

# **Access to Guidelines-Based Asthma Care in Illinois**

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# Asthma Guidelines-Based Care Coverage Project

## Objectives:

- 1) Increase understanding of Medicaid coverage and barriers to access guidelines-based asthma care nationwide.
- 2) Identify gaps between what is known to be best practice in improving asthma outcomes and what is covered by the Illinois Medicaid program.
- 3) Promote collaboration between diverse stakeholder groups to increase access to guidelines-based asthma care in Illinois.

# Asthma Guidelines-Based Care Coverage Project

- The American Lung Association tracks coverage of and related barriers to asthma guidelines-based care annually
- Based on the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) Guideline recommendations
- Project collects data on both fee-for-service and managed care plans
- Tracks seven components of coverage and nine barriers to coverage

# Asthma Guidelines-Based Care Coverage Project

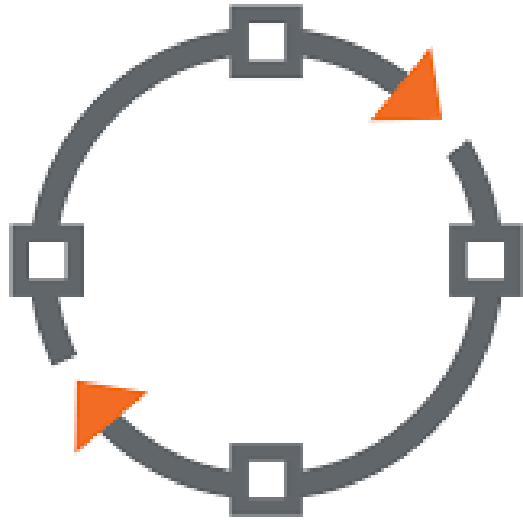
## Components of Coverage

1. Quick Relief Medications
2. Controller Medications
3. Medical Devices
4. Allergy Testing
5. Allergen Immunotherapy
6. Home Visits and Interventions
7. Self-Management Education

## Barriers to Care

1. Age Limits
2. Age Restrictions
3. Co-payments
4. Durable Medical Equipment
5. Eligibility Criteria
6. Prior Authorization
7. Quantity Limits
8. Specialty Visit Limitations
9. Stepped Therapy

# Asthma Guidelines-Based Care Coverage Project



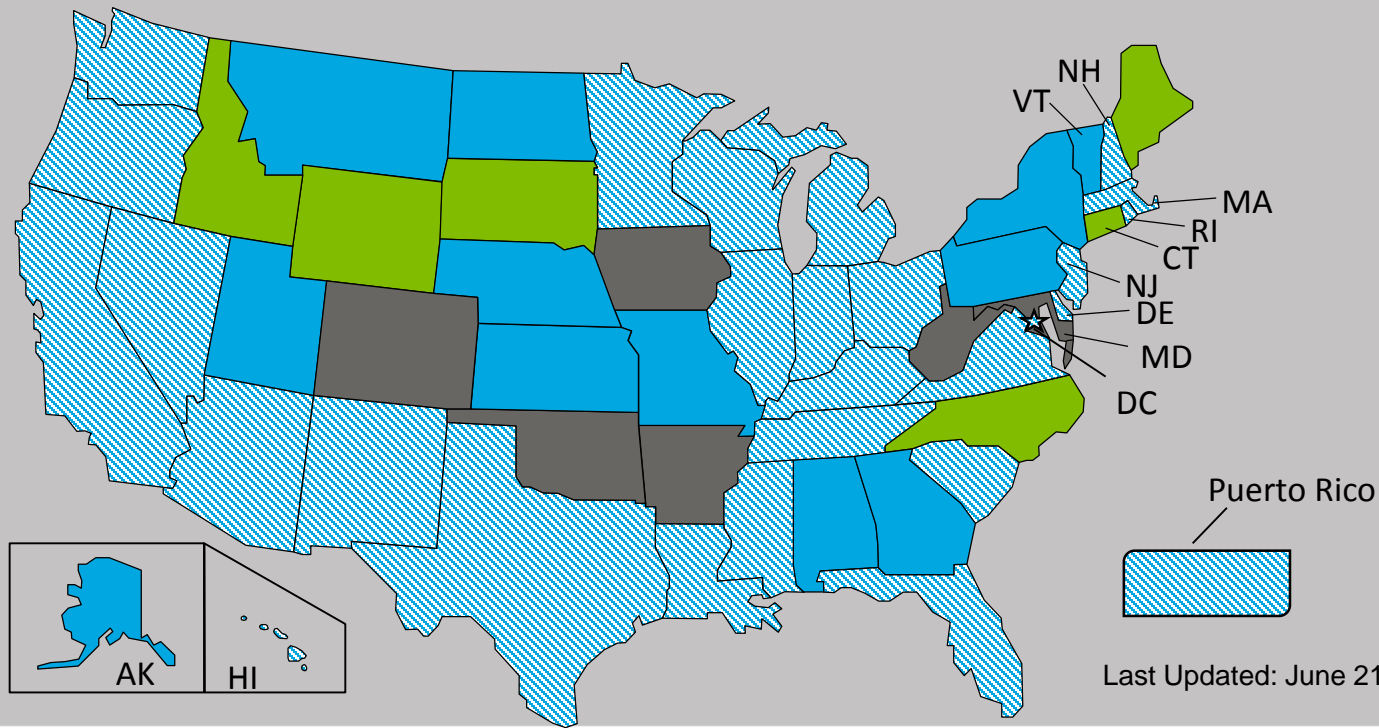
PROCESS

## Methodology

1. Data Collection
  - Documents Reviewed
2. Data Confirmation
  - State Medicaid Contacts

# State Medicaid Coverage for Asthma Self-Management Education

■ Covered Without Barriers ■ Covered ■ Some Coverage ■ No Coverage or Not Available



# 2018 Coverage Findings for Illinois



## Asthma Care Coverage in Illinois

**Project Background:** Approximately 26 million Americans have asthma, of whom 8 million are children. Since 1991, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) Expert Panel Report 3: Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma (EPR-3) and similar expert documents, including the Guide to Community Preventive Services, have developed evidence-based best practices for what is needed to reduce the disease burden for patients living with asthma.

Asthma rates are disproportionately high in low-income and minority populations, especially among African Americans and Puerto Ricans. Low-income children and adults are more likely to be hospitalized for asthma than those with higher incomes. Children with Medicaid were almost 50 percent more likely to receive care in the emergency department than those not on Medicaid. Adding to the challenges Medicaid enrollees face, this population is more likely to have low health literacy, making it more difficult for them to manage their asthma or other chronic diseases.

Numerous studies and pilot programs have demonstrated that adherence to guidelines-based care results in better patient outcomes. In 2015, the American Lung Association launched its Asthma Care Coverage Project to determine to what extent seven key elements of guidelines-based care, detailed below, are being covered by state Medicaid programs.

**Icon legend:** ✓ = Covered ▼ = Coverage varies by plan ✗ = Not covered N/A = Not Applicable NAv = Not Available

**Quick Relief Medications:** Fast acting or quick relief medications are taken to provide immediate relief from the narrowing of airways in lungs and other acute symptoms of asthma.



Quick Relief Medications	Covered?	Barriers?
SABA		
Albuterol Sulfate	✓	Yes
Levalbuterol	✓	Yes
Benthielamine HCl	✓	Yes
Ipratropium	✓	Yes
Ipratropium with Albuterol	✓	Yes

**Controller Medications:** Controller medications that need to be taken daily on a long-term basis to control persistent asthma.



Controller Medications	Covered?	Barriers?
Inhaled Corticosteroids		
Budesonide (Nebulizer)	✓	Yes
Becloethasone	✓	Yes
Ciclesonide	✓	Yes
Flunisolide	✓	Yes
Fluticasone propionate	✓	Yes
Mometasone furoate	✓	Yes
Systemic Corticosteroids		
Methylprednisolone	✓	Yes
Prednisolone	✓	Yes
Prednisone	✓	Yes
LABA		
Formoterol fumarate	✓	Yes
Salmeterol xinafoate	✓	Yes
Combined Medications		
Fluticasone propionate and salmeterol	✓	Yes
Mometasone furoate and formoterol fumarate	✓	Yes
Budesonide and formoterol fumarate	✓	Yes
Cromolyn	✓	Yes
Cromolyn	✓	Yes
Leukotriene Receptor Antagonists		
Montelukast	✓	Yes
Zafirlukast	✓	Yes
5-Lipoxygenase Inhibitor		
Zileuton	✓	Yes
Methylxanthines		
Theophylline	✓	Yes
Immunomodulators		
Oral Zileuton	✓	Yes

**Devices:** An additional appliance/accessory sometimes used to properly administer asthma medication. (Please note: there is a distinction between spacers and



## Asthma Care Coverage in Illinois

valved-holding chambers. The data collected focuses only on valved-holding chambers and not spacers.



Devices	Covered?	Barriers?
Nebulizer	✓	Yes
Peak-Flow Meter	✓	Yes
Valved-Holding Chamber	✓	Yes

**Allergen Testing:** An assessment of sensitivity to allergens with skin or in vitro (blood) testing for patients with persistent asthma.



Allergen Testing	Covered?	Barriers?
Skin Testing	✓	Yes
In Vitro Testing	✓	Yes

**Allergen Immunotherapy:** For asthma patients with known allergen sensitivities (determined by an allergen test) and whose symptoms cannot be controlled by medication.



Allergen Immunotherapy	Covered?	Barriers?
Allergen Immunotherapy	✓	Yes

**Home Visits:** Home visits and interventions are comprised of three components: education, assessment and intervention. Interventions address the home environment, at least two components and at least two other asthma triggers (mold, pests, pets, etc.).



Home Visit and Intervention	Covered?	Barriers?
Home Visit and Intervention	✗	N/A

**Self-Management Education:** Providing education and instructions on ways to self-monitor asthma symptoms. (Please note: disease management programs are not considered here as self-management education).



Self-Management Education	Covered?	Barriers?
Self-Management Education	✓	Yes

As part of the Asthma Care Coverage Project, the American Lung Association also tracks barriers, or impediments to guidelines-based care. More information about the barriers tracked as part of this Project can be found at [Lung.org/asthma-care-coverage](http://Lung.org/asthma-care-coverage).

Data Last Updated: 6/21/2018

For more information, please visit [Lung.org/asthma-care-coverage](http://Lung.org/asthma-care-coverage) or contact us at [AsthmaCare@lung.org](mailto:AsthmaCare@lung.org).

# 2018 Coverage Findings for Illinois

## Quick Relief Medications

 Show Legend

Component	Coverage	AL	AR	CO-PAY	DME	EC	PA	QL	SVL	ST
Albuterol Sulfate	Y	NAv	NAv	*	N/A	NAv	N	*	N/A	N
Levalbuterol	*	N	N	Y	N/A	N	*	*	N/A	N
Ipratropium	Y	NAv	NAv	*	N/A	NAv	N	*	N/A	N
Ipratropium with Albuterol	Y	NAv	NAv	*	N/A	NAv	N	*	N/A	N

## Controller Medications

Component	Coverage	AL	AR	CO-PAY	DME	EC	PA	QL	SVL	ST
Budesonide (Nebulized)	Y	*	NAv	*	N/A	NAv	*	*	N/A	N
Beclomethasone	*	NAv	NAv	*	N/A	NAv	N	*	N/A	N
Ciclesonide	*	N	N	Y	N/A	N	Y	N	N/A	N
Flunisolide	*	NAv	NAv	*	N/A	NAv	*	*	N/A	N
Fluticasone propionate	*	*	NAv	*	N/A	NAv	N	*	N/A	N
Mometasone furoate	*	N	N	*	N/A	N	N	*	N/A	*



# 2018 Coverage Findings for Illinois

## Devices

Component	Coverage	AL	AR	CO-PAY	DME	EC	PA	QL	SVL	ST
Nebulizer	*	N	N	N	*	N	N	*	N/A	N/A
Peak-Flow Meter	*	N	N	*	N	N	N	*	N/A	N/A
Valved-Holding Chamber	*	N	N	*	N	N	N	*	N/A	N/A

## Allergen Testing

Component	Coverage	AL	AR	CO-PAY	DME	EC	PA	QL	SVL	ST
Skin Testing	*	NAv	NAv	NAv	N/A	NAv	NAv	NAv	NAv	NAv
In Vitro Testing	*	N	N	N	N/A	NAv	N	*	N/A	NAv
Both Covered	N									

# 2018 Coverage Findings for Illinois

## Allergen Treatment - Allergen Immunotherapy

Component	Coverage	AL	AR	CO-PAY	DME	EC	PA	QL	SVL	ST
Allergen Immunotherapy	*	N	N	N	N/A	NAv	*	*	NAv	NAv

## Home Visit

Component	Coverage	AL	AR	CO-PAY	DME	EC	PA	QL	SVL	ST
Home Visit and Intervention	N	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## Self-Management Education

Component	Coverage	AL	AR	CO-PAY	DME	EC	PA	QL	SVL	ST
Self-Management Education	*	N	N	N	N/A	NAv	N	N	NAv	NAv

# Barriers to Care in Illinois

## Top 3 Barriers Observed in Illinois Medicaid Coverage of Asthma Treatments

Quick Relief Medication	Controller Medication	Devices	Allergy Testing	Allergen Immunotherapy	Home Visits & Interventions	Self-Management Education
Copay, Quantity Limit, Prior Authorization	Copay, Quantity Limit, Prior Authorization	Quantity Limit, Copay, Durable Medical Equipment	Quantity Limit	Prior Authorization, Quantity Limit	<i>Not Applicable (Not Covered)</i>	<i>Information Not Available</i>

# Improved Transparency

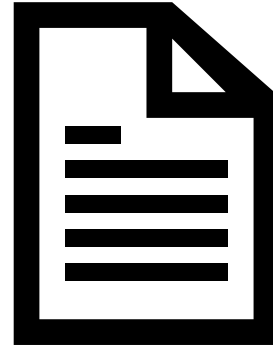
**Why is publicly available data important for different stakeholders?**



# Comprehensive and Consistent Coverage

How can states address the comprehensiveness and consistency of coverage?

- Carve Out
- Common Formulary
  - Examples: [Washington](#), [Texas](#)
- Contract Language
- State Plan Amendment
  - Example: [Missouri](#)



# Resources

- Visit us at [www.lung.org/asthma-care-coverage](http://www.lung.org/asthma-care-coverage)
  - Factsheet: Importance of Asthma Guidelines-Based Care Project
  - Asthma Care Coverage Benchmark Document
  - Asthma Care Coverage Maps
  - Asthma Care Coverage Database with State-Specific Information
  - Asthma Self-Management Education: 10 State Analysis of Providers, Services and Settings
- [Pathways to Asthma Reimbursement for Pediatric Asthma Services](#)  
(Childhood Asthma Leadership Coalition)

**THANK YOU**

[www.lung.org/asthma-care-coverage](http://www.lung.org/asthma-care-coverage)

**Questions?**

[asthmacare@lung.org](mailto:asthmacare@lung.org)