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Difficult to control pediatric asthma (co-morbidities)

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Asthma is a very common childhood problem. Even after adequate medications, many children do not improve leading to avoidable morbidity and even mortality from this disease. Lack of improvement is usually secondary to non-adherence to therapies or because of complicating co-morbidities such as non-adherence, obesity, and gastroesophageal reflux, psychological problems such as ADHD, vocal cord dysfunction, and anxiety etc., complicating asthma. Literature on many of these issues is not clear thus primary care physician or nurses taking care of these patients do not know which of these issues are important. This symposium will discuss updated literature on majority of common co-morbidities and explain when and how to investigate and when to refer patients to sub-specialists for advice. The aim of this study is: To educate attendees why it is very difficult to treat some children with asthma, to educate attendees when to look for co-morbidities in asthma and to educate attendees on role of common co-morbidities such as non-adherence, obesity, gastroesophageal reflux, and psychological problems such as ADHD, vocal cord dysfunction, anxiety etc., in complicating asthma care.

Biography

Shahid Sheikh is currently working as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Ohio State University College of Medicine in the Divisions of Pulmonary Medicine and Allergy and Immunology. He is also working in the Department of Pediatrics in the Nationwide Children's Hospital, USA.

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