

September 8, 2003

Dear Dr. K-----

Asthma continues to be the leading chronic disease for the San Francisco Health Plan (SFHP) members as well as a growing health problem. One of the goals for this year is to increase the number of SFHP members with asthma who are on the optimal treatment regimen. We are enlisting your help, your clinical expertise, and your good will to help us reach this goal.

Below is a table that shows the number of your patients with persistent asthma who are on long-term controller medications (e.g. inhaled steroids) for their asthma and the average for your medical group.

	Pts on Controllers	Not on Controllers	Rate
Dr K	7	8	47%
Chinese Comm. Health Care Assoc.	34	31	52%

Enclosed you will find individual profiles of your SFHP patients with persistent asthma, and associated pharmacy and hospita utilization. The profile lists all asthma-related visits and asthma-related medications. We have selected these patients based on the guidelines that suggest that any member with hospital or ER visits, or 4 or more outpatient vists is a candidate for long-term controllers.

To assist you in starting more patients on the controller medications, we request that you do the following three steps:

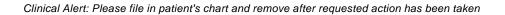
- 1. Review profiles and direct your staff to call in patients for an appointment
- 2. Place attached profile in chart
- 3. After writing Rx for patient, send in bottom of profile reply section to SFHP

If any of these patients is not appropriate for the suggested medication, please send in the reply section with your comments.

If you feel any of this information is in error, would like information about additional asthma resources, or would like to discuss case management options for your asthma patients, please call me directly at 415-547-7818 ext. 207.

Thank you for your collaboration,

Michael van Duren, MD, MBA Medical Director, San Francisco Health Plan





ASTHMA CARE REMINDER

Z	-, T	M	DOB 03/07/19	998 Lang: Chinese	PCP: K		
2566 28TH AVE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116 4921 CHI							
Asthma Visits During 2002				Prescriptions For Asthma Filled	d in 2002		
05/03/2	•			02/21/2003 albuterol 2 mg/5 ml oral syrup)		
05/01/2	•			12/16/2002 albuterol 2 mg/5 ml oral syrup)		
01/24/2 01/22/2	•			10/04/2002 albuterol 2 mg/5 ml oral syrup)		
Based on the information above and national asthma guidelines, this patient appears to be a candidate for long-term controller medications. To any provider who sees this patient next:							
1. Please review whether the patient might benefit from a long-term prevention strategy for asthma control.							
2. If appropriate, write a prescription for inhaled steroids (e.g. Flovent, Pulmicort, or Qvar) or other controller meds.							
3. Fax back this page with your reply to SFHP							
Reply Section - FAX To 415-547-7824 Attn: Rowena Tarantino							
	I started this patient on controller medication. Date/Prescription:						
	This patient should not be on a controller because:						
	I have not seen this patient since:						
	This patient is not on my roster						
	Please call me at:						
	I would like help with:						
	Other:						