

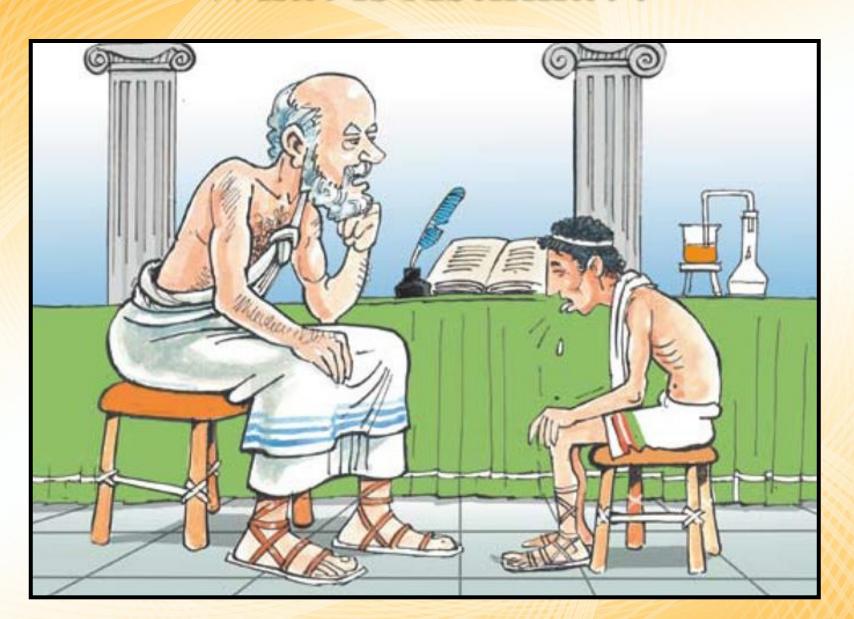
Current Trends In Asthma Part I

Kenneth Miller, MEd, MSRT, RRT-ACCS, AE-C, FAARC Clinical Educator Wellness Champion Lehigh Valley Health Network Allentown, Penna.

Presentation Objectives

- Describe the pathophysiology associated with the asthmatic patient.
- Define what is asthma and describe the epidemiological prevalence.
- Define clinical end-points when treating the asthmatic patient.

What is Asthma??



The term Asthma comes from the **Greek verb aazein**, meaning to pant, to exhale with the open mouth, sharp breath. In The *Iliad*, a Greek epic poem (attributed to Homer) describing the siege of Troy, the expression asthma appeared for the first time.

The Corpus Hippocraticum, (collection of ancient Greek Medical works) is the earliest text where the word asthma is found as a medical term. We are not sure whether it meant asthma as a clinical entity or as merely a symptom. Hippocrates said spasm linked to asthma were more likely to occur among carpenters, tailors and metalworkers.

Galen (130-200 AD), the greatest physician of ancient Rome described asthma as bronchial obstructions and treated it with owl's blood mixed in wine in his post- operative patients.

Historical Perspectives Of Asthma

Bernardino Ramazzini (1633-1714 AD), known to some as the father of sports medicine, detected a link between asthma and organic dust. He also recognized exercise-induced asthma.

At the beginning of the 20th century asthma was seen as a psychosomatic disease. During the 1930s to 1950s, asthma was known as one of the holy seven psychosomatic illnesses.

Asthma was described as psychological, with treatment often involving, as its primary component, psychoanalysis and other 'talking cures'. A child's wheeze was seen as a suppressed cryphis or her mother. Psychoanalysts thought that patients with asthma should be treated for depression. This psychiatric theory was eventually refuted, and asthma became known as a physical condition.

Asthma, as an inflammatory disease, was not really recognized until the 1960s when anti-inflammatory medications started being used.

What is Asthma 2021??

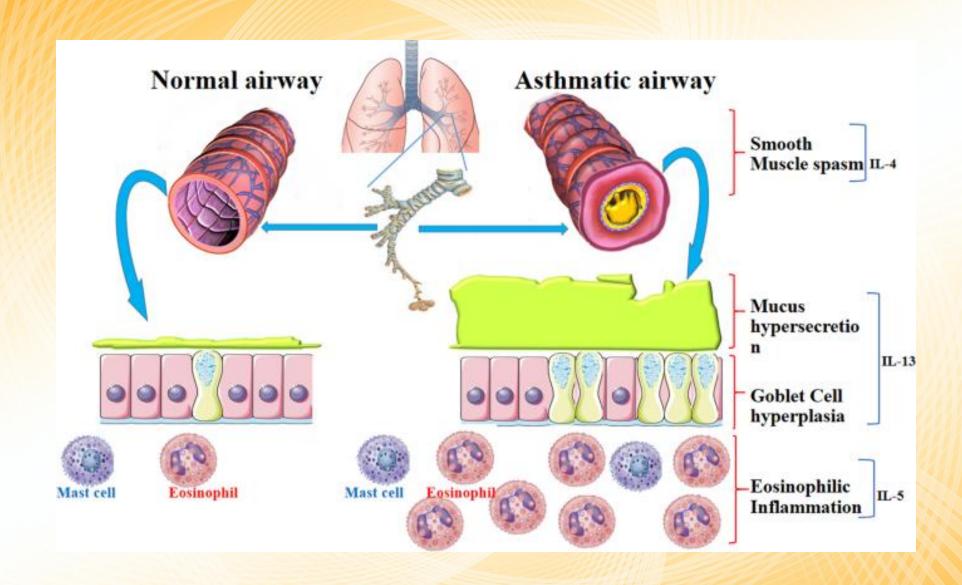
- Asthma is a chronic (long-lasting) inflammatory disease of the airways.
- In those susceptible to asthma, this inflammation causes the airways to spasm and swell periodically so that the airways narrow. The individual then must wheeze or gasp for air.
- Obstruction to air flow either resolves spontaneously or responds to a wide range of treatments, but continuing inflammation makes the airways hyper-responsive to stimuli such as cold air, exercise, dust mites, pollutants in the air, and even stress and anxiety.

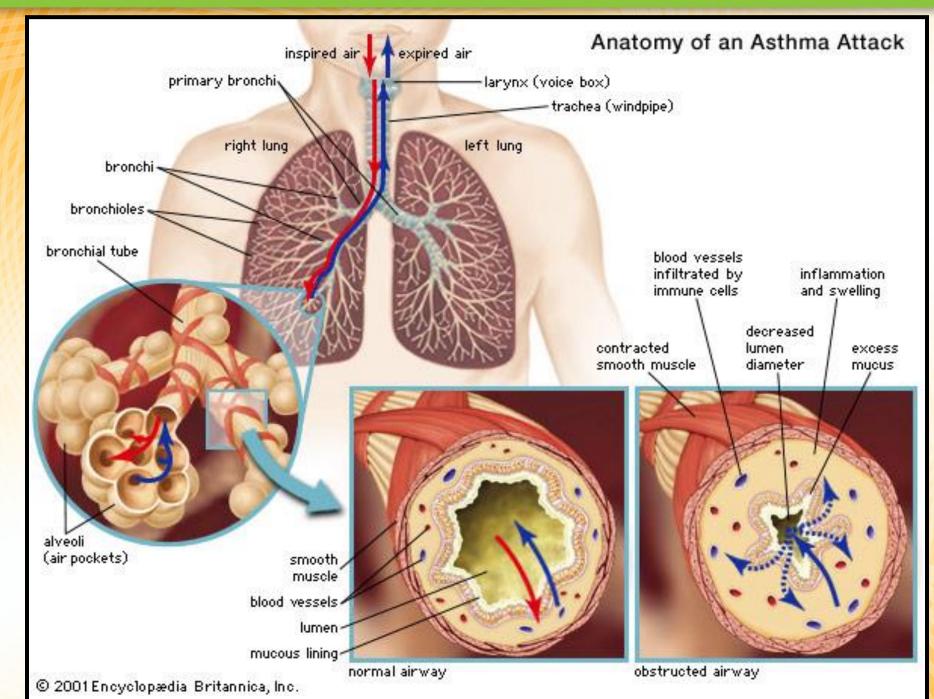
Asthma Pathophysiology

Airway inflammation (always present)

Airway hyperresponsiveness

Airway obstruction



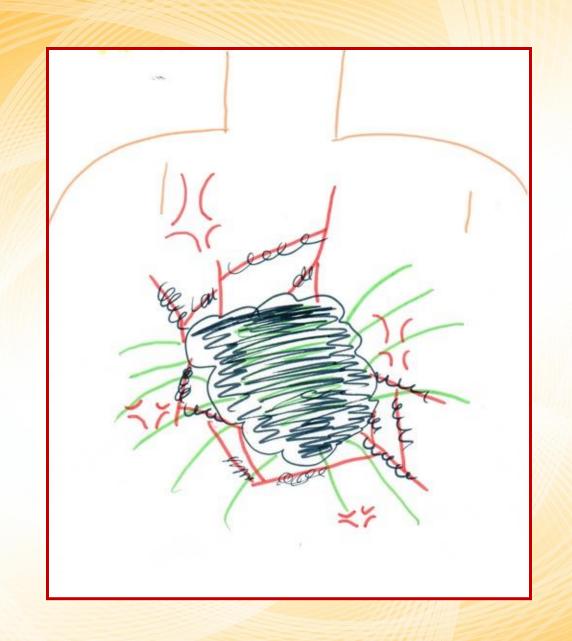


Mucus Plugging in Asthma



Child's View of Asthma





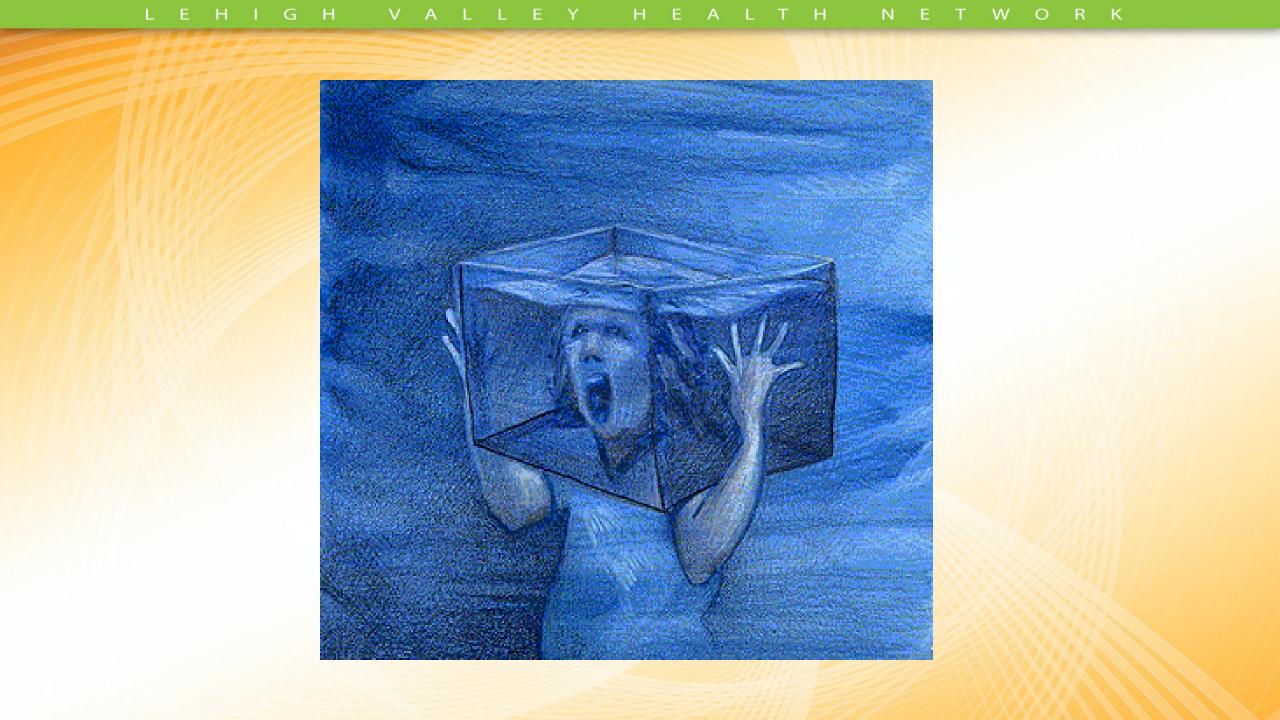
"WHEN I HAVE AN ASTHMA ATTACK I FEEL LIKE A FISH WITH NO WATER."





Teenager's view Of Asthma





Asthma Epidemiology

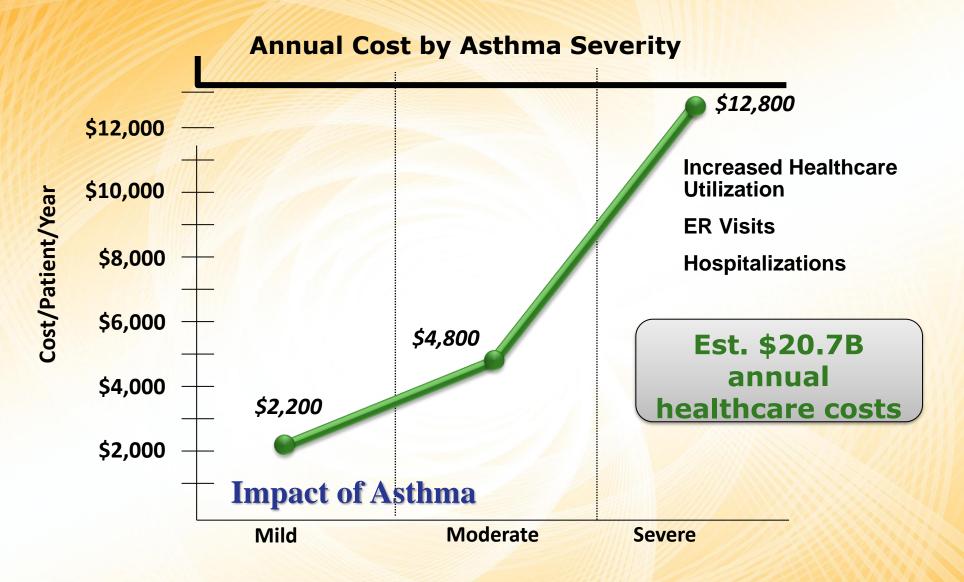
- Prevalent in 10% of the world's population
- Increase noted by 20-30% over the last two decades
- More common in males, but more lethal in females
- Approximately 3,500 death per year in the United States
- Death rates higher in patients >55 years old
- Admission and death rates higher in lower socialeconomic groups

Asthma Overview: Prevalence, Morbidity and Mortality in the USA

- 24.6 million
 People diagnosed with asthma
- 12.8 million
 People experience asthma attacks
- 1.8 millionEmergency room visits
- 456,000Hospitalizations
- 3,447Asthma-related deaths

Annual incidence, based on 2018 data

Approximately 9 People Die From Asthma Each Day in the U.S.



Is Asthma an Social-Economic or Race Disease?



Table 1. Prevalence, Mortality, and Health Care Utilization Among Adults With Asthma in the United States

| Measure | Value |
|---|-------|
| Prevalence, % ^a | |
| Overall prevalence | 7.4 |
| Sex | |
| Male | 5.1 |
| Female | 9.6 |
| Race/ethnicity | |
| White non-Hispanic | 7.6 |
| Black non-Hispanic | 8.7 |
| Hispanic | 5.8 |
| Others | 6.8 |
| Hispanic of Puerto Rican origin | 13.3 |
| Hispanic of Mexican origin | 4.9 |
| Asthma-Specific Mortality (Deaths per Million per Year) ^b | |
| Overall | 14.1 |
| Race/ethnicity | |
| White non-Hispanic | 8.8 |
| Black non-Hispanic | 25.4 |
| Hispanic | 7.7 |
| Others | 9.9 |
| Health Care Utilization | |
| Ippatient discharges (rate per 10 000 per year) ^c | |
| Overall | 13.0 |
| Race | |
| White | 8.7 |
| Black | 29.9 |
| Other | 12.6 |
| Emergency department visits (in millions per year) ^d | 1.8 |
| Physician office visits (in millions per year) ^e | 10.5 |
| Hospital outpatient department visits (in millions per year) ^f | 1.3 |

^a Asthma prevalence by age, sex, and race/ethnicity as reported in 2014 National Health Interview Survey.

^b Asthma mortality (deaths per million) as reported in 2014 National Centers for Health Statistics surveys. Death rates by age are age-adjusted to 2000 US Standard Population.

^c Inpatient discharges as reported in the 2010 National Hospital Discharge Survey.

^d Emergency department visits as reported in the 2013 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.

^e Physician office visits as reported in the 2012 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.

f Hospital outpatient department visits as reported in the 2010 National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.

Questions?

What Causes Higher Asthma Rates in African Americans?





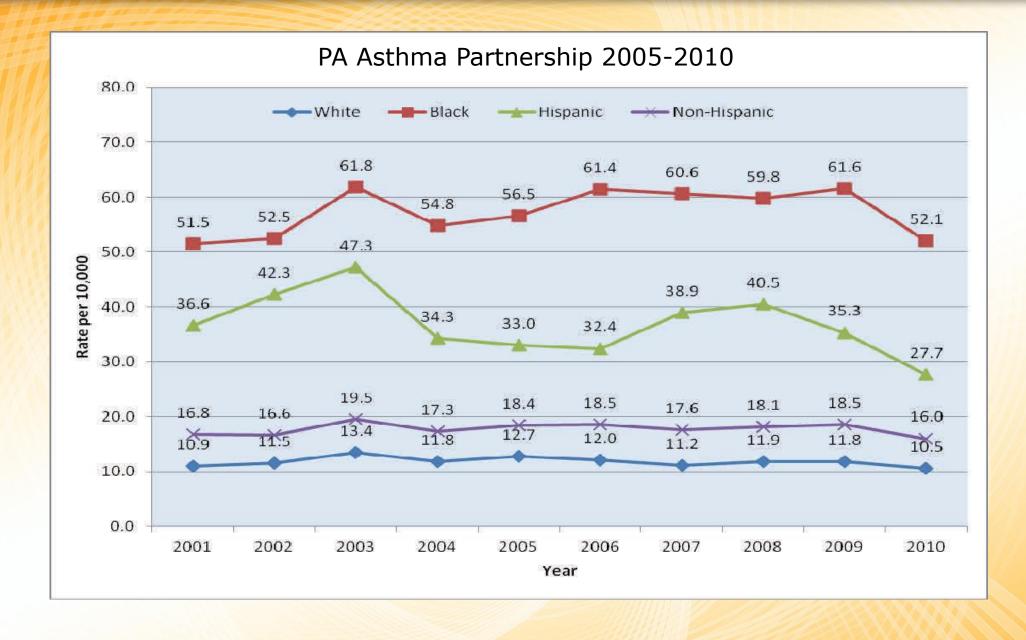




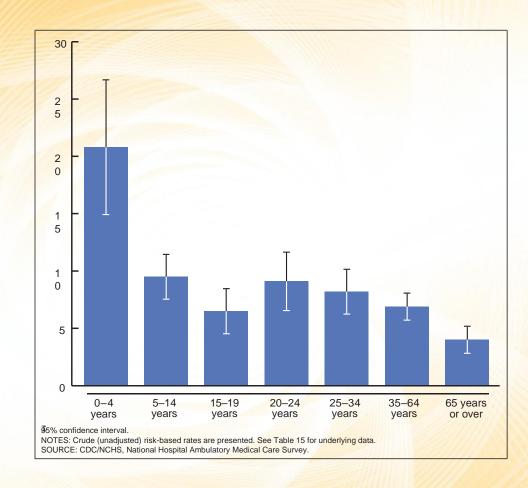
Genetics

- Although there is evidence to suggest that social determinants and inequities in healthcare play a role, certain biological factors also appear to be associated with the disparities outlined above.
- For example, differences in genes that make someone more susceptible to developing asthma or increase the severity of their asthma symptoms may also explain the higher rates of asthma in African American populations.
- A study in the <u>American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care</u> <u>Medicine</u> examined some possible differences in people's responses to respiratory medications. The researchers used a cohort of 1,441 African American, Puerto Rican, and Mexican American participants.
- The researchers found both common that is, those that affected all populations and rare genetic variants associated with a decreased response to albuterol.
- Albuterol is a bronchodilator that doctors frequently prescribe to treat asthma. Although research continues, genetic mutations such as these may provide some explanation for the disparities in asthma rates in different racial groups

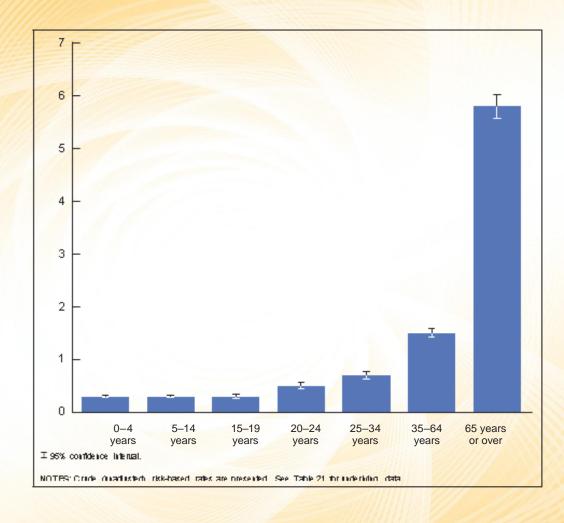
- Healthcare inequalities: Inequities in healthcare occur for various reasons, including systemic racism and policies that discriminate against African American populations. Discrimination and racism affect economic stability and, in turn, access to healthcare. A lack of accessible healthcare may lead to a person having poorly managed asthma.
- Social determinants: Social determinants include factors such as a person's physical environment and socioeconomic status. For example, having poor housing conditions and a low income may result in increased exposure to asthma triggers such as mold or higher levels of air pollution.

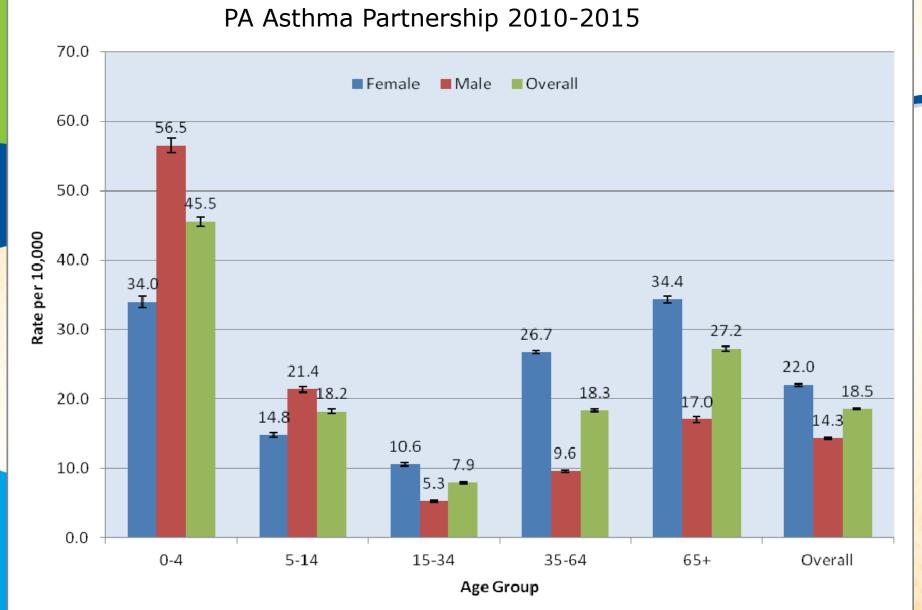


ED Visits by Age Group



Deaths by Age







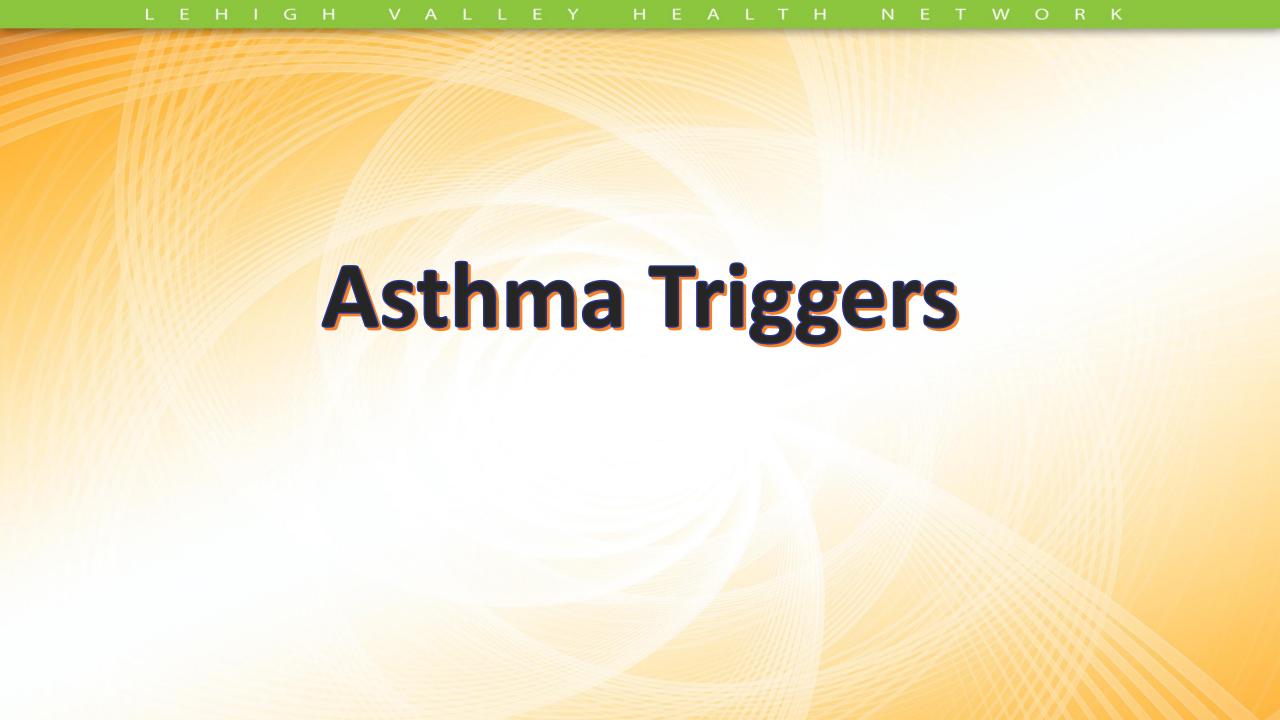














Common Triggers

Foods















Smoking





Weather











House-Dust Mite



Medicines









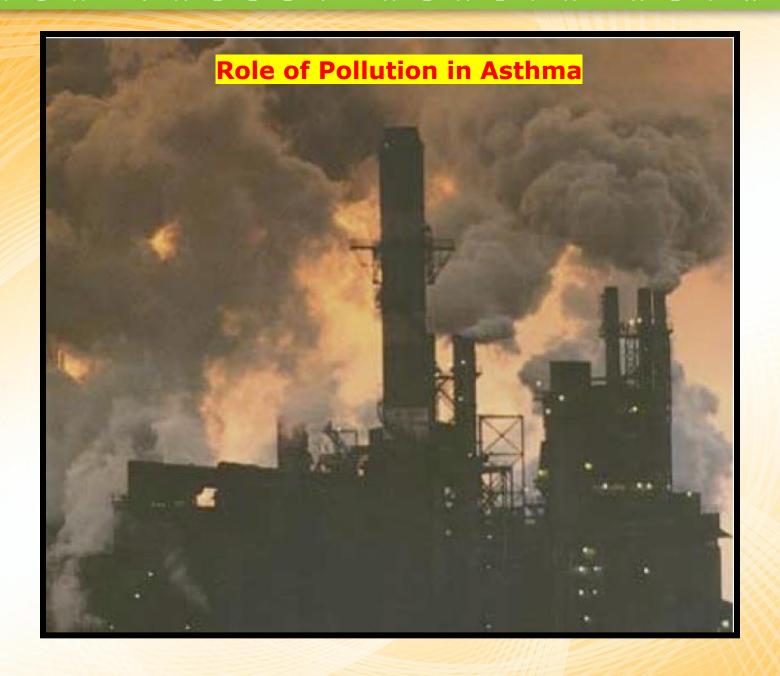
<u>Animals</u>



<u>Hormones</u>



Central London Community Healthcare NHS



Air Quality and Outdoor Activities: Recommendations for Schools

Air Quality Index (AQI) Chart for Ozone (8-hr standard)

| ACTIVITY | 0 to 50 GOOD | 51 to 100 MODERATE | 101 to 150 UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS | 151 to 200 UNHEALTHY | 201 to 300 VERY UNHEALTHY |
|---|-----------------|--|---|--|---|
| Recess (15 min) | No Restrictions | No Restrictions | Make indoor space available for children with asthma or other respiratory problems. | Any child who complains of difficulty breathing, or who has asthma or other respiratory problems, should be allowed to play indoors. | Restrict outdoor activities to light to moderate exercise. |
| P.E. (1 hr) | No Restrictions | No Restrictions | Make indoor space available for children with asthma or other respiratory problems. | Any child who complains of difficulty breathing, or who has asthma or other respiratory problems, should be allowed to play indoors. | Restrict outdoor activities to light to moderate exercise not to exceed one hour. |
| Scheduled Sporting Events | No Restrictions | Individuals who are unusually sensitive to ground-level ozone should limit intense activities. | Individuals with asthma or other respiratory or cardiovascular illness should increase rest periods and reduce activities to lower breathing rates. | Consideration should be given to rescheduling or relocating event. | Event should be rescheduled or relocated indoors. |
| Athletic Practice and Training (2 to 4 hrs) | No Restrictions | Individuals who are unusually sensitive to ground-level ozone should limit intense activities. | Individuals with asthma or other respiratory or cardiovascular illness should increase rest periods and reduce activities to lower breathing rates. | Activities over 2 hours should decrease intensity and duration. Add rest breaks or substitutions to lower breathing rates. | Sustained rigorous exercise for more than one hour must be rescheduled, moved indoors or discontinued. |

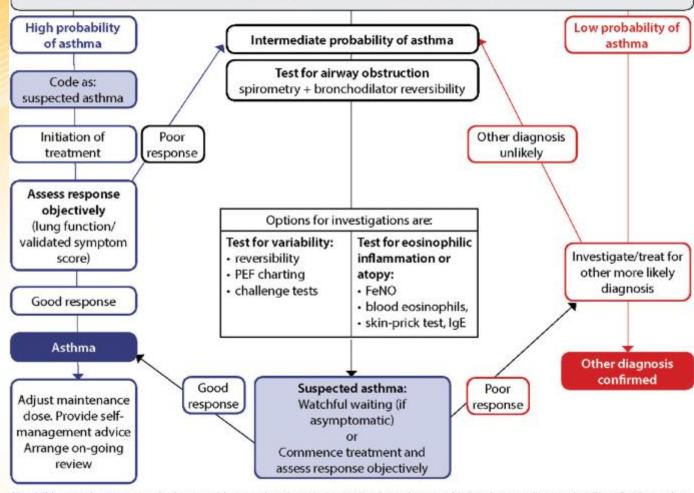
=120 Days >100 Lehigh Valley 2018

How Do We Diagnosis Asthma?

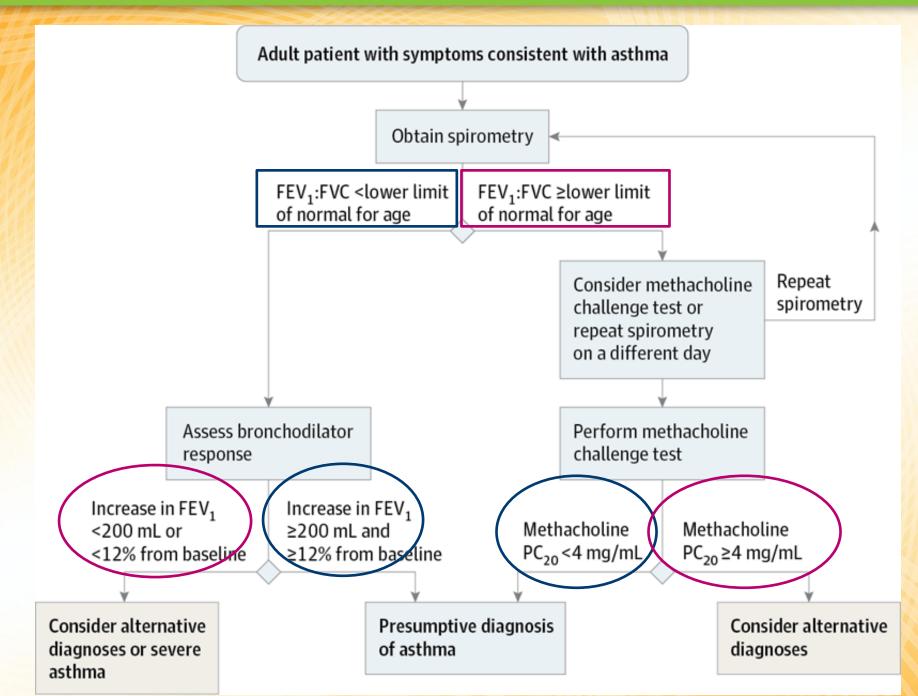
Presentation with respiratory symptoms: wheeze, cough, breathlessness, chest tightness¹

Structured clinical assessment (from history and examination of previous medical records) Look for:

- · recurrent episodes of symptoms
- · symptom variability
- absence of symptoms of alternative diagnosis
- · recorded observation of wheeze
- · personal history of atopy
- · historical record of variable PEF or FEV,



In children under 5 years and others unable to undertake spirometry in whom there is a high or intermediate probability of asthma, the options are monitored initiation of treatment or watchful waiting according to the assessed probability of asthma.



Classification of Asthma 2018

| | | Classification of asthma severity (age ≥12 y) | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | | Persistent | | |
| Components of severity | | Intermittent | Mild | Moderate | Severe |
| Impairment | Symptoms | ≤2 d/wk | >2 d/wk but not daily | Daily | Throughout the day |
| | Nighttime awakenings | ≤2× mo | 3-4× mo | >1× wk but not nightly | Often 7× wk |
| | Short-acting β ₂ -agonist use for symptom control (not prevention of EIB) | ≤2 d/wk | >2 d/wk but not daily, and not more than 1× on any day | Daily | Several times per day |
| | Interference with normal activity | None | Minor limitation | Some limitation | Extremely limited |
| | Lung function Normal FEV ₁ : FVC ratio 20-39 y 80% 40-59 y 75% 60-80 y 70% | Normal FEV₁, between exacerbations FEV₁, >80% predicted FEV₁: FVC normal | FEV₁, >80% predicted FEV₁:FVC normal | • FEV ₁ , >60% but <80% predicted • FEV ₁ :FVC normal | FEV₁, <60% predicted FEV₁:FVC reduced >5% |
| Risk | Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids | 0-1/y | ≥2/y | ≥2/y | ≥2/y |
| | | Consider severity and interval since last exacerbation Frequency and severity may fluctuate over time for patients in any severity category Relative annual risk of exacerbation may be related to FEV ₁ | | | |
| Recommended step for initiating treatment (see Figure 3 for treatment steps) | | Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 and consider short course of | Step 4 or 5 oral systemic corticosteroids |
| | | In 2-6 weeks, evaluate level of asthma control that is achieved and adjust therapy accordingly | | | |

Questions?

How Do We Treat Asthma??? Past and Now











Early
Treatment
?





In ancient times, "Album graecum" – or more colloquially known as dog poo – was a popular treatment for a Asthma. In these days, feces was usually mixed with honey and misted into the airways to treat airway redness

LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK

Owl's Blood Mixed With Tree Nectars





Asthma Cigarettes That contains Medicines Or herbs



JOY'S CIGARETTES afford immediate relief in cases of

ASTHMA, WHEEZING, AND WINTER COUGH,

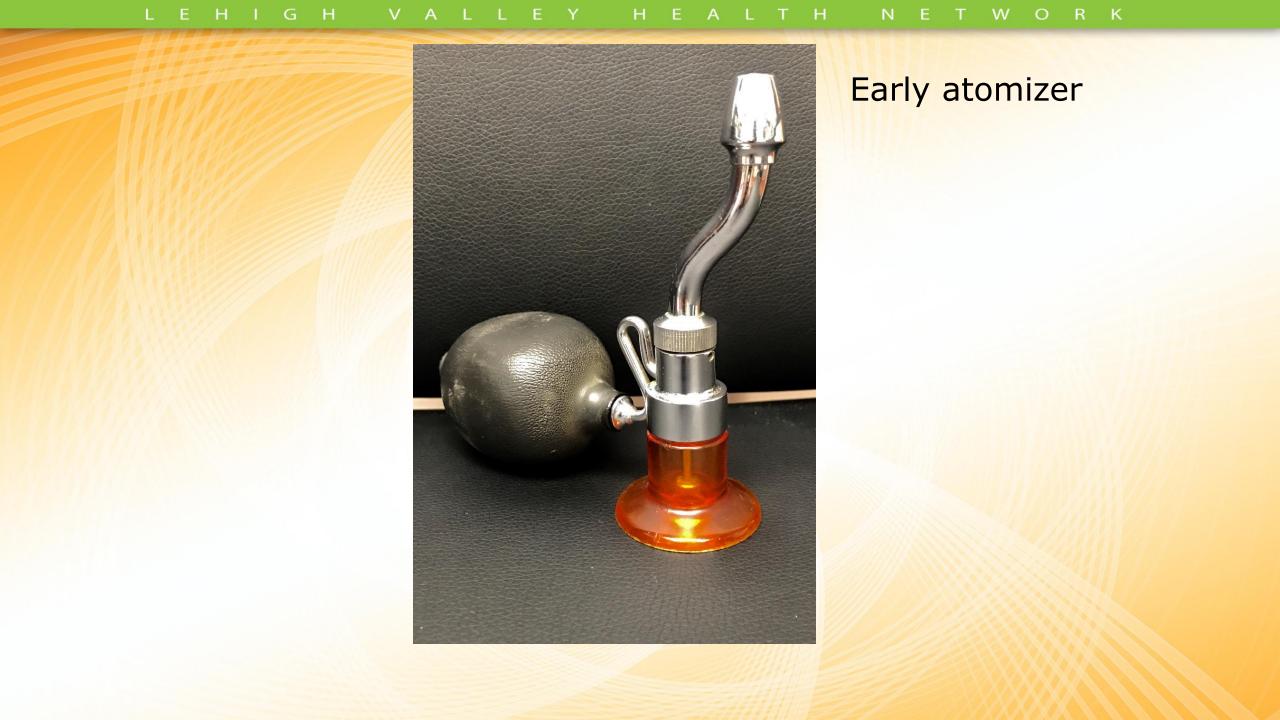
and a little perseverance will effect a permanent cure. Universally recommended by the most eminent physicians and medical authors. Agreeable to use, certain in their effects, and harmless in their action, they may be safely smoked by ladies and children.

All Chemists and Stores, box of 35, 2s. 6d., or post free from Wilcox & Co., 239, Oxford Street, London, W.

LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK

Asthma Nectar





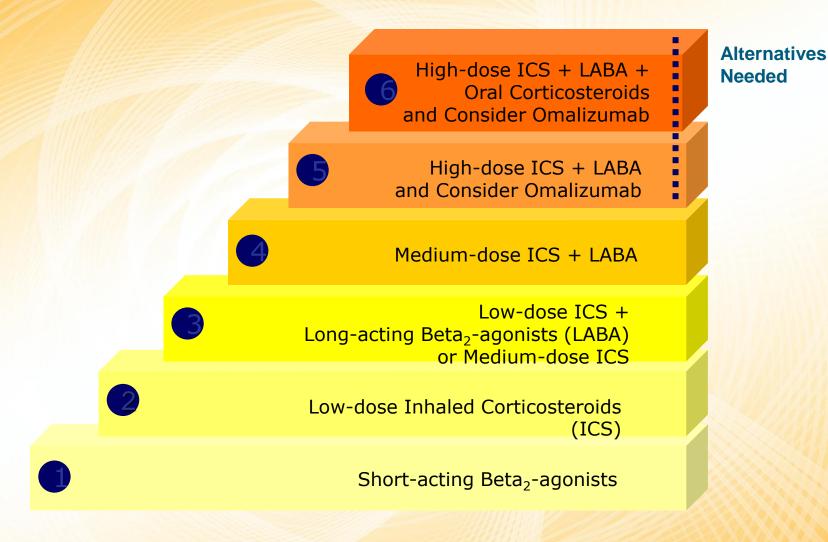


Early nebulizer

Photo with permission: Felix Kudish.

Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention

2018 Stepwise Approach for Managing Asthma



Adapted from National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) Guidelines. Expert Panel Report 3: Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH Publication No. 07-4051, Revised August 2010.

- Asthma is the most common chronic non-communicable disease, affecting over 260 million people globally in 2019.
- Asthma is characterized by variable respiratory symptoms such as wheeze, shortness of breath, chest tightness and cough, and variable expiratory airflow limitation. It is usually associated with airway inflammation.
- People with asthma often have periods of worsening symptoms and worsening airway obstruction, called exacerbations (also called attacks or flare-ups), that can be fatal.
- Most of the morbidity and mortality associated with asthma is preventable, particularly with use of inhaled corticosteroids.

GINA 2019 – landmark Changes in Asthma Management

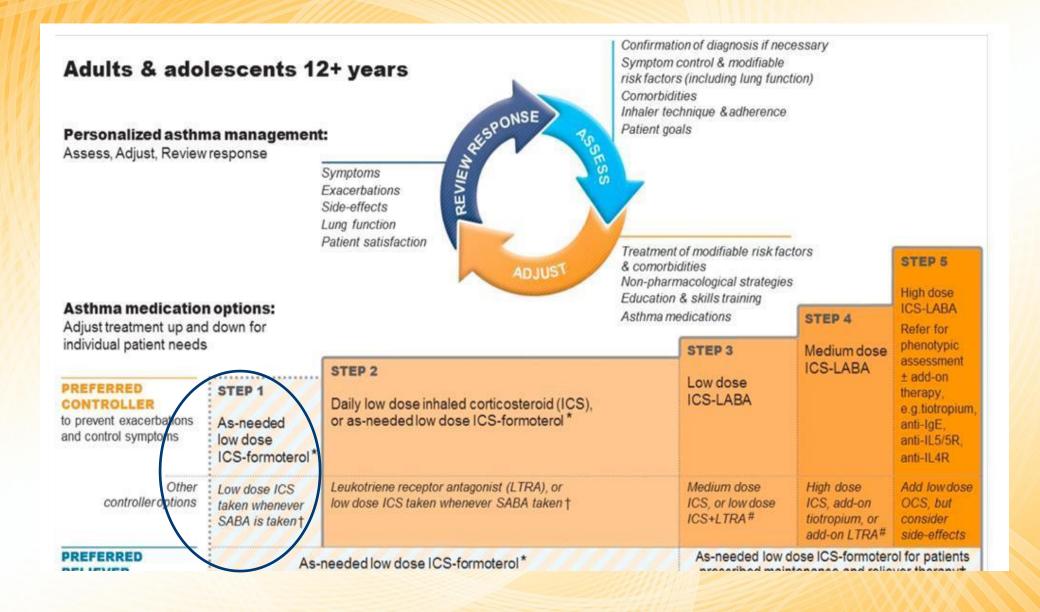
- For safety, GINA no longer recommends SABA-only treatment for Step 1 in adults and adolescents
- This decision was based on evidence that SABA-only treatment increases the risk of severe exacerbations, and that adding any ICS significantly reduces the risk n GINA now recommends that all adults and adolescents with asthma should receive ICS-containing controller treatment, to reduce the risk of serious exacerbations § The ICS can be delivered by regular daily treatment or, in mild asthma, by as-needed low dose ICS-formoterol This is a population-level risk reduction strategy
- The aim is to reduce the probability of serious adverse outcomes at a population level

GINA 2021 – Mild Asthma

- There are many definitions of mild asthma
- Current definition: Asthma that is able to be well-controlled with reliever alone or low dose ICS; but severity cannot be assessed until the patient has been on treatment for several months
- In research studies, mild asthma is often defined by treatment with SABA alone or low dose ICS (but patients may be being under- or over-treated) § Patients and clinicians often consider 'mild asthma' to mean infrequent or mild symptoms n GINA does not distinguish between 'intermittent' and 'mild persistent' asthma
- Historically, this was an arbitrary distinction, based on an assumption that patients with symptoms twice a week or less would not benefit from ICS
- Patients with so-called 'intermittent' asthma are still at risk of severe exacerbations n GINA is planning to review the definition of mild asthma during 2021

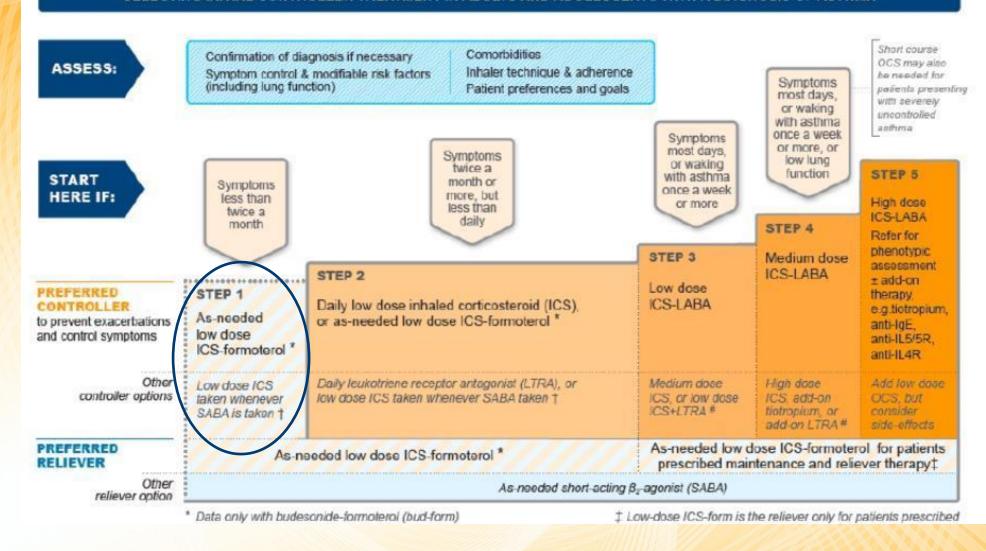
"Mild Asthma"

- Patients with apparently mild asthma are still at risk of serious adverse events.
 - 30–37% of adults with acute asthma.
 - 16% of patients with near-fatal asthma
 - 15–20% of adults dying of asthma.
- Exacerbation triggers are unpredictable (viruses, pollens, pollution, poor adherence)
 n Inhaled SABA has been first-line treatment for asthma for 50 years § Dating from an era when asthma was thought to be a disease of bronchoconstriction.
- Its role has been reinforced by rapid relief of symptoms and low cost.
- Starting treatment with SABA trains the patient to regard it as their primary asthmatical treatment



Box 7B. Initial treatment: adult or adolescents with a diagnosis of asthma

SELECTING INITIAL CONTROLLER TREATMENT IN ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS WITH A DIAGNOSIS OF ASTHMA



| ASTHM | A AC | TION PLA | | thma and Allergy undation of America fa.org | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Name: | | Date: | 27,544 | | | | |
| Doctor: | | Medical Record #: | | The colors of a traffic light will help you use your asthma medicines. | | | |
| Doctor's Phone #: Day | | Night/Weekend | GRE | EN means Go Zone! | | | |
| Emergency Contact: | | | se preventive medicine. | | | | |
| Doctor's Signature: | | | | YELLOW means Caution Zone Add quick-relief medicine. | | | |
| Personal Best | Peak Flo | w: | | means Danger Zone! help from a doctor. | | | |
| GO | | Use these daily preven | tive anti-inflamma | tory medicines: | | | |
| You have all of these: • Breathing is good | | MEDICINE | HOW MUCH | HOW OFTEN/WHEN | | | |
| No cough or wheeze Sleep through the night Can work & play | Peak flow: from | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| - can work a play | to | | | | | | |
| | | For asthma with exercise, take: | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| CAUTION | | Continue with green zo | one medicine and | add: | | | |
| You have any of these: • First signs of a cold | Peak flow: from to | MEDICINE | HOW MUCH | HOW OFTEN/ WHEN | | | |
| Exposure to known trigger • Cough • Mild wheeze • Tight chest • Coughing at night | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| • Cougning at night | | CALL YOUR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER. | | | | | |
| DANGER | | Take these medicines a | and call your docto | or now. | | | |
| four asthma is getting worse fast: Medicine is not helping Peak flow: | | MEDICINE | HOW MUCH | HOW OFTEN/WHEN | | | |
| Breathing is hard & fast | Peak flow: reading below | | | | | | |
| Nose opens wide Ribs show | | | | | | | |
| Can't talk well | | | | | | | |

GET HELP FROM A DOCTOR NOW! Do not be afraid of causing a fuss. Your doctor will want to see you right away. It's important! If you cannot contact your doctor, go directly to the emergency room. DO NOT WAIT. Make an appointment with your primary care provider within two days of an ER visit or hospitalization.

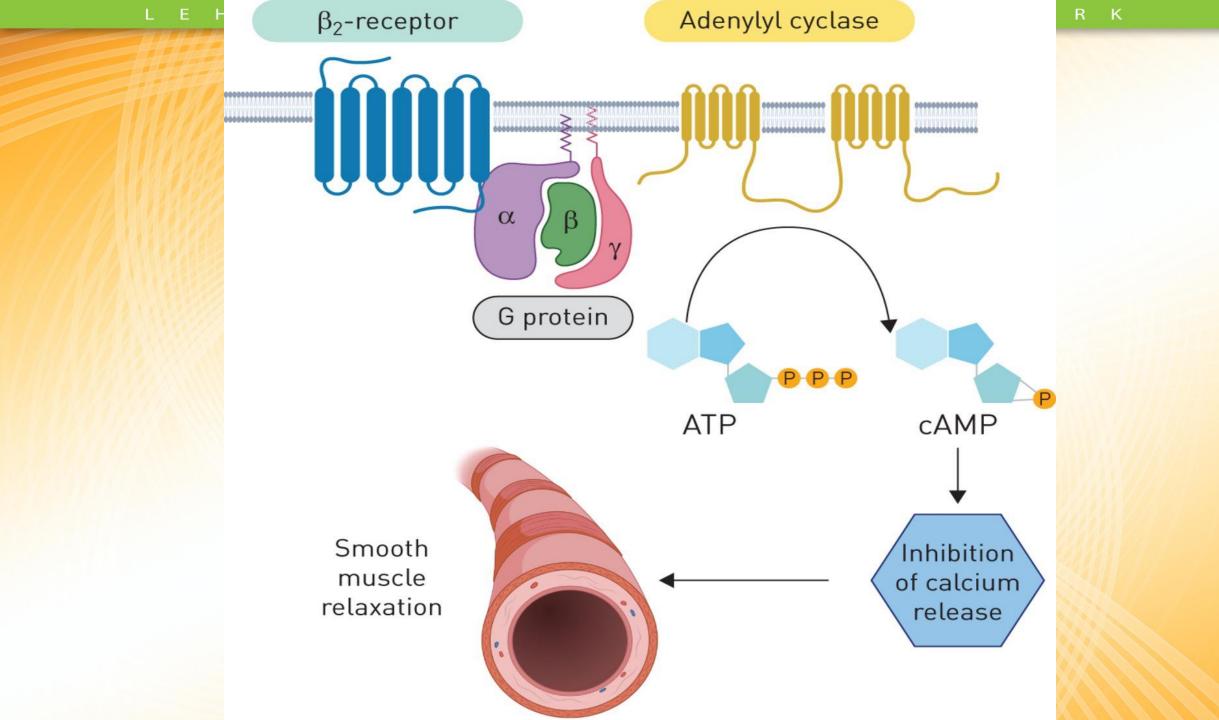
| Category | Examples | Usual Dosing | Treatment Effect | Adverse Effects | Notes |
|---|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Standard Therapies | | | | | |
| Relievers | | | | | |
| Short-acting | Albuterol | 2 puffs | Bronchodilation (7%-15% | Nervousness, tremor, | |
| β ₂ -agonists (SABAs) | Levalbuterol Pirbuterol | every 4-6 h | increase in FEV ₁ , dose dependent) | bronchospasm, tachycardia, headache, pharyngitis | |
| Short-acting muscarinic antagonists (SAMAs) | Ipratropium | 2-3 puffs every 6 h | Bronchodilation (7%-15% increase in FEV ₁ , dose dependent) | Bronchitis, COPD exacerbation, dyspnea, headache | |
| Controllers | | | | | |
| Inhaled corticosteroids (ICSs) | Fluticasone | 2 puffs twice daily | Decreased daytime and nocturnal symptoms Reduced exacerbations and death Improved FEV ₁ (improvement in symptoms, exacerbations, death, and FEV ₁ are all dose dependent ^{18,19}) | Upper respiratory tract infection, throat irritation, sinusitis, dysphonia, candidiasis, cough, bronchitis, headache | Comparisons for low, moderate, and high doses of ICSs are detailed elsewhere ^{12,13} |
| | Budesonide | 2-4 puffs twice daily | | | |
| | Mometasone | Varies by device | | | |
| | Ciclesonide | 160-320 µg twice daily | | | |
| Leukotriene receptor | Montelukast | 10 mg daily | Decreased daytime | Headache, fatigue, abdominal pain, dyspepsia, mood changes | |
| antagonists (LTRAs) | Zafirlukast | 20 mg | and nocturnal symptoms | | |
| | | twice daily | Improved FEV ₁ ²⁰ | | |
| Leukotriene synthesis inhibitor | Zileuton | 600 mg 4 times daily | Improved FEV ₁ ²¹ | Headache, pain, abdominal pain, dyspepsia, nausea, myalgia, increased alanine aminotransferase | Requires monitoring of hepatic enzymes Drug interactions are common |
| Long-acting β ₂ -agonists (LABAs) | Salmeterol | 2 puffs twice daily | Improved FEV ₁ ²² | Headache, rhinitis, bronchitis, influenza, dizziness | These agents should not be used without a simultaneou ICS agent |
| | Formoterol | 2 puffs twice daily | | | |
| | Vilanterol | NA | | | |
| Long-acting muscarinic antagonist (LAMA) | Tiotropium | 2 inhalations once daily | Improved FEV ₁ ²³ | Dry mouth, upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, sinusitis, chest pain | |
| Combined ICSs/LABAs | Fluticasone/ salmeterol inhaler | 1 puff twice daily | Benefits of both ICSs and LABAs ²⁻⁴ | Nasopharyngitis, URI, headache, sinusitis, influenza, back pain | |
| | Fluticasone/ salmeterol HFA | 2 puffs twice daily | | | |
| | Budesonide/ formoterol | 2 puffs twice daily | | | |
| | Fluticasone/ vilanterol | 1 puff daily | | | |
| ther Therapies | | | | | |
| Oral corticosteroids | Prednisone Methylprednisolone | 5-20 mg/d 4-16 mg/d | | Hypertension, increased appetite, weight gain, insomnia, mood changes, gastritis, skin atrophy, osteoporosis, adrenal suppression, avascular necrosis of bone | Doses listed are for chronic maintenance, not for exacerbations Daily use of oral |
| | | | | | corticosteroids is not recommended unless other options are ineffective; consult with an asthma specialist |
| Biologics | | | | | |
| Anti-IgE | Omalizumab | Varies by weight | Reduced asthma exacerbations Variable benefit in FEV ₁ ²⁵ | Injection site reaction, viral infections, URI, sinusitis, headache, pharyngitis, anaphylaxis | Used primarily by asthma specialists |
| Anti-IL-5 | Mepolizumab | 100 mg subcutaneously monthly | Reduced asthma exacerbations Small improvement in FEV ₁ ²⁶⁻²⁹ | Headache, injection site reaction, back pain, fatigue, oropharyngeal pain | Used primarily by asthma specialists |
| | Reslizumab | Varies by weight, IV administration | | | |
| Bronchial thermoplasty | | 3 Bronchoscopic treatments, once monthly | Reduced asthma exacerbations, emergency department visits through | Short-term worsening of asthma symptoms, cough, wheezing, chest pain, URI, | Specialty treatment Durability of benefit |
| | | for 3 mo | at least 1 y ³⁰ | infection | is controversial |

Beta-agonist Therapy

Types of Beta-2 Agonists:



- 1. Short-Acting Beta-2 Agonists
- 2. Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonists
- 3. Ultra-Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonists



Taking an asthma controller medication twice a day?

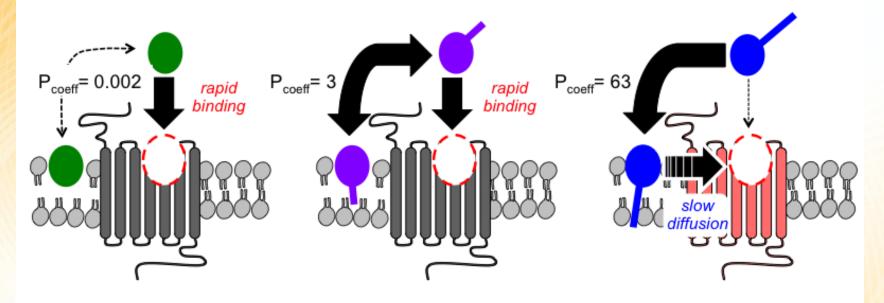
Ask your doctor if **once-daily BREO**could be right for you.

With just one inhalation once a day, BREO works for a full 24 hours and prevents asthma symptoms.



Beta₂ Agonist Kinetics

Based on Anderson et al, 1994



Albuterol

- Hydrophilic
- Short duration (not stored in lipid)
- Rapid onset

Formoterol*

- Amphiphilic
- Long duration (retained by lipid)
- Rapid onset

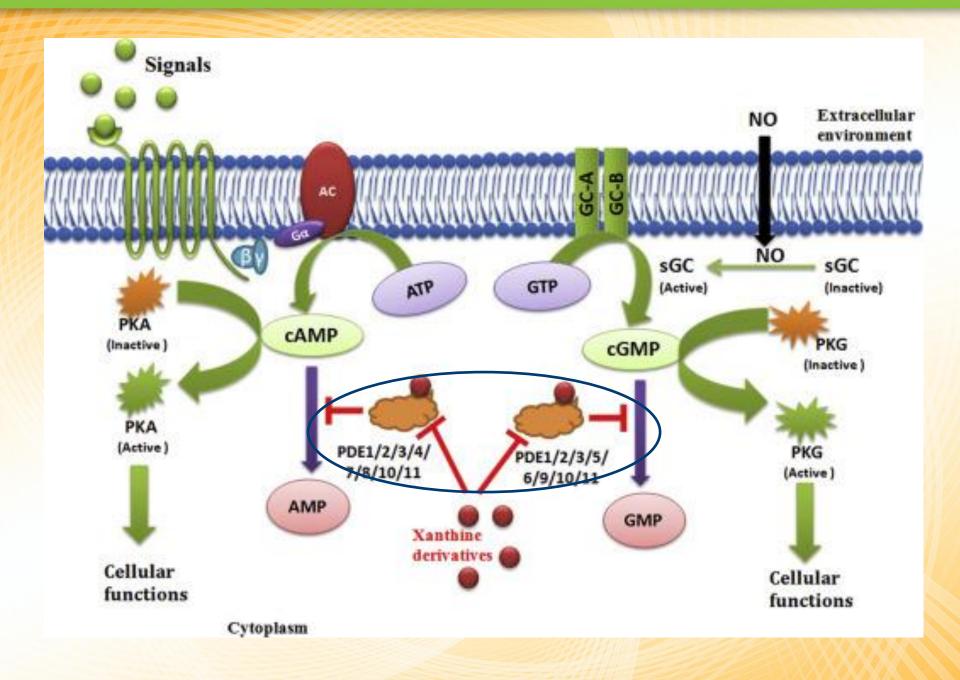
Salmeterol*

- Lipophilic
- Long duration (retained by lipid)
- Slow onset (slow lipid diffusion to β_{2R})

While the mechanisms of action of Theophylline are not totally known with certainty, studies in animals suggest that bronchodilation is mediated by the inhibition of two isozymes of **phosphodiesterase** (PDE III and, to a lesser extent, PDE IV

Theophyilline





Leukotriene Inhibitors



Mechanism of Action Cold air Allergen Exercise, PAF Aspirin Mast cell Eosinophil (in AS asthmatics) -SO2 Arachidonic acid 5-LO INHIBITORS 5'-lipoxygenase Zileuton Cysteinyl-leukotrienes (LTC₄, LTD₄, LTE₄) LT ANTAGONISTS Montelukast Pranlukast Zafirlukast CysLT₁ receptors Plasma exudation 00 -Bronchoconstriction Mucus Eosinophil

recruitment

secretion

COVID-19 and Asthma

- Are people with asthma at increased risk of COVID-19, or severe COVID-19?
 - People with asthma do not appear to be at increased risk of acquiring COVID-19, and systematic reviews have not shown an increased risk of severe COVID-19 in people with well-controlled, mild-to-moderate asthma.
- Are people with asthma at increased risk of COVID-19-related death? §
 - Overall, people with well-controlled asthma are not at increased risk of COVID-19-related death (Williamson, Nature 2020; Liu et al JACI IP 2021) § However, the risk of COVID-19 death was increased in people who had recently needed oral corticosteroids (OCS) for their asthma (Williamson, Nature 2020) and in hospitalized patients with severe asthma (Bloom, Lancet Respir Med 2021).
- What are the implications for asthma management?
 - It is important to continue good asthma management (as described in the GINA report), with strategies to maintain good symptom control, reduce the risk of severe exacerbations and minimize the need for OCS.
- Have there been more asthma exacerbations during the pandemic?
 - No. In 2020, many countries saw a reduction in asthma exacerbations and influenza-related illness. The reasons are not precisely known, but may be due to handwashing, masks and social/physical distancing that reduced the incidence of other respiratory infections, including influenza.

Treatment of Refractory Asthma



Challenges in Managing Severe Asthma

- Prevalence of severe asthma (NAEPP) = 5-10%
- Many patients remain symptomatic despite standard of care medications
- Medications are limited, require adherence, and can have serious side effects

 Additional therapeutic treatment options are needed...

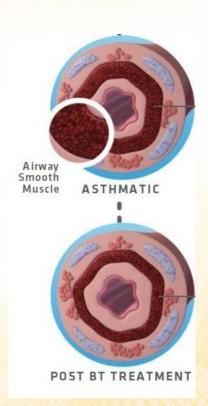
Bronchial Thermoplasty – Reduces ASM

Reduce Airway Smooth Muscle (ASM)

Reduce Bronchoconstriction

Reduce Asthma Exacerbations

Improve Asthma Quality of Life



What is Bronchial Thermoplasty?

- Safe, outpatient bronchoscopic procedure:
 - Delivers controlled energy to the airway walls in the lungs
 - Reduces excess airway smooth muscle, which limits the muscle's ability to constrict the airways (asthma exacerbations)
- Demonstrated to increase asthma control and improve asthma-related quality of life in patients with severe asthma
- Complementary treatment to current asthma reliever and controller medications - not a cure or replacement for current asthma medications

The Alair® Bronchial Thermoplasty System

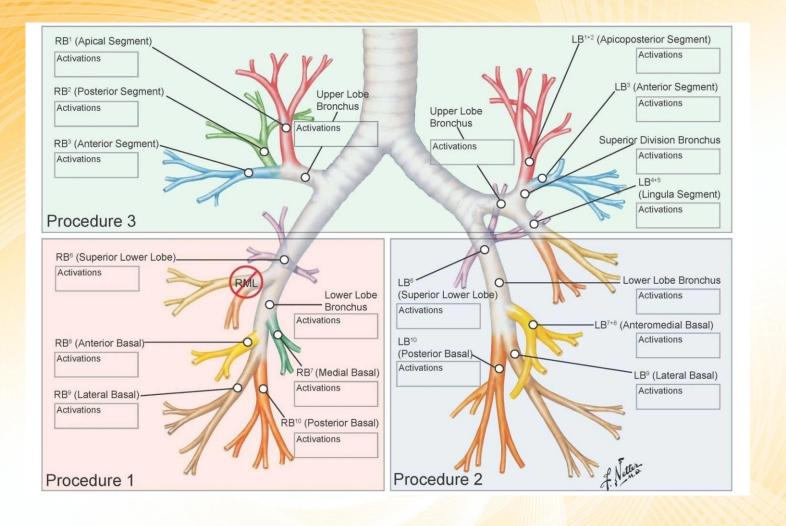
 Alair Catheter – a flexible tube with an expandable wire array at the tip (introduced into the lungs through a standard bronchoscope) Alair Radiofrequency (RF)
 Controller – supplies energy
 via the Catheter to the airway
 wall





Application of RF Energy

Temperature controlled energy (65° C-180F) is delivered to airway wall for 10 seconds per activation – no permanent damage to epithelium



Bronchial thermoplasty is performed in 3 separate treatment sessions each scheduled approximately 3 weeks apart

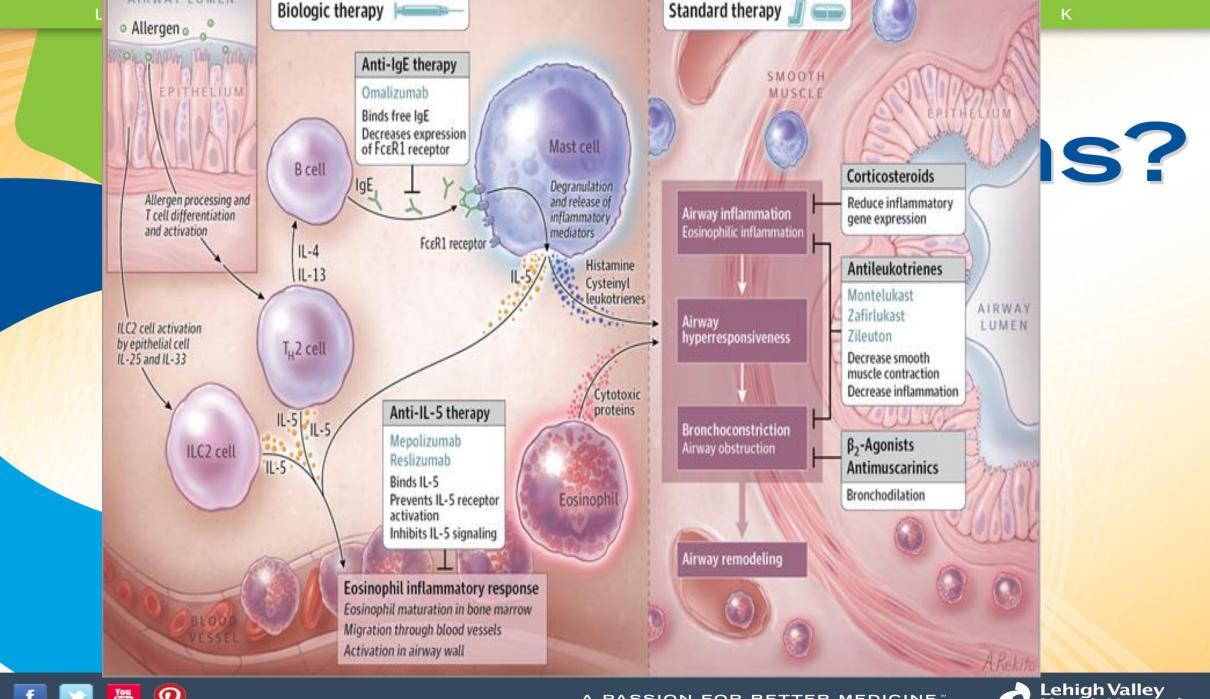
LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK

Airway Responsiveness to Local Methacholine Challenge



Canine Model: Airway on left treated with bronchial thermoplasty. Airway on right was not treated.

Biologicals in Asthma Management











Omalizumab (Xolair, Genentech)

*Is a recombinant humanized IgG1 monoclonal anti-IgE antibody that binds to the IgE molecule

Omalizumab binds to circulating IgE, regardless of allergen specificity, forming small, biologically inert IgE—anti-IgE complexes without activating the complement cascade thus causing edema.

- *Omalizumab is administered <u>subcutaneously</u> once every 2 or 4 weeks.
- *For each patient, the dosing schedule (2 vs 4 weeks between injections; and the amount of omalizumab, in milligrams, for each injection) is determined according to the serum IgE level and the body weight of the patient.

*The product label of Xolair initially approved by FDA covers patients with serum IgE in the range of 30 to about 700 IU/ml (international units per milliliter). A clinical development effort is on-going to expand the coverage of patients with serum IgE up to 1500 IU/ml.

Administration Of Xolair

Cost of Xolair

A one-month supply of Xoliar will cost patients between \$541 and \$2,706, depending on the dosage. This price is much higher than the cost of conventional treatments for asthma.

Side Effects of Xolair

- itching, mild rash;
- joint pain, bone fractures;
- arm or leg pain;
- •nausea;
- dizziness, tired feeling;
- •ear pain; or.
- •cold symptoms such as stuffy nose, sneezing, sinus pain, cough, sore throat.

LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK

New Drug Shows Promise Against Tough-to-Manage Asthma

- This new drug, tezepelumab, is yet another monoclonal antibody, but it targets an inflammatory protein thought to play an early role in many different types of asthma
- Tezepelumab blocks a protein called thymic stromal lymphopoietin (TSLP) that promotes multiple inflammatory processes that have all been linked to asthma attacks
- After a year's treatment, patients on tezepelumab experienced fewer asthma attacks and better lung function, asthma control, and health-related quality of life than those on placebo, the researchers reported

During PATHWAY Trial, and in ongoing phase 3 trials, **tezepelumab** has been **administered** in the clinic via subcutaneous (SC) injection, drawn from a vial and **injected** via a syringe

FDA OKs Tezspire for Severe Asthma

- The FDA approved AstraZeneca and Amgen's medication, tezepelumabekko (brand name Tezspire), to treat severe asthma for patients aged 12 years and older
- Tezspire is a first-in-class biologic for severe asthma that acts at the top of the inflammatory cascade by targeting thymic stromal lymphopoietin (TSLP), an epithelial cytokine.²⁻⁵ It is the first and only biologic to consistently and significantly reduce asthma exacerbations across Phase II and III clinical trials which included a broad population of severe asthma patients irrespective of key biomarkers, including blood eosinophil counts, allergic status and fractional exhaled nitric oxide (FeNO). Tezspire is the only biologic approved for severe asthma with no phenotype (e.g. eosinophilic or allergic) or biomarker limitation within its approved label.
- In clinical studies, the most common adverse reactions in patients who received Tezspire were pharyngitis, arthralgia and back pain

High Flow Oxygen in Acute Asthma

- Nasal high-flow therapy may decrease the degree of dyspnea more than the use of conventional oxygen therapy in patients with acute severe asthma and hypoxemia in the ED setting.
- This was demonstrated by the significant improvements in the mean modified Borg scale, mean numeric rating scale, mean dyspnea scale score, and the mean respiratory rate.

Therefore, nasal high flow may be beneficial to respiratory support and oxygenation in patients with acute severe asthma and hypoxemia in the ED.

Conclusion

- Historically asthma has ben problematic
- There are a plethora of asthma triggers
- Currently there is an array of asthma medications available to treat and prevent asthma symptoms

References

- Global Asthma Network. Global Asthma Report 2018. Accessed October 14, 2020. http://www.globalasthmanetwork.org
- Expert Panel Working Group of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Focused updates to the asthma management guidelines: a report from the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program Coordinating Committee Expert Panel Working Group. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2020;146:1217-1270.
- Lin SY, Azar A, Suarez-Cuervo C, et al. The Role of Immunotherapy in the Treatment of Asthma. Comparative Effectiveness Review No. 196. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; March 2018:22-23. Accessed October 11, 2020. https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/asthma-immunotherapy/research/