New York Hospital Queens Pediatric Asthma Van

Did you know that asthma is the most common chronic condition among children. Nearly 500,000 children in New York State have asthma. Right here at Riis Settlement, New York Hospital Queens is providing treatment for children with asthma via a pediatric asthma van.

A pulmonologist, pediatrician, respiratory therapist and social worker, from the Pediatric Asthma Center at NYHQ, staff the van.

Bringing treatment directly to children via this mobile service will help patients and their families overcome barriers to care (such as cost, finding a regular source of care and securing appointments) and help to prevent and manage the disease.

We anticipate that children who receive medical care and health education through this program will experience fewer emergency room visits, hospitalizations and missed school days.

The program is funded by a grant from TransCanada through the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

What is Asthma?

Asthma is a lung disease that makes breathing difficult. It is a serious disease, and can even be life threatening. While there is no cure, asthma can be managed with the help of a health care team.

What are the symptoms of asthma?

Symptoms of asthma can include:

- Shortness of breath
- Chest tightness or pain
- Coughing, especially at night
- Wheezing or a whistling sound when exhaling

What triggers asthma?

Asthma can be triggered by environmental and emotional factors such as pollen, mold, dust mites, cockroaches, air pollutants (such as smoke), cold air, respiratory infections and stress.

How can a child receive care via the asthma van?

The van is parked at the Riis Settlement every Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Appointments are preferred — call 718-670-1920.

The Riis Settlement is located at 10-25 41st Avenue, Long Island City, N.Y.

Please note: If a child is experiencing a medical emergency, call 9-1-1 and go to the closest emergency room.