**Use of Emergency Undesignated Albuterol for Students**

**Undesignated albuterol may only be used with students whose school health forms indicate they have a diagnosis of asthma.** This diagnosis must be listed on the health form in the AOM binder. The AOM binder must be updated before each semester and when a new student with asthma is identified.

Undesignated albuterol inhaler may be used on any student with a known diagnosis of asthma and experiencing a respiratory emergency with moderate to severe respiratory symptoms and no current albuterol medication on site. **Undesignated albuterol may not be administered to a student without a health form that documents asthma.**

**Recognizing Respiratory Distress Symptoms:**

**MILD SYMPTOMS**

* Persistent cough
* Wheezing
* Chest tightness

**MODERATE TO SEVERE SYMPTOMS**

* Shortness of breath, breathing hard and fast (hyperventilating)
* Difficulty speaking, eating or walking
* Rib cage showing
* Blue and/or ashen lips and fingernails

**Administering Albuterol:**

**For Mild to Respiratory Distress:**

* 1. Confirm the student does not have albuterol medication available
* If a student has designated medication or an existing asthma action plan, follow the protocol outlined on that student’s plan
* If a student does not have an asthma action plan call 9-1-1

**For Moderate to Severe Respiratory Distress:**

1. Confirm the student does not have albuterol medication available

* If a student has designated medication or an existing asthma action plan, follow the protocol outlined on that student’s plan
* If a student does not have an asthma action plan call 9-1-1 before administrating medication

1. Move the student away from potential triggers
2. Retrieve albuterol inhaler and disposable spacer
3. Check the inhaler expiration date prior to use
4. Remove cap from inhaler
5. Shake inhaler to mix medication and propellant to ensure medication can expel from inhaler properly (priming).
6. Perform a test spray to ensure medication contents are effectively released
7. Attach disposable spacer to inhaler mouthpiece
8. Administer 4 puffs of albuterol. Wait 10 minutes to observe response
9. If condition does not improve, administer an additional 4 puffs
10. If condition does not improve:

* Call 9-1-1 if 9-1-1 has not been called already
* Administer 4 additional puffs, each 1 minute apart
* Limit student movement and observe student until EMS arrives
* Wait 10 minutes to observe response
* Limit student movement and observe student until EMS arrives

Once the student is stable or under the care of their family or EMS, put the used albuterol inhaler in a sealable bag labeled with the student’s name. The labeled inhaler may be kept in the health suite to support that student in the future.

Follow the Emergency Albuterol Incident Report protocol after medication is used.

**After-Incident Protocol for AOM’s:**

1. Provide immediate notice via phone to the student’s parent/guardian to inform them of the incident.
2. Provide a written report to the school health suite personnel and school Undesignated Medication Liaison detailing the incident if they were not present on the scene. The written report must include:
   1. Time and place of the incident
   2. Symptoms displayed by the student and their alignment with the student’s IHP
   3. Chronological description of the incident
   4. Medication administered (type and dose)
   5. Resolution
3. Student condition post-medication administration
4. Whether 9-1-1 was called
5. Whether the student was returned to class or released to a parent/guardian (applicable only after administration of albuterol)
6. Whether student was transported to the hospital via ambulance (required after administration of epinephrine)
7. Provide written Use of Emergency Epinephrine letter to student’s parent/guardian including details of incident and request them to follow up with student’s primary healthcare provider. This should include the same information as in the written report.

**After-Incident Protocol for Liaisons:**

1. Update the Undesignated Emergency Medication (UEM) inventory log with the UEM(s) used.
2. Submit the incident report to DC Health within one business day of administration of UEM(s).