

# Pediatric Asthma Guideline Checklist

## Public Health Agency-Level 2



## 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.<sup>1,2</sup> In Washington state nearly 120,000 children have been diagnosed with asthma, accounting for between 8 to 11 percent of children in middle and high school.<sup>3</sup> Over one year in Washington state, 28% of youth with asthma lacked routine healthcare visits, and one in five youth with asthma visited an emergency room to manage asthma symptoms.<sup>4</sup> Poor control of pediatric 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/Alaskan Native people.<sup>5</sup> Asthma is a long-term disease that cannot be cured but can be effectively managed through guidelines-based treatment and mitigation plans.

### Clinical Setting

- ☐ Collect and report data on the number of pediatric asthma cases.
- ☐ Develop and utilize pediatric asthma quality metrics.

### Home Setting

- ☐ Facilitate care coordination (whether home-based interventions, community-based organizations, or public health programs) to coordinate activities across care teams, including primary care providers, health plans, schools/childcare, and other service providers. Care coordination programs should facilitate social service referral, with the goal of closed loop referrals. See the [Bree Collaborative's Social Need and Health Equity report](#) for further resources for care coordination.

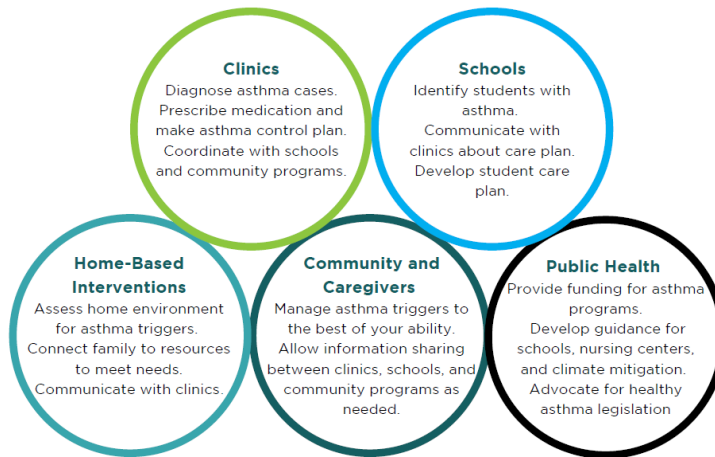
### School Setting

- ☐ Expand the school-based health center model to provide on-site medical services mindful of the school environment.
- ☐ Stock albuterol and spacers for school nurse offices, similar to current policy for epi pens.

## Environmental Exposures

- ☐ Develop preparedness and mitigation plans for extreme weather events – including wildfires, extreme heat/cold, and flooding.
- ☐ Offer programs to connect patients and caregivers to air filters and other products to reduce exposure to climate hazards (e.g., wildfire smoke climate)
- ☐ Partner with weatherization programs from the Department of Commerce to provide products to improve air quality.

## Model for communication across health care stakeholders



## 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](mailto: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>