Neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio in allergic rhinitis

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Dear editor,

The recent report on “neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio (NLR) in allergic rhinitis” is very interesting [1]. Doguret al. noted that “NLR can be used as an indicator of inflammation in allergic rhinitis [1]”. Indeed, abnormal NLR can be seen in several conditions and seems to be non-specific [2, 3]. It is no doubt that the problem of specificity is the big issue for using NLR. In addition to the non-specificity nature of the parameter, there are also many concerns on investigation technique. The basic neutrophil and lymphocyte value determined by different analyzer can be different and this exactly affects the final value. In follow-up NLR value, the same analyzer should be used. In addition, the possible pre-analytical error of the test should be kept in mind. In fact, high error in laboratory test is reported [4]. To get the correct result, the good blood collection is needed and the delayed storage before analysis should be avoided [5].

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