



USAsthma

SUMMIT 2023

Giving a Voice to Asthma Disparities through Education and Awareness: Summit Introduction



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- Board certified in pediatrics and allergy/immunology
- Member of ACAAI
- Fellow of the National Medical Association (NMA)
- Past chair, Immunology section, NMA
- Podcaster – the Dynamic Doc
- Top Physician Under 40 - NMA



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Why are we here?

Nancy Joseph, DO, FAAAAI

Allergist/Immunologist based in MA

Consultant and Medical Advisor for
Allergy & Asthma Network

Immediate Past Chair, NMA Allergy, Asthma,
and Immunology Section



Asthma disparities and Summit objectives

- ▶ Increase awareness and give a voice to asthma disparities
- ▶ Share best practices
- ▶ Discuss the importance of asthma education
- ▶ Discuss importance of access to care

National Medical Association

- ▶ Collective voice for physicians of African descent
- ▶ Represents over 50k physicians of African descent and their patients
- ▶ We combat health disparities
- ▶ Promote improved health of and be a voice for underserved populations

Why is health equity important

- Health disparity = lack of health equity
 - Affects every aspect of society
 - Affects social determinants of health
 - “nonmedical factors that influence health outcomes” CDC

Why asthma?

- ▶ Large disease burden
- ▶ 26 million Americans lives with asthma
- ▶ #1 cause of missed school days
- ▶ Asthma and health equity
 - ▶ Affects African Americans more, esp. underserved areas. Prevalence is increasing
 - ▶ Asthma prevalence is indirectly proportional to income
 - ▶ As income ↓ asthma prevalence ↑

Asthma in African Americans

- ▶ 30% more likely to have asthma
- ▶ 3x more likely to have an ED visit associated with asthma
- ▶ 3x more likely to succumb to a death due to asthma
- ▶ The kids
 - ▶ 7x more likely to have an asthma death than their non-Hispanic white counterparts



Back to Health equity

Asthma stats alone demonstrate the need for
equity

Esp. in children - the children are our future

Representation and prioritizing good health outcomes

- ▶ Representation matters
 - ▶ Physicians looking like the community they serve
 - ▶ Less than 5% of allergists in the US are black
 - ▶ JAMA - the presence of a black physician in a particular country improves many aspects of a community's health
 - ▶ Adherence to treatment
 - ▶ More likely to get preventative care
 - ▶ Decreased mortality of the black patients

What can be done

- ▶ Increase awareness and education of asthma and allergic disease and their impact
 - ▶ Partnerships - AAN, NMA, EPA
 - ▶ Patient education - i.e. Trusted Messengers program
- ▶ Increase awareness of health disparities (esp. in asthma) and be a voice for health equity (National Medical Association, AAN, etc)
- ▶ Legislation (Allergy and Asthma Day on Capitol Hill)
 - ▶ Helps allergy practitioners better help patients and their community
- ▶ Gathering of the alike minds
 - ▶ Asthma Summit
 - ▶ National AAI conferences

Our Journey Today



- ▶ Facts/stats
- ▶ Asthma programs
- ▶ Patient education tools and programs
- ▶ Stories
- ▶ Asthma care and guideline updates
- ▶ Asthma for the culture
- ▶ The Environment and all its factors

Let's get this Summit
Started!

