

Supplementary table E2. OUTCOME of the asthma programmes in Europe

	FINLAND	
	1993	2004
Change in asthma management during the programme	<p><i>Primary care:</i></p> <p>GP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asthma suspicion referred to specialist without lung function tests • Infrequent follow-up visits • Prescriptions renewed without check-up <p>Nurse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirometry measurements rarely made or peak flow values followed <p><i>Specialist care:</i></p> <p>Adults</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis of asthma • Most follow-up visits • Emergency care <p>Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnoses, treatment, follow-up of all cases • In-patient treatment of acute asthma <p><i>Pharmacies:</i></p> <p>Asthma coordinators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No active role in asthma care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis of asthma • Short specialist consultation as needed • Anti-inflammatory treatment started without delay • Easy access to evidence based guidelines and local treatment chains • Annual follow-up visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily spirometry measurements • Routine guidance in peak flow measurements and use of inhalers • Patient centred asthma education with written action plan • Annual follow-up visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only a portion of new diagnoses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up of severe cases • Part of emergency care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis of childhood asthma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment, follow-up of pre-school asthma • Inpatient treatment of acute asthma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active guidance in use of preventer and reliever inhaler and inhaler technique <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking with local health care
Main results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of patients receiving special drug imbursement (75% price reduction). €135 000 → €239 000 (1993-2011) • Increase in use of controller medication • Decrease in hospital days. Reduction 86%. 110 000 days → 15 000 days (1993-2010) • Disability pension - Reduction by 76% <p>Reduction in asthma related costs €285 million (1993) → €220 million (2010) → €206 million (2011)</p>	
References	[7,8,52-59]	

