

MAAG Meeting

Friday, May 6, 2022

9:00am-12pm

Virtual Meeting: ZOOM

MACP Updates/Surveillance & Evaluation

(Please see slides & recording for additional information)

General MACP Updates

3 new community integrated health sites

Self-referral/provider-referral portal now available on the asthma.mt.gov website. The MAP is now open to all 56 counties. Clients referred from outside of MAP service areas can participate virtually.

Digital media campaign driving referrals to the program. Videos and accompanying posts can be shared on partner social media accounts. In the first 10 days of the digital media campaign, the program received over 60 referrals to the MAP.

Additional options are available for traditional media advertising. Provider office posters are now available and will be shipped out to over 1,700 providers across the state. Additional posters are also available upon request.

World Asthma Day press release and social media posts available to share from the Public Health in the 406 Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

Upcoming Events

AAE Nation Asthma Educator Certification & Re-Certification Review Course

May 13-14, 2022

www.umt.edu/ces/conferences/asthma

Surveillance and Evaluation

(See slides and recording for more detailed information)

Z-Code Usage

A group of codes used to report factors influencing health status and contact with health services. Using these codes should be regular part of billing and coding to better document SDoH.

Big Sky Pulmonary Conference Evaluation

103 evaluation responses

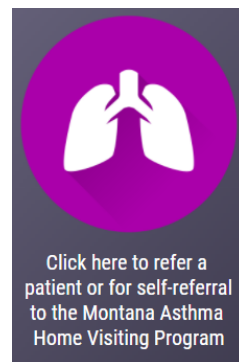
- 96% satisfaction
- Overwhelmingly positive feedback

MAP Report

Participation and completion decreased from 2016-2019, even more so during the pandemic.

Question: Adult participation in the program?

Answer: About a quarter of participants are adults



Stock Albuterol Discussion w/ ALA Senior Advocacy Director Carrie Nyssen

Effective implementation of stock albuterol can help ensure that children have access to medication that enables them to live, learn, and play.

The primary goals of stock Albuterol are

1. To initiate treatment that might otherwise be delayed.
2. To lessen symptoms, which are understandably frightening to a student.
3. To possibly prevent unnecessary trips to the emergency department or in extreme cases, death.

Where Are We?

1. Identifying and reviewing guidelines, literature, statutes, implementation documents.
2. Forming a stakeholder coalition
 - healthcare professionals, school nurses, parents/guardians of children with asthma, pharmacy organizations, managed care organizations, advocacy groups, and legal groups, as well as health and education departments
3. Developing Issue Brief and Factsheets
 - MAAG members will have an opportunity to provide feedback on these documents.

ALA

- Key step early in the process is to neutralize opposition. The legislative process is designed to kill bills.
- Easiest route may be adding on to stock epinephrine law.
- Can't overemphasize how important personal stories are. The ALA/MACP will try to work with stakeholders to collect these stories. Stories can be de-identified if needed.
- Support
 - Education = Advocacy (especially for those who can't technically advocate)
 - Writing letters to the editor
 - Some partners may be able to lobby
 - Testimony at hearings
 - Growing support and increasing asthma awareness
- Is there an idea about how much this would cost? Is there a fiscal note?
 - Because this is non-mandating, but just allows schools to maintain stock albuterol there would likely not be fiscal note.
 - Carrie will look into costs for schools
 - Medication/Spacers
- Has there been negative feedback from teachers?
 - No evidence of teachers pushing back in other states.
 - School nurses have pushed back.
 - Not sure why, but the legislation in other states does include training requirements for school staff if the school supplies stock albuterol. Montana is already set up with the Creating Asthma Friendly Schools training for school staff.
 - Montana will look to work with Montana Association of School Nurses early on to seek their support.
- Barriers to passing the law??
 - May be seen as another unfunded mandate
 - Implementation will be the more challenging piece of this.
 - Healthcare organizations may be able to help cover cost of medication of spacers for schools (good PR).
 - Education may be needed to let schools know that many students may not have primary care and they may rely on the school nurse for care.

- Another part of the education is why this is important for schools— truancy and academic achievement.

Wildfire Smoke & Indoor Air Quality

Missoula County & EPA Study- Sarah Coefield

(Please see the meeting recording for Sarah's presentation)

Key Highlights

- National Ambient Air Quality Standards expected to be lowered later in 2022.
- There is no indoor air quality standard for PM 2.5
- Preliminary Study Findings & Recommendations:
 - Indoor air quality is very similar to outdoor air quality
 - Higher the MERV filter, the better the filtration (also high cost for better filters)
 - Variability among buildings with the same level filters (mostly MERV 8)
 - HVAC maintenance is just as important as filter level
- ASHRAE formal guidelines for indoor air in commercial buildings coming out in 2022
- Can all HVAC systems take MERV-13 filters?
 - Most can, especially most modern systems
 - Where there are older systems, it may be more beneficial to use portable HEPA filters.
- Are there clean air shelters designated?
 - Location and wildfire unpredictability makes this difficult.
 - Most local communities also lack the capacity set up clean air shelters, so it make more sense to direct people to clean air buildings.
- Box fans filters made with box fans less than 10 years old are safe and effective. Drawbacks can be heat and noise. Various designs are available.

Employee Protection During Poor Air Quality

- DPHHS putting together a resource for employers on how to protect employee health during wildfire smoke events.

Improving HVAC Systems

- DPHHS, DEQ, OPI working together to highlight funding sources for HVAC improvements in schools (ARP- ESSER funding).

DEQ improving Air Quality Monitoring Network

- DEQ has applied for an ARPA competitive grant but have not heard back on that yet. If awarded additional funds through the competitive grant the DEQ air quality monitoring network will expand even more with a combination of regulatory and non-regulatory monitors over the next 3 years
 - Funding would be directed to: Bozeman (upgrade equipment), Choteau, Cut Bank, Dillon (upgrade to FEM), Eureka (hopefully EBAM), Glasgow, Glendive, Havre (upgrade to FEM).

Health Equity & State Health Assessment

Guided discussion with 4 primary questions.

1. Examples for where data has served you in your community or in your work and what aspects of those data made it helpful?
2. What Social Determinants of Health matter the most to you or the work of your organization?
3. What is important for a health community? Why are these things available or not available?
4. What do you think will be new or emerging health needs in the next 3-5 years?

Partner Updates

DPHHS Podcast Now Available

- The podcast features interesting short stories. Stories capture people's attention and sink in more than statistics.
- Public health lessons are infused into the podcast episodes.
- Early topics include: Experience with Type 1 Diabetes and related complications, Emergency Medical Services, Losing Vision-Going Blind

EPA Flag Program is now in 25 different schools in various parts of the state. Schools have received air quality monitors and received education on air quality.

Next MAAG Meeting:

September 8th in Bozeman (exact location TBD)

Virtual/call-in options will be available

Attendees:

Marian Kummer- Retired Pediatrician/MT Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate
Jessie Fernandes- Health Improvement Section Supervisor, DPHHS
Cyndi Leaphart- Nurse with Poplar School Based Health Clinic
Mary Blevins- Cardio Pulmonary Manager at Montana VA
Megan Brunelle- Asthma Home Visitor, Cascade County Health Department
Pamela Melton- PharmD with Family Practice Providers at St. Peters Hospital
Jennifer Van Syckle- QI Coordinator with Asthma Control Program, DPHHS
Jennifer Vandekop- Asthma Home Visitor, Anaconda Deer-Lodge Health Department
Ann Lanes- MACP Informatics Specialist, DPHHS
Mary Duthie- MACP Epidemiologist, DPHHS
Carolyn Linden- MACP Administrative Specialist, DPHHS
BJ Biskupiak- MACP Manager, DPHHS
Sara Howser-Burke- State School Nurse Consultant, DPHHS
Mary Sparks- Asthma Home Visiting Supervisor, Lewis and Clark County
Marisa Johnson- Asthma Home Visitor, Lewis and Clark County
Kris Minard- Tobacco Use Prevention Ed. Program Specialist w/Office of Public Instruction
Jade Botic-Reiniger- Pharmacy Fellow, University of Montana
Rebecca Schuster- Asthma Home Visitor, Flathead County Health Department
Jeri Erickson- Asthma Home Visitor, Bullhook Community Health Center
Mary Millin- Disability Advisory, Montana Disability and Health Program
Jason Kleinschmidt- Practice Manager at St. Vincent Healthcare
Sarah Coefield- Air Quality Specialist, Missoula City-County Health Department
Carrie Nyssen- Senior Advocacy Director, American Lung Association
Deborah Liptzin- Pediatric Pulmonologist, Community Medical Center
Will Gardner- Epidemiology Supervisor, DPHHS
Amanda Rush- Asthma Home Visitor, Gallatin County Health Department