Asthma Home Visits
a good investment in your community

THE TOP 5 BENEFITS:

1. GOOD RETURN ON INVESTMENT
   Several studies show home visits return on investment ranged from $5.30 to $14.00 in costs averted for each dollar spent.[1]

2. REASONABLE CARE COSTS
   Studies show that home visits can range from $12 to $57 per each day the patient experiences no symptoms.[1] Home visits may produce cost savings if more expensive treatment options can be avoided.

3. REDUCE EMERGENCY VISITS
   Asthma home visits among children reduce hospitalizations, emergency department visits and physician office visits, as well as school days missed due to asthma.[2]

4. IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE
   Asthma home visit programs can give children and adolescents with asthma a higher quality of life by offering habit change recommendations and resources for low-cost or free asthma management tools.[2]

5. INCREASE CLIENTELE
   The success of comprehensive care plans may encourage prospective clients to look for health plans that offer asthma home visits and other preventative care.

Asthma home visits can be a low-cost intervention to improve asthma control.

Reduce asthma related hospitalizations and public costs

In 2010, 57,000 Washington adults with asthma visited the emergency room (ER) at least once, accounting for approximately 164,000 ER visits.[4] ER visits due to asthma are driven by a small fraction of asthma patients with very poorly controlled asthma; public funds pay for about 60 percent of Washington’s asthma hospitalization costs.[4]

Fewer missed school and work days

In 2010, 22 percent of Washington adults with asthma missed work, or could not do normal activities, for a total of 4.3 million person-days of lost productivity.[1] Similarly, 25 percent of Washington 10th grade youth with asthma missed at least one day of school in 2010, 5 percent missed 5 or more days.[6]

Education is key

Studies show that low-cost in-home education and reduction of environmental asthma triggers improve outcomes for children with asthma.[7] In-home assessments allow health educators to deliver effective asthma and situation-specific education that improves asthma control.
Citations


4. Data Source: Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System, 2010


ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Washington State Department of Health Asthma Home Visit web page:

Environmental Protection Agency: Implementing an Asthma Home Visit Program (PDF):
http://www.epa.gov/asthma/pdfs/implementing_an_asthma_home_visit_program.pdf

Asthma Return on Investment Calculator:
http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/kt/asthma/asthroisumm.htm

Asthma Control: Home-Based Multi-Trigger, Multicomponent Environmental Interventions guide:
http://www.thecommunityguide.org/asthma/multicomponent.html