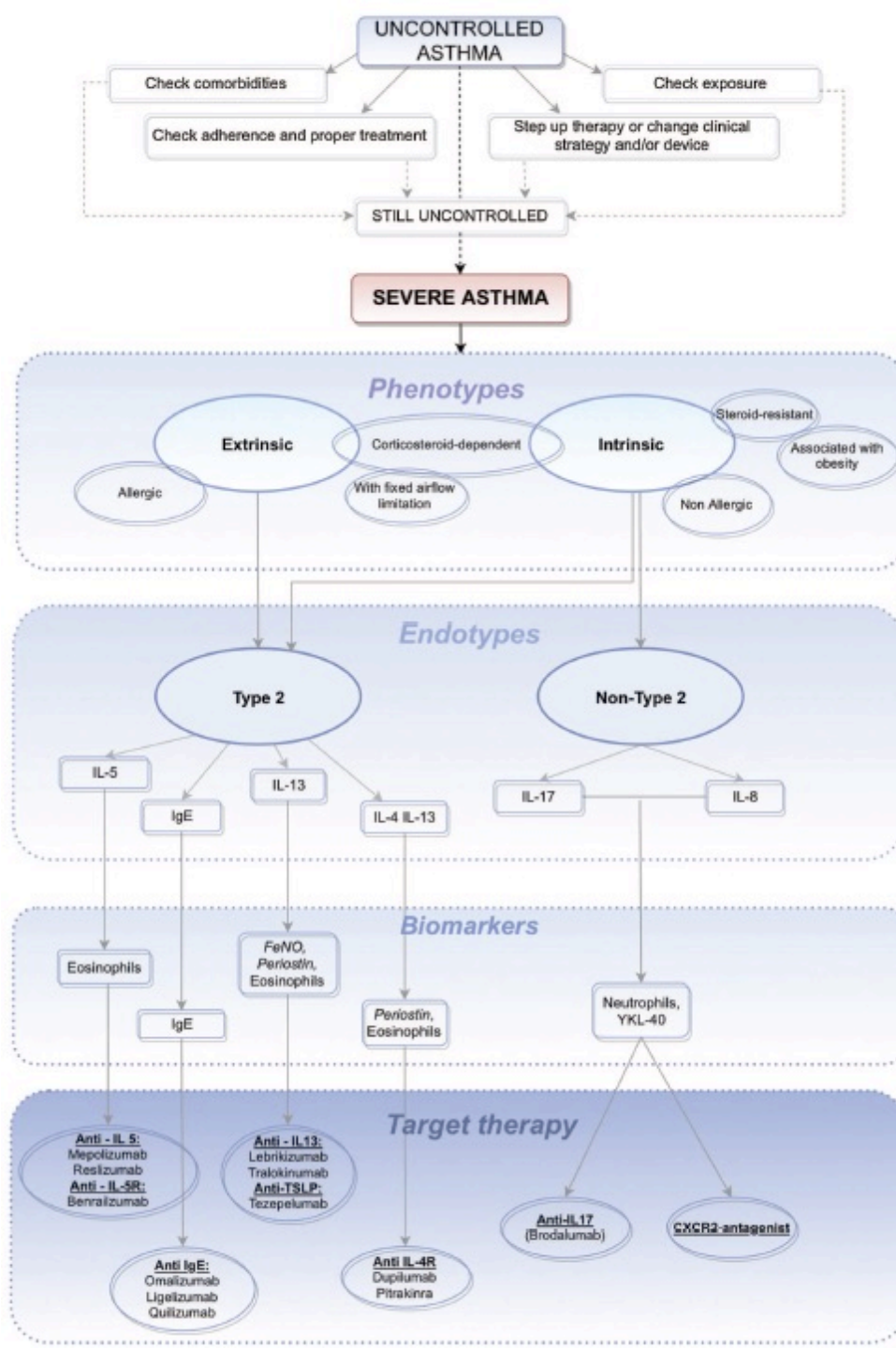
Nathan Schoettler, MD, PhD; and Mary E. Strek, MD

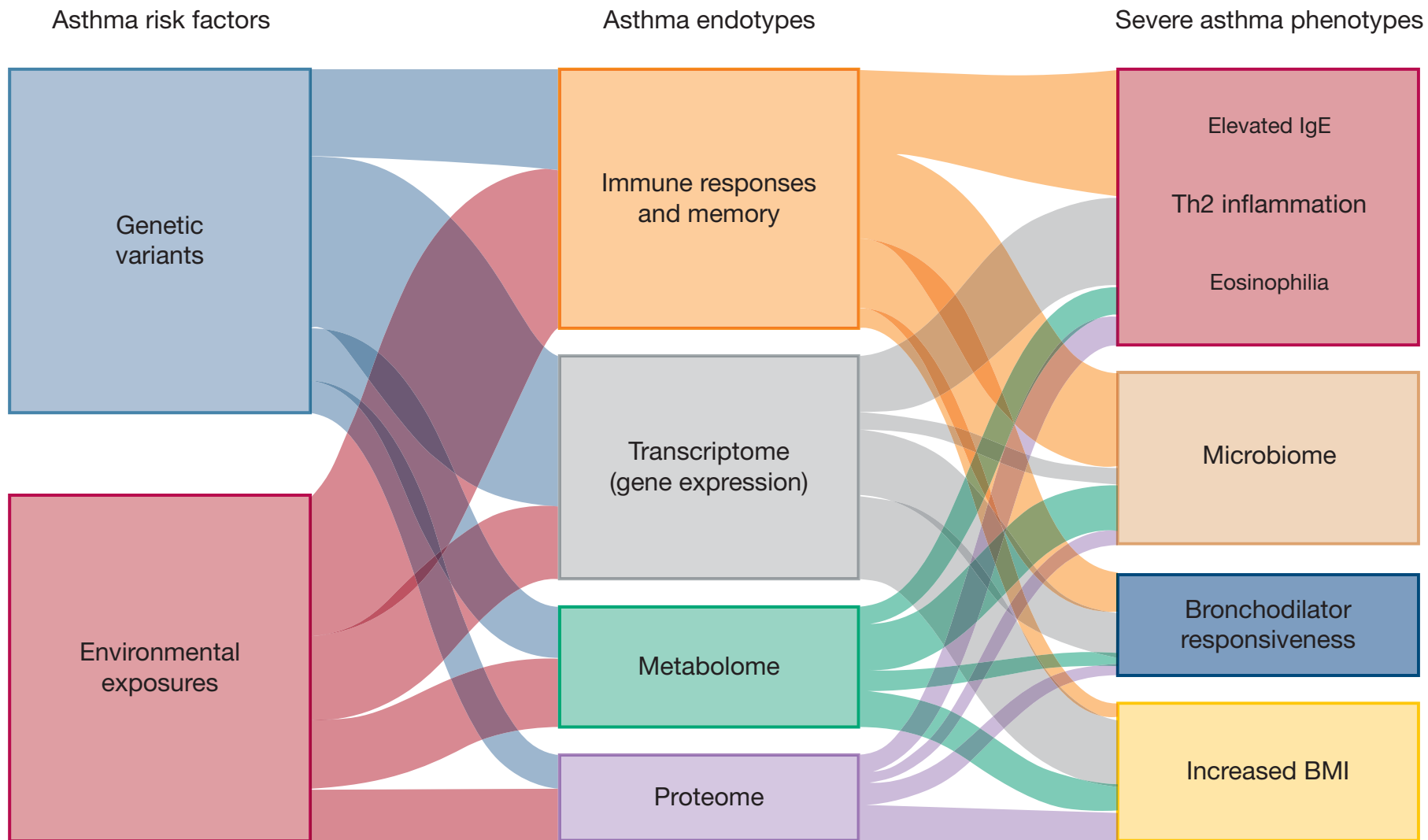
## Current and future targeted therapies for severe asthma: Managing treatment with biologics based on phenotypes and biomarkers

Pierachille Santus<sup>a,\*</sup>, Marina Saad<sup>a</sup>, Giovanni Damiani<sup>b</sup>, Vincenzo Patella<sup>c</sup>, Dejan Radovanovic<sup>a</sup>

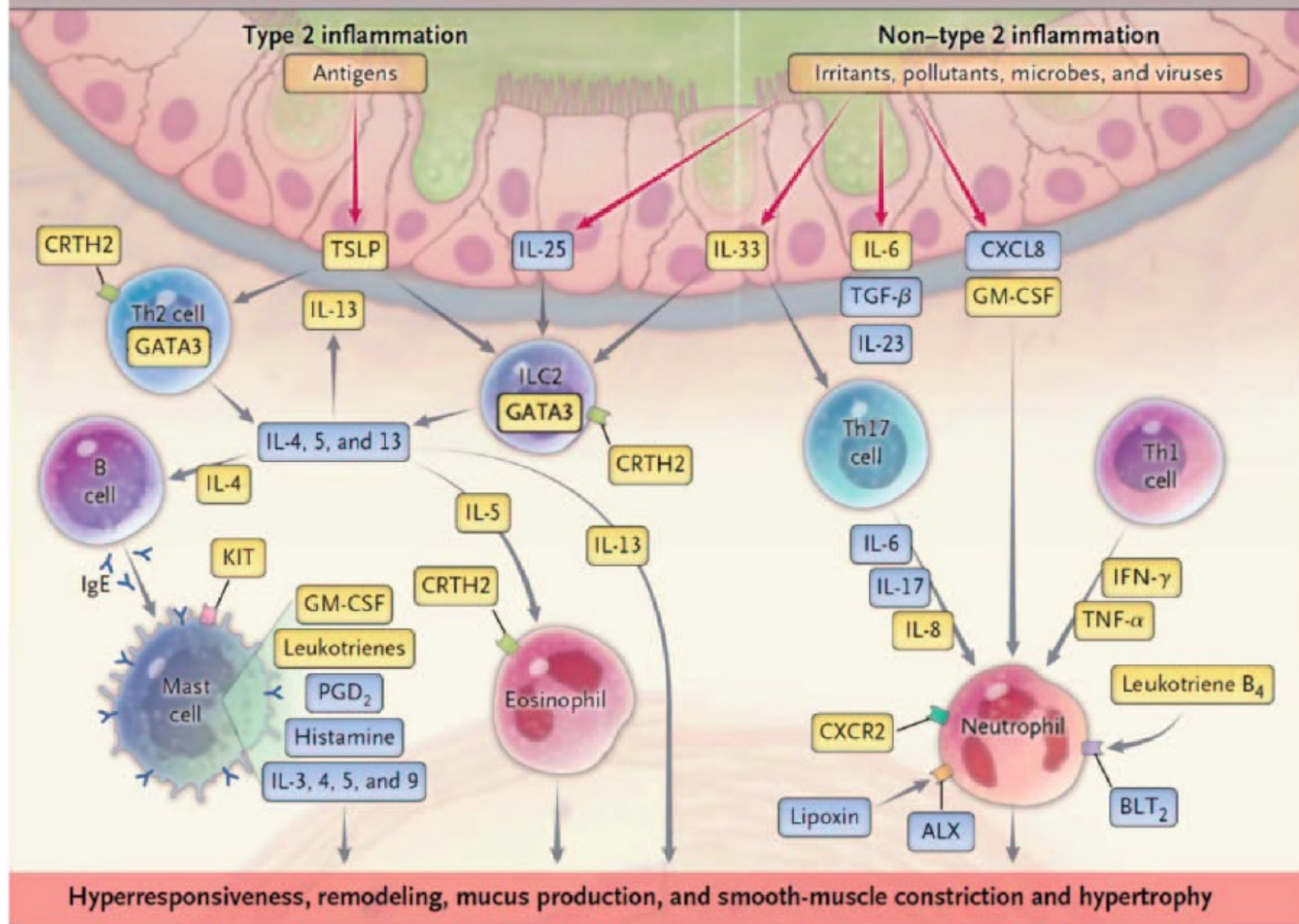








## Inflammatory mechanisms associated with granulocytic inflammation



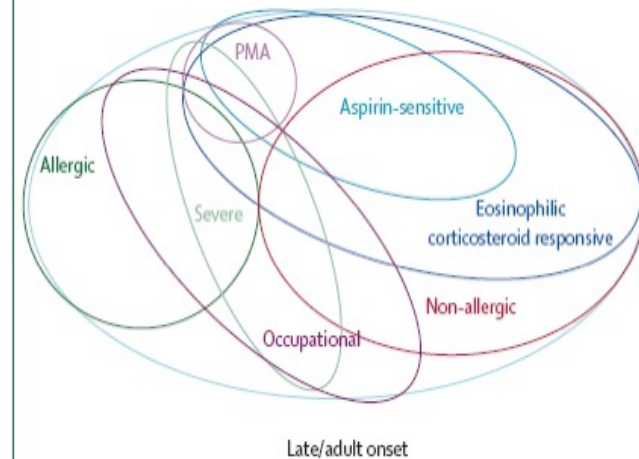


# Un punto di vista che è cambiato

## Asthma: defining of the persistent adult phenotypes

Sally E Wenzel

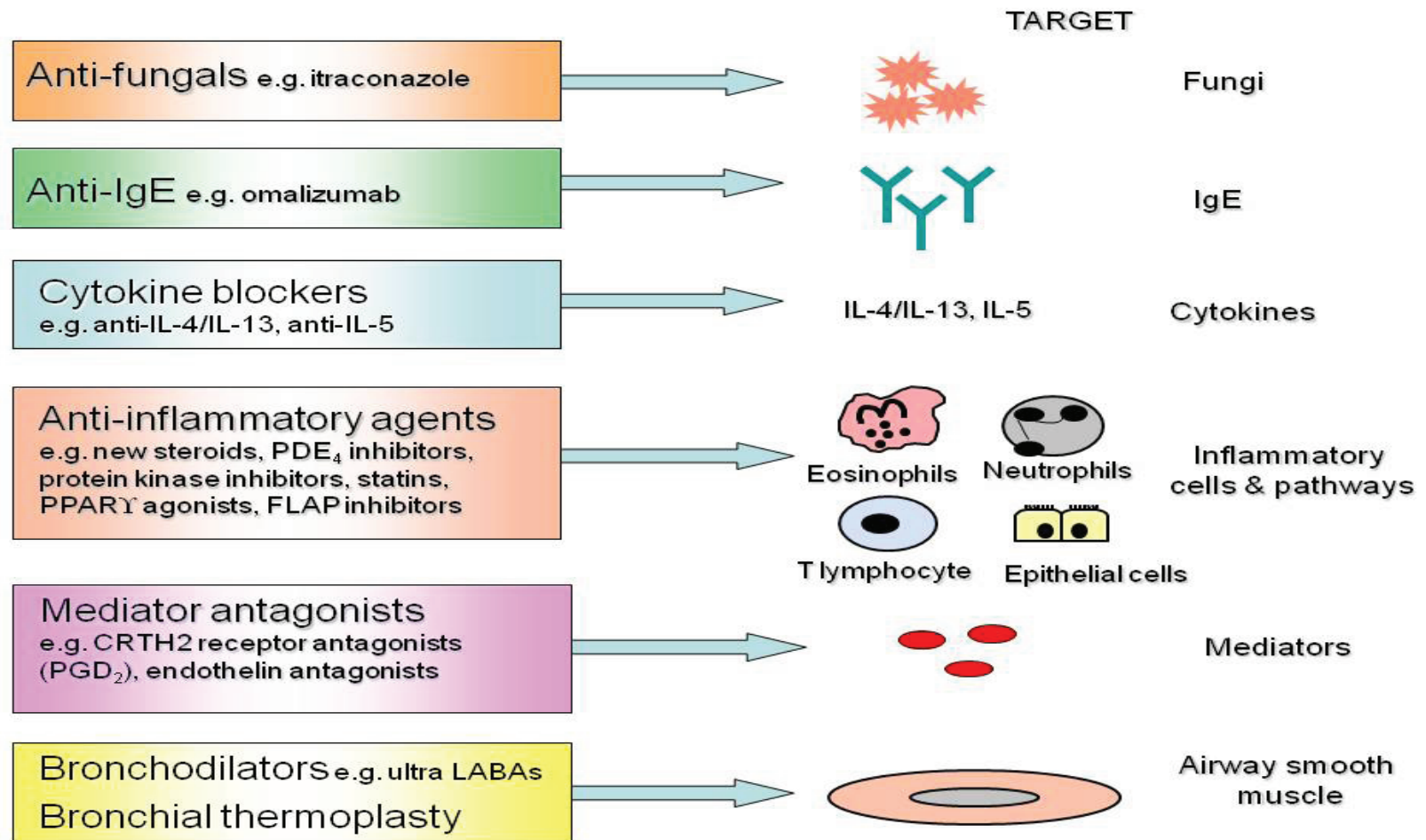
The common disease asthma is probably not a single disease, but rather a complex of multiple, separate syndromes that overlap. Although clinicians have recognised these different phenotypes for many years, they have remained poorly characterised, with little known about the underlying pathobiology contributing to them. Development of targeted therapies for asthma, and phenotype-specific clinical trials have raised interest in these phenotypes. Improved understanding of these phenotypes in complex diseases such as asthma will also improve our ability to link specific genotypes to their associated disease, which should help development of biomarkers. However, there is no standardised method to define asthma phenotypes. This Review analyses some of the methods that have been used to define asthma phenotypes and proposes an integrated method of classification to improve our understanding of these phenotypes.



**ONE SIZE  
FITS ALL**

Wenzel, Lancet 2006

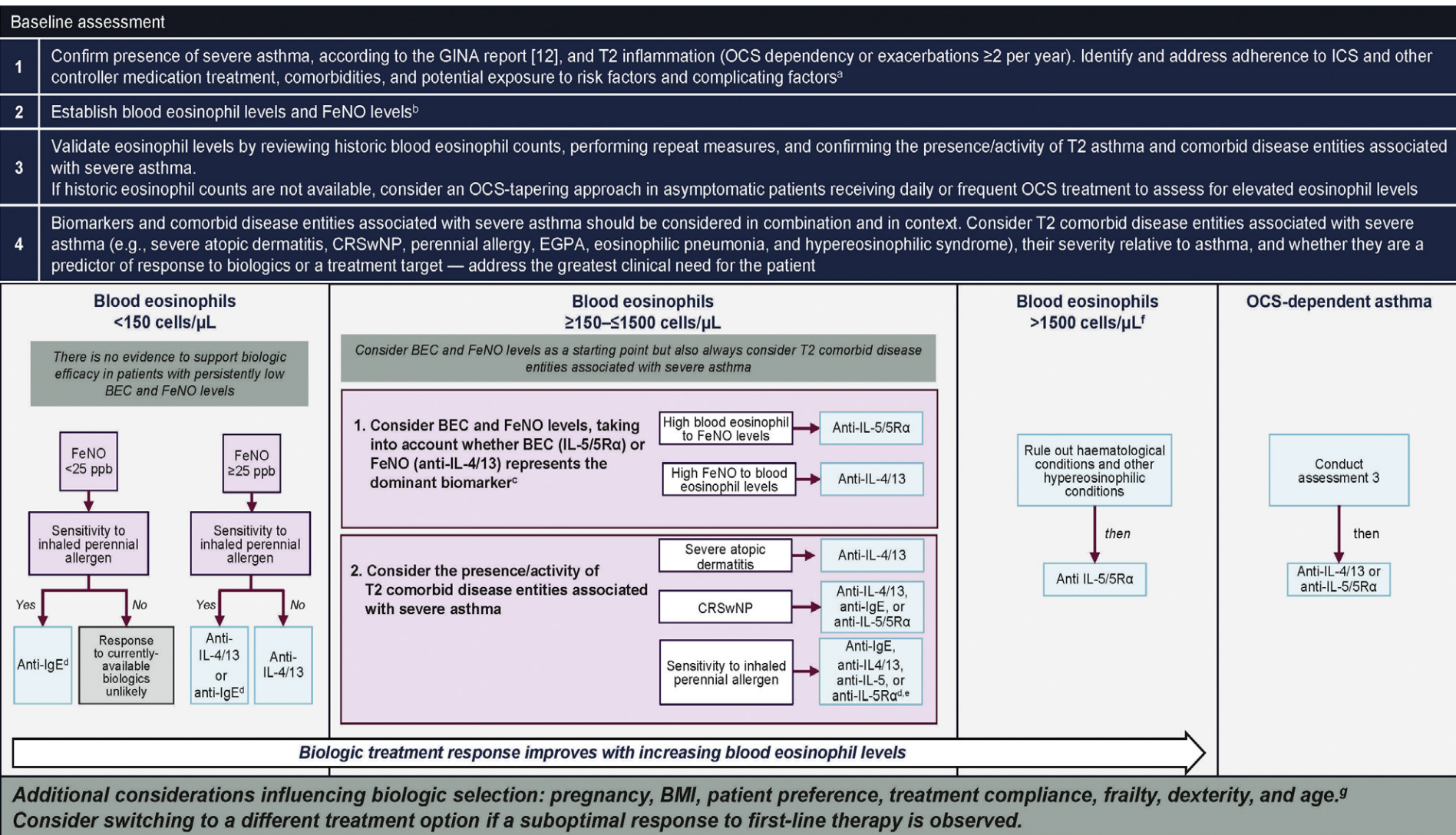
# Specifiche terapie per specifici target immunoflogistici dell'asma

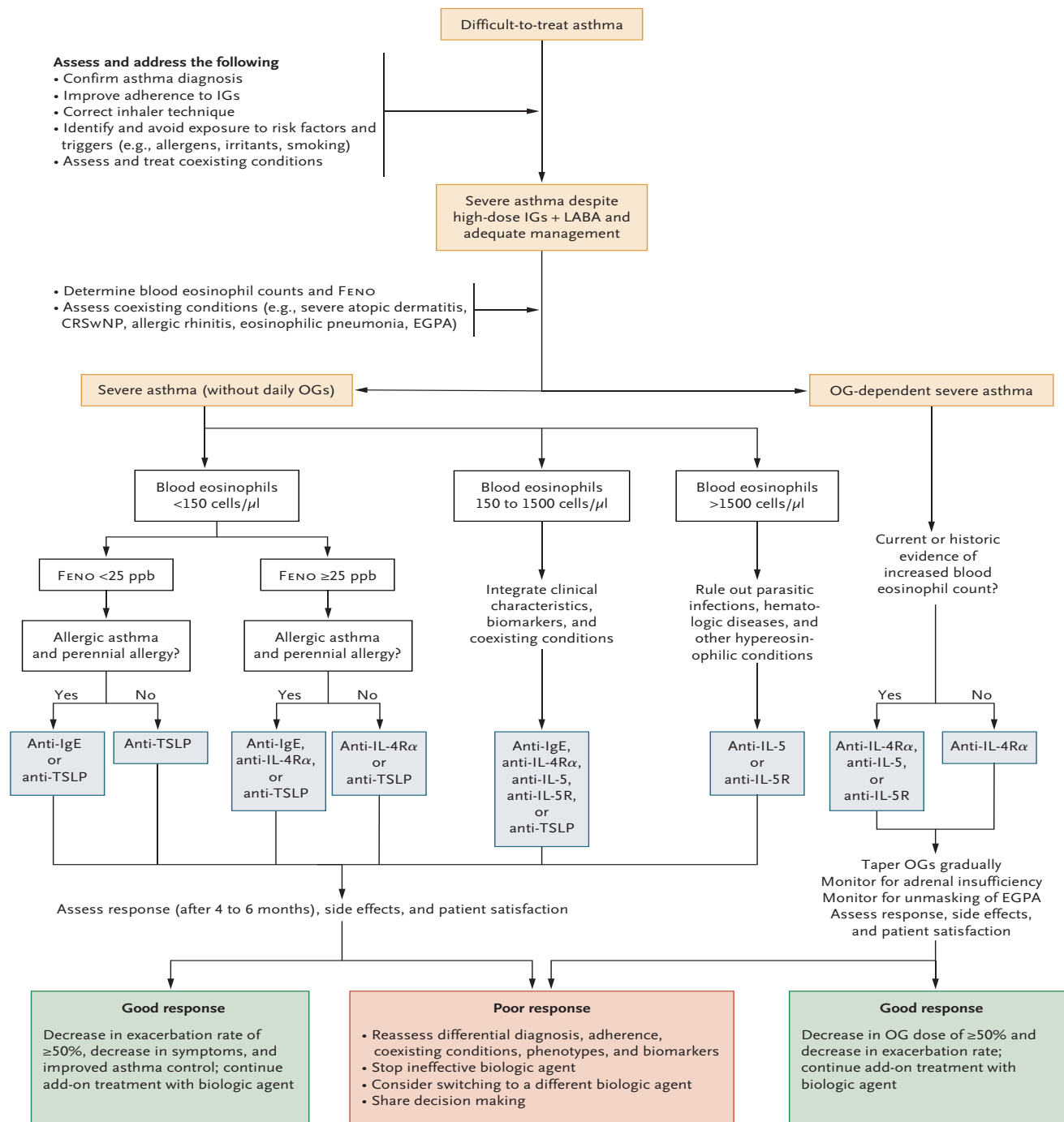


Pathway	IgE	IL-4 and IL-13	IL-5			
Mechanism	Blocks IgE-mediated immune stimulation	Binds to IL-4R alpha subunit and blocks IL-4 and IL-13 cytokine-induced inflammatory responses	Block IL-5 binding to the receptor and reduces survival of eosinophils			
Medication	Omalizumab	Dupilumab	Mepolizumab	Benralizumab	Reslizumab	
Target	Anti-IgE monoclonal antibody	Anti-IL-4R alpha monoclonal antibody	Anti-IL-5 monoclonal antibody	Anti-IL-5 alpha monoclonal antibody	Anti-IL-5 receptor monoclonal antibody	
Considerations	Elevated IgE	Atopic dermatitis and/or eosinophilia	Eosinophilia	Eosinophilia	Eosinophilia	
Indications	Add-on therapy for patients $\geq 6$ y old with moderate-to-severe persistent asthma inadequately controlled on ICS and a total serum IgE level between 30 and 700 units/mL and a positive allergen test	Moderate to severe asthma in patients $\geq 12$ y old; oral corticosteroid-dependent asthma or asthma with severe atopic dermatitis or chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps	Severe asthma in patients $\geq 12$ y old with eosinophilia	Severe asthma in patients $\geq 12$ y old with eosinophilia	Severe asthma in patients $\geq 18$ y old with eosinophilia	
Dosing route	Subcutaneous	Subcutaneous	Subcutaneous	Subcutaneous	IV	
Dosing interval	Every 2-4 wk depending on pretreatment serum IgE level	Every 2 wk	Every 4 wk	Every 4 wk for the first three doses, then once every 4 or 8 wk	Every 4 wk	
Outcomes observed in clinical trials	Reduced exacerbations by approximately 25%-50% in subjects with an FEV <sub>1</sub> between 40% and 80% predicted	Reduced exacerbations by approximately 50% in patients with severe asthma compared with placebo and improvement in FEV <sub>1</sub> . Among patients on oral glucocorticoids, 70% had a reduction in the dose, compared with 42% in placebo	Fewer exacerbations compared with placebo and reduced corticosteroid dose in patients requiring maintenance corticosteroids	Reduced exacerbation rate in moderate or severe asthma. In patients with eosinophil counts $\geq 300$ cells/ $\mu$ L, rate ratio of <0.55 for both dosing regimens and improved prebronchodilator FEV <sub>1</sub> . Reduced glucocorticoid use with an odds of reduction of 4.09 compared with placebo	Decreased asthma exacerbations by as much as 59%. Improvement in lung function. Improvement in asthma symptoms and asthma-related quality of life	

Pathway	IgE	IL-4 and IL-13	IL-5		
Common (> 3%) or severe side effects	Headache (6%-12%) Arthralgias (3%-8%) <b>Anaphylaxis (0.3%) – black box warning</b> <b>Serum sickness-like reaction</b> <b>Cardiovascular events, including transient ischemic attack and ischemic stroke</b> <b>Eosinophilic granulomatosis and polyangiitis</b>	Injection site reaction (10%-18%) Oral herpes simplex infection (4%) Antibody response with neutralizing activity (2%-4%) Conjunctivitis (10%) <b>Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis and eosinophilic pneumonia</b> <b>Hypersensitivity reactions</b>	Headache (19%) Injection site reaction (8%-15%)	Antibody response with neutralizing activity (12%) Headache (8%) Pharyngitis (5%)	Antibody to medication (5%) Transient increased creatine phosphokinase (20%) Oropharyngeal pain (3%) <b>Increased malignancies observed at 6 mo (diverse types)</b> <b>Anaphylaxis (0.3%) – black box warning</b>

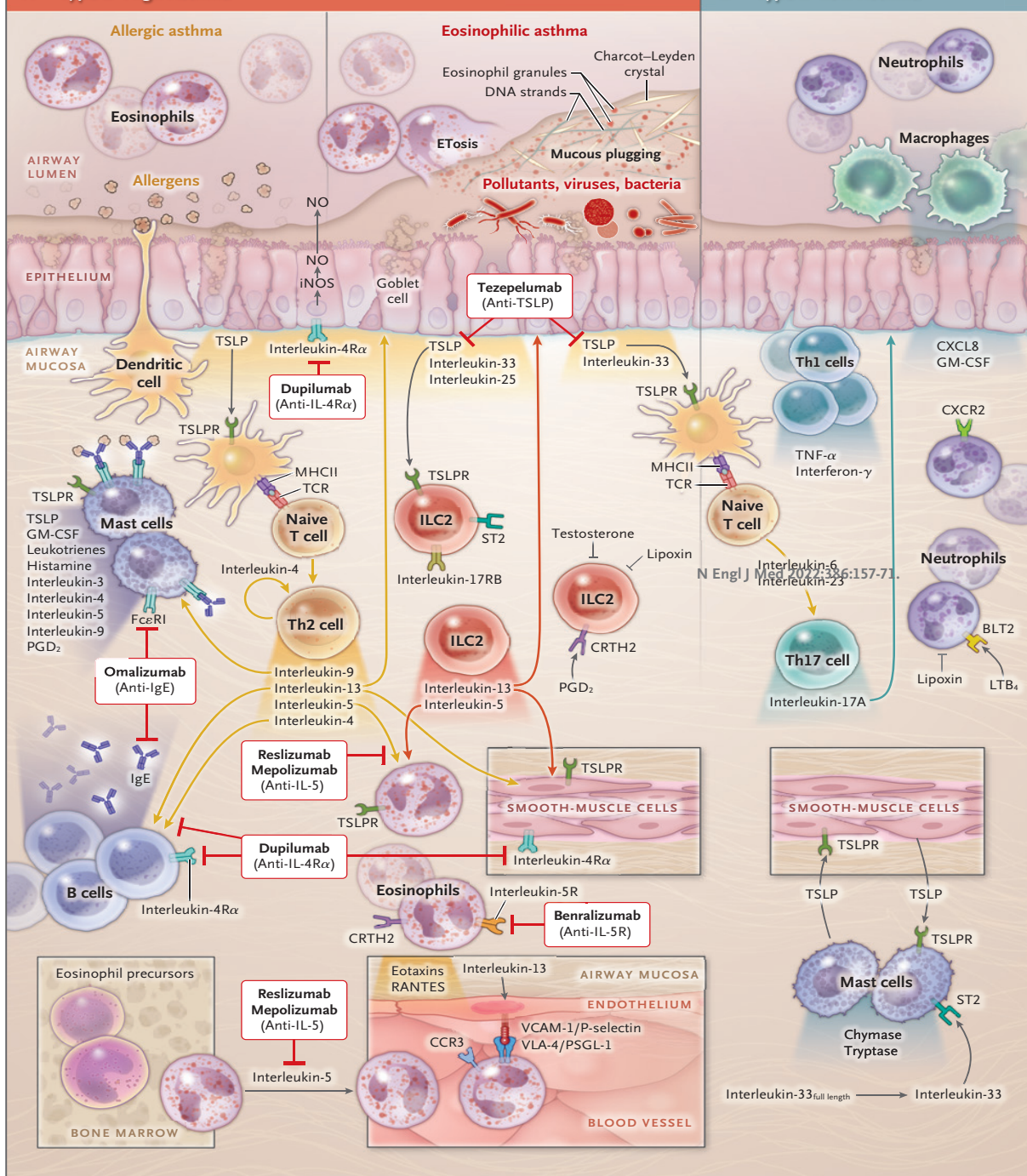
# Biologic treatment algorithm for severe asthma



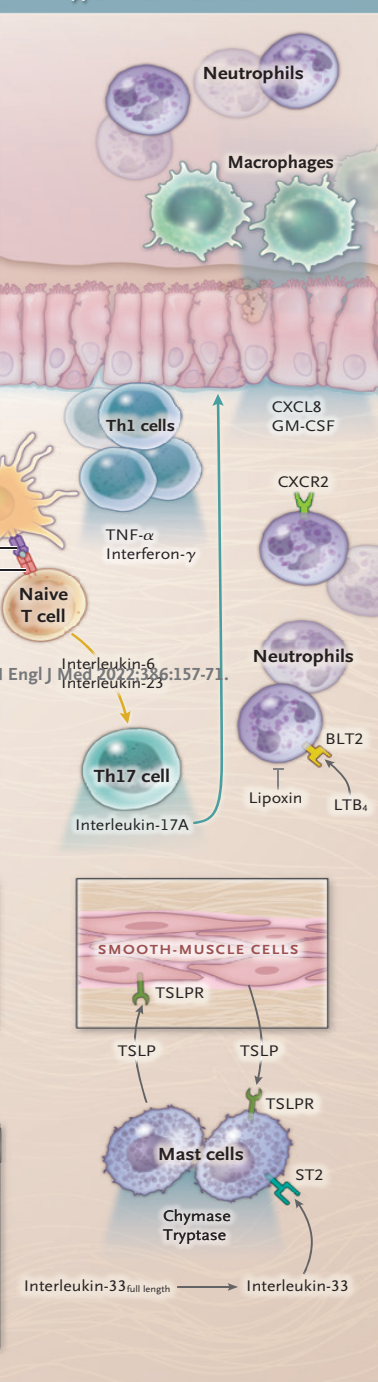




## A Type 2–High Asthma



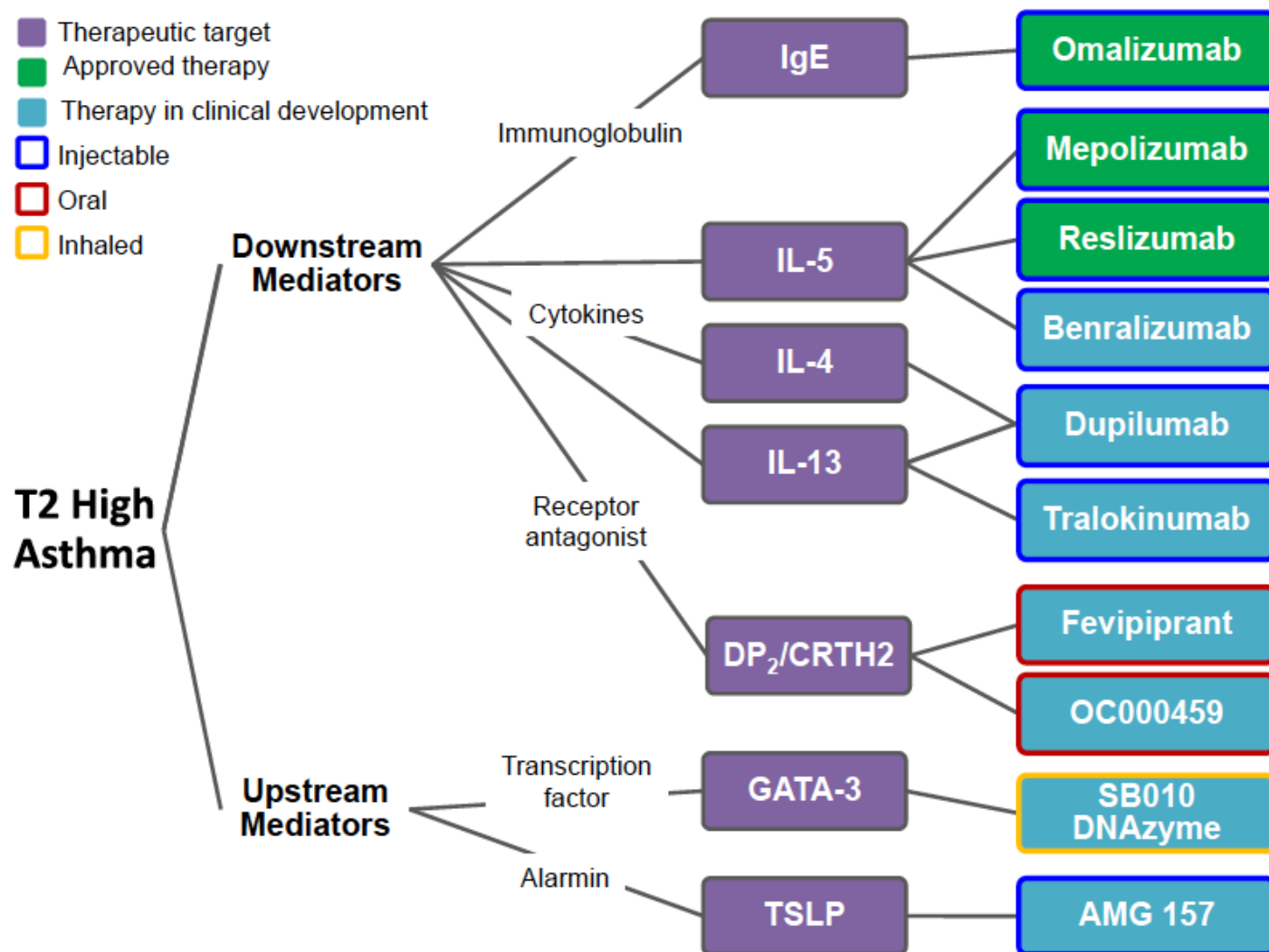
## B Type 2–Low Asthma



## Biologic Therapies for Severe Asthma

Guy G. Brusselle, M.D., Ph.D., and Gerard H. Koppelman, M.D., Ph.D.

N Engl J Med 2022;386:157-71.



**FIGURE 1.** Biologic and novel therapies for the treatment of severe asthma. This figure includes only approved and emerging therapies with published human data. *CRTH2*, Chemoattractant receptor-homologous molecule expressed on T<sub>H</sub>2 cells; *DP2*, prostaglandin D2 receptor 2; *IgE*, immunoglobulin E; *IL*, interleukin; *TSLP*, thymic stromal lymphopoeitin.

### ***Current Biomarkers in T2-High Inflammation***

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Currently available biomarkers may assist clinicians in the selection of targeted asthma treatments, most of which are specific for T2-high disease. Biomarkers in medicine are divided into 3 categories<sup>17</sup>:

- Type 0, a marker that relates to the natural history of disease;
- Type 1, a marker that reflects drug activity or drug responsiveness;
- Type 2, a marker that acts as a surrogate and defines potential disease process.<sup>17</sup>

GRAZIE