
Key Questions for Considering Asthma

IS IT ASTHMA?

Ask patients or parents these key questions....

Has the patient had an attack or recurrent attacks of wheezing?

Consider asthma



Does the patient have a troublesome cough at night?

Consider asthma



Does the patient have a cough or wheeze after exercise?

Consider asthma



Does the patient have a cough, wheeze, or chest tightness after exposure to airborne allergens or pollutants?

Consider asthma



Do the patient's colds "go to the chest" or take more than 10 days to clear up?

Consider asthma



Does the patient use anti-asthma medication? (How often?)

Consider asthma

If the patient answers "yes" to any of the questions, a diagnosis of asthma may be likely. However, it is important to remember the possibility of pulmonary emboli, heart disease, and anemia as alternative causes of respiratory symptoms.
