

## **Pediatric Pulmonology Telehealth Protocol Asthma Ready Communities**

**Date:** January, 2010

**Approvals:** Peter Konig, MD, PhD, Pulmonologist; Ben Francisco, PhD, PNP, AE-C, Director Asthma Ready Communities; Rachel Mutrux, MO Telehealth Network Director

### **Appropriate Patient and Type of Encounter**

Consultations are available for health care facilities participating in Asthma Ready Communities program with MO Telehealth Network equipment installed. There is no charge for consultations under this program. Funding has been provided for consultations by the MO Foundation for Health through the Childhood Asthma Linkages in MO Program. Visits may be billed at the patient site by the PCP instead of the telehealth facility fee.

- Consultations for pediatric patients age 0-18 with asthma
- Health care provider or staff consultations on specific patients or general questions related to asthma management, resources available to the clinic and training opportunities.

### **Referral and Scheduling Process**

Consultations will be scheduled with the Pediatric Specialty Clinic Friday mornings. To request an appointment, complete a Consultation request form and fax to 573-882-1154. Pediatric Specialty Clinic Patient Services Representative, Nancy Myers at 573-882-6921 will schedule appointments.

#### **Pre-examination**

Patient site coordinator or other health care professional responsible for the patient will:

- Fax current medication list and doses, chest and sinus x-ray results, allergy test results, pre-consult asthma history and any other pertinent information needed for the visit.
- Obtain FEV1 and FEV1/FEV6 ratio or spirometry day of visit and fax to Pediatric Specialty Clinic prior to appointment.
- Take and record the patient's vital signs before the encounter begins: weight, height, temperature, height/age percentile, BMI-for-age centile (<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/dnpabmi/>)
- Obtain telehealth participation consent form immediately prior to the first Telehealth encounter per patient. Additional consent forms are not required for subsequent visits, but encounters cannot proceed without a signed consent on file. A copy of the consent form will be kept in patient's chart, and the original sent to the MO Telehealth Office at: 2401 Lemone Ind. Blvd., DC345.00, Columbia, MO 65212

#### **Room preparation**

- To connect the Telehealth system, Pediatric Specialty site initiates the call to the patient site.
- Microphone(s) are highly sensitive. Microphone(s) should be placed away from the monitor's speakers.

#### **Patient preparation**

Patient site coordinator or other health care professional responsible for the patient will:

- Explain to patients/families participating in their first Telehealth encounter how Telehealth encounters take place. They are informed of the system's confidentiality and

that only the health care professionals and the patient attending this appointment can see and hear the session. Return patients should be reminded of this.

- Bring the patient's chart to the Telehealth encounter in order to provide any needed information.
- Stay with patient during the Telehealth visit to operate the Telehealth system, to assist the patient as needed, to present any additional information the provider physician may need and to take any orders given by provider physician.

### **Examination**

Basic video conferencing system will be used. Cameras at both the physician and the patient sites should be set as per physician instructions. Activities include interactive conversation with both patient and others present in the room at the patient site (health care professionals, family members, etc.) and examination of the patient with assistance of the patient site coordinator or other health care professional responsible for the patient as needed.

### **Post-examination**

Provider physician will tell patient if and when they are to schedule a return visit, either via Telehealth or in person and note on goldenrod sheet; Pediatric Specialty Clinic will coordinate the return visit with the patient and patient site. Orders will be given as needed and recorded by the patient site. The patient site will instruct patients in obtaining any needed labs. Lab results obtained in follow up to the visit should be sent to (Dr. Peter Konig, ATTN: Telehealth Results, 573-882-1154). Prescriptions will be written by the provider at the patient site. A medications template will be provided for reference.

### **Documentation**

Clinic note will document that the visit was via telehealth and note the location of the provider and the patient. A copy of the clinic note will be sent to the patient site, as well as the referring provider and primary care provider as appropriate.

### **Contacts**

#### **University Physicians Pediatric and Adolescent Specialty Clinic**

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Columbia, MO 65212

Primary contact: Nancy Myers

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#### **Asthma Ready Communities**

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#### **MO Telehealth Network**

Technical Hotline: (573)882-3060

Main line: (573)884-7958