



STATEWIDE Easy Breathing News

summer 2011

Lisa Jordan, Editor

Michelle Cloutier, MD and Lisa Jordan, AE-C

Easy Breathing Introduces Enhancement Services

While the Easy Breathing® program's primary focus continues to be assisting clinicians in identifying and treating asthma, we understand that there are many other unmet asthma related needs. We appreciate your continued efforts to offer quality asthma care and therefore, we are eager to introduce to you a number of new Easy Breathing® enhancement services designed to support you, your staff, and your patients. Our new services include:

An **Asthma Trainer Program** consisting of a training session for designated staff member (s) of your choice, instructing them how to teach patients to use the MDI's, spacers, DPI's, peak flow meters, etc.; **Medication education** including the difference between controllers vs. rescue drugs and how to utilize the written treatment plan. Interested practices will be provided with an **Asthma Tool Kit** which includes demonstration devices.

CME credit is now available for clinicians who participate in Easy Breathing® training sessions. Training can be received at your practice or online as a web based tutorial @

<http://www.connecticutchildrens.org/EasyBreathingCME>.

Easy Breathing® Partnership with CHNCT will allow CHNCT members with asthma who are seen in your practice to receive telephonic follow up to assist with management of the asthma including review of the treatment plan, use of (the c)ACT, and will ensure that patients have prescribed medications and devices, and encourage adherence to prescribed regimens.

Maintenance of Certification, Part IV; the Easy Breathing® program is approved by the American Board of Pediatrics for MOC Part IV recertification.

We have a large selection of **asthma education materials** that we will individualize for your practice as requested. We also recognize that many of our practices have been utilizing the Easy Breathing® program for many years and you may have new staff periodically. We are pleased to provide **support and training** for your staff as needed.

Please take a moment to complete and return the attached post card and let us know how Easy Breathing® can best provide you with a service of value. We are committed to helping you and your patients breathe a little easier! Contact Program Coordinator, Lisa Jordan, at ljordan@ccmckids.org or 860.545.8852 to request more information regarding Easy Breathing® enhancement services.

From July 1, 2007– March 31, 2011, Easy Breathing© Statewide Initiative has surveyed **27,415** children. Of the children surveyed, **23%** have a diagnosis of asthma. In total, **98,864** children have been surveyed



**Top Producing Sites per District for Quarter
 1/1/11 - 03/31/11**

District 1	Center for Pediatric Medicine- Danbury
District 2	Pediatric Health Care Associates of Bridgeport
District 3	Central Pediatrics and Adol.
District 4	Vernon Pediatrics
District 5	Meriden Pediatric Group
District 6	East Haven Pediatrics

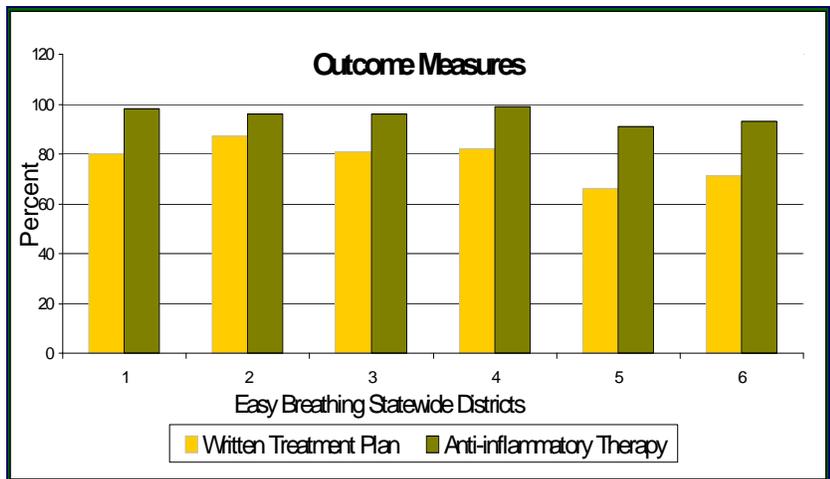
Program Goals:

100 % for Written Treatment Plans for children diagnosed with persistent asthma.
95% for Anti-inflammatory Therapy for children diagnosed with persistent asthma.

Coordinator's Corner

AnnMarie DeMerchant, our coordinator featured this month, has been an Easy Breathing© Coordinator for three years. In addition, AnnMarie is a knowledgeable Respiratory Therapist with 22 years experience as a staff therapist at Day Kimball Hospital. Though it is easy for AnnMarie to recognize and assist a non controlled asthmatic, she does her best to prevent these circumstances. AnnMarie shares that, *"It is wonderful to be able to work for a program that you really believe in [and]...to help clinicians assess their patients for asthma."* AnnMarie is a great resource for anyone with questions about the program.

Contact her at: adermerchant080879@charternet.org or 860.508.6301



SPOTLIGHT ON PEDIATRIC & MEDICAL ASSOCIATES, PC !



Pediatric & Medical Associates utilizes the Easy Breathing Program by offering "Easy Breathing Visits" which offer comprehensive asthma management care for their patients. Flyers are mailed out in the spring and fall to encourage patients to schedule their Easy Breathing Visit which include follow-up assessment, updated treatment plans, medication and device (i.e., spacer) training, spirometry as needed, asthma education, and flu shots, etc. Meridith Cowperthwait, APRN who leads the asthma initiative, together with the staff have made Easy Breathing an integral part of their practice benefitting their providers and patients through improved quality care. We would like to acknowledge all of the providers on a job well done; Ronald Angoff, MD, Nancy Brown, MD, Gregory Germain, MD, Paul Goldstein, MD, Dyan Griffin, MD, Christine Patterson, MD, Meridith Cowperthwait, APRN, Brooke Fleit, APRN, Jane Lawrence-Riddell, APRN, IBCLC.
 For information / assistance establishing a comprehensive asthma management program in your practice contact your Regional Coordinator or the Asthma Center @ ljordan@ccmckids.org, 860.545.8852.

Should my office be trained in Spirometry?

There are several 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 testing. Upon completion of this training, attendees will be able to:

- 1.) Correctly perform spirometry
- 2.) Understand and use predicted normal values
- 3.) Determine disease type and severity
- 4.) Assess test quality and accurately interpret results
- 5.) Recognize patterns of abnormalities
- 6.) Determine reversibility

All clinicians (Physicians, APRNs, and PAs) completing the training and appropriate documentation will receive 4 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

If you would like more information about spirometry or to schedule a training, please contact Annamarie Beaulieu at (860) 545-8976 or via email at abeaulieu@ccmckids.org