Strategies for Change: Identifying and Addressing Barriers

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What Are We Functionally Trying To Achieve
Childhood Asthma: A Common Clinical Condition
Asthma: A Common Clinical Condition

- Asthma is a common environmentally sensitive condition
- Minorities disproportionately impacted
- Asthma attacks are a significant barrier to school attendance
- Must Know the root cause of attacks by both clinical and social determinates
- Timely data allows one to craft broad solutions that addresses both
A Unrecognized Epidemic

Hospital ED - A
1 case poorly controlled
Asthma
Uninsured

Hospital ED - C
4 cases poorly controlled
Asthma
BC/BS - insurer

Hospital ED - D
2 cases poorly controlled
Asthma
Medicaid - Insurer

Hospital ED - B
3 cases poorly controlled
asthma
Aetna - Insurer
Enter Public Health

- Health department notified
- Epidemiological investigation occurred
  - All occurred in kids going to the same school
  - Variance in where they lived
  - All resulted in school absence on similar days
- No single hospital or insurer would pick this up because of small sample size in each emergency department
All Kids Ride On Same Bus
Coordinated Community Resources
Using Hero’s Beyond Health Care

- School system
- Private hospital
- Public health
- Transportation

- Reduced ER visits
- Dollars saved
- Health Improved & less disparity
- Less school absenteeism
- Transportation safer
Healthy People 2020
Asthma Objectives

1) Reduce asthma deaths
2) Reduce hospitalizations for asthma
3) Reduce emergency department (ED) visits for asthma
4) Reduce activity limitations among persons with current asthma
5) Reduce the proportion of persons with asthma who miss school or work days
6) Increase the proportion of persons with asthma receiving patient education
7) Increase the proportion of persons with asthma receiving appropriate asthma care: National Asthma Education and Prevention Program guidelines
8) Increase the number of States, Territories, & the District of Columbia with a comprehensive asthma surveillance system (asthma cases, illness, & disability)
Some Desired Societal Outcomes

- Improve individual and community health
- Improve health influenced societal achievement
- Reduce health related preventable societal costs
- Timely identification of new & acute health threats
- Accurate individual & population health monitoring
- Strengthen consumer engagement in individual & community health
Existing Data System

- Hospital clinical records
- School system absentee records
- Health department - Acute asthma surveillance system
- School system transportation records
- School bus maintenance records
- Health care costs
Barriers

• Technical linkages
  – Interoperability
  – Many data sets are not real time (Infant mortality data as an example)

• Often paper based

• Data issues
  – Secondary data
  – Un-validated “Dirty” data or How clean is clean

• Legal barriers to data sharing real & perceived
  – HIPPA challenges
  – Parental consent

• Privacy concerns – Real & perceived

• Training of participants in use of technology

• Financial support for population health IT
Emerging Threat & Barrier

Hacker
Attack
Terrorism
Network
Internet
Solutions: A Systems Issue

• The IT & derived data are tools to achieve a desired health outcome not the driver of the outcome
• Build data systems to give desired clinical results
• Remove legal barriers
• Parent, patient and stakeholder training & education
• Strick protections for confidentiality
• Address cybersecurity threats
• Financial models for sustained IT support
APHA is a global community of public health professionals and the collective voice for the health of the public. APHA is the only organization that combines 140 years of perspective, a broad-based constituency and the ability to influence federal policy to advocate for and improve the public’s health.

- Founded – April 18, 1872
- 501C(3) & Nonpartisan
- Over 50,000 individual & affiliate members