

LEADING THE WAY

Association of Asthma Educators Newsletter July, 2024



NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Hot Topic Rundown! Scan the QR Code to read each full article



President's Message

Dear Members,

As President of the Association of Asthma Educators (AAE), I am honored to address each of you who tirelessly dedicate your time and expertise to improving the lives of those affected by asthma. In a recent study by Carr, et al., 2024, entitled, "Gaps in Care Among Uncontrolled Severe Asthma Patients in the United States," the researchers found there was a clear relationship between uncontrolled asthma and subsequent health care resource use and asthma exacerbations. This study confirms the need for our collective commitment to education and the crucial role it plays in the well-being of countless individuals and families.

This year has been one of significant growth and development for the AAE. We have strengthened our community outreach through expansion of the Community Health Worker program and have engaged more multidisciplinary members through our educational programs, namely, the AE-C Exam Review Course and the Becoming an Asthma Educator and Care Manager course to further enhance their skills and impact. These achievements are a testament to the hard work and passion of our members and the AAE Board of Directors, and I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together.

Looking ahead, let us focus on fostering collaboration and building stronger networks in our communities and throughout the United States. We believe that by working together and sharing our experiences, we can overcome challenges and drive forward innovative solutions. Our upcoming annual conference, themed "Team Approach to Holistic Asthma Care," will be a fantastic opportunity for us to connect, learn, and inspire one another. I look forward to seeing many of you in Charlotte, North Carolina, July 17-19, 2024, and engaging in fruitful discussions that will shape the future of asthma education.

As we continue our journey, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each member for your unwavering dedication and enthusiasm. Together, we will continue to elevate the standards of asthma education and support, ensuring a healthier future for all. Thank you for your commitment and passion. Let us continue to inspire, educate, and advocate for a world where asthma no longer hinders anyone's quality of life.

Kind regards,

Kevin Collins, PhD, RRT, RPFT, AE-C
President, Association of Asthma Educators



2024 Annual Conference

Our 2024 Annual Conference will be held in Charlotte, NC on July 17, 18, 19.

Our mission is to provide a meeting full of valuable content, robust networking and an incredible amount of collaboration and planning among our network of asthma educators and industry sponsors and supporters. There truly is no other national event like the AAE Annual Conference- with intense focus on enhancing the ability for all members of the asthma education community to increase their knowledge, expand their capabilities and together become a greater force in improving asthma education programs everywhere.

Registration is OPEN-visit www.asthmaeducators.org for details!

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE



JULY 17-19

JULY 17: DUAL LEARNING TRACK

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND RECEPTIONS ALL DAYS

**Dual
Learning
Track Day**

**JULY
17**

Clinic, ED, and Home: The Continuum of Asthma Education

- ✓ Full Conference Day
- ✓ Certs: CE, CRCE
- ✓ Product Theatre
- ✓ Luncheon

Pharmacology-Focused Track

- ✓ Full Conference Day
- ✓ Certs: CME, ACPE, CE, CRCE
- ✓ Product Theatres
- ✓ Luncheon

**JULY
18**

General Session

- ✓ Plenary
- ✓ Certs: CME, ACPE, CE, CRCE
- ✓ Product Theatres
- ✓ Luncheon

**JULY
19**

General Session with Breakouts

- ✓ Cooper Memorial 5K Fun Run
- ✓ Certs: CME, ACPE, CE, CRCE
- ✓ Product Theatres
- ✓ Luncheon

EXTREME HEAT ASSOCIATED WITH CHILDREN'S ASTHMA HOSPITAL VISITS



For children seeking care at a California urban pediatric hospital, daily high heat events and extreme temperatures that lasted several days were associated with increased asthma hospitalizations, according to research published at the ATS 2024 International Conference.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Extreme heat has been associated with adverse health outcomes in children.
- Daytime heat waves were associated with 19% higher odds of children's asthma hospital visits.
- A longer duration of heat waves doubled the odds of hospital visits.

EXTREME WEATHER AND ASTHMA: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS



Summary: Extreme weather events, thunderstorms, hurricanes, global warming, appear to increase risk of ED visits, asthma exacerbations, especially in young females, including risk of death.

POINTS FOR CLINICAL PRACTICE

- Exposure to extreme weather events more prominently increased the risk of asthma morbidity and mortality.
- Children and females are populations at risk for asthma in response to extreme weather events.
- Climate change poses a direct threat to respiratory health and is a critical concern for asthma control.

ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN PERSONAL APPARENT TEMPERATURE EXPOSURES AND ASTHMA SYMPTOMS IN CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA



Summary--temperature, humidity play a factor in asthma control, along with personal apparent temperatures. Individuals with higher perceived personal apparent temperatures had worse asthma control scores, including children.

GAPS IN CARE AMONG UNCONTROLLED SEVERE ASTHMA PATIENTS IN THE UNITED STATES



A study published in The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology found that a substantial proportion of patients with uncontrolled severe asthma had no evidence of specialist visits or medication escalation after uncontrolled disease.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- It is recommended that patients with severe asthma are referred for consultation from specialists, particularly if they struggle to maintain control over their condition, have two or more exacerbations in a year, require hospitalization, or when additional education to improve adherence is needed. Failure to engage with specialists may lead to worsened disease outcomes.
- Disparities exist in the post-event care received by patients with severe asthma, with a significant proportion not accessing specialist visits or experiencing medication escalation following uncontrolled disease events. The gap in escalation of care was noteworthy in all examined groups, but significantly worse among patients with two or more asthma related ED visits and among non-white patients.
- Patients with severe asthma who experience hospitalizations or multiple emergency department visits have significantly higher health care costs compared to controls.

THE TOP 10 MOST CHALLENGING PLACES TO LIVE WITH SEASONAL ALLERGIES:

Tree, grass, weed pollen is higher in these top 10 cities

Tree pollen is higher in early spring then grass pollen elevates late spring, early summer, into the fall, with ragweed pollen peaking when children are returning to school.

- allergies--runny nose, stuffy nose, sneezing, red/itchy/watery eyes, itchy nose/ears/eyes/mouth, swelling around eyes
- allergic asthma--short of air, cough, chest tightness/pain, wheeze, waking up at night with cough, short of air, wheezing, tight chest, drop in lung function

1. Wichita, Kansas
2. Virginia Beach, Virginia
3. Greenville, South Carolina
4. Dallas, Texas
5. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

6. Tulsa, Oklahoma
7. Richmond, Virginia
8. Des Moines, Iowa
9. Raleigh, North Carolina
10. Fayetteville, Arkansas



WHAT TO DO???

Kari Elliott tells her patients:

- Track local pollen counts--there are apps-- The Weather Channel, WebMD allergy, (for asthma--AsthmaMD, Storylines; track your symptoms)
- Continue all allergy and asthma medication, there are multiple allergy eye drops one can use
- Use saline in nose along with daily nose spray
- Change clothes, wipe off skin when coming in from playing outside
- Bathe/shower daily after playing outside, wash hair
- Don't open windows--keep pollen out of your house

**AAFA studied data from the 100 most-populated U.S. metropolitan areas.*

PREPARING PATIENTS FOR ORAL IMMUNOTHERAPY (PPOINT): INTERNATIONAL DELPHI CONSENSUS FOR PROCEDURAL PREPARATION AND CONSENT

New consensus recommendations published in The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology offer guidance on preparing patients for the use of oral immunotherapy (OIT) for treating food allergies.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Until now, there has been little evidenced based guidance for families. This paper offers standardized guidance on how to approach oral immunotherapy.
- Among the guidelines, the researchers offered the following recommendations:
 - Shared decision-making should involve exploring patient's goals and preferences.
 - Ensure control of comorbidities like asthma, allergic rhinitis, eczema, gastrointestinal disease, and psychosocial factors.
 - Patient and family specific factors should be considered before and during OIT: i.e. parental disagreement, establishing adequate parental supervision for dosing
 - Identify inadvisable risk factors including uncontrolled asthma, an unwillingness to use epinephrine, uncontrolled psychological concerns and pregnancy
 - Develop a universal consent template to be used by clinicians that ensures patient's understanding of risks, benefits and alternative therapies.

FEATURE: BREATH OF FRESH CARE IMPROVING ASTHMA PATIENTS' ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE TREATMENTS

J. Allen Meadows, MD
May 2024

"Asthma and inhalers are closely intertwined in the minds of most Americans, even those without any personal connection to the widespread respiratory condition. Far fewer are aware of powerful new options that can significantly improve a patient's relationship with their asthma... More and better treatment options are within asthma patients' reach. Clearing away barriers to cutting-edge care will allow millions of Americans suffering from the disease to finally breathe easier."

THE PHYSICIAN'S PERSPECTIVE • MAY 2024



Breath of Fresh Care
Improving Asthma Patients'
Access to Innovative Treatments



J. Allen Meadows, MD



USE OF ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND AGE OF ASTHMA ONSET AMONG US ADULTS AND YOUTH

The use of electronic nicotine delivery systems by adults in the last 30 days was associated with earlier ages of asthma onset, according to a study published in JAMA Network Open.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Adults (≥ 18 years) who used electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) in the past 30 days had an increased risk of asthma incidence at earlier ages vs. adults who did not use ENDS in the past 30 days.
- This finding did not hold for youths (12-17 years).

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND FDA ANNOUNCE FEDERAL MULTI-AGENCY TASK FORCE TO CURB THE DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF ILLEGAL E-CIGARETTES

June 10, 2024



The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) today announced the creation of a federal multi-agency task force to combat the illegal distribution and sale of e-cigarettes. Along with the FDA and the Justice Department, the task force will bring together multiple law enforcement partners, including the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS); the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS); and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), to coordinate and streamline efforts to bring all available criminal and civil tools to bear against the illegal distribution and sale of e-cigarettes responsible for nicotine addiction among American youth. Additional agencies may join the task force in the coming weeks and months.



"Unauthorized e-cigarettes and vaping products continue to jeopardize the health of Americans — particularly children and adolescents — across the country.

This interagency task force is dedicated to protecting Americans by combatting the unlawful sale and distribution of these products. And the establishment of this task force makes clear that **vigorous enforcement of the tobacco laws** is a government-wide priority."

BENJAMIN C. MIZER
ACTING ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

NEW AAE MEMBERSHIP ONLINE COMMUNITY

Welcome

Welcome to your new AAE Community! The AAE Community will allow you to interact regularly and easily with peers, experts, and organizational staff. We feel this is an ideal way to enhance our organization's benefits to you, our members.

Within AAE Community, members have:

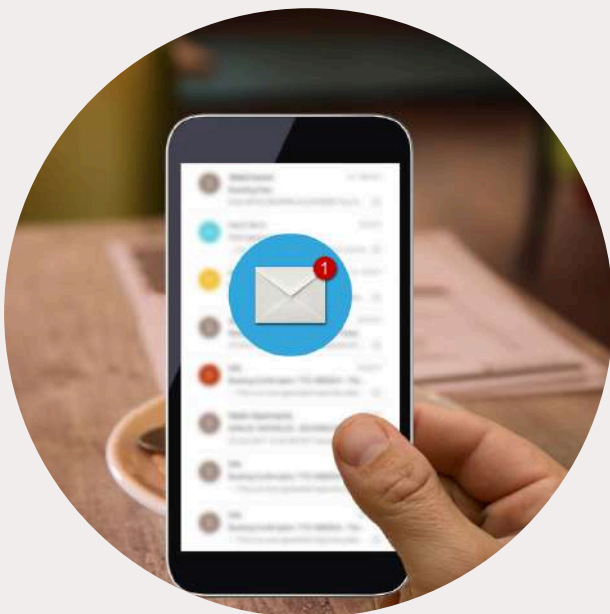
- The ability to post questions in forums where peers and experts from across the industry can respond with their insights and ideas.
- The ability to share your own expertise in response to the questions of others.
- Opportunities to build your network through formal connections, private messaging, and other options.
- A robust and easy-to-access resource library, where you can download what you need when you need it.

As you get started,

- Check out the interest-based groups to see what other people are already posting.
- Search the member lists to see who is in the community. We are a small, but mighty group. We know you will surely find some familiar faces!
- Send a connection request to colleagues that you know or want to know.
- Introduce yourself in the topical groups.
- Be sure to complete your profile, including a profile photo, so that people can easily search for you by expertise, interest, or goal.

Thank you for your ongoing contributions to our organization. We hope to see you around AAE Community as we continue to advance our industry and to support one another.

BOOKMARK: <https://aaecommunity.smallworldlabs.com/dashboard>



Association of Asthma Educators

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

JOIN US OUR PURPOSE

Join AAE in striving for excellence. Together, we can improve lives. It is vital that individuals involved in all levels of asthma education have access to materials, contemporary insights and community resources to achieve the highest standards of care.



NETWORKING COMMUNITY

Connections between asthma educators of all types is key. We connect member to member, provide mentorship, and assist in the development of guidance and other initiatives for asthma care. Membership includes an innovative social engagement web/mobile hub for networking and resources.



DEVELOPING EDUCATION

AAE develops high quality education programs for all. We have scalable courses for all levels of asthma educators, Foundational, Enhanced and Advanced. Members have access to continuing education programs providing multidisciplinary accreditations.




SHARED GOALS IMPROVING LIVES

No matter your role in asthma care and education, you can be a part of the AAE community in many vital ways. We build a network between all professionals: physicians, pharmacists, nurses, program managers, community health workers, first responders... and more!



WWW.ASTHMAEDUCATORS.ORG

LEADING THE WAY




Association of Asthma Educators

Annual Conference

July 17, 18, 19 2024
Charlotte, North Carolina


TEAM

Approach to
Holistic
Asthma Care



T *ogether*
E *ducation*
A *dvocacy*
M *anagement*

July 17, 18, 19 2024
Charlotte, North Carolina

SCAN:


REGISTRATION:
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