Appendix

IL-33 analysis

GINA Grade	Number of Patients	IL-33 Median (pg/ml)	P-value
1	31	196.6	
2	38	498.8	
3	61	628.5	0.937
4	271	751.0	
5	47	483.7	

Table 1 IL-33 levels (pg/ml) in varying severities of asthma. P-value by Kruskal-Wallis test.

Smoking Category	Number of Patients	IL-33 Median (pg/ml) (IQR)	P-value
Current	182	203 (4, 3840)	
Never	193	1548 (15, 10528)	<0.001
Ex	73	521 (4, 6727)	

Table 2 IL-33 levels (pg/ml) in smokers, non-smokers and ex-smokers. P-value by Kruskal-Wallis test.

	R =	P =
FEV1% predicted normal	0.083	0.089
Reversibility by β-agonist	-0.06	0.431
Exhaled nitric oxide concentration	0.064	0.250
Asthma control score	0.083	0.355
Serum IgE	-0.104	0.074
Blood eosinophil count	-0.110	0.076
Body mass index	0.039	0.431

Table 3 Relationship between serum IL-33 levels and asthma biomarkers.

IL-18 analysis

Clinical Category	Number	IL-18 Median (pg/ml)	P-value
Asthma	107	107	
COPD	51	76	0.008
Healthy	43	233	

Table 4a. Sample 1. 201 cases were used. Kruskal-Wallis test on mean concentration (pg/ml)

Clinical Category	Number	IL-18 Median (pg/ml)	P-value
Asthma	101	105	
COPD	47	59	0.002
Healthy	39	137	

Table 4b. Sample 2. 187 cases were used. Kruskal-Wallis test on mean concentration (pg/ml).

Smoking Categories	Number	IL-18 Median (pg/ml)	P-value
Non-smoker	75	118	0.105
Smoker	91	104	

Table 5. IL-18 levels (pg/ml) in smokers and non-smokers. Kruskal-Wallis test on mean concentration.
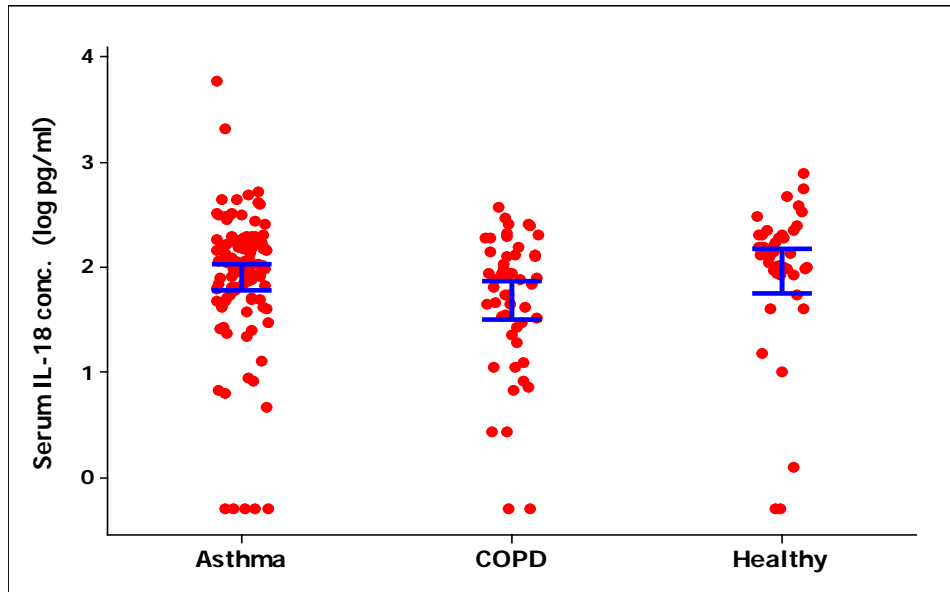
Figure 1. IL-18 levels (pg/ml) in asthmatics, COPD patients and healthy controls.
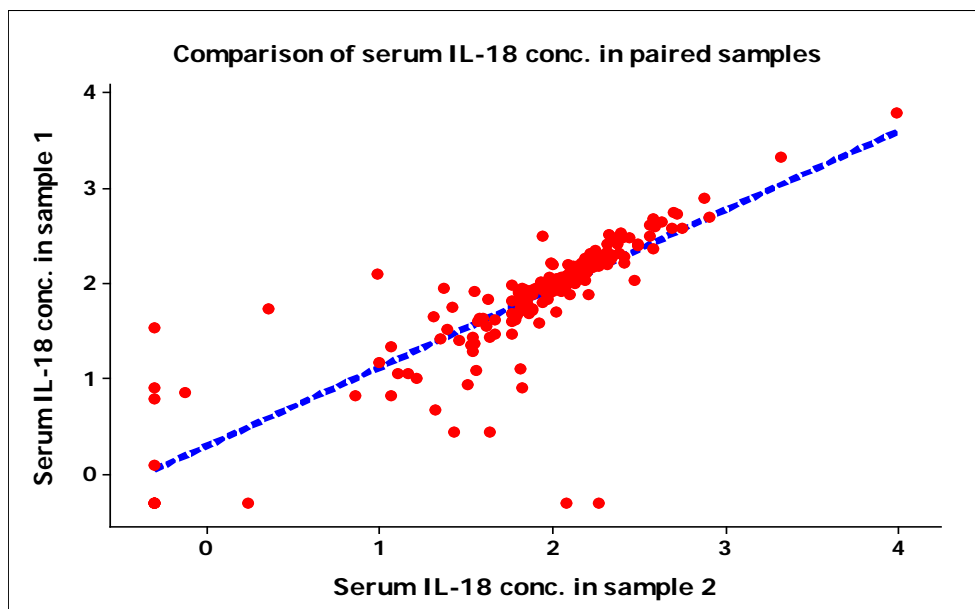

Figure 2. Correlation of IL-18 levels (pg/ml) in 1st and 2nd visits.

Pearson correlation of mean concentration.