**ASTHMA SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION (ASM Ed) 2011**

**EVALUATION FINDINGS**

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**
- Pilot project implemented March-August 2011 in Nor-Lea General Hospital (NLGH), Lovington, New Mexico
- Partners include: NLGH Cardio-Pulmonary Rehabilitation Unit; NM Department of Health (NMDOH) Asthma Program; University of New Mexico (UNM) Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes); Certified Asthma Educator (AE-C).
- AE-C provided ASM Ed 2x/month by appointment.

**PATIENT DEMOGRAPHICS & ENCOUNTERS:**
- The average age of the patients was 9 years old;
  - 63% were male;
  - 87% were Hispanic;
  - 57% preferred to speak English;
  - 73% of patients had health insurance.
- 30 patients had a total of 68 encounters with AE-C, averaging 2 visits per patient.

**PROGRAM IMPACT:**
- At end of the first visit, 89% of caregivers for patients 18 years of age and younger (n=27) and 33% of patients over the age of 18 years (n=3) could:
  - Demonstrate correct use of medications,
  - Name relevant triggers and how to avoid them, and
  - Explain how to use their asthma action plan.
- For patients who returned for a second visit (n=22):
  - Asthma Control Test (ACT) average scores increased significantly (p=.004) from an average score of 16 (not well controlled asthma) in the first visit to an average score of 21 (well controlled) in the second visit.
  - Average number of emergency room visits decreased from .1 to .013 visits per month.
  - Average number of hospitalizations decreased from .046 to .008 hospitalizations per month.

**PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY:**
- 90% (n=61) of patient encounters claims were submitted for reimbursement (CPT Code: 98960).
- 20% of claims received payment.
- 100% of claims submitted to Health Smart, BC/BS of NM and BC/BS Salud were reimbursed.
- NLGH is currently following-up with insurance companies regarding denied claims.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**
- Replicate the **ASM Ed** Program in NLGH satellite clinics.
- Market **ASM Ed** to NLGH Medical Group providers.
- Encourage providers to refer all asthma patients for **ASM Ed**.
- Share **ASM Ed** pilot results/program model with hospitals/medical groups in New Mexico.
- Encourage providers to partner with AE-Cs in their area to provide **ASM Ed** in their clinics.
- Work to improve reimbursement for patient asthma education statewide via stakeholders, such as NMDOH Asthma Program, New Mexico Council on Asthma (NMCOA), universities, hospitals, Managed Care Organizations, and patient interest/advocacy groups.
- Present the Sustainability component of the evaluation to the NMCOA for input and action.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PROGRAM, CONTACT THE NMDOH ASTHMA PROGRAM @: 505-476-1734