



## Topic Brief: Life-span Measurement of Spirometry in Children with Asthma

**Date:** 2/12/2020

**Nomination Number:** 0882

**Purpose:** This document summarizes the information addressing a nomination submitted on 5/6/2019 through the Effective Health Care Website. This information was used to inform the Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC) Program decisions about whether to produce an evidence report on the topic, and if so, what type of evidence report would be most suitable.

**Issue:** Asthma is a prevalent chronic condition in children and adults that develops in the setting of various intrinsic and environmental factors. It is treated with a patient tailored action plan that includes trigger avoidance and medication for both symptom control and rescue. A number of cohort studies have found that childhood asthma is a risk factor for abnormal lung growth and function resulting in a proportion of asthmatics developing chronic obstructive lung disease (COPD) in adulthood. This nomination suggests that life cycle spirometry may identify persons with childhood asthma who are at risk for airway remodeling that may lead to COPD and may be amenable to interventions to reduce progression. Current guidelines do not recommend life-span spirometry monitoring for adverse respiratory complications in adulthood.

### Program Decision:

Although the nomination met all selection criteria it was not selected for further development as a systematic review due to the small and heterogeneous evidence base and the large number of unpublished studies registered in clinicalTrials.gov.

### Key Findings

- We found two systematic reviews relevant to the nomination, but these address only one intervention.
- We identified a small evidence base for the proposed systematic review. Eighteen studies on the use of longitudinal spirometry in children with asthma were identified. Fourteen published studies and 50 studies registered in ClinicalTrials.gov on a variety of interventions to decrease adverse respiratory outcomes were identified.

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### Background

In 2017 the prevalence of asthma in children less than 18 years old was 8.4% or approximately 6.2 million children compared to 7.7% or approximately 19 million in adults 18 years and older. There has been recent recognition that a subset of patients with childhood asthma develop a non-reversible component due to inflammation induced structural changes.<sup>1</sup> Normal lung function

follows a predictable three phase trajectory starting with growth (from birth to early adulthood), followed by a plateau (several years) and ending with decline due to physiological lung ageing.<sup>2</sup>

Childhood asthma has been associated with low lung function in early adulthood<sup>3</sup> and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) due to remodeling of the airways.<sup>4</sup> The NHLBI Childhood Asthma Management Program study found that in children with mild to moderate asthma about 11% went on to have lung function in early adulthood that was equivalent to advanced physiologic stages of COPD.<sup>5</sup> A number of potential prevention and treatment strategies to prevent remodeling have been proposed to include medications (e.g. corticosteroids, biologics), immunotherapy and other behavioral interventions (e.g. smoking cessation) but further research is needed to identify effective interventions.<sup>6, 7 8 9 10 11</sup>

While spirometry is accurate for assessing lung function and guiding treatment in the short-term, longitudinal spirometry from childhood into adulthood to predict the development of outcomes in adulthood, including COPD development has not been established as a standard approach to identify patients with airway remodeling and at risk for COPD. Longitudinal life span monitoring of spirometry in children with asthma could identify patterns of disease in adulthood including a proportion of children who develop an asthma- COPD overlap condition.<sup>12</sup> Lang et. al defined asthma-COPD overlap as current self-reported asthma and a postbronchodilatory forced expiratory volume in 1 s (FEV1) to forced vital capacity ratio of less than 0.7, without any restrictions regarding smoking.<sup>13</sup>

A systematic review of the literature could assess the predictive value of life-span spirometry monitoring on development of adverse respiratory complications in adulthood, summarize what is known about interventions to prevent COPD and other adult-onset complications, identify research gaps, and suggest future research.

## **Nomination Summary**

The nomination was submitted by the Director of Pediatric Research, the Breathing Institute, Children's Hospital, in Aurora, Colorado. The key questions and PICOTS were developed with his input. The nomination scope was expanded to include a review of the evidence on effective interventions to decrease adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood including asthma-COPD overlap. If the EPC Program decided to move forward with this nomination CHEST agreed to partner on this topic to develop a practice guideline.

## **Scope**

1. Is periodic, longitudinal life-span, spirometry in children with asthma predictive of adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood including asthma-COPD overlap?
  - a. Does the predictive value vary by stage of asthma, initial measurement of pulmonary function, patient demographics, urban versus rural living, environmental exposures (indoor and outdoor), active or passive smoking, vaping, allergies plus exposure, and history of infections?
2. What is the effectiveness of medications (e.g. corticosteroids, biologics), immunotherapy and other behavioral interventions (e.g. smoking cessation), in decreasing adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood including asthma-COPD overlap?
  - a. Do the interventions effectiveness vary by stage of asthma, initial measurement of pulmonary function, patient demographics, urban versus rural living, environmental exposures (indoor and outdoor), active or passive smoking, vaping, allergies plus exposure, and history of infections?

Contextual Question:

1. What are implementation barriers to periodic spirometry that are especially prominent in primary care (e.g., the cost of a spirometry device, the time needed to perform spirometry and build it into patient/clinic flow, reimbursement policies, clinician education regarding interpretation, and staff who are trained/proficient at performing spirometry)?

**Table 1.** Questions and PICOTS (population, intervention, comparator, outcome, timing and setting)

<b>Questions</b>	1. Is life-span spirometry in children with asthma predictive of adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood?	2. What is the effectiveness of medications, immunotherapy, and behavioral interventions in decreasing adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood?
<b>Population</b>	Children with asthma 0-18 years old	Patients diagnosed with asthma
<b>Interventions</b>	Longitudinal Spirometry into adulthood	Inhaled corticosteroids Leukotriene antagonists Immunotherapy Behavioral therapy
<b>Comparators</b>	Usual care or baseline lung function	Other therapies Usual care Placebo
<b>Outcomes</b>	Respiratory outcomes in adulthood including asthma progression, COPD equivalency, reduced pulmonary function, irreversible respiratory obstruction, ED visits, hospitalizations, mortality, QoL	Respiratory outcomes in adulthood including asthma exacerbations and progression, asthma-COPD overlap, reduced pulmonary function, irreversible respiratory obstruction, ED visits, hospitalizations, mortality, QoL
<b>Timing</b>	Minimum length of follow up of 5 years	Minimum length of follow up of 1 years
<b>Setting</b>	Ambulatory, primary and specialty care	Ambulatory, primary and specialty care

Abbreviations: COPD=chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; ED=emergency department; QoL=quality of life

### Assessment Methods

See Appendix A.

### Summary of Literature Findings

- We found no relevant systematic reviews in our search for KQ#1 and one published<sup>14</sup> and one pre-published<sup>15</sup> systematic reviews partially relevant for KQ#2.
- For key question #1 we found no trials and 17 cohort studies of children with asthma followed longitudinally with spirometry into adulthood.<sup>4, 12, 16-30</sup> The search of ClinicalTrials.gov found 3 (1 recruiting and 2 active, not recruiting) observational, longitudinal studies of children with asthma and two specifically followed with spirometry.<sup>31-33</sup>
- For key question #2 we found one trial, 4 cohort, 8 quasi-experimental and one cross-sectional studies for a variety of interventions, including 7 on Omalizumab, a recombinant DNA-derived humanized IgG1k monoclonal antibody. The search of ClinicalTrials.gov identified 36 randomized clinical trials, 7 observational and 7 other study designs, 9 active, not recruiting, 26 recruiting and 15 completed.<sup>34-83</sup> The interventions included 32 behavioral, 10 biologics, 3 immunotherapy and 5 other medications.

**Table 2.** Literature identified for each Question

Question	Systematic reviews (12/2016-12/2019)	Primary studies (1/2016-12/2019)
Question 1: Is life-span spirometry in children with asthma predictive of adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood?	Total: 0 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cochrane: 0</li> <li>• AHRQ: 0</li> <li>• VA: 0</li> <li>• PROSPERO: 0</li> <li>• Other: 0</li> </ul>	Total: 18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCT: 0</li> <li>• Cohort: 18<sup>6, 9-24, 84</sup></li> </ul> Clinicaltrials.gov 3 <sup>31-33</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruiting: 1</li> <li>• Active, not yet recruiting: 2</li> </ul>
Question 2: What is the effectiveness of medications, immunotherapy, and behavioral interventions in decreasing adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood?	Total: 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cochrane: 0</li> <li>• AHRQ: 0</li> <li>• VA: 0</li> <li>• PROSPERO: 1<sup>15</sup></li> <li>• Other: 1<sup>14</sup></li> </ul>	Total: 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCT: 1<sup>85</sup></li> <li>• Cohort: 4<sup>86-89</sup></li> <li>• Quasi-experimental: 8<sup>90-97</sup></li> <li>• Cross-sectional: 1<sup>98</sup></li> </ul> Clinicaltrials.gov: 50 <sup>34-83</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed: 15</li> <li>• Recruiting: 26</li> <li>• Active, not yet recruiting: 9</li> </ul>

See Appendix B for detailed assessments of all EPC selection criteria.

### Summary of Selection Criteria Assessment

This nomination meets all selection criteria. For key question one we found no systematic reviews and estimate 18 primary studies about longitudinal life-span, spirometry in children with asthma. For key question two we found 2 systematic reviews that are partially duplicative for primarily monoclonal antibody medication interventions. A systematic review of the evidence base would address the effectiveness of longitudinal monitoring for predicting and interventions to reduce the risk of adverse respiratory outcomes in adulthood, and identify research gaps. An evidence review would be highly impactful and valuable with a partner planning to develop guidance to address known practice variation.

Please see Appendix B for detailed assessments of individual EPC Program selection criteria.

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## **Appendix A: Methods**

We assessed nomination for priority for a systematic review or other AHRQ Effective Health Care report with a hierarchical process using established selection criteria. Assessment of each criteria determined the need to evaluate the next one. See Appendix B for detailed description of the criteria.

### **Appropriateness and Importance**

We assessed the nomination for appropriateness and importance.

### **Desirability of New Review/Absence of Duplication**

We searched for high-quality, completed or in-process evidence reviews published in the last three years 1/01/2016 to 12/13/2019 on the questions of the nomination from these sources:

- AHRQ: Evidence reports and technology assessments
  - AHRQ Evidence Reports <https://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/evidence-based-reports/index.html>
  - EHC Program <https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/>
- US Department of Veterans Affairs Products publications
  - Evidence Synthesis Program <https://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/publications/esp/>
  - VA/Department of Defense Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline Program <https://www.healthquality.va.gov/>
- Cochrane Systematic Reviews <https://www.cochranelibrary.com/>
- PROSPERO Database (international prospective register of systematic reviews and protocols) <http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/>
- PubMed <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>
- Health System Evidence <https://www.healthsystemevidence.org/>
- PDQ Evidence <https://www.pdq-evidence.org/>

### **Impact of a New Evidence Review**

The impact of a new evidence review was qualitatively assessed by analyzing the current standard of care, the existence of potential knowledge gaps, and practice variation. We considered whether it was possible for this review to influence the current state of practice through various dissemination pathways (practice recommendation, clinical guidelines, etc.).

### **Feasibility of New Evidence Review**

We conducted a limited literature search in Ovid MEDLINE for the last four years from 01/01/2016 to 12/13/2019. We reviewed all studies identified titles and abstracts for inclusion. We classified identified studies by question and study design to estimate the size and scope of a potential evidence review.

### **Search strategy**

#### **Key Question #1**

#### **Ovid MEDLINE(R) ALL 1946 to December 13, 2019**

Date searched: December 16, 2019

Librarian conducting search: Robin Paynter, MLIS

1 Asthma/ (122750)

2 asthma\*.ti,ab,kf. (155048)

3 or/1-2 (173684)

4 respiratory function tests/ or spirometry/ or bronchosprometry/ (63507)

5 (spirometr\* or bronchospirimetr\* or ((airflow or airway or lung or pulmonary or respirat\*) adj2 (function or test\*))).ti,ab,kf. (93553)  
6 or/4-5 (124952)  
7 Longitudinal Studies/ or Follow-up Studies/ or Prospective Studies/ or (cohort or follow-up or longitudinal or prospective or prospectively).ti,ab. (2362444)  
8 (COPD or (chronic adj2 (airway or obstruct\* or pulmon\* or respirat\*)) or follow-up or (life adj (long or span or time)) or lifelong or lifespan or lifetime or "long term" or longitudinal\* or periodic\* or prospective or predict\* or "time series").ti,ab,kf. (3661444)  
9 or/7-8 (4299541)  
10 (adolescent/ or child/ or child, preschool/) and (adult/ or middle aged/ or young adult/) (1545231)  
11 (((adolescen\* or child\* or juvenile or pediater\* or preschool or pre-school or school-age or teen\* or youth\*) adj5 (adult\* or middle-aged)) or decade).ti,ab,kf. (273558)  
12 or/10-11 (1738890)  
13 and/3,6,9,12 (1993)  
14 limit 13 to yr="2016 -Current" (292)  
15 ((evidence or systematic) adj3 (review or synthesis)).ti,ab. or review.ti. or (review or systematic review).pt. (2786804)  
16 and/14-15 (61)  
17 and/3,6-8,12 (759)  
18 limit 17 to yr="2016 -Current" (194)  
19 18 not (comment or editorial or letter).pt. (191)

### **ClinicalTrials.gov**

Date searched: December 30, 2019

33 studies found for: ( ( adolescent OR child OR childhood OR children OR juvenile OR pediatric OR paediatric OR preschool OR pre-school OR school-age OR teenage OR youth ) AND ( adult OR adulthood OR middle-aged OR geriatric ) OR decade OR decades ) AND ( spirometry OR bronchospirometry OR function OR test ) AND AREA[ConditionSearch] ( asthma AND ( COPD OR chronic airway OR chronic obstructive OR chronic pulmonary OR chronic respiratory OR follow-up OR life long OR life span OR life time lifelong OR lifespan OR lifetime OR long term OR longitudinal OR periodic OR predictive OR prospective OR retrospective OR time series ) ) AND AREA[StudyFirstPostDate] EXPAND[Term] RANGE[01/01/2014, 12/30/2019]

## Key Question #2

MEDLINE ALL (Ovid) searched on January 21, 2020

Concept	
1 asthma/ or asthma, aspirin-induced/ or asthma, exercise-induced/ or asthma, occupational/ or status asthmaticus/ (125694)	Lines 1-3 Asthma
2 asthma*.ti,kf. (99665)	
3 or/1-2 (137746)	
4 exp Anti-Asthmatic Agents/ or exp Bronchodilator Agents/ or exp Adrenal Cortex Hormones/ or exp Leukotriene Antagonists/ or exp Biological Products/ or exp Immunotherapy/ or exp Behavior Therapy/ or Smoking Cessation/ or Tobacco Smoke Pollution/ (1464377)	Lines 4-6 Pharm Non-pharm interventions
5 (((antiasthma* or anti-asthma* or bronchodilat* or broncho-dilat* or bronchial-dilat*) adj2 (agent or agents or drug or drugs or pharma*)) or leukotriene* or biologic* or immunotherap* or immuno-therap* or (behavio?r* adj2 therap*) or smoking or smoke).ti,ab,kf. (1196458)	
6 or/4-5 (2510448)	
7 Disease Progression/ or Clinical Deterioration/ or Pulmonary Disease, Chronic Obstructive/ or Respiratory Insufficiency/ or Emergency Service, Hospital/ or Hospitalization/ or Mortality/ or "Cause of Death"/ or Mortality, Premature/ or "Quality of Life"/ (640893)	Lines 7-9 Outcomes
8 (((asthma* or disease) adj2 progress*) or "chronic obstructive" or COPD or (respiratory adj1 insufficien*) or (emergency adj1 (department* or room*)) or hospital* or mortality or QoL or "quality of life").ti,ab,kf. (2229175)	
9 or/7-8 (2485495)	
10 and/3,6,9 (10292)	
11 10 and (((("5" or "6" or "7" or "8" or "9" or "10" or five or fifth or six or sixth or seven or seventh or eight or eighth or nine or ninth or ten or tenth or year or years) adj5 year*) or followup or follow-up or decade* or lifecourse or lifespan or lifetime or long-term or longitud*).ti. (506)	Line 11 follow-up time period
12 11 not ((exp Animals/ not Humans/) or (animal model* or cat or cats or dog or dogs or mice or mouse or rat or rats).ti.) (506)	Line 12 <b>Human Limit</b>
13 limit 12 to english language (459)	Line 13 <b>English Limit</b>
14 (controlled clinical trial or randomized controlled trial).pt. (587658)	Lines 14-15 <b>RCT CCT Limit</b>
15 trial.ti. or ((control adj2 group*) or controlled or random* or trial).ab. (2056222)	
16 or/14-15 (2208511)	
17 13 and 16 (184)	
18 limit 17 to yr="2015 -Current" (45)	Line 18 Date limit 5 YR
19 (meta-analysis or systematic review).pt. (180810)	Lines 19-20 <b>SR, MA Limit</b>
20 (meta-analy* or metaanaly* or ((evidence or systematic) adj3 (review or synthesis))).ti,ab,kf. (285769)	
21 or/19-20 (307530)	
22 13 and 21 (16)	
23 limit 22 to yr="2017 -Current" (3)	Line 23 Date Limit=3 YR
24 Follow-Up Studies/ or Longitudinal Studies/ or Prospective Studies/ or Retrospective Studies/ (1816852)	Lines 24-25 <b>Follow-up Longitudinal Prospective Retrospective Limit</b>
25 (followup or follow-up or longitudinal* or prospectiv* or retrospectiv*).ti,ab,kf. (2173189)	
26 or/24-25 (2804025)	
27 13 and 26 (286)	
28 limit 27 to yr="2015 -Current" (83)	Line 28 Date Limit=5 YR
29 or/18,23,28 (104)	Lines 30-32 <b>OTHER Limit</b>
30 13 not 29 (355)	Line 33 Date Limit=5 YR
31 (comment or editorial or letter).pt. (1802747)	
32 30 not 31 (352)	
33 limit 32 to yr="2015 -Current" (24)	
Systematic Review, Meta-analysis (last 3 years)	N=3 (see results below)
RCT,CCT	N=45 (see results below)
Follow-up, Longitudinal, Prospective, Retrospective	N=83 (see EndNote Library)

Concept	
Other	N=352 (See EndNote Library)
ClinicalTrials.gov N=167	
<a href="https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=Asthma&amp;term=progression+OR+COPD+OR+chronic+obstructive+OR+r&lt;br/&gt;         espiratory+insufficiency+OR+emergency+department+OR+hospitalization+OR+mortality+OR+quality+of+life&amp;ty&lt;br/&gt;         pe=&amp;rslt=&amp;recrs=a&amp;recrs=f&amp;recrs=d&amp;recrs=g&amp;recrs=h&amp;recrs=e&amp;age_v=&amp;gndr=&amp;intr=corticosteroid+OR+leukotri&lt;br/&gt;         ene+OR+biologic+OR+immunotherapy+OR+immuno-&lt;br/&gt;         therapy+OR+behavioral+OR+smoking+OR+smoke&amp;titles=&amp;outc=&amp;spons=&amp;lead=&amp;id=&amp;cntry=&amp;state=&amp;city=&amp;dist&lt;br/&gt;         =&amp;locn=&amp;strd_s=&amp;strd_e=&amp;prcd_s=&amp;prcd_e=&amp;sfpd_s=01%2F01%2F2015&amp;sfpd_e=01%2F21%2F2020&amp;lupd_s=&lt;br/&gt;         &amp;lupd_e=&amp;sort=">https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=Asthma&amp;term=progression+OR+COPD+OR+chronic+obstructive+OR+r          espiratory+insufficiency+OR+emergency+department+OR+hospitalization+OR+mortality+OR+quality+of+life&amp;ty          pe=&amp;rslt=&amp;recrs=a&amp;recrs=f&amp;recrs=d&amp;recrs=g&amp;recrs=h&amp;recrs=e&amp;age_v=&amp;gndr=&amp;intr=corticosteroid+OR+leukotri          ene+OR+biologic+OR+immunotherapy+OR+immuno-          therapy+OR+behavioral+OR+smoking+OR+smoke&amp;titles=&amp;outc=&amp;spons=&amp;lead=&amp;id=&amp;cntry=&amp;state=&amp;city=&amp;dist          =&amp;locn=&amp;strd_s=&amp;strd_e=&amp;prcd_s=&amp;prcd_e=&amp;sfpd_s=01%2F01%2F2015&amp;sfpd_e=01%2F21%2F2020&amp;lupd_s=          &amp;lupd_e=&amp;sort=</a>	

**Value**

We assessed the nomination for value. We considered whether or not the clinical, consumer, or policymaking context had the potential to respond with evidence-based change; and if a partner organization would use this evidence review to influence practice.

## Appendix B. Selection Criteria Assessment

Selection Criteria	Assessment
<b>1. Appropriateness</b>	
1a. Does the nomination represent a health care drug, intervention, device, technology, or health care system/setting available (or soon to be available) in the U.S.?	Yes, spirometry is widely available in the U.S.
1b. Is the nomination a request for an evidence report?	Yes.
1c. Is the focus on effectiveness or comparative effectiveness?	Yes, on effectiveness.
1d. Is the nomination focus supported by a logic model or biologic plausibility? Is it consistent or coherent with what is known about the topic?	Yes, it is biologically plausible that childhood asthma is associated with COPD in adulthood. The use of longitudinal spirometry to predict progression to COPD in children with asthma is reasonable to consider.
<b>2. Importance</b>	
2a. Represents a significant disease burden; large proportion of the population	Asthma is prevalent in children and approximately 11% with mild to moderate asthma develop lung function in early adulthood equivalent to advanced COPD.
2b. Is of high public interest; affects health care decision making, outcomes, or costs for a large proportion of the US population or for a vulnerable population	Yes, both asthma and COPD are associated with significant morbidity, mortality, and disability.
2c. Incorporates issues around both clinical benefits and potential clinical harms	No, the nomination focuses on benefits of longitudinal spirometry in asthmatics in childhood. Harms were not mentioned.
2d. Represents high costs due to common use, high unit costs, or high associated costs to consumers, to patients, to health care systems, or to payers	Yes, asthma and COPD are associated with high direct (emergency care and hospitalization) and indirect (school and work absenteeism and disability) costs.
<b>3. Desirability of a New Evidence Review/Absence of Duplication</b>	
3. A recent high-quality systematic review or other evidence review is not available on this topic	While we found two reviews relevant to key question 2 they focused only on monoclonal antibodies. We found no systematic reviews addressing key question 1. .
<b>4. Impact of a New Evidence Review</b>	
4a. Is the standard of care unclear (guidelines not available or guidelines inconsistent, indicating an information gap that may be addressed by a new evidence review)?	Yes, guidelines recommend periodic spirometry in children with asthma to guide therapy in the short-term but not longitudinal lifespan spirometry to guide therapy aimed at preventing adult-onset outcomes, such as development of COPD.
4b. Is there practice variation (guideline inconsistent with current practice, indicating a potential implementation gap and not best addressed by a new evidence review)?	Yes, longitudinal lifespan spirometry of children with asthma is not standard of care.

Selection Criteria	Assessment
5. Primary Research	
5. Effectively utilizes existing research and knowledge by considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adequacy (type and volume) of research for conducting a systematic review</li> <li>- Newly available evidence (particularly for updates or new technologies)</li> </ul>	Size/scope of review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total of studies:</li> <li>• 18 cohort studies across KQ #1</li> <li>• 14 studies across KQ #2;</li> <li>• Estimate of systematic review size: small</li> </ul> <i>ClinicalTrials.gov.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KQ#1: 3 studies from 01/01/2014 to 12/30/2019 with 1 recruiting, 2 active not recruiting</li> <li>• KQ#2: 50 studies from 01/01/2015 to 01/21/2020 with 26 recruiting, 9 active not recruiting and 15 completed.</li> </ul>
6. Value	
6a. The proposed topic exists within a clinical, consumer, or policy-making context that is amenable to evidence-based change	There are well-known U.S. and international groups developing guidelines on asthma management that are potentially influential. In addition federal agencies, such as the CDC, are interested in improving asthma care and improving outcomes to include COPD.
6b. Identified partner who will use the systematic review to influence practice (such as a guideline or recommendation)	Yes, a partner (CHEST) has committed to using this proposed review to develop a practice guideline on the topic to promote practice change.

*Abbreviations:* AHRQ=Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; CDC=Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; COPD=Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease; KQ=key question; NHLBI=National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, NAEPP=National Asthma Education and Prevention Program;