

“Reading Series 2 - Asthma & Dogs” @ <http://www.youtube.com/ESL4free>

The word “incidence” in this context is closest in meaning to..

- A. danger.
- B. diagnosis.
- C. rate.
- D. unfortunate event.

Reading Text - Asthma & Dogs:

It is possible that the microbes living on pet dogs may help to strengthen the human immune system and prevent childhood asthma. We know from previous research that infants with severe cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) have an increased chance of developing asthma. New studies reveal that bacteria found in the dust of homes with dogs may have protective effects against RSV. This is because bacterial communities in house dust are different in homes with and without dogs and that children living with pet dogs have a lower **incidence** of asthma.

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SOME WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS IN THE TEXT

Asthma: disease of the respiratory system, causing coughing and breathing difficulty.
communities: large groups of living things.

Microbes: germs; bacteria.
respiratory: related to breathing or the system in the body that distributes oxygen.