

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Year: \_\_\_\_\_

## Teaching of HFA Inhalers – Use and Care

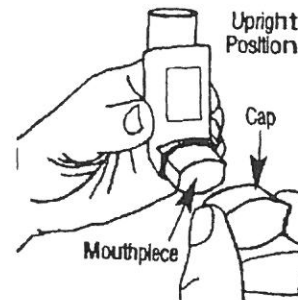
\*Please check off each item covered\*

The teaching session should include:

- Information about changes in new HFA propellant asthma inhalers.
- MSCHD procedures for correct care and use of HFA inhalers.

### Storage:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Write child's name on both metal canister and plastic mouthpiece casing ("actuator") with a permanent black marker
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Put "Field Trip" sticker on Ziploc or other individual storage unit that inhaler is stored in
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Store upright (stem downwards: see sketch)



### How to Use:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Shake canister (already inserted into plastic "actuator" mouthpiece casing)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. If inhaler has not been used for fourteen days, spray **four times** into the air prior to use.  
Exception: If **Xopenex** inhaler not used for three days, **must be primed** four times prior to use.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Insert into spacer, if available
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Assist student with use of inhaler as instructed in previous classes
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Wait 1 minute between first and second puffs
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. If student reports no relief, call parent immediately or call 911

### Cleaning:

**If used occasionally, clean after each use. If used daily, clean once per week.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Remove the metal canister from the plastic "actuator" casing. **NOTE: Metal canister must NOT get wet!**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Rinse plastic mouthpiece (actuator) **only** under warm, running water for 30 seconds
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Turn plastic mouthpiece (actuator) in the opposite direction and again, rinse under warm, running water for 30 seconds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Shake plastic mouthpiece casing well to remove excess water
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Lay on clean paper towel to air-dry overnight
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The next morning, insert metal canister into the plastic mouthpiece casing and return to the storage area in the upright position
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. If inhaler is used on a field trip, clean plastic mouthpiece when inhaler is returned to the office

### Special Considerations:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. HFA spray is finer. Taste will be different. Feels "warm". Plastic casing clogs up easier
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Ventolin comes in a foil pouch. Once removed, medication is good for **only 6 months**. Note when it expires.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Each canister contains 200 sprays
  - Ventolin comes with a "counter" that starts at 204. Notify parent when counter is at 20.