

Iowa Asthma Coalition  
Conference Call Meeting Minutes  
for Tuesday, August 21, 2007

**Welcome and Introductions:**

- 1.) Jill Agan, IAC Coordinator
- 2.) Dan Ramsey, ALAI Program Director
- 3.) Lori Younker, ALAI
- 4.) Andrea Hoffman, IDPH-Asthma Program Project Director
- 5.) Dawn Voss, Wellmark BC & BS of Iowa & South Dakota
- 6.) Joann Muldoon, IDPH Epidemiology
- 7.) Julie Jackson, Iowa Health-Des Moines
- 8.) Don Shepard, PhD, IDPH-Center of Health Statistics
- 9.) Dr. Alan Sisson
- 10.) Sharon Strenge, Emmet County  
Public Health
- 11.) Christine Paulsen, DNR

**State Asthma Action Plan:**

The Members were introduced to the State Asthma Action Plan that was produced by the Surveillance and Education Committees. Joann Muldoon was the committee chair that spoke on the Surveillance Committees Action Plan. Joann went over the list of indicators and BRSS questions. She also stated that she was still “tweaking” the child asthma prevalence report. She stated that the Surveillance Committee had a meeting and they talked about the introductory letter to the Lt. Governor Patty Judge, producing an executive summary and also the plan to place the power points on the web. She has invited anyone who has interest in this to join. Joann also shared information on diagnosed asthma and with increase the age of child; the report shows that high school kids that smoke have a high risk of having asthma. 600-800%! She thought this would be a great challenge for the IAC. Dr. Sisson thought of a new initiative to present this to the schools somehow and Dan Ramsey spoke about the ALAI’s program about tobacco prevention and the idea to educate middle school students with this issue. Don Sheppard discussed his role in the call back survey that is devoted to asthma.

Lori Younker and Dawn Voss shared the Education Committee’s Action Plan. Lori discussed Goal #2 which states “people who have asthma and their families are empowered, knowledgeable and capable of taking responsibilities for their own health outcomes.” She talked about the systems change model and the first phase of “Enhancing Asthma Care in the Primary Care Clinics”. She shared that we need to take the education to the primary care clinics and take the strategy steps to diagnosis and management of asthma. Lori also shared information to educate and engage the media by letting people know about World Asthma Day in May. She thought that we could utilize this and make an impact. Dawn discussed the education subcommittee’s approach to make a difference with asthma management by using the NIH guidelines. The overall goal is to educate the health care workers and other healthcare professionals to work towards enhancing the health and well-being of people living with asthma.

**Asthma Plan- CDC Grant Review:**

Andrea shared with us that there is not any updates at this time with the grant review. She stated that she would provide this information to the members when a decision has been made.

A question came up from Julie Jackson about asthma prevalence in the Iowa counties and thought that it would be a good idea to educate in those areas and also hope to retrieve members from those counties. The members were given by Lori the estimated prevalence and incidence of lung disease by the ALAI via email.

**Coalition Member Update:**

Jill Agan shared that she wrote an article for the ISNO for their upcoming newsletter in September about Asthma Friendly Schools and the ALAI programs that are available. She also talked about the upcoming Asthma Walk at Jordan Creek Town Center on September 8<sup>th</sup>. She invited the members to support and be a part of the IAC team.

Christine Paulson gave us an update on the DNR's trash burning ban which only includes at this time the burn barrels. There will be a meeting in October to discuss and announce the strategy of trash burning. She thought that the IAC could assist in outreach and education for this upcoming event.

There were no other member updates at this time.

**Iowa Coalition Asthma-Progress Report:**

Jill Agan asked for some help from the IAC Members that were on the conference call for the following information: correct email for Bob Dickerson, Carol Hinton's email, Dr. Sheet's phone number, Lori Dvorak's current email, Linda Westrope's current position and email, Pam Beck's current position and email, Cathy Johnson's phone number, and Lacey Sheild's correct email address. If any of the members who know any of this information, please contact Jill Agan. Coalition status was reported; we currently have 45 members.

Jill Agan and Dan Ramsey wanted to know what the members thought about having more frequent meetings in order to be a more productive coalition and obtain the goals that have been put into place. The few that were in attendance agreed that it would be a good idea to make that possible. Dan, Andrea and Jill will let the other members know the date and future dates of the next coalition meetings. The next meeting would be a face to face meeting.

The August IAC Newsletter was emailed to the IAC Members and other professionals that deal with asthma. Thank-you to those who helped with the August issue. Once the published version is finished, Jill Agan will send out the newsletter to Iowa hospitals, clinics and always having them available for conferences and meetings. It is our hope that this educates and also promotes membership to our coalition. Lori thought that along with the newsletter we could send with that an IAC membership brochure. Julie Jackson

thought that we need to get the word out there and thought that sending this to other professionals and groups will assist in building a strong coalition. Jill Agan asked for any ideas or if someone would like to write a small article for the newsletter to please let her know. One idea that was expressed was an article about the Flu shot Campaign. Thank-you for sharing that. Andrea stated that she would be glad to find out contacts for that specific subject.

Just an FYI for the IAC Newsletter deadlines: October 31 for the November issue, January 31 for the February issue and April 30 for the May issue.

Final Note: We hope that the IAC will move forward...gain memberships and build new partnerships....

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be discussed by Jill, Dan and Andrea and we will forward that information to you as soon as a date is chosen.