



Georgia Department of Public Health

Addressing Asthma Disparities from a State's Perspective



Francesca Lopez, MSPH, AE-C
Program Manager
Georgia Asthma Control Program

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Mission of the Georgia Asthma Control Program

To improve asthma control and reduce its burden in Georgia by a focused commitment to policy and environmental change, education, and an integrated care delivery system.

Five Year focus 2012-2017 : Children 0-17 are the primary target population of the 5 year plan.

Goal Areas

Enhance Georgia's capacity at the state and local level to :

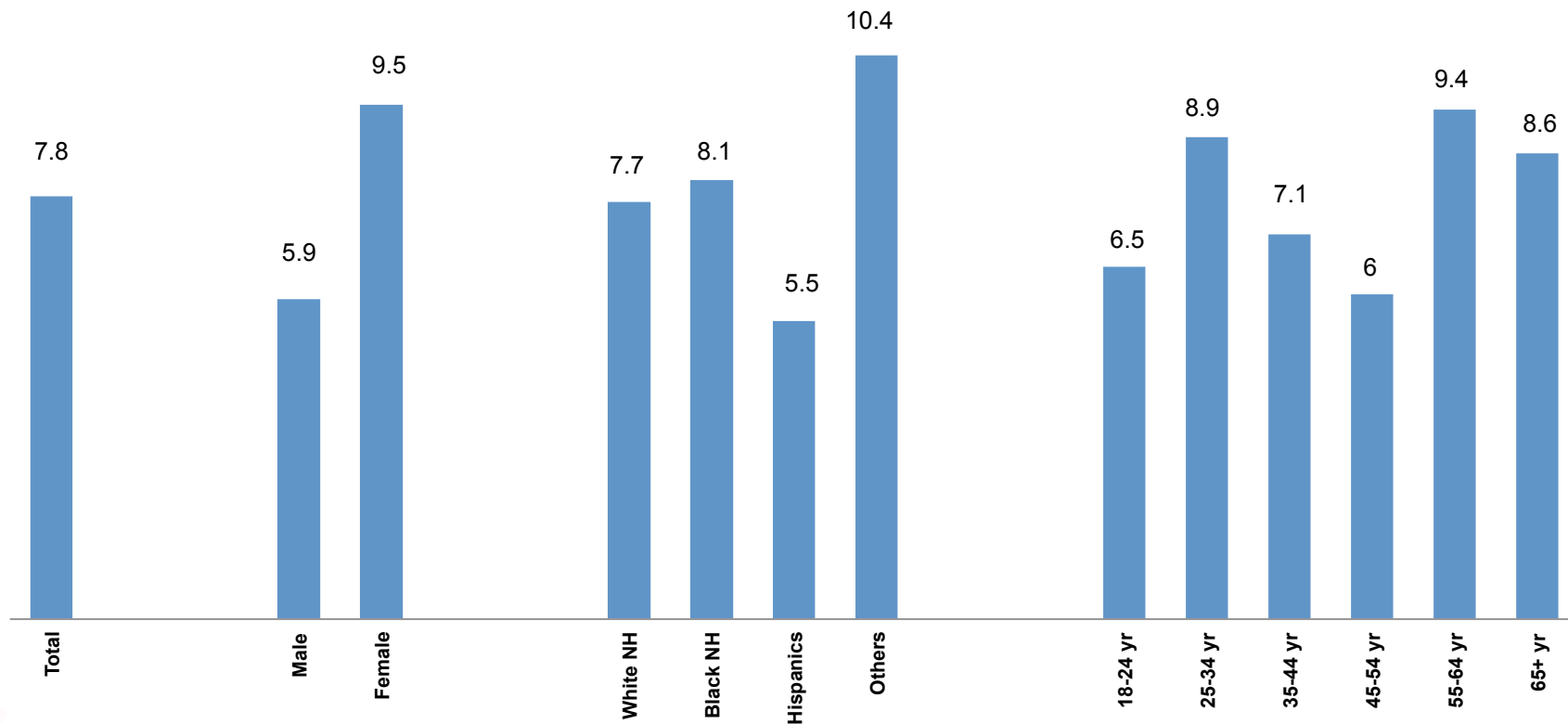
- Address State's surveillance and evaluation capacity for tracking asthma morbidity and mortality and evaluating program effectiveness.
- Increase the proportion of people with current asthma that report they have received asthma self management education
- Increase the proportion of people with asthma who receive appropriate asthma care according to the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program Guidelines

Reduce Georgia's

- Emergency room visits for asthma.
- Asthma hospitalization rate.
- Reduce asthma deaths.
- Reduce asthma disparities among populations disproportionately affected by asthma.

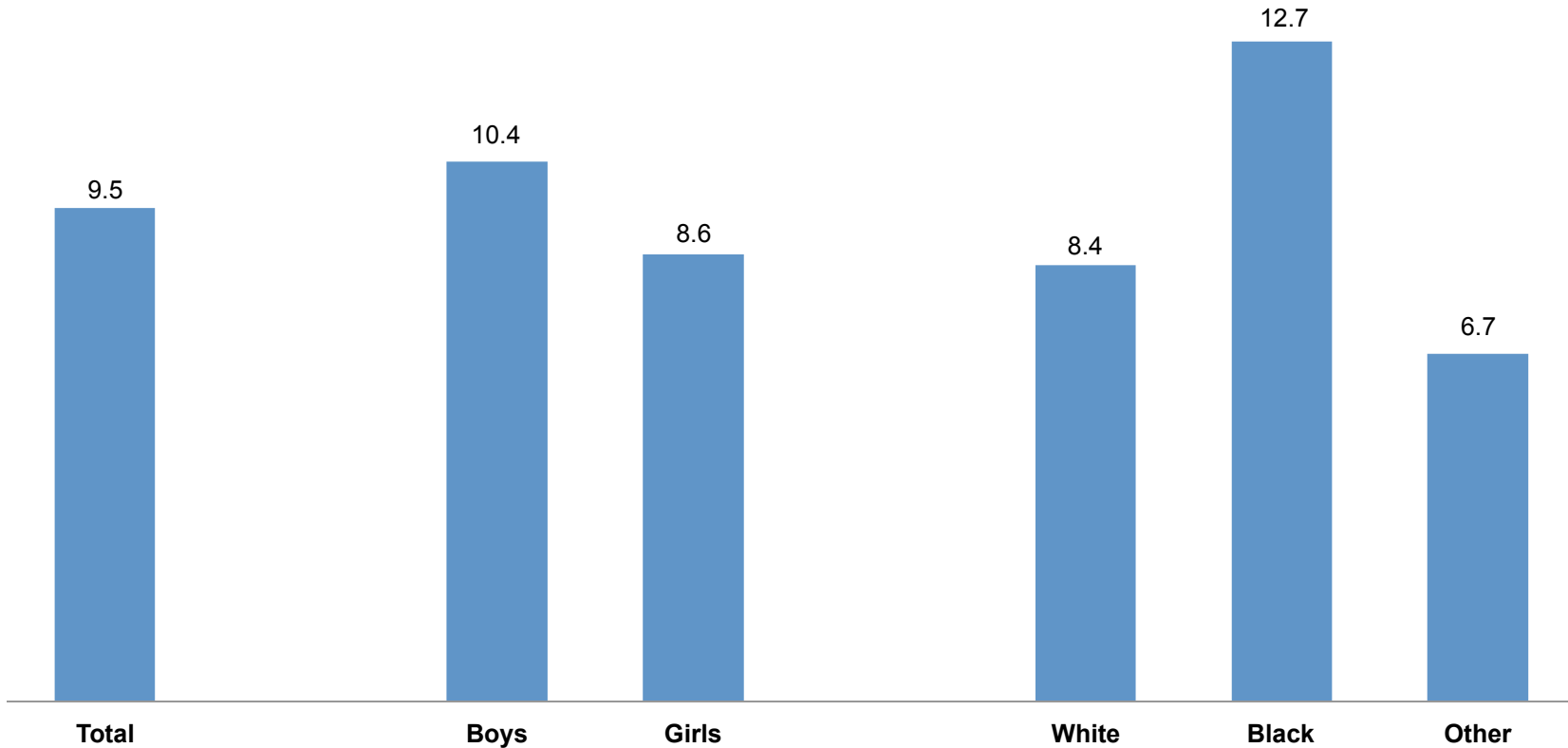
Georgia's Adult Asthma Burden

Adult Self-Reported Current Asthma Prevalence Percent by Age, Sex, and Race/Ethnicity, Georgia 2009-2010



Georgia's Child Asthma Burden

Prevalence of Current Asthma, Children 0-17yrs, by Sex and Race/
Ethnicity, Georgia 2009-2010

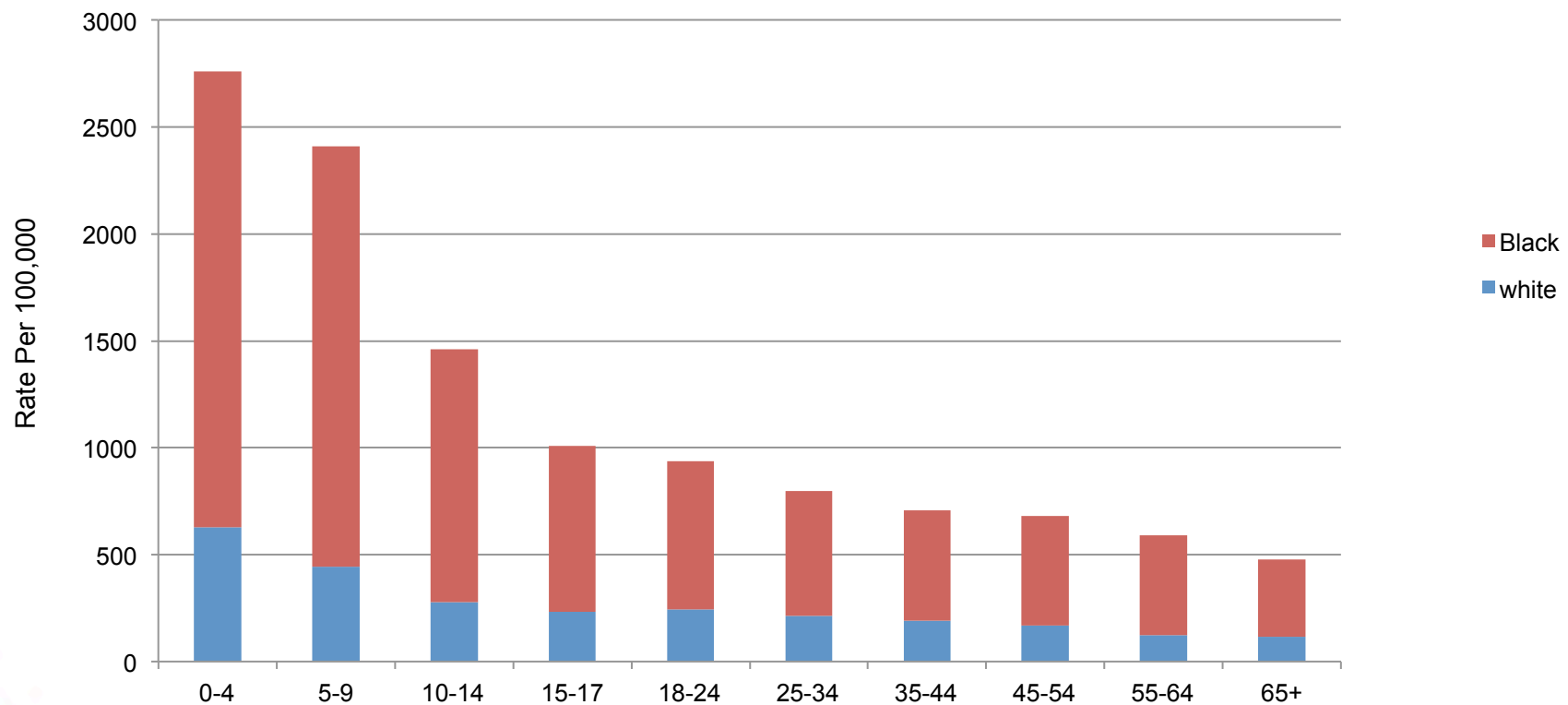


Georgia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey
Asthma Call-Back Survey

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Disparities in Georgia Asthma Related ER Rates

Georgia Asthma ER Rates by Race & Age group 2006-2010



Data source: Georgia Hospital Discharge Data, accessed through the Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS), Georgia Dept. of Public Health, Office of Health Indicators for Planning. (Oct 2012) [Http://oasis.state.ga.us](http://oasis.state.ga.us)

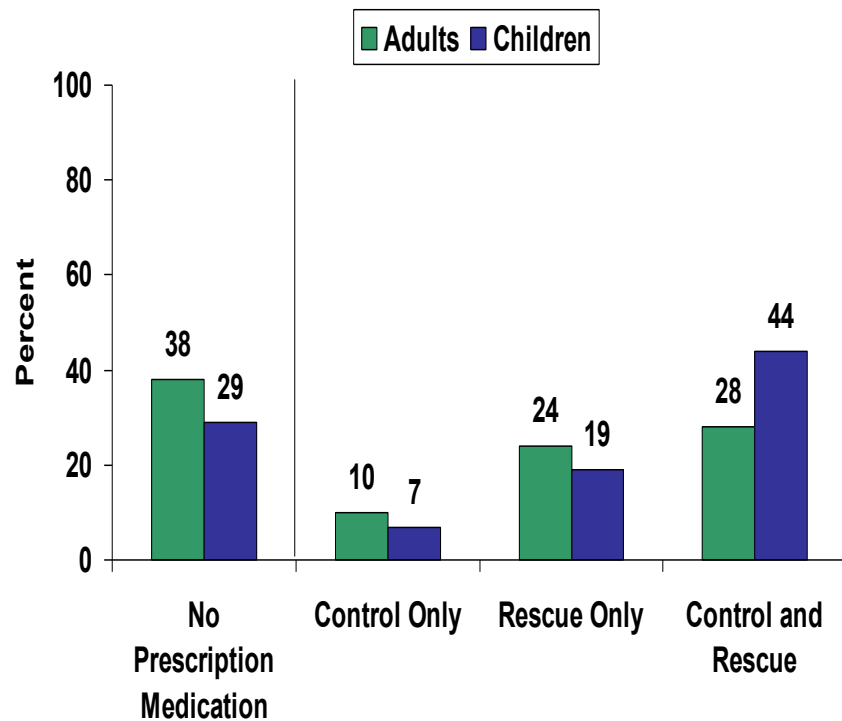
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Impact of Asthma Burden

- **62%** of school-aged children missed one or more days of school due to asthma.
- **62%** of adults and 71% of children with current asthma used prescription medication in the past 3 months.
- **62%** of school-aged children reported being allowed to have asthma medication in school.
- **38%** of adults and 29% of children with current asthma do not use prescription medications.
- **46%** *Prevalence of school-aged children with current asthma who reported having asthma action plan in school, Asthma Call Back Survey, Georgia, 2006-2010*

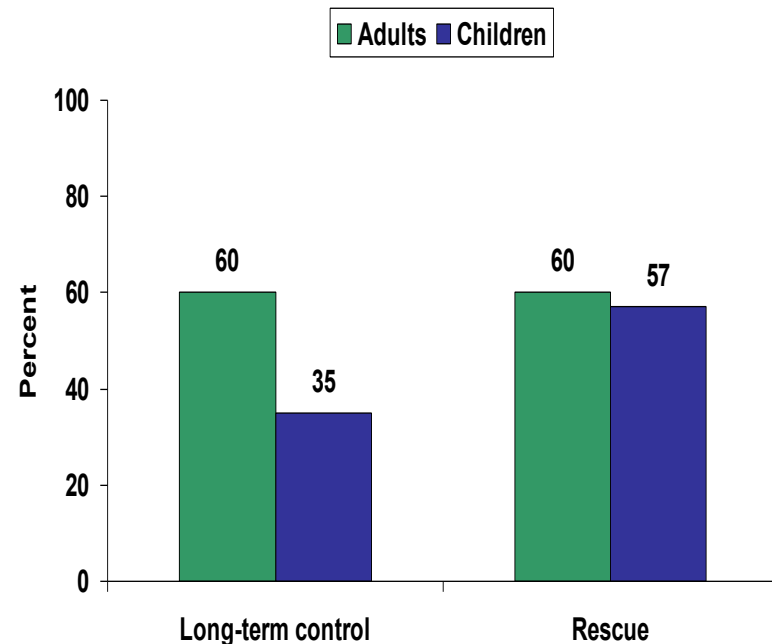
Asthma Self Management

Figure 20. Medication types used by adults and children with current asthma, Georgia 2006-2009



Source: Georgia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Asthma Call Back Survey

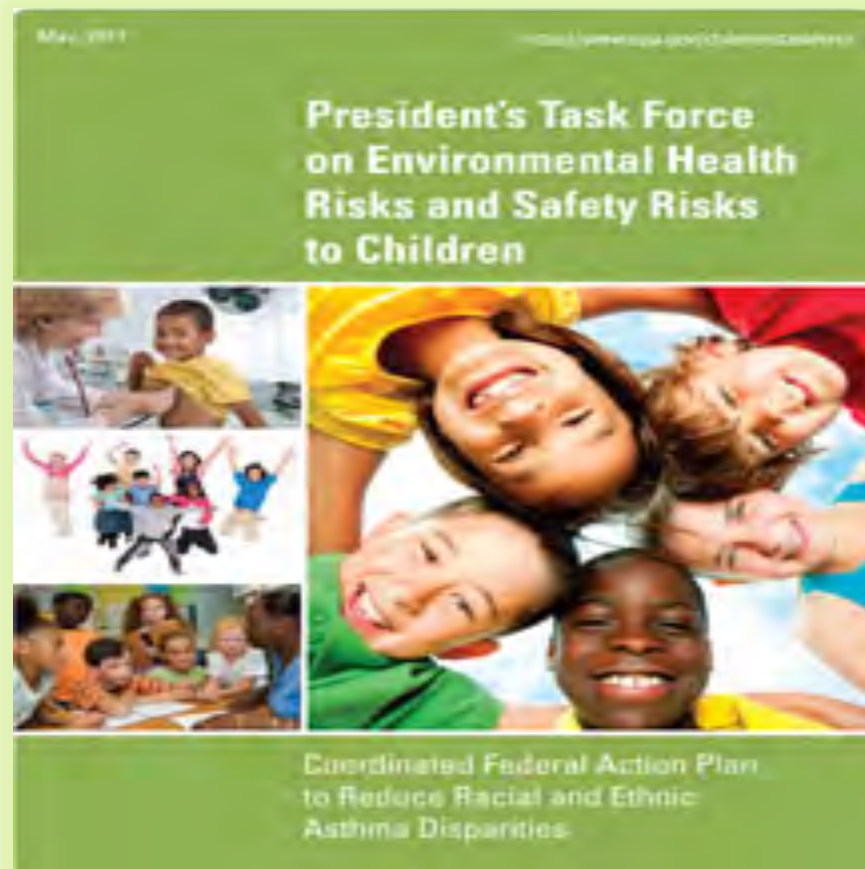
Figure 21. Proper Use* of Inhaled Prescription Asthma Medications in the Past Three Months, Georgia 2006-2009



*This indicator was generated among individuals with current asthma who reported using inhaled asthma medications in the past three months.

Source: Georgia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Asthma Call Back Survey

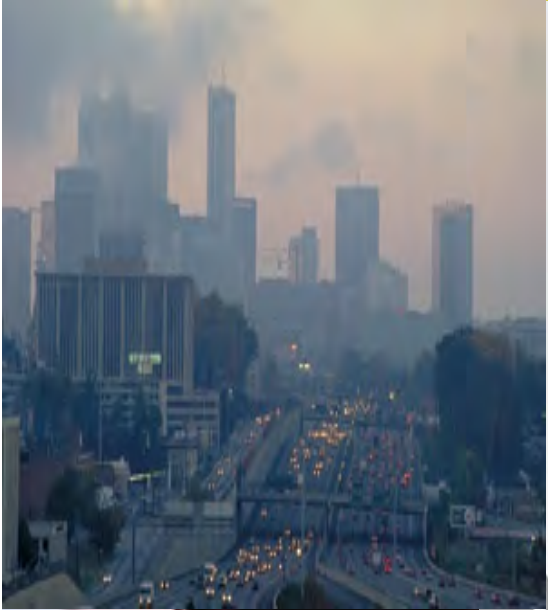
COORDINATED FEDERAL ACTION PLAN TO REDUCE RACIAL AND ETHNIC ASTHMA DISPARITIES



www.epa.gov/childrenstaskforce

*Role of Advocacy and Policy Change in Closing the Gap of Asthma Disparities
in Children*

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GEORGIA'S 2012-2017 Asthma Control Strategic Plan



GEORGIA ASTHMA ADVISORY COALITION

Coalition

Georgia Asthma Advisory Coalition meets quarterly

Membership includes health professionals, CBOs, educators, asthma coalitions, public health professionals from local, state, federal and private sector

Partner Highlights

Georgia Head Start Association
Environmental Protection Agency (Region IV) Georgia
Mother's & Others for Clean Air
DHHS Admin. For Children and Families
Three Rivers Area Health Education Center
Healthcare Georgia Foundation
Annie E. Casey Atlanta Civic Site
Georgia Association of School Nurses
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
Georgia Tobacco Use Prevention Program
Georgia Lead Hazard Control & Green and Healthy Homes Initiative

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Strategy One: Reduce barriers to the implementation of guidelines-based asthma management

FEDERAL PRIORITY ACTION	GACP 2012-2017 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	COLLABORATING AGENCIES
<p style="text-align: center;">1.1 Explore strategies to expand access to asthma care services</p>	<p>(Healthcare) By 2017, increase the number of health plans providing reimbursement for comprehensive asthma care based on NAEPP best practices from 0 to 1.</p>	<p>GA Rural Health Assoc, State Office of Rural Health (SORH), GA Association of Primary Health Care, Department of Public Health (DPH), DCH, Healthcare Georgia Foundation, Georgia Asthma Coalition, Choice Healthcare, Southside Medical Center, CDC</p>
	<p>(Healthcare)By 2017, increase the number of certified asthma educators (CAE) in GA by 50%. (79 total CAE's, 2012 NAECP)</p>	<p>3 Rivers AHEC, GA Rural Health Assoc, State Office of Rural Health (SORH), GA Association of Primary Health Care, Department of Public Health (DPH), DCH, Georgia Asthma Coalition, Association of Asthma</p>

Strategy One: Reduce barriers to the implementation of guidelines-based asthma management

FEDERAL PRIORITY ACTION	GACP 2012-2017 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Existing and Proposed COLLABORATING AGENCIES
<p>1.1 Explore strategies to expand access to asthma care services</p>	<p>(Healthcare) By 2017, increase by 5% the number of trained CHWs in the community certified in asthma management. <i>(Developmental Objective)</i></p>	<p>DPH, DCH, Georgia Boards of health, AHEC, CDC, EPA, 3 Rivers AHEC(& GA AHEC network), GACP, GRHA GA Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, GA Academy of Family Physicians, GA Primary Care Association, CHOA</p>
<p>1.2 In Health care settings, coordinate existing federal programs in underserved communities to improve the quality of asthma care.</p>	<p>(Healthcare) Over the next 5 years, educate at least 375 providers per year on current NAEPP guidelines and best practices.</p> <p>(Healthcare) By 2017, increase by 7% the percent of children ever receiving an asthma action plan from</p>	<p>DOE, GACP, GAAC, 3 Rivers AHEC, GASN, DECAL, GA Assoc of Head Start</p>

Strategy One: Reduce barriers to the implementation of guidelines-based asthma management

FEDERAL PRIORITY ACTION	GACP 2012-2017 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Existing and Proposed COLLABORATING AGENCIES
<p>1.3 In homes, reduce environmental exposures.</p>	<p>(Environmental) By 2014, create and adopt a statewide healthy homes standard to reduce the level of asthma triggers within homes.</p>	<p>Atlanta HUD, Savannah HUD, Center for Working Families, GA Lead Hazard Control Program, GA Healthy Homes Program, GACP</p>
	<p><i>Developmental Objective:</i> (Environmental) By 2017, increase the number of Georgia cities/counties that have integrated code enforcement regulations to include asthma in healthy homes principles by 2</p>	

Strategy One: Reduce barriers to the implementation of guidelines-based asthma management

FEDERAL PRIORITY ACTION	GACP 2012-2017 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Existing and Proposed COLLABORATING AGENCIES
<p>1.4 In schools and child care settings, implement asthma care services and reduce environmental exposures, using existing federal programs in collaboration with private sector partners.</p>	<p>By 2017, 50% of school districts that have adopted tobacco-free school policies will have adopted the model “asthma-friendly school” policy</p>	<p>DOE, GACP, GAAC, 3 Rivers AHEC, GASN, DECAL, GA Assoc of Head Start, LEA, GAPTA, GA Boards of Health, Region 4 EPA, Region IV HHS ACF</p>
	<p>By 2017, 50% of early child care centers that have participated in GAME-CS training will have adopted the model “asthma-friendly school” policy</p>	
	<p>By 2017, 150 early child care centers will have completed and implemented the GAME-CS Curriculum</p>	

Strategy Two: Enhance capacity to deliver integrated, comprehensive asthma care to children in communities with racial and ethnic asthma disparities.

FEDERAL PRIORITY ACTION	GACP 2012-2017 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Existing and Proposed COLLABORATING AGENCIES
<p>2.1 Promote cross-sector partnerships among federally supported, community-based programs targeting children who experience a high burden of asthma</p>	<p>By 2017, improve the integration of care management between health care providers and schools/ child care settings to increase by 10% the number of school health staff that report receiving asthma action plans.</p>	
<p>2.2 In communities that experience a high burden of asthma, protect children from health risks caused by short- and long-term exposure to air pollutants</p>	<p>By 2017, enact new tobacco free ordinances in at least 5 Georgia cities/counties.</p> <p>By 2017, ensure that all county health departments for non-attainment areas host smog safety information on their websites. increase by 50% the number of libraries, recreation areas</p>	<p>Mothers & Others for Clean Air , GACP, health districts, GA Tobacco Use Prevention Program, YMCA, local parks and recreation.</p>

Georgia Asthma Management Education for Childcare Settings (GAME-CS)

The GAME-CS curriculum was designed for early childcare settings to provide the knowledge and resources needed to ensure that:

- ☑ Staff are knowledgeable about asthma and prepared to deal with an asthma emergency
- ☑ Children with asthma are identified and that communication with parents about the child's asthma symptoms and management is ongoing.
- ☑ A healthy and asthma friendly environment is maintained at the center.
- ☑ Asthma Action Plans and rescue medications available and easily accessible.

Benefits



Early Childcare Providers will become more aware of the treatment and management of asthma and the actions taken to reduce the risk of asthma attacks and asthma-related illnesses. Providers will be better equipped to deal with an asthma emergency.

Children will benefit from the early childcare providers' new knowledge and understanding of asthma management in the childcare center environment. They will also benefit from a healthier center environment that is asthma-friendly and trigger-free.

Parents will gain information from knowledgeable staff. They can also better interact with early childcare providers about the child's symptoms and asthma management.

GAME-CS curriculum

- **Beginner-** *The Foundations of Asthma Management (2hours)*
- **Intermediate-** *Understanding Asthma Medications and Devices (3 hours)*
- **Advanced-** *Creating an Asthma Friendly Environment (3 hours)*



**FREE DECAL
CREDITS**

All courses are approved by DECAL and fulfill requirements in ECE-2 (To establish and maintain a safe, healthy learning environment)

GAME-CS Course Descriptions

Foundations of Asthma Management

Explore the basics about asthma to include how asthma affects the lungs, what triggers asthma episodes, how to respond to an asthma emergency as well as recognizing symptoms and warning signs. This course also includes an overview of asthma medications.

Understanding Asthma Medication and Devices

This session gives an in-depth description of the medications and devices that are used for treatment of asthma. In this course participants will learn how to properly identify asthma medications and their application. In addition, they will learn to identify asthma devices and have hands-on demonstrations of their proper use.

Creating an Asthma Friendly Environment

This session focuses on Policy, System and Environmental changes that give rise to an asthma friendly environment. Participants will learn the effects of both air quality both indoors and outside on asthma. It provides resources and tools for the centers to begin to adopt new policies and operating procedures that promote asthma wellness in their facility.

GACP Contact

Francesca Lopez, MSPH, AE-C
Georgia Asthma Control Program Manager

fmlopez@dhr.state.ga.us

404-651-7324

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