

Priming and Care Guide for Asthma Inhalational Devices

Medication	Type	Priming	Cleaning	How to know when to discard
Atrovent TM (Ipratropium)	HFA, MDI	New and not used for 3 days: 2 test sprays away from face	Clean sleeve weekly with warm, running water; allow to completely dry before using	Count doses
Advair TM (fluticasone and salmeterol)	Diskus, DPI	No priming necessary	Wipe mouthpiece with dry cloth	Built in counter: numbers turn red when 5 doses left. Expires at date or 1 month after opening
Advair TM (fluticasone and salmeterol)	HFA, MDI	New: 4 test sprays away from face shaking well for 5 seconds before each spray. If not used for more than 4 weeks or if dropped; shake for 5 seconds, spray twice into the air.	Remove mouthpiece cap. Clean circular opening where medication comes from with dry cotton swab. Gently twist swab to remove any medicine. Wipe inside of mouthpiece with damp tissue and allow to dry. Do not remove canister from actuator.	Built in counter
Alvesco TM (ciclesonide)	HFA, MDI	New and not used for 10 days: 3 test sprays away from face. Note: do not shake.	Clean mouthpiece with clean, dry tissue weekly.	Dose indicator – moves every tenth puff. Turns red when 20 doses remaining.
Arcapta TM (indacaterol)	Neohaler, DPI	None	Not needed but if wanted clean with a DRY, lint-free cloth or clean, DRY, soft brush.	Individual capsules – one per treatment
Asmanex TM (mometasone)	Twisthaler, DPI	No Priming necessary	Wipe mouthpiece with dry cloth	Built in counter; cannot remove cap when empty
Combivent TM (ipratropium and albuterol)	CFC, MDI	New and when not used for 24 hours: Shake vigorously for 10 seconds; release 3 test sprays away from face	Clean sleeve weekly with warm, running water; allow to completely dry before using	Count doses (will be taken off market 12/31/13)
Combivent Respimat TM (available mid 2012)	Soft mist, metered dose inhaler	New and if not used for 21 days: Open cap and press dose release button while pointing towards ground and close cap. Repeat until spray is visible and then repeat 3 more times. If not use for 3 days: Release one puff towards ground.	At least once per week, clean mouthpiece (and metal part inside the mouthpiece) with a damp tissue or cloth only. Outside of inhaler can be wiped with a damp cloth if it becomes dirty.	Dose indicator (indicates approximate amount of med remaining). Pointer enters red area when there is enough medicine for 7 days. Once 120 puffs used, inhaler locks. Expires 3 months after initial use even if med remains.
Dulera (mometasone furoate (formoterol fumarate)	HFA, MDI	New: 4 test sprays away from the face	No cleaning recommended	Built in counter
Flovent TM (fluticasone)	Diskus, DPI	No priming necessary	Wipe mouthpiece with dry cloth	Built in counter: numbers turn red when 5 doses left. Discard at exp. date or: 50mcg-6 weeks after opening; 100 & 250 mcg-2 months after opening.

Flovent™ (fluticasone)	HFA, MDI	New: 4 test sprays away from face shaking well for 5 seconds before each spray. Not used for more than 7 days or if dropped: shake well for 5 seconds before each spray and release 1 test spray	Remove mouthpiece cap. Clean circular opening where medication comes from with cotton swab dampened with water. Gently twist swab to remove any medicine; repeat with a clean, damp swab to remove any medicine still at the opening. Wipe inside of mouthpiece with damp tissue and allow to dry. Do not remove canister from actuator.	Built in counter
ProAir™ (albuterol)	HFA, MDI	New and when not used for 2 weeks: 3 test sprays into air away from face	Clean sleeve weekly with warm water, shake, allow to dry before using	Built in counter
Proventil™ (albuterol)	HFA, MDI	New and when not used for 2 weeks: 4 test sprays	Clean sleeve weekly by running water through, allow to dry before using	Count doses
Pulmicort™ (budesonide)	Flexhaler, DPI	When new only: Hold upright, twist and click brown grip at bottom two times.	Wipe mouthpiece with dry cloth	Built in counter in intervals of 10 (numbers and lines) which moves every 5 doses.
Qvar™ (beclomethasone)	HFA, MDI	New and when not used for 10 days: 2 test sprays	Do not wash any part of inhaler in water, cleaning should be done with a dry cloth or tissue	Count doses
Serevent™ (salmeterol)	Diskus, DPI	No priming necessary	Wipe mouthpiece with dry cloth	Built in counter: numbers turn red when 5 doses left. Discard at expiration date or 6 weeks after removing from pouch.
Symbicort™ (budesonide and formoterol)	HFA, MDI	New, not used for 7 days, or if dropped: Two test sprays, shaking well before each spray.	Wipe inside and outside of mouthpiece with clean, dry cloth. Do not take inhaler apart.	Built in counter Discard at expiration date or 3 months after taken out of foil pouch.
Turdoza™ (aclidium bromide)	DPI	None	Wipe mouthpiece with dry cloth. NO water	Built in counter in intervals of 10. Red band appears to indicate approaching last dose. Discard at expiration date or 45 days after opening.
Ventolin HFA™ (albuterol)	MDI	New, not used for 14 days or if dropped. Shake well, 4 sprays away from face;	Clean sleeve weekly by running water through, allow to dry before using. Store upright	Dose counter. Discard at expiration date or 12 months after taken out of foil pouch
Xopenex™ (levalbuterol)	HFA, MDI	New and when not used for 3 days: Shake well and release 4 test sprays.	Clean sleeve weekly by running water through, allow to dry before using	Count doses

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