

# Office Management of Pediatric Asthma in 2012

*Putting Guidelines into Practice*

Rhonique Shields-Harris, MD

Stephen J. Teach, MD

October 3, 2012



# Conflicts of Interest

---

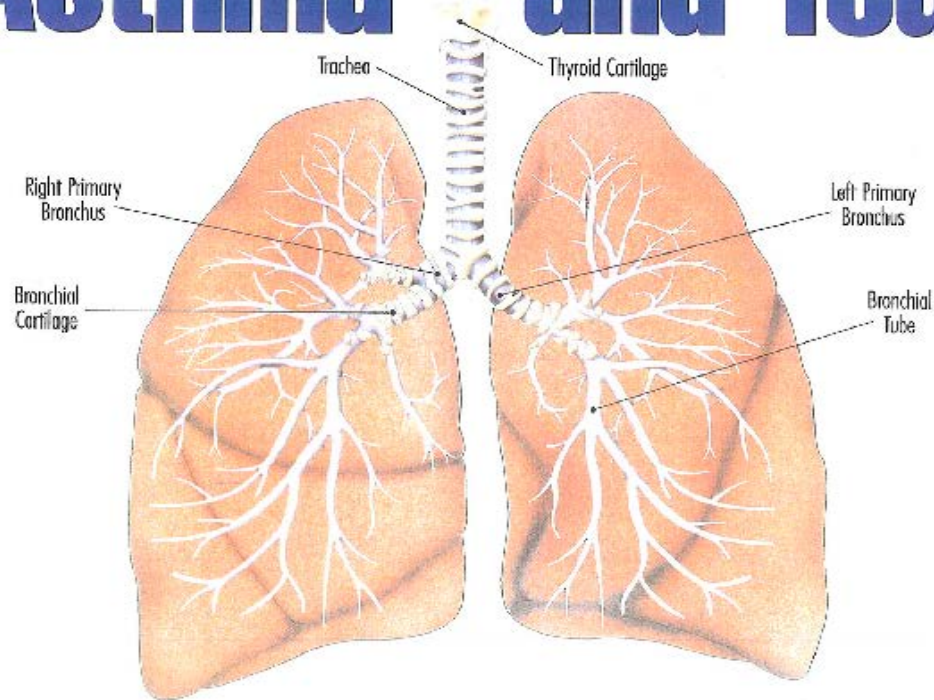
- None

# Outline

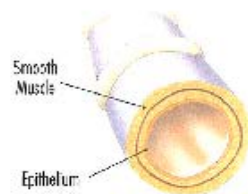
---

- Asthma – Focus on the Control of Inflammation
- Asthma Epidemiology
  - Disparities in outcome
- National Asthma Guidelines
  - “GIP Priorities”
- Case Presentations

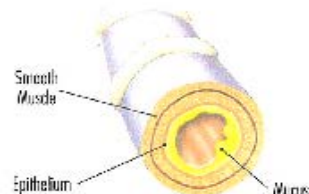
# Asthma and You



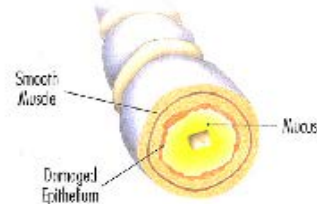
**Healthy Tube**



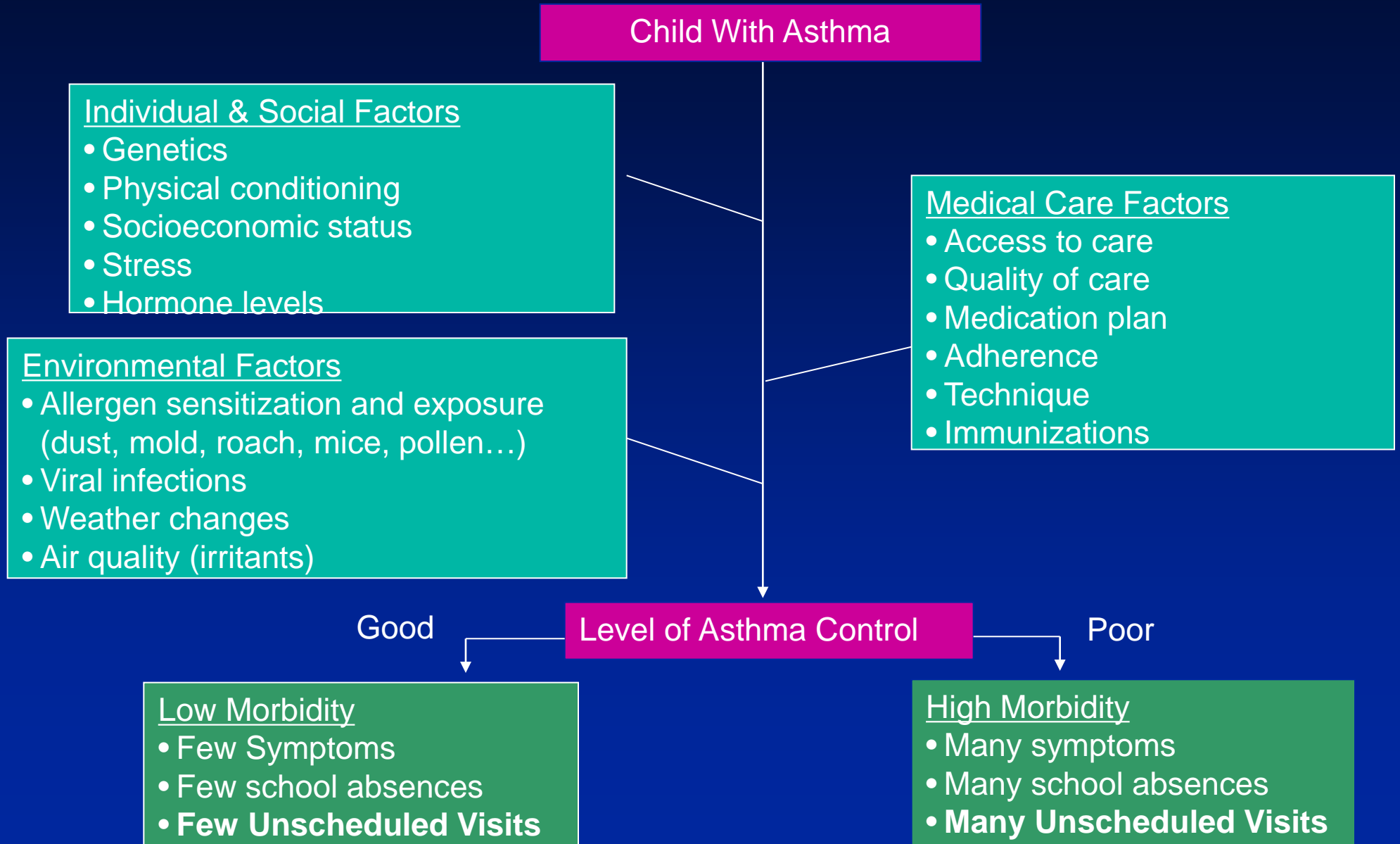
**Mild Asthma**



**Severe Asthma**



# Conceptual Model of Asthma



# Challenging Groups

---

- Young patient with wheezing
  - Virally induced
- Adolescent patient
  - Difficult to control
  - Non-adherent
  - Poor perceivers
- Obese patient with asthma
  - Adipose tissue as inherently inflammatory
  - Perceive symptoms as worse

# Importance of Correct Diagnosis

---

- All that wheezes is not asthma
- Red flags
- Clinical patterns

# Today.....

---

- *The straight-forward child with straight-forward asthma!*





# National Experience with Pediatric Asthma

---

- 7.1 million children <18y living with asthma in the US in 2009\*
  - 3.4 million ambulatory visits (*2% of total*)
  - 640,000 ED visits\*\*\*
  - 157,000 hospital admissions\*\*\*
  - 10.5 million annual lost school days\*

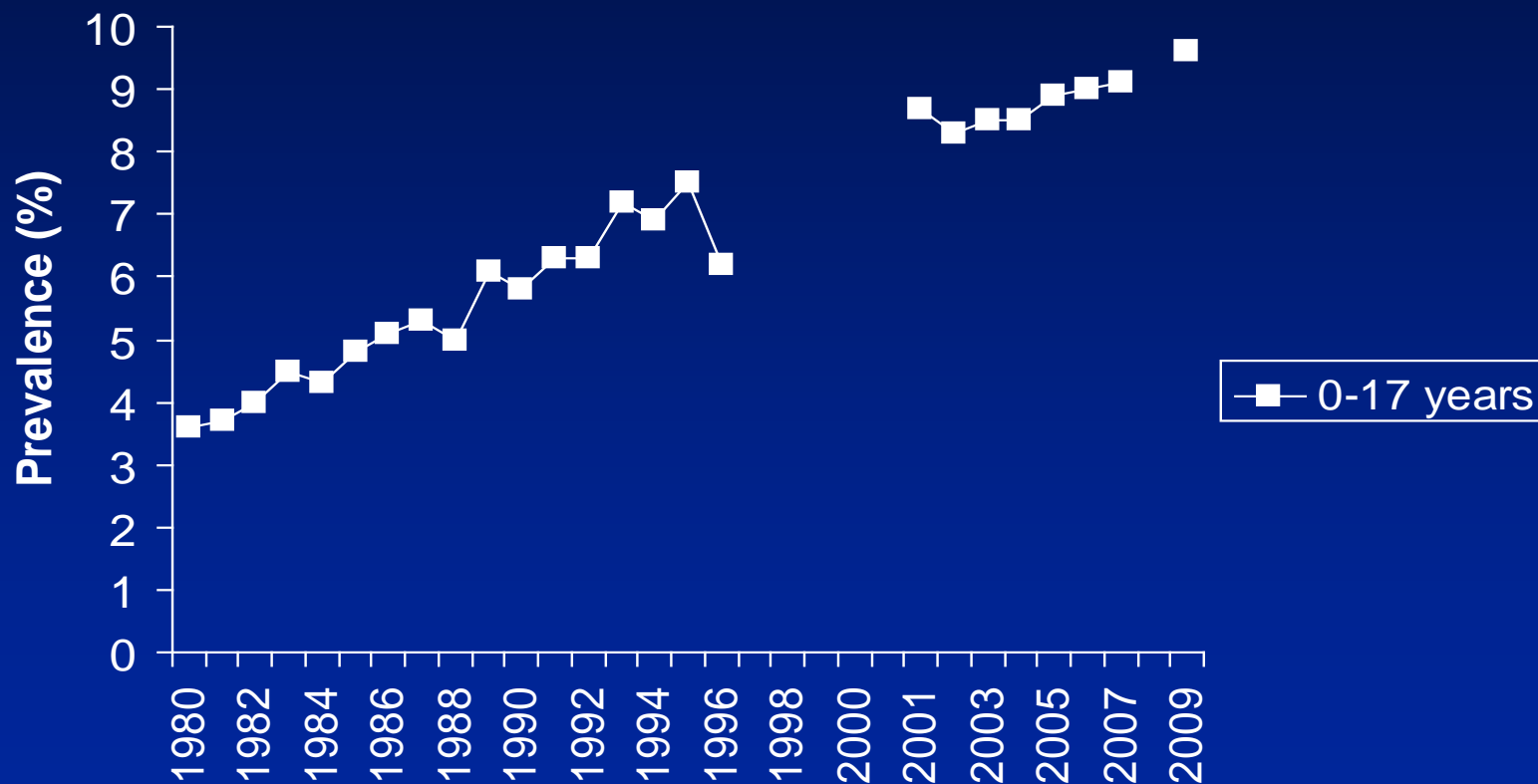
\*National Health Interview Survey

\*\*National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey

\*\*\*National Hospital Medical Care Survey

# Prevalence of Pediatric Asthma

MMWR. December 2011



# Prevalence of Asthma, 2004-2005

*0-17y, inclusive*


---

• US	• 8.9%	
• Maryland	• 10.8%	
• DC	• 10.3%	
• Virginia	• 8.7%	

# Prevalence of Asthma, 2004-2005

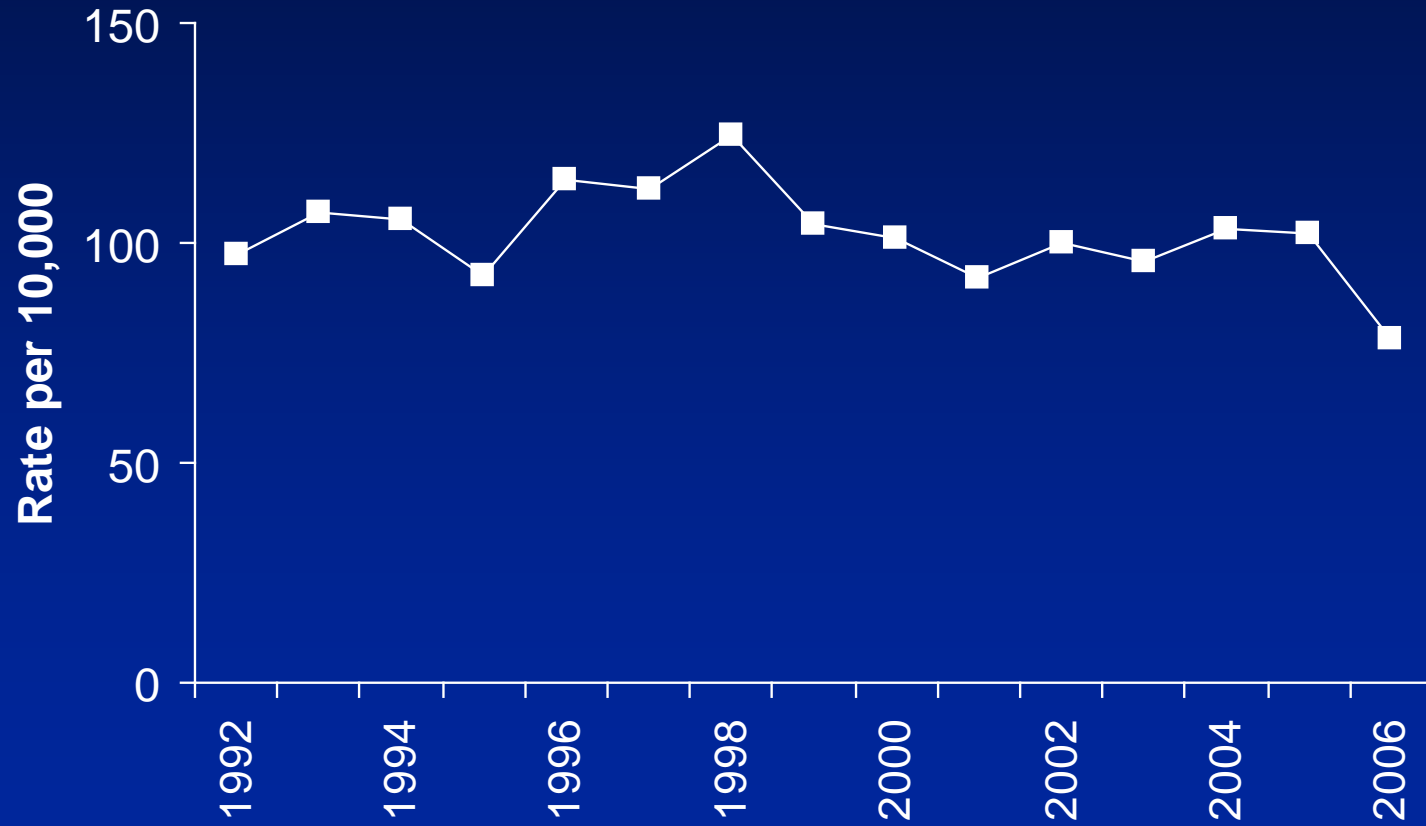
*0-17y, inclusive*

---

Black	12.8%	
White	7.9%	
Native American	9.9%	
Hispanic	7.8%	
Puerto Rican	19.2%	
Mexican	6.4%	

# Pediatric ED Visits for Asthma

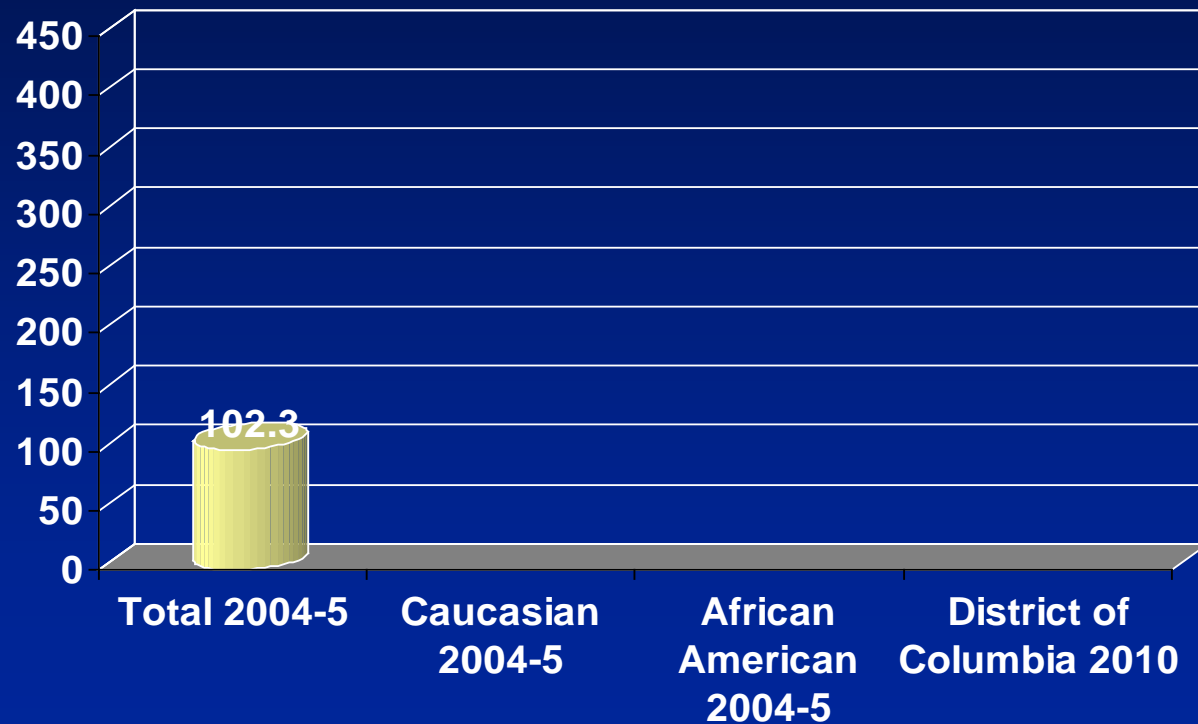
*0-17y, inclusive*



Akinbami L. Pediatrics 2009.

# Pediatric ED Visit Rates for Asthma

*0-17y, inclusive*

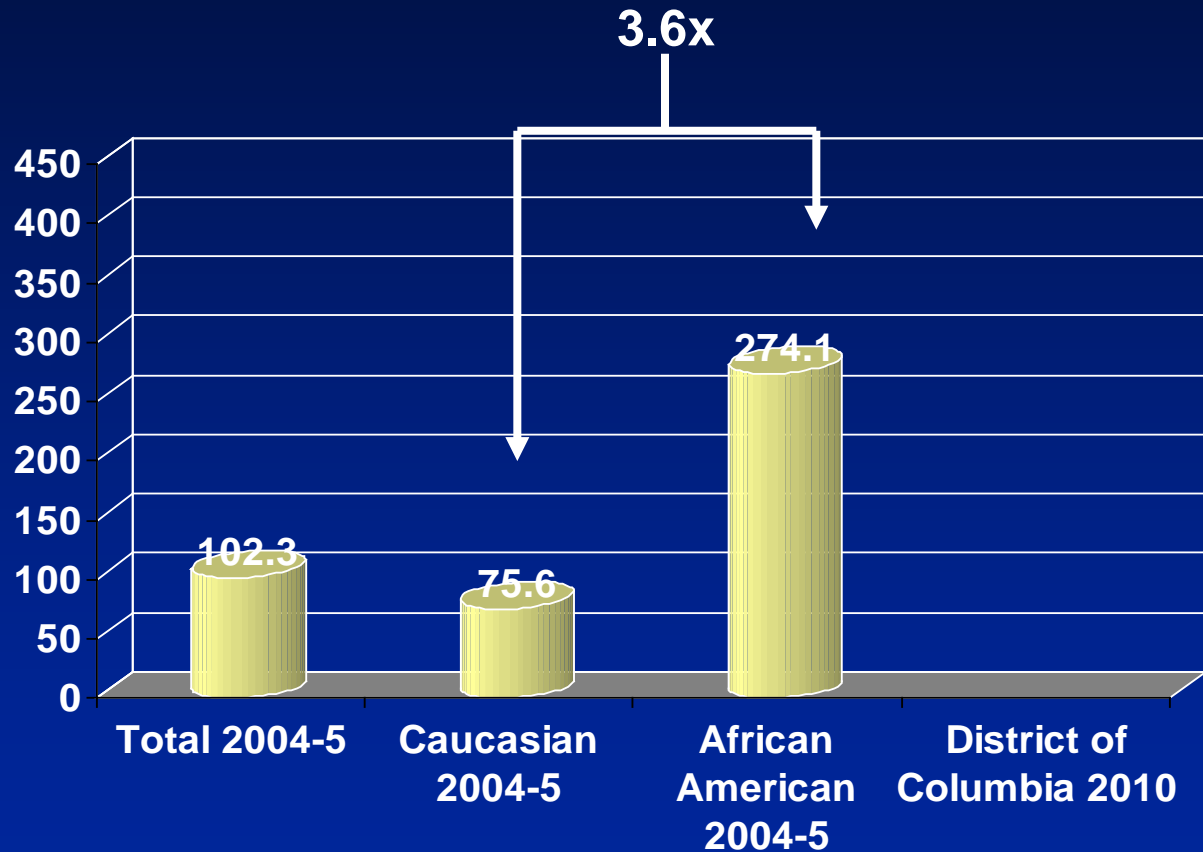


Akinbami L. Pediatrics 2009.

IMPACT DC, 2012.

# Pediatric ED Visit Rates for Asthma

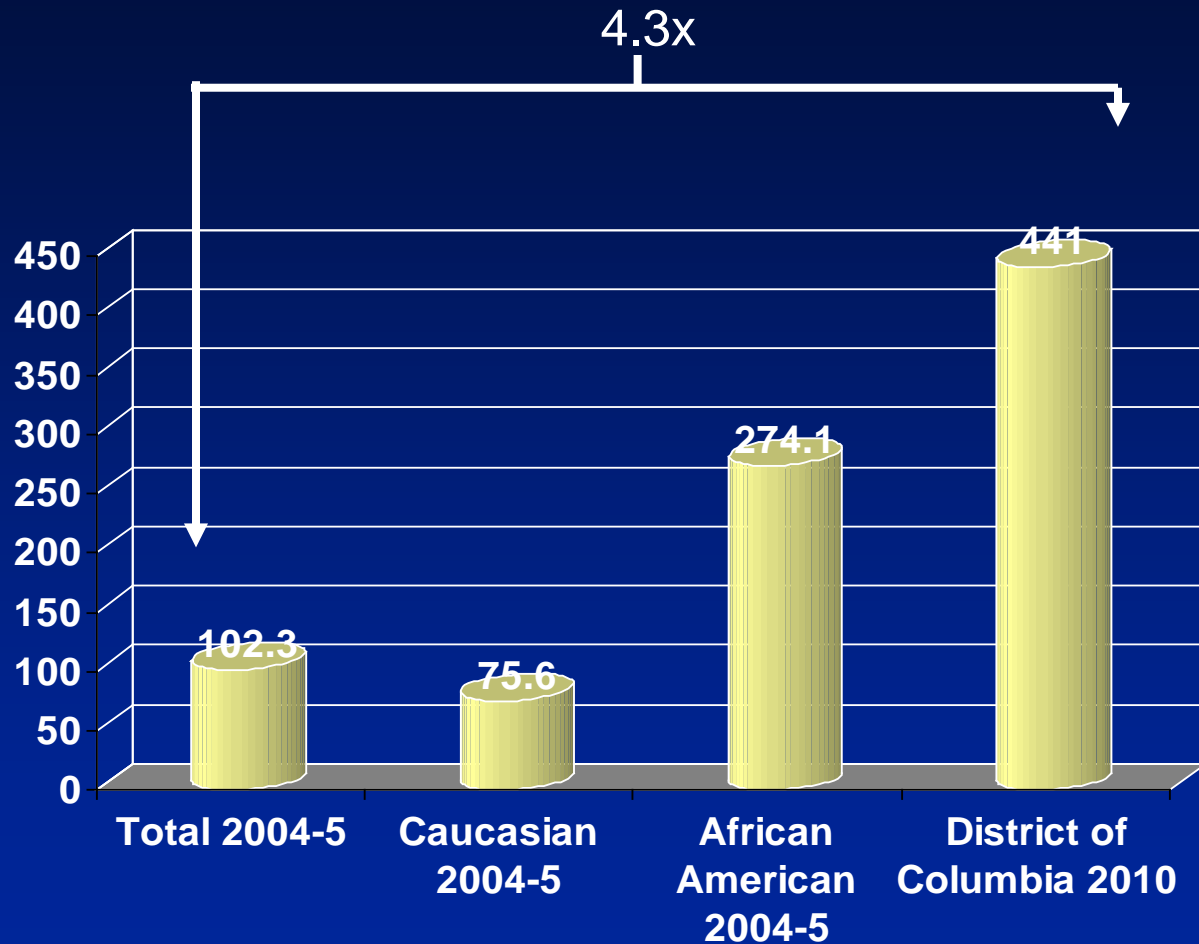
*0-17y, inclusive*



Akinbami L. Pediatrics 2009.  
IMPACT DC, 2012.

# Pediatric ED Visit Rates for Asthma

*0-17y, inclusive*

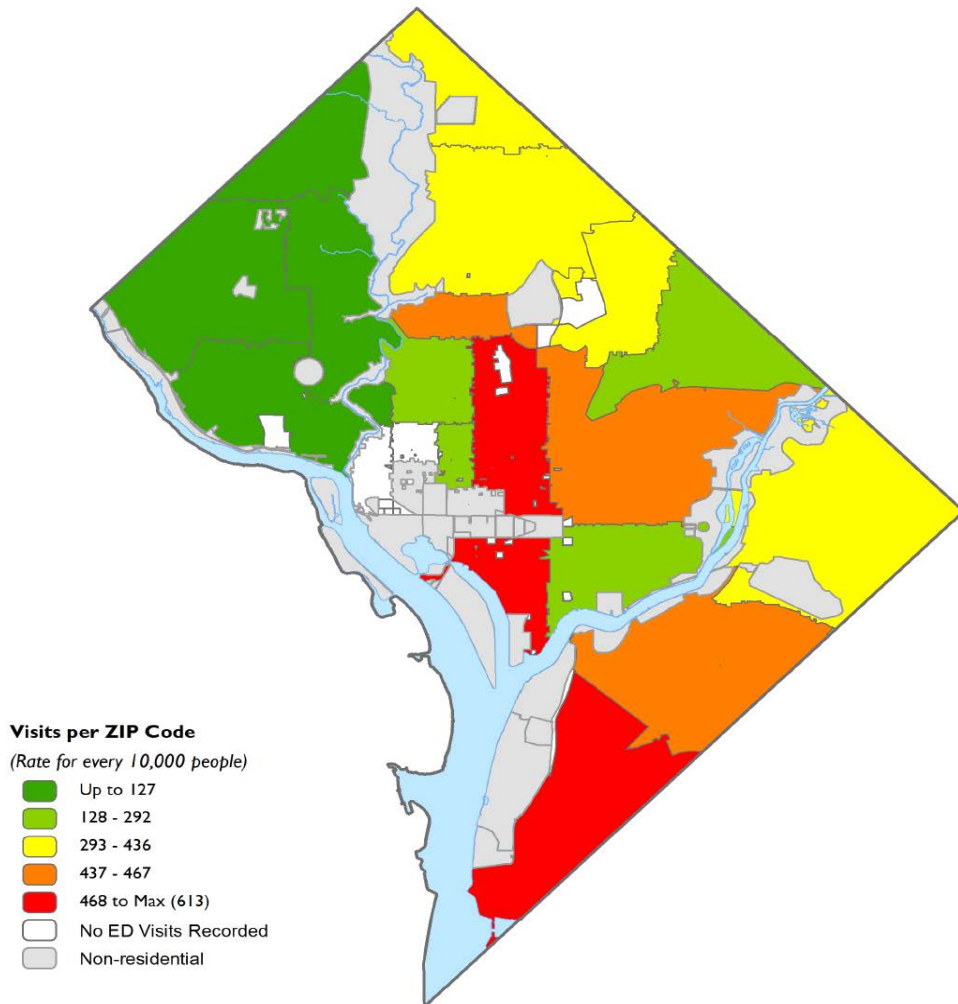


Akinbami L. Pediatrics 2009.  
IMPACT DC, 2012.



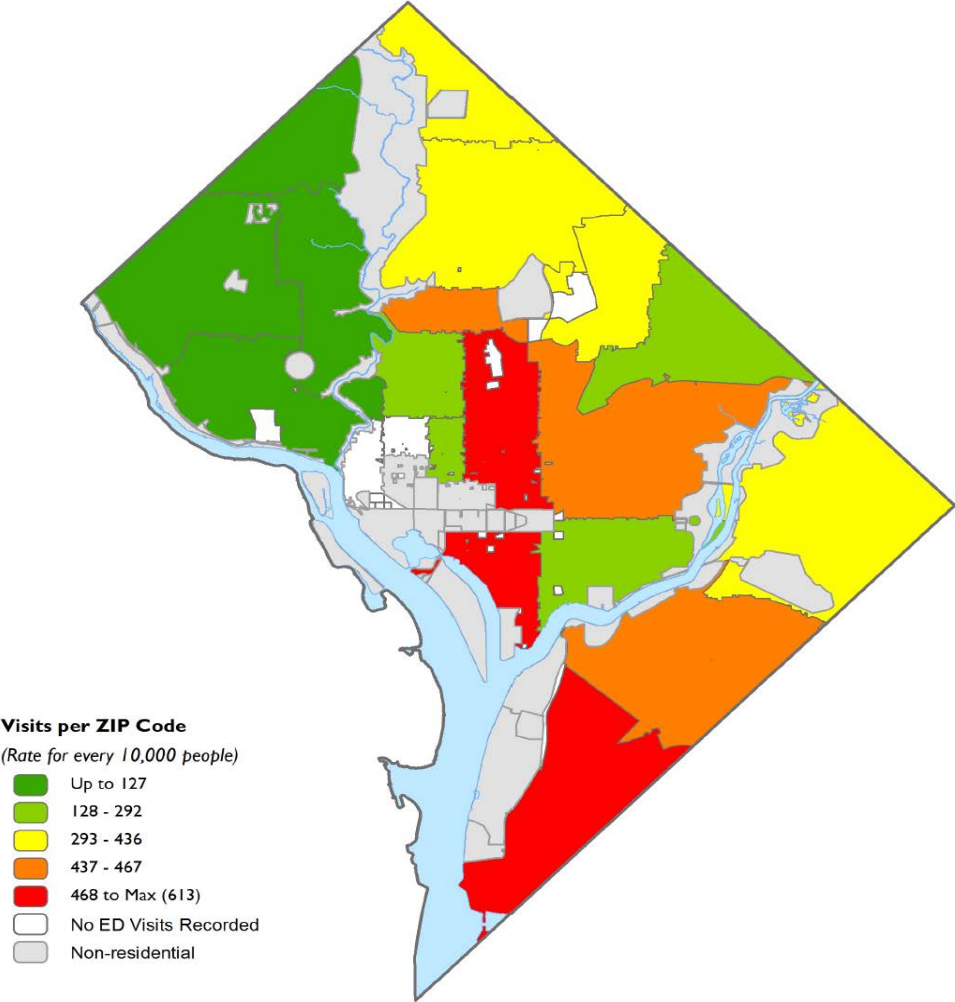
## EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS IN WASHINGTON, DC - 2010

Asthma as Primary, Secondary or Tertiary Diagnosis (5 - 14 years)

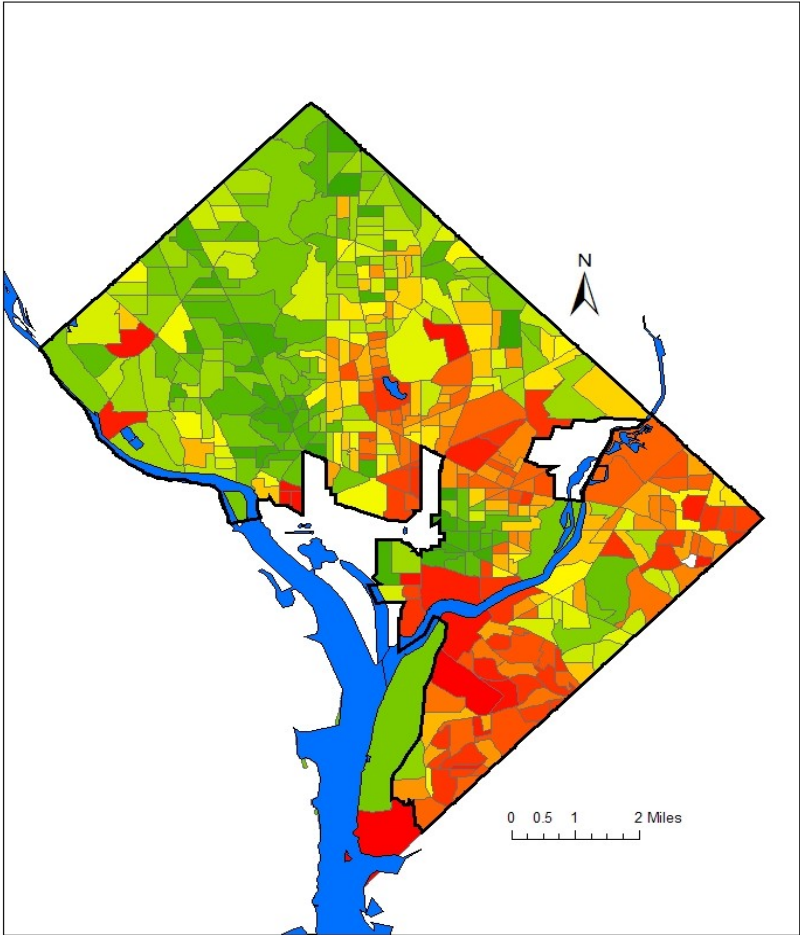


*>10 fold Difference in Rate*

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS IN WASHINGTON, DC - 2010**  
Asthma as Primary, Secondary or Tertiary Diagnosis (5 - 14 years)

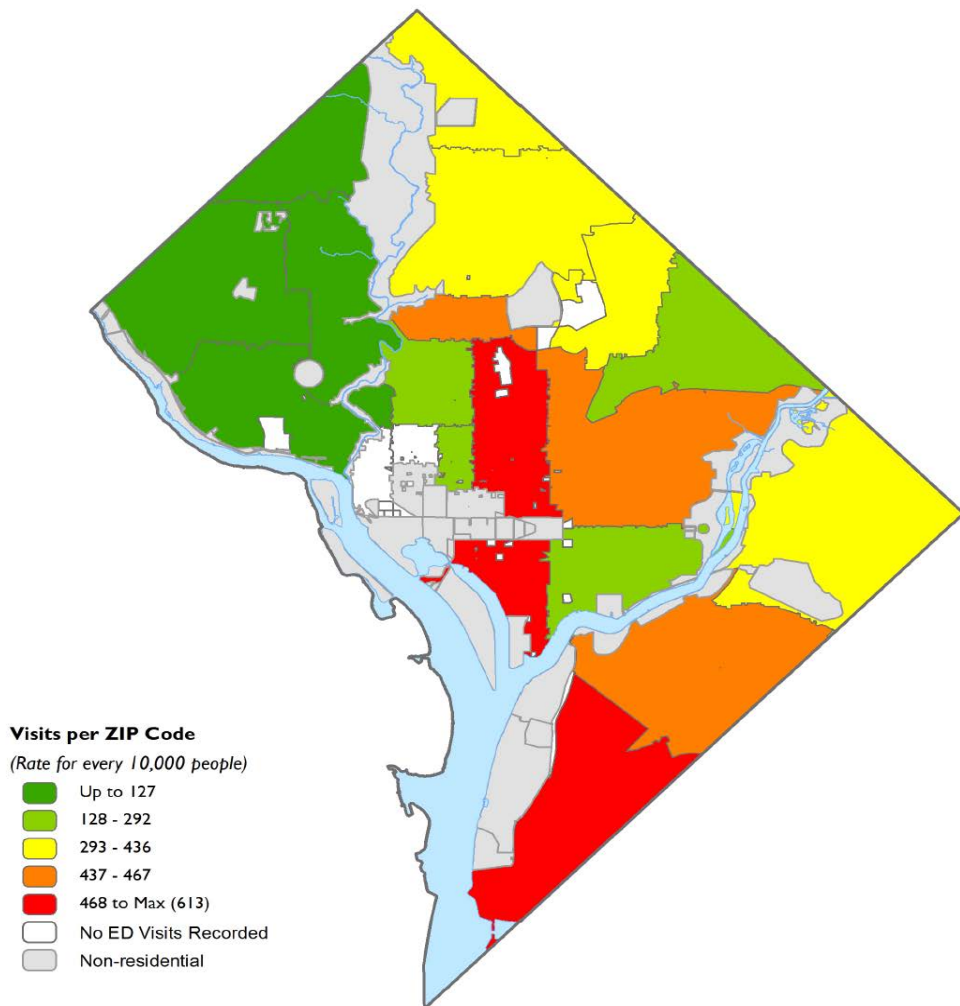


**Poverty in DC, 2000**

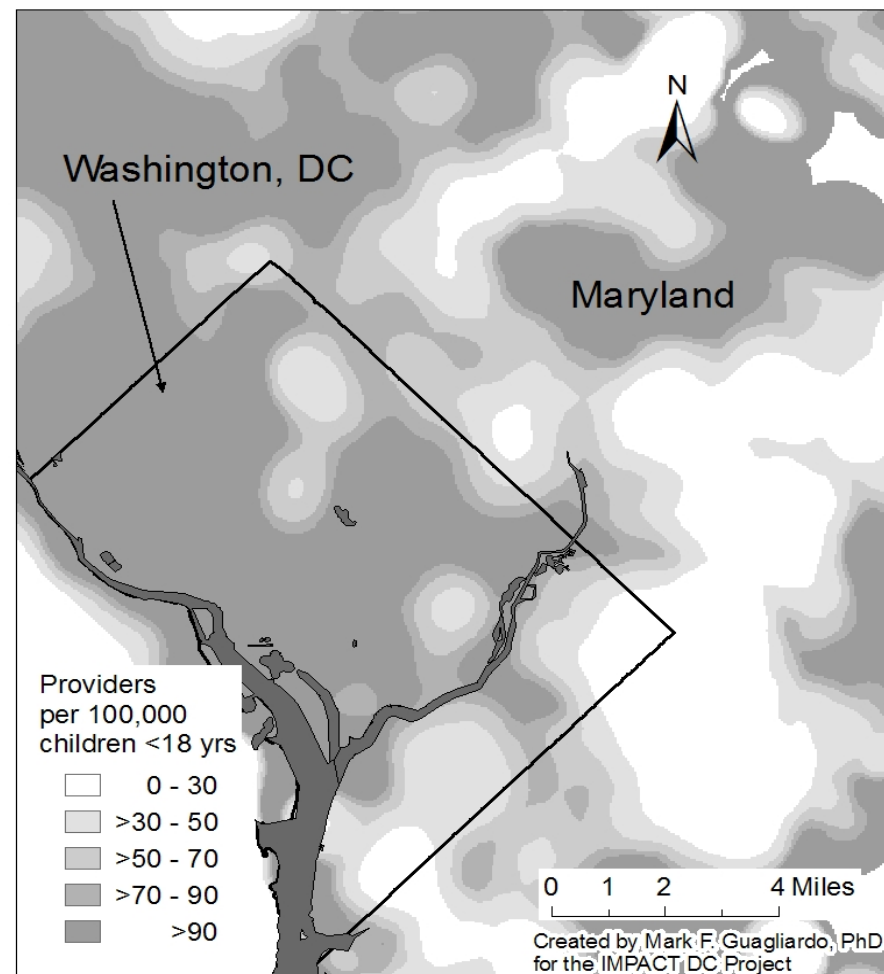


## EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS IN WASHINGTON, DC - 2010

Asthma as Primary, Secondary or Tertiary Diagnosis (5 - 14 years)

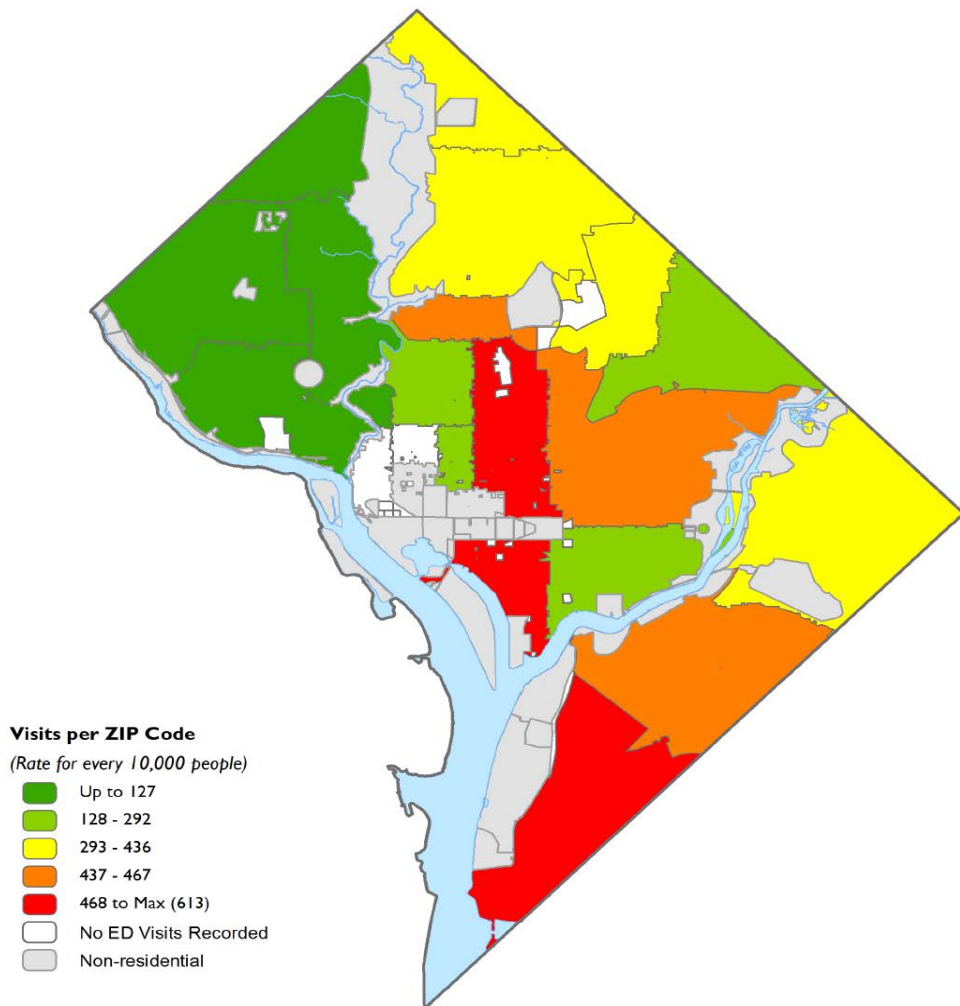


## Primary Care Access, 2005

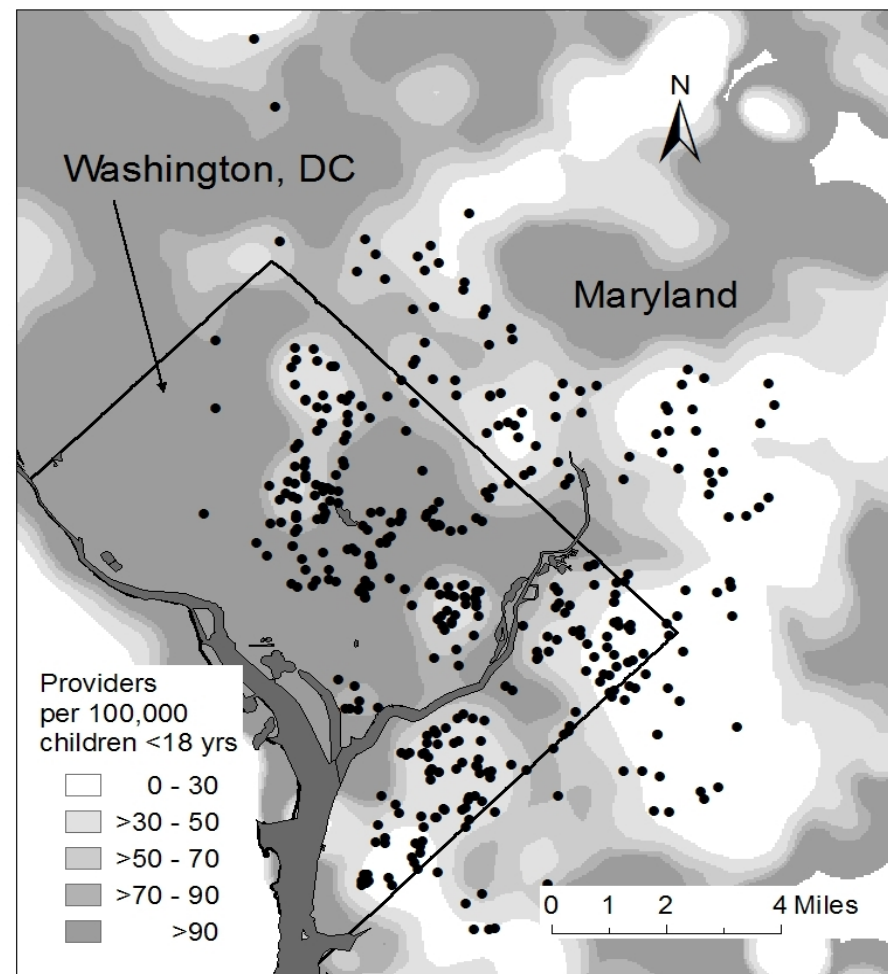


## EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS IN WASHINGTON, DC - 2010

Asthma as Primary, Secondary or Tertiary Diagnosis (5 - 14 years)

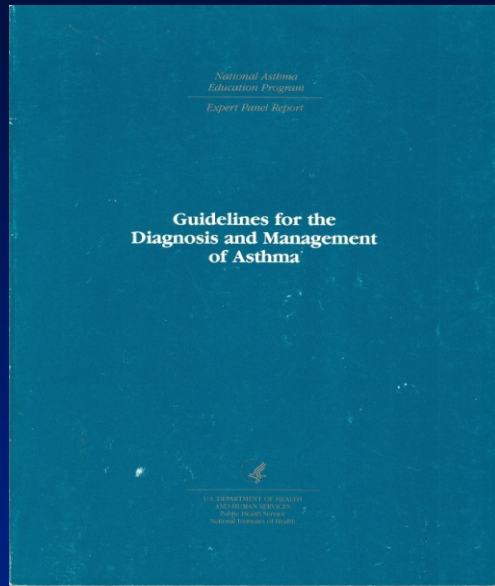


## Primary Care Access, 2005

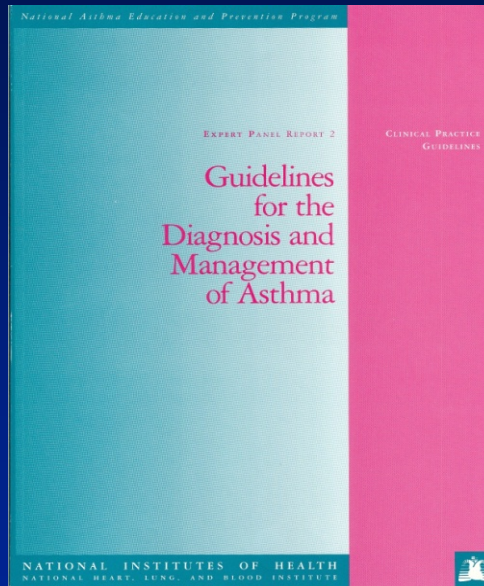




# NIH Guidelines



1991



1997



2002



2007

# NIH Guidelines 2007 (EPR-3)

- (Almost) no new medications
- Restructuring into “severity” and “control”
- Domains of “impairment” and “risk”
- Six treatment steps (step-up/step-down)
- More careful thought into the ongoing management issues

*Summarizes the extensively-validated scientific evidence that the guidelines, when followed, lead to a significant reduction in the frequency and severity of asthma symptoms and improve quality of life*

# Moving from Evidence to Action

- National Asthma Control Initiative
  - Aims to use recommendations of EPR-3
  - Use Guidelines Implementation Panel (GIP) Report
  - 6 priority messages

# **GIP Priority Messages**

1. Assess asthma severity
2. Use inhaled corticosteroids
3. Assess and monitor asthma control
4. Control environmental exposures
5. Use asthma action plans
6. Schedule follow up visits

***Core quality measures for Asthma Learning Collaborative***



# *Quality Measure #1*

## **Assess Asthma Severity**

Once a diagnosis of asthma is made, asthma severity should be classified based on **impairment** and **future risk**




# Severity & Control: Two Domains

- **Impairment (present)**
  - frequency and intensity of symptoms
  - functional limitations = quality of life
- **Risk (future)**
  - asthma exacerbations (utilization)
  - progressive loss of pulmonary function (lung growth in children)
  - risk of adverse reaction from medication


# CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN CHILDREN 0-4 YEARS OF AGE

Components of Severity		Classification of Asthma Severity			
Impairment	Symptoms	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily		
	Nighttime Awakenings	0	1-2x/month	3-4x/month	>1x/week
	SABA use for sx control	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Several x daily
	Interference with normal activity	none	Minor limitation	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	Risk	Exacerbations (consider frequency and severity)	0-1/year	≥2 exacerbations in 6 months requiring oral steroids, or ≥4 wheezing episodes/ year lasting >1 day AND risk factors for persistent asthma	
Frequency and severity of may fluctuate over time					
Exacerbations of any severity may occur in patients in any category					
Recommended Step for Initiating Treatment		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	
		In 2 -6 weeks, evaluate asthma control that is achieved and adjust therapy accordingly			
		Consider short course of oral steroids			

# CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN CHILDREN 5 - 11 YEARS OF AGE

Components of Severity		Classification of Asthma Severity			
		Intermittent	Persistent		
			Mild	Moderate	Severe
Impairment	Symptoms	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Continuous
	Nighttime Awakenings	≤2x/month	3-4x/month	>1x/week not nightly	Often nightly
	SABA use for sx control	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Several times daily
	Interference with normal activity	none	Minor limitation	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	Lung Function	•Normal FEV <sub>1</sub> between exacerbations • FEV <sub>1</sub> > 80% • FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC> 85%	• FEV <sub>1</sub> >80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC> 80%	• FEV <sub>1</sub> =60% - 80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC=75%-80%	•FEV <sub>1</sub> <60% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC <75%
Risk	Exacerbations (consider frequency and severity)	0-2/year > 2 /year 			
		Frequency and severity may vary over time for patients in any category Relative annual risk of exacerbations may be related to FEV			
Recommended Step for Initiating Treatment		Step 1	Step 2	Step3 medium-dose ICS option	Step 3 or 4
				Consider short course of oral steroids	
		In 2 -6 weeks, evaluate asthma control that is achieved and adjust therapy			

# CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN YOUTHS ≥ 12 YEARS AND ADULTS

Components of Severity		Classification of Asthma Severity			
		Intermittent	Persistent		
			Mild	Moderate	Severe
Impairment	Symptoms	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Continuous
	Nighttime Awakenings	≤2x/month	3-4x/month	>1x/week not nightly	Often nightly
	SABA use for sx control	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Several times daily
	Interference with normal activity	none	Minor limitation	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	Lung Function	• Normal FEV <sub>1</sub> between exacerbations • FEV <sub>1</sub> > 80% • FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC normal	• FEV <sub>1</sub> >80% • FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC normal	• FEV <sub>1</sub> >60% but < 80% • FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC reduced 5%	• FEV <sub>1</sub> <60% • FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC reduced > 5%
Risk	Exacerbations (consider frequency and severity)	0-2/year > 2 /year 			
		Frequency and severity may vary over time for patients in any category			
		Relative annual risk of exacerbations may be related to FEV			
Recommended Step for Initiating Treatment		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4 or 5
		In 2 -6 weeks, evaluate asthma control that is achieved and adjust therapy accordingly			
		Consider short course of oral steroids			

# Classifying Severity for Patients Currently Taking Controller Medications

Lowest level of treatment required to maintain control	Classification of Asthma Severity			
	Intermittent	Persistent		
	Step 1	Mild	Moderate	Severe
		Step 2	Step 3 or 4	Step 5 or 6

# Why does classification matter?



- Guides treatment decisions
- Most important distinction is intermittent vs. persistent disease
- Severity in children often changes over time:

**RE-ASSESS FREQUENTLY!**

# Case # 1

**A 6-year old male currently not on any asthma medications has visited your practice 2 times in the past year for acute wheezing, each episode requiring an oral steroid burst. In between episodes, his mother reports nighttime cough that awakens him about 4 nights per month and minor activity limitation. This patient's asthma severity can be BEST classified as:**

- A. Intermittent (Step 1)
- B. Mild Persistent (Step 2)
- C. Moderate Persistent (Step 3)
- D. Severe Persistent (Step 3)
- E. I would not diagnose this child with asthma



# CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN CHILDREN 5 - 11 YEARS OF AGE

Components of Severity		Classification of Asthma Severity			
		Intermittent	Persistent		
			Mild	Moderate	Severe
Impairment	Symptoms	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Continuous
	Nighttime Awakenings	≤2x/month	3-4x/month	>1x/week not nightly	Often nightly
	SABA use for sx control	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Several times daily
	Interference with normal activity	none	Minor limitation	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	Lung Function	•Normal FEV <sub>1</sub> between exacerbations •FEV <sub>1</sub> > 80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC> 85%	•FEV <sub>1</sub> >80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC> 80%	•FEV <sub>1</sub> =60% - 80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC=75%-80%	•FEV <sub>1</sub> <60% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC <75%
Risk	Exacerbations (consider frequency and severity)	0-2/year	> 2 /year		
		Frequency and severity may vary over time for patients in any category			
Recommended Step for Initiating Treatment		Relative annual risk of exacerbations may be related to FEV			
	Step 1	Step 2	Step3 medium-dose ICS option	Step 3 or 4	
			Consider short course of oral steroids		
		In 2 -6 weeks, evaluate asthma control that is achieved and adjust therapy			

# Case # 1

**A 6-year old male currently not on any asthma medications has visited your practice 2 times in the past year for acute wheezing, each episode requiring an oral steroid burst. In between episodes, his mother reports nighttime cough that awakens him about 4 nights per month and minor activity limitation. This patient's asthma severity can be BEST classified as:**

- A. Intermittent (Step 1)
- B. Mild Persistent (Step 2)
- C. Moderate Persistent (Step 3)
- D. Severe Persistent (Step 3)
- E. I would not diagnose this child with asthma

# Treatment Strategies

- Gain Control!!!
  - Aggressive, intensive initial therapy to suppress airway inflammation and gain prompt control
- Maintain Control
  - *Frequent follow-up*
  - Therapeutic modifications depending on severity and clinical course
  - “Step down” long-term control medications to maintain control with minimal side effects

# *Quality Measure #2*

## **Use Inhaled Corticosteroids**

- Long term control medication should be taken to achieve and maintain control of **persistent asthma**
- ICS are the most potent and consistently effective long term control medication



# ICS Choice Considerations

- Age of child
- Available formulations – medication, delivery device
- Insurance coverage
- Daily vs. episodic use
- Evidence of benefit
- Risk of side effects short/long-term

## Other Controller Options

- ICS-LABA combination agents (Advair)
- Leukotriene modifiers (Singulair)
- Anticholinergics (Atrovent)
- Immunomodulators (Xolair)
- Allergy immunotherapy

# STEPWISE APPROACH FOR MANAGING ASTHMA IN CHILDREN 0 - 4 YEARS OF AGE

Intermittent  
Asthma

Persistent Asthma: Daily Medication  
Consult with asthma specialist if step 3 or higher care is required  
Consider consultation at step 2

**Step 1**  
*Preferred:*  
SABA prn

**Step 2**  
*Preferred:*  
Low-dose ICS  
  
*Alternative:*  
LTRA  
Cromolyn

**Step 3**  
*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose  
ICS

**Step 4**  
  
*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose  
ICS  
  
AND  
  
either LTRA  
Or LABA

**Step 5**  
*Preferred:*  
High dose ICS  
  
AND  
  
either LTRA  
Or LABA

**Step 6**  
  
AND  
  
either LTRA  
Or LABA  
  
AND  
  
.....  
Oral  
Corticosteroid

Step up if  
needed (check  
adherence,  
environmental  
control )

**Assess  
Control**

Step down  
if possible  
  
(asthma well  
controlled  
for 3 months)

Patient Education and Environmental Control at Each Step

# STEPWISE APPROACH FOR MANAGING ASTHMA IN CHILDREN 5-11 YEARS OF AGE

Intermittent  
Asthma

Persistent Asthma: Daily Medication  
Consult with asthma specialist if step 4 or higher care is required  
Consider consultation at step 3

**Step 1**  
*Preferred:*  
SABA prn

**Step 2**  
*Preferred:*  
Low-dose ICS  
*Alternative:*  
LTRA  
Cromolyn  
Theophylline

**Step 3**  
*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose ICS  
  
**OR**  
Low-dose ICS +  
either LABA,  
LTRA, or  
Theophylline

**Step 4**  
  
*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose ICS+LABA  
  
*Alternative:*  
Medium-dose ICS+either LTRA, or Theophylline

**Step 5**  
*Preferred:*  
High dose ICS + LABA  
*Alternative:*  
High-dose ICS+ either LTRA or Theophylline  
  
.....  
**AND**  
  
Consider Omalizumab for patients with allergies

**Step 6**  
  
*Preferred:*  
High-dose ICS + LABA + oral Corticosteroid  
*Alternative:*  
High-dose ICS +either LTRA or Theophylline + oral corticosteroid  
  
.....  
**AND**  
  
Consider Omalizumab for patients with allergies

Step up if needed (check adherence, environmental control and comorbidities)

**Assess Control**

Step down if possible  
(asthma well controlled for 3 months)

Patient Education and Environmental Control at Each Step



# STEPWISE APPROACH FOR MANAGING ASTHMA IN YOUTHS $\geq 12$ YEARS AND ADULTS

Intermittent  
Asthma

Persistent Asthma: Daily Medication  
Consult with asthma specialist if step 4 or higher care is required  
Consider consultation at step 3

## Step 1

*Preferred:*  
SABA prn

## Step 2

*Preferred:*  
Low-dose ICS  
*Alternative:*  
LTRA  
Cromolyn  
Theophylline

## Step 3

*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose ICS  
OR  
Low-dose ICS +  
either LABA,  
LTRA,  
Theophylline  
Or Zileutin

## Step 4

*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose  
ICS+LABA

*Alternative:*  
Medium-dose  
ICS+either  
LTRA,  
Theophylline  
Or Zileutin

## Step 5

*Preferred:*  
High dose ICS  
+ LABA

AND

Consider  
Olamizumab for  
patients with  
allergies

## Step 6

*Preferred:*  
High-dose ICS  
+ LABA + oral  
Corticosteroid

AND

Consider  
Olamizumab for  
patients with  
allergies

Step up if  
needed (check  
adherence,  
environmental  
control and  
comorbidities)

**Assess  
Control**

Step down  
if possible  
(asthma well  
controlled  
for 3 months)

Patient Education and Environmental Control at Each Step

## Case # 2

**A 7-year old male presents to your clinic in November complaining of daily nocturnal cough for 2 months. He denies symptoms of GE Reflux. He has visited the emergency room twice in the past year where he received albuterol with good symptomatic relief. The BEST choice of treatment would be to:**

- A. Start fluticasone 44 mcg 2 puffs twice daily for 4-6 weeks and then reassess
- B. Start fluticasone 110 mcg 2 puffs twice daily for 4-6 weeks and then reassess
- C. Start a leukotriene modifier as you suspect his symptoms are likely due to post-nasal drainage from allergic rhinitis
- D. I cannot feel confident at this time that this patient should be treated with asthma medications

# CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN CHILDREN 5 - 11 YEARS OF AGE

Components of Severity		Classification of Asthma Severity			
		Intermittent	Persistent		
			Mild	Moderate	Severe
Impairment	Symptoms	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Continuous
	Nighttime Awakenings	≤2x/month	3-4x/month	>1x/week not nightly	Often nightly
	SABA use for sx control	≤2 days/week	>2 days/week not daily	Daily	Several times daily
	Interference with normal activity	none	Minor limitation	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	Lung Function	•Normal FEV <sub>1</sub> between exacerbations • FEV <sub>1</sub> > 80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC> 85%	• FEV <sub>1</sub> >80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC> 80%	• FEV <sub>1</sub> =60% - 80% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC=75%-80%	•FEV <sub>1</sub> <60% •FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC < 75%
Risk	Exacerbations (consider frequency and severity)	0-2/year	> 2 /year		
		Frequency and severity may vary over time for patients in any category			
Recommended Step for Initiating Treatment		Step 1		Step 2	Step3 medium dose ICS option
					Consider short course of oral steroids
		In 2 -6 weeks, evaluate asthma control that is achieved and adjust therapy			

# STEPWISE APPROACH FOR MANAGING ASTHMA IN CHILDREN 5-11 YEARS OF AGE

Intermittent  
Asthma

Persistent Asthma: Daily Medication  
Consult with asthma specialist if step 4 or higher care is required  
Consider consultation at step 3

**Step 1**  
*Preferred:*  
SABA prn

**Step 2**  
*Preferred:*  
Low-dose ICS  
*Alternative:*  
LTRA  
Cromolyn  
Theophylline

**Step 3**  
*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose ICS  
  
**OR**  
Low-dose ICS +  
either LABA,  
LTRA, or  
Theophylline

**Step 4**  
*Preferred:*  
Medium-dose ICS + LABA  
  
*Alternative:*  
Medium-dose ICS + either LTRA, or Theophylline

**Step 5**  
*Preferred:*  
High dose ICS + LABA  
*Alternative:*  
High-dose ICS + either LTRA or Theophylline  
  
.....  
**AND**  
Consider Omalizumab for patients with allergies

**Step 6**  
*Preferred:*  
High-dose ICS + LABA + oral Corticosteroid  
*Alternative:*  
High-dose ICS + either LTRA or Theophylline + oral corticosteroid  
  
.....  
**AND**  
Consider Omalizumab for patients with allergies

Step up if needed (check adherence, environmental control and comorbidities)

**Assess Control**

Step down if possible  
(asthma well controlled for 3 months)

Patient Education and Environmental Control at Each Step

## Case # 2

**A 7-year old male presents to your clinic in November complaining of daily nocturnal cough for 2 months. He denies symptoms of GE Reflux. He has visited the emergency room twice in the past year where he received albuterol with good symptomatic relief. The BEST choice of treatment would be to:**

- A. Start fluticasone 44 mcg 2 puffs twice daily for 4-6 weeks and then reassess
- B. Start fluticasone 110 mcg 2 puffs twice daily for 4-6 weeks and then reassess
- C. Start a leukotriene modifier as you suspect his symptoms are likely due to post-nasal drainage from allergic rhinitis
- D. I cannot feel confident at this time that this patient should be treated with asthma medications

# *Quality Measure #3*

## **Assess and Monitor Asthma Control**



- At planned follow-up, well, and sick visits
- Consider both impairment and risk

Every patient who has asthma should be taught to recognize symptom patterns that indicate inadequate control

# Monitoring Asthma Control

Ask the parent and patient...

- Has your child's asthma awakened him/her at night?
- Has your child needed more quick-relief inhaler than usual?
- Has your child needed urgent care for asthma?
- Is your child participating in his/her usual or desired activities?
- What are your child's triggers?



## Childhood Asthma Control Test for children 4 to 11 years old.

### Know the score.

This test will provide a score that may help your doctor determine if your child's asthma treatment plan is working or if it might be time for a change.

#### How to take the Childhood Asthma Control Test

Step 1 Let your child respond to the **first four questions (1 to 4)**. If your child needs help reading or understanding the question, you may help, but let your child select the response. Complete the remaining **three questions (5 to 7)** on your own and without letting your child's response influence your answers. There are no right or wrong answers.

Step 2 Write the number of each answer in the score box provided.

Step 3 Add up each score box for the total.

Step 4 Take the test to the doctor to talk about your child's total score.

**19  
or less**

If your child's score is 19 or less, it may be a sign that your child's asthma is not controlled as well as it could be. No matter what the score, bring this test to your doctor to talk about your child's results.

#### Have your child complete these questions.

1. How is your asthma today?

 <b>0</b> Very bad	 <b>1</b> Bad	 <b>2</b> Good	 <b>3</b> Very good
---	--	---	--

SCORE

2. How much of a problem is your asthma when you run, exercise or play sports?

 <b>0</b> It's a big problem, I can't do what I want to do.	 <b>1</b> It's a problem and I don't like it.	 <b>2</b> It's a little problem but it's okay.	 <b>3</b> It's not a problem.
--	--	---	--

3. Do you cough because of your asthma?

 <b>0</b> Yes, all of the time.	 <b>1</b> Yes, most of the time.	 <b>2</b> Yes, some of the time.	 <b>3</b> No, none of the time.
--	---	---	--

4. Do you wake up during the night because of your asthma?

 <b>0</b> Yes, all of the time.	 <b>1</b> Yes, most of the time.	 <b>2</b> Yes, some of the time.	 <b>3</b> No, none of the time.
--	---	---	--

#### Please complete the following questions on your own.

5. During the last 4 weeks, on average, how many days per month did your child have any daytime asthma symptoms?

<b>5</b> Not at all	<b>4</b> 1-3 days/mo	<b>3</b> 4-10 days/mo	<b>2</b> 11-18 days/mo	<b>1</b> 19-24 days/mo	<b>0</b> Everyday
------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------

6. During the last 4 weeks, on average, how many days per month did your child wheeze during the day because of asthma?

<b>5</b> Not at all	<b>4</b> 1-3 days/mo	<b>3</b> 4-10 days/mo	<b>2</b> 11-18 days/mo	<b>1</b> 19-24 days/mo	<b>0</b> Everyday
------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------

7. During the last 4 weeks, on average, how many days per month did your child wake up during the night because of asthma?

<b>5</b> Not at all	<b>4</b> 1-3 days/mo	<b>3</b> 4-10 days/mo	<b>2</b> 11-18 days/mo	<b>1</b> 19-24 days/mo	<b>0</b> Everyday
------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------

TOTAL

Please turn this page over to see what your child's total score means.

## Asthma Control Test™ for teens 12 years and older. Know the score.

If your teen is 12 years or older have him take the test now and discuss the results with your doctor

Step 1 Write the number of each answer in the score box provided.

Step 2 Add up each score box for the total.

Step 3 Take the test to the doctor to talk about your child's total score.

1. In the past 4 weeks, how much of the time did your asthma keep you from getting as much done at work, school or at home?

All of the time <b>1</b>	Most of the time <b>2</b>	Some of the time <b>3</b>	A little of the time <b>4</b>	None of the time <b>5</b>
-----------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------

2. During the past 4 weeks, how often have you had shortness of breath?

More than once a day <b>1</b>	Once a day <b>2</b>	3 to 6 times a week <b>3</b>	Once or twice a week <b>4</b>	Not at all <b>5</b>
----------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------

3. During the past 4 weeks, how often did your asthma symptoms (wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, chest tightness, or pain) wake you up at night or earlier than usual in the morning?

4 or more nights a week <b>1</b>	2 or 3 nights a week <b>2</b>	Once a week <b>3</b>	Once or twice <b>4</b>	Not at all <b>5</b>
-------------------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------

4. During the past 4 weeks, how often have you used your rescue inhaler or nebulizer medication (such as albuterol)?

3 or more times per day <b>1</b>	1 or 2 times per day <b>2</b>	2 or 3 times per week <b>3</b>	Once a week or less <b>4</b>	Not at all <b>5</b>
-------------------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------

5. How would you rate your asthma control during the past 4 weeks?

Not controlled at all <b>1</b>	Poorly controlled <b>2</b>	Somewhat controlled <b>3</b>	Well controlled <b>4</b>	Completely controlled <b>5</b>
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------



The American Lung Association supports the Asthma Control Test and wants everyone 12 years of age and older with asthma to take it.

Copyright 2002, by QualityMetric Incorporated.  
Asthma Control Test is a trademark of QualityMetric Incorporated.

Total



# Monitoring Asthma Control

- Assess whether medications are being taken as prescribed
- Assess whether inhalation technique is correct
- Consider performing spirometry or peak flow and compare to previous measurements
- Adjust medications as needed to **achieve best control with the lowest dose needed**
- Consider environmental mitigation strategy

# ASSESSING ASTHMA CONTROL AND ADJUSTING THERAPY IN CHILDREN 0 - 4 YEARS OF AGE

Components of Control		Classification of Asthma Control		
		Well Controlled	Not Well Controlled	Very Poorly Controlled
IMPAIRMENT	Symptoms	≤ 2 days/week	> 2 days/week	Throughout the day
	Nighttime awakenings	≤ 1/month	≥ 2 x/month	≥2x/week
	Interference with normal activity	none	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	SABA use	≤ 2 days/week	> 2 days/week	Several times/day
RISK	Exacerbations	0- 1 per year	2 - 3 per year	> 3 per year
	Progressive loss of lung function	Evaluation requires long-term follow up care		
	Rx-related adverse effects	Consider in overall assessment of risk		
Recommended Action For Treatment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Maintain current step</li><li>•REGULAR FOLLOW UP EVERY 3 - 6 MONTHS</li><li>•Consider step down if well controlled at least 3 months</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Step up 1 step</li><li>•Reevaluate in 2 - 6 weeks</li><li>•If no clear benefit in 4-6 weeks , consider alternative dx or adjust therapy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Consider oral steroids</li><li>•Step up (1-2 steps) and reevaluate in 2 weeks</li><li>•If no clear benefit in 4-6 weeks , consider alternative dx or adjust therapy</li></ul>

# ASSESSING ASTHMA CONTROL AND ADJUSTING THERAPY IN CHILDREN 5 - 11 YEARS OF AGE

<div> <div>Components of Control</div> </div>		Classification of Asthma Control		
		Well Controlled	Not Well Controlled	Very Poorly Controlled
IMPAIRMENT	Symptoms	≤ 2 days/week	> 2 days/week	Throughout the day
	Nighttime awakenings	≤ 1/month	≥ 2 x/month	≥2x/week
	Interference with normal activity	none	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	SABA use	≤ 2 days/week	> 2 days/week	Several times/day
	FEV <sub>1</sub> or peak flow	> 80% predicted/ personal best	60-80% predicted/ personal best	<60% predicted/ personal best
	FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC	> 80% predicted	75-80% predicted	<75% predicted
RISK	Exacerbations	0- 1 per year	2 - 3 per year	> 3 per year
	Progressive loss of lung function	Evaluation requires long-term follow up care		
	Rx-related adverse effects	Consider in overall assessment of risk		
<div> <div>Recommended Action</div> <div>For Treatment</div> </div>		<div> <div>•Maintain current step</div> <div>•Consider step down if well controlled at least 3 months</div> </div>	<div> <div>•Step up 1 step</div> <div>•Reevaluate in 2 - 6 weeks</div> </div>	<div> <div>•Consider oral steroids</div> <div>•Step up 1-2 weeks and reevaluate in 2 weeks</div> </div>

# ASSESSING ASTHMA CONTROL AND ADJUSTING THERAPY IN YOUTHS $\geq$ 12 YEARS OF AGE AND ADULTS

Components of Control		Classification of Asthma Control		
IMPAIRMENT	Symptoms	Well Controlled	Not Well Controlled	Very Poorly Controlled
		$\leq$ 2 days/week	$>$ 2 days/week	Throughout the day
	Nighttime awakenings	$\leq$ 2/month	1-3/week	$\geq$ 4/week
	Interference with normal activity	none	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	SABA use	$\leq$ 2 days/week	$>$ 2 days/week	Several times/day
	FEV <sub>1</sub> or peak flow	$>$ 80% predicted/ personal best	60-80% predicted/ personal best	$<$ 60% predicted/ personal best
RISK	Validated questionnaires ATAQ/ACT	0/ $\geq$ 20	1-2/16-19	3-4/ $\leq$ 15
	Exacerbations	0- 1 per year	2 - 3 per year	$>$ 3 per year
	Progressive loss of lung function	Evaluation requires long-term follow up care		
	Rx-related adverse effects	Consider in overall assessment of risk		
Recommended Action For Treatment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Maintain current step</li> <li>•Consider step down if well controlled at least 3 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Step up 1 step</li> <li>•Reevaluate in 2 - 6 weeks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Consider oral steroids</li> <li>•Step up 1-2 weeks and reevaluate in 2 weeks</li> </ul>

# ASSESSING ASTHMA CONTROL AND ADJUSTING THERAPY IN CHILDREN 5 - 11 YEARS OF AGE

Components of Control		Classification of Asthma Control		
		Well Controlled	Not Well Controlled	Very Poorly Controlled
IMPAIRMENT	Symptoms	≤ 2 days/week	> 2 days/week	Throughout the day
	Nighttime awakenings	≤ 1/month	≥ 2 x/month	≥2x/week
	Interference with normal activity	none	Some limitation	Extremely limited
	SABA use	≤ 2 days/week	> 2 days/week	Several times/day
	FEV <sub>1</sub> or peak flow	> 80% predicted/ personal best	60-80% predicted/ personal best	<60% predicted/ personal best
	FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC	> 80% predicted	75-80% predicted	<75% predicted
RISK	Exacerbations	0- 1 per year	2 - 3 per year	> 3 per year
	Progressive loss of lung function	Evaluation requires long-term follow up care		
	Rx-related adverse effects	Consider in overall assessment of risk		
Recommended Action For Treatment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Maintain current step</li><li>•Consider step down if well controlled at least 3 months</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Step up 1 step</li><li>•Reevaluate in 2 - 6 weeks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Consider oral steroids</li><li>•Step up 1-2 steps and reevaluate in 2 weeks</li></ul>

## Case # 3

**A 7-year old female with asthma reports nighttime awakenings about 2 times per week and requires albuterol about 3 times per week. She is currently taking fluticasone 44 mcg 2 puffs twice daily. The BEST next step in your step-up treatment plan would be to:**

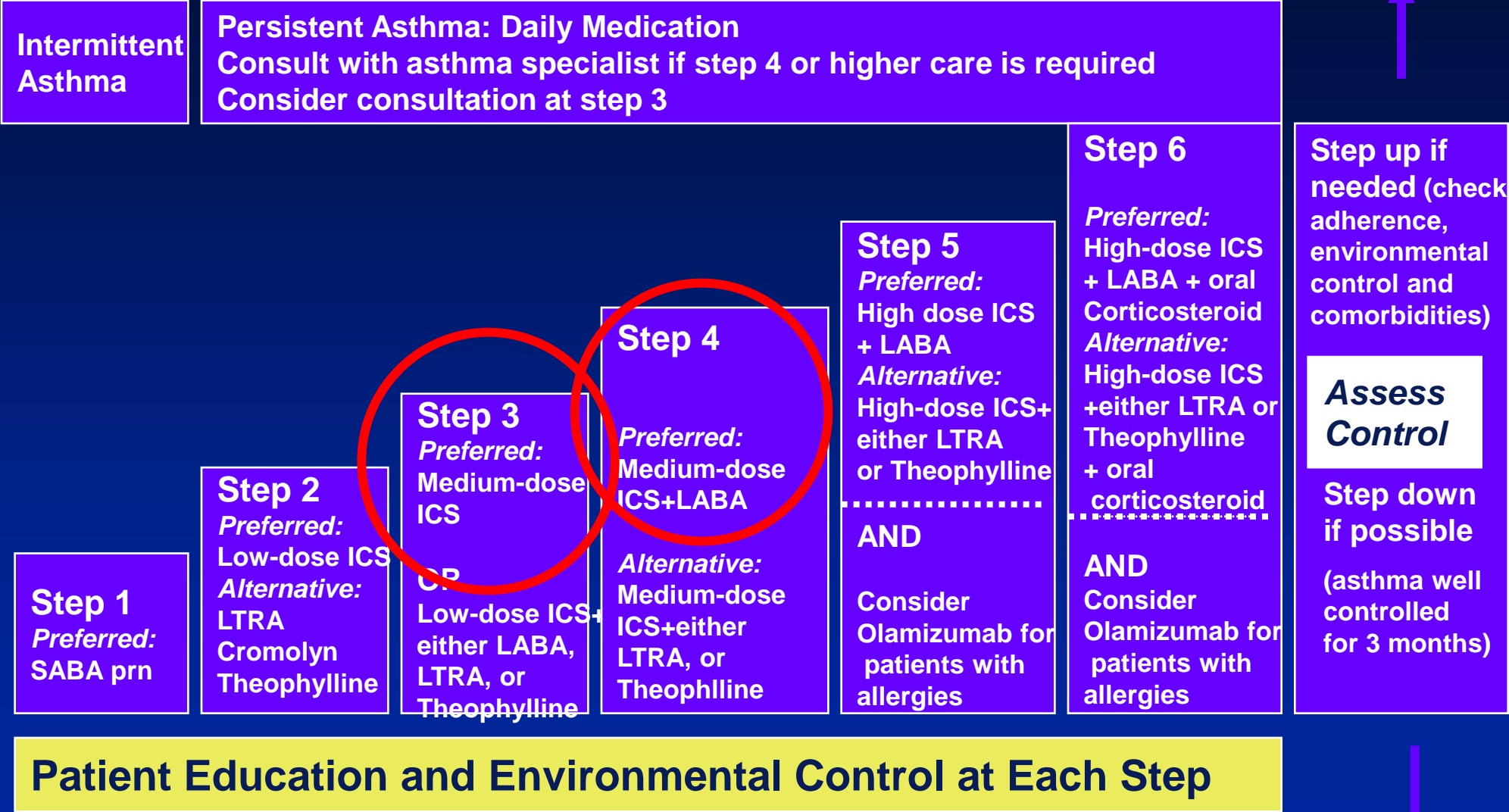
- A. Increase the dose of the inhaled steroid
- B. Add a leukotriene modifier
- C. Add a long-acting B-agonist
- D. Encourage albuterol more frequently, every 4 hours

# Recommended Action for Treatment Based on Assessment of Control

Well Controlled	Not Well Controlled	Very Poorly Controlled
Maintain current step	Step up 1 step and reevaluate in 2-6 weeks	Consider short course of oral corticosteroids
Consider step down if well controlled for at least 3 months	For side effects, consider alternative treatment options	Step up 1-2 steps and reevaluate in 2 weeks
		For side effects, consider alternative treatment options

**Before stepping up check adherence and environmental control**

# STEPWISE APPROACH FOR MANAGING ASTHMA IN CHILDREN 5-11 YEARS OF AGE





## Case # 3

**A 7-year old female with asthma reports nighttime awakenings about 2 times per week and requires albuterol about 3 times per week. She is currently taking fluticasone 44 mcg 2 puffs twice daily. The BEST next step in your step-up treatment plan would be to:**

- A. Increase the dose of the inhaled steroid
- B. Add a leukotriene modifier
- C. Add a long-acting B-agonist
- D. Encourage albuterol more frequently, every 4 hours

# *Quality Measure #4*

## **Control Environmental Exposures**

Patients who have asthma at any level of severity should be queried about allergen and irritant exposure and counseled appropriately





*“Emily, you can eat organic broccoli. I know for a fact that it is not an asthma trigger.”*

# *Quality Measure #5*

## **Use Asthma Action Plans**

All patients should be provided a written asthma action plan with:

1. Daily treatment plan
2. Info on how to recognize and manage symptoms
3. Triggers identified
4. Copies for all caregivers





# Asthma Action Plan

Name	School	DOB / /
Health Care Provider	Provider's Phone	
Parent/Responsible Person	Parent's Phone	
Additional Emergency Contact	Contact Phone	

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Place Patient Label Here

<b>Asthma Severity</b> (see reverse side) <input type="checkbox"/> Intermittent or Persistent: <input type="checkbox"/> Mild <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Severe <b>Asthma Control</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Well-controlled <input type="checkbox"/> Needs better control	<b>Asthma Triggers Identified</b> (Things that make your asthma worse): <input type="checkbox"/> Colds <input type="checkbox"/> Smoke (tobacco, incense) <input type="checkbox"/> Pollen <input type="checkbox"/> Dust <input type="checkbox"/> Animals <input type="checkbox"/> Strong odors <input type="checkbox"/> Mold/moisture <input type="checkbox"/> Pests (rodents, cockroaches) <input type="checkbox"/> Stress/emotions <input type="checkbox"/> Gastroesophageal reflux <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise <input type="checkbox"/> Season: Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<b>Date of Last Flu Shot:</b> / /
--	--	-----------------------------------

## Green Zone: Go!—Take these CONTROL (PREVENTION) Medicines EVERY Day

 You have <b>ALL</b> of these: • Breathing is easy • No cough or wheeze • Can work and play • Can sleep all night <b>Peak flow in this area:</b> _____ to _____ (More than 80% of Personal Best) <b>Personal best peak flow:</b> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> No control medicines required. <u>Always rinse mouth after using your daily inhaled medicine.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Inhaled corticosteroid or inhaled corticosteroid/long-acting $\beta$ -agonist _____ puff(s) inhaler with spacer _____ times a day <input type="checkbox"/> Inhaled corticosteroid _____, _____ nebulizer treatment(s) _____ times a day <input type="checkbox"/> Leukotriene antagonist _____, take _____ by mouth once daily at bedtime For asthma with exercise, <b>ADD:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-acting inhaled $\beta$ -agonist _____ puff(s) inhaler with spacer 15 minutes before exercise For nasal/environmental allergy, <b>ADD:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> _____
---	--

## Yellow Zone: Caution!—Continue CONTROL Medicines and ADD QUICK-RELIEF Medicines

 You have <b>ANY</b> of these: • First sign of a cold • Cough or mild wheeze • Tight chest • Problems sleeping, working, or playing <b>Peak flow in this area:</b> _____ to _____ (50%-80% of Personal Best)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fast-acting inhaled $\beta$ -agonist _____ puff(s) inhaler with spacer every _____ hours as needed <b>OR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-acting inhaled $\beta$ -agonist _____ nebulizer treatment(s) every _____ hours as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <b>Call your DOCTOR if you have these signs more than two times a week, or if your quick-relief medicine doesn't work!</b>
--	--

## Red Zone: EMERGENCY!—Continue CONTROL & QUICK-RELIEF Medicines and GET HELP!

 You have <b>ANY</b> of these: • Can't talk, eat, or walk well • Medicine is not helping • Breathing hard and fast • Blue lips and fingernails • Tired or lethargic • Ribs show <b>Peak flow in this area:</b> Less than _____ (Less than 50% of Personal Best)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fast-acting inhaled $\beta$ -agonist _____ puff(s) inhaler with spacer <b>every 15 minutes, for 3 treatments</b> <b>OR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-acting inhaled $\beta$ -agonist _____ nebulizer treatment <b>every 15 minutes, for 3 treatments</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <b>Call your doctor while giving the treatments.</b> <b>IF YOU CANNOT CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR: Call 911 for an ambulance or go directly to the Emergency Department!</b>
---	--

**REQUIRED** Healthcare Provider Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED** Responsible Person Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up with primary doctor in 1 week or:

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Patient/parent has doctor/clinic number at home

**SCHOOL MEDICATION CONSENT AND PROVIDER ORDER FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH:**  
 Possible side effects of quick-relief medicines (e.g., albuterol) include tachycardia, tremor, and nervousness.  
 Healthcare Provider Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ This student is capable and approved to self-administer the medicine(s) named above.  
☐ This student is **not** approved to self-medicate.  
 This authorization is valid for one calendar year.

**As the RESPONSIBLE PERSON:**

☐ I hereby authorize a trained school employee, if available, to administer medication to the student.  
☐ I hereby authorize the student to possess and self-administer medication.  
☐ I hereby acknowledge that the District and its schools, employees and agents shall be immune from civil liability for acts or omissions under D.C. Law 17-107 except for criminal acts, intentional wrongdoing, gross negligence, or willful misconduct.



www.dcasthmapartnership.org

Adapted from NAEPP by Children's National Medical Center  
 Coordinated by the National Capital Asthma Coalition  
 This publication was supported in part by a grant from the DC Department of Health Asthma Control Program, with funds provided by the Cooperative Agreement Number 5U99HS124206-05 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC.  
 Permission to reproduce blank form. Updated May 2011

## Maryland State School Asthma Medication Administration Authorization Form

ASTHMA ACTION PLAN

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (not to exceed 12 months)



TRIGGER (LIST)

Child's Name: _____	DOB: _____	PEAK FLOW PERSONAL BEST: _____
Parent/Guardian's Name: _____	Home: _____	Work: _____
	Cell: _____	

ASTHMA SEVERITY: ☐ Exercise Induced ☐ Intermittent ☐ Mild Persistent ☐ Moderate Persistent ☐ Severe Persistent

CHECK SYMPTOMS / INDICATIONS FOR MEDICATION USE	GREEN ZONE	CONTROLLER MEDICATION - USE DAILY AT HOME UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Breathing is good <input type="checkbox"/> No cough or wheeze <input type="checkbox"/> Can work, exercise, play <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Peak flow greater than _____ (80% personal best)	Medication	Dose	Route	Frequency/Time
					<input type="checkbox"/> School
					<input type="checkbox"/> School
	EXERCISE ZONE	Medication (Rescue Medication)	Dose	Route	Frequency/Time
	<input type="checkbox"/> Prior to exercise/sports/physical education (PE)				
		If using more than twice per week for exercise/sports/PE, notify the health care provider and parent/guardian.			
	YELLOW ZONE	RESCUE MEDICATIONS - TO BE ADDED TO GREEN ZONE MEDICATIONS FOR SYMPTOMS			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cough or cold symptoms <input type="checkbox"/> Wheezing <input type="checkbox"/> Tight chest or shortness of breath <input type="checkbox"/> Cough at night <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Peak flow between _____ and _____ (50%-79% personal best)	Medication	Dose	Route	Frequency/Time
		If symptoms do not improve in _____ minutes, notify the health care provider and parent/guardian. If using more than twice per week, notify the health care provider and parent/guardian.			
	RED ZONE	EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS - TAKE THESE MEDICATIONS AND CALL 911			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Medication is not helping within 15-30 mins <input type="checkbox"/> Breathing is hard and fast <input type="checkbox"/> Nasal flaring or intercostal retraction <input type="checkbox"/> Lips or fingernails blue <input type="checkbox"/> Trouble walking or talking <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Peak flow less than _____ (50% personal best)	Medication	Dose	Route	Frequency/Time
		CONTACT THE PARENT/GUARDIAN AFTER CALLING 911.			

### HEALTH CARE PROVIDER AUTHORIZATION

I authorize the administration of the medications as ordered above.

Student may self-carry medications ☐ Yes ☐ No

Health Care Provider Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENT/GUARDIAN AUTHORIZATION

I authorize the administration of the medications as ordered above.

I acknowledge that my child ☐ is ☐ is not authorized to

self-carry his/her medication(s):

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### REVIEWED BY SCHOOL NURSE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized to self-carry medications: ☐ Yes ☐ No

10/2012



# ***Quality Measure #6***

## **Schedule Follow-up Visits**

Monitoring and follow up is essential. EPR-3 recommends a stepwise approach to management – best accomplished at *planned visits*.



# Follow-up visits

## Our recommendation:

- Schedule 2-6 weeks after initiating or changing daily treatment plan
- Every 3 months once control is established
- Allows for control assessment, refills, education review, anticipatory guidance

# ***Supplemental Measure #1***

## **Influenza Vaccine 2012-13**

CDC recommends:

- Flu vaccine for all persons  $\geq 6$  months
- Encourage for people with asthma due to higher risk of flu complications, and chance of flu virus-induced asthma exacerbations
- People with asthma should receive the inactivated vaccine by injection





# ***Supplemental Measure #2***

## **Device Technique**

### **An opportunity for improvement...**

Observational study of 296 children ages 8-16y from five primary care practices (41 providers) in non-urban areas of NC

- Only 8 % of children performed all of the correct steps for use of MDI/spacer
- *95 % of providers did not assess technique*
- *96 % of providers did not demonstrate technique*

Sleath B et al. *Pediatrics*, April 2011.

# Questions & Discussion

