

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Healthy Children

Asthma/Allergy 2007

**Seasonal
Allergies**

**Exercise
and Asthma**
More Than Out of Breath

**Dangers of
Food Allergies**

**Pet
Allergies**
What You
Need to Know

Waiting Room Copy



The Breath of Life

There are few areas of children's health that are more important to parents and pediatricians than good respiratory health — from newborns to young adults. Healthy development, a strong immune system, and childhood happiness can all be negatively affected by lung problems and diseases associated with asthma, allergies, cystic fibrosis, and related conditions.

That is a major reason why this special issue of *Healthy Children* focuses on the latest news about respiratory health, advances in lung-related research, and advice for parents on asthma- and allergy-related childhood conditions. There have been remarkable advances in pediatric asthma research and treatment in the past few years, as you will see in several of the articles in this issue. There is also information that you can use when it comes to topics such as food allergies, insect-bite reactions, pet allergies, and seasonal allergies.

Respiratory conditions are among the most common problems for children, and they represent one of the best reasons to have a pediatrician and health care staff that you consider your child's "medical home." Whatever the topic related to asthma and allergies, the impact of that condition is something that must be tracked and treated over time. This is best done by a pediatrician who will be monitoring your child as he or she moves from infancy to early childhood to adolescence and young adulthood. None of these respiratory conditions can be seen as a one-time or individual event; they are part of a continuum that you and your pediatrician will track and treat together.

We hope that you find this special issue on asthma and allergies of interest, and that it provides another source of good information in helping to make sure that your youngster has a healthy and happy childhood.

Jay E. Berkelhamer, M.D., FAAP
President, American Academy of Pediatrics

In order to provide parents with the highest-quality, most useful magazine possible, the American Academy of Pediatrics would like your opinion about its new parenting publication. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts and complete a survey at www.aap.org/healthychildren. All responses received by December 3, 2007, will be entered into a drawing for a publication gift pack.



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