

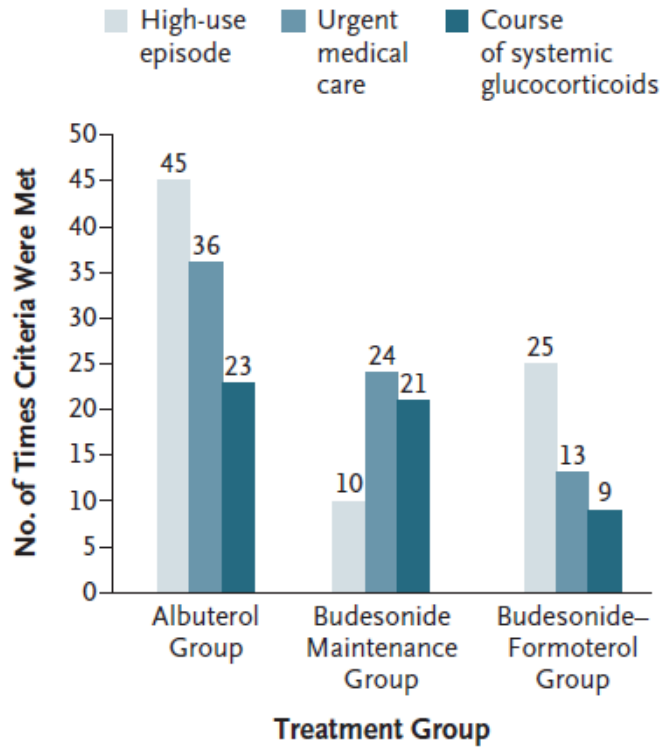
Figure 1 Study Design

Study duration

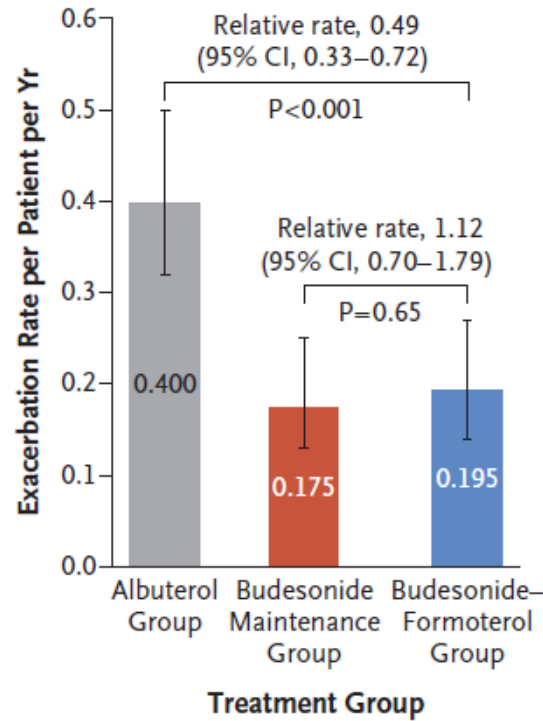
Participants will be seen for the initial visit and at weeks 6, 12, 22, 32, 42 and 52.

研究が始まって其々の3群が上記の時点で受診し急性増悪の内容をデータ登録します。

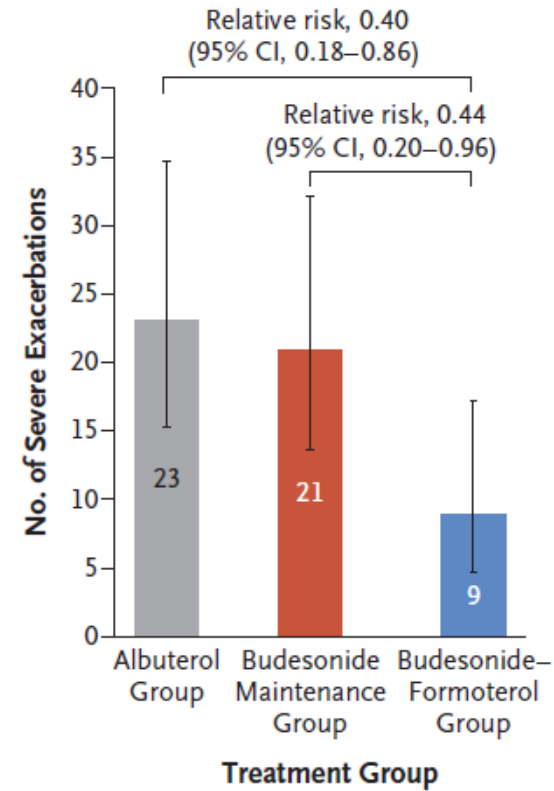
A Number of Times Exacerbation Criteria Were Met



B Annualized Exacerbation Rate (Primary Outcome)



C Number of Severe Exacerbations



D Fraction of Exhaled Nitric Oxide

Ratio of geometric mean FENO at 52 wk:

Budesonide–Formoterol Group vs. Albuterol Group, 0.83 (95% CI, 0.75–0.91)

Budesonide–Formoterol Group vs. Budesonide Maintenance Group, 1.13 (95% CI, 1.02–1.25)

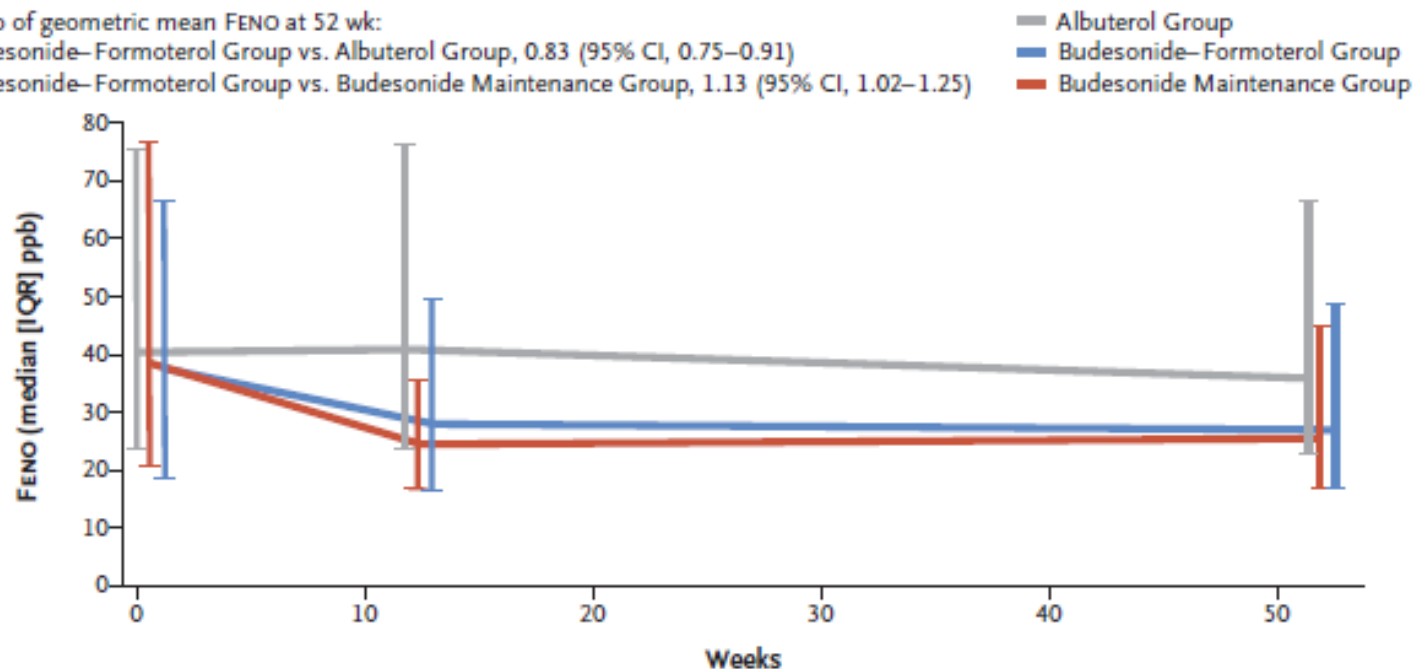


Figure 1. Exacerbation Results and Median FENO over Time.

Patients in the albuterol group received albuterol (Ventolin, GlaxoSmithKline), 100 μg , with two inhalations from a pressurized metered-dose inhaler as needed for symptom relief. Patients in the budesonide maintenance group received budesonide (Pulmicort Turbuhaler, AstraZeneca), 200 μg , one inhalation twice daily, plus albuterol (Ventolin), 100 μg , two inhalations from a pressurized metered-dose inhaler as needed for symptom relief. Patients in the budesonide–formoterol group received budesonide–formoterol (Symbicort Turbuhaler, AstraZeneca), 200 μg of budesonide and 6 μg of formoterol, one inhalation as needed for symptom relief. Panel A shows the number of times exacerbation criteria were met (with exacerbation defined as worsening asthma that resulted in an episode of high β_2 -agonist inhaler use, in an urgent medical care consultation, or in a course of systemic glucocorticoids). A single exacerbation could have been characterized by more than one criterion. For example, a patient could have had an episode of high β_2 -agonist use, after which the patient sought urgent medical care and then received a course of systemic glucocorticoids; this scenario would represent a single exacerbation, in which the patient met all three criteria. Panel B shows the rate of exacerbations per patient per year, and Panel C the number of severe exacerbations. In both panels, I bars indicate 95% confidence intervals. Panel D shows the median fraction of exhaled nitric oxide (FENO, in parts per billion [ppb]) at baseline (visit 1), at 12 weeks (visit 3), and at 52 weeks (visit 7); I bars indicate the interquartile range (IQR).

