To the Editors:

In reply:

Intravenous magnesium sulphate in asthma: current recommendations

I appreciate the view of Dr. BJC Perera, Consultant Paediatrician on the above subject in his letter to the Editors in the *CMJ* 2004;**49**:103.

The column on "From the journals" usually includes summaries of journal articles. The references of the articles are included for readers who need details. This particular

article on magnesium sulphate in asthma in the *Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin* has quoted 14 references, which include 3 meta-analysis and 4 randomised controlled trials. Two of the six references quoted in Dr. Perera's letter (references 3 and 6) have also been considered in my article.

Kusum de Abrew, Senior Lecturer in Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. E-mail: <kusumdeabrew@yahoo.com> (Competing interests: none declared).