

Healthy Homes Grantees in Region III, Mid-Atlantic

Name of Grantee: National Center for Healthy Housing
Name of Project: Review of Assessment Methodologies Used in Ten Studies of the Home Environment of Asthmatic Children
Amount Awarded: \$ 520, 096
Year of Grant: 2005
Contact info:
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Project Partners: Boston Medical Center Corporation, Case Western Reserve University, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Mailman School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Environmental Health, Harvard School of Public Health, Public Health - Seattle and King County

Summary of Project Activities:

This Healthy Homes Technical Studies project will synthesize complex data from ten studies in order to identify visual assessment protocols, questionnaires, environmental testing and other tools that are most predictive of childhood asthma symptom severity, and will develop a standardized home assessment to identify homes with high levels of allergens. The study compared and contrasted the methods used in each study as a preliminary step in determining which tools are most useful. Additional statistical analyses will be done to augment this preliminary qualitative review to help determine which measures (and combinations of measures) can be used to predict children's asthma status and homes with high allergen levels.

Boston Medical Center (Boston), Boston Public Housing Authority/Harvard (Harvard), Cincinnati Children's Hospital (Cincinnati Asthma Prevention Study, or CAPS), and Johns Hopkins University (Hopkins) each contributed data from a single asthma study to this project, while Case Western Reserve (Cleveland), Columbia University, and Seattle-King County Public Health (Seattle) each contributed data from two studies, yielding a total of ten studies conducted at seven sites across the country. Information for these 10 studies was gleaned from study protocols, interviews, data collection forms and published articles (Eggleston et al., 2005b, Takaro et al., 2004, Krieger et al., 2005). Eight of the studies were randomized clinical trials (RCTs); two were non-randomized studies, and one was a birth cohort study. The goal of the study is to identify valid low-cost methods to identify homes that contain environmental hazards that can exacerbate asthma symptoms.

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Product Outcomes/Outputs:

The goal of the study is to identify valid low-cost methods to identify homes that contain environmental hazards that can exacerbate asthma symptoms.