Abstract

Improved outcomes for patients with asthma have been demonstrated through the use of written asthma action plans [AAPs] (Gibson et al., 2008). Despite the research and guideline recommendations that support the use of AAPs, these plans are not routinely used by healthcare providers. This project evaluated the effect an education program on the principles of teambased care had upon the provision rate of AAPs written by healthcare teams. The teams in this project were working within a Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model of care delivery. This project was conducted using a quantitative, quasi-experimental one group pretest-posttest design. The study population (n = 49) was members of seven health care teams consisting of medical assistants, licensed practice nurses, registered nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and physicians. All attended an educational in-service and were introduced to the concepts of team-based care as well as a workflow process change. One month post education, a retrospective chart audit was conducted to determine if there was a percentage change in the provision rate of AAPs. All teams showed an increase in the provision rate of AAPS. Three teams demonstrated a statistically significant increase in the provision rate of AAPs. Only two teams achieved the national goal of a 37% provision rate of AAPs to patients with asthma. This project demonstrated the effectiveness of an education program and workflow process change on the provision rate of AAPs. Further study is needed to determine if the composition of teams has an effect upon the provision rate of AAPs. Keywords: Asthma, asthma care guidelines, asthma action plan, adherence to evidence-based guidelines, team-base care