



Speaking from Experience Asthma in Childhood

Transcript for chapter 1 of 12: Introducing the families

Vladamier (has a son with asthma): We've got three kids. At the moment they're thirteen, seventeen and nineteen. The nineteen year-old is the particular person who has asthma. He's a boy, and has just completed first year uni. He's had asthma for, I'd say, the last ten years to twelve years.

Marilyn (has three sons with asthma) and Matthew: I have four children. My eldest is fifteen and my youngest is seven. My three eldest children are boys, ranging from eleven to fifteen, and all three of them have asthma, ranging from between mild to moderate. All three of their asthmas are quite different. My eldest son's asthma is more allergy-based, can be quite moderate. My second son, Anthony, who is thirteen, has very mild asthma, only when he has a virus, maybe once or twice a year. And then Matthew has more chronic asthma. His asthma is more insidious, not as obvious as perhaps my oldest son. He has had it since he was nine months old as well.

Lavinia and Geoff (have two daughters with asthma): We have two girls. April is nearly sixteen and she has seasonal asthma. So from September to January every year we have a consistent asthma that we need to treat.

Susan (has three children with asthma): Madeline has had very severe, chronic asthma. She's now eighteen and quite well. I have a son, sixteen, called Lachlan, with exercise-induced asthma only. And a daughter, eleven, Emma, who has very mild asthma and eczema.

Lavinia and Geoff: Gemma is twelve, and she doesn't have seasonal asthma, although it can be bad during that season too. It just seems to be a general, all-round asthma, everyday, depending on what has triggered her that day. Geoff too, he has asthma as well, and he's more the general, all-round thing too.

Paul, Vicky and daughter Michelle (who has asthma): Michelle was first diagnosed when she was about two and a half. It was just a night time cough really. It would progress and it would disturb her sleep and that's what I took her to doctor's for. He listened to that, and thought that it sounded like an asthma-type cough.