

Emergency Salbutamol Inhalers

We have hugely simplified the first section of this communication but ask that you also click through the below links to read the full documentation which gives full advice and guidance.

Setting	Who can administer an inhaler	Can a spare inhaler/s be held by the setting	Who can the spare inhaler be administered to?	Can a spare inhaler be used on someone that is believed to be having an asthma attack for the first time but has not been prescribed one?
Schools	<p>Within Supporting Pupils with Medication Needs there is no contractual responsibility for staff to administer medicines to pupils. Any member of staff may volunteer to take on these responsibilities, but they cannot be required to do so. Staff who volunteer to help administer an emergency inhaler will fall under the term “designated member of staff” and this implies that they have volunteered to help a child use the emergency inhaler, and been trained to do this, and are identified in the school’s asthma policy as someone to whom all members of staff may have recourse in an emergency. Schools should ensure staff have appropriate training and support, relevant to their level of responsibility. Supporting Pupils with Medication Needs recommends that all staff,</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Schools should consider keeping more than one emergency asthma kit, especially if covering more than one site, to ensure that all children within the school environment are close to a kit. The experience of some respondents to the 2014 consultation on guidance for asthma inhalers for emergency use suggested a stock of 5 spacers would be adequate for a typical school. An emergency asthma inhaler kit should include: - a salbutamol metered dose inhaler; - at least two single-use plastic spacers compatible</p>	<p>The emergency salbutamol inhaler should only be used by children: - who have been diagnosed with asthma, and prescribed a reliever inhaler; - OR who have been prescribed a reliever inhaler; AND for whom written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler has been given. This information should be recorded in a child’s medication plan.</p> <p>A child may be prescribed an inhaler for their asthma which contains an</p>	<p>Call 999</p> <p>If spare inhalers are available, mention this to the call handler / emergency medical dispatcher and follow their guidance</p>

	<p>particularly PE teachers, should have training or be provided with information about asthma once a year.</p>	<p>with the inhaler; - instructions on using the inhaler and spacer/plastic chamber; - manufacturer's information; - a checklist of inhalers, identified by their batch number and expiry date, with monthly checks recorded; - a note of the arrangements for replacing the inhaler and spacers (see below); - a list of children permitted to use the emergency inhaler as detailed in their individual medication plans;</p>	<p>alternative reliever medication to salbutamol (such as terbutaline). The salbutamol inhaler should still be used by these children if their own inhaler is not accessible – it will still help to relieve their asthma and could save their life.</p>	
<p>Early Years</p>	<p>Trained staff.</p> <p>Training must be provided for staff where the administration of medicine requires medical or technical knowledge.</p>	<p>Maintained nursery schools are also eligible to hold an emergency salbutamol inhaler.</p>	<p>Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where written permission for that particular medicine has been obtained from the child's parent and/or carer. Providers must keep a</p>	<p>Call 999</p> <p>If spare inhalers are available, mention this to the call handler / emergency medical dispatcher and follow their guidance</p>

			written record each time a medicine is administered to a child and inform the child's parents and/or carers on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.	
General workplace	<p>Asthma sufferers should self-administer.</p> <p>Some workers carry their own medication that has been prescribed by their doctor (eg an inhaler for asthma). If an individual needs to take their own prescribed medication, the first-aider's role is generally limited to helping them to do so and contacting the emergency services as appropriate.</p>	No	N/A	<p>Call 999</p> <p>if an inhaler is available, mention this to the call handler / emergency medical dispatcher, and follow their guidance</p>
Out of the workplace	<p>Asthma sufferers should self-administer.</p> <p>The first-aider's role is generally limited to helping them to do so and contacting the emergency services as appropriate.</p>	N/A	N/A	<p>Call 999</p> <p>if an inhaler is available, mention this to the call handler / emergency medical dispatcher, and follow their guidance</p>

The below guidance relates to clinical settings where they may have inhalers and or nebulisers

Setting	Who can administer an inhaler	Who can administer via a nebuliser	Can a spare inhaler be used on someone that is believed to be having an asthma attack for the first time but has not been prescribed one?
Dental Practices/ GP surgeries and healthcare settings	Clinical staff. Non-clinical staff who are first aid trained – can help sufferers self-administer and should seek clinical guidance.	Clinical staff.	In the rare event in a clinical setting a clinician is unavailable to consult, the First Aider/ staff member should call 999 - if inhalers are available, mention this to the call handler / emergency medical dispatcher and follow their guidance. If the clinician is faced with the emergency, they can administer as they see fit.

Links for School

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/416468/emergency_inhalers_in_schools.pdf

<https://www.asthma.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/successes/school-inhalers/>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/638267/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf

<https://www.asthma.org.uk/globalassets/campaigns/northern-ireland-school-inhalers-guidance.pdf>

Links for Nurseries

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/416468/emergency_inhalers_in_schools.pdf

https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2017/03/EYFS_STATUTORY_FRAMEWORK_2017.pdf

Links for Dental Professionals

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/dentists/dental-mythbuster-4-drugs-equipment-required-medical-emergency>

<https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>

Links for Clinical Settings (Doctors Surgeries)

<https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>

Links for General First Aiders

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/faqs.htm>

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/asthma-at-work-your-charter.pdf>