

# Pennsylvania Pediatric Asthma Control Program:

## Workflow Modifications Your Practice Can Implement to Help Improve Pediatric Asthma Management

The following list includes workflow modifications that can be implemented to help your practice and patients better manage pediatric patients diagnosed with asthma. We encourage you to partner with Quality Insights to implement at least one of the recommendations listed below. If you are not currently working with Quality Insights and would like assistance, please email [Robina Montague, RN](mailto:Robina.Montague@qiinsights.com), or call **267-642-0904**.

### Electronic Health Record (EHR) Actions



	Generate an EHR report of patients with asthma (J45.XX diagnosis code) to ensure an asthma diagnosis code is added to the Problem List. Explore EHR capabilities to add clinical decision support (CDS) alerts or prompts.
	Execute an EHR report on patients with asthma who have not had a wellness appointment or disease management appointment in the last six months. Perform outreach utilizing phone calls, text messaging, and/or patient portal to schedule a follow-up appointment for an asthma check.
	Review EHR dashboards to identify opportunities for asthma management in subsets of patients. Determine EHR capabilities for identification and reporting on priority populations (underserved) and disparities, including positive responses to social determinants of health (SDOH) screening.
	Utilize EHR templates for Asthma Control Tests (ACT) and Asthma Action Plans (AAP). Update/review both at every visit and educate the patient.
	Evaluate and document SDOH ICD-10 codes. Partner with Quality Insights to mitigate barriers related to the use of SDOH identification tools and ICD-10 coding.
	Implement a process for documenting all referrals (including specialist, Asthma Self-Management & Education (AS-ME), and community-based organizations) in structured data fields or via a non-EHR tracking method for monitoring feedback and participation.

### Protocol & Workflow Actions

	Review practice protocols with a focus on disparate populations for sharing and discussing asthma control and management among clinicians and providers.
	Develop an asthma office protocol that promotes current guidelines, AS-ME, medication adherence, healthy diet, physical activity, and promotion of lifestyle change programs.
	Implement annual staff training to review: 1) appropriate procedures for obtaining an accurate spirometry or peak flow reading, and 2) competency on teaching proper techniques for inhaler use with the teach-back method.

## Practice & Clinical Solutions

Using the [2024 Pediatric Asthma Practice Education Module](#) as a guide:

	Utilize and share asthma inhaler <a href="#">instructional videos</a> with patients (i.e., waiting room, patient portal, email, text messaging). <a href="#">Additional videos</a> are also available.
	Share the asthma patient engagement video, <b><i>Small Steps to Big Improvements</i></b> , from Quality Insights and the PA DOH Asthma Control Program (available in <a href="#">English</a> and <a href="#">Spanish</a> ).  English  Spanish
	Implement a proactive Outpatient Asthma Monitoring Program. Identify a staff member who can act as an Asthma Champion and partner with a Quality Insights Practice Transformation Specialist for resources and technical assistance.
	Promote apps, Bluetooth, and patient portals to improve the reporting of childhood asthma control test results to clinicians by patients/parents and caregivers.
	Review capability and use of telehealth for the management of pediatric asthma.
	Identify and refer eligible patients to AS-ME as available in the area, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) programs and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Programs.
	Establish a closed-loop referral process with an AS-ME program. Partner with Quality Insights for a portal message or text campaign to encourage referrals to the program.
	Participate in an in-person or virtual presentation to learn more about American Lung Association Open Airways for Schools and/or Kickin' Asthma AS-ME programs.

## Patient Education Actions

	Share community resources with patients, promoting CDC-approved programs for asthma self-management and education (e.g., American Lung Association Open Airways for Schools and Kickin' Asthma).
	Provide patient education on <a href="#">how to use inhalers</a> .
	Create and review an Asthma Action Plan with the patient, parent/caregiver.
	Start asthma education early by teaching younger children about their condition using age-appropriate resources, such as <a href="#">Dusty the Asthma Goldfish and His Asthma Triggers Funbook</a> .

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