About the Program

Asthma Start is a NO COST program to the parents/guardians of children diagnosed with asthma, providing in-home case management services which address both the medical and psychosocial needs of families.

Qualifications

A person is eligible to participate in the Asthma Start Program if ALL of the following requirements are met:

- Lives in Alameda County
- Is 0-18 years of age
- Has been diagnosed with asthma

Contact Us

For more information or to request a referral form, please contact:

Alameda County Public Health Department
Asthma Start Program
7200 Bancroft Avenue, #202
Oakland, CA 94605
510.383.5181 (office)
510.383.5183 (fax)

(Habla Español)
Program Services

Case Management
An Asthma Start Coordinator will go to your clients’ home and conduct an initial assessment which consist of the following:

- Assess the home for asthma triggers (i.e. mold, pests, dust etc.) and provide recommendations.
- Review medications and assure the children are using proper techniques with spacers, nebulizers, and other medication delivery devices.
- Provide basic asthma education on warning signs and what to do in an emergency situation.
- Identify goals with the parent/guardian.

An Asthma Start Coordinator will go to your clients’ home for follow-up visits which consist of the following:

- Review the parent/guardian progress on reducing asthma triggers and accomplishing the identified goals.

Case Management (continued)
- Provide recommended supplies to assist the family with environmental changes (i.e. mattress and pillow encasings, non-bleach based mold cleaner, etc.)
- Provide smoking cessation referrals for family members.
- Provide additional education as needed.

Case management will consist of 2-3 home visits within a 3-6 month time frame, depending on the need of the family.

Physician Services
As a referring pediatrician, you will receive a summary of your clients’ case and the family’s accomplishment.

Your clients will be asked to sign a release of information form allowing the Asthma Coordinators and pediatricians to release medical information to each other.

Testimonials
“Our whole family is healthier because of the education, support, and supplies we received from the program.”

“This program has been extremely helpful not only with all of the written information I have received, but even more, I have gained valuable knowledge from the home visits with the program consultant.”

“This program is a great help for new parents of kids just diagnosed with asthma and don’t know how to control it.”

“After my Asthma Coordinator showed me the proper way to use the inhaler and spacer, my daughter’s asthma improved.”

Family Issues
The Asthma Start Program not only addresses the medical needs of the client, but also assists in advocating with landlords, addressing psychosocial issues, and teaching parents/guardians acculturation in the United States when necessary. The program also focus its efforts with the families to obtain medical insurance or affordable access to medical care and medication. The program connects them with the appropriate resources and guides them through the process.