

Impact of asthma among primary attention children Impacto del asma en escolares de dos centros de salud primaria

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Background: Asthma is one of the chronic diseases that generates an impact on quality of life and major health care expenses. **Aim:** To evaluate the impact of asthma on primary attention expenses, the health related quality of life (HRQOL) and the sanitary resources use. **Material and Methods:** Follow up of a cohort of 56 asthmatic children aged 6 to 14 years (56% women), during 12 months. The severity and the impact of the disease on HRQOL was assessed using the International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC) video questionnaire and the Pediatric Asthma Quality of Life Questionnaire (PAQLQ) respectively. Costs were derived from the number of medical attentions, hospital admissions, medication requirements, school absenteeism among patients and work absenteeism among caregivers. **Results:** Patients required twice the number of medical attentions than the general population. Fourteen percent of children had severe asthma. Compared with subjects without severe asthma, the latt