

ASTHMA

AIM

To ensure that plans are in place to effectively manage asthma.

To ensure parents, staff and medical professionals know their responsibilities when children are diagnosed with asthma.

IMPLEMENTATION

Families

- Where a child has been identified as asthmatic, an ACSIA asthma action plan and Health Support plan must be filled out by a medical professional.
- Medication (including a spacer) for the child must be labeled per Dealing with Medical Conditions policy before being given to staff.
- As soon as any new triggers are identified, staff must be notified.
- Any medication forms must identify the medication provided by name i.e. Ventolin or Asmol. The name on the form must match the medication.

Staff:

- Staff undergo asthma training as part of their employment at the site. This training is updated biennially (every two years) or alongside first aid training.
- Staff should review the environment for potential triggers on days children with asthma attend the Centre and take steps to minimise the risk of an asthma attack e.g. regular cleaning to minimize dust, limiting out-door play when there is a high pollen count/grass has been mowed.
- An audit will be conducted every three to six months (overseen by the Director/Assistant Director) to ensure that medication for each child is labeled and in date and the medication authority is current.
- Maintain an Asthma First Aid kit which will be taken on all excursions as well as children's Allergy Buddies.

Team Leader:

- Medication must be named, labeled and stored with a child's asthma action plan and medication authority. It is the responsibility of staff to ensure they know which ventolin and spacer belongs to which child and that the medication is stored correctly. Medication should be stored in an Allergy Buddy pocket with a photo of the child.
- Team Leaders must ensure staff are familiarised with this policy and the associated procedures.
- Team Leaders must consult with families and transition leaders during the transition process to ensure medication is up to date and stored properly in the correct room.

EVALUATION:

This will be seen to be effective when:

- Staff are aware of how to treat children with asthma.
- Families are aware of their responsibilities.
- There is an effective system for storing and accessing medication.

National Quality Standards: Element 2.1.1. Each child's health needs are supported.

Implemented: January 2011 (as Health Management)

Reviewed: December 2016

Next Review: December 2017

Source: www.asthmasa.org.au