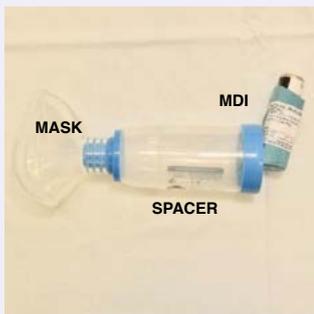


# Medication Administration: Salbutamol MDI

The Salbutamol Metered Dose Inhaler is a commonly used medication in the treatment of paediatric asthma and pre-school wheeze.

## 1 GATHER EQUIPMENT

Gather equipment pictured below



## 2 PREPARE

Carry out mandatory medication safety checks. Explain the procedure and gain verbal consent.



## 3

Attend to hand hygiene and don PPE as required.



## 4

## PROCEDURE

Have child in sitting position. Smaller children can sit on care giver's lap.



## 5

Remove cap from puffer, hold upright and shake well



## 6

Attach puffer to spacer. Attach mask to puffer for younger children. Prime the spacer as required\*



## 7

Place mask to child's face ensuring it covers the bridge of the nose and the entire mouth with a good seal.



## 8

Release one puff of medication into the spacer.



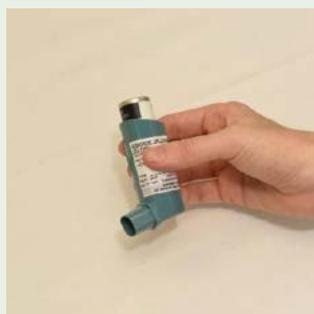
## 9

Ask the child to breath in and out normally for 4-5 breaths.



## 10

Shake the puffer and spacer between each dose. Repeat to give the number of doses, as ordered.



## Tips in children

- Attach a mask to the spacer if the child is not old enough to ensure a good seal over their mouth.
- Encourage children to shake the puffer as a playful way to involve them.
- Where possible parents should be supported and educated by nursing staff to administer salbutamol, as they may be required to carry this out once discharged.

\* Priming spacer negates electrostatic charge (and optimises drug delivery) with 10 puffs of Salbutamol.



## Guide to Salbutamol Burst Therapy:

Age	 0 - 12 months	 1-5 years	 5 years and above
Salbutamol MDI	Not Recommended	6 puffs (1 dose)	12 puffs (1 dose)
Time between doses	N/A	3 doses 20 minutes apart	3 doses 20 minutes apart



### ALERT

Children on high flow nasal therapy requiring salbutamol MDI will need the flow reduced for this to be delivered effectively. Please discuss this with the treating doctor and review your local policy or procedure for further guidance.

Seek prompt senior nursing/medical advice for any child suffering signs of Salbutamol Toxicity

## For further information:

### Checking your paediatric medication dosage is correct:

[Australian Medicines Handbook: Children's Dosing Companion \(QH only\)](#)

### Parent Handout:

[Queensland Paediatric Fact Sheet Puffers and spacers](#)

### For further information:

[CHQ Guideline: Medication Administration \(QH only\)](#)

[CHQ Guideline: Nasal High Flow Therapy \(QH only\)](#)

[Queensland Paediatric Guideline: Asthma](#)

[Queensland Paediatric Guideline: Pre-School Wheeze](#)

### Video:

[Paediatric Strength with Immersion Model \(SwIM\) program: Administering medication via spacer](#)

## References:

This Queensland Paediatric Emergency Nursing Skill Sheet was developed by the Emergency Care of Children working group (funded by the Queensland Emergency Department Strategic Advisory Panel) with the help of the following resources:

Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service. (2018, January 9). Medication Administration.

[https://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0037/1807795/proc\\_01039new.pdf](https://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0037/1807795/proc_01039new.pdf)

Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service. (2019b, September 26). Asthma - Emergency management in children.

<https://www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/guideline-asthma-emergency-management-in-children/>

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## Nursing Skill Sheet Legal Disclaimer

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- Providing care within the context of locally available resources, expertise, and scope of practice.
- Supporting consumer rights and informed decision making in partnership with healthcare practitioners including the right to decline intervention or ongoing management.

- Advising consumers of their choices in an environment that is culturally appropriate and which enables comfortable and confidential discussion. This includes the use of interpreter services where necessary.
- Ensuring informed consent is obtained prior to delivering care.
- Meeting all legislative requirements and professional standards.
- Applying standard precautions, and additional precautions as necessary, when delivering care.
- Documenting all care in accordance with mandatory and local requirements.

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