Asthma in New York City

Community Asthma Control in NYC
Methods, Outcomes and Lessons Learned
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Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
New York City Asthma Partnership (NYCAP)
Agenda

• Current state of asthma in N.Y.C.
• Brief organizational & programmatic history
• Current activities, programmatically & coalition-supported
• Program successes
• Lessons learned
1988 - 2000

- “overall…rates increased by 22% btw 1988 and 1997,” all ages

- “The largest increases – more than 60% - were seen in children from low-income communities.”

- Children, aged 0-14, more than 3x the rate for NYS, in 2000

Asthma Hospitalization Trends: Falling Rates Among Youngest Children
Asthma hospitalizations among New York City children, aged 0-4 years, 2000-2011, by District Public Health Office (DPHO)
Asthma hospitalizations among New York City children, aged 5-14 years, 2000-2011, by District Public Health Office (DPHO)
Asthma hospitalizations among New York City children, aged 0-14 years, 2000-2011, by District Public Health Office (DPHO)
Asthma in NYC

PREVALENCE

- 300,000 children and 700,000 adults in NYC have asthma
- Overall, 17% of children ages 0-17 in NYC have been diagnosed with asthma at some time in their lives, compared with 13% nationwide.
- Nearly 1 in 10 children (9%) are classified as having current asthma. This is almost twice the prevalence as children nationally (5%).
- Current asthma is most common among children living in NYC’s District Public Health Neighborhoods-DPHOs (North & Central Brooklyn, South Bronx, East & Central Harlem)
- Overall, 22% of children from low income neighborhoods have been diagnosed with asthma at some time in their lives compared to 14% of children in higher income neighborhoods.
- Highest prevalence rates are in DOHMH designated DPHO’s (East & Central Harlem, South Bronx, North & Central Brooklyn) where poverty and substandard housing are still major problems.

Source NYC Community Health Survey 2004
NYC Community Health Survey

NYC Community Health Survey 2012
Percentage having an asthma attack in the last year by neighborhood

Bureau of Epidemiology Services, NYC DOHMH
"...we need to bring everyone together in community partnerships: clinics, schools, community organizations, tenant groups, property owners and others...sure that programs are coordinated, that we can identify problems, and figure out how to fix them."

Childhood Asthma Initiative, NYC DOHMH, 1997

- “Community HealthWorks” focused on health promotion, and injury prevention
- Public health effort to reduce asthma morbidity, 0-18 yrs. of age
- Funded by $ settlement in the South Bronx from poor air emissions from a waste transfer station
- Hunts Point Childhood Health Promotion Initiative (HPCHPI)
2001-2010

• funded at $5 million annually in 2001 & through 2010
• sources: mostly City Tax Levy
  - local asthma collaborations formed – the HPCHPI model – 1 per borough
  - Community Health Worker training through the Asthma Training Institute/ATI
  - citywide public education campaign (subway, bus, billboard & print)
  - provider education (PACE; Creating a Medical Home)
Programming, 2004-2013

• Integrated Pest Management (IPM) provided in home of child with uncontrolled asthma

• Managing Asthma in Schools (MAS)
  School nurse-administered care coordination, citywide
  Automated School Health Record (ASHR) – functionality*
  *Open Airways for Schools™ curriculum – school nurses

• Managing Asthma In Day Care (MAD)
  BRQ, key messaging, tracking
Current Asthma/Programming Initiative activities

*Environmental* – IPM in 400 households this year; collaborations with the Healthy Homes unit in division Environmental Health

*Early Childhood/Managing Asthma in Daycare*

*School-based – Managing Asthma in Schools*

*Case management* - East Harlem Asthma Center of Excellence – Asthma Counselor Program
Current Asthma Initiative Activities

Clinical systems - provider advisories in autumn/spring, before pollen peaks

Research & Evaluation
- dedicated epidemiologist team - interpret surveillance data; available online
- program evaluation; SPARCS data
New York City Asthma Partnership

“A new effort is underway to link many asthma efforts in New York City….NYCAP will bring individuals and organizations together to share information and resources and develop policy initiatives, with the goal of ultimately reversing the asthma epidemic in New York City.”

What is NYCAP?

Coalition of over 300 individuals & organizations who share an interest in reversing the asthma epidemic in N.Y.C.

*Mission*: to develop and advance a citywide collaboration for asthma prevention and control

*Vision*: envisions a city where every person lives in an environment that promotes respiratory health and where people with asthma lead full & active lives

Co-hosting with American Lung Association of the Northeast

Members are linked to one of 5 standing committees, and a steering committee

May, 2001 – first coalition-wide meeting

NYCAP “coordinator” are agency staff
Our Vision for Asthma programming

“…must not only involve individuals... doctors...but also include supportive policies and programs in the community.”

Current NYCAP-supported activities

*Environmental Committee*
  - Toolkit – tenant resources for securing building management’s repairs to mitigate indoor triggers

*Healthcare Delivery Committee*
  - Emergency Department ICS prescribing survey

*Early Childhood Committee*
  - developing key messages, ages 0-4
  - toolkit for childcare centers
Then and Now

- CommunityHealthworks → Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
- More attention paid to other chronic diseases (cancer, diabetes, smoking, obesity)
- Large decrease in rate of hospitalizations from mid-90s high
- Disparity-informed programming (DPHO units)
- $5 million vs. $500,000
Program Successes

- Emergency Department (ED) visits to track epidemic (Data & Research)
- Housing agency trained facilities staff in IPM (Env’t.)
- Schools/childcare programs’ facilities plan must include IPM (Env’t.)
- Managing Asthma in Schools: guidance to School Nurses (Schools)
- Asthma screening in day care (Early Childhood)
- Asthma history questions on Universal Health Form
- NYC’s One minute no-idling law
2006, awarded by the EPA

National Exemplary Award, Communities in Action for Asthma-friendly Environments
Lessons Learned

- Evaluation plan component
- Anticipate funding & staffing changes
- Diversify your funding
- Work with local coalitions
- Surveillance
- Distinguish operational collaboration from policy work
- Coalitions can extend key messages to all sectors
- Self-management, self-management, self-management
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Resources

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