Ohio State University Medical Center is home to the only dedicated Asthma Center in central Ohio. Utilizing the expertise of physicians and specialists focused specifically on asthma care, we provide a full spectrum of services and treatments designed to meet the specific needs of each patient. As part of OSU Medical Center, a nationally ranked academic medical center dedicated to improving people’s lives through innovation in research, education and patient care, patients at Ohio State’s Asthma Center benefit from our team’s comprehensive approach to asthma. We offer the most advanced asthma treatment and management options currently available.

Our Team of Experts Include:

**John Mastronarde, MD**
Director, Ohio State’s Asthma Center  
Director, Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship Program
*Medical Degree* – The Ohio State University, Columbus  
*Specialty Training* – Pulmonary, sleep and critical care medicine  
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma, asthma in athletes  
*Research Interests* – Asthma treatments, exercise and asthma

**Jonathan Parsons, MD**
Associate Director, OSU’s Asthma Center  
*Medical Degree* – Medical University of Ohio, Toledo  
*Specialty Training* – Pulmonary and critical care medicine  
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma, asthma in athletes  
*Research Interests* – Asthma, exercise-induced asthma

**Cathy Benninger, RN, MS, CNP**
Director, OSU’s Asthma Center Educational Program  
*Nursing Degree* – The Ohio State University, Columbus  
*Specialty Training* – Certified adult nurse practitioner, certified asthma educator  
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma education, asthma self-management  
*Research Interests* – Clinical asthma trials, asthma education

**Jeffery Weiland, MD**
*Medical Degree* – The Ohio State University, Columbus  
*Specialty Training* – Pulmonary and sleep medicine  
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma, sleep medicine  
*Research Interests* – Asthma treatments and quality of life
Karen Wood, MD
*Medical Degree* – Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, Rootstown
*Specialty Training* – Pulmonary, sleep and critical care medicine
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma, general pulmonology
*Research Interests* – Inflammatory mechanisms of airway diseases

Jennifer McCallister, MD
*Medical Degree* – West Virginia University, Morgantown
*Specialty Training* – Pharmacy, pulmonary and critical care medicine
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma, asthma in women (including pregnancy)
*Research Interests* – Asthma treatments and quality of life

David Hauswirth, MD
*Medical Degree* – Medical University of Ohio, Toledo
*Specialty Training* – Allergy and immunology
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma, allergy, sinus disease, immunodeficiency
*Research Interests* – Asthma and rhinosinusitis

Charity Fox, MD
*Medical Degree* – University of Maryland, Baltimore
*Specialty Training* – Allergy and immunology
*Clinical Interests* – Asthma, allergy, immunodeficiency, food allergy
*Research Interests* – Immunological basis of asthma

Points of Excellence:

- The Asthma Center’s patient care clinic, housed in the Martha Morehouse Medical Plaza, is dedicated to providing personalized health care tailored to each patient’s unique needs. Examples of our individualized clinical programs include:

  - **Individualized Care and Education for Asthma (ICE)** – This unique three-visit program is designed to evaluate and initiate a comprehensive asthma management program based on the specific needs of each patient. During the initial visit, patients enrolled in ICE provide a detailed medical history and receive a comprehensive physical, with additional testing determined by the patient’s medical history. The second visit is devoted to intensive one-on-one education specific to the patient’s asthma phenotype. The third visit reinforces this education and determines the initial success of the medical management program. Patients or referring physicians can request follow-up in the Asthma Center on a regular or as-needed basis.
  
  - **Asthma in Athletes** – Devoted to the unique care and individual needs of competitive or recreational athletes with asthma.
  
  - **Severe Asthma** – A comprehensive evaluation and management program for patients with severe or difficult-to-control asthma.
  
  - **Women & Asthma** – A management program tailored specifically for women with asthma.

- Comprehensive educational program coordinated by a specially trained, certified asthma educator.

- The Asthma Center’s patient care clinic offers a multidisciplinary team of experts in otolaryngology, sleep medicine, gastroenterology, psychiatry and endocrinology.
Ohio State’s Asthma Clinical Research Center (ACRC) is one of 20 centers in the nation that form the American Lung Association ACRC network. We are engaged in several active trials in our continuing effort to improve the lives of people with asthma.

Ohio State’s ACRC, based in the Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute, is one of only a few centers nationally to be aligned with a pediatric center, which is based at Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

Our comprehensive program offers the latest in diagnostic testing, including:

- Spirometry – use of a spirometer in the clinic to assess lung function, determine the type and severity of lung disease and the effectiveness of treatment.
- Eucapnic Voluntary Hyperventilation (EVH) – a rapid-breath test used to evaluate exercise-induced asthma. Ohio State’s Asthma Center is the only center in central Ohio that offers EVH testing, the International Olympic Committee’s preferred test for diagnosing exercise-induced asthma.
- Exhaled nitric oxide measurements – a noninvasive measurement of the amount of nitric oxide exhaled by a patient, which correlates with the degree of inflammation in the lungs.
- Chest X-ray/Chest CT scans – imaging tools used to view the condition of a patient’s respiratory system.
- Blood tests – used to measure the amounts of carbon dioxide, oxygen and allergy responses in the blood.
- Allergy skin testing – tests which determine the exact environmental agents that trigger asthma.

Research/Clinical Trial Highlights

OSU’s Asthma Center’s goal is to conduct high-quality translational research programs aimed at improving the lives of people with asthma. Our participation in cutting-edge research allows us to offer new therapies to our asthma clinic patients in a controlled setting.

We have several active clinical research trials funded by both the National Institutes of Health and industry. A highlight of our research is participation in a national asthma research network funded by the American Lung Association’s Asthma Clinical Research Centers network.

- Ohio State’s Asthma Center is a lead center among the 20 universities in the ACRC participating in a clinical trial that aims to determine whether treating acid reflux with a proton pump inhibitor can alleviate asthma symptoms, especially by reducing the frequency of asthma attacks. The SARA (Study of Acid Reflux and Asthma) trial is jointly funded by the American Lung Association and the National Institutes of Health.
- Ohio State’s Asthma Center has also developed a registry of patients who are interested in participating in current or future clinical trials. We encourage such patients to schedule a screening visit.

Referral Information

For additional information on the services provided by the Asthma Center, or to refer a patient, please contact us:

Phone:
Clinic Appointments: (614) 293-4925
Research Phone: (614) 293-4978
Referring Doctor Consult Phone: (614) 293-2914

Research E-mail: Lung.Research@osumc.edu

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