

## **Association of Asthma Educators 2019 Poster Abstract Submission Page (DATA)**

### **Title: Asthma Blitz Days: An Innovative Approach to Pediatric Asthma Education and Compliance in Schools**

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**Background:** Asthma, a prevalent chronic disease, remains one of the top reasons for school absenteeism and emergency room visits. School nurses report low submission of needed asthma supplies for children with a diagnosis of asthma. Student to school nurse ratio hinders the assessment and education of students with asthma. Will “Asthma Blitz Day” increase compliance of submissions of asthma supplies?

**Study Objective:** The goal is to increase compliance of asthma management tools at school, assess for current asthma symptoms, and provide asthma education.

**Methods:** School Nurses utilized student health database to identify elementary students diagnosed with asthma. Twenty minute education sessions included four stations:

- Presentation of asthma education video.
- Assessment of vital signs and current asthma symptoms.
- Review of supplies needed to manage asthma at school including: (a) asthma action plan, (b) authorization for medication form, (c) quick-relief inhaler and spacer. Return demonstration of equipment was observed.
- Distribution of parent communication form and educational comic book to take home.

Pre- and post-test completed on study participants. Compliance data was collected from students on “Asthma Blitz Day” and then 30 days post.

**Results:** In this study, 1,144 students from 22 local elementary schools participated in “Asthma Blitz Day”. There was a 14% increase in asthma supplies being provided to the school by 30 day follow up. Pre and post-test showed significant increase in knowledge gained. Of significance, schools receiving all free breakfast and lunch scored lower on the pre- and post-test and had lower submission of asthma supplies.

**Conclusion:** “Asthma Blitz Day” provided students with increased asthma knowledge and improved compliance of the four needed tools to manage their asthma in a school setting. This new model of care has proven beneficial.