



Connecticut Children's Medical Center

STATEWIDE EASY BREATHING NEWS



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Spirometry Training: A training for clinicians and technicians

The Asthma Center is please to offer spirometry training to our participating Easy Breathing sites as well as non-participating sites throughout CT. Spirometry is a clinical test that measures lung function and is the most common of the Pulmonary Function Tests (PFTs) performed. Spirometry is an important tool that is used for the assessment of conditions such as asthma.

There are several NAEPP potential benefits to the use of spirometry in your office. The NHLBI Asthma guidelines recommend that spirometry be performed on all children with asthma. In general, children ages 7 and older can perform this test Spirometry can be used as a diagnostic tool, to assess response to therapy, and describe the course of lung disease.

Spirometry training by the Asthma Center is designed for clinicians and individuals who will perform the actual testing in the office ("PF Technicians"). The "PF Technician" is usually a nurse or medical assistant.

The training is completed over 4 hours on 2 days at least one week apart. On Day 1 of the training, both the clinicians and "PF Technicians" attend a 2 1/2 hour session. On Day 2, only the clinicians attend a 1 1/2 hour session. In total, the training is 4 hours for clinicians and 2 1/2 hours for "PF Technicians".

If you would like to learn more or schedule a training, please contact Deanna Calvert at (860) 545-8976 or via email at DCalvert@ccmckids.org

From July 1, 2007- December 31, 2008, Easy Breathing Statewide Initiative has surveyed 7,865 children. Of the children surveyed, 25% have a dx of asthma. In total, 79,237 children have been surveyed since 1998.

Intermittent:	1128 children
Mild Persistent:	493 children
Moderate persistent:	233 children
Severe Persistent:	7 children
Severity Unknown:	61 children



Congratulations to the Easy Breathing Regional and District Coordinators

The Asthma Center would like to thank Maria, Debbie, Kelly, Ellen, Keri, Sara, AnnMarie, Lynne, Kathy, Mary, and Paulette for training 395 clinicians in Easy Breathing. That translates into 100 practices throughout the State of CT!

The Coordinators are imperative to the success of the Easy Breathing Program. Not only do they stock your exam rooms and collect your surveys, they are a wealth of information. If you need assistance with program implementation, treatment plans, or educational materials, please contact your Coordinator.

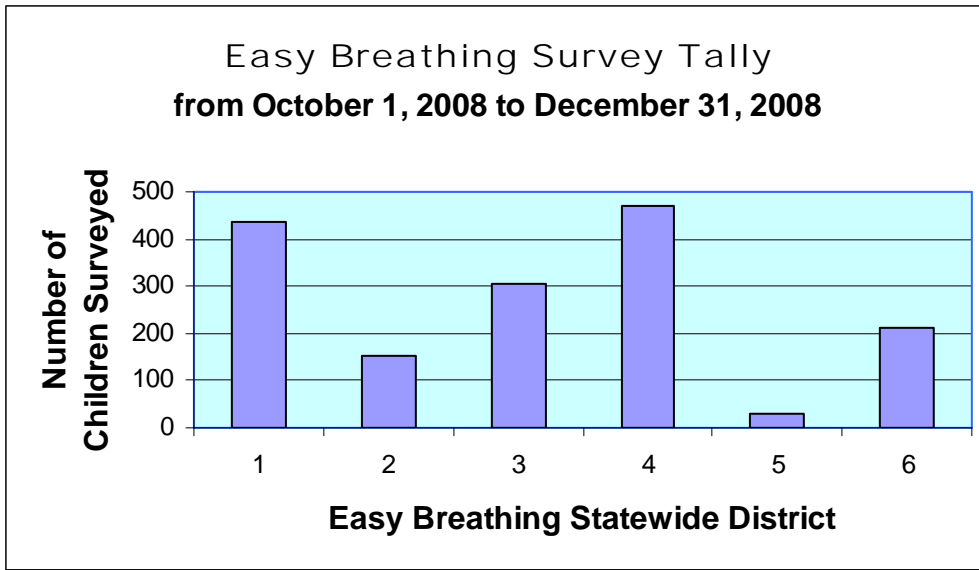
Now a Word about Albuterol and Intermittent Asthma: The 2007 National Asthma Education and Prevention Program Guidelines recommend that every child with asthma receive a treatment plan with daily, sick, and emergency components. There can be times when a child with intermittent asthma needs rescue medication not related to illness or to exercise. For example, a child may be exposed to perfume or cleaning agents that cause symptoms. Having written patient instructions regarding what to do in this circumstance empowers the patient and parent to treat symptoms as needed. The need for frequent albuterol on an as needed basis is evident of inadequate asthma control.



Maintenance of Certification (MOC)2009:

The AAP has developed tools for learning and evaluating your practice to assist you in meeting the components of MOC. Did you know that Easy Breathing meets MOC requirements for AAP recertification as a quality improvement project?

<http://practice.aap.org/topicBrowse.aspx?nodeID=8000.8007>



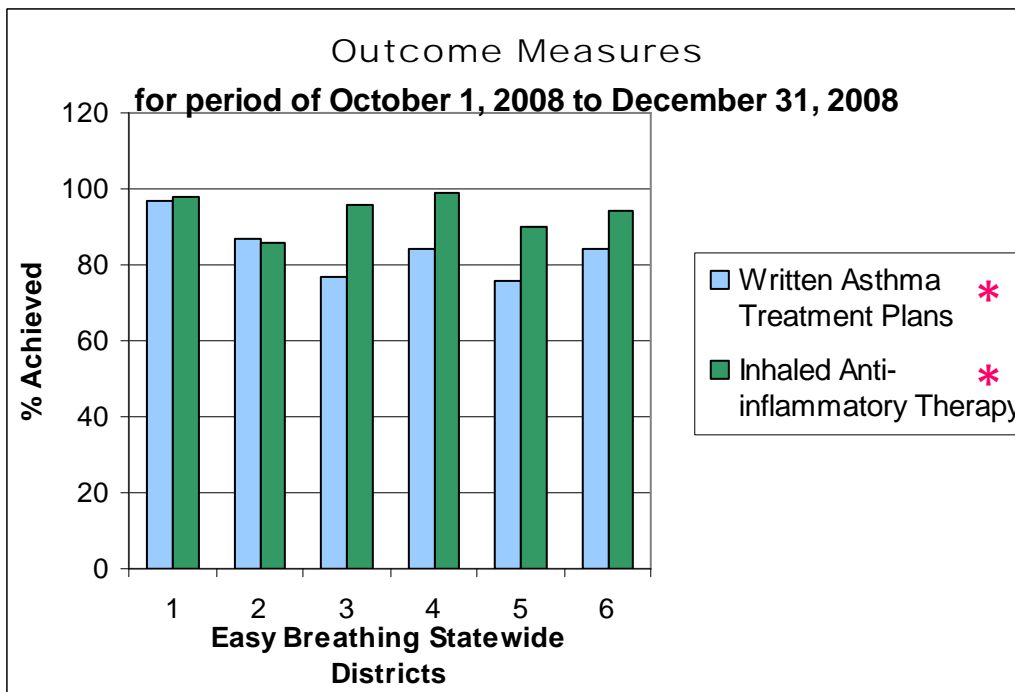
Top Performers

Practice	Number of Surveys
Pediatric Healthcare Associates-Bridgeport	137
Dr. Fred Santoro	124
Saint Mary's Hospital-CHC	115
Vernon Pediatrics	111



GREAT JOB!

Give yourselves a round of applause for your hard work this past quarter!



***Program Goals:**

100% for Written Treatment Plans for children diagnosed with asthma

95% for Inhaled Anti-inflammatory Therapy for children diagnosed with persistent asthma