

Table 2: Outcomes

Index of Performance	Placebo (plus albuterol as needed)	Nedocromil <i>Comparison to placebo*</i>	Placebo <i>Comparison to placebo*</i>
Clinical Indices			
Hospitalizations due to asthma no./100 person-yr	4.4	4.3	Markedly reduced [43% fewer]
Urgent care visits due to asthma no./100 person-yr	12	Significantly reduced [27% fewer]	Markedly reduced [45% fewer]
Prednisone needed during trial no./100-person-yr	122	Significantly reduced [16% fewer]	Markedly reduced [43% fewer]
Nighttime awakenings	Similar improvement in all 3 groups		
Use of albuterol for symptoms	Improvement in all 3 groups, but budesonide has greater effect		
Episode-free days	No significant improvement	No significant improvement	Reduced improvement
Symptom score	Improvement in all 3 groups, but only budesonide rates "+" [p = 0.005 v. placebo]		
Compliance	73%	Slightly worse than placebo group	Similar to placebo group
Depression score	Improvement	Improvement	Greater improvement
Pulmonary Fx at end of the treatment period			
FEV₁	No improvement in post-bronchodilator % predicted value for any group, but small improvement in pre-bronchodilator % predicted in budesonide group		
FEV₁/FVC before bronchodilator use	Decreased due to normal lung growth	Decreased due to normal lung growth	+Decreased due to normal lung growth but slightly less decline
Methacholine challenge	Improvement with age	Improvement with age	+Greatest improvement after beginning treatment and continued improvement with age
Adverse Risk			
Change in height; projected height	Typical for age	No increased risk v. albuterol	Slight risk - slower growth during 1st year; final predicted height not affected
Bone density; fractures; bone age	No differences among groups		
Cataract	No differences among groups		
Tanner score	No differences among groups		

"+" indicates improvement [p ≤ 0.05 v. placebo]

Table adapted from data published in New Engl J Med 2000; 343:1056