

Pediatric Asthma Initiative: Creating Asthma Friendly Environments and Promoting Access to Guidelines-Based Care for Children with Asthma

### Presenter

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### **Faculty Disclosures**

Ashley Turner Robinson, DNP, RN AFC

I disclose the **absence** of personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this educational activity.

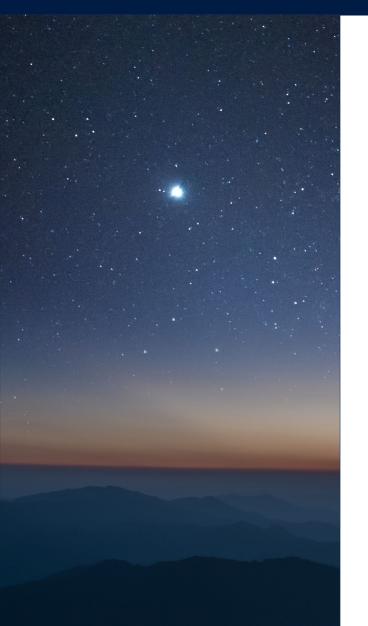


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### **Guiding Statements**



- Purpose: To cultivate an environmentally conscious and responsible public.
- Vision: That people's everyday actions are guided by an understanding and concern for the well-being of people and the planet.
- Mission: To make the environment more accessible, relatable, relevant, and connected to the daily lives of all Americans.



### **Pediatric Asthma Initiative**

Goal

• Integrate environmental management of asthma into pediatric health care to improve access to quality asthma care

Goal

• Strengthen and advance competencies of healthcare professionals

Goal

• Improve health outcomes for children with asthma



### **Learning Objectives**

### At the end of the presentation, attendees will be able to:

- 1. Describe the Guidelines Implementation Panel six priority messages and underlying EPR 3 recommendations of the asthma management guidelines.
- 2. Be familiar with the Environmental Management of Pediatric Asthma: Guidelines for Health Care Providers environmental history form to assess environmental exposures.
- 3. Identify common environmental triggers that impact the severity of asthma. Understand that the leading indoor allergens are pets, dust mites, mice, rats, cockroaches, and molds. Indoor pollutants include airborne PM, SHS, NO2.
- 4. Recommend prevention and intervention strategies to eliminate exposures to common environmental triggers.
- 5. Review the 2020 focused updates to the Asthma Management Guidelines: Recommendations for Indoor Allergen Mitigation in Management of Asthma



### **Asthma Disparities**

- Asthma burden in America is unevenly distributed
- Poor, black, and Hispanic children living in households with incomes less than the federal poverty have higher burden<sup>1,2,3</sup>
  - Twice the risk of developing asthma
- African-American and Latino children have worse asthma status than comparable white children<sup>1</sup>
- African-American children, compared to white children, are<sup>2,3</sup>
  - 2 times as likely to be hospitalized
  - 3 times as likely to die from asthma



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Forno et al., "Asthma and Ethnic Minorities: Socioeconomic Status and Beyond," *Current Opinion in Allergy and Clinical Immunology* 9, no. 2 (April 2009):154-160.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Akinbami et al., "Asthma Prevalence, Healthcare Use, and Mortality," *National Health Statistics Report* 12, no. 32 (January 2011):1-14. <sup>3</sup> Akinbami et al., "Changing Trends in Asthma Prevalence Among Children," *Pediatrics* 137, no. 1 (January 2016).

### Variations in Asthma Care by Race/Ethnicity

- African-American children less likely to have made an office visit for asthma (OR 0.77)<sup>1</sup>
- African-American and Latino children less likely to use inhaled corticosteroids (OR 0.78 and 0.66 respectively)<sup>2</sup>

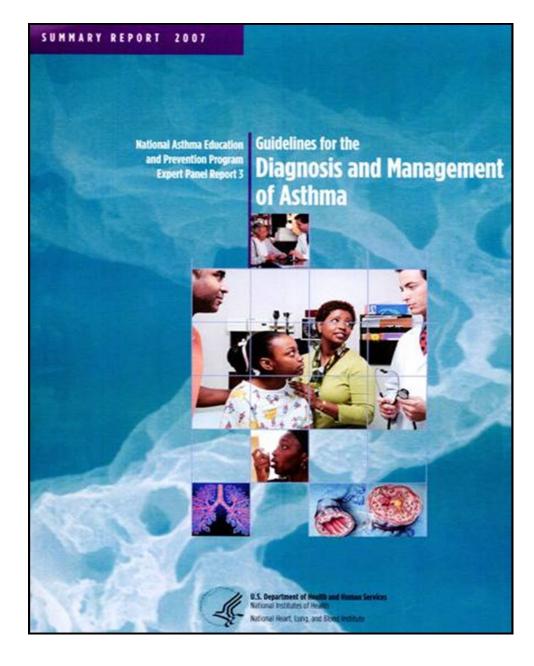
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Kim et al., "Health care utilization by children with asthma," *Preventing Chronic* Disease 6, no. 1 (January 2009):A12. 
<sup>2</sup> Crocker et al., "Racial and ethnic disparities in asthma medication usage and health-care utilization: data from the National Asthma Survey," Chest, 136, no. 4 (October 2009):1063-71.

# National Survey on Environmental Management of Asthma

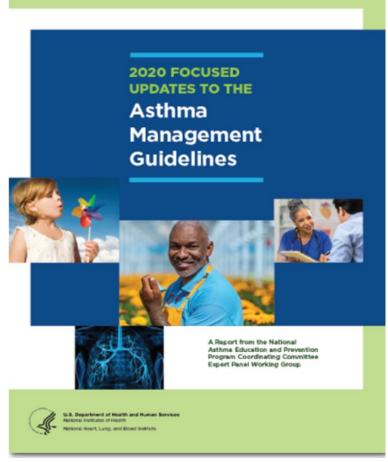
Assessed public's knowledge of environmental asthma triggers and their actions to manage environmental triggers

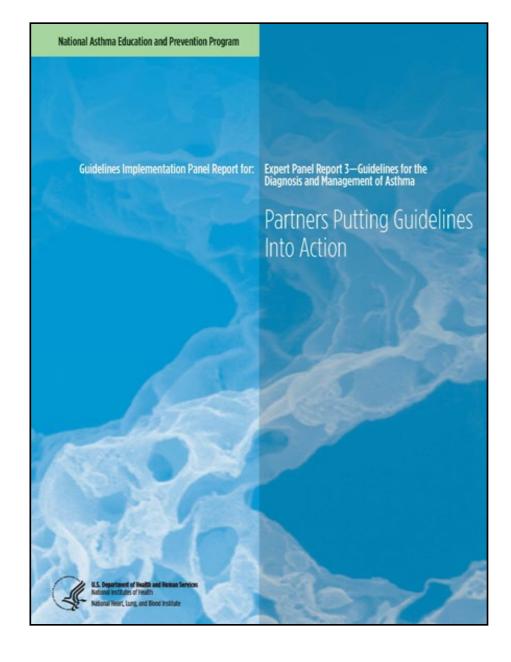
- People from low income, low education households -more likely to have asthma
- < 30% with asthma are taking actions to reduce their exposure to indoor environmental asthma triggers
- People with written asthma action plans are more likely to reduce exposures only 30% of people with asthma have a written asthma action plan
- Children with asthma just as likely to be exposed to ETS in their home as children in general





# National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) Expert Panel Report-3: Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma





# Guidelines Implementation Panel Report for Expert Panel Report 3Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma



### **Guidelines: Six Priority Messages**

- Assess asthma severity
- Assess and monitor asthma control
- Use inhaled corticosteroids
- Written asthma action plan
- Schedule periodic asthma visits
- Control environmental exposures



### Message #1: Assess Asthma Severity

- Classify all patients' asthma based on measures of current impairment and future risk
- **Impairment:** Think Rule of 2s

Intermittent:  $\leq$  2 days/week of symptoms,  $\leq$  2 days/week of bronchodilators

Persistent: if at least > 2 days/ week of symptoms and bronchodilator use. Nocturnal awakenings > 2 nights per month.

Persistent asthma also includes activity limitations

- Risk: # exacerbations requiring oral steroids
  - 0-1/ year = Intermittent asthma
  - ≥ 2/year = Persistent asthma



### Message #2: Assess and Monitor Asthma Control

- Well Controlled (regardless of classification)
  - •≤ 2 days/week of symptoms
  - •≤ 2 days/week of bronchodilator
  - •≤ 1 nighttime awakening/month
  - No limit in activity

#### Not well controlled

- •> 2 days/week symptoms
- •≥ 2 nighttime awakenings/month
- •> 2 days/ week of bronchodilator
- Some limitation in activity

### Very Poorly Controlled

- •Daily symptoms and multiple doses of bronchodilator/day
- Extremely limited activity



### **Message #3: Use Inhaled Corticosteroids**

- Inhaled corticosteroids most effective medication for persistent asthma
- Reduction in both impairment and risk
  - Decrease daytime and nighttime symptoms
  - Fewer hospitalizations and urgent care visits
  - Increases in FEV<sup>1</sup>
- Inhaled route preferred over systemic route: Increased effect in lungs with decreased systemic side effects
- Well tolerated
  - •Small decrease in linear growth, but diminishes over time
- Superior to montelukast alone as preventative agent<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Rachelefsky G. "Inhaled corticosteroids and asthma control in children: assessing impairment and risk," *Pediatrics* 123, no. 1 (January 2009): 353-66.

### Message #4: Use Written Asthma Action Plan

- All medications written in one place
- Includes tailored instructions for child during acute exacerbations
- Based on either symptoms or peak flow monitoring
- Predicted PF based on height
- Green Zone: 80% of predicted or greater
- Yellow Zone: 50-80% of predicted
- Red Zone: 50% of predicted or less



### **Asthma Action Plan**

For: Doctor's Phone Number		gency Department Phone Number	
Doing Well  No cough, wheeze, chest fightness, or shortness of breath during the day or night.  Can do usual schildies  And, if a peak flow meter is used,  Peak flow: more then  (80 percent or more of my best peak flow)  My best peak flow is:		htrol medicines each day (include an anti-i How much to take	
Before exercise	0	0.2 or 0.4 pulls	5 to 60 minutes before exercise
Molion at aight due to authora		fing betagragonist) Thebulizer, onc	
Wilding at night due to asthma, or Can do some, but not all, usual activities Or- Peak flow:  [50 to 79 percent of my best peak flow)	If your symptoms Continue monit Or- If your symptoms I lake	(and peak flow, if used) return to GREEN pring to be sure you stay in the green zone.  (and peak flow, if used) do not return to Gi  (short-acting betay-appriet)	ZONE after 1 hour of above treatment:  REEN ZONE after 1 hour of above treatment  12 or 11 4 pulls or 11 Nebulizer  mg per day For(3-10) days
Can do some, but not all, usual activities  -Or-  Peak flow:	If your symptoms Continue monits Or- If your symptoms 1 lake:  1 Add:  1 Call the doctor  Take this medicine:  (tho	(and peak flow, if used) return to GREEN: ring to be sure you stay in the green zone.  (and peak flow, if used) do not return to G  [chort-sating betay-aganist]  T before/ I within	ZONE after 1 hour of above treatment:  REEN ZONE after 1 hour of above treatmen  2 or 13 4 pulls or 13 Nabulizer  mg per day For

#### How To Control Things That Make Your Asthma Worse

This guide suggests things you can do to avoid your asthma higgers. Put a check next to the triggers that you know make your asthma worse and ask your dictor to help you find out if you have other triggers as well. Then decide with your doctor what steps you will take.

#### Allergens

#### Animal Dander

Some people are allergic to the flakes of skin or dried saliva from animals with flur or feathers.

The best thing to do:

- Keep furted or feathered pets out of your home.
- If you can't keep the pet outdoors, then:
- Keep the pet out of your bedroom and other sleeping areas at all times, and keep the door closed.
- Remove carpets and furniture covered with cloth from your home.
   If that is not possible, keep the pet away from fabric-covered furniture and carnets.

#### Dust Mite

Many people with asthma are allergic to dust mites. Dust mites are thy bugs that are found in every home—in mattresses, plows, capies, uphoistered furniture, bedoovers, dothes, stuffed toys, and fabric or other fabric covered items.

Things that can help:

- Encase your mattress in a special dust-proof cover.
- Encase your pilow in a special dust proof cover or wash the pilow each week in hot water. Water must be hotter than 130° F to kill the mites.
   Cold or warm water used with detergent and bleach can also be effective.
- Wash the sheets and blankets on your bedeach week in hot water.
- Reduce indoor humidity to below 60 percent (deally between 30—50 percent). Dehumidifiers or central air conditioners can do this.
- Try not to sleep or lie on doth-covered cushions.
- Remove carpets from your bedroom and those laid on concrete, if you can.
- Keep stuffed toys out of the bed or wash the toys weekly in hot water or coderwater with detergent and bleach.

#### Cockroaches

Many people with asthma are allergic to the dried droppings and remains of cockroaches.

The best thing to do:

- . Keep food and garbage in closed containers. Never leave food out.
- Use poison baits, powders, gels, or paste for example, boric acid;.
   You can also use trans.
- If a spray is used to kill roaches, stay out of the room until the odor goes away.

#### Indoor Mo

- Fix leakly faucets, pipes, or other sources of water that have mold around them.
- . Clean moldy surfaces with a cleaner that has bleach in it.

#### Pollen and Outdoor Mold

What to do during your allergy season (when pollen or mold spore counts are high):

- Try to keep your windows closed.
- Stay indoors with windows closed from late morning to afternoon,
   if you can. Pollen and some mold spore counts are highest all that time.
- Ask your doctor whether you need to take or increase anti-inflammatory medicine before your allergy season starts.

#### Irritants

#### Tobacco Smoke

- If you smoke, ask your doctor for ways to help you quit. Ask family members to guit smoking, too.
- Do not allow smoking in your home or car.

#### Smoke, Strong Odors, and Sprays

- If possible, do not use a wood-burning slove, kerosene heater, or freplace.
- Try to stay away from strong odors and sprays, such as perturne, takum powder, hair spray, and paints.

#### Other things that bring on asthma symptoms in some people include:

#### 1 Vacuum Cleaning

- Try to get someone else to vacuum for you once or twice a week,
  if you can. Stay out of rooms while they are being vacuumed and for
  a short while offerward.
- If you vacuum, use a dust mask (from a hardware store), a double-layered or microfilter vacuum cleaner bag, or a vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter.

#### Other Things That Can Make Asthma Worse

- Suffles in foods and beverages: Do not drink beer or wine or eat dried fruit, processed potatoes, or shiring if they cause asthma symptoms.
- . Cold air: Cover your nose and mouth with a scarf on cold or windy days.
- Other medicines: Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take.
   Include cold medicines, aspirin, vitamins and other supplements, and nonselective beta-blockers (including those in eye drops).





For More Information, go to: www.nhlbi.nih.gov

NIH Publication No. 07-5251 April 2007



### Message #5: Schedule Follow-Up Visits

- Schedule planned follow-up visits at periodic intervals to assess asthma control and modify treatment if needed
  - 1-6 months depending on level of control
  - 3-month interval if step down in therapy is anticipated
- Consider a patient reminder system for these visits



### **Message #6: Control Environmental Exposures**

- Review the environmental history of exposures
- Develop a multi-pronged strategy to reduce exposure to those triggers to which a patient is sensitive
- Remainder of presentation focuses on evidence of exposure mediation and recommendations for your patient



### **Common Asthma Triggers**

- Poor air quality
  - Traffic related pollutants
- Extremes in weather
  - Hot, cold, windy, humid, dry
- Dusty environment
- Allergens
  - Mold
  - Pets (carried on clothes)
  - Grass, trees, flowers, weeds
  - Pests
  - House dust mites

- Strong odors/fragrances
  - Personal care products
  - Chemicals/ cleaning products
  - Air fresheners
- Building construction
- Physical activity
- Respiratory infections



### **Importance of Triggers in Asthma**

- Allergen exposure plays a significant role in childhood asthma. Most school-aged children with asthma have evidence of allergic sensitization.
- 20% of school-aged children with persistent asthma are not atopic but are susceptible to pollutants and irritants as are all children with asthma.
- Viruses are a major trigger of exacerbations.
- Schools can be sources of exposure to allergens (mold, pests, animals) and pollutants



### **American Academy of Pediatrics 2016 Clinical Report**

- Individually tailored environmental control measures reduce asthma symptoms/ exacerbations and are cost-effective.
- Environmental history to identify indoor exposures that trigger asthma symptoms (indoor pollutants and allergens).
- Leading indoor allergens: pets, dust mites, mice, rats, cockroaches, and molds. Pollutants include airborne PM, SHS (ETS), NO2.
- Assessment of clinically relevant indoor allergens: Serum allergen-specific IgE antibody tests or referral to an allergist for evaluation, allergy skin testing
- Environmental control strategies tailored to relevant indoor exposures: source removal, source control, and mitigation strategies.



### **American Academy of Pediatrics 2016 Clinical Report 2**

 Environmental control targeting all the exposures is important to achieve maximal benefit.

### Sample Environmental Control Plan (supplementary data)

Goals and actions for all children with asthma

#### **2020 FOCUSED UPDATES TO THE Asthma Management Guidelines:**

In individuals with asthma who have symptoms related to exposure to identified indoor allergens, confirmed by history taking or allergy testing, the Expert Panel conditionally recommends a multicomponent allergen-specific mitigation intervention.



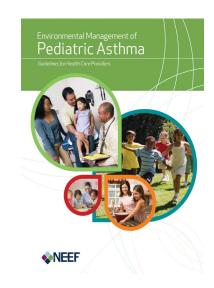
## Sample Environmental Control Plan (supplementary data)

	SAMPLE ENVIRONMENT.	AL CONTROL PLAN ACTIONS
Man III am ann ann ann		ACHONS
☑ FOR ALL CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA	Keep the home free of smoke and irritants:  • Cigarette smoke • Perfumes • Candles/incense, scented air "fresheners"	Keep the home and car smoke free Do not allow visitors to smoke in the home. Refer parents and household members who are smokers to treatment for tobacco dependence to support smoking cessation HEPA purifiers can help decrease pollution from cigarette smoke, but not as much as smoking cessation or banning smoking in the home will Avoid exposure to: perfumes, candles, incense, and scented air "fresheners"
If your child: is allergic to at least one indoor allergen (dust mites, molds, cat, dog, other furry pets, cockroaches, and/or mice)	Keep the home clean:  Dust contains allergens Allergens are substances made by animals and other living things. Exposure to allergens makes asthma harder to control in children who are allergic	Get rid of dust by effective cleaning Vacuum/damp mop 1-2 times a week Wash ALL bedding in hot water every 1-2 weeks to kill dust mites and remove allergens Use allergy control covers on mattress and pillows to reduce allergen exposure while sleeping Keep stuffed animals/toys out of sleeping area
is allergic to dust mites	Keep dust mite levels low:  • Dust mites are microscopic bugs that eat skin particles sloughed off by people	The actions for keeping the home clean are also helpful for keeping dust mite allergen levels low:  • Wash ALL bedding in hot water every 1-2 weeks to kill dust mites and remove du mite allergens  • Use allergy control covers on mattress and pillows to reduce allergen exposure to dust mites  • Keep stuffed animals/toys out of sleeping area
		Cockroaches
is allergic to cockroaches	Keep the home pest free: Cockroaches Roaches are common indoor pests found in all types of homes Many homes have roaches no matter how clean they seem If allergie to roaches, getting rid of roaches from the home can control asthma It is important to figure out why there are roaches in the home and help get rid of them	Integrated Pest Management (IPM) includes: removing sources of water, making food inaccessible to roaches, eliminate hiding places for roaches.  Do not leave food out, store in air tight containers.  Empty garbage every day.  If these strategies do not control roaches, consider professional pest management services
is allergic to mice	Mice  The urine and hair of the mice contain allergens.  Reducing exposure to rodent allergens is an important strategy in helping to control asthma.  Mice can enter homes through holes that a pencil can fit through	IPM strategies: prevent rodents from entering house. Remove rodent attractants such as food, garbage, and clutter from both indoor and outside home. Setting traps and sealing holes and cracks that can be used to enter the home are important steps to control the mouse population. If these strategies do not control mice, consider professional pest management services that include sealing of holes and cracks as part of their services.
is allergic to mold	Keep the home dry:  Molds are found both indoors and outdoors, but grow best where there is moisture or dampness	Wash mold off hard surfaces and dry completely. Detergent or a dilute bleach solution are recommended by the EPA and the CDC, respectively.* Note that these can be respiratory irritants. The most important way to control mold is to get rid of dampness and moisture problems. Strategies include fixing leaky plumbing or other water sources and improving ventilation by installing a fian in bathrooms.
is allergic to these furry pets:	Keep the home free of furry animals: Cats, dogs, and other furry pets • Furry pet allergens are airborne and travel all over the house and are sticky, so they stick to walls, floors, furniture, etc. This makes them very difficult to remove without removing the pet from the home.	The first-line approach to reduce furry pet allergens (cats, dogs) is to not have a furry pet in the home, or to find the furry pet that is already in the home a new home.  It takes 4-6 months after removing a pet from the home for allergen levels to drop enough to be of benefit to asthma and allergies.  Second-line measures that can be tried, but are minimally effective, are:  Restricting the pet to one area of the home Having the child's bedroom be a "safe room" where the pet is never allowed and the door is kept closed Using HEPA purifiers in the child's bedroom  the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Asthma Office.



# **Environmental Management of Pediatric Asthma: Guidelines for Health Care Providers**

- Founded upon NHLBI Guidelines
- Developed for primary care providers
- Authored by expert steering committee and peer reviewed
- Built on scientific literature and best current practices
- Environmental history form
- Environmental intervention guidelines
- Sample Patient Flyers and References
- Supplemented by online list of resources with web-links
- Available in English and Spanish online



https://www.neefusa.org/resource/environmental-management-pediatric-asthmaguidelines-health-care-providers



### **Environmental History Form for Pediatric Asthma**

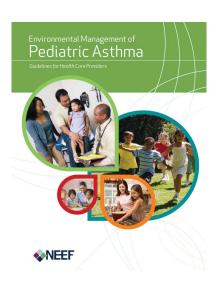


- Quick intake form
- Administered by health care provider
- Available online as PDF and Word document
- Can be pasted, re-copied or scanned into the EMR
- Questions are in yes/no format
- Also available in Spanish



### **Intervention Guidelines**

- Follow up "yes" answers with in-depth questions on Intervention Guidelines fact sheets
  - Explore exposure sources
  - Parents' current practices
- Intervention recommendations
- Sample patient handouts to download
- Additional resources on initiative's website





### Allergy Evaluation/ Referral

- NAEPP guidelines: assess sensitivity to indoor allergens if persistent asthma
- Serum allergen-specific immunoglobulin E (IgE) antibody tests may be performed, or allergy skin testing by a board-certified allergist
- Low-cost environmental interventions are reasonable, especially where widespread exposure occurs (i.e., dust mites in SE)
  - Costly interventions considered after confirmation of allergens
  - Testing to selected relevant allergens is preferred



# What is the Evidence for Environmental Trigger Control?

























### **Asthma Burden in Michigan**

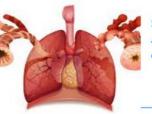




#### THE POPULATION

192,000 Michigan children are currently affected by asthma





#### STATISTICS

42% of children with asthma had at least 2 office visits in the last year

#### THE PROBLEM



1 IN 8 MICHIGAN STUDENTS WITH ASTHMA MISS MORE THAN 6 DAYS OF SCHOOL EACH YEAR DUE TO ASTHMA

COST
Annual pediatric asthma costs range from \$3076 to \$13612



### Questions to Ponder: Burden of Asthma in Michigan

- What are some of the burdens of asthma?
- What factors augment the burden of asthma?
- What measures can reduce the burden of asthma?
- What particular harmful air pollutants are commonly found in Michigan and around the US?



### **Summary**

- National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) Expert Panel Report-3: Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma was updated in 2020
- The six priority messages developed from the updated guidelines include:
  - Assess asthma severity
  - Assess and monitor asthma control
  - Use inhaled corticosteroids
  - Written asthma action plan
  - Schedule periodic asthma visits
  - Control environmental exposures



### **THANK YOU**



