

# Asthma Action Plan

For use with a Puffer and Spacer



**Asthma**  
Foundation VIC

Photo

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

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed Triggers

- Child can self administer if well enough.
- Child needs to pre-medicate prior to exercise.
- Face mask needed with spacer

**ALWAYS give adrenaline autoinjector FIRST, and then asthma reliever puffer** if someone with known asthma and allergy to food, insects or medication has SUDDEN BREATHING DIFFICULTY (including wheeze, persistent cough or hoarse voice) even if there are no skin symptoms.

Adrenaline autoinjector prescribed:  Y  N Type of adrenaline autoinjector: \_\_\_\_\_

## SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

### MILD TO MODERATE

- Minor difficulty breathing
- May have a cough
- May have a wheeze

Other signs to look for:

### SEVERE

- Cannot speak a full sentence
- Sitting hunched forward
- Tugging in of skin over chest/throat
- May have a cough or wheeze
- Obvious difficulty breathing
- Lethargic
- Sore tummy (young children)

### LIFE-THREATENING

- Unable to speak or 1-2 words
- Collapsed / Exhausted
- Gasping for breath
- May no longer have a cough or wheeze
- Drowsy/ Confused / Unconscious
- Skin discolouration (blue lips)

## ASTHMA FIRST AID

**For Severe or Life-Threatening signs and symptoms, call for emergency assistance immediately on Triple Zero "000"**  
Mild to moderate symptoms do not always present before severe or life-threatening symptoms

1. Sit the person upright
  - Stay with the person and be calm and reassuring
2. Give **4** separate puffs of Airomir, Asmol or Ventolin
  - Shake puffer before each puff
  - Put 1 puff into the spacer at a time
  - Take 4 breaths from spacer between each puff
3. Wait 4 minutes
  - If there is no improvement, repeat step 2
4. If there is still no improvement call emergency assistance
  - Dial Triple Zero "000"
  - Say 'ambulance' and that someone is having an asthma attack
  - Keep giving **4** puffs every 4 minutes until emergency assistance arrives

**Commence CPR at any time if person is unresponsive and not breathing normally.**

**Blue/grey reliever medication is unlikely to harm, even if the person does not have asthma**



- Assemble Spacer
- Remove cap from puffer
- Shake puffer well
- Attach puffer to end of spacer
- Place mouthpiece of spacer in mouth and ensure lips seal around it
- Breathe out gently into the spacer
- Press down on puffer canister once to fire medication into spacer
- Breathe in and out normally for 4 breaths (keeping your mouth on the spacer)

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Plan prepared by Medical or Nurse Practitioner: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorise medications specified on this plan to be administered according to the plan.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date prepared: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of next review: \_\_\_\_\_