

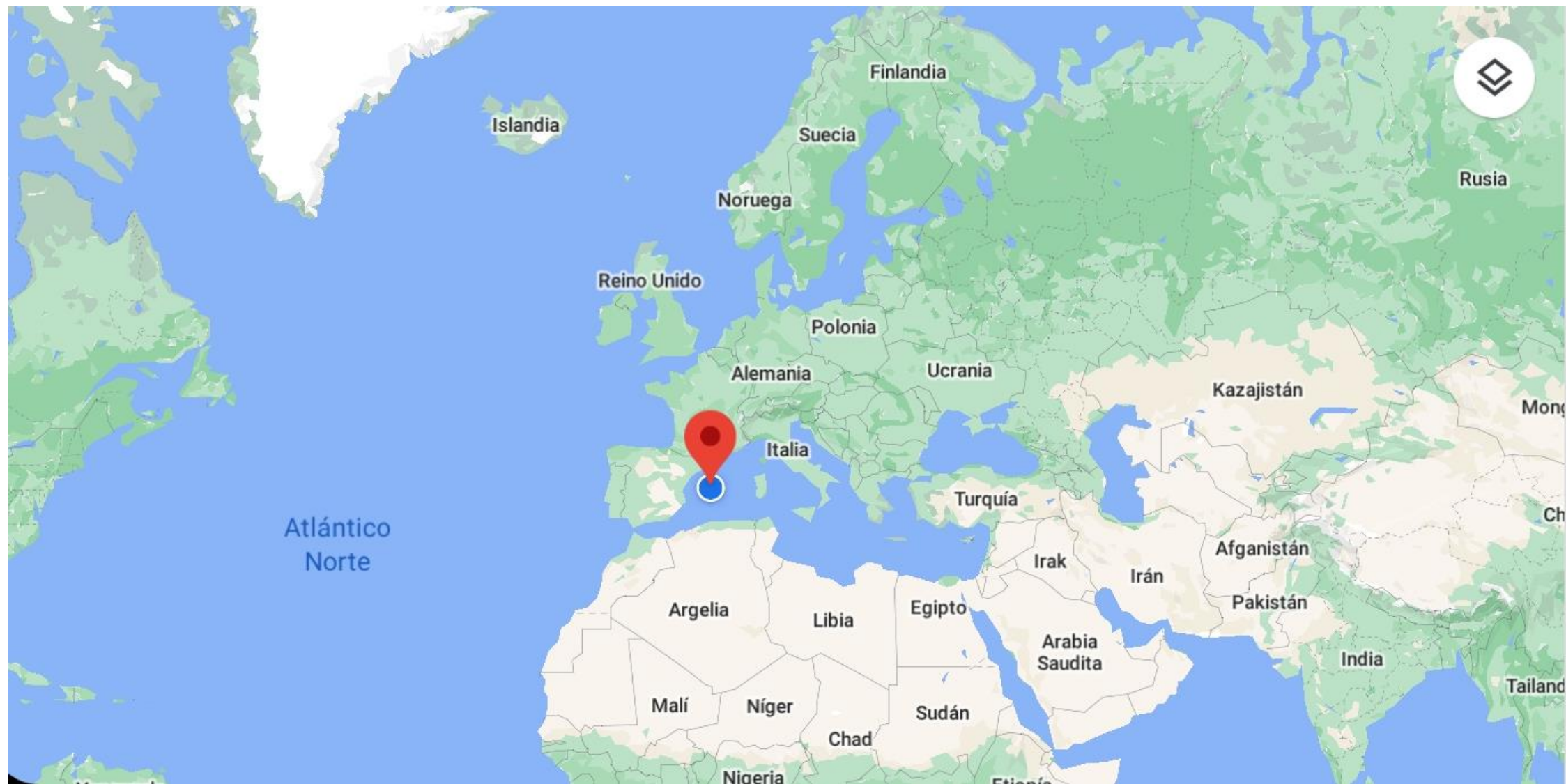
## Presentation 2

### The acute management of asthma during the COVID-19 pandemic

Marina García-Pardo, Mallorca, Spain

*Breathing and feeling well through universal access to right care*

## Mallorca, Spain - Working in the emergency room of a primary care setting in a small city of Mallorca



# Safety

Separate routes in the ER

COVID area

General

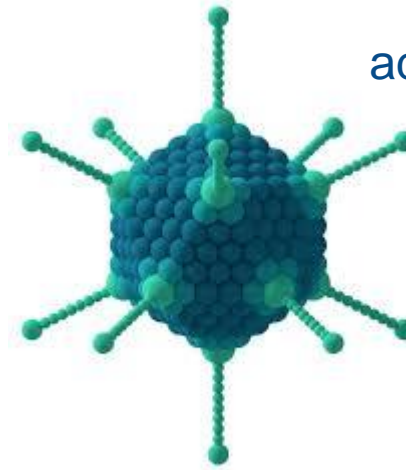




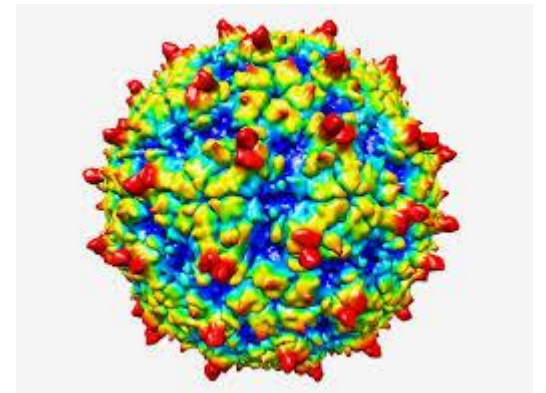
# Triggers of an asthma crisis can be viruses



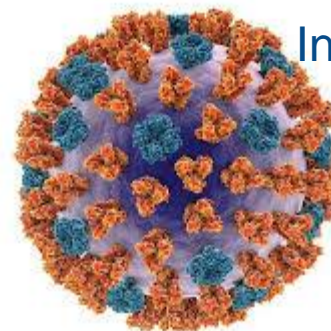
Adults only  
Symptoms < 5days



adenovirus



rhinovirus



Influenza A



# SEVERITY ASSESSMENT: objective

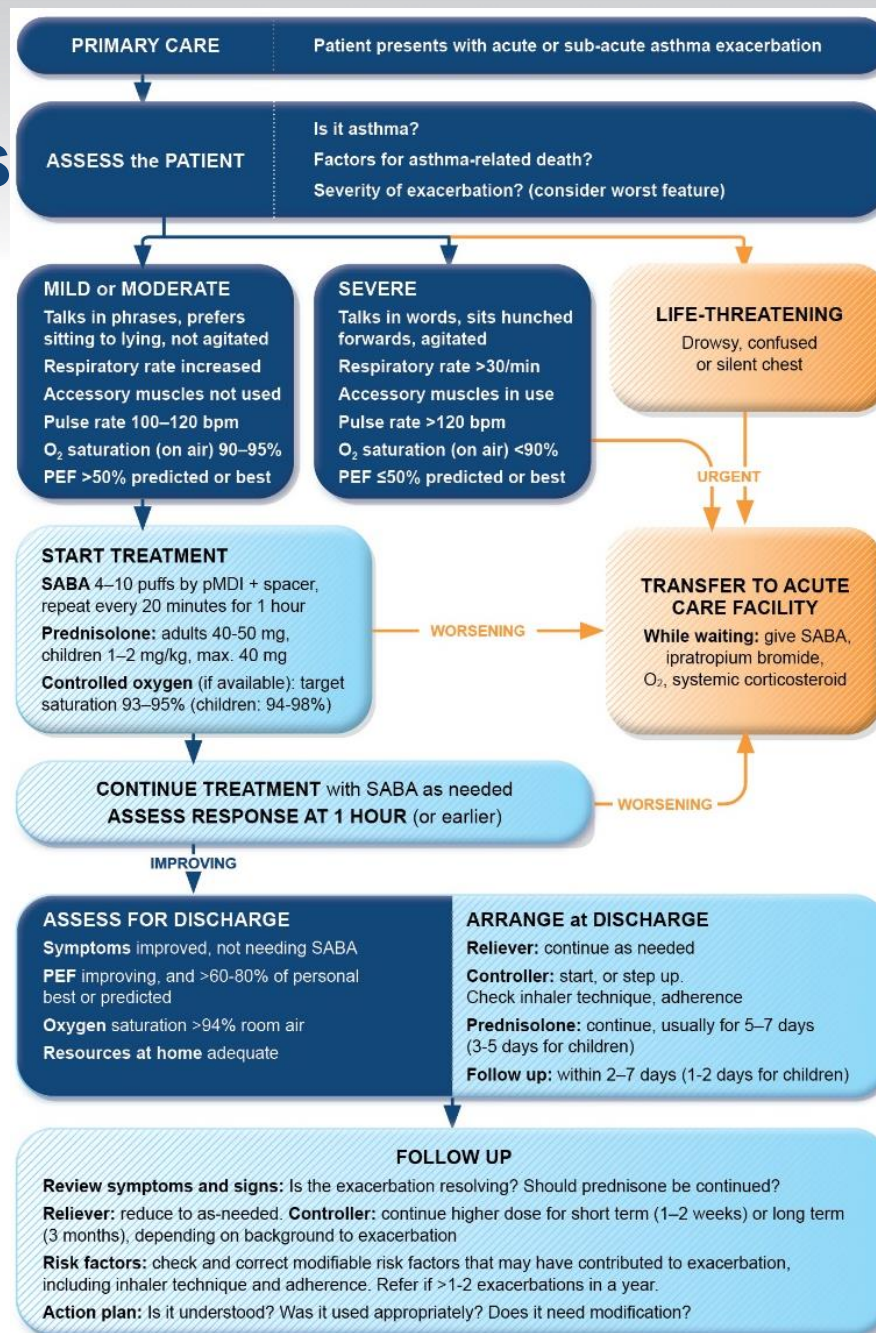


- Respiratory rate
- Accessory muscles use
- Talk: phrases, words
- Position: sitting, lying, hunched forward
- Pulse oximetry
- Heart rate

# Risk factors for life-threatening asthma

- Quick onset
- Previous hospitalisations
- Poor periodic assessment
- Over use of SABA
- Co-morbidities:cardiovascular
- Psychological/psychiatric

# Management of asthma exacerbations in primary care (adults, adolescents, children 6–11 years)



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# Oxygen Therapy

- Low flow devices

- Nasal cannula
- Simple mask
- Reservoir mask ↑  $O_2$



- High flow devices

- Venturi (Ventimask)
- High Flow Nasal Prongs
- Face/head Tent







Surgical mask over  
Oxygen device

# The way of administration has changed

Pre-COVID



Nebulisers

Post-COVID  
exceptionally



Mouth pipe



# Recommended way



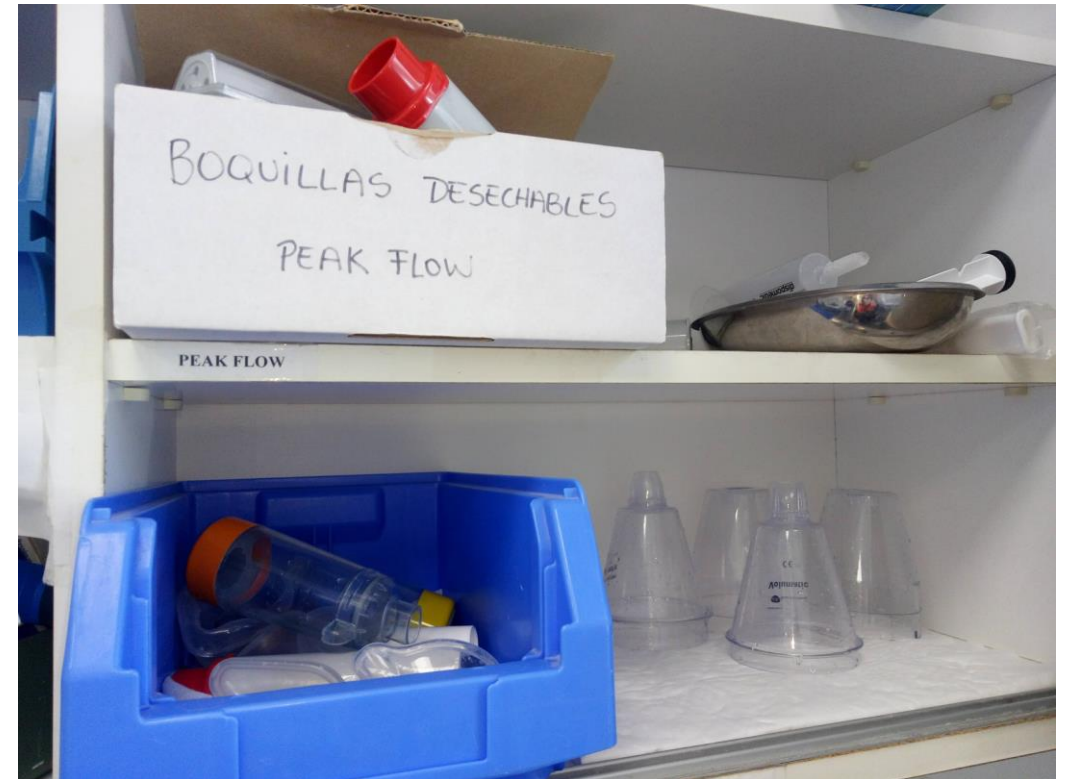
Metered dose inhaler



Valved holding chamber



# High level disinfection = sterilisation chambers and Peak Flow meter



# Continue monitoring and recording

- Make sure improvement PEF >70%
- Clinical improvement
- If moderate/severe, add a short course oral corticosteroids
- Check adherence to inhaled corticosteroids. If not, set up.
- Check SABA use/overuse. Asthma Right Care rule.
- Investigate a non controlled asthmatic. Refer to GP/nurse



## Before discharge (with confidence)

- Check inhaler technique
- Add a chamber to pMDI
- Do not prescribe a new inhaler without confirming the patient can use it
- In smokers, give brief advice
- Give written asthma action plan
- Refer to GP/nurse/HCP as soon as possible





# Thank you!!

