

# Asthma Data Workgroup Minutes

04/28/05, 2:00 to 4:00

Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR 97232-2162

ATTENDEES: Rich Clark (MPCHP), Donna Erbs (Kaiser), Janet Kershner (Tuality), Patti McIntire (CareOregon), Ammon Poage (phtech), Stacey Schubert (DHS), Thomas Smith (phtech)

GUESTS: Kirsten Jensen (DHS)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Oregon Asthma Program is pleased to announce our newest team member: Tracy Alexander, MPA. She is the Asthma Community Partnerships and Self-Management Coordinator.
- Stacey is in the process of hiring a temporary Research Analyst 3 to coordinate the creation of a comprehensive, web-based Burden of Asthma Report.
- There is a new *A View of Asthma in Oregon* in print. This issue – our 9<sup>th</sup> – is titled “Controlling Asthma: The Perception vs. The Reality”. If you have not received a print copy and would like to, please e-mail Debi Livengood ([debi.livengood@state.or.us](mailto:debi.livengood@state.or.us)). Or, visit <http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/asthma/view/view09.pdf> for the web version.
- Stacey received an inquiry from Wisconsin about our experience using the asthma measures in the Technical Specifications and which ones are most useful. The group asked Stacey to share a few things with the Wisconsin epidemiologist: 1) Please use our indicators so that we can benchmark against one another 2) Try to work with Medicaid as one way to bring plans on board to measure the indicators.
- The Oregon Asthma Program had a site visit on March 9 and an evaluation planning day on March 10 with our CDC funders. Both days were very fruitful. We were told that after our 5-year implementation grant ends (Sept 30, 2006) we will **likely** receive level funding for a number of years.

## UPDATES:

- Kirsten: work on the [Chronic Disease Data Clearinghouse](#) is wrapping up.
- Kirsten: revision of the [Guide to Improving Asthma Care in Oregon](#) is wrapping up.
- Stacey: the Asthma Tobacco Indicator Chart Audit Project ([ATICAP](#)) contract has been awarded and work has begun.

DISCUSSIONS: We discussed [using control charts](#) at the last meeting. What has happened since then?

Item/Issue	Update/Discussion	Person Responsible	Status
<p>“The Guide” has been updated because the NAEPP issued an update of the National Asthma Guidelines in 2002.</p>	<p>The updates to the Guide are nearly complete. Kirsten is seeking endorsements from organizations, and had already received many from organizations represented at the ADWG meeting.</p>	<p>Kirsten Jensen, Asthma Health Systems Coordinator</p>	<p>Nearly finalized</p>
<p>Chronic Disease Data Clearinghouse progress</p>	<p>Some lessons learned or questions raised by this project so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twelve (12) plans provided data, resulting in 62,000 patients being identified with asthma.</li> <li>• 6.5% of patients had multiple plans, mostly Medicaid and Medicare.</li> <li>• Doctors loved the reports, but since the clinics that tested them were friendly to the project, need to test in other sites.</li> <li>• Many docs expressed concern about the constraints on the follow up visit codes, because many felt that they saw the patient within 30 days, and talked about asthma, but billed for another presenting complaint.</li> <li>• Billing practices varied considerably between clinics, and between doctors in the same clinic. Getting clinic to standardize billing would help the CDDC immensely. (Note: Rick Clark and others replied that that would never happen. Patti McIntire pointed out that once HIPAA standard transaction codes are implemented, some standardization will occur.)</li> <li>• Will probably need to have the data clearinghouse run in both electronic and paper modes.</li> <li>• In the end, will the CDDC be a registry or a clearinghouse?</li> </ul>	<p>Kirsten Jensen, and OMPRO</p>	<p>Winding down</p>

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Asthma Tobacco Indicator Chart Audit Project (ATICAP)	Qualis Health was chosen as the contactor for this project. They are making good progress so far. Describe population. A question was raised whether they would be conducting chart audits on electronic medical records? No, because that is a very different process and would require specifications geared toward the EMR. A side note is that OHII is performing a survey of which physician offices have EMRs (contact: Jodi Pettit).		Stacey Schubert	In process
OMAP-QPIWG wants benchmarks for the indicators that they measured, and control charts may help us determine appropriate benchmarks. Control charts are a way of graphing the data monthly for a 24-month period to try to uncover smaller variations that might be masked when data are aggregated in more gross units (i.e., a year, like we currently use).	At the last meeting Patti and Khalid agreed to try to use control charts. Patti has not yet tried it for the flu shot indicator, but plans to. Khalid was not at the meeting so could not report his progress.		Analysts and Stacey	In process
Conversion factors are currently used for the enhanced beta <sub>2</sub> -agonist measure, and they allow us to count a dispensing of multiple canisters as the number of canisters, rather than just one dispensing. We need to review the 2005 NDC denominator list for the HEDIS asthma measure for new beta <sub>2</sub> -agonists, as well as newly create conversion factors for the inhaled corticosteroids.	Both Sue Fillmore and Patti McIntire said that their pharmacy people could probably help with this task.	Stacey will work with the plan's pharmacists to update the list with appropriate conversion factors before the next meeting.	Stacey Schubert	In process

## MEMBER UPDATES:

- Patti McIntire reported that **CareOregon** has finalized their asthma reports, which focus on overuse/underuse, and show the most current three months worth of claims data for ED visits and hospitalizations. They are also assessing a health risk assessment score for categorical clients, and for those that score high, administering clinical surveys for the diseases they have.
- Rich Clark reported that he is inputting data from a **Marion Polk County Community Health Plan** asthma survey. Although he is not yet done, he said it was obvious that many respondents are not in control of their asthma.
- Donna Erbs reported that **Kaiser Permanente** is rolling out a national electronic medical record, much of which is based on the one that KPNW has used for years, although even they will need to upgrade to a more recent version in a couple of weeks.