



Improving Asthma Care Plan Documentation in ESD 105 Schools in Washington State: A simple plan

To address high variation ESD 105 determined that a low cost, low effort intervention could be conducted through a single training on best practices for Asthma management. ESD 105 used existing resources to gather information on barriers and facilitators and train school nurses. Their aim is to document all students with a diagnosis of Asthma and to increase the number of student with a diagnosis of Asthma who have a documented care plan.



Background and Setting

In 2023 OSPI participated in the Bree Collaborative's Pediatric Asthma workgroup, which included guidance for schools and school nurses for the management of pediatric asthma.

In 2024 ESD 105, which covers 25 public school districts and more than 20 state-approved private and tribal schools in South Central Washington, identified high variation in asthma care plan documentation between districts, especially affecting districts with higher proportions of Hispanic students.



Tools and investment

ESD 105 aimed to expand and utilize existing resources to improve asthma care plan documentation. They invested staff time in developing a [School Nurse Survey](#) to collect information on barriers and facilitators for documenting asthma care plans, leveraged regular meetings for training opportunities using the Bree Collaborative guidelines, and used existing data collection and Bree staff support to measure improvements.



Advice

- Align improvement work activities with regional district assessments to facilitate measurement and school years
- Survey dissemination tools could include flyers, QR codes, additional reminders to improve response rates
- Conduct in-person as well as zoom trainings to provide hands-on experience
- Include admin staff in trainings because school staff work as a team with nurses to improve Asthma care plan documentation
- Don't wait



Implementation

of the project consisted of three simple component: Information gathering on barriers and facilitators, school nurse training, and follow-up support. Information on current practices among school nurses and student demographics was collected through surveys and district assessments. Nurses were provided training through the School Nurse Corps meeting held by the School Nurse Coordinator for ESD 105 and a video of the training was distributed through email to all school nurses in the ESD. Email reminders, phone calls, zoom check-ins were also leveraged to spread training information.



Outcomes and impact

Data on outcomes for this project are anticipated to be released in 2026

- Percent increase in nurses' knowledge on how to capture Asthma care plans
- Percent increase in documentation of Asthma diagnosis
- Percent change to Asthma Care Plan documentation, for
 - low and
 - high performing districts

Next steps:

- Increase MOUs with local providers

ESD 105 Identifies Bree Guidelines to support improvements in best practices for their districts

baseline nurses survey on care plan documentation

video of training available

post-training survey

one-year follow up survey and data analysis

2023 OSPI participates in the Bree Collaborative workgroup on Pediatric Asthma

2024 ESD 105 forms the pilot project team

2025 23/24 baseline district assessment available

2025 educational component delivered via Regional School Nurse meetings

2026 24/25 district assessment available

25/26 district assessment available

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