

MDT (GP’s Practice Nurses & Pharmacists) Training for Asthma (0-19yrs)

Greater Manchester, Lancashire & South Cumbria

## Partners: GMLSC CYP SCN, Lancashire CCG’s, Local Pharmacy Network, Manchester University Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE), Child Health Research Network (CHRN), Bridgewater Community Trust, Patients and families

# Background

As outlined by Public Health England via the Child Health Profiles, admissions due to Asthma for children and young people (0-19 years) remains significantly higher than the England average across Greater Manchester & Lancashire. (See Appendix).

A plethora of evidence suggests that up to 90% of all asthma admissions are preventable through better management in primary care.

Over a million children in the UK are currently receiving treatment for asthma. Many children with asthma have poor control of their condition, often as a consequence of poor compliance with therapy. This may lead to exacerbations of the condition and hospital admissions.

The aim of asthma care is to control symptoms and enable people to lead a normal life. Emergency admissions indicate a loss of control of the condition, and many of these could be avoided through early identification and effective and proactive management the condition. The goal of treatment is for patients to be free of symptoms, and able to lead a normal, active life.

A great deal of work was undertaken by the North West Respiratory Network, up to April 2013, including:

* Asthma management training incl.. inhaler technique
* School Nurses in Greater Manchester & Lancashire
* Pharmacists in Greater Manchester

A number of other initiatives were also promoted for GP’s and Practice Nurses in the Manchester area, however, training opportunities for GP’s, Practice Nurses and Pharmacists do not appear to have been provided consistently across Lancashire. In parts of Lancashire Asthma outcomes for children are among the worst in the country.

It is important that Asthma Training inc. Inhaler Technique is provided to GP’s, Practice Nurses and Pharmacists across Lancashire to address this variation and to ensure all health professionals are delivering a consistent message to children with asthma and their families.

# Action

The project was facilitated by the GMLSC Children & Young People’s SCN in collaboration with the Lancashire Pharmacy Network and provided:

* 8 x MDT 3 hour Asthma training sessions (GP’s, Practice Nurses & Pharmacists)
* 1 x session for each Lancashire CCG footprint.
* Sessions will be based on current best evidence and included:
* Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) Asthma Training locally tailored to include :
* Inhaler Technique Training
* Communicating with children, young people and their families utilising vignettes of children and families speaking about their experiences of asthma care.

# Outcome

All eight sessions were delivered in Autumn 2014 and were well reviewed by those who attended

# Next Steps

CPPE have started to incorporate the communicating with children element of the workshop into their wider training.

The Lancashire Pharmacy Network have incorporated some further sessions into their work plan.

The GMLSC SCN are in process of drawing together a Children & Young People’s Asthma Strategy which will include review of current training needs and core training standards.

# Learning

* Success was attributed to an excellent training package and trainers, and the inclusion of inhaler technique training and communication with children.
* Lessons learnt: Although sessions were provided both in the day time and in the evening with access to any session for all GP’s Practice Nurses and Pharmacists across the Lancashire footprint attendance at the sessions was less than expected.
* In response to that the GMLSC SCM are also looking at other opportunities for training is online resources

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# Top tips

Use of patient engagement vis the recorded vignettes was extremely powerful as was the opportunity to practice inhaler technique

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