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**High correlation of specific IgE sensitization
between birch pollen, soy and apple allergens
indicates pollen-food allergy syndrome among birch
pollen allergic patients in northern China**

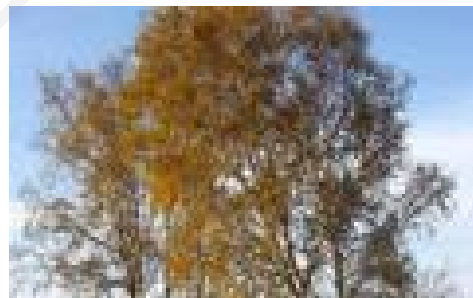
Key words: Apple, Birch, cross-reaction, Pollen-food allergy, Soy, Specific IgE

Research Summary



We investigate birch pollen sensitization and associated pollen-food syndrome among Chinese allergic patients in northern China.

The prevalence of birch allergy among patients visiting health care during pollen season can be as high as 17% in Tangshan city. The majority of Chinese birch allergic patients are IgE-sensitized to the major birch pollen allergen Bet v 1 as well as to the major apple allergen Mal d 1 and soy bean allergen Gly m 4. A relatively high number of patients (18%) are IgE-sensitized to birch pollen allergen(s) other than Bet v 1. The high prevalence of specific IgE to Mal d 1 and Gly m 4 among Bet v 1 sensitized patients indicates that pollen-food allergy syndrome could be of clinical relevance in China.



Innovation points

It was the first time to investigate the pollen-food syndrome in China by testing specific IgE against birch pollen, soy and apple allergens.

The correlations between pollen and food allergens were interpreted.

However, it was a retrospective study and lacked clinical information about food allergies. it will be included in future studies.