



Advisory from: NSHA, IWK and EHS

Optimizing Utilization of Metered Dose Inhalers (MDI) and Spacers/Aerochambers upon Patient Transfer of Care from EHS to ED

To optimize the use of MDI medication and spacers/aerochambers and to minimize waste, NSHA Emergency Program of Care, IWK, Pharmacy and EHS have developed a process to ensure the MDI and spacer/aerochamber follow the patient through their care.

For any patient transported to an Emergency Department (NSHA or IWK) in which EHS administers a MDI medication, the MDI and spacer/aerochamber used will be provided to the receiving ED clinician at transfer of care and will remain with the patient for their continued use. The EHS clinician will request and receive a replacement MDI and spacer/aerochamber from the ED supply.

It is accepted that the type of spacer/aerochamber may vary between EHS and NSHA/IWK and the exchanged spacer/aerochamber may not be the same model. All spacers/aerochambers are single-patient use and as such paperboard or different models of plastic spacers may be interchanged as required based on available resources.

NSHA will utilize an Omnicell/Pyxis process being developed by Pharmacy to replenish EHS stock where available; manual collection may be required in some departments.

The EHS clinician is to re-stock the EHS kit or ambulance cabinet in which these supplies were used during patient care.

This process is effective Monday, April 20 2020 at all EDs.

If EHS clinicians have any questions, please contact clinicaldevelopment@emci.ca

If NSHA or IWK staff have any questions, please contact your manager or Tanya Penney tanya.penney@nshealth.ca