

Managing Asthma Long Term

TARGET POPULATION

Eligibility

Inclusion Criterion

Exclusion Criterion

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation

FIGURE 4-2a. CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN CHILDREN 0-4 YEARS OF AGE (Assessing severity and initiating therapy in children who are not currently taking long-term control medication)

Conditional: Classification of Asthma Severity (0-4 years of age) {Rec_1: Cond_1 }

IF

Impairment: Symptoms

Value: 2 days/week

Value: >2 days/week but not daily

Value: Daily

Value: Throughout the day

Impairment: Nighttime awakenings

Value: 0

Value: 1-2x/month

Value: 3-4x/month

Value: >1x/week

Impairment: Short-acting beta2-agonist use for symptom control (not prevention of EIB)

Value: 2 days/week

Value: >2 days/week but not daily

Value: Daily

Value: Several times per day

Interference with normal activity

Value: None

Value: Minor limitation

Value: Some limitation

Value: Extremely limited

Risk: Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids

Value: 0-1/year

Value: 2 exacerbations in 6 months requiring oral systemic corticosteroids, or 4 wheezing episodes/1 year lasting >1 day AND risk factors for persistent

Decidable	Vocab

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Value: 0–1/year

Value: 2–3/year

Value: >3/year

Risk: Treatment-related adverse effects

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Value: Medication side effects can vary in intensity from none to very troublesome and worrisome. The level of intensity does not correlate to specific levels of control but should be considered in the overall assessment of risk.

THEN

Executable	Vocab

Conclude: Well Controlled

Maintain current treatment. • Regular followup every 1–6 months. • Consider step down if well controlled for at least 3 months.

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Conclude: Not well-controlled

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• Step up (1 step) and • Reevaluate in 2–6 weeks. • If no clear benefit in 4–6 weeks, consider alternative diagnoses or adjusting therapy. • For side effects, consider alternative treatment options.

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Conclude: Very poorly controlled

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• Consider short course of oral systemic corticosteroids, • Step up (1–2 steps), and • Reevaluate in 2 weeks. • If no clear benefit in 4–6 weeks, consider alternative diagnoses or adjusting therapy. • For side effects, consider alternative treatment

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Evidence Quality:

Strength of Recommendation:

Reason:

Logic:

Recommendation

FIGURE 4 – 2 b . CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN CHILDREN 5–11 YEARS OF AGE (Assessing severity and initiating therapy in children who are not currently taking long-term control medication)

Conditional: Classification of Asthma Severity (5–11 years of age)
{Rec_3: Cond_3 }

IF

Impairment: Symptoms

Decidable	Vocab

Value: 2 days/week

Value: >2 days/week but not daily

Value: Daily		
Value: Throughout the day		
Impairment: Nighttime awakenings		
Value: 2x/month		
Value: 3–4x/month		
Value: >1x/week but not nightly		
Value: Often 7x/week		
Impairment: Short-acting beta2-agonist use for symptom control (not prevention of EIB)		
Value: 2 days/week		
Value: >2 days/week but not daily		
Value: Daily		
Value: Several times per day		
Impairment: Interference with normal activity		
Value: None		
Value: Minor limitation		
Value: Some limitation		
Value: Extremely limited		
Impairment: Lung function		
Value: • Normal FEV1 between exacerbations • FEV1 >80% predicted • FEV1 /FVC >85%		
Value: • FEV1 = >80% predicted • FEV1 /FVC >80%		
Value: • FEV1 = 60–80% predicted • FEV1 /FVC = 75–80%		
Value: • FEV1 <60% predicted • FEV1 /FVC <75%		
Risk: Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids		
Value: 0–1/year (see note)		
Value: 2/year (see note)		
Intermittent		
Mild Persistent		
Moderate Persistent		
Severe Persistent		
THEN	Executable	Vocab
Recommended Step for Initiating Therapy		

Evidence Quality:

Strength of Recommendation:

Reason:

Logic:

Recommendation

FIGURE 4 – 3 b . ASSESSING ASTHMA CONTROL AND ADJUSTING THERAPY IN CHILDREN 5–11 YEARS OF AGE

Conditional: Classification of Asthma Control (5–11 years of age)
{Rec_4: Cond_4 }

IF	Decidable	Vocab
Impairment: Symptoms		
Value: 2 days/week but not more than once on each day		
Value: >2 days/week or multiple times on 2 days/week		
Value: Throughout the day		
Impairment: Nighttime awakenings		
Value: 1x/month		
Value: 2x/month		
Value: 2x/week		
Impairment: Interference with normal activity		
Value: None		
Value: Some limitation		
Value: Extremely limited		
Impairment: Short-acting beta2-agonist use for symptom control (not prevention of EIB)		
Value: 2 days/week		
Value: >2 days/week		
Value: Several times per day		
Impairment: Lung function • FEV1 or peak flow • FEV1 /FVC		
Value: >80% predicted/ personal best >80%		
Value: 60–80% predicted/ personal best 75–80%		
Value: <60% predicted/ personal best <75%		
Risk: Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids		
Value: 0–1/year		
Value: 2/year (see note)		
Risk: Reduction in lung growth		
Risk: Treatment-related adverse effects		
THEN	Executable	Vocab
Recommended Action for Treatment		
Conclude: Well controlled		
Conclude: Not well controlled		
Conclude: Very poorly controlled		

Evidence Quality:

Strength of Recommendation:

Reason:

Logic:

Recommendation

FIGURE 4 – 6 . CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN YOUTHS 12 YEARS OF AGE AND ADULTS — Assessing severity and initiating treatment for patients who are not currently taking long-term control medications

Conditional: Classification of Asthma Severity 12 years of age {Rec_5: Cond_5 }

IF	Decidable	Vocab
Impairment: Symptoms		
Value: 2 days/week		
Value: >2 days/week but not daily		
Value: Daily		
Value: Throughout the day		
Impairment: Nighttime awakenings		
Value: 2x/month		
Value: 3–4x/month		
Value: >1x/week but not nightly		
Value: Often 7x/week		
Impairment: Short-acting beta2-agonist use for symptom control (not prevention of EIB)		
Value: 2 days/week		
Value: >2 days/week but not daily, and not more than 1x on any day		
Value: Daily		
Value: Several times per day		
Impairment: Interference with normal activity		
Value: None		
Value: Minor limitation		
Value: Some limitation		
Value: Extremely limited		
Impairment: Lung function		
Value: • Normal FEV1 between exacerbations • FEV1 >80% predicted • FEV1 /FVC normal		
Value: • FEV1 >80% predicted • FEV1 /FVC normal		
Value: • FEV1 >60% but <80% predicted • FEV1 /FVC reduced 5%		
Value: • FEV1 <60% predicted • FEV1 /FVC reduced >5%		
Risk: Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids		
Value: 0–1/year (see note)		
Value: 2/year (see note)		

THEN

Recommended Step for Initiating Treatment

Executable	Vocab

Evidence Quality:

Strength of Recommendation:

Reason:

Logic:

Recommendation

FIGURE 4 – 6 . CLASSIFYING ASTHMA SEVERITY AND INITIATING TREATMENT IN YOUTHS 12 YEARS OF AGE AND ADULTS — Assessing severity and initiating treatment for patients who are not currently taking long-term control medications

Conditional: Classification of Asthma Control (12 years of age) {Rec_6: Cond_6 }

IF

Impairment: Symptoms

Value: 2 days/week

Value: >2 days/week

Value: Throughout the day

Impairment: Nighttime awakenings

Value: 2x/month

Value: 1–3x/week

Value: 4x/week

Impairment: Interference with normal activity

Value: None

Value: Some limitation

Value: Extremely limited

Impairment: Short-acting beta2-agonist use for symptom control (not prevention of EIB)

Value: 2 days/week

Value: >2 days/week

Value: Several times per day

Impairment: FEV1 or peak flow

Value: >80% predicted/ personal best

Value: 60–80% predicted/ personal best

Value: <60% predicted/ personal best

Impairment: Validated questionnaires: ATAQ ACQ ACT

Value: 0 0.75* 20

Value: 1–2 1.5 16–19

Value: 3–4 N/A 15

Decidable	Vocab

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Risk: Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids

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Value: 0–1/year

Value: 2/year (see note)

Risk : Progressive loss of lung function

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Value: Evaluation requires long-term followup care

Risk: Treatment-related adverse effects

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Value: Medication side effects can vary in intensity from none to very troublesome and worrisome. The level of intensity does not correlate to specific levels of control but should be considered in the overall assessment of risk.

THEN

Recommended Action for Treatment

Conclude: Well Controlled

Conclude: Not Well Controlled

Conclude: Very Poorly Controlled

Executable	Vocab

Evidence Quality:

Strength of Recommendation:

Reason:

Logic: