

Name: \_\_\_ Undergraduate senior (name omitted) Paper [Author (Year)]: \_\_\_ T suis ova therapy. Bager et al. 2010 \_\_\_

How were the **data gathered** and what **methods** are used to **analyze** the data?  
They administered TSO or a placebo to adults in Denmark who suffer from allergic Rhinitis for 8 treatments over 21 days in the allergy season.  
Each day they reported the severity of each symptom from 0 to 3.  
If all symptoms added up to 2 or less, they were "well."  
They also did skin prick allergen testing.  
They compared the groups' scores with Wilcoxon tests.

What is/are the research question(s)?  
Does treatment with *Trichuris suis* ova (TSO) reduce symptoms of allergic rhinitis (hayfever)?

This study attempts to clearly determine whether  
Therapy with TSO is a viable treatment for  
Allergic rhinitus by being double-blind.

Helminth parasites are known to be involved with the same cytokine pathways as allergies.  
Studies of animals and humans have linked helminth therapy with decreased sensitivity to antigen, but human studies have been vulnerable to bias.

What **previous** work led to this study and what **gap** in knowledge will this study fill?

Why is this research broadly important?

We would like to be able to treat allergies, such as allergic rhinitis.  
But it seems that it's not effective, so maybe we shouldn't  
infect patients with whipworm eggs.

However, the therapy seems pretty safe, causing  
Abdominal pain and diarrhea as side effects.

TSO caused abdominal pain and flatulence in  
Some of the subjects, but diarrhea was not significantly  
Different between the two groups

The TSO group did produce *T suis* specific antibodies in response to TSO.

However, TSO did not change the reported severity of symptoms  
Between the TSO and control group, or from previous years, although  
TSO patients used fewer tablet medicines over the trial period.  
What are the major research findings?