



A Formative Evaluation Assessing Asthma Services and Programming in Hawai'i Using the EXHALE Framework

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Evaluation Purpose

The evaluation aimed to understand what types of asthma self-management education (AS-ME) programs and asthma services are available in Hawai'i. By gathering resources from a sample of organizations, the Department of Health's (DOH) Hawai'i State Asthma Control Program (HSACP) seeks to build and strengthen partnerships to better coordinate care for people with asthma.

What is EXHALE?

Six strategies developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Asthma Control Program improve asthma control and help improve the quality of life for all people with asthma while reducing healthcare costs. These strategies are intended to be used together for maximum effectiveness.

Interviews Conducted

- The Healthy Hawai'i Evaluation Team (HHET) conducted 16 interviews with a sample of asthma care champions from January 2024 to February 2024
- Participants were asked about AS-ME and the resources their organization provides to asthma patients, their caregivers, and their providers.

Asthma Care Champions Interviewed:

- Nonprofits
- Health Plans
- Healthcare (hospital systems, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs))
- Academia (higher education and K-12 programs)

Key Findings

- All organizations, regardless of the type, understood the importance of asthma care and reducing the burden of asthma.
- Some services and resources, once available before the COVID-19 pandemic, are no longer offered.
- The organizations actively providing AS-ME and asthma services often work with a variety of providers to address the patient's needs.
- There are opportunities to improve Hawai'i's asthma care system, including establishing a formal asthma program within organizations and disseminating resources tailored to Hawai'i's communities.

EXHALE

	E ducation on Asthma Self-Management
	X -tinguishing smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke
	H ome visits for trigger reduction and AS-ME
	A chievement of guidelines-based medical management
	L inkages and coordination of care across settings
	E nvironmental policies or best practices to reduce asthma triggers from indoor, outdoor, or occupational sources

Conclusion

Interview participants shared a variety of resources that they offer for asthma prevention and control. HHET summarized those resources by organization type and presented them using the EXHALE strategy. The information can be found in this [evaluation brief](#). Participants suggested opportunities for improvement based on HHET's recommendations from the EXHALE Technical Package provided by the CDC.