Pediatric Asthma Guideline Checklist

Organizations working with Community Health Workers Level 2

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The current state of the issue

Asthma is the most common chronic disease among children, with many potential risk factors including smoking, obesity, family history, and environmental triggers, and adverse childhood experiences.[1,2] In Washington state nearly 120,000 youth have been diagnosed with asthma.[3] Over one year in Washington state, 28% of youth with asthma lacked routine healthcare visits, and one in five visited an emergency room to manage asthma symptoms.[4] Poor control of asthma can lead to chronic absenteeism and affect the academic success of children. Frequently, the burden of asthma in the United States falls disproportionately on Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native people.[5]

Home based interventions

☐ Include follow-up with multiple visits (at least 3 over 6 months) to build relationships with patients and caregivers. Interventions should include a face-to-face component for visits, whether in-person or through virtual means.

☐ Hire and train community health workers to improve outreach. Adhere to the [NCQA/Penn Medicine guidelines](#) for supporting community health workers.
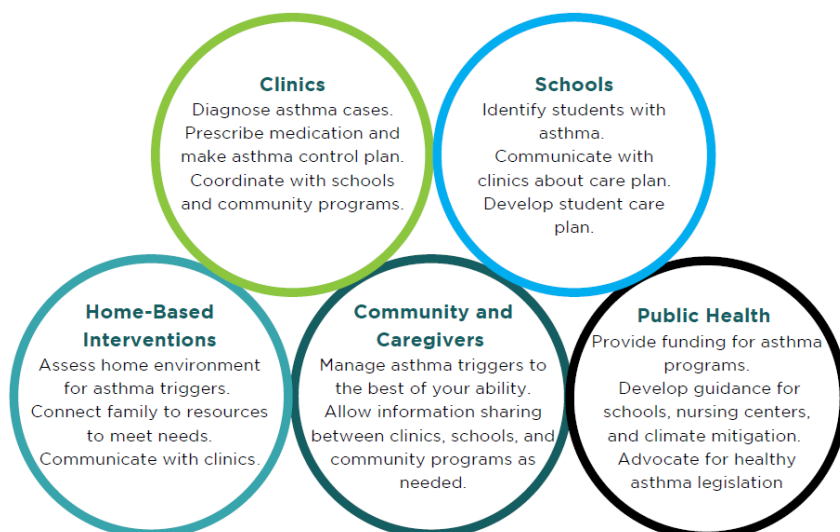
Environmental activities

Home-based multi-trigger, multicomponent interventions can reduce exposure to many indoor asthma triggers, including allergens and irritants. These interventions should include home visits by trained personnel to:

☐ Provide environmental management supplies (e.g., HEPA vacuums, green/non-toxic cleaners, impermeable mattress covers, portable air filtration devices and air filters).

☐ Provide access to home modification services (e.g., mold removal, furnace replacement), where necessary (and available) to bring asthma under control.

Non-environmental activities

☐ Social services and support, including coordinated care for the asthma client such as referrals to resources and legal/housing assistance. Home-based interventions should consider implementing social need screening tools based on previous [Foundation for Health Care Quality](#) reports.

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Model for communication across health care stakeholders

Clinics
Diagnose asthma cases. Prescribe medication and make asthma control plan. Coordinate with schools and community programs.

Schools
Identify students with asthma. Communicate with clinics about care plan. Develop student care plan.

Home-Based Interventions
Assess home environment for asthma triggers. Connect family to resources to meet needs. Communicate with clinics.

Community and Caregivers
Manage asthma triggers to the best of your ability. Allow information sharing between clinics, schools, and community programs as needed.

Public Health
Provide funding for asthma programs. Develop guidance for schools, nursing centers, and climate mitigation. Advocate for healthy asthma legislation

Resources

- The Bree Report on Pediatric Asthma is meant to supplement these resources.
- Full Bree Report on Pediatric Asthma: https://www.qualityhealth.org/bree/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/01/Bree-Pediatric-Asthma-Report-Final.pdf
- National Asthma Education and Prevention Program: https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/science/national-asthma-education-and-prevention-program-coordinating-committee-naeppcc
- CDC's Community Preventative Service Task Force-Asthma Control: https://www.thecommunityguide.org/media/pdf/Asthma-Home-Based-Children.pdf
- Washington State's Asthma Management in Educational Settings Guide: https://ospi.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/public/healthservices/pubdocs/asthmamanual.pdf
- Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America: https://aafa.org/asthma-allergy-research/our-research/climate-health/

Read the full Bree Report on Pediatric Asthma online by scanning the QR code:

Connect with the Bree Collaborative at bree@qualityhealth.org

References: 1. Ferrante, G., & Grutta, S. 2018. The Burden of Pediatric Asthma. Frontiers of Pediatrics. https://doi.org/10.3389/fped.2018.00186. WA 2. Department of Health. (2010). Children and Youth with Asthma: Washington State 2009-2010. https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/345-305-ChildAsthmaFactSheet.pdf. 3. WA Department of Health. (2022). Asthma Data https://www.doh.wa.gov/dataandstatisticalreports/diseasesandchronicconditions/asthmadata. 4. Washington State Department of Health. 2013. The Burden of Asthma in Washington State. Accessed August 2022. Available: https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs//345-240- AsthmaBurdenRept13.pdf 5.5 Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. 2020. Asthma Disparities in America: A Roadmap to Reducing Burden on Racial and Ethnic Minorities. Aafa.org. Accessed June 2022. Available: https://www.aafa.org/media/2743/asthma-disparities-in-america-burden-on-racial-ethnic-minorities.pdf