

# SEVERE ASTHMA

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**Abstract:** Severe asthma afflicts a small percentage (~5%) of the asthma population. These patients remain difficult to treat, prone to severe exacerbations, and contribute disproportionately to the overall costs of asthma. Severe asthma could be considered a particular asthma phenotype with distinct features compared to the mild/moderate forms of the disease. Several programs monitor severe asthma patients with the aim to identify risk factors, define phenotypes and corresponding biomarkers, evaluate predictors of the exacerbation and identify new treatment targets.

**Key words:** severe asthma, phenotype, biomarkers, risk factors, treatment targets.

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