





OIT Maintenance Protocols Jennifer Fergeson DO





Should maintenance dosing be similar to allergy shots?

► Year 1 – every 2-4 weeks

► Years 2-3 – every 4-6 weeks

▶ Years 4-5 – every 6-8 weeks

Dose frequency is reduced as long as patient is tolerating allergen exposure





No biomarker identified to correlate with stopping SCIT

- In vivo skin test, allergen challenge
 - Immunologic surrogate marker $-\downarrow$ specific IgE level, \downarrow sIgE/total IgE ratio, \uparrow IgG₄, \uparrow serum IgA₁ and IgA₂, \Box \uparrow TGF- β
- Inflammatory markers $\downarrow \cos$'s, $\downarrow serum or nasal ECP, or <math>\downarrow ICAM-1$
- Quality of life questionnaire

Senna G et al Curr Opin Allergy Clin Immunol 2011;11:375-80





OIT Course After Reaching Maintenance

- Year 1 dosing 6-7 days/week
- Year 2 dosing 5 days/week (weekend off?)
- Year 3 dosing 4 day/week (QOD)
- Year 4 dosing 3 days/week (M-W-F?)
- Year 5 dosing 1-2 days/week

Once the patient reaches maintenance dose (M), they will be asked to dose daily until a high dose challenge in 2-3 months. If they pass the challenge, they can reduce the frequency of dosing to 6 days/week then follow-up annually with high dose challenge and blood testing to prove they remain protected despite less frequent dosing.



Annual High Dose Challenge

Purpose: Clinical confirmation that annual dose reduction is still protective

▶ Method: One hour visit with single dose oral challenge

► Foods: Peanut, tree nuts, sesame

 ≥ 2 foods use 3-times home dose

> 2 foods use 2-times home dose (due to increased allergen load)

Exceptions:

Staple foods (milk, egg, in some cases wheat)

Patients maintaining same dose/frequency



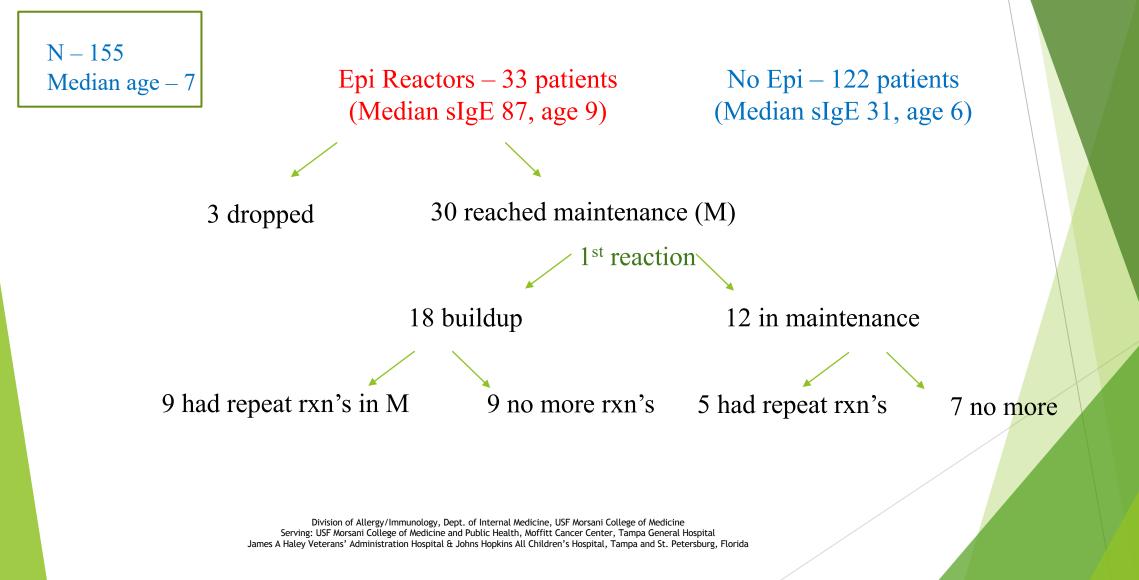


Annual High Dose Challenge Results

Frequency of dosing	% Pass Rate
5-7 days/wk	9/9 (100%)
3-4 days/wk	15/15 (100%)
1-2 days/wk	5/5 (100%)









Maintenance Phase Troublemakers

- ▶ Patients who reacted in build up phase 50% recidivism rate
- > 12/155 (8%) reacted for 1^{st} time in maintenance
 - ▶6 started as teens (median age 11)
 - ▶7 had only 1 reaction, 5 had from 2-5 reactions
 - ▶7 reacted within 1 year of maintenance, the later 5 only had 1 reaction
 - ► Dosing frequency at time of rxn. daily for all, therefore:

Annual dose reduction strategies would have no impact on 1st time Epi reactions





Summary

Prior Epi reactions are the best predictor of future reactions in our data

- How should we treat them: reduce dose, consider SLIT???

Maintenance reactions began before reducing dose frequency, leaving time as good a reason as any to guide adjusting dose frequency (like with SCIT)

Confirmatory data from other sites needed

Annual high dose challenge provides reassurance to the patient/family for accidental ingestion as dosing frequency declines

