

Nor-Cal EMS Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) Just In Time Training – Effective 3/17/2020

AEMT & paramedic personnel may temporarily utilize albuterol metered dose inhalers (MDI's), in place of nebulized breathing treatments, for pts suffering from bronchospasm. Use of MDI's is optional for those providers who choose to purchase/utilize them. A pt's own MDI may also be utilized by prehospital personnel when available and clinically appropriate. Prehospital personnel shall contact the base/modified base hospital for specific direction as necessary.

MDI Instructions/Procedure

- Use of a spacer is required, unless using the patient's own MDI and a spacer is not available.
- Pediatric dose: 4 (90 mcg) puffs.
- Adult dose: 4 – 8 (90 mcg) puffs.
- May repeat dose every 15 minutes as necessary.
- EMS provider supplied MDIs are considered single patient use devices, and shall not be used for subsequent patients.

1. Shake the inhaler and remove the inhaler cap.



2. Place the mouthpiece of the inhaler into the spacer.



3. Remove the cap from the spacer.



4. Hold the MDI upright, with the mouthpiece at the bottom.



5. Have the pt tilt their head back slightly, and instruct them to breathe out slowly and completely.



6. Instruct the pt to place the spacer's mouthpiece in their mouth.



7. Press down on the inhaler to spray one puff of medicine into the spacer, and instruct pt to start breathing in slowly (press first, then breathe in).



8. Instruct pt to hold their breath for 5 - 10 secs (or as long as comfortable). Administer additional puffs in same manner.

