**Sputum supernatant cytokines-dexamethasone response**

Few statistically significant within-group changes were evident in the ex-smokers with asthma group in response to oral dexamethasone. However ex-smokers with asthma did demonstrated a reduction in CCL5 (-21.7 pg/ml (-41, -3), p=0.03) and CXCL10 (-147.7 pg/ml (-251, -45), p=0.01).