

**3rd Annual
Oregon Asthma Network Meeting
June 20, 2002**

9:30 - 10:25 Welcome & Introductions

- Several people provided welcoming remarks about the seriousness of asthma, the partnerships that are in place to address asthma, and the potential for new partnerships. Presenters included:
 - Karen Burrell, Oregon Asthma Program Manager
 - Mel Kohn, MD, State Epidemiologist, Oregon Department of Human Services
 - Warden Minor, President and CEO, American Lung Association of Oregon
 - Mark Chesnutt, MD, President, Oregon Thoracic Society
 - Thelma Williams, Public Health Prevention Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- An Oregon Asthma Program update was given by Karen Burrell, Justin Waltz, and Stacey Schubert
- Sybil Fisher, Just Water and Air – An English Channel Crossing for Asthma Awareness

10:30 - 11:30 Breakout Session #1

Schools & Asthma:

- Kirsten Jensen of the American Lung Association of Oregon discussed plans to implement Open Airways for Schools in at least ten schools in North and Northeast Portland. She discussed some of the reasons for doing OAS as well as some of the barriers to implementing the program, and possible solutions to those barriers.
- Judy Fisher of the Multnomah County School-Based Health Centers described the importance of connecting community primary care providers with nursing staff in schools. She also floated the idea of a peer-based asthma education/empowerment program.
- Debi Corah used a personal experience to illustrate the importance of anti-inflammatory medication for those with persistent asthma. The discussion afterward included the following: the need to clarify the State's rules regarding the administration of asthma medications in schools and the liability that schools are under; the need to give asthma education to school administrative staff and coaches; and the need to prevent children from sharing asthma medications for recreational drug purposes.

Air Quality & Asthma:

- Diane Laughter of the American Lung Association of Washington County presented information on tobacco and its effects on asthma and air quality in general. She recommended the Oregon Quit Line as a good resource and reminded everyone that there is a Tobacco Prevention program in every county Health Department.

- Sarah Doll of the Oregon Environmental Council told about their diesel initiative that aims to decrease diesel fuel particulates and raise awareness about their effect on air quality. She also discussed partnership building and the need for all interested parties to work together on a more regular basis instead of just connecting when groups need help.
- Tom Kloster of Metro discussed urban sprawl and its connection to air quality and public health. He discussed Metro's 2040 Plan and how its implementation will affect our urban and rural spaces. Attendees then discussed how public health can be affected by our urban environment.

11:30 - 12:45 Lunch

Lunch Plenary Speaker:

J. Allen Johnson, MD, Regence Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Oregon

Dr. Johnson spoke about the importance of engaging in a collaborative process to address complex chronic health problems such as asthma. In particular, he discussed the stages of development of a health collaborative, and about the challenges and rewards of undertaking such a process.

Lunch "Spotlight on a Partnership" Speakers:

Stacey Schubert, Oregon Asthma Program

stacey.s.schubert@state.or.us

(503) 731-4545

Susan Boardman, Regence Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Oregon

Patti McIntire, CareOregon

A few of the Asthma Data Workgroup members discussed how important and productive workgroups can be. They presented data that has been collected and analyzed in order to measure indicators in the *Guide to Improving Asthma Care in Oregon*.

Community-Based Demonstration Projects – Outreach and Education

The Oregon Asthma Program announced the recipients of the first round of funding for community-based demonstration projects for asthma outreach and education. More funding opportunities for schools, community organizations, and health systems will be available in the fall. For more information, contact Karen Burrell, (503) 731-8394, karen.e.burrell@state.or.us. The recipients of the first round of funding are:

- Environmental Justice Action Group – North/Northeast Portland
- Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center - McMinnville
- Sacred Heart Medical Center Foundation on behalf of PeaceHealth Medical Group - Eugene

Asthma Appreciation Awards:

This year, the first Oregon Asthma Network Asthma Appreciation Awards were awarded to three community partners who have spent tremendous time and effort on behalf of the Asthma Network. The 2002 recipients were:

- Rick Buck
- Lindarose Allaway
- Susan Boardman

Raffle:

Three prizes were raffled off to lucky Network Meeting participants. Lindarose Allaway kindly donated two educational videotapes, and Sasquatch Advertising donated a fabulous Camelbak RimRunner Backpack Hydration System. Ann Blume from CareOregon was the lucky recipient of the Camelbak!

12:50 - 3:00 Breakout Sessions #2 & #3 (these sessions were repeated)

Public Education and Asthma:

- Marge Dettwiler and Debi Pontarolo of Childhood Health Associates of Salem spoke about their clinic and the process they have created to better care for children with asthma. Each patient goes through triage that is initiated after the first indication of asthma (ED visit, phone call, etc). Each patient begins with a 30-minute office visit, in which they and their parent (or caregiver) are taught basic asthma facts, how to use medication appropriately, and general issues and questions are addressed. There is a follow-up appointment to ensure the patient is following their plan and managing their asthma. Additional follow-up appointments are scheduled as needed.
- Lindarose Allaway gave an in-depth presentation on the key points that should be part of any asthma education program. She discussed health communication messages and techniques that should be used to help patients use asthma medication effectively and reduce their exposure to their triggers.
- John Dougherty of Multnomah County HD also presented information on how to effectively coach people to make a change in their behavior. He described some effective, and not so effective, ways of coaching/instructing people based on the same principles used in conducting Master Home Environmentalist training.

Provider Resources & Education/Clinical Issues:

- Nancy Clarke of the DHS Office of Disease Prevention and Epidemiology spoke about the Chronic Care Model. Nancy focused on each aspect of health care, including self-management, clinical care, and health systems' support.

- Rick Buck of Buck Allergy and Asthma in Eugene spoke from a clinician's perspective on treating asthma. Dr. Buck spoke of the need for systems' change and a collaborative approach to dealing with this disease.

Next Steps:

Stay tuned for information about upcoming Fall Focus meetings in Bend, Eugene, Medford, and Portland.

Save the Date! The 4th Annual Oregon Asthma Network Meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2003.

For more information about Oregon Asthma Network activity, please contact:

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