

Childhood Asthma

Goal: Reduce national serious childhood asthma attack rates by 50% in five years

Clinical Workgroup Leader: Andrew D. Racine, M.D., Ph.D.

Outcome Metrics: Rates of ED visits and hospitalizations for asthma

Best Practices / Initiatives	Develop an electronic system that identifies and stratifies asthmatics by severity of illness	Utilize written “plan of care” for all severe asthmatics
Process Metrics or Goals to Evaluate Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Percentage of hospitals/practices with electronic system in place to identify asthmatics based on medication use, diagnosis, ED visit, etc., with the goal of having 90% of hospitals/practices utilizing the system in five years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Percentage of identified asthmatics that have a written “plan of care” documented in their chart, with the goal of having written “plans of care” for 90% of asthmatics in five years
Discussion Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to determine who needs to be prescribed inhaled controller medications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elements of written plan would include: trigger identification through an analysis or survey of the asthmatic’s environment, list of current medications, plan of what to do in case of an exacerbation, and acknowledgement that the patient and family understands the contents of the plan

Childhood Asthma (cont.)

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Best Practices / Initiatives	Vaccinate all asthmatics for influenza	Provide follow up and outreach to all active asthmatics between visits
Process Metrics or Goals to Evaluate Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Percentage of asthmatics that have received a vaccine for influenza by December 15th of any given year with the goal of vaccinating 90% of asthmatics in five years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Percentage of patients that have had follow up contact after a “signal event”
Discussion Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of a recall system to alert asthmatic families when the influenza vaccine has arrived by mail, email, phone, or social networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case manager or nurse follow-up may occur after the following “signal events:” ED visit; hospitalization; physician visit for exacerbation; or when medications have changed