Asthma in Underserved Populations

World Allergy Congress

Cancun, 05 Dec 2011

Álvaro A. Cruz





Pro AR - Faculdade de Medicina da Babia Núcleo de Excelência em Asma da UFBA



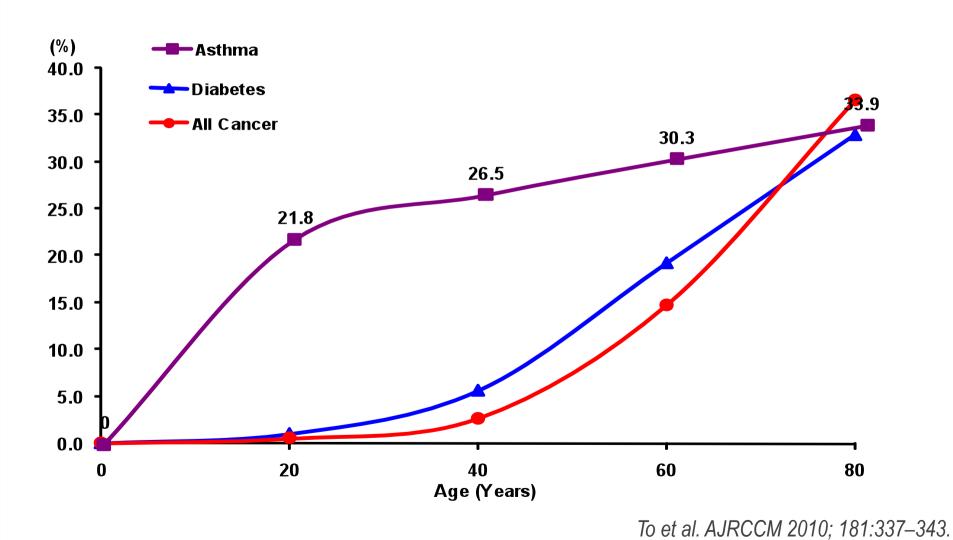
Overcrowded underprivileged neighborhood of low-income families in Salvador, Bahia – Brazil.

"Minority" household located 500m from the underprivileged neighborhood.



Cruz, Bateman and Bousquet. ERJ 2010; 35:239-42.

Lifetime risk of asthma in Ontario



Asthma Control in Underserved Populations

- Estimated 250,000 premature death due to asthma every year, often related to lack of access to good practices
- Nonatopic asthma in poor urban children is common and has been associated with unhygienic living environments
- Asthma can be controlled in underprivileged communities the example of Finland can be reproduced elswhere











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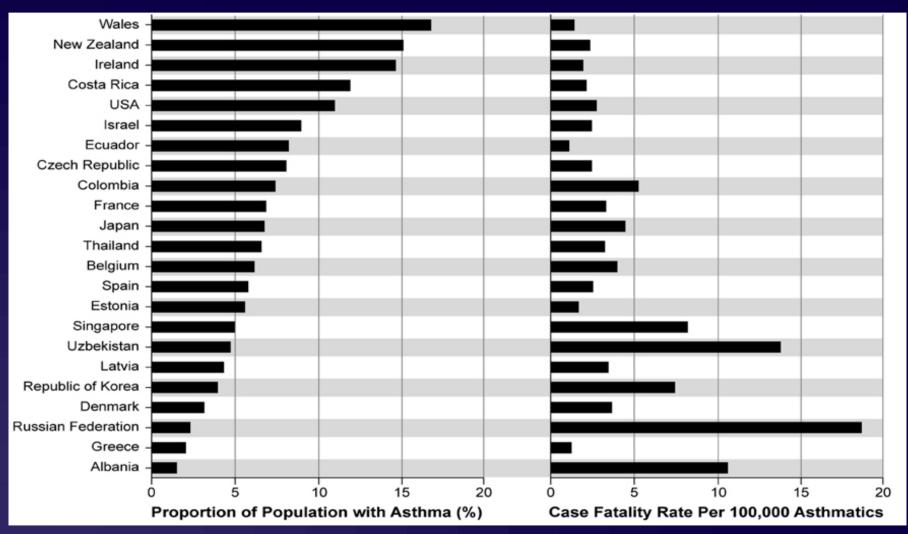


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Asthma Prevalence and Mortality



Source: Masoli M et al. Allergy 2004

Asthma Severity in the Community

Population based study of 1445 children of 5 to 12 years old in Salvador, Brazil. Prevalence of wheezing in the last 12 months = 28,8% (417/1445).

Intermittent asthma	36% (143/397)
Mild persitent	40% (160/397)
Moderate persitent	13% (51/397)
Severe persistent	11% (43/397)



Use of medications for asthma among children in Salvador (last 12 months)

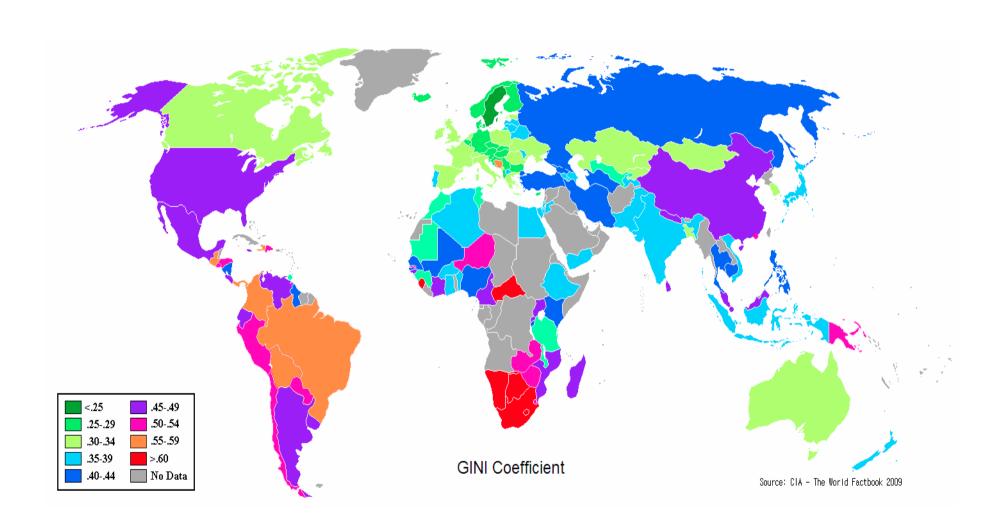
	Children with asthma (n=312)	Children with no asthma (n=1382)
beta-agonists, oral	19,9%	6,7%
beta-agonists in nebulizations	6,1%	1,8%
Short-acting bronchodilators (pMDI)	5,7%	2,2%
Systemic corticosteroids	5,0%	1,5%
Inhaled corticosteroids	0%	0,01%

Age: 4 to 11 years old – study conducted in 2006.

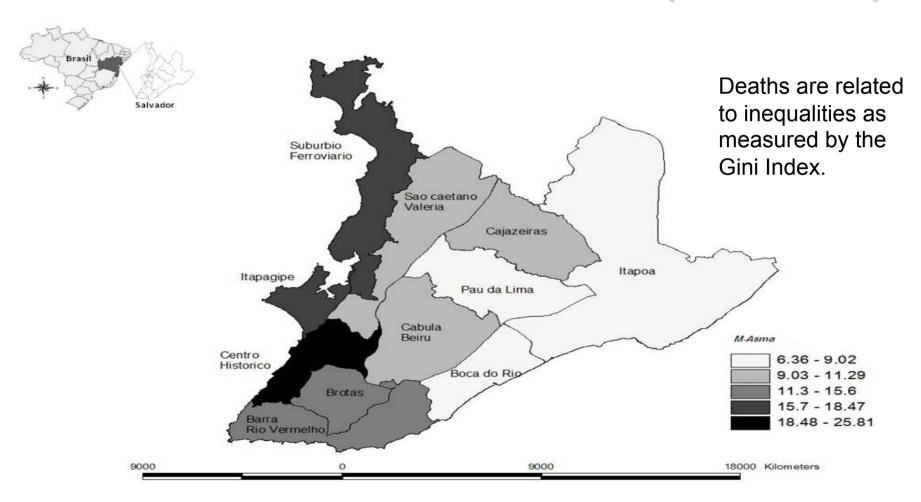
Deaths Attributed to Asthma in Brazil

- 23.758 deaths in Brasil between 1998 and 2006
- Average of 1,516/100.000 inhabitants/year, "stable"
- Decreasing: Southeast 8,8%; South 24%; Center-west 26%
- Increasing: North + 5,3%; Northeast + 31,3%

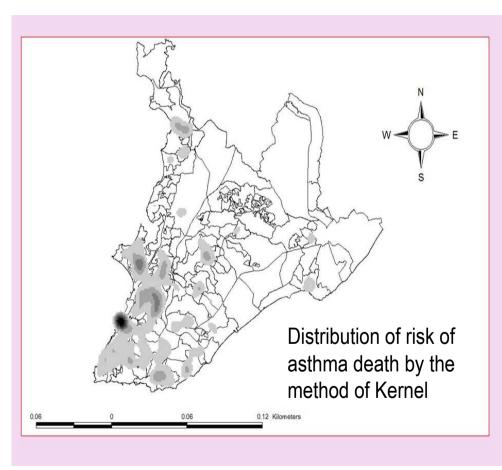
The World Map of Disparities

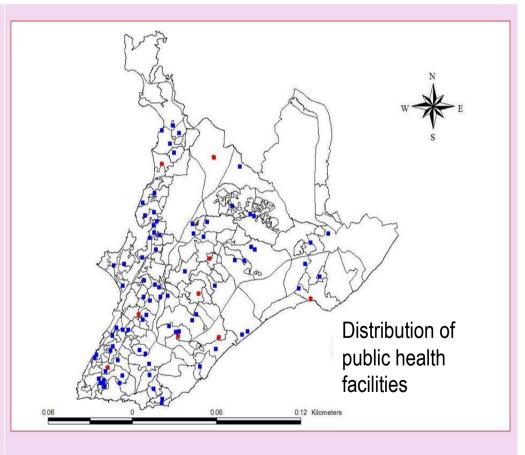


Areas of Greater Concentration of 409 Deaths due to Asthma in Salvador, Brazil (2000-2009)



Areas of Greater Risk of 409 Deaths due to Asthma in Salvador, Brazil (2000-2009)



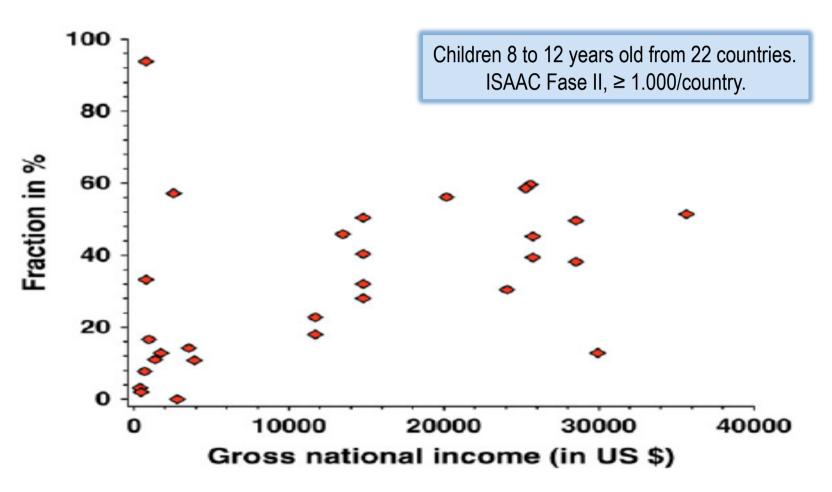


Souza-Machado et al. World Allergy Congress (abstract), 2011.

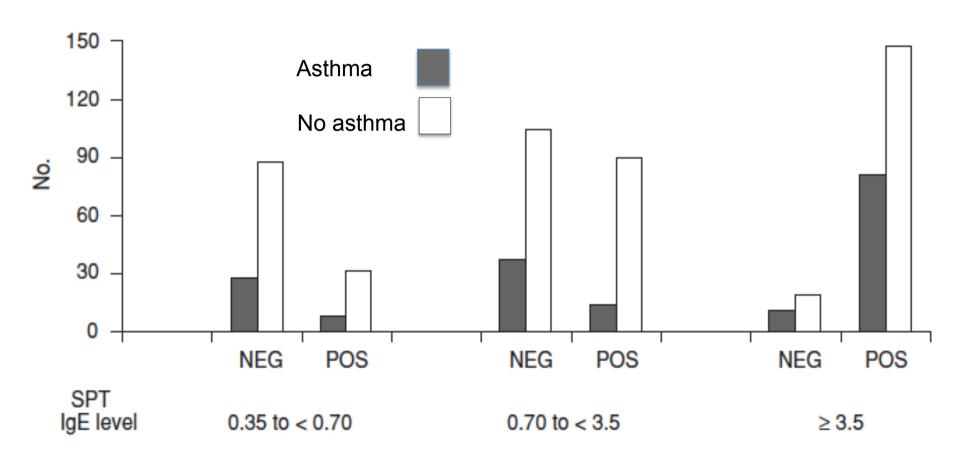
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Proportion of Wheezing Atributable to Atopy in Children



Proportion of asthma atributable to atopy in a sample of children in Salvador = 24,5%



Cunha et al. Rev Panam Salud Publica 2010; 28:405-411.

Prevalence of Wheezing and GNI - WHS

	Low GNI#	Middle GNI [¶]	High GNI ⁺
Overall	13.3 (12.3-14.4)	7.6 (6.7–8.5)	13.0 (12.3–13.7)
Female	12.5 (11.1–13.9)	7.1 (6.7–8.7)	13.0 (12.1–14.0)
Male	14.1 (12.8-15.4)	7.4 (6.0-8.7)	12.9 (12.0-13.7)
Current smoker	18.0 (16.1–19.8)	7.3 (5.5-9.1)	13.1 (11.5–14.6)
Non-smoker	10.7 (9.4-12.0)	7.7 (6.7-8.6)	12.1 (10.3-13.8)
Mostly urban	9.9 (9.0-10.8)	18.0 (17.2-18.8)	13.2 (12.5-13.9)
Mostly rural	13.3 (12.3-14.4)	4.6 (3.5-5.7)	10.8 (7.8-13.8)
Low Gini	13.1 (12.1-14.2)	14.7 (13.8-15.8)	13.5 (12.7-14.3)
High Gini	23.5 (22.3–24.7)	6.8 (5.9–7.8)	8.9 (8.1–9.7)

Sembajwe et al. ERJ 2010; 35:279.

Poverty, lack of hygiene, infections and wheezing in a population based sample in Salvador

SCAALA Project Cohort in Salvador, Brazil



- 1445 children, 4 to 12 years old
- Atopy if IgEs ≥0,70 KU/I
- Wheezing in nonatopic children associated with poverty and lack of hygiene

The Effect of Multiple Infections on the Risk of Atopy

SCAALA Project Cohort in Salvador, Brazil



- 1128 children, 4 to 11 years old
- Atopy if IgEs ≥0,70 KU/I
- Indicators of 8 different common infections evaluated
- Children with >3 infection markers had a lower risk of atopy

Obesity and wheezing among a population based sample of children in Salvador

SCAALA Project Cohort in Salvador, Brazil

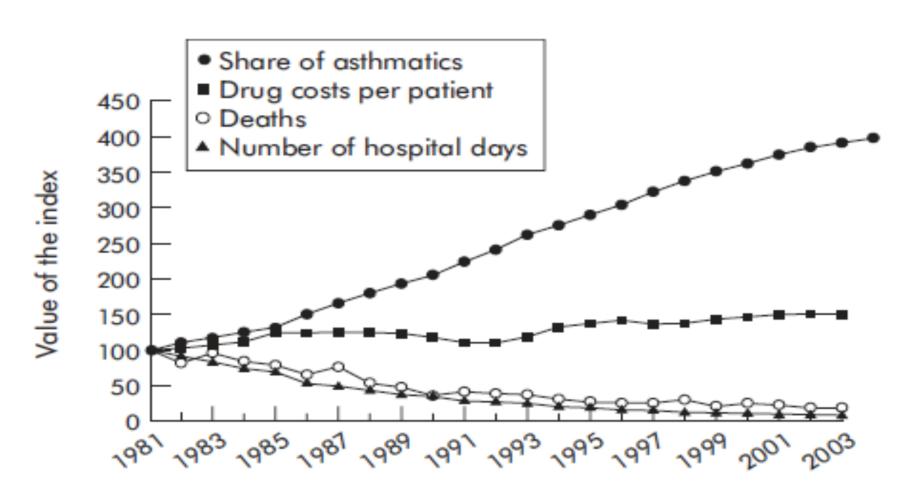


- Population based sample of 1129 children 4 to 12 years
- Asthma and wheezing 34% mor frequent in those with overweight

Asthma Control in Underprivileged Communities

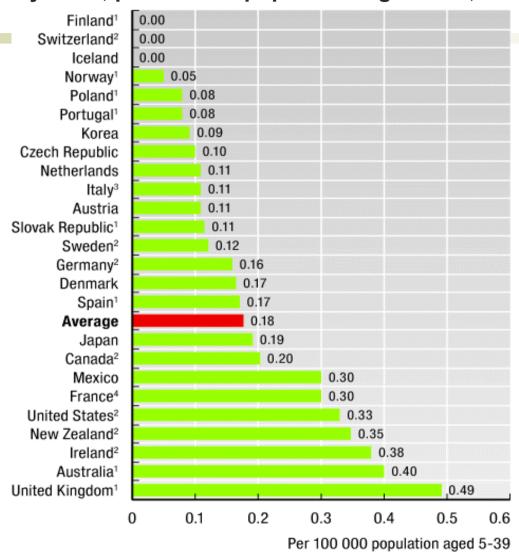
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Asthma in Finland



Health at a Glance 2007: OECD Indicators:

Asthma mortality rates, per 100 000 population aged 5-39, 2005



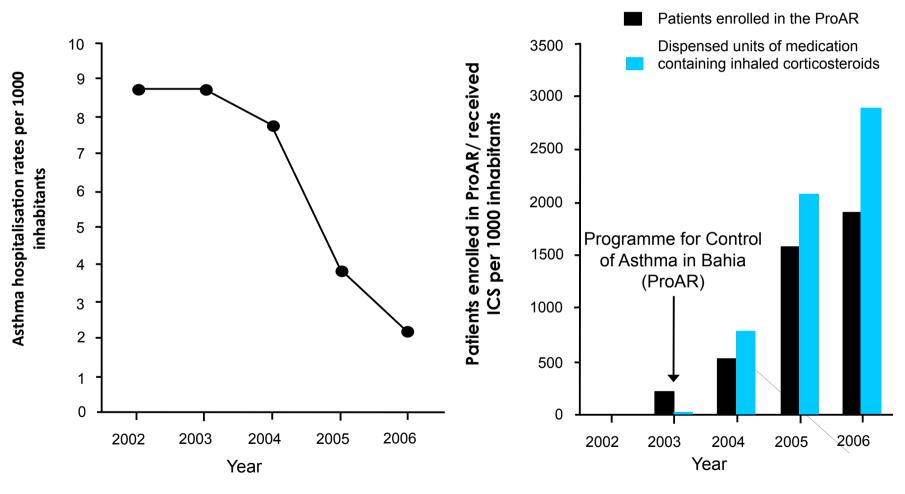
ASTHMA CONTROL CHALLENGE

Cut hospitalizations 50% by 2015!



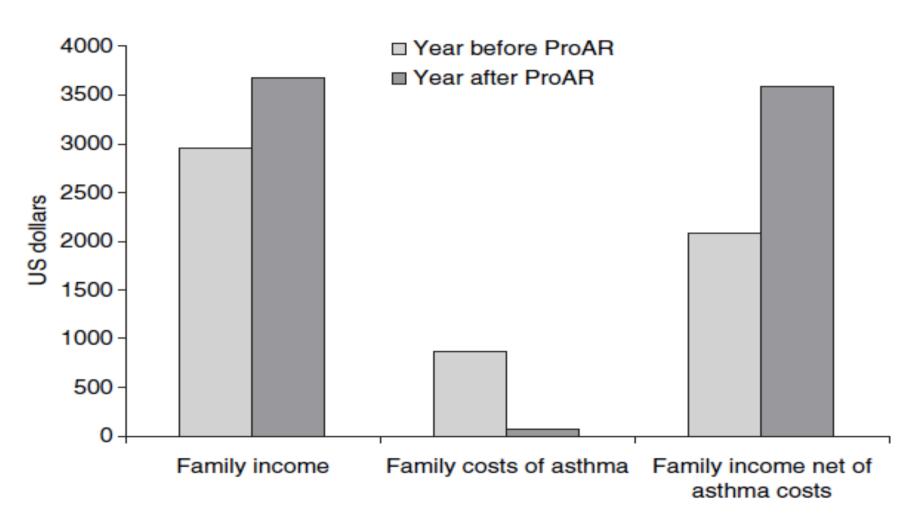
GINA challenges health care providers worldwide to cut asthma-related hospitalizations in half over the next 5 years

Reduction in asthma hospitalisations in Salvador, Brazil



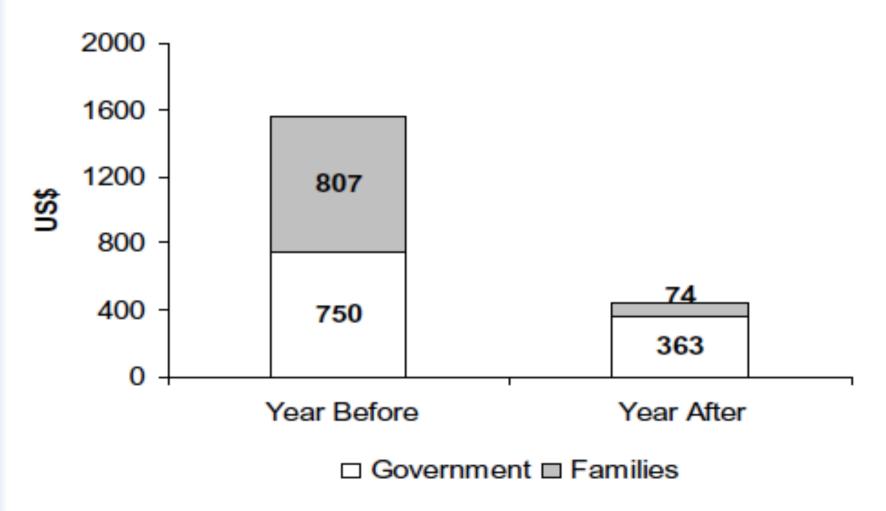
Souza-Machado et al. ERJ 2010; 35:515-21.

Costs of Severe Asthma in Salvador, Brazil



Franco et al. Allergy 2009.

Costs of Severe Asthma in Salvador, Brazil



Franco et al. BMC Public Health 2007.

Cost-effectiveness analysis of ProAR

Table 4: Cost-effectiveness incremental analysis of the strategies for treatment of 64 severe asthma patients

Strategies	Costs (US\$)	Hospitalizations	Health Result (C-D)	Incremental Cost (US\$) (B-A)	Cost-effectiveness incremental (F/E)
Intervention I The usual treatment of severe asthma offered by the public health system with medication for exacerbations	173,440 (A)	85 (C)			
Intervention 2 Treatment of severe asthma offered by ProAR with inhaled corticosteroid + long acting bronchodilator	56,256 (B)	П (D)	84 (E)	-117,184 (F)	-1,395

Main result: there was an economy of US\$ 1,395 per hospitalization avoided.

The effectiveness of the intervention was measured as "hospitalization avoided" by the programme and the costs are including the families and governments costs.

What is ProAR?

- Program for Control of Asthma in Bahia
- Public health intervention including a multiprofesional team approach to severe asthma
- Free combination therapy
- Building capacity of PHC and policy makers
- Research funding from FAPESB, CNPq, Wellcome Trust
- Partnership between the University and the municipal, state and federal PH authorities



Asthma Care in Resource-Poor Settings

Mario Sánchez-Borges, MD, Arnaldo Capriles-Hulett, MD, and Fernan Caballero-Fonseca, MD

- Asthma prevalence in developing countries may be higher than in the developed world
 - Lack of access to proper care and medication
 - Poor compliance
- There is an urgent need for the implementation of better strategies for asthma control among the underserved populations

Asthma Control in Underserved Populations

- Raise recognition and advocate, persist, insist, resist
- Make the access to the programme easy and clear
- Work with public health authorities and facilities but build a partnership of asthma fighters to develop an action plan and try other sources of funding, including research grants
- Lead a multidisciplinary team, educate, assess the impact of the intervention

Asthma Control in Underserved Populations

- Asthma is often neglected in low- and middle-income countries, therefore raising recognition and advocacy for action are crucial
- It is possible to reduce morbidity related to asthma with strategies that are feasible and cost-effective in low-income settings, which may result in remarkable savings
- Interventions for asthma control must combine reference centres, for the severe cases and capacity building, with integrated action in primary/secondary care providing assess to essential medication

Deaths due to asthma, NEVER MORE!

