

Pre-completed Asthma Action Plans

The following Pathway was developed, implemented, and refined by the American Lung Association in Minnesota. The pathway is intended to give other clinics a starting point for systems-change.

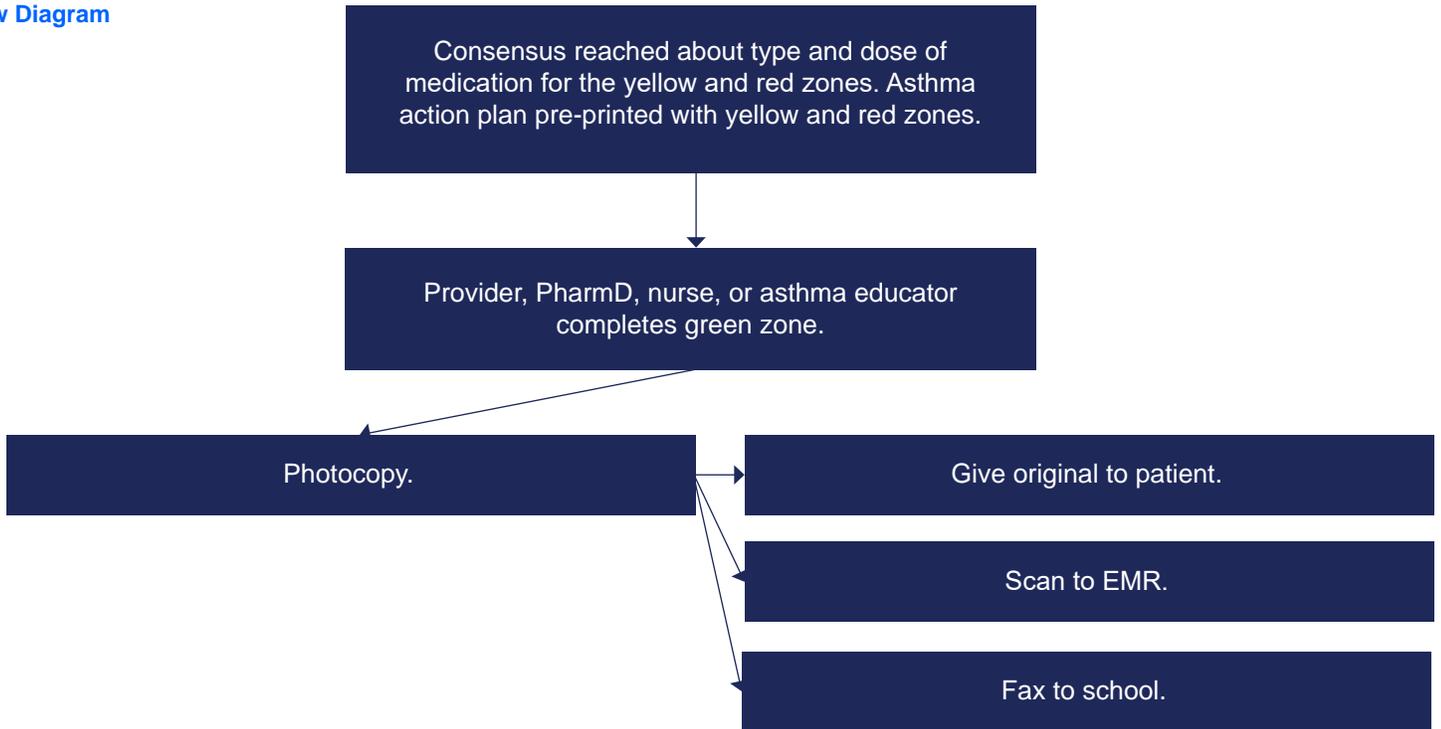
Goal: Standardize yellow and red zones of asthma action plan to simplify completion of asthma action plans

Chronic Care Model: Delivery system design, self-management

Snapshot

1. Clinic providers reached consensus about medications and dosing, and asthma action plans will be pre-printed with yellow and red zones on a symptom based asthma action plan
2. The provider, pharmacist, nurse, or asthma educator completes the green zone
3. Once the asthma action plan is complete, the medical assistant is notified to make a photocopy.
4. Original is given to the patient
5. Photocopy is faxed to the school and then scanned into the electronic medical record.

Flow Diagram



Implementation Details/Considerations

- Which type of asthma action plan?
 - o peak flow based?
 - o symptom based?
 - o combined?
- Who will complete the remainder?
 - o provider in the room?
 - o standing orders for asthma educator/pharmacist/nurse?
- When will the patient receive the completed asthma action plan?
 - o at the end of the current visit or well-child check/physical?
 - o mailed to their home?
 - o at an asthma follow-up visit?
- How can the asthma action plan be incorporated into the EMR?
- Will it be handwritten/typed?
- Will it be photocopied/duplicate/triplicate?

Example of pre-completed adult asthma action plan:

Yellow zone: Two puffs of albuterol MDI four times a day.

Red zone: Eight puffs of albuterol MDI every 20 minutes for one hour.

50 mg of prednisone, one tablet each day for five days.