

Addressing Asthma Triggers in Housing: A Health Plan's Perspective

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NETWORK HEALTH

Network Health

- Is a Medicaid Managed Care Organization
- Strives to improve the health and well-being of our members and their diverse communities
 - Covers more than 155,000 members through our *Network Health Together*[™] (MassHealth) and *Network Health Forward*[™] (Commonwealth Care) plans
- Provides access to high-quality health care
 - Partners with more than 18,000 primary care providers, specialists, hospitals, and community organizations
 - Serves members in more than 300 cities and towns



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Asthma Triggers and Care

- Collaborate with Asthma Regional Council on White Paper
 - Potential correlation between living environment and asthma attacks
 - Literature suggests correlation between cockroach allergen and asthma attacks
- Review local trends in environment improvements
 - Improve air quality



Extent of the Problem

- Asthma
 - Chronic illness
 - Utilization outlier by diagnosis
 - Asthma prevalence among enrollees in identified region
 - 24.8 percent compared with 14.3 percent across Network Health network
 - Hospitalization age adjusted discharge rate for asthma is 257.1
 - 97 percent higher than statewide rate of 130.8



Center for Health Care Strategies: Health Plan Innovation

- Best Clinical and Administrative Practice (BCAP) Project
 - Center for Health Care Strategies
 - Two-year Robert Wood Johnson grant
 - Health Disparities
 - 14 participating teams nationwide
 - Correlation between asthma outlier and identified region with significant racial diversity

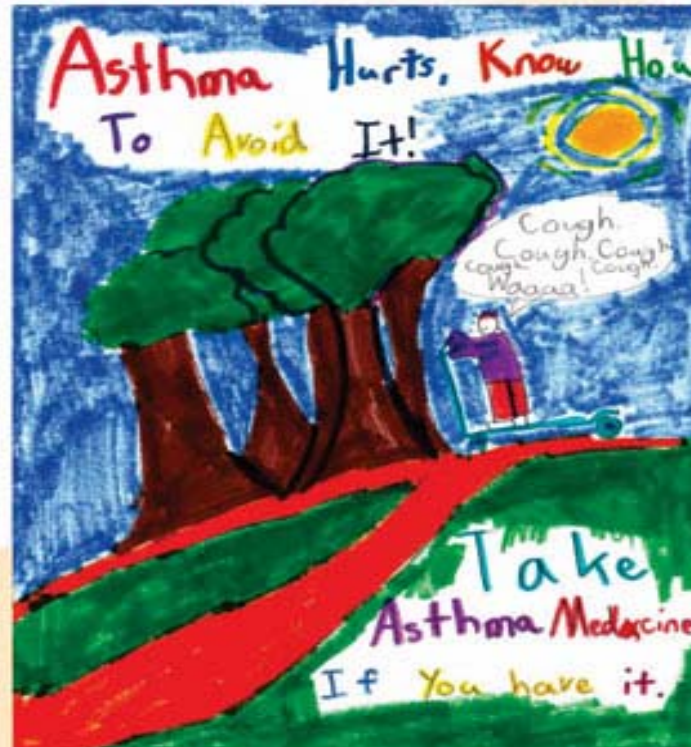


Center for Health Care Strategies: Clinical and Administrative Practice

- Asthma Health Disparity Project
 - Goal of identifying and addressing barriers to care for asthmatic Hispanic-American enrollees in identified region
 - Multifaceted approach
 - Results



Asthma can be managed. Contact your doctor.
El asma puede tratarse. Contacte a su médico.



Poster design by Lukas D. Sennrich, age 10, winner of Network Health's "Smallest Story" contest, 2006.
Artista diseñador por Lukas D. Sennrich, de 10 años de edad, ganador del concurso de arte "El cuento más pequeño" ("Smallest Story") de Network Health, año 2006.

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Addressing Asthma Triggers in the Home: Health Plan Innovation

- Innovative asthma care pilot program
 - Collaborate with Cambridge-Somerville Healthy Homes on Addressing Asthma Triggers in the Home pilot program
 - Improve asthma outcomes by enhancing and expanding the home-visiting program to pediatric members with high asthma utilization.
 - Coordinate with Network Health asthma care management program and primary care provider(s).
 - Program structure



Addressing Asthma Triggers in the Home: Background

- 2007 pilot program
 - One-year program referral agreement
 - Referrals from providers and Cambridge-Somerville Healthy Homes
 - Spanned four urban communities
- Participants
 - 64 participants, age 18 and under

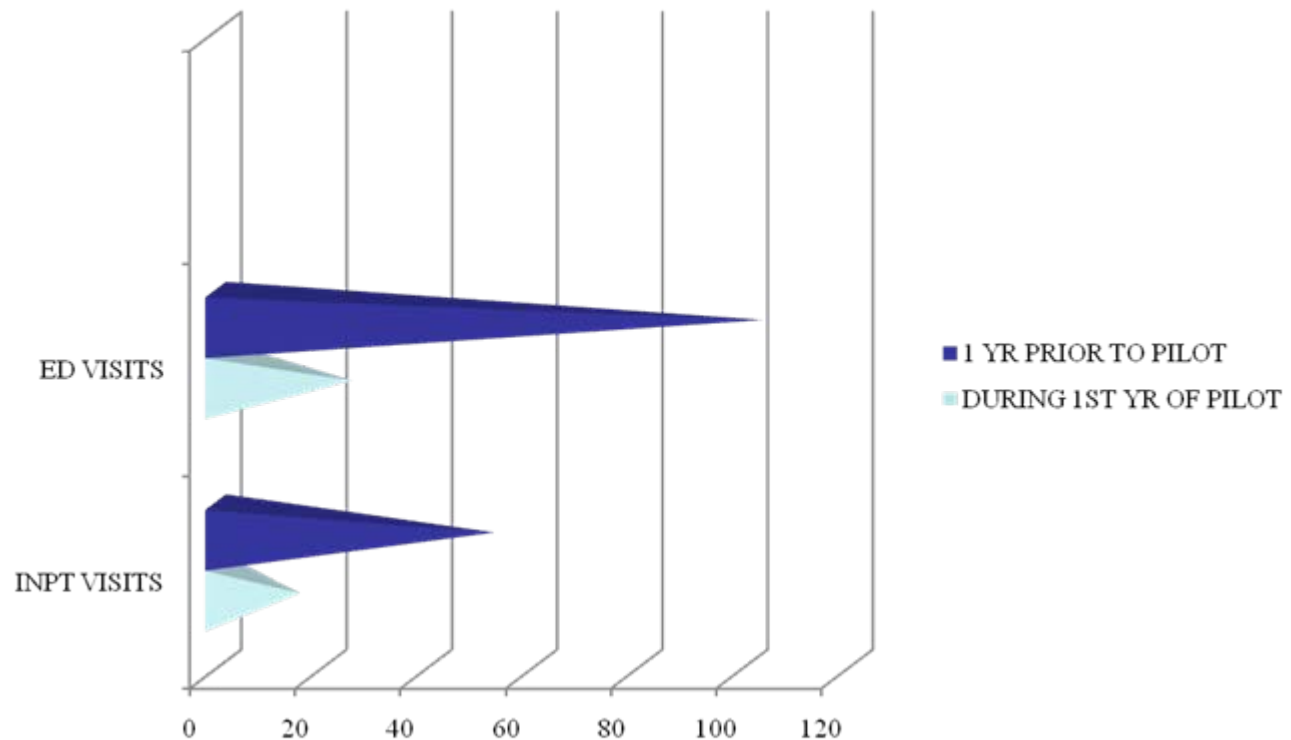


Addressing Asthma Triggers in the Home: Clinical and Administrative Practice

- Targeted intensive in-home program
 - Intensive asthma-trigger education
 - Formal home-environment assessment
 - Barrier-type supplies to remediate identified triggers
 - Participant assessment
 - Medication use
 - Advocacy
- Tracking



Addressing Asthma Triggers in the Home: Results



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What Did We Learn?

- Use existing opportunities
- Improve quality of life
- Reduce health care utilization
 - Emergency care
 - Inpatient care
- Facilitate primary care provider's influence
 - Beyond the office and into patients' homes
- Address asthma triggers in the home environment



Next Steps

- Network Health's asthma care management program
 - July 1, 2009 launch
- Model
 - Home visits
 - Medication compliance
 - Advocacy and health education
 - Home assessment for all enrollees with uncontrolled asthma
 - High-quality care commitment
 - Tracking

