

# 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on **Clinical Pediatrics** & 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on **Pediatric Surgery**

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### Pediatric asthma mortality and recent advances in asthma education

Asthma is the leading chronic disease in children with prevalence of pediatric asthma close to 10% in United States as per recent CDC figures. Asthma has been increasing since the early 1980s in all age, sex and racial groups. In US, one in ten individual dies of asthma daily. Many of these deaths are avoidable with proper treatment and care. Asthma disproportionately affects low-income, minority and inner city populations with higher morbidity and mortality rates. Much of the risk of asthma in minority children can be attributed to local irritants, including secondhand cigarette smoke, mold, cockroaches, dust mites, rats, mice, pets and air pollution. Increased recognition of the occurrence of sudden, unexpected deaths is a compelling reason to search for the mechanisms of death. This is particularly true since it has been apparent that even patients with mild asthma appear to be at risk for such an outcome. Unfortunately studies of mechanisms in these patients have been difficult due to logistic reasons and lack of autopsy. There has been very limited literature reflecting on pediatric asthma mortality and so far there has been only eight reports of programs set up to investigate individual asthma deaths (5 in UK and one each in New Zealand, Australia and US). Although new and better treatments for asthma become available each year, the latest information on these new treatments often is not communicated effectively to patients. These communication problems lead to ineffective management of the disease. The Physician Asthma Care Education (PACE) program was created to enhance treatment of asthma and the physician-patient partnership. The PACE program is a two-part interactive, multi-media educational seminar to improve physician awareness, ability, and use of communication and therapeutic techniques for reducing the effects of asthma on children and their families. The PACE curriculum provides education for clinicians on how to employ the best current therapies for asthma. It also provides valuable information on how to communicate more effectively with patients and support patients' management efforts, helping them to better utilize the clinicians' recommendations.

### Biography

Rizwana Popatia is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Weill Cornell Medical College and Assistant Attending Pediatrician at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. She is Board Certified in Pediatrics and Pediatrics Pulmonology. Her medical expertise includes pediatric asthma, interstitial lung disease, primary ciliary dyskinesia and pediatric bronchoscopy. She received her Medical Degree (MD) from M P Shah Medical College, India, with top honors and 17 gold medals and was awarded a "Best Resident Physician Award" during her residency tenure in Jamnagar, India. She completed her Residency in Pediatrics at the State University of New York – Downstate Hospital, Brooklyn, NY, and a fellowship in Pediatric Pulmonology at Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School. She also served as a Chief Fellow at Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. In addition to her clinical work, she is active in medical education and research, and global health. Her current research interests include outcome based research in asthma, Asthma Education (PACE Program) and Cardiopulmonary exercise training. She has multiple publications in eminent journals and have reviewed articles for eminent journals like *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, *JAMA*, *Journal of Neonatology and Perinatology* and *BMC Medical Genetics*. She is currently the Editorial Board Member of *Journal of Pediatrics and Child Care* as well as *International Journal of Pediatric Health Care and Advancements*.

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