

The Pennsylvania Asthma Partnership is a collaboration between the American Lung Association in Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. This collaboration is funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Health through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In This Issue

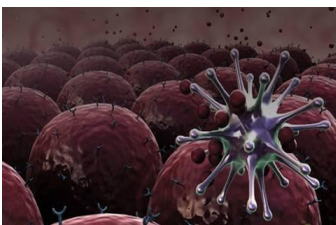
[People with asthma have telltale molecules circulating in their blood, say researchers. This discovery could lead to the first diagnostic blood test for asthma, as well as more targeted treatments.](#)

[Researchers say they have pinpointed several factors that increase asthma risk in women and -- to a lesser extent -- in men.](#)

[Who is at risk for adult-onset asthma? There are multiple factors that may increase the risk of developing this condition.](#)

[The effects of climate change can worsen asthma attacks. Allergy seasons are becoming longer and more severe. Increased air pollution and severe weather patterns contribute to ill health.](#)

New Asthma Biomarkers Could Ease Detection



"Our goal is to have a blood test for asthma developed in the next five years," Ishmael said. "You might be able to take a drop of blood from a finger stick and analyze it in the clinic to determine whether someone has asthma at that visit. That would be the ultimate goal."

These Women Who Drink and Smoke May Risk Asthma



"Our research found overall increased risk for wheezing and asthma in both men and women, but the magnitude of the combined effects from low or high BMI, smoking and drinking was consistently higher among women than men," Patra said.

Adult-Onset-Asthma: Are You At Risk?



Asthma is often thought of as a condition that mainly affects children, like chicken pox. While many people first develop asthma during childhood, the signs and symptoms of asthma can actually pop up at any point during your life. Symptoms can appear at age 50, 60, or even higher, and when this occurs, it is called adult-onset asthma.

Spring Asthma



Spring. After a long, cold winter, most of us look forward to rising temperatures and blooming plants. But if you have asthma, allergies, or both (as about 50% of people with asthma do), the pollen that comes with the season can take a toll.

We thank you for your continued participation in the Pennsylvania Asthma Partnership and dedication to supporting Pennsylvanians with asthma across the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

**John Keith
Program Manager
PA Asthma Partnership**