

## Abstract

### **Evaluating the Effect and Process of a school-Based Asthma Protocol to Improve Asthma Management in the School Environment.**

By

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#### **Abstract**

**Background:** Asthma is described as a chronic inflammatory disease of the large and small airways with evident bronchial hyper-responsiveness, airflow limitation, airway remodeling, and increased mucus production. The cause of Asthma can be attributed to either environmental triggers or genetic factors. Factors such as poverty, environmental pollution, and illnesses have been noted to increase the prevalence of asthma exacerbation among children 5-14 years (Toole, 2013).

**Problem:** About 1 in 12 US school-aged children suffer from asthma, and on average, it is associated with >10 million missed school days annually. Asthma-related school absenteeism affects up to (59%) of children with asthma. The rate of school absenteeism goes higher for low-income minority children whose asthma is not well controlled (Hsu et al., 2016).

**Methods:** Pre and post-assessment questionnaires were given to teachers to ascertain their knowledge and preparedness to tackle asthma attacks and to find out if every child with asthma has an action plan and medication in the school for use during an asthma crisis.

**Interventions:** Participants completed anonymized pre and post educational intervention questionnaires used to evaluate the effectiveness of the asthma educational intervention.

**Results:** The educational intervention improved knowledge and increased participants' comfort level to safely and effectively assist a student having an asthma attack in the school environment by 100 percent

**Conclusion:** In this evidence-based project, the measurable outcome determined that intervention implemented increased confidence level in school teachers to take charge and safely manage asthma attacks in the school environment; reducing the need for emergency room visits.

References

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Toole, K.P. (2013). Helping children gain asthma control: Bundled school-based interventions. *Pediatric Nursing, 39*(3), 115-124. Retrieved from <https://www.pediatricnursing.net/ce/2015/article3903115125.pdf>