

Children living with
asthma in primary
care

GROUP CONSULTATIONS CASE STUDY

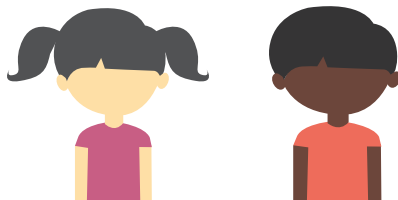
 Amersham Vale
Practice
NHS Lewisham CCG



Lyndhurst Medical Practice, NHS Bexley CCG

General Practice paediatric care

What we did



What changed
and improved?

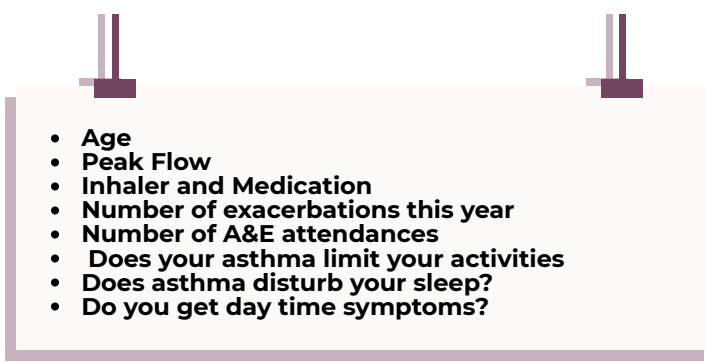
OUR CHALLENGE

Audit showed a group of children - often those living in families facing complex psychosocial issues - are frequently admitted to hospital with asthma. GP practices wanted to try out new ways of supporting them. One participating GP had previously applied group consultations with adults in another practice. Group consultations was new to the Lyndhurst Team.

OUR CLINIC DESIGN

GP personally invited parents. GP or practice nurse supported by a non-clinician (facilitator) ran group consultations for children aged 5-11 and separately for teenagers. Participants completed a short questionnaire at the start, covering off QOF review questions. Parents and children identified their questions prior to clinician joining the consultation, which consisted of 1:1 discussions in a group setting. Siblings attended in some cases

RESULTS BOARD

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- Age
 - Peak Flow
 - Inhaler and Medication
 - Number of exacerbations this year
 - Number of A&E attendances
 - Does your asthma limit your activities
 - Does asthma disturb your sleep?
 - Do you get day time symptoms?

EFFICIENCY

- GP and practice nurse efficiency gains; more consultations completed in less time
- More clinical tasks achieved e.g. flu jabs, medication review and annual review in one consultation

CLINICAL IMPACT

- Too early to measure. The change in family engagement bodes well for positive impact on hospital admissions
- Improved self reported knowledge and self management management

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Greater clinician interaction and closer relationships built with children during the consultation compared to 1:1
- Peer learning
- Children teaching each other how to use inhalers with clinician supervision

EXPERIENCE OF CARE

- Fun, energising and rewarding way to consult for GP, practice nurse and facilitator
- Surprises for clinicians about what families did not know

PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACT

- Community, support, and friendships forming between parents and between children too
- Participating families have become asthma champions for the practice

"I loved it! It gave me a "buzz". This is a great way to deliver primary care to children and young people. Children joined in really quickly and shared information freely and in a fun way"

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