**ED Asthma Pathway**

2-17yo child with asthma exacerbation

**Exclusions:** Chronic lung disease, cystic fibrosis, heart disease, tracheomalacia, tracheostomy, sickle cell anemia, neuromuscular disease, immune disorders

Supplemental oxygen for SpO2<90%; Obtain respiratory score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RR</th>
<th>0 POINTS</th>
<th>1 POINT</th>
<th>2 POINTS</th>
<th>3 POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-3 yr</td>
<td>≤34</td>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>≥40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-5 yr</td>
<td>≤30</td>
<td>31-35</td>
<td>≥36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-12 yr</td>
<td>≤26</td>
<td>27-30</td>
<td>≥31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;12 yr</td>
<td>≤23</td>
<td>24-27</td>
<td>≥28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retractions</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>Subcostal or intercostal</th>
<th>2 of the following: subcostal, intercostal, substernal</th>
<th>3 of the following: intercostal, substernal, suprasternal, supraclavicular, OR nasal flaring/head bobbing/grunting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dyspnea: 2-4 yr</th>
<th>Normal feeding, vocalizations, &amp; play</th>
<th>1 of the following: difficulty feeding, decreased vocalization, or agitated</th>
<th>2 of the following: difficulty feeding, decreased vocalization, or agitated</th>
<th>Stops feeding, no vocalization; drowsy/confused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 4 yr</td>
<td>Counts for ≥10 in 1 breath</td>
<td>Counts to 7-8 in one breath</td>
<td>Counts to 4-6 in one breath</td>
<td>Count to ≤3 in one breath</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Auscultation</th>
<th>Normal breathing, no wheezing</th>
<th>End-expiratory wheeze</th>
<th>Expiratory wheeze only</th>
<th>Inspiratory or expiratory wheeze OR diminished breath sounds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**MILD (1-4)**

**Initial:** - Albuterol MDI/spacer 4-8 puffs  
- Consider dexamethasone 0.6mg/kg (max 16mg) OR prednisone 2mg/kg (max 60mg)

**Assess and score at end of 1st hour:**  
If score 1-4: DISCHARGE.  
If score worsens and is 5-8: Albuterol MDI/spacer 4-8 puffs, observe an additional 1 hour.

**Assess and score at end of 2nd hour:**  
If score 1-4: DISCHARGE.  
If score worsens and is 5-8: Albuterol MDI/spacer 4-8 puffs, consider admission

**MODERATE (5-8)**

**Initial:** - Albuterol MDI/spacer 8 puffs OR Duoneb x3  
- Dexamethasone 0.6mg/kg (max 16mg) or prednisone 2mg/kg (max 60mg)

**Assess and score at end of 1st hour:**  
If score 1-4: DISCHARGE.  
If score 5-8: Albuterol MDI/spacer 8 puffs, observe an additional 1 hour.

**Assess and score at end of 2nd hour:**  
If score 1-4: DISCHARGE.  
If score 5-8: Albuterol MDI/spacer 8 puffs, consider admission.

**SEVERE (9-12)**

**Initial:** Duonebs x3, IV, Solumedrol 2mg/kg (max 125mg), consider IM Epi (0.01mg/kg of 1:1000), consider magnesium sulfate 50mg/kg (max 2gm)

**Assess and score at end of 1st hour:**  
If score 1-4: observe  
If score 5-8: observe  
If score 9-12: Continuous albuterol and PICU admission

**Assess and score at end of 2nd hour:**  
If score 1-4: DISCHARGE  
If score 5-8: Albuterol MDI/spacer 8 puffs; Admission to floor  

**Continuous dosing:**  
- <10kg: 7.5mg/hr  
- 10-20kg: 10mg/hr  
- >20kg: 15mg/hr  
- >40kg: 20mg/hr