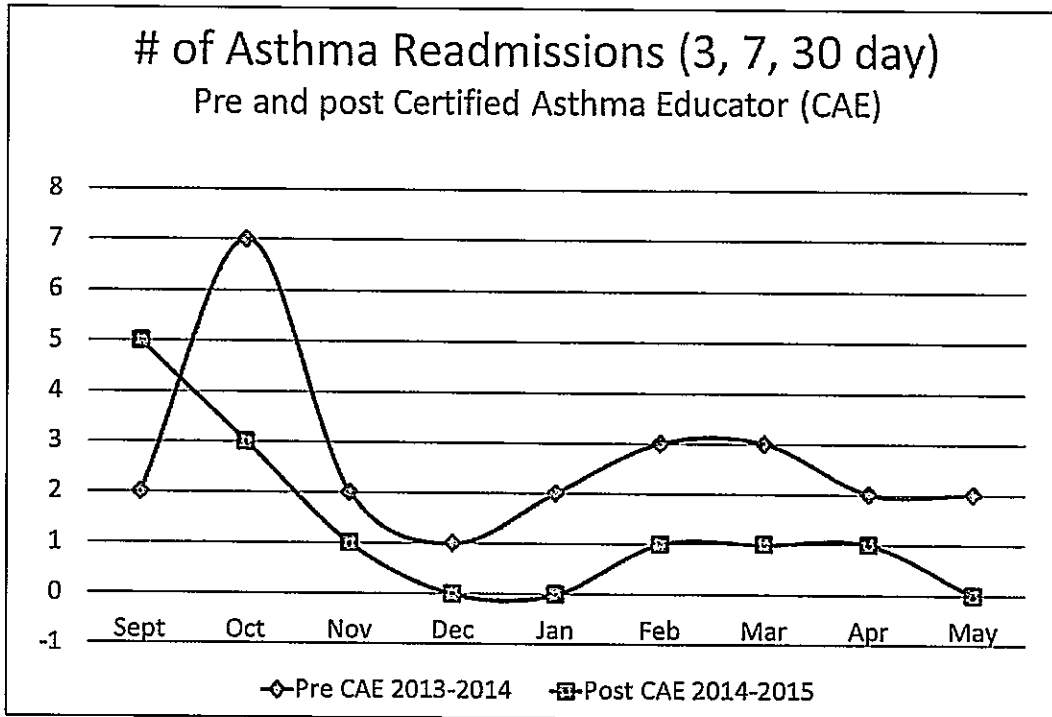


Abstract Title: Project BREATHE: *Improving Adherence to Pediatric Asthma Guidelines*

Project BREATHE (Bringing Resources for Effective Asthma Treatment through Health Education) is a quality improvement project that, with the support of the Asthma Coalitions of Queens and Long Island, began at Cohens Children's Medical Center (CCMC) in 2012. Its primary aim was to reduce asthma hospital readmissions using an interdisciplinary asthma education program. The collaborative efforts of physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, case managers and child life specialists provide comprehensive asthma education, including creating an Asthma Action Plan which emphasizes identification of triggers, prevention of attacks and control of symptoms. In 2014, Project BREATHE 2.0 was introduced as a modified program which maintains the initial focus and also aims to increase provider adherence to the NAEPF Asthma Guidelines. In BREATHE 2.0, Certified Asthma Educators (AE-C) serve as key drivers of the program. An AE-C was hired by the hospital to standardize the asthma education provided for patients and staff on the units. The AE-C uses BREATHE tools, developed by the coalitions, which help to assess the patient's asthma severity, control, identify triggers and create an Asthma Action Plan. Under the coordination by the AE-C, a 50% reduction in 30-day asthma readmissions for the same 8-month period of the prior year was noted, asthma severity classification increased from 41% to 80%, and the evidence to support that classification improved to 86% from zero. Proper classification enabled appropriate prescribing of inhaled corticosteroids for patients with persistent asthma. At this time, there are 1 ½ FTE AE-C's whose primary role is to ensure standardized, patient-centered, evidence-based, safe and timely care to all asthma patients in the hospital. As part of the care team, the AE-C's also provide recommendations to enhance adherence to the NAEPF Asthma Guidelines.



PROJECT BREATHE: IMPROVING ADHERENCE TO PEDIATRIC ASTHMA GUIDELINES

Abstract Major Area: Asthma Education Program and Program Evaluation

Abstract with Data

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