

# Adult asthma – NICE Quality Standards

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# Epidemiology

- Tower Hamlets ranked 4<sup>th</sup> highest PCT in London for emergency admissions
- Admissions average at 3.2 days – longer than average
- 70% of admissions can be avoided if dealt with appropriately in the earlier stages
- -Asthma carries significant morbidity and up to 90% of deaths are associated with preventable factors
- Prevalence has declined over the past 3 years and is significantly below England and London averages

# AIMS

- Reduce emergency admissions
- Improve quality of care in primary and secondary care settings
- Implement NICE quality standards by 2016

# QOF targets

- only asthmatics who have picked up inhalers in the last 12 months are on the asthma register. 70% is the target for annual review.
- 80% of new asthmatics (since 2006) need to have reversibility anytime after or up to 3 months before diagnosis.
- 80% of asthmatics aged between 14 – 20 need to have a smoking history recorded.

# Quality Statements

- Patients with newly diagnosed asthma are diagnosed in accordance with SIGN/BTS guidelines
- Adults with new Onset asthma are assessed for occupational causes
- People with asthma receive a personalised action plan
- People with asthma are given specific training and assessment in inhaler technique before starting any new inhaler treatment

# Quality Statements

- People with asthma receive a structured review at least annually
- People with asthma who present with respiratory symptoms receive an assessment of their asthma control
- People with asthma who present with an exacerbation of asthma receive an objective measurement of severity at the time of presentation
- People aged 5 or above with life threatening asthma receive oral or iv steroids within 1 hour of presentation

# Quality statements

- People admitted to hospital with an acute exacerbation of asthma have a structured review by a member of the specialist respiratory team before discharge
- People who received treatment in hospital or a WIC are followed up by their own GP practice within 2 days
- People with difficult asthma are offered an assessment by a multidisciplinary difficult asthma team