



Recognition of Increasing Asthma Symptoms

- Common symptoms of an acute episode include: coughing, wheezing, tachypnea, chest tightness, fatigue, agitation, increased pulse rate, or feeling “out of breath”.
- Not all children having an asthma episode have symptoms such as cough and wheezing. Some may complain of chest or abdominal pain or trouble breathing.

Normal Respiratory and Pulse Rates by Age

Age	Respiratory Rate	Pulse Rate
< 2 months	< 60/minute	< 160/minute
2-12 months	< 50/minute	< 120/minute
12–24 months	< 40/minute	< 110/minute
2–5 years	< 40/minute	< 110/minute
6-8 years	< 30/minute	<110/minute
9-11 years	< 30/minute	< 100/minute
12-15 years	< 30/minute	< 100/minute
16-18 years	< 20/minute	< 90/ minute

Call 911 for the following:

- No improvement 15-20 minutes after initial treatment and parent cannot be reached
- Medications are not available and the student is exhibiting the following:
 - wheezing, constant coughing, difficulty breathing, chest and neck retractions, shoulders hunched over
- Cyanosis of lips or nail beds
- Decreasing or loss of consciousness