

Asthma Living Guideline Search Narrative - Difficult Asthma

July 2007

Searches were carried out 18-19 July 2007 in Medline, Embase, and Cochrane Library for the years 1996-2007. No search filters were used at the request of the subgroup chair. Medline searches are reproduced below.

The stem for difficult asthma (Medline) was:

- 1 difficult asthma.mp. (72)
- 2 (severe adj asthma).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] (1799)
- 3 (refractory adj asthma).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] (40)
- 4 poorly controlled asthma.mp. (77)
- 5 poorly-controlled asthma.mp. (77)
- 6 therapy resistant asthma.mp. (14)
- 7 therapy-resistant asthma.mp. (14)
- 8 difficult to treat asthma.mp. (33)
- 9 difficult to control asthma.mp. (43)
- 10 or/3-9 (199)
- 11 difficult acute asthma.mp. (0)
- 12 difficult chronic asthma.mp. (0)
- 13 chronic severe asthma.mp. (47)
- 14 acute severe asthma.mp. (218)
- 15 (corticosteroid resistant and asthma\$).mp. (22)
- 16 (corticosteroid depend\$nt and asthma\$).mp. (0)
- 17 (corticosteroid dependent and asthma\$).mp. (59)
- 18 (corticosteroid dependant and asthma\$).mp. (2)
- 19 17 or 18 (61)
- 20 (steroid resistant and asthma\$).mp. (57)
- 21 (steroid dependent and asthma\$).mp. (148)
- 22 (steroid dependant and asthma\$).mp. (2)
- 23 (acute adj asthma\$).mp. (1245)
- 24 (life threatening and asthma\$).mp. (351)
- 25 near fatal asthma\$.mp. (97)
- 26 (NFA and asthma\$).mp. (30)
- 27 25 or 26 (100)
- 28 or/11-22 (526)
- 29 or/24-26 (441)
- 30 1 or 10 or 28 or 29 (1180)
- 31 uncontrolled asthma.mp. (69)
- 32 30 or 31 or 2 (2629)
- 33 letter.pt. (285699)
- 34 comment.pt. (237312)
- 35 32 not (33 or 34) (2539)

This search was subsequently revised to include the text words difficult-to-control and difficult-to-treat when it was discovered that the hyphenated terms had not been retrieved. This revision identified an additional 12 papers.

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The KQ searches then used the following terms in combination with the stem:

KQ1

- 35 terminology/ (15515)
- 36 definition.tw. (26603)
- 37 (classification adj2 severity).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] (171)
- 38 health status indicators/ or "severity of illness index"/ (79686)
- 39 or/35-38 (119758)
- 40 34 and 39 (171)
- 41 from 40 keep 1-171 (171)
- 42 Asthma/cl [Classification] (468)
- 43 2 and 42 (76)
- 44 41 or 43 (239)
- 45 from 44 keep 1-239 (239)

KQ 2

- 37 Asthma/ep [Epidemiology] (4949)
- 39 prevalence/ (76672)
- 40 prevalen\$.tw. (151495)
- 41 37 or 39 (79769)
- 42 30 and 41 (102)
- 43 42 or 38 (262)
- 44 from 43 keep 1-262 (262)

KQ3

- 33 exp patient care management/ or disease management/ (206345)
- 34 manag\$.tw. (268648)
- 35 33 or 34 (434049)
- 36 32 or 2 (2629)
- 37 35 and 36 (637)
- 38 letter.pt. (285699)
- 39 comment.pt. (237312)
- 40 37 not (38 or 39) (629)
- 41 from 40 keep 1-629 (629)

KQ4

- 33 Asthma/px [Psychology] (1216)
- 34 exp Mental Disorders/ (276838)
- 35 psychosocial.tw. (20606)
- 36 exp Psychotherapy/ (34807)
- 37 psycholog\$.tw. (48962)
- 38 or/33-37 (337815)
- 39 32 and 38 (218)
- 40 letter.pt. (285699)
- 41 comment.pt. (237312)

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42 39 not 41 (214)
43 from 42 keep 1-214 (214)

KQ5

36 dyspnea/ or hyperventilation/ (5848)
37 dysfunctional breathing.tw. (10)
38 breathing problem\$.tw. (137)
39 hyperventilat\$.tw. (1948)
40 (dyspnoea or dyspnea).mp. or breathless\$.tw. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] (13806)
41 or/36-40 (16056)
42 35 and 41 (110)
43 from 42 keep 1-110 (110)

KQ 6

36 patient compliance/ or treatment refusal/ (22074)
37 concordance.mp. (8908)
38 complian\$.tw. (30821)
39 adheren\$.tw. (26880)
40 or/36-39 (77417)
41 35 and 40 (203)
42 from 41 keep 1-203 (203)

KQ7

36 exp Allergens/ (12449)
37 allerg\$.tw. (44372)
38 dogs/ or cats/ (65775)
39 Horses/ (14743)
40 exp Antigens, Dermatophagoides/ or exp Mites/ or exp Dust/ (8167)
41 exp Cockroaches/ (1273)
42 exp Rodentia/ (763488)
43 exp Pollen/ (4911)
44 exp immunotherapy/ or desensitization, immunologic/ (60856)
45 immunotherapy.tw. (14266)
46 or/36-45 (922835)
47 35 and 46 (535)
48 from 47 keep 1-535 (535)

KQ 8

36 exp Nitric Oxide/ or exhaled nitric oxide.mp. or exp Breath Tests/ (42074)
37 exhaled no.tw. (554)
38 feno.tw. (167)
39 sputum.mp. or exp Sputum/ (8510)
40 airway\$ inflammation.mp. (4425)
41 exp Biological Markers/ and exp Inflammation/ (6916)
42 or/36-41 (60158)
43 35 and 42 (297)

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44 from 43 keep 1-297 (297)

Search results:

Key Question	Hits	1st Sift	2nd Sift
1	388	58	35
2	596	33	19
3	865	60	20
4	300	61	35
5	249	19	15
6	410	33	12
7	895	70	16
8	443	80	19