

**Community Perspective:
Challenges in the
Administration of Asthma
Medications**

- Gay Chisum

- American Lung Association of Metropolitan Chicago, Addressing Asthma in Englewood

- Rosa Rodriguez

- Access Community Health Network, Controlling Asthma in American Cities Project

- Tamara Williams

- Grand Boulevard Federation, Controlling Asthma in American Cities Project

Community Perspective: Challenges in the Administration of Asthma Medications

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Information

- a. We have no existing conflicts of interest
- b. Grant funds for these project are provided by the University of Illinois at Chicago and the Merck Childhood Asthma Network

Objective

- Participants will learn, from the community perspective, challenges in the administration of asthma management

Problems understanding

- Purpose of medication
 - Controller vs. Reliever
- When to give medication
 - Daily vs. when having symptoms
- Side effects of medications
 - Weight gain from steroids

Physician visit

- Nebulizer ordered
- No spacer
- No peak flow meter
- No asthma plan

Hospital discharge

- Received
 - Pills
 - Rx for albuterol, spacer and peak flow meter

No education

Is asthma serious?

- Medications not always available to child
- Parent concern that child will play with medications
- Children afraid to be different
- Children don't take asthma seriously

Everyone deserves own inhaler

- One inhaler for 5 children and 1 adult

Incorrect use of medications

- Confused about the use of albuterol and Pulmicort Respules
- Gave medications incorrectly for 15 years

Physician communication

- Premedicating for exercise induced asthma vs. waiting until symptomatic