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Pediatric asthma: Diagnosis and management

Asthma is the most common chronic childhood disease with increasing prevalence especially in urban minority communities. It is important to identify asthma early in risk groups such as children. In 2011, the lifetime asthma prevalence among children ages 5 to 14 years in the United States was 15.6%. Studies have reported that estimates of the prevalence of undiagnosed asthma among children in the United States were between 14%-17%. Young children with episodes of wheezing, night time cough and/or exercise related limitations are always a dilemma as parents are never certain if their children have asthma or will develop asthma at a later age. It is estimated that about 30% of preschool children with wheezing may have underlying asthma and most of children with asthma develop symptoms in pre-school years. We will discuss difficulties in making a diagnosis of asthma in early age. How can we simplify do the diagnosis so that early therapies can be initiated to decrease morbidity will be discussed.

Biography

Shahid Sheikh is an Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. Currently, he is working at divisions of Allergy/Immunology and Pediatric Pulmonary Medicine in Department of Pediatrics at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus Ohio. His major interests are Pediatric Asthma and Cystic Fibrosis. He has published about 50 papers in peer-reviewed journals and has been serving as co-editor in editorial board of seven peer-reviewed journals.

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