

ALLERGY, GENETICS

# I AM CONFUSED BUT ON A HIGHER LEVEL

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A [new study in the AJRCCM](#) shows that eosinophils are dispensable for allergic remodeling and immunity

We elucidated the requirement for eosinophils in the generation of allergic sensitization, airway inflammation, and remodeling in a model involving chronic respiratory exposure to house dust mite (HDM).

We used three methods to selectively eliminate eosinophils, a depleting antibody (anti-CCR3), and two strains of eosinophil-deficient mice (dblGATA and the transgenic line PHIL).

Anti-CCR3 treatment markedly reduced pulmonary eosinophilia (> 80%) over the course of HDM exposure but had no effect on the remaining inflammatory response... Collectively, these data demonstrate that, at variance with the prevailing paradigm, eosinophils play negligible roles in the generation of HDM-induced allergic immunity and airway remodeling.

which largely contradicts [our findings from 2007](#) where SNPs at WDR36, IL33 and MYB that showed suggestive association with eosinophil counts were also associated with atopic asthma. Maybe that new study is just a mouse study that does not relate to human pathology?