

Asthma Measurement Development—Asthma Outcomes Workshop

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Organization:	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease
Contract Number:	09-655F-09
Project Period:	June 2009 – September 2010
AHRQ Funding Amount:	\$50,000
Summary Status as of:	September 2010, Conclusion of Interagency Agreement

Target Population: Asthma, Chronic Care*

Summary: The Asthma Outcomes Workshop is organized by a consortium of governmental and nongovernmental organizations, including the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the National Center on Minority Health Disparities, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Merck Childhood Asthma Network. Representatives of these organizations have formed a planning committee that has overall responsibility for the workshop. The workshop is supported by these organizations and by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Seven subcommittees met in advance of the workshop to prepare recommendations on outcomes for their respective domains. The subcommittees are:

- Asthma Symptoms
- Asthma Exacerbations
- Airway Physiology
- Asthma Biomarkers
- Asthma Quality-of-Life
- Asthma Composite Scores
- Asthma Health Care Utilization and Costs

Each subcommittee identified outcomes in its domain and classified them as core, supplemental, or emerging based on their clinical importance and on their level of validation and standardization.

After the workshop, participating National Institutes of Health (NIH) Institutes and Centers considered endorsing a selective set of core outcomes as required outcome measures in NIH-initiated asthma clinical research programs. It is anticipated that the required outcome measures will accelerate the widespread use of the data produced by clinical trials, and genetic and other asthma studies by allowing meaningful comparative analyses and enhancing the level of confidence in the findings of asthma clinical research.

Project Objectives:

- Establish standard definitions and data collection methodologies for validated outcome measures in asthma clinical research. **(Ongoing**)**

- Identify promising outcome measures for asthma clinical research and comment on their status and further validation needs. (**Ongoing****)

2010 Activities: The workshop was held on March 15 and 16, 2010 in Bethesda, Maryland and was attended by more than 80 participants from the scientific and medical community and federal agencies with major research programs in asthma. Representatives from pharmaceutical industry and insurers attended as observers. The workshop resulted in consensus recommendations for core, supplemental, and emerging outcomes for each subcommittee. Following the workshop, each subcommittee revised their reports based on workshop discussions. A manuscript that will combine all the subcommittee reports into one Asthma Outcomes Report is being prepared and will be submitted for publication in a major scientific journal.

Preliminary Impact and Findings: Project findings will be available upon completion of the Asthma Outcomes Report.

Strategic Goal: Develop and disseminate health IT evidence and evidence-based tools to improve health care decisionmaking through the use of integrated data and knowledge management.

Business Goal: Synthesis and Dissemination

* *AHRQ Priority Population*

** *Work on the report continued beyond the project end date of September 2010.*