

Ohio Asthma Education and Research Conference 2010

October 8, 2010

8 AM to 4 PM

OSU Fawcett Center, Columbus, OH

Why this conference?

The Ohio Asthma Coalition held its first conference in 2006 and attracted more than 200 individuals from around the state. After that effort it was clear that the coalition did not have the resources to have a large conference every year as they had originally planned, to alternate Asthma Education with Asthma Research. The 2008 Research conference was a meaningful effort at bringing asthma researchers together and highlighting individual efforts throughout the state. Although this meeting was an excellent networking opportunity the coalition did not have enough energy and momentum to do a conference every year. Thus, the biennial Ohio Asthma Education and Research Conference 2010 was developed.

Something for everyone?

In an effort to attract and educate both physician groups and other health care professionals this conference has been developed as a multi-track meeting in which each participant can choose to follow a single track or to move effortlessly from one track to another. Some plenary sessions are planned throughout the day to involve everyone in some of the key ideas in the asthma field. Speakers will be asked for permission to post their slides so that information is accessible to all participants.

Keynote Speaker:

“Climate Change and Asthma”

Michael A. McGeehin, Ph.D., M.S.P.H. — Director, Division Environmental Hazards & Health Effects (EHHE), [National Center for Environmental Health](#) (NCEH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). His division includes the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program, CDC's Asthma Control Program, the Harmful Algal Bloom Surveillance Project and the Nuclear Weapons Facility Dose-Reconstruction Program.

Prior to being Director of EHHE, Dr. McGeehin was Chief of the Health Studies Branch (HSB, NCEH). During his tenure, HSB staff conducted investigations on a wide variety of environmental problems including the 1995 Chicago heat wave, children's deaths in Haiti from diethylene glycol poisoning, children's lead poisoning and pesticide exposure along the U.S.-Mexico border, and Pfiesteria outbreaks along the southeastern U.S., among others. Before joining NCEH, Dr. McGeehin was Chief of the Health Investigation Branch, Division of Health Studies, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and was ATSDR's



Dr. McGeehin is CDC's point person for global climate change. He served as co-chair of the health sector on the U.S. National Assessment of Climate Change. He also represents CDC for the Natural Hazards Research Center, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Interagency Working Group on Environmental Indicators, National Water Quality Assessment Advisory Council, National Drinking Water Advisory Council, ECOS Environmental Health Forum, and the interagency committee for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) report on the environment, among others.

Dr. McGeehin has authored, or co-authored, articles on numerous environmental health topics including bladder cancer and disinfection by-product (DBP) exposure, heat wave morbidity, heat wave response plans, health effects of global climate change, childhood lead poisoning, and environmental health surveillance. In 1989, he received his MSPH from the University of Colorado and his PhD in environmental health science from Colorado State University in 1992.

Structure of the Conference:

The conference is composed of a keynote presentation, four sets of break out sessions with between four and five sessions for each period. These sessions follow four tracks for the conference: Environmental, Educational, Clinical and Technical. At the lunch break the Ohio Asthma Coalition Advocacy Awards for Community and Legislative Advocacy will be presented. The final session for the day is a device class: a reminder that meds often cannot be helpful to people with asthma unless health professionals are prepared to instruct patients in the appropriate techniques. Poster sessions will be available throughout the day.