BACKGROUND | Bettering Asthma Care in Kids – Geographic Social Determinants Data to Understand Disparities

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Latino children have poorer asthma-related outcomes than non-Hispanic white children. This disease-specific morbidity and mortality comes in spite of longstanding, well-known, evidence-based approaches shown to improve asthma outcomes and symptoms.

In the setting of these significant gaps in the literature and limitations in prior data sources, we will use a robust, comprehensive electronic health record (EHR) data set, linked to geographically coded social determinants of health (SDH) data, serving thousands of Latino children over a 10-year span, to longitudinally and objectively study the multi-level factors affecting the asthma care of low-income Latinos across a nationwide network of community health centers (CHCs). We will use EHR data from the OCHIN network and the ADVANCE clinical data research network (CDRN).

**Potential Impact**

Our analyses of children being seen in CHCs with EHR data linked to individual- and community-level social determinants of health will constitute a robust, rigorous, longitudinal, and multi-level study of health care disparities in this disease. Clearer links between care utilization and the built environment can better inform legislators and other policy makers as they weigh policies that will affect these environments. It will also aid health care providers caring for this population; better population-based data will help tailor clinic workflows and programs to improve asthma care quality in vulnerable children. Children could be better “risk stratified” according to important community and individual features, allowing clinics and providers to either intensify or adjust their approach to chronic disease management in these children and better their chance of successful asthma management.