Schools Standard Asthma Emergency Kit

**What’s in the Kit…**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **An emergency asthma inhaler kit should include:** | **Yes** | **No** |
| A salbutamol metered dose inhaler |  |  |
| Manufacturer’s instructions |  |  |
| At least two single-use plastic spacers compatible with the inhaler;  Volumatic spacer and/or –  Yellow aero chamber (under 5’s) and a  Blue aero chamber (over 5’s) |  |  |
| Instructions on how to administer inhaler using spacer/plastic chamber |  |  |
| Instructions on cleaning and storing the inhaler and spacer. |  |  |
| Label for Expiry date – to be placed on the outside of the bag. |  |  |
| Pharmacy contact details |  |  |
| A record of administration template (i.e. when the inhaler has been used). |  |  |
| Pen |  |  |
| Asthma Champions Details |  |  |

**How to obtain your Asthma Emergency Kit**

Your Local Pharmacy can supply you with an emergency asthma Kit.

There is a cost to this supply which may vary between pharmacies

In October 2014, [new legislation](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/360585/guidance_on_use_of_emergency_inhalers_in_schools_October_2014.pdf) was introduced to enable schools to legally hold spare emergency inhalers to use in the event of a potentially life-threatening asthma attack. Schools are therefore allowed to purchase a salbutamol inhaler ***without a prescription*** for use in emergencies.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/416468/emergency_inhalers_in_schools.pdf>

To comply with the new legislation Pharmacists must obtain a request signed by the

head teacher on schools headed paper or by using the attached order form.

The letter should state:

* the name of the school for which the product is required;
* the purpose for which that product is required, and
* The total quantity required. (Pharmacists please note this will depend on the size and geography of each school).

**Maintaining Your Emergency Kit**

It is essential there is a clear procedure in place for maintaining this emergency kit. The following are suggested steps to take.

(**Asthma Champion**) - Monthly visual check of kit to ascertain contents are present and correct – signature date and time of the check to be recorded in the kit bag.

If anything is missing steps should be taken to replace missing contents immediately – this should be documented as well as action taken.

Adequate (not excessive) Spares should be kept on school premises for this purpose.

Inhaler Expiry dates should be recorded on the outside of the Kit bag and on the school register and replenished in advance of the expiry date.

The Spacer Devices are single Patient use – they must not be used for more than one person due to the risk of cross infection. It is good practice to send the spacer device home with the child who used it and request the parent /guardian to replace it.

Shake and Prime (spray) the Pump (once) on a monthly basis to ensure it is in working order.

Remove the canister from the blue housing and check how heavy it is (most metered dose inhalers ***do not*** have a counter) if the canister is feeling light – replace it.

All inhaler devices should be stored in a cool, dry place and out of direct sunlight in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions.

**FAQ’s Pharmacies –**

Your Local Pharmacy–

*Donal are you able to provide some factual info here on the service a local pharmacy can provide?*

**Is a Prescription Required?**

No. New legislation was passed in 2014 which permits the sale of Salbutamol inhalers to schools for emergency purposes.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/416468/emergency_inhalers_in_schools.pdf>

**How many Emergency Kits can we sell to any one school?**

This depends on the size of the school; however schools will require a minimum number of 3 Kits –

1. For Evacuation
2. School Trips
3. Reception

Additional Kits will be required depending on the size of the school e.g. Upper Schools can have in excess of 1000 students, over several sites – their risk assessment will identify the need for many Emergency Kits.

**What should the pharmacy record?**

Batch number and expiry date of the inhaler and spacer devices

Brand/manufacturer

Quantity supplied

*Need to check retention requirements for the signed order from the Head Teacher*

*Does the pharmacy need to label the device?*

Pharmacies can provide advice on how to use an inhaler and spacer devices and also how to clean inhalers.

If you are unsure where to find the Batch Number and expiry date on the packaging and devices

**School Emergency Asthma Kit Order Form**

Please complete the form below

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **QUANTITY** | **COST** | **TOTAL** |
| **Asthma Emergency Kit\*** |  |  |  |
| **\*School kit :**  **Salbutamol MDI**  **One of each (total of 2 spacer devices in each kit) Yellow aero chamber or volumatic with mask (Under 5’s) Blue aero chamber or Volumatic without mask (over 5’s). Instruction leaflets (how to use)** | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Salbutamol MDI** |  |  |  |
| **Yellow aero chamber (under 5’s)** |  |  |  |
| **Blue aero chamber (over 5’s)** |  |  |  |
| **Volumatic with mask (under 5’s)** |  |  |  |
| **Volumatic without mask (over 5’s)** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**School Details :**

**Email address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Name of School\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**School postal address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Head Teacher**

**Title\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**First Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Last Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**