

ASTHMA MANAGEMENT

Where we've been...

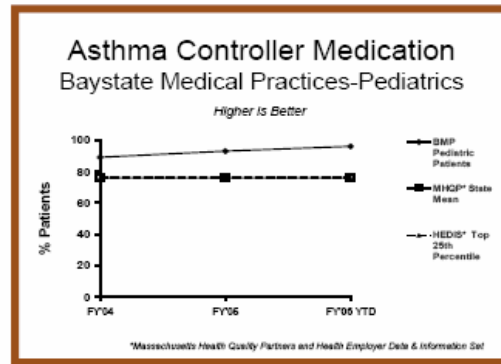
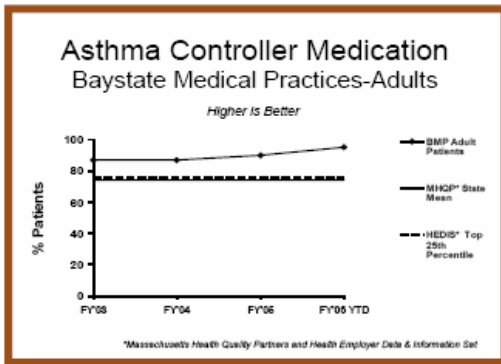
Asthma is the sixth most common chronic disease in the United States and the most common chronic condition in children. Asthma has been identified in the Health Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) as a disease that can have a major impact on clinical care. HEDIS was developed by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). The Massachusetts Health Quality Partners (MHQP), a broad-based coalition of healthcare providers, health plans, consumers, and government agencies, measure the performance of Massachusetts primary care physicians on a variety of preventive and chronic care services and report their findings to the public.

The Baystate Medical Practices (BMP) Performance Improvement Program aligns key health maintenance and clinical care indicators with HEDIS and MHQP measures. The measurements for asthma care include use of appropriate medications for long-term control for patients with persistent asthma. Areas for improvement are selected based on review of current performance. Interventions include written educational materials, a self-management plan, and the use of evidence-based standards of care for asthma in children and adults.

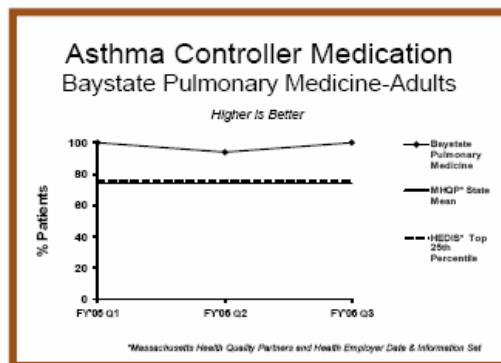
To measure our performance, a random sampling of charts of eligible patients was completed. The sample size was the standard set by the Performance Improvement Plan. The review looked for documentation of asthma severity and use of a long-term controller medication in patients with persistent asthma. Influenza vaccine and self-management plans were also monitored.

Where we are now...

BAYSTATE MEDICAL PRACTICES Ninety-five percent of eligible adult patients and 96% of eligible pediatric patients were on long-term controller medication. Both age groups exceed the MHQP state mean (74% and 76%, respectively) and the top 25th HEDIS benchmark (76%).



BAYSTATE PULMONARY MEDICINE Ninety-seven percent of eligible adult patients were on a long-term controller medication, which exceeds the MHQP state mean (74%) and the top 25th HEDIS benchmark (76%).



Where we are going...

Focused interventions can drive rapid improvements in patient care. Using data to track performance and monitor change has complemented quality improvement.