

Providence Health Care	Department: Respiratory Services	Date Originated: June 1998 Date Reviewed/Revised: February 2008
PROCEDURE	Topic: <u>Emergency</u> – Asthma, Acute Adult: Protocol and Pathway for ED (Respiratory Therapy) Number: B-00-13-12015	Related Links:
<p>APPLICABLE SITES: St. Paul's Hospital Mount Saint Joseph Hospital</p> <p>GENERAL INFORMATION:</p> <p>Acute asthma exacerbations are potentially life threatening and immediate treatment is a priority.</p> <p>Beta-two agonists are used as first line therapy and may be administered by either nebulizer or metered dose inhaler.</p> <p>Peak expiratory flowrate is used to indicate the severity of airflow obstruction relative to the patient's baseline flows, and is routinely utilized as a trending tool in the treatment of acute asthma.</p> <p>The Asthma Pathway was developed to provide immediate and efficient treatment to the adult who presents to the Emergency Department with acute asthma exacerbation.</p> <p>As immediate treatment is essential for these patients, the Pathway allows for the Respiratory Therapist or the Nurse to administer the initial bronchodilator treatments if the Emergency Physician is not available for initial consultation and assessment.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Protocol is in Chartscan – Emergency Asthma Adult CTAS 1 Pathway</p>		