

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 will:

- Where a child has been identified as asthmatic, fill out an Asthma Australia action plan and Health Support plan with a medical professional.
- Label medication (including a spacer) for the child per Dealing with Medical Conditions policy before giving to administrative staff. Medication must have a prescription label applied by a chemist.
- Notify staff as soon as any new triggers are identified.
- Identify medication provided by name i.e. Ventolin or Asmol on any forms. The name on the form must match the medication.

Staff will:

- Undergo asthma training as part of their employment at the site. This training is updated every three years as part of required first aid training.
- 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.
- Conduct an audit every three to six months (overseen by the Director/Assistant Director) to ensure medication for each child is labeled and in date and medication authority is current.
- Maintain an Asthma First Aid kit which will be taken on all excursions as well as children's Allergy Buddies.
- Keep spare asthma medication and spacers on-site. These can only be used once and will be sent home with the child who used the inhaler/spacer. Spare medication and spacers should be regularly replaced.

Team Leaders will:

- Ensure medication has a prescription label and is named 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.
- Ensure staff are familiar with this policy and the associated procedures.
- 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 2.2.2. Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented

Implemented: January 2011 (as Health Management)

Reviewed: October 2021

Next Review: October 2022

Source: www.asthmasa.org.au