Come explore us cells ’ identification could lead new allergy treatments cures newly discovered subset memory cells could one day used learn whether person 's allergy likely last could disappear time treatment Nastasic/E+/Getty Images Tina Hesman Saey April 12 2024 6:30 Allergy sufferers may one day able erase source sniffles itchy skin swelling newfound subtype immune cells seems underlie long-lasting allergies finding could lead new ways diagnose treat even cure allergies Memory B cells important long-lasting protection infectious diseases new cells called type 2 memory B cells MBC2s subset holds memory proteins cause allergies cells primed make type antibodies trigger classic allergy symptoms Two separate groups researchers described cells February 7 Science Translational Medicine Allergies happen immune system reacts harmless things pollen peanuts pet dander immune cells release type antibody called IgE fight mistaken foe Usually IgE antibodies battle real threats parasitic worms United States one-third adults one-quarter children allergies many symptoms seasonal sniffles people insect stings certain foods cause life-threatening allergic reactions allergies disappear time treatment Others last lifetime decades scientists searching source long-lived allergies Memory B cells help body remember vaccinations natural infections Recently researchers began suspect might linked allergies memory B cells produce antibodies known IgG ward viral bacterial infections also neutralize toxins ’ clear cells might switch making IgE antibodies instead explore research teams studied immune cells people allergies without One group worked adults kids two studies also looked different types allergies Joshua Koenig helped lead one studies ’ immunologist McMaster University ’ Hamilton Ontario Canada team scientists examined 90,000 memory B cells cells came six adults birch allergies four allergic dust mites five people allergies team focused cells ’ RNA RNA like blueprint cells use make proteins Based RNA memory B cells appeared ready make antibodies proteins involved allergic response researchers called subset cells MBC2s