

Excellence in Asthma for Children and Young People. Quality Improvement Programme for improving asthma care.



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Background :

Asthma affects 1 in 11 children, requiring long term treatment and support from a range of healthcare professionals, predominately in Primary Care. Asthma outcomes for children in the UK are particularly poor for those most disadvantaged experiencing the worst outcomes. The NHS England National Bundle of Care for Children and Young People (CYP) with Asthma (2021) is a key driver to improve outcomes for CYP with asthma.

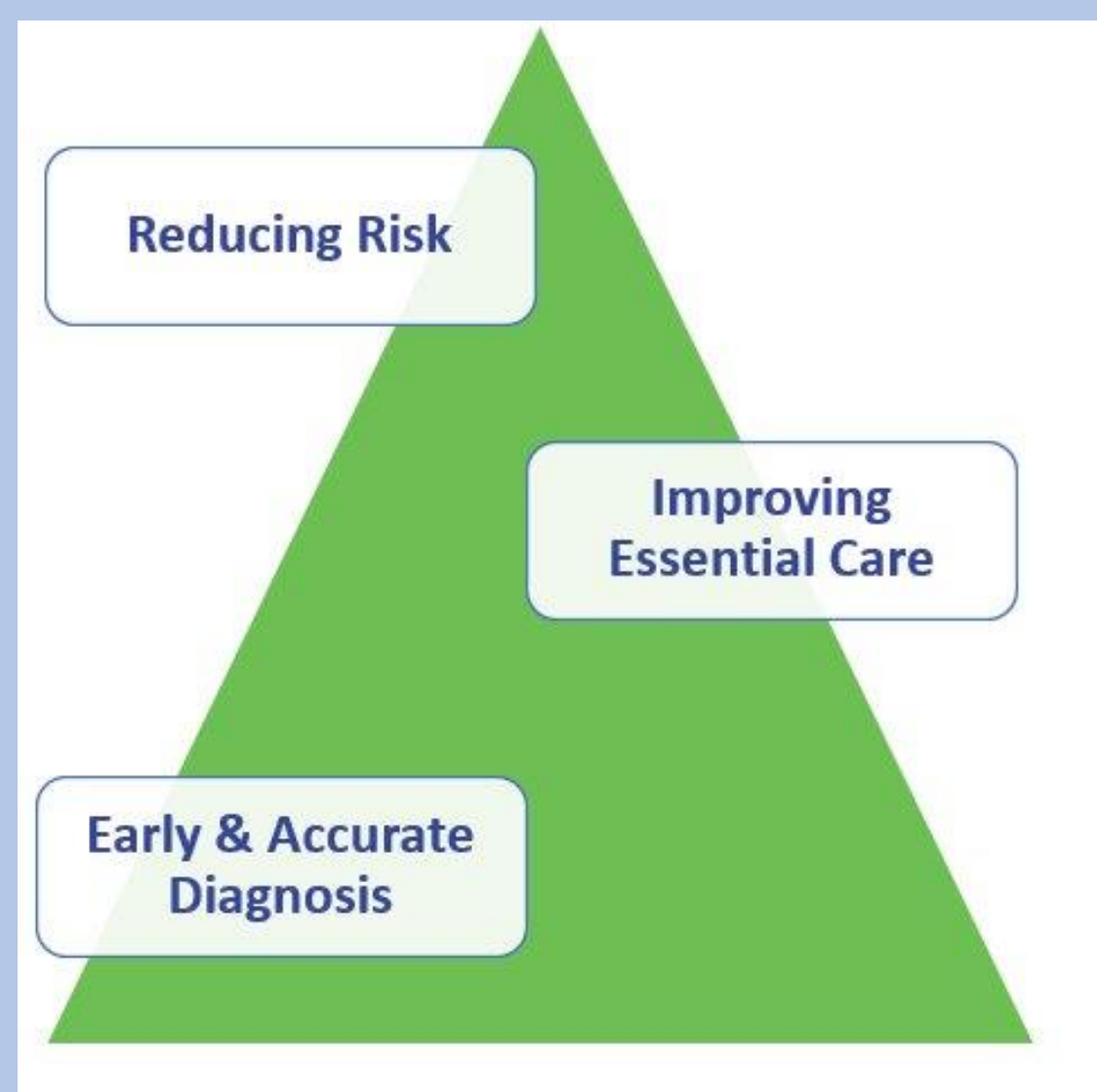
The problem :

The Black Country is one of the most deprived areas in the country; 52% fall within the CORE20 population and one third of these are children. With high rates of admission to hospital and urgent care, use of a local strategy for improvement to implement the national bundles of care is required.

Strategy for change :

Excellence in Asthma is a targeted QIP with 3 core elements:

- Early & accurate diagnosis
- Essential care
- Risk reduction



A total of 38 practices were invited to take part in Cohort one, with 20 practices across 30 sites accepting. Practices were identified due to their high asthma related hospital admissions, salbutamol overuse and Core20Plus5 data.

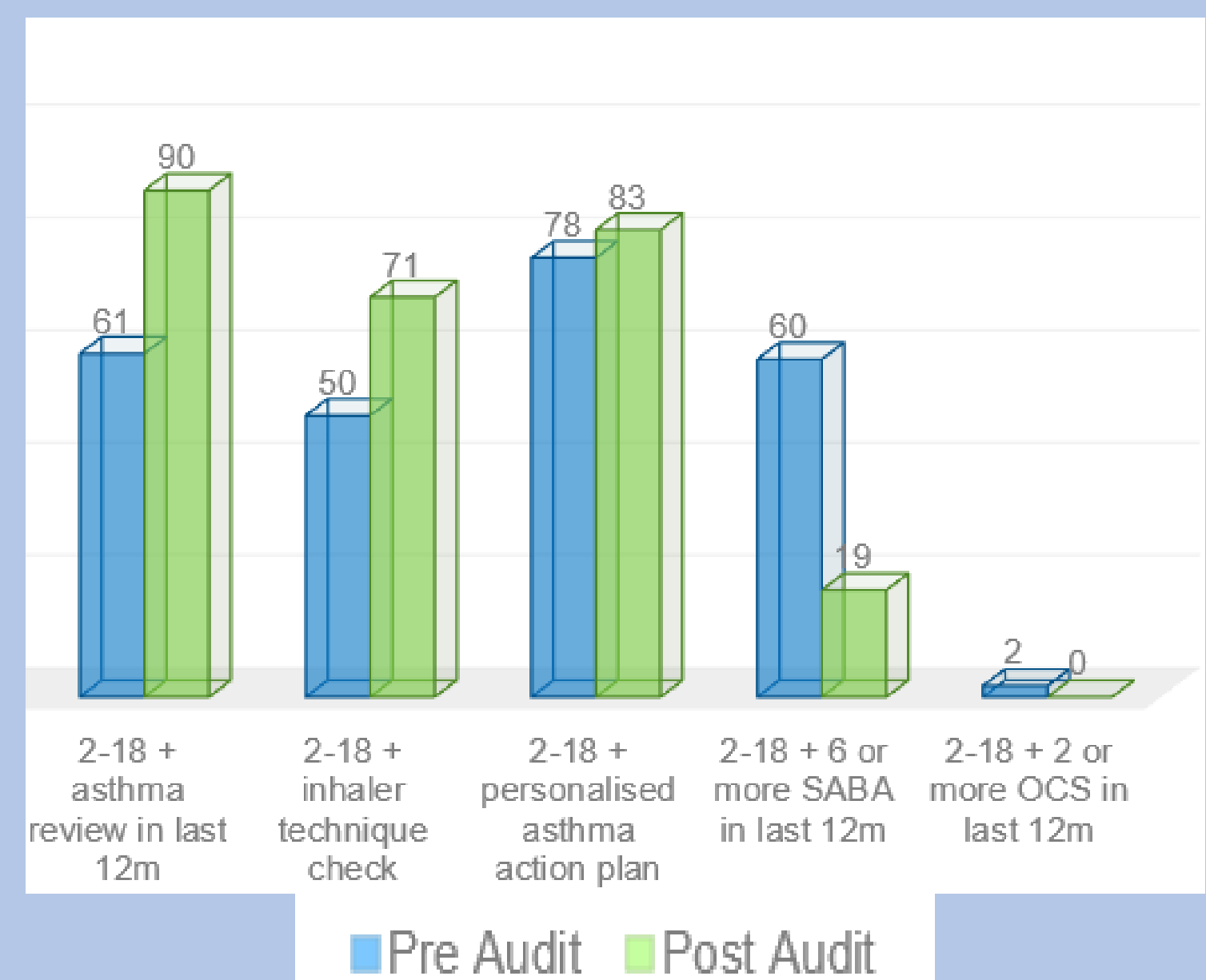
Practices were required to identify a GP Lead, a Healthcare Professional Lead and an Admin Lead within the team.

References

National Health Service England (NHSE) 2022 Core20Plus5 for Children and Young People
NHS England (2021) National Bundle of Care for Children and Young People (CYP) with Asthma.

Practices were offered

- Tailored training sessions.
- Support to practice staff (clinical and non-clinical) to complete Tier 1-3 CYP Asthma Training
- Access to a suite of templates embedded within EMIS/System One
- Provide information and guidance on objective testing
- Provide clear guidance around formulating a high-risk register.
- Regular contact from a CYP Specialist Asthma Nurse via email, MS Teams, and telephone.



Improvement measure :

Practices were asked to submit data and the start and the end of the QIP to assess their current performance and measures improvements made.

Over the six-month programme Practice A saw an increase in the number of children who had received an asthma review, inhaler technique checks and a personalised asthma action plan.

Next steps :

Cohort two will commence in June 2024 with fifty-five practices across the Black Country and will follow a more structured approach with a dedicated webinar on each of the core elements. Optional weekly virtual drop-in sessions will be held to support clinicians with the QIP with any issues or challenges.

