

# Review of: "Smoking, vaping and hospitalization for COVID-19"

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We were very surprised at your findings and interested in your paper the very first day that we saw it (mid April). Since then we have gathered a lot of information on the subject, some of it is included in my last post in Qeios (<https://doi.org/10.32388/5IY4IF>). We have shown that asthma, and atopic disease in general, can be a protective factor for Covid-19. By mining the literature, we have also found evidence that could connect cigarette smoking and SARS-Cov2 through the Th2 immune response and its main effector cell: the eosinophil. We now believe that cigarette smoking could exert its potentially protective action through several mechanisms, one of them, as you pointed out could likely be nicotine. But, in addition, other components in cigarette smoke could contribute to the positive outcome of the Covid-19 disease in smokers. In fact, cigarette smoking has been shown to often produce airway eosinophil infiltration and, as we hypothesize in our paper, eosinophils, by themselves, can be an independent protective factor for Covid-19.