Using Teleconferencing for Workforce Development Programs to Improve Asthma Care in Missouri Communities

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BACKGROUND

Asthma is a leading chronic illness and frequent cause of hospitalizations among children in the United States. ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is an educational program using videoconferencing technology to create communities of learning where specialists share expertise with primary care providers and others to give improved care in their own communities. Favorable policy changes have occurred in Missouri affecting asthma care and education, including a Medicaid state plan amendment for preventive asthma services. Show-Me ECHO® is funded by a state appropriation and federal grants. Participants join from across Missouri, including physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, respiratory therapists, care managers, home environmental specialists, and community health workers.

PROGRAM AUDIENCE AND SIZE

There are three workforce development programs available to improve asthma care statewide. IMPACT Asthma ECHO® began September 2015, and gives an overview of asthma best practices over four 90-minute sessions for clinical and community disease management providers RN, LPN, MA, RT, CHW, care managers, clinical and community disease management providers (RN, LPN, MA, RT, CHW), asthma educators, home environmental assessors, clinic nurses). Cross-pollinate, share strategies and tips, and be on board to make a difference in the right place, at the right time.

MISSOURI ECHO® KEY PURPOSES

1. “Safely & effectively treat common & complex conditions in rural & underserved areas”
2. “Decrease treatment delays and the need for patients to travel to see specialists”
3. “Utilize community health care workers to address social determinants, improve adherence and health outcomes”

ASTHMA BEST PRACTICES

How Do We Implement Best Practices?

Implementing Asthma Guidelines Using Practice Facilitation and Local Learning Collaboratives: A Randomized Controlled Trial

1. Learning Together (ECHO®)
2. Academic Detailing (supplies, routines)
3. Performance Feedback (claims data)
4. Practice Facilitation (seeing patients)

The Translative Model in Medical Education and Care Delivery

The Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) uses a revolutionary model of telemonitoring, collaborative medical education and care management. Project ECHO empowers local primary care providers to provide the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

ASTHMA EDUCATION TOOLS

Each education program provides unique education credits: IMPACT ECHO® offers free continuing medical education credits (Category 1); AACE ECHO® offers 10 contact hours annually; and ACA ECHO® offers free Part 2 and 4 Maintenance of Certification credits. ACA ECHO offers free asthma tools to measure: airflow and assess inhalation technique, and access to Asthma Risk Panel Reports® to monitor patient outcomes. Medicaid claims analysis for >10,000 children with asthma is incorporated as performance feedback for participants in ACA ECHO®.

GET ON BOARD!

Primary Care Health Home Support

IMPACT Asthma® ECHO®

4 weeks, Tuesdays, noon until 1:30 pm, 6 hour Category One CME. Join one of eight identified case studies and didactics to review the essentials of guidelines-based care for health care providers and other members of the clinic team.

Asthma & Education ECHO®

8 sessions, one per month, 0.8 CEUs, focus on health home touchpoints and teleconferences, cross-pollinate, share strategies and tips, and be on board to make a difference in the right place, at the right time.

Asthma Care Accelerator ECHO®

4 sessions per calendar year, noon until 1 pm, 0.8 CEUs, focus on asthma care, in the right place, at the right time.

2017 ASTHMA ECHO® STATS

Testimonials:

“Great information. Clinically relevant.”

“I like the presentation of unique case studies and the efforts that the providers give us options from their point of view.”

“Excellent. Well organized.”

“I have really enjoyed participating in the Asthma ECHO series. Very good information. Knowledgeable clinicians. Thank you for offering this educational opportunity!”

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