Asthma is a common condition producing a significant workload for general practice, outpatient clinics and inpatient admissions. Effective treatment and support enables patients to manage their condition and helps create tangible benefits for all stakeholders.

Our newly developed asthma management course complies with the recent BTS SIGN “British Guideline on the Management of Asthma” (2012) and is an excellent way of preparing healthcare professionals to deliver effective and appropriate care to asthma patients of all ages.

**Entry Requirements**
The course is open to all registered practitioners working with people with asthma.

**Course Content**
The programme starts by taking a close look at the respiratory system and discussing the changes that occur in asthma. Using this knowledge, you will be taught how to competently assess and diagnose asthma using structured history-taking and appropriate tests.

The course then moves on to cover the complete range of pharmaceutical and therapeutic interventions, including the management of asthma exacerbations, and you will learn how to competently teach patients how to use inhalers and medication.

Finally, we will discuss the impact of asthma on patients, carers and families in all its aspects and will conclude by reviewing the contributions of the multidisciplinary team in treating and managing the condition.

**Course Structure**
You will attend a series of eight, all-day seminars spaced out over a period of two months.

**Skills and Competencies you will gain**
Upon successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the anatomy and physiology of the respiratory system and describe the pathological changes associated with asthma.
- Assess and diagnose asthma through structured history-taking and tests.
- Understand and discuss interventions in the management of stable asthma, recognise asthma attacks and intervene appropriately.
- Teach patients how to use inhalers and medication correctly and effectively.
- Recognise the role of the multidisciplinary team in the treatment and management of all stages of asthma.

**Assessment Method**
Your progress will be assessed through a 3,000 word case study. You will also be asked to take an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) in which you will be assessed on your history-taking, diagnostic skills and teaching skills on the effective use of inhalers and medication.

**Funding**
We have NHS funded places available on this course. Please see www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/ssprd/funding for the latest information.