



# INHALE NEWSLETTER

## Newsletter Highlights

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Save the Date!

Tobacco Cessation Counseling Measure: Details and Resources

A Message from our Directors

## INHALEarning Platform Update

The INHALEarning Education Platform officially launched on February 27th, 2023!

This platform has been designed to be a one-stop shop for providers and staff to access "all things" related to asthma and COPD. Users can find the latest guidelines, articles, patient education materials, inhaler device videos, resources for tobacco cessation, useful websites, etc!

Providers and staff can sign up to access the site using the Qualtrics survey link ([https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0IHZjJ0iV51c1w](https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0IHZjJ0iV51c1w)) or by scanning the QR code above. The site will send a link to set a password.

**Available NOW:** CME on Inhaled Medication Deposition

**COMING SOON:** Walk-through video demonstrating how the site might be used in practices.



## Request for Feedback

INHALE is seeking feedback on the next topic covered in our INHALEarning Education Platform. We have heard from a few PO's that obtaining spirometry for asthma and COPD patients is challenging and we are considering focusing on this topic for our next education module. Please use the following link or QR code to provide more information: [https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5sVOJiZivUYLkVg](https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5sVOJiZivUYLkVg)



INHALE will be sending out a "treasure box" of asthma and COPD resources to POs in March! This material should be shared with your participating practices. Please use the following link to input the best address where this box should be sent: [https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5dTjak3zIJEIURE](https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5dTjak3zIJEIURE)

# Latest Asthma and COPD News

## Asthma and COPD Guideline Updates

### ASTHMA

**US Guidelines:** National Asthma Education Prevention Program (NAEPP) 2020 Focused Updates Guidelines are available at: <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/resources/2020-focused-updates-asthma-management-guidelines>

- Focused on "key questions": FeNO, indoor allergens, adjustable medication dosing in recurrent wheezing and asthma, LAMA in asthma, Xolair, and bronchial thermoplasty.
- Based on studies published through 2018
- Other topics not updated since 2007 guidelines.
- Single Maintenance and Reliever Therapy (SMART) recommended for moderate to severe persistent asthmatics ages 4 and older.

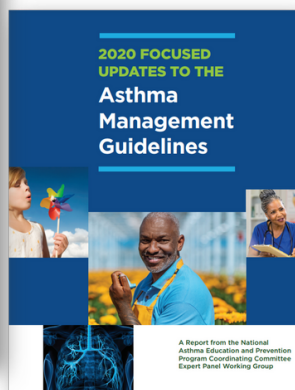
**International Guidelines:** Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) 2020 Guidelines are available at: <https://ginasthma.org/reports>

- Updated yearly
- Focused on decreasing short-acting beta-agonist overuse and oral corticosteroid exposure.
- SMART recommended at Steps 3 & 4 in children ages 6-11 and at all steps for 12 and older.

### COPD

The Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) 2023 Guidelines have been posted and are available at <https://goldcopd.org/2023-gold-report-2/>

GOLD 2023 updates the definition of COPD and continues to highlight the fact that spirometry is mandatory for diagnosis. The ABCD Assessment Tool has been revised to the ABE Assessment Tool to recognize the clinical relevance of exacerbation, independent of the level of symptoms. There is information on the basic principles for appropriate inhaler device choice and updates on pharmacologic treatment including the recommendation for LABA+LAMA and use of eosinophil testing before prescribing ICS-containing medications.



PCP Recruitment Due  
**June 1st, 2023**

Collaborative-wide  
Meeting

**June 16th, 2023**

Regional Meetings

**To be determined**

MDC Data Refresh Dates

**April 17th, 2023**

**May 26th, 2023**

**August 17th, 2023**

**December 5th, 2023**



# TOBACCO CESSATION COUNSELING MEASURE: DETAILS AND RESOURCES

## Tobacco Cessation Counseling (TCC) Measure Overview:

- **Measure Level:** PO Level Measure
- **Population:** All BCBSM PPO, BCN and Medicare Advantage patients 13 years and older with COPD or asthma who are active smokers (as determined by ICD-10 codes) and attributed to participating PCPs and Specialists within the PO. The measure is met for each patient if ANY provider (not just attributed provider) provides smoking cessation counseling.
- **Measurement Periods:**
  - **Baseline:** 1/1/2022-12/31/2022
  - **Target:** 1/1/2023-12/31/2023
- **VBR:** 2% on BCBSM PPO Commercial claims.  
Reimbursement periods:
  - **PCP:** 9/1/2024-8/31/2025
  - **SCP:** 3/1/2025-2/28/2026
- **Target Performance:** 5% increase in the percentage of patients receiving TCC in the target performance period compared to the baseline period.

Copy the link below for more measure details:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p4\\_Gnxg15kdkCOoHA00wU0YRoL-Wc-vg/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p4_Gnxg15kdkCOoHA00wU0YRoL-Wc-vg/view?usp=sharing)

Helping a patient to stop smoking can  
change the course of their life!



## How to Appropriately Document and Bill for Tobacco Cessation Counseling:

- Required elements for documentation:
  - Assessment of readiness for change and barriers to change;
  - Change in behavior advised including specific suggested actions and (motivational) counseling;
  - Any service arrangements made;
  - Any follow-up services;
  - Statement on total time in minutes spent in counseling regarding tobacco use.
- CPT codes recommended by INHALE:
  - 99406: Smoking and tobacco cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes.
  - 99407: Smoking and tobacco cessation counseling visit, intensive, greater than 10 minutes
- Must be used with ICD-10 codes that diagnose nicotine dependence.
- Modifier 25 added to E/M codes when billing TCC on the same date.

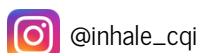
Copy the link below for more billing information:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i3MDqTcoSE5vhki5oPTQuEhnTR-VWvmu/view?usp=sharing>

## Messages from our Directors

“Our team is working very hard to provide useful and actionable data on Asthma and COPD care across the State of Michigan for our collaborative. This data will provide INHALE with a strong foundation for our efforts to improve the care and outcomes of patients with Asthma and COPD.”

– Dr. Michael Sjoding



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**INHALE**  
Inspiring Health Advances in Lung Care