

Pediatric Severe Asthma Clinic



Asthma usually can be controlled by pharmacotherapy and patient education to manage the disease. Some patients may experience poor asthma control despite maximal pharmacotherapy due to the diverse nature of asthma and its associated comorbidities. Children with uncontrolled severe asthma may experience loss of lung function and more serious disease later in life; it's important to gain control over severe asthma to improve quality of life.

Why National Jewish Health *for Kids* is different

- Multi-disciplinary team
- 24-hour urgent care triage
- Forefront of latest asthma research
- Comprehensive patient education

Indications for Referral

Common signs of severe or uncontrolled asthma include:

- Use of multiple medications or high-dose steroids
- Low score (<19) on the Asthma Control Test™
- One or more inpatient hospitalizations for asthma in the past year
- Multiple emergency room visits in the past year
- One or more corticosteroid bursts in the past year
- One week or more of missed school due to asthma

Coexisting Conditions to Consider

Many medical conditions can aggravate or mimic asthma. Confirming a diagnosis of asthma is key, especially when patients have trouble gaining control of their asthma. In addition to being the nation's leading respiratory hospital with extensive experience in treating childhood asthma, National Jewish Health has experience in treating coexisting conditions, including:

- Allergies
- Allergic rhinitis or rhinosinusitis
- Anxiety and depression
- Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)
- Immunodeficiency disease
- Obesity
- Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA)
- Vocal cord dysfunction (VCD)

Physician Line
800.652.9555

Scheduling (For Patients)
800.621.0505

Online Referrals
njhealth.org/referrals

1400 Jackson Street
Denver, CO 80206
njhealth.org

National Jewish Health
Physician Relations Team

Mike Kingsbury
720.352.0994

Mark Minner-Lee
970.420.5265

The Pediatric Severe Asthma Clinic Team Will:

- Confirm your patient's diagnosis of severe asthma
- Evaluate and address coexisting conditions, asthma triggers and psychosocial and environmental issues that may impact asthma control
- Conduct a pharmacologic evaluation of the patient's current medication regimen and adjust medications as needed
- Develop an individualized asthma action plan
- Monitor adherence to the asthma action plan and re-educate as needed
- Improve patient self-management skills with education and adherence monitoring
- Utilize resources of the National Jewish Health Pediatric Day Program as needed
- Send a summary of recommendations to the referring physician

The **Pediatric Rapid Response Line** is available to National Jewish Health Severe Asthma Clinic patients and families and allows them to reach a nurse any time of day or night.

Meet Our Faculty



Ronina Covar, MD
Allergy



Pamela Zeitlin, MD
Pulmonology



Alyssa Oland, PhD
Behavioral Health

Physician Line 800.652.9555