



## Use of Appropriate Medications for People with Asthma

### Best Practice

Approximately 34.1 million Americans have been diagnosed with asthma and each year nearly 5,000 die of it. Many asthma-related deaths, hospitalizations, emergency room visits and missed work and school days could be avoided if patients had appropriate medications and medical management.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

### Wellness Report

Molina Healthcare annually monitors the percentage of members 5-50 years of age who were identified as having persistent asthma and who were appropriately prescribed medication during the measurement year.

HEDIS <sup>®</sup> Measure	2008 Rate	2009 Rate	Goal*
Use of Appropriate Medication for People with Asthma	86.34%	84.64%	90.60%

\* National NCQA 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for Medicaid HMO plans.

HEDIS<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)

<sup>1</sup> American Lung Association. Epidemiology & Statistics Unit, Research and Program Services. *Trends in Asthma Morbidity and Mortality*. November 2007.

<sup>2</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey Raw Data, 2008. Analysis February 2010.

<sup>3</sup> Akinbami, L.J. The State of Childhood Asthma, United States, 1980-2007. Advance Data from Vital and Health Statistics. Revised February 16, 2009. Pediatrics 123 (Supplement); S131-45. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics