

2008 Asthma Disease Management Program

The purpose of the 2008 HMO Asthma QI Fund Project is to improve asthma self-management by increasing the percentage of members with asthma age 5-56 who receive written asthma action plans and who have their asthma control assessed. A portion of the QI Fund is available to IPAs based on the percentage of members who receive a written asthma action plan that meets the required elements and written evidence of assessment of asthma control. IPAs will be eligible for a Blue Star in 2008 if written asthma action plans were provided for at least 65% of identified asthmatics for the 2007 population.

The HMO Asthma QI Project includes a number of initiatives for members and IPAs in addition to the QI Fund Project.

Members identified as having asthma are sent the following information:

- a member version of the asthma guideline
- a copy of the Asthma Care Diary, which includes information on asthma medications, how to use a peak flow meter, and asthma care tips. The diary includes graphs on which to record peak flow readings and a blank asthma action plan which the member can take to the doctor for completion. The diary also includes information about the BCBSIL asthma program, how members were selected for the program and how to opt out of the program.
- an offer for a free Asthma Care Kit, available by physician order
- a reminder to get a flu shot was mailed in 2007 and planned for 2008
- the Asthma Care Survey for adults and children is sent to a random sample of identified members

Additional resources provided to members include:

- information on managing asthma available through the Personal Health Manager and "Ask a Nurse" on Blue Access® for Members at www.bcbsil.com
- "blueprints for health", the BCBSIL member newsletter, includes articles on asthma

IPAs are provided with the following:

- annual educational programs on the QI Fund Project
- quarterly QI Forums that include best practices
- lists of asthmatics identified in 2007 who did not fill a prescription for controller medications based on pharmacy data
- information about the Asthma Care Kit
- information about the Asthma Care Diary which is available to IPAs for distribution to their members
- a list of members to target for flu shots, including members with asthma
- a sample asthma action plan
- a sample asthma control assessment tool