

November 2013

**Two Recent 2013 Linda B. Ford Scholarship Winners
Pass the AE-C Exam!**

**Congratulations to
Kevin Johnson AE-C and Timothy Hinson AE-C**

I am a Respiratory Therapist at a rural hospital in Northwest Kansas. I am planning on using my AE-C credential to offer Asthma Education services to an area that has not had these services available before. I would like to do one-on-one consults, as well as group and community education classes. I have been in talks with our facilities education manager to join with her and the Chronic Disease Management group to add asthma to their repertoire of diseases covered in the Chronic Disease Management classes. At this point, I am really just looking into any and all avenues that this credential can take me down and am really appreciative of the scholarship that has allowed me to be able to afford this.

Thank you,

Kevin Johnson RRT, AE-C, BA

My reason for pursuing the AE-C was to enable me to provide optimal asthma care to the patients/research subjects I come into contact with through my academic appointment in the Department of Clinical Research within the School of Pharmacy at Campbell University in Buies Creek, NC. Our department serves a rural community through our Health Center which is staffed by University Healthcare professionals and students in training. Having the AE-C allows me to provide optimal care to the community, instruct students on the proper care of patients with asthma, and also seek opportunities to conduct clinical research in patients with asthma.

Thank you,

Timothy Hinson Pharm.D., AE-C

Upcoming State/National Conferences:

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI)

Annual Meeting

February 28 - March 4, 2014, San Diego, CA

<http://annualmeeting.aaaai.org/>

American Thoracic Society (ATS)

International Conference

May 16 - 21, 2014, San Diego, CA

<http://conference.thoracic.org/2014/>

Asthma and the Flu

Having asthma does not put you at an increased risk for getting the flu. It does, however, put you at an increased risk of complications from the flu virus. Asthma is the most common medical condition among children and adults hospitalized with the flu.

Asthma causes airways to swell and increases their sensitivity. The flu virus can increase the inflammation of airways and lungs. This can lead to pneumonia and other acute respiratory diseases.

Getting the flu vaccine is the most effective way to prevent the flu. The nasal spray vaccine is not safe for people with asthma. You should get a flu shot.

Because people with asthma are at an increased risk of getting pneumonia, they should talk to their health care provider about the pneumococcal vaccine. The pneumococcal vaccine will protect people against pneumonia. In addition to vaccination, it is important to follow practical, everyday steps to keep healthy this flu season.

Seasonal flu is a contagious respiratory disease caused by flu viruses. Approximately 5-20% of U.S. residents get the flu each year. Flu season typically starts in the fall and peaks in January or February. Illness from seasonal flu usually lasts one to two weeks.

Asthma in the News

Impact of Environmental Tobacco Smoke on Children With Asthma, United States, 2003-2010.

This report by the CDC evaluates the current impact of environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) on children who have asthma, specifically examining whether or not current interventions to reduce ETS are efficient. Children 6 to 11 years old with asthma were found to have the most adverse outcomes due to ETS exposure. Additionally, ETS exposure is linked to missing school, health care visits, and activity limitation among certain racial groups.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24021528>

Remaining CFC Asthma Inhalers to Be Phased Out

As of December 31, 2013, Combivent Inhalation Aerosol and Maxair Autohaler will no longer be available. The Combivent inhaler will be available in a propellant-free form, but the Maxair Autohaler will be discontinued.

<http://www.pharmacytimes.com/news/Remaining-CFC-Asthma-Inhalers-to-Be-Phased-Out>

Parents, caregivers often handle asthma medications wrong

Doctors often describe how to administer a child's asthma medication, but don't have parents and other caregivers show they can do it right. That's not good news for the health of children who rely on that care.

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865589179/Parents-caregivers-often-handle-asthma-medications-wrong-to-a-childs-detriment.html>

Pediatric asthma hospitalizations alert to poor disease management

The 3-year study of 6-17-year olds found that nearly half (45%) of 183 children hospitalized had not received any therapy in the 12 months prior. And, 22% of these patients still did not receive any therapy, even after hospitalization.
<http://www.news-medical.net/news/20131024/Pediatric-asthma-hospitalizations-alert-to-poor-disease-management.aspx>

Even healthy kids can die from flu complications

A new report underscores what health professionals know but parents may not: The flu can be fatal to children, even healthy kids who don't have other medical conditions.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/10/28/kids-death-flu-complications/3179639/>

NAECB Newsletter Editors:

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Promoting Excellence in Asthma Education

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