

**Association of
Asthma Educators:
Becoming an Asthma
Educator and Care Manager**

Produced by the Alabama Department of Public Health
Video Communications and Distance Learning Division

Faculty

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Association of Asthma Educators

- **Becoming an Asthma Educator and Care Manager** was developed and is being presented by the Association of Asthma Educators

Association of Asthma Educators

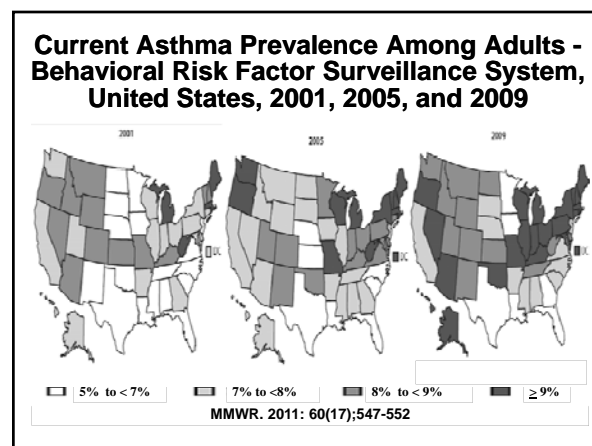
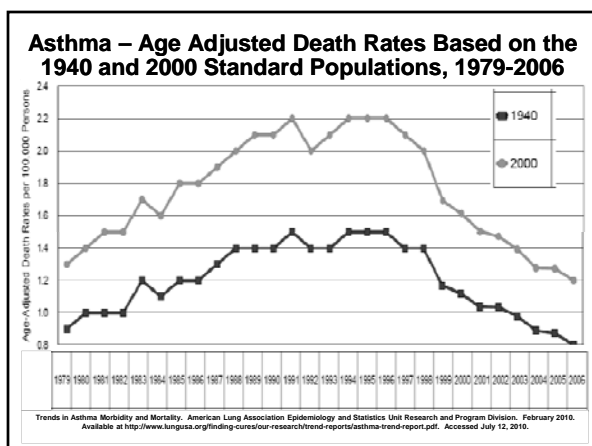
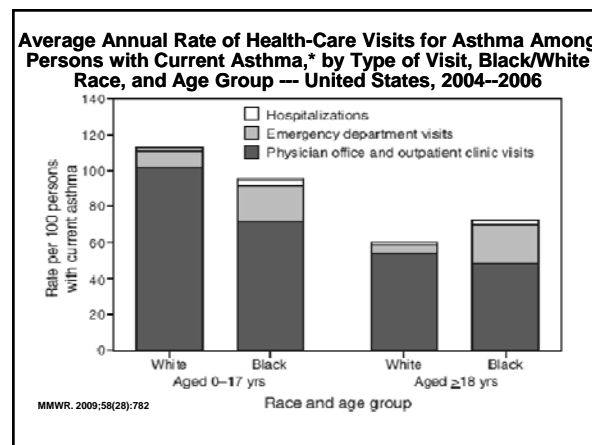
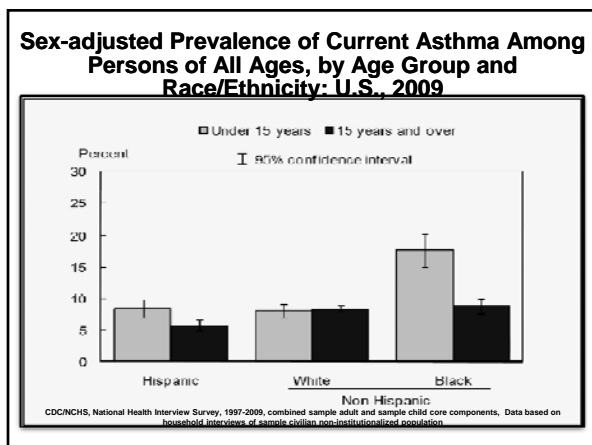
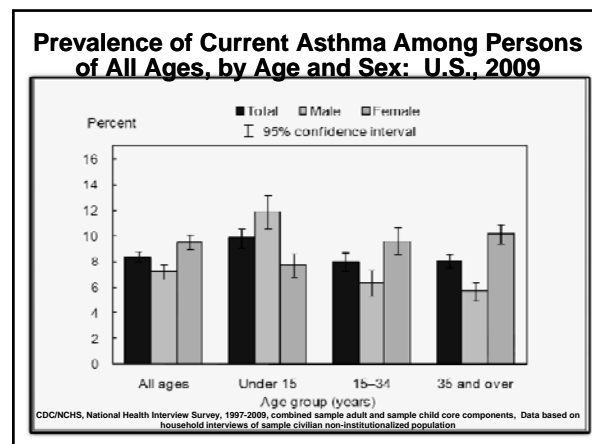
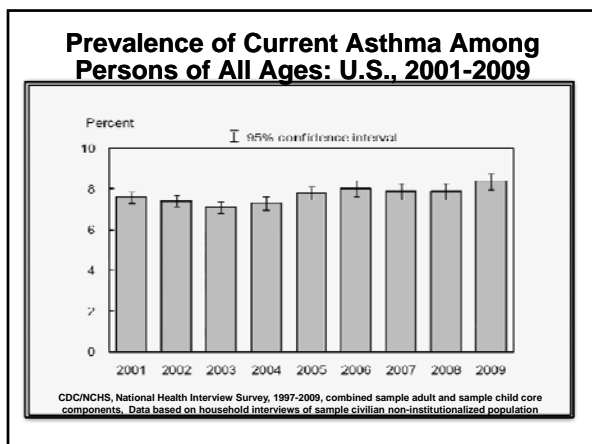
- **AAE Mission Statement:** The Association of Asthma Educators is the premier interdisciplinary professional organization raising the competency of individuals who educate patients and families affected by asthma

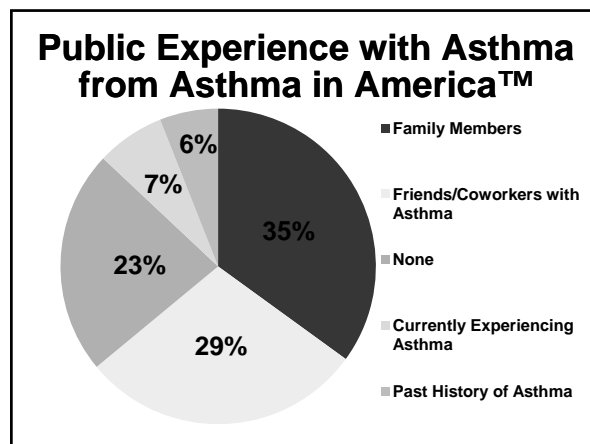
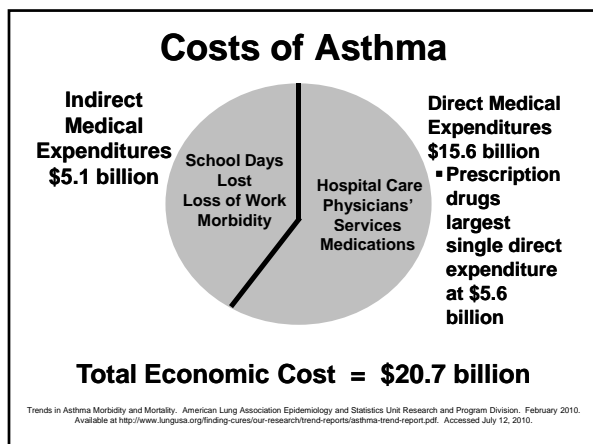
Association of Asthma Educators

- **Visit us at:**
– www.asthmaeducators.org

U.S. Burden of Asthma

- **Current asthma prevalence**
- **Annual burden of illness:**
 - Hospitalizations
 - Emergency department visits
 - Deaths
 - Lost school days/ lost workdays
 - Annual health costs





- ### Impact of Asthma
- Patients
 - Missed school/work
 - Impaired ability to concentrate
 - Limitation of activities, especially sports
 - Effect on growth, development, behavior, school/work achievement, and lifestyle

Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma Expert Panel Report 3, 2007

- ### EPR3 - Rigorous, Systematic Review of the Scientific Literature (>50,000 Articles)
- 10 committees, dozens of national experts
 - 3 years screening 15,444 abstracts
 - Reviewed full-text of 2,122 articles
 - Found 1,654 contributed new evidence

- ### EPR3 - Rigorous, Systematic Review of the Scientific Literature (>50,000 Articles)
- Constructed 20 evidence tables to analyze data from 316 articles on critical topics
 - EPR3 recommendations are weighted by evidence level
 - Categories A, B, C, and D

Implications of the Guidelines

- Large amount of asthma self-care required
- Need for a partnership with children and parents and adults to improve asthma care

Implications of the Guidelines

- Best practices (including self-care education) differ by setting of care
 - ER and inpatient
 - Outpatient (PCP and specialists)
 - School and Child Care
 - Home and community

Strategy for Reducing Asthma Burden

- Basic education and training for workforce
- Essential equipment
 - Assess airflow, improve inhalation technique
- Core competencies, setting specific
- Advanced training for leaders

Strategy for Reducing Asthma Burden

- Implement best practices
 - Asthma Ready™
- Deploy evidence-based self-management education for all, high risk first

State of Self-Management Education

- Among persons (adults and children) with asthma:
 - 34.2% reported being given a written asthma action plan
 - 44.3% of children with asthma had received an asthma action plan

State of Self-Management Education

- 68.1% had been taught the appropriate response to symptoms of an asthma attack
- ~1/3 of children or adults were using long-term control medicine such as inhaled corticosteroids

– MMWR. 2011; 60(17):547-552

Ideal Workforce Size

- How many competent people do we need to be able to provide appropriate care to those with asthma across the range of settings where asthma services and education for self-care are needed?

Who Is at the Point of Care?

- Who trains the parent or worker who must recognize and manage asthma in the young child?
- Who trains teachers and school staff?
- Who identifies asthma disability at school and manages students' asthma exacerbations?

Who Is at the Point of Care?

- Who provides asthma self-care education to students and dependent care education to parents?
- Who provides asthma education to peers?
- Who assists families to improve indoor air quality?

Workforce Factors – Settings

- Licensed child care centers and licensed family child care homes
- Secondary schools in the U.S.
- Primary care providers
- U.S. hospitals

National Asthma Educator Certification Board (NAECB)

- Mission
 - “To promote optimal asthma management and quality of life among individuals with asthma, their families and communities by advancing excellence in asthma education through the Certified Asthma Educator process.”

National Asthma Educator Certification Board (NAECB)

- An Asthma Educator-Certified (AE-C) is an expert in counseling individuals with asthma and their families how to manage their asthma and to minimize its impact on their quality of life

Asthma Educator-Certified, AE-C

- Any health professional or person with documented 1000 hours direct care of persons with asthma
- Successfully pass computerized certification exam
 - www.naecb.org
 - Independent preparatory courses are available from AARC, AAE, ALA and other

Asthma Educator-Certified, AE-C

- Current Pass Rate
- Certification not currently linked to reimbursement

Who Is in Need of Asthma Education?

- Impossible ratios of persons with asthma per certified asthma educator (AE-C)
 - Across several settings of care expertise is needed among numerous caregivers, both lay and professional

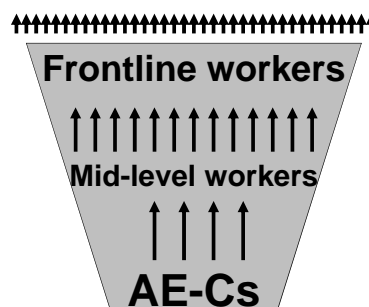
Who Is in Need of Asthma Education?

- Settings
 - Home, child care, school, work, primary care, hospital, and specialty care

Who Is in Need of Asthma Education?

- Lay caregivers
 - Parents, other family members, staff at child and adult daycare, and others (institutional)
- Health professionals
 - School, clinic, hospital, community

Persons with Asthma



Overview: Key Components of Asthma Management from EPR-3

- **Assessment and monitoring**
- **Control of environmental factors contributing to asthma and co-morbid conditions**
- **Medications**
- **Education for a partnership in care**

– Expert Panel Report 3 (EPR-3)